



**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

III MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

UNIT 35601

FPO AP 96382-5601

AND

MARINE CORPS INSTALLATIONS PACIFIC

CAMP SMEDLEY D. BUTLER, OKINAWA

UNIT 35001

FPO AP 96373-5001

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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From: Commanding General, III Marine Expeditionary Force  
Commanding General, Marine Corps Installations Pacific  
To: Distribution List

Subj: III MEF/MCIPAC LIBERTY REGULATIONS IN JAPAN

Ref: (a) COMUSJAPAN memo of 26 Nov 14  
(b) III MEF/MCIPAC Leave and Liberty Regulations in Japan of 10 Mar 14  
(c) MCBJ/III MEFO 1050.7A  
(d) USFJI 36-2811  
(e) MCO 1752.5A  
(f) COMUSJAPAN memo "Responsible Drinking Training" of 31 Jul 14  
(g) MCIPACO 5420.1  
(h) IIIMEF/MCIPACBul 5800

1. Purpose

a. This letter republishes Commanding General, III Marine Expeditionary Force (MEF) and Commanding General, Marine Corps Installations Pacific (MCIPAC) liberty regulations in Japan. The liberty regulations within this letter are punitive general orders implementing reference (a), the Commander, U.S. Forces, Japan (COMUSJAPAN), "Liberty Policy for All U.S. Military Forces Located and Operating in Japan."

b. This policy is applicable to all military personnel assigned to III MEF/MCIPAC located and operating in Japan who are subject to Commander, U.S. Pacific Command (CDRUSPACOM) authority, including Reserve personnel (when serving in a Reserve capacity), National Guard personnel (when in a Title 10 status), and personnel in a Temporary Duty (TDY)/Temporary Additional Duty (TAD), deployed, leave, or pass status. This policy is effective on 9 December 2014 and shall remain in effect until modified or rescinded, pending further assessment of the operational environment in Japan.

2. Cancellation. Reference (b) is hereby canceled.

3. Background. III MEF and MCIPAC are committed to the security of the Pacific region. An essential element of this mission is safeguarding Japan's security by maintaining the longstanding alliance between the U.S. and Japan. III MEF and MCIPAC have a duty to ensure that uniformed service members respect the laws of Japan and abstain from activity inconsistent with the spirit in which the U.S. operates under its Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) with Japan.

4. Order. To fulfill the purposes of reference (a), effective 9 December 2014, the following leave and liberty regulations apply to all uniformed service members assigned to III MEF and MCIPAC in Japan. These regulations supplement and modify reference (c), III MEF and MCIPAC Liberty Campaign Order. Except

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where noted, the following provisions apply to all personnel whether in a permanent or TAD status.

5. Leave and Liberty Regulations

a. Prerequisites. Completion of this training must be documented and current per the references. Training prerequisites shall be conducted "in-person" to the maximum extent practicable. Before any III MEF or MCIPAC service member is granted off-installation leave or liberty in Japan, the service member must have completed the following training:

(1) Sexual Assault Prevent and Response Training, per references (a) and (e).

(2) Newcomer's Orientation Welcome Aboard Seminar, per references (a), (c), and (d).

(3) Cultural Awareness Training, per references (a), (c), and (d).

(4) Responsible Drinking Training, per reference (f).

b. Off-Installation Purchase and Public Consumption of Alcohol

(1) For all military personnel, regardless of grade, off-installation public consumption of alcohol is prohibited between 2400 and 0500 (on all days, including holidays). Public consumption of alcohol is any consumption of alcohol off of a military installation, except when in one's own off-installation residence or one's own hotel room. An overnight guest in an off base residence may not consume alcohol during this period. "One's own" hotel room means a hotel room registered in that service member's name.

(2) During authorized hours, alcohol purchased from off-installation establishments that do not sell alcohol by the drink (e.g. Family Mart) may be consumed ONLY in an off-installation residence, hotel room, or on a military installation.

(3) Per reference (c), prohibition against carrying open containers of alcohol outside of an establishment remains in effect. Between 0501-2359, service members may consume alcohol from open containers during public events that include alcohol being sold in this manner (e.g. festivals, dragon boat races, bullfights, sporting events).

(4) Per reference (c), rules relating to E-3s and below purchase, consumption, and possession of hard liquor remain in effect.

(5) When certain sacramental rites or religious services require consumption of minimal amounts of alcohol during prohibited hours (e.g. midnight mass), the commanding officer may grant a limited exception to these rules.

c. Restriction of Off-Installation Liberty for Personnel

(1) Personnel who are overly intoxicated or acting in a disorderly fashion will be denied off-installation liberty. This rule applies equally to those who are off base or seeking to depart an installation. While not all inclusive, overly intoxicated and disorderly includes unintelligible speech, a gross lack of motor control, incoherence, conduct that endangers public morals

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or outrages public decency, contentious disturbances, or actions which are dangerous to the rights or safety of others.

(2) Personnel with a BAC meeting or exceeding .03% while operating or in control of automobiles or other conveyances will not be allowed off-installation liberty and remain subject to existing orders including traffic regulations and Japanese law as applied under the SOFA.

(3) Personnel, other than those operating or in control of automobiles or other conveyances, who are overly intoxicated will only be allowed off-base to travel immediately and directly to their own on or off-base residence with no stops for personal convenience.

(4) Members of the Courtesy Patrol, like all leaders, have the authority to take appropriate corrective action in the face of inappropriate conduct. Appropriate corrective action may include on the spot corrections, direction to return to base, or contacting military or civilian police.

d. Curfew

(1) Military personnel, including those who are in a TDY/TAD, leave, deployed or pass status in Japan, in the grade of E-5 and below are subject to curfew between the hours of 0100 and 0500 regardless of liberty card status. Military personnel in the grade of E-6 and above with a gold card are not subject to curfew, unless their authorized commander directs otherwise. When a service member departs or enters a military base, he or she will be prepared to present an identification card and a liberty card to the gate guards.

(2) During curfew hours, military members subject to curfew must either be:

- (a) on a U.S. military installation;
- (b) off the installation in the service member's private residence;
- (c) in a place of lodging (hotel room registered in that service member's name);
- (d) transiting between bases on The Green Line;
- (e) in the performance of official duties (including duty-related travel/commute between an off-base residence and place of duty).

(3) Authorized commanders may grant curfew exceptions (special liberty) of limited duration on an individual, event-by-event basis for specific circumstances. Grade-based blanket exceptions are not authorized.

e. Buddy Program

(1) The following III MEF/MCIPAC personnel must be accompanied by a liberty buddy for any off-base liberty:

- (a) All red card holders regardless of rank.
- (b) Any E-5 or below service member not permanently assigned on Permanent Change of Station (PCS) orders to Japan. For the purpose of this

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section, those deployed to Japan as part of the Unit Deployment Program (UDP) are considered to be permanently assigned to Japan.

(2) The liberty buddy provisions do NOT alter the curfew provisions in paragraph c.

(3) A liberty buddy may be either:

- (a) an active duty military member;
- (b) another person with SOFA status (e.g. spouse, accompanied family member, or U.S. DoD civilian employee);
- (c) other family members; or
- (d) another responsible individual, including a non-U.S. national, who has been approved by an authorized commander.

(4) Authorized commanders may grant individual, event-by-event exceptions (special liberty) of limited duration to this liberty buddy policy for specific circumstances. Grade-based blanket exceptions are not authorized.

(5) Authorized commanders may impose more restrictive buddy policies, as deemed lawful and necessary due to mission requirements.

f. Other Provisions. This policy does not exempt compliance from other requirements, including host nation laws. Additionally, in accordance with references (g) and (h), military personnel are prohibited from going to "off-limits establishments" as determined by the Armed Forces Disciplinary Control Board process (or authorized authority).

## 6. Administration

a. Instructions. These leave and liberty regulations are the minimum requirements for III MEF and MCIPAC Marines and Sailors executing off-base liberty in Japan. They do not exempt service members from compliance with Japanese law, more restrictive liberty regulations issued by competent command authority, and other generally applicable military orders. These regulations do not supersede any more restrictive leave and liberty requirements set forth in reference (c), which remains in effect.

b. Unit-Wide Recall (Denial of Liberty). When an individual violates orders, it raises concerns of systemic issues—that individual may lack the tools, resources, and training to understand the consequences of his or her actions and the profound effect that those actions have upon the bilateral relationship and our mission. Therefore, authorized commanders may recall to duty all members of a unit (squadron, battalion, or equivalent unit) in which one of its members is involved in an allegation of off-installation misconduct. Exceptions may be granted as specified in paragraphs 5(c) and 5(d). Authorized commanders may approve resumption of liberty after review of the incident and approval of a unit remediation plan. For example, a unit remediation plan could include an analysis of contributing factors to the incident, unit training (i.e. further alcohol awareness and abuse prevention and re-familiarization of service core values), and/or increased liberty buddy requirements. The purpose of this process is to ensure unit members have a common understanding of requirements and to reinforce unit cohesiveness. Any unit-wide denial of liberty should be of limited duration and implemented only for the purposes described above.

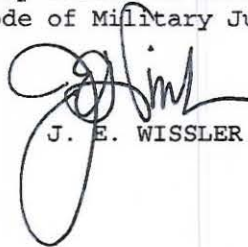
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Authorized commanders must immediately notify the first O-6 in the chain of command when recalling a unit and again when unit liberty resumes under this paragraph.

c. Commander. An "authorized commander" under this order is an officer in the grade of O-4 or higher who has command authority over a service member.

d. Date. These regulations are effective 0501 on 9 December 2014 and will remain in effect until superseded or rescinded by competent authority. Violations of these regulations may result in administrative or disciplinary action pursuant to the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

  
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