DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
21ST THEATER SUSTAINMENT COMMAND
UNIT 23203
APO AE 09054

AETS-CG 5 May 2020

GENERAL ORDER NUMBER 2 (GO-2)

TITLE: COVID-19 Public Health Measures for Personnel within USAG Rheinland-Pfalz and USAG BENELUX under the Senior Responsible Officer (SRO) Authority of the Commander, 21st Theater Sustainment Command.

PURPOSE. This General Order identifies conduct that is prejudicial to good order and discipline, health, and safety of all personnel within USAG Rheinland-Pfalz and USAG BENELUX subject to the 21st TSC SRO area of responsibility.

AUTHORITY. Article II, NATO Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA), 19 June 1951; 10 U.S.C. Chapter 47 (Uniform Code of Military Justice); HQDA General Order No. 2008-01, General Court-Martial Convening Authority, 11 March 2008; Army in Europe Regulation (AER) 10-5, Organizations and Functions, 5 December 2019; AER 27-9, Misconduct by Civilians, 22 November 2011; AER 27-10, Military Justice and Legal Services, 19 August 2014; 21st TSC Supplement to AR 27-10, 16 January 2019.

APPLICABILITY. This General Order applies to all individuals stationed, assigned, attached and/or present on military installations within USAG Rheinland-Pfalz and USAG BENELUX under the 21st TSC SRO area of responsibility, to include Soldiers, Department of the Army Civilians, Family Members, and other affiliated personnel. For individuals within USAG Rheinland-Pfalz and USAG BENELUX under the 21st TSC SRO, this General Order supersedes General Order Number 1 (GO-1), until further notice. GO-1 continues to apply to all individuals subject to my SRO authority in Kosovo, Romania, Bulgaria, and Greece.

1. STATEMENT OF MILITARY PURPOSE AND NECESSITY. In order to combat the spread of COVID-19, host nations are enacting aggressive public health prevention and mitigation measures. Article II of the NATO SOFA requires the United States to respect host nation laws and imposes a sovereign duty to take necessary measures to that end. This order fulfills that obligation and clarifies the applicability of host nation COVID-19 public health measures on military installations within the 21st TSC SRO. Throughout this order the term "social distancing" has been replaced with "physical distancing."

2. PUBLIC HEALTH MEASURES. Public health measures, to include restrictions on freedom of movement, enacted by host nation governments in response to COVID-19 will be obeyed both on and off military installations. As a general rule, you may utilize any host nation business or establishment that is lawfully operating in accordance with host nation rules and regulations. Due to this Command's need to maintain combat readiness in addition to public health, however, it is necessary to establish a baseline standard to protect the force. These additional restrictions are listed in paragraph 3.

3. PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES. The following restrictions apply regardless of any relaxation of host nation public health measures:

a. Limitations for all Service Members whether residing on or off military installations, and all other individuals when on military installations.

(1) Individuals must generally remain in their residences and its immediate vicinity when not at their place of duty. Service Members may travel between their residence and military installations. Travel to off-post facilities within 100 kilometers of the Service Member's place of residence and within national borders is authorized for locations not subject to host nation closure or restriction, with the exception of the following locations: off-post bars, night clubs, dance clubs, movie theaters, pools, spas, massage parlors, hookah lounges, gyms or other physical fitness facilities, or the indoor seating area of restaurants. These locations remain prohibited regardless of changes in host nation protective measures.

(2) Parties or other social gatherings are strictly prohibited. Service Members are prohibited from engaging in "barracks parties" or "block parties." These activities remain prohibited regardless of changes in host nation protective measures. No more than one non-household member visitor is authorized, unless further restricted by host nation law.

(3) Occupying a personally owned vehicle with more than one non-household member is not authorized, unless car-pooling to a work or duty location.

(4) Individuals may conduct outdoor physical fitness activities and outdoor recreation activities so long as the activity is conducted in low density locations within 100 kilometers of the Service Member's place of residence or duty. Such activity will be conducted within the parameters set by host nation law and if on the installation within the parameters set by the Garrison Commander. Walking of pets is authorized under the same conditions.

(5) Individuals must remain in their residences from 0000 to 0500. This does not apply to official travel, duty, pet care, and medical emergencies. Service Members will inform their chain of command of emergencies as soon as possible.

(6) Individuals whose normal place of duty is within USAG Rheinland-Pfalz are authorized to travel to Frankfurt am Main International Airport.

(7) Face coverings will be worn in public to the same degree required by host nation law or applicable military authority.

b. Limitations for Service Members residing in barracks:

(1) Service Members residing in barracks must generally remain in their room or shared barracks suite. Individuals living in barracks may leave their rooms or suites for the same reasons, and go to the same places, as individuals who live in on-post housing or off post.

(2) Individual barracks rooms or suites are restricted to no more than one visitor. Individuals will obey and adhere to all sign-in requirements enacted by the command to ensure compliance with this directive. Where shared common areas inside of barracks rooms exist, shared common areas inside of barracks rooms are restricted to the assigned occupants and no more than one visitor. No other persons are allowed in any given barracks room, or in the shared common areas inside of barracks rooms, except the individuals assigned to that room, visitors who have been properly signed in, and individuals conducting a task on behalf of the command such as an inspection or welfare check. Regardless of the task on behalf of the command, physical distancing procedures must still be maintained.

(3) Physical distancing procedures will be strictly enforced in day rooms, shared kitchens, and other communal areas in barracks buildings accessible to everyone.

(4) Utilization of shared laundry rooms is permitted, but physical distancing procedures must be maintained. Service Members will sanitize machines after each use.

c. Individuals will comply with all host nation physical distancing rules. Intentionally coming close to or making any physical contact with non-Family Members known by the individual to be infected with COVID-19, absent an official purpose, is prohibited.

d. Official travel directed by the chain of command is not affected by this order. Emergency situations involving possible loss of life, limb, or eyesight do not require prior approval. Service members will inform their chain of command of emergencies as soon as possible.

4. PUNITIVE ORDER. This order is punitive. Any location-specific annexes to this order are also punitive. Persons subject to the UCMJ may be punished according to its provisions or face adverse administrative action. Persons not subject to the UCMJ may face administrative sanctions imposed under AER 27-9, to include revocation of logistical support privileges, termination of access to Government housing facilities, bars to the installation, or involuntary early return of dependents. Host nation civil and criminal penalties may also be imposed.

5. INDIVIDUAL DUTY. Individuals subject to this General Order have the individual duty to know and understand these prohibitions. Individuals have a further duty to become familiar with and respect the laws and regulations of the local host nation regarding COVID-19 prevention.

6. UNIT COMMANDER RESPONSIBILITY. Commanders will ensure their personnel are briefed on the prohibitions and requirements of this order. Commanders will further ensure dissemination of host nation restrictions as they are published.

7. EXCEPTION AUTHORITY. Commanders in the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, or above, or supervisors in the rank of Colonel/GS-15, or above, may grant written exceptions to this policy on a case by case basis.

8. EFFECTIVE DATE. This General Order is effective immediately. It will remain in effect until rescinded by me or superseded by a new General Order.

CHRISTOPHER O. MOHAN
Major General, USA
Commanding