

Marne 6 Message

General Order #1 Remains in Effect

April 28, 2020

DogFace Soldiers, Families, and friends, I want to thank you for your continued support and patience as we all work together to keep each other safe. I know these are difficult times, but by working together and doing what's right, we will all make it through this.

I'd like to address something that I know is on everyone's minds. As many of you are aware, Governor Kemp recently made the decision to begin reopening certain businesses, and I want to address what that means for us as we continue to respond to COVID-19.

Protecting the force and our local community has always been my primary focus, and that is why General Order #1 will remain in effect. From the beginning I have said that any review or revision of General Order #1 must be conditions based. We will continue to monitor the situation until I believe the appropriate conditions are met.

Under the provisions of General Order #1, service members are not allowed to patronize facilities off of our installations, to include gyms or fitness centers, bowling alleys, body art studios, barber shops, massage parlors, hair and nail salons, theaters or dine-in restaurants. While General Order #1 only applies to service members, it is highly encouraged that federal employees and Family members abide by it as well. This is for the safety of everyone in our community, both on and off our installations.

In order to maintain the safety of our service members, I have made the decision to reopen the barber shops on Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield; service members may utilize these services without violating General Order #1. Additionally, other services like our fitness centers, bowling alleys, and other facilities are continuing to be assessed to determine the right time and right way to reopen.

This may appear contrary to our decision to start bringing Soldiers in for training and preparing to go to the field. This is also a graduated and considered decision that is conditions based and reviewed on a daily basis. I can assure you, we are taking every precaution to protect our Soldiers and our Families in all that we do.

I want to thank you again, thank you for all of your perseverance and resiliency during these uncertain times, and thank you for being strong and making sacrifices every day. What you do is important and it is because of all of you that we are successful. Please stay safe, check on each other, and remember, we are all in this together!

Rock of the Marne!