



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY JAPAN
UNIT 45005
APO AREA PACIFIC 96343-5005

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

14 JUL 2016

APAJ-JA

COMMAND POLICY MEMORANDUM 15-05

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: United States Army Japan Liberty Policy for All Soldiers Located or Operating in Japan

1. **Reference.** United States Forces Japan Liberty Order for All U.S. Military Forces Located or Operating in Japan, dated 9 July 2016 and effective 11 July 2016.
2. **General Order.** Soldiers failing to comply with the provisions of this general order are subject to discipline under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, Article 92, as well as adverse administrative action authorized by the applicable laws and regulations.
3. **Purpose.** In order to safeguard the vital relationship we enjoy with Japan, bolster military readiness, and more efficiently meet our obligations under the Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security, which increases U.S. ability to defend Japan and provide regional stability, the following liberty policy is necessary. These core values-based restrictions are intended to promote good order and discipline and reinforce standards of conduct, particularly with respect to behavior off of military installations in Japan.
4. **Applicability.** This policy applies to all Soldiers located and operating in Japan, including Reserve personnel (when serving in a Reserve capacity), National Guard personnel (when in a Title 10 status), and personnel in a TDY, deployed, leave or pass status. This policy is effective on 1 August 2016 and shall remain in effect until modified or rescinded, pending further assessment of the operational environment in Japan.
5. **Training Prerequisite.** Before any Soldier is granted liberty off-installation, the Soldier must have completed: (1) Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Training IAW AR 600-20 and ALARACT 123/2011. Once released, units will execute the USARJ Not in My Squad SHARP Training Initiative to satisfy the SHARP training requirement; (2) Responsible Drinking Training conducted IAW the direction and timelines set forth in COMUSJAPAN memorandum, "Responsible Drinking Training," dated 31 July 2014; and (3) Japan Indoctrination Training (USFJI 36-2811) with added emphasis on Army Values within the past 12 months. Where possible, "in-person" training should be conducted. For other individuals (i.e., CONUS based personnel who are in Japan in TDY or leave status), training may be conducted electronically either before departure from CONUS or upon arrival.

6. **Off-Installation Public Consumption of Alcohol.** For all Soldiers, regardless of grade, off-installation public consumption of alcohol is prohibited on all days, including holidays, 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 an off-installation residence, quarters, or hotel room.

7. **Liberty.**

a. Liberty is a privilege and not a right. Liberty policy in Japan will be in accordance with this order. Authorized commanders are permitted to establish liberty programs consistent with parameters set forth below in order to meet or exceed operational readiness standards, and/or Anti-Terrorism and Force Protection (AT/FP) measures needed to protect the force and ensure host nation expectations for good order and discipline are met. The following establishes parameters for authorized commanders to utilize in the execution of liberty programs. "Authorized commander" is defined in Appendix A to this memorandum.

b. Commanders are directed to utilize the following operational levels (OPLEVEL) to describe liberty.

(1) **OPLEVEL 1:** Liberty/curfew as established by this USARJ Liberty Order with no additional restrictions.

(2) **OPLEVEL 2:** Liberty/curfew with limitations per authorized commander due to Foreign Criminal Jurisdiction (FCJ) incident that threatens host nation basing and/or the U.S. ability to complete its operational mission, or AT/FP requirements. These limitations may or may not include restrictions on the consumption of alcohol based on mission requirements.

(3) **OPLEVEL 3:** No Liberty/Restricted Curfew. Service members are primarily restricted to place of residence (on or off base) when not performing their mission or as approved by an authorized commander. Alcohol restrictions may apply due to mission and/or AT/FP requirements. This level of restriction may be driven by an FCJ incident that threatens host nation basing and/or the U.S. ability to complete its operational mission, or AT/FP requirements.

(4) Authorized commanders may recall to duty status all members of a unit (company, squadron, battalion, or equivalent) in which one of its members is involved in an allegations of off/on-installation misconduct.

(5) 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 familiarization of service core

APAJ-JA

SUBJECT: United States Army Japan Liberty Order for All Soldiers Located and Operating in Japan

values), and/or increased liberty buddy requirements. The purpose of this process is to ensure that unit members have a common understanding of requirements and to reinforce unit cohesiveness.

(6) Any unit-wide liberty restriction should be of limited duration and implemented only for the purposes described above. Authorized commanders must keep the first O-6 in their chain of command informed of unit recalls and resumption of unit liberty under this paragraph. On Honshu, Deputy Commander, US Army Japan, is designated as the O-6 and on Okinawa, Commander, 10th Support Group is designated as the O-6 authority to be kept informed.

8. **Curfew.** Soldiers, including those who are permanently assigned, or are in a TDY, deployed, leave, or pass status in Japan, in the grades of E-5 and below are subject to curfew between the hours of 0100 and 0500. Soldiers in other grades are not subject to curfew, unless otherwise directed by their authorized commander. During curfew hours, Soldiers subject to the curfew must either be (1) on a U.S. military installation; (2) off the installation in a private residence; (3) in a place of lodging (hotel); or (4) in the performance of official duties (including duty-related/commute travel between an off-base residence and place of duty and travel to/from a medical facility in emergency situations). Authorized commanders may grant curfew exceptions of limited duration on an individual, event-by-event basis for specific circumstances. Grade based blanket exceptions are not authorized.

9. **Battle Buddy Program.** The Battle Buddy Program (BBP) is mandated for all E-5 and below who are:

- a. TDY, deployed, attached, leave, or pass status in Japan for 179 days or less.
- b. Assigned on Permanent Change of Station (PCS) orders or deployed to Japan for more than 180 days and planning to participate in an activity that involves the consumption of alcohol.
- c. For those personnel subject to the liberty buddy program, the following liberty restrictions apply:
 - (1) From 2200 to 0500 hours, if off-installation in Japan, such personnel must be accompanied by a battle buddy. The battle buddy provisions do not alter the curfew provisions in paragraph 8. The battle buddy provisions are effective during designated non-curfew hours (2200 to 0100) and also during designated curfew hours (0100 to 0500) if an "authorized commander" previously approved a curfew waiver, per paragraph 10 below.
 - (2) Such personnel may transit unaccompanied directly between their authorized residence and a military installation or between military installations.

APAJ-JA

SUBJECT: United States Army Japan Liberty Order for All Soldiers Located and Operating in Japan

(3) For such personnel who are picking up or dropping off their battle buddy at the battle buddy's authorized residence, they may travel unaccompanied directly from/to their own authorized residence. An "authorized residence" is the home of such personnel. For those who are TDY and billeted off-installation, it is their place of lodging/hotel. For those who are on leave or on liberty, it is their place of lodging/hotel if not at an authorized home. An authorized residence is also any other location as previously approved by an authorized commander.

(4) A battle buddy may be: (a) an active duty military member; (b) another SOFA member 18 years or older (for example, a spouse, accompanied family member, or a U.S. DoD civilian employee); (c) other 18 year or older family members; or (d) another responsible individual, including a non-U.S. national, who has been approved by an authorized commander.

10. **Exceptions to Battle Buddy Program Provisions:**

a. Authorized commanders may also grant individual event-by-event exceptions for limited duration to this battle buddy policy for specific circumstances. Grade-based blanket exceptions are not authorized.

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

11. **Other Provisions:** This policy does not exempt compliance from other requirements, including host nation laws. Additionally, Soldiers are prohibited from going to "off-limits establishments" as determined by the Armed Forces Disciplinary Control Board Process or other locations as determined by proper authority.

12. Point of contact for this memorandum is the USARJ Chief of Military Justice at (DSN) 263-4041.

Encls

1. Command Liberty Order Definitions
2. USFJ Liberty Order Matrix


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Major General, USA
Commanding

DISTRIBUTION:

- A
- B

APPENDIX A

LIBERTY ORDER DEFINITIONS:

Authorized Commander: An O-4 or higher officer having command authority over the member. In cases where a Soldier does not have an O-4 or higher commander located in Japan, the Commander 78th Signal Battalion for Honshu, and the designated area Summary Court-Martial Convening Authority for Okinawa are authorized commanders.

Liberty: After normal working hours. This includes evenings, weekends, and holidays when not in a duty status.

Military Installations: All DoD installation, bases, posts, camps, stations, and ships and their equivalent. This includes DoD-controlled facilities, such as DoD lodging or recreational facilities. Armed Forces recreation facilities such as the New Sanno Hotel, Hardy Barracks Compound, Okuma Recreation Area, and similar facilities or areas, are military installations. U.S. military personnel and their guests may remain in lounges/bars/casinos and all other areas within those installations, even during curfew hours.

Off-Installation Residence, Quarters, or Hotel Room (also place of lodging): This may belong to the member. It may also belong to another individual, provided that the military member remains there overnight, during curfew hours. The intent is to ensure that military members, who are subject to the curfew, are not off-installation, in public, during curfew hours. For example, Soldiers may visit their friends at their off-installation residence and remain there through curfew hours. The Soldiers in these examples must ensure that they are not off-installation in a public setting (for example, walking on off-installation streets or in a yard or on a roof where they are visible to others) during curfew hours.



USFJ Liberty Order Matrix

(Attachment 2 to USFJ Liberty Order, dated 12 July 16)



Current Liberty Policy		Location	Alcohol	Liberty Buddy Program	Curfew Hours	Training	Authorized Commanders
Operational Levels Ref: USFJ Liberty Order, para 4.b., dated 12 July 16	OPLVL 1	No Change	No Change	No Change	No Change	No Change	No Change
	OPLVL 2	As Directed by "Authorized Commander"	Alcohol purchase and consumption may be limited	No Change	Potential increased application to all members/hours extended	No Change	No Change
	OPLVL 3	As Directed by "Authorized Commander"	Alcohol purchase and consumption may be prohibited	No Change	No liberty off base/away from residence	No Change	No Change
		Japan-Wide	No off-installation public consumption of alcohol (2400-0500) Ref: USFJ Liberty Order, para 4.d, dated 12 July 16	Mandated for all E5 and below off-installation (2200-0500) who are: 1. TDY/TAD, deployed, leave/pass status in Japan for 179 days or less. 2. Assigned on PCS orders or deployed to Japan for 180 days + and planning to drink off base Ref: USFJ Liberty Order, para 4.e & f, dated 12 July 16	E5-Below (0100-0500) Ref: USFJ Liberty Order, para 4.c, dated 12 July 16	1. SAPR 2. Responsible Drinking Training 3. Japan Indoctrination. Ref: USFJ Liberty Order, para 5.a	O-4 & above Commanders have authority to grant event-by-event exceptions to curfew & liberty buddy requirements & may both implement & rescind unit denial of liberty; must report unit denial of liberty actions to first O-6 in chain Ref: USFJ Liberty Order, Attachment 1