

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON JAPAN
UNIT 45006
APO AREA PACIFIC 96343-5006

USAG-J Regulation
No. 40-650

27 July 2012

Medical Services
HOUSING AND CONTROL OF PETS

Issue of further supplements to this regulation
by subordinate commanders is prohibited.

1. REFERENCES:

- a. Army Regulation (AR) 40-905, Veterinary Health Services, 29 August 2006.
- b. U.S. Army Japan (USARJ) Regulation 40-650, Control of Communicable Diseases of Privately Owned Animals, 30 April 2001.

2. EXPLANATION OF TERMS. For the purpose of this directive, the following terms will apply:

- a. Privately Owned Animals (POA). Dogs, cats, ferrets (in accordance with (IAW) Reference 1b), birds, and domestically bred pets of the rodent family such as hamsters, gerbils, guinea pigs, etc. This term may be expanded to include fish and reptiles provided they are not capable of inflicting serious injuries or designated as dangerous.
- b. Registrable animals. Normally, only dogs, cats, and ferrets are registrable. However, other animals may be specified "registrable" by the Installation Commander upon recommendation of the supporting Installation Veterinarian and Provost Marshal (PM).
- c. Supporting Installation Veterinarian. The Military veterinarian at the U.S. Army Veterinary Treatment Facility (VTF) that supports the installation/housing area concerned.

* This regulation supersedes USAG-J Reg 40-650, 29 November 2004. This regulation does not qualify as a supplement to a Department of the Army (DA) regulation.

d. VTF. The veterinary medical facility operated by the U.S. Army Public Health Command on the military installations. Paragraph 6a, lists the VTFs on military installations in Japan.

e. Dangerous Animals. Any animal whose behavior is indicative that the animal is inherently capable of inflicting major or serious injuries. The Installation Commander, his designated representative, or the supporting Installation Veterinarian may designate an animal as dangerous based upon the action or proclivities of that animal.

3. PURPOSE. This regulation provides policy and instructions on the housing and control of registrable pets, registration and deregistration of pets, animal neglect and/or abuse, nuisance animals, and other general policies relating to privately owned animals. This regulation does not apply to Military Working Dogs.

4. GENERAL.

a. It is recognized that many community members desire to have pets. With the privilege of owning a pet; however, comes the responsibility not only to protect and properly care for the pet, but also to preserve and protect the safety and welfare of the community. It is the policy of this command that private property rights are subordinate to public right to be safe and free from nuisances.

b. The provisions of this regulation are directive in nature and U.S. personnel may face disciplinary/administrative actions for violations. Violations may result in the loss of the privilege of living in government housing to include bachelor enlisted quarters (BEQ)/bachelor officer's quarters (BOQ).

c. All sponsors acquiring or importing a registrable pet will read and understand this regulation and other regulations regarding the control of pets.

5. HOUSING AND CONTROL.

a. The number of registrable pets will be limited to a total of two per household in Family quarters. Pets are not allowed in the BOQ/BEQ, and high-rises. A waiver must be obtained from the Garrison Commander (GC) to exceed this number of pets. Due to the limited transportation space available and possible travel restrictions in the event of any emergency departure or evacuation from Japan for any length of time, waivers must include detailed plans on the disposition of extra pets should an evacuation event occur. In addition, only movement of dogs and cats are conducted during emergency departures or evacuations from Japan. Therefore, for any other pet, the owner is required to have a prearranged and documented plan for the short and long term care acceptable to housing with concurrence from the installation veterinarian as desired. Additionally all dogs and cats will be required to maintain all requirements as outlined in paragraph 6, to facilitate re-entry into Japan following an emergency departures or evacuations

from Japan. Abandonment of pets is not an option and may result in Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) or other administrative action. Those in Family quarters with three registered pets before 18 June 2002 will be exempt from the requirement of requesting a waiver but owners are strongly encouraged to have detailed plans on the disposition of extra pets as part of their Non-Combatant Evacuation Operations (NEO) packet.

b. Nonhuman primates (monkeys, apes, etc.) or any other feral or wild animals will not be kept as pets.

c. Pets are not permitted in transient billets. Personnel arriving or departing who own pets may kennel them in one of the boarding kennels approved for quarantine on military installations within Japan on a space available basis at their own expense, or utilize off post facilities.

d. Sponsors are responsible for cleaning outside areas used by their pets. Sponsors can be held pecuniarily liable for any damage done to government-owned property by their pets. Owners must clean up waste left by a pet during a walk on a leash. Fecal droppings will be disposed in sealed plastic bags (preferable double bagged), which will be placed in garbage receptacles. Unbagged waste will not be placed in garbage receptacles.

e. Pets will be maintained in a clean environment with nutritious food offered daily. Potable water and clean shelter from the weather e.g., sunlight, rain, snow, and extreme temperatures should be provided at all times. Shipping crates are not an adequate substitute for proper housing.

f. Pets may be tied within the confines of the sponsor's quarters but should not be able to reach sidewalks or play areas. Restraint procedures will not endanger the animal's well-being nor pose a hazard in the quarters proximity. The animal must not be tied in such a manner that it may become tangled or wrapped.

(1) If kept outside, the pet's area will be policed daily to prevent a buildup of trash and fecal material.

(2) Animals will be moved frequently enough to prevent filthy conditions and/or damaging government property.

(3) All chains, collars, doghouses, and feeding utensils will be kept clean and in good repair.

g. Any sign disease or insect infestation, to include fleas, ticks, lice, etc., will be promptly reported to the VTF as applicable (See USARJ Reg 40-650).

h. Pets are not allowed in swimming pool enclosures, on parade grounds, or in any facility where food is stored, prepared, or served unless the animal is a certified service dog approved by Veterinary Services and the GC.

i. Pets must be leashed, tied, or kenneled when outdoors in dependent housing areas. When kenneled there should be adequate food and water as well shelter in the event of poor weather. If the pet is taken outside the sponsor's quarters, it must be accompanied by an individual capable of controlling it under all circumstances. Cats must be controlled in the same manner to ensure it does not bite, scratch, or otherwise injure or damage people or property.

j. Feral and/or stray animals will not be fed by installation residents or employees. Food for pets housed in outside quarters should be limited to quantities that will be consumed by the pet at each feeding leaving no residual that will attract feral or stray animals.

k. Maintaining pets for commercial purposes for sale or profit in government quarters is prohibited. This includes animals used for breeding purposes.

6. REGISTRATION AND DEREGISTRATION.

a. All registrable pets as defined in paragraph 2b, will be registered with the Installation Veterinarian within three working days after arrival/acquisition of the pet on the installation. Animal will be registered at the responsible VTF during regular duty hours. Registration consists of initiating a medical record, examining for evidence of disease, ensuring vaccinations are current, and implanting a microchip for permanent identification. If the immunization status of the animal does not meet installation requirements, arrangements must be made to properly immunize the animal. Florescent Antibody Virus Neutralization (FAVN) tests will be renewed every two years to facilitate re-entry into Japan following an emergency departures or evacuations from Japan. Animals microchipped at previous installation or by civilian veterinarians will not need to be remicrochipped if the chip is readable by the VTF's scanner. The cost of the immunizations and microchip will be at the owner's expense. Registration must be renewed annually and takes place at the time of the annual rabies vaccination.

- (1) Camp Zama VTF, Building 1042: 263-3875.
- (2) Yokota Air Base (AB) VTF, Building 4145C: 225-4363.
- (3) Misawa AB VTF, Building 1370: 226-4502.
- (4) Iwakuni Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) VTF, Building 1009: 253-6714.
- (5) Sasebo Navy Base (NB) VTF, Building 328: 252-3585.
- (6) Okinawa Veterinary Activity (VETAC), Building 731: 098-959-1300.
- (7) Yokosuka NB VTF, Building H1230: 243-6820.

b. Deregistration will be accomplished in the event an animal registered at the VTF dies, is sold or given away, and as part of the normal clearing procedures. The original owner is legally and financially responsible for all costs associated with final disposition of any unclaimed or abandoned pet and may be subject disciplinary action. Ownership and legal responsibility will only be transferred when the animal is officially re-registered in another person's name at the VTF. Both the original and new owner must do this in person.

c. Requests for exception from microchipping will be routed through the Installation Veterinarian to the GC for approval/disapproval. Failure or refusal to microchip your pet may result in loss of VTF privileges and additionally may delay movement in the event of an emergency departure or evacuation from Japan.

(1) The Installation Veterinarian is the approval authority for waivers.

(2) The GC is the appeal authority for waivers.

d. Individuals not residing on a US Army Garrison Japan (USAG-J) Installation will be required to comply with the Registration IAW local Japanese authorities is required; rabies vaccinations and certificates from the VTF are authorized for meeting local Japanese laws, as long as maintained annually as per regulation as listed in paragraph 6a. Pets not properly registered, residing both off and on the installation, will not be authorized veterinary services. It is highly recommended that all animals be registered at the installation VTF regardless of whether services are received there or not to help ensure that vaccinations and lab tests are in compliance in the event of an emergency departure or evacuation from Japan.

e. Pets not properly registered, restrained, or vaccinated against rabies as required by appropriate directives, and all stray animals on USAG-J installations, will be captured by Installation Military Police (MP) personnel and impounded at either the VTF. Pet owners will be responsible for all costs associated with impoundment of their animal(s). Stray or abandoned animals and animals without identifiable ownership will be confined for a minimum of 3 working days, the animal may be either adopted or euthanized at the discretion of the veterinarian.

7. ANIMAL NEGLECT AND/OR ABUSE.

a. Animal neglect and abuse is strictly prohibited and may be subject to UCMJ or other disciplinary/administrative action. Care of animals which does not meet a reasonable humane standard as determined by the supporting Installation Veterinarian will be considered animal neglect or abuse. Any cruel or unnecessarily harsh treatment will be considered abuse.

b. Suspected Incidents:

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(1) All personnel are encouraged to report to the supporting Installation Veterinarian or to MP personnel any instance where animal neglect and/or abuse is suspected.

(2) Upon receipt of a report, a team consisting of a Veterinary Corps officer (VCO) and MP personnel will investigate.

(3) If, in the opinion of the veterinarian, the animal(s) is/are neglected or abused, the animal(s) may be impounded immediately and the sponsor instructed by the veterinarian on proper animal care, with the sponsor's future right to keep a pet subject to reinspection by the team. In addition, other pets in the same household may be subject to immediate removal as well at the VCO's discretion. The veterinarian will file a report for GC and sponsor's Commander and a copy will be maintained in the animals veterinary treatment records. These actions will be in addition to routine MP actions concerning violations of USAG-J directives.

(4) While under a neglect/abuse investigation, no new animals will be added to the household.

(5) Personnel determined by the GC to be guilty of animal neglect or abuse may be permanently or temporarily denied the privilege of keeping a pet. Any sponsor determined to have owned a dangerous or nuisance animal that has been barred from the installation or euthanized by order of the GC, may be denied the privilege of keeping any pets. The circumstances of the complaints will be used to determine the recommendation of the Veterinarian, PM, and the GC.

8. DANGEROUS ANIMALS. In any bite/scratch incident, the U.S. Army Veterinary Services or Brigadier General Crawford F. Sams, U.S. Army Health Clinic personnel who first become aware of the incident will immediately report the incident to MP. The PM's Office, USAG-J, will maintain records of complaints made against pets. All bite/scratch incidents will be forwarded to the installation veterinary services for inclusions in the animal's record. All bite/scratch victims who are U.S. personnel will visit their local MTF for treatment where at Department of Defense Form 2341 (Report of Animal Bite-Potential Rabies Exposure) will be initiated. Veterinary Service personnel will examine the animal and institute applicable quarantine measures IAW AR 40-905. Local National are encouraged to visit their physician for appropriate care. Veterinary Service personnel will notify the GC of any animal involved in three or more incidents regardless of the degree of seriousness or any single incident of particularly aggressive nature. Such animals may be declared dangerous or a nuisance by the GC on the advice of the installation veterinarian. Where no other measures will satisfactorily protect the community, the GC may order a dangerous animal euthanized after giving notice to the sponsor. A hearing is held no earlier than three days after the notification. The owner will be given the option to ship the animal off the installation instead of euthanizing, if proof of arrangements to ship the animal out of Japan to an area where adequate care and control are available. This must be accomplished within one week of notice of pending euthanasia actions. A waiver may be requested in writing to the Installation Veterinary Services if this time

requirement cannot be met. If the review process determines the animal must be euthanized or the owner elects, the owner will present the animal to the installation veterinarian for euthanasia.

9. ABANDONMENT. Under no circumstances will any pet be abandoned either on or off military installations. An abandonment of a pet for any circumstance may subject the owner to UCMJ or other administrative or disciplinary action.

10. NUISANCE ANIMALS. Any animal allowed to roam free, defecate in neighbors yards, excessively or continuously or be allowed to get into trash containers will be considered a nuisance animal. The GC may declare a pet a nuisance at his/her discretion. When a pet is declared a nuisance, the owner will be required to take immediate action to remove the pet from the facility or installation. Pets will not be abandoned on military facilities or installation.

11. OFF POST PETS. The housing of pets in off-post private rentals will be at the discretion of the occupant and the owner of the property. Military personnel residing off-post with pets must comply with the vaccination, blood test and microchipping standards as set forth in paragraph 6. As well as complying with additional local Japanese requirements. Rabies vaccination certificates and other documents issued by U.S. veterinarians are considered valid to meet Japanese requirements.

12. The proponent for this regulation is U.S. Public Health Command District-Japan, Defense Switched Network 263-4209.

(MCHB-RP-J)

FOR THE COMMANDER:



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Acting Deputy Garrison Commander

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