UNCLASS

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SUBJ/VECTOR 15 FORCE HEALTH PROTECTION GUIDANCE FOR DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

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RMKS/1. This ALNAV provides guidance to Department of the Navy (DON) personnel and commands on the COVID-19 outbreak and is subject to additional guidance provided by the SECDEF. Anticipate modifications to this policy over the next several weeks as more information becomes available. The COVID-19 outbreak continues, with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reporting over 100,000 cases worldwide, to include over 1,000 cases in the United States.

2. Effective 13 March 2020, all DON personnel, including, active, reserve, civilian, and foreign military under DON authority, shall comply with this
guidance to mitigate the risk of further transmission of COVID-19. Our priority is to ensure the welfare and safety of DON personnel and their families, and to ensure mission readiness and success.

3. Individual and Workplace Preventative Measures. During the COVID-19 outbreak, the DoD will continue to protect and preserve the operational effectiveness of forces worldwide in accordance with utilizing Force Health Protection Guidance (FHPG) from the Undersecretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness provided in references (a) through (e), FHPG for the Joint Staff references (f) and (g), and preliminary Office of Personnel Management (OPM) guidance to agencies during COVID-19 reference (h).

In accordance with references (a) and (d), the following guidelines will help minimize the spread of COVID-19:

a. Appropriately wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are unavailable, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60 percent alcohol.

b. Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth.

c. Avoid close contact with those who are sick.

d. Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue or sleeve.

e. Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using an appropriate disinfectant cleaning solution.

f. Minimize large group meetings or gatherings and implement social distancing, by maintaining six feet or two meter distance from others when possible.

g. Personnel who have symptoms of acute respiratory illness shall remain home until they are free of fever (100.4°F or 37.8°C or greater using an oral thermometer) without the use of medication.

h. Personnel who arrive at work and appear to have acute respiratory illness symptoms will be separated from other employees and sent home. DON military and civilian employees should be placed on sick leave or annual leave or if able, allowed to telework if the employee is telework ready.

4. Official and Personal Travel:

a. Official Travel: Effective immediately travel to, from, or through Outside the Continental United States (OCONUS) CDC Travel Health Notice (THN) level 3 locations is prohibited. Mission essential travel to locations other than CDC THN level 3 locations is permitted. Defer non-mission essential travel to all locations until further notice.

b. Authority to Waive Policy: Waiver authority of the policies delineated in this guidance, when mission critical, is delegated to the Commandant of the Marine Corps (CMC) and Chief of Naval Operations (CNO), or their designees but not below the level of General Officer, Flag Officer, or Senior Executive Service for approval.
c. Temporary Additional Duty (TAD) and Permanent Change of Station (PCS) Travel: All military and civilian personnel on TAD and PCS orders to, from, or through OCONUS CDC THN level 3 locations are on hold until further notice. Gaining and detaching commands should use authorities such as delay travel or temporary duty travel on a case-by-case basis in order to decrease the financial impact to Service Members delayed due to this policy. Service Members should be placed in a telework, sick-in-quarters, or other non-chargeable leave status for the duration of the hold.

d. DON Military Personnel: Personal or government-funded leave with travel to, from, or through OCONUS CDC THN level 3 locations is not authorized. Waiver authority designees may approve exceptions for personal travel to, from, or through OCONUS CDC THN level 3 locations.

e. DON Civilian Employees: Official travel to, from, or through OCONUS CDC THN level 3 locations is not authorized for DoD civilian employees. DON civilian employees with approved leave to OCONUS CDC THN level 1, 2, or 3 may continue to travel to their desired locations but should be advised of the health risk they may assume and requirements outlined in paragraph 5. Upon return from approved leave, DON civilian employees who are telework ready may be asked to telework for 14 days or more in order to ensure they have not been exposed to the virus. Civilian personnel hiring actions for positions in CDC THN level 2 and level 3 designated locations are postponed for non-essential civilian personnel until restrictions are lifted.

f. Family Members: Concurrent official travel for family members of Service Members and civilian personnel is denied to CDC THN level 2 and 3 locations for the next 60 days. Early return of dependent request process and approval authority remain consistent with current policies.

g. Retiring or Separating Service Members Within the Next 60 Days: These restrictions do not apply to retiring or separating Service Members unless there is a need for self-quarantine per CDC guidelines.

h. Waivers or Exemption: Individuals traveling under a waiver or exemption remain subject to travel screening protocols. Waivers may be granted, by waiver authority, for compelling cases where the travel is: (1) determined to be mission essential; (2) necessary for humanitarian reasons; and (3) warranted due to extreme hardship. Waivers are to be done on a case-by-case basis, shall be limited in number, and shall be coordinated between the gaining and losing organizations.

i. DON travelers should carefully plan travel to ensure their scheduled flights do not transit through or originate in OCONUS CDC THN level 2 or 3 locations. Travel on military aircraft shall ensure a screening of personnel is conducted at the point of embarkation. At a minimum:

(1) Questionnaire to assess risk of exposure;

(2) Temperature check; and


j. DON personnel traveling to or from a non-CDC THN level 2 or 3 location will inform their immediate supervisor of their travel itinerary and a history of all locations traveled through and visited.
k. Transition to military or DoD contracted aircraft for DoD sponsored travelers coming from or going to CDC level 2 or 3 designated areas, to the greatest extent practical.

5. DON military and civilian personnel who have returned in the past 14 days from countries or areas identified as OCONUS CDC THN level 2 or 3 locations, or who have had close contact with someone with a confirmed infection of COVID-19, will immediately notify their supervisor following service specific guidelines: Navy see references (i) through (k) and Marine Corps see references (l) through (m). Minimum self-quarantine procedures must follow CDC issued guidelines at https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov. Civilians subject to quarantine who are telework ready may be asked to telework. Employees who are not telework ready may be granted weather and safety leave in accordance with OPM guidance.

6. Pursuant to DoD and service regulations and policies, commands will maximize the proportion of the workforce who may be eligible to perform their duties via telework by ensuring appropriate personnel have a completed telework agreement in place in accordance with command policy. Leadership will identify and inform all military and civilian personnel designated as mission essential who must report to duty during an outbreak.

7. Foreign Visits: Consistent with Joint Chiefs of Staff policy, all foreign visits are cancelled until further notice. Exceptions may be granted by CMC, CNO, and/or their designated representative(s).

8. All daily reporting requirements outlined in the above references will be followed unless modified or cancelled by the appropriate organization.

9. Released by the Honorable Thomas B. Modly, Acting Secretary of the Navy.//