HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES AFRICA COMMAND
UNIT 29951
APO AE 09751-9951

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GENERAL ORDER NUMBER 1

TITLE: Prohibited Activities for Personnel Assigned, Attached, or Under the Operational Control of United States Africa Command (USAFRICOM)

PURPOSE. This General Order identifies conduct deemed prejudicial to the good order and discipline of all DoD personnel under the Combatant Commander's authority or responsibility. This Order is effective immediately and rescinds the previous General Order Number 1 dated 18 October 2013.

AUTHORITY: Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) (10 U.S.C. Sections 801-940).

APPLICABILITY. Except as noted in paragraph 8 below, this General Order applies to all U.S. military personnel, Department of Defense (DoD) civilians, and contingency contractor personnel (as defined in DoD Instruction 3020.41, dated December 20, 2011, Incorporating Change 2, dated August 31, 2018) serving with, employed by, or accompanying the Armed Forces of the United States and under the Combatant Commander's responsibility and authority, including all Liaison Officers, Deployed Planners and Trainers, Country Coordination Elements (CCEs), Military Information Support Teams (MISTs), Special Operations Force Liaison Elements (SOFLEs), and Security Force Assistance Brigade (SFAB) personnel.

1. STATEMENT OF MILITARY PURPOSE AND NECESSITY: Operations, deployments and temporary duty travel may place personnel in countries where local laws and customs prohibit or restrict certain activities that may be generally permissible in western societies. Conversely, some countries may lawfully permit conduct that I have determined negatively impacts unit readiness, good order, and discipline within this command. Restrictions on these activities are essential to preserve U.S./host nation relations and the conduct of on-going military operations. Additionally, military operations require the preservation of good order and discipline to perform the mission. High operational tempo combined with often hazardous duty necessitates additional restrictions on certain activities to ensure mission accomplishment and force protection.

2. PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES WHEN WITHIN THE USAFRICOM AOR:

a. Purchase, possession, use or sale of privately-owned firearms, ammunition, explosives, or the introduction of these items into the USAFRICOM AOR.

b. Entrance into sites of religious significance or places of worship.

(1) Entrance into sites of religious significance or places of worship is prohibited.

(2) The basis for this prohibition includes force protection concerns, and the imperative that operational matters retain a characteristic of religious impartiality and respect. Service members may always exercise their religious freedoms using religious support resources of the accompanying force.

(3) Exceptions to this prohibition may be permitted by Commanders at all levels in the following situations: if required by military necessity; as part of an official tour conducted with the approval of military authorities and the host nation; or, when force religious support is unavailable and a Commander has made case-specific exceptions for service members to attend local services. Commanders are authorized to implement more restrictive procedures for force protection reasons if they determine the current local security situation warrants such action.

c. Alcohol Consumption: Any person subject to the "Applicability" section of this General Order who is performing duty on the Continent of Africa is prohibited from consuming more than two alcoholic beverages in a 24-hour period.

(1) Excluded from this prohibition is the consumption of alcoholic beverages as part of an organized religious observance.

(2) An alcoholic beverage, for the purposes of this Order, is 16 ounces (500 ml) of beer, 8 ounces (250 ml) of wine, or an alcoholic beverage (mixed drink) containing 1.5 ounces (45 ml) of hard alcohol.

(3) No person who is younger than the drinking age of the host nation may consume alcoholic beverages.

(4) No operation of a motor vehicle, aircraft (manned or unmanned), or vessel is permitted earlier than eight (8) hours after alcohol consumption.

(5) No consumption of an alcoholic beverage shall be permitted during the duty day or eight (8) hours prior to the start of regularly scheduled duty; and

(6) Commanders at all levels may further limit the permitted consumption of alcohol within their Commands based on mission analysis (e.g., a review of AT/FP, force health and safety considerations);

(7) Mission Commanders, O6 and above, of operationally deployed forces may permit alcohol consumption during non-duty periods, at base camps or rear areas, under circumstances consistent with all provisions of paragraph 2.c. above.

d. Introduction, purchase, possession, use, sale, transfer, manufacture, consumption, importation, or exportation of any controlled substances referenced in Article 112a, UCMJ (e.g., substances listed on Schedules I through V of the Section 202 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812) an example of which would be the plant substance "khat"), or drug paraphernalia,

except as may be required for official duties. This prohibition does not include the possession and consumption of prescription drugs that are accompanied by the original prescription label of the prescribing medical facility or authority.

e. Photographing or filming detainees or casualties, as well as the possession, distribution, transfer, or posting, whether electronically or physically, of visual images depicting detainees or casualties, except as required for official duties and official operational requirements (e.g. evidence collection, military intelligence, tactical site exploitation, medical treatment, properly appointed investigations or criminal investigations, command briefings, and use of a combat camera). Further explanation of this prohibition follows:

(1) "Casualties" are defined as dead, wounded, or injured human beings, to include separated body parts, organs, and biological material resulting from either combat or non-combat activities.

(2) It is prohibited to photograph or possess images of wounded personnel while within medical facilities or during periods of recovery unless the patient has expressly consented to the photographs and possession of any related images unless required for official duties or medical treatment.

(3) This prohibition does not apply to the possession of visual images acquired from open media sources (e.g., magazines and newspapers), or to the distribution of these unaltered images, subject to copyright markings or notices. Additionally, possession and distribution of open media source images is not prohibited if required for official duties (e.g. official briefings, investigations, or Public Affairs).

f. Gambling of any kind, to include sports pools, lotteries, and games, unless permitted by host nation laws and applicable service or component regulations.

g. Removing, possessing, selling, defacing, or destroying archeological artifacts or national treasures.

h. Selling or exchanging any currency other than at the official host nation exchange rate. Importation or exportation of currency in violation of U.S. or the national laws of a country to which the service member is assigned or in the performance of duties.

i. Adopting as pets or mascots, caring for, or feeding any type of domestic or wild animal. This provision does not apply to military working animals.

j. Proselytizing or attempting to win converts of any religion, faith, or practice.

k. Commenting on locally-practiced religions in terms that are contemptuous or denunciatory, either inherent in the expression itself or by virtue of the circumstances under which it is made. This does not preclude articulations of respectful disagreement based on genuinely-held personal beliefs.

l. Attending host nation public disciplinary proceedings of any kind, including executions, unless such attendance is pursuant to official duties, such as those of a trial observer.

m. Taking or retaining individual souvenirs or war trophies. Explanation of this prohibition is as follows:

(1) Private or public property may be seized during exercises or operations only on order of a commander at any level, when based on military necessity. Such property will be collected, processed, secured, and stored for later return to the lawful owner. The wrongful taking of private property, even temporarily, is a violation of Article 121, UCMJ. Public property seized by the United States Armed Forces is the property of the United States. The wrongful retention of such property is a violation of Article 108, UCMJ.

(2) No weapon, or munitions obtained or acquired by any means other than official issue may be retained for personal use, or shipped into or out of the USAFRICOM AOR.

(3) This prohibition does not preclude the lawful acquisition of tourist souvenirs that can be legally imported into the United States.

(4) Unit retention of captured or seized items as historical artifacts (i.e., souvenirs, war trophies, weapons) for inclusion in museums or official displays, for training purposes, or for technical inspection will be governed by applicable Service, Combatant Command, and Departmental regulations and directives. In particular, this requires USAFRICOM approval of the removal of any such items from the USAFRICOM AOR pursuant to the Defense Transportation Regulation – Part V – DoD Customs and Border Clearance Policies and Procedures, Chapter 503, Importation of Privately Owned Firearms (POF) and Ammunition and Implements of War, C7 Import Procedures, Unit War Trophies/Historically Significant Trophies.

n. Prostitution, pimping, pandering, and patronization of prostitutes are prejudicial to good order and discipline, service discrediting, and contrary to the DoD's policy to oppose prostitution, forced labor, and trafficking in persons. Personnel to whom this General Order applies are accordingly prohibited from prostitution, pimping, pandering, or patronizing prostitutes regardless of local or host nation law.

o. Photographs, video images, depictions, or audio-visual recordings, however obtained, which are prejudicial to good order and discipline or brings discredit to the Armed Forces.

3. PUNITIVE ORDER: All provisions of Paragraph 2 of this General Order are punitive. Violations of the prohibitions in Paragraph 2 of this General Order by military personnel may result in punishment under the UCMJ. Civilian personnel and contingency contractor personnel serving with, employed by, or accompanying the Armed Forces of the United States and under the Combatant Commander's authority and responsibility may face criminal prosecution or adverse administrative action for violation of this General Order. Commanders and supervisors are expected to exercise discretion and sound judgment in enforcing this General Order.

4. INDIVIDUAL DUTY: All personnel subject to this General Order are charged to become familiar with and comply with its contents. All persons, military and civilian, subject to this

General Order are also charged with the individual duty to become familiar with and respect the laws, regulations, and customs of their host nation insofar as they do not interfere with the execution of their official duties. Acts of disrespect or violations of host nation laws, regulations, and customs may be punished under applicable criminal statutes and administrative regulations. Personnel subject to this order should consult their chain of command and the Office of Legal Counsel if they have any questions as to its content or application.

5. COMPONENT AND SUBORDINATE COMMANDER RESPONSIBILITY: Component and Subordinate Commanders have a duty to ensure all personnel under their Command, whether allocated or assigned, are briefed on the prohibitions and requirements of this General Order. Commanders will ensure force protection standards are met for all individual and small group travel. Specifically, current threat warnings and adequacy of status protections should be considered for each locale. Component and Subordinate Commanders that have anti-terrorism and force protection responsibility will ensure that appropriate measures (curfews, buddy systems, off limits areas, threat briefings, personal GPS and geo-locator device restrictions, etc.) are in place for all deployed service members, temporary duty travelers, and persons going ashore during port calls (liberty). Finally, nothing in this Order prevents Component or Subordinate commanders from issuing more restrictive guidance for travel to any particular locale when conditions warrant.

6. CONFISCATION OF OFFENDING ARTICLES: Items violating this General Order may be considered contraband, confiscated, and destroyed. Before destruction of contraband, commanders or law enforcement personnel must coordinate with their servicing judge advocate.

7. EXCEPTIONS:

a. DoD personnel under Chief of Mission (COM) authority are not subject to this Order, however, the SDO/DATT at each Embassy will work with the Ambassador to establish and implement rules to ensure appropriate conduct consistent with the mission of the Embassy and COM authority.

b. Personnel on Permanent Change of Station (PCS) orders who are permanently assigned to U.S. Embassies remain under Commander, USAFRICOM authority. Prohibitions contained in Paragraph 2.b. (Religious Site Entry), 2.c. (Alcohol Consumption), and 2.i. (Pet Ownership) do not apply. Personnel who fall into this category are under the coordination authority of the SDO/DATT and will follow the rules of conduct established by each SDO/DATT.

c. U.S. military personnel and DoD civilian personnel who are on leave and not at a U.S. military installation or a U.S. military facility are not subject to this Order. If personnel combine leave with official travel, these provisions apply while in official travel duty status in the AOR, but cease to apply upon departure from the official duty location and during leave periods. Personnel granted liberty by their commanding officer, or granted liberty by another office as permitted by service regulations, remain subject to this Order.

d. Civilian Mariners supporting the Military Sealift Command whose activities will be controlled by applicable contractual agreements and the orders of their supervisory leadership when they are not at a U.S. military installation or a U.S. military facility.

8. WAIVERS AND AMENDMENTS: Requests for waivers of any provision of this General Order must be submitted by the endorsing commander through the operational chain of command to the Commander, USAFRICOM for decision. Subordinate Commanders may impose additional restrictions consistent with this General Order if necessary for good order and discipline but do not have the authority to unilaterally grant exceptions or exemptions to its provisions without the authority of Commander, USAFRICOM, except as otherwise authorized in this order. Any additional restrictions that are imposed shall be forwarded to the Office of Legal Counsel, USAFRICOM.

9. This General Order will remain in effect until rescinded by the Commander, USAFRICOM, or higher authority.

M. E. LANGLEY
General, U.S. Marine Corps