DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
UNITED STATES SOUTHERN COMMAND
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER
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SCCC

22 Feb 2021

GENERAL ORDER NUMBER 1

TITLE: Prohibited Activities for Personnel within the United States Southern Command (USSOUTHCOM) Area of Responsibility (AOR).

PURPOSE: To identify and regulate conduct of personnel within the USSOUTHCOM AOR and under the authority or responsibility of the Commander, USSOUTHCOM.

AUTHORITY:

10 U.S.C. § 164, Commanders of Combatant Commands: Assignment, Powers, and Duties

10 U.S.C. § 801-940, The Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ)

22 U.S.C. § 3927, Chief of Mission

48 C.F.R. § 252.225-7040, Contractor Personnel Supporting U.S. Armed Forces Deployed Outside the United States

The Unified Command Plan, dated 3 November 2017

Secretary of Defense Memorandum Subject: UCMJ Jurisdiction over DoD Civilian Employees, DoD Contractor Personnel, and Other Persons Serving with or Accompanying the Armed Forces Overseas during Declared War and in Contingency Operations, dated 10 March 2008

DoD Instruction 3020.41, Operational Contract Support, dated 20 December 2011

1. APPLICABILITY:

a. This General Order applies to the following personnel while present in the USSOUTHCOM AOR:

(1) All U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) military personnel and civilian employees assigned, attached, or TACON to USSOUTHCOM;

(2) All U.S. Coast Guard personnel assigned, attached, or TACON to USSOUTHCOM;

* USSOUTHCOM General Order Number 1 (GO-1), dated 3 February 2014, is superseded and hereby rescinded.

(3) All U.S. Government agency and department liaison officers and detailees assigned, attached, or TACON to USSOUTHCOM; and

(4) All DoD U.S. contractor personnel serving with, employed by, or accompanying U.S. forces assigned, attached, or TACON to USSOUTHCOM.

(5) All DoD personnel while on leave in the USSOUTHCOM AOR.

b. This General Order does not apply to Defense Attaché Offices, United States Marine Corps Security Detachments, Force Protection Detachments, or to activities that are conducted under the direction and control of a Chief of Mission/Chief of Station.

2. STATEMENT OF MILITARY PURPOSE: Operations and exercises conducted within the USSOUTHCOM AOR may place personnel in countries where local laws and customs permit or allow certain activities that are generally prohibited or restricted by the laws of the United States and/or policies of the Department of Defense. For example, in some countries, prostitution or the use/possession/distribution of controlled substances is permitted by local law. However, as set forth herein, USSOUTHCOM personnel are explicitly prohibited from engaging in these activities. Military operations and exercises require the preservation of good order and discipline in order to successfully accomplish the mission, and the high operational tempo of operations and exercises within the AOR necessitates additional restrictions on certain activities to ensure optimum force readiness, force protection, and mission accomplishment. Moreover, excessive alcohol consumption by personnel in the AOR has been a contributing factor in a majority of injuries and accidents, as well as diplomatic incidents and criminal misconduct involving personnel in the AOR. These incidents can adversely affect U.S. foreign policy and negatively impact USSOUTHCOM theater engagement goals and objectives.

3. PUNITIVE ORDER: Paragraph 4 of this General Order ("Prohibited Activities") is punitive. Violations of the prohibitions in Paragraph 4 of this General Order by military personnel may result in punishment under the UCMJ. U.S. Government civilian personnel who violate the prohibitions in Paragraph 4 are subject to administrative and/or disciplinary action under applicable directives or implementing instructions governing civilian disciplinary or administrative actions. Contractor personnel serving with, employed by, or accompanying the Armed Forces of the United States who violate the prohibitions in Paragraph 4 are subject to administrative action in accordance with the terms of their contract.

4. PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES:

a. The following activities are prohibited **at all times**:

(1) Using, possessing, manufacturing, distributing, importing, exporting or introducing any controlled substance, controlled substance analogue (any substance designed to mimic the effects of a controlled substance on the human body without an approved medical use in the United States), hemp, hemp or cannabinoid (CBD) oil products, coca tea, or any drug paraphernalia unless specifically authorized for an official purpose. Prescription drugs must be accompanied by the original prescription label of the prescribing medical facility or authority.

(2) Patronizing or pandering a prostitute, escort, masseur, or masseuse for sexual pleasure or visiting any establishments known to condone such activity.

(3) Using an escort service or dating service, or participating in any activity that could be perceived as commercial sexual exploitation.

(4) Knowingly entering an establishment that is off-limits or an establishment, the primary purpose of which is to promote or engage in prostitution, perform sexually-oriented massages, or where illicit drug use is known and/or observed to be present. If an individual subject to this General Order unknowingly enters an establishment that is off-limits, or an establishment where prostitution, sexually-oriented massages, or illicit drug use is present, upon learning of the existence of these activities, said individual must immediately leave the establishment.

(5) Consuming alcohol by personnel under the age of 21. This prohibition will not be waived.

(6) Removing, possessing, selling, defacing or destroying archeological artifacts or items of cultural or historic significance.

(7) Selling, bartering, or exchanging any currency other than at the official host-nation exchange rate or commercial rate commonly available at hotels.

(8) Participating in any form of political activity in a foreign nation, including support to election monitoring.

(9) Adopting as pets or mascots, caring for, or feeding any type of local domestic or wild animal. If bitten, scratched, or otherwise compromised, personnel should immediately seek medical attention.

b. The following activities are prohibited **while participating in exercises or specified operations**. A 'specified operation' is an operation which is directed pursuant to a DEPORD, EXORD, or OPORD. A 'specified operation' does not generally include conferences, subject matter exchanges, site visits, preparatory activities in advance of an exercise, transiting vessels, or the routine daily operations of

USSOUTHCOM subordinate organizations, nor does it include ongoing detention operations at Joint Task Force-Guantanamo. With respect to exercises, the prohibitions in this sub-paragraph commence 12 hours prior to STARTEX and continue until ENDEX. The following prohibitions are applicable only to personnel with duty in the USSOUTHCOM AOR and while participating in exercises or specified operations, regardless of whether the individual is permanent party, deployed, or on temporary duty in the AOR, and regardless of whether the individual is on-duty or off-duty.

(1) The use, distribution, or introduction of alcoholic beverages (consumption of a small amount of an alcoholic beverage as part of an organized religious observance is excepted). Alcoholic beverages purchased prior to any exercise or specified operation, or unsolicited gifts of alcohol from host nation representatives, are permitted for consumption by USSOUTHCOM personnel after the exercise or specified operation has concluded. Personnel with duty at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay are exempt from this provision and will instead follow the rules and regulations of that facility. Note: personnel may not operate a motor vehicle, commence their duties, or carry weapons or arms within eight hours of alcohol consumption.

(2) Introducing, purchasing, possessing, using, or selling privately-owned firearms, ammunition, or explosives.

5. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

a. Any permissive consumption of alcohol will be subject to the exercise of restraint, good judgment, and in accordance with any local alcohol use policies issued by the Senior Defense Official/Defense Attaché or Security Cooperation Office.

b. Any purchase, possession, use, or sale of privately-owned firearms, ammunition, or explosives will be conducted in a manner consistent with both U.S. and host nation law and policies.

6. INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITY: All personnel subject to this General Order are responsible for knowing and understanding the prohibitions contained herein and shall report as soon as possible to superior authority all offenses under the Uniform Code of Military Justice which come under their observation. All personnel 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.

7. SUBORDINATE COMMANDER RESPONSIBILITY: Component and subordinate commanders, Senior Defense Officials/Defense Attachés, Deputy Security Cooperation

Office Chiefs, Force Protection Officers, and military and civilian supervisors have a duty to ensure that all personnel are briefed on the prohibitions and requirements of this General Order. Nothing in this General Order prevents component, subordinate commanders, or Senior Defense Officials/Defense Attachés from establishing more restrictive guidance for any particular locale when conditions warrant. Current threat warnings and adequacy of status protections should be considered for each locale.

8. 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 should coordinate with their servicing judge advocate.

9. WAIVERS AND AMENDMENTS: Any request for waiver or modification of the provisions of this General Order will be submitted by the requesting commander to the Senior Defense Official/Defense Attaché (SDO/DATT) in the relevant country for recommendation. The waiver request and SDO/DATT recommendation will then be submitted through the operational chain of command for decision. Authority to waive or modify the prohibitions relating to alcohol consumption by persons 21 and older during some or all exercises and/or specified operations under his or her jurisdiction is hereby delegated to the USSOUTHCOM Military Deputy Commander, the USSOUTHCOM Chief of Staff, and USSOUTHCOM Component Commanders. Any granted waivers or modifications will be in writing and forwarded immediately to the USSOUTHCOM Chief of Staff through the USSOUTHCOM Office of the Staff Judge Advocate.

10. EFFECTIVE DATE: This General Order is effective immediately.

11. EXPIRATION: This General Order will expire when rescinded or superseded by the Commander, USSOUTHCOM, or by higher authority.

CRAIG S. FALLER
Admiral, U.S. Navy
Commander