



HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES FORCES KOREA

UNIT #15237
APO AP, 96271-5237

MAR 25 2020

To All Members and Families of the USFK Team:

As we continue to aggressively fight the spread of COVID-19, our #1 priority remains protecting the force. This has required everyone's total commitment and adherence to the strict health protection measures we have implemented to ensure our installations remain safe havens and free from the virus.

While a majority of the population have adhered to the Public Health Guidance (PHG) and Health Protection Condition (HPCON) measures, others have chosen to disregard our directives and strong recommendations. We cannot allow the actions of a few, who knowingly and selfishly take matters into their own hands, place the rest of the population at an unacceptable level of risk.

Leaders have a responsibility to do everything in their power to protect all members of the team and make certain no one can infiltrate our protective "bubbles." To ensure that commanders have the appropriate and necessary authorities to take all actions required to assure your safety, and establish a total force compliance, we have declared a Public Health Emergency (PHE) that is applicable all US military commands, installations, family members, DoD and KN civilian employees, DoD retirees, contractors, and any other persons with access to USFK installations in the Republic of Korea.

We want to emphasize – this decision is not in response to an increased threat or spread of COVID-19 in USFK. This is primarily about making sure our commanders have the necessary authorities to issue guidance centered on total force compliance and safety.

All individuals mentioned above must follow the same HPCON directives and Public Health Guidance as our Service Members – those who do not comply may be barred from USFK installations for a period of two years.

We remain committed to overcoming this challenge together. We must stay disciplined and vigilant while fighting complacency. We ask everyone to do their part to stop the spread and kill the virus.

Protect the Force to Protect the Mission!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Walter A. Taga Ioud".

WALTER A. TAGA IOUD

Command Sergeant Major, U.S. Army
Senior Enlisted Advisor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert B. Abrams".

ROBERT B. ABRAMS

General, U.S. Army
Commander