



SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
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WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1000

JUL 06 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDERS OF THE COMBATANT COMMANDS

SUBJECT: Assuring Allies and Partners Regarding U.S. Force Deployments in a Coronavirus Disease 2019 Environment

In order to ensure our Nation's security and to meet long-standing commitments to our allies and partners, U.S. Forces depend, in part, on the ability to execute those commitments immediately upon arrival in a host nation. The DoD has taken all practicable measures to minimize the risk that arriving U.S. Forces and civilian employees might import the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) to local populations. Engage directly with your foreign counterparts and share our policy guidance to secure their support to not apply any host nation COVID-19 quarantine and testing requirements to arriving U.S. Forces and civilian personnel.

I am requiring all military personnel and civilian employees scheduled for deployment outside the United States to undergo a 14-day period of pre-deployment restriction of movement, during which time they are continually monitored for evidence of the disease. This monitoring includes periodic polymerase chain reaction testing for COVID-19 as advised by healthcare professionals. Additionally, deploying forces and civilian employees must travel in a manner that minimizes the risk of contracting COVID-19.

Although the DoD cannot guarantee that every member of the U.S. military or every civilian employee will arrive COVID-19 free in a host nation, I am confident the measures the Department has implemented have effectively reduced risk to the greatest extent practicable. Our deploying personnel must be able to commence operations immediately upon arrival. This is in the best interest of both the United States and our allies and partners.

Matt T. Egan



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