



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
UNITED STATES SOUTHERN COMMAND
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER
9301 NW 33RD STREET
DORAL, FL 33172-1202

SCCC

28 May 2012

GENERAL ORDER NUMBER 1

TITLE: Prohibited Activities for U.S. Department of Defense and Certain U.S. Coast Guard Personnel Present Within the United States Southern Command (USSOUTHCOM) Area of Responsibility (AOR)

PURPOSE: To identify and regulate conduct that is prejudicial to the maintenance of good order and discipline of forces in the USSOUTHCOM AOR.

AUTHORITY: Title 10, United States Code, Section 164(c); the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ), Title 10, United States Code, Sections 801-940; and DOD Instruction 3020.41, dated 20 December 2011.

1. APPLICABILITY:

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

(1) All United States Department of Defense military personnel and civilian employees;

(2) All United States Coast Guard personnel assigned, attached, or TACON to Department of Defense organizations;

(3) All United States Government agency and department liaison officers and detailees assigned, attached, or TACON to Department of Defense organizations; and

(4) All contingency contractor personnel (as defined in DOD Instruction 3020.41, dated 20 December 2011) serving with, employed by, or accompanying the Armed Forces of the United States.

b. This General Order does not apply to personnel assigned to: Defense Attaché Offices; United States Marine Corps Security Detachments; sensitive intelligence and counterintelligence activities that are conducted under the direction and control of the Chief of Mission/Chief of Station; or other United States Government agencies and departments, except as referenced in paragraph 1.a above.

c. The specific prohibitions contained in paragraph 4.b are applicable only to individuals (including civilians as referenced in paragraph 1.a above) with duty in the USSOUTHCOM's AOR and while participating in exercises or specified operations, regardless of whether the

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individual is permanent party, deployed, or on temporary duty to the AOR and regardless of whether the individual is on or off duty. Members of Security Cooperation Offices who only provide routine logistical or administrative support (such as facilitating country clearances or the movement of supplies or equipment) are *not* considered to be participating in an exercise or specified operation.

(1) The applicability of paragraph 4.b(1) to exercises extends from 12 hours before STARTEX until ENDEX. These prohibitions do not otherwise apply to site visits or other preparatory activities in advance of an exercise.

(2) The term “specified operations,” for purposes of this General Order, is as defined as operations which are directed pursuant to a DEPORD, EXORD, or OPORD. The term does *not* include ongoing detention operations at Joint Task Force-Guantanamo, routine ship deployments, or other routine daily operations of USSOUTHCOM subordiante organizations.

2. PUNITIVE GENERAL ORDER: Paragraph 4 of this General Order is punitive. All persons subject to the UCMJ who violate the prohibitions contained therein are subject to prosecution and/or disciplinary and administrative action under Article 92 of the UCMJ. U.S. government employees who violate these provisions are subject to administrative or disciplinary action under applicable directives or implementing instructions governing civilian disciplinary or administrative actions. Contingency contractors who violate these provisions are subject to administrative action under DOD instruction 3020.41.

3. STATEMENT OF MILITARY PURPOSE: Operations and exercises place United States Armed Forces within USSOUTHCOM AOR countries. Some of these countries have local laws and customs that permit or allow various activities that are prohibited or restricted by the laws of the United States and policies of the Department of Defense. Maintaining the high standards of conduct of a strong and disciplined force, maintaining personnel health and safety, and adhering to the core values expected of the U.S. Armed Forces is essential to preserving positive relations with our host nations and ensuring the success of operations and exercises in USSOUTHCOM AOR countries. In addition, the high operational tempo combined with fast-paced duties required of U.S. Armed Forces make it prudent to restrict certain activities in order to maintain good order and discipline and ensure optimum force readiness. Activities prohibited by this General Order create significant risk to OPSEC and INFOSEC. Furthermore, excessive alcohol consumption in particular has been a contributing factor in the majority of injuries and accidents, as well as diplomatic incidents and criminal misconduct involving military personnel and DOD civilians in this AOR. These incidents have the potential to adversely affect U.S. foreign policy and the Command’s theater engagement goals and objectives.

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4. PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES:

a. *At All Times.*

(1) It is prohibited to introduce, purchase, possess, use, sell, transfer, manufacture, or consume any controlled substances without a valid prescription unless specifically authorized for an official purpose (such as the authorized transport of military medical supplies). Prescription drugs must be accompanied by the original prescription label which identifies the prescribing medical facility or authority.

(2) It is prohibited to knowingly enter into contact with a prostitute or a person who provides sexually oriented massages. If a person subject to this General Order unknowingly enters into contact with a prostitute or a person who provides sexually oriented massages, other than a passing, unwanted solicitation by the other person, the person subject to this General Order is required to immediately cease the contact and report the incident to the first officer in the Chain of Command.

(3) It is prohibited to patronize a prostitute or receive a sexually oriented massage.

(4) It is prohibited to directly or indirectly arrange for a prostitute or sexually oriented masseuse to come to your own hotel room or other quarters or to go to the hotel room or other quarters occupied by any person subject to this General Order.

(5) It is prohibited to use an escort service or dating service.

(6) It is prohibited to enter an establishment that is off-limits or where it is known by the person subject to this General Order that any of the following are present or habitually present: prostitution, sexually oriented massage, or illicit drug use. If a person subject to this General Order unknowingly enters any establishment that is off-limits or where prostitution, sexually oriented massage, or drug use are present or habitually present, that person is required to immediately leave the establishment and report the incident to the first officer in the Chain of Command.

(7) It is prohibited to remove, possess, sell, deface, or destroy archeological artifacts or national treasures.

(8) It is prohibited to sell, barter, or exchange any currency other than at the official host-nation exchange rate or commercial rate commonly available at hotels.

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b. *While Participating in Exercises or Specified¹ Operations.*

(1) It is prohibited to introduce, purchase, consume, sell, or transfer alcohol. It is *not* prohibited to otherwise possess closed containers of alcohol during an exercise or specified operation acquired prior to the exercise or operation or as an unsolicited gift from a partner nation representative, if they are intended for consumption after the exercise or operation.

(2) It is prohibited to introduce, purchase, possess, use, or sell privately owned firearms, ammunition, or explosives.

5. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

a. All personnel not covered under the provisions of paragraph 4.b of the General Order will exercise restraint in the consumption of alcohol and display a professional demeanor at all times and follow the local alcohol policy of the Senior Defense Official/Defense Attaché or that of the Security Cooperation Office, if one is in effect.

b. All personnel not covered under the provisions of paragraph 4.b of the General Order will ensure that any purchase, possession, use, or sale of privately owned firearms, ammunition, or explosives, is consistent with both U.S. and host nation law or policy.

c. SOUTHCOM subordinate organizations and Senior Defense Officials are free to issue more restrictive orders than those contained in this General Order.

6. INDIVIDUAL DUTY: All persons to whom this General Order is applicable are responsible for knowing and understanding the prohibitions contained herein. All such persons are further charged with the responsibility to become familiar with and respect the laws, regulations, and customs of their host nation, while still maintaining strictest compliance with U.S. law and DOD policy. Acts of disrespect or violations of host nation laws, regulations and customs may be punished under applicable criminal statutes and administrative regulations.

7. UNIT COMMANDER RESPONSIBILITY: Commanders, Security Cooperation Office Chiefs, Force Protection Officers, and military and civilian supervisors are charged with ensuring that ALL PERSONNEL are briefed on the prohibitions and requirements of this General Order. The enclosed Briefing Paper may be used for this purpose, but the text of the General Order itself contains the binding provisions. Commanders may further limit their forces as they deem necessary.

8. CONFISCATION OF OFFENDING ARTICLES: Items determined to violate this General Order may be considered contraband by command or law enforcement authorities if found in the USSOUTHCOM AOR. Before destruction of contraband, commanders or law enforcement

¹ For a definition of “specified operations,” see paragraph 1.c(2).

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personnel will consult with their servicing judge advocate. Military customs and other pre-clearance officials will enforce this General Order during their inspections of personnel prior to departure to and from the AOR and return to CONUS.

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

10. EXPIRATION: This General Order will expire when rescinded by the Commander, USSOUTHCOM, or higher authorities.

11. WAIVER AUTHORITY: Authority to waive or modify the prohibitions in Paragraph 4.b(1) of this General Order is hereby delegated to USSOUTHCOM Component Commanders and to the Senior Defense Official in the corresponding country. Component Commanders are authorized to delegate their waiver authority to no lower than the O-6 level. Any waivers granted shall be in writing and reported immediately to the Chief of Staff, USSOUTHCOM, through the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, USSOUTHCOM. Contact (305)437-1307 for processing instructions.

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GO 1 Briefing Paper


Douglas M. Fraser
General, U.S. Air Force
Commander

Briefing Paper on SOUTHCOM General Order #1

1. Background.

- ❖ SOUTHCOM General Order #1 is new, but incorporates, updates, and replaces the previous SOUTHCOM Alcohol Policy (Policy Memorandum 37-12, 1 Feb 2012).

2. Provisions.

- ❖ GO 1 applies to all DOD personnel, USCG and certain other interagency personnel (while TACON to DOD), and certain contractors while in the SOUTHCOM AOR.
- ❖ Part 1 (¶ 4.a.) applies to such persons while in the SOUTHCOM AOR *at all times* and prohibits:
 - Use, purchase, possession, etc. of controlled substances without a prescription;
 - Knowingly having contact with a prostitute or someone that gives sexually oriented massages;
 - Patronizing a prostitute or receiving a sexually oriented massage;
 - Arranging for a prostitute or sexually oriented masseuse to come to a hotel room or other quarters;
 - Using an escort or dating service;
 - Knowingly entering an establishment that provides prostitution, sexually oriented massage, or illicit drugs;
 - Removing, possessing, selling, defacing, or destroying archeological artifacts or national treasures; and
 - Selling, bartering, or exchanging currency on the black market.
- ❖ Part 2 (¶ 4.b.) applies to persons while in the SOUTHCOM AOR *only while participating in exercises or in operations* with a DEPORD, EXORD, or OPORD (other than routine daily operations) and prohibits:
 - Consumption, purchase etc. of alcohol; and
 - Use, purchase, possession, etc. of privately owned firearms, ammunition, or explosives.
- ❖ Alcohol prohibition during exercises applies from 12 hours before STARTEX to ENDEX.
- ❖ Alcohol prohibition may be waived in writing by a Component Commander or the Senior Defense Official. Component Commanders may delegate their waiver authority to no lower than the O-6 level.
- ❖ Component Commanders or Senior Defense Officials may set more stringent requirements.

3. FAQ.

- Q** I am permanently assigned to the MILGROUP in country XXX. Does this mean I can no longer drink alcohol?
- A** Just like any other person (permanent party, TDY, or deployed) GO 1 does not prohibit you from drinking alcohol unless you are participating in an exercise or specified operation. The exercise restriction only applies from 12 hours before STARTEX until ENDEX. The specified operation restriction applies until the operation is declared over or the alcohol prohibition is waived. If you are *not* participating in the exercise or specified operation, then the alcohol prohibition does *not* apply to you.
- Q** I am going TDY in the SOUTHCOM AOR for a TCA conference. Does this mean I cannot drink alcohol during the conference?
- A** No. A TCA conference, Subject Matter Exchange, or similar event is not a “specified operation,” so the alcohol prohibition does not apply.

I hereby certify that I have read and understand
the contents of General Order One and will comply
while traveling in the USSOUTHCOM AOR.
(Signature and date)