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Personnel

**TRAVELING IN MILITARY UNIFORM VIA  
COMMERCIAL TRANSPORTATION IN JAPAN**

**COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY**

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**RELEASABILITY:** There are no releasability restrictions on this publication

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**PURPOSE:** To provide US military personnel guidance on the wear of military uniforms while traveling in Japan via public conveyances (civilian aircraft, trains, subways, etc.)

**SUMMARY OF CHANGES:** minor edits, updating of uniform designations.

**1. Scope.** This instruction applies to all U.S. service commands stationed in Japan and Okinawa and all military personnel on permanent or temporary duty to Japan and Okinawa.

**2. General:**

2.1. Due to host nation sensitivities, military personnel are prohibited from traveling on commercial aircraft, trains, subways, buses, and non-base authorized taxis while in utility uniform. This includes but is not limited to Army Combat Uniform (ACU), Army Operational Camouflage Pattern Uniform (OCP), Airman Battle Uniform (ABU), Navy Working Uniform (NWU), Marine Corps Combat Utility Uniform (MCCUU), and flight suits. Utility uniforms are allowed for routine duty travel by POV/GOV to nearby military installations and convenience stops off-installation (approved convenience stops are defined by service component regulations, and vary between services and locations). Military personnel who appear in public at airports and other commercial transportation venues such as train and bus stations will wear the appropriate service dress uniform or civilian attire.

2.1.1. COMUSJAPAN and service component commanders have approval authority to grant waivers to this policy.

2.2. This policy does not apply to military personnel travelling aboard DoD Chartered Commercial Aircraft (Patriot Express for example) transiting Japan and Okinawa or personnel traveling in POVs/GOVs or crossing host nation roads dividing an installation.

**3. Reference:** USFJ HOI 36-3003, HQ USFJ Staff Military Uniforms and Civilian Attire.

  
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