

BY ORDER OF
THE COMMANDER

HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES FORCES, JAPAN
USFJ INSTRUCTION 35-101

15 May 2003

Public Affairs



**UNITED STATES FORCES PARTICIPATION
IN AIR SHOWS CONDUCTED IN JAPAN**

COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY

OPR: HQ USFJ/J021 (Major E. Butterbaugh) Certified by: HQ USFJ/J021 (Col. V.L. Warzinski)
Supersedes: USFJ Policy Letter 55-12, 30 May 1985

Pages: 5
Distribution: A

PURPOSE: To establish policy and procedures for US forces participating in aerial reviews, aircraft demonstrations, flight/parachute team demonstrations, flyovers, static displays, and parachute demonstrations in support of community relations programs in Japan.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES: Replaces PL 55-12, dated 30 May 1985. Changes include new format, requirements, and processing steps.

1. Scope. This instruction is applicable to all military commanders participating or involved in air shows conducted in Japan.

2. General: Air shows, as part of community relations programs, help to develop, improve and maintain full understanding and support of the American people and our allies. Shows demonstrate the mission of US forces to defend freedom and the US partnership with Japan, and showcase our dedicated and highly trained US military personnel. Active participation of military units and personnel is an important factor in establishing and maintaining a state of mutual acceptance, respect, cooperation and appreciation between US forces and civilian communities affected by our operations. More importantly, allowing civilians to witness US forces firsthand breaks down the mystery of our presence in Japan. Air shows are normally held as part of a base or station's annual Open House.

3. Definitions.

3.1 Aerial Review – a flyover of multiple types of aircraft representing more than one nation and/or one or more of the US component military services, with elements in trail formation and not involving precision maneuvers or demonstrations.

3.2 Aircraft Demonstration - a demonstration by other than an officially designated unit, of tactical capabilities of aircraft by a single or group of aircraft, including air-to-air refueling, helicopter hover and pickup capabilities, low altitude parachute extraction system, maximum performance takeoff, performance record demonstrations, etc.

3.3 Flight Team Demonstration - a demonstration of tactical techniques by an officially designated unit; the US Navy BLUE ANGELS or US Air Force THUNDERBIRDS.

3.4 Parachute Team Demonstration – a demonstration by the officially designated unit of parachute techniques (the US Army GOLDEN KNIGHTS). Other military parachute teams (including an individual or group) may be specifically authorized for such demonstrations when representing the Department of Defense.

3.5 Flyover - a straight and level flight by an aviation element, normally not more than four aircraft, over a predetermined point on the ground at an announced time and not involving aerobatics or demonstrations. All aircraft are of the same type and same service.

3.6 Static Display - the ground display of any aircraft, and its related equipment (not involving flight, taxiing or starting of engines).

3.7 International Event - an international event is one in which the audience and/or participation is drawn from two or more nations.

3.8 USPACOM Participation - includes any use of US Armed Forces or DOD Civilian personnel of USPACOM as individuals or as units; facilities and materiel to include aircraft, ships, exhibits and equipment in support of community relations programs.

4. Responsibilities.

4.1 U.S. Forces, Japan:

4.1.1 Review participation requests and, as appropriate, approve or recommend approval to higher headquarters.

4.1.2 Ensure USPACOM and the American Embassy, Tokyo, are cognizant of all events involving US/Japanese aircraft participation.

4.1.3 Submit request for approval to USPACOM four months before the first air show date.

4.2 Service Component Headquarters in Japan:

4.2.1 Consolidate participation requests and forward consolidated listing to

COMUSJAPAN's Public Affairs Office (USFJ/J021) four months before the first air show date. This should include component-approved events (Para. 6) and those requiring USPACOM approval (Para. 5), so USFJ/J021 is aware of all events in Japan, and can coordinate with American Embassy, Tokyo.

4.2.2 Ensure the hosting organization has designated a military controller as required in paragraph 2g. of instruction listed in Para. 7.1 (Reference).

4.3 Host Organization:

4.3.1 Designate a military controller for the air show.

4.3.2 Comply with the guidance in Reference.

4.3.3 Provide this headquarters, through appropriate service channels, reports of unusual occurrences or incidents associated with the aerial events that could result in significant unfavorable media attention or public reaction. Reports should reach this headquarters as expeditiously as possible consistent with guidance provided by service directives and the urgency of the matter.

4.3.4 Check airspace restrictions imposed by local airfield conditions of use, if any.

4.3.5 Retain records for the event for at least two years.

4.3.6 Ensure all coordinators and participants (military and civilians) are aware of service and installation restrictions to guarantee safe performances.

4.3.7 Ensure each event meets all DOD, USPACOM, Component, and USFJ Force Protection/Anti-Terrorism requirements.

5. Procedures:

5.1 General:

5.1.1 All requests for participation in aircraft and parachute demonstrations, aerial reviews, flyovers, and static displays will be forwarded to USFJ/J021 for information, coordination and/or approval. USFJ/J021 will forward requests involving the following to USPACOM for approval: (1) Participation by the officially designated U.S. flight and parachute demonstration teams; (2) Aircraft demonstrations held off U.S. military installations; (3) Aerial reviews; (4) Flyovers in connection with memorial services for host-nation dignitaries and those held off a military facility when flown in support of U.S. observances (Armed Forces Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Veterans Day, and POW/MIA Day) or similar host-nation observance; (5) Static displays with participation by more than one of the component services and those displays involving U.S., host-nation, and/or third-nation aircraft, held on either U.S. or host-nation facilities; and (6) U.S. participation in aerial events or shows having national or international

significance.

5.1.2 Service Components will consolidate respective service requests for air shows at Annual Open Houses or special events and forward to USFJ/J021.

5.1.3 Consolidated Service Component air show requests will include name, date(s) of event, sponsoring organization, type of activity (type aircraft for static display, flight demonstrations, etc.), and name, DSN voice and fax numbers (include commercial telephone number if available), and e-mail address of points of contact for each proposed air show. If Japan Self-Defense Forces (JSDF) aircraft are being requested, include a POC who can speak Japanese.

5.2 USFJ/J021 will forward Japan air show requests to the American Embassy, Tokyo, for initial coordination and then to USPACOM for approval. USFJ/J021 will keep the service components informed of the status of respective requests.

5.3 Participating units are encouraged to contact event POCs and vice versa. Direct contact and coordination at this level can solve many of the questions, including availability of aircraft, support equipment, security, billeting, messing, arrival and departure times, etc.

5.4 All message traffic pertaining to air shows will include USFJ/J021 as info addressee. Problems that cannot be solved at the component level will be elevated to USFJ/J021 for resolution.

6. Authority.

6.1. USFJ/J021 will be kept informed of all events covered in this instruction. Per Reference, COMUSJAPAN delegates authority to CDRUSARJ/9th TSC, COMNAVFORJAPAN, COMUSAFJ and MARFORJ to approve the following:

6.1.1. Aircraft demonstrations by a single service held on a US military installation within Japan.

6.1.2. Service parachute teams, parachute sports clubs or qualified individuals at public events that meet the criteria in paragraph 6 of Reference.

6.1.3. Static displays with participation by only one of the component services when held on a US military installation.

6.1.4. Flyovers, except those connected with memorial services for host-nation dignitaries, to include observances of Armed Forces Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, POW/MIA Day, and Veterans Day when held on a U.S. military installation and aircraft are elements of the same service sponsoring the observance.

7. Reference.

7.1 USCINPACINST 5726.2D, 29 May 1993 (CH-1 13 August 1997), COMMUNITY RELATIONS

////////SIGNED////////

ROBERT M. SHEA
Major General, US Marine Corps
Deputy Commander