



HEADQUARTERS  
SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND AFRICA  
UNIT 30401  
APO, AE 09107-0401

REPLY TO ATTENTION OF  
ACSO-DCO

29 JUL 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Sponsor and Newcomers Arrival and Quarantine Guidance MOD 1

MOD 1 supersedes the previous memo dated 16 Jul 20. MOD 1 adds as an enclosure the COVID-19 protocol verification form and outlines what activities may be performed while in a modified quarantine status.

1. Background. This memo provides guidance for arrival and quarantine procedures for newcomers and their sponsors. Our ability to protect the command directly impacts our ability to accomplish our mission and to protect US Government interests in Europe. We will balance health protection requirements with the goal of a smooth reception for our newcomers. *In all instances, sponsors and newcomers will err on the side of caution to preserve the health of the formation and our ability to conduct operations.*

2. Overview. Inbound service members, government civilians, and contractors (aka "official personnel") will test for COVID within 24-hours upon arrival and at the 5-day mark. Official personnel have the discretion to test their family members. After the second negative test at the 5-day mark, official personnel will be authorized restriction of movement for essential tasks only until the 14-day mark. During the 14-day quarantine/ ROM period, inbounds will not visit the HQ or their place of work.

3. Airport/Train Station Arrival

a. Sponsors will use TMP for transporting newcomers' luggage. Reserve TMP through the HQC SharePoint portal; <https://socafrica.sof.socom.mil/hq/hqc/Lists/Vehicle%20Reservation/AllItems.aspx>. Sponsors will use masks and gloves while meeting newcomers and handling their luggage. Once newcomers' luggage is dropped off, sponsors will disinfect the vehicle.

b. All newcomers will use a taxi for all transportation from airport to hotel and/or Stuttgart Army Health Clinic. Taxi fares for required travel to/from Patch Clinic for COVID testing are reimbursable by SOCAFRICA using a local travel voucher. Newcomers will not use the car line with a taxi as wait times can last over an hour.

c. Official personnel (and dependents, if testing) will take a taxi from the Stuttgart airport/train station directly to the Stuttgart Army Health Clinic for their first COVID-19 test when the clinic is open.

Stuttgart Army Health Clinic Hours  
(Acute Respiratory Drive/Walk-Thru)  
Monday-Friday: 0900-1500  
Sunday: Arrive at 1200 (no open hours)

d. Taxi. Neckar taxi has base/post access: +49 0711-8888-8888

e. Ramstein AB Arrivals. Sponsors with newcomers arriving from Ramstein AB will coordinate separate arrangements for movement to Stuttgart. While train is preferable, under no circumstances will newcomers use a taxi. If sponsor transportation is required, the sponsor will request an exception to policy through their chain of command.

2. COVID-19 Testing. To mitigate the spread of COVID-19, mandatory testing at the clinic is required for all official personnel *within 24 hours of arrival*. Follow-up testing is required *on day 5*. Dependents are not required to take a COVID-19 test upon arrival, but may do so at their discretion. If a newcomer receives a positive COVID-19 test result, he/she will be placed in isolation for 14 days along with their family members. If the newcomer's sponsor had sustained, close contact with a newcomer with a positive COVID-19 test result, he/she must be tested and will

be placed in quarantine. *Sustained, close contact is defined as less than 6 feet of separation for a period of 15 minutes or more.*

3. **Quarantine.** During this period, newcomers are restricted, with exceptions, to their hotel/dwelling until two negative COVID-19 tests are completed. In accordance with para 3a, newcomers are authorized to break quarantine to accomplish an essential task, but are required to minimize external exposure. Refer to the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart App (USAGStuttgart), StuttgartCitizen.com, and their sponsors for any additional guidance when checking into the installation and/or Panzer Hotel. **Sponsors and supervisors will coordinate with the SOCAFRICA Surgeon's Office for the quarantine/testing verification memo.**

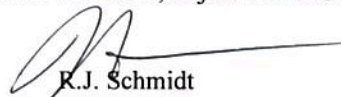
- a. Authorized reasons to "break" quarantine:
  - 1. Walking pets - limited duration and maximum avoidance of common areas and no contact with other persons/pets.
  - 2. Taking out trash.
  - 3. Newcomer enrollment in IACS after negative first test.
  - 4. Visits to the clinic/medical provider.
  
- b. Authorized working ROM activities after second negative test (service members, DoD civilians, contractors – not dependents)
  - 1. On-post grocery shopping.
  - 2. Community Room mail box set up and mail pick up.
  - 3. Outdoor, physically distanced physical training on-post.
  - 4. **Limited in-processing activities.**
  
- c. A non-exhaustive list of activities NOT authorized during quarantine:
  - 1. Frequenting restaurants.
  - 2. Touring and sightseeing.
  - 3. Using DoD or off-post public transportation (except taxi when used for testing or movement from airport to accommodation).
  - 4. Public gatherings.
  - 5. Off-post shopping.
  - 6. Playgrounds on and off post.

**\*\* Masks must be worn at all times outside of accommodations \*\***

4. **Life Support.** Resources such as groceries, meals or other necessary items will be provided by the unit sponsor, supplemented by the appropriate section/directorate, SOCAFRICA Family Support Cooperative (for volunteers within the command, email: Margaret.e.kiser.civ@socom.mil), and garrison volunteers requested through the garrison app and/or ACS.

5. **Exceptions.** The authority to grant exceptions to policy is retained by the Deputy Commander. Requests for exceptions will be endorsed by the respective Director or Special Staff Officer.

6. POC for this memorandum is MAJ Jodi B. Wernikoff, 324-379-9030, or jodi.wernikoff@ socom.mil.

  
R.J. Schmidt  
Col, US Marines  
Deputy Commander

**Encl: Verification of COVID-19 Test Results and Authorization for Modified Quarantine**



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SUBJECT: Verification of COVID-19 Test Results and Authorization for Modified Quarantine for

1. \_\_\_\_\_ has notified their supervisor that they have had two negative COVID-19 tests taken at least 5 days apart (Day 0/1 and Day 5/6).
2. \_\_\_\_\_ has completed strict quarantine requirements IAW SOCAFRICA Memorandum for Record (MFR) concerning travel in a COVID environment.
3. Test results have been verified by the SOCAFRICA Surgeon's Office.
  - a. COVID-19 Test one - Negative     Confirmed     Unconfirmed.
  - b. COVID-19 Test two - Negative     Confirmed     Unconfirmed.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ is authorized to conduct modified quarantine activities commensurate with in-processing as identified in the Memorandum for Record above. **A copy of the MFR has been provided to the traveler.**
5. Point of contact for this memorandum is Supervisor (O5 or above) noted below:
6. This authorization is approved by the undersigned SOCAFRICA director, reachable at: