



NEWS RELEASE

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

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PRESS RELEASE: Misawa Member Confirmed with COVID-19

MISAWA AIR BASE, Japan – One individual in the Misawa Air Base community tested positive for COVID-19. The current number of active COVID cases at Misawa Air Base is seven.

The individual arrived in Japan via a commercial aircraft. In accordance with the Government of Japan's COVID screening policy, the individual immediately received an entry COVID test with a negative result, and was transported to Misawa Air Base via a U.S. Government contracted bus. Upon arrival at Misawa AB the individual immediately went into a 14-day Restriction of Movement (ROM). The positive result was discovered via exit ROM testing. The individual has been placed in isolation. One individual, the roommate in ROM with the positive member, has been placed into quarantine for observation. The 35th Medical Group Public Health office completed contact tracing and determined no additional close contact was made.

U.S. Forces Japan continues to require all personnel arriving in Japan to enter ROM at their residence or a US installation for 14 days. The command also remains at a heightened level of alert and maintains a public health emergency, which applies to all personnel.

Actions required by units within USFJ during this elevated health protection status include:

- Limiting or cancelling in-person meetings, training events, formations, large social gatherings, etc.
- Monitoring conditions in areas near U.S. facilities and areas and close coordination with local health officials.
- Encouraging strict hygiene measures, including frequent handwashing and wiping down common surface areas on a regular basis.
- Implementing health screening measures at points of entry onto installations.
- Maintain a close-contact log to improve contact tracing in the event a member becomes ill with COVID-19, and to quickly isolate other potential contacts.

For up-to-date information, please continue to monitor the USFJ Facebook, @USForcesJapan, as well as Misawa AB Facebook, @MisawaAirBase.

Updates from the Centers for Disease Control are available here:

<https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices/alert/coronavirus-japan>

The U.S. Embassy in Tokyo has additional information available here:

<https://jp.usembassy.gov/u-s-citizen-services/covid-19-information/>