



NEWS RELEASE

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

www.misawa.af.mil

35th Fighter Wing
Office of Public Affairs
Misawa Air Base, Japan 96319-5009

(DSN) PH: 315-226-3075 FX: 315-226-9342
(COM) PH: 0176-53-5181, Ext. 226-3075
(COM) FX: 0176-53-5181, Ext. 226-9342

NR2021_01_22_1
Jan 22, 2021

PRESS RELEASE: Three Misawa Members Confirmed with COVID-19

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

One of the members self-identified as having potential symptoms of COVID, and subsequently tested COVID positive. The 35th Medical Group Public Health office conducted contact tracing, and two of the close contacts of the member also tested COVID positive. All COVID positive members are currently in isolation. As a precautionary measure, an additional ten close contacts were placed in quarantine. The Public Health office is actively conducting additional contact tracing.

Effective immediately, to mitigate risk while public health officials complete contact tracing and COVID testing, the installation commander has directed all Misawa Air Base personnel to limit on and off base movement to necessary activities until Jan. 25, at 11:59 p.m. During this timeframe base personnel must comply with the following restrictions:

- Limit dining to take-out only; no dining in (on and off base)
- Limit social gatherings to 10 personnel or less
- Make deliberate, essential purchases only. Buy, don't "shop"
- Cancel unnecessary social events

U.S. Forces Japan 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/>