



**COMMANDER, NAVY REGION HAWAII/
NAVAL SURFACE GROUP
MIDDLE PACIFIC**

**COVID-19 AWARENESS
August 26, 2020**



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Region and MIDPAC Ohana,

This week our region and installations are involved in an important training exercise. Conducted by CNIC, Exercise Citadel Pacific 2020 (CP-20) is an anti-terrorism/force protection exercise on Navy installations in the Pacific region. CP-20 enhances the training and readiness of our security personnel and better prepares them to respond to potential force protection situations, while providing a learning environment for our security personnel to exercise functional plans and operational capabilities.

Many of you have seen no evidence of a force protection exercise: no increase in security forces, no delays entering the base, no AtHoc alerts blaring on your computer. That is because Navy Region Hawaii is conducting CP-20 virtually as a tabletop exercise. Representatives from a wide range of Region and installation departments are engaging in discussions, walking through scenarios, and discussing possible responses to potential hostile actions – all via distance measures.

Tabletop exercises are nothing new to our Navy, but CP-20 reflects the changes to our ways of doing business that we have come to expect in the past several months since the appearance of COVID-19. We are conducting the exercise and scenarios via telephone instead of face-to-face in our Regional Operations Center and the installations Emergency Control Centers. These steps are needed for us to continued responsible operations characterized by social distancing.

The important thing to keep in mind is that our operations in support of the Fleet are continuing, and they must continue, no matter what the challenges. We have significant requirements and responsibilities to help achieve the Navy's mission, and we must move forward safely.

Remember the importance of accountability as well. With dispersed staffs and increased teleworking, ensure you are in contact with your teammates at least once a day. While this is mostly for our supervisors and leaders, I encourage everyone to have some sort of daily contact with office teammates. This will help us stay connected as a team as we continue to navigate the changes in our work places. Additionally, we have seen new restrictions on gatherings put in place in the civilian community. We will continue to monitor potential developments and will keep you informed of any changes that might become necessary.

My message to you remains the same: do not ease up. We have to consistently and continually make good choices - 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. COVID-19 doesn't take a break; neither can we. If you have a question or an idea to make things better, pass your thoughts up the chain of command.

And as always, please continue to take care of yourselves and your families.

V/r, Robb

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