



COMMANDER, NAVY REGION HAWAII/
NAVAL SURFACE GROUP
MIDDLE PACIFIC

COVID-19 AWARENESS
NOV 6, 2020



COVID-19 Awareness – Nov. 6, 2020

Region and MIDPAC Ohana,

Earlier this week, our Chief of Naval Operations released his most recent Message to the Fleet. While he addressed leave planning for the upcoming holiday season, ADM Gilday also used the opportunity to focus on some important issues that pertain to all of us.

One of his most significant reminders is that while COVID-19 caused large segments of our world to restrict normal operations, the virus did not impact our Navy's operational tempo. We adapted quickly to keep our fleet forward deployed and fully capable of successfully meeting any mission. This applies not only to our active duty forces on the deck plates of our vessels at sea, but also the uniformed and civilian men and women ashore whose hard work is directly responsible for our forces on the leading edge. Our families are playing a critical role, too.

This has not been an easy task. Typically, at this time of year many of us would be making plans to take time off to visit family and friends back on the mainland or in other locations. While this type of travel is another area impacted by the threat of COVID-19, it is as important than ever to exercise caution and persistence in COVID-19 mitigation. The CNO reminds us that the safety and health of our people are his top priority. It will take each of us working together and taking care of each other to finish out this year well and prepare for the New Year.

Holiday season travel planning may be difficult, but we have risen to many challenges in the past few months. Off-island leave is authorized. For service members, we are waiting on further guidance from PACFLT on return guidance, but for now you must factor in a 14 Day Restriction on Movement (ROM) upon return. For civilians, travel as outlined by the state must also be followed. Your leadership can help fill you in on the details.

I encourage you to take a few moments to read the CNO's message, found here - <https://www.navy.mil/PressOffice/Statements/displaystatements/Article/2401569/november-2nd-cno-message-to-the-fleet/>.

You continue to inspire me with the way each of you have risen to face this unique adversity. Persistence and hard work have gotten us to where we are today, and our collective effort will see us through to ultimate victory over COVID-19. Choice management will continue to be a key to our success in combatting this pandemic.

As always, take care of yourselves and your families.

V/r, Robb

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