

# Introduction to Japan

7 February 2016

# Welcome to Japan



## Japan Familiarization



## Cultural Awareness

The development of an etiquette-oriented culture in Japan originated in the native religion called Shinto, which translates as “Way of the Gods.”



The foundation for the social system is harmony – between men and gods, and among men – all within the context of the superior-junior structure of the society.



## Bowing

Bowing has been the Japanese method of expressing greetings, saying farewell, apologizing and indicating understanding and acceptance.

- If you are greeted with a bow, return with a bow.
- When you bow, keep your eyes low and your palms flat next to your thighs.
- Bow as low as the one you received.



## Table Manners

- Do not stick your chopsticks into the rice.
  - Chopsticks are stuck into the rice only at a funeral.
- Do not give or pass food from chopstick to chopstick.
  - This is only done with bones of dead person at a funeral.



- There is no tipping in Japan.

# Japanese Customs and Courtesies



**Etiquette and Manners that are  
NOT recommended in Japan**

# Japanese Customs and Courtesies

**Do not talk loudly when in a crowd  
or on trains/buses**



# Japanese Customs and Courtesies

**Do not call out loudly or wave to people at a distance**



# Japanese Customs and Courtesies

**No Eating, Drinking or Smoking in most public areas**



# Alcohol Consumption



# Drink Responsibly

Most serious criminal violations are related to the consumption of alcohol.

Alcohol is never a legal excuse for misconduct – you are responsible for your actions.

Watch out for each other.

Drink in moderation.



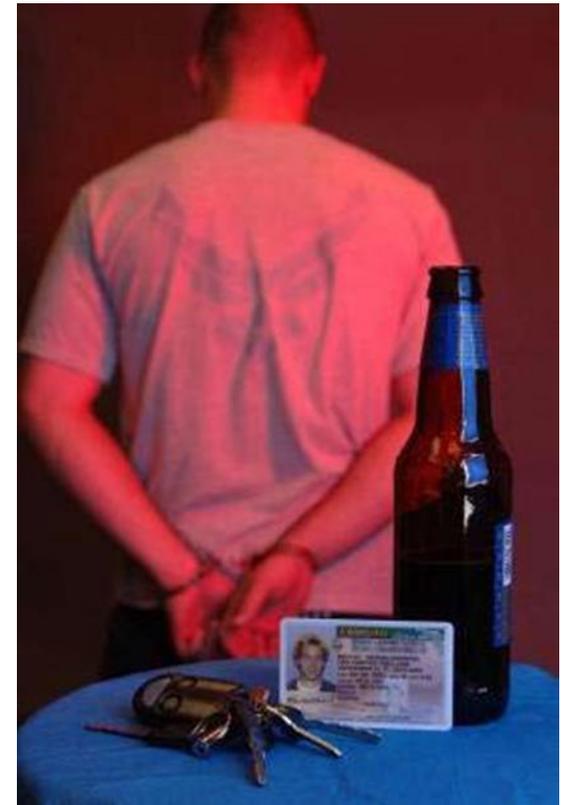
# Drinking and Driving

Drinking and driving is a serious offense in Japan, both on base and off base.

Simply being a passenger in a car operated by a person who is intoxicated may subject you to prosecution.

Implied Consent: Failure to submit to a BAC test upon request by security forces leads to automatic 1-year revocation of driving privileges.

Failure to submit to a Japanese Kitagawa BAC test can lead to 3 months imprisonment or ¥500,000 fine.



# Don't Drink and Drive



## On Installation

.03% - .049%	60-day suspension of driving privileges
.05% - .079%	1 year revocation of driving privileges
.08% and higher	2 year revocation of driving privileges

## Off Installation

- .03% BAC (DWDI) - 3 years forced labor, \$5,000 fine
- .10% (DWI) - 5 years forced labor, \$10,000 fine
- Providing alcohol to driver – 2 years forced labor, \$3,000 fine
- Riding as a passenger with a driver who has consumed alcohol – 2 years forced labor, \$3,000 fine
- Providing a car to an impaired driver – 3 years forced labor, \$5,000 fine

# Off Base

An Officer was drinking at a bar off base, and commenced to drive home.

He was pulled over by Japanese police and blew .029%

As the Japanese law enforcement went thru his bags, they found a pocketknife . . .



He spent **THREE WEEKS** in a Japanese jail before he was released to USN. Japanese may hold someone in jail for up to 23 days before charges are filed.

# Traffic Accidents and Violations



In Japan, all drivers are considered “professional” drivers

If you make even a minor mistake, it is considered “professional negligence.”

If there is a moving accident, both drivers will be found to be at fault.

Don't speed.

Report accidents immediately to proper authorities. Investigation/ interview by Japanese police.

Hit and run – don't do it. Cameras are everywhere in Japan, you will be found.

Payment of fine, or criminal trial.

NOTE: Failure to report an accident (with or without injuries) is a violation of Japanese Penal Code 72.

# Traffic Accidents and Violations



A sailor was speeding outside base.

He ran a red light.

He collided with another car and the other driver died.

**RESULT:** The sailor was arrested, went to trial, and spent three years in a Japanese prison.

He was not drinking, and it was not a hit and run



Traffic Accidents with Injuries:

Maximum 5 years in prison and fine of \$10,000

# Japanese Criminal Procedure



## You can spend up to 23 days in jail even if you are not charged

- If SOFA member is apprehended/detained police will issue Agreed View (AV) 40: official notification of apprehension and/or detention
- Japanese Police can hold you for 48 hours before they present your case to the Prosecutor's Office
- The Prosecutor has 24 hours to decide whether to take the charges forward
- Prosecutors can request a judge to order your detention
- The court can order your detention for 10 days
- And if the prosecutor requests an extension, the judge can order 10 more days

48 hrs+24 hrs+10 days+10 days=23 days



# Japanese Jail



Allowed to shower or bathe three times a week, not on weekends or holidays.

You will never be allowed to make phone calls.

Letters and cards will be censored before going out.

Only allowed to use toiletries provided by Japanese police.

No food or drink from outside sources.

No more than five books.

Only given two cigarettes/day, not on weekends or holidays.

You will share your room with six or seven new friends.

# Japanese Police Questioning

When being questioned by Japanese Police

- BE COOPERATIVE
- BE HONEST



- You have the right to REMAIN SILENT, but
- You have no right to stop questioning
- You have no right to counsel during questioning
- Questioning can continue for HOURS, or even DAYS

# Japanese Police Questioning



## Don't argue with police

- An E3 argued with police
- He walked away while they were still talking to him
- He was held in Japanese jail for over 20 days

Ultimately, Japanese authorities did not press charges

Remember: You can be held for 23 days in Japanese jail before charges need to be filed.

# Trials in Japan

Conviction rate in Japan is 99%

Japanese Police Officers and Prosecutors are meticulous!

They are professional and relentless in their investigation and prosecution



Japanese police will bring as many personnel as they feel they need to contain a situation

# Possession of a Knife



A knife more than a couple inches equates to a maximum punishment of one year in prison and a \$3,000 fine

Even a small one can get you in trouble

**DO NOT CARRY THEM ON OR OFF BASE**

# SOFA



## Status of Forces Agreement & Legal Protections

# Status of Forces Agreement



## *The Basics...*

The Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) is an international agreement between the governments of the United States and Japan.

The SOFA provides rights, privileges, and special protections to US Forces (including civilians and dependents).

## Benefits

- Exempt from certain immigration regulations (passports and visas)
- SOFA driver's licenses
- Exemption from certain local taxes
- Special provisions relating to the exercise of criminal jurisdiction by the government of Japan.

## Responsibilities

- Adhere to Japanese customs and laws

**You are an Ambassador of the United States**

# Status of Forces Agreement



## **Both countries have concurrent jurisdiction**

This means that both countries have the authority to prosecute.

Depending on the offense, one nation will exercise primary jurisdiction.

# Primary Jurisdiction



## U.S. Primary Jurisdiction

- Crimes against U.S. Property or U.S. Security only
- Crimes against SOFA Personnel or their Property only
- Acts committed while performing Official Duties

## Japanese Primary jurisdiction

- Crimes against Citizens of Japan (assault, rape, murder, public drunkenness, public indecency)
- Crimes against Japanese Property (trespass, larceny, destruction, etc.)
- Possession of Contraband (drugs, weapons, etc.)

# Navy-Marine Corps Core Values



**HONOR...**I am accountable for my professional and personal behavior, I will be mindful of the privilege I have to serve my fellow Americans.

**I will do what I believe to be right, even if no one is watching.**

**COURAGE...**The value that gives me the moral and mental strength to do what is right, with confidence and resolution, even in the face of temptation or adversity.

**I will do what I believe to be right, even if everyone is watching.**

**COMMITMENT...**The day-to-day duty of every man and woman in the Department of the Navy is to join together as a team to improve the quality of our work, and our people and ourselves.

**I will always do what I believe to be right.**

# Sailor's Creed



I am a United States Sailor.

I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States of America and I will obey the orders of those appointed over me.

I represent the fighting spirit of the Navy and those who have gone before me to defend freedom and democracy around the world.

I proudly serve my country's Navy combat team with Honor, Courage and Commitment

I am committed to excellence and the fair treatment of all.

# Japan Curfew and Liberty Policy



References. COMSEVENTHFLT MSG 112222ZJUL16  
COMUSFORJAPAN Memo of 9JUL2016

Purpose. To establish updated liberty and curfew policy for all Naval Forces located in Japan.

Intent. To safeguard the vital relationship we have with Japan and bolster military readiness in order to more efficiently meet our obligations under the treaty of mutual cooperation and security, which increases U.S. ability to defend Japan and provide regional stability.

Applicability. Applicable to all U.S. Navy service members as a lawful general order. Dependents, USCS and SOFA-status contractors are requested to observe the spirit and intent of the policy.

# CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL



For all military personnel, regardless of grade, public consumption of alcohol (on or off base) is prohibited between 0000-0500.

Public consumption of alcohol is any consumption of alcohol either on or off of a military installation, except when in an off-installation residence, quarters, or lodging. While USFJ policy only applies to off-installation consumption, the combined C7F/CNFJ policy is more restrictive.

# CURFEW



Military personnel, including those in a TDY/TAD, leave, and normal or special liberty status in Japan, in the paygrade of E-5 and below, are subject to curfew between 0100 and 0500.

During curfew hours, military members subject to the curfew must either be (1) on U.S. military installation; (2) in an off-installation residence, quarters, or lodging (e.g. hotel); or (3) in the performance of official duties including duty related commute between quarters and place of duty.

Note. The New Sanno Hotel, Hardy Barracks Compound, Okuma Recreation Center and similar facilities or areas, are considered military. U.S. military may remain in lounges, bars, casinos and all other areas within those installations even during curfew hours.

# LIBERTY BUDDY



A liberty buddy is always required for E-5 and below who intend to consume alcohol outside of their own residence.

All military personnel in the grades of E-5 and below who are in a TDY/TAD status, leave, or pass status in Japan, or who are deployed to Japan shall be accompanied by a liberty buddy from 2200-0500 when on liberty, when off a military installation regardless on intent to consume alcohol.

The buddy may be:

- An active duty military member
- Another person with SOFA status
- Other family members
- Another responsible individual who has been approved by an authorized commander

# Japan Liberty and Curfew Policy



This policy is a lawful general order and any violation is a violation of the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) and may subject the military member to disciplinary action under the UCMJ as a violation of UCMJ Article 92.

Before a Commander, Commanding Officer, or Officer-In-Charge grants any military member liberty off-installation, the military member must have completed Sexual Assault Prevention Training and Response Training, Responsible Drinking Training, and Japan Indoctrination Training with added emphasis on Service Core Values within the past 12 months. It is recommended to train in person, however, those personnel who are in Japan in TDY/TAD or leave status may receive training electronically. This brief can suffice for the latter, and responsible drinking training is available on the USFJ web site under the section on liberty policy.

# General Information



The Japanese provide SOFA personnel with special trust, respect, and privileges.

SOFA personnel are held in the same regard as:

Police

Fire-fighters

Teachers

Elected officials

Self-Defense Forces

In return for this special status, the Japanese expect us to act responsibly and appropriately toward their citizens.

Violation of this trust negatively impacts our relationship with our host nation and threatens our alliance.

# We're Counting on YOU



Respect  
America

Respect  
Japan



**YOU ARE AN  
AMBASSADOR**

# Certification of Training



After completing this training, complete an Acknowledgement of Completion Memo which can be found at this link:

[http://navfac.navy.mil/navfac\\_worldwide/pacific/fecs/far\\_east/about\\_us/far\\_east\\_documents.html](http://navfac.navy.mil/navfac_worldwide/pacific/fecs/far_east/about_us/far_east_documents.html)

Complete the memo, save as a PDF file and place your signature block. Save the file to your computer and send it to the travel office to receive your travel orders.