

IA Joint Report

USFF ★ CNIC ★ CNRFC ★ NECC ★ ECRC

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In This Edition

- **COVID-19 Vaccinations**
- **CIAC Expectations**
- **COVID-19 DoD Stop Movement**
- **Train & Equip: NIACT Expectations**
- **Social Security Payroll Tax Deferral Repayment**

Previous Editions

www.usff.navy.mil/ia/

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ECRC.FS.FCT@navy.mil

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CIAC/IDSS in NFAAS

navyfamily.navy.mil/

www.usff.navy.mil/ia/

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COVID-19 Vaccinations

Two SARS-CoV-2 vaccines are available for use by the DoD. The current vaccines released under Federal Drug Administration (FDA) EUA or Expanded Availability (EA) are expected to receive full licensure in the future. While the SARS-CoV-2 vaccine is released under EUA/EA guidance, vaccination is voluntary for service members. Members with questions or concerns about the vaccine are encouraged to reach out to their medical providers. Current SARS-CoV-2 vaccines are two-dose series with each vaccine separated by 21 to 28 days. Commanders must ensure second dose timing is planned and operational commitments support prior to initiating the sequence.

COVID-19 Vaccinations are expected to be available for personnel deploying OCONUS as early as February 2021. This date may change, however, based on vaccine production and availability. Reserve forces being mobilized and in the process of activation are prioritized for vaccination with their unit per current mobilization policy COMNAVRESFORINST 3060.7D. All other reserve forces are Phase 3 priority and will be vaccinated according to the approved RC COVID Vaccination Plan. NOSCs/NRAs will coordinate with the nearest MTF to coordinate vaccinations during a drill weekend where possible.

Command IA Coordinator (CIAC) Expectations

All Navy commands with members departing on IA assignments, currently on an IA assignment, or having returned from an IA assignment within the past 6 months will designate at least one CIAC in writing. The CIAC is assigned by the CO's representative in NFAAS.

The CIAC is the command representative to the IA Sailor and their family and is the central point of contact for all IA issues, questions, and problems. The CIAC is tasked with providing the IA Sailor assistance and support throughout the entire deployment cycle. The CO is responsible for ensuring the CIAC fulfills all of the duties, functions, and responsibilities listed in OPNAVINST 3060.7C.

1) Pre-Deployment Stage – Review IA orders in their entirety with the member; ensure DEERS and NFAAS information is current for the IA Sailor and family; advise, direct, and assist the member in completing all administrative, medical, training, and other requirements prior to departing the parent command.

2) Deployment Stage – Contact IA Sailors at least every 30 days (pending change to 60 days per latest OPNAV INST 3060.7 Series update) throughout the duration of deployment until completion of the IA assignment. Maintain contact with the IA Sailor's family at their desired periodicity of contact (e.g., weekly, monthly, every other month).

3) Post Deployment Stage – Coordinate welcome home or reunion events with IA Sailor; continue to track and assist the IA for 6 months after return from deployment; **ensure Post Deployment Health Re-Assessment (PDHRA) (DD Form 2900) is completed between 90-180 days after returning from deployment.**

While CIACs may not possess the means to directly address Sailor issues such as pay or travel, it is nonetheless important for them to liaise with the POCs responsible. When in doubt, CIACs can always reach ECRC Action Officers at ECRC_NREFK_N33@navy.mil or USFF Sailor Advocacy at USFF.IA.FCT@navy.mil. CIACs should always respond to IA inquiries within 24 business hours and continue to follow up periodically until an issue is resolved.

COVID-19 DoD Stop Movement (No Change)

Until further notice, Sailors reporting to ECRC NMPS from outside the ECRC NMPS local area prior to deployment should expect a 14-day restriction of movement (ROM) upon arrival and prior to follow-on processing. Likewise, Sailors returning from IA assignments should expect a 14-day ROM upon arrival and prior to follow-on processing from outside the ECRC NMPS local area. As always, Sailors should consult their orders for reporting instructions and contact the ECRC CDO with any questions or concerns at (757) 763-8640 (ECRC NMPS Norfolk) or (757) 284-6435 (ECRC NMPS Gulfport).

Train & Equip: NIACT Expectations

In general, all IAs deploying to AFRICOM and CENTCOM (with the exception of those deploying to certain locations dictated by the Combat Commander and US Fleet Forces Command) should expect to attend Navy IA Combat Training at the McCrady Training Center located at Ft. Jackson, SC. During the 3-week period, IA Sailors will receive training on weapons, convoy ops, counter IED, communications, and counter insurgency training. While US Army Drill Instructors lead most training evolutions, ECRC provides Navy Liaison staff to assist Sailors.

Sailors should arrive prepared to depart Ft. Jackson for overseas movement. While a shoppette is available within walking distance for individual amenities, hours and availability are limited. A shuttle bus is also available for visits to the larger PX located on Ft. Jackson proper, but scheduling is limited and may conflict with training requirements.

What to bring:

- At least three sets of NWU Type III uniforms, including all prescribable items
- 90-day supply of all prescription medications.
- Updated eyeglass prescription and your most recent set of glasses.
- One set of civilian clothes.
- Laptops, MP3 players, and other electronics may be brought at your own risk. These items are NOT allowed on ranges or during any training evolutions. Cameras are allowed, but use is HIGHLY RESTRICTED.

Authorized military gear and equipment will be issued to you. Do not buy extra equipment you may not need or may not be authorized to use or wear.

Social Security Payroll Tax Deferral Repayment

Per IRS guidance, the Social Security taxes deferred September to December 2020 will be collected from your wages between January and April 30, 2021.

For active duty military members, the total amount of 2020 deferred Social Security taxes will be collected evenly from pay between January 1 and April 30, 2021.

For reservists and guardsmen performing only intermittent duty from January to April 2021, the collections may not be split evenly across pay periods. Collections may be extended past April 30, 2021 if the member does not earn enough pay to collect the 2020 deferred taxes before that date. See IRS FAQs (<https://www.dfas.mil/taxes/Social-Security-Deferral/Military-FAQs/>) for additional information.

Beginning in January 2021, your LES within myPay will reflect the monthly collection amount and contain a note in the remarks section that shows the remaining balance of deferred Social Security taxes. If you would like to calculate the amount prior to your January LES becoming available, you can generally do so by multiplying 6.2% times the amount of basic pay received from September through December 2020.

If you separated or retired in 2020:

Given your separation or retirement in 2020, the Social Security taxes deferred in 2020 cannot be collected directly from your 2021 wages. The government will pay the deferred Social Security taxes to the IRS on your behalf, and you will owe DFAS for this repayment. Collection will occur through the debt management process. You will receive a debt letter via US mail which will provide instructions for repayment. Payments can be made online via Pay.gov.

If you are planning to or have separated in 2021:

If you separate or retire in 2021, before the deferred Social Security tax is collected in full, you are still responsible for the remainder of your Social Security tax repayment. The unpaid balance will be collected from your final pay. If there are insufficient funds to collect the full amount, you may receive a debt letter with instructions for repayment.