MEMORANDUM FOR SENIOR PENTAGON LEADERSHIP
COMMANDERS OF THE COMBATANT COMMANDS
DEFENSE AGENCY AND DOD FIELD ACTIVITY DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: Exemption from the Requirement to Undergo Restriction of Movement on Arrival in the United States for Fully Vaccinated Foreign Military and Civilian Personnel on Official Department of Defense Travel during the Coronavirus Disease 2019 Pandemic

References: (a) Department of Defense Instruction 6200.03, “Public Health Emergency Management (PHEM) within the DoD,” March 28, 2019
(b) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, “Interim Public Health Recommendations for Fully Vaccinated People,” last reviewed on June 2, 2021
(c) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, “International Travel During COVID-19,” last reviewed on June 2, 2021

This memorandum clarifies that fully vaccinated foreign military and civilian personnel arriving in the United States to participate in DoD missions, exercises, military education and training programs, arms control activities, or other DoD missions at U.S. Government installations or facilities during the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, will not be required to undergo a restriction of movement, as defined in reference (a), in the absence of more restrictive guidance issued by DoD Components or by State, Territorial, Tribal, or local governments.

For the purposes of this memorandum, “fully vaccinated” means having received a COVID-19 vaccine currently authorized or approved by the Food and Drug Administration or by the regulatory organization responsible for such approval in the foreign partners’ country, and only after 2 weeks have elapsed since the date of the last dose of vaccine in any given sequence (the date of the first dose if only one shot is required).

The requirement for foreign travelers to the United States to have a negative COVID-19 test result no more than 3 days before travel, or documentation of recovery from COVID-19 in the past 3 months before boarding a flight to the United States, remains in effect regardless of vaccination status, as does the recommendation to be retested for COVID-19 from 3 to 5 days after arrival (see references (b) and (c)).

Fully vaccinated foreign personnel who are exempt from restriction of movement will continue to adhere to other health protective measures, including (but not limited to) social distancing, wearing of masks, and self-monitoring for COVID-19 symptoms, as required by their associated DoD activity and/or by State, Territorial, Tribal, or local governments.

My point of contact for this action is Dr. J. Christopher Daniel, who may be reached at (703) 681-1734 or john.c.daniel2.civ@mail.mil.

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