

Team Thule – Much has changed, both globally and locally here at Thule, since my last post. The spread of the Coronavirus has unfortunately continued around the world, and despite us being up here at the Top of the World – a relatively safe place, the rapidly evolving global situation is forcing us to continually re-evaluate and make adjustments to our local health protection posture. Additionally, many of the decisions and restrictions ordered in the U.S., Denmark, and Greenland have driven many of our actions at Thule. I encourage everyone to watch the Commander’s TV channel 110 for the latest information on Thule’s current HPCON and mandatory health protection measures.

Some of the key restrictions and decisions made within the last week:

- The U.S. Secretary of Defense has ordered all DoD Components (includes the U.S. Space Force and Thule AB) to implement Health Protection (HPCON) Charlie on 25 March 2020.
- The U.S. Secretary of Defense has ordered the stop movement of all PCS, TDY, and Leave for all DoD military and civilian personnel effective 25 March 2020 for 60 days.
- While Greenland is still a U.S. CDC-designated Level 2 country for COVID-19 spread (which allowed for some limited personnel moves), this DoD order now stops all personnel movements in and out of Thule.
- I did authorize some very limited movement of personnel over the last week: some Thule-assigned people were brought back to help units sustain their mission critical operations – and all of these people were placed into, and are currently in, the mandatory 14-day quarantine to ensure they are virus-free; and some people who were here TDY or were scheduled to PCS out to safe areas were allowed to depart Thule. Due to updated DoD order, I do not expect any further movement of personnel into or out of Thule for the next 60 days.
- Air Greenland has grounded its fleet of aircraft both in and out of Greenland, as well as within the country. The monthly Airbus to Thule will continue at this time, but for cargo only.
- We will always have the ability to medically evacuate personnel via aircraft, if necessary.
- Many facilities and services around Thule have adjusted their hours, modified the way they run their activity, or shut down completely due to the need to prevent the spread of germs. Check out the Thule AB Information and Services channels on TV for the latest status.

I and other functional area experts will be on Thule Radio each Monday evening to provide real-time updates and most importantly to answer your questions.

Reminder, please continue to practice very strict hygiene and handwashing – in your living quarters, at work, and as you visit areas around Thule. Contact the Thule AB Medical Clinic staff with any questions or concerns, and most importantly, **call the Clinic at 629-2696 or 2782 if you feel ill. DO NOT COME TO THE CLINIC, but stay in your dorm room in order to prevent possible virus spread.**

Proud to lead and help protect Team Thule!

Col Tim Bos