



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND PACIFIC REGION
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON HUMPHREYS
UNIT #15228
APO AP 96271-5228

IMHM-HRA

9 February 2015

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: USAG Humphreys Policy Letter #94, Human Animal Bond (HAB) Program

1. **References:**

- a. TB-MED 4, DoD Human-Animal Bond Principles and Guidelines.
- b. AR 40-905, Veterinary Health Services, dated 29 Aug 06.
- c. Red Cross Pet Visitation Program Handbook, USAG Humphreys.
- d. OTSG/MEDCOM Policy Memo #11-030.
- e. OTSG/MEDCOM Policy Memo #12-005.
- f. USAMEDDAC-K Policy #28 Command Safety.
- g. USAMEDDAC-K Policy #40-17.
- h. 65th Med Bde Policy Memo #5, Responsible Conduct.
- i. 65th Med Bde Policy Memo #6-09, HIPAA Documentation and Retention.
- j. USAG Humphreys Policy Memo #63, Policies and Procedures for Common Access Card.
- k. USAG Humphreys HAB SOP.

2. **Purpose:** To establish policy regarding the administration of Human Animal Bond (HAB) Programs on USAG Humphreys.

3. **Applicability:** This policy applies to all subordinate commands on USAG Humphreys.

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4. **History:** USAG Humphreys does not currently have any DOD administered HAB program but the American Red Cross (ARC) Services to the Armed Forces, USAG Humphreys, Korea is running a civilian volunteer Pet Visitation Program (PVP) for Service Members. The ARC PVP is designed to improve the quality of life for hospitalized patients, staff, Soldiers and students stationed in Korea. Based on a 22 year-old Tripler Army Medical Center Program, it was openly recognized in military settings that Service Members may be geographically separated from loved ones and a pet can provide an emotional outlet or surrogate. More recent research supports the broader use of animals in a therapeutic manner. The Office of the Surgeon General recognizes the value of these types of programs in occupational therapy and combat stress control. (See OTSG/MEDCOM Policy Memo 12-005)

5. **Benefits:**

a. The Red Cross PVP/HAB program enhances the emotional, social and spiritual dimensions of Comprehensive Soldier Fitness for Service Members at the unit level.

b. Animal Assisted Therapy (AAT) animals promote improvement in the human emotional, social, and spiritual well being of Service Members. Such non-verbal and tactile comfort helps break a cycle of loneliness, hopelessness and social withdrawal. Regular animal visits have been shown to decrease anxiety, fear, stress and tension.

c. Regularly scheduled American Red Cross PVP/HAB visits to installation/unit facilities, offices, hangars, and barracks assist multiple Service Members at one time. Attendance at these locations increases when Service Members know that the PVP/HAB animal will be there. Counselors report that therapy for Service Members is much more effective when a PVP/HAB animal is present.

6. **Policy:**

a. The Red Cross PVP is the only authorized HAB on the USAG Humphreys installation.

b. All animals involved in these programs will meet the public health and safety criteria set out in AR 40-905, the Red Cross PVP/HAB handbook, TB Med 4, and OSTG/MEDCOM Policy Memo 12-005.

c. Volunteer teams shall be composed of Privately Owned Animals (POAs) and their owners. Animals must adhere to current Veterinary Services vaccination and temperament requirements, be evaluated by an American Kennel Club (AKC) Canine Good Citizen (CGC) evaluator for obedience and training and be registered with the ARC. Owners will volunteer through the American Red Cross office and must complete all Red Cross training requirements as outlined in the Red Cross PVP/HAB

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handbook. Names of certified teams will be provided to the USAG Humphreys Commander either by Veterinary Services, ARC representative, or AKC representative upon completion of their certification and prior to any volunteer work.

d. PVP/HAB teams coming onto installations will obtain installation access in accordance with USAG Humphreys Policy Memorandum #63 Policies and Procedures for Common Access Card

e. Red Cross PVP/HAB sites shall include but not be limited to the Red Cross office, Unit/Installation offices, Medical Facilities, DODEA facilities and designated Warrior Transition Sites. PVP/HAB animals will not be allowed into restricted facilities on the Installation.

f. All requests for PVP/HAB volunteer teams will be submitted through Red Cross (APPENDIX A). Volunteer teams are limited and not all requests will be granted.

g. Exceptions to this policy must be requested in writing through USAG Humphreys ARC office for approval by the USAG Humphreys Commander a minimum of 60 days in advance of the intended event

7. This policy does not supersede any prohibitions related to pets, mascots, and other domestic or wild animals contained in other Army Regulations.

8. POC is the American Red Cross Station Chief at 753-7173.



DARIN S. CONKRIGHT
COL, SF
Commanding

DISTRIBUTION:
USAG Humphreys Website

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SUBJECT: Command Policy Memorandum #94 - Human Animal Bond (HAB) Program for USAG Humphreys



APPENDIX A



REQUEST FOR VISITATION BY

REQUESTING POC	
POC CONTACT INFORMATION	PHONE NUMBER: E-MAIL ADDRESS:
LOCATION OF REQUESTED VISIT	UNIT: BUILDING NUMBER:
REQUESTED VISITATION DATE/TIME	
DATE REQUEST WAS RECEIVED	
PERSON RECEIVING REQUEST	
SPECIFIC ANIMAL/HUMAN TEAM REQUESTED (if applicable)	
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	

AMERICAN RED CROSS PET VISITATION TEAMS.