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Can God exempt American troops from mandatory COVID-19 shots?

Pentagon requiring proof of religious 'legitimacy,' review of holy books



By [Bob Unruh](#)

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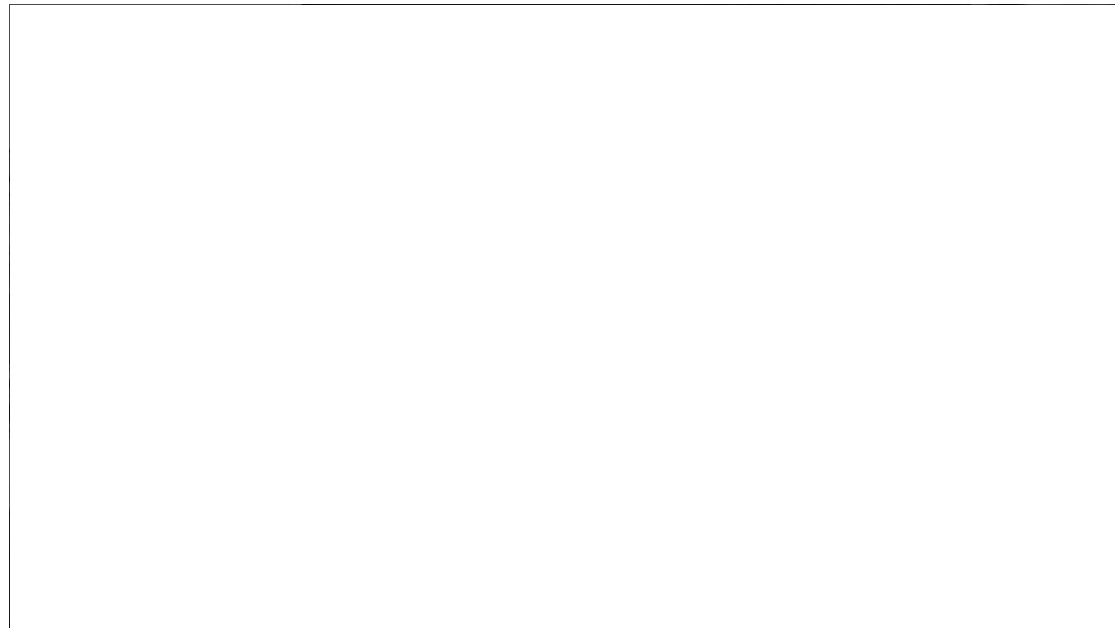
U.S. Marines with Force Reconnaissance Platoon, 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, practice recoil management drills utilizing tracers during a deck shoot aboard the amphibious assault ship USS America in the Solomon Sea on Aug. 5, 2021. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Karis Mattingly)

The U.S. military and its courts are going to be looking deeply into religion soon, as the Biden administration has announced its demands for members of the U.S. military who want a religious exemption from the president's requirement that everyone take the experimental COVID shots.

[Fox News](#) reports that the Pentagon's guidelines have been released.

"There is a religious exemption possibility for any mandatory vaccine, and there's a process that we go through to counsel the individual both from a medical and from a command perspective about using a religious exemption," John Kirby, a spokesman for the Pentagon, explained.

He said military service members who wish to seek an exemption will be required to be counseled by a medical professional and a commander over the risks posed by not receiving the vaccine. The report didn't indicate counseling about the dangers posed by the vaccines.



They also will be grilled about how their decision could affect deployability, travel and more.

Butch Bracknell, a retired Marine and NATO adviser, [said in a blog report that exemptions, including for medical and religious reasons, will likely be limited.](#)

He said those asking for a religious exemption will have to prove that being vaccinated would violate their sincere, closely held beliefs. Bracknell said those requests would go through an examination about whether the religion is even "legitimate."

He explained officials will look at the governing texts for a faith, a holy book, and its history.

Should U.S. troops be granted religious exemptions from COVID shots if they ask for one?

Yes No

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"You can't make up a religion saying, 'I am now a worshiper of sunflowers and these are the tenants (sic) of my faith,'" he said.

Reports confirm that officials expect active-duty forces in the military to be vaccinated by mid-September, either voluntarily or by coercion.

Kirby said, "We have every expectation that once the vaccines are made mandatory, the troops are going to....do the right thing. Going forward with this particular vaccine, the secretary's expectation is that commanders are going to treat

the administration of that vaccine with – as he wrote in his memo – professionalism, skill, and compassion."

It was Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin who confirmed all service members who are not already vaccinated will be required to receive either the Pfizer, Moderna, or Johnson & Johnson vaccine by Sept. 15.

About 74% of the Navy members, 65% of the Air Force and 50% of the Army members have gotten at least one shot already.

There are options for commanders to force unit members to get vaccinated, including forced administrative separation or court-martial.

EDITOR'S NOTE: *Americans are increasingly realizing that much of what they thought they knew about the COVID-19 pandemic has been a lie. At the same time, the reality of safe, effective, inexpensive and readily available medications that can both treat and prevent COVID infection – successfully used all over the world, and by many people in the U.S. – has been ruthlessly suppressed at every turn. But the truth is finally emerging, and is explored in-depth in a special issue of WND's acclaimed Whistleblower magazine, titled "[ENDING THE PANDEMIC: How vaccine mania and lust for power led to the all-out suppression of proven safe-and-effective COVID treatments.](#)" Though sold out in its print edition due to overwhelming demand from WND readers, "[ENDING THE PANDEMIC](#)" is available in Whistleblower's popular, state-of-the-art digital form! Or [SUBSCRIBE TO WHISTLEBLOWER](#) (print edition) and get 12 powerful issues mailed to you – plus you'll get three FREE digital special issues, including "[ENDING THE PANDEMIC](#)"!*

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Bob Unruh joined WND in 2006 after nearly three decades with the Associated Press, as well as several Upper Midwest newspapers, where he covered everything from legislative battles and sports to tornadoes and homicidal survivalists. He is also a photographer whose scenic work has been used commercially.