



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS 51ST FIGHTER WING (PACAF)
UNIT 2067
APO AP 96278-2067

30 September 2019

MEMORANDUM FOR NEWCOMERS TO OSAN AIR BASE

FROM: 51 FW/CC

SUBJECT: Welcome to Osan Air Base

1. Congratulations on your assignment to Osan AB in the land of the Morning Calm! Located 48 miles south of the most fortified border in the world, Osan offers a unique chance to grow personally and professionally, honing your warfighter skills, while also immersing yourself in the rich culture of the Republic of Korea (ROK).
2. Our “why” is quite literally to defend the freedom of 51 million people in the ROK. We must be ready to “Fight Tonight,” and you can expect to be very busy while you are at Osan. We work and train hard, but we also have an incredibly strong community on base. In some respects, Osan is like the “main street USA” of days gone by. Additionally, in the last two years we have helped make history...beginning with the 2018 Winter Olympics, the July '18 repatriation of United Nations fallen warriors from the 1950s, and the historic U.S./North Korean Summits.
3. Airmen love working at Osan AB for good reason, and longer tours are highly desired and encouraged. The Korea Assignment Incentive Pay (KAIP) program offers financial incentives for those who choose to extend their time past 12 month short tours. For those who wish to bring their families, Command Sponsorship Program (CSP) are available; ask your sponsor about them as they are limited in number. For those personnel considering bringing family members “Non-Command Sponsored” to Korea, we have created a “Command Sponsorship vs. Non-Command Sponsored Matrix” available on the newcomer portion of our website and on the Osan app which will provide you with a wealth of information to help understand your options.
4. Because space is at a premium, most members of Team Osan are not authorized to bring (or own) a vehicle. However, most work centers and base services are within an easy walking distance, and on-base shuttle buses run 24-7. You can even track how soon the next bus will be at your stop using GPS via the Osan App. Housing both on and off base are very nice, and there is an extensive and inexpensive public transportation system in place. There is always something to do in this incredibly diverse country.
5. I am on my second assignment at Osan and can tell you the ROK has changed drastically over the last 10-20 years. From simple farming communities decades ago to the high tech metropolises of today, it's a wonder to be seen and experienced. You will soon see for yourself! To get ready, contact your sponsor to get the most up to date information, download the Osan app for your smart phone, and start learning about Osan Air Base and the history of our alliance with the ROK. Thank you for your service, I look forward to welcoming you to Team Osan soon!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John F. Gonzales", is written over a horizontal line.

JOHN F. GONZALES, Colonel, USAF
Commander