



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



MEMORANDUM FOR ALL OSAN AB

SEP 01 2017

PERSONNEL FROM: 51 FW/CC

SUBJECT: Welcome to Osan Air Base

1. Welcome to Team Osan! We guard the freedom of 51 million people in the Republic of Korea (ROK) by defending the base, executing contingency operations and sustaining the force. Our methodology is simple, *mission first* (that is why we are here) and *people always* (how we get it done).
2. The majority of personnel come to Osan unaccompanied for one year and we encourage everyone to improve the mission, as well as themselves, while they are here. There are many activities available, from higher education opportunities to improving physical fitness or spiritual wellbeing. Osan is a walking base, with over 3,000 unaccompanied personnel living on the installation who are not permitted to bring (or own) a vehicle. Even those authorized a vehicle are limited to one, but there is an extensive/inexpensive public transportation system and always something to do in this incredibly diverse country.
3. For the relatively few who arrive to Osan with their family members (less than 10% of the base population), there are also many family-related activities. Command Sponsored Positions (CSP) are limited, due primarily to medical and child-care limitations, and are generally designated for specific military positions where the continuity of a 2-year assignment improves oversight and enhances the mission. The base has the full gambit of family services, similar to other overseas bases, however CSP family members must be approved by medical, educational, and other agencies to ensure proper services are available to meet their needs. There are unique facets to life at Osan which families should be prepared to integrate into their routines, including; working closely with our Korean hosts, living off base (only 60% of families live on the installation), practicing Noncombatant Evacuation Operations (NEO) and Ration Control on some duty-free goods. In the unlikely event of an actual NEO, your family will evacuate without the Active Duty member and your pet may have to stay behind (space dependent).
4. We ask those personnel considering bringing Non-Command Sponsored family members to Korea to fully research the risks, benefits and restrictions before deciding. To provide you with much of the needed information, we have created a "Command Sponsorship versus Non-Command Sponsored Matrix," available on the Osan website. While Non-Command Sponsored families enjoy many of the benefits available at other assignments, there are specific restrictions for coming to Osan without orders. Please make the best evaluation for you and your family before making the commitment to come to the ROK. Thank you for your service and welcome to the most powerful alliance/team on the planet!

WILLIAM D. BETTS, Colonel, USAF
Commander