

Assignment: Korea

Mary Breeden

Relocation Readiness Program Manager

Redstone Arsenal, AL

256-876-5397 or DSN 746-5397

Mary.breeden@conus.army.mil



Relocation Readiness Program 256-876-5397

Getting There

- Flight is very long, about 22 hours between the flight and ground transportation; be prepared.
- Most military flights touch down in daylight hours; Sun~Thursday
- Civilian flights usually arrive in the evening; Sun~Thursday.
- Pack a bag with basic toiletries, snacks, a complete set of ACUs and a set of PTs
- **Hand carry essential paperwork~~orders, leave requests, passports, ID, etc...**



Getting There

- Traveling with kids
 - Take along toys, blanket, snacks & extra clothes
 - Activity bag (games, crayons, books, batteries)
 - Take copies of orders & index card with SM info
- Consider exchanging some dollars for won before departing for Korea
- Check out the Dragon Inn, a five~star resort at <http://www.mwrkorea.com>



Arrival

- You will arrive in 1 of 2 places: Incheon Int'l Airport or Osan Air Base
- Have your orders, military ID cards, passports, and customs forms ready.
- Normally you will be met by a military liaison representative and given instructions for in-processing. Hopefully your sponsor.
- If you are not met by a military representative, you will pass through customs & visit USO desk for information.



Arrival cont...

- **Hand carry your 201 file, dental records, leave form and several copies of PCS orders**
- Ensure ALL FM have current passport and visa.
- Ask your sponsor to help with accommodations when you and your Family arrive.



Reporting Procedures

- 1st Replacement Detachment is located in the old Officers Club just opposite the Dragon Hill Lodge, Yongsan's South Post.
- Most 1st termers are controlled throughout the in-processing to ensure everything is accomplished expeditiously.
- After initial in-processing, each Soldier is assigned to their unit and taken via train, bus or picked up by their gaining unit.
- Newcomers briefing are mandatory and prove to be very helpful in adjusting to your new assignment.
- If you did not request a sponsor or one was not assigned to you prior to your arrival, a reactionary sponsor will assist you once you arrive and with the in-processing check list.



Pets

- Dogs and Cats are not authorized in government quarters in some areas.
 - Check with your Korean Housing Office prior to departure.
- In areas where dogs are permitted, strict leash laws apply when pets are outside.
- Off Post housing is very small. Pet 'relief' and run areas tend to be small.
- All pets must pass Korean customs and health requirements when coming into Korea and prior to returning to the United States.
- A current health certificate and vaccination record is required- quarantine *may* be required.



Schooling in Korea

- DoDD schools are available in some areas for command sponsored Families.
- Private schools are also available.
- Home schooling
- Distant Learning opportunities with stateside colleges are available.



Driving in Korea

- Roads tend to be crowded with autos, bicycles, and pedestrians
- Poor drainage, narrow lanes, rough roads, few sidewalks
- Winter Driving
 - Beware of ice on the roads.
- Summer Driving
 - Expect rain from May through July

Written test required for a USFK drivers license



Climate & Time

- Climate (4 distinct seasons)
 - Winter
 - Cold and dry with the coldest temperatures seldom reaching zero at any time during the winter. The average daily maximum reaches into the mid 30s with occasional daytime temperature into the 40 or 50-degree ranges.
 - Spring ~ Summer
 - Average daily high temp low 70s; rainy season of three to five weeks begins in late June or early July
 - Average daily temp middle to upper 80s in the summer, with high humidity and light winds
 - Time Zone –Korea is 13 hours ahead of EST!
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Cultural Tips

- Always address Korean people by their Family name.
 - Koreans generally use their Family name rather than their first name.
- Respect for elders is highly valued in Korea.
- Korean society is changing rapidly but generally men have priority over women.
- Remove your shoes when visiting a home, temple or particular restaurants.

Cultural Tips cont...

- There are open markets as well as a multitude of indoor shops.
- Be prepared to politely bargain prices with shopkeepers in open markets and small shops.
- Enjoy the culture!
- See your Army Community Service for more information. Visit Military Installations at www.militaryinstallations.dod.mil for specific installation information.



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