



OVERSEAS BRIEFING

Relocation Readiness Program

Fort Jackson, SC 29207

(803) 751-5256

INTRODUCTION

- Provide information on making a successful relocation or transition to your new duty assignment
- Be knowledgeable of factors pertinent to living at your new duty assignment
- Move with as little stress as possible

AGENDA

- **PRE-ARRIVAL:**

- ~Length of Tour
- ~Sponsorship
- ~POV & HHG Shipments
- ~Online Resources

- ~Travel Documents
- ~Pets
- ~Hearts Apart

- **ARRIVAL:**

- ~ Mode/Means of Transportation
- ~ Entry Point Operations
- ~ In-processing Procedures
- ~ Temporary Lodging

AGENDA

- POST- Arrival:

- ~Financial Entitlements

- ~Cultural Adaptation

- ~Housing

- ~Employment Opportunities

- ~Health Care

- ~Local Info

- ~Driving

- ~Weather/Climate

- ~Schools/Education

- ~Electricity

- ~Vehicle Registration

- ~ACS Services



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LENGTH OF TOUR

- Dependent upon;
 - Location
 - Dependents authorized/restricted



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COMMAND SPONSORSHIP

- Required for Family Member Travel
- Takes time so plan ahead
- Steps
 - Obtain DA5888 (Family Member Deployment Screening Sheet) and DA7246 (Exceptional Family Member Screening Questionnaire)
 - Fill out 7246 and blocks 1-8 of 5888
 - Make appt. for EFMP Screening for Family Members at Hospital (take both forms to the appointment)
 - Dr. fills out Part B of 5888
 - Determines whether or not EFMP enrollment is warranted

SPONSORSHIP

- Mandatory to request a Sponsor (E1~O6)
- You should fill out a sponsor request form DA5434 during reassignment interview
- Sponsors can be your main point of contact for information on the unit, housing, cost of living, areas of interest, etc...
- Youth Sponsorship Program & Spouse Sponsorship Program may be available at your new installation

TYPES OF ORDERS FOR Family MEMBERS

- Concurrent Travel
 - Pinpoint assignment
 - Housing will be provided within 30-60 days
 - Temporary Lodging Allowance (TLA)
 - Family members can travel with the Soldier or within 60 days of the reporting date
- Deferred Travel
 - Family members cannot travel with the Soldier
 - Family members will travel once housing is assigned
- Denied Travel
 - Did not receive “Command Sponsorship” (Family cannot travel to new duty station; can request a compassionate reassignment through your S-1)

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Hearts Apart Program

- For FM who will be separated from their Soldier due to deployment or an unaccompanied tour.



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SOFA STAMPS

- Required to stay in country for more than 90 days
- Can apply after receipt of Family Travel Message
- Passports (Travel office, Strom Thurmond Bldg., Room 100)
 - No Fee (prior to PCS)
 - Tourist
 - Joint custody of child under age 16, contact Legal office.

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

- Entry visa (Can apply prior to departure from US) & Official Passports
- Visa (Permanent Resident) for non US Citizen dependents
- Command Sponsorship
- Orders

SHIPMENT OF BELONGINGS

Transportation Office, Room 102,
751~5137/5138)

- Hold Baggage
- House Hold Goods (HHG)
- Storage
- For your special duty assignment, this information varies. Contact Transportation for further information and specifics.

POV SHIPMENT

Transportation Office, Room 102, 751-5137/5138)

- Timing of Shipment
- One POV shipped at Gov't expense
- Adhere to guidelines for shipping POV overseas (inspections, cleanliness, ...)
- All POVs shipped overseas from the US are entitled return shipment
- Transportation office will do the initial paperwork and give directions to port.
- Reimbursed for one-way travel to the port

PETS

- Pets travel at the owner's expense
- Must have a rabies shot within 1 year and health certificate within 10 days
- Can fly as cargo, under the seat or via a pet shipping company
- Quarantine periods vary by location
- Breed Restrictions
- Most installations offer veterinary services

Housing

- Military Installations for detailed information regarding housing.
<https://installations.militaryonesource.mil/>
- Army Housing One Stop
<https://www.housing.army.mil>
- Specific questions can be referred to the Housing Division (ie: waiting lists, entitlement, priority)
- Utilize your Sponsor!

Housing – Miscellaneous Information

- Government support furniture is limited
- A request for furniture support can be signed when signing for housing (check quarters for existing furniture)
- ACS Lending Closet

Miscellaneous Information

- Bulky furniture may be too large to fit into the quarters, especially if quarters have stairwells
- Waterbeds are not allowed
- European electrical current operates at 220 volts; USA 110 volts

SCHOOLS

(<https://installations.militaryonesource.mil>)

- Installations will typically have schools from pre-K through High School
- Distant learning opportunities are available for some stateside colleges. You can still qualify for financial aid overseas.
- Home Schooling is an option
- CYSS services are available with same basic services, including Day Care and Family Child Care
- Specific information on schools can be obtained through Relocation Counseling

FINANCIAL ENTITLEMENTS (possible)

- Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH)
- Basic Allowance for Subsistence (BAS)
- Cost of Living Allowance (COLA)
 - Based on the cost of everyday living and varies
- For more information:
 - Visit <http://www.defensetravel.dod.mil>

DRIVING

- Valid current U.S. driver's license
- Check guidelines inspections for auto registration
- Streets are narrow
- Insurance rates may be higher

THINGS TO CONSIDER

- Spouse employment
- Climate conditions
- Health Care differences
- Deployment
- Pack out Day

Relocation Readiness Program

- Relocation Assistance Counseling
- Welcome Packets (QR Code)
- Military Installations: www.installations.militaryonesource.mil/
- Plan My Move: <https://planmymove.militaryonesource.mil/>
- Lending Closet



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Arrival (Mode/Means of Transportation)

- Traveling with kids
 - Take along toys, blanket & extra clothes
 - Activity bag (games, crayons, books, batteries)
 - Take copies of orders & index card with SM info

Arrival Mode Entry Point Operations

- Flights are very long, about 9-20 hours including the stop-over and ground transportation (depending on starting point)
- Pack a bag with basic toiletries, a complete set of ACUs and a set of PTs
- **Hand carry essential paperwork--orders, leave requests, passports, ID, etc...**

In-Processing Procedures

- Upon arrival at airport, your sponsor, unit rep or military liaison will arrange transportation
- A bus may transport you and your Family
- Your sponsor or unit rep should meet you upon arrival at your installation with a welcome packet
- Depending on time of arrival, you will probably meet with the in-processing personnel the next business day to start in-processing procedures

Post Arrival Financial Entitlements

- **Overseas Housing Allowance (OHA)**
 - OHA is paid only if you are living in economy housing
- **Cost of Living Allowance (COLA)**
 - Based on the cost of everyday living and varies
- **Move-In Housing Allowance (MIHA)**
 - Lump sum payment (if authorized)
- **For more information:**
 - Contact Finance Office

Temporary Lodging

- On-post lodging in Japan is typically limited depending on time of year
- On post lodging in Germany is typically small
- Temporary Lodging Allowance (TLA) is authorized in 10 day increments for up to 60 days in lodging
- If staying off-post, out of pocket expenses can occur
- Important: Sponsor assist with this prior to arrival

Vehicle Registration

- All vehicles 3-4 years or older must go through “control technique” before they can be registered. Registration fees apply
- Married Soldiers may register 2 vehicles without an exception to policy

CULTURE ADAPTATION

- Moving to a different country and culture can affect you more than you realize.
 - Fascination stage; fascinated with the new surroundings
 - Distress Stage; frustrated with problems encountered such as the language barrier or traffic problems (“Oh My God, there’s no Super Wal-mart”)
 - Re-integration stage; you refuse to accept the difference you encounter; you’re angry, frustrated and hostile to those around you
 - Autonomy stage; this is the first stage of acceptance; you start feeling like yourself again
 - Independence stage; finally, you will become acclimated and adjusted to the new culture. With acceptance, you will enjoy your stay.

CULTURE ADAPTATION (cont'd)

- Don't just stay on the installation. Get out in the community and get to know the people and culture
- Get children involved in cultural classes (cooking, etc.)
- Volunteer opportunities for FM
- Be sure to attend both in-processing briefings and newcomers orientations at your new location
- Some installation may require you to attend an Intercultural Relations Workshop

CULTURAL ADAPTATION

- Value Added Tax (VAT)
- Ration cards

Online Resources

- Military Installations: <https://installations.militaryonesource.mil/>
- Plan My Move: <https://planmymove.militaryonesource.mil/>
- Military One Source: www.militaryonesource.com
- On Post Housing/Barracks website: www.housing.army.mil

??QUESTIONS??



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