

Real-world missions continue during Vigilant Ace 16



An F-16 Fighting Falcon screams down the runway spitting a trail of fire as it takes off for a night mission during Vigilant Ace 16 at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Nov. 2, 2015. Vigilant Ace 16 is a peninsula-wide readiness exercise focused on strengthening the ROK and U.S. alliance. Supporting aircrews for the various aircraft participating in the exercise will have the opportunity to train alongside the many different crews from the ROK air force, as well as from forces across U.S. Pacific Command. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Amber Grimm)

By Staff Sgt. Amber Grimm
51st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- F-16s scream down the runway trailing fire, while A-10s and C-17s slip almost silently onto the airfield. Osan’s night sky is filled with the lights and sounds of the myriad aircraft participating in Vigilant Ace 16.

As the peninsula-wide readiness exercise kicks into high gear, the men and women of the 51st Operations Support Squadron radar approach control shop, or RAPCON, are preparing for an increase in air traffic.

“We’re looking forward to the training opportunities,” said Master Sgt. Terrence Horn, 51st OSS senior watch supervisor air traffic control operations.

In addition to the exercise aircraft, the RAPCON is also the controlling agency for all of Suwon and Desidero, commonly referred to as Camp Hum-


phreys, airspace and manages the civilian air traffic to and from the airports there.

“At different airports you get situations that you run into that may cause you to be busy for one reason or another,” said Horn. “But working with fighters is always more challenging.

“When working with fighters that can do 400 knots, everything that you do has to be a quick decision; you don’t have a lot of time to second guess yourself. You have to stick to your decision and it has to be right every time. There’s no option to be wrong.”

When lives are in the balance the pressure can become too much for some.

“It’s an individual thing as to how you deal with it,” said Horn. “Some people would think it’s stressful but personally, I love it. I love my crew, these guys are great, everybody works really well together and we’re a very successful crew for the simple fact that we love our job.”

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Vigilant Ace 16 kicks off in the 'Draggins Lair'



Senior Airmen Jonathon Simmons, 25th Aircraft Maintenance Unit load master, reviews system operational guidelines with his crew during the first night of Vigilant Ace 16 at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Nov. 2, 2015. Vigilant Ace 16 is a peninsula-wide readiness exercise geared toward strengthening the interoperability of the ROK/U.S. alliance. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Amber Grimm)

By Staff Sgt. Amber Grimm
51st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- The night is dark and cold in the "Draggins Lair," but the 25th Fighter Squadron is on the move. It's the first night of Vigilant Ace 16, a peninsula-wide readiness exercise, and while the exercise is just beginning for most of the base, the flightline is already buzzing.

Aircraft maintenance crews, weapons, personnel and munitions experts came together to prepare A-10 Thunderbolt IIs for flight. The 51st Operations Group and 51st Maintenance Group have been practicing and prepping for the anticipated surge of aircraft generation required

by the exercise for days leading up to the official start.

In addition to the base's A-10 and F-16 Fighting Falcon population, the skies of Osan will also be filled with U.S. Air Force C-130 Hercules, KC-135 Stratotanker and a C-17 Globemaster III from Kadena Air Base, Japan, and ROK Air Force F-15K Slam Eagle, KF-16s and F-4E Phantom from the ROK Air Bases Daegu, Cheongju, and Jungwon as well as U.S. Marines EA-6B Prowler from the Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan.

With such a wide variety of aircraft expected to participate in Vigilant Ace 16, aircrews will have the opportunity to train alongside the many different supporting crews from the ROKAF as well as U.S. forces across U.S. Pacific Command.

SABC integral to enhanced readiness



Members from the 51st Logistics Readiness Squadron perform Self-Aid Buddy Care on a simulated victim Nov. 2, 2015, at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea. The 51st Fighter Wing is participating in the readiness exercise Vigilant Ace 16, which focuses on enhancing the readiness and interoperability of U.S. and ROK forces. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Benjamin Sutton)

by Staff Sgt. Benjamin Sutton
51st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- Throughout the readiness exercise Vigilant Ace 16, members are enhancing their training requirements through training and testing.

Self-Aid Buddy Care is a training all members must be capable of completing as effectively responding to any potential life-threatening scenario is a vital tool in ensuring our readiness during operations.

Members of the material management flight had an opportunity to test these SABC skills during a simulated accident.

"During the exercise inject, we simulated that an individual was run over by a forklift inside the warehouse," said Staff Sgt. Erica Russell, 51st Logistics Readiness Squadron assistant NCO in charge of central storage. "We made sure to keep her still and ensure she remained calm while we performed the SABC. Her mock injuries received proper care before the medical personnel arrived."

Realistic training is vital to ensuring members are ready at a moment's notice to respond to any situation.

"A member going into shock is always a worry for the first-responders so we tried to keep her calm and without causing further injury, raise limbs to promote blood-flow," said Russell. "Even during normal day-to-day operations, being able to ensure proper safety procedures helps us stay mission-ready."

Knowing these different types of training tools assists Airmen in being prepared for any type of situation.

"It was good to know that my fellow wingmen came to help me as quickly as they did," said Senior Airman Symphonie Grier, 51st LRS hazardous materials journeyman.

"Being injured can seriously affect our ability to perform our wartime mission. They had a sense of urgency and were determined to help me as the exercise inject victim."

Successfully completing scenarios like the SABC inject, go a long way to improving efforts to the quality of the exercise.

"At any time, no matter what your job is, there can be a situation requiring proper employment of Self-Aid Buddy Care," said Russell. "We must ensure we are prepared and ready to assist our fellow wingmen whenever needed. This is all about readiness, we need to ensure we are ready to fight tonight."

Accessories flight helps keep aircraft in the fight



Senior Airman Jacob Clark, 8th Maintenance Squadron aircraft fuels systems journeyman, inspects an F-16 Fighting Falcon at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Oct. 29, 2015. The fuels section is responsible for inspecting and repairing aircraft fuel systems, in-flight refueling receptacle systems, and other related components across F-16 aircraft. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Nick Wilson)

By Staff Sgt. Nick Wilson
8th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

KUNSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- There are certain accessories required to keep drivers safe, such as air bags, seatbelts, defrosters and windshield wipers. Along with automobiles, aircraft also require an assortment of accessories to assist pilots as they navigate.

To keep pilots safe, Airmen from the 8th Maintenance Squadron accessories flight work to provide timely and technical maintenance to aircraft assigned to the 8th Fighter Wing. The flight breaks down into four sections: electrical & environmental, egress, fuel and hydraulics.

“Without our technical expertise, fuel systems would not be repaired, ejection systems would not be maintained, electrical and environment systems would fail and hydraulically activated aircraft systems would not be tested or repaired in a timely manner,” said Senior Master Sgt. Christopher Johnston, 8th MXS accessories flight chief. “Lack of these skills could ultimately result in mission failure to include aircrew injury or even death.”

To prevent the worst from happening, Airmen and civilians routinely train and practice safe procedures to ensure aircraft are safe to fly at all times.

“We ensure the Wolf Pack is ready by providing trained, skilled and technical professionals that are available to service, troubleshoot and remedy malfunctions related to their specialty,” Johnston said.

One part of providing skilled service to aircraft involves making sure the birds in the sky have enough gas to make it from point A to point B. The fuels section is responsible for inspecting and repairing aircraft fuel systems, in-flight refueling systems and other related components across F-16 aircraft.

“Not being able to move fuel through an aircraft is like driving a car without gas. It won’t go anywhere,” Johnston said. “Our Airmen ensure aircraft fuel systems operate at peak performance.”

Fuels Airmen are also responsible for the maintenance and servicing of 272 F-16 external fuel tanks, which include the inspection and certification of war readiness material fuel chambers.

“Whether we’re out training or doing the real deal, it’s cool to know that I’m a valuable asset that plays such an important role,” said Senior Airman Jacob Clark, 8th MXS fuels systems journeyman.

The hydraulics section also plays an important role in taking the fight north.

“We are responsible for supporting the flight line, phase dock and aerospace ground equipment flight by rebuilding hydraulic components,” said Tech. Sgt. Joseph Manczka, 8th MXS hydraulics section NCO in charge. “Our team refurbishes approximately 50 brakes each year at 84 thousand dollars per assembly.”

From start to finish, the process takes four to five days and includes two other sections within the 8th Maintenance Group for inspections and paint.

“For instance, AGE may come over with a bomb lift that’s ruptured, and they’ll ask us to make a new one,” said Staff Sgt. Aljhaun Bordenave, 8th MXS hydraulics section chief. “We’ll rebuild it, test it and get it back into serviceability.”

Rebuilding and testing equipment is also part of what Airmen do in the egress section. They are responsible for maintaining ejection seats and canopies.

“We perform egress inspections on each ejection seat every 30 days or any time the integrity of the system is disrupted,” said Staff Sgt. Angelo Lowe, 8th MXS egress craftsman. “These recurring inspections are used to visually identify any issues or concerns that could interfere with a pilot’s ejection.”

The section also performs a complete tear-down of the ejection seat every 36 months.

“We have peoples’ lives in our hands,” Lowe said. “We need to ensure that aircrews have the ability to escape, return to base, get into another jet, and continue to fight.”

While the egress section enables pilots to escape

a life or death situation, the electrical and environmental section also literally works to breathe life into pilots as they defy the forces of gravity.

“We repair and maintain 39 aircraft parts, including aircraft batteries and liquid oxygen converters,” said Master Sgt. Joseph Maestre, electrical and environmental section NCO in charge. “Our section also sustains the serviceability of 18 liquid and gaseous oxygen & nitrogen carts, utilized to service breathing and emergency aircraft systems.”

They also perform phase inspections every 400 hours, which encompass performing an “overhaul” on emphasized areas of the jet.

“Every technician in the section looks beyond the repair of a defect or changing of a part, as they approach each task with an effort to put out a solid product, or reliable aircraft,” Johnston said. “They examine around the area of emphasis, finding more areas for improvement.”

Examining all aspects of an egress system is essential because the equipment is necessary to allow pilots to breathe as they ascend into higher levels of the Earth’s atmosphere.

“Maintaining oxygen systems is a life supporting endeavor, by means of upholding proper flight physiology,” Johnston said. “The guidelines are very strict, removing any potential for contaminants to be introduced into the aviator breathing system, which if compromised could result in the loss of a 18.8 million dollar Air Force asset, or worse, a pilot’s life.”

Moreover, from electrical and environmental team members ensuring pilots have liquid oxygen to egress Airmen perfecting the serviceability of an ejection seat, the accessories flight continues to ensure aircrew members can safely soar into the wild blue yonder.

“I can’t recall a time where I have worked with more motivated and professional Airmen than I do now,” Johnston said. “I am continually amazed by each section’s ability to expertly maintain such a technical weapon system as the F-16.”

Airfield managers maintain flightline during Vigilant Ace 16



Staff Sgt. David Morales, 51st Operations Support Squadron airfield management operations supervisor, monitors the flightline while an A-10 Thunderbolt II assigned to the 25th Fighter Squadron lands Nov. 3, 2015, at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea. Morales is responsible for ensuring the flightline is operational for every aircraft participating in the peninsula-wide readiness exercise Vigilant Ace 16. Vigilant Ace 16 is a large-scale exercise designed to enhance the interoperability of the U.S. and Republic of Korea Air Forces. (U.S. Air Force photos by Staff Sgt. Benjamin Sutton)

By Staff Sgt. Benjamin Sutton
51st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- During the readiness exercise Vigilant Ace 16, every participating aircraft requires a safe and functioning flightline in order to complete their mission-specific directives.

Airmen assigned to the 51st Operations Support Squadron Airfield Management flight are responsible for ensuring the flightline at Osan AB is safe, secure and in working order for the mission to be a success.

"We are out front for ensuring the flightline is maintained and ready to support the flying mission," said Staff Sgt. David Morales, 51st OSS airfield management operations supervisor. "There are a lot of safety sweeps that need to be coordinated and completed regularly during the exercise."

These Airmen are responsible for multiple tasks and perform a wide range of specific duties during their 12-hour shifts.

"We need to know all the specific airfield systems, the lighting, the clear zones, communications and radio etiquette," said Morales. "But the most important job we have is to make sure the airfield is ready and secure for the pilots to take off and land safely."

Vigilant Ace 16 has brought many extra aircraft and aircrew to the already busy Osan flightline.

"Airfield management plays a key role in our ability as pilots to safely perform our mission," said Lt. Col. Travis Ruhl, 51st Fighter Wing Inspector General and 36th Fighter Squadron pilot. "Both from a safety and a combat perspective, they are the ones performing the sweeps to keep the flightline clear, which is essential to generating combat airpower."

Airmen are working longer, tougher hours during the readiness exercise and the added aircraft mean the airfield requires more attention, explained Morales.

"We have our usual squadrons flying extra missions and because of the exercise there are others as well, all flying both day and night," he said. "The airfield is extremely busy and we have to manage every aspect of it to succeed. The bottom line is that we are in this together and this kind of practice is good to really test how well we work together. It's all about teamwork."

Readiness exercises are designed to test the capabilities of every Airman during the allotted time-frame.

"We know this is an exercise but are very aware that the lessons learned during it may very well save our lives in the future," said Morales.



Airmen participating in readiness exercise Vigilant Ace 16 work on the flightline while two A-10 Thunderbolt IIs taxi past after a mission Nov. 3, 2015, at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea. Members assigned to more than 8 squadrons from three separate bases across Pacific Air Forces are participating in readiness exercise Vigilant Ace 16.

ROK, U.S. Airmen receive specialized aircraft balance training



Staff Sgt. James McFadden, 35th Maintenance Group quality assurance manager, positions an aircraft jack beneath the wing of an F-16 Fighting Falcon during a weight and balance check class at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Oct. 14, 2015. The class trained ROK and U.S. quality assurance managers how to properly weigh and balance aircraft using specialized systems. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Amber Grimm)

By Staff Sgt. Amber Grimm
51st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea- -- The Republic of Korea air force joined up with U. S. Air Force quality assurance technicians to undergo specialized aircraft systems training here Oct. 14, 2015.

The joint training covered the weight and balance procedures specifically for the F-16 Fighting Falcon and the A-10 Thunderbolt II.

“Without the aircraft having a proper weigh done every 36 months, you could have center of gravity issues leading to [unbalanced] weight issues and the jets could literally fall out of the sky,” said Tech. Sgt. Brandon Mulford, 51st Maintenance Group quality assurance manager.

Technicians weigh the aircraft using load cells, digital devices that convert force into a measurable electrical output, placed at key points under the aircraft. The information they produce, once calculated, provides the exact center of gravity.

“We want it within a specific tolerance,” said Mulford. “There’s a two-foot margin were we want that center to stay.”

If an aircraft is found to be unbalanced during this check, extensive research has to be done to locate the source of the increased weight and troubleshoot accordingly. The potential loss of life due to sudden shifts in weight distribution is the primary reason such care is taken.

“Us doing this weigh ensures that proper center of gravity,” said Mulford. “If we add munitions, a pilot or anything else to the aircraft we can use this as a basis for reference to do all our other calculations throughout the flying mission.”



(Left) Tech. Sgt. Christopher Moore, 51st Maintenance Group quality assurance manager, positions an aircraft jack outfitted with a load cell beneath an F-16 Fighting Falcon at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Oct. 14, 2015. Technicians weigh the aircraft using the load cells, digital devices that convert force into a measurable electrical output, placed at key points under the aircraft.

(Right) Tech. Sgt. Brandon Mulford, 51st Maintenance Group quality assurance manager along with Lockheed Martin representatives review data gathered during the hands-on portion of a weight and balance course taught at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Oct. 14, 2015. The class trained both ROK and U.S. quality assurance Airmen on specialized aircraft systems, which checks and measure the weight and balance of an aircraft.

(Bottom right) A level is placed in the wheel well of an F-16 Fighting Falcon during the hands-on portion of a weight and balance check course held at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Oct. 14, 2015. The check ensures the aircraft retains an optimal center of gravity required for the aircraft to fly. (U.S. Air Force photos by Staff Sgt. Amber Grimm)

Osan U-2s celebrate nearly 40 years of surveillance



Airmen assigned to the 5th Reconnaissance Squadron perform last-minute checks on a U-2 Dragon Lady before it takes off Oct. 23, 2015, at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea. The U-2 Dragon Lady is an important part of the Air Force's intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (ISR) mission enterprise, and provides high-altitude, all-weather surveillance and reconnaissance in direct support of U.S. and allied forces. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Benjamin Sutton)

By Staff Sgt. Benjamin Sutton
51st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- U-2s from the 5th Reconnaissance Squadron have spent almost 40 years delivering vital imagery and signals intelligence to command leaders throughout the Korean peninsula.

The U-2 Dragon Lady is an important part of the Air Force's intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (ISR) mission enterprise, and provides high-altitude, all-weather surveillance and reconnaissance in direct support of U.S. and allied forces.

"We're proud to celebrate our squadron's 40 years of heritage this year," said Maj. James Bartran, 5th RS director of operations. "The U-2 provides the only multi-disciplined, high-altitude ISR capability across a wide array of mission sets and adversaries. Its unique flexibility, endurance, and reliability provide these capabilities near real-time and on demand to military and policy-level decision makers on a greater than 95 percent success rate."

Bartran, a U-2 pilot with 10 years of experience, explained how the U-2 has assisted with almost every phase of conflict during the past years, including peace-

time indications and warnings, low-intensity conflict and large-scale hostilities.

"It brings us all great pride to know that our squadron's capabilities have consistently proven their importance," he said.

Flying at 70,000 feet on a combat mission at an altitude equivalent to approximately 13 miles, the U-2's many systems must work perfectly every time despite the age of these aircraft.

"I am responsible for the guidance, flight control, communication, and navigation systems on the U-2 aircraft functioning at 100 percent," said Staff Sgt. Kellan Hawks, 5th RS avionics systems craftsman. "Making sure the aircraft is ready to fly, performing preflight inspections and system tests, and loading information into various systems so they sync up with their respective counterparts is vital to mission success."

Pilots are required to wear full pressure suits during flight, similar to those astronauts wear.

"They fly at the edge of space," said Hawks. "Solving pilot-reported discrepancies whenever they occur is one of the things that my crew and I do every day."

The ISR capability is one of the Air Force's enduring core missions and is integral to global vigilance -- it's foundational to global reach and global power.

National American Indian Heritage month observances begin at Osan



By Staff Sgt. Amber Grimm
51st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- November marks the 25th anniversary of National American Indian Heritage month. Osan kicked off the month Oct. 28 with a night of education on elements of Native culture and historical military contributions.

"The theme for this special observance for American Heritage month is growing native leaders and enhancing seven generations," said Tech. Sgt. Alejandra Chavez, 51st Fighter Wing NCO-in-charge of equal opportunity. "We're looking back at historical figures like Squanto and the code talkers of both world wars."

Even when they weren't yet recognized as citizens, Native Americans signed up to protect the country of their ancestors. Serving with distinction in military actions for more than 200 years, they continue on today with 22,248 registered American Indians from hundreds of tribes serving in the armed forces.

"As of 2013 there were 566 federally recognized Indian and Alaskan Native tribes," said Chavez. "For some reason we tend to get stuck on the stereotypical ones like the Cherokee, Lakota, Sioux and Navajo while there are so many more."

"Many times people have this preconceived notion of what an American Indian looks like; the purpose of National American Indian Heritage month is to break the stereotypes that plague the American Indian community," she added.

Those that came out for the night had an opportunity to participate in arts and crafts, learning about the cultural significance of easily recognized pieces such as feathered headdresses and moccasins. They also were treated to native fry bread and a rendition of "The Celestial Sisters" a Shawnee folktale told by Tech. Sgt. Melissa Fulton, 51st Dental Squadron dental technician.

"What we do with these special observances is provide a forum for individuals to ask questions, become educated and become informed," said Chavez. "More than anything we want to bring insight and knowledge about Native Americans and Alaskan Natives creating a culture that is more inclusive rather than exclusive."

Flu season is upon us, take precautions



Capt. Marc Dunham, 51st Medical Operations Squadron multi-service inpatient unit, gives a child a nasal flu mist during a simulated non-combatant evacuation operation simulation on Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Oct. 24, 2015. During the NEO line simulation, Osan dependents were able to go over evacuation plans, financial briefings and family accommodations. To make it easier for families, volunteers from the 51st Medical Group also administered flu shots and mists for the season. The nasal mist is recommended for healthy individuals ages two through 49. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Kristin High)

By Senior Airman Kristin High
51st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- It's that time of year again for sweaters, boots and scarves. With the fall winds blowing and winter fast approaching, it's also time for coughing, runny noses, sore throats and fevers.

It's flu season.

Influenza, more commonly known as the flu, is a highly contagious virus that is spread every year, usually between October and May. The flu is passed along mainly by coughing, sneezing and close contact.

"The flu is a constant mutating virus that can be deadly for anyone," Staff Sgt. Greer Keith, 51st Medical Operations Squadron immunizations clinic NCO in-charge. "As healthy individuals, it's very important to get vaccinated."

Children ages 2 and below or adults ages 50 and above are particularly high risk during flu season.

Flu vaccinations are mandatory for all active duty members and general schedule civilian employees, but are highly recommended for everyone.

"Service members who catch the flu tend to be on quarters for up to two weeks," said Keith. "On Osan, we have a very high operations tempo, and when one team member catches the flu, it can spread easily and cause work outages, which strongly affects the mission here. The flu vaccine helps prevent the spread."

"So far more than 4,300 active duty members have been vaccinated on

Osan," she said. "We're at about 80 percent vaccinated for the base, minus in- and out-processing Airmen or those on midtour."

There are two types of vaccines: the traditional flu shot, which is a dead virus or the live flu vaccine, commonly known as the nasal mist.

According to the Center for Disease Control, anyone above the age of 6 months can receive the shot. The nasal mist is recommended for healthy people 2 through 49 years old.

Not everyone can be vaccinated. Some disqualifying factors for the flu shot include anyone who has severe allergies, especially to eggs, has had a bad reaction after a previous vaccine, and those who are moderately or severely ill.

Disqualifying factors for the mist include adults more than 50 years old; children 6 through 23 months old; children younger than 5 years old with asthma; pregnant women; people with long-term health problems to include heart disease, kidney or liver disease, lung disease, metabolic disease, asthma or anemia, anyone with certain muscle or nerve disorders, and anyone with a weak immune system.

"People who have had fevers within the last 48 hours or taking prescriptions of anti-viral medication will not be able to receive the vaccine," said Keith.

The immunizations clinic is open Mondays through Fridays for vaccinations on a walk-in basis, however it is recommended to call in case of training or early closures.

For more information about immunizations, call 784-2523 or visit the CDC's website at www.cdc.gov.

Pacific Thunder tests CSAR capabilities, trains multiple units



A pilot taxis an A-10 Thunderbolt II along the runway of Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea Oct. 16, 2015. A-10s from the 25th Fighter Squadron participated in the combat search and rescue exercise Pacific Thunder 15-02. Exercise Pacific Thunder brought together U.S. forces from the Air Force, Marines, and units from the Republic of Korea air force to practice air combat and CSAR by focusing on enhancing interoperability and combat readiness of the military alliance across the Korean Peninsula. (U.S. Air Force photos by Staff Sgt. Benjamin Sutton)

By Staff Sgt. Benjamin Sutton
51st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- The combat search and rescue exercise, Exercise Pacific Thunder 15-02, came to a close Oct. 23 after nearly two full weeks of constant training.

Exercise Pacific Thunder brought together U.S. forces from the Air Force, Marines, and units from the Republic of Korea air force to practice air combat and CSAR by focusing on enhancing interoperability and combat readiness of the military alliance across the Korean Peninsula.

"This exercise helps us bring together assets who would be involved and integrated into a real world CSAR mission," said Capt. Jerrod Dillon, 25th Fighter Squadron flight safety officer. "It also gives U.S. forces a chance to integrate and execute with our ROKAF counterparts, further building the combined force proficiency and readiness, while simultaneously improving relations between our two militaries."

Pacific Thunder is a total-process exercise, encompassing nearly all aspects of communication, coordination, command and control, mission planning, and execution.

"By taking take a look at current tactics and procedures, practicing and refining those, and then exercising the system as realistically as possible we are able to provide a world-class training opportunity to everyone involved," said Dillon. "We are

getting realistic training that's in line with how we would fight."

More than 10 different organizations and squadrons came together to participate in Pacific Thunder this year.

"In size and scope, it's rapidly approaching large-force-exercise levels, but I think it's unique in that it's primarily planned and executed on a squadron or tactical level," said Dillon. "What we do locally during these missions directly impacts the big Air Force mission. The knowledge and experience gained while participating in this exercise is spread throughout the rest of the Air Force as people move on from Korea, carrying that knowledge with them."

Working closely with all players on a bi-annual basis builds individual proficiency and increases the total-force capability of all participants, continued Dillon.

"I'm excited to be a part of this exercise, especially since we are working closely with the Korean air force," said Senior Airman Jacob Ricker, 718th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chief from Kadena Air Base, Japan.

Pacific Thunder highlights the longstanding military partnership, commitment and enduring friendship between the two nations. It helps ensure peace and security on the Korean Peninsula and reaffirm the U.S. commitment to stability in the Indo-Asia-Pacific region.

"It's all about the CSAR," said Dillon. "Aircraft can be replaced but it's much harder to replace the pilot who could have many years of training and experience. This exercise ensures we are ready to do the CSAR mission whenever called upon."



An EA-6B Prowler assigned to Marine Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron 4, VMAQ-4, taxis toward the runway Oct. 16, 2015, at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea. The Marines are participating in exercise Pacific Thunder 15-02. More than 10 different organizations and squadrons came together to participate in the two-week exercise.



Members of the 33rd Rescue Squadron prepare for takeoff inside their HH-60 Pavehawk Oct. 16, 2015, at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea. The 33rd RQS members are from Kadena Air Base, Japan, and are participating in Exercise Pacific Thunder 15-02.

Post office readies for the holiday rush



Airmen prepare to ship packages in the post office on Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Oct. 28, 2015. With the holiday season quickly approaching, the post office is recommending Team Osan members ship early to avoid shipments arriving late. (U.S. Air Force photos by Senior Airman Kristin High)

By Senior Airman Kristin High
51st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- With the holiday season now underway, the Osan Post Office is facing its busiest time of the year. This is a wonderful time for celebrating; Team Osan will be sending and receiving presents from loved ones all over the world.

Airmen and civilian postal clerks here are preparing for the anticipated increase in mail volume that will occur in the next few months.

"We have 24 postal clerks currently working six days a week processing more than 1,000 letters and packages daily," said Tech. Sgt. Bernadette Nguyen, 51st Communications Squadron NCO in-charge of postal operations. "During the holiday season last year, we processed more than 450,000 pounds of incoming and outgoing mail."

The post office currently services more than 11,000 active-duty, DOD civilians, contractors, and retirees, as well as transient service members supporting various training exercises throughout the year.

In order to make this year's trip to the post office as smooth and stress free as possible, the post office staff asks base members to follow a few simple guidelines.

The recommended holiday mailing dates this year are:

Express mail: Dec. 17

First Class mail (letters/cards): Dec. 10

Priority mail: Dec. 10

Space Available mail: Dec. 3

In addition to meeting target mailing dates, it is recommended that customers be sure to properly pack parcels to ensure a safe and timely delivery.

These steps include securely packing items and using leak-proof containers (when necessary), printing both the shipping and return addresses clearly, properly filling out the correct customs forms and not wrapping the outside of packages with wrapping paper or string. Customers should also reference the customs of the country to which they are sending a package to ensure items are authorized.

Although the holiday season can be stressful for the post office, the weight of the workload is lessened by volunteers.

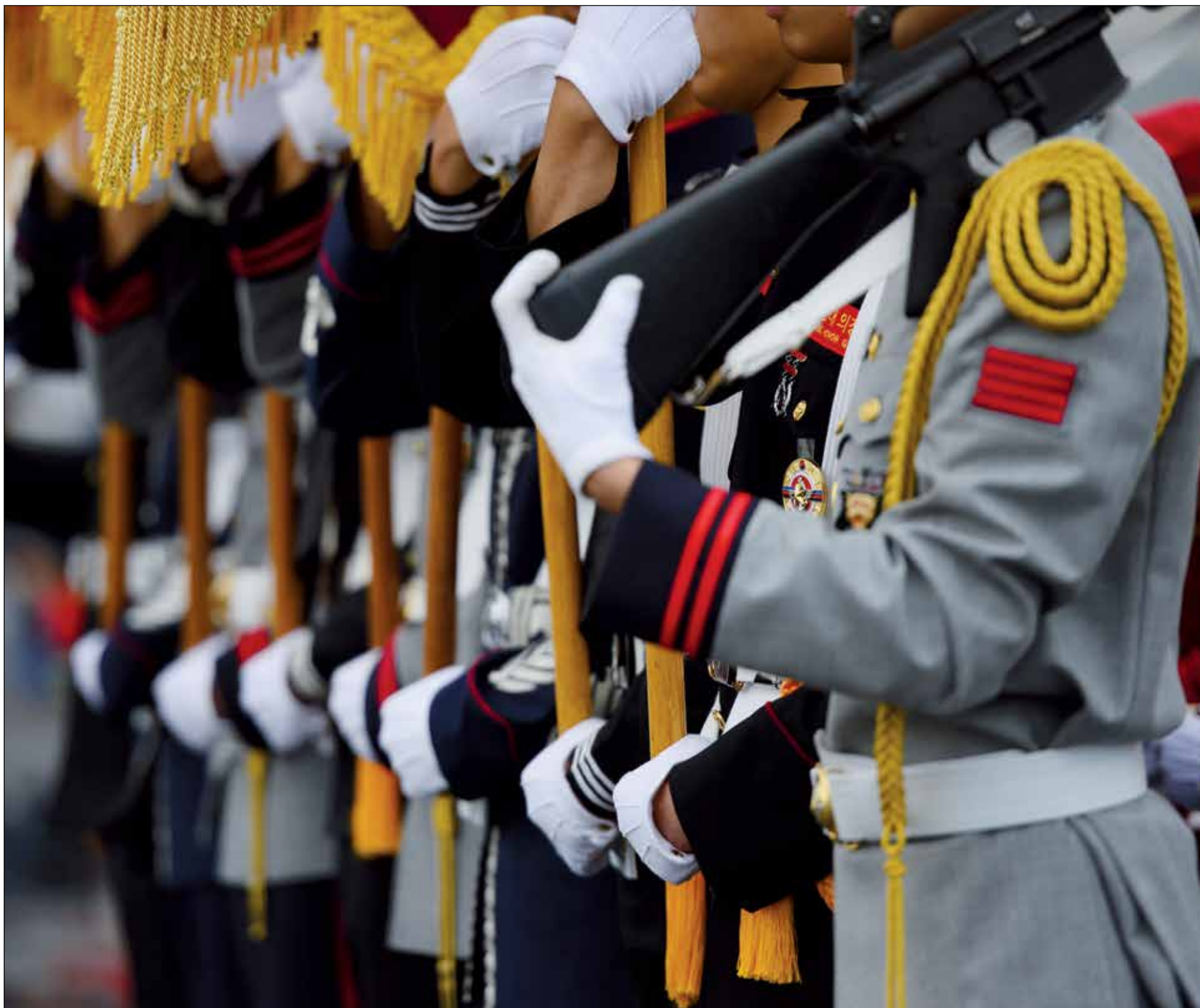
"Volunteers can come any time of the year, but it's definitely appreciated during the holiday season," said Airman 1st Class Calvin Cook, 51st CS military postal clerk. "If it wasn't for our volunteer program, it would be harder to meet our standard mail delivery schedules."

Groups or individuals interested in volunteering at the Osan Post Office can call a volunteer service coordinator at 784-4655, or stop by in person to request more information.



Military Working Dog Robbie inspects post office boxes for suspicious packages on Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Oct. 28, 2015. The MWDs conduct random inspections to ensure Team Osan is safe from drug and bomb paraphernalia.

ROK/US alliance on display at Seoul ADEX 2015



The 2015 Seoul International Aerospace and Defense Exhibition opened to the public with a colorful display of cultural history combined with regimented military drill at the Seoul Airport, Republic of Korea, Oct. 24th, 2015. Combining the past and the present in an intricate dance of tradition and strength, the people of the Republic of Korea showcased their honored legacies to the delight of the gathered crowds. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Amber Grimm)

By Staff Sgt. Amber Grimm
51st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- The 2015 Seoul International Aerospace and Defense Exhibition experienced record breaking attendance Oct. 24 and 25 when it opened to the public at the Seoul Airport.

More than 260,000 people attended the expo where they were able to interact with the nearly 150 U.S. service members participating in the ADEX.

Service members spent their days answering questions and posing for pictures with eager Korean locals. Senior Pacific Air Forces representatives spoke of what an incredible mission it is to be able to strengthen our relationship with Korea, its military and the local supporting communities.

“The Seoul ADEX 2015 represents a unique opportunity for citizens of the Republic of Korea to get an up-close look at some of the assets the U.S. military brings to the ROK/U.S. alliance,” said Lt. Gen. Terrence J. O’Shaughnessy, Seventh Air Force commander and U.S. Forces Korea deputy commander. “This is our very small way of saying thank you for all the generosity and support the people of Korea show our Airmen every day.”

These assets included U.S. Army and Air Force static displays including an F-16 Fighting Falcon, an A-10 Thunderbolt II, an E-3 Sentry, a C-130 Hercules, a KC-135 Stratotanker as well as demonstration flights by the F-22 Raptor and the C-17 Globemaster III.

“We’re excited about the crowds, excited to be able to demonstrate the C-17 and show off a little,” said Maj. Jesse Miller, 535th Airlift Squadron C-17 pilot from Joint

Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii. “Specifically, we’re focusing on the high and low speed maneuverability at varying altitudes, assault landings and demonstrating how quiet the C-17 can be at high speeds. Being low to the ground gives us a tactical advantage.”

In addition to the static displays and demonstrations, the expo boasted technological exhibits from over 370 companies and 32 different countries including Israel, Australia, France, Germany, Italy, Russia, Thailand and the United Kingdom.

“There’s a lot of really cool stuff here,” said Shari Epperson, Aerospace Industries Association liaison. “This is a show for aerospace and defense, there’s a lot of opportunities and simulators, they’ve got all kinds of gadgets and gizmos.”

Visitors could hop in cockpit simulators of developing helicopters and planes, try out digital shooting ranges and a few were even able to get strapped into several exo-suits on site.

“There’s a lot of interesting things being developed here that you don’t get to see every often,” said Maj. Joe Zhang, 51st Aerospace Medicine Squadron flight doctor. “It’s kind of a good eye opener for us from the medical community, like new ground-based control stations, hanging harnesses, they even have a demonstrator model here with the latest and greatest in ergonomic seats.”

This year also marked the first time the ROK army has been on hand to demonstrate the maneuverability and field capabilities of several different armored vehicles that have been under development.

See photos on page 11



Photos from page 10



(Left) The 2015 Seoul International Aerospace and Defense Exhibition opened to the public with a colorful display of cultural history combined with regimented military drill at the Seoul Airport, Republic of Korea, Oct. 24th , 2015. Combining the past and the present in an intricate dance of tradition and strength, the people of the Republic of Korea showcased their honored legacies to the delight of the gathered crowds.

(Below)The F-22 Raptor demonstrates its unique flight capabilities for thousands of Korean civilians at the 2015 Seoul International Aerospace and Defense Exhibition held at Seoul Airport, Republic of Korea, Oct. 24, 2015. The Seoul ADEX gives American service members a chance to showcase their outstanding aircraft and equipment to the Korean public.



During the various flyovers, demonstrations and aerial feats,- local Koreans kept their eyes on the sky while the noise proved too much for others at the 2015 Seoul International Aerospace and Defense Exhibition held at Seoul Airport, Republic of Korea, Oct. 24, 2015. Included in these displays were flyovers by the F-22 Falcon and the C-17 Globemaster III.



The 2015 Seoul International Aerospace and Defense Exhibition opened to the public with a colorful display of cultural history combined with regimented military drill at the Seoul Airport, Republic of Korea, Oct. 24th, 2015. Combining the past and the present in an intricate dance of tradition and strength, the people of the Republic of Korea showcased their honored legacies to the delight of the gathered crowds.



(Right) Korean civilians and service members line up inside of a C-17, from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, for a chance to visit the cockpit and see the workings of this aircraft at the 2015 Seoul International Aerospace and Defense Exhibition held at Seoul Airport, Republic of Korea, Oct. 24, 2015. The C-17 performed demonstrations flights for the crowds displaying the crafts high and low speed maneuverability at varying altitudes.

(Below) 1st Lt. Daniel Brom, 80th Fighter Squadron, Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, helps a local Korean boy try on a flight helmet at the 2015 Seoul International Aerospace and Defense Exhibition held at Seoul Airport, Republic of Korea, Oct. 24, 2015. The Seoul ADEX gives American service members a chance to interact with the Korean public while showcasing their outstanding aircraft and equipment. (U.S. Air Force photos by Staff Sgt. Amber Grimm)



Air Force medical laboratories - a culture all their own

By Tech. Sgt. Travis Edwards
51st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- With 8,000 tests performed each month, to say this 10-person team of Airmen are a little busy might be an understatement.

More notably known as being the evil Airmen who stick needles into the arms of service members and their families; medical laboratory technicians are here to help and their job isn't quite finished after the blood draw.

"We have a lot of different machines that do a myriad of jobs for us," said Staff Sgt. Gaetan President, 51st Medical Support Squadron lab tech and NCO in charge of hematology. "Much of what we do comes down to having attention to detail. We rely greatly on our systems; they do the heavy lifting. We have to make sure they are calibrated correctly."



An Air Force laboratory technician holds up a blood culture sample that was placed in a controlled environment in the laboratory at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Oct. 22, 2015. The heated, controlled environment allows bacteria in the culture to react and grow more quickly, which speeds up the time it takes lab technicians to determine the bacterial strain.

The machines, or analyzers, can take anywhere from two to 30 minutes to process, depending on what tests are performed.

The analyzers test for countless things in a patient's blood to include: HIV, drugs, pregnancy, cholesterol levels and even if someone recently had a heart attack.

Still, the machines only work as well as they are maintained.

"We can be like little mechanics," said Staff Sgt. Charita Murray, 51st MDSS lab tech and NCO in charge of the blood bank. "A lot of troubleshooting goes into maintaining our equipment and it takes knowing the machine to be able to identify abnormalities in the results."

"Mistakes can cost lives, which means we always have to be on our game," President added. "So if a machine reports information that is suspect or shows potentially dangerous information, we do a manual check as well (to verify the results)."

But it's not just blood they take samples of; the lab here tests every type of bodily fluid. Some of the samples are tested by using a microscope that zooms in to 100-times normal vision.

Zooming in "We work with all the bodily fluids -- you have to have a strong stomach," said Murray, a native of Las Vegas.

Once a lab tech receives an order and obtains a sample, they process the sample and enter results into the medical system so providers can give patients proper care and treatment.

However, not every test is as cut and dry as looking for a bacterial infection. The team must have good attention to detail, if they have to double check their work to ensure nothing is missed, they will, Murray added.

Additionally, some blood samples are placed on small, round dishes in a heated, controlled environment. The heat (which is sometimes infused with extra carbon dioxide) allows bacteria to grow more quickly, which speeds up the time it takes lab techs to determine the bacterial strain. The process can lead to a faster diagnosis and thusly a faster treatment, which gets Air-

men back into the fight sooner.

"We can usually tell what kind of bacteria we're dealing with when we look at the culture plate," said President, a native of the U.S. Virgin Islands. "Each strain of bacteria has a distinct look and behavior. We identify the strain so the doctor can prescribe the right type and amount of medication for a patient."

However, when Murray isn't looking for microscopic bad guys floating through your body, she's making sure there is enough whole blood on hand for emergencies and checking blood types.

Lab techs use red blood cells and serum for typing. Blood tubes are spun around in a machine that separates red blood cells from serum. The blood byproducts are then placed into a reagent solution (a mixture used for analysis) and checked for a specific reaction.

"If we do not have a history (record) of the patient having their blood type checked before, we will have another technician confirm the results by repeating the test," said Murray. "There's no room for error. Serious and potentially fatal consequences can occur."

Since so many tests require a patient's blood, there is only one position for proper acquisition - sitting in a chair with your arm held out ready for the lab tech to pierce the vein.

"My job is to make [a blood draw] as pleasant as possible," said Murray. "Patient care is a huge priority for us (lab techs), so it helps when patients communicate with us about what is unique about them during blood draws."

"If you are a fainter, are scared of needles or only have one dependable vein, let us know. It all helps us serve you better," she said.

Murray explained how during her technical training school, students had to practice drawing blood from each other.

"It's all about that human factor," she said. "We can relate to a bad stick, so we want to be as careful and thorough as possible to ensure we do it right the first time, every time. We want the patients to know that we care."

But not every blood draw is a big, easy vein. Murray explained that sometimes the most complicated draws are the ones they don't expect.

"I remember when we had a guy who was process-



(Above left) Blood is placed in a solution to determine a patient's blood type in the laboratory at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Oct. 22, 2015. Once a lab technician determines the blood type on a patient who hasn't had a blood typing before, he must have another lab tech confirm the findings separately to ensure 100 percent accuracy.

(Above right) Master Sgt. Micah Davis, 51st Medical Support Squadron flight chief, draws blood from Staff Sgt. Mayra Autagne, 51st MDSS laboratory technician and NCO in charge of shipping, for examination in the laboratory at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Oct. 21, 2015. The lab is made up of 10 Airmen who ensure the lab is available for use 24/7. (U.S. Air Force photos by Tech. Sgt. Travis Edwards)



Staff Sgt. Charita Murray, 51st Medical Support Squadron laboratory technician and NCO in charge of the blood bank, checks a culture swab for any signs of fungi in the laboratory at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Oct. 22, 2015. The blood bank stores at least four 500ml units of blood for emergency situations. Additionally, blood bank records must be closely monitored and documented for at least 10 years. If the blood bank records are not reliable and show signs of poor monitoring and management, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and the College of American Pathologists can decertify the facility.

ing through a deployment line and had to get his blood drawn," said Murray. "He was afraid of needles and it took three [lab techs] to make the draw. It was intense."

Murray, who has been in the Air Force just shy of 10 years, explained that it was the experiences, supervisors and mentors at each of her assignments who helped her learn the plethora of knowledge she has today.

"We have a very important job to do," she said. "Our communication, internal and external, is vital for us to produce at the level we do for the hospital. It takes a team to do it right and we have a great team here; we are a family."

Whether tinkering on analyzers to get accurate results or ensuring the temperature is just right for samples, reagents and reserve blood units, the family of lab technicians at Osan is here to take care of you. They're the heart of the hospital, pumping blood (and culture) throughout the veins and arteries that connect the clinic.



CHAPEL SCHEDULE

KUNSAN AIR BASE

Protestant Services

Gospel Service
Sunday, 1 p.m.
Main Chapel, Bldg. 501
Contemporary Service
Sunday, 5 p.m.
Main Chapel, Bldg. 501

Catholic Mass

Catholic Mass
Sunday, 10:30 a.m.
Main Chapel, Bldg. 501
Daily Mass & Reconciliation
Please call the chapel

General Services

Church of Christ
Sunday, 11 a.m.
SonLight Inn, Bldg. 510
LDS Service
Sunday, 2:30 p.m.
SonLight Inn, Bldg. 510
Earth-Based Religions
Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
SonLight Inn, Bldg. 510

Point of Contact:
Kunsan Chapel, 782-4300

Visit us on Share Point:
<https://kunsan.eim.pacaf.af.mil/8FW/HC/default.aspx>

OSAN AIR BASE

Protestant Services

Gospel (Praise Joy Night)
Friday, 7:30 p.m., Osan Chapel Sanctuary
Traditional Service
Sunday, 10 a.m., Osan Chapel Sanctuary
Gospel Service
Sunday, Noon, Osan Chapel Sanctuary
Contemporary Service
Sunday, 5 p.m., Osan Chapel Sanctuary
Church of Christ
Sunday, 10 a.m., Elementary School Cafeteria

Catholic Mass

Daily Mass
Tuesday – Thursday, 11:30 a.m.
Saturday, 5 p.m.
Sunday, 8:30 a.m.
Reconciliation
Saturday, 4 p.m.

Other Faith Groups

Earth-Based
Contact the Chapel
Jewish
Contact the Chapel
Muslim
Contact the Chapel
Buddhist
Contact the Chapel

Point of Contact:
Osan Chapel, 784-5000
Visit us on SharePoint:
<https://osan.eim.pacaf.af.mil/51FW/51FW-HC/default.aspx>
Visit us on Facebook (OSAN AB CHAPEL)
<https://www.facebook.com/OsanABChapel>

USAG-YONGSAN

Protestant Services

Traditional Service
Sunday, 9:30 a.m.
Memorial Chapel, Bldg 1597
Sunday, 9:30 a.m.
Brian Allgood Hospital Chapel
Contemporary Service
Sunday, 9 a.m.
South Post Chapel, Bldg 3702
Sunday, 10:30 a.m.
K-16 Chapel
Nondenominational Service
Sunday, 11 a.m.
South Post Chapel, Bldg 3702
Gospel Service
Sunday, 1 p.m.
South Post Chapel, Bldg 3702
Pentecostal
Sunday, 1:30 p.m.
Memorial Chapel, Bldg 1597
Latter Day Saints (LDS)
Sunday, 4 p.m.
South Post Chapel, Bldg 3702
Seventh-Day Adventist
Saturday, 9:30 a.m.
Brian Allgood Hospital Chapel
KATUSA
Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.
Memorial Chapel , Bldg 1597

Point of Contact:
USAG Yongsan Religious Support Office, 738-3011

Visit us on SharePoint:
<http://www.army.mil/yongsan>

Catholic Mass

Sunday, 8 a.m.
Memorial Chapel, Bldg 1597
Sunday, 11:30 a.m.
Memorial Chapel, Bldg 1597
Saturday, 5 p.m.
Memorial Chapel, Bldg 1597
1st Saturday, 9 a.m.
Memorial Chapel, Bldg 1597
M/W/T/F, 11:45 a.m.
Memorial Chapel, Bldg 1597
Tuesday, 11:45 p.m.
Brian Allgood Hospital Chapel

General Service

Episcopal Service
Sunday, 11 a.m.
Brian Allgood Hospital Chapel

Jewish

Friday, 7 p.m.
South Post Chapel, Bldg 3702



Spiritual Charge

Happy Veterans Day!



Ch, Capt Rob Bohnsack
51st Fighter Wing Chapel

Wednesday, 11 November, is Veterans Day, a significant day for all of us. I hope our newest veterans will always remember the year they received the title of veteran. Veteran is a title of honor and distinction we carry throughout our lives whether we serve one enlistment or make the Armed Forces a career. We are veterans, and we have served.

Veterans Day, or as it was originally called Armistice Day, was a day dedicated to the cause of world peace and honoring the veterans of World War I. Armistice Day was renamed Veterans Day in 1954 after World War II, which required the greatest mobilization of our nation’s military, and after American forces fought aggression in Korea. Veterans Day is a day when our nation remembers the service of its men and women in uniform and says, “thank you.”

The church I pastored in Florida hosted a local Veterans Administration Stand-Down for seven years. At Stand Down more than 150 homeless veterans and an additional 200 homeless men and women received flu shots, counseling, warm clothing, blankets, bicycles, dental care, a hot meal, housing assistance, and more. One of the inspirations for Stand Down came from the Vietnam War. In Vietnam combat units relocated to a safe retreat

or Stand Down at a secure base camp where troops took care of personal hygiene, got clean uniforms, enjoyed the company of friends in a safe place, and received and sent mail. The veterans who attend VA Stand Dows are welcomed to a day, or a safe retreat, for them.

One year the director of the local Veterans Administration (VA) presented me with the VA coin. One side of the coin reads, “Keeping The Promise.” I treasure the coin and the volunteers, veterans, and “promises kept” it represents.

As Veterans Day 2015 nears I am grateful to serve a nation that keeps the promises it makes to its veterans. As Americans we share in the responsibility of keeping the promise. We can keep the promises to veterans, to ourselves, today. We don’t have to wait for a local church or VFW Post to host a Stand Down to keep the promise. We can keep the promise by being the better wingman or battle buddy. We can keep the promise by treating our fellow veterans as well or even better than we treat ourselves.

This Veterans Day keep the promise and make this a better Veterans Day for a veteran you know. Happy Veterans Day.

Kunsan

Illmagwon Orphanage

Join Airmen from across the base in a wing chapel-sponsored event as they travel down to the Illmagwon Orphanage in Gunsan City every Tuesday at 6 p.m. for an evening of playing games and learning more about the local culture. For more information, contact the chapel at 782-4300.

Single Airmen Game Night

Fridays at 7:30 p.m., Sonlight Inn. Everyone's welcome, special invite for all Single Airmen!
For more information contact, Senior Airman Jenfil Morillo-Burgos.

Kunsan Photo Club

Interested in sharing your photography experience with others and exploring Korea along the way? Have a camera, but want to learn how to use it more completely? Then join the Kunsan Photo Club as they delve into the finer qualities of photography where the key concept is: "It's not the camera that makes a great photo, but the photographer." If interested in joining, the group can be found on Facebook, just search for "Kunsan Photo Club."

Wolf Pack Lodge

Lodging Space A Policy
Need a break? Got family visiting and no room to house them? You can book lodging rooms on a space available basis up to 120 days in advance for a maximum of 30 days depending on availability. You can also book reservations for the holiday season (November and December) up to 30 days in advance for a maximum of 15 days. (Depending on availability) Book now for all of those relatives coming for the holiday!
Reservations – Front Desk-DSN 782-1844 or Commercial (82)63-470-1844
FAX: DSN 315-782-0633 Commercial (82)63-470-0633

Children's English class

Team 5/6 is looking for volunteers to support the Children's English class weekly, for children 2-15 years of age. We will break you up into groups to read, talk, or play board games with the children. Civilian attire is preferred however, UOD is allowed. Classes are held from 7 to 8 p.m. at the Sonlight Inn.
For more information, contact Tech. Sgt. Justin Worthen.

Sunday Sonlight dinner

Every Sunday, volunteers from a specific unit cook dinner for their fellow Wolf Pack members at the Sonlight Inn. The dinner begins at 6 p.m. following grace led by a chaplain. Meals range from "breakfast for dinner" to "Italian cooking" to "Southern style." For more information or to volunteer, contact the chapel at 782-4300.

Sponsor training

Learn creative ways to assist newcomers reporting to Kunsan AB. Registration required. Class is held at the Airman and Family Readiness Center. Call 782-5644 for more information, dates or to sign up.

ROKAF English Class

Team 5/6 is looking for volunteers to support the ROKAF English class every Saturday, at the Sonlight Inn. You will be talking to ROKAF Airmen (enlisted) for approximately one hour. This event is open to all ranks! Civilian attire is preferred, however, UOD is allowed.
For more information, contact Staff Sgt. Charles Nelson.

Ping Pong tournament

Free to all. Prizes for first and second places. Prizes include Wolf Pack Won. To sign up, dates or for more information, call the CAC at 782-5213 or 4679.

Osan

Airman and Family Readiness Center programs

***Bundles for Babies** - A workshop for expectant parents who want to learn more about parenting and support programs here at Osan. The class also offers you a finance piece that focuses on budgeting for your new baby from conception to college years and a chance to meet other new parents. Additionally, you'll receive a free "bundle" from the Air Force Aid Society.

***Separation & Retirement Benefits** - This is an optional workshop where separating and retiring members can learn about their benefits- includes briefings by MFLC, TMO, CPO, Finance, Tricare and SBP.

***Spouse Orientation** - This is a great opportunity for spouses to learn about the 51st Fighter Wing Mission, Non-combatant Evacuation Operation (NEO) process, and receive a protective (gas) mask demonstration. Spouses will also have an opportunity to meet key base representatives and learn about Korean Culture. As a bonus, a community information fair will end the day.

***Volunteers' Training** - The goal is to ensure all our volunteers are registered and they receive all tools and information to keep them informed of volunteer opportunities.
For more information, call 784-0119.

E-mail security

There has been a rising trend of unencrypted e-mails containing FOUO, PII, or other sensitive/critical information due to recipients not being on the USAF GAL. Please exercise good information security and call the Help Desk if you are having problems sending an encrypted e-mail.

2015 Osan Air Base Chapel Survey

The Chapel is currently assessing the spiritual and religious needs of Osan Air Base. Would you please take a few minutes to better ensure we are meeting the needs of our community? Thank you for your time and input in this effort.
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/osanchapelneedssurvey>

Anthem Singers

Sopranos, altos, tenors and bass vocalists are needed to sing the US and ROK National Anthems at various events on base. Practice is held at 5 p.m. every Thursday at the Chapel Annex. Send an e-mail to annapauline.magno.1@us.af.mil or ric.rebulanan.1@us.af.mil for more information.

Military Tuition Assistance Briefing

Presented by the 51 FSS Education & Training Center, this is mandatory for all first time users, officer/enlisted, for military TA. No appointment necessary! Held every Tuesday at 8 a. m. in Bldg 787, Rm. 10. For additional information or questions please contact the Education Center at 784-4220.



HOLIDAY OBSERVANCES

VETERAN'S DAY: 11 Nov 2015, is an official US holiday. The liberal leave policy will be in effect for Korean National (KN) non-essential civilian employees. Supervisors should ensure the time and attendance cards for KN civilian employees who wish to be off that day are properly coded to reflect the appropriate leave code, i.e., annual leave, etc. Organizations with KN civilian employees scheduled to work should provide adequate supervision. If an office is going to be closed, KN civilian employees can be required to take annual leave but management must provide them with a 24-hour advance notice.

****Liberal leave:** Employees may utilize annual leave or leave without pay with prior approval.**

KEU FOUNDATION DAY: 13 Nov 2015, is an official Korean holiday. All KN civilian employees will be released from duty without charge to leave or loss of pay. KN civilian employees required to work on this holiday must be paid holiday premium pay for all hour worked. For KN civilian employees, if a holiday falls on a non-work day, no substitute day will be granted. Employees in a non-pay status the work day before and the work day after a holiday will not be paid for the holiday.

Questions should be referred to Ms. Kim, Min Kyo, 51 FSS/FSMCE, at 784-4434/8177.

Civilian Personnel notes:


FORFEITED ANNUAL LEAVE FOR U.S. CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES: The current leave year for U.S. appropriated fund civilian employees ends on 9 Jan 2016. Use or lose annual leave not taken by 9 Jan 2016 will be forfeited and may not be considered for restoration unless it has been requested and approved in writing by the start of the third biweekly pay period before the last day of the leave year, 29 Nov 2015. Forfeited annual leave may only be restored under the provisions IAW AFI 36-815, Chapter 2, 2.10, if it has been canceled due to "exigencies of the service or sickness of the employees".

PAYMENT/CARRY FORWARD OF UNUSED ANNUAL LEAVE FOR KN CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES:

The request for payment/carry forward of unused annual leave should be a last resort. Requests may be submitted by 2 Jan 16 for appropriated fund (APF) and 31 Dec 15 for non-appropriated fund (NAF) KN civilian employees through supervisory channels to 51 FSS/FSMCE. 51 FW/CC has an approving authority to pay for a maximum of 48 hours of unused annual leave under certain circumstances. The leave must have been scheduled NLT 60 days before the end of the leave year. The total amount of excess annual leave carried forward, added to the number of hours of paid excess annual leave, may not exceed 120 hours. The request will include a copy of the disapproved annual leave application form, written documentation showing the dates when the annual leave was scheduled for use, an explanation of the facts and circumstances precluding the use of the scheduled leave, and reasons why the leave could not be rescheduled and used during the of the current leave year. As a reminder, employees should make every attempt to schedule and use their leave.

For further information, please contact Ms. Kim, Min Kyo of the Civilian Personnel Office at 784-4434/8177. (51 FSS/FSMCE)

Incheon Airport Shuttle Bus Schedule



Destination

Depature Time

Osan to Incheon

0600 1130 1530

Incheon to Osan

0900 1830 2230

- Bus will stop at Turumi Lodge 30 minutes before departure.

- Bus will arrive at ITT 15 minutes prior to departure

Ticket Price

• Leisure Travel : \$15

• Official Travel(TDY/PCS): \$35


- NOTE: Official traveler rates are completely reimbursable to member

- If there are no delayed arrivals, bus will depart ar 22:30

**Effective 1 June 2013

For more information,

call ITT at 784-4254



Songtan Bus Terminal Time Table									
서울 - 남부터미널		http://www.stbus.net		version: 2015. 10. 29					
SEOUL W3800	동 서 울	성 남	인천공항	인 천	의 정 부				
NamBu Terminal	장지 가락 잠실	SeongNam W3400	InCheon Airpot W11200	InCheon W6200	UJeongBu W8000				
06:10	Dong Seoul W4400	06:40	04:45	06:30	07:45				
06:30	JangJi	07:30	05:05	07:50 via CheongBuk	09:45 Dongducheon				
06:50	GaRak JamSil	08:10 via Dongtan	05:25	08:30	12:05				
07:05	06:20 via Dongtan	08:45	06:25	10:10	15:55				
07:20	06:35	09:30	06:55	10:50	17:05				
07:30	06:55 via Dongtan	10:10	07:25	11:30 via CheongBuk	20:05 Dongducheon				
07:45	07:15 via Dongtan	10:40	08:05	13:40					
08:00	07:45	11:20 via Dongtan	08:45	15:30					
08:20	08:25	12:10	09:25	16:00 via CheongBuk					
08:40	09:05	12:45	10:15	18:30					
08:55	09:35	13:40	11:05	19:10	강릉				
09:10	10:05	14:30	11:55	21:40	GangNeung W14800				
09:30	10:35	15:20	12:45		07:20				
09:55	11:05	16:10	13:35		09:20				
10:15	11:35	16:45	14:15		11:50				
10:30	12:05	17:30	15:05		13:50				
10:55	12:35	18:10	16:05		16:20				
11:15	13:05	18:40	16:55		18:20				
11:30	13:35	19:20	17:55		18:20				
11:50	14:05	20:20	18:45		원주				
12:15	14:35	20:55	19:35		WonJu W9200				
12:30	15:05	21:50			07:10				
12:50	15:35				08:50				
13:10	16:05				10:30				
13:30	16:35				12:10				
13:45	17:05				13:50				
14:00	17:35				15:30				
14:30	18:05				17:10				
15:00	18:35				18:50				
15:20	19:05				20:30				
15:40	19:35				제천				
16:00	20:25				JeCheon W13300				
16:20	21:05				15:10				
16:40	21:35				19:10				
16:55					광주(전남)				
17:10					KwangJu W16600				
17:25					08:45				
17:40					10:25				
18:00					12:25				
18:15					14:15				
18:30					15:45				
18:50					17:15				
19:10					19:00				
19:30									
19:45									
20:10									
20:25									
20:40									
21:10									
21:50									

Kyung Dong bus schedule (Yongsan - Osan - Humphreys)

MONDAY-FRIDAY

										*			
Lv. Yongsan	0550	0700	0830	1000	1100	1300	1430	1630	1720	1720	1900	2130	
Ar. 121st GH							1435						
Lv. Osan AB	0650	0810	0940	1119	1210	1410	1540	1740	1830	x	2010	2240	
Ar. Humph	0740	0850	1020	1150	1250	1450	1630	1820	1910	1850	2050	2320	

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WEEKEND & U.S HOLIDAYS

										*			
Lv. Yongsan	0700	0800	0900	1000	1100	1200	1300	1400	1500	1600	1700	1800	2130
Lv. Osan AB	0810	0910	1010	1110	1210	1310	1410	1510	1610	1710	1810	1910	2240
Ar. Humph	0850	0950	1050	1150	1250	x	1450	1550	x	1750	x	1950	2320

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x

“Price \$6.00 or W6,200 one way, For more info (DSN)784-6623”

POC for the bus schedule - Osan: 784-6623, Yongsan: 723-4499, Humphreys: 753-7354

No Heat/No Cool in effect at the Wolf Pack

By Senior Airman Ashley L. Gardner
8th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

KUNSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- Many individuals may have noticed the change in the temperature, especially throughout the dormitories.

The cause of this change is the result of the No Heat/No Cool program maintained by 8th Civil Engineer Squadron heating, ventilation and air conditioning Airmen.

The purpose of the program is to transition from cooling to heating during seasonal changes. The changeover allows HVAC systems to be evaluated and repaired before the heating season begins.

“The No Heat/No Cool period allows us to do proactive maintenance when the temperature is still moderate outside,” said Tech. Sgt. Adam Culver, 8th CES assistant NCOIC of HVAC and refrigeration. “As we switch from cool to heat and back, that proactive maintenance lets us find and fix problems now in just a couple weeks. Otherwise, something could break in the middle of January and heat might go out for much longer than it would during the No Heat/No Cool period.”

The heat will turn on when the temperature dips.

“The No Heat/No Cool period will run until the average temperature drops below 55°F for three consecutive days,” said Staff Sgt. Aaron Washington, 8th CES HVAC technician craftsman.

Once the temperature hits that point, the HVAC shop will be working to turn on all the heating systems around the installation ensuring all Wolf Pack members are comfortably warm during the winter.

The job is never ending for the shop of 13 military members, divided in a 24-hour shift to provide for the entire base.

“The Airmen from this shop work hard to make everything run as smoothly as possible,” Culver said. “We get the job done as a team.”

The use of space heaters at Kunsan is prohibited and facilities with heating

systems not capable of providing suitable heat to occupied areas should be reported to facility managers. Exception to this policy can be granted but must be routed through appropriate channels.

While providing for 1,083 facilities, participation in the No Heat/No Cool program saves an average of about \$521,870 during the program period.



U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Aaron Washington, 8th Civil Engineer Squadron heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and refrigeration technician performs a chiller turnoff at a dormitory building for the No Heat/No Cool program at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Oct. 22, 2015. The changeover allows HVAC systems to be evaluated and repaired before the heating season begins. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Ashley L. Gardner)

Wolf Pack brings out the Zombies



Col. Jeremy T. Sloane, 8th Fighter Wing commander, and Col. Juris Jansons, 8th FW vice commander (left to right) takes a photo at the finish line with the participants of the zombie run held at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Oct. 28, 2015. The zombies spooked 16 runners for 3.7 kilometers as they made their way around a portion of the base. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Ashley L. Gardner)

By Senior Airman Ashley L. Gardner
8th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

KUNSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- The night sky is rolling in with the clouds over Kunsan Air Base. Growls and grumbles are heard in the mist of fog and distance. Something’s getting closer; the sound of dragging feet across the cold concrete increases. Tonight, is the night that zombies roam the base, hunting for an early night snack.

Halloween is right around the corner and what better way to celebrate than to have a zombie run, keeping the wolf pack in shape and preparing them for the journey of a zombie apocalypse.

Only the brave will take on the challenge of going out in this time of life and death; facing many of the undead head on while participating in the Zombie Run

that was held at dusk on Oct. 28th.

Zombies don’t just appear out of nowhere.

Staff Sgt. William Hannay, 8th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron debrief technician, transformed fellow wolf pack members for this special occasion.

“I decided to help with the zombie run and my role for the zombie run was makeup artist,” said Hannay.

The zombies spooked 16 runners for 3.7 kilometers as they made their way around a portion of the base.

“This was simply a fun run to allow people to dress up and enjoy the Halloween mood,” said Staff Sgt. Armando Avalos, 8th Force Support Squadron special events coordinator.

Though if the circumstances ever arise and you find yourself in the midst of the walking dead, take notes from the 16 zombie survivors and put on your shoes and hit the pavement running.

Base and Red Ribbon Outreach Initiative

By Senior Airman Dustin King
8th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

KUNSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- The Drug Demand Reduction office along with other base helping agencies hosted the annual “Base and Red Ribbon Outreach Initiative” Oct. 29-30th at the Exchange.

The Red Ribbon Outreach Initiative is the largest drug prevention program in the U.S.

Red Ribbon Week is an annual National Family Partnership campaign to promote drug prevention. The Red Ribbon traces its origins to 1985, when Drug Enforcement Administration agent Enrique Camarena, was killed during his fight against illegal drugs.

Kunsan is a small base, so to help spread the knowledge, more than just illicit drug use was encompassed.

“We included multiple agencies and changed the name of the event to encompass base helping agencies to assist and increase awareness, not just on the misuse of illegal or legal substances,” said Roberto Barclay, Drug Demand Reduction program manager. “This allows us to reach out to the base and help Airmen adopt a healthy lifestyle and behaviors which support positive behavioral health outcomes.”

The Chapel, the pharmacy, and Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention and Treatment, were some of the agencies that reached out to the Wolf Pack put together by the Integrated Delivery System.

“The IDS, is a conglomeration of helping agencies that provide an array of services aimed at helping the Wolf Pack



8th Fighter Wing members participate in the Base and Red Ribbon Week Outreach Initiative at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Oct. 29, 2015. The Base and Red Ribbon Outreach Initiative promotes drug awareness, and healthy lifestyle changes. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Dustin M. King)

maximize their potential for physical, mental, social and spiritual fitness,” said Janneane Moody, Integrated Delivery System executive officer.

IDS is committed to increasing the sense of community and assist Wolf Pack members in managing life demands through services, prevention programs

and educational opportunities and keep resilience skills sharp. Outreach events help provide the right help at the right time to Airmen.

Red Ribbon Week is a time for everyone to be cognizant that no matter what kind of drug abuse it is, it is everyone’s problem.

“I’m grateful that we have this opportunity to educate the community; it’s always a positive experience,” said Barclay.

The 2015 national Red Ribbon theme is ‘Respect yourself. Don’t do drugs.’



U.S. Marines from the 12th Marine Aircraft Group participate in the drunk goggles event at the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention and Treatment booth at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Oct. 29, 2015. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Dustin M. King)

Halal Restaurants in seoul



KOREA
TOURISM
ORGANIZATION
한국관광공사

There are many restaurants, cafés and retail shops around Seoul that serve or sell halal food. You'll find a large concentration of halal establishments in Itaewon, Seoul's best-known multicultural neighborhood. As halal food becomes increasingly popular with the number of Muslims visiting Korea on the rise, there is no doubt that more and more restaurants in Korea will offer halal options in the near future. However, distinction should be made between an establishment serving halal food and a halal-certified establishment. For Muslims, you may wish to inquire whether or not the establishment is certified by the Korea Muslim Federation before visiting.

BabaIndia



Conveniently located next to Seoul Subway Line 2 and the Shinbundang Line, BabaIndia serves up delicious Indian food using halal ingredients. The foyer of the restaurant greets customers with the wonderful aroma of Indian spices. The restaurant combines a pleasant dining experience with reasonable prices, quality food, and friendly staff. Order a set menu to try a variety of dishes and experience the best taste of India.

Being located in the heart of Seoul, the restaurant attracts customers from all different walks of life, ranging from business people to groups of travelers. A delicious and budget-friendly lunch menu draws young couples and students to the restaurant as well.

BabaIndia also allows customers to choose their level of spiciness, which helps first-timers who may find it daunting to order Indian or halal food. The homemade naan bread and chapati (unleavened flatbread originating in India), various house specials and desserts are sure to give those with homesickness a great treat.

More Info

- Address: 359 Gangnam-daero, Seocho-gu, Seoul
- Hours: 11:30 - 22:00 (last order 21:30) / Closed on national holidays
- Directions: Gangnam Station (Seoul Subway Line 2, Sinbundang Line), Exit 5. Walk 40 meters straight from the exit (south). The restaurant will be on the right on the second floor.
- Menu: Samosa and vegetable rolls, salad, curry, naan, lassi
- Website: www.babaindia.co.kr (Korean only)
- Inquiries: +82-2-521-4588
- 1330 Korea Travel Hotline: +82-2-1330 (Korean, English, Japanese, Chinese)

Kervan



Vegetarian isn't the only halal food option in Korea! Located on the main street of Itaewon, Kervan is a Turkish restaurant offering a variety of halal dishes made from beef, lamb and chicken, as well as seafood and vegetables. Prices are a bit on the steep side, but the quality of food is worth the money spent. Those on a tight budget can take advantage of the wallet-friendly lunch menu.

In order to better express the beauty of Turkey, the dishes are served with elegant silverware by the friendly staff. Also, the elegant interior and superior cuisine served by the restaurant will provide you with an excellent culinary experience, and is the reason that it attracts not just Muslim travelers but also locals with an adventurous appetite. Kervan has also opened a second restaurant located in COEX Mall.

More Info

- Address: 190 Itaewon-ro, Yongsan-gu, Seoul
- Hours: 11:30 – 23:00 / Open all year round
- Directions: Itaewon Station (Seoul Subway Line 6), Exit 3. Walk 70 meters straight from the exit (east). The restaurant will be on the right on the second floor.
- Menu: Kebab, pide (Turkish pizza), hummus, baklava, yogurt and other beverages
- Website: www.kervanturkey.co.kr (Korean, English)
- Inquiries: +82-2-792-4767
- 1330 Korea Travel Hotline: +82-2-1330 (Korean, English, Japanese, Chinese)

Persian Palace



Persian Palace is located in the artsy neighborhood of Daehangno, near Sunkyunkwan University's main entrance. The restaurant has an elegant, distinct Middle Eastern dining ambience, and attracts a bustling mix of patrons. Since opening in 2002, the restaurant has focused on creating Persian dishes made from 24 spices, and meals have been developed to complement the Korean palate.

Though kebabs are the specialty, the menu contains seven pages of halal dishes and four separate dishes for vegetarians. The curries are popular for having an authentic taste unique to Persian Palace. Also, the lamb kebabs are tender and carefully roasted, tasting heavenly with freshly baked naan bread.

This restaurant is ideal for Muslim customers, vegetarians, and anyone interested in Persian cuisine. If you find yourself in the area for a theater performance or the well-known hiking trails, stop in at Persian Palace for some of its authentic ethnic cuisine, which will surely leave you wanting to come back again.



More Info

- Address: 9 Seonggyungwan-ro 6-gil, Jongno-gu, Seoul
- Hours: 11:00 – 22:00 / Open all year round
- Directions: Hyehwa Station (Seoul Subway Line 4), Exit 4. Walk about 225 meters straight from the exit (west) to the intersection. Cross the street northwest and walk about 230 meters to head the building across Sunkyunkwan University's entrance. Look for the orange sign leading into the walkway.
- Menu: Palak paneer, tandoori chicken, naan bread, lamb shish kebab, kebab
- Website: www.persianpalace.com (Korean, English)
- Inquiries: +82-2-763-6050
- 1330 Korea Travel Hotline: +82-2-1330 (Korean, English, Japanese, Chinese)

* Menus may differ and are subject to change.
* This column was last updated in July 2015, and therefore information may differ from what is presented here. We advise you to check details from the official websites before visiting.