



Wolf Pack conducts Exercise Ulchi Freedom Shield 25

By Senior Airman Karissa Dick 8th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

KUNSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- The Wolf Pack has concluded Exercise Ulchi Freedom Shield 25, a combined, joint, all-domain training exercise Aug. 18 - 28, 2025.

UFS25 is an annual defense-focused exercise that highlights the U.S. ironclad commitment to the alliance by building a robust defense posture to defend the people of ROK against a spectrum of security threats.

"Exercise Ulchi Freedom Shield 25 is vital to strengthening our ability to respond quickly and decisively to any threat," said U.S. Air Force Col. Kathryn "Wolf" Gaetke, 8th Fighter Wing commander. "By training with our allies in a realistic, combined environment, we enhance our readiness, sharpen our capabilities and ensure we stand prepared to safeguard regional stability."

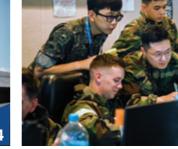
This exercise integrated all domains – ground, air, naval, space, cyber and information elements - and focused on enhancing readiness and response capabilities through rigorous training and realistic combat simulations.

Members of the 8th Fighter Wing integrated follow-on forces into the combined defense system in order to defend security on the peninsula.

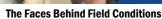
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Sharpening the edge during Ulchi Freedom Shield 25

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Circulation: 7,000

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For all submitted items include a point of contact name and telephone number. All items are subject to editing for content and to insure they conform with DoD guidelines. Seventh Air Force Public Affairs and the Crimson Sky biweekly staff are located at Seventh Air Force Osan Air Base. For information, call Commercial 0505-784-4709 or DSN 315-784-4709.



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"Exercises like this strengthen the bond between our forces and ensure we are fully prepared to meet any challenge together," said Chief Master Sgt. Amanda "Wolf Chief" Aaron, 8th FW command chief. "Training alongside and integrating with our follow-on forces gives us the opportunity to build trust, share expertise and demonstrate our commitment to defending the region as one team."

Freedom Shield 25

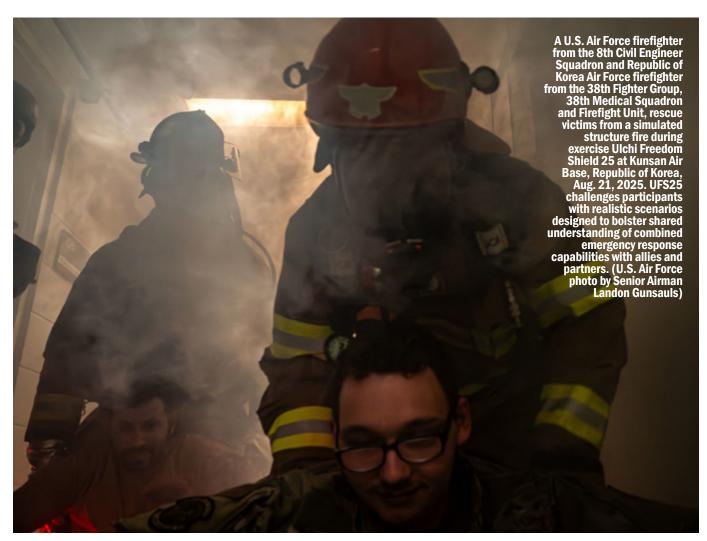
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UFS25 reinforced the combined defense posture and strengthened interoperability across the Korean

Squadron pilot, flies an F-16 Fighting Falcon for a dogfighting training scenario during exercise Ulchi Freedom Shield 25 at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Aug. 20, 2025. UFS25 challenges participants with realistic combat scenarios designed to bolster shared understanding and combined defense capabilities with allies and partners in the region. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Landon Gunsauls)

peninsula. With scenarios ranging from simulated inflight combat operations to base-wide medical response, the Wolf Pack proved its ability to integrate seamlessly with allies in defense of the Republic of Korea.

"The Wolf Pack performed well throughout UFS and demonstrated their skills and continuous dedication to the mission," said Wolf. "Our success in this exercise not only showcases our readiness, but also strengthens the U.S. and ROK alliance to ensure security, freedom and prosperity for the U.S., our allies and partners."





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Sharpening the edge during Ulchi Freedom Shield 25



By Senior Airman Tallon Bratton 51st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

DAEGU AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- Airmen from the 51st Fighter Wing and 11th Air Task Force, alongside Republic of Korea air force partners displayed speed, flexibility and combat readiness during exercise Ulchi Freedom Shield 25, held Aug. 17–28.

The training showcased flying operations and also proved that the 11th ATF is a combat wing capable of generating airpower anytime, anywhere.

"The 11th ATF is here at UFS 25 to integrate with our allies and partners on the peninsula and to get after how we employ agile combat operations," said Col. Brett Cassidy, 11th ATF commander. "Our purpose is to provide base operational support so that as elements move, they have what they need to get back in the air and continue the fight."

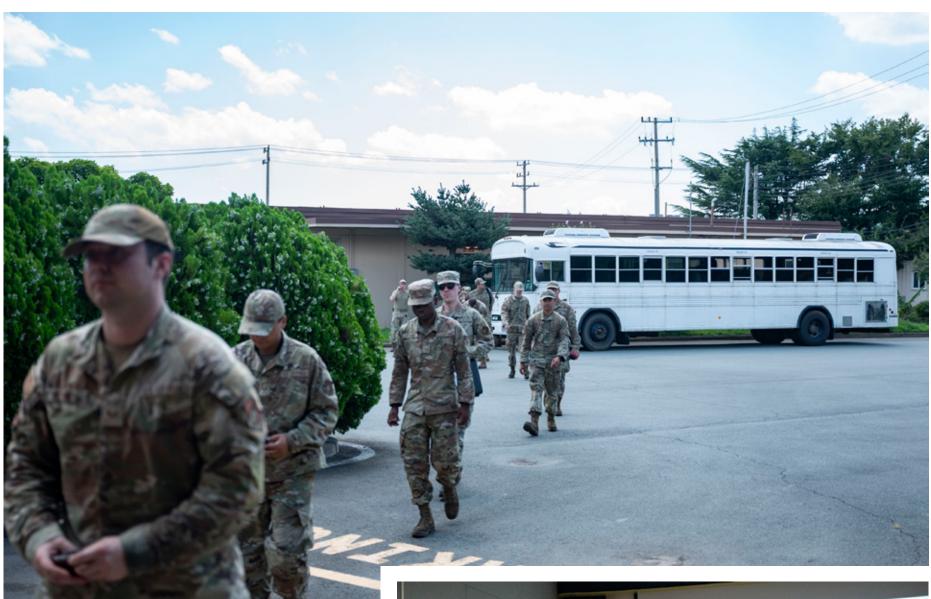
F-16 Fighting Falcons from the 36th Fighter Squadron and their ROKAF partners flew sorties across the peninsula and also tested the ability to uproot and reestablish operations in new locations. Each move demanded that pilots, maintainers and support crews carried the fight with them, creating a fully functioning Wing out of any runway in any location.

For pilots, that means practicing under conditions that push them out of their comfort zones.

An F-16 Fighting Falcon assigned to the 36th Fighter Squadron lands at Daegu Air Base, Republic of Korea, during exercise Ulchi Freedom Shield 25, Aug. 20, 2025. UFS25 tests the U.S. and ROK air force units' ability to rapidly deploy and sustain combat operations from multiple locations. ▲



U.S. Air Force Maj. Brittany Dipple, 36th Fighter Squadron detachment commander, directs air operations during exercise Ulchi Freedom Shield 25 at Daegu Air Base, Republic of Korea, Aug. 20, 2025. Dipple led forward-deployed F-16 Fighting Falcon operations alongside ROK air force partners.



U.S. Air Force Airmen from the 51st Maintenance Group arrive at Daegu Air Base, Republic of Korea during exercise Ulchi Freedom Shield 25, Aug. 19, 2025. The 51st MXG provided critical maintenance support to sustain F-16 Fighting Falcon operations from forward locations during UFS25. ▲

U.S. Air Force Airmen from the 51st Maintenance Group receive a briefing on mission requirements and base amenities during exercise Ulchi Freedom Shield 25 at Daegu Air Base, Republic of Korea, Aug. 20, 2025. The briefing prepared personnel to support forward operations in a deployed environment. ▶

"As an F-16 pilot, I'm looking forward to practicing my usual responsibilities in a more challenging environment," said Capt. Malcolm Owens 36th FS F-16 pilot. "Flying the jet isn't the hard part. It's moving the whole support system with us and still being able to operate quickly and effectively. That's what we're really working on here."

Cassidy noted that the 51st Fighter Wing's ability to move aircraft and personnel into Daegu was key to showcasing this capability.

"It was impressive to watch how quickly the 51st FW was able to push aircraft, personnel and equipment down here," said Cassidy. "That agility, moving fast and tying in seamlessly with our operations and ROKAF partners, is what this exercise is all about."

For regional observers, the message is clear. Allied airpower does not need the comfort of fixed installations to fight and win. The ability to uproot, expand and launch a new combat Wing wherever needed ensures that any attempt to threaten stability on the peninsula will be met with a force ready to fight tonight.

U.S. Air Force Airmen assigned to the 36th Fighter Squadron aircrew flight equipment section, inspect flight gear in support of exercise Ulchi Freedom Shield 25 at Daegu Air Base, Republic of Korea, Aug. 20, 2025. The exercise trained U.S. and ROK air force units to rapidly deploy and sustain combat operations from multiple locations. ▶





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Senior mentors bring experience to execution in allied exercises

By Senior Airman Josephine Pepin Seventh Air Force

OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- Modern warfare strategy has evolved beyond tabletop maps and soldier figurines depicted in Hollywood movies to now incorporate complex data, technology, and even artificial intelligence.

As the Ulchi Freedom Shield 25 exercise unfolds at Osan Air Base, retired generals from the Republic of Korea air force and U.S. Air Force are serving as senior mentors to their commanders, drawing on decades of combat and leadership experience to strengthen decisionmaking, sharpen readiness, and ensure that today's leaders are prepared for the diverse challenges of commanding.

That's where retired officer Lt. Gen. Hasik Park and Lt. Gen. Jeffrey Lofgren from the ROKAF and USAF respectively come into play. As senior mentors to the commanders of the Seventh AF and ROKAF at Osan AB, Republic of Korea, while the base choreographs and participates in UFS 25, the mentors bring a wealth of knowledge to top military leaders from their extensive experience.

"I understand how, at the top level of a general, differences in rank and perspective can make it difficult to find the right opinions and advice when making decisions," said Park. "Subordinates cannot timely and properly mentor a commander, so tapping into our past military experience while we are outside of the command structure is invaluable."

In Osan AB, two iterative, annual exercises take place, named Freedom Shield and Ulchi Freedom Shield. Both aim to enhance the combined, joint, all-domain, and interagency operating environment, thereby strengthening the alliance's response capabilities. UFS 25 is the most current of many exercises that each senior mentor has faced.

For the generals that command the Seventh AF and the ROKAF, many moving parts of these exercises fall on their shoulders.

"A commander, despite many challenges, has to make the most important decisions in combat and take responsibility," said Park.

When it comes to the support system behind the decision-makers, senior mentors have a variety of strategies to draw from as well. It comes from understanding the real-world implications of training and recognizes that readiness is perishable and must be continually sharpened.

"We live in an incredibly complex world, and commanders have significant challenges to resolve with constrained resources," said Lofgren. "Mentoring involves helping commanders dealing with how to best utilize our current capabilities, our Airmen, and to utilize our processes to be more effective and efficient in execution at the operational level of war up to the strategic and down to the tactical."



Jeffrey Lofgren, U.S. Air Force senior mentor, left, and Hasik Park, Republic of Korea senior mentor, right, pose for a photo in the Air Operations Command center during the Ulchi Freedom Shield 25 exercise at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Aug. 21, 2025. Republic of Korea and U.S. forces train side by side during UFS25, a large-scale defense exercise designed to strengthen readiness, interoperability, and the combined ability to respond to real-world threats on the Korean Peninsula. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Joshua LeRoi) ▲

For these annual exercises, senior mentors travel to Osan AB and advise their respective commander, an active-duty general, throughout the planning and execution. Their guidance enhances decision-making at the general officer level, offering a depth of expertise that may not otherwise be readily available.

"I have experience in combat and complex environments," said Lofgren. "I can help the commander learn faster from my past experience, decide faster, and move their teams to the next level faster."

Senior mentors also need to draw from their experiences at different levels of leadership and apply them appropriately. Based on the morals and strategic thinking of the senior mentors, they help the participants to see the larger picture and further into the future.

They set their eyes to the horizon to keep the bigger picture in mind while holding true to the values and strategies that are foundational to their leadership styles.

"All staff members must possess expertise in their related fields. Additionally, US staff members must have deep understandings and knowledge of the environment on the Korean Peninsula." said Park.

The expertise of senior mentors also helps the participants to prepare a firm readiness posture through the exercise. Senior mentors acknowledge the importance of shaping the exercise with a realistic attitude when facing

the exercise.

"We need to stay focused not just on the immediate task, but on the broader strategic picture we're a part of," said Park. "Even though these are exercises, we must approach and focus on them as if they were real-world incidents, because one day, they could be. It's critical that we know how we'll respond."

The common goal in all of these strategies and exercises is the same, regardless of nationality: a continued dedication to peace through strength as an alliance.

"Above all, sustaining robust teamwork and building strong, lasting relationships with our joint partners is what ensures our success,"

There's also a rewarding leadership aspect to the position, as many people currently on staff for these exercises worked under both men in the past. Park and Lofgren have been able to watch the next generation of leaders grow in ability and rank throughout the years and see how their contributions to their organizations at strategic levels played out for today's leaders.

"In my 41 years of experience with the USAF, I know that today as senior mentors we're here to help develop those critical thinking skills under pressure," said Lofgren. "Commanders and their staffs need to be able to decide things with imperfect information. In summary, it's an honor to be in this position to give that back to Airmen."

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Coloring the world





Republic of Korea air force members observe a computer at the Pacific Air Simulation Center at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Aug. 27, 2025. During joint exercises like Ulchi Freedom Shield 25, the PASC trains behind-the-scenes leaders to plan, adapt and assess operations in real time, sharpening readiness and strengthening combined warfighting capabilities.

Pacific Air Simulation Center Strengthens Alliance Readiness During Ulchi Freedom Shield 25

By Staff Sgt. Tylir Meyer 51st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- Republic of Korea and U.S. service members worked side by side at the Pacific Air Simulation Center during the Ulchi Freedom Shield 25 exercise, executing realistic combat simulations designed to strengthen interoperability and test the alliance's ability to respond to modern threats.

UFS25, one of the largest annual combined defense exercises on the Korean Peninsula, brings together live, virtual and constructive training across all domains: air, land, sea, cyber and information. At the center of this effort is the PASC, which plays a critical role in replicating complex combat environments and enabling allied forces to rehearse real-world plans.

While it's typical to see missions captured in photos, videos and headlines, every operation begins with a chain of decisions. The PASC bridges the gap between high-level leadership at the air operations center and the warfighters on the ground by translating air tasking orders into executable missions. During joint exercises like UFS25, it trains behind-the-scenes leaders to plan, adapt and assess operations in real time, sharpening readiness and strengthening combined warfighting capabilities.

"The Pacific Air Simulation Center has just one of many simulations operating simultaneously that are linked in



Rows of computers sit in the Pacific Air Simulation Center on Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Aug. 27, 2025. As one of the three largest simulation centers in the Air Force, personnel from across 40 functional areas worked in the PASC during the exercise, delivering around-the-clock simulated data and operational inputs. ▲

time and space," said retired Lt. Gen. Andrew Croft, Combined Forces Command senior air controller. "You see Navy, Army, Air Force, Marines, the ROK military, and even United Nations Command forces all working together across the peninsula. It's a massive effort and it produces realistic outcomes based on the decisions participants make."

As one of the three largest simulation centers in the Air Force, personnel from across 40 functional areas supported the PASC during the exercise, delivering around-the-clock simulated data and operational inputs.

Each cell paired U.S. and ROK counterparts to keep communication, decision-making and planning synchronized throughout the exercise. Reflecting its unique role in the theater, the center focused on integrating airpower by simulating operations with ROK air force assets, U.S. Air Force aircraft, Navy and Marine aviation, and joint capabilities, all working together to create a combined air picture.

"This exercise may be a simulation, but it is rooted in reality, real numbers, real forces, and real plans," Croft added. "The lessons gained here go into real documentation and become lessons learned for future operations."

Partnership extended beyond the technical side of the exercise. Service members conducted every meeting and briefing in both English and Hangul, reinforcing the importance of clear communication at all levels.

"From the top leadership to the operators on the floor, you'll always see a U.S. and ROK counterpart working together," said Croft. "That's where trust is built."

For Lt. Col. Kim Hyungjun, the ROKAF chief of war simulation, the exercise underscored the growth of Korea's own capabilities.

"Our role in the simulation is to support every section of the fight," Kim said. "This cooperation shows the alliance is prepared to operate as one force."

Conducted in support of the U.S.-ROK Mutual Defense Treaty on Oct. 1, 1953, UFS25 is one of many routine exercises over the decades that underscores the United States' ironclad commitment to the alliance. Croft also highlighted how the US-ROK partnership is the glue that can bring other alliances in for exercises, encouraging even greater stability in the region.

With a solid history, there is also room for continued growth. Hyungjun's first Ulchi Freedom exercise was in 2006, and he has since been able to see how much the exercise has grown. Hyungjun has seen many technological advances as the simulation platform seamlessly incorporates so many moving parts across each country's systems.

"Exercises like UFS25 remind us that readiness is never a solo effort," said Hyungjun. "Every level, strategic to tactical, relies on harmonized cooperation between partners. When we train together across all domains, we build more than plans; we build trust. That trust is what carries over into real-world operations, where timing, coordination, and shared understanding can make all the difference."

A Pacific Air Simulation Center flag hangs from a wall in one of the operational cell rooms of the PASC on Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Aug. 27, 2025. The PASC support exercises like Ulchi Freedom Shield, an annual combined joint all-domain exercise conducted in support of the U.S.-ROK Mutual Defense Treaty signed on Oct. 1, 1953. ▼





U.S. Air Force 1st Lt. Allegra Maeso, 49th Intelligence Squadron intel control cell mission director, Master Sgt. Julius Sales, full motion video sensor operator from 437th Operations Support Squadron, and Senior Airman Luis Castilla, battle damage assessment Pacific Air Simulation Center representative from the 607th Air Operations Center, work on a computers and phones at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Aug. 27, 2025. The PASC bridges the gap between high-level leadership at the air operations center and the warfighters on the ground by translating air tasking orders into executable missions.



A group of Republic of Korea air force members and U.S. Air Force Airmen discuss mission details of a simulated mission in the Pacific Air Simulation Center on Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Aug. 27, 2025. Each operational cell in the PASC paired U.S. and ROK counterparts to keep communication, decision-making and planning synchronized throughout the exercise. ▲



Republic of Korea air force Airman Jong Won-Jun, a close air specialist (right) and Airman Kim Dong-Whan, a close air specialist, conduct simulated air missions on a computer in the Pacific Air Simulation Center on Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Aug. 27, 2025. Reflecting its unique role in the theater, the center focused on integrating airpower by simulating operations with ROK air force assets, U.S. Air Force aircraft, Navy and Marine aviation, and joint capabilities, all working together to create a combined air picture.



Ulchi Freedom Shield 25 Wraps, Strengthening Alliances

By Senior Airman Josephine Pepin **Seventh Air Force**

OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- The annual combined joint all-domain military exercise, Ulchi Freedom Shield 25, concluded on Aug. 28, reinforcing the strength and readiness of the U.S.-Republic of Korea alliance in the face of evolving regional security threats.

This year's iteration of Ulchi Freedom Shield, known as UFS25, integrated live and constructive simulations across air, land, sea, space and cyber domains from Aug. 18-28. The heart of the exercise was the synchronized operation between the Air Operations Center and the Pacific Simulation Center, a vital pairing that allowed real-time generation and execution of combat training missions, translating into thousands of training sorties from different wings across the country.

The AOC played a key role in developing air tasking orders, which outlined detailed mission sets and objectives for each air operation. Once issued, those orders were transferred to the PASC, which transformed the plans into logistical realities to determine aircraft type, origin airbase, fuel and maintenance requirements, and missionspecific intelligence.

"When combat operations start, the air



U.S. and Republic of Korea military forces work together during the Ulchi Freedom Shield 25 exercise at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Aug. 20, 2025. This exercise is focused on defense, making sure both nations are prepared to respond quickly if needed. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Josephine Pepin)

A U.S. service member practices working in Mission Oriented Protective Posture gear during the Ulchi Freedom Shield 25 exercise at Osan Air Base. Republic of Korea, Aug. 20, 2025. UFS25 is a defensive exercise, focused on protecting peace and preventing conflict through strong preparation. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Joshua LeRoi)▶

component is the primary effort, meaning a lot of ground movement doesn't happen at first," said retired Lt. Gen. Andrew Croft, Seventh Air Force Combined Forces Command senior air controller. "It's airplanes, it's bombs it's surface air missiles, it's all of that between the ROK Air Force, U.S. Air Force, and other branches' aircraft efforts. We are responsible for that first response."

UFS25 involved active participation from the United Nations Command, Combined Forces Command, United States Forces Korea, the ROK Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the ROK government. The 10-day exercise also incorporated noncombatant evacuation operations, receiving, staging, onward movement and integration procedures, combined component live-fire training, and countering weapons of mass destruction operations.

From a partner nation standpoint, South Korean forces played a key role in UFS25, conducting extensive joint training across multiple domains. The ROKAF flew thousands of sorties alongside the U.S. Seventh Air Force, including combat air patrols, close air support, and air interdiction missions, while integrating advanced fighter platforms. In the space domain, the ROKAF Space Operations Group partnered with U.S. Space Forces-Korea to establish a combined joint space operations center, enhancing space awareness and decision-making for the CFC.

The ROK Navy and Marine Corps also contributed significantly, training with U.S. Navy and Marine forces to strengthen maritime security, amphibious readiness, and integrated operations. Meanwhile, ROK



Special Operations Forces joined U.S. counterparts for combined exercises focused on CWMD, direct-action raids and special reconnaissance, further improving joint crisis response and interoperability.

Additionally, the exercise brought together civilian agencies and emergency responders in both the planning and execution phases, with an emphasis on crisis response, noncombatant evacuation, and the protection of civilians. This comprehensive strategy highlighted the alliance's dedication to maintaining readiness and ensuring the safety of the Korean population.

Conducted in support of the U.S.-ROK Mutual Defense Treaty on Oct. 1, 1953, the UFS25 exercise is one of many that have evolved over decades and continues to underscore the U.S.'s ironclad commitment to the alliance.

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As one of the largest training exercises between the U.S. and ROK. UFS25 tests the alliance with complex challenges and includes comprehensive after-action reviews to ensure continued improvement. This iterative annual exercise strengthens the security, freedom, and stability on the Korean Peninsula and across Northeast Asia.





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By Senior Airman Landon Gunsauls 8th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

KUNSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Kaitlynn Mascetti, a native of Columbus, Ohio and 8th Security Forces Squadron air defense and tactical communications section chief, won the 8th Fighter Wing's Pride of the Pack award during the week of Aug. 25-29, 2025, for her work as the key integrator between eight base agencies, ensuring seamless coordination and execution of base-wide C-sUAS and sUAS capabilities while leading a team of five Airmen.

Working directly with Seventh Air Force, she supports the advancement of C-sUAS and sUAS programs with assets totaling over \$42 million in current and emerging capabilities while integrating them into the Wolf Pack's base defense.

Her expertise has not only strengthened the 8th FW's readiness but is contributing to future-focused innovation at the Air Force level. She executed 12 immersions, showcasing advanced C-sUAS and sUAS equipment, to leadership teams across Pacific Air Forces garnering support and shining light on capabilities and emerging requirements.

Mascetti has also authored doctrine that is now being used to shape operational standards that's been adopted by other Major Commands across the Air Force.

Her outstanding contributions have drawn Air Force-wide recognition, including published features and personal accolades from senior leadership, earning challenge coins from both the Seventh Air Force command chief and the 8th Fighter Wing commander.

Mascetti's leadership, technical innovation, and dedication to her team exemplify what it means to be Pride of the Pack. Congratulations on your well-deserved recognition!

U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Kaitlynn Mascetti, 8th Security Forces Squadron air defense and tactical communications section chief, poses for a photo with her drones at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Aug. 28, 2025. Mascetti was awarded the 8th Fighter Wing's Pride of the Pack award during the week of Aug. 25-29, 2025, for her work as the key integrator between eight base agencies, ensuring seamless coordination and execution of base-wide C-sUAS and sUAS capabilities while leading a team of five Airmen A



U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Kaitlynn Mascetti, 8th Security Forces Squadron air defense and tactical communications section chief, operates a drone at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Aug. 28, 2025. Mascetti was awarded the 8th Fighter Wing's Pride of the Pack award during the week of Aug. 25-29, 2025, for her work as the key integrator between eight base agencies, ensuring seamless coordination and execution of base-wide C-sUAS and sUAS capabilities while leading a team of five Airmen A





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By Staff Sgt. Joshua LeRoi and Senior Airman Josephine Pepin **Seventh Air Force**

OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- During the Ulchi Freedom Shield 25 exercise, U.S. and Republic of Korea service members transitioned to an alternate location utilizing ROK Air Force C-130 aircraft, testing the combined force's ability to maneuver personnel and equipment quickly. The shift reinforced both nations' ability to project and sustain combat power from different locations across the region, validating airlift coordination between the U.S. and ROK air forces.



U.S. service members prepare to board a Republic of Korea Air Force C-130 during the Ulchi Freedom Shield 25 exercise at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Aug. 25, 2025. Through realistic training scenarios, UFS25 challenges participants to respond to dynamic threats while improving alliance interoperability and trust. U.S. and Republic of Korea service members transitioned to an alternate location utilizing ROK Air Force C-130 aircraft, testing the combined force's ability to maneuver personnel and equipment quickly. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Joshua LeRoi) ▲



U.S. service members prepare for takeoff inside a Republic of Korea Air Force C-130 during the Ulchi Freedom Shield 25 exercise at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Aug. 25, 2025. UFS 25 highlights the importance of constant readiness, ensuring Republic of Korea and U.S. service members remain prepared to defend peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Joshua LeRoi) ▲

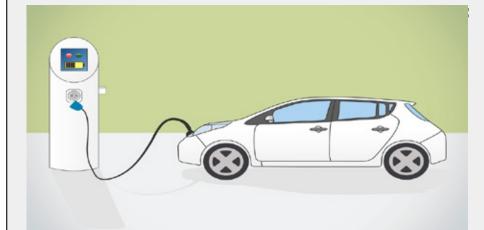


line up and board a Republic of Korea Air Force C-130 during the Ulchi Freedom Shield 25 exercise at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Aug. 25, 2025. By focusing on defense and de escalation. UFS 25 monstrates the alliance's commitment to deterrence. cooneration and lasting regional security. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Joshua LeRoi) ◀

service members

Electrical Vehicle Fire Safety

September 5, 2025



electric vehicles (EVs) become increasingly common, OSAN Fire Department is focusing on the unique challenges and opportunities they present. While EVs are generally safe and subject to rigorous safety standards, their lithium-ion batteries pose different fire risks compared to traditional vehicles powered by gasoline or diesel.

Data from the National Transportation Safety Board showed that EVs were involved in approximately 25 fires for every 100,000 sold.

Understanding these risks and adopting appropriate safety measures is critical for both the public and emergency responders.

The main fire risk in an EV comes from its high-energy lithium-ion battery. If the battery is damaged, overheated, or improperly charged, it can enter thermal runaway which is a chain reaction that produces intense heat, toxic smoke, and sometimes explosions. Unlike gasoline fires, which can often be controlled quickly, EV battery fires may burn for hours and even reignite days later.

The following safety tips can help minimize EV fire hazard/risks:

- 1. Use devices that are listed by a qualified testing laboratory.
- 2. Read and follow all manufacturer directions.
- 3. Check chargers and cords for damage before using. Never use if damaged.
- 4. Do not use extension cords with the charger.
- 5. Install charging equipment in safe locations. Keep away from busy areas and things that could catch fire.
- 6. Keep charging items out of reach of children and animals when not in use.
- 7. Cover charging station outlet to keep water out.
- 8. Before charging an electric vehicle at home, have a qualified electrician:
- Check your electrical system to see if it can handle charging.
- Install a new circuit just for your charging device.

Electric vehicles are an important part of our transportation future. With precautions and responsible use, the risk of fire can be greatly reduced. Ultimately, community safety begins with everyday habits.

Should you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact Fire Prevention Office at 784-3370/4741.

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Romans 10:13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord, shall be saved. [See: Romans 3:10, 3:23, 5:12, 6:23, 5:8, 10:9-10, and pray & ask The Lord to save you.]

Haven Baptist Church

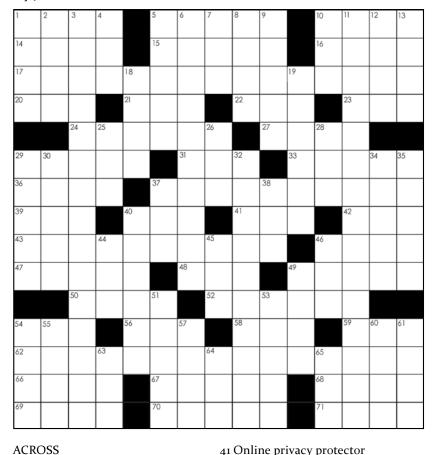
Just outside the Front Gate at Kunsan AB

- Preaching Christ 50+ years. www.hbcingunsan.com

Redeem this AD for a FREE COFFEE at church!

By Ion Dunbar

The Crossword



- 1 Korean fried chicken franchise
- 5 Trap or drum
- 10 Wound tissue
- 14 Beware the ___ of March
- 15 Elvis ___ Presley
- 16 DARPA predecessor
- 17 Punch to the jaw 20 Hearing organ
- 21 Charged particle
- 22 Goes with process or date
- 23 Military sleeping bag
- 24 Red plus yellows 27 Goes with Emerald or Of Man
- 29 K-pop idols, to fangirls
- 31 Hongdae nighclub
- 33 Controversial topic
- 36 Goldman Sachs president Gary
- 37 Downtown Seoul tourist area
- 39 Short-term military assignment
- 40 Look

52 Opposite of exits 54 Knee ligament 56 Bigger than AAAs

42 Newton treat

49 Cattle tattoo

43 President Dwight

46 Elks' fraternal order

47 Boreal forest biome

50 Mistake exclamation

58 Killed, wounded, captured, or

48 Neither a borrower ___ a lender be

deserted

32 Legislative, judicial, executive

35 Played a trick on Halloween

37 Indifferent utterance

44 Sense of self-worth

46 Feeling cold utterance

51 Actors Devon and Ishige

55 Nickname for tart berry

57 1970s electronic album "_

63 Navy shopping option

38 US radio station

- 59 Recovery operation
- 62 Not a 4X4
- 66 Angry fit
- 67 "You ___ going anywhere"
- 68 Cook with water
- 69 Black gemstone
- 70 Fine sands 71 The ___ 500

34 Labor group

40 Yell at

45 "___ is me"

53 Tips over

Camel"

61 Depend

60 Enthusiastic

64 Electric fish

65 Batter's stat

49 Necklace item

54 Fuzzy hairstyle

DOWN

- 1 Missile or shoe
- 2 Bart's teacher
- 3 Brain doctor's study
- 4 Upper left key
- 5 Barbershop 6 Korean cold noodles
- 7 ___ Technica
- 8 Street 9 Feeling of boredom
- 10 Toothed hand tool
- 11 Impulsive violations of the law
- 12 Troop transports
- 13 Cheering shouts
- 18 Cars from Hyundai's sister brand
- 19 Blueprint 25 Moved fast
- 26 Female sheep
- 28 Acid drug
- 29 Eight-piece band
- 30 Lecterns

60 ASSAI 64 NATO 65 CADET 69 ELMO 71 NTO 71 ADORI 72 SOHO 73 DEAS 74 SONAF 75 SEOS

39 EGO 47 HDI 50 IGLOOS 53 ASSESS 55 INCAS 56 EATER 57 ENID 58 VANE 59 ETTA 61 ALOE 62 IMHO 63 LOOS 66 ADO 67 DON 68 ERA





hank you for your service: Patrick Mahomes, Kansas City Chiefs quarterback, has his picture taken with Senior Airman Rachel McKinney, 509th Comptroller Squadron financial operations technician, during the Chiefs' training camp in St. Joseph, Mo., Aug. 13, 2025. The Chiefs hosted U.S. service members and veterans on the last day of training camp to honor and recognize them for their sacrifice and contributions. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Joshua Hastings)



ombat tactics: Airmen assigned to the 820th Base Defense Group patrol a training area during Mission Qualification Training at Moody Air Force Base, Ga., Aug. 5, 2025. The annual 72-hour field exercise helps Airmen to sharpen their skills in ground maneuvers and combat tactics. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Leonid Soubbotine)

September 5, 2025

reedom formation: U.S. Air Force
B-1B Lancers and allied fighter
jets fly in formation over the
Monument of Freedom in Riga, Latvia,
Aug. 19, 2025. The Bomber Task
Force Europe exercise demonstrated
NATO air forces' ability to operate
together anywhere, anytime.
(Courtesy photo)

closer look: Senior Airman
Samuel Griego and Airman 1st
Class Tavi Carter-Smith, 509th
Maintenance Squadron aerospace
propulsion journeymen, inspect
an exhaust tube in a test cell at
Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., Aug.
20, 2025. U.S. Air Force aerospace
propulsion specialists test aircraft
engines and diagnose problems,
including the fuel, oil, electrical
and engine airflow systems. (U.S.
Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Joshua
Hastings) ◀



Kunsan

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

- 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

- WOLF PACK LODGE -

search for "Kunsan Photo Club."

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 ba- Wolf Pack members at the Sonlight sis up to 120 days in advance for a maximum of 30 days depending on availfor the holiday season (November and 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

- SUNDAY SONLIGHT DINNER -

Every Sunday, volunteers from a specific unit cook dinner for their fellow

Inn. The dinner begins at 6 p.m. folability. You can also book reservations range from "breakfast for dinner" to 4679. "Italian cooking" to "Southern style." December) up to 30 days in advance For more information or to volunteer, contact the chapel at 782-HOPE.

- 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.

- PING PONG TOURNAMENT -

Free to all. Prizes for first and second

places. Prizes include Wolf Pack Won. To sign up, dates or for more inforlowing grace led by a chaplain. Meals mation, call the CAC at 782-5213 or

Osan

Alcoholics Anonymous Every Tuesday and Thursday | 1700-

1800 | Building 769, Resiliency Center Training Room For additional information and a point of contact, visit the AA in Korea website at aainkorea.org

Tobacco Cessation Classes

Every Thursday | 0900-1100 | Building 1419, Human Performance Center (The building right behind the fitness center) Osan AB offers free tobacco cessation classes to all DOD id members. The health promotion coordinator is available to help you break this habit, through counseling, educational materials, and health coaching. Please make an appointment via her email, Troisha Busano, troisha.d.busano. civ@health.mil.

Ultimate Frisbee

Saturdays | 0900 | Mustang Field (Across from Outdoor Rec) Open to all AD, CIV, and Dependents w/ base access. Please join us on the field for 60 minutes of cardio-vascular exercise. All ages and experience levels welcome, even if you have never touched a frisbee. POCs – David Brittain 010-8354-1576, SSgt Ethan Troutman, ethan.troutman@us.af.mil, DSN 315-784-5657, CELL 010-5793-2467

Volunteering Coaching Opportunities for High School Sports

Please email Osan Middle High School AO William.Castro@dodea. edu ideally 2-3 months ahead of the season to begin processing your

specified volunteer packet. Once your packet is submitted for processing, you may be a line-of-sight volunteer as you work through the process. Winter sports (Nov 4-Feb 5) offered: Boys and girls basketball, wrestling, swimming, marksmanship, and esports (Valorant and Rocket League). Spring sports (Feb 18-May 22) offered: Baseball/softball, boys and girls soccer, and track. Volunteer coaches will work with DoDEA staff head coaches.

Osan Air Base Honor Guard

Every Monday & Wednesday | 1630-1730 | Bldg. 936 Rm. 211 The Osan Air Base Honor Guard covers ceremonies across the peninsula acknowledging the achievements of our fellow members in uniform and their families. An amazing way to serve the members in your community and build lasting connections between other service members. For any questions, comments, or concerns please reach out to OsanHonorGuard@us.af.mil

Wingmen Helping Airmen Get Home

Saturdays | 2300-0400 | SED WHAGH is a new program inspired by AADD, whose purpose is to ensure the safety and well-being of Airmen within the Songtan Entertainment District by escorting members to their residences. The WHAGH team is looking for volunteers this weekend. There's no rank requirement to volunteer. All are welcome to help. If interested or for more information, please email 51fw.

1-800-733-2761 (anytime)

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Osan Air Base Rugby

Mondays and Wednesdays | 1700-1800 | Mustang Field Whether you're rugby-curious and want to learn, or a veteran player who wants to throw the ball around, come out to the Mustang Field for some fun touch rugby. Sessions will include basic drills, explanations of the game, and plenty of time to play, build camaraderie, and have fun! POC: Maj. Magana

Volunteer Opportunities

Mustang community, if you are looking to volunteer checkout our newsletter for opportunities and use the QR code titled "Volunteer Form" Organizations that are looking for volunteers, you can request them using the QR code titled "Organization Form." With the same form, you can put down your upcoming events/ programs to be added into next month's issue.

POC: Any questions or suggestions please email osan.afrc@us.af.mil

Mustang Community Center Yard Sale Event

Occurs Every 1st Saturday of Each Month | 1000-1300 | Bldg. 1313 (Big Room)

Is clutter taking over your home? It's

time to reclaim your space! Our yard sale is the perfect opportunity to get rid of those unwanted or forgotten items and make room for a fresh start. Register now at the MCC front desk to secure your 1 table with 2 chairs. Registration fee: \$10 Note * This event is only for those who want to sell yard sale/excess items. This is not for home business or licensed vendors.* For questions, contact the MCC front desk at osanabcommunitycenter@ gmail.com or DSN: 784-3123 | Com-

Youth Fundamental Basketball Academy

mercial: 0505-784-3123.

Every Tuesday & Thursday (Until 1 October) | 1800-2000 | Fitness Center Hosted by Osan Men's Basketball Team, we are providing basketball training for kids K-12. Experience doesn't matter. Also looking for dedicated coaches.

MSgt Marcus Hollins (marcus.e.hollins. mil@health.mil) or MSgt Rodney Martin (rodney.martin.4@us.af.mil)

Kunsan's emergency phone numbers					
Emergency Services	911				
Off Base/Cell Emergency	063-470- 0911	Nurse Advice Line	1-800-723-8255		
Crime Stop: (to report a crime)	782-5444	IG Complaints FWA Reporting:	782-4850 (duty hours) 782-4942 (anytime)		
Base Locator: (after duty hours)	782-4743	Chaplain (After duty hours)	782-6000		
Law Enforcement desk	782-4944	Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC)	782-7272		
Emergency Leave / Red Cross		782-4601 (on base)			

Osan's emergency phone numbers				
Emergency Services (Fire, Medical, Security Police)	911	Commander's Hotline	784-4811	
Off Base/Cell Emergency	031-661- 9111	Crime Stop: (to report a crime)	784-5757	
Emergency Room:	784-2500	IG Complaints FWA Reporting:	784-1144	
Base Locator: (after duty hours)	784-4597	Emergency Leave	784-7000	
Force Protection Information Hotline:	115	Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC)	784-7272	
Chaplain (After duty hours)	784-7000	Security Forces Control Center	784-5515	

CRIMSON SKY





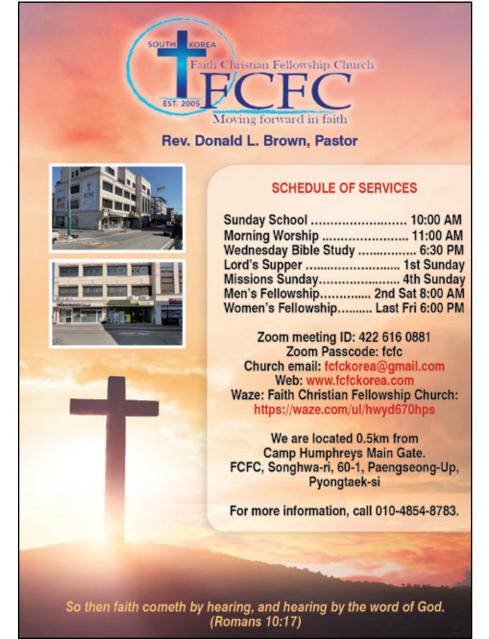


070-7580-1839 (Osan AB)

010-5753-8801 (Off Base)

> AAFES Osan **BX Mall** (Next to Starbucks)

HITE JINRO SEOKSOO AAFES WATER SHOP







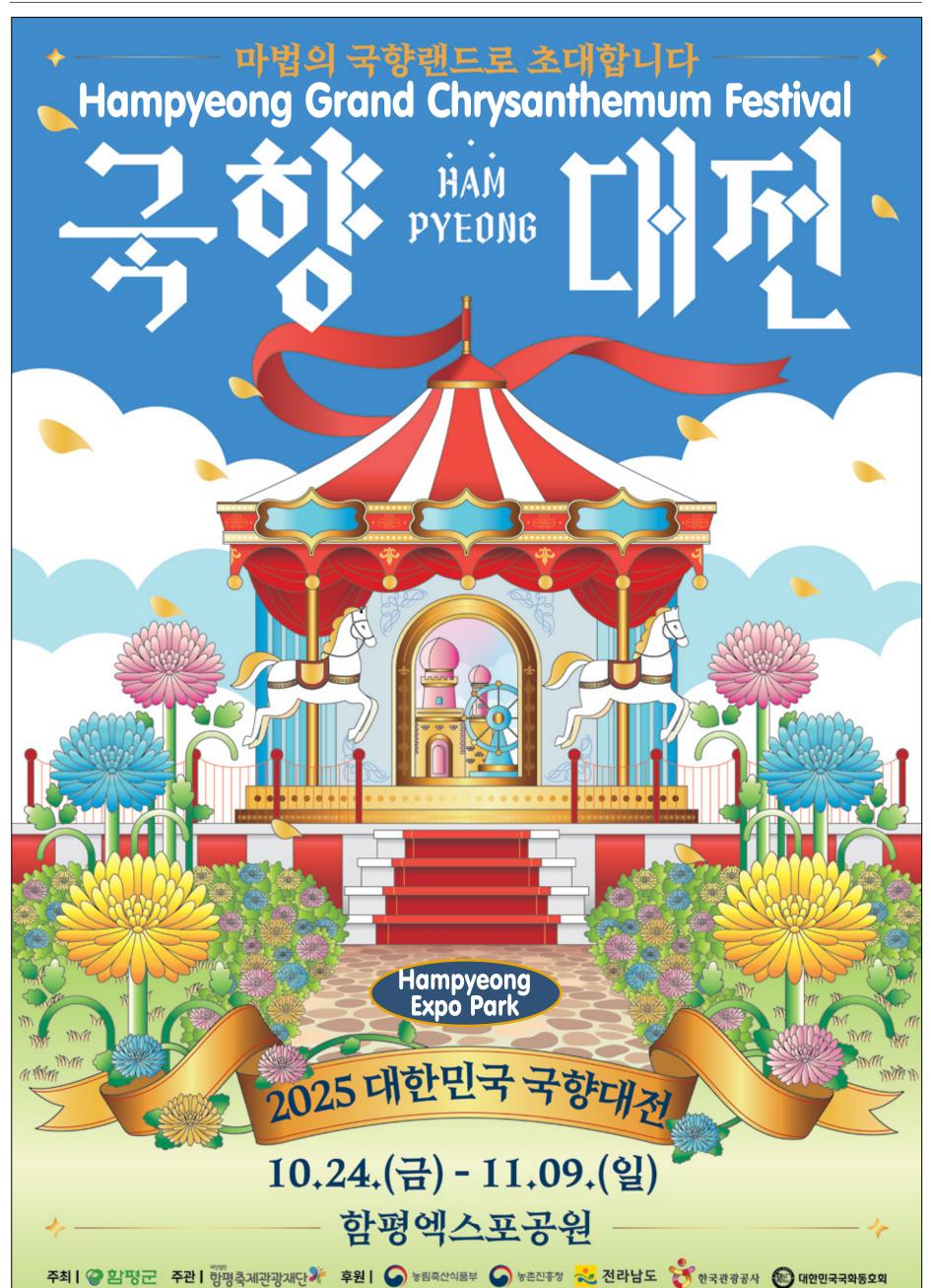


PYEONGTAEK 28-3 Sinheungbuk-ro 49beon-gil, Paengseong-eup, Pyeongtaek-si, Gyeonggi-do

STARFIELD ANSEONG 3930-39, Seodong-daero, Gongdo-eup, Anseong-si, Gyeonggi-do, Republic of Korea

ITAEWON 40, Itaewon-ro 27na-gil, Yongsan-gu, Seoul, Republic of Korea

PYEONGTAEK 0507-1491-93







The One and Only 'Me' in the Universe



By Maj (Sel) Kim, Do Woong, Won Buddhism Minister Mangho Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division Republic of Korea Army

 ${}^{\prime\prime}E \ \ \text{ach of us is a unique being, one of a kind} \\ \text{in this world and this universe}. I love$ this quote! It comes from a Won-Buddhist cleric I respect while he was giving a lecture to a group of soldiers. It means 'Oneself' or "I" is incomparable to anyone else; a unique, irreplaceable, and invaluable being. I could see the soldiers' eyes

light up at that moment.

People in modern society often don't know themselves well. They compare their lives to others, develop a sense of inferiority, and mistakenly believe that state is who they truly are.

Instead of seeing themselves as they are, they worry about how others perceive them. It would be fine if it stopped at worry, but it simultaneously erodes their self-esteem.

Especially now, in an era where everyone, regardless of age or gender, frequently uses social media, we can all peek into the lives and daily routines of others. This makes comparing one's own life to others' even easier. Even regular TV broadcasts reflect the daily lives of celebrities and even their families, causing people to feel a sense of disconnect or envy towards their own lives, further diminishing their self-esteem.

Here, the self-esteem of this being called 'I' begins to shrink endlessly once more. But as mentioned in the introduction, since this being called 'I' is unique in this universe, there is truly nothing to compare it to. Whether one has much or little money, a large or small house, if one strives to live their own life, the lives of others or the gaze of others will cease to matter.

There is no single perfect answer in life. Even if you were to step into the life of someone you envy, you would invariably face a new set of problems within it, yearning for yet another person's life and living a life that constantly tears you apart. So, if there is no perfect answer in life, but you recognize that there is this one

and only being called 'I' in this world and this universe, what should you do? I will tell you a very simple method.

September 5, 2025

First, put yourself into a calm setting and assume a comfortable posture to make it easier to clear your mind. Then, make your mind whole. Wholeness is not sharp or angular, but a rounded mind. It is a mind that is neither noisy, foolish, nor wrong. Let go of thoughts and focus entirely on your own mind right now.

That focused being is precisely 'me'. Since I am the only one of my kind in this world and universe, I cannot compare myself to others. Because comparison is impossible, I must live my own life. I set aside the mind of comparison and tend to my true heart, untouched by anything. From this moment onward, I can gradually recover my self-esteem. To describe that feeling, I come to sense that 'my heart is alive.' It is about living with that very heart. Then, at last, I will be able to rightly find within myself happiness, sorrow, joy, regret, resentment, and gratitude.

The ancient sages taught that the root is the foundation of a tree, and the mind is the foundation of a person. Though invisible to the eve, the mind is the unseen inner organ that transforms and governs our lives. The path to finding the one and only true self in the universe is to find our own original mind. I cheer for your only one in the universe. Thank you!

Translated by Ms. Kim, Ohsung, Language Specialist, 51 FW/HC

CHAPEL SCHEDULE

KUNSAN AIR BASE

Weekly Worship Services @ Bldg #501

Catholic Holy Mass Sunday at 0900 (Chapel)

Weekday Masses - Tuesday-Thursday at 1138 (Blessed Sacrament Room inside Chapel)

> Protestant Worship Sunday at 1100 (Chapel)

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Sunday at 1300 (Chapel)

> Point of Contact: Kunsan Chapel, 782-HOPE

Visit us on SharePoint: https://kunsan.eis.pacaf.af.mil/8FW/HC

OSAN AIR BASE

Osan AB Chapel (Building 780)

Protestant Service

Sunday Worship Service Sunday @ 0930

> Children's church Sunday @ 0945

Halftime Bible Study Monday – Friday @ 1100 (Classroom 5)

Catholic Mass

Catholic Sunday Mass Sunday @ 1130

Confession Sunday @1100-1125 (Blessed Sacrament Room)

> **Catholic Daily Mass** Monday – Thursday @ 1130 -1200 (Blessed Sacrament Room)

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

Come to me class Thursday @ 1900

Fellowship Friday @ 1900

Earth-Based Meeting

Wednesday @ 1830 (Classroom 6)

For the most current updates and announcements, Please visit our "Osan AB Chapel" Facebook Page: https://www.facebook.com/OsanABChapel

HUMPHREYS

PROTESTANT
- Sundays - Sundays - Sundays - Sundays - O900 Christ The King Liturgical Service - Pacific Victors Chapel
- 0930 & 1100 Agape (Contemporary Service) - 4CMC
- 1000 Burning Bush Gospel Service - Warrior Chapel
- 1100 Common Ground (Traditional Service) - Freedom Chapel
- 1300 Apostolic Pentecostal (Oneness) - Warrior Chapel
- 1330 Spanish Service - Pacific Victors Chapel
- Wednesdays - 1200 Christ The King Eucharist Service - Pacific Victors Chapel
- 1800 KATUSA Service - Pacific Victors Chapel

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS (LDS) - Sundays -1400-1600 Worship Meeting - Freedom Chapel POC: CH Droge; 010-8685-2976; shawn.a.droge.mil@mail.mil

RELIGIOUS STUDIES AND MINISTRY AUXILIARIES
MON/WED 1830 Catholic Men of the Chapel - Freedom
TUES 1000-1200 Korean Ladies Bible Study (KLBS) - Freedom
TUES 1800-2000 Club Beyond Christian Youth Group - 4CMC
* Summer Break until 30 August
WED 0930-1145 Protestant Women of the Chapel (PWOC) - 4CMC
* Summer Schedule: 1800-2030 (until 28 August)
1830-2030 PWOC Evening Study - 4CMC
WED 1000-1200 Korean Catholic Women Bible study - Freedom
1730-1930 Catholic Women of the Chapel (CWOC) - Freedom
WED 1830-2000 Church of Christ Mid-Week Bible Study - Pacific
THUR 0915-1130 Catholic Women of the Chapel (CWOC) - Freedom
THUR 1800-2000 Protestant Men of the Chapel (PMOC) - 4CMC
* POC: CH Underhill 010-8520-7217
1st SAT/Month 0830 Knights of Columbus - Freedom

CATHOLIC - Freedom Chapel 1600-1700 Adoration (Saturdays) 1600-1700 Reconciliation/Confession (Saturdays) 1640 Rosary/Benediction (Saturdays) • 1730 Vigil Mass (Saturdays) 0900 Mass (Sundays) • 1730 Daily Mass (M-F) POC: usaghcatholiccoordinator@gmail.com

JEWISH 2nd and 4th Fridays - 4CMC 1800-2100 Shabbat Evening Service POC: CH (CPT) Daniel Kamzan; daniel.j.kamzan.mil@mail.mil

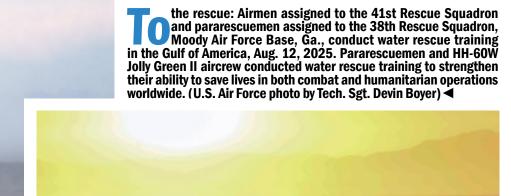
ISLAMIC - Pacific Victors Chapel Fridays: 1200-1330 Jumah Service Sundays: 1300-1500 Islamic / Arabic classes POC:CPT Anouar Bencheqroun 010-3382-7231 anouar.k.bencheqroun.mil

PAGAN Traditions
Fridays: Freedom Chapel Rm 110 / 1800-1900 Pagan Fellowship POC: CPT Ryan S. Robinson; ryan.s.robinson14.mil@mail.mil

BUDDHIST Tuesdays - Warrior Chapel / 1800-1900 Buddhist Service POC: CH (CPT) Somya Malasri; 010-7460-1281; somya.malasri.mil@mail.mil



agle formation: Three U.S. Air Force F-16 Fighting Falcons from the 31st Fighter Wing fly in formation over Italy, Aug. ■18, 2025, during Exercise Combined Strike 25. The exercise provides realistic training scenarios, improving combat readiness and demonstrating commitment to NATO allies. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Zachary Jakel)





aiting for rescue: A simulated downed pilot waits for rescue during exercise Red Flag-Rescue 25-3 in Oxnard, Calif., Aug. 5, 2025. RF-R 25-3 takes place in conjunction with Bamboo Eagle 25-3, an exercise in which Airmen face demanding scenarios that simulate contested environments, forcing them to adapt quickly and sustain critical air operations under pressure. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman William Finn V) ▲

icture this: Staff Sgt. Dalton Williams, a Headquarters Air Mobility Command public affairs specialist, photographs aircraft redeploying in support of Exercise Bamboo Eagle 25-3 at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, July 31, 2025. Public affairs specialists document operations through photography, video and storytelling to highlight mission accomplishments, inform the public and preserve the historical record. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Zachary Foster) ◀

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Crimson Sky | Page 25



A U.S. Air Force Airman assigned to the 51st Civil Engineer Squadron uses a vehicle mounted jackhammer to break up portions of unusable concrete to conduct rapid airfield damage repair during exercise Ulchi Freedom Shield 25 at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Aug. 20, 2025. RADR consists of assessing the damage, separating unusable concrete by cutting it out, fracturing the unusable section to be excavated and then filling the void with the appropriate material. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Jason W. Cochran) ▲

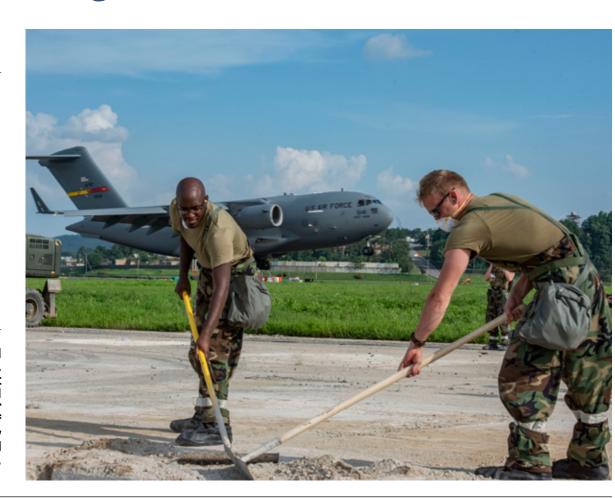
Premier US Air Force Fighter Wing enhanced Fight Tonight posture during Ulchi Freedom Shield 25

By 51st Fighter Wing Staff Reports 51st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea -- As the most forward deployed, permanently based Fighter Wing in the U.S. Air Force, the 51st Fighter Wing continues to carry out its core missions to defend the base, execute contingency operations and sustain the force during exercise Ulchi Freedom Shield 25.

UFS 25 was a defense-oriented, combined and joint exercise designed to enhance the U.S.-Republic of Korea alliance's capability to deter and defeat aggression if necessary. It is through exercises like this that Osan's Airmen are able to answer the call to defend the freedom of 51 million people.

U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Connor Stevens, left, 51st Civil Engineer Squadron structural engineer, and Staff Sgt. Hayden Brooks, 51st CES structural engineer, conduct rapid airfield damage repair while a C-17 Globemaster III lands during exercise Ulchi Freedom Shield 25 at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Aug. 20, 2025. RADR consists of assessing the damage, separating unusable concrete by cutting it out, fracturing the unusable section to be excavated and then filling the void with the appropriate material. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Jason W. Cochran) ▶



U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Geoffrey Nesbit, 51st Security Forces Squadron Alpha Flight chief, provides direction to a Republic of Korea Air Force airman while responding to a simulated ground attack during Ulchi Freedom Shield 25 at Osan Air Base, ROK, Aug. 19, 2025. One objective of UFS25 is to deepen the integration between U.S. and ROK forces through side-by-side operations, to further their ability to defend the Korean Peninsula. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Jason W. Cochran)▶

"UFS 25 is an opportunity for Osan and its leadership alongside our ROKAF partners to take a week to isolate our time, manpower and resources to focus on skillsets that are critical if we had to go to war." U.S. Air Force Maj. Jonathan Marshall, 51st Fighter wing exercise director stated.

This iteration of UFS 25 enabled Airmen to increase survivability, resilience, and built interoperability with ROKAF partners while executing agile combat employment concepts, with live flying from ROK air force bases.

"One of the key elements that we're working through is how we pick up from one location rapidly shift to a new one, and then stand-up operations quickly to focus on support to that exercise or operation," said U.S. Air Force Col. Brett Cassidy, 11th Air Task Force commander. "Ultimately, we're all about working through intervals of agility so we can get feedback to the Air Force and how to do this in the future."

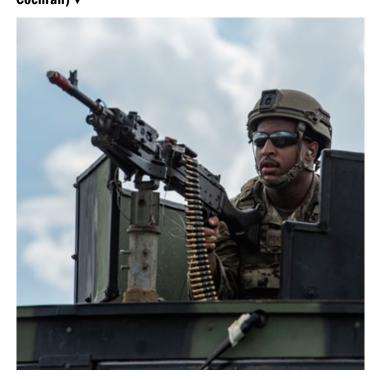
To increase survivability while generating combat power, ACE enhances flexibility and resilience of forces, providing the ability to swiftly respond to any adversary's threats from any location, while also complicating the enemy's decision making.

The rehearsal events we accomplish during exercises like UFS 25 make us ready to Fight Tonight! This is how we continue to be the predominant source of airpower in the theater and continue to guard the freedom of 51 million people."

— Col. Ryan Ley, 51st FW commander

"As we regularly build interoperability with our allies and sister services in exercises like UFS 25, we show our commitment to deterring external aggression and defending the Korean Peninsula, while strengthening our ironclad alliance with the ROK," Ley stated.

A U.S. Air Force Airman operates a light machine gun while responding to a simulated ground attack during Ulchi Freedom Shield 25 at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Aug. 19, 2025. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Jason W. Cochran)





U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Dylan White, 51st Security Forces Squadron military working dog trainer, yells to the driver of a Humvee to advance while responding to a simulated ground attack during Ulchi Freedom Shield 25 at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Aug. 19, 2025. One of the largest training exercises between the U.S. and ROK, UFS25 incorporates complex challenges and includes comprehensive after-action reviews to ensure participants can consistently learn and improve critical tactics and skills. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Jason W. Cochran) ▼





A Republic of Korea Air Force service member watches the sky for small unmanned aircraft systems threats during Ulchi Freedom Shield 25 at Osan Air Base, ROK, Aug. 19, 2025. UFS is an annual exercise that tests large-scale integration of ground, air, space and cyberspace capabilities to strengthen interoperability and increase combat readiness of U.S. and allied forces on the Korean peninsula. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Jason W. Cochran) ▲



Behind Field Conditions

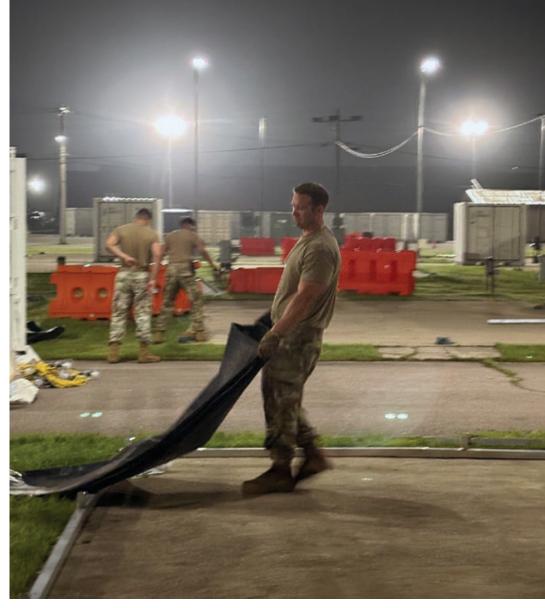
By Staff Sgt. Joshua LeRoi and Senior Airman Josephine Pepin Seventh Air Force

OSAN AB, Republic of Korea -- Before thousands of U.S. and allied personnel could train for the Ulchi Freedom Shield 25 exercise, a small group of Airmen had to build a place for them to live.

The Base Operating Support-Integrator team arrived at Osan in late July and had less than two weeks to stand up Rush Park, a temporary accommodation site designed to house more than 500 augmentees for the exercise. The 37-person team, drawn from five career fields and 22 Air Force specialties, worked long days in sweltering summer heat to construct what became known as "Tent City."

Their task included building tents and furnishing K-SPAN structures and ensuring transportation and recreation facilities were in place before participants arrived. The effort involved nearly \$2.2 million worth of equipment and required round-the-clock teamwork.

"To build this fast, we train, train," said Master Sgt. Daniel Garcia, 635th Materiel Maintenance Squadron capability generation team lead. "The hardest part of the job is usually the weather. We've had to adjust our shifts to start at 2 a.m., but we always get the job done."



Base Operating Support-Integrator team members work on building Rush Park before the Ulchi Freedom Shield 25 exercise at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, July 23, 2025. The team's work is critical to readiness, ensuring that hundreds of augmentees can train in realistic, field-like conditions. (Courtesy photo) ▲

Beyond infrastructure, the BOS-I team also ensured accountability and quality of life for participants. Personnel specialists tracked augmentees from airport pickup through in-processing and assigned lodging by shift schedules to maximize rest and readiness. Ground transportation Airmen operated buses around the clock, and services Airmen maintained morale through sleeping arrangements and recreation options.

The ground transportation team faced one of the exercise's toughest logistical hurdles, keeping buses running 24/7 to move augmentees across the base. Previously operating only during limited weekday hours, the team stretched its personnel across three shifts to maintain 24-hour service. While driving itself wasn't difficult, the challenge came in balancing long hours, ensuring drivers received proper breaks, refueling vehicles, and staying ahead of maintenance issues to keep the operation running smoothly.

"Overall, between all our teams, everybody came together and we were able to put everything together," said Tech. Sgt. Leidemar Pescador, 129th Rescue Wing bed-down contingency team lead. "It's been successful and I'm grateful. I'm most proud of the team because it's hard to find a place where everybody comes together to get the mission done this easily."

Capt. John Hussain, dubbed "camp mayor" of Rush Park, acted as liaison between BOS-I and the Airmen living in the camp. His role included solving daily challenges, keeping morale high, and ensuring the needs of more than 500 residents were met.

"It was really special to see," Hussain said. "We had 37 people just get the job done in 100-degree heat. Some had never touched certain tools before, but they showed up with a no-quit attitude. Supporting this mission, which will pay dividends in potential future conflicts, was nothing short of special."

Ulchi Freedom Shield, an annual joint and combined exercise, is designed to test readiness across all domains in the Indo-Pacific. For participants, living in field conditions is part of that training, testing their ability to adapt while operating with allies under challenging conditions.

But for BOS-I, the exercise was just as much about readiness. The team's rapid setup and problem-solving skills reflected the Air Force's Agile Combat Employment concepts, ensuring forces can deploy quickly and operate in austere environments.

"When you come to a place like this, you remember the why," Hussain said. "Getting down and dirty with civil engineers, seeing lodging and ground transportation firsthand, it makes you better at your craft. It was special to watch the team come together and make this happen."





U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Austin Ramos, ground transportation team lead from the 18th Logistics Readiness Squadron, left, and Senior Airman Mustafa Mahmoud, ground transportation deputy lead from the 1st Special Operations Logistics Readiness Squadron, right, pose in front of one of the buses they operate during exercise Ulchi Freedom 25 at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Aug. 20, 2025. Bus operations ramped up from driving routes five days a week to operating 24/7 to better serve the augmentee work tempos during this combined, joint, all-domain military training exercise. ▲



Tents are being built before the Ulchi Freedom Shield 25 exercise at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, July 23, 2025. The Base Operating Support-Integrator team embodies Agile Combat Employment concepts by leveraging every Airman's skills to quickly create and maintain a bare-base environment. (Courtesy photo) ▲



U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Roberto Rivera, 72nd Force Support Squadron command support staff, left, and Senior Airman Brandace Santos, 94th Force Support Squadron personnel support for contingency operations technician, right, work on a computer at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Aug. 20, 2025. The Base Operating Support-Integrator personnel team tracked each augmentee from airport arrival through in-processing, ensuring accountability and assigning lodging to keep operations running smoothly for the Ulchi Freedom Shield 25

Base Operating Support-Integrator team members transport an air conditioning unit at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, July 25, 2025. The Base Operating Support-Integrator team is a group of Airmen drawn from multiple career fields who establish and sustain temporary living and working environments for large-scale exercises such as Ulchi Freedom Shield 25. (Courtesy photo) ◀

Wolf Pack integrates with follow-on forces for UFS25

U.S. Air Force Capt. Griffin Line, 35th Fighter Squadron pilot, flashes the 35th FS "Push it Up" sign during exercise Ulchi Freedom Shield 25 at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Aug. 20, 2025. UFS25 is designed to present participants with realistic threat scenarios to enhance unit readiness and strengthen combined defense capabilities. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior **Airman Landon Gunsauls**) ▶







U.S. Air Force Airmen respond to a simulated ground attack during Ulchi Freedom Shield 25 at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Aug. 19, 2025. UFS25 exercises the U.S.-ROK alliance strategically through large scale command and control scenarios, all the way down to individual tactical events, ensuring the entire force is ready to operate in contingency environments. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Jason W. Cochran)



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K-POP DEMON HUNTERS:

Culture & Travel Pt. 2/2

The Netflix animated film "K-Pop Demon Hunters (2025)" sparked a global K-content sensation upon its release, captivating audiences in over 30 countries. Blending the dazzling visuals of K-pop with shamanism and traditional Korean folktales, the film has opened a new window into the rich depths of Korean culture. Let's dive into the cultural elements woven into the story and explore travel destinations where you can experience their lasting resonance.

3. Seoul: Where the Everyday Korean Life Comes Alive

The world of the film isn't confined to myths and legends. Another main character in "K-Pop Demon Hunters (2025)" is none other than the vibrant, modern city of Seoul. Stepping out of the world of spirits and folklore, we now enter the lively streets where the heartbeat of K-pop resonates—Seoul itself.



Namsan Seoul Tower serves as the setting for the film's climactic final performance. While the stage shown in the movie is fictional, the tower is a real-life landmark of Seoul. Visitors can take the cable car up to the tower and enjoy sweeping views of the city—a favorite destination for





Rumi and Jinu secretly meet, is a hidden gem for enjoying Seoul's nighttime skyline. A peaceful stroll along the softly lit fortress wall offers a with the twinkling city lights spread out below.the intricate hatmaking process behind them. Here, visitors can also view various types of gat, along with gannil (horsehair hat making), which has been designated as a National Intangible Cultural Heritage.

tourists year-round.

Naksan Park, where



Myeong-dong, where the SAjA Boys hold a surprise guerrilla performance, is a bustling hotspot for shopping and street food. From tteokbokki (spicy rice cakes) and hotteok (sweet pancakes) to gyeranppang (egg bread) and tornado potatoes, it's the perfect place to soak up the city's vibrant energy while enjoying K-food just like the

COEX K-pop Square, where Huntrix's "Golden" music video was revealed, is a media plaza dedicated to K-pop content. If you're lucky, you might catch one of its signature 3D media art displays—a popular photo spot for visitors to Seoul.



Namsan Seoul Tower

- Address: 105 Namsangongwon-gil, Yongsan-gu, Seoul
- · Operating hours: 10:00-22:30 Website: www.seoultower.

 Address: Myeongdong-gil Area, Jung-gu, Seoul

Naksan Park

Address: 41 Naksan-gil, Jongno-gu, Seoul

COEX K-pop Square

· Address: 513 Yeongdongdaero, Gangnam-gu, Seoul

TIP. Still Haunted by the SAjA Boys? Go Ghost-Hunting—K-Style!

Korean Folk Village: A living museum that faithfully recreates the daily life and culture of the Joseon dynasty. During the summer, it transforms into "Simya Gongpochon," a haunted village experience themed around traditional Korean ghosts.

Address: 90 Minsokchon-ro, Giheung-gu, Yongin-si, Gyeonggi-do

Backje Cultural Land: Explore palaces and homes from the ancient Baekje Kingdom—then date to enter Hyeolchon, a chilling horror experience set amid the royal grounds. Pose with Korean ghosts in your rented hanbok for a truly memorable photo.

- Address: 455 Baekjemun-ro, Gyuam-myeon, Buyeo-gun, Chungcheongnam-do
- Website: www.bhm.or.kr



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