



# AREA SUPPORT GROUP-KUWAIT

**Welcome Packet**

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# Section 1: Introduction

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Congratulations on your assignment and welcome to Kuwait and Camp Arifjan. We are US Army Area Support Group-Kuwait (ASG-KU), a major subordinate command for United States Army Forces Central Command (USARCENT) established to provide command and control for assigned forces; base ops support to fixed facilities; training support for rotational forces; and Title 10 support to CFLCC ISO and the CFLCC long term stance.

ASG-KU is the command sponsoring agency for all personnel assigned to Kuwait, with the exception of those assigned to the US Embassy. In accordance with Army regulations, the ASG-KU Commander must grant approval for concurrent or deferred travel for accompanied personnel before travel orders are prepared by the losing command.

You should already be assigned a sponsor. He/she will be able to communicate with you via email, an essential means of communications here, so be sure to provide each other your respective addresses. Also, please feel free to call, recognizing our weekends are on Friday and Saturday, and that we are either seven or eight hours ahead of Eastern Time, depending on whether the States are on Standard or Daylight Savings Time.

This information packet is designed to give special instructions and general information to get you (and possibly your family) successfully moved to Kuwait and prepared for a memorable tour. If accompanied, it is important that your family become familiar with the material. Keep this information handy. You will need to refer to it as you prepare to move and may even use it after you've spent some time in Kuwait.

Please keep in mind that Kuwait is classified as a remote and arduous tour. The tour length is 9 months for TCS soldiers and for PCS soldiers it is 24 months accompanied and 12 months unaccompanied. The reason for this classification is because of the limited on-base facilities available for families.

We look forward to your arrival, joining a professional organization committed to excellence.

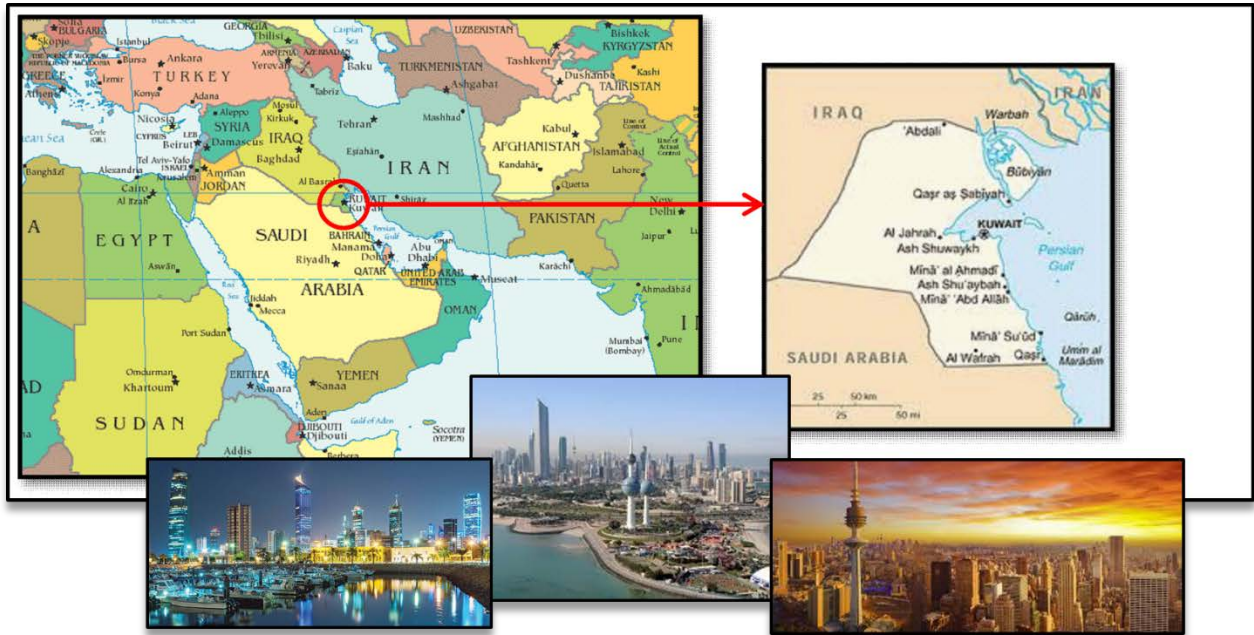


## Kuwait Orientation

While this orientation provides a very brief overview of Kuwait, there are many internet sites which can better familiarize you with the Arab Culture. There is also a Kuwait MWR Culture Awareness brief on JKO that provides additional information and is required prior to participating in any MWR trips.

### Geographical Location and Demographics

The most northerly of the Arabian Gulf states (called the Persian Gulf by Iranians but always Arabian Gulf when speaking to Arabs), the State of Kuwait is located just south of the joint mouth of the Euphrates and Tigris rivers. Kuwait borders Iraq to the north and west, Saudi Arabia to the south, and the Arabian Gulf to the east. Its area covers only 6,880 square miles (about the size of New Jersey) and the land is entirely arid or semi- arid. Kuwait has no fresh and only occasionally brackish water sources and receives about six inches of rainfall annually.



Kuwait is a Muslim nation, with a court system based on a combination of Civil and Islamic Law. Islam is the state religion and the workweek is from Sunday through Thursday.

Arabic is the official language, however, English is taught in public schools and widely spoken. Western influences combined with traditional customs produce a society with elements of both cultures. Traditional ways of life have recently resurged among many Kuwaitis and is often reflected in their dress.

The discovery of Kuwait's enormous oil reserves resulted in the transformation of Kuwait from a tribal society to a modern welfare state, with one of the highest per capita incomes in the world. Kuwaiti citizens share this wealth through government-sponsored programs providing free housing, medical treatment, and education. Since the 1950's education has been patterned after Western Systems and approximately 75 percent of Kuwait's people are literate. Women, as well as men, receive a free education through the university level.

## **History**

Kuwait's history developed through its location between the sea and the desert. Desert nomads originally settled Kuwait by moving from Saudi Arabia in the mid-18th century. Since agriculture was impractical, a trade-based economy was soon established. Due to Kuwait's location on the Gulf, the focus was on fishing, pearl diving, and shipbuilding. During the 18th and 19th centuries, Kuwait became one of the busiest harbors in the Gulf area.

In 1899 Sheik Mubarak Al-Sabah signed an agreement with the British Government to place Kuwait under British protection whereby Britain handled Kuwait's foreign affairs. The world at large first became aware of Kuwait in the early 1950's when oil from Kuwait began to reach Europe. Oil revenues changed Kuwait from a little-known port on the Arabian Gulf to one of the richest countries in the world. By mutual agreement with



Britain in 1961, Kuwait reassumed control of its own foreign affairs and became fully independent with membership in the United Nations by 1963. In 1963, the U.S. Consulate, which was in existence since 1951, was raised to Embassy status.



By the late 80's, Kuwait had become an example of a traditional society that advanced rapidly into the 20th century because of its oil wealth. The nation's capital, Kuwait City, began as a fortified town surrounded by a mud wall for protection against

raiding tribes. Today the city has high-rise buildings, two busy ports, and stores that sell all the latest name brand products.

In July 1990, Iraq accused Kuwait of stealing petroleum from a disputed oil field and producing too much petroleum; they massed forces along the border. On August 2, after talks between the two countries had broken down, Iraq invaded Kuwait, overran Kuwait City, and overthrew the government. Less than a week later Iraq annexed Kuwait, subsequently closing the borders of both countries.

The United States and coalition allies rushed troops to the Saudi Arabia-Iraq border. Air strikes on Baghdad began on 16 January 1991, and continued, along with a ground campaign. Kuwait was liberated on 26 February 1991. Much of Kuwait City had been damaged by the Iraqi troops and thousands of citizens were killed or taken hostage.

### **Politics**

Kuwait is a constitutional monarchy ruled by the Al-Sabah family. Executive power is centered on the Amir and is delegated to the heads of the ministries through the Prime Minister, who is also the Crown Prince and presides over the Council of Ministers.

The drafting of Kuwait's constitution was encouraged and guided by the late Amir Abdullah Al-Salem Al-Sabah who, formerly with his family, exclusively held power. The constitution, which was revised in 1976, provides for an elected national assembly of parliament. There are 25 districts in Kuwait and each district elects two members who serve 4-year terms.

The present Amir of Kuwait is HH Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, fourth son of the late Sheikh Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah. He took oath in a special session after the death of the late Amir HH Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, thus becoming Kuwait's 15th Amir.



### **Economy**

The Kuwait economy is heavily dependent on its sizable oil revenue. Petroleum was first discovered in 1936 by a joint Gulf-British Petroleum concession (the Kuwait Oil Company) and was initially tapped in 1946. The Kuwait Oil Company (now part of the Kuwait Petroleum Corporation, which unifies all government-owned companies in the petroleum sector) is the major producer of crude oil in Kuwait, and until 1974, was owned by Gulf and British Petroleum. The Kuwait government took over full ownership of the company in 1975.


Kuwait has a Gross National Product (GNP) of \$25 billion per year with a GNP per capita of \$23,500. There are not many sources of income for Kuwait, other than petroleum production, petrochemical industries, and income from foreign investments. The foreign investments come from a fund that is based upon 10% of oil revenues. The oil reserves of Kuwait are estimated to be around 10% of the world total, and will at the present level of extraction last for 150 more years. Industries of Kuwait are connected to

petroleum, and Kuwait is refining its own oil. Agriculture and food production are limited, and make up less than 2% of GNP. Fishing is becoming more and more important, and is at the level of 9,000 tons annually.


The infrastructure in the eastern part of Kuwait is well developed and comprises 4,700 km of roads, and an international airport near Kuwait City. There are eight newspapers in Kuwait: six Arabic and two English. There are also a number of foreign periodicals.

Kuwait Television has four channels: one in Arabic, one in English, one sports channel, and one 24-Hour Channel. There is also the Kuwait Satellite Channel which began transmission on 4 July 1992.

**Dinar**



**Fils** (1000 Fils = 1 Dinar)



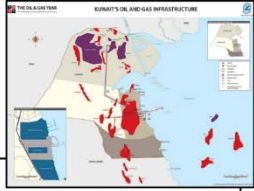
**Shopping**  
Old Souks (bargain)  
Modern Malls

➤ GDP: estimated \$288.8 billion GDP (2015)

**Kuwait Citizens**



- 95% of Kuwaitis have government job; Free Education, NHC
- Subsidized electrical, water, food and fuel (\$0.85 per gallon)

**Foreign Nationals (Non-Kuwaitis)** 60% of the labour force



**Oil**

- Kuwait has 6% of world's proven oil reserves
- oil is over 1/3 of GDP and 90% of government income
- Supreme Petroleum Council governs oil (operated by Kuwait Petroleum Corp.)
- Kuwait Oil Company controls land in Kuwait

In addition, there are Arabic radio stations, an English-speaking FM radio station, and the U.S. Armed Forces radio. There are also broadcasts from the BBC World Service and Voice of America. Telecommunications are very advanced and available to the public.

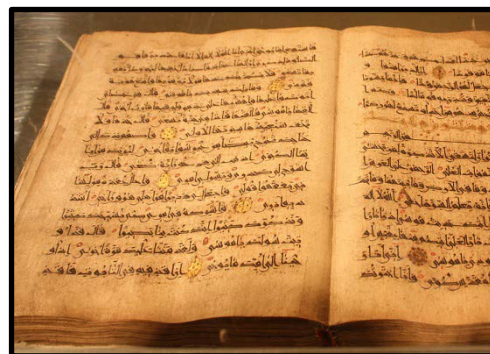
The current exchange rate is approximately 3.3 US dollars to 1 KD

### Religion

The constitution of Kuwait states that the religion of the state is Islam, and Islamic law is the main source of legislation. Islam (submission to Allah) is a complete way of life that is set forth in detail in the Quran and Hadith. The Quran is the compiled revelations of Allah to the Prophet Mohammed. While the Hadith is a collection of the informal sayings of the prophet, not divinely inspired, it is still a guide for men to follow.

The Quran declares the "Five Pillars" of Islam as:

- Profession of the faith, "There is no God but Allah and Mohammed is His prophet"
- Prayer (five times daily)
- Pilgrimage to Mecca; every believer who can possibly afford it should make at least one pilgrimage in their lifetime
- Fasting, especially during the month of Ramadan
- Giving of alms



In the traditional Muslim community, secular and religious (spiritual) law are one and the same, and the "Shari'ah" (The Way of Life) spells out all those beliefs, rituals, and social/legal principles which govern men's lives. The Muslim's place of worship is a Mosque, of which there are over 500 in Kuwait. Five times a day the men are called to prayer. The faithful either go to the Mosque, or pray where they are - in offices, in shops, or at home. They wash, remove their shoes, and kneel on their prayer carpets



always facing towards Mecca. Friday is the weekly Holy Day, on which men go to the Mosque and worship. Muslims hold a great respect for Christianity. Thus westerners will be expected to show as much respect for Islam and its religious holidays as the Muslims do for Christianity. With the exception of a handful of naturalized Christian families of Iraqi and Palestinian origin, all

Kuwaitis are Muslim. Of these, roughly 80% adhere to the Sunni (Orthodox) branch of Islam, as does the ruling family. The remaining 20%, largely of Iranian and Iraqi origins are of the Shi'a sect. While the majority of Arabs in Kuwait are Sunni Muslims, significant numbers of the resident Lebanese, Syrians, and Palestinians are of Christian background, as are the majority of the Indian community. The total Christian population of Kuwait is estimated at 50,000. There is complete freedom of worship in Kuwait.

The religious holidays in the Islamic world are not determined by the solar (Gregorian) calendar, but by the lunar (higti) calendar. The solar calendar is fixed; that is, a month falls at the same time during every year. February is always in the winter, July always in the summer. The lunar calendar year, however, is 11 days shorter than the solar year. Thus, the holidays that are fixed to certain days in the solar calendar are not correspondingly fixed to certain days in the lunar calendar.

### **Arabic Rules of Thumb**

Do always ask for advice if you aren't sure how to behave in a certain situation. Kuwaiti colleagues and longtime residents are always willing to help.

Do be patient. Appointments and requests may be delayed by more pressing and higher priority demands.

Do not expect paperwork and routine matters to be accomplished immediately. The bureaucratic process can be time-consuming, but it does, usually, give results. It might be helpful to keep in touch with your supervisor, colleagues, or the office you are dealing with, when you find yourself waiting what you might consider an unreasonable amount of time. Possibly the information, papers, or money are available or ready, but no one has notified you.



Do expect Arabs to sit, talk, and stand closer than people in the West. What Westerners consider an intimate distance is only social, and friendly, here.

Do expect to be touched more frequently by members of the same sex. This is an expression of friendship.

Do not launch immediately into your personal concerns when meeting the person who can deal with them. This is considered impolitely abrupt. Expect to share in lengthy greetings and light conversation.

Do accept as normal the occasional use of influential connections to accomplish tasks more rapidly.

Do expect to shake hands much more frequently. On entering a room or meeting a group of people, it is expected that you will shake hands with everyone, except small children. On social occasions, you will probably also need to shake hands again when you leave.

Do not expect all promises or decisions to be put in writing. In some situations, you will have to accept an oral promise.

This is partly because the written word carries a weight of meaning greater than Westerners are accustomed to.

Do not resort to writing in the event of a dispute or complaint, unless the other party has refused to discuss the matter or you have exhausted other oral means of resolving the problem. A complaint or dispute in writing is a possible source of embarrassment.

Do not be surprised at being given an indirect answer of insha' Allah (God willing). Insha' Allah usually indicates the good intentions of the speaker.

Do not lose your temper publicly and loudly and do not publicly reprimand or embarrass anyone. This will cause the subject of your anger or displeasure to lose face in a way that can only be recouped by ensuring that you publicly lose more face than he already has.

Do be aware of restrictions during Ramadan. During the month of Ramadan, which is approximately one month of nationwide fasting once a year, certain forms of public behavior are expected to be followed whether or not you are a Muslim. No eating, drinking, chewing gum, or smoking is allowed by law in public during daylight hours. If you are not fasting as a Muslim, you must be sure you do these things in the privacy of your own home. Exceptions are made only for young children. Take note of the change

in hours of government offices, businesses, television programs, etc. during this month.

Do dress appropriately on the job. First of all, because Kuwait is an Islamic country, there are certain types of dress that should be avoided, especially if you are an official guest of the government. In general, modest dress is appropriate. Men and women should dress in a way that is appropriate to the professional positions they hold.

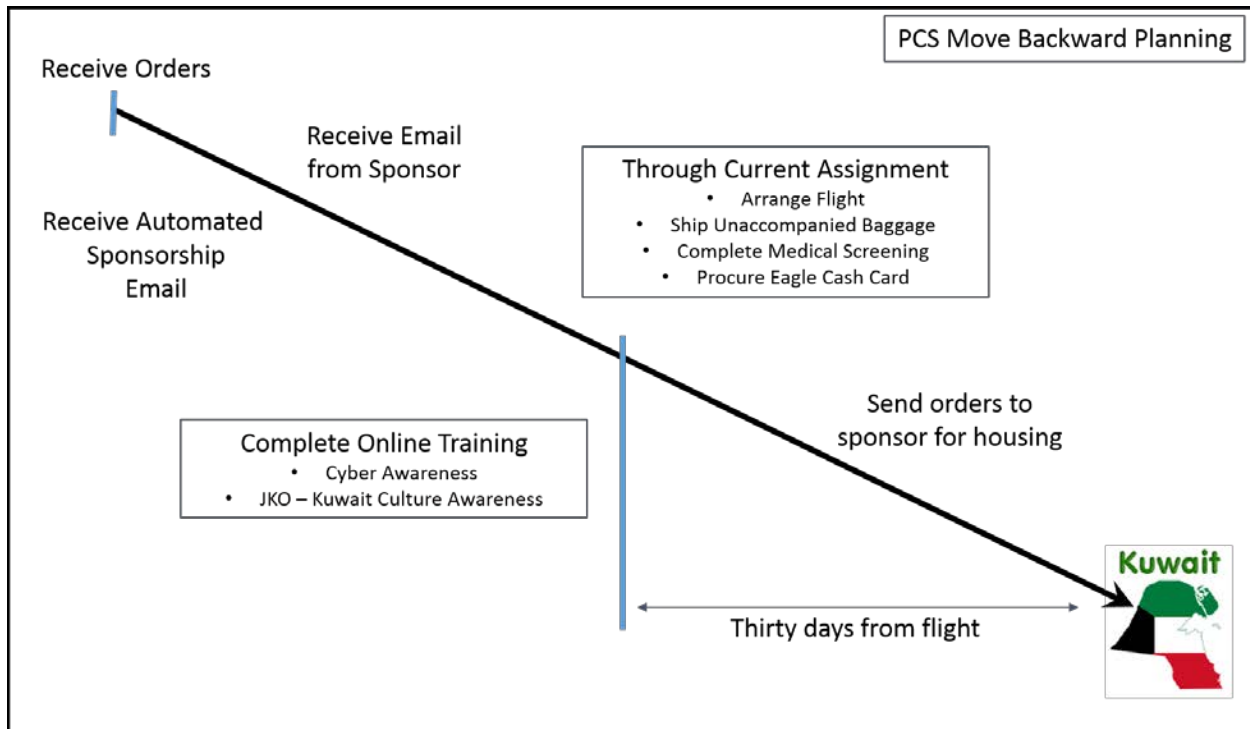
Do avoid some subjects in public. Certain topics are generally not considered appropriate or acceptable for discussion in public. These may include political issues, religion, alcohol, total women's liberation, abortion, and male-female relationships, such as dating. Many people are very sensitive about these topics, and problems could arise should you try to discuss them.

## Section 2: Preparing to move to Kuwait

Now that you know you are coming to Kuwait, what should you do next? This section provides tips about what you need to complete prior to stepping on the plane for your flight to Kuwait.

For TCS personnel, the process is very similar to previous deployments. You will either mobilize as a unit, in which case you will follow the directions of your command, or you will mobilize as an individual and take your guidance from the [CONUS Replacement Center](#). If you have contact with the unit or individual you are replacing, we recommend you continue to communicate with them as you prepare for deployment.

For PCS personnel, the process is fairly standardized. The following chart will help you prepare for your PCS move.



## **Army Sponsorship Program**

Total Army Sponsorship Program (TASP)

The TASP is a Commander's Program designed to enhance resiliency among Soldiers and Family members, and to ensure you receive the services needed to transition successfully in and out of Commands.

When you PCS, completing the DA Form 5434, Nov 2011; Sponsorship Program Counseling and Information Sheet is a mandatory requirement (E1-O6) IAW AR 600-8-8 & HQDA EXORD 018-12.

<https://actnow.army.mil>

## **Online Training**

To make your transition into Kuwait easier, we highly recommend completing the following online training modules prior to arriving in Kuwait.

- [JKO](#) – Search for Kuwait Culture Awareness. This course is required prior to participating in any MWR sponsored tours.
- The DOD Cyber Awareness Training is found at <https://ia.signal.army.mil/>. This training must be current in order to set up your computer accounts.

If you are deploying through the CONUS Replacement Center at Fort Bliss, please see the link below for a list of other training to complete before your arrival at Fort Bliss.

[http://www.bliss.army.mil/CRC/mil\\_daciv\\_dep\\_ACO.html](http://www.bliss.army.mil/CRC/mil_daciv_dep_ACO.html)

## **RECOMMENDED ITEMS TO BRING TO KUWAIT**

Kuwait is a very modern country where almost anything can be found. However, it may take a lot of searching to find certain items, and others may be expensive. Listed by category are exceptionally expensive and/or hard to find items you may want to purchase and ship in your UB or HHG.

### **Household Items:**

- Pots, pans, dishes, silverware, etc. (PCS quarters have small kitchen)
- Linens and towels (to include comforters, blankets and bed spreads)
- Personal electronics or small appliances (see Housing Section for a list of prohibited items)
- US Cellular Phone (you can purchase a Kuwaiti SIM Chip that works in unlocked phones)

If you bring small appliances or electronics to Kuwait, try to obtain items that are dual voltage or operate on 240 volts, 50/60 hertz. The dual hertz (cycles) rating allows you to operate items on provided step-down transformers without damage. For those appliances that have motors rated at 60 hertz, operating the unit on Kuwait power will cause the motor to run slower. This also means that any device with an internal battery will not charge properly if it is rated at only 60 hertz. Modern electronic items manufactured for the U.S. market that are rated 110/220 volts, 50/60 cycles, will work fine in Kuwait. Standard U.S. television sets will not receive Middle East stations, but can be used in conjunction with a DVD player since Camp Arifjan video rentals are U.S. standard, not PAL. Computers and portable telephones should be used in conjunction with a good surge protector as there are power fluctuations due to the extreme heat, particularly when operating devices rated at 120 volts and 50-60 cycles which are operated on the 220 to 120 volt step-down transformers.



### **Personal Health and Hygiene Items:**

- Prescriptions (Camp Arifjan have limited pharmacies)
- Cosmetics and make-up (available, but not competitive with U.S. prices)
- Acne/problem skin scrubs and special soaps (available, but expensive)
- First aid kit
- Hair care products, especially preferred brands
- Contact lens products

### **Miscellaneous:**

- Shoes: Dress and casual
- Casual Clothing (plain nonmilitary logoed for off camp activities)
- Dress Clothing (for possible higher class activities)
- Swim Wear (conservative, one piece)

- Coat/Jacket – Winter temperatures can be surprisingly cold with wind chills
- ASU Uniform required for PCS and recommended for TCS
- Sports Clothing

## **Entitlements**

Pay: (all)

- Combat Zone Tax Exclusion (Tax Free)
- Family Separation Pay - \$250 per month if eligible
- Hardship Duty Pay - \$50 per month
- SGLI Refund



Pay: (PCS only)

- COLA - [COLA Calculator](#) (note – PCS soldiers SFC and higher must pay for meals at the DFAC with an Eagle Cash Card)

Pay: (TCS only)

- Incidentals - \$3.50 per day paid with final travel voucher

Awards and Decorations:

- Overseas Service Ribbon – YES 
- Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal – YES 
- Overseas Bar (ASU) – YES, one per six months in Kuwait
- Combat Patch – NO

## Section 3: Travel to Kuwait

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### Travel to Kuwait

The most common mode of travel to Kuwait for PCS, TCS, TDY soldiers and Department of Defense (DoD) Civilians is by Military Contracted Civilian Flights called Rotator Flights. Outbound travel offices will direct the appropriate mode of travel per Defense Travel Regulation (DTR).

Commercial travel to Kuwait City International Airport (KCIA) is directed for accompanied personnel due to Kuwaiti customs requirements and should be reflected on travel orders. Command sponsored family members are authorized to remain overnight at one stop while in transit to Kuwait in accordance with Joint Federal Travel Regulations (JFTR). Travel in civilian clothing is required when utilizing commercial flights.

**NOTE:**

If you or your unit are bringing military weapons you **MUST** fly on the Rotator Flight. All weapons will be seized at the commercial airport.

### Entry into Kuwait

Active duty soldiers and DoD Civilians arriving in Kuwait are not required to have a passport and can enter on their Military Identification Card; however, it is recommended that personnel obtain a blue colored tourist passport.

Maroon colored official passports are required for all accompanied personnel and their dependents that are assigned to Kuwait and command sponsored by ASG-KU. Ensure this is authorized in your travel orders. Due to lengthy processing times for passports (up to 30-days), the passport processing should start as soon as official notification of assignment is received. All accompanying family members are required to have a DoD Identification Card to include dependents under age 10. Upon arriving at Kuwait International Airport (KCIA), dependents will use their passports to obtain an entry stamp. Ensure all sponsored family members are listed on orders with dates of birth. You will be required to present these orders to Host Nation immigration officials.

## Upon Arrival

When you arrive on the rotator you will be transported via bus to the Camp Arifjan Gateway. The Gateway will scan your CAC Card into country, stamp your orders which allows you to eat in the DFACs for the first 48 hours, and provide you an initial in-brief to Kuwait. Once the Gateway has released you your sponsor or unit will help get you settled and start in-processing. It is important to let your sponsor know your itinerary so they are available to pick you up.



Camp Arifjan Gateway

## Household Goods/Unaccompanied Baggage (HHG/UB)

Shipment of your personal equipment/items is dependent on your status while in Kuwait:

TCS and TDY – You will hand carry all of your personal equipment/items on your flight. You **are not** authorized shipment of Household Goods (HHG) or Unaccompanied Baggage (UB).

PCS not command sponsored - You are authorized to ship unaccompanied baggage based upon your rank. The UB weight allowance for unaccompanied enlisted personnel is 500 pounds; officers up to the grade of LTC is 600 pounds; COL and above is 1000 pounds; and civilian personnel is 350 pounds. Service Members are authorized to ship UB items only – no furniture.

PCS Command Sponsored – You are authorized to ship both Unaccompanied Baggage as well as a reduced Household Goods shipment. UB is as stated above plus each dependent over the age of 12 of military members are allowed 350 pounds, and each child under 12 years of age is allowed 175 pounds. Service Members are authorized to ship UB items only – no furniture.

Family quarters in Kuwait are furnished, therefore, you may only ship 25 percent of your JFTR weight allowance.

The weight of unaccompanied baggage is not included in the above allowance. When feasible, consolidation of HHG and unaccompanied baggage is recommended to facilitate air shipment/customs clearance. You are allowed to ship professional books and material with HHG and UB in addition to authorized weight allowance. As of November 2000, there is no longer a consumable goods allowance for Kuwait.

**ALL AUTHORIZATIONS MUST BE LISTED ON YOUR ORDERS.** Your losing unit may not create adequate orders for you, so make sure you check before you PCS.



An allowance of 100 pounds of excess accompanying baggage is also authorized for service members and for each dependent during air travel; this should be annotated on your orders. Enough clothing should be carried with you to last approximately two months. Once household goods arrive, one to two weeks is required to clear customs.

Please add that time to household goods transport time quoted to you by the transportation officer at your losing duty station. Include toilet articles, towels, medications, washcloths, etc. It is possible to coordinate with the airline to send accompanying baggage ahead of time if you have someone to pick the bags up at the airport. Be sure to keep receipts.

**Shipping Prohibitions**

Importation of pork products, sexually explicit material, weapons or components of weapons, firearms, ammunition, alcohol, and foodstuffs containing alcohol is prohibited. Importation of wine and beer making kits and equipment may result in confiscation and lengthy delay in releasing of mail or HHG/HB from Kuwaiti customs.

INSTALLATION TRANSPORTATION OFFICE	BLDG 306, ROOM 41	0600 – 1700 SUN-SAT  1130 – 1230 CLOSED FOR LUNCH	430-1465  Commercial 011-965-389-1465  FAX 011-965-389-1468
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## Section 4: Housing

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### Kuwait Housing:

Housing is dependent upon your status here in Kuwait. Housing is one of our most difficult challenges in Kuwait. We appreciate your patience's and rest assured we are working hard to house everyone in the best accommodations possible.

In general, SMs are housed as follows. TCS and TDY SMs are housed in Contingency Housing (CH). PCS unaccompanied SMs are housed in (UPH) which is Kuwaiti funded. PCS Command Sponsored and DoD Civilians are housed in Kuwait in either an apartment or villa. Each type of housing is described in greater detail below or in the Family or DoD Civilian Annex.

### CAMP Arifjan

All SMs will report to building 149 (I-bay) Housing Office for billeting assignment.

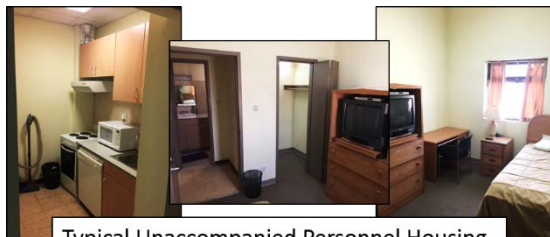
The Housing OIC, will maintain a Housing SOP specific to each camp that details how housing is allocated within that camp. It is strongly recommended that you reach out to the camp housing office for location specific guidance for the camp that you will be on.

Billeting requests will be submitted through unit housing POCs to the Camp Housing Office along with assignment orders to Kuwait. Ensure that your POC is tracking your movement and arrival dates. The earlier the better.



Unaccompanied Personnel Housing

Note: If your orders have not been cut the Installation/Camp Housing Office may accept a memorandum for record in lieu of orders from the first 0-5 in the individual's chain-of-command (or sponsoring unit's chain of command) on a case-by-case basis.



Typical Unaccompanied Personnel Housing

The Camp Housing Office will maintain a housing waiting list for each category of housing for personnel. This housing list will be prioritized consistently with priorities established in AR 420-1. Incoming personnel will be placed on a waiting list for the appropriate billeting after their arrival.

Types of Housing on the camps fall into one of two categories. Unaccompanied Personnel Housing (UPH). Housing constructed to a permanent standard. Not all installations within the ASG-KU footprint have UPH. The second category is Contingency Housing (CH) which is constructed to a semi-permanent or temporary standard, including Trailers, Containerized Housing Units (CHUs), Personnel Occupancy Dwellings (PODs), Relocatable Buildings (RLBs), Pre-fabricated Concrete Buildings (PCBs), and Tents.



Entitlements to various housing and billeting facilities are based upon the following criteria (listed in order of consideration): Flag Officers/SES personnel, orders type, duration of assignment, rank, and assigned unit footprints. Within each priority category, tenants are assigned housing based on a first-come, first-serve basis. The eligibility date for placement on a waiting list or assignment to housing will be no later than 30 days after reporting to in Kuwait.

In addition rooms and housing units will be assigned so that the difference between roommate's ranks is no more than one grade. Personnel on the Housing Office waiting list may be placed before personnel with higher priority housing entitlements. Those civilian government employees who are not eligible for off-post housing will be housed on post according to their rank-equivalent entitlement per Table 3-3, AR 420-1. The Housing SOP for the respective camps details which specific housing facilities are provided in each category of personnel.

- Unaccompanied Personnel Housing (UPH) and Permanent Facilities: Only Flag Officers/SES Personnel and PCS personnel are entitled to UPH or permanent facilities. If no UPH housing exists, individuals otherwise entitled to UPH will be housed in the contingency housing which most closely approximates UPH. After date of request and special considerations, PCS personnel are assigned billeting according to rank.
- Contingency Housing: Personnel not entitled to UPH housing will be assigned contingency housing per the applicable base SOP.
- Temporary Transient Housing. Other than the I-bay (Bldg. 149), these facilities generally consist of Open bay PCBs.
- Temporary Lodging for DoD Personnel waiting for off-post housing. The ASG-KU Commander may designate housing to accommodate DoD Personnel who are entitled to Off-Post housing until off-post units are available.
- Special MOS Regulatory Requirements. The ASG-KU Commander may designate housing units for use by specific MOS or job as dictated by

regulation.

The following are prohibited in quarters:

- (1) Smoking
- (2) Burning of candles or incense
- (3) Cooking using open flame or heating devices (hot plate, dip-coil, etc.)
- (4) Plug in heaters
- (5) Connecting multiple power strips (daisy-chaining)
- (6) Any type of animal, pet, or plant
- (7) Removal of government furniture from the rooms
- (8) Taking apart or altering any government furniture

Suggested Items to bring (many items available to purchase at PX):

- Linens (sheets, blanket, towels,...)
- Mattress pad
- Electrical Adapters
- Quality Power Strips
- Shower Caddy (bathroom may not be in building)
- Command Strips
- Hangers



Many organizational items can be purchase second hand from re-deploying SMs.

PCS Accompanied and DoD Personnel assigned to off-post housing please see the Family or DoD Civilian Annexes.

### **Internet**

There are several options for internet services in your room and throughout the camp.

- Free Wi-Fi is in many of the MWR buildings and DFACs
- Q Net is a Wi-Fi pay service available in the barracks
- You may purchase a mobile hot spot device called a puck that operates off of the cell phone network. You must also purchase a sim chip
- You may purchase a sim chip for your unlocked mobile device from the US such as a Verizon I Phone.

## Section 5: Camp Facilities

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### Medical and Dental Services

During your tour in Kuwait, you will find that most routine health care services are provided at no charge to the individual, as TRICARE

Overseas Prime is available for authorized military members/families. The US Army Health Clinic Kuwait (USAHC-K) at Camp Arifjan can refer personnel who require medical treatment that is not available at USAHC-K or USMK-K to host nation medical facilities. These services may include pharmacies, medical labs, medical imaging, consultation with specialties, and procedures.



US Army Health Clinic Kuwait (USAHC-K). USAHC-K at Camp Arifjan is the primary care provider for the sponsor and family. The US Military Hospital Kuwait (USMH-K) provides pharmacy support. It is recommended that you bring a six-month supply of regularly prescribed medication with you. Check with your sponsor to ensure you can readily refill a prescription; only medications already on the CENTCOM-approved formulary will be available at the USMH-K pharmacy. Do not pack medication with your HHG, as the heat in transit can diminish the effectiveness of the medicine.

Public & Private Medical Facilities The quality of medical care varies greatly from facility to facility in Kuwait. Medical care at government-run clinics and hospitals is provided free of charge to residents of Kuwait. You should **not** use any public or private medical facilities unless you are referred by a medical authority. Off-installation medical care will be coordinated through TRICARE Overseas Prime/International SOS (ISOS).

Medical Evacuation Depending on the nature of the medical problem, individuals may be sent to U.S. military medical facilities in Europe for treatment.

Dental Clinic. Camp Arifjan has a six chair dental facility which opened in October 2005. The clinic is staffed with four general dentists and ancillary personnel. Limited basic dental care i.e., exams, cleanings, fillings, simple root canals, extractions, and emergency treatment is available to all beneficiaries with priority of care given to active duty military personnel. The clinic is located directly behind the medical clinic in Bldg 169. The clinic is open Mon-Fri from 0730 to 1600 hours. Sick call hours are from 0730 to 0830 Monday Through Saturday. The clinic is closed on Sundays. For treatment of dental emergencies during non-duty hours please report to the Hospital Emergency Room. There is always a dentist on call after duty hours. The appointment desk for the

Camp Arifjan Dental Clinic can be reached at DSN 430-1691. Specialty care not available at the clinic can be obtained, on a case by case basis, by referral from the ASG-KU Dental Surgeon for Soldiers on PCS/TCS orders, and GS employees assigned to ASG-Kuwait.

Although family members of command sponsored military personnel have access to care at Camp Arifjan Dental Clinic, they are highly encouraged to not cancel their existing Tricare dental insurance, as available space is limited and dental facilities that accept insurance are readily available off post. The same goes for Embassy military personnel and their family members. At present Balsam and Royale Hayat dental clinics accept Tricare insurance.

Space available care is available for the following categories:

Retired U.S. military personnel.  
GS employees other than those directly assigned to ASG-Kuwait.

Referral by the dental clinic for specialty care at a civilian facility will be authorized on a case-by-case basis. Tricare Overseas Remote through International SOS will be the prime referral method. Prior to arriving, all military personnel should enroll in Tricare Overseas. The website is: [www.tricare-overseas.com](http://www.tricare-overseas.com).

The following personnel are specifically authorized specialty care and any exceptions will be authorized by the ASG-KU Dental Surgeon.

- U.S. active duty personnel in Kuwait.
- DOD civilian employees in Kuwait assigned to ASG-KU.

Civilian Contractors.

Routine dental care is not authorized and will not be provided by military dental clinics to civilian contractors unless specifically authorized in their individual contract. The level of care authorized should be stated on the Letter of Authorization (LOA).

Veterinary Services. The Arifjan Veterinary Treatment Facility (VTF) provides preventive health maintenance and comprehensive health care for all Military Working Dogs.



# MWR

ASG-KU Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) is dedicated to improving morale & welfare by providing quality recreation and entertainment opportunities to installation personnel. MWR facilities available to meet the needs of assigned personnel include Fitness Centers, Cross Training Facilities, Recreation Centers, Internet Cafés with CAC Readers and Printers, Movie Theaters and Video Checkout, Gaming Area, Library, Swimming Pool, Outdoor Sports Fields and Equipment and Bike Checkout Facilities. We offer a variety of events and programming year round, including seasonal sports leagues and tournaments, recreation and fitness competitions, AFE/USO entertainment and an active Marketing & Media program.

## Camp Arifjan Facilities

### **COMMUNITY CENTER (open 24 hours a day)**

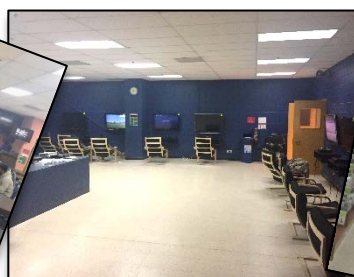
Programs include Special Holiday Events, Dance Nights, Weekly Tournaments, Bingo, Texas Hold'em, Karaoke, Card Games and more. Facilities offer free Wi-Fi, Pool, Ping Pong, Darts, TV lounge/areas, Video Gaming, Video Checkout and Self-Directed leisure space.



Recreation Room



All Purpose Room



Video Gaming Room



Video Checkout



#### **Internet Cafés**

CAC Readers and printing capability.



CDs,

Daily .....0800-2200

### **ZONE 1 LIBRARY**

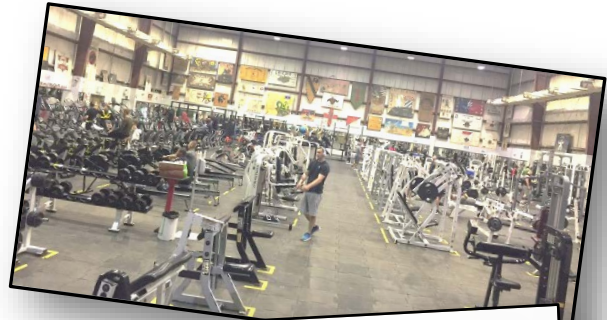
Free Internet Access and over 20,000 items available for checkout, audio books on CD, MWR Events Photo CDs and Video DVDs, Language Audio CDs, Music Reference Materials, Periodicals, Free Paperbacks and playaways.

## **FITNESS CENTERS (open 24 hours a day)**

Weight Training and Cardiovascular area, Functional Fitness Training Facility, Fitness Classes, Personal Trainers available and more.

### **ZONE 6 FITNESS CENTER**

Weight Training Area with Free Weights and state of the art fitness equipment, Cardiovascular Area with Treadmills, Cross Trainers, Step Machines, Row Machines, Spin Bikes, and Vera Climbers. Outdoor Tennis, Basketball, Volleyball Courts & Horseshoe Pit. Sports Equipment Checkout.



### **ZONE 6 CAMP ARIFJAN CROSS TRAINING FACILITY (CACTF)**

State of the Art Wrestling Mats used for MACP Level 1-4 and Brazilian Jiu Jitsu Classes. Over 1,000 square feet of open floor space for Functional Fitness Classes and more. State of the Art Rogue Fitness Equipment, including a 50-foot pull-up rig, Concept 2 Rowing machines, Olympic barbells, 2,500lbs of Hi-Temp bumper plates, Alder kettle bells, gymnastics rings and mats, and lifting platforms. Level 1 Certified Instructors on Staff, skilled in teaching all modalities of fitness, including: Olympic Lifting, Mobility, Gymnastics, Rowing, Kettlebells and Powerlifting. Boot Camp and Dance Fitness Classes.





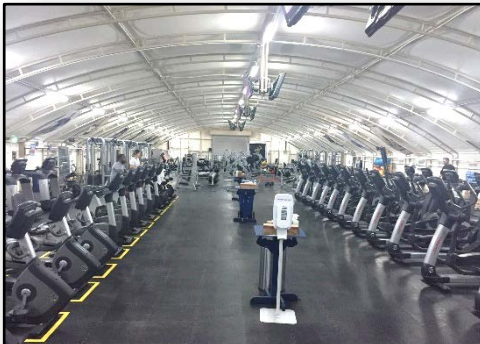
## **ZONE 1 FITNESS CENTER**

Basketball & Racquetball Courts. Weight Training Area with Free Weights and Selectorized Resistance Circuit Machines. 2 Cardiovascular Areas with Treadmills, Stationary Bikes, Cross Trainers, Step & Rowing Machines. Sports Equipment Checkout. Personal Trainers on Staff, Men's & Women's Locker Rooms with Sauna and Weekly Fitness Classes.



## **ZONE 1 FITNESS CENTER ANNEX**

Weight Training Area with Free Weights and Hammer Strength Machines. Cardiovascular Area with Treadmills, Stationary Bikes, Cross Trainers, Rowing Machines and Treadwall.



# OUTDOOR VENUES

Basketball and Tennis Courts (lighted)

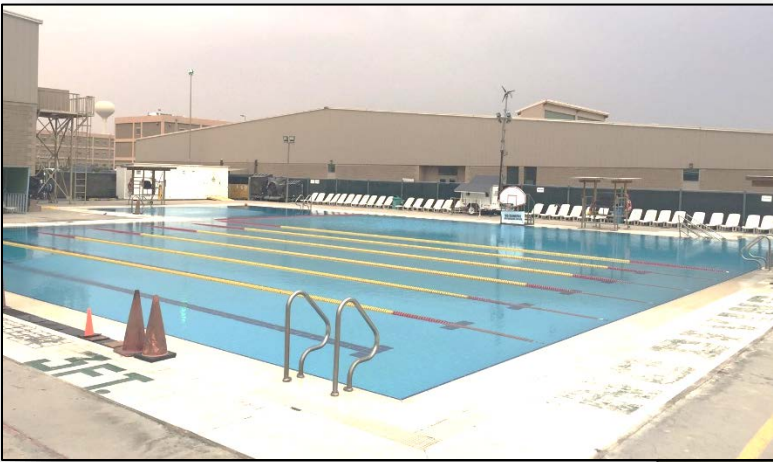


Track and Soccer Field (lighted)



Driving Range

Softball Field (lighted)



Swimming Pool (heated)  
Lap Swim 0500-0700  
Open Swim 1000-2200  
Aerobics Classes Season dependent

Horseshoe Pit



## Monthly Sports Programs & 5K Runs



Deadlift Competition



Peachtree 10k Road Race



Marine Corps Birthday Devil Dog Dare Obstacle Race



Medieval Games

## MWR Tours

Local Tours to cultural, shopping and recreation destinations. Such as:

War Museum  
 Art Gallery  
 Scientific Center  
 Aquarium  
 Tareq Rajab Museum  
 National Museum  
 Kuwait Holy Family Church  
 Amricani Cultural Center  
 Kuwait Zoo  
 Maritime Museum  
 Vintage & Classic Cars Museum

Grand Mosque  
 Kuwait Towers  
 Radisson Blu  
 Arabella Restaurant Complex  
 Mais Alghanim  
 Burj Al Hammam  
 Crowne Plaza  
 Spoons Restaurant Complex  
 The Village  
 The Miral Food Complex



**Arifjan & Buehring MWR Tours Offices**

Sat - Thu.....0800-1700

## **MWR WAREHOUSE**

Outdoor recreation equipment checkout for Football, Softball, and Volleyball.  
Bicycle (MWR Bike Program) with Light set and Bike locks  
Ceremonial/Protocol: State flags, General Officer flags, Podium and Red Carpet  
Board games: Checkers, Dominoes, Uno, Scrabble and more  
Miscellaneous: Folding Tables and Chairs, Barbecue Grills, Tablecloths, Water Coolers, Baggos, Dunk Tanks, Public Address System (PA), Race Clocks and Projectors



**Arifjan & Buehring MWR Warehouses**  
Sun - Sat.....0700-1800

## **MWR CONTACT INFORMATION**

MWR OIC:	430-2921
NAF Manager:	430-2481
Recreation Center	430-1205
Fitness Center	430-1302
Fitness Center Annex	430-4607
Swimming Pool	430-1300
Marketing & Media	430-1201
Warehouse	430-2139
Tours	430-1223
Library	430-1200

## **Dining Facilities**

There are three Dining Facilities (DFAC) and many fast food establishments on Camp Arifjan. If you are permanent party and in the grade of E7 and above you will pay for your meals in the DFAC. The only form of currency accepted at the DFACs is the Eagle Cash Card. We recommend you acquire an Eagle Cash Card prior to arriving in Kuwait.

## **ASG-KUWAIT CHAPEL SERVICES**

Camp Arifjan, Camp Patriot, and Camp Buehring Chaplains and assistants are available for counseling and offer help for all persons regardless of religious affiliation or belief. Chaplains provide important rites, instruction and spiritual insight for those who seek it in their faith communities. Religious services provided are Roman Catholic; Protestant;

Traditional; General; Gospel; Eastern Orthodox; Latter Day Saints; SDA; Episcopal/Lutheran, Jewish Prayer Service and Islam Jumu'ah. Other services available are Bible Study, Fellowships and Choirs as well as special services and events. Contact the Zone 1 Chapel at DSN 430-1364; Camp Patriot Chapel at DSN 839-1023; Camp Buehring at DSN 824-0321 for a schedule of services.

## POINTS OF CONTACT

The Country code for commercial calls to Kuwait is 965 and 318 for DSN. Workdays are Monday through Saturday, and hours are normally 0900 to 1700 for American units and organizations. Kuwait is either seven or eight hours ahead of Eastern Time, depending on whether the United States is on Standard or Daylight Savings Time. The best medium for contact is usually email. If you are assigned to ASG-KU, please contact your enlisted/officer management branch or your sponsor for assistance on command sponsorship issues.

Mailing address:

Unit

ATTN: Section

APO AE 09366

Camp Arifjan Operator

Civilian Personnel Office

DSN 318-430-1110

DSN 318-430-2439

<b>SECTION</b>	<b>BLDG</b>	<b>HOURS</b>	<b>PHONE NUMBER</b>
PERSONNEL SERVICES SECTION	BLDG 216	0830 – 1700 DAILY	430-2113/2462
HHC ORDERLY ROOM	BLDG 144	MON – THUR 0900 – 1130 FRI 1400 – 1600 Other times by appointment	430-1440/1153

MEDICAL CLINIC	BLDG 179	0730 – 1600 MON - FRI	430-1798
	SICK-CALL: MON-FRI 0730-0900 APPOINTMENTS: MON-FRI 0900-1600 EMERGENCIES: 24/7 at US Military Hospital Kuwait (USMH-K) ER MEDICAL RECORDS IN-PROCESSING: MON-SAT 0730-1500 IMMUNIZATIONS: M, Tu, Th, F 1300-1530 PHARMACY (USMH-K) MON-FRI 0800-1700; SAT 0800-1200		
DENTAL CLINIC	BLDG 169	IN-PROCESSING: (RM 45) 0730 – 1530 MON WED SAT * * * * * REG BUSINESS Hours 0730 – 1600 MON – SUN	430-1691
FINANCE	ZONE 1 PX ACROSS FROM	0900 – 1600 MON – SAT 1300 – 1600 SUN	430-1340/3213
HOUSING - Off Post - On Post	SOUTH SURRA	0730 – 1630 SAT- WED	968-8431 430-3112
CIF	BLDG 336	0800-1700 SAT – WED 0800 - 1445 THURS	430-3226/3262
NBC	BLDG 333	0700-1700 MON TUE FRI SAT; 0700 – 1400 WED; 0700-1600 THUR	430-3265
ARMS ROOM	BLDG 530	24-HOURS	430-7070
GYM	BLDG 130	24-HOURS	430-1302
CHAPEL	BLDG 148 ZONE 1	0800 – 2100 DAILY	430-1364
S-6	BLDG 216	0900 – 1800 MON WED-FRI 0830 – 1800 TUE-THURS	430-2302 OIC 430-2591 NCOIC 430-2303