



HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES FORCES KOREA

UNIT #15237  
APO AP 96205-5237

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

FKCS

30 JAN 2009

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Second Interim Policy Regarding Privately-Owned Vehicle (POV) Driving Privileges

1. Purpose: To effect an interim change to USFK Regulation 190-1, Motor Vehicle Traffic Supervision, dated 27 April 2005, regarding the driver's license and privately owned vehicle registration privileges of USFK service members. This interim change supersedes the interim change dated 30 July 2008.

2. Background:

a. Command sponsored service members may be granted shipment of a POV when assigned to Korea.

b. The current policy states command sponsored service members in grades E-6 and below require written approval by the first commander (in the grade of O-5) in the chain of command to obtain a USFK driver's license to operate a POV in Korea. This requirement creates unnecessary hardships and does not improve the quality of life of those affected. In particular, the requirement has been proven to be a hindrance to the families of personnel in grades E-6 and below who have shipped a POV to Korea.

c. Service members who drive in Korea must understand and comply with Korean motor vehicle laws. Korean law requires the driver of a motor vehicle to exercise a high degree of care to avoid an accident. A driver who fails to exercise that degree of care and causes an accident is subject to civil and criminal liability. Under Korean criminal law, any driver of a motor vehicle is considered a professional driver, and the driver involved in an accident resulting in death or injury may be found guilty of occupational negligence and subject to imprisonment for a maximum of five years or a fine of 20 million won. If the driver flees the scene of the accident, the penalty is increased and could result in imprisonment for life. Sufficient insurance is essential for protection from both civil and criminal liability.

3. Effective immediately:

a. All service members are eligible to apply for a USFK driver's license; non command sponsored service members E-6 and below require approval from the first O-5 in their chain of command.

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b. Service members in the grade of E-7 and above and all command sponsored personnel may own and register a POV with USFK. Non-Command sponsored Service members in the grade of E-6 and below may be granted an exception to policy to own and register a POV with USFK by the first O-6 in the chain of command and the responsible O-6 Area Commander.


c. All service members must watch the "Drive to Survive" and "Winter Driving" instructional videos before obtaining a USFK Driver's License.

d. All service members must study, understand and successfully complete test questions pertaining to Korean motor vehicle liability law before obtaining a USFK Driver's License. The study material for this new area of testing will be provided as a supplement to the study guide.

e. All other USFK driver's license requirements as outlined on USFK Regulation 190-1 are still applicable.

4. Second Interim Change to USFK Regulation 190-1: This policy memorandum effects a second interim change to USFK Regulation 190-1 and is effective 15 January 2009. If there are any provisions of the current regulation inconsistent with this policy memorandum, this policy memorandum controls. This policy memorandum will terminate upon effective date of the pending revision of USFK Regulation 190-1.

5. The point of contact is Captain James Serra at 738-6389.

  
WALTER L. SHARP  
General, USA  
Commander

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