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Crew chief green-lights career

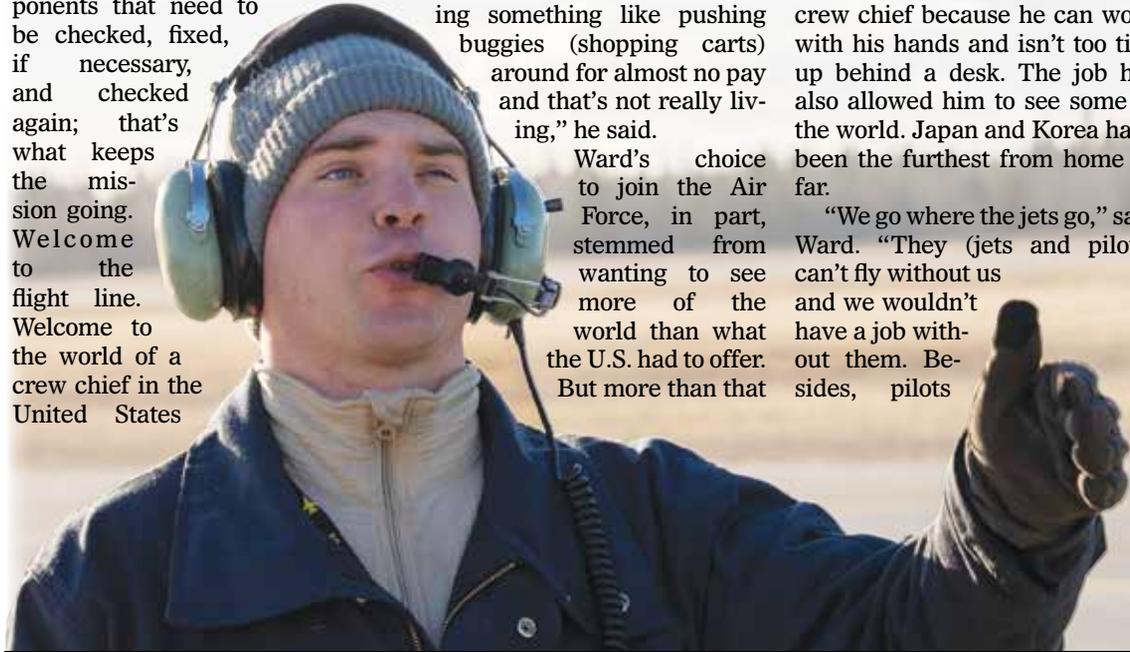
STORY AND PHOTO BY
STAFF SGT. LEVI ROWSE,
80TH AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE UNIT

Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska – EIELSON AIR FORCE BASE, Alaska - Extreme temperatures, dwindling daylight hours, and the looming threat of snow is the best way to describe his current working conditions. The job itself is so demanding that if the “newbies” aren’t told to eat, they’d work straight through lunch. It’s an endless stream of components that need to be checked, fixed, if necessary, and checked again; that’s what keeps the mission going. Welcome to the flight line. Welcome to the world of a crew chief in the United States

Air Force. Airmen don’t start out as crew chiefs; everyone is a civilian first and Staff Sgt. Mark Ward’s journey began just South of Knoxville, Tennessee. If you grew up there you’d know it as “Halls,” the map labels it Halls Crossroads. Ward describes it as a small town with too few jobs that pay enough to make a decent living. “Unless you are a scholarship-grabbing superstar in sports or academics, your future is student loan debt or doing something like pushing buggies (shopping carts) around for almost no pay and that’s not really living,” he said. Ward’s choice to join the Air Force, in part, stemmed from wanting to see more of the world than what the U.S. had to offer. But more than that

it was a tradition of service within his family which dates back generations. It was advice from family who’d served in the Marines that steered him towards the Air Force. “They take better care of their people,” is the line that had him talking to an Air Force recruiter not long after graduating high school. Ward became Airman Basic Ward in 2011 and now holds the rank of Staff Sergeant. He’s happy with his Air Force decision and especially likes being a crew chief because he can work with his hands and isn’t too tied up behind a desk. The job has also allowed him to see some of the world. Japan and Korea have been the furthest from home so far. “We go where the jets go,” said Ward. “They (jets and pilots) can’t fly without us and we wouldn’t have a job without them. Besides, pilots

need heroes, too.” Currently, Sergeant Ward is attached to the 8th Fighter Wing’s 80th Aircraft Maintenance Unit and temporarily deployed to Eielson AFB, Alaska, where he helped generate sorties during RED FLAG-Alaska 19-1 and Distant Frontier. RF-A serves as an ideal platform for international engagement and the exercise has a long history of including allies and partners, ultimately enabling all involved to exchange tactics, techniques and procedures while improving interoperability. Distant Frontier is a continuation of the training that RF-A provides allowing additional opportunities to execute detailed combat scenarios that can be more tailored to individual participating units. Having served nearly eight years, Ward expects to continue his service through 20 years and see where else his job takes him. For the time being, he is happy with his place at Kunsan AB, particularly serving in the 80th AMU. “The 80th is the best AMU I’ve ever worked with,” he said. “The morale and comradery at Kunsan is amazing ... and we’re separated from loved ones in Korea, so these guys here really become your family.”



Staff Sgt. Mark Ward communicates with a fellow crew chief during exercise Distant Frontier, at Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska on October 25.



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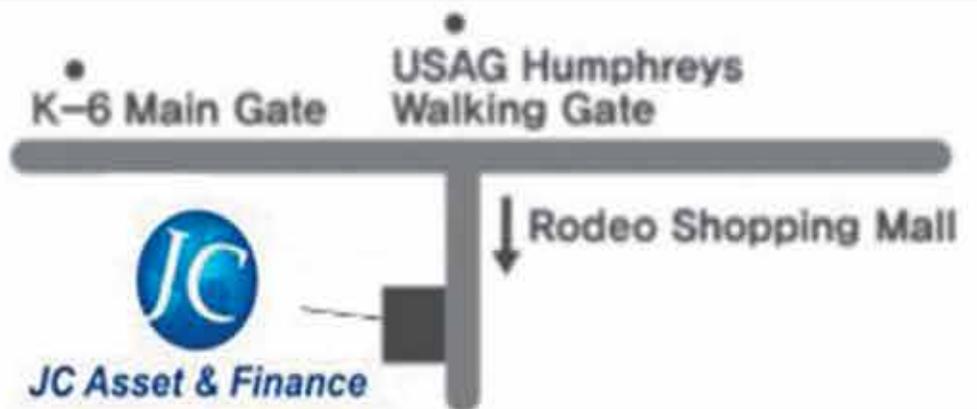


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THAAD presence in S. Korea gets permanent home

STORY AND PHOTOS BY MARCUS FICHTL,
STARS AND STRIPES
Published: October 19, 2018

CAMP CARROLL — The administrative offices for the U.S. military's most advanced anti-ballistic missile system in South Korea have finally found a permanent home nearly two years after a midnight-run brought the first pair of launchers to the peninsula.

The controversial Terminal High Altitude Area Defense, or THAAD, battery — on a former golf course in the melon-farming area of Seongju, 190 miles south of Seoul — is manned by a unit known as Combined Task Force Defender.

The Delta Battery, 2nd Air Defense Artillery Regiment, which oversees the operation from nearby Camp Carroll, cut the ribbon Oct. 19 for its newly refurbished headquarters building.

"This ceremony today is the final step to formalize the presence of Delta-2 on the Korean Peninsula," said the battery's commander, Capt. Kate Theilacker.

The 29-year-old from New Richmond, Wisc., later told Stars and Stripes she was "honored" to be part of the "historic moment."

"We're here for the long haul to support the Korean people; we're here as a permanent

fixture in the ballistic missile defense of the peninsula," she said.

The United States and South Korea agreed to deploy THAAD to the peninsula in 2016 to counter a growing threat from North Korea.

The transition from temporary to permanent unit began about a year ago when the unit flagged to the 35th Air Defense Artillery Brigade and its soldiers became permanently assigned rather than rotated in from the United States.

The move occurred despite opposition from locals, activists and China, which claims THAAD's radar system poses a threat to its national defense. President Donald Trump also questioned what he said was the \$1 billion cost of THAAD.

Local South Korean protesters routinely come to a head with transport vehicles entering the base. Most recently, skirmishes erupted in April when the South Korean

defense ministry said it was providing material to make the base livable for the South Korean and U.S. servicemembers there.

Theilacker said the new building was a massive upgrade from their old location, which consisted of two small rooms and three computers.

"Sometimes we'd cram 40 people in to the old place" she said while giving a tour of the new headquarters, which includes offices, an armory to store small arms for the unit and space for 20 computer work stations.

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Capt. Kate Theilacker, commander of Delta Battery, 2nd Air Defense Artillery Regiment, speaks during a ribbon-cutting ceremony at Camp Carroll.



Members of the Delta Battery, 2nd Air Defense Artillery Regiment salute.

www.gm.go.kr/cv/en/index.do

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A ribbon is cut to celebrate the opening of the new home of Delta Battery.



The new Delta Battery

Work to be done

The smell of new paint and celebratory cake was a warm welcome to their new home at Camp Carroll, but Theilacker said life at Seongju needs improvement.

“The buildings we have weren’t built to house soldiers,” she said. “It’s not unlivable, but it’s not nice.”

She says the protesters not only force her troops to fly in and out every week via helicopter, but also stop U.S. vehicles from shipping in goods and supplies.

“Currently, the only way on and off of the site is by helicopter,” she said. “A week at a time at least, every single one of my soldiers is away from their barracks room, their family.”

She said if the gates weren’t blocked they wouldn’t require the extended rotations and could keep more people at Carroll, which is only a 25-minute drive away.

Spc. Josiah Welch, a THAAD operator, said conditions have improved since he started at the site in November.

“There was pretty bad mold initially,” said the 25-year old from Winter Park, Fla. “There was a week where we didn’t have running water – we had baby wipe showers.”

Now they have air conditioning and showers, he said.

The military finally began shipping fresh food three times week last month, reducing some reliance on pre-prepared field rations, Theilacker said.

The site even got a popcorn maker two weeks ago, she said, adding that toward the end of her last rotation it began tasting like the best popcorn she ever had.

Theilacker hopes they will get a functioning dining facility by the end of the year, rather than relying on the South Korean unit’s kitchen.

Welch said he appreciates the “real world application” of his job despite the rough conditions at Seongju.

“We get to see our work come to life and actually make an impact in the world,” he said.

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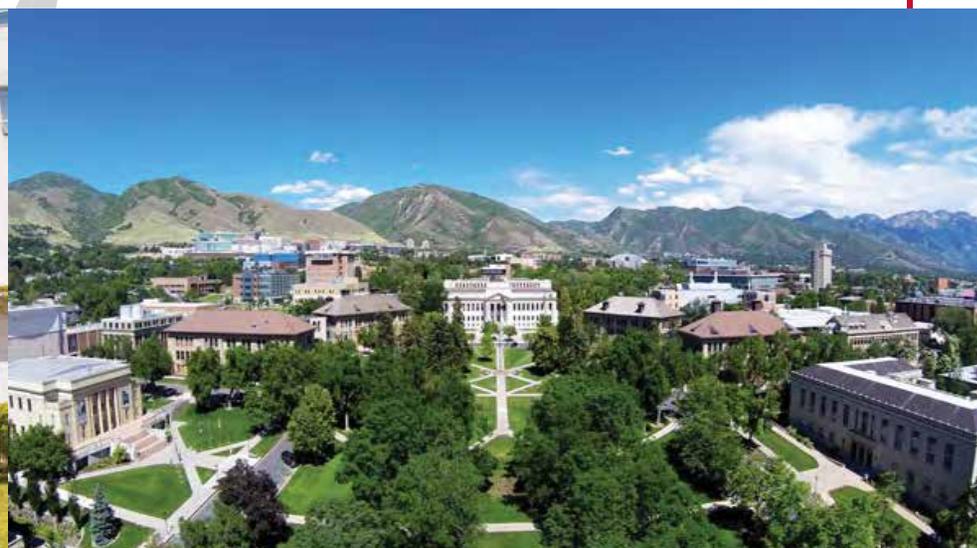


The Delta Battery, 2nd Air Defense Artillery Regiment guidon is seen.

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A row of Quonset huts at Camp Red Cloud, South Korea, with a view of the surrounding city of Uijeongbu is seen Sunday.

Camp Red Cloud finally closing – for real this time

STORY AND PHOTOS BY KIM GAMEL, STARS AND STRIPES
Published: October 24, 2018

CAMP RED CLOUD — The nine-hole golf course is thriving, but the rest of this historic base north of Seoul resembles a ghost town as the U.S. military prepares to return the land to the South Korean government.

Camp Red Cloud, which has been a hub for American troops deployed near the front lines since the 1950-53 Korean War, is finally shutting down as part of a frequently delayed relocation plan.

The 2nd Infantry Division officially closed its longtime headquarters building, known as Freeman Hall, at the base on Oct. 16, lowering the flags and firing

a cannon for the last time as the sun set.

About three dozen soldiers and civilians also gathered Sunday in the Warrior Chapel for a ceremony to decommission the white stone building with arched, stained glass windows and a steeple.

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“The Warrior Chapel served military members and their families for more than 66 years and will continue serving the 2nd Infantry Division/[South Korea-U.S.] Combined Division community from its new home on Camp Humphreys,” said Chaplain (Capt.) Steve Love.

The long-anticipated closure of Camp Red Cloud will mark a milestone for a 2004 agreement to sharply reduce the

U.S. military footprint north of the Han River. Most of some 28,500 U.S. servicemembers stationed on the divided peninsula have been concentrated in Seoul and bases near the heavily fortified border with North Korea.

The relocation was initially supposed to be done by 2008 but had to be postponed several times as the largely South Korean-funded expansion of Camp Humphreys was plagued by construction and quality control problems.

The garrison held an inactivation ceremony for Camp Red Cloud in June, but that was a largely administrative bid to consolidate resources.

The Indianhead Division officially moved its headquarters to Camp Humphreys, some 40 miles south of Seoul, last week, becoming the last major command to do so, after the Eighth Army and U.S. Forces Korea. The grand

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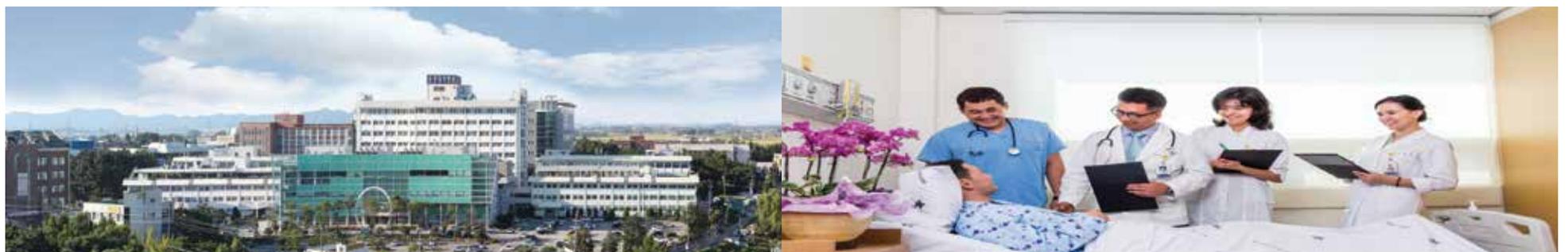
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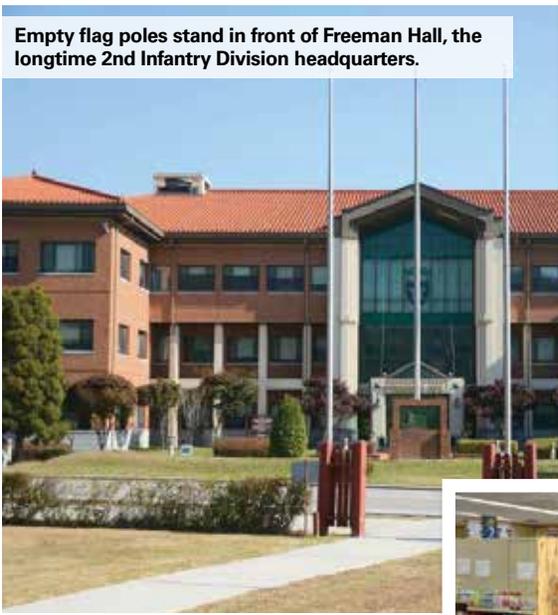
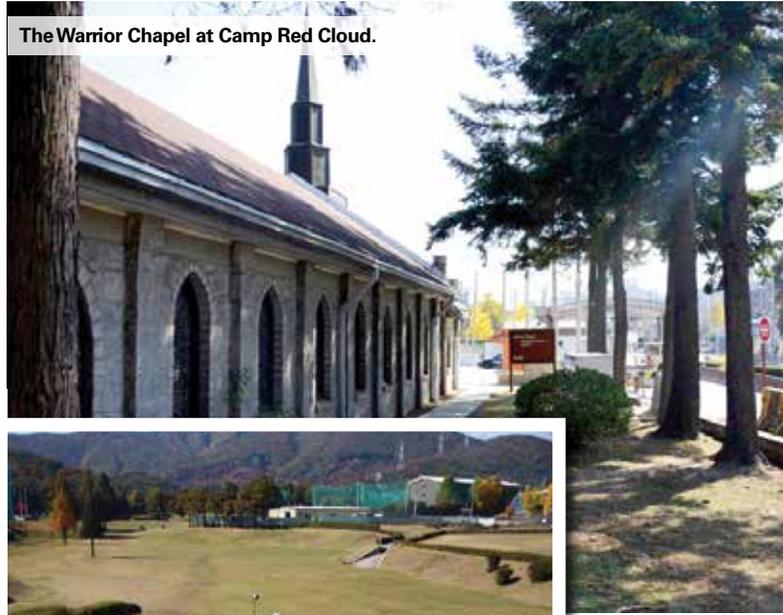
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opening of its new headquarters building, which will also be called Freeman Hall, is scheduled for next month.

Camp Red Cloud is on the northwestern edge of Uijeongbu, which was home to the real-life unit that inspired the popular TV show "M.A.S.H." The base was originally known as Camp Jackson but was renamed in 1957 in honor of Medal of Honor recipient Cpl. Mitchell Red Cloud Jr.

But the shuttering of facilities is only the start of a lengthy transition process, including the capping of utilities and

fuel tanks, negotiations over environmental cleanup requirements and other issues related to the status of forces agreement between the two countries.

"It's estimated that the earliest that CRC will be able to be returned to the [South Korean government] is sometime in January/February 2020 if all of that process goes through and there are no issues," said Paul Hubbard, the garrison's lead base-closure analyst.

Hubbard said it has taken between three and 15 years to hand over other bases that have been closed due to disagreements over obligations for environmental cleanup and other issues.

The land will be turned over to the Defense Ministry, but city officials say they're hoping it will be developed as

a security-themed park.

Meanwhile, remaining employees are feeling nostalgic as they preparing to vacate the rest of the facilities.

The only part of the base that was busy Sunday afternoon was the golf course, with several South Koreans taking advantage of a sunny day with fall foliage covering the hills in the distance.

The golf club, with annual fees ranging from \$300 to \$1,000, is open to active-duty servicemembers, retirees and South Koreans who work for the military or are part of outreach programs. It's also due to close by the end of the year.

The commissary also closed. Checker Sunny Avery, who will transfer to Camp Humphreys, said business slowed to a trickle over the past few months.

"But it's so sad that it has to close," she said. "It was really friendly and kind of like family; everybody knows each other."

Lee Jong-sook, 69, has worked as a bagger earning tips at the grocery store since it opened in 2001.

"I'm looking forward to retiring, but I'm sad about leaving all these good people," she said.

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Formats other than 11-man being considered for D-II football



STORY AND PHOTO BY DAVE ORNAUER,
STARS AND STRIPES
Published: October 18, 2018

Is there a possibility that Pacific Division II football might go the way of Division III in Europe, where five schools are experimenting with a six-man tackle format?

That's being discussed by coaches and administrators at D-II schools in Japan and Korea, all the way up to the halls of DODEA-Pacific's area office at Torii Station on Okinawa. The reason: Many teams

are having trouble getting enough players to field a team.

Osan had to back out of a scheduled game on Oct. 6 at Matthew C. Perry

because it only had 14 available to travel, one below DODEA-Pacific's minimum of 15. Osan had to shut down its

program the previous few seasons due to lack of players.

Daegu traveled with that many for an Oct. 6 game at Robert D. Edgren, only to have that game halted one series into the second half when the Warriors were down to 12 players due to injuries. The Eagles won the game 50-0.

Edgren almost didn't field a team when it only had 12 players by the middle of the second week of practice. They were given until Aug. 31, by which time they were able to suit up 18 players.

Seoul American suspended operations this season when it only attracted eight players by that Aug. 31 deadline;

it's not known if the Falcons might return to the gridiron next fall.

Thus, the idea of a reduced format,

such as nine-, eight- or even six-man football team is being considered, and Far East athletics coordinator Tom McKinney said he and DODEA-Pacific officials are willing to listen to ideas put forth by downline districts and individual schools.

"It won't happen this season," McKinney said, but DODEA-Pacific would consider any suggestions made at either face-to-face meetings or video-tech conferences in the coming months.

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Andrew Neloms (77), Jacob Berry (35) and Daegu was unable to continue beyond the first series of the second half against Raphael Lykins (5) and Robert D. Edgren on Oct. 6 when the Warriors fell short of players.

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→ Logistically, it might be difficult, McKinney said, in that almost all the Pacific's fields are turfed and are marked for 11-man format, 100 yards by 50. It would mean getting coaches and referees used to a new format, whatever that might end up being.

In DODEA-Europe, five schools signed on for a first season of Division III six-man format. Former Division II powerhouse Ansbach (Germany) restarted its program after failing to come up with enough for 11-man format in 2017.

Ansbach joined similarly sized German neighbors Baumholder and Hohenfels in the new D-III. In the Benelux, AFNORTH and Brussels scuttled their merged D-II program in favor of separate D-III entities.

RAF Alconbury of England and Sigonella of Italy, two D-III schools at opposite geographic extremes, are considering signing on if six-man continues in future seasons.

The idea of the Pacific moving away from football's traditional 11-man format was met with mixed views by both D-I and D-II coaches.

For his part, Daegu coach Blake Sims

said if D-II played nine-man format during the Oct. 6 game at Edgren, "it would have helped ... we would have had a few more" substitute players.

"It would be better" from a safety standpoint to consider nine-man or fewer, Sims said. "If it's better for the kids," it should be considered in the future.

"I think it's always important to look at the needs of the students, the children of those serving overseas," said Osan principal Morgan Nugent, adding that playing less than 11-man format has been a topic of discussion for several years there.

At full strength, Daegu has 18 players and Osan has about the same. Their enrollments are about two thirds' those at Yokota, which has about 30 players, and Zama, which has 37.

Perry this season is in the same boat as the Warriors and Cougars, but longtime Samurai coach Frank Macias said he refuses to even consider a shift to less than 11-man.

"I'm a traditionalist," Macias said. "I understand the constraints within DODEA. But I'm hoping this is a one-year dip for us. We haven't had this problem" since Perry's program restarted five years ago.

The idea of a reduced format, such as nine-, eight- or even six-man football team is being considered.

D-I coaches said they were adamant about sticking with 11 man, since all have little trouble finding enough players.

Changing formats "is not the answer," longtime coach Dan Joley of D-I Nile C. Kinnick said, adding that it's about the strength of each school's program, coaching and football culture. "There are enough kids to field full teams at all schools."

Tim Pujol, the dean of DODEA-Pacific coaches, has coached both at the D-I and D-II level and also coached nine-man format at Daegu in the mid-1990s, before DODEA took over football in Korea.

Prior to that, Army Community Services and Air Force Services ran high school-aged ball in nine-man format.

Pujol's first reaction to hearing that such a move is being considered, he said, was: "We're going in the wrong direction, bringing football one step closer to extinction."

Given Seoul American's program folding and the small numbers at Daegu and Osan, "it's obvious that participation in football in the Pacific is way down, especially in Korea," Pujol said. Yokota, also, has had trouble with numbers; for two years now, it's not had a JV team.

Division I can go on "as usual," Pujol said, but should D-II consider nine- or seven-man format, "those options can be offered," Pujol said. It could open the door for Seoul American to return to the gridiron or even for E.J. King, which has never had football, to field a team.

"My last thought is that coaches be part of the audience at the table" when they're having such discussion, Pujol said.

Stars and Stripes Europe sports correspondent Gregory Broome contributed to this report.

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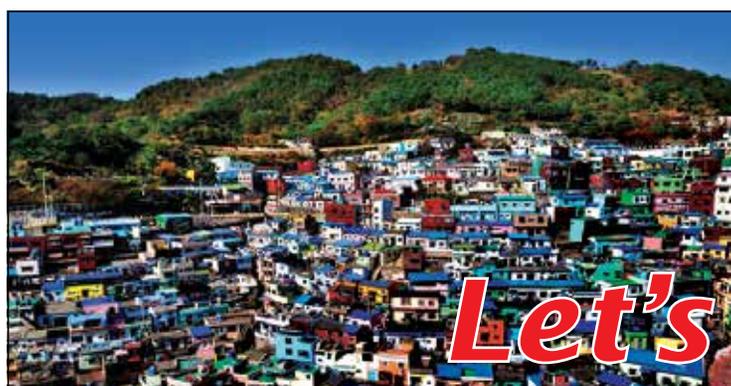
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Let's explore Korea!



BY STACY ROMAN,
STRIPES KOREA

For more than 500,000 servicemembers and their families, summertime is synonymous with smells of cardboard and paper, and the sound of packing tape ripping in the air. However, many also move between September and April) While PCSing in general can prove difficult, relocating in the fall and winter can present its own unique set of challenges. Here are some tips to help make your off-season PCS go smoothly.

1 Housing

No matter where you go, the housing market is all about supply and demand. During the summer months, there is a high supply and an even greater demand. It's not uncommon to look at upwards of 10 to 15 houses before finally being able to secure one that hasn't been snatched up by someone else.

However, for those relocating

during the off-peak season, this can work to your advantage. While the housing inventory may be lower, you will have greater flexibility in choosing your location and can take time to decide which house or village suits you best. Landlords may also be more willing to negotiate to fill a vacant house.

2 Schools

If you have school-aged children, moving during the middle of the academic year can be an emotional and challenging prospect. Being the new kid at the beginning of the year is hard enough, so make the transition easier for your kids and yourself. If you know which school your child will be attending, make contact early and explain the situation. Often, you can find information online, including registration packets and the required documents. If a school physical is necessary, complete it before you move. It'll be one less thing



to have to worry about when you get to your destination.

When your child leaves his or her current school, ask teachers to put together a summary of what has been covered in class thus far. It can help your child's new teachers better understand any gaps in curriculum. If you are transferring out of a DO-DEA school, please be aware that there are specific early withdrawal dates. These are designed to help students not lose credits due to a mid-year move.

If you're not sure which school your child will be attending, contact the school liaison officer (SLO) at your new installation.

She can help guide the school transfer and answer pertinent questions that you have.

3 Weather

It's amazing how much of a role weather can play in your move. Periods of bad weather can often delay shipping times, especially with household goods. When prepping your unaccompanied baggage, throw in a few extra blankets if you're moving somewhere cold. Heading to the tropics? Trade the blankets for some beach chairs and towels.

Shipping a vehicle to your destination? If you're heading to frigid climes, be sure to have your vehicle inspected and leave the winter tires on before you ship it.

4 Holidays

The fall and winter are full of holidays — Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas are all within a two-month period. If you have special traditions during the holidays, be sure to set

aside a few favorite decorations. You can either send them ahead via the postal service or put them in your unaccompanied baggage. You may not get your household goods for awhile, but at least you can still enjoy some comforts of home from your loaner furniture.

5 Pack a little extra patience and creativity

Moving, no matter what time of year, is always challenging. Having extra patience is always easier said than done — especially when your shipment is delayed by an East Coast ice storm or your vehicle isn't equipped with the right tires. Just breathe and remember that sometimes the only thing in your control is your reaction. Don't fret when you realize that your boogie boards are in your unaccompanied baggage to Germany. You've just discovered an awesome way to sled down that sweet hill in your neighborhood.

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Space A way

BY JEANA COLEMAN
STRIPES KOREA

A privilege to Uniformed Forces personnel, their dependents, retirees, and others who support the mission, the Space-Available travel program may be a great option for seeing the world on a budget ... if the timing is right. The program is nicknamed Space-A, and although that A is short for "available," it could also mean "attitude." Learning how to navigate the program with a positive attitude, plenty of leave and a back-up plan is key for a successful "hop."

What is Space-A?

The Space-A program allows authorized passengers to occupy surplus DoD aircraft seats after all space-required duty passengers and cargo have been accommodated. Most Space-A flights are offered through the Air Force's Air Mobility Command (AMC) or the Navy and are usually free of charge, except for a small tax (usually under \$30) charged per seat and per leg, when seats are on commercial, Patriot Express flights. Common destinations include the Continental U.S. states, Hawaii, Alaska, Germany, England, Spain, Italy, Japan and South Korea. Flights may even go to South and Central America, Africa and Australia. The best time to obtain seats is when DODEA schools are in session.

Have a back-up plan

Because this program is a privilege and not an entitlement, it is imperative to understand the circumstances may change due to mission mobility. Flying exactly where you want to go at the time or day you want to fly is not always possible. The first obligation of the AMC is to fill seats for military missions, therefore available seating fluctuates and could change at any time on any part of your destination. So, if you have a specific itinerary, event or obligation waiting for you at your destination or on your return, you may want to reconsider using Space-A for those travel plans. This program is designed for those who have enough available leave, time and flexibility to wait or change their schedule.

For example, it may be a breeze to sign up

and get seats on the first to return, you could wait for available space. Or, you could fly in another country to visit family, staying calm, positive and patient. Sometimes travelers are not uncommon to travel to neighboring base terminals. Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany. Or, travelers drive between Baltimore and Baltimore on a regular basis. When flying Space-A, create a back-up plan in case you need to make arrangements and accommodations aren't available.

Who can fly Space-A?

The program was created to improve the lives of Uniformed Services of America by creating an avenue for the careers of Veterans who are a privilege to other categories of dependents of Uniformed Services of America, Red Cross and USO personnel. Passengers are not for personal gain, in relation to find a house or for other reasons.

Qualified travelers must be sure they have completed all procedures to ready for travel. Required documentation must be on hand before travel. Dependents of a sponsor need an Unaccompanied Minor Sponsorship from his or her sponsor. The letter is valid for travel and the category of travel and the category of travel are also mandatory. ID cards, passports, social security numbers, and emergency contact information.

How do you register?

You may register in person at a passenger terminal through self-help kiosks or through email, fax or on the website www.takea. The website www.takea.vice to help you register as well as five copies. Recently, the site rolled out iPhone and Android apps. For a few dollars, you can use a Space-A terminal com

Learning how to navigate the program with a positive attitude, plenty of leave and a back-up plan is key for a successful "hop."



st flight, but when you try wait several days for availability you could even be dropped off to wait for a flight. Remaining flexible will help. Attempt to catch a hop at terminals. For example, it is between Ramstein and to attempt to get a seat. Between terminals in Dover regular basis seeking seats. Be ready for anything. and have available funds. Make other travel arrangements when space just

Space-A?

reated as a way to enhance Services duty personnel of respite; recognize the o have served; and extend gories of passengers such rmed Services personnel, rsonnel who also support s may not use the flights relationship to employment, rher prohibited activities. f Space-A travel need to mpleted the proper proce- vel and also have the re- For instance, active duty ore they can register for active duty flying unac- npanied Command r her spouse's command- for one round trip travel describes the reason for y of passenger travel. The datory for travel: military cial security numbers and ormation at the final des-

Register?

n person at each Space-A either the helpdesk, or ks. You may also register online, for up to five depart- countries of destination. hop.org offers a free ser- er for five departure air- untries at the same time. d out both a Take-A-Hop pp for smartphone users. ave instant access to all nts, flight information

and the ability to quickly sign up for up to five flights through your phone. You can also monitor available activity at the terminals through the app to save you time and keep you mobile.

Once registered, your information remains active for either 60 days, or for the duration of your leave orders or authorization of flight, whichever occurs first. Print a copy of your registration to keep on hand at the terminal. The time and date stamp of your registration determines your position and priority within your Space-A category.

Each passenger is assigned a passenger category for travel. These categories designate the order by which you may be boarded on Space-A flights. The following list is generalized. For a detailed list, please see the Space-A handbook link mentioned above:

Category I – Emergency travel on a round-trip basis in connection with serious illness, death, or impending death of a member of the immediate family.

Category II – Environmental Morale Leave (EML) and dependents

Category III – Active duty ordinary Leave and dependents; convalescent leave; permissive TDYs; Unaccompanied dependent of deployed Servicemember for more than a year.

Category IV - Unaccompanied dependent of deployed Servicemember on EML status

Category V – Unaccompanied military dependent of non-deployed Servicemember

Category VI – Retirees, Reservists

Baggage requirements

Passengers may check two pieces of checked baggage, 70 pounds each, up to 62 linear inches in size. You and your family can pool your baggage allowances as well. Carry-ons must fit in overhead bins if they're available on the type of flight) or under your seat. Hand-carried baggage must fit under the seat or in the overhead compartment, if available. As always, it is best to travel light because due to aircraft or other restrictions, baggage weight could be restricted for your flight.

Getting a Space-A flight

Decide which terminal you think would be the best chance for Space-A departure and head out. It helps to phone the terminals that you requested for departure and monitor their recent departure schedules. For OPSEC reasons, Space-A flight schedules were removed from many online resources. However, terminals usually record a short-term flight schedule, and information is slowly being released by electronic means again. Check with Facebook for your

favorite Space-A terminals. Some terminals are creating fan pages to improve accessibility and help travelers plan their travel.

Available seats are now identified as early as five hours and as late as two hours prior to departure. Being at the terminal early for a flight will help you vie for seats. As soon as you physically arrive at the terminal, visit the passenger desk to be sure you are indeed registered with the correct date, time of registration and number of seats. Use your previous printed email or documentation to help correct any discrepancies. Then, let the desk personnel know you are interested in available flights. Be "travel-ready" with the proper luggage, any dependents and paperwork, your car parked or rental returned, etc.

It's show-time for the roll call

You now wait for the "show-time" of the particular flight you'd like to be selected (manifested) for, as well as the upcoming flight's "roll call" of names of those who are designated for the flight's Space-A seating. Based on the priority of your assigned category, the day and time that you signed up to travel and number of available seats, hopefully your name makes the roll call. Remember, be travel-ready. If your name is called and you are not physically present to hear the roll call and manifested (readied for flight and allowed to travel), your name will be put at the bottom of your category list, and may not make that flight.

Space-A parting tips

A hop flight could be either on a military plane or commercial airline. If you travel on a military plane, be aware that accommodations and services are different, from fold-down jump seats along the wall, cargo in front of you and a plane that is either pretty warm or cool, depending on the time of year of travel and location.

Open-toed or open-heeled shoes should not be worn on military planes. So, wear appropriate footwear, bring jackets, blankets, snacks, bottled water and things to keep you busy, like books, games or electronic devices.

Available plugs for charging are along the walls. Remember to stay flexible. Travel during off-peak seasons (stay away from summer break and major holidays) and keep a positive attitude about this great privilege. If you look at the program as an opportunity to a new adventure, plan accordingly and have a back-up plan, you are sure to have a great time, wherever you land.

PACIFIC LOCATIONS

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Commercial: 011-81-176-77-2370/2371
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Special templestay programs for foreigners

File photo

KOREA TOURISM ORGANIZATION

Temples in Korea will be operating special templestay programs for foreigners from November 5-30. During this period, visitors will be able to participate in templestay programs at a discounted price.

A total of 39 temples, including seven temples located in Seoul, will be providing special templestay programs. Among these are UNESCO Cultural Heritage Sites Bulguksa Temple and Haeinsa Temple. There are also newly added Cultural Heritages Sites from 2018, which are Beopjusa Temple, Magoksa Temple, Tongdosa Temple, Daeheungsa Temple, and Seonamsa Temple.

Experience the beautiful season of autumn at the temples this November.

EVENT PERIOD: November 5-30, 2018

LOCATIONS: Bongeunsa Temple, Jogyesa Temple, Naksansa Temple, Beopjusa Temple, Magoksa Temple, Bulguksa Temple, Tongdosa Temple, Haeinsa Temple, Daeheungsa Temple, Seonamsa Temple and many more

FEES: 1 night 20,000 won / one-day program 10,000 won

MAIN PROGRAMS: Buddhist Ceremony, Seon Meditation, Conversation over Tea, 108 Prostration Practice and many more (May vary by temple)

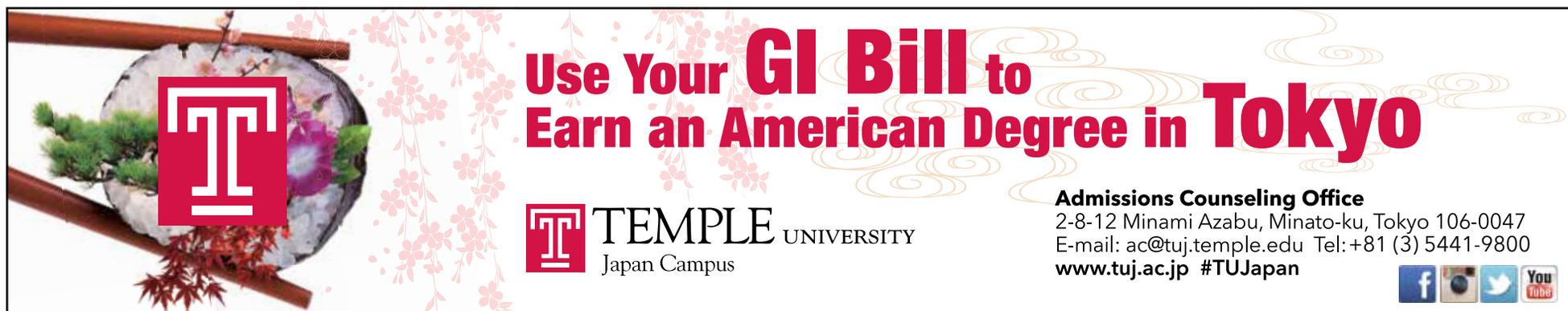
INQUIRIES: +82-2-2031-2000 (Korean, English) / support@templestay.com

ONLINE RESERVATIONS: eng.templestay.com (English)

1330 KOREA TRAVEL HOTLINE: +82-2-1330 (Korean, English, Japanese, Chinese, Russian, Vietnamese, Thai, Malay)

– Cultural Corps of Korean Buddhism, Templestay

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Enjoy autumn nights in Seoul's rooftop bars

KOREA TOURISM ORGANIZATION

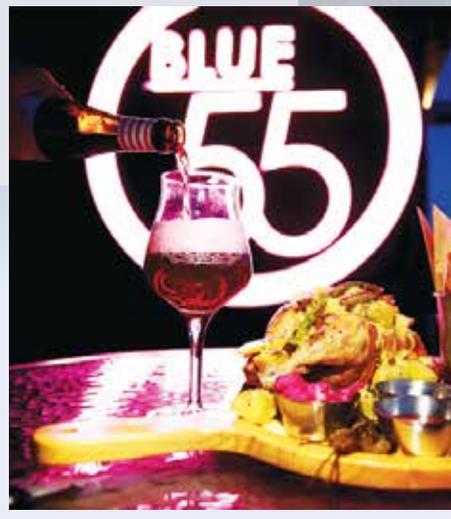
The summer heat has passed and fall has finally arrived. Rooftop bars are great for enjoying the nights in fall, with various themes and drinks such as beer, cocktails, and wine. Rooftop bars are also excellent for relishing the Seoul nightscape!



The Booth Brewing (Samseong branch)

The Booth Brewing Samseong branch is located in between the towering offices of Gangnam and gives a wonderful sight of the city nightscape. The Booth is a craft beer specialty bar and offers a diverse range of beer with the highest quality. In particular, the Taegang Pale Ale is most popular and has been crafted in collaboration with world renowned beer manufacturing company, Mikkeller. The night would not be complete without Korea's favorite chimaek (chicken and beer) and pimaek (pizza and beer).

ADDRESS: 40, Teheran-ro 83-gil, Gangnam-gu, Seoul
DIRECTIONS: Samseong Jungang Station (Seoul Subway Line 9), Exit 5. Walk approx. 5 min.
OPERATING HOURS: Monday - Friday 5 p.m. - midnight / Saturdays noon - midnight / Sundays noon - 11 p.m.
SIGNATURE MENUS: Taegang Pale Ale, Eureka Seoul Hop Ale, Monster Pizza, Crispy Chicken
INQUIRIES: +82-1544-4723, Ext. 5 (Korean, English)
WEBSITE: thebooth.co.kr (Korean, English)



Blue55

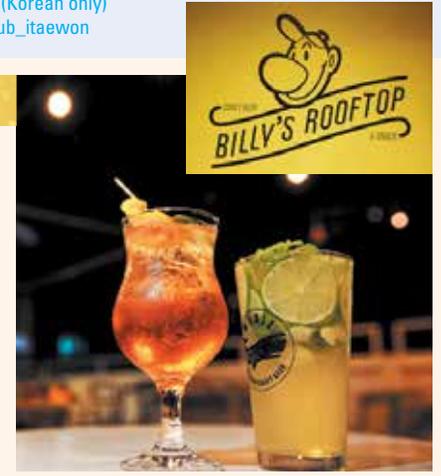
On the streets of Itaewon, there is a large pink neon sign for Blue55. The dark interior is great, but the 3rd floor rooftop gives an excellent view of the Itaewon nightscape. The pink neon sign is a popular spot for social media posts. The signature dishes at Blue55 are the half pasta and sweet chicken. In particular, the sweet chicken with its deep creamy sauce and side of baked sweet potatoes, garlic, and asparagus make the perfect combination with beer.

ADDRESS: 3, Bogwang-ro 55-gil, Yongsan-gu, Seoul
DIRECTIONS: Itaewon Station (Seoul Subway Line 6), Exit 4. Walk approx. 3 min.
OPERATING HOURS: Weekdays 5 p.m. - 2 a.m. (next day) / Saturdays 4 p.m. - 2 a.m. (next day) / Sundays 4 p.m. - 1 a.m. (next day)
SIGNATURE MENUS: Half Pasta, Sweet Chicken, Fried Pork Rinds
INQUIRIES: +82-2-790-5551 (Korean only)
WEBSITE: @blue55_grill_pub_itaewon

Billy's Table

Billy's Table is decorated with artificial grass and cute light bulbs that give a picnic-like atmosphere. Enjoy the night at Itaewon with a glass of cocktail that has a low degree of alcohol and a dish of Gambas al Ajillo that has a savory olive oil scent. The dish tastes best when you place the garlic and shrimp on a warm piece of bread and dip it in olive oil. For a fulfilling meal, pasta and steak is available as well.

ADDRESS: 16-4, Noksapyeong-daero 46-gil, Yongsan-gu, Seoul
DIRECTIONS: Noksapyeong Station (Seoul Subway Line 6), Exit 2. Walk approx. 6 min.
OPERATING HOURS: 11:30 a.m. - 11 p.m.
SIGNATURE MENUS: Gambas al Ajillo, Shrimp Cream Pasta, Beef Salad
INQUIRIES: +82-2-790-3312 (Korean only)



UPP (Universe Peace Project)

Just like its name, Universe Peace Project, the store has an artistic interior with a comedic touch. From the outside, the store looks very cozy and on the inside, it is decorated with various art pieces and adorable props. The most popular menu, UPP Pizza, is topped with sausages and bacon and goes great with beer. Also, there is a rooftop terrace where customers can take a glass of beer to sit back and relax while taking in the cool fall breeze of Itaewon.

ADDRESS: 104, Jangmun-ro 49-gil, Yongsan-gu, Seoul
DIRECTIONS: Itaewon Station (Seoul Subway Line 6), Exit 3. Walk approx. 15 min.
OPERATING HOURS: Weekdays 3 p.m. - 11 p.m. / Weekends 1 p.m. - 11 p.m. (Last order is at 10 p.m. / Closed on the first Wednesday of each month)
SIGNATURE MENUS: UPP Pizza, Special Pizza, Cheese Pizza
INQUIRIES: +82-2-790-9090 (Korean only)
INSTAGRAM: @upp_official

Rooftop Floating

Rooftop Floating is recommended for those looking for a romantic and luxurious atmosphere. To add to that, Namsan Tower and the Myeong-dong landscape can be seen through the high windows. Customers can also enjoy a glass of their favorite beverage and take in the view of the Seoul's cityscape while receiving a foot spa. The staff recommends the Alada Gran Reserva Pinot Noir, a wine that is perfect for the autumn night. A dish that goes well with wine is their BBQ Platter, a platter of assorted barbeque that includes roasted chicken and rib katus.

ADDRESS: 137, Toegye-ro, Jung-gu, Seoul
DIRECTIONS: Myeong-dong Station (Seoul Subway Line 4), Exit 9. Walk approx. 1 min.
OPERATING HOURS: Monday-Thursday & Sundays 6 p.m. - 1 a.m. (next day) / Friday-Saturday 6 p.m. - 2 a.m. (next day)
SIGNATURE MENUS: BBQ Platter, Cold Cut Platter, Gin Tonic
INQUIRIES: +82-2-6310-1097 (Korean, English)
FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/rooftopfloating



KOREA RESTAURANT GUIDE

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What to expect at Chiang Mai lantern festival 2018

STORY AND PHOTOS BY TRAZY CREW, TRAZY.COM

TRAVEL + CRAZY
TRAZY
www.trazy.com



WHEN: The full moon day of the second month of the Lanna lunar calendar. Every year the exact date will change. This year, it will be celebrated on November 21~23, 2018.

Yi Peng is a sky lantern festival that mainly happens in Northern Thailand, and it coincides with the nationally celebrated Loy Krathong Festival. During the festival, thousands of rice paper lanterns are released into the air, decorating the sky with a warm glow.

Thailand is famous for its unique and vibrant festivals, and most Thai festivities are rooted in the traditions and beliefs of the ancient Thai people. The Yi Peng festival is absolutely no exception, as it started with the ancient Lanna Kingdom (1292~1775).

Every year, a spectacular scene in the sky unfolds in Chiang Mai during the Yi Peng festival, and you can be sure that this festival will leave you breathless. If you want to know what to expect at Chiang Mai's most beautiful festival, be sure to read on!

How is Yi Peng different from Loi Krathong?

What is the Yi Peng Festival?

WHERE: Northern Thailand (mostly in Chiang Mai)

YI PENG FESTIVAL

Many people often misunderstand that the Yi Peng festival and Loy Krathong are the same, as these events coincide with each other. In fact, the Yi Peng Festival is actually a smaller part of the Loy Krathong Celebrations.

Loy Krathong also only lasts for one night on the full moon of the 12th month of the traditional Thai calendar, while the Yi Peng festival is celebrated over 2~3 days.

In the Yi Peng Festival, lanterns locally known as Khom Fai or Khom Loy are lit and released up into the sky with the hopes of all misfortunes to disappear with the lantern. The act of releasing Khom Fai into the night sky is meaningful in Thai culture, as it symbolises letting go of bad luck. It is believed that if the lantern disappears from sight before your candle goes out, you're definitely healed from the misfortune and will be free of any bad luck the next year!

LOY KRATHONG

Similarly, during the Loy Krathong celebrations, a krathong, which is a "boat" or "basket" made of banana tree trunk and wrapped in banana leaves are sent afloat a river or a body of water, with a similar meaning to wish away all the bad luck, grudges against others and worries so that one can start fresh. Hence the name of the celebration being Loy Krathong. In Thai, the word "Loy" means "to float" and "krathong" is a "basket".

In ancient times, this festival was to pay respects to the Goddess of Water, Pra Mae Thorani. The krathongs would be decorated as much as possible with fancy decorations and flowers. It will always have a candle to venerate Buddha as well. People would often put strands of hair, nail and toenail clippings or strips of cloth from old clothes in the belief that grudges and bad luck will be washed away.

As you can see, the only difference between these two celebrations is the method of wishing away any bad luck in hopes to start a fresh life clean from sin.

Loy Krathong is a festival celebrated all throughout Thailand, but the festivities and beauty is at its best in Chiang Mai. So if you're hanging around Chiang Mai during the time of the festival in November 22nd ~ 23rd, check out the festival tour we offer you at the Pink Nakorn Riverside Hotel!

Enjoy an unforgettable moment watching hundreds of lanterns illuminate the sky as they float up and also float your own krathong and wish all the bad luck away! After that enjoy a delicious Thai style buffet dinner!

Don't miss your chance to take part in these wonderful festivals! for more detailed information: <https://bit.ly/2Se3VcS>

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Can I attend the Yi Peng festival as a tourist?

One of the main reasons people want to go to the Yi Peng festival is to launch their own lantern and snap a photo of the mass release of lanterns.

However, many don't realise that the main Yi Peng event is exclusively for locals only around Mae Jo University. As a tourist, the ticket price would be around THB 5,600~12,500, which is about USD 170~380. Even if you are willing to pay that much money, it will be almost impossible to get the ticket for the Mae Jo event since lots of other people want to join as well.

But don't worry, as there are some private Yi Peng events that tourists can attend as well, and they are a lot cheaper (USD 90~130) than the Mae Jo event.

They are basically the same event as the Mae Jo but on a smaller scale. It's about half the size of the Mae Jo event. It is still a spectacular event and a good option for people who don't want to pay a whopping USD 170~380 for a ticket.

At these private Yi Peng events, you can release your own lantern into the sky. The whole emphasis of Yi Peng Festivals are on lighting the lanterns and wishing for good luck, and of course you will also get to take tons of magical photos!

Tip: The Yi Peng Festival is the most popular event in Chiang Mai, thus it's best to plan as early as possible.

It's not just one place you can light your own lantern and wish it away. We offer you a package where you can enjoy the Yi Peng Festival in Wat Doi Ti, a miraculous Buddhist temple making for a perfect photo background in the night. If you want to both enjoy the festival and marvel at wat Doi temple, visit: <https://bit.ly/2PjHC6R>

You can also enjoy the other festivities that go on during the Yi Peng festival. It doesn't end with a good luck wish and lighting your lantern into the sky. There are a variety of things for you to enjoy during the festival, so come to Chiang Mai and learn about the Lanna traditions. click here: <https://bit.ly/2OOWudW>

Let's have a look at what else goes on during the Festival.

What else happens during the Yi Peng Festival?

Of course, the launching of the lanterns might be the most important part of the festival, but there are plenty of other activities going on to keep the festival lively, including traditional Thai worshipping rituals, lantern decoration contests, and the Miss Yi Peng pageant. There are also night bazaars, parades, and fireworks for visitors to enjoy.

You will be pleasantly surprised to find many vendors offering different types of Thai food at the event.

Visiting Chiang Mai and attending the Yi Peng Festival is truly one of things you should do when you are in Thailand during November. Join in the fun with locals and other travelers to wish all the bad luck goodbye on your very own lantern and check out the awesome stalls in the night markets to grab something delicious to eat. And of course, take lots of photos to cherish the memories of your trip to wonderful Chiang Mai.



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Diplomate, Korean Medical Board of Family Medicine, 2006
Vice President, Hanyang International Medical Center, 2009~2013

Member of Korean Doctors' Association of Obesity Research
Member of Korean Association of Laser, Dermatology, and Trichology
Member of Korean Society of Aesthetic Plastic Surgery



Dr. Jaejin Song, OMD, PhD

Daejeon University, School of Oriental Medicine, 1998
Diplomate, Korean Board of Oriental Internal Medicine, 2002
PhD in Oriental Respiratory Medicine, 2005
Clinical Professor at Daejeon University, School of Oriental Medicine

Member of The Society of Korean Medicine for Obesity Research
Member of Korean Medical Institute of Dermatology and Aesthetics
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For more details visit facebook.com/StripesPacific



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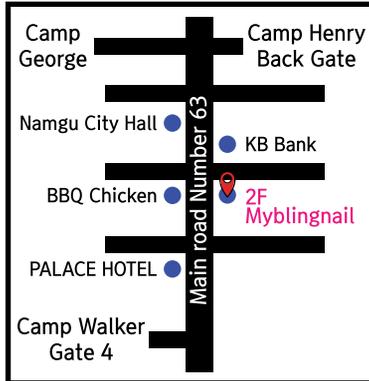
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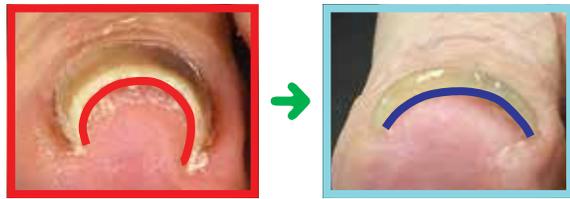
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5 things to do while traveling alone

STORY AND PHOTO BY STACY AUSTIN, HAPS KOREA MAGAZINE

As any traveler can tell you, traveling alone carries its own benefits and disadvantages. For some people, doing activities by themselves are as easy as putting on a pair of socks. For others, it's a highly daunting task and could cause anxiety just at the mere thought.

Even though I am an only child, I can't say I enjoy tackling activities on my own. I am not one to eat at a restaurant or sit in a movie theater alone. I don't particularly enjoy striking up conversations with strangers, either. Being alone in a city definitely forces me to get out of my comfort zone – and perfect the art of taking selfies. While this, at times, can feel unpleasant, the end result is a great feeling of accomplishment.

So without further ado, for those of you venturing out into the world alone, I offer up a list of my favorite things to do when I'm traveling solo.

PLAN ANYTHING
This is a time to be selfish. Wake up as early or as late as you like. Hell, have a nap

mid-day if you want. I like to write down directions and mark-up maps for my daily agendas. Again, if I get lost, I have no one else to lean on, so I pay extra attention to navigation details.

ALONG WITH THIS, EAT ANYTHING

No peer pressure to eat more or less. I can be as adventurous – or not – as I want with my food choices. It is also much easier to stay on budget while traveling alone. I don't have anyone to awkwardly explain my poor previous spending decisions to while chowing down on a meal purchased solely from a convenience store.

TALK TO STRANGERS

Even though I am an extrovert, I don't love doing this all the time, but the majority of the time I really benefit from it. You'll learn so much more from talking to those around you than what you can find on the Internet or in a travel book. On buses or at hostels, locating fellow travelers can make this easier, but it can also be a great benefit to talk to locals. Not only will you get updated information about your surroundings, you'll also get a different perspective on life and the world around you.

THINK ABOUT SHORT AND LONG-TERM GOALS

Sitting in silence, alone with your thoughts, can be a good thing. I like to make to-do lists, not dictated or persuaded by my everyday life.

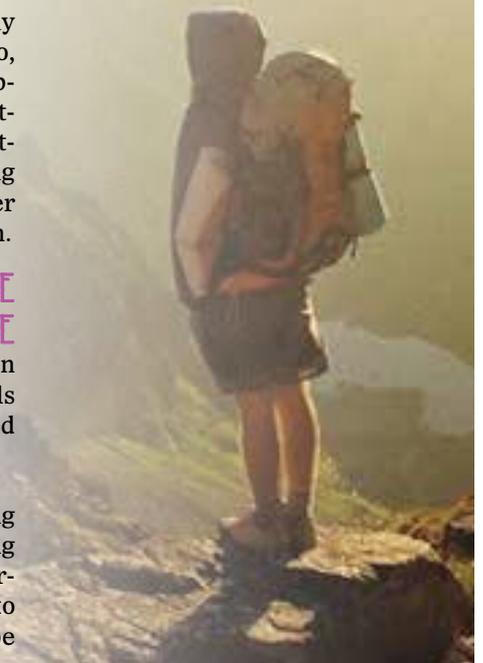
CATCH UP ON (OR START) WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE

Traveling alone triggers a lot of memories for me. I think of people I wish were with me. I also think of people I may not have thought of in a long time. Also, sometimes I think of people that have upset me in the past. I write all of them letters. I tend not to actually send out the letters to the people that upset me. Writing those letters can be therapeutic and offer some desperately needed closure, though.

START PLANNING THE NEXT TRAVEL ADVENTURE

This may happen when you're thinking about goals (see #3) and it will definitely be benefited by talking to fellow travelers (see #2).

Studies have proven that anticipating a trip makes you even happier than being on your trip or reminiscing about it afterward. I take this as scientific backing to always be planning my next trip. I hope you feel the same.



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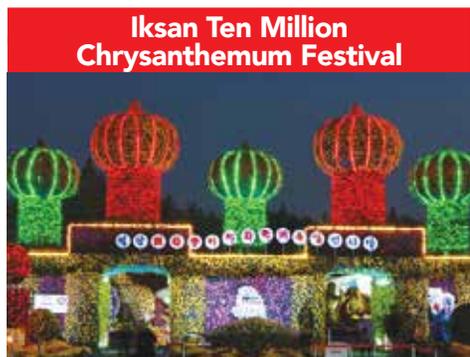
The favorable offer by MINI Military Sales is exclusively valid for US service personnel overseas. It is open to all active-duty military personnel, DoD Civilian ID Card holders and DoD contractors on temporary (TDY) or permanent (PCS) orders abroad at the time of purchase. The promotion is only valid for the MINI Cooper S Countryman ALL4 (F60) model year 2019 and is available for limited time (from 01 August to 31 December 2018) on a first-come, first-served basis. It cannot be combined with any other sales discounts and the special equipment and packages named above cannot be modified. The customer can choose between a range of available exterior colors, 18" Pair Spoke alloy wheels, 18" Pin Spoke silver wheels or 18" Pin Spoke black alloy wheels and Interior surface Piano Black or Interior surface Hazy Grey. This offer might be subject to change without prior notice. MINI Cooper S Countryman ALL4: output in kw (hp): 141 (192). Fuel consumption in l/100 km (combined): 7.1-7.0. CO2 emissions in g/km (combined): 162-159. This image may differ from reality.

HAPPENINGS OFF BASE FESTIVALS



Geoje Island Flower Festival

DATE: Until Nov. 4
LOCATION: Geoje-si Agriculture Development Complex
INTRODUCTION:
 Geoje Island Flower Festival will be held at the Geoje-si Agriculture Development Complex in Geoje-si, Gyeongsangnam-do. The festival will take on a culture and art theme with autumn flowers. Main events include a chrysanthemum display, Healing Herb Land, autumn flower sculpture exhibition, themed flower hills, chrysanthemum items, test room of greenhouse, flowering tree examining office, warm region orchard, and more.
TRANSPORTATION:
 ■ From Seoul Nambu Terminal, take an express bus bound for Gohyeon Bus Terminal.
 (first bus 6:40 / last bus 24:00 / runs 21 times a day / travel time: 4 hr and 20 min)
 ■ From the bus stop, we suggest taking a taxi to the venue.
 (12.52 km away / the taxi fare will cost around 12,300 won)
 ■ A free shuttle bus will run from Gohyeon Terminal to the festival venue. (October 2-3, 8-10)
 * Gohyeon Terminal 08:00-17:00 / runs every 30 minutes except for 12:00
 * Geoje-si Agriculture Development Complex 08:30-17:30 / runs every 30 minutes except for 12:30
HOME PAGE: www.geoje.go.kr (Korean only)



Iksan Ten Million Chrysanthemum Festival

DATE: Until Nov. 4
LOCATION: Jungang Sports Complex in Eoyang-dong, Iksan-si
INTRODUCTION:
 The annual Iksan Ten Million Chrysanthemum Festival is held every year from late October to early November at Iksan Jungang Sports Complex. The festival features an outdoor chrysanthemum exhibit, city agricultural hall, cultural performances, music fountain and many more as well as food.
TRANSPORTATION:
Bus
 From Central City Terminal, take an express bus bound for Iksan Express Bus Terminal (approx. 2 hr 50 min). Exit out from the bus terminal, walk left to take Bus 100 and get off at Jugang 1 Cha Apt. Bus Stop (14 bus stops; 24 min).
 Walk back toward the big four-way intersection. Turn left at the intersection and go straight for about 15 min.
 The venue will be on your left.
Train
 Take the train from Seoul to Iksan (KTX) or from Yongsan to Iksan (KTX, Saemaueul, or Mugunghwa).

From Iksan Station, cross the street and take bus 65 and get off at Jungang Sports Complex (12 stops, 20 min).
HOME PAGE: www.iksan.go.kr/gukhwa (Korean only)



Masan Gagopa Chrysanthemum Festival

DATE: Until Nov. 8
LOCATION: Masan Fishery Market (In front of Jangeo-geori) / Areas of Cheong-dong and Odong-dong
INTRODUCTION:
 Since its inception in 1960, chrysanthemum farming in Changwon (Masan) has proliferated, accounting for 13% of chrysanthemum farming nationwide. Masan has suitable requirements for soil, warm temperature, and cutting-edge technology for growing chrysanthemums. Masan Gagopa Chrysanthemum Festival has been held since 2000 to promote the excellence of Masan's chrysanthemums and enhance the market.
TRANSPORTATION:
Bus
 ■ Take an express bus to Masan Express Bus Terminal.
 ■ Leave the terminal through the exit by the GS25 convenience store.
 ■ Cross the street, turn left and walk 100m to the city bus stop.
 ■ Take Bus 703, and get off at Jeil Girls' High School.
 ■ Cross the street, and walk 250m towards the harbor.
HOME PAGE: culture.changwon.go.kr (Korean, English, Japanese, Chinese)



Seoul International Music Festival



SEUL INTERNATIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL

DATE: Until Nov. 11

LOCATION: Seoul Arts Center, Lotte Concert Hall, etc.
INTRODUCTION:
 Seoul International Music Festival (SIMF), brings world-renown groups and performers to share classical music at its best to visitors and citizens alike. SIMF donates 5% of its profit to low-income citizens and also give them free tickets to concerts, so that they can have a chance to experience classical music live.
TRANSPORTATION:
 Seoul Arts Center
 Nambu Terminal Station (Subway Line 3), Exit 5.
HOME PAGE: www.simf.kr (Korean only)



Seoul Lantern Festival

DATE: Nov. 2 – Nov. 18
LOCATION: Cheonggyecheon Plaza to Supyogyo Bridge (1.2 km)
INTRODUCTION:
 Since its inception in 2009, the annual Seoul Lantern Festival, one of the representative festivals in Seoul, is held throughout the period from the first Friday of November to the third Sunday of November. Every year nearly 3 million visitors can expect to see lanterns along the 1.3km Cheonggyecheon Stream with various things to see stretching all the way from Cheonggye Plaza and Supyogyo Bridge.
TRANSPORTATION:
 • CHEONGGYE PLAZA/GWANGGYO/JANGTONGGYO BRIDGE
Subway
 ■ Jonggak Station (Seoul Subway Line 1), Exit 4 or 5.
 - Walk straight for 3 mins.
 ■ Euljiro 1-ga Station (Seoul Subway Line 2), Exit 2 or 3.
 - Walk straight for 5 mins.
Bus
 Blue bus: 101, 150, 163, 402, 405, 504, 506
 Green bus: 1711, 7016, 7017, 7021, 8000
 Circular bus: 92S tour
 • SAMILGYO
Subway
 Euljiro 3-ga Station (Seoul Subway Line 2, 3), Exit 1, 2, 3, or 4,
 - Walk straight for 10 mins.
Bus
 ■ Blue bus: 140, 163, 470, 471, 501, 701
 ■ Direct bus: 1150, 5000, 5005, 5007, 7900, 9001, 9003, 9300
 ■ Express bus: 8100
 Red bus: M4101, M4102
 • SEUNGYO
Subway
 ■ Jongno 3-ga Station (Seoul Subway Line 1, 3), Exit 12, 13 or 14,
 - Walk straight for 10 mins.
 ■ Euljiro 3-ga Station (Seoul Subway Line 2, 3), Exit 1, 2, 4 or 5.

- Walk straight for 10 mins.
Bus
 Blue bus: 163
HOME PAGE: www.seoullantern.visitseoul.net (Korean, English, Japanese, Chinese)



Paju Jangdan Soybean Festival

DATE: Nov. 23 – Nov. 25
LOCATION: Areas of Imjingak Plaza & Pyeonghwa Nuri
INTRODUCTION:
 Paju Jangdan Soybean Festival is held in Paju Imjingak every autumn to promote the excellence of Paju Jangdan soybean and boost the consumption of agricultural specialty products and the regional economy. Therefore, the festival is held around the bean harvest season in November.
TRANSPORTATION:
Train
 Munsan Station (Gyeongui Line)
 From the station, take the shuttle bus to the festival venue.
OR
Subway
 From Gwanghwamun Station (Seoul Subway Line 5), Exit 6.
 Upon exiting the station, make a u-turn, and turn left at the corner.
 Go straight about 120m to the bus stop. Take Bus 9710 and get off at Munsan Station (Estimated travel time: 2hrs).
HOME PAGE: tour.paju.go.kr (Korean only)



Yeongdong Dried Persimmon Festival

DATE: Dec. 14 – Dec. 16
LOCATION: Areas of Hasang Parking Lot, Yeongdong, Chungcheongbuk-do
INTRODUCTION:
 Yeongdong is the largest fruit-producing center in Korea, it is even known as the Holy Land of Fruit, and during the Yeongdong Dried Persimmons Festival, fruit producers and customers alike gather to celebrate one of the region's most famous fruits.
TRANSPORTATION:
Bus
 ■ From Seoul Station, take a train to Yeongdong.
 * Train Schedule: 06:05-22:50, runs 26 times a day.
 ■ From Dong Seoul Bus Terminal, take an intercity bus to Yeongdong (Okcheon).
 * Bus Schedule: 14:00, 18:00
Train
 ■ From Yeongdong Station/Yeongdong Bus Terminal, take a train to Yeongdong.

Take a taxi from Yeongdong Station to the festival venue (Yeongdong Gymnasium).
HOMEPAGE: www.ydft.kr
 (Korean, English, Japanese, Chinese)



DATE: Dec. 31 – Jan. 1, 2019
LOCATION: Bell-ringing event: Yongdusan Park / Sunrise event: Haeundae Beach
INTRODUCTION:
 Busan Sunrise Festival is an event for Busan residents and tourists to wrap up the end of the year and greet a new year. It is a representative winter themed festival of Busan, held December 31 to January 1 at Yongdusan Park and Haeundae Beach

areas.
TRANSPORTATION:
 ■ Haeundae Beach
Subway
 Haeundae Station (Busan Subway Line 2), Exit 3 or 5.
Bus
 From Busan Station, take Bus No. 1001 or 1003 to Haeundae Bus Stop.
 ■ Yongdusan Park
Subway
 Nampo Station (Busan Subway Line 1), Exit 1.
 Walk 10min following the signs for Yongdusan Park.
HOMEPAGE: www.bfo.or.kr (Korean only)



DATE: Jan. 1 – Jan. 27, 2019
LOCATION: Hwacheon-eup, Hwacheon-gun, Gangwon-do
INTRODUCTION:
 Hwacheon Sancheoneo Ice Festival takes place at Hwacheon county in Gangwon-do with plenty of snow and ice, perfect for a winter getaway. Since 2003, the festival has been visited by a million people, making this festival more joyful. Varied festival programs include ice-fishing, ice sledding, bobsled, and other things to see and participate in.
 [Reference for facility safe use]
 - Safety devices prepared
 - Medical Center in operation

- 119 Safety Center is located nearby.
TRANSPORTATION:
Bus
 From Dong Seoul Bus Terminal, take an intercity bus to Hwacheon. Hwacheon Stream and the festival grounds are about 10-min walk from the bus terminal.
HOMEPAGE: www.narafestival.com
 (Korean, English, Japanese, Chinese)



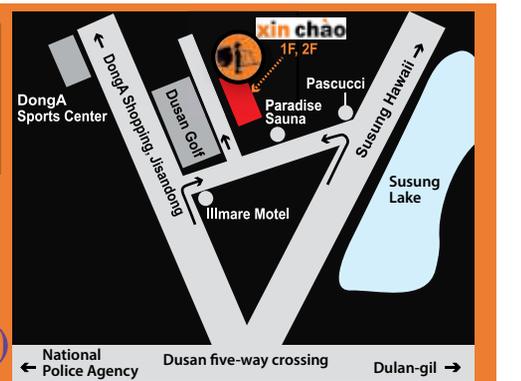
NOTE: Festival dates and info subject to change.
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 Email: yokosukalily@yahoo.com
 Naoko: 070-5271-6640;
 Email: sasebohousekeeper@yahoo.co.jp

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Like all South Korean men, members of the chart-topping septet BTS are subject to compulsory military service. Photo courtesy of Big Hit Entertainment

Popularity of S. Korean boy band BTS fuels debate over military conscription

BY KIM GAMEL AND YOO KYONG CHANG,
STARS AND STRIPES
Published: October 16, 2018

SEOUL – BTS fans call themselves an ARMY, but that doesn't mean they want the globally popular boy band to join one.

Like all South Korean men, members of the chart-topping septet are subject to compulsory military service and will likely be called to duty relatively soon since they're all in their early to mid-20s.

The group's popularity has fueled a debate over whether the list of exemptions for conscription enjoyed by Olympic medalists and some other athletes and artists should be expanded to include K-pop sensations like BTS.

South Korea's culture minister appeared to put an end to that idea last week, saying that BTS had committed to enlisting, although no timeline was given. "The seven members of BTS say they'll definitely enlist for military service," Do Jong-hwan, the minister of culture, sports and tourism, said in response to a question during a parliamentary audit.

Do criticized what he called media reports that members of the group may seek an exemption, an extremely sensitive issue in South Korea as other celebrities have been snared in past draft-dodging scandals. "In fact, they intend to do the exact opposite," he told lawmakers on Oct. 10.

BTS, which was formed in 2013, gained a loyal following around the world as it soared to popularity while performing most of its songs in Korean. In May, it became the first K-pop group to top one of the main Billboard charts with its third studio album "Love Yourself: Tear," prompting congratulations from South Korean President Moon Jae-in.

The group also got a nod from South Korean rapper PSY, whose smash hit "Gangnam Style" peaked at No. 2 on a Billboard chart in 2012. BTS is so influential that it addressed world leaders at the U.N. General Assembly last month to launch a new youth initiative.

But the members of BTS — also known

as the Bangtan Boys or Bulletproof Boy Scouts — may have to trade their stylish costumes and choreographed dance moves for military uniforms and drills in coming years.

South Korea requires all able-bodied men ages 18 to 35 to serve nearly two years of military service due to the threat from the North as the two countries remain technically at war after their 1950-53 conflict ended in an armistice instead of a peace treaty.

The law exempts athletes who win medals at the Olympics or the Asian Games as well as the winners of several prestigious international classical and traditional music and arts competitions, according to the Yonhap News Agency. A recent revision also lowered the maximum age for delaying enlistment from 30 to 28.

The issue came to the fore in July when Ha Tae-kyung, a member of a minor opposition party, said the law doesn't reflect reality.

"The general public, including young people, wonder what makes winning on

the Billboard chart different from winning in other international competitions," he was quoted as saying. "Winning the former is likely to create bigger added value, but popular culture isn't on the list."

Several online petitions calling for BTS to be exempt have been filed on the presidential website, but the general debate on the issue has focused more on demands for exemptions to be lifted altogether to ensure equity or for the end to overall conscription.

In a sign of the potential for backlash, a petition calling for the group to be disbanded was filed on the presidential website on Sept. 25.

Supporters are quick to point out that neither the group nor its agency Big Hit Entertainment is known to have asked for an exemption.

"If it's a place where they have to go, they will go & all we gotta do is wait for them meanwhile," one fan said in a tweet with the hashtag #BTSxARMY.

gamel.kim@stripes.com
chang.kyong@stripes.com

EXCLUSIVE NEWS FROM:
STARS AND STRIPES
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Concerts

Crush

Seoul, Nov. 3, 6 p.m., Nov. 4, 5 p.m., Olympic Park Olympic Hall, 99,000-110,000 won.

Rachael Yamagata

Busan, Nov. 6 & 7, 8 p.m., Dong-A Univ. Bumin Campus Dawoo Hall; Seoul, Nov. 9, 8 p.m., Nov. 10, 7 p.m., Yonsei University Centennial Hall, 88,000-99,000 won.

Charlie Puth

Seoul, Nov. 7 & 8, 8 p.m., Jamsil Indoor stadium, 55,000-77,000-99,000-110,000-121,000 won.

PREP

Seoul, Nov. 10, 7 p.m., Blue Square Imarket Hall, 77,000 won.

Dizzy Sunfist

Seoul, Nov. 10, 6 p.m., Prism Live Hall, Hongik University, 40,000 won.

Jung Eunji

Busan, Nov. 10, 6 p.m., Busan KBS Hall, 99,000 won.

Owl City

Seoul, Nov. 11, 7 p.m., Blue Square Imarket Hall, 110,000 won.

Dynamic Duo

Seoul, Nov. 17, 6 p.m., Nov. 18, 5 p.m., Blue Square Imarket Hall, 110,000 won.

Daybreak

Seoul, Nov. 23, 8 p.m., Nov. 24, 6 p.m., Nov. 25, 5 p.m., Samsung Hall, Ehwa Women's University, 88,000 won.

Highlight

Seoul, Nov. 24, 6 p.m., Nov. 25, 5 p.m., Olympic Park Gymnastics Gymnasium (First Gymnasium), 99,000-121,000 won.

Eom Yoo Min Beop

Busan, Nov. 24, 7 p.m., Main Theater, Busan Cultural Center; Daegu, Dec. 15, 6 p.m., Kyungpook National University Grand Hall; Incheon, Dec. 23, 6 p.m., Incheon Culture & Arts Center Grand Theater, 55,000-77,000-99,000-121,000 won.

Lee Ritenour and Friends X Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter

Seoul, Nov. 25, 7 p.m., Coex Hall D, 100,000-120,000-150,000 won.

Judas Priest

Seoul, Dec. 1, 6 p.m., BLUE SQUARE IMARKET HALL, 121,000 won.

Show Me The Money 777

Busan, Dec. 1, 6 p.m., BEXCO Auditorium, 77,000-88,000 won.

Kazumi Tateishi Trio

Guri, Dec. 7, 8 p.m., Guri Art Hall Cosmos Grand Theater; Daegu, Dec. 15, 5 p.m., Daegu Ayang Art Center Ayang Hall; Bucheon, Dec. 14, 8 p.m., Bucheon Boksagol Arts

Hall; Changwon, Dec. 16, 5 p.m., Changwon Sungsan Art Hall - Small Theater; Busan, Dec. 19, 8 p.m., CINEMA CENTER Haneulyeon Theatre; Hanam, Dec. 21, 8 p.m., Hanam Arts Center Little Theater; Seoul (Mapo), Dec. 22, 5 p.m., Mapo Arts Center Art Hall MAC; Gwangju, Dec. 23, 5 p.m., Gwangju Culture & Art Center - Small Theater; Suwon, Dec. 25, 5 p.m., Suwon SK Atrium Grand Theater, 44,000-55,000-66,000 won.

SPYAIR

Seoul, Dec. 8, 6:30 p.m., KBS Sports World (KBS 88 Center), 77,000-88,000-121,000 won.

Noel

Gwangju, Dec. 8, 6 p.m., Namhansanseong Art Hall Grand Theater, 77,000-99,000-110,000 won.

Paul Kim

Seoul, Dec. 8, 7 p.m., Dec. 9, 6 p.m., BLUE SQUARE IMARKET HALL, 99,000 won.

Wheesung

Daegu, Dec. 8, 7 p.m., Chunma Arts Center Grand Hall; Daejeon, Dec. 15, 7 p.m., Daejeon Convention Center; Changwon, Dec. 22, 7 p.m., KBS Changwon Hall; Ulsan, Dec. 25, 7 p.m., Ulsan KBS Hall, 99,000-110,000-121,000 won.

Miraclass

Busan, Dec. 9, 6 p.m., Main Theater, Busan Cultural Center, 55,000-77,000-99,000-121,000 won.

The Weekend

Seoul, Dec. 15, 7 p.m., Gocheok Sky Dome, 70,400-96,800-114,400-105,600 won.

ROOKIEZ

Seoul, Dec. 15, 6 p.m., KT&G SangsangMadang Live Hall, 55,000 won (Standing) -77,000 won. (Standing: Special Ticket)

Kim Jo-Han

Seoul, Dec. 15, 7 p.m., Dec. 16, 5 p.m., Samsung Hall, Ehwa Women's University, 110,000 won.

Guckkasten

Seoul, Dec. 15, 7 p.m., Dec. 16, 6 p.m., Olympic Park Olympic Hall; Busan, Dec. 25, 6 p.m., Busan KBS Hall, 99,000-110,000 won.

Roy Kim

Seoul, Dec. 15, 6 p.m., Dec. 16, 5 p.m., BLUE SQUARE IMARKET HALL; Busan, Dec. 22, 6 p.m., Busan KBS Hall; Daegu, Dec. 31, 8 p.m., Chunma Arts Center Grand Hall, 110,000 won.

For more information, visit Interpark's website:
www.globalinterpark.com/main/categoryList?dispNo=01003&prdTp=002

Stripes Sports Trivia

Everyone knows that Fenway Park and Wrigley Field are the two oldest MLB parks currently in use. Many of today's venues are relatively new and have little in common with Fenway, which debuted in 1912, and Wrigley, which followed in 1914. At 50 years newer than Fenway, which park is the third oldest?

Answer

Dodger Stadium (1962)



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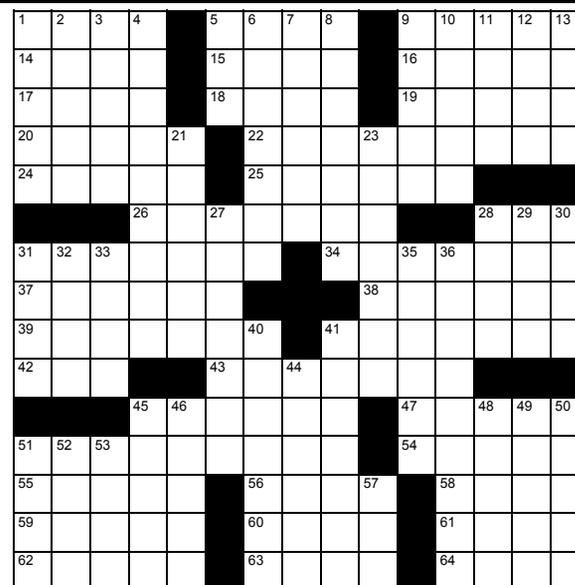
usmilsales.com

Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Like Usain Bolt
- 5 Nicholas II, for one
- 9 "M*A*S*H" role
- 14 Isolated
- 15 Basilica feature
- 16 It might be airtight
- 17 Kind of agreement
- 18 ___ Verde National Park
- 19 Cut at an angle
- 20 Scatter around
- 22 Commemorate
- 24 Dance or dip
- 25 Know right away
- 26 Designer
- 28 Doctrinal suffix
- 31 Unprincipled
- 34 Ristorante fare
- 37 Belt clip-on of old
- 38 Mideast V.I.P.
- 39 Like some stares
- 41 Ransack
- 42 Seek damages
- 43 Try
- 45 Undo, in a way
- 47 Open-mouthed
- 51 Ambitious ones
- 54 Turn red, maybe
- 55 Big name in book clubs
- 56 Final words?
- 58 Pessimist's word
- 59 Easily duped
- 60 Top pick, slangily
- 61 Teen affliction
- 62 Church leader
- 63 Beat it
- 64 Give a lewd look



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- 5 Highland headgear
- 6 Featured dish
- 7 Green light
- 8 Property broker
- 9 Yeshiva leader
- 10 Tip off
- 11 Opera star
- 12 Assist, in a way
- 13 Anger, with "up"
- 21 Faye's "Bonnie and Clyde" co-star
- 23 "1984" land
- 27 Hearing range
- 28 Letter after theta
- 29 Refinery waste
- 30 Greedy cry
- 31 Bird of the Nile
- 32 Bill of fare
- 33 Allocate, with "out"

- 41 Deep in thought
- 44 Type of abuse
- 45 Buzz off
- 46 2008 film, "The ___ Boleyn Girl"
- 48 Rapidly
- 49 Ziti's cousin
- 50 Key on a keyboard
- 51 Out of sight
- 52 October stone
- 53 Electrical network
- 57 Pipe fitting

Answers to Previous Crossword:

O	C	C	U	R	A	W	A	Y	P	A	L	M
A	L	O	N	E	R	O	B	E	A	G	U	E
T	O	T	A	L	B	O	L	T	N	E	S	T
S	T	E	R	I	L	I	Z	E	B	A	S	T
M	E	A	T	Y	B	U	M					
E	G	O	F	U	R	E	A	T	A	B	L	E
A	U	L	D	D	A	I	S	Y	C	H	A	I
V	I	D	E	O	T	O	T	H	A	S	T	E
E	L	E	C	T	R	O	N	I	C	T	E	E
S	E	N	A	T	O	R	M	O	T	D	R	Y
D	E	B	P	A	R	I	S					
C	H	E	E	R	P	O	T	E	N	T	I	A
H	Y	M	N	D	E	L	I	H	A	R	D	Y
E	P	I	C	O	L	I	O	A	L	K	I	E
W	E	R	E	N	E	O	N	T	E	S	T	S

DOWN

- 1 Dental string
- 2 Largest artery
- 3 Hair tangle
- 4 Galileo used one

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Speakin' Korean



An-Nyeong-ha-se-yo!

An-Nyeong-ha-se-yo!
Ban-gop-sub-ni-da.



EATING KOREAN

- **Chicken:** Dalk-go-gi
- **Chicken ribs:** Dalk-Gal-bi. Not really what it sounds like. This is actually normally chicken breast cut into pieces and seasoned (spicy) then mixed with vegetables and cooked at your table in a grill or wok. (Boneless: Byeob-eob-nun)
- **Fried chicken:** Dalk-dwi-gim. (It is just as common to hear "Chicken Fry.")
- **Fried chicken with spicy sauce or flavoring:** Yangnyom-dalk / yang-nyom-chi-kin
- **Rice:** bab
- **Fried rice:** Bok-kum-bab
- **Pork fried rice:** Dwe-ji-go-gi-bok-kum-bab
- **Chicken fried rice:** Dalk-go-gi-bok-kum-bab
- **Shrimp fried rice:** Se-u-bok-kum-bab
- **Rice mixed with vegetables and seasoning:** Bi-bim-bab.
- **Bibimbab served in a hot stone bowl:** Dol-sot-bi-bim-bab.

- **Noodles:** Myeon
 - **Ramen:** ra-myeon
 - **Cold noodles:** Naeng-myeon
- There are two common varieties of cold noodles.
- One is with the noodles served in a broth and is called water naeng myeon: mul-naeng-myeon
 - Second is mixed with spicy red pepper sauce, hot mustard, and vegetables which is Bi-bim-naeng-myeon.

SUDOKU

Edited by Margie E. Burke

Difficulty: Easy

9	5	3				7		
		7					6	3
4				2				
				8	3			
8	9			7	5	2		
7								4
		1				5		
		5	6		4			8
			8					

HOW TO SOLVE:
Each row must contain the numbers 1 to 9; each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9; and each set of 3 by 3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 to 9.

Answers to Previous Sudoku:

2	7	6	8	3	9	5	1	4
9	1	3	5	4	2	7	8	6
4	5	8	6	1	7	3	9	2
6	4	2	7	8	5	9	3	1
1	8	7	2	9	3	4	6	5
5	3	9	1	6	4	8	2	7
3	9	5	4	2	6	1	7	8
8	2	4	9	7	1	6	5	3
7	6	1	3	5	8	2	4	9

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