



EACG

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, EIGHTH UNITED STATES ARMY
UNIT #15236
APO AP 96205-0009

8 FEB 07

MEMORANDUM FOR All Eighth United States Army Assigned Soldiers and Civilians

SUBJECT: Eighth United States Army Command Policy #20 – Korea Army Family Readiness Group – Operation Ready

1. REFERENCES.

- a. AR 600-20, Army Command Policy, 7 JUN 06.
- b. AR 608-1, Army Community Service Center, 22 DEC 04.
- c. DA PAM 608-47, Army Family Action Plan (AFAP) Program, 14 DEC 04.

2. PURPOSE. To provide guidance and establish policy for Korea Army Family Readiness Groups within Eighth United States Army.

3. BACKGROUND.

a. The Family Readiness Group (FRG) is an official command sanctioned organization of family members, volunteers and Soldiers belonging to a unit. It provides an avenue of mutual support and assistance, and a network of communications among the family members, the chain of command and community resources.

b. The Department of the Army has developed a FRG Leader's Handbook with guidelines and information designed to aid Commanders and family volunteers in the establishment and operation of their FRGs. This handbook, helpful links, and other material can be downloaded at the Eighth United States Army FRG web page located at <http://8tharmy.korea.army.mil/G1/FRG/Start.htm>.

4. DISCUSSION.

a. I fully support FRGs and direct that all MSC Commanders (both active and reserve components) have a fully operational FRG for their respective organization. The minimum requirements for Eighth United States Army FRGs are:

(1) Develop an organization phone/e-mail tree/contact roster.

(2) FRGs will include families in the Republic of Korea and those not located in the Republic of Korea.

(3) Establish a virtual FRG (vFRG) web site to link family members with unit FRG leadership to help provide information and guidance. Each unit will have its own URL in this

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format: www.armyfrg.mil/unit-selected-name. The vFRG web site program is a Department of the Army program fully funded by the U.S. Army Family and Morale, Welfare, and Recreation Command. I expect every battalion size unit or larger to establish a vFRG web site.

(4) Identify an MSC FRG POC who will establish contact with the local Area Army Community Service (ACS) Center. Area ACS contacts in Korea are listed below.

Area I = DSN: 730-3143
Area II = DSN: 738-5153

Area III = DSN: 753-8401
Area IV = DSN: 768-8126

b. The following goals will ensure that FRGs contribute directly to peninsula organizations and Soldier readiness.

- (1) Establish connections with all families (CONUS and OCONUS).
- (2) Ensure family members residing in the Korea are prepared to evacuate (NEO).
- (3) Support the mission by providing outreach and information to all families.

c. Commanders will ensure appropriated funds are scheduled during FY planning for FRGs to ensure monies are distributed and not withheld for other purposes. Commanders will coordinate with their FRG for input on estimated types and amount of support required (e.g., permissible reimbursable volunteer expenses, training, travel) so that they may better prepare their organization budget to support the FRGs. Commanders will issue FRG funds first to ensure that FRGs will not be shortchanged. Eighth United States Army will publish annual legal and regulatory guidance necessary to ensure proper utilization and expenditure of FRG funds. Funding levels will be set as follows: \$6K per Division or equivalent unit, \$3K per Brigade, \$1K per Battalion, and \$.3K per Separate Company.

d. Any perceptions that FRGs are not required in the Republic of Korea are totally false. Today is a different Army, effective FRGs have proven their effectiveness and can serve as a great command tool. We will establish FRGs that are responsive to and well received by commands.

5. PROPONENT. The Eighth United States Army ACofS G1 is the proponent for this policy. The POC can be contacted at commercial 011-822-7914-3496 or DSN 315-724-3496 or g1_programs@korea.army.mil.



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Commanding