



*W*elcome
to

***U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Gulf Region South District***

Contingency Operating Base Adder, Tallil, Iraq



Colonel John D. "Jack" Drolet District Engineer and Commander Gulf Region Division South District

Colonel John D. Drolet comes to the Gulf Region South District from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Chicago District where he served as District Engineer, responsible for water resources development in the Chicago metropolitan area, an area of about 5,000 square miles with a population of about 8 million. The district's primary mission areas are flood control, navigation, shore protection, emergency management, environmental functions and support for others.

Colonel Drolet, a native of Pennsylvania, graduated from the Pennsylvania State University in 1983 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Agricultural Business Management. He also received a Master of Business Administration Degree in Comptrollership from Syracuse University in 1991 and a Master of Strategic Studies Degree from the United States Army War College in 2006.

His military education includes the Army War College, the Command and General Staff College, the Professional Military Comptroller School, and the U.S. Army Engineer Basic and Advanced Courses.

Since his commissioning in 1983, Colonel Drolet has served in a wide variety of command and staff assignments in the United States, Europe, and Southwest Asia. He commanded the Army's 169th Engineer Battalion at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri from 2000 to 2002, and commanded engineers at the company level in Germany while assigned to the 237th Engineer Battalion in the late 1980s.

Other key assignments in his career include service as Program Analyst and Budget Analyst, U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, in the early 1990s; a deployment to Kosovo in 1999 as the NATO Theater Fund Manager for Infrastructure; Executive Officer of the 1st Engineer Brigade at Fort Leonard Wood in 2002; and Chief of Staff, U.S. Army Engineer School in 2004.

He served as the Chief, Economic Division for the Deputy Chief of Staff – Strategic Effects as part of the Multi-National Force – Iraq in Baghdad, Iraq, while deployed as a student from the U.S. Army War College.

Among his decorations, Colonel Drolet has been awarded the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Meritorious Service Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Kosovo Campaign Medal, the Iraq Campaign Medal, the NATO Medal and the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal.



CSM Thomas H. Thrasher Command Sergeant Major Gulf Region Division South District

Command Sergeant Major Thomas H. Thrasher is a native of Georgia. He has served the U.S. Army for over 31 years. He joined the U.S. Army in the Delayed Entry Program on January 31 1977 and he reported for Active Duty Training on 21 June 1977. He completed Basic Combat Training and Multi Communication Equipment

Advanced Individual Training at Fort Gordon Ga. CSM Thrasher started his military career serving as a communication specialist in the 197th Infantry Brigade, Fort Benning Ga.

He served as a Multichannel Communication Equipment Operator in the 298th Signal Platoon, and as a Field Radio Repairman in Company B, Headquarters Command Ft. Benning, Ga. He served as Intelligence Analyst, Team Chief and Psychological Operations Specialist for the 10th Psychological Operations Company, Ft. Gillem, Ga. He served as Senior Psychological Operations Sergeant for the 310th PSYOP Company, Forest Park, Ga. He served as an Automated Log Specialist, OPFOR NCO and Observer Controller for the 3-345th (TS) (CS/CSS) Fort Gillem, Ga. He served as 1st Sergeant for the 310th Psychological Operations Company in Forest Park, Ga. During Operation Enduring Freedom he was deployed to Afghanistan as 1st Sergeant with the 310th PSYOP Company. He is presently the Command Sergeant Major for the 844th Engineer Battalion in Knoxville, Tn., while serving this deployment with the Gulf Region South as the District Command Sergeant Major.

His military schools include: Multichannel Equipment Operator Course, Intelligence Analyst Course, Security Managers Course, Conventional Physical Security Course, and Joint Psychological Operations Course, S2 Combat Operations Course, Psychological Warfare Course, Basic Non Commissioned Officer Course, Advanced Commissioned Course, Automated Logistical Specialist Course, First Sergeant School, First Line Leaders Training Course, Single Channel Ground & Airborne Radio System Assistant Instructor Course and the Contracting Officer Course. He is a graduate of the non-resident Sergeant Major Academy.

CSM Thrasher's military awards and decorations include: the Army Good Conduct Medal, the Army Achievement Medal with three oak leaf clusters, the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal (3rd award) , National Defense Service Medal with Bronze Star, Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Armed Forces Medal with gold hour glass and M Device, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, the Army Service Ribbon and the Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon.

CSM Thrasher is currently enrolled and pursuing his B.S. degree in Business Administration. CSM Thrasher is married to the former Sheila Renae Whitaker of Jonesboro, Ga. They have two children.

Preparing for deployment to TAC and GRS

When planning what to pack for your stay in Winchester, there are several factors to consider. You will need 6 to 7 days of clothes while you are in training and travel to GRS. Virginia has a full range of seasons - pack appropriately.

Plan to carry no more luggage than absolutely necessary. Items you will want while in Kuwait are:

- bath towel
- hand towel
- hygiene necessities
- small flash light
- shower shoes
- clothing for outdoor bathing facilities at Ali Al Salem
- clothing for a 3-4 days

Keep in mind that upon arrival in Kuwait you will have to carry your luggage to your deployment location, this will include 2 duffle bags of items obtained at the USACE Deployment Center (UDC).

Although time is set aside during UDC training to mail personal items to GRS - **It is strongly recommended** you mail personal items prior to your trip to the UDC. All items will be mailed at your own expense.



In Iraq, the temperatures range between 110-140 degrees in the summer and between 50-80 degrees in the winter. In comparison to the states, the seasons fall around the same time in Iraq. Loose clothing is strongly suggested. Keep in mind that you will be issued two sets of uniforms and necessary items during training at the UDC.

Thank you for volunteering to be part of the Gulf Region South District team. You will be an integral part of the history of the new Iraq and our fight against terrorism
- Essayons!

ARRIVAL AT WASHINGTON DULLES INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

All personnel required to process through the UDC will arrive and depart via the Washington (Dulles) International Airport and/or ground transportation arranged by Carlson Wagonlit.

Once your travel itinerary is confirmed and your arrival time at Dulles is finalized, your information will be sent to a local limo service that will transport you from the airport to your hotel in Winchester.

Please confirm your pick-up at Dulles by calling 888-436-5466 or 800-622-6990 toll free.

If flight arrangements change or delays occur, please notify the limo service at the numbers listed above. They will finalize arrangements to meet you in the airport. They will be monitoring your flight number as well.



Upon arrival, you will be met in your baggage claim area by a driver who will take you to the hotel. You will have to pay for the limo service.

It is your responsibility to pay for the hotel as well, but you will be reimbursed when you file your travel voucher. The hotel cost is approximately \$75 a night. The hotel accommodations are close to dining and shopping facilities.

If you miss the service at Dulles, a taxi can be taken from the

airport to your hotel in Winchester. The driver will accept cash or credit card, but not personal checks.

Rental cars are not authorized for deploying personnel with the exception of people filling GS-15/O-5 positions and above. Please do not rent vehicles at Dulles as they will not be reimbursed and they will not be allowed on the Deployment Center grounds.

TRAINING IN WINCHESTER (TAC)



Training is for a mandatory 4-days for deployment. Any missed training will disqualify you for deployment until the training is made up during the following week's cycle. It is the individual's responsibility to be in the designated place at the required time.

Training will start the day after your arrival to Winchester. At 0730 hours the Deployment Center driver will pick you up at the hotel lobby and transport you to the center. The Deployment Center vehicle will be identified by a USACE EOC sign (red engineer sign) on the door. Please show your Government CAC Card to the driver.

The UDC vans will also take deployees to and from lunch and back to the hotels in the evening. The staff at UDC will assist you during training on any questions or concerns you may have. On the day of your departure, you will be taken to Dulles International by the UDC Drivers.

The trip to Iraq is long; approximately 15 hours for direct flight from Dulles and longer if you stop in Frankfurt. Pack one duffel with a uniform and Kevlar helmet at the very top so you can get it quickly when you have to change in Kuwait. You will fly into Kuwait and spend time at Ali Al Salem air base while awaiting transport to Iraq.

The layover at Ali Al Salem will vary and could be as short as 6 hours or a week depending on flights and number of travelers.

TRAVEL TIP

- Carry-on bags must fit into a space which is approximately 22"L x 14"H x 9"W. Larger may not be accepted as carry on bags.
- During deployment processing, you will be issued the equivalent of two duffel bags of gear, plan accordingly.
- GRS's uniform policy has changed! In most cases uniform wearing is optional. However, the uniform must be worn on all military flights.
- The UDC will issue you two uniforms. This will increase the number of civilian clothes required for your deployment.

A word about BAGGAGE



ment guidance authorizes a total of three checked items – any combination of duffel bags and suitcases. You are also authorized one carry-on bag in addition to a laptop or an average size purse or pocket-book. No one piece of luggage can weight more than 50 pounds.

Footlockers **MAY NOT** be used in lieu of duffel bags. Other items beyond the designated size and quantity (boxes, etc) may not deploy with the individual and will be sent back to home station at the traveler's expense.

You will depart on a commercial carrier with international baggage regulations on all carry-on and checked baggage. GRD deploy-

ARRIVAL IN KUWAIT

Upon your arrival in Kuwait, while in the baggage claim area there are skycaps that can assist you in carrying your luggage. The amount they are "allowed" to charge is listed on the front of their cart. You can use a cart on your own or carry your luggage. You will meet with the Corps RSOI (Reception, Staging, Onward-movement & Integration) team in the food court area.

(DO NOT GET ON THE BUS FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL)

The RSOI Team is a great group of people who are there to escort you through the process of gathering luggage, obtaining body armor, finding a bunk and getting to your flight on time.

Deployees will stay in Tent City prior to departing for Iraq. This is a very primitive camp and is designed just as a stop over. Please do not think your duty station will be comparable to Tent City. Keep a flashlight handy, just in case lights are off during the hours upon your arrival. You want to be respectful to your bunk mates.

The sleeping quarters are 16 people transient tents (heated and cooled) with an emphasis on transient. Privacy and space is limited and it is first-come, first-serve for the top bunk.

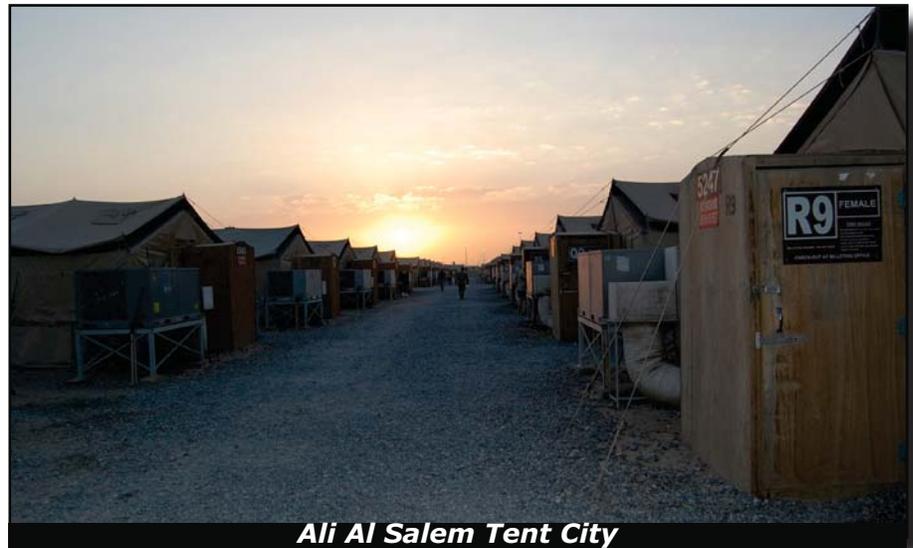
Close by the tent area are fast food outlets, McDonalds and Subway to name a couple. You are authorized FREE use of the dining facilities (DFAC) in Kuwait and Iraq. There is Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner as well as a Midnight Chow served in Kuwait.

Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR) offers two tents with internet, television, pool tables,

and telephones to call home (calling/credit card needed).

Free bottled water is available everywhere. Drinking water out of the faucet is **NOT** recommended, including brushing your teeth. However, it is safe to wash your hands and shower using the water system in the latrines.

We do our best to ensure you receive a reserved seat on the next available flight to your duty station. In some cases there are more travelers than available seats, so you may have to wait a couple days.



Ali Al Salem Tent City

Travel Tips

Recreation Center

- X-Box 360s/PS2s
- Big Screen Movie
- Individual Movies
- Board Games
- Books/Magazines
- Ping Pong
- Foosball
- Darts
- Free Internet
- 4 cent/min phones
- Tournaments
- Special Events

AAFES

- PX 24/7
- McDonalds 24/7
- Pizza Hut 24/7
- Subway 0900-2100
- Kentucky Fried Chicken 0900-2100

Fitness Center

- Free Weights
- Nautilus
- Treadmills Ellipticals
- Steppers
- Bikes
- Aerobics
- Workout Tapes/DVDs
- Sand Volleyball
- Horseshoes

- Hole-In-One Donuts
- 0600-1400
- Green Bean Coffee 24/7
- Internet Café 24/7
- AT&T Phone Center 24/7

DFAC "FREE"

- Breakfast 0530-0800
- Lunch 1100-1330
- Dinner 1700-2000
- Midnight 0000-0200



McDonalds!

ARRIVAL IN IRAQ

Once in Iraq, you will be met by a Corps representative and taken to your final destination.

LIFE SUPPORT

Contingency Operating Base (COB), Adder, Iraq has a variety of facilities available. Generally speaking, our people find the facilities to be more comfortable than they expected (assuming you have had a vision of wood-floor tents with latrines a five minute walk away).

The trailers house 10 different rooms. Each room comes with a separate bathroom. Each room is typically equipped with a bed, desk, wall closet, TV, DVD player, dresser, night stand and refrigerator. These items may vary by room.

Our base includes a laundry building for you to do self-service laundry. We also have a laundry service available if you do not wish to use your valuable free-time to wash clothes.

We typically have recreational facilities where you can find other uses for your free time.



Corps fitness room

The outer area bases are each different in their own way. If you are going to one of these locations you will be given specifics upon arrival or by your sponsor prior to your arrival.



Typical office

HOURS OF WORK

- Work week: Sunday thru Thursday
- Weekend: Friday and Saturday
- 10 Hours per day Saturday-Thursday
5 Hours on Friday

Total scheduled work week will consist of 40 hours regular time (of which 8 is premium time – Sunday - 25% extra pay per hour), and 25 hours overtime

Additional overtime up to 14 hours per week if approved by the supervisor.

Overtime over the additional 14 hours per week is allowed if approved by the 2nd level supervisor.

TRAVEL TIP

Personal Cell Phones

Most personal cell phones will not work in Iraq. If you have a tri-band cell phone either a GSM or CDMA that works in Southwest Asia there are limited areas that receive cell phone signals and it is very expensive.

You can purchase cell phones from the PX that work.



COB Adder - Typical sleeping quarters



CORPS OF ENGINEERS LIVING AREA INFORMATION

CLEANING

If you want your room cleaned, leave your door unlocked. The room will be locked when the cleaners are done. Please secure all valuables by locking them in your closet (this mostly applies to small items and money). These employees are all checked and have a history of being trustworthy, but the QIT supervisors have specifically requested we lock these things up so there is no temptation. Cleaner' does not equal 'maid/valet'. They will not pick up clothing so straighten your belongings. If things are lying around, they will clean around them or not clean at all. Pick up after yourself; put things away in drawers or the closet. If a room cannot be cleaned; the QIT supervisor will contact us about the problem. Please leave a note on your door if you just want only your bathroom cleaned.



Valued Fluor Support Staff

POWER CONSERVATION

All three generators that supply Bldg. 510, the back yard and our living areas are usually running to capacity, with no ability to take one unit down for maintenance. Please do your part to conserve power by:

1. Turn all living area lights off during the day.
2. Turn living area AC units down halfway, and leave on the low cool setting. AC will be shut off in unoccupied/visitors rooms.
3. If you are traveling for a few days, turn your AC off before you go.
4. If you use the main conference room, turn the lights off and reset the AC to halfway when you leave.

TRAVEL TIP

Electricity is 220 volts/50 cycles everywhere. If you are going to bring an electrical appliance, either bring a converter or lots of batteries. Electronic devices that have input voltage on their transformers reading **AC 100-240~50/60 Hz will work without any problems.** Plug-in adapters and power strips are generally available.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR LAUNDRY

1. All laundry bags must have a laundry slip inside the bag on top of the clothes.
2. The laundry slip needs to have your name and room number on it with the number of each type item marked on the slip. If you need a copy of the laundry slip, please keep a copy of the multi type form.
3. All laundry needs to be outside your room before 0800, so that it may be delivered to the laundry.
4. All laundry will be returned to the outside of your room. Normally, the same day.
5. Any problems, issues, concerns or questions should be directed to Lee Brown at the billeting office or you may call extension 1533.

QUIET TIME

Quiet time is from 2200 hours to 0600 hours. All radios and TVs will be lowered. Please show courtesy to others....be considerate of your neighbors.

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS SPECIFIC TO COB ADDER

MESS HALL

Mess hall hours are:

Breakfast	0500-0830
Lunch	1100-1400
Dinner	1700-2000
Sandwich Bar	2030-2300 (takeout only)
Midnight Meal	2330-0100

- The dining facility is located on Longknife Drive one block west of the District HQ and is open to all residents of Tallil Air Base.
- PT uniform is authorized in the dining facility.
- No hats in the dining facility. Socks must also be worn in the dining facility.



FINANCE

Building 105, Longknife Drive

Hours of operation:

Monday – Saturday	0900-1600
Sunday	1300-1600

- Finance is located on Longknife Drive, just west of the PX, in Building 105.

What is an EagleCash Card???



EagleCash is a cash management tool designed to support U.S. military personnel deployed in combat zones and on peace-keeping missions. The program uses smart-card technology and off-line batch processing to reduce the amount of U.S. currency in circulation overseas, and to take workload out of the base Finance Office, thus freeing up military personnel for other essential duties.

EagleCash cards are a type of payment card referred to as Stored Value Cards (SVC) and can interface with automated kiosk devices located at convenient locations throughout Iraq, which allow enrolled cardholders self-service access to funds in their U.S.-based checking or savings accounts. Funds on the card can be used to purchase goods and services at the Post Exchange or Base Exchange, Postal facility, and most concessionaires on base.

Form DD2887 available at your finance office.

However if you prefer cash, the finance office will allow you to cash checks upto \$200 a week.



MEDICAL

TMC and Emergency Clinic (Bldg. 208B) are located behind Building on 6th Avenue

Hours:

Emergencies	24/7
Sick call	
Monday - Saturday	0800 - 1030 Walkin 1300 - 1430 Afternoon
Sunday	0800 - 1130

Dental

Monday-Friday	0700 - 0830
Saturday emergency	1330 - 1700
Phone 833-1606	

Some preventive dental care is available; just ask.

Patient must bring yellow folder and a signed DD 689 (employee's supervisor and SGM/Alternate must sign the form); forms are available in the S-1, S-4, and SGM's offices. For follow-on shots, bring shot record.

The TMC will not fill prescriptions from home for chronic illnesses unless it is an emergency.



TMC located on 6th Ave - Bldg. 208B

TRAFFIC



- The post speed limit is 10MPH and 20MPH depending on location of the road. Speed limits will be strictly adhered to. To drive a vehicle you must have completed the Army Traffic Safety Accident Avoidance course.

- Four wheelers and gators (ATV) are authorized for use and will be driven in a conscientious and safe manner. All ATV drivers must have a State Driver's License to operate the four wheelers.

LEGAL ASSISTANCE

JAG Office (Bldg. 209) located on 6th Avenue

Hours:

Monday - Saturday	0900-1800
Sunday	1400-1800
Phone 833-1469	

Notary services are available at the Ali JAG office (building immediately to the left of the TMC at the end of Main Street).



JAG Office located on 6th Ave - Bldg. 209

MWR

MWR located on Main Street (Bldg. 326)

Hours: 24/7

- Foosball table, pool tables, dart boards, cards, ping pong
- Library – paperback books to keep, DVDs, magazines, audio books
- Movie room – movies showing back-to-back
- TV room – big screen TV
- FREE POPCORN

"HOUSE OF PAIN" Fitness Center

Located across from the MWR building
Aerobics, Tae-Bo, and Kick-Boxing classes!



House of Pain located on Main Street - Bldg. 319

POST OFFICE

South 7th Avenue

Post Office hours:

Monday – Friday 0800-1700
Saturday 0900-1300
Closed on Sundays

* Mail will be picked up daily; the S-4 staff is the HQ POC for mail. A secure mailbox is available in Room 8 of Building 511 (GRS HQ); mail will be picked up and delivered to the post office for you.

* For envelopes weighing 13 oz. or less, you may write "free mail" where the stamp is usually placed.

* You must take packages to the post office yourself. Leave the box open so it can be inspected and cleared by postal workers. The post office will provide a customs form to fill out, tape to close the box and a marker to write the address on the outside of the box. REMINDER: Please check General Order #1 for what you can and cannot mail.

COB ADDER Address

YOUR NAME
USACE GRS
COB Adder
APO AE 09331

BASRAH Address:

LAST NAME, FIRST NAME
USACE – GRS, UNIT 018
CAMP BASRAH
APO AE 09375

FedEx address is:

YOUR NAME
USACE GRS
BLDG 511
Tallil Air Base
APO AE 09331
Routing: IQ/XNH

Forat Area Office:

YOUR NAME
USACE GRS, FOB Falsu
APO AE 09332

TRAVEL TIP

Mailing an envelope weighing 13 oz. or less is

FREE

Write "free mail" in place of a stamp!

SHOPPING AND BUSINESSES

Tallil's "Business District" is located adjacent to the PX, located off North 7th Avenue

Hours: 0900 to 2000 every day
OTHER STORES INCLUDE

ALTERATION SHOP
BARBER SHOP
JEWELRY STORE
WOODCRAFT STORE
CARPET/RUG SHOP
KODAK COLOR LAB
SOUVENIR SHOPS
HAIR DRESSER
MANICURE AND PEDICURE
EMBROIDERY SHOP
MOVIE SHOP

Business hours vary; sometimes from day to day.

RESTAURANTS

Burger King, Pizza Hut and Taco Bell
PX/Business District
Hours: 1000 – 2100 every day

Ciano's Italian Pizza Restaurant
Between TMC and PAX
(Also located near the Air Force Terminal)
Hours: 1000 – 2100 every day



The Business District has lots to offer!

RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES SCHEDULE



KEY: (AC) Air Force Chapel 445-2006
(PC) Post Chapel 833-1331
(RA) Religious Activity Annex 833-1332
(RC) Romanian Chapel 833-1154

SUNDAY

0800 Catholic Mass (AC)
0830 Orthodox Service (RC)
0900 Traditional Protestant Service (PC)
1100 Contemporary Protestant (PC)
1300 Gospel Service (PC)
1700 Roman Catholic Mass (PC)
1800 LDS Service (R)
1930 Evening Worship (PC)

MONDAY

1130 Daily Mass (PC)
2130 Evening Orthodox Services (RC)

TUESDAY

1130 Daily Mass (PC)

WEDNESDAY

1130 Daily Mass (PC)

THURSDAY

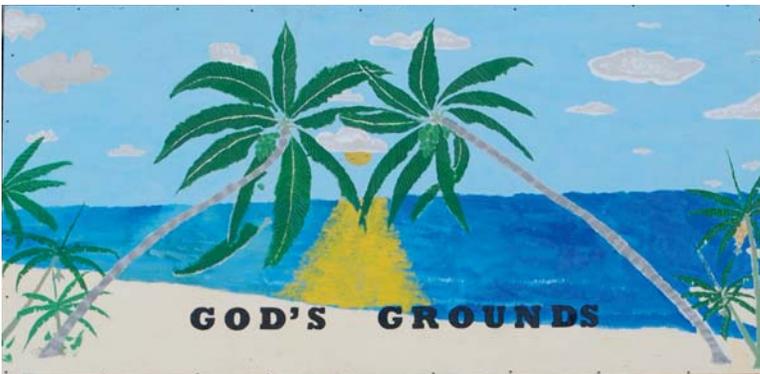
1130 Daily Mass (PC)
1900 Liturgical Worship Eucharist/Holy Communion (PC)

FRIDAY

1130 Daily Mass (PC)
1230 Islamic Prayer (RA)
1830 Jewish Service (PC)

SATURDAY

1130 Daily Mass (PC)
2000 Catholic Mass (AC)



GOD'S GROUNDS
COFFEE SHOP
COMING IN SEPTEMBER 08'

Suggestions of what to bring/send ahead

- Insect repellent
- Sun screen/lip balm/lotion
- Personal hygiene items such as toothbrush and paste, comb, shampoo, soap
- Towels and washcloths
- Shower shoes
- Tennis shoes
- Underwear and socks – enough for two weeks
- Sewing kit
- Pillow and blanket (if you want your own good quality)
- Two sets of full size sheets and pillow cases
- Various size zip bags
- Calling cards
- Credit/debit card/check book
- CDs, DVDs
- AA Batteries
- Season-appropriate clothes (see Uniform Policy)
- Over-the counter meds you might need for headaches, colds, coughs, etc
- Prescription meds for at least 180 days
- 10 copies of your travel orders
- Extra shoestrings
- Insulated coffee mug with lid
- Pocket knife and sharpening stone (do not put in carry-on luggage)
- Leatherman-type tool (do not put in carry-on luggage)
- Flashlight and batteries
- Digital camera
- Pictures of family, home and friends

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q Do I need a passport?

A Yes! The first thing you should do if you are considering deploying to Iraq is get a passport or make sure your current passport is up to date. You are not required to have an official passport; the tourist blue passport will work. Be sure that your passport is up to date and will not expire during your tour.

Q Should I bring my debit card or checks to Iraq?

A Your debit card and/or checks can be used at any PX in Kuwait or Iraq. However, depending on which location you're assigned, a PX may not be on post.

EagleCash card!

The new EagleCash cards are a type of payment card referred to as Stored Value Cards (SVC) and can interface with automated kiosk devices located at convenient locations throughout Iraq, which allow enrolled cardholders self-service access to funds in their U.S.-based checking or savings accounts.

Requesting a card is easy. All that is required is DD form 2887 (available at the Finance Center), your account and routing number.

Q Do I have to wear a uniform to work every day?

A Current GRS policy allows you to wear civilian clothes instead of DCUs. You will be issued two sets of DCUs at UDC. Although we are in the desert, the landscape is not resort-like by any means.



Civilians wearing civilian attire at their place of duty will wear a level of dress between casual to professional attire. All civilian attire will be conservative, in good taste and in good condition.

Clothing that is sexually provocative or suggestive, tight fitting pants, tight fitting shirts or blouses; including those which are sheer (see through, sleeveless or strapless) and any clothing containing racial slurs, promoting violence or anything illegal will be prohibited.

GRS policy does not allow wearing shorts, rolled-up pants, halter or tank tops, muscle shirts, see through shirts or blouses, or any type of headbands.

No open toe shoes including sandals or flip flops will be permitted in the work place or dining facility. As representatives of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, we should maintain the proper standards for dress and conduct.

Q Can I ship stuff over ahead of time so I don't have to carry everything with me?

A We recommend it. And please share your address with your families.

Basrah Area Office and Oil Area Office:

YOUR NAME
USACE GRS Unit 018
CAMP BASRAH
APO AE 09375

District HQ and Tallil Area Office:

YOUR NAME
USACE GRS, COB Adder
APO AE 09331

FedEx address is:

YOUR NAME
USACE GRS BLDG 511
Tallil Air Base
APO AE 09331
Routing: IQ/XNH

Forat Area Office:

YOUR NAME
USACE GRS, FOB Falsu
APO AE 09332

Q How is my work time kept at UDC?

A You will be assisted in preparing your timesheet while at TAC; travel vouchers will be prepared as you go through orientation at GRS HQ.

Q Should I bring my own electronics? Will my electrical appliances work there?

A Battery-operated electronics work just fine, but anything that requires electricity will need to be rated at 220v.

Electricity is 220 volts/50 cycles everywhere. If you are going to bring an electrical appliance, either bring a converter or lots of batteries. Electronic devices that have input voltage on their transformers reading AC 100-240~50/60 Hz will work without any problems.

HOWEVER...if you don't want to lug your CD player, portable DVD player, etc. on the trip, the PX at Tallil has an excellent supply of both.

Q How hot does it get in Iraq?

A In the summer, temperatures can be well over 100+ degrees, day and night. The highest temperature we experienced in 2007 was 138F. Our housing units and office are all air conditioned and we always have plenty of water available.

Q Does it get cold in Iraq?

A Yes. The coldest months we've experienced are December and January. There was ice on the vehicle windshields and people wore coats and gloves outside. But, so far, no snow!

Q Will I have e-mail and telephone access?

A Yes. It may not be available all the time but it will be available. Once you get to your assigned work area, you will most likely have it on a daily basis. You will be able to send and receive e-mails from family and friends. Because the telephone systems are not the best in Iraq, e-mail has become our primary source of communication.

Your number in country will be a Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP) from Winchester, VA. A call from your family and friends will be simple for them, just a call to Winchester, VA. When you call family and friends, it's suggested that you use calling card. you will be charged for excessive calls.

Q What should I bring?

A You will be allowed one carry-on bag for the flight over. If you want that to be a back pack, think small back pack. That way you won't be tempted to carry a lot. If you want to carry snacks, that's fine - but keep them light-weight (weight-wise) as you will be fed well on the flight to Kuwait.

Pack very lightly and bring only those items you need while at TAC and for the trip over. Personal items such as books, music, etc. should be minimized unless you enjoy carrying everything. But we recommend you ship as much ahead as possible. Packages usually take less than two weeks to get here.

Q What should I expect when I get to Kuwait?

A You will be met at Kuwait International Airport by our RSOI-Kuwait team. Look for someone holding up a Corps Castle sign and go to them. They'll take you to Ali Al Salem, the staging area for coming to Tallil Air Base.

You will be manifested on a flight...it could be a few hours from arrival or a couple of days. Sometimes flights are grounded for weather (sandstorms,

wind) or safety stand-downs. Other times civilians get bumped from flights by military personnel being transported.

If you do get stuck at Ali Al Saleem you will be billeted in military tents with 40 of your newest friends. In any case, be patient, bring a book to read, and bring a towel, washcloth, toiletries, a change of clothes and a small flashlight in your carry-on just in case.

Q Am I authorized leave during my deployment?

A All GRD military and civilian personnel will be allowed to take leave and passes as defined below.

- Pass: Four month tour: no pass is authorized.
- Six month tour: a four-day pass is authorized.
- 12 month tour: two, four-day passes authorized.

Leave: Less than twelve month tour: one R&R is authorized (exception is reserve component soldiers

mobilized for twelve months must be projected to serve no less than 270 days in the area of operation (AOR)).

Less than a twelve month tour extended to a twelve month tour: two, 15-calendar day R&R leave will be authorized

Twelve month tour: three 15-calendar day R&R leave is authorized

Tours beyond twelve months: one, 15-calendar day R&R is authorized for each six month extension.

Q Where can I find more information I might need about deployment?

A The USACE Deployment Center website is:

<http://www.tac.usace.army.mil/deploymentcenter/>
You'll find TAC maps, UDC telephone numbers, a list of what you'll be issued, and other useful information.

Q Will I carry a weapon?

A If you are a civilian, NO. Our mission is to assist the Iraqi people in the restoration of their country. Security where you live, work, and travel will always be provided. As a civilian, you are a non-combatant and your uniform patches will signify that status.



Security while at projects is provided



Aegis Security

Hopefully this answered some of your basic questions. It is important that you contact someone in your future office for specific details about your job. Planning ahead will make the transition from stateside life much easier. And remember to be patient and flexible.

Join The GRS Team

We're Looking Forward To Working with

YOU!

