IMPC-FWA-HRM
6 FEBRUARY 2008

INFORMATION PAPER

SUBJECT: Early Return of Dependents (ERD) processing

1. REFERENCES: AR 614-30, AR 55-46, and the Joint Federal Travel Regulation

2. PURPOSE: To inform the Command on the proper procedure necessary for an ERD request.

3. DISCUSSION:

a. There are 2 types of ERD requests: Command Directed or Soldier Requested.

b. **Command Directed –** is a request by the Soldier's chain of command to return command sponsored dependents to a designated location when the dependent is involved in an incident that is embarrassing to the U.S. Government, prejudicial to order, morale and discipline in the command or where conditions in which the dependent's safety can no longer be ensured.

c. **Soldier Requested –** The Soldier, or the Soldier's spouse with a Power of Attorney, can request an ERD for command sponsored dependents when essential medical treatment or educational facilities are not readily available, compelling personal reasons (financial or marital difficulties, death or illness of close relatives) or when a situation has an adverse effect on the Soldier's performance of duty.

d. All requests must be on a DA Form 4187 (signed by the Soldier if Soldier requested) along with supporting documentation. The Company Commander must sign with recommendation. It is then routed along with a DA Form 4187-1-R to the Battalion and Brigade Commanders with their recommendations. The MPD receives the request and forwards it to the Garrison Commander for final approval. The packet is then forwarded back to the MPD, and orders are issued.

e. Supporting documentation should include divorce decree or annulment, recommendations from religious, mental health, educational, medical, financial management, family counseling and/or legal agencies. Each packet should also contain a Soldier's statement explaining why the Soldier is requesting the ERD and the ERD Entitlement Statement signed by the Soldier. If a Soldier refuses to provide documentation from a chaplain, there must be a statement on the DA Form 4187 stating the Soldier chooses not to be counseled.

f. If the ERD is for divorce, travel must be completed within 1 year after the effective date of the final decree. Otherwise, dependents must begin travel before a PCS order is issued which relieves the member from the OCONUS Permanent Duty Station (PDS). If the Soldier is on assignment instruction, ERD orders will not be issued. The Soldier can move dependents on PCS orders.

g. Dependents may return at personal expense (at government expense if the member serves an IPCOT. An IPCOT will reinstate the entitlements to relocate dependents and HHG as if beginning another 3 year tour. If the Soldier elects an FSTE, return at government expense is not authorized. A FSTE is an extension of the current tour, up to 36 months, with no entitlements for relocation of dependents.). If dependents return at personal expense, they must qualify for and initiate a new request for command sponsorship. The Soldier will be authorized dependents' travel and transportation allowance from the Permanent Duty Station (PDS) on a subsequent PCS with an approved command sponsorship. If no command sponsorship has been approved, the dependents will only be authorized travel funds from the ERD location to the new duty station.

4. Point of contact is Joan Roth at 353-2285 or Leon Wyatt at 353-2130.