To assist Commanders in maintaining readiness of Soldiers, families and communities within the military by promoting self-sufficiency, resilience, and stability during war and peace.
• This is Korea
• Paradigm Shift
• Eighth Army’s Approach
• Challenges
• CONUS Support
• Conclusion
This is Korea

• Widely dispersed units
• 30 km from North Korea, under the guns everyday
  - Evacuation of family members
  - Family Readiness is mission imperative
• 92% unaccompanied / 8% accompanied
  - 22,000 Army personnel and approximately 6,600 family members (3,900 Command Sponsored & 2,700 non-command sponsored)
• Limited support infrastructure (Medical/Schools)
• Demographics
  - Command Sponsored / Non-Command Sponsored families / Waiting Families
  - ALL families are part of FRG
  - Foreign born spouses support
**Paradigm Shift**

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<th>Then</th>
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<td>FRG “not necessary”</td>
<td>FRG (imperative)</td>
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<td>Forward Deployed</td>
<td>Deploy from Korea</td>
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<td>North Korea threat focus</td>
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<td>38,000 military</td>
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<td>1-year tour</td>
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<td>Least desirable assignment in the Army</td>
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Eighth Army’s Approach

• FRGs in Korea are NOT optional
• Leverage Technology
  – Established 8th Army FRG website
  – Extensive use of e-mail and vFRG to connect with families in Korea, in CONUS and around the world
  – Utilize automated In/Out processing system to capture family information for FRG/ACS
• Institutionalize semi-annual FRG Rallies
• Maintain Active Family Support Programs
• Create FRG Quickstart Guide
• Payoff: 2BCT deployment
  – Created vFRG site
  – Negotiated SOFA for families
  – Established four FRG/Deployment assistance positions
Challenges

- Transformation / Restationing
  - Unit moves/relocation between areas
  - Consolidation of US Forces
  - Troop Reduction
  - Rotational Forces

- TRICARE Standard vs. Prime

- OIF/OEF Deployments

- Connection to Waiting Families Program
CONUS Support: We need your help

• Energize the Waiting Families Program - ACS
• Educate incoming commanders and spouses that FRGs are part of their mission in Korea
• Inform Soldiers and families on assignment to Korea about entitlements, challenges and support programs available
• Leaders at all levels emphasize the positive aspects of service in Korea
Conclusion

• Korea “Assignment of Choice” for family members

• Everyone important to the Soldier is a part of the FRG - worldwide

• FRGs are vital to mission readiness