PORT CALL, TLF, HOUSEHOLD ITEMS LOAN LOCKER, AND SHIPPING

Port call

After receiving your port call, call your sponsor and tell him or her your flight number and scheduled date of arrival (Japan time). Most importantly, if a last-minute change to your travel plans occurs, contact your sponsor immediately to let him or her know of the new flight and date.

You will be entering Japan through Narita or Osaka International Airports where you will go through customs prior to your flight to Naha International Airport, Okinawa. If your sponsor was not able to meet you, board the Air Force bus parked in front of the terminal. The bus will bring you to the Kadena lodging office, the Shogun Inn (632-1817), where you will be assisted in contacting your sponsor or squadron.

Temporary lodging is currently limited for families moving to Kadena due to renovation of some facilities. One and two bedroom temporary lodging facilities (TLF) are available, but limited. Pet friendly units are very limited as well, make reservations 3 to 2 months in advance. Pet owners can contact Karing Kennels at 959-1609 or check out the website at http://kadenaforcesupport.com/pets.html for more information concerning pets. For information about making a reservation, call the lodging reservations office at commercial 011-81-611-732-1010 or 1011 or at DSN 315-632-1010 or 1011.

If you arrive at Naha International on an unscheduled flight, proceed to the baggage claim area and then to the military telephone located within the same baggage claim area. Call your sponsor right away. They will assist you in contacting your sponsor or squadron (make sure you have the sponsor's duty and home telephone numbers) for transportation.

If you arrive at the Kadena Passenger Terminal, you should be met by your sponsor. Also, volunteers at the terminal are always available to assist you in contacting your squadron or sponsor if necessary.

Household items

Since base housing provides most of the larger appliances, including washers, dryers and refrigerators, you will probably only need to ship smaller items such as blenders or toasters. Appliances are also available at the base exchange. Keep in mind houses on Okinawa are much smaller than those you are accustomed to stateside and storage space is limited.

For those in Military Family Housing (MFH), the Kadena housing office will provide you with furnishings to bridge the gap until you House Hold Good (HHG) items arrive on island. The housing counselor will assist in making the necessary arrangements.

Okinawa is hot and humid throughout most of the year and some on- and many off-base homes are not centrally cooled. Because the cost of electricity in Okinawa is extremely high, fans or air conditioners you ship should be energy efficient.

Other useful appliances are dehumidifiers, an electric blanket for an occasional brisk winter night and energy-conserving space heaters, consider packing these items in your initial HHG shipment if authorized. Electric space heaters equipped with a safety "tip switch" are the only type authorized for use in base housing. No fuel-burning heaters are authorized on base. Since most of the houses are made of concrete, you will find drilling and masonry equipment useful.

Bring along your mail order catalogs, especially if they offer specialty items not normally carried by the Army and Air Force Exchange Service.

Shipping outdoor furniture is recommended, although AAFES does carry a full contingent of these items. Lawn chairs and barbecue grills are useful during the long summers

Loan Locker-Basic home items such as pots, pans, dishes, utensils, car seats and strollers are available to incoming and outbound command sponsored personnel. Items are checked out for a 30 day period and may be extended an additional 30 days if necessary. A copy of the service member's orders are required to receive items.

Shipping household items

Since both the MFH and off-base housing are significantly smaller than in the United States, you should carefully consider those items your wish to ship. As a reminder, non-temporary storage authorization is available at states side. The instructions for Household Goods Weight Restriction is set by MCO P4600.39 Paragraph 2206, Page 2-10.

Contact your current base **Defense Management Office (DMO)** early to ensure effective planning for shipment. Also, your military personnel flight has information on additional weight allowance for shipping lamps, carpets, and pads as well as air conditioners, dehumidifiers, fans and heaters.

If you are planning to ship leather items, keep in mind the sub-tropical climate here is conducive to mold and mildew growth.