



HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES FORCES, KOREA

UNIT #15237

APO AP 96205-5237

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

25 AUG 2008

FKCS

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: US Forces Korea (USFK) Command Policy Letter #49, Microchip Program for Privately-Owned Animals

1. This policy supersedes USFK Policy Memorandum #49, Microchip Program for Privately-Owned Animals, dated 13 Feb 07. It shall remain in effect until rescinded or superseded.

2. References.

- a. AR 40-905, Veterinary Health Services, 29 August 2006.
- b. SECNAVINST 6401.IB, Veterinary Health Services, 29 August 2006.
- c. AFI 48- 1 3 1, Veterinary Health Services, 29 August 2006.
- d. DoD Directive 47 15.1, Environmental Security, 24 February 1996.
- e. DoD Instruction 4150.7, DoD Pest Management Program, 22 April 1996.

3. The USFK Veterinary Services has established a Pet Microchip Program for privately-owned animals. The purpose of this program is to assist with the registration and identification of companion animals, assist with the return of lost pets to their proper owners, decrease the incidence of pre-temporary duty or pre-permanent change of station pet abandonment, and to facilitate the reuniting of pets with their owners upon execution of a Noncombatant Evacuation Operation (NEO) or disaster plan. USFK Veterinary Services will implant microchips in all newly acquired pets, in all new pets arriving on the Peninsula at the time of their initial examination, in all pets belonging to Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) status personnel during their annual examination, in all adopted animals, and in any impounded stray animal prior to releasing the pet to the owner. Furthermore, all pets not previously micro-chipped will require a microchip implant, and those with micro-chips already implanted will register their pet with the USFK Veterinary Services.

4. Within the U.S. Forces Korea, pet owners have the inherent responsibility to control, immunize, and register their pets in accordance with references (a) through (c). All Republic of Korea SOFA personnel with privately owned animals must register their respective companion pet at their local Veterinary Treatment Facility. All pets will be micro-chipped at a nominal cost per animal and registered in a database that covers all 50 States, Europe, Canada, and all Department of Defense installations overseas. The registration of pets with this microchip technology can ensure pets are permanently identified and linked to their

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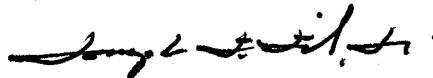
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appropriate owner. Consequently, when a pet is separated from its owner, the chip can be scanned and the proper owners can be identified and reunited with their pet.

5. Responsible pet ownership is a key factor in eliminating free roaming privately-owned or stray animal populations, and it encompasses developing disaster and evacuation response plans that include companion animals. Accordingly, Area and Installation Commanders in the Republic of Korea shall develop and implement pet management measures to preclude the establishment of free roaming privately-owned or stray animal populations, and to protect personnel from disease vectors and property damage per references (d) and (e).

6. Service Component Commanders are responsible for ensuring pet micro-chipping is established in conjunction with their disaster and NEO plans in order to facilitate the rapid and accurate return of pets to their owners in the event of unexpected occurrences resulting from natural or man-made disasters, or upon execution of Non-combatant Evacuation Operations.

7. POC for this policy letter is the USFK Office of the Command Surgeon, DSN 724-3 144; Email: fksg@korea.army.mil.



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