REPLY TO ATTENTION OF;

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

UNITED STATES ARMY EUROPE REGIONAL MEDICAL COMMAND CMR 442 APO AE 09042

Soldier and Family Support Services

7 December 2009

Congratulations on your assignment to Europe!

The Europe Regional Medical Command is committed to providing you and your Family with high quality healthcare. In this endeavor, we want to let you know about some differences you may encounter when accessing medical care in Europe, whether that care is in an Army medical clinic or on the local economy.

Recommendations for Family travel or command sponsorship are made based on the Exceptional Family Member Program paperwork, completed before you were allowed travel orders to Europe. If you or your Family member requires specialty care that is not available in the local Army Health Facility, you will be referred to the local economy for that specialty care. Depending on where you are stationed, that care could be in Belgium, Germany, or Italy.

Health care on the local economy is different than what you are used to; however, European doctors are trained to Western Standards and provide a holistic approach to treating illnesses, injuries, and diseases. The Preferred Providers within our medical network are screened and willingly see patients we refer to them. Each individual's experience with Host Nation providers is different and it is important for you to be patient and convey your health care needs to the local provider. You may also see a TRICARE provider at your local Army Health Facility who is a Host Nation provider or a provider from another country. All of our providers have your health care in mind to ensure your health and well being.

Please be aware that residences on and off post do not have central air conditioning. If your Family member requires air conditioning for a medical condition, the Family travel office will provide that information to the gaining housing office for portable air conditioning units only.

If you have reservations about receiving care on the local economy, then you have the option to work with your branch manager on another assignment, or you may elect to serve an unaccompanied tour.

Again, Congratulations on your assignment to Europe – we hope you enjoy your tour. Remember, we are here to keep you healthy!

Welcome aboard!

KEITH W. GALLAGHER

Brigadier General, US Army

Commanding