



HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES FORCES KOREA

UNIT #15237  
APO AP 96205-5237

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

FKCC

02 JAN. 2014

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: United States Forces Korea (USFK) Policy Letter #3, Excessive Purchasing of Duty-Free Goods and Black Marketing

1. This policy letter applies to all USFK Service Members, Civilians, invited contractors, technical representatives, their family members, and other personnel authorized to purchase duty-free goods on USFK installations.
2. USFK members are subject to the laws and regulations administered by the customs authorities of the ROK. The ROK, through the US-ROK SOFA, extends to USFK the privilege of shipping items into the country duty-free – that is, without fees, taxes or tariffs. We, in turn, have agreed to provide these items exclusively to military and civilian government personnel, invited contractors, technical representatives, and their immediate family members. USFK is obliged to prevent the abuse of such privileges. Failure to comply with the SOFA jeopardizes this privilege and damages our image in the eyes of our host nation. Compliance supports the SOFA and fosters a positive image, demonstrates our commitment to values, and prevents negative incidents.
3. An excessive purchase of duty-free goods takes place when an authorized individual purchases duty-free goods in excess of his or her personal needs. When this occurs, it raises a suspicion that the excessive amounts are intended for black marketing, which is the illegal transfer or resale of duty-free goods to persons who are not entitled to them. The black market is supplied through the illegal diversion of goods. Each case of suspected black marketing is investigated and dealt with on a case-by-case basis. USFK Regulation 60-1 directs personnel to restrict purchases to those required for personal need, the needs of authorized family members, and gifts in accordance with (IAW) USFK Regulation 643-2, Transfers of Duty-Free Items.
4. Required actions:
  - a. All personnel will adhere to the requirements of USFK Regulation 60-1, Access to Duty-Free Goods, and restrict purchases to those required for personal need, the needs of authorized family members, and gifts IAW USFK Regulation 643-2.
  - b. Duty-free goods transferred between SOFA and non-SOFA personnel will be IAW USFK Regulation 643-2.

FKCC

SUBJECT: United States Forces Korea (USFK) Policy Letter #3, Excessive Purchasing of Duty-Free Goods and Black Marketing

c. All personnel are asked to report incidents of suspected excess purchasing and/or black marketing to their chain of command, local law enforcement officials, or the USFK Black Market Hotline at DSN 738-5118 or e-mail [usarmy.yongsan.usfk.mbx.black-market-hotline-for-customs-office@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.yongsan.usfk.mbx.black-market-hotline-for-customs-office@mail.mil).

5. Individuals who violate ROK customs laws are subject to criminal prosecution by ROK authorities. Persons subject to the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) who fail to comply with the provisions of this policy are subject to punishment under the UCMJ, as well as to other adverse action authorized by applicable laws and regulations. All persons who fail to comply with the provisions of this policy may be subject to adverse administrative sanctions, including, but not limited to, revocation of privileges as authorized by applicable laws and regulations or possible curtailment of overseas assignment.

6. This policy remains in effect until rescinded or superseded.

7. The point of contact is the Customs Division, Office of the USFK Provost Marshal, DSN 738-5110.

//ORIGINAL SIGNED//

CURTIS M. SCAPAROTTI  
General, U.S. Army  
Commander

DISTRIBUTION:

A

References:

- a. Agreement Under Article IV of the Mutual Defense Treaty Between the United States of America and the Republic of Korea (ROK), Regarding Facilities and Areas and the Status of United States Armed Forces and the Republic of Korea, February 9, 1967 (SOFA) as Amended, Article IX and Article XIII, Agreed Minutes.
- b. USFK Regulation 643-2, Transfers of Duty-Free Items, 13 February 2012.
- c. USFK Regulation 60-1, Access to Duty-Free Goods, 2 August 2013.