



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY, EUROPE, AND SEVENTH ARMY
UNIT 29351
APO AE 09014-9351

AEAGA-CE

7 April 2003

MEMORANDUM FOR DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Spouse Attendance at Family Readiness Group Meetings

This memorandum expires in 1 year.

1. References:

a. DOD 1400.25-M, Department of Defense Civilian Personnel Manual, subchapter 630, December 1996.

b. USAREUR Regulation 608-2, Family Support System, 12 August 1998.

2. Family readiness groups (FRGs) help relieve the strain that soldiers and their families experience when separated during deployment. FRGs do this by providing a support system that helps family members effectively gather information and solve problems that arise during deployments. Spouses of deployed soldiers are encouraged to attend FRG meetings. This applies to spouses who work for the U.S. Government in appropriated and nonappropriated fund positions.

3. Supervisors will grant excused absence to these employees when possible. When these employees are excused to attend an FRG meeting—

a. They will not be charged leave nor lose pay.

b. The meeting site will be the employee's place of duty.

4. The family support system is critical to accomplishing our mission. When soldiers know that their families are being taken care of, they can more easily focus their attention on the mission. Leaders must make every effort to support this system by being as flexible as possible in allowing time for military spouses to attend FRG meetings.

FOR THE COMMANDER:


ANTHONY R. JONES
Major General, GS
Chief of Staff

DISTRIBUTION:
D (AEPUBS)