

INDIAN MOUNTAIN



ALASKAN AIR COMMAND (AAC) FACT SHEET

Location: Remote Stations

This fact sheet applies to Shemya AFB, King Salmon AFS, Indian Mountain AFS, Galena Airport, Fort Yukon AFS, Tin City AFS, Cape Lisburne AFS, Cold Bay AFS, Tatulna AFS, Sparrevohn AFS, Campion AFS, Murphy Dome AFS, Kotzebue AFS, Cape Newenham AFS, and Cape Romanzof AFS.

INTRODUCTION. Life on a remote station has its hardships - the Alaskan winters are cold, most stations are lonely places away from populated areas, and you will be spending a year away from your family. Your first 5-10 days in Alaska will be spent at Elmendorf AFB. There are two points of arrival in the Anchorage area. Prime point being Elmendorf AFB via MAC charter flight. If you do arrive at Elmendorf your aircraft will be met by representatives of the Remote Processing Activity and they will furnish you transportation to your quarters. There is a possibility, however, that you will be routed through the Anchorage International Airport. If this occurs, the following options are available to you: (1) Report to the Servicemen's Lounge which is located in Concourse C, room C257. Within the lounge you will find appropriate telephone numbers to call Elmendorf for transportation to the base; (2) You may obtain commercial transportation to the base. Taxi cabs are located outside main entrance and the current rate is approximately \$7.50. (Up to four persons can ride for that price.) The cost of commercial transportation is reimbursable. Whichever means of transportation you procure, you should request the driver to deliver you to Base Billeting Office, building 10-510, and wait while you are assigned quarters. Personnel in the billeting office will direct you to your quarters. A Charge of Quarters will be available there to assist you with any problems you might have. At Elmendorf, your personnel and finance records will be checked and processed. You will also be paid all monies due. You will, in most instances, get a complete dental check and be issued a bag of heavy arctic clothing. The contents of this bag, coupled with the training you will receive on how and when to wear them, will be your guard against the arctic temperatures you will encounter during your tour. You will also receive a briefing on the AAC Mission and the part you play in its accomplishment.

LOCATIONS. Generally, these stations are located in remote areas of Alaska. Some are located on isolated off-shore islands, and some dot the coast of Alaska from the Bering Sea to the Arctic Ocean. Most are isolated and are only accessible by aircraft, especially during the winter months. Mail and supplies are delivered throughout the year. During the summer months, barges sail up the coast and navigable rivers to conduct a resupply operation termed "COOL BARGE."

SIZE. Each station is actually a small base and is completely self-sufficient, with its own administrative, supply, civil engineering, medical, transportation, food, and special services capability. Shemya AFB, near the end of the Alutian chain, is the largest of these remote installations. The average strength of a remote station is small. Some have a permanent civilian work force of from two to six plumbers, carpenters, and electricians assigned. This number increases as contractor personnel arrive during the summer months to perform repair or construction tasks.

QUARTERS. Housing at the remote stations varies, but you may be sure it will compare favorably with that at a major base, except there are no family quarters since dependents are not allowed. Since housing is self-contained (either a single composite building or in separate units, which are interconnected by hallways) the sub-zero weather in the winter will not bother you as you go from your room to the dining hall, theater, library, day room, etc.

LAUNDRY. Laundry is on a "do-it-yourself" basis. Washing machines, ironing boards, and irons are furnished. Most personnel wear wash-and-wear clothing as much as possible. There are no dry cleaning facilities available; however, when dry cleaning is required, items may be sent into Elmendorf AFB for necessary cleaning and return.

MEDICAL CARE. With exception of Shemya AFB, each remote station is manned by medical technicians who have been selected for their experience and ability to handle emergencies. Serious cases are aeromedically evacuated to the USAF Hospital at Elmendorf AFB. Physicians and dentists are permanently assigned to Shemya AFB and medical facilities are much better than most of the other remote stations.

CLOTHING. Summer and winter uniforms, as well as utility uniforms, are worn. Civilian clothing for after-duty wear is desirable, and should be warm, comfortable, and casual. Dress clothing or suits are seldom worn. A light-weight jacket, as well as a few summer clothes, will also be useful.

RECREATION. All remote stations are equipped with recreation equipment, such as hunting and fishing gear, skis, toboggans, snowshoes, and rides. Some stations also have boats and motors. Indoor recreation rooms offer billiard and pool tables, ping-pong, shuffleboard, weight lifting, and exercise machines. Officers lounges, NCO and airman clubs offer reading material, jukeboxes or canned music, light foods, and a small selection of beverages. USO troops play each remote station about once every 6 weeks. Current movies are shown. Hobby shops for ceramics, leather, model building, and photography are available. There is also a small, well-stocked library at each station equipped with reading and study space.

RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES. Catholic, Protestant, and Jewish religious services are conducted at each remote station by "circuit riding" Air Force chaplains who make regular visits. Shemya AFB has two full-time chaplains assigned.

BASE EXCHANGES. Exchanges are small, but carry complete lines of personal needs. They also have limited selection of magazines, radios, jewelry, gift items, and civilian and military clothing.

LEAVE. Remote station military personnel are permitted to take one ordinary leave during their tour not to exceed 30 days duration. Normally, such leave will not commence earlier than 60 days after date departed CONUS and must be completed not later than 60 days prior to DEROS.

RECREATION (Continued)

Indoor recreation includes pool tables, ping pong, shuffleboard, basketball, volleyball, weight lifting and bowling (Top Camp). Hobby shops for leather, model building and photography are also available. In addition, daily movies are shown, many of which are the latest productions. Television is not available, but various radio stations can be picked up from time to time, over the Armed Forces Radio Network which is available 24 hours each day. This station carries a wide variety of music, news and sports programs. KWAC, the local low-power site radio station has studios at both Top and Bottom Camps. The program schedules feature music and site news items. USO shows visit Indian Mountain every several months. Recreational activities can be found to suit every taste. Several programs have been developed through the initiative of individuals who have spent the time and effort to create an interest in a particular activity.

CLOTHING

Fatigues are the most popular uniform year round. Office workers frequently wear 1505's or the short sleeve blue uniform. However, all personnel are required to have a Class A uniform. Arctic gear is issued at Elmendorf AFB and is used most of the year. Dress clothes and suits are seldom worn, but it is desirable to have something along this line with you. The most popular type of off-duty clothing is cotton and other washables. Laundry is a "do-it-yourself" proposition, however, personnel are usually available to do your laundry for a fee, if you prefer. Automatic washers and dryers, as well as irons and ironing boards are also available.

ELMENDORF AFB PROCESSING

All personnel assigned to remote stations are required to clear through Elmendorf AFB and receive training in Arctic Indoctrination, Fire Prevention, Disaster Control and Small Arms. This processing normally takes several days. From there, individuals usually fly commercially via Wein Airlines to this station. All personnel are subject to diversions which means reassignment to another one of the approximately 15 AC&W stations in Alaska. Diversion occurs occasionally due to changing personnel requirements. At times, these changes are not made until the individual arrives at Elmendorf AFB.

ARRIVAL AT INDIAN MOUNTAIN AFS

Upon arrival at Indian Mountain (Utopia Creek) you will be met at the airplane by a sponsor from your new duty section. You will then be processed by the Orderly Room personnel and briefed on all aspects of your individual responsibilities while assigned to this unit. Briefings will include training requirements, security procedures, response to fire and disaster preparedness drills, and also a personal meeting with the First Sergeant and Commander.

SITE EXCHANGE

The site exchange carries a variety of personal needs; rifles, pistols, cameras, gift items and clothing are also available. Desired items that are not in stock may be special ordered.

LIBRARY

The libraries at both camps contain a wide assortment of books, magazines and newspapers. Both hard cover and paperback books are available.

EDUCATION SERVICES

USAFI group study classes are offered from time to time in various subjects depending on the demand and availability of instructors. In addition an unlimited variety of courses can be taken by correspondence at either the high school or college level through either USAFI or ECI participation.

MILITARY PAY

Pay records are maintained by the AF Finance Center, Denver, Colorado. Personnel are paid twice a month by check, with check cashing facilities being available at both camps. As delivery of paychecks to the site is dependent on the contract carrier and weather conditions, incoming personnel are strongly urged to have their paychecks sent directly to their bank and/or provide sufficient finances for their families through an allotment program. These arrangements should be made through the Base Finance Office prior to departure from your last duty station.

BARBER SHOP

Barber Shops are in operation at both camp sites.

LIVING QUARTERS

Private BOQ rooms are completely furnished. Blankets, linens and towels are provided. NCO's are normally billeted two to a room in the NCO Bay. Airman are normally billeted two to a room at both camps. Community showers and latrines are available in each bay and the BOQ. Officers at Top Camp have semi-private showers.

RECREATION

Hunting, fishing and skiing gear are available through Recreational Services. Softball and horseshoes are popular during the summer months, and hiking in the surrounding area is enjoyed by many personnel year round. Wildlife found in the area includes moose, black bear, caribou and wolves. Information and requirements for hunting and fishing licenses are available at the site.

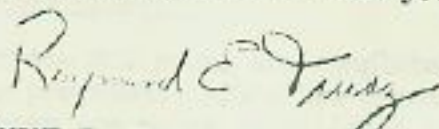
W E L C O M E

On behalf of the men assigned to the 708th AC&W Squadron, I want to take this opportunity to welcome you to Indian Mountain Air Force Station. As a NORAD Ground Control and Intercept station, our mission is air defense. Possessing and perfecting the capability to detect the interception of enemy aircraft makes us justifiably proud of our mission and its part in the overall National defense. This brochure is designed to acquaint you and your family with your new assignment and to provide information which may be of interest.

Our squadron is divided into two separate camps, Bottom and Top, which are connected only by 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles of mountainous road. Our location is as remote as any in the world, being accessible by air, snowmobile or dog sled. However, we receive the best support possible from our Higher Headquarters, the Alaskan Air Command.

Located just south of the Arctic Circle, our site endures extreme weather conditions. During recent years, there has been an annual snowfall of 125 inches, with temperatures dropping as low as -50 degrees.

If you have family responsibilities, I urge you to take all necessary actions to insure your family is well suited and provided for before you depart home. All financial matters should be settled and budgetary and fiscal plans made and agreed upon with your dependents prior to your departure. Although none of us enjoys the extended separation from our families and loved ones, we recognize the opportunity for professional development and satisfaction in a job well done, which this assignment presents. I sincerely hope that you will share in our many challenges and accomplishments. I look forward to your becoming a part of our organization and trust that you will share our pride in it.



RAYMOND E. TRUSZ, Major, USAF
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