

CHAPTER 4

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY STUDENT PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

Section I. PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

The programs and activities at Fort Leavenworth are similar to those of any U.S. Army garrison. International Military Students receive invitations to many functions in the civilian community and to private, official, and semiofficial receptions and parties. Dress for social and official functions varies from formal military attire to casual civilian clothing. Provided below is a brief explanation of the various programs and activities that will occur throughout the year at Fort Leavenworth and in the local area.

4-1. American Orientation Course (AOC) is sponsored by Operation International, a committee of the Leavenworth/Lansing Chamber of Commerce. Volunteers from this organization have conducted this course for over 30 years. Each day's agenda includes social time for you to meet the other international spouses, and programs with information that you may find useful during your year in the United States. Babysitting for infants and toddlers is available on site at no charge. Carpools for those who do not drive will be arranged during the first meeting. All teachers in the program are volunteers. You will meet representatives of the AOC and be provided a calendar during IMS Registration.

4-2. English Language Training for International Spouses.

a. An "English Language Support Course" (ELSC) is offered to all IMS spouses. All teachers are trained volunteers. There is no fee for participation. Childcare is not provided. Families wishing to use the Fort Leavenworth Child Development Center for hourly child care while spouses attend classes must register and make advance reservations. Hourly care is on a "pay as you go" basis. Additional English program details and a registration opportunity will be available during IMS Registration. (See Appendix G).

b. International Military Students' spouses may also enroll, separately, in a more formal Army Community Service (ACS) "English as a Second Language" program. Classes are held at the Main Post Chapel. ACS (684-2800) offers free childcare at the Chapel for parents enrolled in this program. There is no fee for participation.

c. Both English programs are highly recommended and provide spouses with language and cultural skills as well as an opportunity to develop friendships. You will meet representatives of both ESCL and ESL programs at IMS Registration.

4-3. International Flag Ceremony. At the beginning of each CGSOC course, CGSC conducts a formal International Flag Ceremony as part of the commemoration of the beginning of a new class. The senior IMS from each country posts his nation's flag during this ceremony held at the Lewis & Clark Center in Eisenhower Auditorium. This ceremony occurs on CGSOC Opening Day. The College provides national flags for this and other official and social occasions throughout the academic year. CGSC encourages all IMS families and sponsors to attend.

4-4. Post Activities Information and Registration Day (PAIR)

a. Post Activities Information and Registration (PAIR) Day is held at the Frontier Conference Center. The event centrally locates over 100 post and surrounding area activities and agencies such as sports, hobbies, adult education classes, and many other activities. We recommend setting aside some extra cash for this day as many fees are payable during sign-up. PAIR Day provides the opportunity for one-stop registration for any activities in which you or your family members desire to join or participate. Any delay in signing up for these activities may mean that there may not be a seat available for you. The Directorate of Community Activities (DCA) will conduct PAIR Day on a Saturday, normally in mid-August and mid-February. The event is well publicized.

b. The opportunity for family members to participate in self-enrichment activities and sports while stationed at Fort Leavenworth is equaled by few Army installations. The success of many programs depends on the willingness of adult volunteers to pitch in and help. The superb youth sports programs need adult leaders, while other activities require volunteer adult supervision. Additionally, volunteers support the American Red Cross and Army Community Service programs. The Fort Leavenworth Resource Guide and telephone book provides a complete guide to family activities available at Fort Leavenworth and the surrounding communities.

4-5. Commandant's Reception. The Commandant hosts receptions for the entire CGSOC class. The Commandant and Deputy Commandant greet the students

and allow the students a chance to get to know each other. Students and spouses are expected to attend, along with their staff group during the first month of CGSOC.

4-6. Know Your World Program. This program provides selected IMS an opportunity to present a 50-minute briefing or presentation of their country to their classmates and other interested personnel. IMS who present a Know Your World program receive Advanced Applications Program credit hours towards their graduation requirements. (NOTE: All IMS will do a country presentation of approximately 20 minutes to their staff groups during IMSPC and early in CGSOC.)

- a. The Know Your World Program is limited to a small number of randomly selected presentations. If you want to present a Know Your World program, come prepared. You will receive information early in the academic year on how to volunteer.
- b. Each presentation is 50 (+/- 5) minutes long and deals with various aspects of the country, including its history, culture, customs, and geography. The presentations are open to attendance by all interested military personnel, civilian personnel, and local school children.
- c. Video, computer graphic slide (PowerPoint) presentations, maps, and music are usually a part of the presentation. IMS should bring videotapes, computer graphics, posters, pamphlets, native or national dress, and other appropriate materials for organizing and presenting a Know Your World Program. After arrival, your embassy's tourism office will often be willing to donate or loan materials to support presentations. The IMS family members may participate in the presentation. The program is in a large, modern auditorium. Generally, about 250 people attend each program.

4-7. Army Physical Fitness Programs.

- a. Physical fitness is an important part of the overall "Leavenworth Experience." IMS participation in all athletic activities is voluntary. U.S. students at the CGSC participate routinely in fitness, weight management, and organized athletic programs throughout their course of study. U.S. students participate in physical fitness activities through class athletic competition, other class-wide events, and the Army Physical Fitness Test (APFT). Team sports such as basketball, soccer, softball, volleyball, and bowling promote competition between sections. Individual sports are handball, racquetball, squash, golf, and tennis.

b. Twice in each Academic Year, the U.S. students take the mandatory physical fitness tests required by their respective services. Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps physical fitness tests are not identical. IMS *may* participate in physical fitness programs and activities and also take a physical fitness test along with their U.S. classmates. Many team sports are also available in the city of Leavenworth and on post for the families of students. It is a CGSC tradition that the IMS challenge their U.S. classmates to a soccer match each class.

4-8. Class and Academic Section Activities. During the school year, classes and sections conduct informal social and athletic activities to form closer friendships between the students. Many of these activities include family members.

4-9. Fort Leavenworth Spouses Club. The Fort Leavenworth Spouses Club (FLSC) extends an invitation to the international spouses to join their organization. The FLSC conducts many activities, including painting, tailoring, bridge, golf, and bowling. FLSC representatives will be present during IMS Registration.

4-10. Organization of International Spouses and Sponsors (OISS). The Organization of International Spouses and Sponsors (OISS) is a private volunteer social organization. It provides opportunities for the IMS spouses to meet in a social environment. OISS sponsors monthly coffees, holiday parties, and various other events. OISS representatives will be present during IMS Registration.

4-11. International Officer Graduate Badge Ceremony. At the completion of the academic year, the IMS receive the International Officer Graduate Badge in a formal ceremony. This distinctive badge identifies the IMS as a CGSOC graduate. The IMS receives a full-size and a miniature badge at the ceremony. The IMS graduates may wear these distinctive badges subject to the uniform regulations of their country.

Section II.
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE FIELD STUDY PROGRAM

4-12. Department of Defense Field Studies Program (FSP). The goal of the Field Studies Program (FSP) is to ensure that International Military Students return to their homeland with an understanding of the responsibilities of governments, militaries, and citizens to protect, preserve, and respect the rights of every individual. The Field Studies Program at CGSC is developed and implemented with the specific objective of providing the students with awareness and functional understanding of internationally recognized human rights and the American democratic way of life. To accomplish this goal, the College plans activities to familiarize IMS with how the U.S. Government, business, media, agriculture, education, and other institutions operate collectively to form the American way of life. In a typical year, IMS will—

- a. Tour the greater Kansas City metropolitan area to view various aspects of life in a major U.S. population center. Visit several area businesses to include Cessna Aircraft during a trip to Wichita, Kansas in late July. Visit the University of Kansas for an “Economics Seminar”, Park University for an “Education Seminar”; the Truman Presidential Library and Museum, the U.S. World War I Museum and Liberty Memorial; the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.
- b. Visit the Kansas State Capital in Topeka, observe each House of the Legislature, and personally meet with the Governor of Kansas and a Kansas Supreme Court judge.
- c. Visit Leavenworth County and Leavenworth city government officials.
- d. Visit and observe training at Fort Riley, Kansas, and tour the Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum in Abilene, Kansas.
- e. Participate in a Battlefield Staff Ride at the U.S. Civil War battlefield of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, as part of an American Civil War history course, and visit Washington, DC, during a 10-day trip. During this timeframe, IMS visit the U.S. Supreme Court, U.S. State Department, Congress, and other points of historical interest, and several national monuments as well as Arlington National Cemetery, including the Tomb of the Unknowns.

4-13. Sponsorship Program.

a. The sponsorship program is a very important part of the Field Studies Program. Each IMS is assigned three volunteer sponsors:

- A Fort Leavenworth (military) sponsor
- A Leavenworth/Lansing (civilian) sponsor
- A Kansas City (civilian) sponsor.

The sponsorship program helps the IMS and their families to become a part of the local community. The sponsors –

- Provide the IMS, and their families, friendship and personal assistance beginning with their arrival at the Kansas City International Airport until they depart following graduation.
- Help settle the IMS quickly into the local area.
- Introduce the IMS and their families to American customs, practices, and ways of life.

b. Similar to Sponsors, the **Student Ambassador** is the in-class IMS representative. There will be one student ambassadors designated for each IMS. The IMS will meet the Student Ambassadors when the CGSOC begins. The Student Ambassador assists the IMS in matters pertaining to the class, and will advise the IMS to contact IMSD or his sponsors on other matters.

c. A variety of social and intercultural activities enhances the IMS relationship with the host families and increases their knowledge of the American way of life.

d. Sponsors are volunteers selected after careful consideration. Great emphasis is placed on the importance of the IMS and sponsor relationships. Sponsors strive to make the IMS stay in the United States a pleasant experience. The mutual understanding and friendships that develop will prove to be rewarding and often will last for years. Periodically, each IMS will complete a Sponsor Survey to provide feedback to the IMSD sponsor coordinator,

4-14. **Sponsor Appreciation Socials.** The IMSD will invite one of each IMS's three sponsors (Kansas City, Leavenworth, or Fort Leavenworth) to each sponsor appreciation social.

a. **Food Fairs.** There are two IMS food fairs each year, one in the Fall and one in the Spring, at the Frontier Conference Center on Fort Leavenworth. These operate on the principle of the American "Pot Luck Dinner" tradition as each family prepares and brings their favorite national dish. These annual events highlight the year for cooks and aspiring chefs. IMS and spouses are encouraged to wear traditional clothing of their country to add color and interest to the occasion. These fairs are among the most popular activities of the year.

b. **Holiday Dinner Dance.** The IMS Holiday Dinner Dance will take place at the end of November or early December. **IMS and one of their three sponsors** will receive an invitation to participate. The Holiday Dinner Dance, the Fall Food Fair, and the Spring Food Fair are sponsor appreciation events. This will give the IMS and spouse some time to socialize with their sponsors and with other IMS and their spouses.

4-15. Sponsor Recognition Ceremony and International Military Students' Farewell. The IMS bid farewell and recognize all of their sponsors and the student ambassadors for their contributions to the program at a ceremony. On this occasion, sponsors are formally recognized by a Senior College Official for periods of service from 5, 10, 15, 20 and 25 years.

Section III. SOCIAL PROTOCOLS

4-16. Dress for Social Occasions.

- a. Dress for social and official functions varies from formal military attire to casual civilian clothing. Normally, invitations for a social function state type of dress. If you have any questions regarding the apparel to be worn, ask the host or hostess.
- b. Phrases you may see, which pertain to dress at a social function, are:
- (1). Casual. Sport shirts and slacks for men; slack suits, skirt and sweater combinations, or comfortable street clothes for ladies. Jeans are not considered casual attire.
 - (2). Informal. Business suit or sports jacket and tie for men; short dress for ladies. If the occasion is a cocktail party, ladies may wear short or long cocktail dresses. Dressy pant suits for ladies are also acceptable.
 - (3). Semiformal. The Army Blue (or White) uniform that you wear with a four-in-hand tie is a semiformal uniform. The four-in-hand (long) tie is worn to receptions or functions that begin before 1800. The bow tie is worn with the Army Blue uniform after 1800. Ladies wear a short or long dress.
 - (4). Formal. The Army Blue (or White) uniform, when worn with a black bow tie, is a dress uniform and corresponds to a civilian tuxedo. Ladies wear a long evening dress.
- c. IMS should wear the uniform of their service that most nearly equates to the type of dress worn by U.S. officers.

4-17. Invitations to Social Occasions.

- a. You may receive invitations from sponsors and other friends to dinner parties or cocktail parties in their homes. It is customary in U.S. Culture that we do not include children in these invitations unless specifically mentioned by your host. These dinner and cocktail parties are traditionally small, quiet gatherings at which the guests relax and enjoy the food and hospitality of their hosts. There are other

times when social events include the entire family or special parties for the children.

b. You may wish to arrange with the Child Development Center (CDC) for care for your children. It is a good idea to contact the CDC for the necessary information concerning required forms, fees, and normal working hours. Requests for a special opening of the CDC for official evening functions may be directed to the Supplemental Program Services Director at 684-9351. The CDC also provides information and referral services for evening home-based care. You may choose from an on-post Certified Family Child Care Provider (adult family member) or a home-based childcare provider in the city of Leavenworth. The Red Cross certifies family members (under 18 years old) for home-based care.

c. Invitations for social events are normally sent out 3 weeks ahead of time. During a busy social season, such as Christmas, 4 weeks would be better. Invitations should include who is giving the party, the location, when (date and time), and appropriate dress.

(1). Formal invitations will be marked "RSVP" in the lower left-hand corner. Please tell the person inviting you whether you will or will not attend. Invitations marked "Regrets only" means to respond only if you are unable to attend. Be prompt in responding to an invitation.

(2). If you are uncertain whether you can attend, call the host and explain your situation. If the host needs an immediate answer, you should regrettably decline.

(3). If two invitations arrive for the same evening, the time and type of party may enable you to attend both functions. It is important to call and let the hosts of both parties know your plans.

(4). Official invitations should be accepted even if it means changing personal plans.

d. If you wish to host a party and invite other IMS, please contact the IMSD before scheduling a specific date and time. The social calendar is very busy, and the IMSD can help you select a date that will not conflict with other scheduled events.

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