

## Base waits for new residents

# The changing face of Camp Stanley

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**CAMP STANLEY** — About 40 military and civilian leaders gathered July 13 to coordinate the move of most of the units on the installation.

The landscape started to change at this U.S. Army airfield in May, when the 2nd Battalion, 2nd Aviation Regiment and the 2nd Infantry Division Aviation Brigade restationed and reorganized to K-16 Air Base in Seoul.

Today, the Camp Stanley Airfield in Uijeongbu stands mostly silent.

“About 95 percent of our Soldiers are gone, or will be gone,” said Steve Saxby, Camp Stanley deputy installation coordinator. “We’ve got units leaving, and units coming in.”

The turnover will bring Camp Stanley from a population of about 2,800 Soldiers and civilians to about 1,400, Saxby explained.

While aviation was the life-blood of Stanley's airfield, the installation was also home to the 2nd Infantry Division's artillery, formerly known as DIVARTY.

“We will establish our new headquarters on Camp Casey by July 28,” said Lt. Col. Edward Mount, FIRES Brigade executive officer.

As leaders mulled over issues like installation property book, key control, armor rooms, bulk trash and hazardous materials, Soldiers are preparing for the movement of all their personal effects.

Cable television and Internet services are important Soldier issues.

Ron Buss, Installation Management Agency, MWR Cable manager, assured leaders the move should be transparent to Soldiers.

“If a Soldier is remaining in Korea, there is no need to clear our office,” he explained. “Just take the cable box with you to your next installation.”

Buss said if leaders provide a roster to MWR Cable, the television service

will continue at the new location. He added there are never any startup or installation charges for the Soldier.

“We want to make things nice and smooth,” he said.

The AAFES Internet-services concessionaire will require Soldiers to turn in their cable modems, close their accounts, and reopen them at the next base; however, AAFES officials said they will waive reconnect fees.

The new Camp Stanley population will be different from the combat arms troops who have manned the base since the Korean War.

A major new tenant unit will be the U.S. Army Garrison, Camp Red Cloud Directorate of Public Works. The DPW is currently at Camp Falling Water, near the Uijeongbu Train Station. The DPW is made up of hundreds of Korean workers who maintain and repair Army facilities, care for grounds and remove snow.

The AAFES Northern Region headquarters office will also move from Camp Falling Water.

The 501st CSG headquarters will relocate from CRC to Stanley.

Many other units are scheduled to move to Camp Stanley in the coming months, or have already moved in:

- 498th Combat Support Battalion
- 46th Transportation Company
- 61st Maintenance Company
- 305th Quartermaster Company
- Detachment A, 168th Medical Company
- 304th Signal Battalion
- 15th Korean Service Corps Company

The move has had an impact on the local economy, as well as Morale, Welfare and Recreation and Army and Air Force Exchange Service facilities.

Fish Keener, the Camp Stanley Lanes manager, said business is slow.

“We’re maintaining the same services,” Keener said. “We think it’ll be



PHOTOS BY DAVID McNALLY / Warrior Country Weekly

A lone Soldier walks the Camp Stanley main road. The installation is undergoing a major change of tenant units.

a slow summer. But, we probably have already bottomed out.”

Keener said they are offering more food specials to entice the remaining Soldiers to visit the bowling center.

“Even though we’ll have less people here, I like to look at the demographics.”

Keener said the inbound units are made up of combat support Soldiers.

“We may have the same level of business, even with less people,” he said. “These Soldiers may have more disposable income.”

Keener said a good indicator on how many people have left Camp Stanley is the number of Soldiers signed up for an upcoming bowling tournament.

“Right now we’ve only got eight people signed up,” he said. “Normally, we’d have between 16 and 20.”

The unit moves are proving to be a massive undertaking.

As units clear their old buildings, new units are preparing to sign for them.

The 46th Transportation Company, part of the 501st Corps Support Command, signed for all the furniture and equipment in the old Aviation Brigade Dining Facility July 13.

The dining facility is one of two on the installation; however, officials said after the move, the Thunder Dining Facility will close its doors for good. The



Shin Hyon-sop, a Camp Stanley concessionaire owner, laminates photographs. Shin said business has been slow.

new post population will only be able to support one dining facility.

“A lot of the work will be finished by the end of next month,” Saxby said. “It’ll pick back up around here.”

