



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, I CORPS AND FORT LEWIS
BOX 339500
FORT LEWIS, WASHINGTON 98433-9500

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

IMNW-LEW-RS

MAR 27 2006

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Jewish Passover 2006, Accommodating Religious Practices

1. Reference AR 165-1, paragraph 3-2, Chaplain Activities in the United States Army.
2. Passover is a religious holiday observed by people of the Jewish faith throughout the world. Passover commemorates the Exodus of the Jewish People from ancient Egypt over 3300 years ago, as related in the Bible.
 - a. Passover is an eight-day religious Holy Day celebration. This year it begins Wednesday evening, 12 April 2006 and continues until Thursday evening, 20 April 2006.
 - b. The first two days of Passover, 13-14 April 2006, and the last two days, 19-20 April 2006, are days of obligation involving work restriction. Passover dietary laws which restrict both consumption and possession of leavened food, "Chometz", apply throughout all eight days. Kosher MREs for Passover are available and can be requested through unit supply channels.
 - c. Traditional observance of the Passover holiday includes a ritual Seder Meal on each of the first two nights of the holiday.
 - (1) The Fort Lewis Jewish community is hosting a traditional Passover Seder, ritual meal, on the first evening of Passover, 12 April 2006, at the Cascade Community Center. The program will begin at 1830 hours and Jewish community members and others who wish to attend can obtain more information and RSVP through Chaplain (LTC) Weiss at 967-3686.
 - (2) Individuals wishing to attend a Passover Seder meal for the second evening of Passover can contact Chaplain (LTC) Weiss for information about home hospitality in the local Jewish community.
 - d. On the last day of Passover, 20 April 2006, Yizkor Memorial Services will be held at 1200 hours in the Jewish Chapel, on the corner of Liggett Avenue and 12th Street.

3. Scheduling:

- a. Supervisors are encouraged to ensure that Jewish personnel have the opportunity to attend the celebratory chapel services and Seder functions.

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b. Passover, as with other major holidays, is a family oriented occasion. As such, a liberal leave and pass policy is encouraged.

c. Due to holiday restrictions, supervisors should ensure that observant personnel have adequate travel time to reach their destination prior to the beginning of the holiday days of obligation.

4. For further guidance, or assistance, contact the Garrison Jewish Chaplain, Chaplain (LTC) Avi S. Weiss at 967-3686 or by email at avi.weiss@lewis.army.mil.



OSCAR B. HILMAN
Brigadier General, USA
Deputy Commanding General

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