

USFK SUICIDE CRISIS LIFE LINE
DSN 118
COMMERCIAL 0808-555-118

PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Who are you going to call when everything else seems to be closing in on you and there seems to be no way out?

USAG-Yongsan, Seoul, Korea, 10 Jun, 2013 — USFK officials are launching a toll-free Korea-wide access to the Military Crisis Line and National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. All USFK community members, i.e. active-duty military, civilians, invited contractors and family members, are able to reach the Military Crisis Line by dialing **DSN 118** from any military installation DSN phone line or commercially via a standardized, **toll-free Korean number, 0808-555-118**. The toll-free number can be dialed from fixed-line telephones and cell phones Korea-wide. A live Internet-based chat service is also available at www.militarycrisisline.net. All calls are confidential and will be answered by trained crisis counselors. The Military Crisis Line has one Primary Call Center and two back-up centers and manned mostly by Veterans.

The standardized call-response process at no cost to the caller is a significant milestone in the suicide prevention history of Korea and the first in the whole Pacific Armed Forces. Likewise, Korea is aligning suicide crisis response process with the U.S. Forces in Europe and Afghanistan further enhancing standardization and connectivity. This herculean feat would not have been accomplished without collaborative efforts from an excellent team of USAG-Yongsan DHR/ASAP, USFK/8A Command Surgeon Cell, USFK J4 HSSD, USFK Provost Marshall Office, U.S. Army 1st Signal Brigade, G-8, 411 CSB, Veteran's Affairs, Pentagon Suicide Prevention Office, test caller volunteers, USFK and 8A Public Affairs Office professionals.

"Suicide is an irreversible decision that horrifically affects the individual's family, friends, coworkers, and unit. This tragic and traumatic loss disrupts unit cohesion and weakens unit morale. We can prevent this needless and tragic loss by learning to recognize suicide warning signs and by taking immediate action to ensure that anyone exhibiting suicidal signs gets help. Suicide prevention is the responsibility of every Soldier, Sailor, Airman, Marine, civilian, contractor and family member living and working in the Republic of Korea. All military and civilian leaders must learn to recognize and respond to suicidal behavior."

--James D. Thurman, General, U.S. Army US Forces Korea
United States Forces Korea (USFK) Command Policy Letter #1, Zero Tolerance Policy

For more information contact Jocelynn MP Reyes-LaShier, USAG-Y at DSN 738-5293 (315 if calling from CONUS), Commercial 02-7918-5293; email jocelynn.m.lashier.civ@mail.mil