

Patriot Express: Now first option for military PCS travel



The U.S. Army is implementing a new phase in the Patriot Express. The Patriot Express Mission will originate in Baltimore International Airport with roundtrip service to Ramstein Air Base. The Channel is serviced by a Boeing 767 aircraft with 240 seats departing BWI twice weekly.

As of Feb.6, all Department of the Army personnel and family members incoming to U.S. Army in Europe on permanent change of station orders

with assignments in Germany will use the flights from BWI as the first option of travel.

Returning Service Members and their families stationed in Germany and PCS to the continental U.S. also use the flights to BWI as their primary air transportation method.

The Army also considers PE flights as the first transportation method for travelers from Germany on temporary duty orders. Therefore, personnel going on temporary duty may be routed on PE if it meets their mission requirements.

In accordance with the Defense Travel Regulation, the PE must be used for all installations serviced by PE (listed in Part I and II) unless there is a documented negative critical mission impact. This applies to both PCS travel and temporary duty travel whenever possible, even if commercial service can be provided at less cost, or if the commercial service is preferred by or more convenient for the traveler.

The twice-weekly flights are expected to enhance the international travel experience for Army personnel and their families. PE flights are contracted with all the amenities of a traditional international commercial flight. Incoming members will arrive at an English-speaking airport where dollars are used not euro, making the initial transition to a foreign duty station a bit easier.

Other benefits include a higher luggage weight allowance than commercial airlines, with passenger's authorized to check two pieces of baggage, each weighing up to 70 pounds.

The Patriot Express micro site contains more information about the program. The address is www.eur.army.mil/PatriotExpress.

Other helpful Links

- <http://www.ramstein.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-091214-001.pdf>
- [Baltimore/Washington International Airport](#)
- [AMC Travel Site](#)
- [AMC-BWI Passenger Terminal](#)