

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF

Welcome and congratulations on your selection for assignment to the United States Military Training Mission (USMTM) in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA). You will soon be embarking on a challenging, instructive, and professionally-rewarding tour of duty in the KSA. USMTM plays a pivotal role in our national engagement efforts in the KSA and region. You will be joining a diverse group of professionals whom work daily with our Saudi counterparts to further the strategic partnership enjoyed between the two countries.

USMTM is the largest Security Assistance Organization in the world. Established by the 1977 Accords, USMTM traces its roots to the historic 1945 meeting of President Roosevelt and King Abdul-Aziz aboard the Cruiser USS Quincy. You are arriving at a critical period in our history and will help build on the tradition established by King Abdul-Aziz and President Roosevelt more than 70 years ago. Our mission is to train, advise, and assist the Saudi Arabian Armed Forces to become a more ready, capable, interoperable and joint force to support the common interests of our countries. During your time here, you will be viewed as an "ambassador" of the United States. Focus on our priorities—mission, force protection, and quality of life and live our motto "*PROFESSIONALS; COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE!*" in all you do.

The mission provides an opportunity for you to make a difference in a region critical to our national interests. By building capacity and improving readiness you will enhance regional security. Our force protection procedures are strong and mitigate risk, but stay alert. You will find the KSA a safe, modern and growing country with an opportunity for you to experience Saudi customs and culture. This is a challenging and rewarding assignment with time to have fun and experience a country too few people understand.

The quality of life on Eskan Village is good and provides a wide range of facilities and activities. Everyone is assigned quarters (villas). Villas are fully furnished with items to include TVs with basic cable, dishes, sheets, bath towels, and commercial morale telephone service. Internet access is made available in common areas through 4G routers and you will be provided a cellular phone for official use that can be used as hot spot for internet use. Additional internet access and advanced cable service can be individually purchased. Eskan Village has a wide variety of community services to include a pool, jacuzzi, sauna, steam room, gyms, tennis courts, batting cage, video library, sports lounge, a robust spousal support group that can be reached at <u>desertspousegroup@gmail.com</u> and the Eskan Community Club Restaurant which serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

Your sponsor will make every effort to answer any questions and provide assistance in making your move as smooth as possible. Finally, as you prepare to journey to the KSA, you are encouraged to take free Arabic language training provided by the Defense Language Institute which can be found on their website.

Again welcome, I am excited about you joining our team and wish you a safe and enjoyable trip. If you need any assistance before your arrival, please feel free to contact us at any time.