



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY YUMA PROVING GROUND
301 C Street
YUMA, ARIZONA 85365-9498

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

IMWE-YMA-MWA

2 July 2013

MEMORANDUM FOR YPG MISSION, GARRISON, AND TENANT PERSONNEL

SUBJECT: Senior Commander's Policy Statement No. 9S- Supervision of Children and Curfew

1. References:

- a. AR 608-18, The Army Family Advocacy Program (AFAP), 30 October 2007.
- b. Memorandum, U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center, CFSC-CYS, July 11 2000, Subject: Out of School Child Supervision Requirements for Elementary and Middle School Children and Youth During Parental Duty Hours.
- c. Yuma County Curfew Ordinance Number 96-02, Curfew Hours for Minors (County Resolution Number 96-41)
- d. Arizona Statute Section 13-3620 (Duty to Report Child Abuse and Neglect).
- e. Department of Defense Instruction 6060.3, School-Age Care (SAC) Program, 19 December 1996.

2. Purpose: The purpose is to establish a policy concerning parental supervision of children and youth on U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground (YPG). We must strive to make our environment as safe as possible for everyone, including our children. Appropriate adult supervision of children is the primary means by which we can ensure our children are afforded a safe environment in which to live and play and to foster good order and discipline on the YPG installation. See Appendix A and B for more information.

3. Scope: This policy applies throughout YPG to all military and civilian personnel residing on YPG including family housing, YPG campgrounds, guest housing, and visitors with minor children dependents.

4. Definitions:

a. "Parent" refers to a child's natural or adoptive mother or father, stepparent, adults having supervisory custody, or any adult having legal custody over the child, to include a guardian or an adult serving in a court-ordered parental capacity. An adult is considered to have supervisory custody when the adult is charged or directed by proper authority with holding or keeping a minor under supervision.

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b. "Grade" is the school level a child is currently attending. During the summer break, a child's grade is the one last attended before the break.

c. "Child Neglect" is a type of child abuse/maltreatment whereby a child is deprived of needed age-appropriate care by an act of omission of the child's parent, guardian, or care giver, an employee of a residential facility, or a staff person providing out-of-home care under circumstances indicating that the child's welfare is harmed or threatened. Child neglect includes abandonment, deprivation of necessities, educational neglect, lack of supervision, medical neglect, and/or nonorganic failure to thrive.

d. "Parental Duty Hours" are the hours of 0600 to 1800 Monday through Friday.

e. "Self-Care" is care where the child is responsible for himself/herself and generally includes children who are responsible for themselves before or after school, during school vacations, and holidays, sometimes referred to as "latch-key children" because those children let themselves into their own homes.

f. "Monitored Care" is when the child's parent is aware of the child's location and activities during parental duty hours.

5. Out of School/Home Alone Policy: It is the responsibility of parents to ensure that their children are appropriately supervised in accordance with the following guidelines:

a. Kindergarten Through Fifth Grade: Children in kindergarten through fifth grade will not be left in self-care or home alone on a regular basis during the parental duty hours. When a child under age 9 is left unattended, or is left attended by a child under the age of 12, a finding of child neglect may be appropriate under state and local laws and AR 608-18, Army Family Advocacy Program. Working parents are encouraged to enroll their children in appropriately supervised programs that accommodate their schedules, such as the YPG School-Age Services before and after school programs, and off-post supervised activities and care options available through schools, youth organizations and other appropriate agencies. Children in this age group may be left in the care of an older trustworthy sibling who is 12 years of age or older.

b. Sixth Through Eighth Grade: Children in grades six through eight may be in self-monitored care during parental duty hours. Children in seventh grade may baby-sit younger siblings during short periods of time not to exceed four hours. Children in eighth grade or above may also baby-sit children other than their siblings. Children in eighth grade or less will not be left alone overnight.

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c. Ninth Through Twelfth Grade: Children in grades nine through twelve may be in self or monitored care during parental duty hours, and may be left alone for periods of time deemed appropriate by their parents based on their determination that their children are responsible and mature enough to maintain order and safety in the household. The children must have an emergency plan with the name and telephone number of a responsible adult they can call on if needed.

6. Curfew:

a. Subject to the exceptions specified below, parents will ensure that all children in grades 12 and below will be in their home, when not accompanied by an adult or in a responsible adult's home, during the hours of 2200 and 0600 the following day.

b. This curfew policy is not violated in the following circumstances:

(1) When the child has prior permission of the parent or guardian, or an adult having supervisory custody, and is involved in an employment activity or going to or returning home from an employment activity.

(2) When the child is involved in an emergency.

(3) When the child has prior permission of the parent or guardian or adult having supervisory custody, to attend an official school, religious or other recreational activity supervised by adults and sponsored by any school district, government entity, civic organization or similar entity that takes responsibility for the child, or when the child is going to or returning from such activities.

(4) The child is older than eighteen years old but still in school.

(5) When the child has the permission of the parent and is utilizing YPG Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreational facilities, for example, the bowling center.

(6) When with prior permission of the parent, guardian or an adult having supervisory custody is engaged in reasonable, legitimate, and specific business and/or activity.

c. YPG law enforcement who suspect a child may be involved in a curfew violation should ask the child their age and the reason for being in a public place. YPG law enforcement officials will not report a child as violating this curfew policy unless the official reasonably believes a violation has occurred after considering all the circumstances, the child's response

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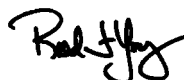
and conduct, and after determining that the exceptions to the curfew policy are clearly not present. Children who are determined to be in violation of the curfew policy will not be detained by YPG law enforcement officials, but will be directed to immediately return home and an incident report will be entered in the blotter.

7. Failure to comply with these policies may result in a finding of child neglect or abuse under the Family Advocacy Program or applicable State laws. Non-compliance or lack of appropriate supervision of children is considered inappropriate conduct and may result in disciplinary measures deemed appropriate by the command, to include removing violators from family housing on the YPG installation, barring individuals from entering the YPG installation, initiating adverse administrative action or action under the Uniform Code of Military justice against military personnel, and initiating adverse administrative action against civilian personnel employed by YPG. Suspected violations may also result in the incident being referred to the YPG FAP for consideration and appropriate processing when military personnel are involved, and/or referral to the appropriate state or local enforcement agency or child protective services when civilian or military personnel are involved.

8. By establishing minimum standards of parental responsibilities to supervise and care for their children, this policy memorandum does not purport to limit or define the wide variety of circumstances outside the scope of this policy memorandum that may constitute child abuse or neglect as defined by the Army Family Advocacy Program guidelines or by state and local law. Technical compliance with this policy letter will not relieve parents of a finding of child abuse or neglect if they fail to meet their responsibilities to attend to a child's minimal needs for nurturing, food, clothing, shelter, medical care, dental care, safety or education, or otherwise compromise the health and safety of their child through neglectful behavior constituting child abuse or neglect under state or local law or AR 608-18 (ref. 1(a)).

9. Persons witnessing or suspecting a child's physical or mental health is being threatened or harmed by abuse or neglect will telephone the Reporting Point of Contact at the YPG Police Desk at 328-2720.

10. This policy memorandum will be distributed to all military and civilian personnel residing in family housing on YPG; a copy will be included in the housing resident handbook, a copy will be posted on the YPG intra-net site, and a copy will be posted on all official bulletin boards.



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REED F. YOUNG
COL, LG
Senior Commander

APPENDIX A: FOUR STEPS TO DETERMINE IF YOUR CHILD IS RESPONSIBLE ENOUGH TO CARE FOR HIM/HERSELF OR CARE FOR OTHERS

STEP 1. Does your child know the following?

- a. Identifying information
- Their full name
 - Their full address
 - Directions to their home
 - Their phone number

(Your child needs to know the answers to these questions in case he/she is lost, in danger, or if he/she is trying to get the police or fire department to your home. Remember that some homes are isolated from main roads, therefore directions are important.)

- b. Important phone numbers
- Police department-328-2720
 - Poison control
 - Parent's phone number at work
 - Neighbor or other person to call for assistance

(These numbers should be posted directly by the telephone. Your child should always have someone he/she can call in case of an emergency.)

- c. Use of the phone
- Can your child operate the telephone?
 - Does he/she know how to call the operator and why?
 - What does your child say when someone asks if his/her parents are at home?
- d. Locks and keys
- Can your child lock and unlock the door to your home?
 - How does your child gain entry to your home?

(If your child carries their own key, make sure it is not visible. A child wearing a key around their neck is a sure sign that they let themselves into the home which makes them vulnerable to strangers.)

STEP 2. Have you taught your child what to do in the following situations?

- a. What they should do in case of fire.

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- b. What to do if they are injured.
- c. Is your child allowed to cook on the stove? If so, what would he/she do in a cooking accident?
- d. If he/she is allowed to answer the door or play outside, what would he/she say if a stranger approached them?
- e. What to do if the power went off?
- f. Does he/she call you when he/she gets home from school?
- g. Is he/she allowed to leave the home to visit friends, or have friends over to the house?
- h. If friends are over to the house, do the parents of the guest child know that the parents of the hosting child are not home?

STEP 3. If your child is caring for younger siblings, ask yourself the following:

- a. Has authority been given to one child to act as the leader? Do the other children accept this leadership and obey accordingly?
- b. What form of discipline do your children use between themselves in order to maintain order? Is this form of discipline safe?
- c. Do your children get along with each other when you are not present?
- d. Are infants involved?

STEP 4.

Answer the following questions about your child	YES	NO
Is your child afraid to stay home by him/herself?		
Has your child ever played with matches or other dangerous objects?		
Does your child have unexplained seizures, blackouts or show violent, aggressive behavior?		
Has your child told you that he/she does not want to stay home alone?		

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Are you inaccessible by telephone?		
Does your child go easily to strangers?		

APPENDIX B: Child Supervision Guidelines					
Age of Child	May be Left Alone at Home (note 2)	May be Left Alone Overnight	May be Left Outside (Playing) Unattended (note 1,2, 3 and 4)	May be Left Unattended in a Car (note 2 and 4)	May Baby's Sibling (note 2 and 5)
Newborn - Age 3	No	No	No	No	No
Ages 4 - 6	No	No	Yes, if in a safe (fenced) area with immediate access (sight and hearing distance) to an adult. Kindergartener may not walk to or from school alone. Children in 1 st grade may walk to school alone.	No	No
Ages 7 - 9	No	No	Yes, if in a playground or yard with ready access (in person) to an adult.	No	No
Ages 10 and 11	Yes, for up to 3 hours, during daylight hours	No	Yes, with ready access to adult supervision	Yes, for up to 10 minutes if the keys have been removed and the emergency brake applied.	No
Ages 12 - 14	Yes, for up to 6 hours during daylight and early evening. An adult must check on them (in-person or telephonically)	No	Yes	Yes, for up to 20 minutes if the keys have been removed and the emergency brake	Yes, for up to 6 hours, but not overnight

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	every 3 hours.			applied.	
Ages 15 - 17	Yes, for up to 8 hours, but not overnight.	No	Yes	Yes	Yes

NOTES:

1. Adult supervision is defined as "Someone who has or assumes responsibility for the child (for parent, guardian, care provider, adult friend)
2. Parents are responsible for assessing the individual capabilities of their children.
3. Ready access is defined as "as a minimum, telephone access and telephone number of pers as adult supervision."
4. Children may have difficulty assessing dangerous weather conditions (for example, extreme l and taking action to protect themselves.
5. Red Cross Babysitting Course is strongly encouraged.