

Holiday Mail Dates for Overseas Destinations

****Special release from the U.S. Department of Defense**

Ensure that your holiday cards and packages for service members overseas arrive in time for the holidays, and beat the last minute rush by bringing your mail to your post office by these suggested dates:

Military Mail addressed to:

APO/FPO AE ZIPs 090xx-092xx, 094xx-098xx

APO/FPO AA ZIPs 340xx

APO/FPO AP ZIPs 962xx-966xx

First Class Mail Letters/Cards – Dec. 11

Priority Mail – Dec. 11

*Parcel Airlift Mail (PAL) 1 – Dec. 4

**Space Available Mail (SAM) 2 – Nov. 27

Parcel Post – Nov. 13



APO/FPO AE ZIPs 093xx

First Class Mail Letters/Cards – Dec. 6

Priority Mail – Dec. 6

*Parcel Airlift Mail (PAL) – Dec. 4

**Space Available Mail (SAM) – Nov. 27

Parcel Post – Nov. 13

International Mail Addressed to Africa

Global Express Guaranteed – Dec. 20

Global Express Mail – Dec. 11

Global Airmail Letters and Cards – Dec. 6

Global Airmail Parcel Post – Dec. 6

Global Economy (Surface) – Oct. 14

International Mail Addressed to Asia/Pacific Rim, Australia and New Zealand

Global Express Guaranteed – Dec. 20

Global Express Mail – Dec. 17

Global Airmail Letters and Cards – Dec. 13

Global Airmail Parcel Post – Dec. 13

Global Economy (Surface) – Oct. 28



International Mail Addressed to Canada

Global Express Guaranteed – Dec. 21

Global Express Mail – Dec. 18

Global Airmail Letters and Cards – Dec. 13

Global Airmail Parcel Post – Dec. 13

Global Economy (Surface) – Nov. 19

International Mail Addressed to Caribbean and Mexico

Global Express Guaranteed – Dec. 20

Global Express Mail – Dec. 17

Global Airmail Letters and Cards – Dec. 13

Global Airmail Parcel Post – Dec. 13

Global Economy (Surface) – Nov. 5

International Mail Addressed to Central and South America

Global Express Guaranteed – Dec. 20

Global Express Mail – Dec. 11

Global Airmail Letters and Cards – Dec. 6

Global Airmail Parcel Post – Dec. 6

Global Economy (Surface) – Oct. 29

International Mail Addressed to Europe

Global Express Guaranteed – Dec. 20

Global Express Mail – Dec. 11

Global Airmail Letters and Cards – Dec. 13

Global Airmail Parcel Post – Dec. 10

Global Economy (Surface) – Nov. 5

International Mail Addressed to Middle East

Global Express Guaranteed – Dec. 20

Global Express Mail – Dec. 17

Global Airmail Letters and Cards – Dec. 13

Global Airmail Parcel Post – Dec. 13

Global Economy (Surface) – Oct. 21



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Holiday Mail Overseas (cont.) — Do's & Don'ts

**PAL is available for Parcel Post® not exceeding 30 lbs. in weight or 60" length and girth combined. Applicable fee must be paid in addition to the regular postage for each addressed piece sent by PAL service.*

***SAM refers to parcels paid at Parcel Post® postage rates that are first transported domestically by surface and then to overseas destinations by air on a space-available basis. The maximum weight and size limits are 15 lbs. and 60" in length and girth combined.*



DoD no longer accepts items addressed to "Any Service Member," and large numbers of packages sent to an individual service member's overseas address clogs the system and causes unnecessary delivery delays.

DoD requests that those who send mail use the service member's full name (with or without rank or rating), unit and APO/FPO (Air/Army Post Office or Fleet Post Office) address with the nine-digit ZIP code (if one is assigned) and a return address. For packages, mailers are asked to print on one side only with the recipient's address in the lower right portion.

Packages mailed in boxes with markings related to hazardous materials, such as bleach, alcohol or cleaning fluids will not be processed. Instead, they will be handled as non-mailable matter - regardless of the contents or what is listed on the U.S. Customs form.

It is prohibited to mail the following items to the U.S. Central Command region: obscene articles (prints, paintings, cards, films, videotapes, etc.); pork or pork by-products; alcoholic beverages; any matter depicting nude or seminude persons, pornographic or sexual items, or unauthorized political materials.

Religious materials contrary to the Islamic faith are prohibited in bulk quantities, but items for the personal use of the addressee are permissible.

There may be size restrictions and custom-declaration form requirements to some locations, as mail going through the MPSA can be subject to host country customs requirements.

Delivery may take longer when forces are on the move during periods of heightened activity.

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