Corporate group to initiate Holiday Inn Express operations on post May 1

Corporate group to initiate Holiday Inn Express operations using post facilities May 1

The horizon moves closer for InterContinental Hotels Group to start operating the three Army Lodging buildings on Carlisle Barracks as Holiday Inn Express as of May 1.

Throughout the past year, IHG has toured and assessed existing facilities and requirements for changeover under the Privatization of Army Lodging Program. An early decision was to retain and maintain the existing hotel facilities – 46 rooms in Ashburn, Pratt and Washington Halls -- rather than build a new hotel .

Some changes will accompany the private operation. Anyone who can gain access to a U.S. Army post can stay at an IHG Army Hotels location, according to IHG publicity. "While we mainly cater to military personnel and their families, we also regularly serve official guests of the U.S. Army as well as civilians," according to the IHG web site, www.ihgplc.com. "IHG Army Hotels ... offer the same comforts, amenities and services as off-post hotels, but they're located inside the gates of Army posts across the U.S."

The first Holiday Inn Express on a military installation was opened at Fort Polk, La., in August 2009; the largest is at Fort Sill. Now located on 21 Army posts across the country, IHG Army Hotels publicize the services and courtesies that military travelers require, to include pet accommodations for a small fee.

The Army introduced the Privatized Army Lodging program to transfer responsibilities for hotel operations, management, renovation and revitalization to the private sector, so that Army Garrisons can focus on the primary missions.

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