



(For Immediate Release)

## GUAM HOSTS OVER 100 KOREAN ATHLETES

(Thursday, February 11, 2010; Tumon, Guam) Guam recently hosted more than 100 top Korean athletes for winter training at LeoPalace Resort in Manenggon Hills, thanks to a collaborative effort between Guam Visitors Bureau and the LeoPalace Seoul Branch Office.

Three top Korean sports teams - the No. 1 ranked Jeonbuk Hyundai K-League soccer team, the Samsung Lions and Kia Tigers professional baseball teams – spent about four weeks on Guam for winter training in each of their respective sports beginning Jan. 12.

On average, visitors from Korea spend about \$300 during an average 3- to 4-day visit.

The Samsung Lions, which brought a staff and player roster of 79 people, have trained six times on Guam since 2005. The Kia Tigers have returned three times in two years, and the Jeonbuk Hyundai soccer team came for their first trip in January.

“This is a great example of how important it is for people to enjoy their first time on Guam,” said GVB General Manager Gerald S.A. Perez. “Not only did these teams receive excellent service and use of the facilities at Leo Palace Resort, but in the case of the Samsung Lions, they received service good enough to make them want to return five more times in the past five years. From time to time, sports teams from all over Asia visit Guam for training due to our warm weather, and this is the kind of result we want when they do.”

GVB donated \$1,000 worth of bottled water to the teams through the Community Programs Sports Committee, an effort extended to all Japanese teams who visit as well.

Media coverage was kept at a minimum while the teams were on island at their request. The Jeonbuk Hyundai soccer team, however, received coverage by several Korean media during their stay including Joynews24, Osen, Newsis, Sportsworld and JTV.

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