

WORKING



OFFSHORE

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“If you reach for the stars you might not quite get one –
but you won’t come up with a handful of mud, either.”

Bill Bernbach



Preface

The purpose of this book is to help you find employment or set up business in the world's best offshore tax havens. If you are interested in this challenge there is an immediate job available:

- HELP WANTED -

Expatriate Recruiters, a company dedicated to finding employment worldwide for expatriate job seekers has an immediate job opening:

The Applicant

- Do you want to work in the exotic orient, oil rich mid-east, or sunny Caribbean on full expatriate terms and conditions?
- Without any further qualifications or experience would you like to at least halve if not completely eliminate your tax, and potentially double your take-home salary?
- Does the idea of living and working in a vibrant new culture and making new friends from all corners of the world appeal?
- Would you like to be able to build wealth such that you can retire early, and not have to work for the rest of your life?

The Job

This exciting job requires you to:

- Read this book thoroughly!

Interested applicants please proceed to topic 1 now.



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1: Why Work Offshore?

The Great Escape

Quite some time ago a movie *The Great Escape* was based on the true story of allied prisoners of war held captive in a German concentration camp during World War II.

Unlike other concentration camps where the prisoners gave up all hope of escape and accepted their circumstances, the prisoners in this camp had an unquenchable yearning for freedom.

The movie revolved around their ingenious plans to escape, and the trials and tribulations they faced along the way.

In the end they prevailed and made it to freedom, but it did not occur without the effort and determination needed to overcome the adversities they faced along the way.

This book is about another great escape, yours.

Thankfully the fences are not made of barbed wire; they are made of fear. If your escape is to be successful you will therefore need the same courage and determination displayed in the movie, and the willingness to persevere.

The escape you are about to perform is just as dramatic however, for you are about to extract yourself from the servitude foisted upon you by the tax system within your high tax country of origin.

If you currently find yourself up to your eyeballs in tax, it is high time you moved far outside the long arm of your tax department. But where oh where in the world can you work and keep the fruits of your labor?

This book will answer that question. You will find those countries in the world where you can work under financial freedom. The details of the escape plan are contained within this book, the rest is up to you.



A World of Opportunity

Becoming an offshore expatriate is not just for the high flying CEO who is sent offshore on lucrative terms and conditions. As the example of George given below illustrates, it can occur to those far lower in the echelon and in his case by pure chance. Here is his story.

George is a 30-year-old engineer working for a large engineering firm in a developed western country. He has worked with them for some 8 years since graduating, so he is still at relatively junior positions within the organization.

He is not overly ambitious, preferring instead to bide his time and wait his turn for promotion. He enjoys a balanced range of activities, so career advancement is not his sole burning ambition.

This is not the case for others in the organization however, who have placed career advancement high on their list of priorities.

Just after being recruited George vividly recalls the gathering with the state manager of the company, for the purpose of meeting and welcoming new recruits.

Organized over an informal drink, the state manager was surrounded by so many ambitious aspirants, George could not even get close enough to the state manager to say hello.

Given the manager is on salaries some three times that of George and those surrounding him, it is no wonder he has such an eager following, all hoping one day to fill his shoes.

Though George holds professional qualifications, like most of those working in high tax countries of the world, salary is enough to pay for accommodation, food and transport. After which there is a little left over for a few of life's luxuries including a yearly vacation.

Overall George is relatively contented with his work, friends, further studies, and sporting activities.

George's hometown contains a variety of opportunities, plus it is the place of his roots.



All in all many of the aspects that make life worthwhile such as work, friends, study, recreation etc. are working OK for George, save one component. He is still single and having finally tired of the party scene is on the lookout for a suitable mate to settle down.

When this last missing ingredient is in place, George figures all will be just fine. Certain the right lady will come along one day, he is expectant but not desperate.

George's life is probably little different from many others working away in developed countries. Life may have a few ups and downs along the way, but once the ingredients that make for a steady secure lifestyle become mortified in stone, it is easy to settle down into the same pattern for years to come. Once this stage is reached, the place is often referred to as home.

Unless something major goes wrong and upsets the apple cart in a big way, life usually carries on regardless.

For George, home is where he lived for some 30 years thus far, but unknown to him all is about to abruptly change.

One day his world is suddenly turned upside down when his boss informs him he is being transferred to a small country town. It is very simple, his choices are to accept or resign.

Needless to say, he is very disappointed and dejected for quite some time after the meeting.

The transfer would mean loss of friends, family, selling the house, discontinuing studies and moving to a small country town where he knows no one.

After the initial shock of the meeting passed he started to consider the other options open to him.

His organization is the only employer for a person with his qualifications and experience in that town, so there are few other opportunities in that same line of work.

He thought of heading in entirely new career directions such that he could still work in his hometown. But he is quite happy with his existing line of work, so whilst he would still have friends, etc. he could potentially end up in a new occupational area that he never really enjoyed.



Though his work colleagues are encouraging him to resign, after much deliberation he reluctantly accepts the transfer to the small country town.

On the day of his departure the air can be cut with a knife as he says fond farewells to family and friends, and drives for a full day to his new town.

His employer provides little by way of relocation assistance. All he is given is a copy of the local newspaper in the country town, so he can scan the rental advertisements for suitable accommodation before he arrives. Aside from paying for the first week's accommodation, all other relocation details are left to him.

Upon arrival he checks into a hotel and over the next week experiences all the usual difficulties in finding suitable accommodation and settling down in a new town.

He also meets his new work colleagues, who do their best to make him feel at home. After a week he also joins one of the local sporting clubs.

Though he doesn't mind the work, eligible women are few and far between. The sporting club of some 60 members has none at all. Given he is still single this is a major disadvantage. Not so for his work colleagues who are all married, and have basically come to the town for a quiet life with their families.

Though his life is soon occupied with the usual activity, after a few months he is still feeling depressed and wants to leave.

Rather than accept his circumstances for the remainder of his posting, he decides to take life into his own hands and find work elsewhere. But where? He does not want to stay where he is, but neither can he go back to his hometown.

Deciding he likes the nature of the work, he makes the bold decision to look for similar work overseas. He made a recent visit to Asia, so decides to see if he can secure work in that region of the world.



Not having applied for overseas work before he is not sure how to go about the task, so he starts by getting a list of suitable employers in the country of choice, and drafting a cover letter, sends out his resume.

For reasons to be seen later this is not the best approach, but during the application process he sees an advertisement in his home paper for a job in Asia which suits him perfectly.

He applies and after some 3 months is advised he has made the shortlist and will be flown to his original hometown for an interview.

Within a month following the interview he receives an offer of employment. He has just been given his first expatriate appointment and motivated by the unhappy circumstances in his country town, accepts the offer. Within another 3 months he is on a plane heading for the exotic orient.

It is a move that is to change his life in a way he could never have imagined before leaving home.

Unlike the abysmal relocation assistance he received in moving to the country town with his previous employer, he finds his new overseas employer pays for his airfare and shipment of his belongings. At the airport he is greeted by a staff member and escorted to his hotel, all paid for by his new employer.

He is picked up at the hotel the next day and taken to a brand new apartment ten minutes walk from his office. Upon collecting his belongings from the air cargo section of the airport he unpacks his belongings and is settled in to his new apartment by the end of that same day.

Though rental accommodation can be quite expensive in this particular Asian country, his employer subsidizes his apartment. He is paying less rent than he was paying for rented accommodation back in his country of origin.

The first few days at work consists of an introduction to all that needs to be known for settling into his new Asian city, also attended by other foreign expatriates recruited at the same time.

