



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

414TH BASE SUPPORT BATTALION
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST MARSHAL
UNIT 20193, BOX 0003
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AETV-HUB-PM

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MEMORANDUM FOR See Distribution

SUBJECT: Establishment of Traffic Code for Operation of Motor Vehicles on Installations within the 414th Base Support Battalion (BSB)

1. PURPOSE: This memorandum describes required and prohibited actions for operators of military and privately owned vehicles and for pedestrians in U.S. controlled areas. This memorandum will apply to U.S. Forces military and civilian personnel assigned to or employed in Germany (GE) and their family members and U.S. service members and U.S. civilian personnel employed or contracted by the U.S. Government who are on temporary duty or visiting GE.

2. REFERENCES:

a. USAREUR REGULATION (UR) 190-1, 22 February 2000, Registering and Operating Privately Owned Motor Vehicles in Germany.

b. UR 190-4, 1 August 1991, Procedures for Registering Privately Owned Vehicles and Firearms and Licensing Drivers in Germany.

c. UR 27-9, 23 July 1999, Misconduct by Civilians.

d. UR 385-55, 30 August 1990, Prevention of Motor Vehicle Accidents.

e. UR 600-1, 30 August 1990, Regulated Activities of Members of the U.S. Forces, Civilian Component and Family Members.

f. Army Regulation (AR) 190-5, 8 July 1988, Motor Vehicle Traffic Supervision.

g. AR 190-45, 20 October 2000, Law Enforcement Reporting.

h. 414th Base Support Battalion (BSB) Provost Marshal Office (PMO) Standing Operating Procedures (SOP).

i. Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA).

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3. TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES:

a. Drivers will obey traffic control device instructions, unless otherwise directed by someone authorized to direct traffic.

b. Enforcement action will not be taken against an alleged violator if an official traffic control device is not in proper position and is not sufficiently visible to an ordinarily observant person.

c. When official traffic control devices are placed to conform to this or other governing regulations, such devices will be presumed to have been so placed at the direction of proper authorities.

4. LANE POSITIONING:

a. On roads of sufficient width, drivers will drive vehicles on the right half of the road except:

1. When passing a vehicle traveling in the same direction.

2. When obstruction makes it necessary to drive to the left of the center of the road. Drivers will yield the right of way to vehicles traveling in the proper direction on the unobstructed portion of the road.

3. When the road is divided into three marked lanes for traffic.

b. Vehicles traveling at less than normal speed of traffic will be driven in the right hand lane. Exceptions are:

1. When overtaking and passing another vehicle moving in the same direction.

2. When preparing to turn left at an intersection or into an alley or driveway.

c. On roads having four or more lanes and are designated for two way traffic:

1. No vehicles will be driven to the left of center line unless:

a. Authorized by traffic control devices.

2. Vehicles will not impede the normal flow of traffic by traveling side by side in adjacent lanes unless required by congested traffic conditions.

5. VEHICLES MOVING IN OPPOSITE DIRECTIONS:

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a. Drivers moving in opposite directions will pass each other to the right. On roads wide enough for only one line of traffic in each direction, each driver will give the other at least half of the road or as near half as possible.

6. PASSING:

a. General Guidance: The following rules apply to drivers who are passing other vehicles moving in the same direction:

1. The driver of the passing vehicle will pass to the left at a safe distance from the vehicle being passed. The driver of the passing vehicle will not return to the right side of the road until the vehicle is safely clear of the overtaken vehicle.

2. Except when passing on the right is permitted, the driver of an overtaken vehicle will:

a. Give the overtaking vehicle room to pass.

b. Not increase speed until the passing vehicle has completely passed.

3. When a vehicle is stopped at a marked crosswalk to permit a pedestrian to cross the road, the drivers of the other vehicles approaching from the rear will not try to pass the stopped vehicle.

7. TOWING:

a. General Guidance: The following rules apply to the towing of vehicles on and off military installations:

1. When a vehicle is located off post, close to the installation and is considered a force protection issue, the responsible German Police will be notified and they will initiate measures to have the vehicle towed away if needed.

2. If a vehicle has been abandoned on post it will be processed/marked for abandonment by Military Police. The 414th BSB Area Support Team (AST) will be notified about the abandoned vehicle as soon as possible and they (AST) will arrange to have this vehicle towed to the impound lot located on Grossauheim Kaserne for further disposition.

3. If a vehicle is located on post and is identified as evidence in a criminal investigation, Morale Welfare and Recreation (MWR) towing service should be contacted and arrangements made to have the vehicle in question moved to a secured area.

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4. If a military vehicle is located on post and needs to be towed for some reason, the 414th BSB Transportation Motor Pool (TMP) will be contacted and will provide towing service for the military vehicle.

5. If a vehicle is located on post and needs to be towed immediately (force protection or other reasons) and all other means of towing have met with negative results, a local towing service will be contacted to have the vehicle removed. The bill for this towing will be paid for by the 414th BSB PMO (IMPAC Card Holder). If such a situation should arise, the PM and/or Operations Sergeant for the PMO should be contacted first.

8. STOPPING OR PARKING:

a. Procedures: Drivers of vehicles will park or stop parallel to the curb or shoulder of the road in the direction of authorized traffic movement. On a one-way road, drivers will park or stop as close to the right or left curb or shoulder as practical. On a two-way road, drivers will stop or park as close to the right curb or shoulder as practical.

b. Prohibited Parking: Except when necessary to avoid an emergency vehicle or to comply with traffic-control devices or traffic authorities, drivers will not stop or park vehicles—

1. In an intersection or crosswalk.
2. On a sidewalk, unless permitted by a sign.
3. On railroad tracks.
4. On the road-side of any vehicle that is stopped or parked at the edge of a curb or shoulder (double-parking).
5. In a way that blocks a parked vehicle.
6. In a way that blocks street construction.
7. Where official signs prohibit parking or stopping.
8. Within 15 feet of a fire hydrant.
9. Within 20 feet of an intersection.
10. Reserved parking as designated by the ASG, BSB or commanders.
11. In a manner that straddles two or more marked parking spaces so as to deny the use of the other parking space.

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c. Disabled Vehicles: The rules in [subparagraph b](#) above do not apply to vehicles that are disabled (broken down).

d. Schoolbuses: Drivers approaching a schoolbus in either direction in U.S.-controlled areas will stop before reaching the schoolbus if the bus is stopped and children are getting on or off the bus. Drivers will not proceed until the schoolbus proceeds. German law does not require stopping for schoolbuses on public roads off U.S.-controlled areas. Stopping for schoolbuses off U.S.-controlled areas may subject drivers to a fine for impeding traffic.

e. Moving Parked Vehicles: Drivers in parked or stopped vehicles will not resume driving until they can safely do so.

9. MISCELLANEOUS RULES:

a. Reckless Driving: Drivers will not operate vehicles in a reckless manner.

b. Driving in Reverse (Improper Backing): Drivers will not drive in reverse unless it is safe to do so and does not interfere with other traffic. Driving in reverse while on an autobahn is strictly prohibited.

c. Obstructing the Driver's View: Drivers will not operate vehicles if cargo or passengers obstruct the driver's view or the driver's control of the vehicle.

d. Maximum Number of Passengers: Vehicles will carry only the number of passengers for which there are permanently installed seats.

e. Opening Vehicle Doors: Doors of vehicles will be opened only when it is safe and only when it will not interfere with traffic.

f. Secure Loads: Drivers will not move vehicles unless cargo in or on the vehicle is secured and will not shift or fall off or out of the vehicle.

g. Seatbelts and Other Restraint Systems:

1. Drivers and passengers of U.S.-Government vehicles and POVs on or off U.S.-controlled property will wear or use available restraining systems.

2. Children 11 years of age or younger or shorter than 150 centimeters (4 feet, 11 inches) are required to sit in the back seat using restraint equipment suitable for the child and approved by either the DOT or Economic Commission for Europe Regulation 44.

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h. Cell (Mobile) Phones: The use of hand-held cell (mobile) phones when driving a vehicle or riding a bicycle is prohibited. "Hands-free" speaking systems that can be used without the driver's having to take his or her hands off the steering wheel and that do not force to driver to take his or her eyes off the road may be used. Hand-held telephones may be used only when the vehicle is stationary and the motor is turned off.

10. Point of contact is SFC Kyle S. Simpson at DSN 322-1580 or email kyle.simpson@104asg.army.mil.

Encls

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