



Defense Personal Property System (DPS) Country Instructions Germany

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Medication (Narcotics)/Pharmaceutical Products

- 1) Private individuals to include personnel holding status under the NATO SOFA and the supplementary agreement are prohibited from introducing into Germany (in unaccompanied baggage or mail channels) any drugs or substances whose sale outside a pharmacy is prohibited by the German Pharmaceutical Law.
- 2) Such drugs/substances can be imported only when in accompanied baggage and prescribed by a physician.

Furniture, Oversized

- 1) Government and economy living quarters are generally smaller than those in CONUS.
 - a) Economy housing in Germany, Italy or Belgium may accommodate more HHG than government quarters, but are still smaller than homes and apartments in the United States.
 - b) Many have narrow doorways and tight stairwells that cannot accommodate furniture that would fit easily into an American home.
- 2) Service members/Civilians shipping large items such as king and/or queen size box springs and mattresses, oversized sofas, or other large furniture items that cannot be disassembled, may encounter problems when residing in government or economy housing due to narrow stairwells.
- 3) Furnished items:
 - a) Washers, dryers, ranges, refrigerators, kitchen cabinets, and wardrobes are furnished for government and economy quarters.
 - b) These items should be placed in Non-temporary storage (NTS) in CONUS and not shipped to Germany, Italy or Belgium.
 - c) **There is no NTS in Europe.**
- 4) HHG shipped in excess of what will fit, or is too large to be placed in the member/civilians living quarters **cannot** be stored at government expense.
 - a) Storage will be at the member/civilians expense as the Joint Travel Regulation does not allow reshipment back to CONUS for placement into NTS.

Pets/Quarantine

PLEASE NOTE: Ferrets are not accepted as pets for movement on AMC military or commercially contracted aircraft.

- 1) Importing dog and cat food that includes animal products (such as meat, milk, cheese, or yoghurt) is prohibited.
 - a) Food [containing animal products] that is brought into the EU will be confiscated and disposed of.

2) PROHIBITED PETS:

- a) Pit bull terriers
- b) American Staffordshire terriers
- c) Staffordshire bull terriers
- d) bull terriers
- e) Crossbreeds among them or with other breeds must not be brought into Germany regardless of any provisions established by individual German Federal States.
 - i. The decision of whether or not a dog belongs to one of the breeds listed will be exclusively based on the appearance of the dog.
 - ii. Bringing a dog of the above-mentioned breeds or crossbreeds among them and with other breeds into Germany may be punished with imprisonment of up to 2 years or a fine.
 - iii. The different German Federal States have established additional provisions. Therefore, the person responsible for the dog must also review whether or not keeping a dog of a certain breed will be allowed in the respective German Federal State.

3) DOGS/CATS:

- a) Fee:
 - i. an examination fee of 55 Euro per pet will be implemented February 1, 2013, for all non-EU citizens who import a pet into the country.
 - ii. The USDA form certification fee (approximately \$70+, plus any shipping and handling if by mail)
 - iii. Transporting pets to and from the PCS destination is at the member's expense and cost is based on the size of the pet being transported. Connecting flights may have fees in addition to AMC fees from BWI.
 - iv. All pet requirements are at the member's expense
- b) Quarantine Period - There is no quarantine period for pets entering Germany.
- c) Identification
 - i. Via standard electronic identification system with a read-only passive radio frequency identification device known commonly as a transponder Microchip
 - ii. Complies with ISO standard 11784 and 11785
 - iii. Where the microchip does not comply with ISO standard 11784 or 11785, the owner or the natural person responsible for the pet on behalf of the owner must provide the means necessary (Microchip Reader/Wand) for reading the non-ISO compliant microchip at the time of inspection
 - iv. The microchip must be implanted before the primary rabies vaccination or valid rabies booster is given to the pet before traveling:
- d) Rabies Immunization:

- i. Go to: <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/regulations/vs/iregs/animals/>
- ii. Enter the destination country you will be residing in under "Search APHIS"
- iii. **Remember: A VALID RABIES VACCINE MUST OCCUR AFTER THE MICROCHIP IS IMPLANTED**

Privately Owned Firearms (POFs)

- 1) Privately owned firearms will not be included in household goods/unaccompanied baggage shipments, hand carried, or transported in luggage to Germany unless the owner possesses a valid German Weapons Possession Card (Waffenbesitzkarte) specifically listing those firearms.
 - a) An updated copy of the Registration and Control of Privately Owned Firearms and Other Weapons in Germany (AER190-6) effective 08, November 2013 can be found at: <http://www.sddc.army.mil/PP>
 - b) Antique POFs manufactured during or before 1898, and single-shot black powder POFs are not required to be registered with the German authorities, and may be shipped or transported in luggage to Germany.
- 2) Members who have in their possession Waffenbesitzkarte from a previous assignment in Germany are authorized to ship POFs, as long as the Waffenbesitzkarte covering the POFs to be shipped has not expired.
 - a) Copy of the Waffenbesitzkarte must accompany shipment.

Privately Owned Vehicles (POVs)

- 1) Registration requirements:
 - a) USAREUR certificate of license must be obtained
 - i. Requires passing a very stringent test on European driving rules, requirements, and road signs.
 - b) An individual must be in possession of a valid U.S. state license, or a valid license from another country, as a prerequisite for taking the test.
 - c) Unit issued military operator's permits also meet the requirement for obtaining a USAREUR certificate of license, however, these permits can only be issued to service members and civilian employees.
 - d) **Family members cannot be issued** a military operator's permit, therefore, family members not in possession of a valid license from the USA or another country, cannot be issued a USAREUR certificate of license.
 - e) Any additions of different classes, such as a motorcycle endorsement must first be authorized on the valid state or country license.
 - f) USAREUR is no longer permitted to issue **learner's permits**, or instructor's permits; and parents are not allowed to "teach" family members how to drive.
 - i. Individuals arriving in Germany without a valid license desiring to obtain a USAREUR certificate of license must first complete requisite training and licensing in CONUS, or complete local

- German training and licensing requirements prior to being issued a USAREUR certificate of license.
 - ii. Cost of local training is expensive.
- 2) POV larger than 20 measurement tons (MT) (800 cubic feet):
 - a) Will incur excess cost unless an exception is granted for medical need (i.e., handicapped family members)
 - b) Or when joint spouse military couples elect to combine their 20 MT entitlement into one 40 MT entitlement.
- 3) Window Tinting:
 - a) IAW with German Law, vehicles with after market window tinting on the windshield, front driver's side, and front passenger side window are not authorized.
 - b) Vehicles that are being shipped in connection with a new assignment to USAREUR must have the film removed before shipping.
- 4) Documentation to pick up vehicle:
 - a) Copy of PCS orders
 - b) Obtain USAREUR POV driver's license.
 - c) Obtain POV insurance.
 - d) Obtain verification that POV has arrived at local VPC.
 - i. Post card from local VPC.
 - ii. Name on weekly arrival list posted at local TMO/ITO (list provided by contractor).
 - iii. Copy of FAX listing via ITO for direct inquires.

Motorcycles/Mopeds

Motorcycles will be rejected when the motorcycle has been altered or modified to change the center of gravity or wheel base from what was established by the manufacturer.

Insurance and Safety Requirements

Higher insurance rate for Privately Owned Vehicles (POV) in Germany.

- 1) Insurance requirements:
 - a) Only insurance companies approved by the German Government are authorized to issue a 29a (proof of German Minimum third party liability insurance) to register a POV in the U.S. Forces system in Germany.
 - b) There are two insurance systems service members can choose from in Germany (NATO Tariff and German Tariff).
 - c) Several companies issue policies in the United States for registration of POVs in Germany. The differences in the systems are the following.
 - i. NATO Tariff: Annual tariff rates are based on age and marital status (all payments can be made in US currency). The most expensive

category personnel are individuals under 25 years of age and single.

- ii. German Tariff: Rates are based on POV HP/PS/or KW, location where POV is registered and individual's driving record (substantiated by letter from service member's home insurance office in U.S. only). Payment in the local German currency is required.

2) SAFETY REQUIREMENTS:

- a) A POV shipped to Germany must pass USAREUR safety standards before it can be registered for driving in Germany.
- b) The cost of repair work and parts are very expensive in Germany and should be done in CONUS before POV is delivered to the Vehicle Processing Center.
- c) It is the member's responsibility to ensure POV meets USAREUR safety standards.
- d) The most common causes of POV inspection failures in Germany are:
 - i. Tires: All tires must have at least 1.6mm tread over the complete tire surface. No regrooved tires are allowed; snow tires (if on vehicle) must be on the drive wheels; and there can be no mixing of radial and conventional tires.
 - ii. Exhaust System: No rusted out or leaking exhaust system components allowed. Exhaust systems with cutouts, fiberglass packed, or straight through exhaust systems are not allowed.
 - iii. Brakes: A mismatch of 20 percent or more between wheels, as measured on the brake wheel drag machine. Hand brake must hold vehicle on incline.
 - iv. Wheel Alignment: Wheels must be able to be turned to full right or full left without jamming or rubbing any part of vehicle; tie rod steering arm assemblies must not be damaged or worn.
 - v. Lights: All installed lights must be operational.
 - vi. Exterior Condition: Missing fenders, broken windows, extensive body damage, deterioration, broken springs, or oil leaks are not allowed. Foreign manufactured vehicle frames are usually an integral part of the body; therefore, rust damage is critical and will necessitate costly reconstruction to pass the inspection.
 - vii. Horns: POVs must be equipped with a horn and it must be operational.
 - viii. Modifications: Any modifications changing the vehicle body style (as to engine not being covered), altered bumpers which are not to manufacturers specifications, missing or damaged running boards, or tires protruding beyond the fender wells are not allowed. Dark tinted glass on the front driver's and passengers doors or on the front windshield that comes down from the top of the windshield more than 4 inches that makes it impossible to see the driver and occupants is prohibited by German law.

Transmitting Equipment

- 1) Germany has different rules and regulations governing the use of the Frequency Spectrum within their borders.
- 2) Prohibited items:
 - a) CB Radios,
 - b) cellular phones,
 - c) cordless phones,
 - d) baby monitors,
 - e) wireless intercoms,
 - f) radio frequency remotes,
 - g) radio controlled vehicles, and
 - h) radio frequency wireless LANs.
 - i. Items above can be purchased in Germany that adhere to the German Spectrum Allocation Tables.
- 3) Infrared transmitter/remote controls: No restrictions.
- 4) Radio Operators.
 - a) Importation of this equipment is not prohibited.
 - b) Must coordinate with the local German authorities (Bundespost) to acquire a German license prior to turning on the equipment.
- 5) Dish Antennas
 - a) Importation of TV satellite dishes is not prohibited.
 - b) Installation and operation must be approved by the local Bundespost.