



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG
UNIT 29237
APO AE 09014-9237

IMEU-BW-ZA

7 July 2011

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: United States Army Garrison (USAG) Baden-Wuerttemberg Command Policy Memorandum #30, Paintball Gun Storage, Transportation, Use, Safety, and Registration

1. REFERENCES:

a. AE Reg 190-6, Registration and Control of Privately Owned Firearms and other Weapons in Germany, 4 Jun 10.

b. AE Reg 215-144, Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR) Paintball Programs and Events in Germany, 5 Sep 08.

c. Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) and Manual for Courts-Martial, United States, 2008, R.C.M. 103(11) and (12), Explosives and Firearms as defined.

d. The German Weapons Act / Gun Regulations 1972, revised 1 Apr 08.

e. Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) Germany: 19 Jun 51, revised 13 Mar 67, 18 Jun 95.

2. PURPOSE: To outline the local policies and procedures for paintball gun storage, transportation, use, safety, and registration.

3. APPLICABILITY: This policy is applicable to all persons found on any installation under the control of the USAG Baden-Wuerttemberg Commander.

4. PROCEDURES:

a. The Commander has the sole authority to provide exceptions to the policy governing transportation, storage, and locations for use of paintball guns.

b. Further delegation is not authorized.

c. Every organization that sponsors a paintball event during duty hours must ensure that no unauthorized paintball guns are utilized. Planning for these events must also include a risk assessment, safety plan, and a designated combat life saver.

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5. POLICY:

a. Paintball guns will be used for recreation activity on installations controlled by the USAG Baden-Wuerttemberg Commander only in authorized areas. Authorized areas are any facility operated by the Morale Welfare and Recreation (MWR) for the sole purpose of paintball gun usage and any other place authorized by the USAG Baden-Wuerttemberg Commander.

b. Paintball guns will have the appropriate German F-stamp on the weapon. All paintball guns shipped from the United States for use in Germany must be converted to fit German applicable laws and regulations.

c. Coordination of converting paintball guns to German specifications is the sole responsibility of the owner of the weapon. Weapons conversions will be processed through the local MWR facilities.

d. Paintball gun storage will be in accordance with proper conversion of the weapon. A paintball gun not converted is considered a weapon under German law and will be stored IAW policies defined for storage of privately owned weapons.

e. Converted paintball guns are considered recreational sporting goods and can be maintained in a living quarters, barracks, and storage rooms.

f. Authorized purchase and ownership of paintball guns is prohibited by any persons under the age of 18.

g. Paintball guns not converted (paintball guns purchased in CONUS exceeding the 7.5 Joule limit and not having the embossed "F" stamp) are considered weapons and will be registered with the Provost Marshals Office (PMO), IAW policies defined for privately owned weapons in Germany.

h. Transportation of paintball guns to recreational facilities will be done considering all aspects of safety. They will be stored in the trunk or rear compartment of the vehicle, unloaded, with no propellant in the paintball gun. In the event that the vehicle desired for transport does not have a rear compartment or trunk, the paintball guns will be secured in a "tough-box" style compartment and locked.

i. Consuming alcoholic beverages while recreating with paintball guns is prohibited.

j. Individuals may transport paintball guns off-post only as allowed by German Law

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k. Paintball guns will not be used while in a motor vehicle on any military installation controlled by the USAG Baden-Wuerttemberg Commander.

l. At functions where the USAG Baden-Wuerttemberg Commander has granted approval to use paintball guns, a certified combat life saver must be present on site.

m. This policy is punitive. In addition to the specific actions described below, violation of the provisions of this SOP may also constitute a violation of German weapons law and may result in prosecution by German authorities.

(1) Persons subject to the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) and Manual for Courts-Martial, United States, 2008, who violate this policy, are subject to disciplinary action under Article 92, UCMJ or other appropriate adverse administrative actions.

(2) Members of the civilian component and family members of military and civilian sponsors who are eligible to receive individual logistic support who violate this policy or violate any part of this policy constitute misconduct under civilian personnel standards and AER 27-9. Violations may be used as a basis for employee adverse disciplinary action, adverse civilian misconduct action, or adverse administrative action under other applicable regulations.

(3) Local National Employees who violate this policy are subject to corrective and disciplinary actions as prescribed in Army in Europe Regulation 690-64, paragraphs 10 and 11, for violations of rule, regulations, or standards of conduct governing individual employment situations.

6. RESPONSIBILITIES:

a. Commanders will ensure appropriate supervisory and safety guidelines are in place where exceptions have been authorized.

b. Commanders and supervisors will ensure subordinates understand and comply with the paintball gun policy.

c. Commanders and supervisors will ensure risk assessments are completed prior to paintball gun use by their Soldiers.

d. Commanders and supervisors will ensure all paintball guns not converted to German specifications are stored in accordance with policies established for the storage of private weapons.

e. Commanders and supervisors will ensure all safety precautions are made prior to any member of their unit participating in any paintball event.

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7. POC for this policy is the USAG Baden-Wuerttemberg Provost Sergeant at DSN: 388-2222.



BRYAN D. DECOSTER
COL, MI
Commanding

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