



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
2D BRIGADE, 1<sup>ST</sup> ARMORED DIVISION  
UNIT 23704  
APO AE 09034-3704

AETV-THO-Z (100)

26 February 2003

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Command Policy Letter 40, Privately Owned Firearms

1. PURPOSE. To establish guidance on the disposition of privately owned firearms within the 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade, 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Division.
2. APPLICABILITY. All soldiers assigned or attached to 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade, 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Division
3. REFERENCES.
  - a. UR 190-6, 3 June 2002 (Registration and Control of Privately Owned Firearms and Other Weapons in Germany)
  - b. USAREUR Policy Letter 31, 25 November 2002 (Possession of Privately Owned Firearms-Germany Only)
  - c. <http://www.per.hqusareur.army.mil/services/mwrd/index.htm> (Provides online forms and information)
4. POLICY.
  - a. My intent is to eliminate difficulties so that soldiers may meet the requirements for registration of privately owned firearms (POFs) in accordance with USAREUR regulations and German law. Currently, all soldiers are required to store their POFs in a unit arms room. In addition, soldiers are required to properly register their weapons in accordance with German law and obtain a valid German Weapons Possession Card (*Waffenbesitzkarte*) NLT 1 December 2003. This procedure is time-consuming and difficult, particularly in the event of a deployment.
  - b. The failure to comply with the registration requirements will result in the confiscation of POFs and their disposal in coordination with host nation authorities. Violators are also subject to punishment under the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ), and are subject to administrative action in accordance with existing regulations. Accordingly, to help eliminate the prospect of noncompliance in the event of a deployment, commanders are directed to encourage soldiers to take full advantage of their options regarding POFs immediately. Commanders will notify soldiers that they have the following options prior to deployment, each of which meet the requirements of applicable Army and USAREUR regulations, as well as German law:
    - (1) Donate the weapon to the Baumholder Rod and Gun Club;
    - (2) Sell the weapon, but only with prior approval of the USAREUR POF Registration Office;
    - (3) Ship the weapon at the soldier's expense using a FFL (Federal Firearms Licensed)- weapons dealer; or
    - (4) Register the weapon and obtain a *Waffenbesitzkarte* in accordance with UR 190-6 and German law.
  - c. The POCs for specific information regarding these options are Mr. Lorenzini at the USAREUR

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POF Registration Office (DSN 386-7110), and Mr. Gardner at the Baumholder Rod and Gun Club (DSN 485-6202).

d. Mission and deployments constraints are not an excuse for failing to comply with the registration requirements for POFs. In the event that an exception to policy is carved out for soldiers on deployment orders, commanders are advised that uncertainty as to length and scope of any potential mission dictates that all soldiers owning such firearms must take immediate and affirmative steps to eliminate any difficulties with compliance with current regulations.

e. Commanders will identify and report all soldiers who own POFs and distinguish between those who have already complied with the registration requirements and those who have not. I expect all members of the Chain of Command to take whatever steps are necessary to notify identified soldiers within the Brigade and to institute appropriate procedures to provide assistance to soldiers in this matter.

5. This policy is effective immediately, and will be posted on all unit bulletin boards.

IRON BRIGADE!



JOHN D. JOHNSON  
COL, IN  
Commanding

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