



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON SCHWEINFURT
UNIT 25850, Box 10
APO AE 09033

IMEU-SWF-ZA

SEP 24 2010

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Policy Memorandum 5-1, Movement of Tracked, Oversize, Overweight Vehicles, and Wheeled Vehicle Convoys

1. References:

- a. AE Regulation 55-1, 24 May 2005, United States Army Motor Vehicle Operations on Public Roads.
- b. AE Pamphlet 385-15-1, 15 December 2003, Commander's Convoy Checklist and Risk Assessment.
- c. 1988 Agreement on the usage of roads/streets within the city limits of Schweinfurt and the County of Schweinfurt by US Forces.

2. Policy:

- a. Units conducting vehicle movement between Ledward and Conn Barracks and the local training areas (Areas M, S and G) fall under the agreement with the city of Schweinfurt and the County of Schweinfurt . This agreement waives the requirement for movement credits, but requires using specific routes, adhering to traffic and convoy regulations, warning all other traffic, and ensuring that the convoy is clearly recognizable.
- b. Units must coordinate all tracked, oversized/overweight vehicles, vehicle movements, and wheeled vehicle convoys moving in the Schweinfurt area with their Higher Headquarters Transportation Office. Convoys moving to training areas not within the Schweinfurt area of operation require a ten working day advance notice. Units will provide the following information:

- (1) Unit
- (2) Movement Credit Number
- (3) Time and Date of movement
- (4) Number of tracked vehicles
- (5) Number of wheeled vehicles
- (6) Number of March units (maximum of 25 vehicles)
- (7) Destination
- (8) Coordination POC

3. Identification of March Columns. Convoy Commanders will:

- a. Identify each march column by convoy flags and a movement number. Flags should be

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approximately 30 cm (12 inches) high by 45 cm (18 inches wide. Flags are available through supply channels.

b. Identify each convoy, oversize/overweight vehicle movement receiving a movement credit by the movement number issued from the Higher Headquarters Transportation Office to requesting unit. The number identifies the column during the movement. Prominently mark the number in white chalk on both sides of each vehicle and on the front of the leading vehicle of each organized element of the column.

c. Safety markings required on vehicles:

(1) Units will mount all required flags on the left front side of the vehicle.

(2) The leading vehicle of each march unit will display a blue flag and at least one but not more than two rotating amber warning lights. The lead vehicle will also have a sign with the words "Convoy Follows" in English and "Kolonne Folgt" in German.

(3) The last vehicle of each march unit will display a green flag, at least one but no more than two rotating amber warning lights, and a sign with the words "Convoy Ahead" in English and "Kolonne Voraus" in German. Lettering on the sign will be black on a non-glare white background. The dimensions and configuration of the rear of the vehicle will govern the size of the signs. The sign cannot obscure tail lights, directional signals, or factory-installed reflectors.

(4) The march unit commander will display a black and white flag.

(5) The convoy commander will determine which remaining vehicles should have a rotating amber warning light, based on visibility, weather conditions, and convoy spacing.

(6) Convoy commanders will ensure vehicles use headlights on low beam in the daytime as a control measure. Convoy commanders will ensure all vehicles, to include towed vehicles, have properly functioning front and rear lights for both daytime and nighttime convoy operations.

(7) Unit or convoy commander will ensure tracked vehicles operating singly (with required escort) or in convoy on public roads have a rotating amber warning light and have reflective tape to identify the outside corners of the vehicle. Use the rotating amber warning lights while in convoy.

(8) Keep all bumper numbers uncovered and legible at all times.

4. Escorts:

a. Use an escort vehicle for oversize or overweight vehicles. The escort will consist of two vehicles each equipped with at least one but no more than two functional rotating amber warning lights.

(1) Unit commanders may use any military vehicle $\frac{3}{4}$ -ton or larger as a lead escort vehicle. The trail escort vehicle (TEV) must be a $2\frac{1}{2}$ -ton truck or larger and cannot be a tracked vehicle. Unit

commanders may use a one-ton or larger truck, when a 2½-ton or larger truck is not available.

(2) The TEV will not transport troops or hazardous materials. The TEV may have a trailer if it is adequately lighted and the rotating amber warning light is clearly visible from the rear. Escort vehicle drivers will use rotating amber warning lights during escort. Each march unit must have its own TEV because of distances often experienced during convoy operations.

b. If the oversize or overweight vehicle has a functional rotating amber warning light, the escort requirement is a single vehicle with a functional rotating amber warning light. A single escort will trail the oversize or overweight vehicle on autobahns and lead the oversize or overweight vehicle on secondary roads. The requirement also applies for movement in field exercise areas.

5. Organization:

a. A march unit normally will not exceed 25 vehicles. For control purposes, limit a march serial to no more than five march units.

b. At least five minutes will separate march units and at least 15 minutes will separate march serials on open roads.

c. The interval between vehicles in an open column march unit will be a minimum of 100 meters (110 yards), or a six second interval on autobahns, and 50 meters (55 yards), or a four second interval on secondary roads (excluding congested areas). Convoy commanders may reduce the gap between vehicles to permit visibility of the preceding vehicle during inclement weather or when road conditions are poor. Convoy commanders may not reduce this gap if this would prevent civilian traffic from safely passing convoy vehicles. It is recommended that convoy commanders place the slowest vehicles in the leading part of the convoy and the faster ones at the end.

d. Guide personnel will facilitate the safe, continuous flow of civilian traffic in the event the convoy stops.

e. Guide personnel, as well as road guards, wrecker operators, and other personnel, must use a reflective vest when walking on or near public roadways. DA Pamphlet 385-3 contains information on arm bands and safety vests used for these purposes.

6. Specials Rules:

a. Drivers in military convoys must follow special rules concerning movement through intersections. When a military convoy, with proper markings and intervals, is moving through an intersection with a traffic light in Germany, other traffic must stop to permit the convoy to continue through the intersection even though the light may have changed.

b. Dismounted military personnel must warn approaching traffic of the convoy passing through intersections in the absence of local German police or military police. Such personnel will wear a reflective vest to increase their visibility as warning guides. Military personnel on the ground serve

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only as a warning, and not in a regulator or police capacity with regard to civilian traffic.

c. Units may use motor vehicles for warning purposes. Motor vehicles, to include escort vehicles (MPs or unit), may not block the traffic lane. The convoy has the right of way only if the unit sufficiently warns other drivers.

d. Other traffic must stop per German law, and permit a convoy to continue through the intersection once it has entered it. The convoy has no authority to enforce its right of way on other traffic. If the driver ignores the warning and fails to yield right of way to the convoy, military personnel may not take action to force the driver to stop the vehicle. Military personnel should report violators to the local Military Police, who will then contact the local German Police for assistance.

e. Host nation military and civilian police have the authority to override approved clearances. Drivers will obey police instructions.

f. Infiltration: Wheeled vehicles traveling without a movement credit (e.g., less than 20 vehicles and no oversize/overweight or tracked vehicles) will obey traffic signals, stop signs, and other traffic regulation. They do not have convoy rights.

g. Single oversize/overweight vehicles do not require a warning guide at intersections if they follow traffic lights and right of way rules.

h. All military movements must have a sufficient amount of absorbent materials; minimum of two bags per vehicle, for containment of possible oil/fuel spills or accidents.

7. When the march unit is going to Tank Road from Conn Barracks, the route will be from Conn Barracks, Geldersheim Gate to Niederwerrner Strasse and then Tank Road. The route for units returning to Conn Barracks will be from Tank Road to Niederwerrner Strasse to Conn Barracks, Geldersheim Gate. Convoys will use the right-hand side of the road only. Commanders will place warning guards at all intersections and when crossing the oncoming lane to ensure the safe crossing of the convoy. Post the guard a minimum of 50 meters (55 yards) from the crossing point. The distance will vary based on current visibility and road conditions.

8. All units returning to Conn Barracks via the Tank Road will wash their vehicles prior to their movement to Conn Barracks and before notifying the MP Desk Sergeant (354-6766/6624) for an escort. Units will use the wash rack near Kessler Field on Tank Road for this purpose.

9. Units will ensure the roads they use are clean and free of dirt and mud left by their vehicles. Units may request the Directorate of Public Works road sweeper to sweep US controlled roads. Units must clean German roads. German authorities may submit a maneuver damage claim if they clean the roads. Units must also clean up oil and chemical spillage within their capability. Units should coordinate clean up through DPW and the Fire Department.

10. Movement of tracked vehicles, oversize/overweight vehicles and wheeled vehicle convoys through Schweinfurt or other populated areas, and between Conn and Ledward Barracks is not

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authorized during weekday rush hours (0500-0900 and 1600-1800), on Sundays or on German Holidays. Saturday movements are authorized if it does not fall on a German Holiday. Units may request an MP escort without prior coordination. The Military Police Desk Sergeant (354-6624/6766) is the point of contact for convoy escorts. MP patrols will provide such escorts when available. Patrols may not be readily available to provide escorts due to the OPTEMPO within the PMO and the unpredictability of law enforcement operations. When MP escorts are not available units requiring immediate escorts must provide their own per applicable regulations and this policy memorandum.

11. Units must not assume that German police or Military Police will always be able to support convoys or oversize/overweight vehicles, units must plan for providing a warning guide at all intersections controlled by traffic lights or where they do not have the right of way.

12. Military Police/German Police will cite march unit commanders who move without coordination or without meeting the safety (lighting and escort) requirements. The PMO will enter an appropriate blotter entry listing the convoy commander as a subject.

13. Units bringing oversized vehicles on to Ledward Barracks may be required to utilize the out bound lane for entry. This will be coordinated with the Senior Contract security guard prior to entry.

14. Units bringing oversized vehicles on to Conn Barracks will utilize the Conn Geldersheim gate for entry, during the posted hours of operation. Units must ensure that the equipment being brought on to Conn can traverse the Active Barriers systems at this location, prior to entering the gate. Entry after duty hours can be facilitated by contacting the Garrison MP Desk at DSN 354-6624.

15. The proponent for this memorandum is the Directorate of Emergency Services at DSN 354-6626/6766/7009 or CIV 09721-966626/966766/967009.



EVERETT S. P. SPAIN
LTC, EN
Commanding

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