



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON BADEN-WUERTEMBERG  
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 #34, Pet Ownership Responsibilities in Government Quarters

1. Pet ownership brings great joy to many people in our community. It also brings several responsibilities. Pet ownership in government quarters is a privilege, subject to revocation in specific instances of policy violation. Below is a summary of the pet policy.

a. Pets will be on a leash when outside of government quarters unless in designated off leash areas sponsored by the garrison. All pets, when outside of quarters, will be accompanied by the owner or his or her responsible representative capable of controlling the pet. Young children under the age of 12 without adult supervision will be considered incapable of controlling the pet. Any dog that has the tendency to attack persons or other animals will be muzzled and kept on a short leash when out of quarters. Dog biting incidents must be reported to the Military Police and followed up through the Soldier's military chain of command.

b. Pets will be exercised, i.e., walked or run on a leash, outside of the immediate vicinity of the housing area, and a minimum of 25 feet away from buildings, defined/signed playground boundaries, community picnic areas, and resident parking.

c. Dogs and cats will not be allowed to relieve themselves on balconies, playgrounds, or within 50 feet of family housing buildings. Pet owners will clean up excrement from their pets. Building coordinators will designate pet walk areas. Pet owners are responsible for carrying the means and supplies needed for immediate pet toileting clean up and disposal.

d. Pets will not be housed or locked in/on balconies, in basement or attic storage rooms, servant quarters, spare rooms or building playrooms. Pets will not be tied to stair railings, pipes, shrubbery, or trees in or around family quarters.

e. Pets will be fed only in the Soldier's apartment, not on landings or stairwells.

f. No more than two dogs or cats or combination thereof are authorized per dwelling unit. Other domestic pets, including goldfish, hamsters, and birds, may be kept in Army Family Housing. Barnyard animals, or exotic pets, such as snakes, lizards, tarantulas, etc. are prohibited without advanced written approval by the installation veterinarian and the housing manager. Permission to house more than two pets or other than those specified, will be requested in writing to the Housing Office.

g. Owners are required to register their pets with the post veterinary clinic within 2 weeks after acquiring the pet or the arrival of the pet at their permanent command. The owner must present evidence of the pet's current vaccinations (to include rabies) at the time of registration, maintain a record, and update required vaccinations, as necessary. A vaccinated animal will receive a rabies tag that will be worn by the animal at all times. The veterinary clinic will not register unauthorized or illegal pets.

h. In accordance with host nation laws, the following class I canines are prohibited from entering Germany, and are prohibited from residing in government controlled quarters. Any mixed breeds containing bloodlines of Class I canines are also classified as Class I canines.

- (1) Pit Bull Terrier
- (2) Bull Terrier
- (3) American Staffordshire Terrier

i. There are specific restrictions regarding Class II breed canines. For a list of these breeds and additional information regarding Class I or II dogs personnel should contact the Community Veterinary Clinic. The Chain-of-Command will ensure assigned personnel adhere to host nation regulations concerning Class I canines.

j. Residents may be subject to immediate loss of pet and/or privileges if:

- (1) A dog is found to be a prohibited breed.
- (2) A dog physically appears to be a Class I prohibited dog and the owners are unable to prove the dog is an allowable breed.
- (3) A dog shows aggression to the extent the installation veterinarian or installation commander determines they are a danger to the community.

k. The owner is liable for animal abandonment or animal disposal by inhumane means. Animal maltreatment may result in disciplinary action. Pet owners may be liable, under host nation civil laws, for any damage to property or injury to persons caused by an animal, whether the animal is in the owner's possession, lost, or abandoned. Liability insurance is recommended for all pets. In cases where owners of pets are negligent in the care or supervision of their pets, immediate action will be taken to have the Soldier and/or pet or pets removed from government housing.

l. Breeding or maintaining animals for commercial purposes (i.e., raising and selling animals for money) on government property is prohibited.

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m. Stray animals found on post will be taken to the Veterinary Clinic. After three working days, if the owner does not claim the animal it becomes eligible for adoption. It may also be turned over to the German Tierheim (shelter) or be destroyed at the discretion of the installation veterinarian.

n. Residents witnessing pet policy violations in their area by unknown persons or residents not in their building should report the violations to the Housing Office. Pet policy violations within a building will be handled in the following manner:

(1) First Infraction - Written warning from Building/Area Coordinator.

(2) Repeat Infraction - Action from Housing Manager.

(3) Repeat Infraction - Referred to Garrison Commander for possible loss of pet and/or quarters privileges.

o. All community members are encouraged to help keep their buildings, sidewalks, yards, and playgrounds cleaned of pet excrement, which can create various hazards. Any individual who witnesses a violation of pet excrement policy (see paragraph 1(c) above) should attempt to correct the violator, when possible, and report any person who fails to comply with this policy to the Housing Office. The following penalties are specific to personnel who fail to clean up after their pets. While the following are basic guidelines for failure to clean up after pets, the Garrison Commander has the discretion to prescribe an alternate penalty if necessary to address the particular facts and circumstances of the infraction:

(1) First Infraction – Letter of warning to pet owner.

(2) Second Infraction – Minimum 8 hours of community service.

(3) Third Infraction – Minimum 40 hours of community service.

(4) Fourth Infraction – Pet will be barred from U.S. facilities.

2. Point of contact is the local garrison housing chief or their designee.



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