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Installations

Establishing Exterior Protective or Safety Zones (*Schutzbereiche*) in Germany

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For the Director:

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Document Management

Summary. This publication prescribes procedures for developing, processing, and managing exterior protective or safety zones (*Schutzbereiche*) for U.S. military facilities in Germany.

Summary of Change. This publication has been revised to update terms and responsibilities. Administrative changes have been incorporated throughout.

Applicability. This publication applies to all U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force units in Germany.

Records Management. Records created as a result of processes prescribed by this publication must be—

- Identified, maintained, and disposed of by Army in Europe units according to AR 25-400-2. Record titles and descriptions are on the Army Records Information Management System website at <https://www.arims.army.mil>.

- Maintained by USAFE/AFAFRICA units in accordance with Air Force Manual 33-363, Management of Records, and disposed of in accordance with the Air Force Records Disposition Schedule located in Air Force Records Information Management System at <https://www.my.af.mil/gcss-af61a/afrims/afrims/rims.cfm>.

Supplementation. Organizations will not supplement this publication without approval of the Real Estate Requirements Branch, Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff, G4, HQ IMCOM-Europe (mil 544-0543).

Suggested Improvements. The proponent of this publication is the Real Estate Requirements Branch, Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff, G4, HQ IMCOM-Europe (mil 544-0543). Army users may suggest improvements to this publication by sending DA Form 2028 to the Real Estate Requirements Branch by email to usarmy.rheinland-pfalz.id-europe.mbx.real-estate-requirements@mail.mil. USAFE/AFAFRICA elements in Germany may refer recommended changes and questions about this publication to the Chief, Environmental and Real Property Branch/Europe Division, Facility Engineering Directorate, Air Force Civil Engineer Center, Unit 3101, APO AE 09094-3101, by submitting AF Form 847 through the appropriate functional chain of command.

Distribution. This publication is available only electronically and is posted in AEPUBS at <https://www.aepubs.eur.army.mil/>.

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Glossary

1. PURPOSE

This publication—

a. Is a guide for U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force personnel in Germany to identify the need for exterior protective or safety zones (*Schutzbereiche*) for U.S. military facilities and installations in Germany. These protective or safety zones are hereafter referred to as restricted areas ([glossary](#)).

b. Prescribes procedures for requesting exterior protective or safety zones and for maintaining them.

2. REFERENCES

[Appendix A](#) lists references.

3. EXPLANATION OF ABBREVIATIONS AND TERMS

The [glossary](#) defines abbreviations and terms used in this publication.

4. RESPONSIBILITIES

a. Commanders. In Germany, commanders of U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force units are responsible for identifying restricted areas near installations their units occupy. If a need exists for exterior protective or safety zones, commanders will prepare requests, in memorandum format, for coordination with the German authorities and for submission to the Real Estate Requirements Branch, Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff, G4, HQ IMCOM-Europe, Unit 23103, APO AE 09136-3103.

(1) U.S. Army units will submit requests through the United States Army garrison (USAG) responsible for the area where the protective or safety zone is needed.

(2) U.S. Air Force units will submit requests through the Air Force Civil Engineering Center (AFCEC)/Environmental and Real Property (CFEE), Unit 3101, APO AE 09094-3101, for restricted areas on USAFE/USAF AFRICA installations in Germany.

(a). AFCEC/CFEE will coordinate the request with the Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center (AFIMSC) Detachment 4/Civil Engineering (Det 4/CE). AFIMSC Det 4/CE will review the request for possible validation and endorsement. Requests that cannot be validated will be returned to the requester.

(b) AFCEC/CFEE will forward requests recommended for approval, along with the AFIMSC Det 4/CE endorsement memorandum, to the Real Estate Requirements Branch at e-mail: usarmy.rheinland-pfalz.id-europe.mbx.real-estate-requirements@mail.mil.

b. USAG Commanders. USAG commanders will do the following:

(1) On receipt of a request to establish an exterior protective or safety zone—

(a) Review the request for validation and endorsement. Requests that cannot be validated will be returned to the requester.

(b) Forward requests recommended for approval, together with an endorsement memorandum, electronically to the Real Estate Requirements Branch at usarmy.rheinland-pfalz.id-europe.mbx.real-estate-requirements@mail.mil.

(2) Review construction requests or development plans, as submitted by German agencies or authorities, that affect U.S. restricted areas and airspace on or near U.S. Army installations. These types of requests include those for temporary cranes for construction in the vicinity of a U.S. airfield or air base.

NOTE: AFIMSC Det 4/CE, in close coordination with the installation subject-matter experts (SMEs), will review German construction requests that affect U.S. restricted areas on U.S. Air Force installations. To expedite the request, the Federal Ministry of Defense may send urgent requests directly to installation SMEs with a courtesy copy to the Real Estate Requirements Branch, AFCEC/CFEE, and AFIMSC Det 4/CE.

(3) Take measures to ensure that units with restricted areas apply continual vigilance over those areas and that they report known or suspected violations of these areas in accordance with [paragraph 13](#).

5. GENERAL

a. Article 53 of the Supplementary Agreement to the NATO Status of Forces Agreement prescribes Germany's responsibility for establishing restricted areas close to U.S. facilities and installations. German authorities normally set up a restricted area only on receipt of a U.S. request. German authorities may, however, establish restricted areas to comply with German safety standards. The U.S. Government does not generally acquire real estate in restricted areas.

b. Restricted areas include areas near any of the following:

- (1) Airfields, helipads, and sites for associated airspace procedures.
- (2) Air-defense sites.
- (3) Ammunition storage areas and basic-load storage areas.
- (4) Forward storage sites.
- (5) Radio-relay and other communications facilities.
- (6) Radar stations.
- (7) War-reserve sites.
- (8) Noise emissions.

c. Restrictions are grouped in two general categories:

(1) **Effective Operations.** These restrictions include limitations on construction that would interfere with ground-to-ground and ground-to-air radio transmissions. They also apply to restraints on cultivation and construction to ensure an unobstructed view.

(2) Safety or Protective Criteria. These restrictions include safety zones for airfield approach-and-departure areas, airfield-clear areas and accident-potential zones, ammunition storage areas and related explosive-safety-quantity distances, force-protection zones, and traffic zones. Unified Facilities Criteria (UFC) 3-260-01 provides more details on airfield-critical areas.

d. Failure to obtain an adequate restricted area could affect operations at U.S. facilities and installations. Commanders must therefore submit accurate restricted-area requests in a timely manner to ensure full use of the areas by the U.S. Forces.

6. CRITERIA FOR ESTABLISHING RESTRICTED AREAS

Normally U.S. Forces standards are applied when establishing restrictions that involve safety measures. Exceptions include NATO or German criteria. U.S. Army units may request details concerning NATO, German, and U.S. standards by contacting the Real Estate Requirements Branch at <mailto:usarmy.rheinland-pfalz.id-europe.mbx.real-estate-requirements@mail.mil>. U.S. Air Force units may request the same information by contacting the AFIMSC Det 4/CE. [Appendix A](#) lists references that prescribe technical guidance for determining which areas are restricted.

7. REQUESTS FOR ESTABLISHING RESTRICTED AREAS

The type of request, as described in [paragraphs 7a, 7b, and 7c](#) below, will determine the specific requirements for it.

a. Existing Operations. Restricted-area requests for operations at locations already under U.S. control should include an installation-layout plan.

b. New Construction or Facilities Modification. New constructions or modifications to existing facilities may affect existing restricted areas. The U.S. commander responsible for a new construction or a modification must report any changes that affect an existing restricted area or that require establishment of a new restricted area. In areas that affect class V storage, aviation, airfields, or air-defense facilities, Army commanders must request approval of the construction or modification from the USAREUR Safety Office and the DOD Explosives Safety Board. Air Force units will follow procedures in Air Force Manual 91-201.

c. New Construction on Land to be Acquired by the U.S. Forces. [AE Regulation 405-8/USAFE-AFAFRICA Instruction 32-9005](#) provides guidance on the acquisition, management, and disposal of real estate in Germany. If new construction on land to be acquired requires a restricted area, the request for the restricted area will be sent together with the accommodation-program request for the land to the Real Estate Requirements Branch in accordance with procedures in [AE Regulation 405-8/USAFE-AFAFRICA Instruction 32-9005](#). If the size of the restricted area depends on the final construction layout, and concurrent submission is not possible, the U.S. commander will submit the request at the earliest possible date. If class 5 facilities are involved, the restricted-area requirement must include consideration of the proposed loading and be approved by the IMCOM-Europe Safety Office and the USAREUR Safety Board. If an airfield, helipad, or aviation facilities are in proximity to the land to be acquired, the requesting U.S. commander will coordinate with the local or theater Air Traffic and Airspace Officer (AT&A) for clearance.

8. PRELIMINARY COORDINATION WITH GERMAN AUTHORITIES

On receipt of a request for a restricted area—

a. The applicable garrison safety manager, and AFCEC/CFEE or AFIMSC Det 4/CE, as appropriate, will coordinate requirements for air-defense and ammunition-storage facilities and other restrictions and safety zones described in [paragraph 5](#). This coordination will be made with the responsible office of the German restricted-area authority ([glossary](#)): the *Bundesamt für Infrastruktur, Umweltschutz und Dienstleistungen der Bundeswehr (BAIUDBw)*, to establish mutually acceptable boundaries or zones.

(1) Coordination for aviation requirements will be with the German Military Aviation Authority (*Luftfahrtamt der Bundeswehr*). This coordination is only for development purposes. U.S. commanders will not confirm any needs until the Real Estate Requirements Branch has validated the requirement.

(2) The USAREUR Safety Office will be included in any coordination involving class 5 restricted area decrees that are established or that are being planned.

b. The applicable USAG safety manager or AFIMSC Det 4/CE will ensure that the safety zones for external-exposure areas comply with prescribed German and U.S. criteria.

c. The applicable USAG safety manager, and AFCEC/CFEE or AFIMSC Det 4/CE, will forward the request for coordination electronically to the Real Estate Requirements Branch at: *usarmy.rheinland-pfalz.id-europe.mbx.real-estate-requirements@mail.mil*.

9. REVIEWING AND PROCESSING RESTRICTED-AREA REQUESTS

a. Restricted area requests should clearly state the intent to only limit construction or cultivation. Designating an area as a “restricted area” does not result in establishing realty rights for the land that comprises the restricted area.

(1) Garrison commanders will submit requests only if the requirement is critical to the safe operation and effectiveness of their facilities.

(2) Requests that would deny public access to or involve U.S. control over areas around military installations are not considered requests for restricted areas. These requests are for acquisition of sole use and occupancy rights by U.S. Forces and must be processed in accordance with the provisions of [AE Regulation 405-8/USAFE Instruction 32-9005](#).

b. Commanders will send restricted-area requests accompanied with the following:

(1) Transmittal Memorandum. The memorandum must be signed by the requesting commander and include the following statements:

(a) Terrain configuration and local conditions were considered when planning the restricted area.

(b) The requested restriction represents the minimum requirement.

(2) Narrative Data Sheet. This sheet must be an enclosure to the transmittal memorandum ([\(1\) above](#)) and include the following:

(a) Type and location of the U.S.-controlled facility.

(b) Location and extent of the restricted area (square area or linear distance). Specific reference points will be used (for example, antenna dish, storage magazine).

(c) Specific limits to be imposed.

(d) Length of time the restricted area is required.

(3) Maps and Plans.

(a) Map Scale. Maps of the U.S. facility or installation and restricted areas must be plotted on a scale of 1:10,000; 1:25,000; or 1:50,000. For airfields, the maps or plans will have geographic grid references in latitude and longitude (degrees, minutes, seconds). Vertical obstruction references and site field elevations will be in feet and in meters.

(b) Map Colors. The following color codes will be used in maps of restricted areas related to explosive storage and handling:

1. Dark yellow: U.S. installation boundary.
2. Blue: Zone III public road.
3. Red: Zone IV inhabited building or restricted area.
4. Green: Zone V special object.

c. The Real Estate Requirements Branch will give the responsible USAG directorate of public works copies of approved restricted-area requests and copies of accompanying maps and plans.

10. CANCELING RESTRICTED-AREA CLASSIFICATION

To cancel a restricted-area classification when a restricted area is no longer needed, the commander of the U.S.-unit will send a memorandum requesting cancellation through the channels described in [paragraph 4](#) to the Real Estate Requirements Branch by e-mail at: *usarmy.rheinland-pfalz.id-europe.mbx.real-estate-requirements@mail.mil*. The Real Estate Requirements Branch will review the request and, if approved, send it to the German authorities for action, with a copy furnished to the requester.

11. ANNUAL INSPECTIONS OF RESTRICTED AREAS

a. German regulations require the German restricted-area authority to inspect restricted areas once a year. The purpose of these inspections is to detect restricted-area violations and to take corrective action.

b. The German restricted-area authority will notify the Real Estate Requirements Branch before a planned inspection. The Real Estate Requirements Branch will then inform the garrison closest to the restricted area; or, if there is no garrison nearby, the Real Estate Requirements Branch will inform AFCEC/CFEE and provide the dates of the inspection. In response, the applicable garrison or AFCEC/CFEE will—

(1) Notify the U.S.-user unit or installation SME of the upcoming inspection.

(2) Ensure that a U.S. representative or SME accompanies the German inspectors or acts as the U.S. point of contact during the inspection. The U.S. representative or SME should be prepared to answer questions and report suspected violations or noted irregularities inside the restricted area and outside but near the restricted area. The U.S. representative or SME will record the inspection and, as required, initiate a request for corrective action by the German authorities.

c. U.S. commanders will coordinate the following with the German officials who conduct these inspections: the time of the inspection, the meeting point for the inspection, and the identification requirements at the inspection site. Inspectors usually limit their activities to a walk-through or drive-through of the restricted area.

NOTE: To expedite the request, German authorities may coordinate annual inspections of U.S. Air Forces in Europe restricted areas directly with the U.S. Air Force installation SMEs; and by providing an information copy of the request to the Real Estate Requirements Branch, AFCEC/CFEE, and AFIMSC Det 4/CE.

12. EVALUATION OF PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION IN RESTRICTED AREAS

a. The categories of German proposed construction requests that affect restricted areas are—

(1) German construction or zoning and utilization plans that may have an adverse effect on a restricted area or aviation procedures.

(2) Construction or development projects in a restricted area or near a U.S. military airfield/airbase within class D airspace ([glossary](#)).

b. The following procedures apply to processing German construction requests:

(1) U.S. Army commanders will immediately review the request and send it, with an appropriate recommendation, through the commander of the USAG that would be affected by the construction to the Real Estate Requirements Branch for decision. The USAG commander will always send recommendations to the Real Estate Requirements Branch for decision, regardless of where the request originated.

(2) If proposed construction, zoning, or utilization plans are expected to partially or fully impede U.S. operations, the commander receiving and forwarding the request will include requirements for alternate facilities (as defined in [AE Regulation 405-11](#)) with his or her recommendation.

(3) The *BAIUDBw*, through the responsible military aviation office, normally submits requests for evaluation of proposed obstructions in restricted areas established for airfields to the Real Estate Requirements Branch. For proposed obstructions affecting Army in Europe installations, the Real Estate Requirements Branch will request that the U.S. Army Aeronautical Services Detachment, Europe, and the Aviation Operations Branch, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G3, HQ USAREUR, evaluate the potential obstruction and provide input for a consolidated response to appropriate German officials. The Real Estate Requirements Branch will forward requests for obstruction evaluation which could impact operations at USAFE/AFAFRICA installations to the applicable USAFE/AFAFRICA installation SMEs, and will provide information copies to AFCEC/CFEE and AFIMSC Det 4/CE, for processing.

NOTE: German authorities may send urgent requests directly to USAFE/AFAFRICA installation SMEs with a courtesy copy to the Real Estate Requirements Branch, AFCEC/CFEE, and AFIMSC Det 4/CE.

c. Air Force agencies and affected installations under USAFE/AFAFRICA control that receive requests in the categories described in a(1) or a(2) above will send the requests, with appropriate comments or recommendations, to AFIMSC Det 4/CE, Unit 3050, APO AE 09094. On receipt of the request, the AFIMSC Det 4/CE will respond to the German authorities or issue instructions to the responsible Air Force unit.

NOTE: USAFE/AFAFRICA installation SMEs may send urgent responses directly to the German authorities with a courtesy copy to the Real Estate Requirements Branch, AFCEC/CFEE, and AFIMSC Det 4/CE.

13. SURVEILLANCE OF RESTRICTED AREAS

The responsibility for surveillance of restricted areas resides with German authorities. U.S. Forces help German authorities in this activity by keeping watch over restricted areas and by reporting suspicious construction or activity in restricted areas. U.S. participation is limited, as U.S. Forces may not enter restricted areas to patrol or inspect them. If violations are suspected—

a. U.S. Army units will immediately report the suspected violation to the Real Estate Requirements Branch. A layout plan or map sheet showing the approximate location of the suspected violation must be sent with the report.

b. Units on U.S. Air Force installations will immediately report the suspected violation to AFCEC/CFEE or AFIMSC Det 4/CE, as applicable. A layout plan or map sheet showing the approximate location of the suspected violation must be sent with the report.

APPENDIX A REFERENCES

SECTION I REFERENCES

Supplementary Agreement to the NATO Status of Forces Agreement

AR 190-13, The Army Physical Security Program

AR 385-10, The Army Safety Program

Unified Facilities Criteria 3-260-01, Airfield and Heliport Planning Design

[AE Regulation 190-13](#), USAREUR Physical Security Program

[AE Regulation 405-8/USAFE-AFAFRICA Instruction 32-9005](#), Acquiring, Managing, and Disposing of Real Estate in Germany

[AE Regulation 405-11](#), Provision of Alternate Facilities in Germany

Air Force Manual 91-201 and USAFE Supplement 1, Explosives Safety Standards

SECTION II RELATED GERMAN PUBLICATIONS

German Air Traffic Law [Construction Restriction Zones] (*Luftverkehrsgesetz [Bauschutzbereiche]*)

Restricted Areas Law [Protective or Safety Zones] (*Schutzbereichsgesetz [Schutzbereiche]*)

German ZDV34/210, General Protection and Safety Rules for the Handling of Ammunition [*Allgemeine Schutz- und Sicherheitsbestimmungen für den Umgang mit Munition*]

German Federal Ministry of Defense Decree, Protection and Safety Rules for Air Force and Marines [*BMVg Erlass, Schutz- und Sicherheitsbestimmungen für Luftwaffe und Marine*]

German Act for the Protection against Radiation [*Strahlenschutzgesetz - Gesetz zum Schutz vor der schädlichen Wirkung ionisierender Strahlung*]

German Act for Protection against Aircraft Noise [*Fluglärmsgesetz - Gesetz zum Schutz gegen Fluglärm*]

GLOSSARY

SECTION I ABBREVIATIONS

AE	Army in Europe
AFCEC	Air Force Civil Engineering Center
AFIMSC	Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center
CFEE	Environmental and Real Property
Det 4/CE	Detachment 4/Civil Engineering
DOD	Department of Defense
HQ USAFE/AFAFRICA	Headquarters, U.S. Air Forces in Europe/U.S. Air Forces Africa
HQ USAREUR	Headquarters, U.S. Army Europe
IMCOM-Europe	U.S. Army Installation Management Command Europe
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
SME	subject-matter expert
U.S.	United States
USAFE/USAFAF	U.S. Air Forces in Europe/U.S. Air Forces Africa
USAG	U.S. Army Garrison
USAREUR	U.S. Army Europe
BAIUDBw	<i>Bundesamt für Infrastruktur, Umweltschutz und Dienstleistungen der Bundeswehr</i>

SECTION II TERMS

Class D airspace

Space exceeding from surface to 2,500 feet above ground over the airfield for airfields that have an operations control tower. Configuration of class D airspace is tailored to each specific airfield.

German restricted-area authority

The German Federal Agency for Infrastructure, Environmental Protection, and Services of the Armed Forces (*Bundesamt für Infrastruktur, Umweltschutz und Dienstleistungen der Bundeswehr*) and its component subordinate agencies. These agencies are administrators of restricted areas for defense installations.

restricted area (Schutzbereich)

A defined area near a U.S. Forces facility or installation on which German authorities impose restrictions. These restrictions maintain the safety and effectiveness of the U.S. facility or installation and its operations. Restricted areas defined in this regulation are not the restricted areas defined in AR 190-13, [AE Regulation 190-13](#), or Air Force Instruction 31-101.

subject-matter expert

An individual with a deep understanding of a particular process.