



417th Base Support Battalion *Commander's Policy*

Policy Number: 6-7

Proponent: AETV-WG-WMH

Date: 7 August 2003

SUBJECT: Car Wash Policy

1. REFERENCE: AR 200-1, Environmental Protection and Enhancement. UR Reg. 200-1, USAREUR Environmental Program. Environmental Federal Governing Standards (FGS), Germany, January 2003, Chapter 4.

2. PURPOSE: To define the parameters for washing privately owned vehicles (POVs) within the 417th BSB.

3. SCOPE: This policy applies to all POVs located within the 417th BSB geographical area.

4. POLICY:

a. German law regulates POV washing within the 417th BSB. Under German law, it is unlawful to release vehicle grease and oil combined with detergents into the public sewer system. Accordingly, washing a POV in a manner that could contaminate soil and/or water resources is prohibited.

b. The use of commercial or NAF carwash facilities is encouraged. Alternatively, POV washing is authorized within the 417th BSB as follows:

(1) POVs must be washed on a paved area, such as a parking lot or driveway that drains into a sewer system.

(2) Washing the POV engine or undercarriage is prohibited except at commercial or NAF car wash facilities. Washing the engine and/or undercarriage of POVs is only allowed when preparing a vehicle for repair or stateside shipment. For stateside shipments, undercarriage washing must be done within two days of shipping the POV in order to pass inspection.

(3) Only plain water can be used; therefore, the use of detergents/soaps is prohibited except at approved BSB facilities (see paragraph 4.b.(4)). The recycling wash racks located at Harvey Barracks (building 2087) and Larson Barracks (building 96) can be used for washing POVs without detergents.

(4) Washing with a pH neutral soap (e.g., dishwashing liquid or commercial car wash cleaner) is allowed at the following wash racks:

- (a) adjacent to building 138, Harvey Barracks
- (b) adjacent to building 607, Giebelstadt
- (c) TMP wash rack, building 95, Leighton Barracks (during operating hours)
- (d) MWR wash rack, building 33, Larson Barracks

(5) Public car washes sponsored by community groups must utilize one of the facilities identified in paragraph 4.b.(4), and must follow the rules associated with that facility. Written requests to hold a public car wash must be made to and approved by the appropriate AST commander at least 30 days in advance of the event.

(6) Steam cleaners or other high-pressure devices cannot be used to wash POVs.

(7) Hoses must not be allowed to run water while not in use. Persons washing POVs must practice water conservation.

c. All POV maintenance activities, such as oil changes, brake jobs, etc., must be performed at a commercial shop or at an auto craft shop. Vehicle maintenance activities are prohibited at authorized POV car wash areas or facilities.

d. Washing POVs in housing areas located outside the confines of a BSB installation must conform to German law. The requirements are very similar to those allowed above except no washing can be done in public areas, unless otherwise specified.

e. The Provost Marshall's office, Area Support Team commanders, building coordinators, and Environmental Management office (EMO) will be responsible to identify violations of this policy. Enforcement is as follows:

(1) Active Duty Personnel: This policy has been published as a punitive order by the 417th BSB Commander; therefore, failure to comply with the policy is a violation of Article 92, Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ), and if caught, a soldier can be punished. The MPs will issue a citation to soldiers violating this policy. The building coordinator or EMO will notify the AST commander of violations of this policy, who will forward a written reprimand to the soldier through the soldier's chain of command. A second citation for the same offense may result in administrative or punitive action under the UCMJ.

(2) Family Members: The MPs will issue a citation to a family member violating this policy. The Building Coordinator or EMO will notify the AST Commander, who will forward a written reprimand to the sponsor through the sponsor's chain of command. A copy of the reprimand will be provided to the Civilian Misconduct Action Authority (CMAA) and the EMO. A repeat violation may result in disciplinary action under UR 27-9 (Misconduct by Civilians).

(3) U.S. Civilian Employees: The MPs will issue a citation to any civilian employee violating this policy. The MPs, Building Coordinators, and AST Commanders

AETV-WG-WM
SUBJECT: Car Wash Policy, 6-7

will notify the EMO of violations with appropriate information on the employee. EMO will coordinate with the CMAA to forward a written reprimand to the employee through the BSB Commander, and the head of the employing organization. A repeat violation may result in disciplinary action under UR 27-9.

(4) Local National Employees: The MPs will stop any local national employee that is violating this policy. The MPs, Building Coordinators, and AST Commanders will notify the EMO of violations with appropriate information on the employee. EMO will coordinate with the Works Council and may forward a letter of reprimand to the employee through the BSB Commander, Works Council, and the head of the employing organization. A repeat violation may result in suspension or dismissal. Any local national employee that violates this policy while on duty will also fall under the jurisdiction of the CMAA which may result in additional disciplinary action.

(5) Non-Affiliated Individuals: If the violator is not affiliated with the U.S. Army, EMO will coordinate with the MPs, the BSB Commander, and the Staff Judge Advocate's Office to forward a letter of warning to the individual. A repeat violation may result in imposition of a bar to 417th BSB installations.

5. **PROPONENT:** 417th BSB, Director of Public Works, DSN 351-1560.


THOMAS H. FASS
LTC, EN
Commanding