



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
UNITED STATES ARMY EUROPE  
UNIT 29351  
APO AE 09014-9351

AEAGX-A

26 July 2010

MEMORANDUM FOR Commanders in the Army in Europe

SUBJECT: Motorcycle Operation During Rest and Recuperation Leave and After Deployment

This memorandum expires in 1 year.

1. References:

- a. AE Regulation 190-1, Driver and Vehicle Requirements and the Installation Traffic Code for the U.S. Forces in Germany.
- b. AE Regulation 600-8-109, Reintegration Operations.
- c. Memorandum, HQDA, DACS-SF, 23 February 2010, subject: Mandating Motorcycle Refresher Training (MRT) and Adopting a Standardized Lesson Guide.

2. Off-duty motorcycle accidents continue to be one of the highest causes of accidental fatalities throughout the Army. The number of motorcycle-related deaths, however, is declining, which the Army leadership attributes to strong leader involvement and effective motorcycle operator training. To support the Army's goal of reducing the number of motorcycle fatalities, this memorandum provides guidance to help commanders and other leaders determine if Soldiers and civilians should be allowed to ride a motorcycle after redeployment or during rest and recuperation (R&R) leave.

3. Commanders in the grade of lieutenant colonel and above may authorize individuals to ride a motorcycle under the conditions of this paragraph. When deciding whether or not to allow personnel in their charge to operate a motorcycle or any other vehicle, commanders must consider their physical, emotional, and psychological state, and the extent to which they have recovered their operator skills. These combined factors should be used to determine if permission should be granted.

**a. Motorcycle Operator Skills Recovery.** On 23 February 2010, the Department of the Army approved a post-deployment motorcycle operation training policy. This policy requires motorcycle riders to receive refresher training if they have been deployed for more than 180 days. In advance of the Army policy being published, motorcycle operators in the Army in Europe who are deployed for more than 180 days must take a motorcycle refresher course before riding a motorcycle. This also applies to personnel returning for R&R leave who have been deployed for more than 180 days. Courses may be directed and scheduled for personnel deployed less than 180 days at the commander's discretion. For R&R leave only, commanders may waive the refresher-course requirement for individual operators based on a risk assessment. The assessment must consider the operator's skill level and anticipated changes in the type of motorcycle the operator will ride, including an increased engine size.

*This memorandum is available at <https://aepubs.army.mil/>*

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**b. Risk Assessment of Individual Operators.** Commanders will use their judgment and consider the physical, emotional, and psychological state of returning individuals when deciding whether or not to allow these individuals to operate a motorcycle. The Soldier Risk Assessment Checklist in AE Regulation 600-8-109, appendix B, table B-1, provides composite risk considerations for screening personnel. This checklist implements the Army Risk-Reduction Reintegration Tip Card in the Army in Europe. Authorization to ride will be given by the deployed commander (lieutenant colonel or higher) and communicated in writing to the individual's rear detachment commander.

4. Rear detachment commanders may schedule IMCOM-Europe Motorcycle Refresher Training (MRT) courses for returning groups with 30 days' notice by contacting the IMCOM-Europe Safety Office Motorcycle Training Coordinator at DSN 370-6803/6877. (This leadtime may be reduced by coordinating with the Training Coordinator.) This hands-on course is about 2 hours long, and up to 3 courses per day of 12 students each may be offered. This skills-refresher course does not, however, provide participants a Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) certificate for meeting licensing requirements.

5. Rear detachment commanders must ensure that returning operators have a valid license with motorcycle endorsement, a valid motorcycle registration and plates, an MSF card, and protective equipment (helmet, eye protection, and protective clothing) according to AE Regulation 190-1 and as supplemented by host-nation legal and local policy requirements. These items are also required for admission on the day of the refresher course.

6. The policy in this memorandum is effective immediately and will be published in a permanent publication before this memorandum expires.

7. The POC is Mr. Scott, Chief, USAREUR Safety Division, DSN 370-8884/9044 or e-mail: dave.scott@eur.army.mil.

FOR THE COMMANDER:



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