

HEADQUARTERS  
BERLIN COMMAND  
APO 742

AEBGA 265/76 GA

24 February 1960

SUBJECT: Information for Visitors in Berlin

TO: Individuals Concerned

1. Rescission: Letter AEBGA 260/20 GA, this headquarters, 20 March 1959, subject as above.

2. Welcome to Berlin. We hope your stay will be rewarding and that you see and enjoy the city, its sights and places of interest. To insure that the pleasantness of your visit is unmarred, this publication furnishes the DO's and DON'T's to which you should adhere while here.

3. Berlin is an occupied city completely surrounded by the Soviet occupied zone of Germany. Surface access to Berlin is through this occupied zone. You are not permitted to enter this Soviet occupied zone of Germany except enroute to or from Berlin via the Berlin-Helldorf Autobahn or the US Duty Train. To transit the Soviet zone either by road or rail, you must have proper and complete documentation. The city proper is divided into four sectors, US, British, French, and Russian. You are free to visit all sectors to include the East sector (Soviet), i.e. East Berlin. In the Western sectors, (US, British and French) i.e. West Berlin, you may travel as you please exercising only the care which is normal in any city of the world. While in West Berlin, you may travel by bus, the U-Bahn, or by Western sector taxicab, identified by a solid white stripe. Even though in West Berlin:

- a. DO NOT use East Berlin taxicabs which are marked with the broken white stripe below the window line.
- b. DO NOT use the S-Bahn as it goes into the Soviet occupied zone of Germany.

4. As complete protection cannot be guaranteed to you as a US citizen, or the dependant of a US citizen, you are not encouraged to travel in East Berlin except as a member of an official US Army tour. Special Services of Berlin Command conducts such tours which depart from the Shopping Center each Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday at 1300 hours (Tp: 74-6523 for reservations). If you desire to travel to East Berlin on your own by private vehicle, you should have no difficulty if you keep in mind the following points:

- a. Two types of currency exist in Berlin. In West Berlin, the currency used is the Deutsche Mark. This money cannot be used in East Berlin, where the standard currency is the East Mark. If you plan to make

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purchases or spend money in East Berlin, you must exchange your West Marks for East Marks in an East Berlin Noten Bank which is the official East Berlin money exchange. You will be issued a certificate to use as proof you acquired the East Marks legally. Retain this certificate. Show it upon demand. Purchases made with East Marks acquired through other sources are illegal. Among those items which are forbidden for sale to you are gasoline, food, rare or valuable antiques or objects of art, and clothing. Items which you may purchase in limited quantities are books, pictures, magazines, phonograph records, sheet music and post-cards. You may also purchase in East Berlin tickets to public entertainment, i.e. operas, concerts, theater or the circus.


- b. Avoid bars and cafes.
- c. Avoid public gatherings and crowds.
- d. Do not involve yourself in excessive conversation or get into arguments.
- e. If you drive your own car, be certain your insurance covers you in East Berlin. Drive carefully, observe all posted traffic signs. Avoid accidents.
- f. The taking of photographs in East Berlin is not recommended although only military installations, military personnel or the police are specifically prohibited. The act of carrying a camera may arouse suspicion even though you are not using it.

5. In the event you are arrested and detained, follow these instructions:

- a. Inform your detainer that you are an American, and that you wish to return to West Berlin. If this request is denied, ask that a Russian official be called.
- b. Show your identification card on demand to establish your identity. Furnish information only as to your name, date of birth, Service or ID Card number, and your rank or title. You may answer truthfully the reasons for your visit to East Berlin. Limit any discussion to pertinent facts regarding your detention.

6. Your personal conduct should be exemplary at all times while in East or West Berlin since as an American in Berlin you are a representative of the entire United States in the eyes of the communists and indeed the whole world.

7. This letter is effective until 24 February 1961.

  
CHARLES E. JOHNSON  
Brigadier General, USA  
Commanding

Tp: BERLIN 6293



HEADQUARTERS  
BERLIN COMMAND  
APO 742

AESGA

10 July 1961

SUBJECT: Information for Visitors in Berlin

TO: Individuals Concerned

1. Rescission: Letter AESGA, this headquarters, 10 March 1961, subject as above.

2. Welcome to Berlin. We hope your stay will be rewarding and that you see and enjoy the city, its sights and places of interest. To insure that the pleasantness of your visit is unmarred, this publication furnishes the DO's and DON'T's to which you should adhere while here.

3. Berlin is an occupied city completely surrounded by the Soviet occupied zone of Germany. Surface access to Berlin is through this occupied zone. You are not permitted to enter this Soviet occupied zone of Germany except enroute to or from Berlin via the Berlin-Helmstedt Autobahn or the US Duty Train. To transit the Soviet zone either by road or rail, you must have proper and complete documentation. The city proper is divided into four sectors, US, British, French, and Russian. You are free to visit all sectors to include the East sector (Soviet), i.e. East Berlin. In the Western sectors, (US, British and French) i.e. West Berlin, you may travel as you please exercising only the care which is normal in any city of the world. While in West Berlin, you may travel by bus, the U-Bahn, or by Western sector taxicabs, which are identified by a solid white stripe below the window line, or a taxi sign on the roof. Even though in West Berlin:

a. DO NOT use East Berlin taxicabs which are marked with the broken white stripe below the window line.

b. DO NOT use the S-Bahn as it goes into the Soviet occupied zone of Germany. It is operated by the East German government and its use could result in your detention by East German or Soviet authorities.

4. As complete protection cannot be guaranteed to you as a US citizen, or the dependent of a US citizen, you are not encouraged to travel in East Berlin except as a member of an official US Army tour. Special Services Division of Berlin Command conducts such tours which depart from the Shopping Center each Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday at 1300 hours (Tp: 74-6523 for reservations). If you desire to travel to East Berlin on your own by private vehicle, you should have no difficulty if you keep in mind the following points:

a. Two types of currency exist in Berlin. In West Berlin, the currency used is the Deutsche Mark. This money cannot be used in East Berlin, where the standard currency is the East Mark. If you plan to make purchases or spend money in East Berlin, you must exchange your West Marks for East Marks in an East Berlin Noten Bank which is the official East Berlin Money exchange.



10 July 1951

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You will be issued a certificate to use as proof you acquired the East Marks legally. Retain this certificate. Show it upon demand. Purchase made with East Marks acquired through other sources are illegal. Among these items which are forbidden for sale to you are gasoline, food, rare or valuable antiques or objects of art, and clothing. Items which you may purchase in limited quantities are books, pictures, magazines, phonograph records, sheet music and postcards. You may also purchase in East Berlin tickets to public entertainment, i.e. operas, concerts, theaters or the circus.

b. Avoid bars and cafes.

c. Avoid public gatherings and crowds.

d. Do not involve yourself in excessive conversation or get into arguments.

e. If you drive your own car, be certain your insurance covers you in East Berlin. Drive carefully, observe all posted traffic signs. Avoid accidents.

f. The taking of photographs in East Berlin is not recommended although only military installations, military personnel or the police are specifically prohibited. The act of carrying a camera may arouse suspicion even though you are not using it.

5. Although mandatory only for personnel assigned to Berlin, military visitors are encouraged to wear appropriate off-duty uniforms when visiting East Berlin.

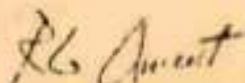
6. In the event you are arrested and detained, follow these instructions:

a. Inform your detainer that you are an American, and that you wish to return to West Berlin. If this request is denied, ask that a Russian official be called.

b. Show your identification card on demand to establish your identity. Furnish information only as to your name, date of birth, Service or ID Card number, and your rank or title. You may answer truthfully the reasons for your visit to East Berlin. Limit any discussion to pertinent facts regarding your detention. Under no circumstances sign any documents offered to you by either Soviet or East German officials.

7. Your personal conduct should be exemplary at all times while in East or West Berlin since as an American in Berlin you are a representative of the entire United States in the eyes of the communists and indeed the whole world.

FOR THE COMMANDER:



R. G. AMENT  
Capt, AGC  
Asst. Adjutant General

Tp: BERLIN 6595



## SECTION XI

### SECURITY

#### 11.01 RESPONSIBILITY:

Unit commanders and sponsors of dependent personnel will insure that the provisions of this section are brought to the attention of all personnel concerned as soon as practicable. Further, every six (6) months, unit commanders and sponsors will review the contents of this section with these personnel.

#### 11.02 SAFEGUARDING OF INFORMATION:

a. It is imperative that all American personnel in Berlin realize the importance of safeguarding information which might endanger the security of the United States. All persons are further cautioned to use discretion in public discussions and to avoid statements that might cause embarrassment to the United States.

b. The telephone is not a secure means of communication and will not be used to transmit classified information.

#### 11.03 SAFEGUARDING OF CLASSIFIED INFORMATION:

a. AR 380-5, USAREUR Circular 380-5, Berlin Command Circular 380-5 and AR 345-15 must be consulted by persons who handle classified information.

b. Any person who may find classified material improperly secured should take immediate possession, and without delay, contact the appropriate sponsor or commanding officer, or G2, Berlin Brigade for instructions as to disposition. (G2 telephone is 74-6236 during duty hours or 74-6531 after duty hours).

#### 11.04 PERSONNEL SECURITY:

a. For access to classified information see AR 604-5, USAREUR Circular 604-5 and Berlin Command Circular 380-2. All clearances issued prior to arrival in Berlin must be validated by G2, Berlin Brigade.

b. Domestic employees are required to meet standards established by USAREUR and Berlin Brigade. Prior to employing domestics see USAREUR Circular 635-350 and Berlin Command Circular 608-4. Refer all inquiries concerning domestic employees to AG Accommodations Branch, Tp: 74-6575.

#### 11.05 SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES:

Any person who suspects subversive activities, sabotage, or espionage will report such suspicions to the appropriate unit commander or to G2, Berlin Brigade without delay. (G2 telephone is 74-6236 during duty hours or 74-6531 after duty hours).



11.06 TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS:

a. United States personnel may enter or leave Berlin by air, by military train or by vehicle. The Berlin (BRAVO) - Holmstedt (ALPHA) Autobahn is the only route United States personnel may use when traveling by vehicle. US personnel entering or leaving Berlin by train or vehicle will have an authority for absence and a Russian language (Flag) movement order.

b. Following are the rules for members of this command for travel to the Soviet Sector of Berlin:

(1) Civilian officials, defined as any paid employee of the Executive Branch of the Government except members of the Armed Forces, may not visit the Soviet Sector (East Berlin) except when authorized to do so in the course of official duties.

(2) Members of the Armed Forces may visit the Soviet Sector only in uniform.

(3) Dependents of civilian officials and of Armed Forces personnel, stationed in Berlin, are discouraged from going to the Soviet Sector.

(4) Dependents of civilian officials and of Armed Forces personnel, who are visiting Berlin from elsewhere, may visit the Soviet Sector except in officially registered vehicles (vehicles with US Forces or other US government-issued license plates).

(5) Persons in civilian clothing may not enter the Soviet Sector in officially registered vehicles.

c. Although free travel between the American, British, French and Soviet Sectors of Berlin has been established by international agreement, travelers to the Soviet Sector (East Berlin) have occasionally been subjected to certain inconvenience by Soviet and East German officials, including false accusations, detention and general by unpleasant harassment. Visitors to the Soviet Sector are cautioned that no legal procedure exists which permits recognition and satisfaction of claims arising from incidents occurring in Soviet controlled areas. Present automobile and personal liability insurance may not provide for coverage, if involved in an accident in Soviet controlled territory.

d. Improper actions by Americans discredit the United States and usually place unnecessary administrative burdens upon US officials in resolving incidents arising in the Soviet Sector. Therefore, all personnel are advised to carefully weigh the advantages and disadvantages before visiting the Soviet Sector as individuals or as members of small private sightseeing groups. In the event of any difficulty, however, all US personnel will immediately demand to see a Soviet officer.

e. Authorization:

(1) Units: Commanders of military units assigned or attached to Berlin Brigade will establish procedures for authorizing only selected on-listed personnel to visit the Soviet Sector. Only those individuals will be



granted permission who can be relied upon to refrain from committing acts which would bring discredit upon the United States Government and its position in Berlin. Individuals with records of previous convictions by courts-martial or company punishment or who are incident-prone will not be permitted to visit the Soviet Sector.

(2) Officers and Civilians: Officers may visit the Soviet Sector without special permission provided they observe the provisions of Section XI. Paid civilian officials or employees of the Executive Branch of the Government may not visit the Soviet Sector except when authorized to do so in the course of official duties. Dependents, though not prohibited from visiting the Soviet Sector, are discouraged from doing so.

f. Visits and Documentation:

(1) Visits in the Soviet Sector are authorized at all times, except on days set aside for Communist celebrations, such as May Day, or on other days when large mass demonstrations are scheduled. G2, Berlin Brigade, is responsible for announcing occasions which preclude visits by American personnel.

(2) Documentation for visits will be as follows:

(a) Officers - DD Form 2A (ID Card).

(b) Department of Defense civilians (if on authorized visit) and all dependents - DD Form 1173 (Uniformed Services Identification and Privilege Card) or US passport.

(c) Enlisted personnel - DD Form 2A (ID Card) with a Special Pass (DA Form 31). The DA Form 31 will specifically indicate in the remarks section that permission is granted the individual concerned to visit the Soviet Sector in accordance with par e(1) above. Passes issued for visits will include the purpose of visit.

g. Dress:

(1) All personnel who visit the Soviet Sector are expected to maintain the same standards of dress as are required in the United States Sector of Berlin. Military personnel will wear a seasonally appropriate authorized off-duty uniform. Entry into the Soviet Sector by military personnel in civilian clothing is prohibited.

(2) Tour officers, in charge of the Special Services tours to the Soviet Sector, will wear the summer semi-dress or AG 44 uniform, as seasonally appropriate.

h. Security:

Do not make or take photographs of Soviet or East German military installations or personnel in the Soviet Sector. The taking of notes or photographs may result in your detention and confiscation of your camera, film, or other personal property. The act of carrying a camera may arouse suspicion even though the camera is not being used. You are further directed not to enter the Soviet Sector with any notes, sketches, maps, papers, or photographs containing Allied military information.



1. Restrictions on Commercial Establishments and Transportation Facilities:

(1) Commercial Establishments: East Berlin beer halls, drinking parlors, and other establishments wherein only alcoholic beverages are sold will not be entered or otherwise patronized.

(2) Crossing Point and Transportation Facilities: By international agreement all public means of transportation in Berlin are available to US personnel, however, because of the conditions discussed in paragraph above, the following restrictions are hereby imposed:

(a) US personnel will enter the Soviet Sector only through Friedrich Strasse.

(b) East German taxicabs (identified by a broken white line encircling the vehicle at window level) are licensed by the East German Government and enter the East Zone of Germany. Personnel indicated in paragraph (2)(c), above, will not use East German taxicabs.

(c) Use of commercial tours to the Soviet Sector is discouraged as these tours offer no guarantee of protection from detention by the East Germans.

(d) Use of the S-Bahn is prohibited. The U-Bahn will not be used for entry into the Soviet Sector but may be used within either West Berlin or the Soviet Sector.

J. Identification and Documentation:

(1) Military Personnel:

(a) Military personnel may travel to the Soviet Sector only if in uniform. Therefore, such personnel will not show any identification to East German officials to enter or leave the Soviet Sector or while within the Soviet Sector. However, they may show identification to a Soviet officer, on his request. Should the latter occur it is necessary that military personnel have in their possession their military identity card, DD Form 2A, and that it be up-to-date and not broken or mutilated. Only that information authorized in Section V of the Code of Conduct will be revealed in the event of detention and/or interrogation by Soviet officials.

(b) Military personnel in uniform may travel to the Soviet Sector either as a pedestrian, by public transportation, or by private automobile. The only restriction is that they travel via Friedrichstrasse and Checkpoint Charlie at which point they will register prior to entering the Soviet Sector, and, also, upon departing the Soviet Sector. However, only military personnel in uniform may travel to the Soviet Sector in US military vehicles, State Department vehicles, or in USAREUR, COMZ, or SETAF licensed privately owned vehicles. All other US personnel (including civilian employees of the US Government, when so authorized, dependents, and tourists) must travel to and within the Soviet Sector by other means. Therefore, the following instructions apply only to US military personnel in uniform traveling either as pedestrians or in US military or State Department vehicles or in USAREUR, COMZ, or SETAF licensed vehicles:



1. Entering the Soviet Sector:

a. Before setting out for the Soviet Sector, make sure that you and, if applicable, all occupants of the vehicle are in proper uniform and are in possession of your military identity cards.

b. Upon reaching Checkpoint Charlie, stop at the Checkpoint and register with the military police. There you will receive instructions, similar to those contained herein. Also register with them upon your return.

c. Upon reaching the Soviet Sector you will encounter an East German barrier. Show no identification to the East German personnel. If asked for identification, state: "My uniform identifies me as a member of the US Forces and I am not required to further identify myself."

d. If the East German official again refuses permission to pass, ask for a Soviet officer.

e. If a Soviet officer does not arrive within one hour and the East German official still refuses to allow you to proceed through the barrier, return to the US MP Checkpoint and report the incident to the military policeman at Checkpoint Charlie, unless you have been given other instructions by the officer-in-charge at the Checkpoint.

2. Within the Soviet Sector:

a. If you are detained while within the Soviet Sector and are unable to withdraw, you should do the following:

(1) Ask for a Soviet officer.

(2) Await a US Army search vehicle (normally an OD 4-door sedan) that will be dispatched to search for you approximately one hour after you were due to return to Checkpoint Charlie. Refuse to accompany an East German away from your vehicle. Do not show identification of any kind to an East German official.

(3) If a Soviet officer appears, salute identify yourself to him with your military identification card, if requested to do so, and request immediate release from detention. Do not allow your identification card out of your hands.

(2) Civilian Employees of the US Government, who are authorized to travel to the Soviet Sector, and US dependents will observe the following instructions:

(a) These categories of personnel may not travel to the Soviet sector in US military or State Department vehicles, or in USAREUR, COMZ, or SETAF licensed vehicles. Therefore, such personnel may travel to the Soviet Sector as pedestrians, or in privately owned vehicles bearing stateside or foreign license plates, or in German tour buses.

(b) Before departing for the Soviet Sector, be certain that you have in your possession a US passport or identity card (DD Form 1173).

(c) If traveling to the Soviet Sector, register with the military police at Checkpoint Charlie prior to entering the Soviet Sector. Also register with them upon your return. Do not use the U-Bahn or S-Bahn to enter the Soviet Sector.



(d) You may show your identification to East German officials, on demand. If entry is refused into the Soviet Sector, return to Checkpoint Charlie and inform the military police. Do not reveal to East German or Soviet officials, either voluntarily or in response to any interrogation, any more information than your name, date of birth, and status (civilian employee or dependent). If a dependent, you may give your sponsor's name and rank.

(e) If you are detained within the Soviet Sector by East German officials, do the following:

1. Identification may be shown to an East German official upon demand.
2. If this is not sufficient, ask for a Soviet officer.
3. If in a vehicle and if registered at Checkpoint Charlie, await the US Army search vehicle (normally an OD 4-door sedan) that will be dispatched to search for you approximately one hour after you were due to return to Checkpoint Charlie. Refuse to accompany an East German official away from the vehicle in which you are riding or from a conspicuous place where you could be located by the search vehicle.
4. If a Soviet officer appears, identify yourself to him, if requested, and request immediate release from detention. Do not allow your documentation out of your hands either for East German or Soviet officials.