

IMPORTS INTO GERMANY (FROM OUTSIDE THE EU):

Do you want to buy a racing bike in Switzerland? Are you interested in purchasing a rug from Turkey? Is your second POV or your new furniture being shipped in from the States? Are you a TESA contractor and your Household Goods (HHG) are being shipped in from outside the EU?

As a US service member, civilian component or their dependent stationed in Germany you should be aware of your tax relief rights when making purchases or importing items outside the EU as there is the potential of making big savings!

Your local Military Customs Office can assist you in getting your items into Germany duty and tax-free with the AE Form 550-175A (Import / Export Certificate & Purchase Permit).

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO BRING WITH YOU?

- Authorized person's / sponsor's name
- SSN / DoD ID
- Organization name
- APO address
- DEROS date
- Invoice / Order Form including information on imported item, value, where it was imported from, vendor's / seller's address and name
- Shipping documents

Upon issuance by the Military Customs Office, take your two copies of the AE Form 550- 175A to the respective German customs office for processing and release of goods.

The stamped form is valid for 90 days from issuance date. Please read, understand and comply with the Privacy Act of 1974 information (at the top on page 1) and Part V "Declaration by" (on page 2).

PLEASE NOTE:

- ➔ AE Form 550-175A does **not** allow a third party, e.g. a sales representative, lawyer, delivery company or person not authorized ILS / SOFA status or an agent hired by a vendor to effect customs clearance in Germany.

ATTENTION: Before ordering from outside the EU, ensure the delivery conditions allow for self-clearance at the German customs office upon entry to Germany. Taking possession of any shipment that gets customs cleared by a courier service on your behalf makes you liable for all duties assessed.

Reimbursement is not possible.

- ➔ If you are travelling back from outside the European Union (EU) and have made a purchase then you are obliged to inform the respective customs authorities at the EU border that you are a US service member or civilian component with SOFA status (i.e. have tax privileges). Furthermore, you will need to inform them that you will report purchased goods to your local customs office.

- ➔ **You** must take the two copies of AE Form 550-175A to the German customs and **you** are responsible for completing the transaction.

IMPORTING A VEHICLE OR PURCHASING A VEHICLE FROM A CAR DEALER OR PRIVATE PERSON:

The AE Form 550-175A will also allow you to import a vehicle, purchase a vehicle from an authorized U.S. car dealer which is being held in a German customs bonded warehouse or buy a vehicle from a German car dealer duty and tax- free.

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO?

- Obtain AE Form 550-175A from the military Customs Office
- Visit German Customs in person and present the POV along with two copies of AE Form 550-175A

German customs keeps one copy of the AE Form 550-175A and stamps the AE Form 190-1 AA. The stamp is required to effect the import of the vehicle or purchase from the German customs warehouse (except vehicles purchased through the Canadian, British or French PX).

EXPORT CERTIFICATE:

AE Form 550-175A for use as an export certificate will only be issued when requested by local German customs authorities. It is only needed in exceptional situations and permits authorized personnel to export personal and household goods duty and tax-free.

SPECIAL RULES FOR IMPORTING WEAPONS:

It is prohibited to bring firearms into the Federal Republic of Germany until they are properly registered with U.S. Forces and German authorities. For detailed information on how to import weapons US service members and civilian components should contact the Firearms Section of Motor Vehicle Registration.

In order for the military Customs Office to issue an AE Form 550-175A for duty and tax free importation you need to bring your...

- USAREUR-AF weapon's registration
- German hunting license (Jagdschein) or weapons possession card (Waffenbesitzkarte) and
- German importation certificate (Verbringungserlaubnis)

All forms will be issued on a walk-in basis.



HQ Customs Customer Service
Clay Kaserne, Building 1015
CIV: +49-(0)611-143-537-3957;
DSN: 537-3957



Ansbach Field Office

Bismarck Kaserne, Building 5843-C, room 286
CIV: +49-(0)9641-70-587-5352/5353;
DSN: 314-587-5352/5353

Baumholder Field Office

Health Clinic Kaserne, Building 8747, room 7104
CIV: +49-(0)611-143-531-2944/2945; DSN: 314-531-2944/2945

Grafenwöhr Field Office

Grafenwöhr Garrison, Building 621, room 129
CIV: +49-(0)9641-70-569-2896/2897; DSN: 314-569-2896/2897

Hohenfels Field Office

Training Area, Building 325
CIV: +49-(0)9472-708-3376; DSN: 314-522-3376

Kaiserslautern Field Office

Kleber Kaserne, Building 3245, room 103
CIV: +49-(0)611-143-523-4901/02; DSN: 314-523-4901/02

Ramstein Field Office

Ramstein Air Base, Bldg. 2102, room 141
CIV :+49-(0)6371-47-3720/0100; DSN: 314-480-3720/0100

Spangdahlem Field Office

Spangdahlem Airbase, Bldg. 139, room 106
CIV :+49-(0)6565-61-4500; DSN: 314-452-4500

Stuttgart Field Office

Panzer Kaserne, Building 2913, room 303
CIV: +49-(0)9641-70-596-2657/2732; DSN: 314-596-2657/2732

Wiesbaden Field Office

Clay Kaserne, Building 1025, room 102
CIV :+49-(0)611-143-537-3932/3933; DSN: 314-537-3932/3933

US Army Customs Agency – Europe
HOURS OF OPERATION
0800-1600

For Customs Information and/or support at Garmisch and Geilenkirchen contact:

Garmisch MP Station

Artillery Kaserne, Building 209
CIV: +49-(0)9641-70-521-3601; DSN 314-521-3601

Geilenkirchen

470 ABS/US Customs, Bldg. 84, rooms 8 and 9
CIV: +49-(0)2451-9151-4031; DSN 458-4030/4031

**Importing property into Germany
duty and tax-free**

with

AE Form 550-175A

**Import/Export Certificate & Purchase
Permit**

**Einfuhrgenehmigung /Ausfuhrnachweis &
Erwerbsgenehmigung**



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<https://www.europeafrica.army.mil/customs/>

https://armyetaas.sharepoint-mil.us/sites/USAREUR-AF_OPM_CEA/SitePages/Customs-Services.aspx

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