



Information Paper on your PCS Move to Europe and assignment to 16th Sustainment Brigade

WHAT TO BRING WITH YOU TO EUROPE AND WHAT TO STORE?

Dishwashers -- Store your dishwasher. Machines built for the European electrical current are available through Housing Office. If you decide to purchase a dishwasher, you can purchase one at the PX or local economy.

Washers/Dryers and Refrigerators-- **DO NOT BRING THEM TO Europe.** Washers, dryers and refrigerators built for the European electrical current are available through the Housing Office.

Curtains -- An explanation may help you decide for yourself. Some European curtains and drapes are hung from the ceiling, not from the wall. European curtains are therefore longer than average American curtains. American curtains can be easily adapted for use by sewing a special hanging tape to the upper edge of the curtains. The only difference then is that the floor-length American drapes (about 80 inches) will be approximately a foot off the floor as European curtains are about 92 inches. By the way, twin or double bed sheets that are made into curtains, flat not fitted, will be the perfect lengths. The Europeans have beautiful sheers that can be purchased in all price categories.

Rugs -- You may want to bring your own. In addition, the Housing/Quartermaster issue is limited to two room sized rugs. You can buy beautiful area rugs over here, German, Turkish, or Belgium, and the prices on some of them are more than reasonable.

Beds -- Double beds are scarce and smaller than the American-style double beds so bring your own. If you are 6ft. tall, you might hang over the end of Quartermaster/Housing beds. Cribs are not available through Quartermaster/Housing, but may be purchased from the PX or Thrift Shop.

Small appliances -- Many people store their 110-volt appliances and buy 220-volts appliances when they arrive here. Other people use their 110-volt appliances with transformers when only 220V is available. Be advised that Government Controlled Quarters and Government Leased Quarters have both 110 and 220 current, which allows the use of all U.S. Appliances. However, private leased quarters only have 220 current. Check the thrift store for used transforms which are sometimes 50-75% off the cost of new transformers at the PX.

Clock radios -- Your US clock radio will work with a transformer. However, the clock part will lose 10 minutes per hour because European electricity is 50 instead of 60 cycles per minute. Of course, battery operated clocks and radios are fine.

Storage space items -- Bring any metals shelves, bookcases, chests, or hanging racks that you think you might need. There are no built in closets in private rental housing and limited closet space is some Government lease housing so you may have to store clothing items on shelves and plastic type clothing hangers.

Unique items -- Any items that make your home your home will help you and your family adjust to your new surroundings. Pictures, knick-knacks and other items make your home unique. Since all of us depend on Quartermaster/Housing furniture to some extent, our furnishings are very similar. You will probably want to bring small items, which give your home a distinctive look.

Clothes -- Europe's weather is constantly changing, temperatures in the summer are 60-85 degrees and the nights are cool. Winter temperatures can be around freezing and lower. There is lots of snow and ice most winters. We also get our fair share of rain, but you learn to keep going no matter what the weather is.

Over the counter drug items -- Specific brands of contact lens cleaner can be difficult to obtain. Make sure that you have some method of ordering or obtaining hard-to-get products from the States. In addition, your favorite cosmetics, perfumes, cologne, etc., may not be available here. Occasionally, you can find some of the name brands on the economy, at a lower cost.

Furniture -- Temporary housing furniture can be issued to you (free of charge) until your furniture and household goods arrive to Europe. This program is not available in the US but it is a service provided by USAREUR.

Televisions -- U.S. TV sets can be used with a transformer. U.S. TV sets will receive Armed Forces Network TV (AFN TV); AFN TV is receivable if you live in a government housing area. If you live off-post, you will need to purchase or rent the AFN satellite

system from the PX. This is a different system than any other satellite system. U.S. TV sets will also receive American cable service (10 channels), which is available only in government housing. U.S. TV sets will not receive European broadcast or cable channels. Multi-system televisions, which receive both American and European programming

- **Shipping your Goods to Europe**

Immediately upon receiving your orders for a permanent change of station (PCS Orders), take those orders to the Installation Transportation Management Office (TMO), Outbound Properties Section. They will brief you on your entitlements, assist you with completing the required paperwork, and arrange for a day for the shippers/packers to pick up your stuff.

WEIGHT ALLOWANCE CHART FOR HOUSEHOLD GOODS

Grade	Permanent Change of Station (PCS) Without Dependents	Permanent Change of Station (PCS) With Dependents
O-5	16,000	17,500
O-4/W-4	14,000	17,000
O-3/W-3	13,000	14,500
O-2/W-2	12,500	13,500
O-1/W-1	10,000	12,000
E-9	12,000	14,500
E-8	11,000	13,500
E-7	10,500	12,500

E-6	8,000	11,000
E-5	7,000	9,000
E-4	7,000	8,000
E-3 and Below	5,000	8,000

Shipment of Household Goods vs Unaccompanied Baggage

Unaccompanied Baggage is a portion of your possessions that you may need to use immediately upon or soon after you arrive to Europe. Unaccompanied baggage is also known as “Hold Baggage” your Unaccompanied baggage may include but is not limited to clothing, uniforms, kitchen supply and equipment, portable electronics: computers, TV radio etc, portable cribs golf, fishing equipment and more. Unaccompanied baggage may not include large, heavy bulky items such as chairs, tables, cabinets, beds, mattresses, dressers, etc.-These are your Household Goods. Your unaccompanied baggage will arrive before or soon after your arrival to Europe depending on when it was shipped from your last duty station. Soldiers are authorized to ship a few hundred to at least 1,000 pounds of unaccompanied baggage depending on the rank and total number of dependants. You can also mail your unaccompanied baggage via the US Postal System so that it can be at the Post Office waiting for your arrival. Just remember to save your receipts in order to be reimbursed for the expense and finally, check with your Transportation office for the total number of pounds you are authorized to mail.

- **List of useful Items to ship in your Unaccompanied Baggage**

- Small Television
- Pots/Pans/Dishes
- Portable Crib
- Silver Ware
- Bed Linen and Blankets Pillows
- Kitchen Utensils
- Bath Mat
- Small Microwave
- Trash Can
- Uniforms
- Clothing/Shoes, etc
- Computer
- Game System/Toys for the Kids
- Medication

WEIGHT ALLOWANCE CHART FOR UNACCOMPANIED BAGGAGE

- ENLISTED SOLDIERS 500 LBS
- OFFICERS 600 LBS
- ALL DEPENDANTS 12 AND OVER 350 LBS MAX (NOT 350 POUNDS PER PERSON)
- DEPENDENTS UNDER 12 175 LBS MAX (NOT 175 POUNDS PER CHILD)
- *FOR A SGT with a spouse and 2 year old child, total weight is (500lbs+350lbs+175lbs=**1,025 lbs**)

- **REMEMBER TO HAND CARRY MEDICAL RECORDS AND SCHOOL RECORDS....DO NOT PACK THESE ITEMS WITH YOUR HOUSEHOLD GOODS.**