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United States Army Europe  
Wiesbaden, Germany

Army in Europe  
Regulation 608-18-1\*

Headquarters  
United States Army Installation Management Command  
Europe  
Sembach, Germany

5 July 2018

## Personal Affairs

### Army in Europe Child and Youth Supervision

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**\*This regulation supersedes memorandum, IMCOM-Europe, IMEU-MWR-A, subject: Army in Europe Child and Youth Supervision Policy.**

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For the Director:

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**Summary.** This regulation prescribes required levels of child and youth supervision for U.S. military and civilian personnel assigned to any element of the Army in Europe. The policy in this regulation was previously published in memorandum, IMCOM-Europe, IMEU-MWR-A, subject: Army in Europe Child and Youth Supervision Policy.

**Applicability.** This regulation applies to Soldiers, Department of the Army civilian employees, and Family members throughout the Army in Europe.

**Records Management.** Records created as a result of processes prescribed by this regulation must be identified, maintained, and disposed of according to AR 25-400-2. Record titles and descriptions are available on the Army Records Information Management System website at <https://www.arims.army.mil>.

**Supplementation.** Organizations will not supplement this regulation without approval of the Army Community Service (ACS) Branch, Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff (OACoS), G9, IMCOM-Europe.

**Suggested Improvements.** The proponent of this regulation is the ACS Branch, OACoS, G9, IMCOM-Europe (mil 544-9263). Users may suggest improvements to this regulation by completing a DA Form 2028 and sending it by e-mail to [usarmy.sembach.id-europe.mbx.imcom-e-g9-admin@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.sembach.id-europe.mbx.imcom-e-g9-admin@mail.mil).

**Distribution.** This regulation is available only electronically and is posted in the Army in Europe Library & Publishing System at <http://www.aepubs.eur.army.mil/>.

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## 1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this regulation is to provide—

- a. A standard method for promoting child and youth safety through implementation of supervision guidelines on Army in Europe installations.
- b. Guidance to safeguard children and youth from the time of birth through the age of 17.

## 2. REFERENCES

### a. Publications.

- (1) AR 608-10, Child Development Services.
- (2) AR 608-18, The Army Family Advocacy Program.
- (3) National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2017 (Public Law 114-328), section 575.

**b. Form.** DA Form 2028, Recommended Changes to Publications and Blank Forms.

## 3. EXPLANATION OF ABBREVIATIONS

ACS	Army Community Service
AE	Army in Europe
APO	Army Post Office
AR	Army regulation
CYS	Child and Youth Services
DA	Department of the Army
FAP	Family Advocacy Program
FY	fiscal year
IMCOM-Europe	United States Army Installation Management Command Europe
mil	military
MP	military police
OACoS	office of the assistant chief of staff

#### 4. DEFINITION OF INADEQUATE SUPERVISION

A type of child neglect characterized by the absence or inattention of the parent, guardian foster parent, or other caregiver that results in injury to the child, in the child being unable to care for himself or herself, or in injury or serious threat of injury to another person because the child's behavior was not properly monitored.

#### 5. RESPONSIBILITIES

**a. Army in Europe Leaders.** Military and civilian leaders throughout the Army in Europe will enforce the policy in this regulation by ensuring that all assigned Soldiers and Department of the Army civilians apply the child-supervision guidance in tables 1 and 2. Table 1 provides guidance on levels of supervision. Table 2 converts ages to grades for homeschooled children. Beginning with the first day of kindergarten, the guidance is based on the child's grade rather than the child's age.

**b. Parents and Adult Caregivers.** All parents and designated adult caregivers—

(1) Are responsible for the supervision, safety, and well-being of children in their care.

(2) Must exercise reasonable judgment based on a particular child's needs. Table 1 provides guidelines for making these decisions. Important variables to consider are—

(a) The maturity of the child and age-appropriate responsibilities given to the child.

(b) Any physically or emotionally disabling conditions the child may have.

(c) The child's knowledge of and ability to apply emergency procedures.

(d) The child's accessibility to parents or other designated and informed adults.

**c. Personnel Who Observe Inadequate Child Supervision.**

(1) Anyone who observes an incident of child abuse or neglect should report the incident to the local military police (MP).

(2) For the purpose of this policy, all physicians, nurses, social workers, school personnel, Child and Youth Services (CYS) personnel, Family Advocacy Program (FAP) personnel, psychologists, and other medical personnel are "mandated reporters." Mandated reporters will report information about known or suspected cases of child abuse or neglect to the MP as soon as the information is received.

(3) Any individual within the chain of command of a Servicemember is required to report credible information (which may include reasonable belief) that a child in the Family or home of the member Servicemember has suffered an alleged incident of child abuse or neglect.

(4) As the regional points of contact for the FAP throughout the Army in Europe, the MP will investigate all reported incidents and forward the findings, if substantiated, to servicing FAP clinical personnel and to the applicable garrison commander for evaluation and disposition.

**Table 1  
Army in Europe Child and Youth Supervision Guidelines**

Grade of child	May be left alone at home	May be left alone overnight	May walk alone to and from home to and from adult-sponsored activities <sup>1</sup>	May be left outside unattended (to include playing)	May be left in a vehicle unattended	May babysit
Newborn until Kindergarten	No	No	No	No	No	No
Kindergarten	No	No	No (This includes school and bus stops.) <sup>1</sup>	Yes, in playgrounds or yards with immediate access (visual or hearing distance) to an adult.	No	No
Grades 1 to 5	No	No	Yes. May also walk to and from school and bus stops. (In some locations, the school may have further restrictions.) <sup>1</sup>	Yes, in playgrounds or yards with immediate access (visual or hearing distance) to an adult.	Yes, except in hot weather, for no longer than 10 minutes, provided the child has immediate access to an adult. The keys must be removed and the handbrake applied.	No
Grades 6 to 8	Yes, with ready access (phone number) to an adult, but no longer than 6 hours.	No	Yes <sup>1</sup>	Yes	Yes	Yes <sup>2</sup> Up to 3 hours
Grades 9 to 12	Yes	Yes for grades 9 and 10, provided the child remains in the local area, has access to a parent or sponsor, and the period does not exceed 24 consecutive hours.  Yes for grades 11 and 12, provided the period does not exceed 3 consecutive days and the parent or sponsor has designated an adult point of contact who will make daily face-to-face contact.	Yes <sup>1</sup>	Yes	Yes	Yes <sup>2</sup>

**NOTES:**

1. The U.S. Department of Defense Education Activity may adjust its child-supervision requirements for off-post bus stops if deemed necessary according to local security and safety indicators. School administrators and CYS personnel will inform parents of any local deviations from the requirements in this table.
2. Country-specific or local community guidance applies and is available through the Army Community Service FAP. Youths who wish to babysit (siblings or others) are encouraged to complete the Red Cross Babysitters Course. The number and ages of other children present need to be considered.
3. During the summer, children are considered to be in the grade they just completed until the first day of their next school year.
4. These guidelines do not apply to high-school students who are age 18 or older; nor do they apply to married dependents under the age of 18.
5. Homeschooled children will be considered to be in the grade that is consistent with their age (table 2).

<b>Age</b>	<b>Grade</b>
4¾ to 5	Kindergarten
6	1st
7	2d
8	3d
9	4th
10	5th
11	6th
12	7th
13	8th
14	9th
15	10th
16	11th
17	12th