


091.311 CUSTOMS, REGULATIONS
FRENCH

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FILE NO. 091.311 CUSTOMS, REGULATIONS FRENCH

| NO. | FROM | DATE | TO | SYNOPSIS |
|-------|------|------|----|---|
| SWNGC | | | | RESUMPTION OF FRENCH CUSTOMS AND FRONTIER CONTROL OVER UNITED STATES PERSONNEL. |

CONFIDENTIAL

VFF: bz

091.34
Customs, Reg-
FrenchSWN-4581
19 July 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF:

Subject: Resumption of French Customs and Frontier
Control over United States Personnel.

With reference to your DM-5844, dated 25 May 1946, the Department of State has informed the State-War-Navy Coordinating Committee as follows:

"Insofar as it may be affected by the proposal, the Department of State is in agreement with the views of the Joint Chiefs of Staff on the resumption of French customs and frontier control over United States personnel insofar as they approve the suggestions contained in CM-IN-3581 and call for additional exemptions with respect to bearers of official documents and to official United States shipments. This would appear to be largely a military matter, since such civilians as enjoy immunities of this nature by the terms of the French Civil Affairs agreements of 1944 are attached to our military forces. Where Department of State personnel is concerned, no necessity is perceived for such of those as may be assimilated to the armed forces to receive special immunities which they do not already receive under existing non-military arrangements.

"With respect to the reservation of the Joint Chiefs of Staff concerning the permanent surrender of immunities secured by the terms of the French Civil Affairs agreements of 1944, the Department of State believes that this point might perhaps be satisfactorily covered by the inclusion in the new agreement of a stipulation to the effect that it is operative until further notice."

For the State-War-Navy Coordinating Committee:

A. D. REID,
Secretary.

CONFIDENTIAL

COPY FOR SWNCC FILE

JUL 19 1946

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 DIVISION OF EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

691.311
 French
 Customs



June 6, 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR THE STATE-WAR-NAVY-COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Subject: Memorandum for the Secretary of State (SWN-4339) 27 May 1946, transmitting the views of the Joint Chiefs of Staff concerning the resumption of French customs and frontier control over United States personnel.

Insofar as it may be affected by the proposal, the Department of State is in agreement with the views of the Joint Chiefs of Staff on the resumption of French customs and frontier control over United States personnel insofar as they approve the suggestions contained in CM-IN-3551 and call for additional exemptions with respect to bearers of official documents and to official United States shipments. This would appear to be largely a military matter, since such civilians as enjoy immunities of this nature by the terms of the French Civil Affairs agreements of 1944 are attached to our military forces. Where Department of State personnel is concerned, no necessity is perceived for such as may be assimilated to the armed forces to receive special immunities ~~because of this fact~~ which they do not already receive under existing non-military arrangements.

of those

With respect to the reservation of the Joint Chiefs of Staff concerning the permanent surrender of immunities secured by the terms of the French Civil Affairs agreements of 1944, the Department of State believes that this point might perhaps be satisfactorily covered by the inclusion in the new agreement of a stipulation to the effect that it is operative until further notice.

John Hickerson
 John Hickerson
 Acting State Member

CONFIDENTIAL

VFF:bz

091.311 Customs,
Regulations
Index.

SWN-4339
27 May 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE:

Subject: Resumption of French Customs and Frontier
Control over United States Personnel.

The following has been received from the Joint Chiefs of
Staff:

"The Joint Chiefs of Staff have received from the
Commanding General, U.S. Forces, European Theater, a
request that they approve the resumption of French
customs and frontier control over United States per-
sonnel. The proposed procedure for implementation of
this control is stated in CM-IN-3551, a copy of which
is attached.

"The Joint Chiefs of Staff consider that the pro-
cedures proposed in CM-IN-3551 do not include provision
to permit authorized personnel and couriers to carry
official documents and classified materiel exempt from
customs inspection across the frontier either into or
out of France. They also feel that there is no pro-
vision to exempt from customs inspection official United
States shipments of supplies, equipment, household goods
and personal effects. Further, they do not consider it
advisable at this time to surrender permanently the im-
munities from frontier control and customs inspection
secured from the French by the terms of the Eisenhower-
De Gaulle agreements of 1944.

"Since this proposal will affect not only United
States military personnel but other United States citi-
zens, the Joint Chiefs of Staff request that the policy
of the State Department be obtained on this matter. Sub-
ject to the conditions cited in the preceding paragraph,
there is no objection from a military point of view."

COPY FOR SWNCC FILE

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It is requested that this policy, when obtained, be forwarded to the State-War-Navy Coordinating Committee for transmittal to the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

For the State-War-Navy Coordinating Committee:

H. FREEMAN MATTHEWS
Acting State Member

Encl.
OS-11-3551

CONFIDENTIAL

THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

091.311
customs, Regulations
French
(091.)
(new file)

SM-5844
25 May 1946

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR THE STATE-WAR-NAVY COORDINATING COMMITTEE:

Subject: Resumption of French Customs and Frontier Control over United States Personnel.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff have received from the Commanding General, U.S. Forces, European Theater, a request that they approve the resumption of French customs and frontier control over United States personnel. The proposed procedure for implementation of this control is stated in CM-IN-3551, a copy of which is attached.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff consider that the procedures proposed in CM-IN-3551 do not include provision to permit authorized personnel and couriers to carry official documents and classified materiel exempt from customs inspection across the frontier either into or out of France. They also feel that there is no provision to exempt from customs inspection official United States shipments of supplies, equipment, household goods and personal effects. Further, they do not consider it advisable at this time to surrender permanently the immunities from frontier control and customs inspection secured from the French by the terms of the Eisenhower-DeGaulle agreements of 1944.

Since this proposal will affect not only United States military personnel but other United States citizens, the Joint Chiefs of Staff request that the policy of the State Department be obtained on this matter. Subject to the conditions cited in the preceding paragraph, there is no objection from a military point of view.

For the Joint Chiefs of Staff:

SWNCC SECRETARIAT

- State Member _____
- Army Member _____
- Navy Member _____
- Ass't State Member _____
- Ass't Army Member _____
- Ass't Navy Member _____
- Executive Secretary _____
- Ass't Exec. Secretary _____
- State Adm. Assistant _____
- Army Adm. Assistant _____
- Navy Adm. Assistant _____
- File _____

MAY 27 1946
Circular stamp with numbers 1-12 and a central emblem.

A. J. McFarland
A. J. MCFARLAND,
Colonel, U.S. Army,
Secretary.

CONFIDENTIAL

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From: Commanding General, U.S. Forces, European Theater
To: Joint Chiefs of Staff
Nr: 5-1952

16 April 1946

Reference: fourth indorsement this headquarters file AG 371.2 GBI-AGO, dated 18 February 1946, to basic letter, Headquarters European Division Air Transport Command, file 370.2, dated 20 November 1945, subject: "French customs and security control of airborne foreign passengers."

Because of repeated reports from the French Ministry of Interior concerning customs frauds in which U.S. personnel are implicated, this headquarters is willing to allow the French authorities to exercise customs control over all U.S. personnel, including those in uniform, traveling into and out of France. The following procedures will apply:

A. All persons serving in or with U.S. forces will be subject to the customs laws of France for all property above that which they carry for their personal needs, except those traveling under the provisions of subparagraph B and E below.

B. On completely U.S. military trains, there will be no French customs check.

C. On civilian trains, all persons serving in or with the U.S. forces who are traveling individually or in small parties will be subject to French customs inspections.

D. At other crossings on the French border, all persons serving in or with the U.S. forces who are traveling individually or in small parties will be required to halt at customs barriers and will be subject to French customs inspections. All individuals will be required to carry competent authorization for the travel.

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E. All U.S. convoys or troop movements traveling into or out of France will not be subject to French customs inspection. They will be passed by the French customs agents by the identification and proper documentation of the convoy commander.

The above proposal is presented for your final decision.

Because of the urgency of further French demands subsequent to the dispatch of our referenced fourth indorsement, it is requested that this headquarters be informed of your decision as soon as possible. Subject is resumption of French customs and frontier control over U.S. personnel.

Signed McNarney

GM-IN-3551

(18 Apr 46)