



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON BAVARIA
UNIT 28130
APO AE 09114-8130

AMIM-BAG-SO (100)

MEMORANDUM FOR All USAG Bavaria Military and Civilian Personnel

SUBJECT: USAG Bavaria Policy Memorandum #40, Prohibition of Magnet Fishing

1. References.

- a. AR 385-10, The Army Safety and Occupational Health Program (24 July 2023)
- b. DA Pam 385-64, Ammunition and Explosives Safety Standards (24 July 2023)

2. Purpose: To protect the environment, cultural heritage, public safety, and explosive safety by prohibiting magnet fishing on USAG Bavaria Installations.

3. Scope: This policy applies to all personnel, including military, civilian, and contractors, who are present on USAG Bavaria installations.

4. Background: Magnet fishing is a recreational activity where individuals use strong magnets to retrieve metal objects from waterways. While it may seem harmless, magnet fishing can pose significant risks to explosive safety, public safety, and the environment, particularly in areas where UXO may be present. This policy aims to prevent these risks by prohibiting magnet fishing on the USAG Bavaria installations, consistent with the requirements outlined in AR 385-10 and DA Pam 385-64.

5. Prohibited Activities: Using magnets or other magnetic devices to retrieve metal objects from any waterway on USAG Bavaria installations.

6. Reasons for Prohibition:

- a. Explosive Safety: Magnet fishing can pose a significant risk to explosive safety, as it may disturb or retrieve UXO, such as unexploded bombs, grenades, or other munitions, which can detonate and cause serious injury or death.

- b. UXO Risks: UXO can be present in lakes and waterways on USAG Bavaria Installations, particularly in areas with a history of military training or testing.

7. Explosive Safety Considerations:

a. Detonation Risk: UXO can detonate if disturbed, handled or retrieved, posing a significant risk to individuals and the surrounding environment.

b. Explosive Safety Protocols: Authorized explosive safety protocols must be followed in areas where UXO may be present, and magnet fishing can compromise these protocols.

8. Enforcement:

a. Authority: The USAG Bavaria Commander and the Directorate of Emergency Services (DES) Director are responsible for enforcing this policy.

b. Penalties: Individuals engaging in magnet fishing on USAG Bavaria installations may be subject to action under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, fines, and other administrative actions, including removal from the installation.

9. Exceptions:

a. Authorized EOD Activities: The 702nd Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Company, or other authorized personnel, may conduct explosive safety operations, including UXO removal, subject the USAG Bavaria Commander's authorization.

b. Emergency Response: In emergency response situations, such as responding to UXO incidents or retrieving hazardous objects, authorized personnel may engage in any retrieval activity, in compliance with DA Pam 385-64 and other relevant explosive safety protocols, subject to the USAG Bavaria Commander's authorization.

10. Individuals who perceive an alleged violation or want to file a complaint should contact the Garrison Privacy Official.

11. POC is the USAG Bavaria Safety Director, Mr. James R. Langbein, 526-2303, or email james.r.langbein.civ@army.mil.

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