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Information Management
Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS)

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Summary. This supplement prescribes policy and responsibilities for operating the Army Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) in the Army in Europe.

Applicability. This supplement applies to active Army, Army National Guard, Army Reserve, and civilian personnel who manage or use the MARS in the Army in Europe.

Supplementation. Organizations will not supplement this supplement without USAREUR G6 (AEAIM-X) approval.

Forms. This supplement prescribes AE Form 25-6A. AE and higher-level forms are available through the Army in Europe Publishing System (AEPUBS).

Records Management. Records created as a result of processes prescribed by this publication 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 Web site at <https://www.arims.army.mil>.

Suggested Improvements. The proponent of this supplement is the USAREUR G6 (DSN 370-9126). Users may suggest improvements to this supplement by sending DA Form 2028 to 5th Signal Command (NETC-SEC-O), CMR 421, APO AE 09056. (Suggested improvements to the basic AR should be sent to the Commander, United States Army Signal Command (AFSC-OPT-BC), Fort Huachuca, AZ 85613-5000.)

Distribution. D (AEPUBS).

AR 25-6, 21 April 1986, is supplemented as follows:

Paragraph 1-1, Purpose. Add the following:

This supplement establishes Army in Europe authority, policy, and responsibilities for the operation and administration of the Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS).

Paragraph 1-5, Policy. Add subparagraph d as follows:

d. Maintain liaison with host-nation telecommunication authorities, host-nation emergency or disaster-relief organizations, or other volunteer radio services on matters concerning MARS and amateur-radio programs.

Paragraph 1-7f, Responsibilities. Add subparagraph (10) as follows:

(10) In the Army in Europe, in addition to (1) through (9) above—

(a) Serve as the Chief, Radio Licensing Management Office, Europe.

(b) Act as the executive agent for matters pertaining to amateur-radio licensing in the Army in Europe.

(c) Provide required publications and authorized administrative supplies to affiliate MARS members.

(d) Inspect Army in Europe MARS facilities and activities periodically and provide the station custodian with observations and recommendations.

(e) In consultation with the Chief, Army MARS, and the Assistant Affiliate MARS Coordinator, Europe, establish Army MARS networks in the Army in Europe.

(f) Provide all the Army in Europe MARS stations with a list of authorized frequencies and networks. As a minimum, the frequency list will include the assigned frequency (in kilohertz (kHz)), authorized power level, authorized modes (for example, lower side band (LSB), upper side band (USB)), associated dial frequency (in kHz), frequency designator, authorized location, and exception or remark notes.

Paragraph 1-7h, Responsibilities. Add subparagraph (6) as follows:

(6) In the Army in Europe, the duties and responsibilities of the State MARS Director will be performed by the Assistant Affiliate MARS Coordinator, Europe.

Paragraph 1-7h(3), Responsibilities. Add the following:

The Command MARS Director, Europe, must review and approve network schedules.

Paragraph 1-7, Responsibilities. Add subparagraph k as follows:

k. In the Army in Europe, the MARS-station custodian must—

(1) Be a sergeant in the grade of E-5 or above or a civilian employee in the grade of GS-05 or above. Civilian club MARS stations are exempt from this requirement.

(2) Supervise the activities of the gateway, community, installation, unit, or club MARS station to which they are assigned and ensure compliance with current MARS directives and policy.

(3) Act as the equipment custodian for all MARS equipment assigned to or used by their station.

Paragraph 1-8, Funding, Manpower, and Programming. Add subparagraph e as follows:

e. In the Army in Europe, the Commander, 43d Signal Battalion, will provide operators for the European MARS gateway station.

Paragraph 2-1a(1)(d), Membership. Add the following:

In the Army in Europe, individuals applying for an affiliate MARS license must have a valid Federal Communications Commission (FCC) amateur-radio license. A host-government amateur-radio license is not required to qualify for an affiliate MARS license, but individual applicants are encouraged to obtain it. The term of individual MARS membership is renewable and is granted for the period covered by the member's current FCC license.

Paragraph 2-1a, Membership. Add subparagraph (5) as follows:

- (5) U.S. Government contractors, activities, Embassies, or consulates.

Paragraph 2-1a(3), Membership. Add the following:

Civilian club MARS stations are required to have a valid host-nation amateur-radio license. A statement that amateur-radio license fees will be paid by the club membership also must be attached to the application.

Paragraph 2-1c, Membership. Add the following:

In the Army in Europe, applicants will complete AE Form 25-6A and submit the application to 5th Signal Command (AFSE-OP-PFM (MARS)), CMR 421, APO AE 09056.

Paragraph 2-1, Membership. Add subparagraphs d through h as follows:

d. MARS applications for gateway, community, installation, unit, or club MARS stations will also include the following:

- (1) Military club or recreation MARS stations will attach a copy of unit orders or letter of appointment, appointing a MARS-station custodian.

- (2) Civilian club MARS stations will attach a letter of appointment that identifies who the station custodian is.

e. In the Army in Europe, membership in the Army MARS Program is available only in countries that have host-government-assigned frequencies for MARS operations.

f. Authority to approve MARS membership in the Army in Europe is delegated to the Command MARS Director, Europe. The Command MARS Director, Europe, may suspend membership indefinitely for the following reasons:

- (1) Violation of international law.

- (2) Failure to comply with pertinent MARS operational regulations or policies.

g. Army MARS members must notify the Command MARS Director, Europe, of any change in membership status (for example, change of address, station location, telephone number, revocation of amateur-radio license) within 30 days after the status change.

h. MARS applications for individuals, units, or organizations that will be operating at a forward-deployed location will also include the following:

- (1) The name of the operation or exercise supported during deployment.

- (2) The approximate dates of the deployment (the license will be initially issued for this period but is renewable).

- (3) Home-station mailing address and telephone number.

- (4) Deployed-location mailing address and a telephone number, if available.

Paragraph 2-3a, Reports. Add the following:

In the Army in Europe, the assistant affiliate MARS Coordinator, Europe, will submit a Consolidated MARS Participation Report to the Command MARS Director, Europe, summarizing the participation of the affiliate membership.

Paragraph 2-4, Termination. Add subparagraph d as follows:

d. The Command MARS Director, Europe, may terminate MARS membership for the following reasons:

(1) Discussing political or military matters (other than actual training) over the air.

(2) Using obscene, profane, or indecent language over the air or in correspondence with MARS members or management staff.

Chapter 2, MARS Administration. Add paragraph 2-5 as follows:

2-5. Army in Europe Telephone-to-Radio Relay (Phone-Patch) Authorization.

Phone-patching interface equipment connected to either civilian host-nation or U.S. Government telecommunication systems must be certified FCC- or host-nation-approved radio-to-telephone interface equipment.

Paragraph 3-3, Reports. Add subparagraph c as follows:

c. All requests for excess and surplus property will be coordinated with and reviewed by the Command MARS Director, Europe.

Paragraph 3-4, Control of Army MARS Property Obtained Through the Defense Utilization and Disposal Program.

Add subparagraphs f through h as follows:

f. In the Army in Europe, excess and surplus communications-electronic equipment will be issued and accounted for according to guidance provided by:

(1) AR 25-6.

(2) The Chief, Army MARS.

(3) The Command MARS Director, Europe.

g. In the Army in Europe, failure to return borrowed MARS equipment may result in criminal prosecution and a permanent bar from Army MARS membership.

h. Disposition of modification table of organization and equipment (MTOE) and tables of distribution and allowances (TDA) MARS property will be coordinated with the Office of the Command MARS Director, Europe.

After chapter 3, MARS Logistics. Add chapter 4 as follows:

CHAPTER 4

RELEASING INFORMATION

4-1. MARS-Specific Information.

Any release or withholding of specific MARS-business information (for example, MARS frequencies, official message traffic, membership rosters) must comply with the Freedom of Information Act and AR 25-55.

4-2. General Information.

a. General information on the MARS program, local activities, and membership requirements may be made available to the general public.

b. Before they are released to the general public or the civilian or military media, all information and announcements must be screened for applicability and approved for release by the Command MARS Director, Europe, and the Public Affairs Office, Headquarters, 5th Signal Command.

c. A copy of all MARS information released to the public must be provided to the Army MARS Public Relations Coordinator.

d. The following information is exempt from the above approval process:

(1) Information to be published only within the local military community.

(2) Distribution of blank MARS message forms to authorized users of the Army MARS Program.

Appendix A, Section II, Related Publications. Add the following:

AR 25-55, The Department of the Army Freedom of Information Act Program

AR 25-400-2, The Army Records Information Management System (ARIMS)

Appendix A, Section III, Prescribed Forms. Add the following:

AE Form 25-6A, Application for a Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) Station or Membership License

Appendix A. Add section IV as follows:

Section IV
Related Forms

DA Form 2028, Recommended Changes to Publications and Blank Forms

Glossary, Section I, Abbreviations. Add the following abbreviations:

AE	Army in Europe
AR	Army regulation
GS	General Schedule
kHz	kilohertz
U.S.	United States
USAREUR	United States Army, Europe
USAREUR G6	Deputy Chief of Staff, G6, United States Army, Europe