

*Security*



**CONTROL OF PETS**

**COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY**

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This instruction establishes responsibilities and procedures for control and registration of pets. It applies to personnel residing on or visiting Maxwell Air Force Base (AFB), Gunter Annex, and the Maxwell Family Housing Annex in government quarters. Failure to observe the prohibitions and mandatory provisions in this instruction may result in administrative actions.

**SUMMARY OF REVISIONS**

This revision corrects administrative errors, updates references where required, incorporates minor clarifications, and changes instruction number to new series that deals with Security Forces Standards and Procedures.

- 1. Terms Explained.** The term pet is interpreted to include mammals, birds, fish and reptiles.
- 2. Policy.** Personnel residing in or visiting family quarters are permitted to keep pets as long as they are properly cared for and controlled by the owner.
- 3. Responsibilities.**

**3.1. Pet Owners:**

**\*3.1.1. Companion Pets.** This includes horses, dogs, cats, birds, fish, nonpoisonous type reptiles, ferrets and rodents.

3.1.1.1. Dogs, cats and horses over 3 months of age must be vaccinated annually. Additionally, all other required vaccinations must be kept current. A list of required vaccinations is provided at the initial registration and vaccination.

3.1.1.2. A maximum of three pets such as dogs and cats is allowed per household.

3.1.1.3. A maximum of five pets such as birds, nonpoisonous reptiles, and rodents, commonly available from retail sources, may be kept in cages.

3.1.1.4. Horses are housed only at the River Road Riding Club. Incoming horses must be cleared by Veterinary Services (42 MG/SGV) before being stabled at the riding club. New arrivals are quarantined at the riding club quarantine stall for 7 days before being authorized regular stall privileges. During this period, they have no authorized pasture privileges nor is horse-to-horse contact permitted. Registration must be completed within 1 week of arrival at the installation. Semiannual Coggin's Immunodiffusion test

(equine infectious anemia laboratory test) is required for the first year at the club then annually thereafter or at the discretion of the installation veterinarian. Horse owners are responsible for removing any horse testing positive from the installation within 12 hours of notification or at the veterinarian's discretion. Horses are not to be ridden in housing or industrial areas.

3.1.1.5. Aquariums containing normally accepted household fish are permitted. For aquariums with over 30-gallon capacity, submit an AF Form 332, **Base Civil Engineer Work Request**, to the Base Civil Engineer (BCE) for approval before installation. The BCE determines if the load-bearing capacity for the proposed location is adequate.

3.1.1.6. All members of the primate family are prohibited.

3.1.1.7. Wild, undomesticated animals are prohibited.

\*3.1.1.8. Poisonous reptiles or constricting reptiles are prohibited.

3.1.1.9. Request for exceptions to these policies must be submitted in writing to the Wing Commander (42 ABW/CC) through 42 MG/SGV.

3.1.1.10. Animal bites or scratches are reported by letter to the Maxwell or Gunter Security Forces (42 SFS). Security Forces immediately notifies 42 MG/SGV and forwards a copy of the letter to the owner's commander. This letter also contains instructions for quarantine procedures.

3.1.1.11. Other domestic animals such as chickens, pigs, goats, etc are prohibited.

3.1.2. **Registration.** New arrivals on Maxwell AFB or Gunter Annex with pets must report within 1 week of their arrival to the veterinary clinic, Maxwell AFB. Owners should make an appointment at the clinic before bringing the animal in for examination. The immunization status of their pets are reviewed, local rabies tags issued, and local pet information is provided. The rabies tag must be securely fastened to the collar or harness and worn at all times.

\*3.1.3. **Control.** Keep pets in an enclosed area or on a leash of such length so as not to interfere with pedestrians or vehicles. Pets should be under the control of the owner at all times (THIS INCLUDES CATS). Voice control may be used; however, the owner must be able to demonstrate voice control over the pet, when asked to do so by competent authority.

3.1.4. **Liability.** Owners are liable for damages caused by pets and for expenses pertaining to reclaiming pets found roaming uncontrolled. Owners are responsible for quarantine of a pet involved in a biting or scratching incident.

3.1.5. **Feces Removal.** Pet owners ensure their pets do not defecate on public areas such as playgrounds, sidewalks, etc., or in yards of other housing residents. If this inadvertently occurs, the pet owner is responsible for cleaning up after their animal. Additionally, feces in the owner's yards must be cleaned daily.

\*3.1.6. **Vaccination.** Pets over the age of 3 months must be immunized against rabies upon arrival and annually.

**3.2. Chief, Security Forces:**

\*3.2.1. Notifies the 42 MG/SGV and the pet owner's commander by letter whenever an animal is involved in a biting or scratching incident.

\*3.2.2. Coordinates with the Montgomery Police Department Animal Control Division to ensure animals determined to be strays are removed from the installation.

3.2.3. Enforces quarantine requirements for pets involved in biting or scratching incidents.

3.2.4. Notifies the Montgomery Police Department Animal Control Division and requests seizure, impoundment, or restriction of pet movements as required.

\*3.3. **Hospital Personnel.** Veterinary Services immediately notifies 42 SFS when an individual is treated at their facility for an animal bite or scratch.

\*3.4. **Commander, Veterinary Services:**

\*3.4.1. Maintains a file on all animals involved in biting or scratching incidents and notifies the 42 SFS when the animal is involved in a subsequent offense or if at the discretion of the vet, feels the animal is vicious, regardless of the incident.

3.4.2. Makes a determination as to method and place of quarantine.

\*3.4.3. Immediately notifies 42 SFS when the animal does not have the required immunizations. A DD Form 1569, **Incident Complaint Form**, is forwarded to the pet owner's commander for action and the animal is quarantined.

\*3.5. **Judge Advocate (42 ABW/JA).** Upon notification of a biting or scratching incident, the 42 ABW/JA recommends to the 42 ABW/CC whether the animal should be removed from the installation.

\*3.6. **Commander, Civil Engineer:**

\*3.6.1. Upon notification that a deceased animal has been located on the installation, ensures that it is picked up and properly disposed of.

**4. Rabies Control.**

4.1. Persons bitten or scratched by a mammal, to include, bats, squirrels, etc., report immediately to the Acute Care Clinic for treatment during duty hours or the emergency room of the day if after hours.

\*4.2. Animals involved in bite or scratch incidents should be captured alive whenever possible. Should it be necessary to kill the animal, do not damage the head. The body should be taken to the veterinary clinic. Veterinarian personnel remove the head for laboratory examination.

**5. Confinement.** Any animal not wearing a tag by which the owner can be identified is presumed to be a stray. Strays are picked up by 42 SFS or Montgomery Police Department Animal Control Division

personnel and placed in the Montgomery Humane Shelter. Expenses pertaining to the reclaiming of the pet are the responsibility of the owner.

**6. Prohibited Areas.** Pets are only permitted in family quarters. They are not authorized in:

- 6.1. Unaccompanied officer's quarters.
- 6.2. Visiting officer's quarters.
- 6.3. Transient airmen's quarters.
- 6.4. Temporary lodging facilities.
- 6.5. Unaccompanied enlisted quarters.
- 6.6. Any area where pets are determined to be a nuisance.

**7. Authorized Areas.** Fish tanks are authorized to be maintained in dormitories, provided the BCE has granted approval before installation.

**8. Abuse or Neglect.** Is defined as denial of food or shelter or inflicting bodily harm.

**9. Complaints.** All complaints, instances of nuisance, mistreatment, or abuse of pets require a 42 SFS report, which is then forwarded to 42 MG/SG. The 42 MG/SGV conducts an inquiry into suspected mistreatment or abuse and if sustained, notifies 42 SFS for further investigation.

9.1. **First Offense.** The owner endorses the report to the 42 ABW/JA outlining actions taken to ensure compliance with this directive. The 42 ABW/JA makes recommendations to the 42 ABW/CC as to what, if any, further measures may be required.

\*9.2. **Second Offense.** The owner endorses the report to the 42 ABW/JA showing why the animal should not be removed from the installation. The 42 ABW/JA advises the 42 ABW/CC on additional corrective actions or recommends the animal be removed from the installation.

**10. Permanent Removal of Pets.** A pet involved in a violation of this instruction may be ordered removed from the installation by the 42 ABW/CC when, after consultation with 42 ABW/JA, the pet presents a danger to the health or safety of personnel living or working on the installation. Permanent removal is mandated whenever a pet is involved in a second serious violation unless 42 ABW/CC determines circumstances justify permitting the pet to remain on base. The following are examples of serious violations:

10.1. The animal manifests viciousness toward humans or other animals. A bite or scratch inflicted on a human as a result of an unprovoked attack is sufficient grounds for immediate and permanent removal.

10.2. The pet barks at or chases moving vehicles, or in anyway interferes with the safe and efficient operation of aircraft, machinery, vehicles, or scheduled functions. Determination is the responsibility of the Chief, Security Forces.

10.3. The pet owner fails to maintain proper sanitation standards in pens, yards or leashed areas.

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