

ACC

AC 1419/MAINT/TW5

10000/48/2860

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VEHICLE
OCT. 1944

MARKING
CORRESPONDENCE

ROME ALLIED AREA COMMAND
APO 794, US Army

TN.S.C.
2090
CAT/IEC/sg
31 October 1944

AG 451 (G-4)

Subject: Marking of Motor Vehicles.

To : See Distribution.



1. There has been a notable increase throughout the Rome Area in the number of vehicles without proper or legible bumper markings. Marking of vehicles is covered by Army Regulations, and has been published repeatedly by the various headquarters in this theater.

2. The use of improperly marked vehicles, including civilian automobiles requisitioned for military use, is playing directly into the hands of bandits, thieves, hijackers, and AWOLs, of which there has been a notable increase lately. Many of the above are using stolen cars in the furtherance of their activities, and find immunity in carrying unidentifiable markings. The control of their activity as well as the recovery of stolen vehicles, will be greatly facilitated if trip tickets are more generally examined and vehicles are required to carry the prescribed identification.

3. Commanding Officers of all U.S. units in the Rome Area are directed to comply with the following instructions regarding the marking of vehicles in their organization:

WD Vehicles. Government vehicles will be properly painted, front and rear, with complete, and correct, and legible identification in accordance with AR 850-5, dated 5 August 1944. Trip tickets will be carried at all times.

Requisitioned Civilian Vehicles. Civilian vehicles requisitioned by U.S. Units in the Rome Area, through this headquarters, will have an orange registration number painted on the hood and letters "RAAC" followed by the organizational letters and numerals allotted to them by the office of the AC of S, G-4, this headquarters, stenciled in white on front and

Marking of Motor Vehicles (cont'd).

rear bumpers, or front and back of body of the vehicle. All vehicles in this category used under the dispatch system will carry trip tickets at all times.

4. Shortly after 1 November, the Provost Marshal will commence an intensive campaign against improperly marked U.S. vehicles. Vehicles not marked in accordance with the above regulations will be impounded, and the drivers thereof, as well as drivers not having proper trip tickets, will be detained.

5. Commanding Officers of all U.S. Units will take immediate steps to enforce these instructions.

By command of Brigadier General BROWN:

I. E. Cheek
I. E. CHEEK
Captain AGD
Adjutant General

DISTRIBUTION

"R" (less Br.)

ACC-DIST

ACTION - 2675 REG T. (5)

INFO - G-4 (A)

- HQ. COMDT

- ADJ.

HEADQUARTERS
PENINSULAR BASE SECTION
APO 782

4m s/c
1939

AG 451.02

HS/js
27 October 1944

SUBJECT: Vehicles Without Proper Markings

TO : Chief Commissioner, Allied Control Commission, APO 394, U. S. Army.

1. Reference is made to PBS letter dated 23 October 1944, same subject, informing you of a drive to be started by the Provost Marshall, PBS, shortly after 1 November, with a view to stopping and examining improperly marked vehicles.
2. Paragraph 4 thereof states that cars bearing generals' plates will be examined and that when it appears necessary Military Policemen may approach cars with weapons drawn. These actions are not in accordance with the policy of the Theater Commander and will not be taken. Military Policemen will be instructed not to stop or examine cars bearing general officers' plates and not to draw or threaten to draw their weapons except defensively.
3. The methods to be followed by Military Policemen and the road blocks are being worked out by the Provost Marshall, PBS, with the Provost Marshall General and will not deviate from methods approved by the Theater Commander.
4. It is requested that any action you may have taken towards notifying your command of the proposed PBS activity be modified in accordance with the above.

For the Commanding Officer:

HARRISON SHALES
Colonel, GSC
Chief of Staff

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RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS
PENINSULAR BASE SECTION
APO 782

AG 451.02 HFCDS

MAT/it

26 October 1944

SUBJECT: Proper Marking of Vehicles and Trip Tickets.

TO : See Distribution.

30 OCT 1944

1. There has been a notable increase thruout PBS area in the number of vehicles without proper or legible markings. Prescribed marking of vehicles is covered by Army Regulations (AR 850-5), the pertinent portions of which repeatedly have been published for the information and compliance by all concerned. Improperly marked vehicles referred to above generally fall into the following classes:

- a. No Markings.
- b. Incorrect Markings. This includes vehicles on which markings as prescribed by Appendix "B" have been deviated from. (Sec XI, PBS Car #68)
- c. Illegible Markings. This includes those which have become obliterated or covered with mud. (Bumpers must be kept clean and markings visible).
- d. Improper Markings. This includes markings indicating that vehicles belong in vehicle parks or depot stocks and which should not be on the road without special indication that they are in transit to other units or depots.

2. Shortly after 1 November 1944 the Provost Marshal will commence an intensive campaign against improperly marked U.S. vehicles, and vehicles may be impounded, drivers detained, and disciplinary action taken as circumstances require.

3. Improperly prepared or non-possession of trip tickets will serve as the basis for detention of driver if considered necessary by Provost Marshal.

4. Military policemen have been authorized, where their judgment indicates it is necessary, to approach drivers with drawn weapons. Vehicles which when properly signalled to stop, fail to do so, may be fired upon.

5. Attached hereto is latest publication covering proper markings for civilian and general purpose vehicles.

6. Unit commanders will, at next unit formation, read the contents

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of this directive to all members of their commands after which it will be prominently posted on Bulletin Board for a period of one week.

By order of Colonel OXX:

L. F. Nickel

L. F. NICKEL
Lt. Col., A.G.D.
Adjutant General

1 INCL
APPENDIX "B", Sec XI PDS Cir #68

DISTRIBUTION

"A" AND "E"

ACC-DIST

Action - 2675 Regt (6)

Info - G-4 (A)

- Hq Comdt

- Cdy.

ACTION-TRANS. s/c
1546

HEADQUARTERS
 PENINSULAR BASE SECTION
 APO 782



Barclay
 HS/mn
 23 October 1944

SUBJECT: Vehicles Without Proper Markings

TO : Headquarters, Allied Control Commission, APO 394, U. S. Army

1. There has been a notable increase throughout the PBS area in the number of vehicles without proper or legible bumper markings. Marking of vehicles is covered by Army Regulations, and has been published repeatedly by the various headquarters in the Theater. Roughly, the vehicles referred to fall into the following classes:

a. No Markings: This includes a great many civilian type sedans, at least some of which are believed to be privately owned and not under requisition by any service.

b. Incorrect Markings: This includes vehicles in which the prescribed method has been deviated from. It also includes many ACC sedans, which bear no marking except the green and white insignia on the sides of the vehicle.

c. Illegible Markings: This includes those which have become obliterated or covered with mud.

d. Improper Markings: This includes markings indicating that vehicles belong in vehicle parks or other stocks, which should not be on the road without special indication that they are in transit to units. It has also been found that vehicles have been marked with incomplete markings, or markings deliberately intended to be unidentifiable.

2. The increasing use of improperly marked vehicles is playing directly into the hands of bandits, hi-jackers, thieves, and AWOL's, of which there have been a notable increase lately. Many of the above are using stolen cars in the furtherance of their activities, and find immunity in carrying unidentifiable markings. The control of their activities, as well as the recovery of stolen vehicles, will be greatly facilitated if trip tickets are more generally examined and vehicles are required to carry the prescribed identification.

3. This Headquarters is issuing new orders directing that ^{all} vehicles be promptly painted, front and rear, with complete, correct, ^{and}

legible identification, and reminding the command that trip tickets must be carried at all times.

4. Shortly after 1 November the Provost Marshal will commence an intensive campaign against improperly marked U. S. vehicles, making use of patrols and road blocks. Vehicles not marked in accordance with regulations may be impounded, and the drivers thereof, as well as drivers not having proper trip tickets, may be detained. Cars bearing general officers' plates will not be exempted from examination. (There are two cases on record of a general officer's car being hi-jacked.) Military Policemen will be authorized, where their judgment indicates it necessary, to approach drivers with drawn weapons. (There have been two attempted murders of individuals questioning drivers as to the use of their cars. In both cases the drivers were wearing officers' uniforms and the cars were stolen and improperly marked.) Vehicles refusing to stop when properly signaled may have to be fired upon.

5. It is not desired to embarrass the personnel of any other command; however, unless vehicles can be accurately and positively identified, they must be regarded with suspicion and the drivers thereof must be looked upon in the same way.

6. Your cooperation in this campaign is desired, and to that end it is requested that you take action to insure that all vehicles in your command are properly marked, that your personnel is warned of the drive, and that your command be informed that the use of drawn weapons by Military Police involved in this drive is a necessary step.

7. A similar letter has been written to all U. S. headquarters, and to those having U. S. components.

For the Commanding Officer:

HARRISON SHAUER
Colonel, GSC
Chief of Staff

Copy sent to G-4(A)

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