



KAISERSLAUTERN LEGAL INFORMER

FIRE DESTROYS KLEBER SHOPPETTE



One of the most heavily-utilized facilities on Kleber Kaserne went up in flames the night of 21-22 August. Those who suffered loss do not have far to go for help. The Kaiserslautern Claims Office is right across the street in Bldg. 3210.

by Steve Smith

For those who work on the US Army posts on the eastern edge of Kaiserslautern, the AAFES Shoppette on Kleber Kaserne is the place to go to shop when you don't have time to run to the Exchange or the Commissaries in the west end of K-town.

At least, it *was* the place to go until the night of 21-22 August, when a fire broke out shortly before midnight and consumed not only the Shoppette, but much of the adjacent building which housed offices and training facilities of the Civilian Human Resources Agency-Europe and various contractors' offices.

Fortunately, the official personnel files for all civilian employees in USAREUR which CHRA-E stored in the adjacent building were unharmed.

Army, Air Force, and German firefighters battled the flames for more than seven hours. While the total cost of the fire has yet to be determined, estimates of the damage to the facilities exceed \$11 million. The cause of the fire was still under investigation when this newsletter went to print.

Claims officials from the Kaiserslautern Legal Services Center were on the scene shortly after the flames were extinguished, taking photographs to preserve evidence of the damage and informing those affected by the fire where to go for help.

The Kaiserslautern Claims Office is located directly across from the Shoppette, in Room 110 of Bldg. 3210. Anyone who suffered loss from the fire (*e.g.*, damaged personal effects) should stop by to see one of our claims examiners, who can provide them with further information on how the claims process works.

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