



# KAISERSLAUTERN LEGAL INFORMER

## K-TOWN CLAIM\$ EXAMINER\$ "FIRST IN SUPPORT"



### PROFESSIONAL PROFILES...

*This is the third in a series of profiles of members of the staff of the Kaiserslautern Legal Services Center. We're proud of the team of attorneys and paralegals who meet the legal services needs of the largest community of Americans overseas. By getting to know our staff better, our readers will know who they can turn to for help with a legal problem. As is so often the case when it comes to resolving legal matters, it's who you know that counts...*

*The Kaiserslautern Legal Services Center's award-winning Claims Examiners, Martina Berndt (left) and Karin Jordan (right), bring more than 50 years of service to the Army in K-town to the table. They can help "heal the*

### by Steve Smith

At a time when other services are switching to on-line filing of claims through centralized claims offices in CONUS, Kaiserslautern prides itself on doing claims the traditional way—locally, with the help of multi-talented local national claims examiners who give personalized, face-to-face service to claimants.

The key to the success of Kaiserslautern's claims operations is its staff, and at the heart of that staff are two of the best claims examiners in Europe. Senior Claims Examiner Martina Berndt has served the Army in Kaiserslautern for 26 years, and has 18 years of claims experience. She is ably assisted by Karin Jordan, who has worked for the Army in K-town for 27 years, having spent the last 7 years in claims. Martina and Karin know their stuff! They do it all, from intake, to inspections, to adjudication, to settlement, to recovery.

In addition to handling a mountain of "personnel claims" involving damage to household goods, hold baggage, and vehicles shipped to Europe, plus claims arising from vandalism and theft, they also investigate and adjudicate "tort claims" involving damage or loss caused by Governmental negligence. Since the Army has single-service responsibility for tort claims arising in Germany, all the tort claims filed at Ramstein and Spangdahlem Air Bases are referred to Martina and Karin for settlement. This makes Kaiserslautern the busiest tort claims office in Europe by a long shot.

Martina thrives on variety: "No two claims are the same, and every day I get to meet and help new people." Karin enjoys "explaining the regulations to claimants, so they understand what we can and cannot do for them." It's that full-service, personal touch that goes a long way toward healing the hurt from PCS moves and much, much more.



*United States Army  
Judge Advocate  
General's Corps -  
America's Oldest  
Law Firm*

## ***Helpful Tips for Soldiers Applying for Citizenship Based on Military Service***

by MAJ James D. Whitaker

There are many “great Americans” who are citizens of other countries and are proudly serving in the United States Armed Forces. Many of them wish to become citizens of the U.S. but are confused or intimidated by a naturalization process that is as challenging as any confidence course in the military. However, just like the most intimidating obstacles, the naturalization process can be navigated using good soldiering skills and attention to fine detail. The following is a list of tips to help Soldiers navigate the naturalization process:

1. ***GATHER ALL NECESSARY MATERIALS.*** This will include: (1) A copy of the Soldier’s lawful permanent resident card containing his or her alien number. If a copy is not available, he or she may obtain the alien number from AKO under the “My Personnel”; (2) A copy of the Application for Naturalization, Form N-400, located at <http://www.uscis.gov/files/form/N-400.pdf>; (3) Three copies of the request for Certification of Military or Naval Service, Form N-426, located at <http://www.uscis.gov/files/form/N-426.pdf>; (4) Two copies of the Biographic Information Form G-325B, located at <http://www.uscis.gov/files/form/g-325b.pdf>; (5) A list of all employers for the last five years; (6) If the Soldier is married, information relating to the spouse’s citizenship and/or immigration status to include the spouse’s alien number or naturalization number, if applicable, and domicile; (7) If the Soldier has any children, information relating to the children’s citizenship and/or immigration status to include the children’s alien number or naturalization number, if applicable, and domicile; (8) Two standard passport style photos; (9) Two sets of fingerprints on Fingerprint Form FD258 (These may be obtained by visiting an installation’s PMO or a U.S. civilian law enforcement agency. A fee may be required); and (10) All male Soldiers must have their selective service registration number which may be obtained from visiting [www.sss.gov](http://www.sss.gov). If a male Soldier has not registered, he must do so and obtain a number before applying for naturalization.

2. ***FILL OUT EACH FORM COMPLETELY.*** First and foremost, use a mailing address on Form N-400 where the Soldier knows that he or she will be guaranteed to get his or her mail. It may be necessary to use the “Care of” portion of the form to list a relative whom the Soldier trusts to receive his or her mail. The use of temporary or short-term addresses accounts for the vast majority of all delays. Second, when completing the forms, if a question does not apply to the Soldier then fill in the blank with “Not Applicable” or “N/A”. If the Soldier answers yes to any question it may be necessary to attach an additional sheet containing an explanation as to why the Soldier answered the way he or she did. Be sure to place the Soldier’s alien number on the top of each page where required to do so. Where dates are required it is recommended that a civilian format be used and that the format remain consistent throughout the form. Form N-426 is completed in triplicate. When completing Form N-426, Soldiers will report all active duty service time on the upper half of the form and all Reserve/National Guard service time on the lower half of the form if applicable. Soldiers will need to contact their Personnel Specialist, Battalion S-1, or Personnel Services Battalion in order to have page two of Form N-426 completed. A seal or stamp is preferred but not required. Soldiers must insure that the Personnel Section indicates on page two of the N-426 that the Soldier is SERVING HONORABLY. When completing the G-325B, Soldiers need to complete the first page in duplicate. Completion of the second page is not required.

3. ***GET FINGERPRINTED.*** Soldiers are required to submit two FD258 fingerprint cards in support of their application. These cards are BLUE in color. If the person fingerprinting the Soldier tries to use a PINK or RED card ask them to use the BLUE card. Citizenship and Immigration Services will reject the PINK and RED cards. Soldiers may be fingerprinted

## ***Helpful Tips for Soldiers Applying for Citizenship Based on Military Service (Continued)***

by the installation's Provost Marshal Office or by a local law enforcement agency if within the U.S. Local law enforcement agencies may charge a fee.

4. ***OBTAIN PASSPORT PHOTOS.*** Soldiers will need to obtain two passport photos. These may be obtained from a civilian photo facility or utilizing a digital camera with a color printer and photo paper. The photo must be a full frontal face position with a plain generic background. No designs or bright colors. If the Soldier is printing the photos his or herself, the finished product must be 2 inches by 2 inches. The bottom of the photo should cut off at the mid chest line and the top of the photo cannot cut off any portion of the Soldier's head.

5. ***DO NOT SEND ANY MONEY.*** Instead, write in BIG BOLD LETTERS across the top of each page of the application "MILITARY N-400". This is important because, without such an annotation, the Soldier's application may be rejected for not containing the necessary fee.

6. ***MAIL THE COMPLETED APPLICATION WITH ALL THE REQUIRED MATERIALS TO:***

***Nebraska Service Center  
P.O. Box 87426  
Lincoln, Nebraska 68501-7426***

7. ***UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS.*** If for any reason the mailing address that the Soldier used on Form N-400 changes, the Soldier needs to inform Citizenship and Immigration Services immediately. Remember, incorrect addresses account for the vast majority of delays. Soldiers who deploy overseas or are stationed overseas and wish to complete the process before returning to the U.S. need to notify Citizenship and Immigration Services as soon as possible of their overseas duty location.

8. ***SHOW UP FOR THE INTERVIEW.*** When the Soldier is scheduled for an interview, he or she must show up at the scheduled time or the application will be deemed abandoned. If for any reason the Soldier cannot make the interview, the Soldier must call the number on the appointment letter in order to reschedule. Commanders need to keep in mind that the National Defense Authorization Act of 2004 placed a high priority on naturalization and leave should be liberally granted for Soldiers to become naturalized if the mission permits.

9. ***RESPOND TO ALL REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.*** If Citizenship and Immigration Services sends a request for more information, Soldiers must comply with the request or else the application will be deemed abandoned. If Soldiers are requested to submit any court documents, Soldiers must obtain the documents from the local courthouse possessing the documents.

10. ***STAND TALL.*** Upon successful navigation of the naturalization process, Soldiers should STAND TALL and be proud of their service to their country and their newly-awarded citizenship.



## Waging War on Identity Theft *by Jim Wiley*

*“It is estimated that identity theft has become the fastest growing financial crime in America and perhaps the fastest growing crime of any kind in our society.”*

Sean B. Hoar  
Assistant United States Attorney  
District of Oregon

For those on the front fighting identity theft, there is good news: identify theft decreased from 10.1 million reports in 2003 to 9.3 million reports in 2005, and is predicted to decrease to 8.4 million reports in 2007, according to recent surveys and studies from Javelin Strategy & Research in association with the Federal Trade Commission.

The bad news is that an estimated 8.4 million Americans (with losses totaling over 49 billion dollars) will fall victim to identity theft in 2007. Unfortunately, a significant number of these victims will include service members, government employees, and their families.

Identity theft occurs when someone illegally appropriates your name, Social Security number, credit card number, or some piece of your personal information without your knowledge to commit fraud or theft. Some examples of identity theft include:

- Opening a credit card account, using your name, date of birth, and Social Security number. When the thief uses the

credit card and does not pay the bills, the delinquent account is reported on **your** credit report.

- Establishing cellular phone service in your name.
- Opening a bank account in your name and writing bad checks on that account.

The Federal Government has a web site that is very useful if you are faced with problems concerning identity theft. The site provides access to an affidavit that is often accepted by a number of agencies and corporations that will aid in resolving the problem of identity theft. A copy of the affidavit can be obtained at <http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/idtheft>. If you find yourself a victim of identify theft, the Federal Trade Commission recommends you immediately take the following four steps:

1. Contact the fraud departments of any one of the three major credit bureaus to place a fraud alert on your

credit file. The fraud alert requests creditors to contact you before opening any new accounts or making any changes to your existing accounts. As soon as the credit bureau confirms your fraud alert, the other two credit bureaus will automatically be notified to place fraud alerts. Once the alert is placed, you may order a free copy of your credit report from all three major credit bureaus.

2. Close the accounts that you know or believe have been tampered with or opened fraudulently. Use the [ID Theft Affidavit](#) when disputing new unauthorized accounts.

3. File a police report. Obtain a copy of the report to submit to your creditors and others that may require proof of the crime.

4. [File your complaint](#) with the FTC. The FTC maintains a database of identity theft cases used by law enforcement agencies for investigations. Filing a complaint also helps the FTC learn more

about identity theft and the problems victims are experiencing.

If you believe you may have been the victim of identity theft or need further assistance please call the Legal Assistance Office at DSN 483-8848 or Commercial 0631-411-8848.

*This article is based on material distributed by the Army JAG Corps and the Federal Trade Commission.*



(Above) 21st TSC Commander BG Scott G. West presents the Legion of Merit to COL Scott W. Arnold for his exemplary service as the 21st TSC Staff Judge Advocate. COL Arnold is now SJA of the 1st Infantry Division at Fort Riley, Kansas. (Below) the OSJA staff stands at ease.



## *Ich verstehe nicht - I don't understand*

by Joerg Modellmog

*[Ignorance of the law (or of the language) is no excuse...]*

In Germany, oral contracts are binding and enforceable right away. According to German law, and unlike American contract law, there is no requirement for consideration in the formation of a contract. All you need is a meeting of the minds based on an offer and acceptance. You do not even need to address all issues of the deal because sometimes the written law will fill in the gaps.

Written contracts are preferable. Under oral contracts, parties tend to remember their obligations a little differently after a while. Oral contracts are only useful for on the spot transactions. Under a written contract, the contractual parties know their obligations and warranty claims can be more easily asserted.

However, signing contracts drafted in German can be risky unless you are familiar with the language. It is almost impossible to get out of a contract simply because you did not know or understand what you signed. Instead of relying on the seller's interpretation and summarization of the German contractual terms, you should consult

an unbiased person who knows the language and/or the law. The best advice is to consult with a German attorney at your Legal Assistance Office **before** you sign a contract.

Another further timesaving alternative is to write down in the contract the translation that the seller gave you when you negotiated the contract and inquired about the contractual terms and conditions. Have the seller sign the translation before you sign the contract, so that the two of you have identical copies of the contract. Don't be afraid to ask the seller to stand by his or her translation. You should always ask for a copy of the contract.

Please note, any unjustified attempt to get out of a contract concluded with a businessperson will most likely result in a claim for damages (loss of profit) on the part of the seller. Generally, the sum demanded in damages for loss of profit amounts to 25% of the purchase value! It is a flat percentage rate that is due without any further proof. In fact, legal fees may be added where the buyer refuses to pay a justified claim for damages.

The following examples are **not** sufficient reasons to terminate a contract:

- I did not understand the language
- I did not know what I was signing
- I saw something cheaper somewhere else
- I really can't afford it
- The seller had no USAREUR Solicitation Permit

If you can sufficiently prove that someone deceived you or maliciously tricked you then you have a good reason to terminate the contract. The same is true if the seller breaches his or her warranty obligations or fails to perform the promised act.

If you are looking for more information on commercial solicitation or consumer law, please feel free to pick up one of our handouts covering that area of law. If you still have questions concerning your specific case, schedule an appointment with our German attorney.

*If you wish to make an appointment, call DSN 483-8848 or Commercial 0631-411-8848.*

### **Some shots from the 21st TSC OSJA Summer Hail & Farewell**



**21st TSC attorneys and paralegals from as far away as Stuttgart came to say farewell to departing members of the OSJA team.**



**JAG wives Genevieve Chicka and Teresa Wiley bid farewell to Margot Arnold, spouse of the departing SJA.**



**COL Wollschlaeger presents a souvenir of Germany to the Arnold family as they head for Big Red One country in Kansas.**

## ***“Show Me the Money!”* — 21st TSC’s Tax Program Picks up Steam in 2007**

by Steve Smith

2007 was a banner year for the 21st TSC free tax assistance program. At a time when other commands are experiencing a steep decline in the number of returns they generate (e.g., Ramstein Air Base did about half as many returns in 2007 as they did in 2006) due to funding cuts and the availability of on-line alternatives, 21st TSC’s program experienced significant growth in 2007.

The total number of federal and state returns generated by 21st TSC’s tax centers in Kaiserslautern, Landstuhl, Mannheim, Stuttgart, Garmisch, Mons and Brussels in Belgium, and Schinnen in the Netherlands jumped from 9,042 in 2006 to 10,494 in 2007. Total refunds generated jumped from \$13.6 million in 2006 to \$14.5 million in 2007. In addition, we saved our taxpayers over \$1.2 million in commercial tax preparer fees.

What these figures do not show is the difficulty of many of the returns our tax centers generated. 21st TSC has a well-earned reputation for handling the tough stuff: sale of stock, sale of rental properties, state and Puerto Rico returns, returns for retirees, and returns involving complicated foreign issues. Garmisch has the largest concentration of retirees in Europe, and our tax centers in Stuttgart and Belgium cater to the high-ranking clientele at EUCOM, AFRICOM, and SHAPE Headquarters. The medical professionals at Landstuhl also tend to have more challenging returns. All 21st TSC e-filers received specialized training to equip them to handle sophisticated tax issues. That training paid off handsomely for our taxpayers.

Another reason demand is up for tax services is the redeployment of troops from downrange. Many of them postponed filing until they got back. We also opened a new tax assistance center in Mannheim, the largest in USAREUR, and advertised our program aggressively. 21st TSC ensured we had sufficient funding to hire the help we needed to mount a full-service program. That funding kept us “First in Support!”

This much is certain: those who think everyone is doing their own returns on-line these days and the military’s free tax assistance program is no longer needed are dead wrong. Military taxpayers in increasing numbers are voting with their feet and beating a path to the door of their closest 21st TSC tax assistance center for the kind of professional help they cannot get from *militaryonesource.com*.

## ***21st TSC — We Tackle Taxes!***

## UNDERSTANDING HOUSEHOLD GOODS PACK-UP DELAYS

by CPT Desirée Helmick

Europe is experiencing the highest household goods demand surge in more than a decade. Coupled with a shortage of moving companies, this is causing requested pick-up dates this summer to be rescheduled to dates later than originally requested.

Installation Management Command-Europe Logistics Division Transportation Office is asking customers to consider the following:

- Do not make any financial commitments based upon your requested pick-up date. Wait until you receive a pick-up confirmation from the local garrison representative. Be aware that requested pick-up dates are tentative *until confirmed by the contractor*. Keep in touch with your local transportation office regarding the status of your move.
- Try to remain flexible with the alternate household goods pick-up dates that you are offered. Normally during a PCS move you would get the pick-up date that you wanted; however, that may not be possible this summer.
- If you want to report early to your next duty station, you may be asked to defer your pick-up date to a later date to make room for a service member who must leave earlier. Consider this request carefully unless you have a compelling reason to report early to your next duty station.

For more information, contact your local transportation office or the Kaiserslautern Claims Office at DSN 483-8414 or Commercial 0631-411-8414.

This article is based on material distributed by the HQ U.S. Army Installation Management Command, Europe Region, Public Affairs Office.

Would you like more information on the JAG Corps?



[WWW.JAGNET.ARMY.MIL](http://WWW.JAGNET.ARMY.MIL)



**21st TSC Deputy Commander BG Phillip J. Thorpe presents the Meritorious Service Medal to COL Daria P. Wollschlaeger for her dedicated service as the 21st TSC Deputy Staff Judge Advocate. COL Wollschlaeger is now SJA at Fort Leonard Wood, and has been selected to attend the War College.**

### NEWS FLASH...

**The 21st TSC Office of the Staff Judge Advocate welcomes our new SJA, LTC Corey Bradley, our new Deputy SJA, LTC P.J. Perrone, the new Officer-in-Charge of the Kaiserslautern Legal Services Center, CPT John Kokoszka, and the new Chief of Legal Assistance, CPT Rebecca Evans. We welcome back SSG Rodney Belt from his recent deployment. We bid farewell to COL Scott Arnold, COL Daria Wollschlaeger, CPT Jocelyn Stewart, SFC Becky Witmer, and SGT Samantha Ortiz.**

## Do I Need a Will? by Jim Wiley

They say the only sure things in life are death and taxes. Given the inevitability of death, it is important to plan for the disposition of your estate. Attorneys and financial planners can create complicated estate plans that involve trusts and tax shelters. Alternatively, if you do nothing, your estate plan could be as simple as allowing your state to determine how to distribute your assets.

Dying without a will is referred to as dying “intestate.” Some assets, such as life insur-

ance and bank accounts, pass outside of the estate to the person you have designated as a beneficiary. All other assets generally pass in accordance with the intestacy laws of your home state, which dictate who will receive your estate if you die without a will.

In most states, if you are married and die intestate, your spouse will receive a share of your estate with the remainder distributed to your children. If you are single, your parents will likely receive the entire

estate. If you do not have a spouse or parents, most states will attempt to find your nearest relative. Only as a last resort, if no living relative can be found, will your estate revert to your state of domicile.

Since estate planning is a free service for our clients, why leave things to chance? Stop by the Legal Assistance Office and pick up a will worksheet, fill it out, and schedule an appointment to discuss it with a Legal Assistance Attorney. We also prepare durable powers of attorney, living wills, and advance medical directives.



### KAISERSLAUTERN LEGAL SERVICES CENTER

**Building 3210  
Kleber Kaserne**

Legal Assistance 483-8848  
Claims 483-8414  
Tax Assistance 483-7688  
International Affairs 483-8854  
Trial Defense Service 483-8165  
Administrative Law 484-7450  
Criminal Law 484-8311

## German Radio and TV Tax

by Joerg Modellmog

Germany has a strong public radio and TV tradition, *e.g.*, ARD (“*Arbeitsgemeinschaft der öffentlich-rechtlichen Rundfunkanstalten Deutschlands*” – Cooperation of Public-law Broadcasting Institutions of Germany, founded on June 10, 1950), ZDF (“*Zweites Deutsches Fernsehen*”- Second German TV Channel, first time on the air on April 1, 1963). In Germany private broadcasting companies have only existed since 1984. No commercials are allowed on public radio and TV after 2000 hours.

In order to help finance these public radio and TV stations, the German States agreed in the German Interstate Broadcasting Fee Convention (“*Rundfunkgebührenstaatsvertrag*”, RFGStV) to charge a fee. Since January 1, 1976, the GEZ (“*Gebühren-einzugszentrale der öffentlich-rechtlichen Rundfunkanstalten*” – Institution for the collection of charges for the public-law broadcasting) collects the

monthly fee.

As of April 1, 2005, the monthly fee (per apartment to include a POV) amounts to €17.03 for radio and TV/ Internet-TV use and €5.52 for radio use. Payment of fees is mandatory for users who must register for use of radios and television sets.

However, persons holding SOFA status are **EXEMPT** from these fees and registration, in accordance with Article 60, paragraph 5(b) of the Supplementary Agreement (SA) to the NATO Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA). In response to a GEZ request, a *Statusbescheinigung* (Certificate of Status) should be sent, making reference to Article 60, paragraph 5(b) of the SA. Copies of military or civilian ID cards should not be sent to GEZ.

If your local national spouse has been paying these fees, he or she can demand to be reimbursed back to the date when he or she obtained SOFA status (by marriage); however, in no case shall a refund be given for a period more than 3 years from the date

of application (Art. 4, § 7, para. 4, RFGStV).

If you have further questions or wish to obtain a “Certificate of Status” in answer to a GEZ request, please contact your nearest Legal Assistance Office. It is important that you bring the GEZ letter with you, for it will have the assigned reference/case number. You can contact the Legal Assistance Office or make an appointment by calling DSN 483-8848 or Commercial 0631-411-8848.



## ***RESERVIST REEMPLOYMENT RIGHTS***

BY JIM WILEY

If you are a mobilized Reservist who was employed before entering active duty, your right to return to your job is protected by federal law. On January 18, 2006, the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA), 38 U.S.C. §§ 4301-4334 was amended and improved protections for activated Reservists.

It is important to note that USERRA requires that service members provide advance written or oral notice to their employers for all military duty unless giving notice is impossible, unreasonable, or precluded by military necessity. This office recommends that an employee provide notice as early as is possible. Although oral notice is allowed, it is generally best to put such notice in writing and retain a copy for your records.

If the Reservist complies with the notice requirements, an employer must promptly reemploy the returning Reservist. "Promptly" usually means within days, not months, of his or her return. Generally the reemployment position should be the same one the person would have attained had he or she remained continuously employed during the period of military service.

Among its other protections, USERRA prohibits discrimination and reprisal against any person in federal employment (initial employment, reemployment, retention, promotion, or receiving any employment benefit) because of that person's military membership, application for membership, performance of, application for, or obligation for military service.

USERRA also provides significant protection for disabled veterans. The law requires employers to make reasonable efforts to accommodate the disability. Also, some service members convalescing from certain injuries received during service or training **may** have an extended time period (not to exceed two years) from the date of completion of service to return to their jobs or apply for reemployment.

You can seek enforcement of your USERRA rights through the Department of Labor Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS). The Department of Labor Website lists local VETS offices at <http://www.dol.gov/vets/aboutvets/contacts/main.htm>. These offices can provide assistance if you are experiencing problems with an employer or if you simply have questions. Additional information is also available at <http://www.osc.gov/userra.htm>.

***FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT THE KAISERSLAUTERN LEGAL SERVICES CENTER'S LEGAL ASSISTANCE OFFICE AT DSN 483-8848 OR COMMERCIAL 0631-411-8848. THIS ARTICLE WAS PREPARED USING MATERIALS FROM [WWW.JAGCNET.ARMY.MIL](http://WWW.JAGCNET.ARMY.MIL) AND [WWW.DOL.GOV](http://WWW.DOL.GOV).***



**The Judge Advocate General's Legal Center & School in Charlottesville, Virginia, is responsible for training all JAGC personnel.**



*First in Support*



ODT Reservists MAJ Craig Russell (Texas National Guard), CPT Jorge Vergne (New Jersey National Guard), and MAJ Doug Whitaker (Texas National Guard) joined forces with the staff of the Kaiserslautern Legal Services Center for two weeks in August.

**WE'RE ON THE WEB AT:**

<http://www.21tsc.army.mil/SJA/index.htm>

**DO YOU WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE JAG CORPS?**

[HTTPS://WWW.21TSC.EUR.ARMY.MIL/SJA/HISTORY/HISTORY2.HTM](https://www.21tsc.eur.army.mil/SJA/HISTORY/HISTORY2.HTM)

**ODT Reservists Give 21st TSC Legal Assistance Program a Major Shot in the Arm...**

by Steve Smith

The 21st TSC OSJA sponsors the most robust Reserve Overseas Deployment Training (ODT) program in the JAG Corps. The program annually brings more than 100 Reserve and National Guard attorneys and paralegals to Europe to work for two weeks in our law centers. The Kaiserslautern Legal Services Center and its clientele have been major beneficiaries of this program.

To get a feel for the qualities these Reservists bring to the table, you need look no further than pages 2 and 3 of this newsletter. MAJ Doug Whitaker, a Judge Advocate with the Texas National Guard, also serves as a GS-15 with the Department of Homeland Security's Immigration and Customs Enforcement unit in Omaha, Nebraska. He is a bona fide subject matter expert on how Soldiers can become U.S. citizens. During his two weeks in Kaiserslautern, we directed clients with immigration and naturalization issues his way. Doug also made a lasting contribution to our program by authoring the detailed article in this newsletter on how Soldiers can apply for citizenship based on their military service.

The ODT program provides CONUS-based JAG Reservists an opportunity to see how a real Active Duty JAG office functions overseas, and exposes them to issues they rarely see on drill weekends, but often encounter in their civilian jobs. And the professional relationships forged during ODT continue long after the Reservists return home. We have a Rolodex filled with subject matter experts who are only too happy to help our clients resolve legal problems back in the States. All we have to do is ask. Reservists like the three pictured on this page are a big part of what keeps the 21st Theater Sustainment Command's legal assistance program "First in Legal Support!"

**Directions to Kleber Kaserne.** From Vogelweh, Ramstein, or Landstuhl take the A6 direction Mannheim. On your right you will see a large store called Möbel Martin. Make sure you are in the right lane as you take the Kaiserslautern Ost exit/Ausfahrt. Turn right as you leave the exit ramp and drive downhill until you reach the stop light. Turn right and proceed straight until the next stoplight. Turn left and you will be in front of Kleber. Follow the perimeter until you find an open gate. Once you are on the post, park in the Shoppette parking lot. Bldg. 3210 is directly across from the Shoppette. Enter Bldg. 3210 from the end door, closest to the Shoppette.

