

FRENCH FORCES BASED IN GERMANY

Article initially written by Jean Schuliar and completed by Jean-Emmanuel Chevry in 2021

1. **French forces in Germany** (FFA) had regular **military** registration, after the TOA (Troupes d'Occupation en Allemagne) period (1945-1949), but on a red background, often with an additional FFA. An E or an S (Services) may precede the serial number, often starting with 998. Since about 2005, the E (Economats) vehicles have a 00-1234 format, either in silver on blue, or white on black background. Such plates have been seen on SFOR vehicles in the former Yugoslavia.



2. **Civil vehicles for the french administration in Germany** had a CGA prefix from 1945 to 1949 on a black background and then a DO suffix (Domaine Occupation). Plates starting or ending with GMB (Gouvernement militaire de Berlin) on a black background were issued from 1955 to replace the DO plates.



3. **Private vehicles** of military forces in Berlin had a distinctive FZ (Französische Zone) from 1947 followed with a 4 digit serial number. The German Forces in France, still have a black background plate with a DF prefix.



Private vehicles for troops located in other regions than Berlin had blue plates, from 1954 to 2017 in which the second digit represents :

1= **Baden-Baden**, 2=Freiburg, 3=Landau-Pfalz, 4=**Trier**, 5=**Villingen-Constance**, 6=former-Tübingen (end in 1977), 7=Reutlingen. In July 1999, most of french troops left Germany, but in several places (1, 4 and 5) Eurocorps french-german troops replaced them and still used these blue plates. Code 3 reappeared in the 2010s.

From december 2016, these blue plates are replaced with white background plates and the F Euroband, starting with RF, followed by 2 personalized letters and 2 to 4 serial digits. Serial 1600 was reached in 2021.