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HEADQUARTERS  
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
WASHINGTON, D.C., 30 September 1965

PERSONNEL—GENERAL

PREVENTIVE LAW PROGRAM

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**1. Purpose.** The Preventive Law Program is designed to decrease the volume of personal legal problems confronting military personnel and their dependents. An effective program will result in the saving of countless man-hours now used in remedial counseling and the processing of courts-martial and administrative actions. Further, this program will enhance the morale, efficiency, and prestige of the individual soldier.

**2. Responsibility.** The Preventive Law Program is a command responsibility.

**3. Responsibilities at Headquarters, Department of the Army.**

*a. Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel.* The Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel will be responsible for the implementation of the Preventive Law Program.

*b. The Judge Advocate General.* The Judge Advocate General will serve as technical adviser to the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel and will be responsible for—

- (1) Development of Army-wide policy and guidance to assure the effectiveness of the entire program.
- (2) Furnishing technical advice and guidance to commanders through local staff judge advocates.

**4. Implementation.** *a.* Commanders will—

- (1) Through active publicity, training, and education programs, insure that the individual soldier and his dependents are informed concerning—
  - (a) Subjects that will assist them in the management of their personal financial affairs.
  - (b) The counseling services that are available through the Legal Assistance Program.

(c) The importance of seeking legal advice prior to taking action that may lead to adverse civil legal involvements, e.g., before signing purchase agreements, contracts, leases, marriage or divorce settlements.

(d) The rights and privileges arising from laws specifically enacted to assist the serviceman.

(e) The use of services that are available from all military sources on personal problems.

(f) Federal and State personal income tax obligations.

(2) Insure that personnel of the command and their dependents regularly receive general information and guidance on personal money management.

(3) Insure that individual counseling on financial management is available to military personnel and their dependents on a regular basis through announced periodic visits of a qualified officer to the unit area.

(4) Insure that legal assistance is available to individuals who have current legal problems resulting from poor financial management.

(5) Insure that an active community relations program enlists the assistance of local merchants in controlling the extension of unwarranted credit and the employment of harsh collection methods.

*b.* Legal Assistance Officers will insure that sufficient copies of the Annual Legal Checkup form (DD Form 1543) are available for the proper implementation of this program.

[JAGAA]

\*This regulation supersedes AR 600-14, 10 January 1963.

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By Order of the Secretary of the Army:

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