Received by NSD/FARA Registration Unit 11/05/2026 11:29:08 AM

From: Phillips, Steven [redacted]
Sent: Monday, November 2, 2026 2:41 PM
Cc: Phillips, Steven [redacted]
Subject: FW: Meeting with staff delegation from Rheinland Pfalz Germany

As you know, we work with the German State of Rheinland Pfalz on various defense related issues, since there are a number of important US bases in their State (Ramstein, Spangdalhem, Baumholder, Landstuhl hospital, etc).

First, they have a new Minister for the Interior who is in charge of issues related to the US bases in the State. He has sent the attached letter to your boss.

I hope you can share this with him? And I wanted you to have a copy too.

Second, they have **a staff-level delegation that will be coming to DC on December 8-9th** and they would welcome the chance to meet with you.

They would like to gather your insights on the key issues related to the US bases, defense issues, and other important transatlantic policy issues. They will share some of the key things they are doing to support the US troops and those bases, and will also be laying the groundwork for the visit of the new Minister of Interior that we expect in late spring.

I know December is a ways off, but let me know if you might have some time open on **Dec 8th from 12-5 pm or the 9th from 9-12** ?

Thanks !

Steven R. Phillips

Partner

Government Affairs & Public Policy

Washington, DC

T +1 202 799 4313

This material is distributed by DLA Piper LLP (US) on behalf of the German State of Rheinland-Pfalz. Additional information is available at the U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC.

Received by NSD/FARA Registration Unit 11/05/2026 11:29:08 AM

Received by NSD/FARA Registration Unit 11/05/2026 11:29:08 AM

RheinlandPfalz
MINISTERIUM DES INNERN, FÜR INTEGRATION UND VERKEHR

Ministerium des Innern, für Integration und Verkehr Rheinland-Pfalz
Postfach 3280 | 55022 Mainz

DER MINISTER

The Honorable Roger Wicker
United States Senate
425 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
U.S.A.

Schillerplatz 3-5
55116 Mainz
Telefon 06131 16-0
Telefax 06131 16-3595
Poststelle@mdi.rlp.de
www.mdi.rlp.de

28. September 2026

Mein Aktenzeichen	Ihr Schreiben vom	Ansprechpartner/-in / E-Mail	Telefon / Fax
1133-0002#2026/0001-0301 355 Bitte immer angeben!		Dr. Jörg Zorbach [redacted]	06131 16-3482 06131 16-17 3482

Rhineland-Palatinate, Germany, as active host region for the U.S. military

Honorable Senator Wicker,

Following our recent elections in the State of Rhineland-Palatinate, our Government has changed and I have the honor of serving as the Secretary of the Interior – the post which is in charge of the civilian-military-cooperation for the State Government.

As you know, Rhineland-Palatinate is host to a U.S. military community of approx. 50,000 American citizens (soldiers, civilian employees, and their families). This makes our State home to the largest American community outside the United States. We are keenly aware of our responsibilities to support the mission of these allied troops and to maintain a high quality of life for our American friends and neighbors.

Regardless of the change in government, one thing remains constant: Support for transatlantic cooperation enjoys cross-party consensus. This partnership is one we are determined to continue with explicit commitment and engagement.

With this in mind, I will be sending a working-level delegation to Washington in December 2026. The purpose of this visit will be to gather suggestions and potential approaches, thereby preparing and shaping our discussions for the following year in a concrete and targeted manner. I would be most grateful if we could prepare this process together and incorporate your perspectives.

Received by NSD/FARA Registration Unit 11/05/2026 11:29:08 AM

Received by NSD/FARA Registration Unit 11/05/2026 11:29:08 AM

The State Government of Rhineland-Palatinate greatly values the long-standing and trustful dialogue with the U.S. Congress and the U.S. Federal Government.

This exchange, reflected in regular delegation visits and individual meetings is of great importance to us. It underscores the deep transatlantic ties of our state, which are both historically rooted and very much alive today.

The U.S. bases in Rhineland-Palatinate – including Ramstein Air Base, Spangdahlem Air Base, U.S. Army Garrison Rheinland-Pfalz (including the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center as well as Army installations in Kaiserslautern and Baumholder) – are vitally important to the fulfillment of both the NATO and the U.S. mission. The combined U.S. military presence in the region serves as a crucial power projection hub for Europe, Africa and the Middle East, as well as airlift and aeromedical evacuation functions.

The German Federal Government has committed to significant increases in our defense spending, as part of a larger defense overhaul and a shift in policy, enabled by budgetary and constitutional changes. We are rapidly modernizing our forces and preparing to assume far greater burdens for our common defense, responding to both the increased threat of Russian aggression against the Alliance and President Trump's calls for NATO members to step up their defense investments.

In addition, the State Government and local communities in Rhineland-Palatinate are actively engaged, investing in programs and infrastructure to ensure that U.S. families enjoy an attractive "home away from home." This commitment is not only a sign of our appreciation but also a testament to our belief that the transatlantic partnership of the future thrives on strong institutional and human foundations.

Yet, our goal is not merely to maintain the status quo. While Rhineland-Palatinate is already widely recognized as an excellent and popular location for U.S. forces, I am eager to explore how we can further improve the environment at our bases and enhance our role as a host to the U.S. community in a changing security environment, where U.S. power projection in Europe, the Middle East and Africa will nevertheless remain of high relevance. To advance these objectives, we seek to continue and enhance our direct input and dialogue with Washington.

Received by NSD/FARA Registration Unit 11/05/2026 11:29:08 AM

Received by NSD/FARA Registration Unit 11/05/2026 11:29:08 AM

RheinlandPfalz
MINISTERIUM DES INNERN,
FÜR INTEGRATION
UND VERKEHR

Let me take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude for your past support and engagement. I look forward to continuing our exchange and remain at your disposal for any questions or suggestions.

Yours sincerely,

Achim Schwickert

Received by NSD/FARA Registration Unit 11/05/2026 11:29:08 AM