A Letter To Directors of Military Government

General Clay has sent the following personal letter to the Director of Office of Military Government in each of the three Laender and Bremen Enclave. It is published for general information.

21 April 1946

Now that Military Government responsibilities have been removed from the jurisdiction of the Commanding General, Third Army, I wish to emphasize the great importance I place on the effecting of a full and complete cooperation between all Military Government detachments and the U.S. Occupational Forces. It must be brought out clearly throughout your command that the Occupational Forces and our Military Government personnel constitute a team which represents the U.S. Government on foreign soil in an occupied country. I realize that local irritations occur at times because of difference in rank and because of the frequent movement of elements of our Occupational Forces which have led to certain friction in the past. Such incidents often come to the attention of the German population, particularly German officials, who misunderstand and draw false conclusions as to the lack of teamwork between Military Government and our tactical units.

It is my desire that you encourage throughout your command that Military Government personnel, both military and U.S. civilian, make every effort to get acquainted with the neighboring and higher echelons of the Occupational Forces with particular attention to local constabulary units. Now that one Army Headquarters commands the ground forces throughout U.S. Zone, it is of particular importance that you and the senior members of the Land Detachment become personally acquainted with the Army Commander and his senior staff officers. To a more local degree this same desire to become acquainted personally with the Commander and his principal staff officers in each military community should be encouraged since these communities in many instances will provide services for both civilian and military members of Military Government that we are not in a position to provide for ourselves. We should also cultivate friendly relations with the Air Force troops and the staffs of supply and service installations adjacent to our Military Government offices.

I should like to hear from time to time on the progress made at all echelons of Military Government in stressing and effecting the close teamwork which is so necessary among all the U.S. elements in Germany

Sincerely,

/s/ Lucius D. Clay

LUCIUS D. CLAY
Lieutenant General, U.S. Army
Deputy Military Governor