

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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April 21, 1967

Joseph T. Edgar, Secretary of State

State

Leon V. Walker, Jr., Assistant

Attorney General

**Establishing Voting Residence on Military Base**

In your memorandum of March 24, 1967, you ask if a married couple may register as voters in the town in which a military base is located, under the following circumstances.

The couple emigrated to the United States and were employed and resided at a military base in Georgia. They were subsequently transferred to Loring Air Force Base and resided upon that base. They have become citizens of the United States but have not previously become registered voters. Now they have applied to the Town of Limestone to become registered voters of that town.

The question is whether they can gain the necessary residence requirements while living on Federal property.

I do not find that the State of Maine has ever ceded to the United States jurisdiction of Loring. The State, therefore, still retains jurisdiction, and in fact exercises it, over that base. Thus, the land which comprises the base is a part of the territory of Limestone. Since this couple are not serving in the Armed Forces and have never qualified as voting residents in any other municipality in the United States, and have met the statutory residence requirements of this State, it is the opinion of the Attorney General that they are entitled to be registered as voters in the Town of Limestone.

Leon V. Walker, Jr.  
Assistant Attorney General

LWVJr:H