

16. The court shall not be bound by technical rules of evidence. The admission or reception of evidence rather than its rejection shall be favored. Factual determinations shall be based on evidence of rational probative force. Stipulations of fact shall be admissible. -

17. Technical rules of pleading* shall not be controlling. Short simple statements of fact, allegations, and grounds of defense shall be required. Pleadings may be amended at any time with the court's approval and upon such terms as the court may require. The responsive pleading shall specifically admit or deny or explain each of the facts alleged unless the pleader is without knowledge, in which event he shall so state, such statement operating as a denial. Any allegation in a complaint, cross complaint, or intervener's petition not denied, as herein provided, in the responsive pleading shall be deemed to be admitted to be true, and may be so found by the court.

18. The court shall have power to punish for contempt.
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19. The traffic regulations and rules of the road with respect to the operation of motor vehicles and the conduct of pedestrians in relation thereto in effect within the U.S. Zone, Berlin Sector, or Bremen Enclave shall apply to the persons in paragraph 9 above in the same manner that they apply to German nationals and others.

20. The court shall determine liability by applying, in general, the law applicable to similar cases in the United States. Liability shall be based on fault, negligent or intentional, which is established to be the proximate cause of the damage or injury. Violation of the applicable rules of law, referred to in paragraph 19 above, shall be admissible as proof, but shall not be considered conclusive proof, of negligence. Contributory negligence may be pleaded and proved as a bar to recovery. In determining the application of the law as to liability, the court may be guided by the Restatement of the Law of Torts, as published by the American Law Institute.