



**IMCOM-Europe**



# **RETIREE BULLETIN**



**VOLUME II**

**June 2008**

Produced by IMCOM-Europe (IMEU-HRD-M-PSS-RSO),  
Unit 29055, APO AE 09081-9055

*Expires 1 year from the date of publication.*

The IMCOM-Europe Retiree Bulletin is an authorized periodical published in accordance with AR 600-8-7 and AE Supplement 1 by IMCOM-Europe (IMEU-HRD-M-PSS-RSO), Unit 29055, APO AE 09081-9055.

Telephone: DSN 379-6080 or civ 06202-80-6080

E-mail: [rsoae@eur.army.mil](mailto:rsoae@eur.army.mil)

Website: [http://www.1perscom.army.mil/RSO/usareur\\_retirement\\_services.htm](http://www.1perscom.army.mil/RSO/usareur_retirement_services.htm)

Use of funds for printing this bulletin was approved by HQ USAREUR/7A on 26 May 1987. Its purpose is to provide information and guidance on laws, regulations, and policy affecting retirees and their Family members or survivors in Europe.

COMMANDER AND EDITORIAL STAFF:

Lieutenant General Gary D. Speer

Acting Commanding General, USAREUR

Ms. Diane M. Devens

Director, IMCOM-Europe

Mr. Michael Malone

IMCOM-Europe Retirement Services Officer

FOR THE DIRECTOR:



GLEN L. SNOW  
Chief, Personnel  
Services Support

---

Dear retirees, Family members, and annuitants:

I wish you and your Family a happy and safe summer. Thank you again for your service to country. I look forward to seeing you at one of the autumn RADs or during the selected location visits with the representative from DFAS from 18 to 25 October 2008.

Sincerely,



MIKE MALONE  
IMCOM-Europe RSO



---

---

# IMCOM-EUROPE RETIREE BULLETIN

---

---



June 2008

---

---

## CONTENTS

USAG Ansbach Retiree Appreciation Day (RAD) on 2 August 2008.....	2
USAG Benelux and USAG Grafenwöhr RADs in October 2008.....	2
DFAS-Cleveland Representative's October 2008 Visit.....	2
Army in Europe RAD Hosted by USAG Heidelberg on 15 November 2008.....	3
Review of USAG Schweinfurt and USAG Stuttgart April 2008 RADs.....	3
USAG Vicenza May 2008 RAD Review.....	4
AERC Looking for New Members.....	4
Spouse Death or Divorce.....	4
SBP E-Mail Fraud.....	4
Bogus E-Mail From the IRS.....	4
ITIN-Holders Ineligible for Special Rebate.....	5
Voting Assistance Information.....	5
Issues.....	5
AERC Retiree Bulletin by E-Mail.....	6
Looking for an RSO.....	6
Address Updates Are Your Responsibility.....	6
List of IMCOM-Europe RSOs.....	7

## **USAG Ansbach Retiree Appreciation Day (RAD) on 2 August 2008**

United States Army Garrison (USAG) Ansbach will host a RAD on **2 August 2008** from **0800 to 1400** in the gymnasium at Katterbach Kaserne. A representative from the Federal Benefits Unit, Frankfurt, will be available to answer questions on social security and Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) issues. Both the medical and dental clinics will conduct wellness screenings for retirees and their Family members. Garrison services that will be available include Army Career and Alumni Program (ACAP); Army Community Service (ACS); ID card processing; Installation Access Control System (IACS) card processing; legal; morale, welfare, and recreation (MWR); Red Cross; voting; and other local associations. Mr. Godard, the garrison RSO, indicated that this is only the start of things to come. He also said, "All retirees and their Family members throughout Europe are invited, regardless of branch of Service."

Please check with your local RSO before the event to ensure the location has not changed due to military priorities.

### **USAG Benelux and USAG Grafenwöhr RADs in October 2008**

The USAG Benelux RAD is planned for **18 October 2008** at the SHAPE Events Center. The event and registration start at **0830** with a welcome coffee and will continue until **1300**.

The USAG Grafenwöhr RAD is planned for **25 October 2008** in building (bldg) 244 with registration starting at **0730** and the event continuing until **1700**.

A representative from the Federal Benefits Unit, Frankfurt or Brussels, will be available at both RADs to answer social security and VA questions. A pay representative from DFAS-Cleveland will be available for one-on-one audits of retiree pay accounts. Health and dental fairs are planned for both events. Online National Personnel Records Center processing service will be available to request lost or

missing copies of DD Form 214. In addition, the following services will be available: ACAP, ACS, Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES), customs, Defense Commissary Agency (DECA), IACS cards, ID cards, legal, MWR, Red Cross, and voting. Both events are open to all retirees and Family members living in Europe. We hope you will come out and enjoy the event. The Benelux RSO may be reached at DSN 423-4575 or civ 32-65-44-4575 (e-mail: rso.usagbenelux@eur.army.mil). The Grafenwöhr RSO may be reached at DSN 475-8539 or civ 49-9641-83-8539 (e-mail: imae-graf-rso@eur.army.mil).

### **DFAS-Cleveland Representative's October 2008 Visit**

A representative from DFAS-Cleveland will be in Belgium and Germany in **October 2008**, not only at the two scheduled RADs, but also at the following locations to conduct one-on-one audits of retiree pay accounts:

**18 Oct 08** – USAG Benelux, SHAPE Events Center (0830-1300).

**20 Oct 08** – USAG Kaiserslautern, bldg 3245, room (rm) 210, Kleber Kaserne (0900-1430).

**21 Oct 08** – USAG Stuttgart, bldg 2915, rm 307, Panzer Kaserne (1000-1400).

**22 Oct 08** – USAG Wiesbaden, bldg 1023W, rm 105, WAAF (0900-1200).

**22 Oct 08** – USAG Heidelberg, bldg 3850, rm 272, Heidelberg Shopping Center (1330-1530).

**23 Oct 08** – USAG Ansbach, bldg 5817, rm 127, Katterbach Kaserne (1000-1430).

**24 Oct 08** – USAG Bamberg, Warner Barracks, bldg 7290, rm to be announced (1000-1430).

**25 Oct 08** – USAG Grafenwöhr, bldg 244 (0730-1700).

The DFAS representative will be available until the last retiree is seen, regardless of times indicated. The representative is here to help and service you.

Please check with your local RSO before the event to ensure the location has not changed due to military priorities.

### **Army in Europe RAD Hosted by USAG Heidelberg on 15 November 2008**

The Army in Europe RAD will be hosted by USAG Heidelberg on **15 November 2008** at the Patrick Henry Village Pavilion in Heidelberg, Germany. Lieutenant General Michael D. Rochelle, Deputy Chief of Staff, G-1, United States Army, is scheduled to be the guest speaker at this year's event. The incoming CG, USAREUR/7A, General Dempsey, has been asked to make the welcoming remarks. Retirees and Family members from across Europe are invited to this year's special event. Four hundred retirees and Family members attended the RAD in October 2007.

Registration is between **0730** and **1300**. **Informational booths close at 1400, and service booths close at 1500.**

Individual counseling booths will be available, including a wellness clinic with TRICARE, audiology, managed care dermatology, cancer prevention, internal medicine, nutritional care, occupational therapy, orthopedic and optometry clinics, pharmacy services, physical therapy, flu shot station, and medical library services. The dental clinic will provide **dental screenings** on a walk-in basis. Appointments will **start at 0800**. Due to the high demand, a maximum of two members per Family will be given appointments. DFAS-Cleveland will be available for one-on-one audits of retiree pay accounts and other pay issues. Legal services; Federal Benefits Unit, Frankfurt, services (social security and VA); ID card services; and IACS services will be available throughout the event.

We plan to host the following local service organizations with information booths:

- Veterans of Foreign Wars; Mannheim, ACS - United Services Organization (USO); Heidelberg Association of Retired Officers, Heidelberg Center; USAREUR Customs and American Red Cross; and Military Association of Retired Officers.

Refreshments will be served from 0730 to 0845 at a cost of \$1 per pastry. Box lunches with sandwiches will be served from 1130 to 1300 at a cost of \$7 each. Prices are subject to change.

On Friday evening, 14 November 2008, the Association of the United States Army will sponsor an icebreaker at the Village Pavilion beginning at 1830.

Please check with your local RSO before the event to ensure location has not changed due to military priorities.

(Source: Heidelberg RSO)

### **Review of USAG Schweinfurt and USAG Stuttgart April 2008 RADs**

Both USAG Schweinfurt and USAG Stuttgart held RADs in April 2008, and many new attendees participated. More than 100 retirees audited their pay accounts during the 2 events, and 99 percent needed to make changes and corrections. One retiree indicated that DFAS-Cleveland still listed his former spouse as a beneficiary. Another retiree received more than \$5,000 back because he was still paying Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) premiums after his wife's death. He had never sent the death certificate to DFAS-Cleveland to suspend payments. The Federal Benefits Unit, Frankfurt, saw about 90 people at the 2 events and answered social security and VA questions that retirees and annuitants had.

## **USAG Vicenza May 2008 RAD Review**

USAG Vicenza hosted a RAD on 30 May 2008. For the second year, USAG Vicenza hosted a RAD with local services made available to retirees and their Family members. In addition, a representative from DFAS-Cleveland was available and made many on-the-spot corrections during audits of retiree pay accounts. The Federal Benefits Unit, Rome, was also available to answer questions on social security and VA issues. Other services included American Red Cross, ID cards, IACS, passport and customs forms processing.

The local retirees indicated they enjoyed the friendly services and hoped that the RADs will continue in the coming years. The medical services were the biggest hit among the attendees. Many retirees who thought their pay accounts were up to date were surprised to learn otherwise when their accounts were audited and were extremely glad they had taken the time to sit down for the audit. Many retirees were missing beneficiary information or the information was outdated. Most retiree pay problems were corrected on the spot and corrections will be shown on retiree pay account statements as of July 2008.

### **AERC Looking for New Members**

The AERC works under the supervision of the USAREUR G1 to provide advisory guidance and insight on issues and concerns affecting Army retirees living in Europe. Members serve a 4-year appointment and are required to attend quarterly meetings in the Heidelberg area (cost is paid by the Government) and perform liaison responsibilities and other tasks between meetings. Soldiers retired due to disability and retired Reservists are currently under-represented on the council. Retired Soldiers in Europe who would like to volunteer for council membership can apply by submitting AE Form 600-8-7A (Retiree Council Biographical Sketch) with a written statement describing why they wish to serve. For more information or to submit

application forms and statements, contact the council at e-mail: [aerc-pres@eur.army.mil](mailto:aerc-pres@eur.army.mil).  
(Source: USAREUR Release 2008-03-05-01)

### **Spouse Death or Divorce**

During a visit in April 2008, a DFAS-Cleveland representative encountered retirees paying SBP premiums who had gotten divorced or whose spouse had died. Retirees whose spouse has died can stop SBP payments beginning with the date of death by sending a copy of the death certificate to DFAS-Cleveland. Retirees who divorced can stop SBP payments by sending a copy of the divorce decree (in English) to DFAS-Cleveland, provided that the decree does not include SBP benefits as part of the settlement.

Remember, the Government will pay only up to 6 years after the date of death or divorce. All premiums paid into the SBP after the 6-year mark will be forfeited to the Government.

Retirees who remarry have 1 year after the date of remarriage to restart SBP payments.

### **SBP E-Mail Fraud**

A 2 May 2008 SBP note from the HQDA RSO (note 08-05) warns of a current fraud sent by e-mail to people under the name of a Captain Sanjay Nangalia, who claims to be the Army's SBP monitoring and control officer. If you receive e-mail messages from this person or anyone else claiming to be an SBP official, please report it to your garrison computer security section.

### **Bogus E-Mail From the IRS**

Scammers are already starting to cheat people out of their economic stimulus payments by sending false e-mail messages claiming to be from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

These e-mail messages ask people to click on a specific link and fill out the necessary information to receive the stimulus payment.

IRS officials clearly advise against responding to or opening any links, as scammers are hoping to glean sensitive information or attempting to spread a computer virus.

According to the legitimate IRS website, the IRS does not initiate taxpayer communications through e-mail. In addition, the IRS does not request detailed personal information such as ID numbers, passwords, or similar access information for credit card, bank, or other financial accounts.

(Source: Release No. 05-04-08, 5 May 08, Randolph Air Base, TX)

### ITIN-Holders Ineligible for Special Rebate

Families who file joint tax returns will not get this year's special stimulus check if their foreign spouses do not have social security numbers (SSNs), according to military tax experts and the IRS.

Under the current policy, if a Family files a joint tax return for 2007 and includes an individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN) on the document, the entire Family will be ineligible for the economic stimulus rebate President Bush announced earlier this year.

(Source: Stars & Stripes, 29 Mar 08)

### Voting Assistance Information

The Federal Voting Assistance Program is responsible for administering the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act. All American citizens are reminded that 2008 is an election year in the United States. Overseas citizens are eligible to participate in primary, run-off, and special elections that occur throughout the year, as well as the general election in November. If you need assistance in registering to vote and receiving your absentee ballot, call the garrison voting assistance officer in your area for more information.

<b>IMCOM-Europe</b>	DSN 379-8601 civ 06202-80-8601
USAG <b>Ansbach</b>	DSN 468-7824 civ 0981-183-730
USAG <b>Bamberg</b>	DSN 469-8071 civ 0951-300-8071
USAG <b>Baumholder</b>	DSN 485-6024 civ 0678-36-6024
USAG <b>Benelux</b>	DSN 361-5154 civ 068-27-5154
USAG <b>Brussels</b>	DSN 368-9655 civ 02717-9797
USAG <b>Garmisch</b>	DSN 440-2638 civ 08821-750-2638
USAG <b>Grafenwöhr</b>	DSN 475-6753 civ 09641-83-6753
USAG <b>Hessen</b>	DSN 322-8313 civ 06181-88-8313
USAG <b>Heidelberg</b>	DSN 373-6334 civ 06221-17-6334
USAG <b>Hohenfels</b>	DSN 466-2212 civ 09472-83-2212
USAG <b>Kaiserslautern</b>	DSN 489-6509 civ 0631-411-6509
USAG <b>Livorno</b>	DSN 633-8106 civ 050-54-8106
USAG <b>Mannheim</b>	DSN 385-2537 civ 0621-730-2537
USAG <b>Schinnen</b>	DSN 360-7320 civ 046-443-7320
USAG <b>Schweinfurt</b>	DSN 354-1550 civ 09721-96-1770
USAG <b>Stuttgart</b>	DSN 431-2924 civ 07031-15-2924
USAG <b>Vicenza</b>	DSN 634-7973 civ 0444-71-7973
USAG <b>Wiesbaden</b>	DSN 337-7068 civ 0611-705-7068

Source: USAREUR G1 Voting Assistance Officer

### Issues

If you have a retiree issue that you would like the Army to look into, please contact your local retiree council or RSO. IMCOM-Europe requests issues be submitted each year from the garrisons, but you do not have to wait until IMCOM-Europe requests issues. You may

submit them at any time. We welcome your issues and Europe has had some success in getting HQDA solutions to problems outside the continental United States (OCONUS). Some examples are as follows:

- Direct deposit of retiree pay to foreign bank accounts (approved in 2006).
- Direct deposit of VA benefits to foreign bank accounts (VA working issue).
- Dental insurance for OCONUS retirees (program should be in place by end of 2008).

### **AERC Retiree Bulletin by E-Mail**

If you wish to receive the Retiree Bulletin by e-mail, please go to [https://aepubs.army.mil/ae/public/aepubs\\_main.asp](https://aepubs.army.mil/ae/public/aepubs_main.asp), click on *Retiree*, provide the information requested in the pop-up window, and click on *Submit*. This is a one-time registration. Once you subscribe, all future Retiree Bulletins will be sent to you automatically by e-mail. You will no longer receive paper copies in the mail. If you change your e-mail address, you must register again.

### **Looking for an RSO**

If you live outside Belgium, Germany, Italy, or the Netherlands and need to contact an RSO, contact Mike Malone at DSN 379-6080 or civ 49-6202-80-6080.

### **Address Updates Are Your Responsibility**

This bulletin is mailed using the correspondence address supplied by DFAS-Cleveland. All retirees and annuitants are responsible for maintaining a current correspondence address at DFAS as well as a current check address. **Use either a local civilian or APO address, but please do not combine the two.** To change your address, contact the appropriate center:

Defense Finance and Accounting Service  
U.S. Military Retired Pay  
P.O. Box 7130  
London, KY 40742-7130  
Telephone: 800-321-1080  
216-522-5955  
Fax: 800-469-6559

U.S. Military Annuitant Pay  
P.O. Box 7131  
London, KY 40742-7131  
Telephone: 800-321-1080  
216-522-5955  
Fax: 800-982-8459

**NOTES:** 800 numbers are not toll-free when calling from Europe. You must dial "001" instead of "1" to call from Europe, e.g. 001-800-321-1080. **Ensure that the last four digits of your SSN and signature are on all faxed pages.** Addresses may also be changed online using MyPay.

Army Echoes and the IMCOM-Europe Retiree Bulletin are now reaching most retired Soldiers in Europe. If you are not receiving them, please go to the MyPay website at <http://www.dfas.mil> to verify your address on file at DFAS.

## List of IMCOM-Europe RSOs

### GERMANY

#### **ANSBACH**

USAG Ansbach  
(IMEU-ANS-HRD-RSO)  
CMR 463  
APO AE 09177  
Tel. 49-0981-183-3301  
rsoansbach@eur.army.mil

#### **BAMBERG**

USAG Bamberg  
(IMEU-BAM-HRD-RSO)  
Unit 27535  
APO AE 09139-7535  
Tel. 49-0951-300-7514  
RSObamberg@eur.army.mil

#### **BAUMHOLDER**

USAG Baumholder  
(IMEU-BMH-HRD-RSO)  
Unit 23746  
APO AE 09034-3746  
Tel. 49-06783-6-6080  
RSOBaumholder@eur.army.mil

#### **GRAFENWÖHR**

USAG Grafenwöhr  
(IMEU-GFW-HRD-RSO)  
Unit 28130  
APO AE 09114-8130  
Tel. 49-09641-83-8539  
rsografenwoehr@graf.eur.army.mil

#### **HANAU**

See Wiesbaden

#### **HEIDELBERG**

USAG Heidelberg  
(IMEU-HEI-HRD-RSO)  
Unit 29245  
APO AE 09102-9245  
Tel. 49-06221-57-8399  
RSOHD@eur.army.mil

### **KAISERSLAUTERN**

USAG Kaiserslautern  
(IMEU-KAI-HRD-RSO)  
Unit 23152  
APO AE 09227-3152  
Tel. 49-0631-411-7333  
RSOKL@eur.army.mil

### **MANNHEIM**

USAG Mannheim  
(IMEU-MAN-HRD-RSO)  
Unit 29901  
APO AE 09086-9901  
Tel. 49-0621-730-2086  
RSOMA@eur.army.mil

### **SCHWEINFURT**

USAG Schweinfurt  
(IMEU-SWF-HRD-RSO)  
CMR 457  
APO AE 09033  
Tel. 49-09721-96-7033  
RSO.schweinfurt@eur.army.mil

### **STUTTGART**

USAG Stuttgart  
(IMEU-STU-HRD-RSO)  
Unit 30401  
APO AE 09107-0401  
Tel. 49-07031-15-2924  
usag-s.rsc@eur.army.mil

### **WIESBADEN**

USAG Wiesbaden  
Wiesbaden Army Airfield  
(IMEU-WSB-HRD-RSO)  
Unit 29623  
APO AE 09096-9623  
Tel. 49-0611-705-5515  
RSOWiesbaden@eur.army.mil

### BELGIUM

USAG Benelux  
US NATO/SHAPE SUPT GP  
(IMEU-CHV-HRD-RSO)  
CMR 451  
APO AE 09708  
Tel. 32-65-32-4575  
rso.usagbenelux@eur.army.mil

### THE NETHERLANDS

USAG Schinnen  
Schinnen Emma Mine  
(IMEU-CHV-SCH-HRD-RSO)  
Unit 21602  
APO AE 09703-1602  
Tel. 31-46-443-7320  
rso.schinnen@eur.army.mil

### ITALY/AFRICA/MIDEAST

USAG Vicenza  
Camp Ederle  
(IMEU-VIC-HRD-RSO)  
Unit 31401  
APO AE 09630-1401  
Tel. 39-0444-71-7262  
RSOvicenza@eur.army.mil

### IMCOM-EUROPE/OUT OF SECTOR

IMCOM-Europe  
(IMEU-HRD-M-RSO)  
Unit 29055  
APO AE 09081-9055  
Tel. 49-06202-80-6080  
rsoae@eur.army.mil