

**U.S. Army Garrison Heidelberg
Retiree Council**

Heidelberg, Germany

11 November 2007

FOR: Commander, U.S. Army Garrison, Heidelberg, Unit 29237, CMR 419, APO AE 09102

SUBJECT: Minutes of the 10 November 2007 U.S. Army Garrison Heidelberg Retiree Council Meeting

1. General.

The Council President convened the quarterly meeting of the U.S. Army Garrison Heidelberg Retiree Council at 1245 hours, 10 November 2007. The venue was the Goldener Hirsch Restaurant in Heidelberg Kirchheim Germany.

2. Attendance.

a. Council Members Present.

LTC (R) Lawrence Applebaum	President
MAJ (R) Bernd Rieger	VP- Programs
MSG (R) Robert McCoy	VP- Attendance
SGM (R) Don Denese	VP- Public Relations
MSG (R) Donald E. Marsh	Secretary
Mrs. Helga Shupp	Member (Liaison for Retiree In-Patients)
COL (R) John Napper	Member
COL (R) Paul Samulski	Member
Mrs. Marianne Davis	Member (Widows' Representative)

b. Council Members Absent.

Mr. Dom Buther	Garrison Retirement Services Officer
CWO (R) Horst Viergutz	US Army Hospital Liaison for Health Care Support
SSG (R) George Hall	Member (Volunteer RSO)

c. **Others.** 21 other retirees/family members/guests were present at the meeting.

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3. **Approval of Minutes from Last Council Meeting.** The minutes from the meeting held on 11 August 2007 were approved as written.

4. **Announcements.**

a. Colonel Applebaum made the below announcements.

- COLA for 2008 is 2.3%
- Medicare Part B Rate for 2008 is \$96.40 per month (increase is \$2.90).
- Thanked the Council members (Bernd Rieger, Don Marsh, and Marianne Davis) and two other retirees (Roy Ogborn and John O'Preska) who volunteered and helped at the recent Retiree Appreciation Day.

b. There were no announcements from the floor.

5. **Unfinished Business.**

Review of Council Constitution and Bylaws. The bi-annual review of the Council Constitution and Bylaws has been completed and the updates were made. There were no policy updates, just administrative changes.

Council Membership Change. Mrs. Marianne Davis has replaced Mrs. Hilda Long as the Widows representative.

6. **New Business.**

TRICARE. There is a newly assigned Senior Liaison NCO at the TRICARE Area Office-Europe located at Sembach Air Base. Her name is MSgt (USAF) Nechele M. Chambers. She will attend the next Army in Europe Retiree Council Meeting on 14 November. Colonel Mentell asked local retiree council presidents to report on any concerns with TRICARE that could be passed on to her when they meet. The most significant concern was the excessive claim processing time. Colonel Applebaum will report this concern to Colonel Mentell.

Program for Next Meeting. Bernd Rieger and Larry Applebaum will coordinate with the Heidelberg Police Department to get a police specialist to speak on crime prevention as it pertains to our personal and home security.

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Meeting Dates for 2008. Meeting dates for 2008 will be 16 February, 24 May, 16 August, and 15 November. These dates will also be published in the next Council Newsletter.

Council Member Concerns. There were no member concerns brought before the Council

7. **Open Discussion.** None

8. **Next Meeting.** The next meeting will be at 1200 hours on 16 February 2008 at the Goldener Hirsch Restaurant in Heidelberg Kirchheim.

9. **Adjournment.** The business portion of the meeting was adjourned at 1300 hours.

Program

The program included two presentations as summarized below.

Major Rieger spoke about the various economic pressures that are driving the dollar down against many of the World's currencies. He also offered some suggestions on how to alleviate the problem on a personal basis.

Colonel Applebaum reviewed past Retiree Council programs for the past two years and also provided a hand-out that covered the high points of each program. We have had guest and Retiree Council speakers who have made presentations on legal affairs, personal wellness, old age and nursing homes, funeral planning and arrangements, and the Casualty Assistance Officer.

Donald E. Marsh

DONALD E. MARSH
MSG (R), Secretary
U.S. Army Garrison Heidelberg
Retiree Council

Enclosure
Meeting Program

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The Minutes of Retiree Council meeting held on 10 November 2007 have been
reviewed and Approved/Disapproved by the undersigned below. (Please Circle one)

Reason for disapproval



Robert J. Uises
Colonel, AV
Commander