



**RETIREE COUNCIL  
U. S. ARMY GARRISON-STUTT GART  
UNIT 30401 APO AE 09107**



AEGS RETIREE COUNCIL

24 April, 2007

MEMORANDUM FOR: SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Retiree Council Meeting Minutes

1. A meeting of the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Retiree Council was held at the Patch Barracks Community Club at 1200 hours on 18 April, 2007.

2.a. The following members were present:

LTC(R) William Torbett	President
MSG(R) James W. Johnson	Vice-President
COL(R) David A. Beckner	Member
MSG(R) Eric Shook	Member
GnySgt(R) William Goble	Member
SFC(R) Harvey Allen	Member
SFC(R) Thomas Fray	Member
SSG(R) Bill Ewer	Member

b. The following members were excused:

LTC(R) Alan Horwedel	Secretary (hospitalized)
Mrs. Joanne Walker	Member

3. The Council reviewed and approved the minutes of the 15 Feb. 2007 meeting.

4. There were no major developments in Congress that will affect retirees.

5. The council reviewed the requirements for changes in ID cards for those enrolled in Medicare part B to ensure that these persons will not be restricted from receiving medical or dental support. This subject needs to be more clearly explained at the next general meeting.

6. Committee Chairmen Reports:

SSG(R) Ewer reviewed his comments for the general meeting concerning pricing at both the Commissary and AAFES.

7. LTC(R) Torbett summarized his comments to be given to the Health & Wellness Committee on 19 April.

8. The Council was informed of the additional 138 names discovered who were not on our list and addressed the task of mailing more than 600 letters each quarter. A major effort to get e-mail addresses will be made to reduce the number of letters that need to be sent.

9. COL Beckner reported on the feasibility of having the Council and general meetings at the Swabian Special Events Center on Patch Barracks. The council decided that the best location remains the "back room" of the Patch community Club. The time for future Council meetings was set for 1230 with the general meeting to follow at 1330.

10. A discussion was held concerning the possibility of holding a Garrison Retiree Appreciation (RAD) in case the USAREUR RADs were to be discontinued. The general feeling was that this was feasible since

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few of the retirees living in the Stuttgart garrison footprint attended the Heidelberg RAD in recent years. Medical and Dental Fairs offered by the Stuttgart clinics could be continued as in the past.

11. The president was urged to gain support from other occupants of Building 2915 at Panzer in an effort to have the APO in 2915 open 5 days a week.

12. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1300 hours.

13. The General Retiree Meeting was opened at 1330 and closed at 1500. A summary of issues is attached.

*William C. Torbett*  
WILLIAM C. TORBETT  
LTC US Army(R)  
President

Attachment: as stated

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Each Council Member  
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Local Member of the USAREUR Retiree Council

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Attachment to Letter dated 24 April, 2007

SUBJECT: U.S. Army garrison Stuttgart Retiree Council Meetings Minutes

Summary of General Retiree Meeting Held on 18 April, 2007

1. The normal start time for future General Retiree Meetings was set for 1330 hours. Those attending agreed with this change.
2. News of LTCOL(R) Horwedel's recovery from his latest hospitalization was well received.
3. Those attending agreed that the local RADs as have been held in the Stuttgart community were satisfactory. Few attended the RAD in Heidelberg.
4. The new e-mail address for the Retiree council and Support Center was provided to those attending and those with e-mail addresses were asked to provide them to the Center so that less postal mailing would be needed.
5. SSG(R) Ewer again stressed that AAFES and Commissary prices are often not lower than "economy" prices if one is careful in comparing prices and quality. He also distributed coupon books provided by AAFES.
6. A short discussion on the exact requirements for updating the "Pink Card" issued by the local German customs office. Ms. McMahan, Chief Inspector of the Stuttgart Field Office states that the legal requirement is for the card to be presented monthly to the local German customs office. However, some offices are satisfied if the card is presented only every 2 months. Since some AAFES clerks have been checking the date of the last custom stamp and questioning the validity of the card it was felt that the clerks should only be concerned if the card was issued within the last year, since some retirees do not shop regularly and may not have purchases to report to the German customs office on a monthly basis.
7. Those attending were again urged to write the Congress members from their state asking for support on matters affecting retirees.
8. The telephone of the garrison Installation Operations Center (IOC) was again provided to those attending (0711-7292-601) as the one number to call to report the death of a retiree or survivor. This office is open 24 hours 7 days a week.
9. The discovery of 138 names that were not on our list of retirees or survivors points out the difficulties in providing quick and efficient support to survivors when the retired member dies. The Council will continue to seek out other retirees who are not on our list.
10. Flu and Pneumococcal shots were available following the general meeting.