



RETIREE COUNCIL
U. S. ARMY GARRISON- STUTTGART
UNIT 30401
APO AE 09107



Dear Retiree, Spouses and Survivors:

21 March 2007

1. It is getting close to our next quarterly meeting which we will hold in the back room of the Patch Community Club on 18 April 2007 after lunch at 1300 hours. There will be no food available at the club. However, lunch can be obtained, if desired, at the Patch Dining facility. In addition, some of the food court establishments are still open and a limited selection of luncheon items is available at the old Officer's Club bar area.
2. Note to all widows: On 1 April 2007 the Social Security Offset will drop another 5% so that those drawing SBP and Social Security benefits will be drawing 50% of their base amount. The increase should show up in your check due on 1 May 2007. Mitteilung an alle Witwen: Am 1. April 2007 reduziert sich der Sozialversicherungs-Ausgleich um weitere 5 %; alle die SBP und Sozialversicherungsrente beziehen, bekommen 50% ihrer Basis-Bezüge. Der Erhöhung wird in Ihrem Scheck am 1. Mai 2007 Rechnung getragen.
3. For all retired military personnel who are 65 years old or older. You need to get a new military identification card that changes the expiration date of medical care shown on the back of the card. It needs to be listed as indefinite.
4. The Health Clinic at Patch Barracks is pushing pneumonia shots for all of us oldies. They indicate that you should have such a shot every five years. Just drop by the clinic and they will fix you up if you are not current.
5. Although Congress failed to correct the SBP-DIC offset and the date of the implementation of stopping payments for SBP at age 70 last year, new bills have been introduced in the Democratic Congress that will correct these two items this year. Bills have also been introduced to correct the concurrent receipt of VA compensation and retired pay for those whose VA disability rating is less than 50%.
6. Due to the poor attendance at the USAREUR Retiree Open House last year, USAREUR is considering not having an Open House this year. Instead, they are thinking of having Open Houses at the community level. We will keep you informed as information becomes available.

Retiree Council, USAG-Stuttgart, Unit 30401, Attn: Retiree Support Center APO AE 09107
Or Retiree Support Center, Panzer Kaserne, Geb. 2915, Z. 307, 71032 Boeblingen
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7. Our move to Building 2915 at Panzer Kaserne was completed with a minimum of disruption and although we have less room than before, we are still able to fulfil our mission of giving you support when you need it. We are in rooms 307 and 309 and our telephone number is 07031 15 3510 (DSN 431). Our Fax number is 07031 15 3512. Bldg 2915 is the new Community Center opposite the new PX Building.
8. The Retiree Dental Fair held by the Patch Dental Clinic on 21 January 2007 was a whopping success. More people were seen than at any previous Dental Fair and it was well organized with a system of appointments so that one did not have to wait around for a long period before being seen. It was outstanding service by our group of dedicated dentists. We would like to thank Mr. "T" for providing refreshments for those attending the Dental Fair.
9. The Social Security Administration (SSA) is having problems determining exactly how much pension is due for some widows of retired military persons. This has recently resulted in several cases in the reduction or even elimination of the monthly payments to the widow involved until the alleged "overpayments" have been recovered. **NOTE:** Any person who is receiving social security payments who is informed by the SSA that it will recover an "overpayment", the details of the repayment can be negotiated with the SSA. Upon receiving such a notification, please contact Frau Hellman at the RSC (07031 15 3510) on Thursdays for assistance in the negotiations.
10. US Social Security payments to residents of Germany are not taxed by the US, but if you would be taxed on the social security payments if you lived in the US, then you need an IRS Form 8833 to accompany your Form 1040. Partially completed copies of Form 8833 can be picked up at the RSC, or we will mail a copy to anyone furnishing us with a postage paid self addressed envelope.
11. GY SGT (USMC Ret) William Goble has become a member of the USAG Stuttgart Retiree Council. Welcome aboard.
12. I am happy to report that LTC (Ret) Alan T. Horwedel is now out of the hospital and back at work. He seems to be recovering well from his brush with death and hopes to be back up to strength in a couple of months.

William C. Torbett

WILLIAM C. TORBETT III
LTC USA Retired
President