



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY EUROPE
UNIT 29351
APO AE 09096-9351

AEPE-AERC

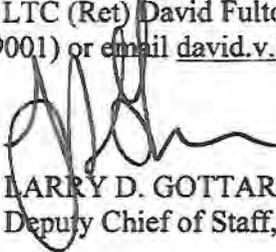
1 August 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Army in Europe Retired Soldier Council Meeting

1. The minutes of the Army in Europe Retired Soldier Council meeting of 12 May 2016 have been reviewed and approved.
2. The point of contact for this memorandum is LTC (Ret) David Fulton, President, Army in Europe Retiree Council at [+49] (611-143-537-9001) or email david.v.fulton.civ@mail.mil.

Encl



LARRY D. GOTTARDI
Deputy Chief of Staff, G1

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EA Member, European Tri-Component Retiree Council
EA Member, Army in Europe Retired Soldier Council



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MEMORANDUM FOR Commanding General, United States Army, Europe, ATTN: AECG,
Unit 29351, APO AE 09096

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Army in Europe Retiree Council Meeting

1. The 138th meeting of the Army in Europe Retiree Council (AERC) convened on 12 May 16 at 0900 in the G1 conference room, Clay Kaserne. The first meeting of the council was 29 August 1980.

2. The following persons were present:

a. Members:

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------|
| LTC (Ret) David Fulton | President |
| COL (Ret) Gary Langford | Vice President |
| CW3 (Ret) Sandra K. Simpson | Secretary |
| COL (Ret) Robert Mentell | Member |
| SGM (Ret) Donald Norris | Member |
| SGM (Ret) Michael Richter | Member |

b. Advisory Members:

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| COL Aaron Sander | USAREUR G1 Ready and Resilient |
| Mr. Ed Francis | USAREUR G1 Policy |
| Ms. Deborah McGlothlin | IMCOM-Europe, G-1, GSE |

c. Visitors:

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Mr. Joerg Moddelmog | Senior German Attorney-Advisor, 21 st TSC |
|---------------------|--|

3. Opening Remarks: (LTC Fulton):

a. The President welcomed the council members and commented that retirees are now finding innovative ways to give back to their communities. One example highlighted was SGM Stewart, who is now hosting a one-hour German radio show monthly where he plays Country and Western music. The President played a short audio excerpt from the radio show.

b. The President presented the agenda for the meeting.

c. Since the last meeting, we have worked staffing issues with AE Supplement 600-8-7. It is about 75% complete in preparation for final review.

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d. The president attended the Chief of Staff of the Army Retired Soldier Council (CSARC) meeting in Washington, D.C. on behalf of the Army in Europe. The President briefed the major points of the CSARC conference to the AERC.

e. Nominated an AERC representative for Retiree Volunteer of the Year (COL Mentell).

f. Attended the AE RAD IPR. The AE RAD will be held in the USAREUR Mission Command Center this year.

g. KMC held a "What a Surviving Spouse Needs to Know Workshop". SGM Richter briefed the results of the first workshop. The Council will attempt to consolidate input from local retiree councils and produce a product that will apply across the theater. COL Mentell volunteered to receive and consolidate the input.

h. The president thanked the Council Members for their willingness to spend their own money to attend this meeting based on limited TDY funding. The president stated that the goal remains to bring together the AERC quarterly to address Retiree issues. The President will continue to seek the G1's support in funding TDY for the Council Members who must travel to Wiesbaden for the meeting.

4. DCS, G1 Report (COL Sander)

a. The USAREUR budget has become very constrained and will remain so for the duration of FY 2016. The Council should plan to conduct any future FY 2016 activities without USAREUR assisted funding.

b. Leadership changes: COL Todd Fish is the new USAG Wiesbaden Garrison Commander. BG Daughtery is the incoming USAREUR G-3 and MG McGuire is the incoming USAREUR DCG. MG Gronski is the DCG and Director for USAREUR Army National Guard Affairs and BG Jolly will be the DCG, M&RA and Director for USAREUR Reserve Engagement Cell.

5. IMCOM-Europe Report (Ms. McGlothlin)

a. The RAD schedule is now available. The Ansbach RAD was changed to 27 October and no longer conflicts with 28 October AERC meeting. DFAS support will be in-person at all RAD's except for the Kaiserslautern-Ramstein RAD on 4 October. DFAS will support a K-Town/Ramstein visit later in the month on 26 October.

b. The Retiree bulletin is completed and scheduled for publication in June 2016. The IMCOM-Europe RSO stated that the bulletin will be distributed electronically only. The Council expressed concern that no hard copies will be available for those who do not have internet connectivity. The Council recommended posting a notice in the USAG Postal Service Centers (PSC) indicating the location where Retirees can obtain the bulletin.

c. All current RSO's are trained and up to date.

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6. German Taxation Issues (Mr. Moddelmog): Mr. Moddelmog, a 21st SC German Tax Attorney, provided a presentation to the Council, plus a few other members of the USAREUR staff, on some basic tenants of German Tax code and the bilateral treaty with the USA on taxation of Retirees in Germany. One of the fundamental points emphasized was that the tax codes are very complex and personnel deciding to retire in Germany should seek assistance from the JAG and the Tax Offices.
7. Retiree Fact Sheets: The council is working multiple issues that may result in fact sheets.
 - a. "Burial in the US at a National Cemetery"
 - b. "Taxation on Retired Couples with Dual Income with Host Nation Income Tax Treaty Issues"
 - c. "Documents needed by Next of Kin upon Retiree Death"
 - d. "Casualty Assistance Checklist"
 - e. "Procedures for Establishing Electronic Deposit"
 - f. "TRICARE Plus and Electronic Claims Filing"
8. Customs Questions and Answers:
 - a. A dependent spouse of a retired military person may reside without their spouse in Germany and may obtain a Pink Card provided the spouse registers as an unaccompanied dependent and has the appropriate residence permission.
 - b. When an individual retires in Germany, all goods must be declared to the German Customs Office. No tax will be charged for property provided the individual has owned it for over 6 months and is for personal use.
9. Correcting a Retiree Record. To correct a record, the Veteran Inquiry Branch, Human Resources Command, must correct the DFAS record and then the correct information is transmitted through RAPIDS.
10. Private Insurance in Addition to TRICARE. The individual must contact the insurance company to ensure that an individual is identified who can file claims and have the authority to request replacement reimbursement checks after death.
11. LRMC has a monthly Availability Report covering specialty care. Information may be obtained at <http://rhce.amedd.army.mil/landstuhl/monthlyavailabilityreport.pdf>.

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12. Exception to Postal Weight Limit Policy for Official Mail at Overseas APOs. Council requested an exception for official documentation covering retirement/VA issues. IMCOM-Europe will determine if the RSO's may send and receive this type of mail on behalf of the retired service member.

13. Chief of Staff, Army, Retired Soldier Council (CSARSC) Back Brief (LTC Fulton): The final CSARSC report briefing to the Chief of Staff is scheduled several weeks from now. Until then, the CSARSC report is not available for release. LTC Fulton used the opportunity to brief the AERC on the general issues researched and discussed during the CSARSC meeting and specific comments made by senior Army leaders who briefed the CSARSC.

14. Long Range Planning Calendar. The ETRC will meet in June. The next AERC meeting will be on 18 August and the Council will start to gather issues for the next CSARSC.

15. Liaison Matrix: Members responded to request for input.

16. Selection of Meeting Date/Adjournment (All): The next meeting will be on 18 August. The meeting adjourned at 1600 hours.



MATTHEW F. RASMUSSEN
COL, GS
ADCS, G1, Representative



DAVID V. FULTON
LTC, USA (Retired)
President