



# ANSBACH ECHOES

JAN - FEB 2026

Middle Franconia's Newsletter  
for  
Retired Soldiers, Surviving Spouses & Families

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PHOTO: General George S. Patton awarding Brigadier General Anthony McAuliffe a Distinguished Service Cross for his heroism and leadership during the Battle of the Bulge, January 14, 1945. McAuliffe, the commander of the 101st Airborne Division, famously responded "Nuts!" to a German surrender demand while defending the key town of Bastogne. See full article on page 11.

### Determining your Taxable Income

CW3 (Ret) Charles Glover, leveraging his financial expertise, explains to the community how Germany assesses the tax rates of retirees and surviving spouses when filing U.S. and German tax returns. An important read as tax season begins.

### 2026 RAD Update

This article discusses the future of Ansbach's RAD, which was postponed due to the recent government shutdown.

### DOD Replaces DS Logon

*DOD News* offers insight into the future of authenticated login across more than 200 DOD websites.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Retired Soldiers and Families,

Happy New Year! I hope everyone's holiday season was relaxing and full of warm family gatherings.

We begin 2026, as we do every year, with hope and renewed optimism for our community. Whether we are a retired Soldier, a surviving spouse, or a family member, we are all a part of the Army Family. This family, comprising past and present Soldiers and their families, maintains a level of pride consistent with the values and principles we have defended for 250 years. Once retired, our service transforms from a combat warrior to one that supports one another and our successors as they defend against threats, both foreign and domestic. As Soldiers for Life, we act as Army ambassadors, coaches and teachers, volunteers, and civic leaders for our community. These efforts ensure that no one is left behind as we care for one another and other community members. I am encouraging everyone to seek opportunities in 2026 to improve our community, as part of our enduring service to our nation as Soldiers for Life. Whether it is delivering a meal to a fellow veteran who has lost mobility or assuming a leadership role in a veteran organization, we can all find service opportunities that are consistent with our lifestyles.

The USAG Ansbach Retired Soldiers Council is proud to serve our community. We routinely seek ways to improve our community members' quality of life. We are excited to release the first edition of *Ansbach Echoes*. This newsletter aims to inform, educate, and support our Retired Soldiers, surviving spouses, and their families on important benefits-related matters and policies, while encouraging continued service in the community. In this first edition, we focus on preparing for tax season, dispelling myths, and informing the community of resources and opportunities. We hope everyone enjoys reading this first bi-monthly edition of *Ansbach Echoes*.

Justin M. Jones  
1SG (Ret), USA  
USAG Ansbach RSC President



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**11**  
**JAN**

### Christmas Circus Ansbach Last Day

Event Dates  
23 DEC 25 – 11 JAN 26

**14**  
**JAN**

### RSC Quarterly Meeting

Provide input on important  
topics for the retired community.

**2 - 3**  
**FEB**

### Red Cross Blood Drive

Give the gift of life.

**8**  
**FEB**

### Bi-Monthly Brunch

Enjoy a delicious brunch while  
discussing important topics with  
other community members.

### 2026 Retiree and Annuitant Pay Schedule

Entitlement Month	Retired Pay Date	Annuitant Pay Date
Jan. 2026	30 Jan 2026	2 Feb 2026
Feb. 2026	27 Feb 2026	2 Mar 2026
Mar. 2026	1 Apr 2026	1 Apr 2026
Apr. 2026	1 May 2026	1 May 2026
May 2026	1 Jun 2026	1 Jun 2026
Jun. 2026	1 Jul 2026	1 Jul 2026
Jul. 2026	31 Jul 2026	3 Aug 2026
Aug. 2026	1 Sept 2026	1 Sept 2026
Sept. 2026	1 Oct 2026	1 Oct 2026
Oct. 2026	30 Oct 2026	2 Nov 2026
Nov. 2026	1 Dec 2026	1 Dec 2026
Dec. 2026	31 Dec 2026	4 Jan 2027

## COUNCIL INITIATIVES

### Tricare Plus enrollment period extended

**Justin M. Jones**

Last November, the community was notified of the increased Tricare Plus availability at the Ansbach Health Clinic (AHC). The AHC leadership's decision to increase enrollment eligibility was a direct result of collaboration between the Retired Soldiers Council and the AHC. As a result of this collaboration, six new enrollees applied and were accepted into the program.

The Council first learned from the August 2025 Climate Survey that a number of community members expressed concerns that retiree healthcare access in Ansbach fell below expectations for a military community with a modern health clinic. In this survey, 16 respondents reported a healthcare-related concern, making access to healthcare the #1 concern of respondents.

The Council prioritized this concern by meeting with AHC leadership, who, after completing an internal analysis of current and projected healthcare provider demand, agreed to open enrollment to a larger audience than previously authorized. The resultant number of new enrollees, while lower than expected, communicated the success of this collaboration. So much so that a decision was made in December to extend the increased availability indefinitely.

Personnel interested in enrolling must be under the age of 65 and follow the instructions in the Statement of Acknowledgement when scheduling and attending at least one appointment per year with their assigned primary care manager. The point of contact for enrollment is Mrs. Alma Godden. She is located in the AHC Tricare hallway and can be reached at [alma.l.godden.ctr@health.mil](mailto:alma.l.godden.ctr@health.mil).

### What is the Retired Soldiers Council?

**Estus R. Smith**

It appears that some Retired Soldiers may not understand the Retired Soldiers Council's (RSC) concept and operations. Here is some information on this concept and how the councils are organized. The basis for the councils is Army Regulation 600-8-7, Retirement Services Program (RSP), dated 20 September 2022, and Army in Europe and Africa Supplement 1 to AR 600-8-7, dated 10 June 2024.

Individual garrison commanders establish the Garrison Retired Soldiers Council (GRSC). It serves as the advisory body to the garrison commander and IMCOM-E on all matters associated with the RSP in the footprint of the garrison. The council serves as the primary line of communication between the Garrison Commander and the Retired Community members.

Issues that cannot be resolved at the garrison level are referred to the Army in Europe and Africa Retired Soldiers Council (AEA RSC).

The AEA RSC is established and chartered by the CG, USAREUR-AF. It serves as the principal advisory body to the CG on all matters related to the RSP.

Specific duties and responsibilities of each council are discussed in paragraph 5-7 of the AEA Supplement 1.

If a problem cannot be resolved by CG, USAREUR-AF, it can be sent to the Chief of Staff, Army Retired Soldiers Council, for resolution. Should this happen, the problem will usually also be sent up through command channels, as well as RSC channels.

Feel free to contact your Garrison RSC with your concerns. My contact number and email are 0152 5406 8940 and [estus@live.com](mailto:estus@live.com). I look forward to hearing from you.

## COUNCIL INITIATIVES

### Outreach day planned for March 2026

#### Justin M. Jones

The recent Government Shutdown disrupted government services worldwide for 43 days during October and November 2025. The effects of these disruptions were felt across all locations where U.S. Government employees provided services to U.S. citizens. Here in Ansbach, we witnessed many USAG Ansbach services close or enter an undefined period of limited operations, including our Retirement Services.

Ansbach's Retirement Services furlough and the furlough of other external appropriated agencies led to COL Aaron Dixon's difficult decision to postpone the Garrison's Retiree Appreciation Day (RAD) until funds and agencies were available.

Following the Shutdown, a RAD planning survey was released to the local retired community to gather critical information for the RAD Planning Committee to schedule, resource, and host the next RAD. Shortly thereafter, a decision was made to host the Garrison's next RAD in September 2026 to ensure uninterrupted access to RAD resources, including the Federal Benefits Unit, DFAS, and DA Retirement Services, in Ansbach.

Seeking to prevent a 23-month gap between the last and next RAD, COL Dixon asked Retirement Services to host an event in which the FBU and others visit Ansbach to brief community members and schedule appointments. The Retirement Services Outreach Day is planned for late March 2026. A specific date will be published in early January.

#### *myAuth from Page 6*

to myAuth, he said, adding that their daily use of systems that currently offer both DS Logon and myAuth as authentication methods will be a reminder to sign up for an account.

However, for the significant portion of users who do not use DOD systems daily, such as retirees, family members and contractors, Gill said getting the word out is a top priority.

"We've started executing our communications plan. We've already sent out several million emails to our community to let them know," he said, adding that the Defense Manpower Data Center has partnered with the Defense Health Agency to let users who access related Tricare-related systems know about the switch.

Gill said the myAuth website also provides assistance.

"If you hit the myAuth page, we have a new help section," he said. "And one of the cool features from myAuth that DS Logon did not have is the help feature. So, when you go to myAuth, there's a button that [is labeled] 'help.' And when you click that, it's going to break down everything about what myAuth is, how to log in, frequently asked questions and what creating a new account looks like."

As of July 14, 2025, over 740,000 DOD-affiliated personnel have created myAuth accounts. Importantly, the success rate for self-service account creation exceeds 99%, minimizing the need for users to contact the call center.

*Editor's Note: Personnel can use the below link to begin creating their MyAuth accounts to access online resources such as MHSGenesis and milConnect. Personnel requiring assistance are encouraged to contact the RSC using the contact information in this newsletter.*

[https://myaccess.dmdc.osd.mil/identitymanagement/help/topics/creating\\_a\\_new\\_myauth\\_account.htm](https://myaccess.dmdc.osd.mil/identitymanagement/help/topics/creating_a_new_myauth_account.htm)



## NEWS



### DOD Launching New Authentication System to Replace DS Logon

C. Todd Lopez | DOD News | 17 July 2025

Over the next 18 months, the Defense Department will replace the legacy DS Logon system, which authenticates users onto more than 200 DOD and Veterans Affairs websites, with a more modern and flexible system called myAuth.

The new authentication system offers a range of features that will simplify the login process for approximately 20 million individuals who use it, including military personnel, DOD civilians, military and civilian retirees, family member beneficiaries, contractors and vendors.

The myAuth system is based on a commercial product, rebranded for the Defense Department, which provides cloud-based "identity as a service" capabilities to the department. It is hosted on a secure DOD cloud and has been authorized by the Defense Information Systems Agency, said Zachary R. Gill, the branch chief of identity credential access management and partner services within the Defense Manpower Data Center.

Gill said one of the significant advantages of myAuth is that it provides secure access for individuals, such as retirees and beneficiaries, who may not have a common access card and cannot authenticate into a system using certificates contained within a CAC. However, the system also provides access options for individuals who have a CAC but may not be able to utilize it in certain circumstances.

For example, he presented a scenario in which a soldier or civilian employee might be traveling on orders booked through the Defense Travel System. At the airport, problems with the airline may mean the orders need to be changed, but since the traveler does not have access to a CAC-enabled computer, this poses a challenge.

"With myAuth, you would be able to provide an alternative credential, and therefore, you'd be able to access DTS from your personal cellphone and update your travel orders or make changes," Gill said.

He added that a CAC will no longer be the only way to access systems. Other methods, on a case-by-case basis, will provide the user with a variety of login options.

The myAuth utilizes Okta Verify, which can be installed on a personal or government-issued cellphone and will

serve as a means to provide CAC-free access. The app includes biometric capabilities for both face fingerprint and recognition.

Gill said the methods of access allowed are set by the system owner, but myAuth can do it all.

"For instance, if I'm accessing DTS, the DTS application may say it needs a higher-level assurance for people to be able to access it," he said.

Gill described a CAC as authenticator assurance level three, the "gold standard" for authentication. However, lower levels of authentication could also be used if a system's administrators permit it.

Not everybody in the community who will be served by myAuth has a CAC or a smartphone, Gill said. And the things they need to access might not require the highest levels of authentication. The myAuth system will flex to meet their needs.

"In our community, we serve a lot of members that may not have access to smartphones and may not have access to technology," he added. The legacy DS Logon is not the only system being replaced by myAuth, though it is the largest. Gill said other systems in use throughout DOD will also be shuttered and replaced by myAuth.

"There are multiple authentication systems across the department that each department is paying for individually, which means each department is paying for sustainment costs or licensing costs," he said. "myAuth will collapse those one-off systems, providing an enterprise solution."

A key performance metric for myAuth is system availability, the assurance that the system will always be available to authenticate users into critical Defense Department systems. Gill said the target for system availability with myAuth is that it be available to serve users 99.99% of the time.

Although the target for decommissioning the DS Logon is 18 months, Gill said users can log in to myAuth now and set up an account using their DS Logon credentials. If users wait until after DS Logon is gone, he said the process to create a new account will require reverifying the user's identity if they do not have a CAC. Active-duty service members and DOD civilians with a CAC will likely have no problem transitioning... **See myAuth on Page 5**

## NEWS

### DoD: No 'Termination Date' Set for Legacy Retiree IDs

**Kevin Lilley | Military Officers Association of America Online | 22 July 2025**

While DoD officials encourage those holding legacy (paper-based) identification cards with indefinite expiration dates to update to the new model, they have yet to “determine a termination date” for the older IDs.

This is in contrast to a June retiree newsletter published by the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS), which stated all retirees had until Dec. 31, 2025, to update their cards to the Next-Generation Uniformed Services ID (USID) card before they became invalid for base access.

A revised DFAS article “correcting the inaccuracies” of the original was published online July 10, a DoD official told MOAA via email July 22. It does not include the Dec. 31 deadline. The original PDF version of the newsletter remained on the DFAS site as of July 22, but had been updated as of July 29.

“It’s important for USID cardholders to know these older paper-based forms of ID will eventually be terminated, and will need to be replaced by the new plastic-based USID card,” the updated version states. “This is true even if your old ID card has an INDEF expiration date on it.”

The DoD official told MOAA that the old cards “may continue to be used as the Department of Defense has not determined a termination date USID cards with indefinite (“INDEF”) expiration dates. Military retirees and beneficiaries with legacy ID cards with INDEF expiration dates are encouraged to update their USID cards to the new Next Generation USID card at their convenience.”

Previous guidance, provided to MOAA by the Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC) in March, had stated that the “INDEF” cards would face termination at some point in 2026. Military OneSource, an official DoD web resource, states in its frequently asked questions about ID cards that legacy USID cards of all types “will no longer be accepted for access to benefits, privileges, or DoD bases” in 2026.

Other DoD resources and social media pages have

also put out information citing a Dec. 31 changeover deadline, which has led to some cardholder confusion.

Cardholders with questions regarding their ID, or facing trouble with the online renewal or appointment process, can contact DMDC at (800) 538-9552. If applicable, be ready to provide an online application number and any error messages received.

*This article has been shortened for clarity and length from its source.*

*Editor’s Note: As of 11 December 2025, USAG Ansbach DEERS office confirmed that this information is still valid.*



## MONEY MATTERS

### Roth TSP in-plan conversions begin this month

**Justin M. Jones**

Beginning 28 January 2026, the TSP will introduce Roth in-plan conversions. This new feature allows personnel to convert portions of Traditional (pre-tax) TSP balances to Roth (after-tax) balances without removing funds from the plan.

A Roth in-plan conversion allows up to 26 conversions of money from a Traditional TSP "bucket" into the Roth "bucket" per year. The minimum amount per conversion is \$500. An account holder should expect to pay income tax on any funds transferred from the Traditional TSP to the Roth TSP. Once converted, that money (and its future earnings) can be withdrawn tax-free, provided the minimum standard IRS requirements (age 59½ and the account has been open for at least five years) are met.

Converting funds with this program may be beneficial for those who expect their taxable income to rise in the future, want to leave a tax-free inheritance, or whose current tax year is lower than a typical income year.

Any tax owed on the movement of funds cannot be paid from the funds being moved. This, along with the continued obligation to receive Required Minimum Distributions for some, is just two reasons this program may not benefit everyone.

Interested individuals should consult a tax professional before participating in this program. More information can be found at <https://www.tsp.gov/making-contributions/traditional-and-roth-contributions/>

*Editor's Note: This article was drafted with the assistance of Gemini, a large language model by Google. The content was subsequently reviewed, edited, and fact-checked by the author.*

### Begin Preparing for Tax Day

**Estus R. Smith**

New Year's Day brings us opportunities and hope as we look forward to another wonderful year. It also reminds us that another clock has begun ticking. We have 105 days until our tax returns are due.

Tax day (15 April 2026) is approaching fast, and it's time to check your myPay account at <https://mypay.dfas.mil>.

Your myPay account provides convenient access to your pay information and lets you easily update your contact information, manage your pay, and download or print your tax statement and IRS forms 1099-R or 1095-B. You can also use myPay to change your federal tax withholding and update your bank account information.

You can access myPay on your computer or mobile device, and it is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

If your password needs to be updated, do it now before the stressful tax season begins.

Please take a moment to verify your email address, mailing address, and mobile number in myPay. If your email and mailing addresses are current, DFAS can send you important information. Plus, adding your mobile number and keeping it up to date in myPay will ensure you can receive temporary passwords and important text messages related to your myPay account if you choose to activate mobile notifications.



## MONEY MATTERS

### Taxable income for retirees residing in Germany

**Charles J. Glover**

Filing a tax return in Germany can seem overwhelming for an individual new to the “German side.” No need to worry, though, because we are here to help. This article intends to explain how Germany assesses the tax rate on income taxed by the U.S. Generally, Germany assesses a tax filer’s combined U.S. & German income to determine a specified rate of taxation before subtracting the income declared on the tax filer’s U.S. tax returns to arrive at the final tax rate. This assessment method will guide us as we examine some of the most common income streams and how to report them in the U.S. and Germany.

#### U.S. Federal Tax Returns

All income that you receive from a Form 1099-R or Form 1099-INT is required to be reported on your U.S. tax return. Do you and/or your spouse receive income from a German/foreign employer? If yes, then this foreign income must also be reported on your U.S. tax return using a Form 2555. This form determines if any of your foreign income is taxable in the US. Any VA disability pay received is not reportable because it is tax-free in the U.S.

#### German Tax Returns

At present, if you are required to file a German tax return, you must report all income you received from a Form 1099-R, Form 1099-INT, and any VA disability pay to the Germans. These income streams are used to determine your tax rate, i.e., 15%. Once you or your tax consultant (Steuerberater) has determined your tax rate, the amounts shown on your U.S. tax return and any VA disability pay are deducted from your total taxable income, so only your German taxable income is taxed at a higher rate, i.e., 18%. If using a Steuerberater, it is best to provide a copy of your U.S. tax return when completing your German tax return. Additionally, if your Steuerberater is unfamiliar with VA disability pay, it may be best to provide a reference that shows that VA disability pay is not taxable in the U.S.

#### Social Security in the U.S. and in Germany

Individuals receiving Social Security are required to

report the total amount of Social Security income received from a Form SSA-1099, but paying tax on this income is determined by whether or not a tax-filer is required to file a German tax return. If you are not required to file a German tax return, then you can use the IRS Form 8833 to exempt your Social Security from being taxed by the IRS. If you are required to file a German tax return and use IRS Form 8833, you must report this income to Germany to pay taxes on this income only to the Germans.

#### Surviving Spouse Taxes

If you are a surviving spouse and an American citizen, the same rules apply as for retirees described above. If you are a surviving spouse and a German citizen who is required to file a German tax return, any income received from Social Security, DFAS Survivor Benefit Plan, or Office of Personnel Management annuitant pay must be reported to the German tax authorities. You or your Steuerberater will use this information to determine your tax rate in Germany. Any VA Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) pay received is assessed similarly to a Retiree’s VA disability pay. The income amount is provided to your Steuerberater to determine your tax rate, then subtracted from your taxable income so the tax rate can be applied to your German taxable income.

#### Potential changes to VA Disability and DIC pays

A change may be coming to how the Germans assess VA disability and DIC payments. Currently, a case exists in the German court system to determine the future tax liability of VA disability and DIC payments. A ruling is expected in the first quarter of 2026 on whether VA benefits will be entirely tax-free or continue to be used to determine the tax rate and taxed by Germany. It is unclear if the 2025 tax year will be affected by the ruling.

We hope this brief article helps clarify any confusion when filing tax returns in the U.S. and Germany. We recommend consulting licensed tax professionals when completing your tax returns to ensure you receive the maximum return allowed by law and are fulfilling any tax obligations that arise from your unique financial lives.

## HISTORICAL HIGHLIGHT

### The Battle of the Bulge

**The National World War II Museum Online  
18 December 2019**

As 1944 was drawing to a close, the Allied forces could look back on a year of great strides towards victory over the Axis powers. In Europe, the successful D-Day landings had given way to the liberation of France and Allied forces now were into Holland and Belgium, poised along the German border.

A sense of overconfidence began to infect the Allied leadership, where some even predicted that the war would be over by Christmas. Even though the Allied advance had slowed in the Hurtgen Forest and Vosges mountains, there was still the sense that the war was nearly won and ultimate victory was very near as the year drew to a close.

Adolf Hitler had other plans. The Germans were secretly massing an attack force under cover of night and radio silence. Hitler recognized a potential opportunity to pull German victory out of the Allies grasp with a last roll of the dice: he would launch a winter offensive through a weak point in the Allied lines in the Ardennes, drive to Antwerp in Belgium, taking the port city and splitting the British army to the north from the American army in the south.

The Germans could then methodically destroy the Western armies. Hitler believed he could exploit the unease between the Anglo-Americans and the Soviets to achieve a negotiated peace with the US and Britain which not only would preserve the Nazi regime, but allow him to concentrate solely on the war on the eastern front.

These were the stakes when the Germans launched their surprise attack through Belgium on December 16, 1944. Some of the first Americans to confront Hitler's gamble on the front lines were the men of the 394th Infantry Regiment at Lanzareth Ridge. Eighteen men put up devastating fire against the first attack of over 500 German paratroopers. "It was kind of like a manslaughter," remembered platoon leader Lyle Bouck. history.

The element of surprise and the strength of the Germans were overwhelming. On the third attack, Bouck and his men were captured. "I felt like what I did was a failure," Bouck declared many years afterward. This was despite the fact that his platoon had held up the

spearhead of Kampfgruppe Peiper of the 1st SS Panzer Division, preventing a force of over 5,000 men from advancing for eight crucial hours, a feat which would later make the platoon the most decorated in US Army.

It would be hours before the Allies realized the German offensive was more than a feint, and not all were so lucky to share the fate of Lyle Bouck, now a German POW. The next day at Malmedy, Belgium, Kampfgruppe Peiper overtook a group of Americans from the 285th Field Artillery Observation Battalion and rounded the prisoners into a field.

"We were in a group and just standing there with our hands up. And every tank and half track that came around just fired in the group. And everybody started dropping. I dropped and could hear guys praying and maybe I was too, you know? And anyone that was moaning or something, they came around and fired at the ones that were moaning," recalled survivor Ted Paluch. The Malmedy Massacre saw over 80 men murdered in one of the most brutal war crimes committed against American troops in Europe.

These two incidents, featuring heroism and brutality, set the stage for what was to come in the next six weeks of battle. The German attack famously "bulged" the Allied lines. Fierce Allied resistance along the northern shoulder of the Elsenborn ridge denied the Germans the northern roads they needed for success. In the center, the Allied defenders at the vital crossroads town of St. Vith fought ferociously and delayed the German timetable for advancement there by nearly a week.

In the south, the spirit of resistance was enshrined at the besieged and surrounded town of Bastogne, when Brigadier General Anthony McAuliffe answered the German demand to surrender with a one-word reply: "**NUTS!**" The US 3rd Army's drive to relieve Bastogne cast a legendary aura around these events; with over 600,000 American troops participating, it remains the largest battle ever fought by the US Army in its history.

In the end, the Allied lines bulged but did not break, and drove the Germans back towards their homeland and the final stages of the war. Hitler would have no chance again to win the war. But successfully denying Hitler's last gamble came at a high cost.

***The Battle of the Bulge** accounts for approximately 10 percent of all American combat casualties in World War II.*

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

### Calling All Writers

*Ansbach Echoes* is seeking submissions of articles that inform our retired community. Topics include Financial, Healthcare, and Personnel news, historical articles, and volunteer opportunities in our Community. Contact the editor using the RSC email address if interested in writing for Middle Franconia's Retired Community newsletter.

[ansbachrsc@gmail.com](mailto:ansbachrsc@gmail.com)

or

[usarmy.ansbach.id-europe.list.ret-svcs@army.mil](mailto:usarmy.ansbach.id-europe.list.ret-svcs@army.mil)

### Retired Soldier Council Member

The Ansbach Retired Soldiers Council serves as the advisory body to the garrison commander on all matters associated with the Retirement Services Program in USAG Ansbach's footprint. The Ansbach RSC President is seeking Retirees, Spouses, and Surviving Spouses to serve as council members. Council members have a significant impact on the community's quality of life and resources. Contact the RSC President at our email address if you are interested.

[ansbachrsc@gmail.com](mailto:ansbachrsc@gmail.com)

or

[usarmy.ansbach.id-europe.list.ret-svcs@army.mil](mailto:usarmy.ansbach.id-europe.list.ret-svcs@army.mil)

### Retirement Services Outreach Day Volunteer

The Ansbach Retired Soldiers Council is seeking volunteers to assist in planning, preparing, and hosting the Retirement Services Outreach Day in late March 2026. Positions available include facility setup and teardown, catering, and serving as ushers. Contact the RSC Planning Committee at the RSC email address for more information.

[ansbachrsc@gmail.com](mailto:ansbachrsc@gmail.com)

or

[usarmy.ansbach.id-europe.list.ret-svcs@army.mil](mailto:usarmy.ansbach.id-europe.list.ret-svcs@army.mil)



# RETIREE RESOURCES

## Maintaining the "Soldier for Life" Connection: USAG Ansbach Retirement Services

**Justin M. Jones**

For the Retired Soldiers, survivors, and family members residing within the Franconia region, the transition from active duty doesn't mean a transitioning away from the Army family. At the heart of this enduring connection is the USAG Ansbach Retirement Services Office (RSO).

Working hand-in-hand with the Garrison Retired Soldier Council, the RSO serves as the primary bridge between the retired community and the active Army. Their mission is clear: to ensure that those who have served remain informed, supported, and empowered as "Soldiers for Life."

The RSO is more than just an administrative office; it is a vital resource hub for navigating the complexities of post-retirement life, especially for those living overseas. Key services provided include benefits & entitlements counseling, survivor assistance, records & documents recovery, and pay matters.

The USAG Ansbach Retired Soldier Council (RSC) acts as a representative body, providing the Garrison Commander with insight into the vital issues and concerns of the local retired community.

### New Retired Soldier Handbook is out!

**Estus R. Smith**

Department of the Army Retirement Services publishes a handbook for Retired Soldiers annually. This year's version was put out in early December. It is available online at the Soldier for Life website.

<https://soldierforlife.army.mil/documents/army%20retirement/post%20retirement/Retired%20Soldier%20Handbook.pdf>

Since the handbook is over 70 pages, PLEASE do not print it out. Just save the link on your desktop, and go to it when you want to look for a specific subject of retired life. There are LOTS of subjects to review.

Home / About / Garrison / Directorate of Human Resources / Retirement Services Office

### RETIREMENT SERVICES OFFICE

The mission of U.S. Army Garrison Ansbach Retirement Services Office along with the Garrison Retiree Soldiers Council is to provide Retired Service Members and their Families with a means of participating and communicating with the Active Army to maintain current knowledge of benefits and entitlements and to inform the Retiree Community of upcoming events of interest.

- Retiree Services, Resources & Links
- U.S. Army Garrison Ansbach Retiree Communities
- Ansbach Retired Soldier Council
- U.S. Forces Customs in Europe and Africa
- Military ID Card Resources for: Retirees, Veterans, Spouses and Dependents
- Request for Military Funeral Honors
- Additional Links of Interest

**RETIREMENT SERVICES OFFICE (MPD)**  
Primary: 0811-143-5871814  
Secondary: 314 587 1814

Sunday	Closed
Monday	8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Tuesday	8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Wednesday	8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Thursday	8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Friday	8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Saturday	Closed

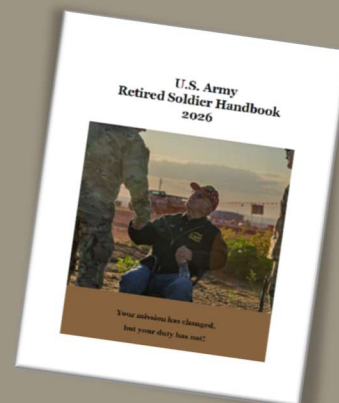
**BLDG 5816 Room 126**  
Katterbach Kaserne  
Ansbach 91522

Staying informed is critical. Retirees are encouraged to provide the RSC with their current contact information so they can receive vital updates. Personnel requiring assistance can schedule an appointment with either the RSO or RSC by using the contact information below.

Additionally, personnel can use the link below to visit the Ansbach Retired Services official website for general information at anytime.

- **Phone:** DSN 587-1814 | Commercial: +49 (0) 9641-70-587-1814
- **Email:** [usarmy.ansbach.id-europe.list.ret-svcs@army.mil](mailto:usarmy.ansbach.id-europe.list.ret-svcs@army.mil)
- **Online:** <https://home.army.mil/ansbach/about/Garrison/human-resources/retirement-services-office>

*Editor's Note: This article was drafted with the assistance of Gemini, a large language model by Google. The content was subsequently reviewed, edited, and fact-checked by the author.*



## CONTACT INFORMATION

### RSC President

- **1SG (Ret) Justin M. Jones**
- 0152 5132 4281
- justinmjones@rocketmail.com

### RSC Vice President

- Vacant

### RSC Secretary

- **MSG (Ret) Estus R. Smith**
- 0152 5406 8940
- estus@live.com

### USAG Ansbach Retirement Services Officer

- **SFC (Ret) Nicholas Oliver**
- 09641 70 587 1814
- nicholas.a.oliver.civ@army.mil

### RSC Main Office

- BLDG 5818, Katterbach Kaserne
- 09641 70 587 1843
- usarmy.ansbach.id-europe.list.ret-svcs@army.mil
- Operating Hours: Thursdays 1300 - 1600