



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
UNITED STATES ARMY EUROPE AND AFRICA  
OPC 467 Box 99  
APO AE 09005-9997

AEPE-RSC

6 March 2025

MEMORANDUM FOR Commanding General, United States Army Europe and Africa,  
ATTN: AECG, OPC 467 Box 99, APO AE 09005-9997

SUBJECT: Amended Minutes of the US Army Europe and Africa Retired Soldier  
Council Meeting

1. The 173rd meeting of the US Army Europe and Africa Retired Soldier Council (AEA RSC) convened at 0900 on 6 March 2025 in the G1 Conference Room. The first meeting of the Council was on 29 August 1980.

2. The following persons were present in person or via Webex:

a. Members:

LTC (Ret) David V. Fulton	President
CW3 (Ret) Sandra K. Simpson	Secretary
COL (Ret) Robert A. Mentell	Member
COL (Ret) Mark A. Rado	Member
LTC (Ret) William Bergman	Member
LTC (Ret) David E. Ott	Member
LTC (Ret) Jerimiah Wildermuth	Member
SGM (Ret) Mike Richter	Member
SFC (Ret) Filberto H. Clarke	Member

b. Advisory Members:

COL Dwayne L. Wade	DCoS, G-1, USAREUR-AF
Ms. Laura R. Waid	Staff Representative, ODCoS, G1, USAREUR-AF
Mr. Andre Hinton	Chief, Military Branch, OACoS, G1, IMCOM-E, representing Ms. Christina M. Overstreet, ACoS, G1, IMCOM-E

c. Visitors:

Mr. John V. Tomassi	Deputy PAO, USAREUR-AF
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3. Opening Remarks by LTC (Ret) Fulton: The President covered "Since We Last Met" topics:

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a. Military Postal Service Agency (MPSA) announced the preservation of MPS postal privileges for all patron categories currently receiving services, including military retirees.

b. Minutes of the 1 November 2025 AEA RSC meeting were completed, approved, and disseminated in IAW AR 600-8-7, Retirement Services Program.

c. AEA RSC Charter was updated, approved, and disseminated.

d. AEA RSC Member Profile was updated and disseminated.

e. The Region Retirement Services Officer (RSO) transitioned back to CONUS. IMCOM-E is in the progress of recruiting a replacement.

f. The USAREUR-AF Member of the Chief of Staff, Army, Retired Soldier Council (CSA RSC), is preparing, in coordination with the AEA RSC, recommended responses to issues accepted for consideration by the CSA RSC.

#### 4. G-1 Update by COL Wade:

a. The command, operating in a dynamic environment, is continuing support of the Ukraine mission, re-shaping the civilian workforce to reach Office of Secretary of Defense (OSD) goals, and implementing executive orders concerning Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) and gender issues.

b. IMCOM-E is now TACON to USAREUR-AF, having previously been in direct support (DS). As a result, Soldiers assigned to IMCOM-E garrisons are now wearing the shoulder patch of the garrison's Senior Responsible Officer and those assigned to IMCOM-E are now wearing the USAREUR-AF shoulder patch.

c. As the command implements the workforce directives, it is having to refer many issues back to OSD as the original guidance was based on CONUS conditions and there are different issues that need to be considered in an OCONUS environment, such as terminating contracts which typically have a longer lead-time, as well as the shipping household goods and vehicles, and disenrolling children from school.

d. There are also major budget issues at USAREUR-AF as the command has been funding much of the Ukraine support mission from its operational budget as opposed to direct Congressional funding.

#### 5. IMCOM-E Update by Mr. Hinton:

a. The IMCOM-E staff is working with each garrison to schedule Retiree Appreciation Days (RADs) for this Fall. The only date they locked in is for the Army

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Europe and Africa RAD hosted by USAG Wiesbaden which is scheduled for Saturday, 1 November 2025.

b. USAG Poland has an RSO. It intends to conduct a RAD in April 2025.

c. USAG Black Sea does not yet have an RSO.

6. PAO Update by Mr. Tomassi:

a. The PAO received limited guidance on messaging in this current dynamic environment.

b. The annual Defender Europe exercise starts in May with vessels departing CONUS ports around the end of March. The outreach tour which will lead into the exercise will begin in April.

c. The celebration of the 80th Victory in Europe Day will be on 8 May 2025, but the command has not been tasked with specific support.

d. LANDEURO 2025, an event similar in concept to the annual Association of United States Army (AUSA) Global Force Symposium and Exposition, will take place 16-17 June 2025 at the RheinMain Congress Centrum in downtown Wiesbaden. There will be equipment displays, discussion panels and a Warriors Corner.

e. The PAO is heavily involved in the website scrub of DEI postings going back to 2021. Postings with elements of diversity, mentions of equity and/or inclusion will be removed and archived.

7. Chief of Staff, Army, Retired Soldier Council Issues by COL (Ret) Rado: Eleven Retired Soldier issues will be considered by the CSA RSC this Spring.

a. The five issues submitted by USAREUR-AF are:

(1) Retiree Access to VA Health Care in Europe

(2) Augmented Support by Survivor Outreach Services (SOS) to Survivors of Retired Soldiers

(3) TRICARE for Life support for Retired Soldier older than 65 year awaiting MEDICARE registration due to no fault of their own

(4) Communicating with Retirees

(5) Simplifying the System of Authentication and Access to US Government

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## Websites

b. Other installations submitted six issues which are:

(1) Protect TRICARE for Life with no enrollment fees

(2) Include no-cost preventative annual physical exams in TRICARE for Life coverage

(3) Surviving Spouse losing all retirement benefits upon remarriage

(4) Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) shared entitlements

(5) Provide Army RSOs with catchment of Retirees' cellular contact information

(6) Veteran Readiness and Employment; Army Retirees are not aware of this benefit until they undergo their Transition Assistance Process.

## 8. Retired Soldier Volunteers by COL (Ret) Mentell:

a. During CY 24, the 134 Retired Soldiers who are registered in the Volunteer Management Information System (VMIS) in the IMCOM-E footprint reported giving back to our Army over 20,000 volunteer hours. The true number is probably larger depending on how Retired Soldiers reported their affiliation (disposition in VMIS terms) when registering in the VMIS system and on the number who have not yet registered.

b. The enclosure is a table showing the volunteer breakout by Garrison and Community.

## 9. Closing Remarks by LTC (Ret) Fulton: The President covered "The Way Ahead" topics:

a. Representatives from the Social Security Administration will be visiting garrisons to conduct Tourist Passport and Status of Forces Agreement Card Rodeos to provide in-person assistance and information regarding Social Security benefits and services. Unfortunately, they will have limited capabilities to assist with application of Social Security benefits.

b. TRICARE will decommission their On-Line Patient Portal on 1 April 2025, now that they have transitioned all sites to the MHS GENESIS Patient Portal. Beneficiaries who want a copy of their health records should download them before that date.

c. The CSA RSC will meet in April 2025. Department of Army has not announced yet if the meeting will be held in-person or electronically.

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d. The AEA RSC tentatively scheduled their next meeting for Thursday, 22 May 2025.

10. President adjourned the meeting at 1150 hours.

11. For the record:

a. AEA RSC Volunteer Hours: During the CY 2024, AEA RSC Council members reported almost 1,500 volunteer hours, in VMIS.

b. AEA RSC Liaison Performance: During the quarter ending 31 December 2024, Council members reported the timely accomplishment of over 81% of their liaison goals.

Encl

*David Fulton*  
DAVID V. FULTON  
LTC, USA (Retired)  
President



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# Volunteer Hours

RETIRED SERVICE MEMBER VOLUNTEER HOURS CALENDAR YEAR 2024	TOTAL		AVERAGE		ARMY		NAVY		AIR FORCE		MARINE		COAST GUARD	
	Count	Hours	Count	Hours	Count	Hours	Count	Hours	Count	Hours	Count	Hours	Count	Hours
IMCOM-Europe	134	20,221.25	150.90	18,524.75	113	18,524.75	2	169.50	16	1,202.50	2	169.50	1	155.00
USAG Ansbach	14	2,062.75	147.34	2,022.00	13	2,022.00			1	40.75				
USAG Bavaria	24	2,439.50	101.65	2,439.50	24	2,439.50								
Garmisch	2	42.00		42.00	2	42.00								
Grafenwoehr	18	2,296.00		2,296.00	18	2,296.00								
Hohenfels	4	101.50		101.50	4	101.50								
USAG Benelux	8	3,026.50	378.31	2,910.50	5	2,910.50			3	116.00				
Benelux	6	2,968.25		2,878.50	4	2,878.50			2	89.75				
Brussels	2	58.25		32.00	1	32.00			1	26.25				
Schinnen														
USAG Italy	16	1,546.25	96.64	1,084.75	13	1,084.75			2	306.50			1	155.00
Livorno														
Vicenza	16	1,546.25		1,084.75	13	1,084.75			2	306.50			1	155.00
USAG Poland														
Camp Kosciuszko														
Zagan														
USAG Rheinland-Pfalz	12	1,239.00	103.25	980.00	8	980.00	1	61.50	2	136.00	1	61.50		
Baumholder														
Kaiserslautern	12	1,239.00		980.00	8	980.00	1	61.50	2	136.00	1	61.50		
USAG Stuttgart	18	2,054.00	114.11	1,338.75	10	1,338.75	1	108.00	6	499.25	1	108.00		
USAG Wiesbaden	42	7,853.25	186.98	7,749.25	40	7,749.25			2	104.00				
US ARMY EUROPE AND AFRICA RETIRED SOLDIER COUNCIL	11	1,495.50	135.95	1,495.50	11	1,495.50								