

## U.S. Army Europe and 7th Army

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### **Pay representative to assist retirees, annuitants during visits to Germany in April**

#### **U.S. Army Installation Management Command-Europe**

**HEIDELBERG, Germany** – A retiree pay representative of the Defense Finance and Accounting Service-Cleveland is scheduled to visit Germany April 19-25 to help retirees and annuitants with pay issues and conduct audits of individual pay accounts.

Ninety-eight percent of people whose retired accounts have been audited by DFAS reported they had errors in their accounts that they did not think about, said Mike Malone, retirement services officer for the U.S. Army Installation Management Command-Europe.

While the thought of an audit might make some people anxious, Malone added, the audit is voluntary and frequently rewarding. He cited several examples of people who have benefited from requesting audits.

Some of those examples included a retiree who learned his former wife was listed as beneficiary on his account although he had remarried; another whose account indicated he was paying state taxes to a state that does not tax retired pay; and a third retiree whose account was still making Survivor Benefit Plan payments although the beneficiary had been deceased 10 years. Some of those errors were corrected on the spot, Malone said.

“These stories are real cases affecting retirees,” Malone said. To avoid similar problems he recommended retirees meet with the DFAS representative during his visits to ensure that their records are up to date.

It takes about 10 minutes to bring records up to date, Malone said, adding that no appointments are necessary and all retirees requesting assistance will be seen.

The schedule of visits to Germany is below. Most will take place between 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-3 p.m. Those interested in attending should contact their local retiree services offices for exact times and any changes in date or location.

A visit to Vicenza, Italy is scheduled for June, and a visit to the Benelux is slated for October.

April 18: Stuttgart, Panzer Kaserne -- Retiree Appreciation Day  
April 20 (morning): Ramstein Air Base Retirement Services Office  
April 20 (afternoon): Mannheim, Central Processing Facility, Building 255, Sullivan Barracks  
April 21: Kaiserslautern, Daenner Kaserne (morning), Panzer Kaserne (afternoon)  
April 22: Wiesbaden, Retirement Services Office, Wiesbaden Army Airfield  
April 23: Heidelberg, Central Processing Facility, shopping center complex  
April 24: Grafenwoehr, Retirement Services Office, Building 244 at the airfield  
April 25: Schweinfurt, Conn Barracks, Building 40 – Retiree Appreciation Day



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