



Retiree Activities Office

Yokota AB, Japan

Newsletter



Vol. 2, Issue 6

November/December 2016

A publication of the Yokota Retiree Activities Office (RAO) whose mission is to support the base commander in providing information and assistance to military retirees, their family members, and surviving spouses residing in the local area. Articles appearing in this newsletter are compiled from various government sources. Information has been edited and reprinted for the benefit of our retiree population. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information herein, no absolute guarantee of accuracy or currency can be given nor should be assumed.

It Will Soon Be That Time of Year Again:

Before we know it, the annual income tax filing season will be here. The Yokota Legal Office once again is planning to open a Tax Center offering free tax preparation and electronic filing of income tax returns to active duty military, civilian employees, military retirees and widows of former military.

Additional information as to opening dates, hours of operation and how to make an appointment will be forthcoming through various public information sources. Also, the next RAO newsletter should have all the information you need to schedule an appointment and a list of the necessary documents you should bring with you.

Now would be a good time to check your DFAS myPay account and all other organizations that you expect to receive a tax reporting document from to insure they have your correct contact information. This will help insure you receive your documents in a timely manner.

(Source: Yokota Legal Office & Yokota RAO)

Foreign Government Employment:

Air Force retirees seeking any civil employment with a foreign government agency, or any instrumentality of that foreign government agency (i.e. as an MLC employee here in Japan) must apply for permission ahead of time or risk losing military retirement pay. Prospective employees should be aware of the rules regarding foreign government employment, whether or not compensation is received.

[Air Force Instruction 36-2913](#), Request for Approval of Foreign Government Employment of Air Force Members. Outlines the rules and necessary paperwork needs, as well as application instructions. The application includes the [Foreign Government Employment Memo](#), [Foreign Government](#)

[Employment Questionnaire and SF 312, Nondisclosure Agreement.](#)

Application packages must be mailed to: AFPC/DPFFF, 550 C Street W. JBASA-Randolph TX 78150. Packages can also be faxed to 210-665-2322.

Questions can be emailed to afpc.retiree@us.af.mil. Please do not email Personal Identifiable Information (PII).

Although this article addresses Air Force retirees, there are rules that government retirees from other service components. These retired members should contact the applicable agency for their branch.

(Source: AF Retiree Services)

Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) Renewals:

The following information will not apply to the majority of retirees reading this newsletter, but it could apply to your spouse or retired widows who were issued an ITIN in instead of a regular Social Security Number.

[You May Need to Renew Your ITIN](#). All ITINs not used on a federal tax return at least once in the last three years will no longer be valid for use on a tax return as of Jan. 1, 2017.

Additionally, all ITINs issued before 2013 will begin expiring this year, starting with those with middle digits of 78 and 79 (Example: (9XX-78-XXXX)). All expired ITINs must be renewed before being used on a U.S. tax return. No action is needed by ITIN holders who don't need to file a tax return next year.

Also, there are new documentation requirements when applying for or renewing an ITIN for certain dependents. Find more information in the [ITIN Expiration Frequently Asked Questions](#).

(Source: [IRS.Gov](#))

Certified True Copies of Foreign Passports for Obtaining an ITIN Number:

When requesting an ITIN through the IRS, one of the documents they want to see is the actual foreign passport or a certified true copy. The idea of mailing your passport off to the IRS and waiting for it to be returned is something most people are not keen on doing.

The U.S. Embassy or Consulates can certify true copies of foreign passports for obtaining an ITIN (Individual Taxpayer Identification Number) or PTIN (Preparer Tax Identification Number) for use in dealing with the U.S. Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Please make sure to bring the original foreign passport to your appointment. If you wish to appoint a third party to obtain the certified true copy on your behalf, please have that individual bring in a photo ID along with your original foreign passports.

Appointments have to be made on-line by going to the Notarial Services on the [U.S. Citizen Services](#) link of the US Embassy web page. The cost to have a passport certified as a true copy is \$50.00. Other notarial services are also available at the Embassy.

(Source: American Embassy Tokyo)

Veterans Day Ceremony Reminder:

The Veterans Day Ceremony for this year will be held on the 10th of November at 1500 hours in front of building 315 (374 AW Headquarters).

As part of the ceremony, the Commander of Veterans of Foreign War (VFW) Post 9555, Gloria Barker will be the guest speaker. The Post will also be performing a three-flower ceremony as a way to show respect for all veterans, past and present.

Retirees and their family members are invited to join us.

Widows' Support Luncheon:

The next quarterly Widows' Support Luncheon is scheduled for 14 December 2016 from 1200-1400 in the FSS Commander Conference Room, Building 316.

This luncheon is sponsored by the Airman & Family Readiness Center (A&FRC) and is open to widows of military retirees as well as widows whose spouse passed away while on active duty.

This luncheon serves as a venue for the widows to get together and share experiences, and to let them

know that they are still part of the overall military family.

If you know of a widow who is not aware of this luncheon please pass this information on.

For additional information call the A&FRC at 225-8725 or the RAO at 255-8324.

Yokota Military Retiree Association (YMRA):

The YMRA will hold its next two monthly breakfast meetings on 5 November and 3 December at 0900 in the enlisted club dining room.

These meetings are open to all military retirees regardless of branch of service, their spouses, and widows of retirees. Breakfast is provided free when your order before 0830. The business side of things starts at 0900.

The YMRA normally meets the first Saturday of every month at the enlisted club.

The Retiree Activities Office (RAO) is Moving:

The **RAO** will be moving back to building 535 (The A&FRC & Red Cross building) from its present location in building 445.

If everything goes according to plan, we expect to be operational at the new location by the 16th of November. During the period 7 November through 15 November service provided by the RAO will be very limited or non-existent. We apologise ahead of time for any inconvenience this may cause to our retiree community.

With the exception of our physical location, our telephone and e-mail contact information, and hours of operation will remain the same.

Email: yokota.rao@us.af.mil

DSN Telephone: 225-8324

Off Base Telephone: (042) 552-2510 ext. 58324

Hours of Operation: 0900-1500 Monday - Friday

Closed: US Holidays and Family Days

Your comments concerning articles you see here, or questions concerning military retiree benefits and services are always welcome.