



Retiree Activities Office

Yokota AB, Japan

Newsletter



Vol. 3, Issue 3

May/June 2017

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.

2016 Tax Filing Deadline: The April 18th tax filing date has come and gone. 750 tax returns were prepared and filed; many belonging to members of the retired community.

However, no need to worry if you still need help doing your 2016 taxes. The Yokota Tax Center operated by the Legal Office will remain open until June 15th.

This is because US citizens and others required to file a US tax return and are living overseas receive an automatic filing extension until June 15th.

However, this extension only applies for filing the return not for paying taxes you owe. So you will most likely be assessed interest on unpaid taxes.

Telephone numbers to call for an appointment: DSN 225-4926/4927, from off base 552-2510 ext.

Address Change for DFAS Customers:

The Defense Finance and Accounting Service mailing addresses for retired and annuitant pay are changing May 1. Mail sent via the U.S. Postal Service will be sent to Indianapolis where it will be processed and sent electronically to the DFAS facility in Cleveland.

The new addresses for **retired pay** is:
Defense Finance and Accounting Service
U.S. Military Retired Pay
8899 E 56th Street
Indianapolis IN 46249-1200

The new addresses for **annuitant pay** is:
Defense Finance and Accounting Service
U.S. Military Retired Pay
8899 E 56th Street
Indianapolis IN 46249-1300

Rather than have difference post office boxes as in the past, the difference now is reflected in the different ZIP codes. As of May 1, the previous post

office boxes in London, Kentucky, will no longer be valid for mailing transactions (*Source: AF Retiree Services*)

Vehicle Decals: For those non-SOFA retirees and widows who have not already done so, the new vehicle decals are available for pick-up at Building 933, Pass and Registration Office located near the Supply Gate (Gate 5). The office is open 0730 - 1500 hours, Monday - Friday so plan your visit accordingly. The new decal must be displayed on your vehicle's front windshield no later than 1 June 2017.

Widows' Support Luncheon: The next quarterly Widows' Support Luncheon is scheduled for 9 June from 1200-1400 in the auditorium of the Airman & Family Readiness Center (A&FRC), Building 535.

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 Mr. Tom Determann at the A&FRC at 225-8725, or the RAO at 255-8324

Yokota Military Retiree Association:

The YMRA will hold its next two monthly breakfast meetings on 6 May and 3 June 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 you 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.

Yokota Connect App: The Yokota Public Affairs office recently announced that the Yokota Air Base App, the “Yokota Connect”, is fully available for download at the App Store for iPhone users, and Google Play for Android phone users. It provides one-stop shopping for all things Yokota. Its free and is designed to provide all the information you could need. (Source: 374AW Public Affairs)

Foreign employment needs approval:

Military retirees seeking any civil employment with a foreign government agency -- or any instrumentality of a foreign government agency -- must apply for permission in advance or risk losing their military retirement pay.

For retired Airmen, the Secretary of the Air Force and Secretary of State serve as approval authorities for requests, though the Air Force Personnel Center’s Retiree Services section functions as the administrative manager of the Foreign Government Employment program. More information regarding this subject can be found at: <http://www.retirees.af.mil/Library/>. (Source: AF Retiree Services)

A Couple of Useful Links: (Source AF Retiree Services)

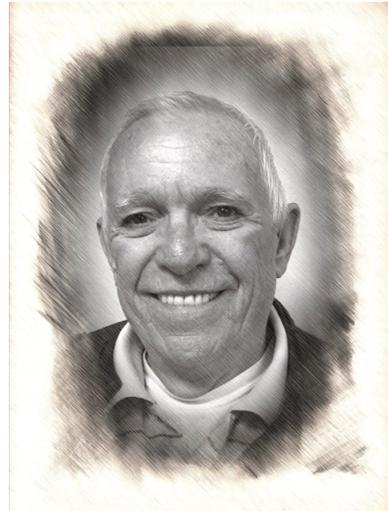
Casualty Assistance Checklist: Will your survivors know what to do, who to notify, and where all your important documents are located in the event of your death? The checklist listed at the following location is a good one to start with. It will give you an idea of the kinds of information and documents you should have, as well as letting your survivors know where to locate them. [Retiree Casualty Assistance Checklist:](#)

Retirees Survivor’s Guide to Benefits: This guide provides general information about most federal

benefits and entitlements available to eligible family members of deceased retired Air Force personnel and explains the application process: [Benefits](#)

Welcome to our Newest RAO

Volunteer: Elton (Roy) Finuf (CMSgt USAF Ret) has joined the RAO staff and will be manning the desk on Friday afternoons from 1200 - 1500. In addition you may see Roy’s smiling face on the desk at other times filling in for absent staff members.



Roy

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

How to reach the RAO:

Located: Bldg. 535, Rm. 108

Office hours: Monday - Friday 0900 - 1500 (Subject to availability of volunteers)

Telephone: DSN: 225-8324

Telephone from off base: (042) 552-2510 ext. 58324

Voice mail: Leave a message if calling after normal operating hours

E-mail: yokota.rao@us.af.mil

Catch us on Facebook at [@RAOYokotaJapan](#)

Previous editions of the RAO newsletter can be found at: <http://www.yokota.af.mil/RetireeActivities.aspx>