



Still Serving in Korea



Newsletter 99-2

The newsletter for U.S. military retirees in the Republic of Korea

Apr-Jun 1999

Medical Care Matters

Vietnam Veterans and Hepatitis C

A study by the Veterans Administration (VA) suggests that Vietnam veterans now in their 40s and 50s are at much greater risk for the hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection because of transfusions during the war. HCV is a viral infection that causes inflammation in the liver. It is transmitted primarily through blood and blood products.

Prior to 1992 there was no effective test to determine incidence of the disease. Because the disease can be symptomless for years, those infected are at risk of developing chronic forms of the disease and severe complications including cirrhosis, liver cancer, liver failure, and ultimately death. Four to five million Americans are infected and most do not know it. More than 12,000 people die each year from it, and 150,000 new people are infected with some form of chronic hepatitis every year.

You may be at risk if you shared razors or toothbrushes with an infected person; have been in a high-risk health care occupation involving needle sticks or other exposure to blood; received a blood transfusion before 1992; had a tattoo or body piercing with contaminated needles; had unprotected sex with multiple partners; or experimented with intravenous drugs or snorted cocaine.

continued on page 2

IN THIS ISSUE

- 2 DOD Cancer Trials
- 3 Refunds to Victims of Insurance Fraud
- 4 Current Legislation in Congress
- 6 Information for Retirees and Spouses
- 8 Your Local Retiree Representatives

Still Serving in Korea is published quarterly by the Osan Air Base Retiree Activities Office to inform retirees and family members on information of interest on rights, benefits and privileges, and on the status of legislative initiatives which affect military retirees and beneficiaries. Items in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of the 51 FW, 7AF, PACAF, USAF, USFK, or DOD.

Pay Matters

Current Address Important for Pay

The next time you receive a service newsletter (*Army Echoes, Afterburner, Shift Colors, Semper Fidelis*) or pay statement, check the address label. I recently received mailing labels produced by the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) for Air Force retirees, and the majority of the addresses (including mine) had some type of problem. The most common error was in the four-digit extension to the zip code. If you have a PSC mailbox, the four-digit code should be the same as your mailbox number (with leading zeroes, if needed). If your mail goes to a unit address, there is a four-digit zip code extension number for the unit. In a few cases the four-digit code is the same as the last four digits of the unit number, *but most of the time it is not*. Check the mailing label on this retiree newsletter. The RAO receives current unit numbers and four-digit zip code extensions from Eighth Army Postal, so your correct address should be on this newsletter.

Failure to keep your address current with DFAS is the major cause of problems. Some retirees did not receive their 1099-R needed to file their tax return. On a more serious note, retirees may not be receiving mail notifying them of problems with their retired pay until their checks start bouncing. Recovering from problems such as these takes a long time and could have a serious, long-term effect on your credit rating.

It only takes a few minutes to write a letter to DFAS to update your address. Include your name, rank, social security number and current address, and be sure to sign the letter. Send the letter to:

DFAS-CL
P.O. Box 99191
Cleveland, OH 44199-1126

On the envelope, write "CHANGE OF ADDRESS" in the lower left corner.

Osan AB Retiree Activities Office

SBP Changes After Retirement

Loss of Spouse: If you elected spouse coverage and your spouse dies or you are divorced, send a copy of the death certificate or the document dissolving the marriage to the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, Cleveland Center (DFAS-CL) immediately. The cost reduction of your retired pay will be suspended.

continued on page 3

If you think you were exposed see your doctor and ask to be tested. While there is no vaccine available to prevent HCV, there are anti-viral medicines approved for persons with chronic HCV. Treatment is effective in about 2-3 out of every 10 persons treated. Medical treatments are available from the VA for eligible patients.

TROA Magazine Jan 1999 and Tricare News Mar 6, 1999, provided by RAO Baguio City

Cancer Trials Expand

The Defense Department and National Cancer Institute will soon expand the numbers and types of clinical trials open to TRICARE beneficiaries. TRICARE-eligible cancer patients since 1996 have been eligible to take part in experimental treatment programs sponsored by the NCI at more than 2,000 locations. This summer, that agreement will expand to include cancer prevention clinical trials.

The DOD/NCI Cancer Treatment Clinical Trials Demonstration allows TRICARE beneficiaries to participate in the latest cancer treatment studies as part of their standard health care benefits. The current agreement gives them access to the cancer institute's Phase II and Phase III cancer treatment trials. Phase II trials provide preliminary information about how well a new drug or therapy works on a particular type of cancer. Phase III trials compare promising new treatments against standard treatments.

As it was first in coverage of cancer treatment clinical trials, DOD will become the first payer in the nation to cover the costs of cancer prevention clinical trials. The plan covers costs for screening tests to determine clinical eligibility and all cancer treatments covered under the demonstration project.

The prevention trials may be of interest to high-risk patients such as those with a family history of cancer or who have had cancer before, said Air Force LtCol Kathy Larkin, a senior health policy analyst for the TRICARE Management Activity. The treatment trials may be a real option for patients when standard treatments have failed or none exists, as with certain brain tumors, she said.

Larkin suggested those interested in joining a preventive or treatment trial consult with their doctors, because research needs are usually specific and prone to change. Patients, family members and others can access general information on cancer and clinical trials or obtain an authorization to enroll patients in a trial by calling 1-800-779-3060. Usual TRICARE rules, cost shares and deductibles apply, and eligible patients may receive care outside the TRICARE network.

Active duty families and TRICARE-eligible retirees and their families can participate in the clinical trials in military and civilian clinics and hospitals that provide

cancer treatment. Active duty service members should contact their primary care manager to discuss participation in clinical trials.

DOD health administration records show that only 155 TRICARE-eligible beneficiaries had signed up for the trials as of August. Although the number is low, Larkin said, it's important to keep military health care beneficiaries informed of all treatment options open to them.

"Our goal is to inform our beneficiaries that they have the choice of this cancer treatment program," she noted.

To this end, TRICARE posts a great deal of information about the cancer trials on the Military Health System Web site at <http://www.tricare.osd.mil/cancertrials>. Information is also available by calling the cancer trials demonstration coordinator toll-free at (800) 779-3060 and the Cancer Information Service at (800) 4-CANCER (422-6237).

Air Force News Service, May 6, 1999

Medicare

Medicare is not authorized overseas but can be utilized in the United States or its territories. All retirees are eligible at age 65 for Part A Medicare, which is free but limited in benefits. For Part B coverage, there is an automatic monthly charge of \$45.50 per month (in 1999) unless you decline upon receipt of your Medicare notification (if you don't answer they deduct). Medicare Part B may not be desired if you plan to spend the rest of your life in Korea. However, if you think you may someday desire to return to the states or want the option to seek treatment there after you turn 65, you should consider the Part B option.

There is a six-month window to sign up for Part B without penalty, starting three months prior to your 65th birthday. If you decline at this time, there is a general enrollment period each year between January 1 and March 31 of each year with an effective date of the following July. Should you decline Part B initially and change your mind later this could be expensive. The extra cost will be 10% per year for the years that you were eligible and did not participate. You cannot wait until you have an emergency and then decide to enroll. Just because you receive a letter from Medicare this does not disqualify your Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS) eligible dependents. (Note: You cannot be authorized CHAMPUS and Medicare at the same time except as authorized by Congress.)

Retirees under Medicare maintain eligibility to have prescriptions filled at military pharmacies. If you have decided to remain in Korea after age 65 you might want to consider local insurance coverage. The Korea Herald reported in February that Korean medical insurance coverage was recently opened up to foreign residents, although the RAO has no other information on this insurance coverage.

condensed and adapted from an article by RAO Baguio City

continued ►

Remarriage: If you had SBP coverage on your former spouse and you remarry, send DFAS-CL a copy of the marriage certificate and tell them whether or not you want to cover your new spouse. If the marriage certificate and the statement are not received within one year of the remarriage, the new spouse will be automatically enrolled in SBP at the same level of coverage you had for the previous spouse. Your new spouse will not be covered under SBP until you have been married for one year and the cost will not be deducted from your pay until the 13th month of the marriage. If you had no SBP coverage on your former wife you are not eligible for SBP coverage on your new wife.

Additional Child: If you have spouse and child or child only coverage and you acquire a new child after retirement, send a copy of the birth certificate to DFAS-CL. You should also notify them when your child reaches 18 if that child is not attending college full time.

Former Spouse Coverage: If you have spouse coverage and divorce that spouse, you may change the coverage from spouse to former spouse by sending DFAS-CL a copy of the document dissolving the marriage and telling them you want former spouse coverage. This must be done within one year of the divorce.

Recalled to Active Duty: If you have SBP coverage and are recalled to active duty for more than 30 days, the cost will be suspended until you again receive retired pay. The coverage will remain in effect.

New Spouse: If you have no spouse when you retire, you may cover any later spouse under the SBP by sending a copy of the marriage certificate with your request to DFAS-CL. The new spouse will not be eligible for an annuity until you have been married for one year and the cost will not be deducted from your pay until the 13th month of marriage.

Insufficient Pay: If you do not have sufficient pay remaining after other deductions to pay the SBP cost, or are not receiving retired pay for any period (i.e. waived in full for VA disability compensation), you may pay the cost by direct remittance to DFAS-CL. The law requires that interest be charged on all delinquent SBP costs. If you owe SBP costs and die, the costs and interest will have to be deducted from the annuity until the indebtedness is paid. If you are on full VA disability, you can ask that the cost be deducted from your VA payment and be sent directly to DFAS-CL.

*Source: USMC Retirement Guide, Oct 97
provided by RAO Baguio City*

Fraudulent Insurance Sales Victims Due Refunds

Servicemen who purchased "flexible dollar builder" life insurance policies in Washington State and Florida may be eligible for refunds of their premiums. The refunds come as the result of a Dec. 3, 1998 legal settlement between the U.S. government and two life insurance companies – Trans

continued ►

World Assurance Company and American Fidelity Life Insurance Company. Both companies were accused of misrepresenting their insurance policies as security investment plans. Under the court settlement, 215 service members who purchased those policies in Washington State are eligible for full refunds of all premiums. In order to be paid, though, the participants in the suit must submit an application for refund to their insurance company no later than Apr 1, 1999. Other may still submit claims, and legal officials estimate that life insurance refunds owed to service members in Florida may exceed \$12 million. The two insurance companies cancelled the policies of many servicemen in Florida and then allegedly continued to take allotments from their pay.

Service members who wish to receive refunds are asked to mail refund requests directly to the company from which they purchased policies using the addresses below:

- Trans World Assurance Company, 885 South El Camino Real, San Mateo, CA 94402, phone 1-650-348-2300
- American Fidelity Life Insurance Company, Attention: Vicky Webb, 4060 Barrancas Avenue, Pensacola, FL 32507, phone 1-850-456-7401.

The 215 service members the two companies agreed to refund for policies bought in Washington State include 112 soldiers, according to Army legal officials. They said that about half of those soldiers had addresses in Korea last year, as shown on documents the companies turned over to the court. Under terms of the legal settlement reached in Washington State, service personnel who bought insurance there will be refunded only if they apply for the refunds. Service members who do not fall under the agreement reached in Washington State are urged by military lawyers to contact the insurance company that sold them the policy to resolve any problems. If the company refuses to resolve the situation, then service members should contact the Insurance Commissioner from the state where the policy was purchased since officials said other states are considering direct action against AFLI and TWAC.

Service members and other federal employees paid between \$50 and \$120 per month via allotment for the insurance policies, believing that their money would be directed into various securities or investments to provide income for the future, according to legal documents. Each year, the companies collected about \$36 million in premiums from service members.

Service members and other customers were told by sales people to stop paying premiums after a few years, as others' premiums would be used to continue investments. In reality, a clause in the contract stipulated that if policy buyers stopped payment on premiums, then the company would own any accumulated monies, ensuring a profit.

*Source: Army News Service, March 24, 1999
provided by RAO Baguio City*

Legislative Matters

Legislation in the 106th Congress

- **HR 1547**, by Mr. THORNBERRY (R-TX), a newly-introduced bill to improve TRICARE. This bill proposes improvements to providing a quality health care delivery system through the TRICARE program, in order to solve the current problems associated with giving true medical benefits to our active duty military and dependents as well as military retirees.
- **HR 1432**, by MS. KELLY (R-NY), a bill to amend Title 38, USC, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide long-term nursing care at public expense to any veteran with a service-connected disability of 50% or greater. Referred to the Committee on Veterans Affairs. This bill has 9 co-sponsors.
- **House Joint Resolution (HJRes) 33**, by Mr. CUNNINGHAM (R-CA), a joint resolution proposing a Constitutional amendment which would allow Congress the power to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States. Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. This resolution has 275 co-sponsors.
- **Senate Joint Resolution (SJRes) 14**, by MR. HATCH (R-UT) and Mr. CLELAND (R-GA), a joint resolution proposing a Constitutional amendment which would allow Congress the power to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States. This resolution has 57 co-sponsors.
- **HR 44**, by Mr. BILIRAKIS (FL) A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to authorize the payment of special compensation to certain severely disabled uniformed services retirees. Referred to the Committee on Armed Services. (Concurrent Receipt). This bill has 71 co-sponsors.
- **HR 65**, by Mr. BILIRAKIS (FL) A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit retired members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability to receive military retired pay concurrently with veterans' disability compensation. Referred to the Committee on Armed Services. (Concurrent Receipt). This bill has 61 co-sponsors.
- **HR 70**, by Mr. STUMP (AZ) A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to enact into law eligibility requirements for burial in Arlington National Cemetery, and for other purposes. Passed by a vote of 428-2. Referred to the Senate.
- **HR 72**, by Mr. STUMP (AZ) A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to revise the rules relating to the court-ordered apportionment of the retired pay of members of the Armed Forces to former spouses. (Deals with the Uniformed Services Former Spouse Protection Act.) This bill has 28 co-sponsors.
- **HR 119**, by Ms. EMERSON (MO) The Military Retiree Health Care Task Force Act of 1999 - Establishes the Medicare Eligible Military Retiree Health Care Consensus Task Force to study and report to the Congress on matters relating to health care coverage of retired military

continued ►

personnel and their families, Federal sharing agreements relating to such care, and proposals to provide a full continuum of such coverage to Medicare-eligible military retirees and their dependents. Referred to the Committee on Armed Services. This bill has 85 co-sponsors.

- **HR 303**, By Mr. BILIRAKIS (FL) A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to permit retired members of the Armed Forces who retired with over 20 years of service and who have service-connected disabilities to receive compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs concurrently with retired pay, without deduction from either. Referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. (Concurrent Receipt). This bill has 74 co-sponsors.
- **HR 363**, Mr. FILNER, (D-CA), a bill which would repeal the so-called "age-62 offset" under the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP). That is the reduction in benefits that survivors incur after age 62 and would provide the survivor 55 percent of the covered retired pay amount, regardless of age. This bill has 28 co-sponsors.
- **HR 601**, by Mr. SAXTON (R-NJ), a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to change the effective date for paid-up coverage under the military Survivor Benefit Plan from October 1, 2008, to October 1, 2003. Referred to the Committee on Armed Services. This bill has 15 co-sponsors.
- **HR 743**, by Mr. SCARBOROUGH (R-FL), a bill to include waiver of the penalties for Medicare Part B "open season". Was referred to Committee on Commerce and Committee on Ways and Means. This bill has 3 co-sponsors. Explanation: This bill is needed to allow Medicare eligible military retirees and dependents to enroll in the outpatient portion of Medicare without a penalty for not enrolling when originally eligible.
- **HR 1347**, by Mr. PICKERING (R-MS), a bill to provide for a Medicare subvention demonstration project for veterans (VA Subvention) and to improve the Department of Defense TRICARE program. Referred to the following Committees: House Ways and Means, House Commerce, House Armed Services and House Veterans' Affairs. This bill has 1 co-sponsor.
- **HR 1413**, by Mr. HEFLEY (R-CO), a bill making the TRICARE Senior Prime Test program permanent on a phased-in basis. The bill would expand TRICARE Senior Prime to ten additional locations with full-service military hospitals by January 1, 2001 and then across the remaining TRICARE Prime catchment areas no later than October 1, 2002. This bill has 67 co-sponsors.
- **S.763**, by Mr. THURMOND (R-SC), a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to increase the minimum Survivor Benefit Plan basic annuity for surviving spouses age 62 and older (This bill would gradually reduce the Social Security offset on SBP). Referred to the Committee on Armed Services.
- **S.789**, by Mr. MCCAIN (R-AZ), a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to authorize payment of special compensation to certain severely disabled uniformed services retirees. This legislation is a companion bill to HR 44. Referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

The Retired Enlisted Association (TREA), April 14, 1999

Community Matters

Ration Control Policy Changes

Effective April 12, 1999, the ration control policy on eligibility to purchase beer and liquor was changed. All personnel authorized a ration control plate (RCP) and at least 20 years of age are authorized to purchase beer and liquor. Family limits applicable to sponsors remain in effect for these purchases. Each individual is authorized to purchase eight cases of beer and three bottles of liquor (more than 20% alcohol) per month. Families of two or more adults (at least age 20 years) are authorized to purchase eight cases of beer and five bottles of liquor. The daily beer purchase limit is two cases, including both case and six-pack purchases. A maximum of eight cases of beer is authorized per month, and this limit does not count six-pack purchases. All beer purchases, including purchases of one, two or three six-packs will be recorded and signed for by the purchaser.

Visitors will continue to be limited based on the duration of their stay. For visits of 15 days or less, the retiree and family are authorized two bottles of liquor (20% or more alcohol) and four cases of beer. For visits of 16-30 days, the retiree and family are authorized three bottles of liquor and eight cases of beer.

This change was made as a result of enactment of the National Defense Authorization Act of 1999.

United States Forces Korea Regulation (USFK Reg) 60-1 is currently in coordinating draft, with the current plan to be implemented in July 1999. Among other changes, the required documentation for obtaining a permanent RCP will be more clearly defined. This should eliminate the hard and fast rule adopted by many Issuing Agents to accept only a lease as proof of residence. For example, under the new guidelines, Korean national widows will require only their Korean citizen's identification card and the U.S. military identification card to apply for an RCP.

Osan AB Retiree Activities Office

Korea Blue

The retiree web site (www.osan.af.mil/retireeaffairs) is attracting the attention of retirees outside Korea. Recently, the RAO received an e-mail message from the author of a book about Korea. The book, *Korea Blue* by Thomas C. Utts, is a mystery thriller set in the Osan AB area in the late 60's. For those who were at Osan between the late 60's and mid-70's, this book will bring back memories with its vivid descriptions of the base and local area. For others, it's a well-written book and a good read.

Although it's no longer in print, Mr. Utts advises that it may be available from used book exchanges. You can get more information on *Korea Blue* and Mr. Utts at

<http://www.geocities.com/Pentagon/Quarters/4372/>. You can e-mail him at TommyCU@worldnet.att.net.

Osan AB Retiree Activities Office

Wanted: Stories of the Philippines

There are a number of retirees living in Korea who frequently travel to the Philippines. Obviously, there's something calling them back there again and again. These are the people who probably have fascinating stories to tell of their adventures in the Philippines. Mr. Thomas Utts, author of *Korea Blue*, is currently working on a book about Clark AB in the Philippines and is seeking individuals with "war stories" to contribute. He has a web site at freeyellow.com/members2/Zcap/clark.htm. His e-mail address is zcap@usa.net. If you want to send something to him in hardcopy, send it to the RAO and it will be forwarded to Mr. Utts.

Osan AB Retiree Activities Office

Retiree Activities Office Information

The Retiree Activities Office is an official Air Force activity as defined in Air Force Instruction (AFI) 36-3106. It is staffed by volunteers, currently consisting of Jack Terwiel and his wife, Chom Pun (aka Pune), and is located in Room 112A, Building 936 (behind the Osan Main Exchange). The office hours are 0900-1500, Monday-Friday, and the office is closed on U.S. holidays and USFK training holidays. There is normally someone in the office between 0800-1500, including through the lunch hour.

The only fixed schedule when the office is closed is the second Tuesday of each month, when the entire staff (both of us) travel to Seoul to meet with retirees and widows at the Dragon Hill Lodge, the Army recreation hotel at Yongsan Army Garrison. This monthly service is provided for the convenience of Seoul-area residents and others for whom travel to Osan AB would be difficult.

At those times when the office is not manned, an answering machine is available to take your message, or you can send an e-mail message. The RAO can be contacted as follows:

Phone: 784-1441, commercial in Korea 0333-661-1441

Fax: 784-3894, commercial in Korea 0333-0661-3894

E-mail: retact@osan.af.mil

Mail: Retiree Activities Office

51 MSS/CVR

Unit 2097

APO AP 96278-2097

The RAO maintains a presence on the Internet at www.osan.af.mil/retireeaffairs. This site should become a source of more timely information, as the Webmaster function is transitioning to the RAO. Significant changes are expected by the end of June, as the new Webmaster gains proficiency. The next retiree newsletter will provide more coverage of the web site.

Osan AB Retiree Activities Office

continued ►

Survivor Matters

Important Information for Retirees and Spouses

One of the hardest jobs for a Casualty Assistance Representative is to assist the surviving spouse in trying to find the necessary papers required to claim benefits from the military, Social Security, or Veterans Administration. Delays in obtaining the documents means delays in starting the benefits needed to replace retired pay and other income that stops when the retiree dies.

1. The spouse should call the nearest military hospital immediately when the retiree becomes seriously ill, if death appears imminent, or if death has already occurred. The telephone number should be kept readily available near the phone.
2. The spouse should know the retiree's wishes as to burial or cremation, and the place the retiree wishes to be interred.
3. Upon the death of the retiree, the US Army Mortuary at Yongsan (phone 02-7916-3003, DSN 736-3003) should be given the name of the hospital where the retiree's body is located. The Mortuary will assist in making all the arrangements for burial or cremation, including transportation back to the U.S. for interment, if that is requested.
4. If there is a chance that the death is service-connected, the Mortuary should be asked to perform an autopsy. If service connection is established, it will result in higher benefits for the survivors.
5. Notarized copies of the following documents will be required with the claims forms:
 - a. DD Form 214 issued at retirement
 - b. Marriage Certificate and divorce decree(s) from any previous marriage(s)
 - c. Death CertificateHave available the most recent pay statement, and the VA file number, if the retiree has a VA disability rating.
6. If the spouse does not have a Social Security Number, obtain an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN). This will be required to open a credit union account in the spouse's own name. Request an ITIN using Form W-7, which is available at the Legal Office.

퇴직자와 스폰서 제서 알아야 할 몇 가지 정보

남편께서 사망하시면 곧 현역 군인이 부인을 도와 드릴 것입니다. 그러나 매우 어려운 경우가 있습니다. 말 하자면 SBP 그리고 VA 신청이 매우 복잡하고 까다로운 점이 많습니니다. 그러므로 몇가지 말씀 드리려고

continued ►

합니다. 모든 서류가 하자 없이 신속하게 이루어진다면 연금혜택 청구도 신속하게 진행 될것입니다. 예를 들겠습니다.

1. 남편께서 중환자 (가망이 없을 경우) 아니면 사망직후 군병원에 신속히 연락 할수 있으셔야 합니다.
2. 남편께서 생존시 부인에게 남긴 유원에 의하면 시신을 화장 할것인지 혹은 매장을 원했는지 부인께서 필히 알고 계셔야 합니다.
3. 만약 남편께서 사망 하시면 (병원에) 전화로 연락 하시기 바랍니다. 본인 혹은 남의 도움으로 연락 하실때는 전화 (영안실 02-7916-3003) 하시기 바랍니다. 부인께서는 자기 이름과 시신이 어느 병원에서 보호하고 있다고 정확하게 연락을 하시기 바랍니다. 영안실 에서는 부인에게 매장과 화장 두가지 선택 권한을 줄것입니다. 또한 시신을 미국 국립묘지에 매장을 원하는지 아니면 개인에 산소에 매장을 원하는지 질문 하실것입니다.
4. 남편 군생활시, 심장, 고혈압, 간 등등으로 군병원에 입원 했을경우 불행이도 사망 이라고 본인에게 말씀 한다면 혹시 부인께서 결정을 하셔야 합니다. 영안실에 연락 하여 시신을 해부 할것을 원한다고 의사를 표하면, 본인의 의사에 따라 그들은 시신을 해부 할것입니다. 모든 절차가 신속 하게 결정되면 미망인 으로서 연금혜택 보상은 좀더 결과에 의해 혜택이 결정 될것입니다.

5. 정부로 부터 승인 받은 결혼 증명서 그리고 사망 진단서를 공증 받은후 청구 할수 있는 권한.

- a. DD Form 214 (퇴역자)
- b. 결혼 증명서 (원본)
- c. 사망 진단서 (원본)

퇴역자 분의 계좌, VA ID 번호, 군생활중 신체의 장애, 혹은 불구의 VA 연금 받는분 에 해당 되는 내용을 알려 줄것입니다.

6. 만약 부인께서 소셜 번호가 없으시면 본인은 ITIN 고유의 번호를 갖으셔야 됩니다. ITIN 번호를 갖으시면 크리디 유니언 계좌번호를 본인의 이름으로 만들게 될것입니다. Form W-7 ITIN 서류를 작성해서 변호사 사무실에서 공증 받으시면 됩니다.

Osan AB Retiree Activities Office

Service Matters

Cold War Certificate

A retiree called the Retiree Activities Office asking how to obtain a Cold War Certificate. There are two ways to register to obtain the certificate. On-line, go to:

For US residents and APO addresses,
<https://coldwar.army.mil/USappl.asp>

For those with foreign addresses,
<https://coldwar.army.mil/NonUSappl.asp>

(Note that both of these are secure links to protect your privacy, as the SSN or other service number is required.)

For those wishing to register by mail, a sample letter and the mailing address is available on-line. If you don't have a computer, contact your local retiree representative (see page 8), or call the Retiree Activities Office (784-1441) for the sample letter and address.

Individuals must submit a non-returnable copy of the DD Form 214 or other proof of service. This certificate is also awarded to civil service employees for their defense contributions. If you sign up on-line, you are provided a registration number. This must be sent to the address provided along with the supporting documentation, such as DD Form 214, to validate your service.

Osan AB Retiree Activities Office

Laughing Matters

Points to Ponder

- Eagles may soar, but weasels don't get sucked into jet engines.
- Early bird gets the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese.
- If you ain't makin' waves, you ain't kickin' hard enough!
- Join the Army, meet interesting people, kill them.
- The only substitute for good manners is fast reflexes.
- When everything's coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.
- Everyone has a photographic memory. Some don't have film.
- I couldn't repair your brakes, so I made your horn louder
- Who is General Failure, and why is he reading my hard disk?
- Shin: a device for finding furniture in the dark.
- Black holes are where God divided by zero.
- Support bacteria – they're the only culture some people have.
- I tried sniffing Coke once, but the ice cubes got stuck in my nose.
- How do you tell when you run out of invisible ink?
- Did you know one seventh of your life is spent on Mondays?

from the Internet

The Director's Corner

Community Involvement

Are you a participating member of your community? Do you get involved in ways to make your community better? I do now, but it hasn't always been that way. Before becoming involved in retiree activities, I was a non-participant. The base was for active duty people, and I was only concerned with the availability of facilities such as the Commissary and Exchange. At that time, I had a full time job, so I didn't feel I had any time for "community stuff."

Now I realize that I'm actually a member of at least two communities. I belong to the retiree community, a group that has a considerable amount of commonality in background, interests and priorities. And I belong to the Osan Air Base community, because that's where I "live." Of course, I live on the economy, like most other retirees here, but I have more in common with the American community on the base due to language and culture.

I participate on behalf of retirees and widows in three USFK forums: Post Exchange/Commissary Overwatch Council (PCOC), Black Market Working Group (BMWG), and the USFK Chief of Staff's Retiree Council. I participate as a community member of several Osan AB forums, also representing retirees and widows: Base Advisory Council, Health Care Consumer Advisory Council, Base Exchange/ Commissary Advisory Council and the Community Action Information Board.

There are some retirees who think they are not being adequately served or supported by the military community where they live. What I've learned is that by participating in the community, you find out what's going on and you can voice your views on what you think the community needs to serve you and the overall community better. But keep in mind that the priority must always go to the airmen, soldiers, sailors and marines who are serving here. These warriors are the reason the military installations are here and, by and large, the installations are the reason we retirees are here. So I ask you: "What are *you* doing for *your* communities?"

Jack Terwiel

**RETIREE ACTIVITIES OFFICE
51 MSS/CVR
UNIT 2097
APO AP 96278-2097**

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Retiree Representatives in Korea

There are many installations throughout Korea that support a local retiree and widow population. Since it is difficult to deal face-to-face with the Retiree Activities Office (RAO) due to distance involved and time constraints, a network of retiree representatives has been established at the installations where retirees and widows live. These individuals have volunteered to assist in "getting the word out" in their local area, and provide feedback to the RAO.

Twelve installations have been identified and nine of these currently have representatives to provide local assistance and communication with the RAO. These locations and individuals are as follows:

Tongduchon, Camp Casey, Mr. Steve Rhoades, 0351-869-1641, 730-1640

Uijongbu, Camp Red Cloud, Mr. Glen Painter, 0351-870-8662, 732-8662

Seoul, Yongsan, Mr. Bill Horvath, 02-7913-5377, 723-5377

Wonju, Camp Long, Mr. John Holt, 0371-738-3388, 721-3388

Anjongri, Camp Humhreys, Mr. Dale Garringer, 0333-691-8401, 753-8401

Taegu, Camp Henry, Mr. Cris Romero, 053-470-7436, 768-7436

Kunsan, Kunsan AB, Mr. Bob Dunn, 0654-470-5143, 782-5143

Pusan, Camp Hialeah, Mr. Wayne Morris, 051-801-7479, 763-7479

Kwangju, Kwangju AB, Mr. Bill Sharpe, 062-940-6612, 786-6612

I am still trying to get retirees to serve as points of contact at Bupyong, Camp Market; at Chunchon, Camp Page; and at Waegwan, Camp Carroll. In addition to a military telephone, the individual should have a fax machine available, and e-mail access is very desirable. If you'd like to volunteer, call the RAO at 784-1441.

Osan AB Retiree Activities Office

In the Next Issue

Korea Retiree Home Page – Get information on-line and up-to-date
Need a Form? – The RAO stocks some VA, SSA and other forms

continued ►