

TRANSMITTAL, ACTION AND CONTROL

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RECEIVED JUN 09 2008

SGS CONTROL NUMBER	ACTION OFFICE CONTROL NUMBER MPSD-330	SUSPENSE DATE	CLASSIFICATION UUUUU	DATE 27/05/2008
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SUBJECT: ATTACH DOCUMENT DISPLAY DOCUMENT EXTRACT DOCUMENT REMOVE DOCUMENT

Fort Campbell Retiree Council Meeting Minutes

ACTION OFFICE AND SYMBOL MPSD-IMSE-CAM-HRM-RS	ACTION OFFICER/TELEPHONE NUMBER Theodore Faulkner/270-798-5280	FAX NUMBER 270-798-6284	E-MAIL ADDRESS theodore.faulkner@us.army.mil
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END STATE

SIGNATURE APPROVAL INFORMATION
 ADMIN SGS DCSM GC DCS CoS DCG(S) DCG(O) CG

1. PURPOSE. To obtain concurrence from the Garrison Commander prior to forwarding to the ODCSPER (DAPE-RSO) as mandated in AR 600-8-7.

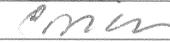
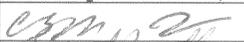
2. SUMMARY. The Fort Campbell Retiree Council held the semi-annual Spring meeting on 22 May, 2008. The minutes of the meeting (attached) are to be reviewed prior to being forwarded to the HQDA Retirement Services Office.

3. RECOMMENDATION. Garrison Commander review and concur with the minutes of the Fall 2007 Retiree Council Meeting.


 FOSTER GOODMAN
 Adjutant General

Approved for GC  6/9/08

ROUTING / COORDINATION / APPROVAL

OFFICE	COMMENTS	NAME	DATE	EXT
DHR	Concur H Jensen	Holt Jensen	6 Jun 08	3511
GCSM			9 Jun 08	
GXO	Concur	Ch Hartman	9 Jun 08	9900
DGC	Concur		6/9/08	
Mr Campbell	Concur	B Sully	9 Jun 08	1658

END STATE AUTHORITY USE APPROVED DISAPPROVED SEE BELOW SEE ME NOTED





REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON, FT CAMPBELL
39 NORMANDY BOULEVARD
FORT CAMPBELL KENTUCKY 42223-5617

IMSE-CAM-HRM-RS

27 May 2008

MEMORANDUM THRU Garrison Commander, Fort Campbell, KY, 42223
FOR ODCSPER (DAPE-RSO), 200 Stovall Street, Alexandria, VA. 22332
SUBJECT: Spring 2008 Fort Campbell Retiree Council Meeting Minutes

1. The Spring 2008 Fort Campbell Retiree Council meeting was held on 22 May, 2008 at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. Members present were:

MG (Ret.) Lindsay Freeman (Chair)	CSM (Ret.) Ron Warrick (Co-Chair)
MG (Ret.) Greg Gile	COL (Ret.) Joseph Britton
COL (Ret.) John Patrick	LTC (Ret.) Mary Bryant
LTC (Ret.) Larry Causey	LTC (Ret.) Ray Eldridge
LTC (Ret.) Earl McDowell	MAJ (Ret.) James Taylor
CSM Sidney Brown	SGM (Ret.) Johnny Graben
SGM (Ret.) James Motley	ISG (Ret.) Willard Eldridge
MSG (Ret.) Robert McBee	SFC (Ret.) Glenn McBee

Mr. Theodore Faulkner, Fort Campbell Retirement Services Officer
Mr. Steve Hickman, Fort Campbell Assistant Retirement Services Officer
Ms. Patricia Raikes, Secretary
Members absent: COL Joseph Britton, SFC Larry Cannon

2. The council was given a VIP tour of Fort Campbell by the PAO/Protocol offices. The Garrison Commander, COL Frederick Swope, presented the "City of Fort Campbell" briefing to the council. COL Swope answered council member's questions and offered to come to Retiree Council meetings so members could spend more time with him in the future. The council then toured Fort Campbell where they visited the Fisher House, Pratt Museum and the "Engagement Skills Trainer" where all were able to take part in the training. After completion, the formal meeting was held at the Eagle Conference Room. The meeting was called to order by MG Freeman at 1300. MG Freeman notified the council that member Major Nick Hutcherson had resigned due to health issues. Mr. Faulkner then briefed the agenda and then went over the contents of the packet of information given to each member.

3. MG Freeman discussed old business with a review of CSA Retiree Council Issues. Mr. Faulkner briefed that one of our issues was rejected. MG Freeman asked how we receive feedback on why issues were rejected as several of the same or similar topics were considered and there were issues that were considered but not supported. Mr. Faulkner explained that the Deputy RSO for HQDA, Mr. Gary Quintero, was supposed to notify all councils that had an issue rejected one month prior to the annual CSA Retiree Council meeting. One idea on why the proposal was not

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forwarded for consideration was that it is too costly for the Army to transfer GI Bill educational benefits. No "pot of money" for GI Bill educational benefits exists. At a time when retention is a major issue, the council agreed it would be wise to allow the transfer to provide "one more tool in the toolbox" to entice Soldiers to reenlist. There were questions on whether the other services were transferring these benefits. Mr. Faulkner said he would find out and notify the council. MG Gile said he would personally contact Mr. Radke to determine why issues are not forwarded to the council for consideration.

4. MG Freeman then began the discussion of new business, beginning with Retiree Appreciation Day (RAD) 2008. Mr. Faulkner explained planning for the RAD to date. This year the Passenger Processing Center (PPC) will be used due to its size. Last year Cole Park Commons was barely large enough for the 500+ Retirees and family members. This year 700-800 are expected to attend. The PPC has three large bays for our use.

a. Mr. Faulkner explained that parking should not be an issue. There are 89 paved parking spaces that will be specifically for handicapped Retirees. In addition there is a large gravel parking lot that will hold at least 240 cars within a 100 meter walk of the PPC. COL Patrick recommended the use of Golf Carts to ferry Retirees and family members to the PPC.

b. LTG Rochelle, former G-1 of the 101st Airborne Division, is the tentative guest speaker. We will not know if he is locked in until 90 days out from the RAD. If he cannot attend, we will try to get the Chief, Army Retirement Services, Mr. Radke or the Garrison Commander.

c. Mr. Faulkner talked of how Veterans Service Organizations (VSO) are aging, with the preponderance of older veterans and few younger Retirees. He asked if the council would allow more VSOs to attend and speak at the RAD. All members agreed it would be a good idea. COL Patrick recommended MOAA and AUSA. CSM Warrick cautioned that there were numerous VSOs that have been established since 9/11 and we would not want a huge group of them at the RAD. It was decided that the following would be invited to attend: AUSA, VFW, DAV, MOAA, and NAUS.

d. Mr. Faulkner added that Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR) would be co-sponsoring the event with the Retirement Services Office. This is due to the fact that appropriated funds cannot be used to pay for food, drinks, etc. The funding received from outside, civilian organizations and businesses will allow for maximum flexibility in planning and holding the event. Mr. Faulkner said there would be a page of the Retiree Bulletin devoted to Fort Campbell MWR and future events.

e. A sub-council was created to assist with the planning and conduct of the event. The following council members volunteered to be on the sub-council: LTC Bryant, CSM Warrick, SGM Cain, CSM Brown, SGM Graben, and MSG McBee. The date for the first meeting of the sub-council has yet to be set.

5. ISG Eldridge opened a discussion about veteran's tax benefits and whether it was possible to push for national veteran's tax breaks. Specific benefits for veterans living in Tennessee were

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shown. The majority of benefits were for veterans with high disability ratings. Mr. Hickman commented that the website "My Army Benefits" had information about benefits for veterans by state and gave the website address. It was decided that there was too little extra money to try to do anything at this time.

6. Mr. Faulkner briefed the results of the recent AAFES/Commissary Advisory Council Meeting.

a. The commissary reset is complete. Many council members expressed that they could not find anything since the reset. Mr. Faulkner said there was a map available just inside the front door and there was also a listing at www.commissaries.com.

b. A new Commissary has been funded and construction will begin in early January 2009 with a scheduled completion date of early 2011. The location will be where AG row used to be, between the Eagles Conference Room and the outdoor portion of the museum.

c. There will be a mini-case lot sale in Knoxville on 2-4 August. Mr. Faulkner will attempt to turn this into a min-RAD for East Tennessee. He will be in contact with officials at the ANG base in Knoxville to see what support can be provided. COL Patrick, SFC McBee, and 1SG Eldridge will assist with getting the word out. All ID Card holders are authorized to attend the sale.

d. Check readers have changed the check writing procedures at the Commissary. Now the check is "read" by the system and it is immediately determined if funds are available, similar to a debit card. Major Taylor wanted to know how he is supposed to use the cancelled check as proof if the check is given back to him. Mr. Faulkner suggested the check is stamped while in the machine.

e. CSM Warrick commented that while the parking lines had been re-painted at the PX, they still were not conducive to parking. He recommended that they be re-painted at an angle depending on the direction of flow.

f. Council members wanted to know how to get information on when the next case lot sale would be. Mr. Faulkner recommended www.commissaries.com and also said he would push the information to the members via email as soon as he found out himself.

7. Mr. Faulkner then briefed a legislative update. The NDAA 2008 was signed by the President on 28 January, 2008. This bill has wide ranging effects for veterans and Retirees.

a. Chapter 61 Retirees (medical retirement) are now eligible to file for compensation under the Combat Related Special Compensation (CRSC) program. While the formula used to determine compensation under CRSC is different and the compensation much less for Chapter 61 Retirees, at least this is a step in the right direction. Members were asked to have anyone interested in applying for CRSC contact either Mr. Faulkner or Mr. Hickman for assistance, as they are both CRSC Ambassadors.

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b. The paid up provision of SBP takes effect on October 1, 2008. Any Retiree that has paid 360 payments and is 70 years old no longer will make payments to SBP.

c. TRICARE fees have been locked in at current rate until the end of the fiscal year. We will not know if there is to be an increase in TRICARE costs until the new NDAA comes out. Mr. Faulkner spoke about the DoD Task Force on the Future of Military Health Care recommendations to increase TRICARE fees and pharmacy benefits. Most council members agreed that if there was to be an increase, it should not exceed the annual cost of living increase. Mr. Faulkner mentioned that all council members should contact constituents to call their Congressmen to let them know how they feel about TRICARE increases.

d. The Social Security/SBP offset went away on 1 April, 2008. The full 55% of base amount will be paid to all survivors from now on.

8. The last item on the agenda was the Retiree Bulletin. Mr. Faulkner spoke about plans for a larger bulletin this year. Last year the bulletin was eight pages. This year it will be twelve. The cost last year was around \$9,600.00. The amount budgeted is \$12,000.00 so the extra pages should not be an issue.

a. Mr. Faulkner solicited ideas for articles from the council and recommended they send the ideas to him via email so he could research and write the articles. COL Patrick suggested an article about where to find information about retirement and retirement related areas of interest.

b. A deadline for article ideas was to be the end of May to allow time to write them.

9. A tentative date for the Fall 2008 meeting was not set but the end of September or early October was considered the right timeframe. Mr. Faulkner will pick several dates and send them via email to the council and the set a date.

10. The meeting was adjourned at 1515 by MG Freeman.

11. POC for this is the undersigned at 270-798-5280.



THEODORE W. FAULKNER
Retirement Services Officer