



# SOUTH OF THE ALPS



## Vol II, Issue 6 FINANCE NEWSLETTER July 2002

Bravo Detachment, 208th FB, Vicenza, Italy

### TRICARE DENTAL PROGRAM (TDP):

All inquires concerning TDP premiums must be directed to the contractor. If you just arrived in Europe and wish to cancel your policy or dis-enroll from the program please contact United Concordia Companies Incorporated (UCCI) at 1-800-866-8499 or refer to their web site [WWW.UCCI.COM](http://WWW.UCCI.COM).

All inquiries concerning enrollment in the TDP must be referred to (UCCI) at 1-888-622-2256. Operators are available from 7pm Sunday through 8pm Friday, ET.

There has been some confusion as Finance **cannot** start, stop, decrease or increase your allotments. These inputs are restricted to the UCCI contractor.

For more information, SETAF has a Tricare Dental Liaison. To speak directly to a TRICARE Medical Services coordinator, contact the USA Health Clinic Vicenza at DSN 634-6656 or Com 0444-51-6656.



PROUDLY SERVING OUR  
MILITARY COMMUNITIES

ITALY: US EMBASSY, ROME

POGGIO RENATICO

VERONA/AVIANO

NAPLES

CAMP DARBY

SPAIN: MADRID

GREECE: US EMBASSY, ATHENS

LARISSA

TURKEY: ANKARA

IZMIR

INCIRLIK

PORTUGAL: LISBON

### THRIFT SAVINGS PLAN (TSP) OPEN SEASON:

Is TSP for you? If you are undecided, visit the 266<sup>th</sup> FINCOM home page for a question and answer brief at <https://www.266fc.hqusareur.army.mil/>

Just a reminder that the TSP window to enroll will close this month on 31 July.

The quickest and easiest method of enrollment is Employee Member Self Service (EMSS). Just signed on your account, select the TSP option and enroll on-line.

For those of you who do not have an EMSS pin number, visit the TSP website, print the enrollment form and submit to your PAC.

### Inside This Issue

- 1 Hardship Duty Pay-Location (HDP-L) update
- 2 Setting Financial goals
- 3 Check your Travel Settlement Online
- 4 Career Service Bonus (CSB) Payments
- 5 New Travel Voucher (1351-2)

**Bravo Blaze, Keep the fire burning!!!**

# MONEY MATTERS

➤ **CAREER SERVICE BONUS (CSB):** On 24 June, 2002, a change was implemented to the processing of the Career Service Bonus (CSB). Soldiers must now choose the method of payment (lump sum or installments) and submit this along with their application. This change requires the soldier to complete an Interim Form II in addition to the DD Form 2839.

Members who entered the service after July 31, 1986, have a choice of retirement plans at their 15<sup>th</sup> year of service. There are two options:

- 1) Take the pre – 1986 retirement system (High –3)
- 2) Elect to receive a one-time lump-sum Career Status Bonus (CSB) and have their retired pay computed under the post 1986 retirement system commonly known as REDUX.

For more information visit [WWW.ODCSPER.ARMY.MIL](http://WWW.ODCSPER.ARMY.MIL). Your POC in SETAF is Mr. Peter Luste at DSN 634-8478.

➤ **NEW TRAVEL VOUCHER (DD 1351-2):** The revised Travel Voucher, dated July 2002, can be obtained by going to the following website: <http://web1.whs.osd.mil/forms/dd1351-2.PDF>

➤ **TRAVEL VOUCHER PAYMENT INFORMATION:** Checking your travel settlement has never been easier. You submitted your settlement claim to Finance and you want to know how much your settlement came to and if it has posted to your account. As soon as your payment is processed, the information is posted to the following website. <https://portal.ssg.gunter.af.mil/tpq2/>

➤ **HARDSHIP DUTY PAY - LOCATION:** The Assistant Secretary of Defense (FMP) has signed a memorandum dated 23 May, 2002, that designates Eskisehir, Turkey and Kenya as HDP-L locations at the rate of \$50 and \$100 respectively.

➤ **DO YOU HAVE FINANCIAL GOALS?** Learn the basics to establishing a budget and setting financial goals by visiting the 266<sup>th</sup> FINCOM's Financial Readiness Improvement Program at <https://www.266fc.hqsareur.army.mil> and get started now!



I BONDS = 2.57%

## Buy Bonds

[www.savingsbonds.gov](http://www.savingsbonds.gov)

**Current Rates:** (through Oct. 2002)



EE BONDS = 3.96%

New rates will be posted on Nov 1, 2002



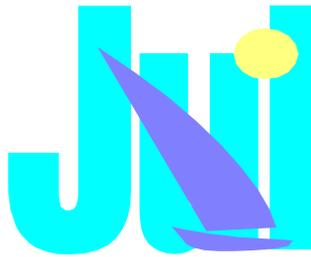
**RESERVE/NG DEPLOYMENT INFORMATION:**

Civilian Personnel Memorandum 2001-09 addresses employment rights and benefits of Federal Civilian employees who are called to active duty. Benefits explained include pay, military leave, annual leave, leave without pay, lump-sum leave payments, health benefits, life insurance, retirement, thrift savings plan, and returning to civilian duty. For more in-depth information, you may visit the following website:

<http://cpol.army.mil/library/911info/911mobil.html>

**Civilian Deployment/Mobilization**

SECRETARIES MARTINEZ AND RUMSFELD ANNOUNCE MORTGAGE RATE CUT FOR RECALLED GUARDSMEN AND RESERVISTS: Beginning on Tuesday, September 25, HUD will activate a toll-free number for servicemen and women with questions concerning their mortgage. For more information, call 1-888-297-8685 between the hours of 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. on weekdays.



**CALENDAR**

- **Payday** **01**
- **Midmo Cutoff (units)** **03**
- **July 4<sup>th</sup> Fed Hol** **04**
- **USAREUR Tng Ho I** **05**
- **Midmo NPA distro** **12**
- **Midmonth Payday** **15**
- **EOM cutoff (units)** **19**
- **LES Distro** **29**



*FISCAL YEAR 2002  
MILITARY PAYDAYS*

JUL 2002-----01 AUG  
 AUG 2002-----30 AUG  
 SEP 2002-----01 OCT



Military Report.com  
[www.militaryreport.com](http://www.militaryreport.com)

- JULY 01, ISSUE
- Postal rates going up.
  - Pentagon seeks tougher penalties for credit card abuse.
- JUNE 24, ISSUE
- SGLI Cap may Quadruple
  - Air Force society aims to aid needy.
- JUNE 17, ISSUE
- TRICARE Operation Fraud Watch



[www.defenselink.mil/news](http://www.defenselink.mil/news)

**DEFENSE LINK:**  
 The defense link web site contains a wealth of information on both Military News as well as a broad spectrum of finance news and information.

# Soldiers on the Move

## Just PCS'd to Europe?

If your duty assignment location is anywhere *South of the Alps* to include Italy, Turkey, Greece, Spain, or Portugal, B Det, 208th FB will be responsible for your military pay, travel, and finance issues. We consider it a privilege to be able to provide finance support to you.

Overseas Entitlements you need to be aware of .

**Temporary Lodging Allowance (TLA):** *payable while residing in temporary quarters prior to your receipt of permanent housing. Paid with your normal pay in your LES.*

• **Overseas Housing Allowance (OHA):** *For economy type quarters-not Government housing.*

• **Moving In Housing Allowance (MIHA):** *Payable in conjunction with OHA for misc expenses. This is a one time payment paid in your LES.*

• **Advance Station Housing Allowance (ASHA):** *For moving in deposits required for economy quarters (OHA contracts only).*

• **Cost of Living Allowance (COLA):** *To offset expense of living in Europe.*

• **Tri-care Dental Insurance:** *Not needed while stationed in Europe.*

• **Valued Added Tax (VAT):** *You may be tax exempt for some purchases on the economy. For more information contact your legal office or Financial Management division (FMD).*

## Deploying Soon?

Your tour in Europe could very possibly include a rotation to one of several deployment locations to include Bosnia, Hungary, Croatia, Macedonia, or Kosovo. In the event you are required to deploy to one of these locations referred to as “down range” it is very important that you understand your pay entitlements.

Deployment Entitlements:

**Hostile Fire Pay/Imminent Danger Pay:** *payable at \$150 per month if location is authorized.*

• **Combat Zone Tax Exclusion (CZTE):** *Some designated location offer tax exemption.*

• **Family Separation Allowance (FSA):** *Payable at the rate of \$100 per month if you qualify.*

• **Per Diem:** *Standard is \$3.50 per day.*

• **Special Leave Accrual:** *You may qualify to carry more than the normal 60 days into next FY.*

• **Saving Deposit Program (SDP):** *You may be able to earn a guaranteed 10% on money you deposit while deployed.*

**The 266th FINCOM has an excellent web site that will provide you information on each one of these topics**

[www.266fc.hqusareur.army.mil](http://www.266fc.hqusareur.army.mil)

## PCSing back to the States?

You have successfully completed your European tour and now it is time to PCS back to the United States. Some of the entitlements that you have become accustomed to receiving will no longer be paid upon your return to CONUS. Here are some things you should know.

• **Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH):** *Once you terminate your lease or government quarters, you will be entitled to BAH II (table rate) until you arrive at your new duty station--will be updated there.*

• **COLA:** *Your overseas COLA terminates immediately upon your return to CONUS.*

• **Temporary Lodging Expense (TLE):** *Upon arrival in CONUS, you may be entitled to TLE for some expenses incurred during your PCS. Claim this on your travel voucher while in-processing.*

• **Tri-care Dental Insurance:** *This is a good time to start your Dental Insurance back up as you may need it stateside.*

• **Temporary Lodging Allowance (TLA):** *Payable while residing in temporary quarters prior to your Departure. Paid with your normal pay in your LES.*

• **MIHA Paint:** *If you entered into an OHA contract requiring you to paint your economy quarters, you may be entitled to re-imburement. Your local housing office can assist.*

# POINTS OF CONTACT

BRAVO DETACHMENT, 208TH FINANCE BATTALION  
UNIT 31401, BOX 50  
APO AE 09630

## VICENZA, ITALY

COMMANDER	634-7024
DET SGT	634-7044
XO	634-7612
SEPARATIONS	634-8855
DISBURSING	634-7622
IMO	634-8866
MILITARY PAY	634-7455
TRAVEL	634-8027
COM ACCTS	634-8994
ACCOUNTING	634-7251
LN PAY	634-7019
IN/OUT PROC	634-7531



## CAMP DARBY, ITALY UNIT 31301, BOX 48, APO AE 09613

FST CHIEF 633-7516

## NAPLES, ITALY

FST CHIEF HQ USAE FINANCE PSC 813 , BOX 156, APO AE 09620

## MADRID, SPAIN

FST CHIEF JHQSW USANSA, PSC 840, BOX 14, FPO AE 09649

## LARISSA, GREECE

FST CHIEF US ARMY NATO PSC 844, BOX 2, FPO AE 09844

## IZMIR, TURKEY

FST CHIEF USAE, LSE PSC 88, APO AE 09821

## ANKARA, TURKEY

POC ODC TURKEY, PSC 90, UNIT 7025, APO AE 09824

672-2259/3280





## THE SOLDIER

**It is the soldier, not the reporter,  
who has given us freedom of press,**

**It is the soldier, not the poet,  
who has given us freedom of speech.**

**It is the soldier, not the campus  
organizer,**

**who has given us freedom to  
demonstrate.**

**It is the soldier, not the lawyer,  
who has given us the right to a fair  
trial.**

**It is the soldier,**

**Who salutes the flag,**

**Who serves under the flag,**

**and whose coffin is draped by the flag.**

**TO SUPPORT AND SERVE**

# MPS

COMMANDER  
B DET, 208<sup>TH</sup> FB  
UNIT 31401, BOX 50  
APO AE, 09630

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## Feedback Form

Please take a few minutes to provide suggestions as to how we may improve our service to you.

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