

WHY Letter Questions Priorities

Do you have a complaint or suggestion to perhaps a suggestion which would improve facilities or morale here at NKP? If so, why not take advantage of the commander's WHY Letter Program?

The WHY Letter Program is a perfect means of bringing

Thailand Base Exchanges Begin Layaway Services

Thailand Base Exchanges have implemented a layaway purchasing plan designed to ease the pain on pocketbooks strained by too many cash payments.

In order to qualify for layaway, the selling price of an item or group of items must exceed \$25, and a minimum down payment of 10 per cent of total selling price is required.

Remainder of the amount due will be divided into three equal monthly payments. First payment is due within 30 days, the second within 60 days and the final payment within 90 days of the date of initial sale agreement.

All payments must be made at the branch which holds the layaway merchandise, and partial payment may be made at any time.

Merchandise can be picked up when full sale price has been paid, at which time guarantee terms become effective.

If an account becomes delinquent the purchaser will be notified. If it remains delinquent the merchandise will be returned to stock. Should the purchaser change his mind, the item is also returned to stock. In either event, the full amount paid to that point will be refunded.

Social Security Goes To Dog Tags As AF Abandons Serial Numbers

WASHINGTON-Social Security account numbers (SSAN) replaced Air Force service numbers as primary military personnel identifier July 1, and will be entered on military identification tags commonly known as Dog Tags.

It will be some time, however, before all Air Force identification tags are brought up to date.

In order to avoid the excessive workload involved in changing more than 800,000 tags, Air Force intends a gradual phase-in program. Existing tags will be updated at annual records reviews. Updating can also be

done at any convenient time before records review.

Meantime, Air Force will work to update tags of members engaged in field training exercises, operations or crew duty.

Members and their families being processed for overseas movement or return to the United States will have their tags updated during processing.

In any case, officials said, ID tags will not be done over merely to comply with SSAN requirements. Reaccomplishment will be done only for such valid reasons as insufficient space for required entries, correction of errors, change of name or religion. (AFNS)

Operations Wing, or his representative. Following is one of the latest WHY Letters received and the action which was taken in this case:

Question:

WHY do we have mail bumped from aircraft at Don Muang RTAFB? What is so important that it can get our mail bumped and cause our morale to sink even lower?

WHY don't we try to set up a priority on mail so that it will not be bumped in the future?

Signed: Sgt. Ricky Jones.

Answer:

Mail has a very high priority; however, certain personnel movements and hot supply movements have bumped mail in the past. This is held to a minimum, but has happened 25 times since Jan. 1. The Bangkok Air Mail Terminal advised Thirteenth Air Force of this situation June 3 and requested relief to assure prompt mail delivery. While we expect improvements, we can also anticipate some recurrences due to high priorities. Signed: Col. Thomas B. Carter, commander, 56th Combat Support Group.

Paralyzed Boy Wants Military Insignia, Pins

Steve Bailey is looking for insignia of military units and veteran's organizations to add to his growing collection. Can anyone at NKP help?

Steve, a 16-year-old from Highlands, Calif., is paralyzed for life—the result of a broken neck suffered in an accident.

Despite his handicap, Steve has developed a cheerful, positive attitude toward life that is an inspiration to those far around him. As a matter of fact, he has been selected senior class president at his high school.

The determined youth has undertaken a hobby to occupy his time when he is not reading, studying or watching television—he collects military insignia of all kinds.

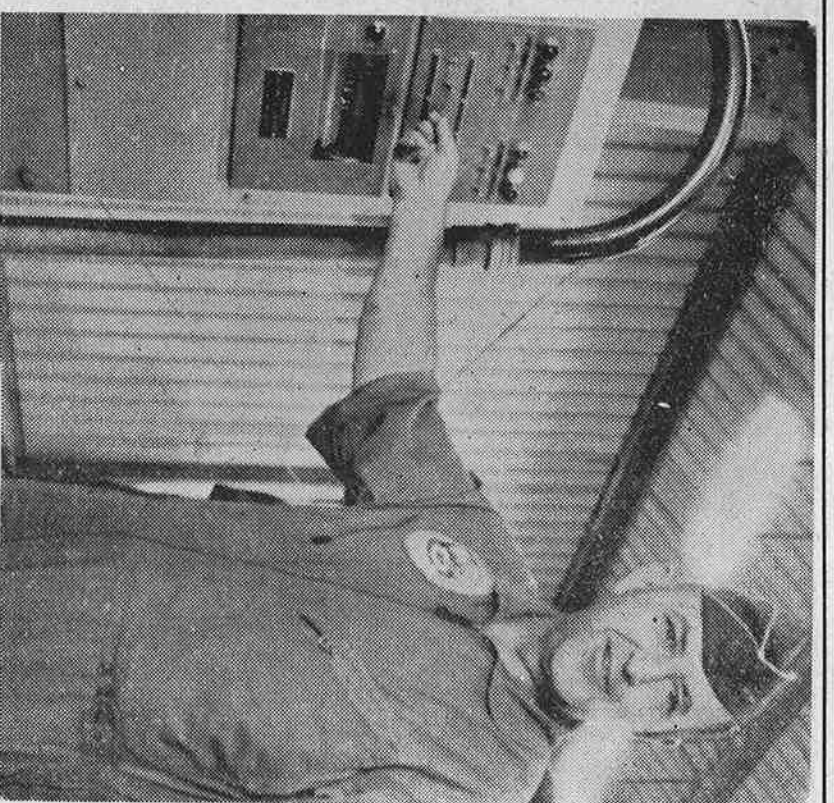
He is putting together a collection of division patches, regimental crests, job patches, rank insignia, cap pins "anything that is pinned or sewed to the military uniform," according to his trend, Alfred T. Adams.

Adams asked California Congressman Jerry L. Pettis for assistance in gathering as many of these items as possible. They were able to obtain a few insignia from a New Jersey manufacturer, but the list is far from complete.

NKP News has been asked to appeal to men stationed here to send whatever insignia they wish. Those desiring to contribute may send their items in care of Congressman Jerry L. Pettis, 427 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, D. C., 20515.

Weather Forecast

The weatherman for NKP (Piston Pete) forecasts heavy rains for this area with gradual clearing around September.



Power On . . .

Maj. Gen. Kenneth C. Dempster, vice commander, Thirteenth Air Force, activates the switch that set new base laundry facilities into operation here. (U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO By Sgt. Skip Hewlett)

New Base Laundry Opens; Eliminates Linen Shortage

A new laundry has opened here, capable of handling all organizational linens on base, including those used by the hospital, dining hall, U.S. Army units and Thai Air Force.

The new facility, to be used strictly for linens, has two giant washing machines and four dryers. Each washing machine has a 300-pound capacity, enabling the laundry to process approximately 450 sheets and 975 pillowcases per hour.

Asked about future plans to expand the laundry, TSgt. George N. Harris, noncommissioned officer in charge, said,

"Nor do we have drycleaning capability. All organizational flying suits and equipment of this nature will still be sent to a commercial concern for drycleaning."

Previously, all linens on base were laundered in three low-capacity washing machines of the home appliance variety. These units are no longer being used.

FAC's Outstanding Heroism Wins Top Air Force Medal

Lt. Col. Karl T. Feuerriegel received the Air Force Cross in Washington for extraordinary heroism as a forward air controller in the Republic of Vietnam (RVN) Tet Offensive of 1968.

Award of the decoration, second only to the Medal of Honor, was made by Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. McConnell.

Colonel Feuerriegel, who is now assigned to Air Force Headquarters in the Pentagon, earned award Jan. 30, 1968, as pilot of a Cessna 0-2 aircraft over Nha Trang.

Then a member of the 21st Tactical Air Support Squadron, Nha Trang AB, RVN, he was cited for action when "despite great personal risk from heavy automatic weapons fire, he repeatedly attacked hostile positions in an 0-2 aircraft armed with high explosive rockets. He systematically silenced three-machine gun positions and neutralized two fortified hostile companies, thereby preventing the annihilation of beleaguered friendly units."

Colonel Feuerriegel, 52, Phoenix, Ariz., was commended for his superb airmanship and aggressiveness which saved friendly forces from a large, well-equipped hostile force that had overrun Nha Trang.

The enemy intended to empty the local jail, thus releasing a number of prisoners to their side. The colonel's attack by air kept the enemy so busy they were unable to move effectively against friendly forces, the citation said.

Credit Union Offers New High Dividend

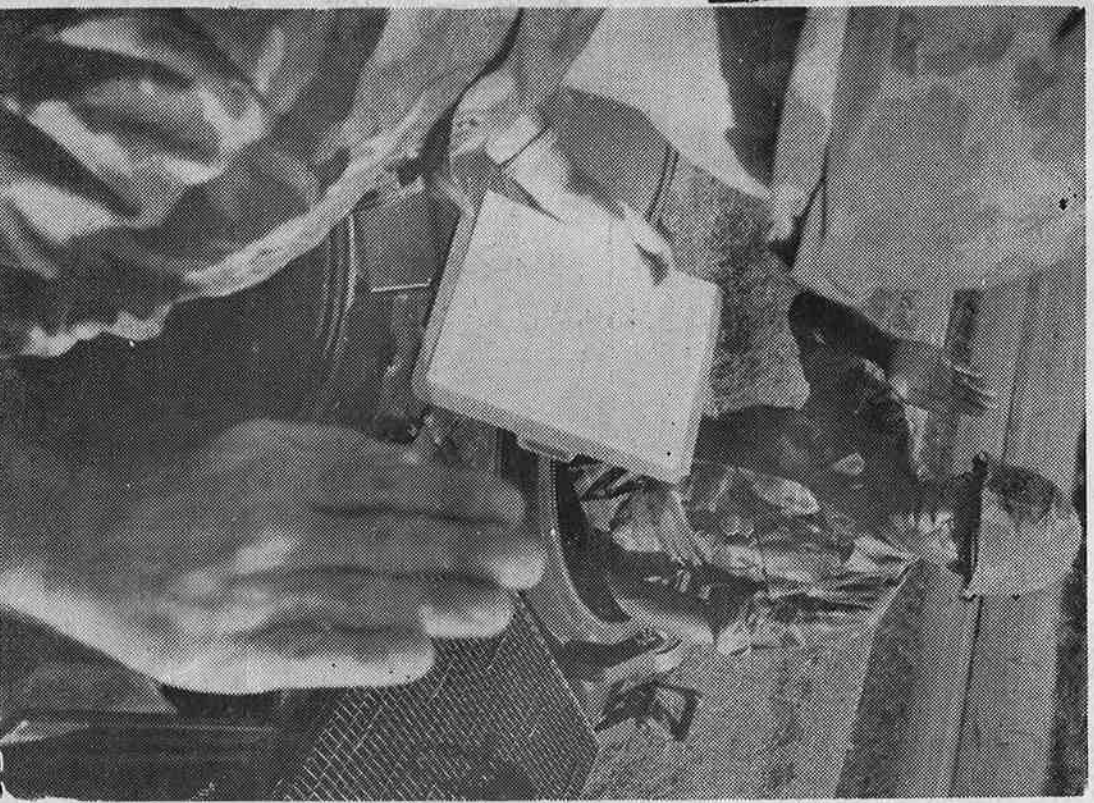
Board of Directors of the Pentagon Federal Credit Union (PFCU), have declared a dividend on share (savings) accounts for the six-month period which ended June 30 at an annual rate of 5.25 percent.

Dividends were credited to accounts of PFCU's 55,000 members July 1. This is the seventh dividend increase voted by PFCU's Board since June 1965.

Persons eligible for PFCU membership include: Army and Air Force officers on active duty.

Overseas Army and Air Force enlisted personnel and civilian employees who are not members of another credit union authorized to serve them while overseas.

Persons at Nakhon Phanom who are interested in joining PFCU may address correspondence to: Pentagon Federal Credit Union, P.O. Box 9135, Rosslyn Station, Arlington, Va., 22209.



"I, Robert A. Palmer . . ."

Sgt. Robert A. Palmer, 56th Security Police Squadron, accepts the oath of enlistment during a break in his duty of patrolling NKP's jungle perimeter in a half-track. The oath was administered by Maj. Robert V. Jones, chief, Security and Law Enforcement and commander, 56th SPS. (U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO By Sgt. Russell Parrish)