



**FINANCE Newsletter**  
**Alpha Detachment, 176<sup>th</sup> Finance Battalion, Yongsan Korea**  
**August 2003 Edition**



**Travel Payment Enhancements**

Service members in Korea can now make partial payments to the Government Travel Credit Card (GTCC) account. Effective 1 September 2003, travelers who use the government travel card must specify an amount paid to the GTCC when they file their travel settlement voucher. In addition, all travel settlements now include an email sent to the traveler's AKO email address that states the amount paid to the traveler and any optional payments to the GTCC. Travelers who do not have access to AKO should refer to the customer service instructions at the AKO website ([www.us.army.mil](http://www.us.army.mil)). An Advice of Payment, the summary of each traveler's payment, now appears for six months on the traveler's myPay account. Soldiers and Army Civilians that do not have a Personal Identification Number (PIN) password to access myPay may obtain a temporary Pin via the myPay website (<https://mypay.dfas.mil>). The PIN will be sent to the individual's AKO email account.

**Temporary Lodging Allowance**

The 176<sup>th</sup> Finance BN has a direct-pay agreement with the Dragon Hill Lodge. This agreement relieves active duty service members of the burden of lodging expenses while in a Temporary Lodging Allowance (TLA) status. This means that service members do not have to pay their hotel bill when they check out of the DHL. Finance will deduct the amount of the lodging from the member's TLA and pay it directly to the DHL. In the following month's LES the soldier will have an entry in the entitlements column called "TLA". This will be the amount for meals only. The lodging payment will not be on the LES. If the traveler stays at an off-post hotel then the member should bring the Statement to Substantiate TLA from Housing, original receipts from the hotel, and a copy of their PCS orders to the finance office.

**Thrift Savings Plan "Catch-up" Contributions**

If you are age 50 or older by December 31, 2003 and you are already contributing 8% of your base pay to TSP contributions, you may elect to make up to \$2,000 in "catch-up" contributions for 2003. Civilians should use Form [TSP-1-C](#), and service members use Form [TSP-U-1-C](#) which are available at [www.tsp.gov](http://www.tsp.gov) or your local finance office. Catch-up contributions may be made at any time. The next TSP open season is 15 October-31 December 2003.

**Points of Contact**

<u>SECTION</u>	<u>PHONE NO.</u>
176 <sup>th</sup> Finance Bn Commander	725-8838
176 <sup>th</sup> Finance BN CSM	723-7959
A Detachment Commander	723-7699
A Detachment XO	723-7463
A Detachment Sergeant	723-7463
Chief of Military Pay	723-3562
In and Out Processing/PCS Travel	723-5676
Customer Service	723-8453
Processing	723-3589
TDY Travel	723-8257
Separations	723-5676
Reserve Pay	723-5812
175 <sup>th</sup> FINCOM website	<a href="http://175fincom.korea.army.mil">http://175fincom.korea.army.mil</a>
Finance Hotline for Unresolved Military or Civilian Pay Inquiries	725-CASH

*OFFICE HOURS*

M, T, W, F 0900-1600 (Open During Lunch)

The Disbursing Cashier Cage closes at 1600 on M, T, W, F and Thursdays at 1500.

NOTE: Finance is CLOSED every Thursday for Sergeants Time Training. This does not include the cashier's cage.