

**AREA IV
COUGAR CHRONICLE**

SEPTEMBER 2003

YOUR ROAD MAP TO MILITARY PAY ISSUES

OFFICE HOURS

Main Finance (Bldg 1685)

0900-1600 M-W, F

In & Out Proc. (Bldg 1103)

0900-1600 M-W, F

Camp Carroll (Bldg T-138)

0900-1600 M-W, F

Cust. Svc. 765-8697/8504/8774

Camp Hialeah (Bldg T-251)

0900-1600 M-W, F

763-7303/7370

FINANCE NUMBERS

| | |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Battalion Commander | 725-8838 |
| Battalion CSM | 723-7959 |
| Detachment Commander | 768-8449 |
| Detachment Sergeant | 768-7979 |
| Customer Service | 768-6944//7519 |
| Travel | 768-7658 |
| Disbursing | 768-6927 |
| In/Out Processing | 768-7022/7416 |

FINANCE BRIEFINGS

In-processing Briefings are held from 0900-1100 M-W & F at Bldg 1103 for all Army soldiers in Area IV. Soldiers should have 7 copies of all orders, along with 5 copies of the following: plane tickets, DA 31, DA 4187 (for hometown recruiting), any statements of non-availability, and TDY/DLA advances. **Starting OCT 15th In-processing will be conducted at the main finance office, Bldg S-1685.**

Out-processing Briefings are held from 1000-1100 every Tuesday at the Camp Henry Theater. Soldiers should bring 7 copies of orders, a working copy of DA 31 (leave form), and 1 copy of travel itinerary or port-call. Soldiers assigned to Cp Hialeah can visit their local office for out-processing. Soldiers **MUST ATTEND** an Out-processing Briefing NLT 30 days before their DEROS.

FINANCE HOTLINE

The 175th FINCOM accepts military and civilian pay inquiries at Korea-wide DSN 725-CASH and via the 175th FINCOM website.

PAC REPRESENTATIVES

Each Battalion has a finance representative assigned to their PACs for the purposes of tracking performance and dealing with issues.

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|-----------|--|
| 765-7235 | 307 th SIG BN 6 th ORD BN 23 rd CHEM BN |
| 765-8697 | 16 th MEDLOG B Co, 524 th MI USA Mt. SPT |
| 768-7416 | 20 th SPT GRP 19thTSC |
| 768-6944 | C, 516 th PSB 76 th MP (CID) |
| 768-7658 | CSCT2 |
| 763-7303 | 4 th QM 837 th TRANS |
| 768- 6944 | 36 th SIG BN 168 th MED BN DLA Pacific |
| 768-6125 | 728 th MP BN E Co, 160 th SOAR |

HOT TOPICS

TSP Open Season: Open season for the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) begins 15 October and runs through 31 December. TSP is a voluntary supplementary retirement savings and investment plan. TSP open season is the chance for service members to start or change the amount of their contributions to TSP. During the open season, soldiers can elect to contribute up to the **new limit of 9%** of their base pay plus up to 100% of incentive and special pays. The form to start or change TSP contributions, TSP-U-1, is available at the finance office or www.tsp.gov, where you can also find more valuable information about TSP. Soldiers can also begin participation in the TSP program from the myPay website: (<https://mypay.dfas.mil/mypay.asp>) during the open season.

Cost of Living Allowance (COLA): Are you getting paid the right COLA? Check with your Battalion S1 to ensure you are! Rates are available at: www.dtic.mil/perdiem/ocform.html.

CONUS COLA: Many zip codes for BAH purposes are also authorized cost of living allowance for your dependents in the states, you can query at www.dtic.mil/perdiem for more information, check and see if you are authorized!

TDY Voucher Turn-in: All vouchers must have appropriate documentation and supervisor signature in block 20c on the July 2002 1351-2 Form.