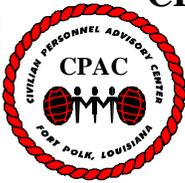




**JOINT READINESS TRAINING CENTER AND FORT POLK
CPAC, NON-APPROPRIATED FUND (NAF)
FORT POLK, LOUISIANA 71459-5341**



*“ARMY CIVILIAN PERSONNEL PROFESSIONALS--
HELPING LEADERS MEET THE MISSION”*



NAF NEWS BULLETIN
NUMBER 01

JANUARY 2003

HAPPY NEW YEAR

NAF Personnel sends New Year's greetings to all. Hopefully, everyone had a very enjoyable Holiday Season and has returned to work safely, filled with enthusiasm for the New Year. This New Year begins with many significant events unfolding. Let's move out and resolve to do even better in this New Year than we've ever done before.



DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY

Each year on the third Monday of January, schools, federal offices, post offices and banks across America close as we celebrate the birth, the life and the dream of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. It is a time for the nation to remember the injustices that Dr. King struggled against. A time to remember his fight for the freedom, equality, and dignity of all races and peoples. A time remember the message of change through nonviolence. Let's all join in celebrating the day which provides us an



inspiration to be the nation our forefathers envisioned.



2003 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

New Year's Day
Wednesday, 1 January 2003



Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Monday, 20 January 2003



Washington's Birthday
Monday, 17 February 2003

Memorial Day
Monday, 26 May 2003

Independence Day
Friday, 4 July 2003



Labor Day
Monday, 1 September 2003

Columbus Day
Monday, 13 October 2003



Veteran's Day
Tuesday, 11 November 2003

Thanksgiving Day
Thursday, 27 November 2003

Christmas Day
Thursday, 25 December 2003

CONTENTS

Happy New Year	Pg. 1
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day	Pg. 1
2003 Holiday Schedule	Pg. 1
Benefits Notes	Pg. 2
Travelers Beware	Pg. 2
FORSCOM Safety Message	Pg. 2

BENEFITS NOTES

BI-WEEKLY HEALTH INSURANCE PREMIUM RATES FOR 2003

The rates for medical insurance effective 1 January 2003 are as follows:

Single w/o Dental	\$43.18
Family w/o Dental	\$100.75
Single w/Dental	\$46.46
Family w/Dental	\$108.23

LONG TERM CARE INSURANCE

If you missed the Long Term Care Open Season you may still complete an application and send to CNA at any time. However, you will have to provide evidence of insurability.



Any other family member will have to be approved by CNA before being allowed to join the plan. Information on Long Term Care is on the Internet at

www.nafbenefits.com or www.Itcbenefits.com (password: armynaf1tc).

You may call CNA Group Long Term Care Customer Service, toll free, at 1-877-777-9072 to speak to a group long term care customer service representative (Mon-Fri, 8:00 – 6:00 EST). You may also copy applications from the Internet and when completed, they should be mailed to CNA Insurance, PO Box 946760, Maitland, FL 32794-9776. An actively-at-work benefits eligible employee enrolling after the initial eligibility period should complete the Short Form Application. The spouse of an actively-at-work employee should also complete the Short Form Application. Retiree, retiree's spouse, grandparent, parent, or related in-law should complete the Long Form Application.



TRAVELERS BEWARE

LODGING PROPERTIES CONTINUE TO INCREASE PHONE CHARGES

Over the course of the past year, lodging properties have steadily been increasing the cost of phone calls placed from hotel rooms by travelers. At the first of the year, many lodging properties increased the cost of these phone calls significantly. The lodging industry has indicated a revenue stream was being lost from lost phone calls due to the increased usage of cell phones by travelers. In addition, in-room phones now are being mostly used for travelers accessing their business email, which typically result in fewer calls placed, however for longer durations. To compensate for these trends, the lodging industry has changed its pricing strategy. For federal agencies and organizations, these costs could unexpectedly result in increased travel costs.



FORSCOM SAFETY Sends: Safety Alert Message Refueling and Static Electricity

Motorists must learn of the importance of avoiding potential problems with static electricity at the gas pump. Static electricity build-up is most likely to occur during the fall and winter months, when the air is cool or cold and dry - the typical climate conditions for static electricity build-up. Static electricity can build up when a motorist exits or re-enters the vehicle during fueling. Upon returning to the vehicle fill pipe during or at the end of refueling, the motorist may experience a static discharge at the fill point, which may cause a flash fire or small sustained fire with gasoline refueling vapors. Static electricity-related fires

have occurred at AAFES and other retail gasoline outlets. According to the American Petroleum Institute (API) and the Petroleum Equipment Institute (PEI), such incidents are on the increase. To date, over 150 incidents have been reported to PEI, resulting in numerous injuries, property damage and one fatality. The most effective means by which a motorist can avoid static electricity problems at the gas pump is to stay outside the vehicle while refueling. It may be very tempting to get



back in the car during extremely cold weather, but the average fill-up only takes around two minutes and staying outside the vehicle will greatly minimize the likelihood of any build-up of static electricity that could be discharged at the nozzle. In the rare event a motorist does experience a fire while refueling, it's important to remember to **leave the nozzle in the fill pipe of your vehicle** and back away from it. Immediately notify the station attendant to shut off all dispensing devices and pumps with emergency controls. If the facility is unattended, then use the emergency shutdown button to shut off the pump and use the emergency intercom to summon help. Leaving the pump nozzle in the vehicle will prevent any fire from becoming more dangerous. Motorists who feel the need to get back into their vehicle during refueling should discharge any static build-up upon exiting the car before going back to the pump nozzle. This can be done safely by touching a metal part of the vehicle, such as the door, or some other metal surface, with a bare hand. Consumers can minimize these and other potential fueling hazards by following safe refueling procedures all year long. For more information on avoiding potential problems with static electricity build-up at the pump, and other safe motor fuel refueling, storage and handling guidelines see API's web site at <http://www.api.org/consumer>, and PEI's web site at <http://www.pei.org/static>. Visit FORSCOM Safety Office Website:

<https://freddie.forscom.army.mil/safety> for additional safety information.

PROTECTING THE FORCE THROUGH RISK MANAGEMENT



ARTICLES FOR BULLETIN

If you have suggestions, topics or articles that you would like addressed in future bulletins, submit them to:

Civilian Personnel Advisory Center
NAF Branch
ATTN: Bill R. Chance
7041 Radio Road
Fort Polk, LA 71459

Or you can call 531-4955/6631. If at all possible, suggested topics will be addressed.

// ORIGINAL SIGNED //

Donald R. Mallet
Director, Civilian Personnel
Advisory Center