Armed Forces Improve Attractiveness Of Military Career for Capable Men

Washington – (UPI) – The U.S. armed forces, competing with a booming civilian economy for skilled manpower, have notably improved the attractiveness of military careers.

In an earnest effort to draw and hold the kind of men needed for space age defenses, the services today are offering the highest pay scales and the most extensive fringe benefits in their history.

Many servicemen feel that their pay and perquisites are still inadequate, compared to the rewards they might obtain in civilian jobs of comparable importance. On the other hand, some civilians may be surprised – and envious – to learn what is included in the total compensation package laid before career soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines.

Purely Theoretical

In an official pamphlet entitled "It Pays to Stay In," the Defense Department states that an enlisted man, who starts out at $78 a month, can be earning "as much as $8,000 to $10,000 a year" by the time he is ready to retire.

Veteran sergeants say, however, that the top figure is purely theoretical at present. The current effective ceiling on enlisted pay–applicable to top sergeants who have served 25 years and who are eligible for special pay benefits–is $8,700 a year.

To reach that figure, an enlisted man would have to be drawing the top basic pay of $440 a month, plus a living quarters allowance of $97 a month, subsistence pay of $33 a month, overseas pay of $23 a month, hazardous duty pay of $105 a month and proficiency pay of $30 a month. Only about two-thirds of this would be subject to income tax.

There are several indirect forms of compensation which are not reflected in the $8,700 figure. These include the retirement rights which the serviceman is accruing, plus other fringe benefits, such as medical care.

Retirement Pay

Servicemen can retire, regardless of age, after 20 years in uniform. They then receive for the rest of their lives monthly paychecks equal to half of the highest base pay which they received in service. If they elect to remain in service for 30 years instead of 20, they get three-quarters base pay for life.

The fact that the retirement benefits are payable regardless of age–a feature almost exclusive to military service–means that a man who enlisted young can start drawing a pension when he is in middle age. He can then begin another career – his retirement pay is not affected by any outside earnings.

Pay Rates Higher

The statements regarding enlisted men apply equally to commissioned officers, except that the pay rates are substantially higher. An officer whose career is an unblemished success can look forward to drawing about three times as much money as the most successful enlisted man.

The basic pay for officers ranges upward from $222.30 a month for second lieutenants and ensigns to $1,700 a month for generals and admirals.

The officer's tax-free subsistence pay is invariably $47.88 a month. Everything else varies with rank and years of service. The maximums are $176.90 a month quarters allowance, $245 a month for hazardous duty and $250 a month as station allowance if overseas.

Here are some of the other fringe benefits available to officers and enlisted men of all the armed services:

Medicare – This is a coined word that covers a wide range of medical care benefits provided for servicemen and members of their families. If his dependents are located near a military hospital, the service, including hospitalization and dentistry, may be entirely free. If non-military facilities are used, the family may pay only the first $25 of a hospital bill.

Leave and liberty – Military men are entitled to 30 days leave per year. Under present policies, they are encouraged to take full vacations "for the good of the service," but they can elect to draw cash payments for about half of the leave. A payment for up to 60 days of unused leave is authorized at expiration of an enlistment.

Entertainment – Officers' and enlisted men's clubs, golf courses, swimming pools, hobby shops and other recreational facilities are available to military personnel if they are located where these are provided.

Survivors' benefits – The widow of a man who dies in service receives six months' basic pay, up to $3,000, and a benefit varying from $128 to $337 a month during her nonmarried lifetime. Additional monthly payments include $70 for one child, $100 for two children and up to $205 for six children. Parents may also receive benefits, from $15 to $100 a month.

Travel and transport – An officer who travels on government business gets an expense allowance of $12 a day. If he goes to a major city this may not pay for much more than his hotel room. A man whose enlistment expires is entitled to transportation to his "home of record," and he can draw the cost of this even if he is planning to re-enlist. He can also draw re-enlistment bonuses that would total $2,000 over a military lifetime.

Post exchanges and commissaries – These are vital overseas, since American goods would not otherwise be available except at fantastic prices. In the United States, they may make possible some economies, though in the Washington, D.C., area at least, military men frequently find that prices at discount stores are considerably lower than those in the PX. The effort at military stores is to price goods 10 to 20 per cent below the going retail rate. Profits of the stores can be used for recreational purposes at the station involved.

Education – Regardless of the station, every effort is made to provide up-to-standard education facilities for children in military families. Their main disadvantage is that, because of transfers, they may attend many different schools. The military man himself has many opportunities to attend service schools, and may be sent to non-service universities at government expense.

Hope to Confused, Discouraged Said Given by Christ

By RICHARD CARDINAL CUSHING
Catholic Archbishop of Boston
(Distributed by UPI)

What makes the difference between a world in which men rush to their destruction, and a world in which God gives men hope and happiness? Christ makes the difference because He – the Son of God – "was made flesh and dwelt among us."

It is Christ who lights up the way which is darkened by human selfishness and greed.

It is Christ who remains the same while all else seems to change. It is He who gives hope to those who are confused and discouraged.

It is Christ who is the true joy of Christmas – joy that came from heaven to earth the night He was born.

Little in Common

The shepherds who watched their flocks that first Christmas night had little in common with the throngs who then and now seek only to revel in selfish amusements. Yet it was the shepherds who found joy. For it was they who found the Infant King–God Himself.

We cannot understand the meaning of Christmas unless we, too, withdraw from the glamor of lights and tinsel, from the exciting exchange of presents, the joyous thrill of renewed greetings from friends. All these things have their place. But too often they detract our minds from the great truth which originally prompted them – the mystery of God made man.

Hard To Choose

We like to think that we are genuinely religious, that we are moved by faith and love. Yet we often find it hard to make a choice between the rewards of time, which lie within our grasp, and the promises of eternity, so elusive in our everyday lives.

Still, we do not belong completely to Christ unless we steadily follow the paths He marked for us in His obscure birth, in His dedicated life to self-sacrifice, and in His painful death by which He conquered sin and eternal death.

Ask yourself, "Am I truly a follower of Christ according to the pattern which He has designed for me?" This is the question which all of us may well put to ourselves as we exchange the greetings of Christ's season.

If we want to wish one another a Happy Christmas, we must restore Christmas to Christ. We must confess Christ to be God. We must open our souls to the saving power of God's grace which comes to us through Christ who was born on Christmas day.

Ask Him To Help

Fall on your knees today before your Infant God. Ask Him to revive in your memory the truths which He came to teach. Ask Him to help you once more to live, even in a sinful world, as the child of God which you became through baptism.

Then, truly, we may say Happy Christmas to one another. For then we shall have found the only true source of happiness. May God strengthen our faith on this Christmas. "For to as many as received Him, He gave the power to be made the sons of God."

Industry May Use Plastic Material

Washington (Science Service) – A new rubbery plastic material used in the recent development of a plastic heart and heart valves is expected to find broad industrial use. Among possible applications are wire and cable jacketing, airplane de-icers, and coated fabrics for tarpulins and inflatable products.

The material, Estane VC, was described to the Society of Plastic Engineers here by Dr. Charles S. Schollenberger of the B. F. Goodrich company's research center in Brecksville, Ohio. It is said to snap back like rubber, yet, unlike rubber, works without vulcanizing and has unusually high strength and abrasion resistance.

There is evidence that the dusty trail of comets through which the earth passes increase rainfall within 30 days.

An attachment for a movie camera automatically varies the iris opening with changes in light intensity.

We Give S&H GREEN STAMPS
CENTRAL REXALL DRUG
Main and Central

AT WEISFIELD'S
Open Tonight and Wednseday Until 9 P.M.
FREE GIFT WRAPPING
New VERI-THIN Sportable TV
Only RCA VICTOR gives you all these Extra-Value, Extra Quality Features
SLEEK SLIM
Easy to carry!
The Stylish Sportable, New Veri-Thin Portable. 156 sq. in. Picture. 3 Handsome Finishes. 170-P-05
17 inch* Portable TV
*Tube overall diagonal, 156 sq. in. picture
ONLY $189.95
RCA VICTOR
Here's the new shape of TV—sleek, slim, beautiful to behold. Veri-thin styling—the most attractive looking portable you've ever seen! So powerful you get outstanding performance even in most fringe areas!
• Security Sealed Circuits • Automatic Channel Equalizer
• Tube Guard • Transformer-Powered Chassis
• New Front Tuning and Sound • Full-Size Telescoping Antenna
• Best Picture in a Portable • New Signal Guide Tuner
It's twice as much fun when you're a 2-TV family!
Come in today! Per UHF—UHF-VHF tuner optional, extra.

WEISFIELD'S
LAST MINUTE GIFT SUGGESTIONS
NO MONEY DOWN-1st PAYMENT FEBRUARY 1960

NEW GENERAL ELECTRIC PORTABLE HAND MIXER
REG. 19.95
Powerful enough for heavy batter, light enough for sauces—3 speed.
PAY ONLY 25c A WEEK
16.99

RONSON
NEW WINLITE LIGHTER ONLY 3.95
25c A WEEK
Dull polished stainless steel case, windguard wick protector.
RONSON VARAFLAME BUTANE LIGHTER
ONLY 50c WEEK 14.95
Quality Ronson flame projector lighter in handsome chrome case.

Keystone 15 Pc. COMPLETE HOME MOVIE OUTFIT
SAVE UP TO $55.00
ELECTRIC-EYE LIGHT METER
F1.8 WIDE-ANGLE
F1.8 REGULAR SHOTS
F1.8 TELEPHOTO
INCLUDED...
2 Wonderful Home Movie Outfits
SAVE UP TO $55.00 EVERTHING YOU NEED TO TAKE & SHOW MOVIES
Complete 15-pc. Outfit K-25 Camera, K-60 Projector
Reg. 131.85 119.95 Easy Terms
Camera with f 2.3 lens, leather case, light meter, projector, tape splicing kit, light bar, four lamps, record book, reel, can, and 30x40" glass beaded screen.
Complete 15-pc. Outfit K-26 Camera, K-60 Projector
Reg. 176.00 149.95 Easy Terms
Camera with f 1.8 turrets, leather case, light meter, projector, tape splicing kit, light bar, lamps, record book, reel, can, 30x40 screen.
UP TO A YEAR TO PAY

FROM MOTOROLA®

SLIPS EASILY INTO . . . OUT OF ANY SHIRT POCKET
SHIRT POCKET TRANSISTOR
MOTOROLA Model XII
• Tiny, but so powerful!
• Take to the football games!
• Convenient and dependable!
• Perfect traveling companion!
PAY ONLY 29.95
ONLY 75c A WEEK

GIFTS UNDER $5.00
8 PIECE LIBBY GLASSWARE SET ..... $ 2.95
BONE CHINA CUPS and SAUCERS 1.95
SHAEFFER PENS 2.95
MEN'S ROLF BILLFOLDS 3.50
1847 ROGERS BROS. HOSPITALITY SETS 3.88
SPIEDEL and SWANK CUFF LINK SETS 3.50
24 PIECE SET STAINLESS STEEL TABLEWARE 3.88

GIFTS $5.00 to $10.00
ARGUS 35 M.M. PREVIEWER ..... $ 7.95
ASSORTED HOLLOWARE SERVING PIECES 5.00
27 PIECE PUNCH BOWL SETS 5.88
LAZY SUSANS ..... 5.88 & up
Assorted Lead Cut Crystal Vases, Candy Dishes, etc. .. 5.95
9 PIECE STEAK KNIFE & CARVING SET 9.95
7 PIECE MARTINI SETS 7.95

GIFTS $10.00 to $15.00
NELSON IMMERSIBLE ELECTRIC FRYPAN $14.95
72 PIECE SET STAINLESS STEEL TABLEWARE 12.88
RONSON ELECTRIC SHAVER 14.88
BROWNIE HAWKEYE CAMERA KIT 13.95
BOYS' and GIRLS' WATERPROOF WATCHES 10.95
4 PIECE VANITY SETS 12.95
3 LB. CELACLOUD FILLED SLEEPING BAGS 10.88

GIFTS $15.00 to $25.00
MOTOROLA CLOCK RADIO $21.95
70 PIECE INDIAN TREE DINNERWARE 19.95
SUNBEAM HAND MIXER 17.21
ARGUS 75 CAMERA KIT 18.75
SUNBURST WALL CLOCKS 19.95
4 PIECE SILVERPLATED TEA SET 19.95
DOUBLE BED SIZE ELECTRIC BLANKETS 17.88

GIFTS $25.00 to $35.00
TRAVELER SIX TRANSISTOR RADIO $29.95
KALART EDITOR VIEWER and SPLICER 29.95
KEYSTONE 8 M.M. MOVIE CAMERA 37.50
55 PIECE BOHEMIAN CHINA 29.95
BRUNSWICK BOWLING BALL and BAG 28.90
SHETLAND FLOOR POLISHER 29.95

GIFTS UNDER $50.00
EMERSON 4 SPEED RECORD PLAYER $49.95
7 PIECE SILVER PLATED TEA SET 49.95
G-E VACUUM CLEANER 49.95
SUNBEAM AUTOMATIC COFFEEMASTER 33.95
WESTINGHOUSE ELECTRIC ROASTER 29.95

GIFTS $50.00 AND OVER
SETH THOMAS CHIME CLOCK $74.95
ELECTRIC CHORD ORGAN 79.95
ZENITH STEREO HI FI 159.50
ARGUS 500 WATT PROJECTOR 69.50
EMERSON PORTABLE TV 179.50

Diamond Council of America Authorized Member
WEISFIELD'S
THE WEST'S LARGEST CREDIT Jewelers
122 E. Main St. Downtown Medford Phone SP 3-5348