

Information for Personnel Ordered to Vietnam

I. Counterinsurgency/Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape (CI/SERE) Training: The purpose of CONUS training in connection with a Vietnam tour is to insure that all personnel are fully prepared to meet the requirements of Vietnam assignments.

a. All personnel ordered to Vietnam will normally be ordered to attend a minimum of 3 weeks training in Counterinsurgency, Weapons Indoctrination, and Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape. Training will include field problems which simulate combat conditions that will be encountered in Vietnam. These field problems often take place in localities away from the bases listed in paragraph c below.

b. Unless otherwise specified, all personnel stationed East of the Mississippi will undergo training at U.S. Naval Amphibious Base, Little Creek, Virginia, all personnel stationed West of the Mississippi will receive their training at U.S. Naval Amphibious Base, Coronado, Calif.

c. A portion of the training received at NAVPHIBASE, Coronado, and at NAVPHIBASE, Little Creek, will consist of one week of SERE training. This training will be conducted at one of four locations: Warner Springs, California; Whidbey Island, Washington; Camp A.P. Hill, Virginia; or Camp Pickett, Virginia. The following information will help in preparing for this training:

(1) A wide annual range of temperatures (125° - 0° F) can be encountered.

(2) Equipment required: All items of clothing shall be regulation clothing; civilian clothing items are prohibited. It must be remembered that cold weather and snow during winter months and extreme heat in summer may be encountered. Therefore, students should provide themselves with appropriate clothing daily. Temperature spreads of 50 degrees during a 24-hour period are not uncommon. Students must have an up-to-date Geneva Convention Identification Card and set of Identification tags in their possession prior to reporting for training. It is recommended that students report with the following minimum equipment in their possession.

Towel
Extra socks
Khakis and/or dungarees (at least 2 complete uniforms)
Cap or hat

Jacket and/or jersey

Toilet articles

Sun glasses

Flashlight

Lip ice

Gloves

Long underwear (during November through March at NAVPHIBSCOL LCREEK)

(3) Equipment in addition to the above listed items that is necessary for successful completion of the course will be provided by Fleet Airborne Electronics Training Unit, Pacific Fleet, and by the U.S. Naval Amphibious School, Little Creek, Virginia.

(4) Students are cautioned against the possession of food, candy, alcoholic beverages, pyrotechnics, firearms or issue survival kits. Violators shall be subject to disciplinary action. Sleeping bags, air mattresses, and similar equipment are also prohibited.

d. Liberty will normally be granted from 1630 to 0730 during the period of temporary duty under instruction on board the Naval Amphibious Base, Coronado, and from 1630 to 0745 on board the Naval Amphibious Base at Little Creek, Va. There will be no liberty granted during the 6 consecutive days of the SERE training.

2. Uniform requirements while in training in Fifth (Norfolk), Eleventh (San Diego), Twelfth (Mare Island), and Thirteenth Naval Districts (Whidbey Island), are as follows:

a. Service dress blue for all personnel

5ND - 18 Sep - 31 Mar

11ND - 24 Oct - 5 Jun

12ND - All year

13ND - 26 Oct - 16 May

b. Service dress khaki for officers and CPO's

5ND - 27 Apr - 22 Oct

11ND - 5 Jun - 24 Oct

12ND - 1 Apr - 31 Oct (Optional)

13ND - 16 May - 25 Oct

c. Service dress whites for other enlisted personnel

5ND - 1 Apr - 17 Oct

11ND - 5 Jun - 24 Oct

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12ND - 1 Apr - 31 Oct (Optional)

13ND - 16 May - 25 Oct

- d. Working khakis or dungarees are required while undergoing training.

3. Uniforms for duty in Vietnam:

- a. The unusual working and climatic conditions in Vietnam require that special consideration be given to the items of uniform which will be of most use while assigned in Vietnam.
- b. The items listed below are intended as an estimate of the total clothing required during a 1-year tour in RVN to offset inadequate laundry facilities and lack of clothing resale activities in some areas; quantities are recommendations only.
- c. The need for white uniforms at the Naval Support Activity Danang and the 30th Naval Construction Regiment is minimal. Otherwise it is recommended that all naval personnel reporting to RVN for a tour ashore bring the following:

(1) Officer/CPO:

- 2 - Tropical White Long Uniforms (except for Seabee CPO)
- 6 - Tropical Khaki Long Uniforms (wash khaki trousers and short-sleeve khaki shirts)

(2) Enlisted, E-6 and below:

- 4 - Tropical White Long Uniforms (except 2 for Seabee personnel)
- 6 - Dungaree Uniforms

- d. All Navy personnel assigned to field activities are normally issued two sets of lightweight, green fatigue uniforms and lightweight combat boots, during check-in processing in Vietnam. All items issued prior to departure from CONUS and utilized while undergoing training, which remain in member's possession upon completion of training, must be taken to Vietnam.

- e. Construction Battalion personnel on straight-line transfers and those CB personnel passing through CB Centers enroute to in-country construction battalions are advised that work uniforms will be issued by the NCR effecting the transfer. Minimum uniform requirements are: 1 dress blue, 2 undress whites. Recommend other uniforms be stored in accordance with provisions of paragraphs M8003 and M8008, Joint Travel Regulations.

- f. Certain non-rotated ships which are continuously deployed to Southeast Asia in support of operations in Vietnam, occasionally depart

from Vietnam waters on logistics lifts or for short periods of overhaul or upkeep. It is recommended that personnel ordered to these ships take the following minimum uniforms in addition to those listed in subparagraph c above, as advised by commanding officers:

(1) Officer/CPO

- 1 - Service Dress Khaki
- 1 - Service Dress Blue

(2) Enlisted

- 1 - Service Dress Blue
- 2 - Undress Blue

g. This Instruction is authorization to travel and perform duty in connection with a Vietnam assignment ashore, without complete minimum outfit of clothing as required by U.S. Navy Uniform Regulations. Although it may be desirable to travel with a full seabag, personnel are encouraged to use the authorization accorded under the Joint Travel Regulations to place in storage or ship home, those uniform items which will not be needed for duty in or travel to Vietnam.

Winter uniforms are not required. One or two sets of washable slacks, two sport shirts, and/or lightweight suit/sport coat, are recommended for R & R/liberty purposes.

h. Due to climatic conditions, it is recommended that personnel arrive in Vietnam in tropical khaki long uniform for Officer/CPO's and tropical white long uniform for other enlisted personnel.

4. The Bank of America and the Chase Manhattan Bank have opened branch offices in the Republic of Vietnam at the below listed addresses:

Bank of America

Saigon, Republic of Vietnam
Box 30
APO San Francisco 96243

Chase Manhattan Bank

Saigon, Republic of Vietnam
Box 20
APO San Francisco 96243

a. Any member of the U.S. Armed Forces may open a checking account at either of these banks. "Savings" or "Time" accounts are neither authorized nor available.

b. Payment of interest on money deposited in the military banking facilities of these banks is presently being made at the rate of 5 percent, paid quarterly on the basis of the minimum balance in the account during the calendar quarter

which did not fall below \$100 during the quarter. No interest will be paid on any account, the balance of which falls below \$100 on any day during the calendar quarter.

c. No service charge will be made against individual checking accounts and checks are free.

d. U.S. Savings Bonds, travelers checks, bank money orders, and bank drafts may also be purchased at these banks subject to local regulations specified by Commander, U.S. Military Assistance Command, Vietnam.

e. Checks drawn against these accounts are negotiable for piasters at the current rate, or for military payment certificates. Checks may also be cashed for dollars in the United States or the local currency in rest and recreation cities. Additionally, these checks are also negotiable for the local MPC in other overseas areas.

f. Upon transfer from Vietnam, accounts must be closed or transferred to stateside accounts in accordance with the requirements specified by the U.S. Treasury Department.

5. It is recommended that officer personnel have at least \$100 and enlisted personnel have at least \$50 in personal funds upon arrival in Vietnam.

6. Every effort will be made prior to commencement of training to insure that official affairs (Service Record, etc.) are in order. All personnel are encouraged to take action to insure that their personal affairs (allotments, will, legal arrangements, family affairs, etc.) are current to insure that no unnecessary hardships occur during their tour of duty in Vietnam.

7. Dependents should be advised that in those situations which constitute an emergency, considerable time, mental anguish, and confusion can be avoided by soliciting the assistance of the American Red Cross first, and thereby obtain the required verification that a bona fide emergency exists. Additional assistance will be provided upon request by any major military installation.

8. No passport is required for personnel ordered to duty in Vietnam or for personnel participating in authorized R & R trips.