

## Benefits to Remember

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### **Tax Relief Act Aids Service Members and Families**

Legislation signed by President Bush on Veteran's Day provides for extra tax-filing time for troops serving in contingency operations. The internal revenue code allows service members who are serving in combat zones or hazardous duty areas to have an extension of time – usually 180 days from the time the person leaves the combat zone to file for taxes.

The 2003 act also includes above-the-line deduction for overnight travel expenses of military reservists and National Guardsmen who have to travel more than 100 miles to attend drill or meetings.

### **Unlimited Commissary Benefits**

The Department of Defense announced that with the President's signing of the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2004, effective immediately, that members of the National Guard and their dependants will be permitted unlimited access to commissary stores.

Previously, Guard Members were required to obtain a Commissary Privilege Card that authorized them only 24 shopping days per calendar year.

### **MyPay's New Capabilities**

MyPay has added a new feature to their program! RAPIN (Restricted Access Personal Identification Number) allows the member to provide a spouse or trusted individual with a view-only PIN. This is a great tool for deployed members and spouses needing to obtain a copy of their service members LES and W2.

- Members set the RAPIN by signing into myPay and from the main menu, clicking on the "Personal Settings" page.
- Then click on the "Restricted Access PIN" and input the RAPIN and provide it to your spouse/trusted individual.
- For the spouse/family member to use RAPIN, they simply sign into myPay with the member's SSN under "LoginID" and then enter the provided RAPIN.

Don't have a myPay PIN? Go to <https://mypay.dfas.mil> Click on "Need a New PIN" and a temporary PIN will be sent directly to your e-mail account.