



Southwest Seventh

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION HEADQUARTERS BUILDINGS

May 1, 1974

No. 108



FEDERAL SAVINGS BOND CAMPAIGN: MAY 1 - JUNE 1

Did you know that Federal employees buy over \$1 billion worth of Savings Bonds through payroll deduction each year? Over 65% of the Federal civilian work force participates in the program. When "War Bond" sales were started in 1941, bonds payed interest at the rate of 2.9% over a ten year period. Series E bonds now mature in 5 years and pay 6% interest when held to maturity. They earn 4½% the first year; thereafter, interest increases on a graduated scale, raising the yield to 6%, from issue date to maturity.

During the month of May a Department-wide program will be carried on for the two-fold purpose of informing non-participating employees about the benefits of buying and building up a reserve of U.S. Savings Bonds, and encouraging bond buyers to increase the amount of their purchases. When your canvasser comes by, listen to what she or he has to say. It won't cost a cent; in fact, participation in the Savings Bond program guarantees steady profits. You cannot lose, and Uncle Sam will love you for it!

COST-OF-LIVING INCREASE - RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

The Civil Service Retirement Law provides for the automatic increase of civil service annuities whenever the Cost of Living, Nationwide, goes up at least 3 percent over the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the month used as a base for the most recent cost-of-living annuity increase and stays up at least 3 percent for 3 consecutive months. It now appears that a new cost-of-living increase will be effective on July 1, 1974. The February 1974 CPI rose to 3.6 percent of the base month for the last annuity increase.

If the CPI remains at 3 percent or higher for the months of March and April, retired employees and employees who retire by June 30, 1974, will receive an automatic Cost-of-Living increase in their annuity payment effective July 1, 1974. The exact amount cannot be determined at this time, but it will be equal to the highest percentage over the base figure reached in February, March, or April, plus a one percent add-on required by law. Employees who retire after the effective date of the upcoming (tentative) cost-of-living increase will be entitled to an annuity which is no less than what it would have been if the employee had retired just before the effective date of the increase (i.e. June 30, 1974).

To achieve this, two computations will be made. First, an annuity will be computed on what the employee's service and earnings would have been if he or she had retired on June 30, 1974, and the amount of the July 1974 COL increase will be added to the annuity computed under that formula. Next, a new computation will be made, based on actual service and earnings as of the date of separation, but without the prior COL increase. The employee is entitled to the larger of the two.

ELECTION - MAY 7, 1974 - DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

This is a reminder that in accordance with Civil Service and Departmental regulations, employees who are registered District of Columbia voters are entitled to time to vote, including an amount of excused absence, if necessary, that will afford a 3-hour period either after the polls open or before the polls close, whichever requires the lesser amount of time away from the job. Polls will be open in the District of Columbia on May 7 for voting on the Charter Referendum from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. This means that voters may receive up to 30 minutes of excused absence if they work 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (Since 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. allows only 2½ hours; therefore, the extra 30 minutes.) Employees whose work day begins at 8:30 a.m. or earlier have a "built-in" 3-hour or more period after work and before the polls close; therefore, no extra time off to vote is provided.

EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT AS A CITIZEN AND VOTE.

BLOODMOBILE IS COMING

Reserve May 23 for the Bloodmobile. The Red Cross, in cooperation with the DOT, has scheduled a bloodmobile visit in Room 2230 of the Headquarters Building for Thursday, May 23, 1974. The Department has now achieved 63% of its goal of 1731 units of blood for the Fiscal Year ending June 30. The Red Cross is coming equipped to receive 200 units that day, which will put us well on our way toward meeting this goal. Contact your blood recruiter between now and May 23 to reserve a time.

USCG BAND CONCERT MAY 2, 1974

The U.S. Coast Guard Band will give a Spring Concert on May 2 from 12 noon to 1:00 p.m. in the Plaza area of the DOT Headquarters Building. That should be a good day to plan to have lunch in the Plaza and enjoy the music.

SECURITY REMINDER

All personnel assigned to the DOT Washington Headquarters complex are reminded of the provisions of DOT Order 1660.2, in that all thefts/losses should be immediately reported to the Office of Investigations and Security. In addition, all personnel should complete and submit a GSA Form 182, which is available at all guard offices. Your promptness in these matters will assist the Security Office and the ensuing investigations.

ADDITIONAL SECURITY MEASURES INSTITUTED IN FOB-10A

Effective April 27, 1974, additional security measures were instituted in FOB-10A. The doors leading to the garage areas in stairwells 1, 4, 5, and 8 at the first floor level are locked and alarmed during security hours (5:30 p.m. to 7:30 a.m. weekdays and all day on Saturday, Sunday, and Holidays) except for emergencies. All employees entering or leaving the garage during security hours must use the escalator in the lobby. Signs are posted in each stairwell. During emergencies such as fire or power failures, the first floor exit doors will automatically unlock providing external egress from FOB-10A.

DOT SHUTTLE BUS SERVICE

<u>Leave 1</u> <u>FOB-10A</u>	<u>Leave 2</u> <u>HQ Bldg</u>	<u>Leave 3</u> <u>EPA Bldg</u>	<u>Arrive 4</u> <u>Tr. Pt.</u>	<u>Leave 5</u> <u>Tr. Pt.</u>	<u>Leave 6</u> <u>EPA Bldg</u>	<u>Leave 7</u> <u>HEW HQ</u>	<u>Leave 8</u> <u>HQ Bldg</u>	<u>Arrive 9</u> <u>FOB-10A</u>
7:00 a.m.	7:06	7:08	7:13	7:00	7:05	7:06	7:07	7:13
7:15	7:21	7:23	7:28	7:15	7:20	7:21	7:22	7:28
7:30	7:36	7:38	7:43	7:30	7:35	7:36	7:37	7:43
7:45	7:51	7:53	7:58	7:45	7:50	7:51	7:52	7:58
8:00	8:06	8:08	8:13	8:00	8:05	8:06	8:07	8:13
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1. Northside of C St. at rear entrance to FOB-10A.
2. Southside of E at Sixth.
3. N. W. Corner 4th and I Sts.
4. At V St. entrance to Bldg.

5. At V St. entrance to Bldg.
6. N. E. Corner 4th and I Sts.
7. Northside of School St. at 4th.
8. Northside of School St. at 6th
9. Northside of C St. at rear entrance to FOB-10A.