Photocopying of Military Identification Cards

Recent incidents regarding the photocopying of military identification cards and common access cards (CAC), by commercial establishments to verify military affiliation or provide government rates for service, have been reported.

Personnel are reminded that the photocopying of US Government Identification is a violation of Title 18, US Code Part I, Chapter 33, Section 701 and punishable by both fine and/or imprisonment.

Many military members, family members and DoD employees are unaware of this law. Please pass to the lowest level and include in training for force protection, information security and OPSEC.

**FPO COMMENTS:** Criminal elements and terrorist organizations place U.S. government identifications as a high value logistical element when planning acts against the U.S. military.

Although commercial establishments are not prohibited from asking for military/government identification, many government personnel and commercial establishments are unaware of the prohibition on duplication of government identification. Unfortunately, there are no safeguards in place to ensure a government identification card won’t be counterfeited or “cloned” based on a photocopy by a commercial establishment.

*NOTE:* This does not apply to medical establishments (i.e. doctor’s office, hospitals, etc...) who are allowed take a copy for the purpose of filing insurance claims; and other government agencies in the performance of official government business.