



# bulletin

National Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission

1608 K Street, N.W. • Washington, D.C. 20006

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## **National Personnel Records Center Records Hoax**

Late last month an official looking e-mail, warning veterans and their dependents that the National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) in St. Louis was in the process of electronically scanning all military records on site and would then destroy all hard copies once the project was completed, began circulating via the Internet. The e-mail advised that any veteran or dependent wanting an original hard copy of a record would have to contact NPRC and officially request the record or it would be destroyed.

Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation (VA&R) division contacted NPRC and confirmed that the e-mail is a hoax. NPRC is not planning to destroy any paper records stored at the Center. The purpose of any scanning that may take place in the future would be to minimize the handling of fragile documents or reduce the time it takes to locate a record. Once it learned of the hoax, NPRC informed the Department of Defense and modified its web-based application to minimize extra requests resulting from the hoax. NPRC currently has a backlog of approximately 120,000 records requests and any additional requests caused by the e-mail hoax have the potential of increasing the processing time of regular requests needed for burials, benefits, loans, employment, etc.

Please contact the VA&R Division, at (202) 861-2700 or [VAR@legion.org](mailto:VAR@legion.org), if you have any questions or need more information.

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