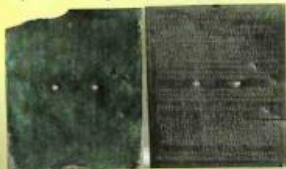


Long-term prospects

If you survive in the army for 25 years you can expect an honourable retirement. Some soldiers return to the land where they were born; others stay where they last served to live with their unofficial wives and children. Some receive a retirement gift of land, which they can farm for a living. Others might buy a shop or make use of the skills they learned in the army. Soldiers believe their spirit lives on in heaven, and gain strength whenever their comrades remember them.

Diploma award

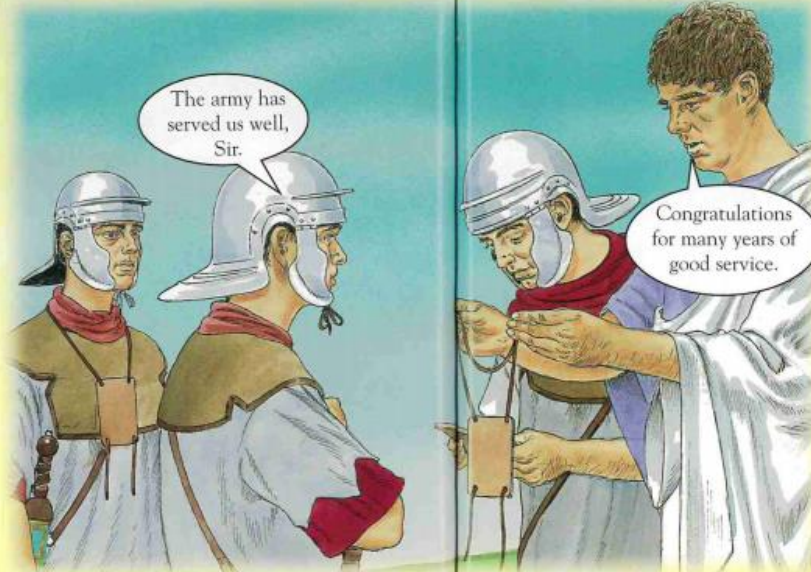
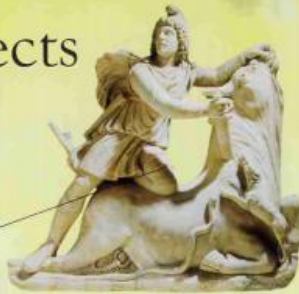
▼ When you retire, your commanding officer will give you a diploma recording your pension rights. Legionary soldiers normally receive ten years' pay. This will be enough to set yourself up in business or to buy a small plot of land.



Bronze pension diploma

Diplomas are often made of bronze (left), so that they will last for the rest of a soldier's life. Guard your diploma well – it is your passport to many years of comfortable retirement.

Mithras sacrificing a bull



A soldier's faith

◀ Many soldiers worship Mithras – a Middle Eastern god usually shown sacrificing a bull. Mithraism inspires comradeship among soldiers.

Farming



▲ Many soldiers dream of buying a plot of land. But farming is hard work all year round. In warmer countries you can grow vines and must prune them.



▲ If you decide to rear livestock, you need to give them fresh straw for bedding and fresh hay to eat every day. They will also need daily water supplies.



▲ In summer you'll need extra help with the harvest. The corn needs to be cut, dried and then carted to be stored safely before it is threshed.



▲ Sheep may be easier, but you'll be kept busy with the lambing in spring. You will also have to shear their wool in summer.

Tombstone tribute

If you die in active service, your family or friends will pay for a tombstone. Your name and details of your army career will be carved on it.

