



STEVE RINGMAN / THE SEATTLE TIMES

Bob Lacher bags up an honor-guard uniform that Kroesen's had altered for Seattle firefighter Matt Runte, left.

OFFICIAL OUTFITTER

"IT'S AN ICON" | Generations of police and firefighters have relied on Kroesen's for the accouterments of their work. The Seattle store has become part uniform shop, part clubhouse.

BY CHRISTINE CLARRIDGE
Seattle Times staff reporter

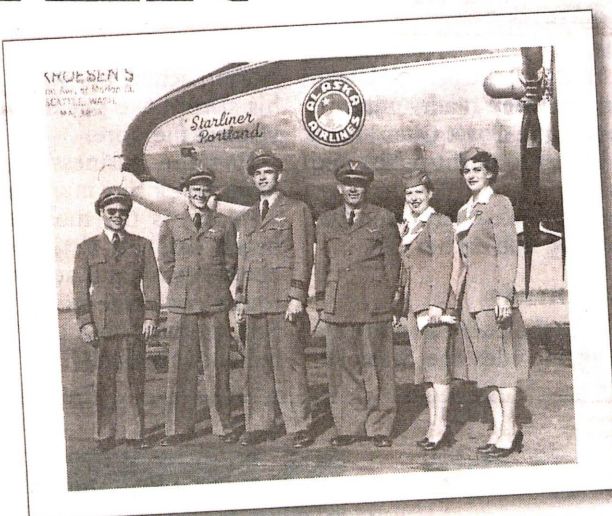
The fire engine pulls up to a nondescript building in downtown Seattle and several firefighters spill out and rush inside.

There, they find fellowship — and fashion — instead of a fire.

For family-owned Kroesen's Inc., it's a scene that's been played out with generations of firefighters, police officers, ferry captains and sailors.

For nearly 100 years Kroesen's has dressed thousands of men — and a growing number of women — as Seattle's largest and longest-running provider of uniforms and related paraphernalia. It's the kind of place where the customers become like family and the employees keep in touch with those they dress.

Please see > **UNIFORMS, B2**



This photo from the 1950s shows Alaska Airlines crew members in uniforms from Kroesen's.

KROESEN'S INC.