

MANUAL: Personnel  
Chapter Series CC--Commissioned Corps Personnel Manual  
Part 2--Commissioned Corps Personnel Administration

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
Public Health Service

Chapter CC26--Conditions of Service  
Subchapter CC26.3--Uniforms  
Personnel INSTRUCTION 6--Insignia and Devices

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Section A. Purpose

This INSTRUCTION prescribes the insignia and devices (other than medals and ribbons which are described in INSTRUCTION 3, "Wearing of Medals and Ribbons," of this subchapter) for wear with the Public Health Service (PHS) commissioned officers' uniforms and the method of wearing them. Illustrations of the insignia and devices are included in Exhibit I.

Section B. Authority

See Section B of INSTRUCTION 1, "General Information on Uniforms and Appearance," of this subchapter.

Section C. Corps Device

1. Full-Size Device. The full-size corps device shall consist of gold-colored lace or thread comprising a fowl anchor and caduceus crossed as in the PHS seal and shall be 1 3/16 inch high and 1 3/16 inch wide. See Exhibit I, Part A.
2. Miniature Devices. The miniature corps device shall be gold-colored metal in the same design as the full-size device, and shall be 11/16 inch high and 11/16 inch wide. When used as part of the soft shoulder board, the miniature corps device is embroidered in gold-colored thread and is approximately 7/8 inch high and 7/8 inch wide.
3. Usage. When used as sleeve, collar or shoulder insignia, the corps device is oriented such that the staff of the caduceus is vertical, the wings are at the top and the anchor points inward or forward.

Section D. Sleeve Insignia

1. Where Used. Sleeve insignia are used on the sleeves of Service Dress Blue coats (men and women), Service Dress White coat (women), Dinner Dress Blue Jacket (men and women) and Dinner Dress White Jacket (women).
2. Grade Stripes. Stripes are gold lace in 1/4 inch, 1/2 inch or 2 inch widths. The stripes are sewn onto each sleeve so as to be parallel with the cuff and completely encircle the sleeve. The lower edge of the bottom stripe is 2 inches from the edge of the cuff and there are 1/4 inch intervals between stripes. An officer shall wear the stripe or combination of stripes which corresponds to the officer's pay grade, as depicted in Exhibit I, Part B.

NOTE: Assistant Surgeons General may be either pay grade O-7 or O-8. Those in pay grade O-7 on September 30, 1981, and occupying that pay grade continuously since then, wear the same insignia as pay grade O-8.

3. Corps Device. A full-size corps device shall be sewn onto the outer face of each sleeve, centered midway between the front and rear creases. It is positioned one-quarter inch above the uppermost stripe. Note that corps devices are used in left-right pairs and if the left and right devices are interchanged, the anchors will point in the wrong direction.

#### Section E. Shoulder Insignia

1. Hard Shoulder Boards. Hard shoulder boards are worn on the reefer, overcoat, and certain uniform coats and shirts. See uniform descriptions in INSTRUCTION 4, "Uniforms for Male Officers," and INSTRUCTION 5, "Uniforms for Female Officers," of this subchapter. Hard shoulder boards consist of a corps device, a grade indication and a PHS gilt button, and are curved to fit the shoulder. The shoulder board is positioned with the squared end at the shoulder seam and the corps device towards the neck, with the anchor of the corps device pointing forward. Illustrations of hard shoulder boards are shown in Exhibit I, Part C.

The women's hard shoulder board is designed to fit over the strap on the shoulder of epauletted shirts and coats. The men's hard shoulder board has a strap attached which fits through loops on the shirt or coat shoulder. The women's shoulder board is of the same appearance, but is approximately 1/2 inch shorter than the men's shoulder board.

A 22 1/2 line PHS gilt button is positioned near the pointed end of the shoulder board. The corps device is embroidered in gold colored lace or thread and positioned with the staff of the caduceus falling along the centerline of the longer dimension of the shoulder board, with the winged end of the caduceus pointing toward the gilt button. The anchors on the left and right shoulder boards are positioned such that each anchor points forward when the board is worn on the correct shoulder.

- a. Flag Officers. The shoulder board is covered with gold lace leaving a 1/8 inch blue cloth margin along each long side. The corps device is embroidered with the head of the staff of the caduceus positioned 1 1/4 inches from the pointed end of the board. Grade shall be indicated by the use of 1 (grade O-7), 2 (grade O-8), 3 (grade O-9), or 4 (grade O-10), silver-colored, embroidered, 5-pointed stars, arranged as shown in Exhibit I, Part C.

NOTE: Assistant Surgeons General may be either pay grade O-7 or O-8. Those in pay grade O-7 on September 30, 1981, and occupying that pay grade continuously since then, wear the same insignia as pay grade O-8.

- b. Officers Below Flag Grade. The surface of the shoulder board is covered with blue cloth. Gold lace stripes indicate grade and are of the same width, spacing and arrangement as specified for sleeve insignia in Section D, above. However, the first stripe is positioned 1/4 inch (1/2 inch for the Junior Assistant grade) from the squared end of the board. The corps device is positioned one-quarter inch above the uppermost stripe.
2. Soft Shoulder Boards. Soft shoulder boards are designed to fit over the straps of epauletted shirts and the Army Black pull-over sweater. See uniform descriptions in INSTRUCTIONS 4 and 5 of this subchapter. The arrangement of the corps device and grade stripes is the same as for the hard shoulder board, but the soft board is made to 3/4 scale of the men's hard board. Thus, the corps device on a soft shoulder board is approximately 7/8 inch in width and height. There is no gilt button on the soft shoulder board.
3. Full-Size Metal Grade Insignia. The designs and sizes of metal grade insignia are shown in Exhibit I, Part D. The full-size metal grade insignia are worn on the shoulder straps of raincoats and windbreaker jackets. The outer edge of each device is positioned three-fourths of an inch from the squared end of the strap.
- a. Flag Officers. Four (grade O-10), 3 (grade O-9) or 2 (grade O-8) 5-pointed, silver stars arranged in a straight line along a connecting bar, with 1 ray of each star pointing along the connecting bar. Grade O-7 uses a single star worn lengthwise along the centerline of the strap with the single ray of each star pointing towards the collar.
- NOTE: Assistant Surgeons General may be either pay grade O-7 or O-8. Those in pay grade O-7 on September 30, 1981, and occupying that pay grade continuously since then, wear the same insignia as pay grade O-8.
- b. Director Grade. Left and right silver eagles, with the talons of 1 foot grasping an olive branch and the talons of the other foot grasping a bundle of arrows. They are worn with the top of the eagle's head facing the collar and the eagle's head and the olive branch pointing to the front.
- c. Senior Grade. Silver oak leaves, smooth finished, raised and veined; worn along the centerline of the strap with the stem of the leaf pointing towards the squared end of the strap and the tip of the leaf towards the collar.
- d. Full Grade. Gold oak leaves, designed and worn in the same manner as the Senior grade oak leaves.

- e. Senior Assistant Grade. Double silver bars, smooth with no bevel, attached near the ends by connecting bars; worn centered front to back on the strap, with the long dimension of each bar lying on a front to back line.
- f. Assistant Grade. Single silver bars, smooth with no bevel. Worn centered front to back on the strap, with the long dimension of the bar lying on a front to back line.
- g. Junior Assistant Grade. Single gold bars, designed and worn in the same manner as the Assistant grade bars.

#### Section F. Collar Insignia

- 1. Miniature Size Metal Grade Insignia. These are worn on the right collar points of khaki and blue shirts. The miniature metal corps device is worn on the left collar point - see subsection 2, below. The designs of miniature metal grade insignia are the same as for their full-size counterparts (described in Section E, above), except that the stars for grades O-8, O-9, and O-10, have no visible connecting bar and appear to be connected to one another at the points of adjacent rays; the stars are oriented such that one ray of each points up. The dimensions of the miniature insignia are shown in Exhibit I, Part D.
  - a. Long Sleeve Khaki and Blue Shirts. The center of the insignia is one inch from the front and upper edges of the collar. Bar-shaped insignia are oriented with the bars (i.e., the vertical axis) parallel to the front edge of the collar, leaf-shaped insignia with the tip pointed up and the vertical axis of the leaf parallel to the front edge of the collar, and the right eagle (left eagle not used) with the eagle's head facing toward the front and the vertical axis of the insignia parallel to the front edge of the collar. For flag officers' insignia, center the first star one inch from the front and upper edges of the collar with the remaining star(s), if any, extending back along the collar such that the horizontal axis of the stars is parallel to the upper collar edge. For a single star, one ray will point along a line perpendicular to the upper collar edge. These procedures apply whether the collar is worn opened or closed.
  - b. Open Collar Short Sleeve Shirts. The center of the insignia is one inch from the front and lower edges of the collar. The vertical axis of the insignia falls along a line bisecting the angle of the collar point. A single star is worn with one ray pointing toward the neck and falling along a line which bisects the angle of the collar point. Two or three stars are worn such that a horizontal line through the stars is perpendicular to the line which bisects the angle of the collar point and the bisecting line divides the insignia into halves.

2. Miniature Corps Device. A miniature metal corps device is worn on the left collar when a miniature metal grade insignia is used on the right. The device is centered one inch from the appropriate collar edges, as described in subsections 1.a or 1.b, above; the staff of the caduceus is the vertical axis of the device and the anchor points toward the front.

Section G. Cap Insignia

1. Cap Device. The cap device is an ornament of gold-colored metal, lace or thread consisting of a shield with a chief having 13 stars, surmounted with a spread eagle with head pointing to the right. The whole is placed over a variation of the PHS corps device which consists of a fowl anchor and caduceus crossed as shown in the illustration in Exhibit I, Part E. There are standard and miniature size cap devices, with dimensions as shown in the illustration.
2. Combination Cap. The standard size cap device is attached to the hat band and the cap is worn with a chin strap and visor or hat band ornamentation which varies with grade. The combination caps are illustrated in Exhibit I, Part F.
  - a. Chin Strap. An adjustable sliding strap of leather or appropriate synthetic material, faced with gold-colored lace or thread. The strap is 1/2 inch wide and has a 1 1/2 inch wide maroon band running lengthwise. The strap is equipped with 2 slides and is fastened to the cap frame by 2 22 1/2-line PHS gilt buttons.

The chin strap is worn with all male officers' combination caps and with female officers' combination caps for the Full grade and below.
  - b. Flag Officers. The male officer's visor shall be covered with blue cloth and be fully embroidered with gold oak leaves and acorns. The female officer's hat band shall be of blue cloth and be embroidered with 2 rows of gold oak leaves and acorns.
  - c. Director and Senior Grade Officers. The male officer's visor shall be covered with blue cloth and be embroidered along the front edge with gold oak leaves and acorns. The female officer's hat band shall be of blue cloth and be embroidered with 1 row of gold oak leaves and acorns.
  - d. Full Grade and Below. The male officer's visor and the female officer's hat band shall not be ornamented.
3. Garrison Cap. The garrison cap is worn with a miniature metal grade insignia of the type used on shirt collars (see Section F, above) on the right and a miniature PHS cap device on the left. The devices are centered 1 1/2 inches from the lower edge and 2 inches from the center line, as shown

in Exhibit I, Part G. Director grade officers wear the right eagle (i.e., eagle's head points toward the centerline).

4. Beret. The miniature PHS cap device is positioned so as to be aligned over the left eye. No grade insignia are worn on the beret.

#### Section H. PHS Buttons

1. Design. PHS metal buttons are gold-colored and carry an embossed design consisting of a fowl anchor and caduceus crossed as in the seal of the Service. Stamped-style buttons and pierced-style buttons are authorized. However, either all stamped-style or all pierced-style must be used on a given component of the uniform. Styles may not be mixed on any component of the uniform. Buttons are positioned on the uniform such that the staff of the caduceus is vertical. See the illustration in Exhibit I, Part H.
2. Size. Buttons are designated as to size by the use of a "line" count; e.g. a 40-line button is 1 inch in diameter.

#### Section I. Name Tag

1. General. The PHS name tag is worn with service uniforms. It is also worn with working uniforms if it does not present a safety hazard or nuisance. See INSTRUCTIONS 4 and 5 of this subchapter for specific guidance on which uniforms utilize the name tag.

The name tag is a distinctive part of the uniform. It is not authorized for wear by other than commissioned officers. It shall not be worn on civilian clothing except that retired and inactive reserve officers may wear the tag with civilian clothing when attending meetings designed primarily for members and former members of the uniformed services, and identification as a PHS commissioned officer is desirable.

2. Agency-specific Name Tags
  - a. Officers, while assigned to agencies having approved agency-specific name tags, may wear a name tag identifying that agency if the name tag is prescribed or optional.
  - b. An agency must receive written approval from the Director, DCP, for such change in the name tag. Agency requests to the Director, DCP, must include the proposed design of the name tag in keeping with the requirements of this section substituting the approved logo of that agency for the PHS seal.

- c. Agencies that prescribe these name tags will furnish these name tags at no cost to officers. However, officers must own PHS name tags for use when they are not assigned to an agency with a distinctive name tag.
3. Name. The name tag shall be inscribed with the officer's last name only; no initials or professional degree abbreviations are permitted.
4. Description
- a. Dimensions
- (1) Overall - 1" by 3"
  - (2) Lettering, last name - 3/8" in height, upper case only. Horizontal width and spacing may vary to accommodate length of name. If last name is extremely long, size of lettering may be reduced as necessary to allow proper fit.
  - (3) Lettering, Service identification - 1/8" in height
  - (4) PHS Seal - 3/4" in diameter\*
  - (5) Border - approximately 1/32" in width
- b. Colors
- (1) Background - black, nonlustrous
  - (2) Lettering, last name - white
  - (3) Lettering, Service identification - gold
  - (4) PHS Seal - gold\*
  - (5) Border - white
- \* or individual agency seal and color, if authorized
- c. Design. See illustrations in Exhibit I, Part I.
- d. Miscellaneous
- (1) Tag is to have bevelled edge with white border as described above.
  - (2) Tag is to have two military-style pins with clutches for attaching tag to uniform.
  - (3) All lettering is to be upper case and of the style shown in the illustration (this style is typically referred to as Gothic typeface).
5. Manner of Wear. On uniforms having a right breast pocket or pocket flap, the name tag is centered 1/4 inch above the pocket or flap. On uniforms having no right breast pocket or pocket flap, the name tag is worn in the same relative position, using the left breast pocket or pocket flap as an indicator of position. When ribbons are worn, the lower edge of the name tag would thus be in line with the lower edge of the bottom row of ribbons.

On the Army Black pull-over sweater, the name tag is centered vertically and horizontally on the front patch. However, when worn on the jacket of the Service Dress uniform, the name tag may be moved to the right so as to correspond with any ribbons that are moved to the outer edge of the left pocket as described in INSTRUCTION 3 of this subchapter.

#### Section J. Badges

1. General. For purposes of this INSTRUCTION, the following awards are treated as badges and may be worn on the PHS uniform. For manner of wear of these badges, see INSTRUCTION 3 of this subchapter. For criteria and a description of these badges (other than ID), see INSTRUCTION 2, CC27.1, "Commissioned Officers' Awards Program; Description and Criteria."
  - a. Surgeon General Badge (full size and miniature)
  - b. Deputy Surgeon General Badge (full size and miniature)
  - c. Officer-In-Charge Insignia (full size and miniature)
  - d. Recruiter Badge (full size and miniature)
  - e. Associate Recruiter Badge
  - d. Breast Insignia
  - e. Identification Badges

#### Section K. Civilian Clothing Devices

1. General. This section prescribes devices that are intended for wear by commissioned officers on appropriate civilian clothing.
2. Commissioned Officer Lapel Pin
  - a. Purpose. The lapel pin is intended for wear with appropriate civilian attire for the purpose of identifying the wearer as a PHS commissioned officer.
  - b. Applicability. The lapel pin is authorized for wear by commissioned officers who are serving on extended active duty (i.e., are called to active duty for six months or more) and by retired officers. It is not authorized for wear by officers of the inactive reserve who are not serving on active duty.
  - c. Description. A flat, circular gold-colored disc, 13/16 inch in diameter, with 18 small rays positioned around the circumference and overlaid by a 6-pointed star. The star is surmounted by a shield,

behind which are located a crossed anchor and Rod of Aesculapius. A figure of a bald eagle, wings spread, is positioned above the shield.

d. Manner of wear

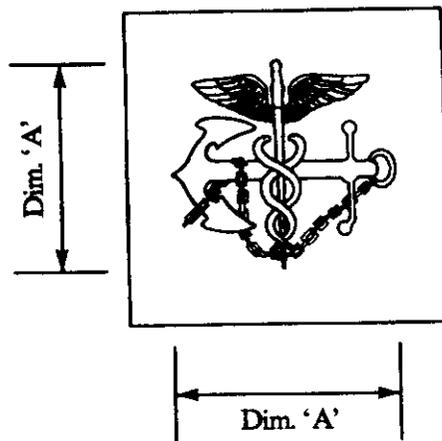
- (1) The lapel pin is worn on the lapel of a sports coat, suit jacket, blazer or similar article of clothing. It may also be worn on a dress which would be appropriate under the same conditions as the articles mentioned above. It is not worn on a shirt, sweater, tee shirt, tube top or similar informal clothing article, nor on clothing intended for recreational or athletic wear.
- (2) The lapel pin is normally worn on the wearer's left lapel or on an approximately corresponding location on a dress. However, if a miniature ribbon bar lapel device or rosette from a PHS Commissioned Corps award is worn on the left, the pin may be worn on the right.
- (3) The lapel pin is worn with the eagle at the top, the uppermost and lowermost rays of the star aligned on a vertical axis. The location of the device on a lapel must be a matter of discretion due to the variability of jacket designs. However, a location on the wide part of the lapel, on a level above that of the pocket top (if applicable), is usually appropriate. For wear with a dress, a location on the upper left generally is chosen.

Section L. Devices of Other Services

1. General. The wearing of other services' devices under this subsection is authorized only if the regulations of the issuing service would allow continued wear of the device after leaving the designated speciality or assignment. The device should be worn as nearly in accordance with the regulations of the issuing service as the design of the PHS uniform will permit. No more than two such devices shall be worn on the uniform at any one time; officers owning more than two such devices may choose which devices to wear.
2. Other Devices. Certain ribbons and medals representing awards made by another uniformed service may be worn on the PHS uniform. Prior authorization must be received. See INSTRUCTION 3 of this subchapter and INSTRUCTION 1, subchapter CC27.9, "Authorization to Wear Awards," for more information. No patches, badges, markings or accoutrements of other services, other than those specifically mentioned herein, may be worn with the PHS uniform.

EXHIBIT I. Illustrations

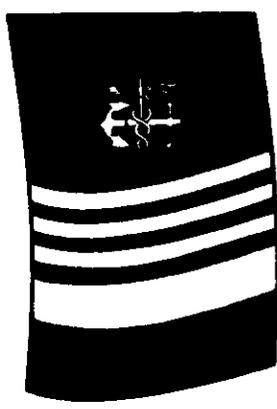
**PART A  
PHS CORPS DEVICE**



	<u>Full Size</u>	<u>Metal Miniature</u>	<u>Soft Shoulder Board</u>
Dimension 'A'	1 3/16"	11/16"	7/8"

EXHIBIT I (continued)

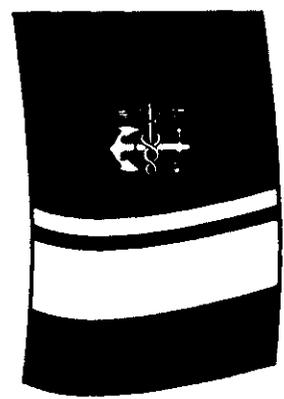
**PART B  
SLEEVE INSIGNIA**



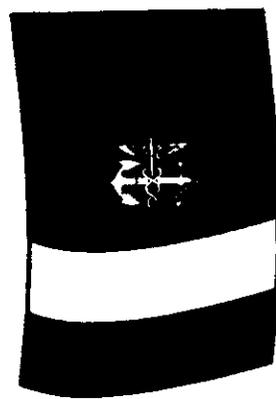
Assistant Secretary  
for Health  
(0-10)



Surgeon General  
(0-9)



Deputy Surgeon General  
and  
Assistant Surgeon General  
(0-8)



Assistant  
Surgeon General  
(0-7)



Director  
(0-6)



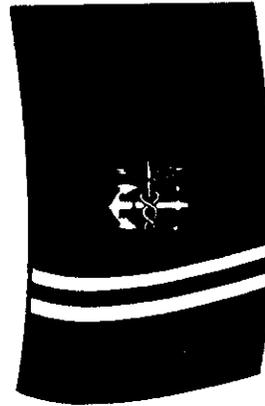
Senior  
(0-5)

EXHIBIT I (continued)

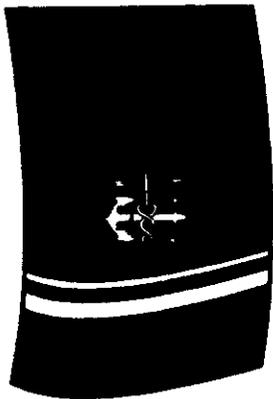
**PART B**  
**SLEEVE INSIGNIA (continued)**



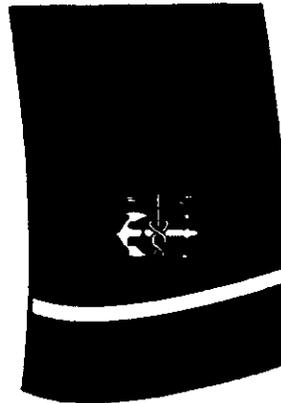
**Full  
(04)**



**Senior Assistant  
(03)**



**Assistant  
(02)**



**Junior Assistant  
(01)**

EXHIBIT I (continued)

**PART C  
SHOULDER BOARDS**



Assistant Secretary  
for Health  
(0-10)



Surgeon General  
(0-9)



Deputy Surgeon General  
and  
Assistant Surgeon General  
(0-8)



Assistant  
Surgeon General  
(0-7)



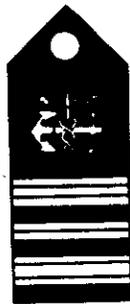
Director  
(0-6)



Senior  
(0-5)

EXHIBIT I (continued)

**PART C**  
**SHOULDER BOARDS (continued)**



**Full  
(04)**



**Senior Assistant  
(03)**



**Assistant  
(02)**



**Junior Assistant  
(01)**

EXHIBIT I (continued)

PART D  
METAL GRADE INSIGNIA  
FLAG OFFICERS



Assistant Secretary  
for Health  
(0-10)



Surgeon General  
(0-9)

Full Size

Miniature



Deputy Surgeon General  
and  
Assistant Surgeon General  
(0-8)



Assistant  
Surgeon General  
(0-7)

Full Size

Miniature

DIRECTOR (0-6)



Right



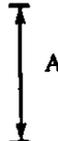
Left

Full Size    A = 1 1/2"    B = 3/4"

Miniature    A = 1"    B = 1/2"

All Silver Color

SENIOR (0-5) / FULL (0-4)



Full Size    A = 1 1/8"

Miniature    A = 3/4"

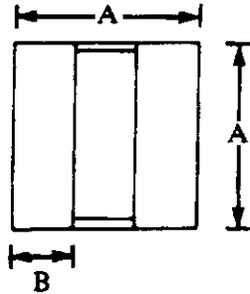
Senior Grade = Silver Color

Full Grade = Gold Color

EXHIBIT I (continued)

**PART D**  
**METAL GRADE INSIGNIA (continued)**

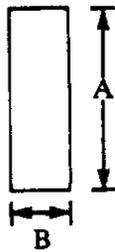
**SENIOR ASSISTANT (0-3)**



Full Size A=1"    B=3/8"  
Miniature A=3/4"    B=1/4"

Silver Color

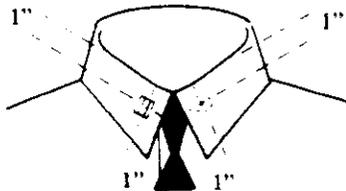
**ASSISTANT (0-2) / JUNIOR ASSISTANT (0-1)**



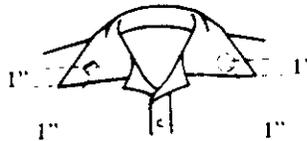
Full Size A=1"    B=3/8"  
Miniature A=3/4"    B=1/4"

Assistant Grade = Silver Color  
Junior Assistant Grade = Gold Color

**PLACEMENT OF INSIGNIA**



Khaki and Blue  
Long Sleeve



Open Collar  
Short Sleeve



Raincoat and  
Windbreaker

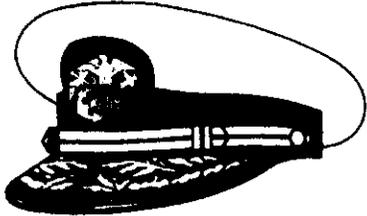
EXHIBIT I (continued)**PART E  
CAP DEVICE****Standard****Miniature****Dimensions (inches)**

	<u>Standard</u>	<u>Miniature</u>
Length of Staff	2 5/16"	1 7/16"
Length of Anchor	2 5/16"	1 1/2"
Height of Eagle	7/8"	9/16"
Height of Shield	1"	9/16"
Wing Spread	2"	1 3/16"

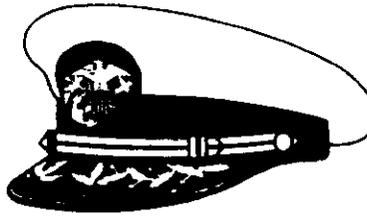
EXHIBIT I (continued)

PART F  
COMBINATION CAPS

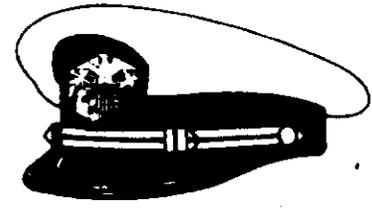
MALE



Assistant Secretary for Health  
Surgeon General  
Deputy Surgeon General  
and  
Assistant Surgeon General



Director  
and  
Senior Grades



Full Grade  
and  
Below

FEMALE



Assistant Secretary for Health  
Surgeon General  
Deputy Surgeon General  
and  
Assistant Surgeon General

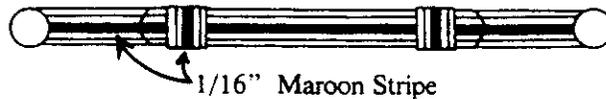


Director  
and  
Senior Grades



Full Grade  
and  
Below

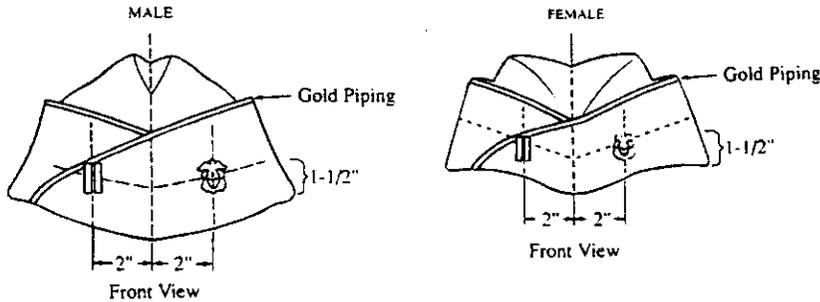
CHIN STRAP



1/16" Maroon Stripe

EXHIBIT I (continued)

**PART G  
GARRISON CAP  
(Khaki or Blue)**



**PART H  
PHS BUTTON**



**PART I  
NAME TAG**

Sample - actual size



3/16"  
3/8"  
7/16"

Last name is shown in the correct type style. (Horizontal spacing and width of characters in last name may vary to accommodate number of characters.)

**PART J  
NAME TAG \***

Sample - actual size



3/16"  
3/8"  
7/16"

Last name is shown in the correct type style. (Horizontal spacing and width of characters in last name may vary to accommodate number of characters.)

\* The Food and Drug Administration, Bureau of Prisons, and Environmental Protection Agency each have name tags with the individual Agency's emblem.