

MANUAL: Personnel  
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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 7--Special Uniform Situations

CONTENTS

<u>Section</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Page</u>
A.	Purpose .....	1
B.	Authority .....	1
C.	Field Utility Uniform .....	2
D.	Maternity Uniform .....	7
E.	Protective Clothing .....	8
F.	Weddings .....	9
G.	Funerals .....	9
H.	Religious Ceremonies .....	10
I.	Tropical Uniforms .....	10

Section A. Purpose

This INSTRUCTION prescribes uniforms and clothing articles for use in the particular situations described herein.

Section B. Authority

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

Section C. Field Utility Uniform

1. When Authorized.

a. Specific Authorization. The Field Utility Uniform (FUU) is worn in austere field conditions or for field-type training exercises. The FUU is specifically authorized for wear by the following groups of officers:

- (1) Officers participating in a formally organized emergency response activity or emergency preparedness activity; and
- (2) Students at the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences.

The FUU may not be worn by other officers except as specified in subparagraph d, below.

b. PHS-only Exercises. When participating in field exercises or actual or contingency emergency operations that are not jointly conducted with other branches of the uniformed services, the FUU shall be worn when prescribed by the unit commander. When the FUU is thus prescribed, its wear by all officers involved is mandatory.

c. Joint Services Exercises. When participating in field exercises or actual or contingency emergency operations that are jointly conducted with other branches of the uniformed services, the FUU shall be worn when the counterpart utility uniforms of the other services are being worn by those service members. In this case, the unit commander shall provide guidance that is in accordance with the directives of the commanding officer in charge of the joint exercise or operation.

d. Other Situations. Wearing of the FUU is generally prohibited except under the conditions outlined in paragraphs a through c, above. However, if an organizational unit of the PHS has a particular need to use the FUU in certain well-defined circumstances, advance authorization may be requested, and must be obtained, from the Director, Division of Commissioned Personnel (DCP), Office of the Surgeon General. Such requests must originate at the Bureau (or equivalent) level within an agency.

e. Local Authority. For the purposes of this INSTRUCTION, the local uniform authority (LUA) with respect to wearing of the FUU is the unit commander or the officer in charge of a PHS organizational unit that has been authorized to wear the FUU. The LUA is responsible for enforcing grooming and appearance standards in accordance with the provisions of INSTRUCTION 1, of this subchapter.

2. Composition of the FUU.

The required components of the FUU are described below. The basic uniform is the Woodland Green Battle Dress Uniform. It is worn with distinctive PHS insignia (see paragraph 3, below).

- a. Utility Coat. Woodland camouflage pattern hip length coat with reinforced elbows, two bellows-type unpleated breast pockets and two bellows-type unpleated waist pockets, all with flap closures.
- b. Trousers. Woodland camouflage pattern with reinforced knees and buttocks, two side pockets, two hip pockets with flap closures, two bellows-type pleated thigh pockets with flap closures and draw strings on each leg opening for blousing.
- c. Buckle and Belt. 1 1/4 inch web or woven elastic web belt of black color with a black tip. The buckle is a black, open-face type, 1 11/16 inch by 1 11/16 inch.
- d. Boots, Combat. Black lace boots with plain toe. Women may wear low black oxfords.
- e. Undershirt. Standard brown, made of cotton with quarter sleeves and elliptical neck. Wearing of the undershirt is optional except that the utility coat may not be removed unless the standard undershirt is worn.
- f. Cap, Utility. Woodland camouflage pattern with firm bill, plaited sides and high front panel.
- g. Cap, Cold Weather. Woodland camouflage pattern, insulated.
- h. Field Jacket with Liner. Woodland camouflage pattern hip length jacket with attached hood, shoulder straps, two bellows-type breast pockets and two bellows-type waist pockets, all with button flap closures. Liner attaches to the inside of the jacket by means of buttons.
- i. Gloves with Inserts. Light duty work, consisting of black leather shells and olive green wool inserts.
- j. Rain Poncho. Olive green or woodland camouflage pattern, pullover style.

3. Insignia and Identification Patches

All non-metal insignia and special patches worn on the FUU will be sewn on with thread that matches the background material or edge. A straight machine stitch will be used in sewing; cross-stitches, whip-stitches or other non-standard stitches will not be used. Inasmuch as the description of insignia which appears below differs somewhat from the previous description, a transition

period of 90 days from the date of this INSTRUCTION is provided for conversion to the new requirements contained herein.

- a. Cap Insignia. Subdued type metal miniature PHS cap device shall be worn on the front of the utility cap along the midline of the front panel and centered between the bill and the top seam of the cap. The bright miniature rank device may be prescribed by the LUA. When prescribed, it is worn along the midline of the front panel and centered between the bill and the cap device.
- b. Utility Coat Insignia (see illustration in paragraph 8, below).

- (1) Service and Individual Identification. The letters "USPHS" and the officer's last name shall be embroidered on separate strips of olive green cloth. The cloth strips are 4-1/2 inches long and 1 inch wide; letters are black, block-style, 3/4 inch high; name tags containing more than ten letters shall be in Franklin Gothic Extra Condensed print (48 point), 1/2 inch high.

The "USPHS" tape shall be worn immediately above and parallel to the top edge of the left breast pocket. The officer's nametape shall be worn immediately above and parallel to the top edge of the right breast pocket. Tapes extend to each pocket edge but not beyond.

- (2) Collar rank. The collar rank insignia shall be the subdued cloth, sew-on type, embroidered on olive green background material. Collar rank insignia shall be worn on the right collar, centered on an imaginary line bisecting the angle of the collar point; the center of the device shall be 1-1/2 inches perpendicularly from each collar edge.
- (3) Collar Corps Device. The PHS corps device, consisting of a fowl anchor and caduceus crossed as in the seal of the Service, shall be embroidered in subdued thread on olive green background material. The device shall be 1 inch by 1 inch. The corps device shall be sewn on the left collar with the caduceus falling along an imaginary line bisecting the angle of the collar point with the anchor pointing inward. The center of the device shall be 1-1/2 inches perpendicularly from each collar edge.
- (4) Special Unit Identification Patches. Special unit identification patches may be prescribed by the local authority. Special patches shall be of the subdued, embroidered type with a basic olive green background and shall not exceed 3-1/2 inches in the greatest dimension. Special patches shall be worn centered on the left breast pocket.
- (5) Special Skills Badges. Skills badges shall be of the subdued embroidered type. An officer may wear no more than two skill badges. To be entitled to wear a badge, it must have been earned for a

medically-related skill (regardless of branch of service) or earned while on active duty as a PHS officer.

Medically-related badges include (1) Combat Medical Badges, (2) Expert Field Medical Badges, (3) Flight Surgeon insignia, (4) Flight Nurse insignia, (5) Diving (Medical) insignia, and (6) Submarine Medical insignia.

The skills badge is worn centered one-quarter inch above the "USPHS" tape. If two badges are worn, the second badge is worn centered one-quarter inch above the lower badge.

c. Field Jacket Insignia.

- (1) Service and Individual Identification. The "USPHS" and nametape identification strips shall be worn in the same manner as prescribed for the utility coat in subparagraph b(1), above.
- (2) Rank Insignia. Subdued, metal or sew-on type rank insignia shall be worn centered on each shoulder strap, with the bottom edge of the insignia 3/4 inch from the outer, squared end of the shoulder strap.
- (3) Special Insignia. Special unit identification patches and special skills badges are worn in the same manner as prescribed for the utility coat.

4. Manner of Wear.

The FUU is designed for field wear and should be loose fitting and comfortable. The coat will be worn outside the trousers, not tucked in, all buttons will be buttoned except for collar button; the collar is worn open. Sleeves may be rolled up when allowed by local authority. The trousers are worn bloused at the boots. The utility cap is worn straight on the head so that the cap band creates a straight line around the head parallel to the ground. The belt is worn so that the tip extends just beyond the buckle. The field jacket is worn with the zipper at least three-quarters closed. Alterations to the FUU in order to make it formfitting are not authorized. When working in extreme heat, the local authority may grant permission to remove the utility coat.

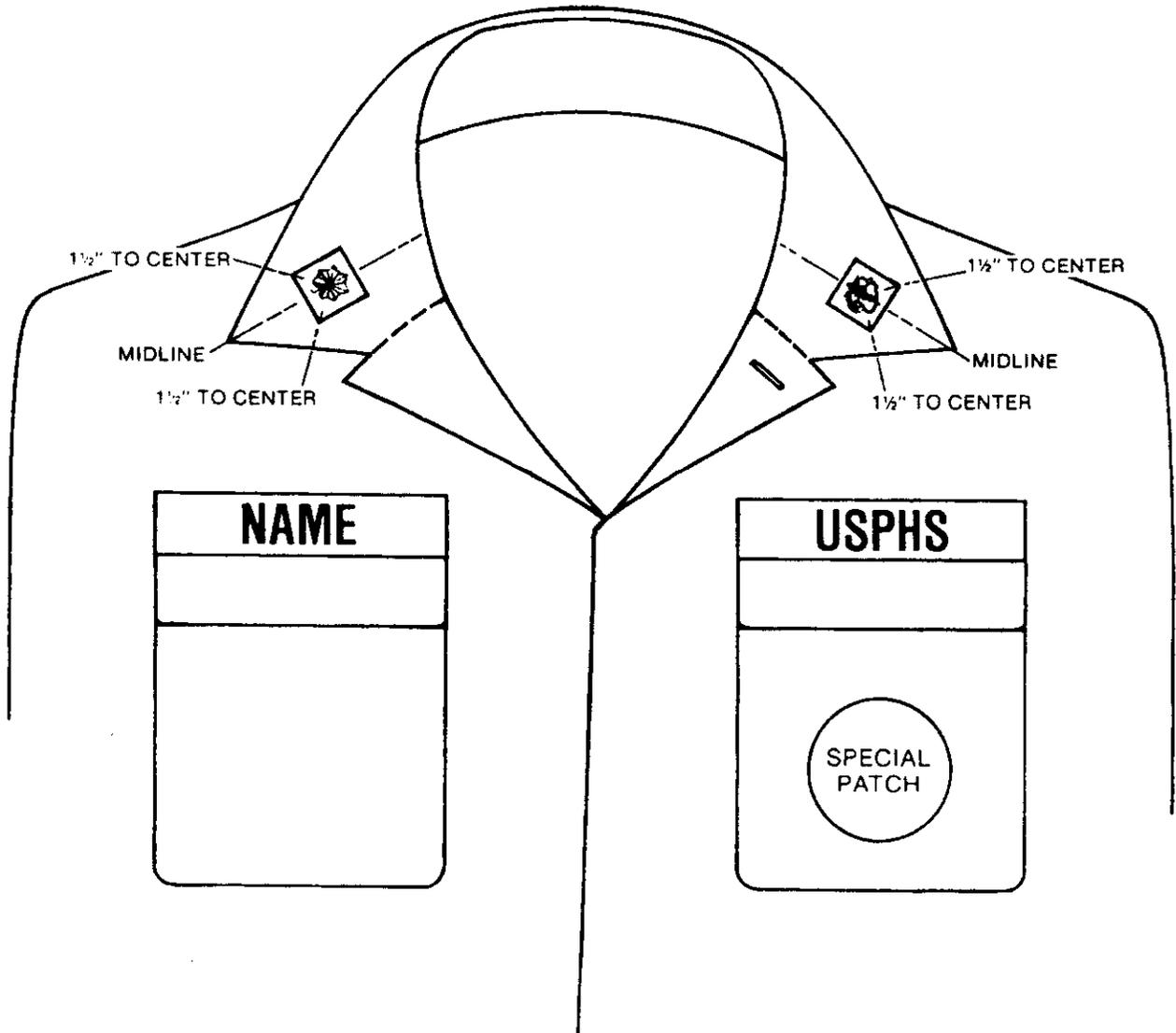
5. Wear of the FUU By Civilian Personnel.

The FUU basic clothing items are not distinctive PHS commissioned corps uniform components, and civilian personnel participating jointly with commissioned officers may wear the basic FUU if otherwise provided for in the appropriate regulations. The rank insignia, cap device, and corps device are considered distinctive components and are to be worn only by commissioned officers. It is recommended that civilian personnel wear a standard "civilian identifier" patch centered on the right breast pocket of the utility coat and field jacket.

6. Supplemental Instructions.

The local authority for FUU matters may issue such supplemental instructions as are needed to insure proper utilization of the FUU, provided that such instructions are not inconsistent with the provisions of this INSTRUCTION.

7. Utility Coat Insignia Illustration.



Section D. Maternity Uniforms

1. General. A maternity uniform will be worn by pregnant officers when a uniform is prescribed and the regular uniforms no longer fit. Pregnant officers may wear outer garments (i.e., raincoat, overcoat, or reefer) unbuttoned when they will no longer fit properly when buttoned.
2. Service Dress Blue.
  - a. Coat. A single-breasted coat made of authorized navy blue fabric, with a convertible collar and seven black plastic buttons down the front. Soft shoulder boards are worn on the epaulets. It is worn with the name tag and ribbons; badges or other insignia are worn if applicable.
  - b. Skirt. A plain, two-panel, tailored, A-line skirt with elasticized waist and stretch front panel of a fabric to match the coat.
  - c. Shirt. An epauletted shirt made of authorized white fabric with a convertible, turndown, pointed collar. It may have short or long sleeves and is worn with soft shoulder boards and a navy blue tie.
  - d. Slacks. Flared slacks of the same material as the jacket. The front panel and waist are similar to those of the skirt.
3. Summer White.
  - a. Skirt. Similar to the skirt in subsection 2.b, above, but white in color.
  - b. Slacks. Similar to the slacks in subsection 2.d, above, but white in color.
  - c. Shirt. A white, short sleeved shirt similar in design to the shirt in subsection 2.c, above. Shirt fabric matches that of the skirt or slacks. Worn unbuttoned at the collar, with name tag, ribbons and hard shoulder boards.
4. Winter Blue.
  - a. Shirt. The maternity Service Dress Blue coat (see subsection 2.a, above) is used as the shirt. It is worn fully buttoned with a navy blue tie, name tag, and ribbons. A miniature metal rank device is worn on the right collar point and a miniature PHS corps device is worn on the left. The devices are positioned the same as for long sleeve blue and khaki shirts; see Section F.1.a, INSTRUCTION 6, of this subchapter for guidance.
  - b. Skirt. Same as described in subsection 2.b, above.
  - c. Slacks. Same as described in subsection 2.d, above.

5. Summer Khaki.
  - a. Shirt. Made of authorized khaki fabric with short sleeves and two breast pockets with button flaps. It has an open collar which forms a V-neck. Worn with name tag, ribbons and collar insignia; see Section F.1.b, INSTRUCTION 6, of this subchapter for guidance on collar insignia.
  - b. Skirt. A plain, two-paneled, tailored, A-line khaki skirt with an elasticized waist and a stretch front panel. The fabric matches that of the shirt.
  - c. Slacks. Flared khaki slacks with an elasticized waist and stretch front panel. The fabric matches that of the shirt.
6. Working Khaki. This is the maternity Summer Khaki worn without ribbons. The name tag is optional.
7. Dinner Dress Uniform. This is the maternity Service Dress Blue uniform worn with miniature medals instead of ribbons.
8. Full Dress Uniform. This is the maternity Service Dress Blue Uniform worn with large medals instead of ribbons.
9. Winter Working Blue. This is the maternity Winter Blue uniform worn with open collar and without tie or ribbons. The name tag is optional.

#### Section E. Protective Clothing

1. General. The LUA may prescribe or authorize protective clothing such as lab coats and smocks for use when the nature of the work would tend to rapidly soil or damage the uniform. These are worn over the applicable uniform (with the coat removed in the case of the Service Dress Blue uniform). Personnel performing on-site duty that involves working in construction, trenches, sewers, etc., may be authorized to wear protective coverings and headgear. Local rules should be prescribed to insure consistency in the usage and manner of wear of protective gear by all officers in the affected assignments.
2. Special-Purpose Gear. When the nature of the assignment requires special clothing and equipment to deal with biological, radiological, chemical or physical hazards, such gear shall be provided as organizational clothing and shall be worn in accordance with instructions prescribed by the Agency having jurisdiction.
3. Foul-Weather Gear. Foul weather gear of the type utilized by either the U. S. Air Force or the U. S. Navy may be provided as organizational clothing by the Agency to those officers in assignments that require protection from climatic extremes. The Agency is responsible for providing guidance on the proper wear of the gear and associated insignia. Officers are permitted to purchase such gear if desired. However, the PHS will not maintain a source of supply for these items.

### Section F. Weddings

1. Immediate Participants and Family. The bride and maid-of-honor, the groom and best man, and the immediate family may wear either customary civilian attire or the corresponding uniform of their uniformed service. Civilian members of the wedding party may not, of course, wear the PHS uniform. However, retired and inactive reserve officers may.

The Service Dress Blue or White is the counterpart to business attire; Dinner Dress is the counterpart to a tuxedo or a gown; Full Dress provides a more ceremonial atmosphere, but is not as formal as Dinner Dress. The selection of uniforms is a matter of discretion, taking into account prevailing customs and the desires of the couple to be married.

2. Ushers and Bridesmaids. All ushers or bridesmaids who are service members should wear the same uniform, which need not be the same as the uniform chosen by the persons mentioned in subsection 1, above. When multiple uniformed services are involved, uniforms of corresponding type should be worn. For example, Service Dress and Dinner Dress uniforms should not be mixed.
3. Guests. Uniformed Guests wear the appropriate Service Dress uniform.
4. Swords. Swords may be carried with the Full Dress or Dinner Dress uniforms. Swords are not worn in a house of worship. If the wedding takes place in a non-religious setting, carrying of swords shall be at the discretion of the bride and groom. In a house of worship, the sword belt without scabbard may be carried with the end clips fastened together. If an arch of swords is to be formed, draw swords outside of the house of worship. Uniformed guests would not normally carry swords.

### Section G. Funerals

1. General. At military funerals, officers serving as pallbearers or attending in an official capacity wear a mourning badge. When attending in a non-official capacity or for civilian funerals, the mourning badge is worn at personal discretion. For the purposes of this Section, the funeral of a PHS officer may be designated a "military funeral" if desired by the next-of-kin or requested in the officer's will.
2. Mourning Badge. A mourning badge is a length of black crepe, three inches wide and long enough to encircle the arm. It is worn on the left sleeve of the outer garment, halfway between the shoulder and the elbow. When a sword is worn with the Full Dress uniform, a mourning badge which is three inches wide and 20 inches long is knotted in the middle at the sword hilt.
3. White Gloves. Officers may be required to wear white gloves at military funerals. White gloves are optional at other funerals, and are worn only during the funeral ceremony.

### Section H. Religious Ceremonies

When participating in religious services in a house of worship, uniformed officers may wear the vestments of their religion.

### Section I. Tropical Uniforms

1. General. Tropical uniforms may be authorized or prescribed for male officers by the LUA (see definitions in INSTRUCTION 1 of this subchapter) for use in areas where the extremely warm climate warrants such a uniform. There are no corresponding uniforms for female officers, but if a female officer is assigned to such an area, she should contact the Director, DCP, for guidance. The tropical white is for general purpose wear in the prescribed area; the tropical khaki is considered a working uniform.

2. Tropical White. The tropical white consists of the following components.

Required Basic Items:

- a. Shirt, white summer, short sleeve (same as Summer White)
- b. Trousers, white, short (hemmed two inches above the knee, two back and two side pockets)
- c. Cap, combination white
- d. Shoes, white dress
- e. Socks, white knee-length
- f. Undergarments
- g. Belt, white with gold clip and buckle
- h. Shoulder Boards, Hard
- i. Ribbons
- j. Name tag

Prescribable Items:

None.

Optional Items:

- a. Raincoat, blue
- b. Overshoes
- c. Helmet (only if authorized by the LUA. A conventional tropical helmet, white, with miniature cap device worn on the front center line.)

3. Tropical Khaki. The tropical khaki consists of the following components.

Required Basic Items:

- a. Shirt, working khaki, short sleeve (same as Working Khaki)

- b. Trousers, khaki, short (hemmed two inches above the knee, two back and two side pockets)
- c. Cap, combination khaki
- d. Shoes, black dress
- e. Socks, black knee-length
- f. Undergarments
- g. Belt, khaki with gold clip and buckle
- h. Collar insignia

Prescribable Items:

- a. Cap, khaki garrison
- b. Shoes, black safety

Optional Items:

- a. Raincoat, blue
- b. Cap, command ball (only if authorized by LUA)
- c. Overshoes
- d. Helmet (only if authorized by LUA. A conventional tropical helmet, khaki, with miniature cap device worn on the front center line.)
- e. Name tag.