

\* Army Cadet Regulation 670-1

Uniforms and Insignia

# **United States Army Cadet Corps Distinctive Insignia and Uniforms**

**Headquarters  
United States Army Cadet Corps  
Dayton, PA  
30 March 2008**

# ***SUMMARY of CHANGE***

ACR 670-1

United States Army Cadet Corps (USAC) Distinctive Insignia and Uniforms

This revision--

- o Consolidates and publishes all interim uniform changes made since December 2000.
- o Supersedes ACAINST 1020.1, *ACA Distinctive Insignia*.
- o Updates design of USAC shoulder sleeve insignia (SSI) and provides implementation and wear-out dates for various designs.
- o Amends SSI wear policy to allow Cadets to wear subdued SSI on ACU and removes the SSI from the black windbreaker for members of the Officers' Corps.
- o Provides policy for wearing the USAC identification badge by members of the Officers' Corps and removes the SSI from Class B shirts and the dress blue coat.
- o Implements wear of the National Headquarters staff identification badge including qualification and wear policy.
- o Mandates wear of "Army Cadets" branch tapes by Cadets and "U.S. Army Cadets" branch tapes by officers, as well as the USAC nametag.
- o Implements a policy for wear of the reverse-field U.S. flag replica patch.
- o Establishes policy for wear of the "Cadet" and allergy tapes on the ACU by USAC Cadets and lists as unauthorized the wear of blood-type tags.
- o Requires the wear of a "Cadet" tab on Goretex parkas by USAC Cadets.
- o Establishes wear policy for leaders insignia by certain members of the USAC Officers' Corps and Cadets.
- o Implements Cadet-specific rank insignia.
- o Establishes requirements for wear of USAC-specific insignia (including the distinctive unit insignia (DUI) and USAC-specific branch insignia).
- o Clarifies USAC headgear policy including implementation of the black beret, wear of the DUI by Cadets on the black beret, wear of "O.C.S." and "W.O.C." insignia on the black beret by Officer Candidates and Warrant Officer Candidates, respectively, and eliminates wear of the "Recruit" ballcap.
- o Implements wear of regular Army shoulder marks by members of the Officers' Corps.
- o Implements the ACU, including wear of the "Recruit" rank tab by USAC recruits and implements the Army Combat Boot.
- o Implements the physical fitness uniform and improved physical fitness uniform.

Headquarters  
United States Army Cadet Corps  
Dayton, PA  
30 March 2008

\* Army Cadet Regulation 670-1

Effective 15 April 2008

Uniforms and Insignia

United States Army Cadet Corps Distinctive Insignia and Uniforms

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**History.** This publication is a replacement for ACAINST 1020.1, *ACA Distinctive Insignia*, and is a rapid action release. This regulation supplements AR 670-1, *Wear and Appearance of Army Uniforms and Insignia*. The portions affected by this revision are listed in the summary of change.

**Summary.** This regulation prescribes U.S. Army Cadet Corps (USAC) policy for proper wear of the Department of Defense (DoD) style uniform, as worn by members of the USAC Officers' Corps and Cadets of the USAC.

**Applicability.** This regulation applies to all USAC personnel serving in a uniformed status.

**Proponent and Exception Authority.** The proponent of this regulation is the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-1 (DCS, G-1). The proponent has the authority to approve exceptions or waivers to this regulation that are consistent with controlling law and regulations. The proponent may not delegate this approval authority. All waiver requests will be endorsed by the commander or senior leader of the requesting activity and forwarded through their higher headquarters to the policy proponent.

**Supplementation.** Supplementation of this regulation and establishment of command and local forms are prohibited.

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\* This regulation supersedes ACAINST 1020-1, *ACA Distinctive Insignia*, dated 29 December 2000.

**Suggested improvements.** Users are invited to send comments and suggested improvements to the DCS, G-1.

**Distribution.** Distribution of this publication is available in electronic media only, and is located on the USAC homepage at [www.armycadets.org](http://www.armycadets.org).

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## 1. Purpose.

a. This regulation provides guidance for wear of the U.S. Army Cadet Corps (USAC) Department of Defense (DoD)-style uniform. This regulation is intended to be used in conjunction with AR 670-1, *Wear and Appearance of Army Uniforms and Insignia*, as a USAC-specific supplement. Guidance from AR 670-1 should always be followed, unless a modification is listed herein.

b. Publication of this regulation cancels ACAINST 1020.1, *ACA Distinctive Insignia*.

**2. Clarification of Terminology.** The term *USAC Officers' Corps* refers to all USAC officers, warrant officers, officer candidates, warrant officer candidates, and adult noncommissioned officers (NCOs). Uniformed instructors and civilian instructors are generally not included in this definition, unless specifically stated. The term *Cadet* refers to all Cadet members of the U.S. Army Cadet Corps, including recruits, unless specifically stated otherwise. The term *Recruit* refers to Cadet members who have yet to complete Basic Cadet Training (BCT).

## 3. Background.

a. **Distinctive Mark.** Federal law (10 USC 772 and 32 CFR 765.13) requires the placement of a "distinctive mark" on all DoD-style uniforms to identify the wearer as a member of a nationally organized Cadet Corps. This is to clearly distinguish USAC personnel from their DoD counterparts. This requirement applies to all uniformed members of the USAC Officers' Corps and Cadets of all grades.

b. **Distinctive Insignia.** In addition to the distinctive mark described above, the USAC has developed a variety of distinctive insignia to provide USAC personnel with uniform modifications which reflect the traditions and pride of the Armed Forces, yet clearly distinguishes USAC personnel from their DoD counterparts.

## 4. Policy.

a. **Wear of USAC Shoulder Sleeve Insignia by Officers and NCOs.** Officers and NCOs are required to wear the USAC shoulder sleeve insignia (SSI) as indicated below, on the left sleeve of the Class "A" jacket and the Army Combat Uniform (ACU). Changes to the current policy regarding the wear of USAC SSI by members of the USAC Officers' Corps, as reflected below, are effective as of the date of this regulation. All USAC personnel will wear the full color SSI on the Class "A" jacket. The second and third generation color SSIs are the only versions currently authorized for wear. The first generation color SSI is no longer authorized for wear. The third generation SSI will be the only authorized version of the SSI as of 1 January 2009. All USAC personnel will wear the Army Combat Uniform (ACU)-specific SSI on the ACU and ACU pattern field jacket/soft-shell jacket, and wind resistant jacket. The second generation ACU SSI is required for wear with the ACU ensemble on 1 January 2009. SSI designs are depicted in Figure 4-1. The SSI is not

worn on mess dress uniforms, the dress blue uniform, Class B shirts, and the Goretex parka.



**Figure 4-1. USAC Cloth Insignia**

b. **Wear of USAC SSI by Cadets.** USAC Cadets are required to wear the USAC SSI on the left sleeve of all uniforms, except for service sweaters and raincoats, subject to restrictions listed below. Changes to current policy regarding the SSI color worn on various uniforms, as reflected below, are effective as of the date of this regulation. USAC Cadets will wear the full color SSI on the dress blue jacket, Class A jacket, Class B shirts, and the black windbreaker. The second and third generation color SSIs are the only versions currently authorized for wear. The first generation color SSI is no longer authorized for wear. The third generation SSI will be the only authorized version of the SSI as of 1 January 2009. Cadets will wear the ACU-specific SSI on the ACU and the ACU pattern field jacket. The second generation ACU SSI is required for wear with the ACU ensemble on 1 January 2009. SSI designs are depicted in Figure 4-1. The patch is not worn on the ECWCS (Gortex) parka.

c. **Wear of USAC Identification Badge.** Uniformed members of the USAC Officers' Corps are required to wear the USAC identification badge (USACIB), as depicted in Figure 4-2 on all service and dress uniforms. The USACIB will be worn by USAC officers and NCOs in addition to the SSI on the Class "A" uniform.



**Figure 4-2. USAC Identification Badge**

d. **Wear of the National Headquarters Staff Identification Badge.** Uniformed members of the USAC Officers' Corps who are assigned to National Headquarters will wear the National Headquarters Staff Identification Badge (NHQSIB), which is depicted in Figure 4-3, as outlined below:

(1) Successfully completed a one-year probationary period in a National Headquarters assignment, approved in writing by the National Commander.

(2) Attend at least one week of Annual Training, as well as the annual Leadership Symposium and annual Executive Leadership Conference during the probationary period. Presentation of the NHQSIB will be during either the annual Leadership Symposium or Executive Leadership Conference.

(3) Assigned primary duties as a member of National Headquarters staff. Members of the USAC Officers' Corps who are assigned to NHQ duties, in addition to unit- or state-level duties, must be primarily engaged in NHQ support to be eligible to receive and wear the NHQSIB. Assignment to Headquarters Company or the Individual Training Company does not meet the above criteria. Requests from officers who are assigned to NHQ duties, in addition to unit- or state-level duties, will be submitted to the Chief of Staff for determination of eligibility.

(4) Failure to attend at least one week of Annual Training, the annual Leadership Symposium and annual Executive Leadership Conference, on two consecutive occasions (i.e., missed any two of the above events consecutively), will result in forfeiture of authority to wear the NHQSIB. Reinstatement of eligibility to wear the National Headquarters Staff Identification Badge after forfeiture will be determined by the National Commander on a case-by-case basis.

(5) Initial issue of the NHQSIB will be at NHQ expense. Additional or replacement badges will be at the individual's expense.

(6) The NHQSIB is not authorized for wear by Cadets assigned to NHQ, except for the Cadet Command Sergeant Major / Senior Cadet Advisor, at the discretion of the National Commander.



**Figure 4-3. National Headquarters Staff Identification Badge**

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e. **Wear of Branch Tapes by Uniformed Members of the USAC Officers' Corps.** Uniformed members of the USAC Officers' Corps will wear branch tapes with "U.S. ARMY CADETS" as shown in Figure 4-4, on all utility uniforms (except the ECWCS Goretex parka), including field jackets, the ACU-pattern soft shell, and ACU-pattern wind shirt. The mandatory wear date for the "U.S. ARMY CADETS" branch tape on utility uniforms by members of the USAC officers' corps is 1 June 2008.

(1) The "U.S. ARMY CADETS" branch tape is 5½ inches long, rather than the standard 5 inches; therefore, it must be ordered through ACES to ensure standardized quality and size.

(2) The wear of federal service branch tapes (e.g., "U.S. ARMY") is specifically not authorized, as USAC personnel are not serving as active or reserve members of the Armed Forces. This prohibition does not apply to uniformed instructors who are wearing their federal uniforms while on duty with the USAC.



Officers and NCOs



Cadets

**Figure 4-4. USAC Branch Tapes**

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f. **Wear of Distinctive Insignia of Grade by Cadets.** Cadets will wear distinctive insignia of grade in lieu of regular Army insignia of grade on all uniforms. Cadet-specific insignia will be worn on all uniforms as of 1 June 2008. Regular Army insignia of grade must be removed from all Cadet uniforms no later than 31 May 2008. Descriptions of Cadet insignia of grade and provisions for wear are included in paragraph 5.

## 5. Cadet Insignia of Grade.

a. **Non-Subdued Pin-On Grade Insignia.** Polished brass, pin-on grade insignia will be worn by all Cadets. The width of each chevron and bar is 3/32 inch, with a 1/16-inch open space between the chevrons and bars (Figure 5-1).

b. **Subdued Pin-On Grade Insignia.** Subdued metal pin-on grade insignia is identical to the nonsubdued pin-on grade insignia described above, except the insignia has a dull, flat black finish. Cadets will wear subdued pin-on grade insignia on the ACU patrol cap. (Figure 5-2).

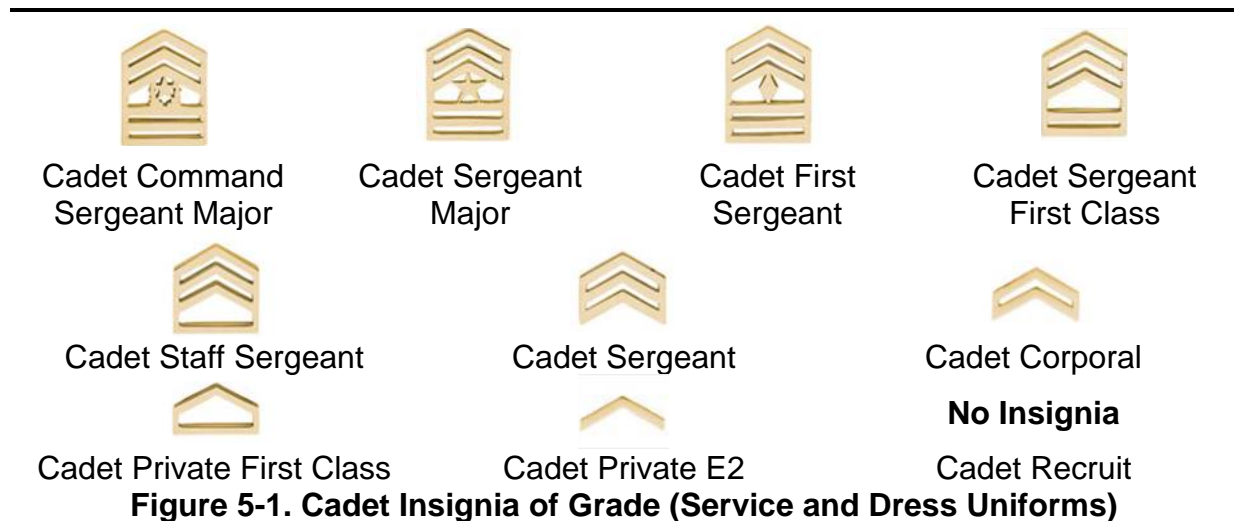
c. **Subdued Embroidered Insignia.** Subdued embroidered insignia is identical to the subdued pin-on grade insignia described above, except it is embroidered in black thread onto Army universal pattern camouflage material. The insignia is provided affixed to a hook-and-loop pad for ACU coats. (Figure 5-2).

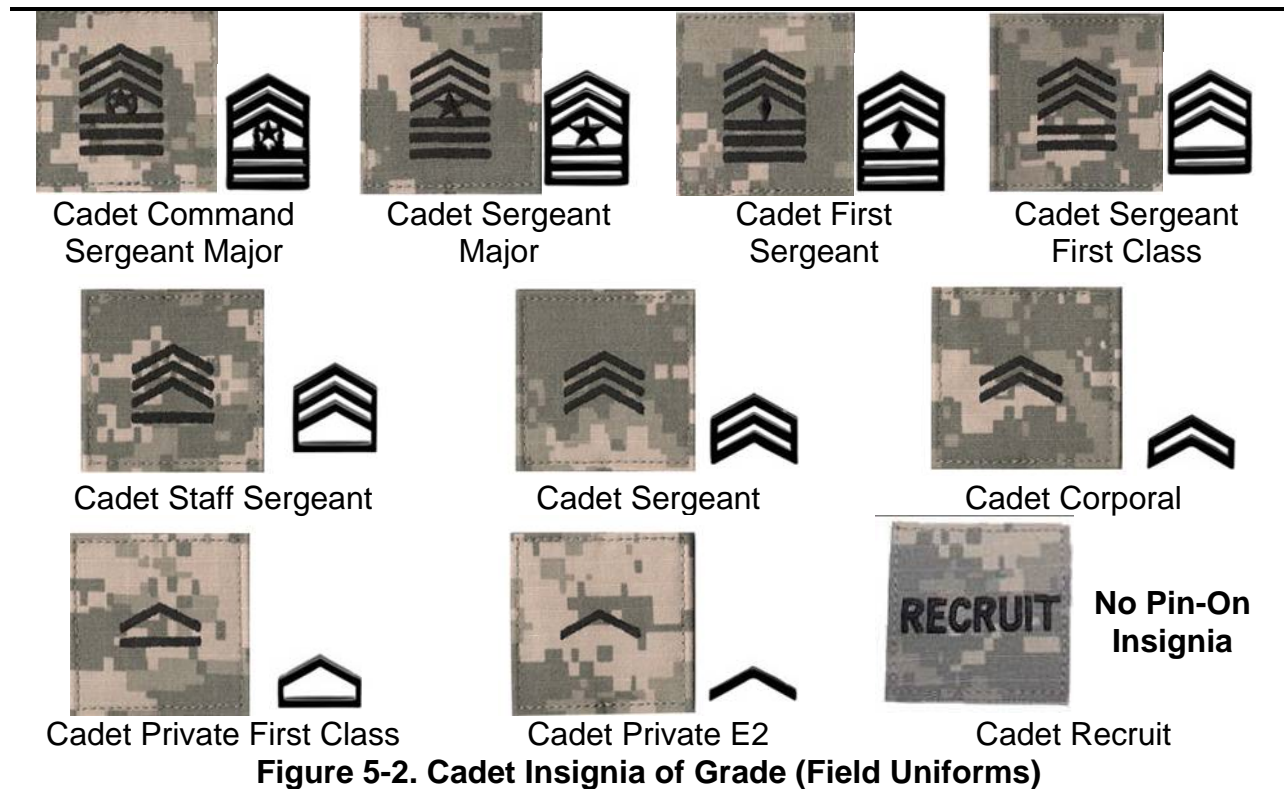
e. **How Worn.**

(1) Non-subdued pin-on Cadet grade insignia is worn on the black all-weather coat and the windbreaker. Cadets will wear the non-subdued pin-on insignia centered on both collars, with the centerline of the insignia bisecting the points of the collar, 1 inch up from the collar point, on the AG 415 shirt (Class B shirt), all-weather coat and the windbreaker.

(2) Subdued pin-on Cadet grade insignia is worn on the ACU patrol cap and on the rank tab of the ECWCS parka by all Cadets.

(3) Subdued embroidered Cadet grade insignia is worn on the ACU. Insignia with the hook and loop pad is worn by all Cadets on ACU coats that have a hook-and-loop rank pad.





f. **Wear of Branch Tapes by Cadets.** Cadets will wear branch tapes with "ARMY CADETS" as shown in Figure 4-4, on all utility uniforms (except the ECWCS Goretex parka), including field jackets, the ACU-pattern soft shell, and ACU-pattern wind shirt. The "ARMY CADETS" branch tape is the standard 5 inches. It should be ordered through ACES to ensure standardized quality and size.

g. **Wear of Reverse-Field United States Flag Cloth Replica by USAC Personnel.** All USAC personnel will wear a full-color, reverse-field United States flag cloth replica on the right shoulder of the field jacket, and ACU (including the soft shell jacket and wind shirt). Recruits will wear this insignia upon completion of a National Headquarters-approved 40 hour Recruit Orientation program. The insignia will be worn centered and ½ inch below the shoulder seam of the right sleeve of the field jacket. The insignia will be fastened with a hook and loop fastener to the upper right sleeve of the ACU jacket.

**h. Wear of Blood Type and Allergies Tapes on the Army Combat Uniform.**

(1) Cadets will wear a tape with any known allergies, or "NKA," indicating no known allergies, on the lower portion of the left sleeve pocket flap of the ACU coat (including the soft shell jacket and wind shirt). Allergy designations for the tapes are as follows:

- (a) NKA. No known allergies.
- (b) NKDA. No known drug allergies.

(c) NO ABX. No antibiotics.

(d) NO ASA. No aspirin.

(e) NO PCN. No penicillin.

(2) Cadets will wear a tape with "CADET" on the upper portion of the left sleeve pocket flap of the ACU, as depicted in Figure 4-1.

(3) Members of the USAC Officers' Corps will not wear blood type or allergy tapes on the ACU. They are encouraged to wear personal identification tags ("dog tags"), which include blood type and allergy information.

i. **USAC Nametags.** Specially modified nametags, as shown in Figure 5-3, are required for wear by USAC personnel on all dress uniforms, except mess dress and dinner dress. Nametags reading "U.S. ARMY CADET CORPS" will be required for wear on 1 January 2009.



**Figure 5-3. USAC Nametag**

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j. **A.C.A Insignia.** USAC officers will wear gold "A.C.A." insignia on the lapels of the Army green service and Army dress blue jackets, in accordance with provisions of AR 670-1, *Wear and Appearance of Army Uniforms and Insignia* for the wear of "U.S." insignia.

k. **Cadet Insignia for the Goretex Parka.** Cadets wearing the Goretex parka will wear a ½ inch tall loop with the word "CADET" embroidered in black thread on the rank insignia tab, as depicted in Figure 5-4. The Cadet insignia will be worn so that it is above any pin-on rank insignia or leaders insignia worn on the insignia tab. The Cadet insignia is available in olive green for wear on woodland pattern parkas and in the ACU camouflage pattern for wear on ACU pattern parkas.



ACU



Tab as Worn on Parka

**Figure 5-4. Cadet ECWCS Parka Insignia**

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l. **Headgear.** Required modifications to headgear are described in detail in paragraph 9, below.

m. **Wear of Hydration Packs (“Camelback”).** All USAC personnel, regardless of rank, are authorized to wear and utilize a hydration pack. Personally purchased hydration packs are to be foliage green or ACU pattern.

## **6. U.S. Army Cadet Corps Identification Badge.**

a. **Distinctive Mark.** The wear of the U.S. Army Cadet Corps identification badge (USACIB) satisfies the requirement for placement of a distinctive mark on all DoD-style uniforms, as defined below.

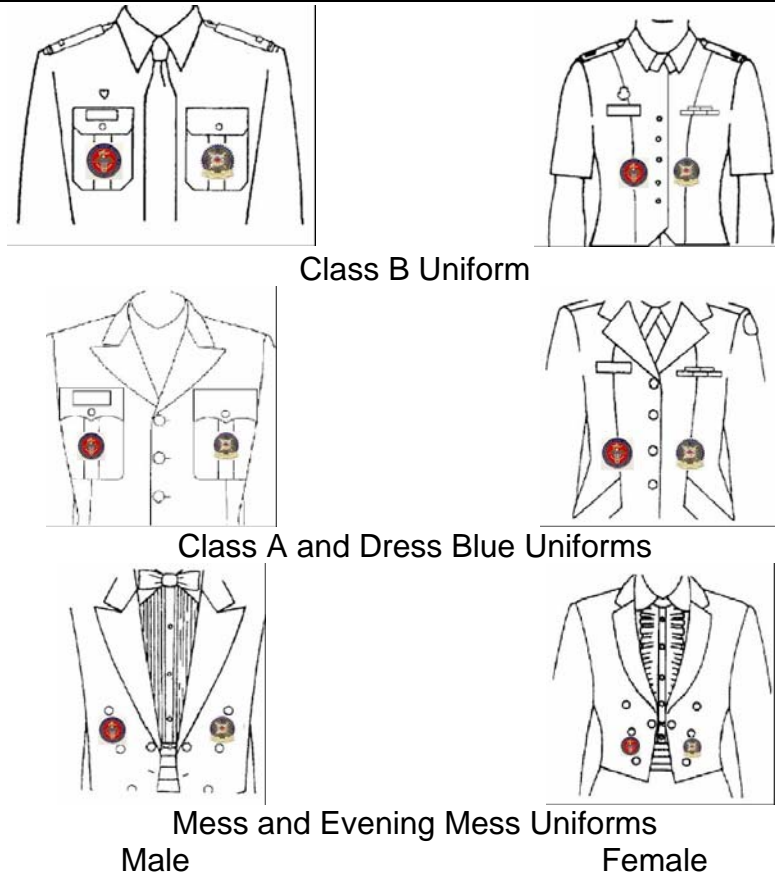
b. **General Provisions.** The USACIB consists of a 2-inch diameter metal and enamel shield depicting the U.S. Military Cadet Corps seal, as shown in Figure 4-2. The badge is worn on Class B shirts, the Class A jacket, and dress uniform coats (dress blue and mess dress uniforms) by all uniformed members of the USAC Officers’ Corps.

c. **How Worn.** Uniformed members of the USAC Officers’ Corps will wear the USACIB on all service, service dress, and dress uniforms. The badge will not be worn on outerwear, sweaters or the ACU. Personnel will wear the USACIB and brigade patch on the Class A uniform. When wearing the Class A uniform, personnel will wear the USACIB on both the jacket and AG 415 shirt, to comply with the federal requirement for a distinctive mark in case the coat is removed.

(1) Males will wear the USACIB, as shown in Figure 4-2, as follows: on service and dress uniforms, and the AG 415 shirt, the badge is worn centered on the pocket of the coat or shirt, centered between the bottom of the pocket flap and the bottom of the pocket, and centered from left to right; on the mess and evening mess uniforms, the badge is worn centered between the upper two buttons of the jacket.

(2) Females will wear the USACIB, as shown in Figure 4-2, as follows: on service and dress uniforms, the badge is worn parallel to the waistline on the coat of the Army green uniform; the badge is worn in a comparable position on the Army blue uniform coat, the maternity tunic, and the AG shade 415 shirt; females may adjust placement of badges to conform to individual body-shape differences; on the mess and evening mess uniforms, the badge is worn centered between the lower two buttons of the jacket.

d. **Serviceability of Uniforms Once SSI is Removed.** Personnel must exercise due care when removing the SSI from shirts and jackets, to ensure that the uniform components remain serviceable. Shirts and coats/jackets that become ripped, torn, or cut in the SSI removal process or that are discolored, disproportionately shrunk, have obvious needle holes from previous sewing or glue marks may not be worn. New shirts and jackets must be procured in these cases prior to wearing these uniforms with the USACIB. Commanders are responsible for the compliance of their subordinates with this requirement.



**Figure 6-1. Wear of the USAC Identification Badge and National Headquarters Staff Identification Badge on USAC Uniforms**

e. **Availability.** The USACIB is available through ACES. USAC personnel authorized to wear this badge are required to possess two badges, as two are required when wearing the Class A uniform.

f. **Effective Date.** The USACIB is authorized for immediate wear by uniformed members of the USAC Officers' Corps. The mandatory possession date for two USAC Identification Badges is 1 April 2008. The phase out date for wear of the SSI on service, service dress, and dress uniforms (except as noted above) by all personnel affected by this regulation is the publication date of this notice.

## 7. National Headquarters Staff Identification Badge.

a. **General Provisions.** The NHQSIB consists of a 2-inch diameter silver and blue enamel shield depicting a crossed sword and fasces, surmounted by a wreath and the Adjutant General's shield, all surrounded by a gold wreath along the bottom, as shown in Figure 4-3. The badge is worn by qualified members of the USAC National Headquarters Staff, as listed in paragraph 4d, above.

b. **How Worn.** USAC males and females will wear the NHQSIB, as shown in Figure 6-1 on the left side of the uniform, in a corresponding position to the USACIB.

## 8. Wear of Leader Insignia by USAC Personnel.

a. **General Provisions.** USAC leaders in all units will wear the leaders identification (LI) insignia. The LI insignia is a green cloth loop, 1-5/8 inches wide (see Figure 8-1), worn in the middle of both shoulder loops on the Army green coat, the cold-weather coat (field jacket), and on the center tab of the extended cold-weather clothing system (ECWCS) (Goretex) parka. NCOs and Cadets will wear the LI directly beneath the USAC distinctive unit insignia (DUI) on the Army green coat, as depicted in Figure 8-2. When the LI insignia is worn on the parka, personnel wear their grade insignia centered on the LI insignia. Officers and NCOs will wear an embroidered subdued rank device integrated into the LI insignia. All Cadets, as well as officers and NCOs within 30 days after being promoted, may wear pin-on grade insignia. Personnel will not wear the LI when reassigned from a command position or when transitioning between units. During national training programs, LI insignia will only be worn by command billet holders within the training unit modification table of organization and equipment. For example, a Company Commander serving at annual training as the G-4 would not wear the LI insignia during annual training.



b. **Qualifying Billets.** Leaders in the following billets are authorized to wear the LI insignia.

(1) National Commander (NCDR), Deputy National Commander (D/NCDR), Command Sergeant Major of the U.S. Army Cadet Corps (CSMAC), Cadet

Command Sergeant Major of the U.S. Army Cadet Corps / Senior Cadet Advisor (C/CSMAC).

(2) Brigade Commander (BdeCDR), Brigade Executive Officer (BdeXO), Brigade Command Sergeant Major (BdeCSM).

(3) Battalion Commander (BnCDR), Battalion Executive Officer (BnXO), Battalion Command Sergeant Major (BnCSM), Battalion Cadet Sergeant Major (C/BnSGM).

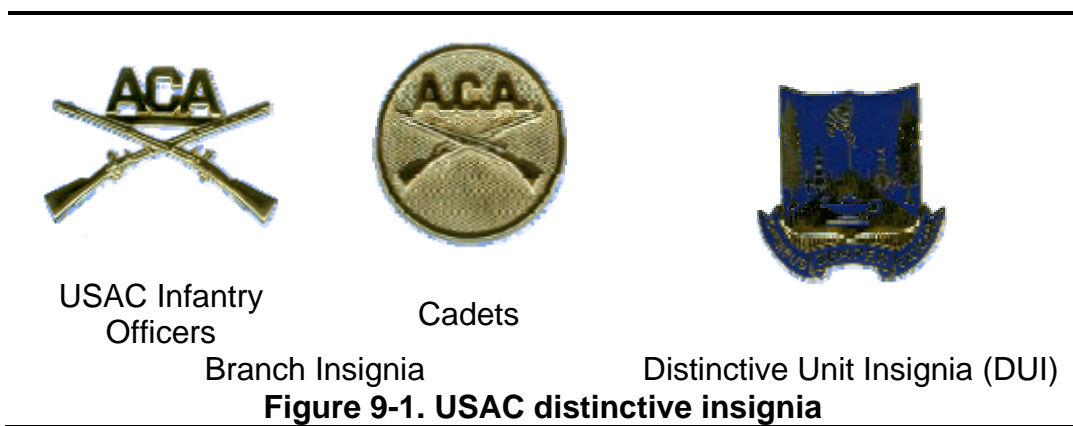
(4) Company Commander, Company Executive Officer, Company First Sergeant, Cadet First Sergeant, Acting Cadet First Sergeant (only worn when the Cadet's grade is E-5 or above).

c. **Availability.** The LI insignia is available through ACES. The LI comes in two versions – one with a snap closure on the back and one that is a sewn loop. The version with the snap closure must be used with the Class A jacket, as the sewn loop will not fit properly over the epaulet.

d. **Effective Date.** Wear of the LI insignia by eligible personnel, as defined in paragraph 7b is authorized immediately. The mandatory wear date for the LI insignia by all eligible personnel is 1 April 2008.

## 9. USAC Unique Insignia.

a. **USAC Insignia of Branch for Cadets.** "A.C.A." insignia for Cadets, as show in Figure 9-1, is worn in the same manner as the "U.S." and branch insignia disks on the lapel of the Army Green Service Uniform and Army Dress Blue Uniform, per AR 670-1, *Wear and Appearance of Army Uniforms and Insignia*.



b. **USAC Insignia of Branch for Officers an NCOs.** Specially modified infantry branch insignia, as shown in Figure 9-1, are worn by USAC Officers who are branched infantry in accordance with ACAINST 1120.2A, *Officer Corps Application Process*, on the Army Green Service Uniform, and Dress Blue Uniform. All officers

who are branched other than infantry will wear standard Army branch insignia, without modification, as shown in AR 670-1, *Wear and Appearance of Army Uniforms and Insignia*. All NCOs will wear "U.S." collar insignia and standard Army branch insignia disks as shown in AR 670-1, *Wear and Appearance of Army Uniforms and Insignia*.

c. **USAC Distinctive Unit Insignia (DUI).** The USAC-unique DUI, as shown in Figure 9-1, is worn by members of the USAC. The insignia are worn in the positions of the DUI and regimental distinctive insignia, as shown in AR 670-1, *Wear and Appearance of Army Uniform and Insignia*.

**10. Headgear.** USAC personnel will wear standard headgear, per AR 670-1, *Wear and Appearance of Army Uniforms and Insignia*, subject to the following provisions and modifications. USAC officers, warrant officers, and officer candidates, as well as Cadets and those recruits who have been specifically authorized to wear the service dress uniform will wear the standard Army black beret with the Army Green Service Uniform. Cadets will not roll or crush ("Ranger roll") the patrol cap.

a. **Beret Insignia.** Insignia will be worn centered on the standard Army blue and white flash on the beret as follows:

(1) **Officers and Warrant Officers.** Officers (except Chaplains) and Warrant Officers will wear the non-subdued insignia of grade.

(2) **Chaplains.** Chaplains will wear the non-subdued chaplain's branch insignia that corresponds to their faith group.

(3) **NCOs.** NCOs will wear the USAC DUI upon enrollment.

(4) **Cadets.** Cadets will wear the USAC DUI upon completion of Basic Cadet Training.

(5) **Officer Candidates and Warrant Officer Candidates.** Officer candidates and warrant officer candidates will wear the non-subdued "O.C.S." or "W.O.C." branch insignia, respectively.

(6) **Recruits.** Recruits who have been authorized wear of the service uniform will not wear any insignia on the beret flash.

b. **Recruits.** Recruits will wear the standard ACU patrol cap without any insignia sewn or pinned to the front with the ACU uniform. Recruits are specifically prohibited from wearing the black beret at any time prior to earning the title "Cadet" unless they have been granted a waiver by DCS, G-1 to wear the service uniform. In that case, the black beret will only be worn with the service uniform. The "Recruit" ballcap will not be worn by USAC recruits as of 31 March 2008.

## 11. Wear of Army Shoulder Marks by USAC Personnel.

a. **General Provisions.** USAC officers and NCOs will wear Army shoulder marks on the Class B (AG shade 415) shirt and black sweaters. Shoulder marks with “ACA” at the upper edge will no longer be worn by USAC officers and NCOs, effective 31 March 2008

b. **Availability.** The officer and NCO rank shoulder marks are available through ACES.

c. **Effective Date.** Wear of Army shoulder marks by USAC officers and NCOs is authorized immediately.

## 12. Implementation of the Army Combat Uniform and Wear of the Army Combat Boots.

a. **General Provisions.** The ACU is authorized for wear by all members of the USAC Officers’ Corps and USAC Cadets/recruits. The Battle Dress Uniform (BDU) will not be worn after 30 June 2008. Sneaker-style boots are not authorized for wear with the ACU.

b. **How Worn.** The ACU shall be worn in accordance with guidance found in *ALARACT messages 007/2006, 136/2006, and 140/2007* as well as the *ALARACT Message titled “Changes to the Army Combat Uniform (ACU), Battle Dress Uniform (BDU), and Desert Battle Dress Uniform (DBDU) Wear Policy.”* USAC-distinctive modifications include the use of the “U.S. Army Cadets” or “Army Cadets” branch tapes, as shown above, in place of “U.S. Army” and wear of the United States Army Cadet Corps SSI on the left sleeve pocket Velcro pad. The SSI is worn centered on the Velcro pad on the left sleeve, centered between the bottom of the pocket flap and the bottom of the pocket, and centered from left to right. Cadets will also wear the “CADET” and allergy tapes on the left pocket flap. Rank insignia is worn on the front center rank tab. All personnel must wear ACU-pattern rank tabs – olive green rank tabs are not authorized. Recruits will wear the “Recruit” rank tab on the ACU (Figure 12-1).



**Figure 12-1. Recruit Rank Tab**

c. **Availability.** The ACU ensemble and Army Combat Boot (ACB) are available through ACES (including Generation III Extended Cold Weather Clothing System items). The Army Cadet Exchange Service ([www.aces.armycadets.org](http://www.aces.armycadets.org)) is the official provider and should be used at all times, except when timely procurement requires local purchase at Army and Air Force Exchange System Military Clothing Sales

Stores. The wear of non military-spec commercial replicas is not authorized. Branch tapes, the foliage green ACU SSI, rank tabs, and the reverse-field U.S. flag patch are to be procured through the ACES at all times.

d. **Effective Date.** Wear of the ACU uniform by all personnel is authorized immediately. USAC recruits will wear the ACU uniform. The mandatory wear date of the ACU by USAC personnel is 1 July 2008.

### 13. USAC Physical Fitness Uniform.

a. **General Provisions.** The USAC physical fitness uniform (PFU) is authorized for year-round wear by all personnel, when prescribed by the commander. The improved PFU (IPFU) replaces the PFU. USAC personnel may wear the PFU until 30 March 2009; mandatory possession for the IPFU is 1 April 2009.

b. The PFU consists of the following components (Figure 13-1).

- (1) T-shirt, athletic, black with reflective ink.
- (2) Trunks, general purpose, gray.
- (3) Sweatpants, gray.
- (4) Sweatshirt, crew neck, black with reflective or ink.
- (5) Cap, knit, black or fleece, foliage green.



c. The IPFU consists of the following components (Figure 13-2).

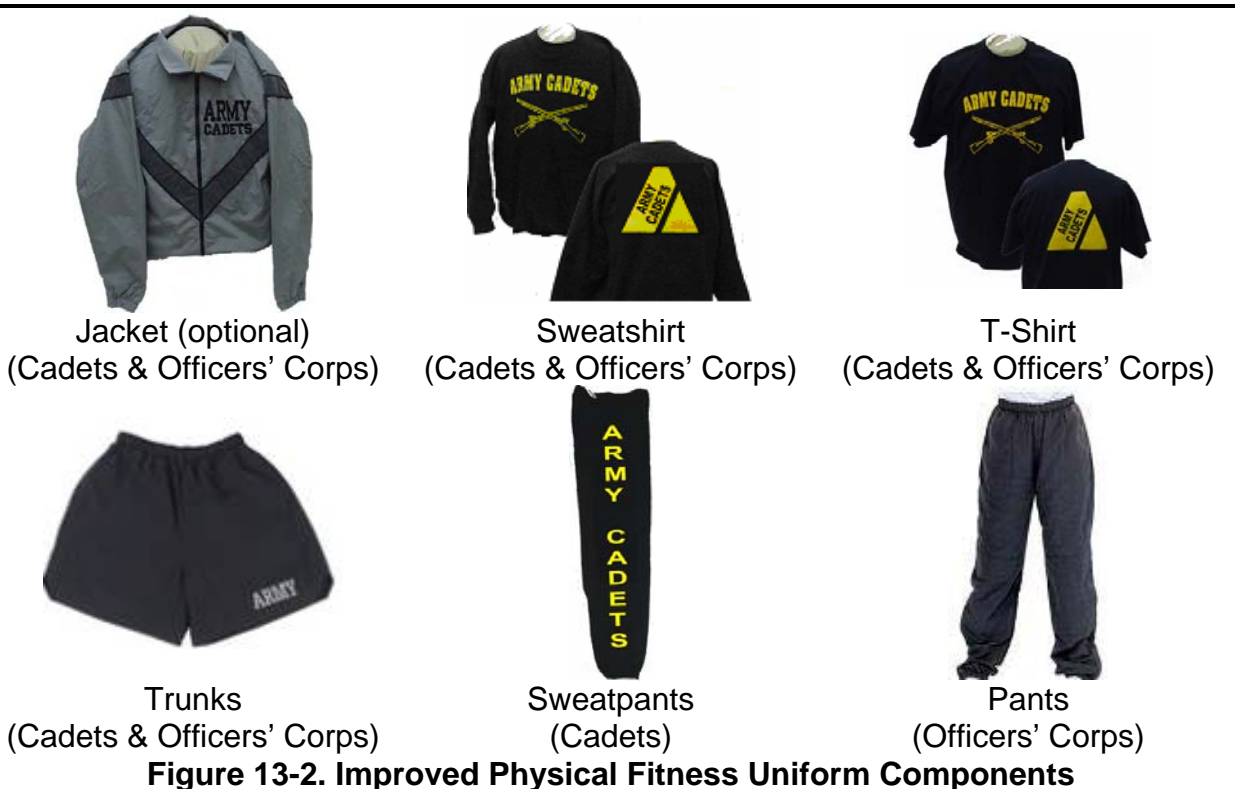
- (1) T-shirt, athletic, black with reflective ink.
- (2) Army IPFU trunks, running, black.
- (3) Sweatpants, black, Army Cadets (Cadets) or pants, running, black (Army IPFU pants) (Officers and NCOs).
- (4) Sweatshirt, crew neck, black with reflective ink.

- (5) Jacket, running, gray and black, "Army Cadets" (optional)
- (6) Cap, knit, black or fleece, foliage green.

d. The running jacket, with "Army Cadets" on the upper left chest is an optional purchase item for Cadets and members of the USAC Officers' Corps. Possessing the jacket does not eliminate the need to possess the crew neck sweatshirt, as commanders may require wear of the sweatshirt for purposes of uniformity of formations.

e. Commercial running shoes will be worn with the PFU and IPFU, as well as calf-length or ankle-length, plain white socks with no logos. Commanders may specify the wear of gloves, reflective belts or vests, long underwear, canteens, hydration packs, and other items appropriate to the weather conditions and type of activity. If personnel wear long underwear or other similar items, they must conceal them from view with the sweatshirt and sweatpants/pants when wearing the PFU/IPFU.

f. Personnel may wear all or part of the PFU or IPFU with civilian attire outside of unit training assemblies, when authorized by the commander.



g. Personnel may not mix or match PFU and IPFU items. When the PFU or IPFU are worn as a complete uniform, the sleeves will be worn down on the sweatshirt and the legs will be worn down on the pants, and the T-shirt will be worn tucked in. Personnel may not roll or push up the sleeves of the PFU/IPFU sweatshirt.

#### **14. Procurement.**

a. **Cadet Insignia.** Cadets and their parents are to purchase uniforms, insignia and equipment from ACES. The unit's S-4 should be consulted prior to making a purchase if there are any questions regarding the appropriateness of the items being purchased.

b. **Officers Corps Insignia.** USAC insignia for wear by members of the Officers' Corps is to be purchased by the member directly from ACES. Unit funds may not be used to purchase officer insignia, except one rank insignia for the ACU to be presented during a promotion ceremony.

c. **Local Procurement and Manufacture of USAC Insignia.** USAC insignia may not be procured or manufactured through local sources without the written authority of the DCS, G-4. This includes procurement of unit T-shirts, physical fitness gear, patches (SSIs), and other emblematic items, such as mugs, portfolios, etc. Requests for new items to be made available through ACES are to be addressed to the DCS, G-4.

#### **15. Action.**

a. Unit Commanders are personally accountable for compliance with USAC regulations and the federal laws cited above by all USAC personnel under their command.

b. Wear of the military uniform without the USAC distinctive mark is a federal offense, subject to a substantial fine and potential imprisonment. Willful noncompliance with this requirement will result in immediate discharge from the USAC.

## **Appendix A References**

Review of these publications is required to understand fully the provisions of this regulation.

### **ACAINST 1020.1**

ACA Distinctive Insignia

### **AR 670-1**

Wear and Appearance of Army Uniforms and Insignia

### **ACAINST 1120.2A**

Officer Corps Application Process

### **ALARACT Message 007/2006**

(<http://www.armyg1.army.mil/hr/uniform/default.asp>)

### **ALARACT Message 136/2006**

(<http://www.armyg1.army.mil/hr/uniform/default.asp>)

### **ALARACT Message 140/2007**

(<http://www.armyg1.army.mil/hr/uniform/default.asp>)

### **ALARACT Message titled “Changes to the Army Combat Uniform (ACU), Battle Dress Uniform (BDU), and Desert Battle Dress Uniform (DBDU) Wear Policy”**

(<http://www.armyg1.army.mil/hr/uniform/default.asp>)

### **ALARACT Message DTG 2022002 April 2005**

(<http://www.armyg1.army.mil/hr/uniform/default.asp>)

**Appendix B  
Prescribed Dress**

**Table B-1**

**Table of prescribed dress**

Prescribed	Attire
Duty uniform	Duty uniform as locally prescribed.
Informal uniform	Army blue with four-in-hand tie or neck tab. <sup>1</sup> NCOs and Cadets may wear the class A Army green uniforms (with skirt for females) with white shirt and black bow tie (after retreat), four-in-hand necktie (before retreat), or neck tab as a substitute.
Civilian equivalent	Civilian business suit.
Black tie uniform	Army blue uniform with black bow tie or blue mess uniforms. <sup>1</sup> NCOs and Cadets may wear the Army green uniform (with skirt for females) with white shirt and black bow tie or neck tab.
Civilian equivalent	Civilian dinner jacket (tuxedo).
White tie uniform	Army blue evening mess uniform.
Civilian equivalent	Evening full dress (tail coat).

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Unless otherwise indicated by the host, the uniform equivalent of specified civilian attire may be worn. Invitations may prescribe dress as indicated above; for example, "Army blue or Army blue mess."

## Appendix C Uniform Requirements

### C-1. Officers' Corps.

a. Upon appointment as an officer, warrant officer, officer candidate, warrant officer candidate or NCO, members of the USAC Officers' Corps will possess at a minimum, the uniforms specified in Table C-1. It is the continuing responsibility of the individual to maintain these uniforms in an acceptable condition, and tailor them to meet standards of fit and appearance. Members of the USAC Officers' Corps must also ensure that this minimum list of uniforms is maintained at each promotion.

b. Members of the USAC Officers' Corps assigned to band or ceremonial units must also maintain a set of uniforms that while considered optional for all other officers, are required for members of such units.

**Table C-1**  
**List of major components (Officers' Corps)**

Item	Male Minimum No. <sup>1</sup>	Female Minimum No. <sup>1</sup>
Coat, black, all weather	1	1
Uniform, Army blue <sup>2</sup>	1	1
Uniform, Army green (Class A) <sup>3</sup>	1	1 <sup>4</sup>
Uniform, Class B (LS shirt)	1	1
Uniform, Class B (SS shirt)	1	1
Uniform, Army Combat <sup>5</sup>	2	2
Coat, cold weather (field jacket) or parka, Goretex	1	1
Uniform, physical fitness <sup>6</sup>	1	1
USAC polo shirt	1	1

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Listed quantities are minimums for each uniform; personnel may need to possess greater quantities than listed depending on duty assignments or training events.

<sup>2</sup> Officers O-3 and above must possess the Army blue uniform.

<sup>3</sup> Officer candidates and warrant officer candidates are required to possess a complete Army green uniform before beginning Phase II of officer candidate school.

<sup>4</sup> Three-piece ensemble (coat, skirt, and slacks).

<sup>5</sup> Wear of the Army Combat Uniform by members of the USAC Officers' Corps will become mandatory on 1 July 2008.

<sup>6</sup> Members of the USAC Officers' Corps must possess one summer and one winter physical fitness uniform; the improved physical fitness uniform becomes mandatory for wear on 1 April 2009.

**C-2. Instructors.** Civilian instructors must maintain one USAC polo shirt with khaki trousers, as a minimum. Uniformed instructors must maintain a full set of uniforms as required by their service, as well as a minimum of one USAC polo shirt with khaki

trousers. It is the continuing responsibility of the individual to maintain these uniforms in an acceptable condition, and tailor them to meet standards of fit and appearance.

**C-3. Cadets.**

a. Upon completion of recruit orientation, USAC Cadets will possess at a minimum, the uniforms specified in Table C-2. It is the continuing responsibility of the individual to maintain these uniforms in an acceptable condition, and tailor them to meet standards of fit and appearance. Members of the USAC Officers' Corps must also ensure that this minimum list of uniforms is maintained at each promotion.

b. Recruits are not authorized to wear any service or dress uniforms, unless authorized in writing by the National Commander (request through CofS). Cadets of any grade may wear the Army green uniform (Class A); however, only Cadets E-3 and above may wear the Army blue uniform (unless authorized in writing by the National Commander – requested through CofS).

c. Cadets assigned to band or ceremonial units must also maintain a set of uniforms that while considered optional for all other Cadets, are required for members of such units.

**Table C-2  
List of major components (Cadets)**

Item	Male Minimum No. <sup>1</sup>	Female Minimum No. <sup>1</sup>
Uniform, Army green (Class A) <sup>2</sup>	1	1 <sup>3</sup>
Uniform, Class B (LS shirt)	1	1
Uniform, Class B (SS shirt)	1	1
Uniform, Army Combat <sup>4</sup>	2	2
Coat, cold weather (field jacket) or parka, Goretex	1	1
Uniform, recruit orientation <sup>5</sup>	1	1
Uniform, physical fitness <sup>6</sup>	1	1
USAC polo shirt	1	1

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Listed quantities are minimums for each uniform; personnel may need to possess greater quantities than listed depending on duty assignments or training events.

<sup>2</sup> Cadets must possess a complete Army green uniform upon promotion to E-3.

<sup>3</sup> Three-piece ensemble (coat, skirt, and slacks).

<sup>4</sup> Wear of the Army Combat Uniform by Cadets will become mandatory on 1 July 2008.

<sup>5</sup> Recruits undergoing recruit orientation only.

<sup>6</sup> Cadets must possess one summer and one winter physical fitness uniform; the improved physical fitness uniform becomes mandatory for wear on 1 April 2009.

**Appendix D  
Mandatory Possession and Wear-out Dates**

**D-1. Possession and wear-out dates of uniform items**

Item	Possession date
Army combat boot (tan) (two pairs)	31 Mar 08
Army shoulder marks (two sets)	1 Apr 08
Cadet insignia for Goretex parka (one each)	1 Apr 08
Leader insignia (one per service uniform, one per field uniform)	1 Apr 08
Second generation color SSI (one required per uniform)	1 Apr 08
USAC identification badge (two each)	1 Apr 08
Distinctive Cadet rank insignia	1 Jun 08
ACU uniform (two sets)	1 Jul 08
Second generation ACU SSI (two each)	1 Jan 09
Third generation color SSI (one required per uniform)	1 Jan 09
“U.S. ARMY CADET CORPS” Nametag (two each)	1 Jan 09
Improved physical fitness uniform (one summer, one winter)	1 Apr 09

Item	Wear-out date	Replaced by
“ACA” shoulder marks	31 Mar 08	Army shoulder marks
Black combat boot	31 Mar 08	Army combat boot (tan)
First generation color SSI	31 Mar 08	Second generation color SSI
Recruit ballcap	31 Mar 08	ACU patrol cap
Wear of SSI with mess dress, dress blue and Class B uniforms (Officers’ Corps)	31 Mar 08	USAC identification badge
Army rank insignia worn on Cadet uniforms	31 May 08	Distinctive Cadet rank insignia
BDU uniform	30 Jun 08	ACU uniform
First generation ACU SSI	31 Dec 08	Second generation ACU SSI
Second generation color SSI	31 Dec 08	Third generation color SSI
“American Cadet Alliance” Nametag	31 Dec 08	“U.S. Army Cadet Corps” Nametag
Physical fitness uniform	30 Mar 09	Improved physical fitness uniform

## **Glossary**

### **Section I Abbreviations**

#### **AAFES**

Army and Air Force Exchange Service

#### **ACB**

Army Combat Boot

#### **ACES**

Army Cadet Exchange Service

#### **ACU**

Army Combat Uniform

#### **BDU**

battle dress uniform

#### **CofS**

Chief of Staff

#### **DCS, G-1**

Deputy Chief of Staff, G-1

#### **DCS, G-4**

Deputy Chief of Staff, G-4

#### **DoD**

Department of Defense

#### **LI**

Leaders Identification

#### **MTOE**

Modification Table of Organization and Equipment

#### **NCO**

Noncommissioned officer

#### **OCS**

Officer Candidate School

#### **SSI**

Shoulder Sleeve Insignia

#### **WOCS**

Warrant Officer Candidate School

## **Section II**

### **Terms**

#### **Dress uniforms**

Uniforms worn as formal duty attire, or that are worn at formal or informal social functions, before or after retreat. They include the enlisted/Cadet Army green dress uniform and the Army dress blue uniform.

#### **Field uniforms**

Utility uniforms that are worn in field or training environments.

#### **Member of the USAC Officers' Corps**

Includes all officers, warrant officers, officer candidates, warrant officer candidates, and NCOs.

#### **Mess uniforms**

Uniforms worn for formal social occasions, when prescribed by the host. They include the blue mess and evening mess uniforms for males. For females, they include the blue mess and evening mess uniforms.

#### **Service uniform**

Worn in garrison environments when the wear of utility or dress uniforms is not required or appropriate. Service uniforms consist of the Army green (class A and B) uniforms.

#### **Utility uniforms**

Uniforms normally worn in the field, during training, or while performing duties where it is not practical or appropriate to wear a service uniform. Utility uniforms include ACUs, the maternity work uniform, and the cold-weather uniform.