DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS BRIGADE
UNITED STATES ARMY NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION
Unit 21420
APO AE 09705-1420

REPLY TO ATTENTION OF

ACDP-POAD 27 July 2006

MEMORANDUM FOR DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: US Army NATO Brigade (USANATO) Policy Letter #27, Army Combat Uniform (ACU), Battle Dress Uniform (BDU), and Desert Battle Dress Uniform (DBDU) Wear Policy

1. References:

a. AR 670-1, Wear and Appearance of Army Uniforms and Insignia dated 3 Feb 05.

b. ALARACT 078-2005, Army Combat Uniform (ACU) Ensemble.

c. ALARACT 218/2005, Change to the Army Combat Uniform (ACU), Battle Dress Uniform (BDU), and Desert Battle Dress Uniform (DBDU) wear policy.

d. DTG 0510261542Z, Change to the Army Combat Uniform (ACU), Battle Dress Uniform (BDU), and Desert Battle Dress Uniform (DBDU) wear policy.

2. Force Protection considerations remain foremost when considering the wear of the uniform in non-military environments. Personnel are to exercise prudent, sound judgment when wearing one's uniform, whether field uniform or office uniform, while conducting personal business in commercial environs. Commanders are responsible for ensuring that their Soldiers are aware of and comply with local uniform policy.

3. The Army has expanded its policy on the wear of field uniforms to commercial establishments and commercial travel in ALARACT 218/2005 (Encl). In addition to this policy, commanders have the authority to direct more restrictive local command uniform policy as needed to ensure the safety and protection of their Soldiers.

4. USANATO uniform standards supplement Army uniform standards. Commanders will ensure that all Soldiers comply with the following USANATO military uniform standards.

a. ACU and BDU standards.

(1) The uniform will be clean and serviceable.

(2) Soldiers will not starch the ACU under any circumstances.

(3) The beret is the appropriate headgear.

(4) The ACU patrol cap is worn in field environment when the Kevlar helmet is not worn, on work details, or in other environments where the wear of the beret is impractical as determined by the commander.

(5) The brown/tan T-shirt is never worn as an outer garment.

(6) The ACU/BDU will maintain a blouse like effect at all times.

(7) The BDU/ACU may be worn in the commissary, Post Exchange (PX), or shoppette without restrictions.

(8) Personnel will not wear the BDU/ACU in off-post establishments that primarily serve alcohol. If the establishment sells alcohol and food, Soldiers may not wear the BDU/ACU if their activities in the establishment centers on drinking alcohol.

b. Soldiers are authorized to wear the Improved Physical Fitness Uniform (IPFU) when conducting physical fitness training and on post establishments. It is not authorized for work or detail. Soldiers will not mix parts of the IPFU with civilian attire on the installation. Soldiers may mix attire off the installation, when authorized by the commander.

(1) All personnel will wear a reflective belt or vest during all physical fitness training. When wearing the IPFU jacket, the belt will be worn diagonally across the body from right shoulder to left hip. When the IPFU jacket is not being worn the belt will be worn around the waist.

(2) Soldiers will not wear the IPFU in off-post establishments except when purchasing gas, to and from physical training.

5. Point of contact for this action is Chief, Personnel Operation and Action Division at DSN 423-4276.

Donald H. Woolverton

DONALD H. WOOLVERTON
Colonel, AG
Commanding

3 Encls
1. ALARACT 218/2005
2. ALARACT 078-2005
3. DTG 0510261542Z

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FROM
DA WASHINGTON DC//DAPE-HR-IR//

TO ALARACT

INFO
DA WASHINGTON DC//DALO-SMT//
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SUBJECT: CHANGE TO THE ARMY COMBAT UNIFORM (ACU), BATTLE DRESS UNIFORM (BDU), AND DESERT BATTLE DRESS UNIFORM (DBDU) WEAR POLICY

A. AR 670-1, 3 FEB 05, WEAR AND APPEARANCE OF ARMY UNIFORMS AND INSIGNIA.

1. THIS MESSAGE SERVES AS IMPLEMENTING INSTRUCTIONS FOR CHANGES TO THE ACU ENSEMBLE WEAR POLICY AS CONTAINED IN MESSAGE DTG 202200Z APR 05 SAB, BDU, AND THE DBDU WEAR POLICY AS CONTAINED IN AR 670-1, PARAGRAPHS 3-3A, AND 5-3A RESPECTIVELY. THIS POLICY ALLOWS COMMANDERS AND LEADERS AT ALL LEVELS TO MAKE COMMAND DECISIONS TO ALLOW SOLDIERS TO WEAR UTILITY UNIFORMS DURING COMMERCIAL TRAVEL, BASED ON THE MISSION AND THREAT.

2. WE ARE A NATION AT WAR, AND THE UNITED STATES ARMY IS THE MOST TRUSTED ORGANIZATION TO THE AMERICAN PUBLIC. TO KEEP THE DEDICATED EFFORTS OF OUR SOLDIERS VISIBLE TO THE AMERICAN PUBLIC, THE ACU, BDU, AND DBDU ARE AUTHORIZED FOR WEAR DURING COMMERCIAL TRAVEL BOTH CONUS AND OCONUS. IN OCONUS AREAS, COMMANDERS WILL LIMIT TRAVEL IN UNIFORM TO MILITARY AIRLIFT COMMAND (MAC) FLIGHTS OR AMERICAN FLAGGED CARRIERS. COMMANDERS AND LEADERS WILL ENSURE SOLDIERS PRESENT A PROFESSIONAL APPEARANCE AND REFLECT POSITIVELY ON THE ARMY AT ALL TIMES. THE REST AND RECUPERATION PROGRAM HAS BEEN A TREMENDOUS SUCCESS AND THE POLICY REGARDING WEAR OF THE ACU AND DBDU DURING THIS PROGRAM REMAINS IN EFFECT.

3. ACU ENSEMBLE ALARACT MESSAGE DTG 202200Z APR 05 **PARAGRAPH 5A** IS CHANGED TO READ: THE NEW ACU IS A COMBAT UNIFORM DESIGNED TO BE WORN UNDER BODY ARMOR. THE UNIFORM IS PRESCRIBED FOR YEAR-ROUND WEAR FOR ALL SOLDIERS, UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMANDER. SOLDIERS MAY WEAR THE ACU OFF POST UNLESS PROHIBITED BY THE COMMANDER. SOLDIERS MAY WEAR THE ACUs FOR COMMERCIAL TRAVEL, UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMANDER. THE WEAR POLICY REMAINS IN EFFECT FOR SOLDIERS PARTICIPATING IN THE REST AND RECUPERATION PROGRAM. PERSONNEL WILL NOT WEAR THE ACU IN OFF-POST ESTABLISHMENTS THAT PRIMARILY SELL ALCOHOL. IF THE OFF-POST ESTABLISHMENT SELLS ALCOHOL AND FOOD, SOLDIERS MAY NOT WEAR THE ACU IF THEIR ACTIVITIES IN THE ESTABLISHMENT CENTER ON DRINKING ALCOHOL. THE ACU IS NOT NORMALLY CONSIDERED APPROPRIATE FOR SOCIAL OR OFFICIAL FUNCTIONS OFF THE INSTALLATION, SUCH AS MEMORIAL

ALCOHOL. THE ACU IS NOT NORMALLY CONSIDERED APPROPRIATE FOR SOCIAL OR OFFICIAL FUNCTIONS OFF THE INSTALLATION, SUCH AS MEMORIAL SERVICES, FUNERALS, WEDDINGS, INAUGURALS, PATRIOTIC CEREMONIES, ETC. THE ACU IS A COMBAT UNIFORM AND IS NOT INTENDED FOR WEAR AS AN ALL-PURPOSE UNIFORM WHEN OTHER UNIFORMS (CLASS A OR B, DRESS, AND MESS UNIFORM) ARE MORE APPROPRIATE. THE COMMANDER MAY PRESCRIBE ORGANIZATIONAL AND INDIVIDUAL EQUIPMENT ITEMS IAW CTA 50-900 WHEN THE ACU IS PRESCRIBED FOR PARADES, REVIEWS AND CEREMONIES. THE COMMANDER MAY AUTHORIZE THE WEAR OF SUBDUED PIN ON COMBAT, SPECIAL SKILL, AND IDENTIFICATION BADGES IN GARRISON. COMBAT AND SPECIAL SKILL BADGES WILL NOT BE SEWN OR ATTACHED USING HOOK AND LOOP PADS ON THE ACU. SEWING OF THE RANK INSIGNIA ON THE ACU PATROL CAP, ACU SUN HAT, AND KEVLAR CAMOUFLAGE COVER IS AUTHORIZED. THE ACU WILL BE LOOSE FITTING AND COMFORTABLE; ALTERATIONS TO MAKE THEM FIT TIGHTLY ARE NOT AUTHORIZED. THE ONLY ALTERATIONS AUTHORIZED ARE THOSE LISTED IN AR 700-84. ITEMS SHOULD BE FITTED LOOSELY ENOUGH TO ALLOW FOR SOME SHRINKAGE WITHOUT RENDERING THE GARMENT UNUSABLE.

4. AR 670-1 **PARAGRAPH 3-3A** IS CHANGED TO READ: SOLDIERS MAY WEAR BDUs ON DUTY WHEN PRESCRIBED BY THE COMMANDER. SOLDIERS MAY WEAR BDUs OFF POST UNLESS PROHIBITED BY THE COMMANDER. THEY MAY WEAR BDUs FOR COMMERCIAL TRAVEL, UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMANDER. PERSONNEL MAY NOT WEAR BDUs IN ESTABLISHMENTS THAT PRIMARILY SELL ALCOHOL. IF THE ESTABLISHMENT SELLS ALCOHOL AND FOOD, SOLDIERS MAY NOT WEAR BDUs IF THEIR ACTIVITIES IN THE ESTABLISHMENT CENTER ON DRINIKING ALCOHOL ONLY.

5. AR 670-1 **PARAGRAPH 5-3A** IS CHANGED TO READ: PERSONNEL WEAR THE DBDU ON DUTY WHEN PRESCRIBED BY THE COMMANDER. SOLDIERS MAY WEAR THE DBDU OFF POST, UNLESS PROHIBITED BY THE COMMANDER. THEY MAY WEAR THE DBDUs FOR COMMERCIAL TRAVEL, UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMANDER. PERSONNEL MAY NOT WEAR DBDUs IN ESTABLISHMENTS THAT PRIMARILY SELL ALCOHOL. IF THE ESTABLISHMENT SELLS ALCOHOL AND FOOD, SOLDIERS MAY NOT WEAR DBDUs IF THEIR ACTIVITIES IN THE ESTABLISHMENT CENTER ON DRINKING ALCOHOL ONLY.

6. POC FOR UNIFORM POLICY IS SGM K. EASLEY, DSN 426-5129; COMM. (703)-696-5129. E-MAIL IS KATRINA.EASLEY@HQDA.ARMY.MIL.

7. THIS AUTHORITY IS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.

8. EXPIRATION. THIS MESSAGE WILL EXPIRE UPON NEXT PUBLICATION OF AR 670-1.