

UNCLAS

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

TO ALARACT

INFO
DA WASHINGTON DC//DALO-SMT//
DA WASHINGTON DC//DAPE-HR-IR//

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 DRINKING 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.