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MNF-I Memo 11-1 (September 2008)

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MNF-I UNIFORM WEAR, APPEARANCE, CONDUCT AND STANDARDS

R.1. GENERAL

1. Purpose. This policy establishes standards for uniform wear, appearance, and conduct for personnel assigned, attached, TACON, OPCON, ADCON, or TDY to Iraq and/or Multi-National Force-Iraq (MNF-I).

2. References.

a. AR 670-1, Wear and Appearance of Army Uniforms and Insignia (dated 3 Feb 05) and all current and applicable ALARACT messages.

b. NAVPERS 15665I, U.S. Navy Uniform Regulations (dated 1 Jan 08) and NAVADMIN 094/08.

c. MCO P1020.34G (With Change 1-4), Marine Corps Uniform Regulation (dated 31 Mar 03).

d. AFI 36-2903, Dress and Personal Appearance of Air Force Personnel (dated 2 August 06) and AFCENT reporting instructions (dated 19 Mar 07).

e. DOD Instruction 6055.4, Traffic Safety Program (dated 20 Jul 99).

3. Applicability. This policy is applicable to all U.S. military personnel, DoD Contractors, and U.S. DoD civilian personnel assigned, attached, TACON, OPCON, ADCON, or TDY to Iraq and/or MNF-I. This policy only applies while in Iraq, as it contains some exceptions to service policies. All applicable national and service regulations remain in effect, as this policy is intended to supplement and augment those policies. Forward recommended changes to this policy through the noncommissioned officer support channel to the MNF-I Command Sergeant Major.

4. Adherence to Standards. Adherence to standards is a matter of pride and discipline. All military and civilian personnel will follow these standards on uniform wear, appearance, and conduct, and the use of common sense is encouraged when applying these standards. All leaders, particularly noncommissioned officers, will enforce these standards. This policy does not provide an exhaustive list of standards within MNF-I, and subordinate commands are encouraged to outline additional standards as applicable for their specific units and missions.

5. Standards.

a. Uniform Requirement.

(1) Duty Uniform/Uniform of the Day. The normal duty uniform is the Army Combat Uniform (ACU), the Army Aircrew Combat Uniform (A2CU), or the Fire Retardant Army Combat Uniform (FR ACU). Name, rank, branch of service, and shoulder sleeve insignia must be worn on the uniform; tabs and shoulder sleeve

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insignia-former war time service (Combat Patch) are optional. Leaders are reminded that the selection of which combat patch to wear is strictly the decision of the individual Soldier; there will be no mandatory combat patch wearing of a particular unit patch. U.S. Army personnel and other personnel wearing the Army Combat Uniform (ACU) will also wear the U.S. Flag (see para 5e(6) below for rules regarding wear of U.S. Flag). Sleeves on all uniforms will be worn fully down and fastened, and all uniforms (ACU/A2CU/FR ACU) will have trousers bloused at all times. The A2CU trousers will be bloused using the hook and loop fastener. Modifications to the ACU/A2CU/FR ACU such (sewing or removing of pockets, embroidery, Arabic nametapes, etc.) are prohibited. In addition, there will be no mixing and matching of uniforms between the ACU and the A2CU. The foliage green T-Shirt will only be worn by U.S. Army personnel with a fire retardant uniform (A2CU/FR ACU) or when leaving the FOB.

(a) Sterilized uniforms. When authorized due to mission requirements, sterilized uniforms (insignia and rank removed) may be worn, but wear will be limited to departing from a Forward Operating Base (FOB) or base camp, conducting a combat operation, returning to a FOB or base camp, and conducting interrogations. Sterile uniforms may not be worn in dining facilities, exchanges, or other public gathering locations.

(b) Additional requirements. Military personnel must carry their personal weapon and a minimum of one magazine of ammunition except when conducting physical training. Sailors and Airmen wearing the Army Combat Uniform (ACU) shall not wear earrings, but may wear earrings when wearing their own, service specific uniforms. Armbands that hold ID cards shall not be worn in duty uniform, except while wearing the Physical Fitness Uniform as casual attire.

(2) Head Gear. When the patrol cap, cover, or boonie hat is worn, no blocking, forming, rolling or upturning of brims is authorized. The strap on the boonie hat will be worn under the hat, fastened tightly to the back of the head, or under the chin. Name tapes are not authorized on the boonie hat. Embroidery is prohibited on headgear unless the embroidery is part of the official uniform of the service, such as the insignia on the Marine Corps cover. Cravats, neckerchiefs, or dust masks may only be worn during combat operations and/or dust/sand storms. When worn, such items will compliment the color and/or pattern of the uniform.

(3) Authorized Uniforms. U.S. military personnel may only wear the duty uniform and the prescribed service/unit physical training uniform. Civilian clothing is prohibited except as authorized by the CJSOTF-AP Commander or MNF-I C2.

b. Physical Training Uniform.

(1) PT Uniform. Military personnel conducting physical training will wear the prescribed service or unit physical training uniform or the combat or utility uniform. Only above-the-ankle white socks, without logo, are authorized. Colored socks, socks bearing logos, and below-the-ankle "go fast" socks are unauthorized. If wearing a

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combat uniform, the jacket may be removed while exercising, but the t-shirt will remain tucked in with sleeves down and a belt will be worn. While in the PT uniform, the t-shirt will be tucked in. Trendy wear of PT shorts and pants is not authorized. When in PT uniform, as when wearing the duty uniform, female personnel will wear their hair in accordance with their service regulation. Civilians may not wear any military physical training uniform components. All personnel must wear shirts when exercising, and PT uniform sleeves will remain down and not rolled. When conducting physical training outdoors or when wearing the PT uniform as casual attire, personnel must use sidewalks or walk/run in a single file facing oncoming traffic. In addition, personnel may wear Armbands that hold ID cards when wearing the PT uniform as casual attire. Individuals may wear overshoes or boots with the physical fitness uniform when traveling to and from the fitness centers during the rainy season.

a. When authorized by the unit, organizational-shirts, Reenlistment T-shirts, and the Tan T-shirts may be worn with the physical fitness uniform. Organizational and Reenlistment T-shirts are restricted to the organization of current assignment or attachment. Air Force members will only wear the AF PT T-shirt.

b. Units may authorize the wear of Event Recognition Shirts with the physical fitness uniform (i.e 10K Run, Sports Tournaments, Ethnic Observances). When authorized, these items are restricted to the date and time of the event only.

c. Navy personnel are authorized the wear of Navy Physical Training Uniform (PTU) as described in NAVADMIN 094/08. If Navy PTU is not available, Navy personnel are authorized to wear white T-shirt with Navy logo, Brown T-shirt, Tan T-shirts with blue or black PT shorts.

(2) Reflective Belts. Reflective belts/vests will be worn with the PT uniform at all times, with the exception of Air Force personnel in the proper physical training uniform. Reflective belts will be worn around the waist, except when wearing a jacket. With a jacket, reflective belts will be worn diagonally across the body from shoulder to waist. Individuals may remove the reflective belt while conducting exercising in a fitness center. No items may be attached or affixed to the reflective belt.

(3) Head Gear. Watch caps may only be worn with the PT uniform from 1 November through 31 March. More information on wear of the watch cap is explained in paragraph 5 e. (5) b. Boonie hats may only be worn with the PT during the hours of sunlight from 1 April through 31 October. Eyeglasses, sunglasses, and ballistic eyewear may be worn with the physical fitness uniform.

c. Vehicle Uniform. Seatbelts must be worn at all times by personnel riding in military and civilian vehicles. Ballistic helmets, chinstraps, and hearing protection must be worn at all times by U.S. military personnel, civilians and contractors when riding in or on all-terrain vehicles (ATVs), including gators, and tactical vehicles, including

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armored vehicles, HMMWVs, CUCVs, dozers, and aircraft. Helmets and IBA must always be worn in MNF-W when in tactical or all-terrain vehicles.

d. Tactical Uniform. When on mission or performing guard duty (towers or ECPs), all personnel must wear the following:

- (1) Individual body armor (IBA) or Improved Outer Tactical Vest (IOTV) and helmet
- (2) Enhanced Small Arms Protective Inserts (ESAPI) (front, back, side)
- (3) Deltoid Auxillary Protection System (DAPS) as prescribed by local commanders
- (4) Neck, throat and groin protectors as prescribed by local commanders
- (5) Approved Ballistic eye protection
- (6) Approved Nomex gloves
- (7) Ear plugs/ear protection
- (8) Protective Mask (IAW MNC-I FRAGO 352 task 2)
- (9) Nomex suits for convoy security teams (IAW MNC-I OPORD 06-01/SOP 06-02)
- (10) Army Combat Shirt when specified and with IBA/IOTV.

e. Rapid Fielding Initiative (RFI) issue items.

(1) Fleece (Issued Black/Green). The fleece jacket may only be worn as an outer garment on or aboard bases by Soldiers and by Sailors. Marines, Sailors in Marine uniforms, and Airmen cannot wear the fleece as outerwear at any time. The wear of fleece as an outer garment is also prohibited for wear by anyone wearing a PT uniform, wearing body armor, operating off base, or flying in a combat aircraft. Nothing is authorized to be sewn on the fleece.

(2) Black/green/tan polypro. These items are designed to be worn next to the skin in order to wick moisture. As such, these items will be worn under the t-shirt. The thumb may be placed into the manufactured hole. Wear of these undergarments in conjunction with the PT uniform is prohibited.

(3) Ballistic eyewear. Approved ballistic glasses help prevent loss of eyesight; therefore, they may be worn at all times, to include indoors and at all ceremonies. All personnel are required to wear ballistic eyewear at all times when performing duties

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requiring IBA and helmets, both inside and outside FOBs and base camps. Only DoD approved ballistic eyewear may be worn. Retention straps are authorized for wear with ballistic glasses; when ballistic glasses are not worn, they may be suspended around the neck from a retention strap. Ballistic glasses will not be worn on the head or brow. In addition, ballistic glasses will not be placed on the back of the neck, in a reversed position, so that the supporting straps hang down the front of the wearer.

(4) Hydration systems. Commercial hydration systems (i.e. CamelBaks) may be worn at individual discretion, or as directed by commanders.

(5) Seasonal Uniform items.

(a) Gloves. Approved issued gloves may be worn at the individual's discretion.

(b) Caps. Watch caps and micro-fiber caps may be worn from 1 November through 31 March under the helmet. Exceptions are those serving at Joint Security Stations (JSS), Combat Outposts (COP), Patrol Bases (PB), Flight Lines, and Secured Entry Control Points (ECP). This exception allows service members to wear the cap as a standalone cap during extreme cold weather.

(6) Army Combat Shirt. The FR ACS was designed to be worn under the Improved Outer Tactical Vest. It is designed to replace two layers, the FR Army Combat Uniform jacket and moisture-wicking T-shirt, thus reducing bulk and heat stress. The ACS will be used for outside the wire combat operations; these include but are not limited to: Convoy Operations, Dismounted Patrols, MSR Route Clearing Convoys, EOD missions, Combat and Construction Engineers, PSD, and Convoy Security Missions.

a. The ACS will be worn tuck in at all times with the FR ACU or A2CU trousers.

b. The Name Tape, Rank, and IR Flag (not the full colored flag), will be worn centered on the right Velcro sleeve.

c. The Unit Patch and special skill tabs will be worn centered on the left Velcro sleeve.

d. The infrared identification tab will be uncovered during all combat operations.

e. The cuff tabs will be Velcro fastened at all times.

f. Commercial purchase of the ACS for wear in theater is prohibited. Soldiers will wear only the ACS issued to them through the unit supply system.

g. The ACS may be worn as a standalone shirt.

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h. At no time will the sleeves be rolled, cuffed, or drawn.

i. The ACS will not be worn during R&R or EML travel. The Army Combat Uniform is the only uniform appropriate travel uniform for Soldiers.

f. U.S. Flag Cloth Replica. Only the full-color U.S. Flag cloth replica or the infrared subdued flag may be worn on U.S. Army uniforms. Subdued cloth flags (green or tan) are not authorized for wear by any U.S. personnel. The flag will be worn on the right sleeve with the field of stars forward. No other flags may be worn by U.S. personnel. Whether to wear the full-color U.S. Flag cloth replica or the infrared subdued flag is at the discretion of the wearer, however, all Soldiers will wear the infrared subdued flag during combat operations.

g. Other uniform items.

(1) Knives. Small utility knives may be worn.

(2) Bracelets. Medical identification and POW/MIA/KIA bracelets (black, red or silver only) may be worn. Foundation, "Livestrong", friendship, and/or any assortment of homemade bracelets (i.e. those made from 550 cord) are prohibited.

(3) Identification Badges. Security identification badges must be displayed for access to restricted areas or facilities, and must be removed, along with all types of badge holders/attachments, when departing the area for which they were required. Personnel not in military uniform must display their identification at all times. During such time, personnel may display their identification by use of the "around the neck" or the "around the arm" identification card holder. Only identification may be displayed; displaying other photos or accouterments is unauthorized.

(4) Brassards. Only Military Police, CID, and EOD and US Air Force Security Force brassards may be worn. Only personnel actually performing these duties (and possessing a valid JMD/MTOE slot) may wear the brassards.

(5) Display of Nametapes and Rank. Only nametapes and rank, per service regulation, may be worn on headgear and IBA. Other writing, embroidery, or sewing is prohibited. Name tapes are not authorized on the boonie hat.

(6) Field Jackets. Field jackets must have rank, name, and branch of service tapes. The ECWCS jacket (Gore-Tex) must have rank and name tapes per service regulation.

(7) Eyeglasses and sunglasses (not to be confused with the rules governing ballistic eyewear noted in paragraph 5e(3) above). When in a military uniform, eyeglasses and sunglasses will be conservative in appearance and will not detract from

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the appearance of the uniform. No eccentric or faddish styles of eyeglasses and sunglasses are authorized. Eyeglasses and sunglasses that have ear buds or speakers and/or lenses or frames with initials, designs, or other adornments are not authorized for wear in uniform. Personnel in uniform may not wear reflective mirrored lenses or those with extreme or trendy colors, which include, but are not limited to, red, yellow, blue, purple, bright green and orange. Instead, lens colors must be traditional gray, black, brown, or dark green shades. Personnel will not attach chains, bands, or ribbons to eyeglasses or sunglasses and will not hang eyeglasses or eyeglass cases on the uniform or around the neck and will not place eyeglasses on the head or brow. In accordance with service regulations, contact lenses are prohibited for wear in the field by U.S. military personnel.

(8) Zippered boots. Zippered boots of any type are prohibited for U.S. Army personnel.

h. Wear of the Uniform by Civilians.

(1) U.S. Military Uniforms. Civilians and DoD contractors accompanying the U.S. Armed Forces in the field may wear U.S. military uniforms when deemed necessary by the commander, or when required by contract. The uniform will be worn in full compliance with service regulations and this policy, to include but not limited to wearing boots and hats, blousing trousers, wearing sleeves down and fastened, and properly fastening all zippers and snaps. Failure to follow these general guidelines may result in the loss of the privilege for civilians and DoD contractors to wear the uniform. Additionally, when the protective posture requires wear of IBA, mask, and helmet, these items will be properly worn, not carried.

(2) Nametapes. When wearing a military uniform, a nametape must be worn above the right breast pocket. Although not required, an affiliation tape (for example, "Ordnance Technician," "Safety" or "DoD Contractor") may be worn above the left breast pocket, but service tapes (i.e. U.S. Army) are prohibited. Full-color U.S. Flag Cloth replica and shoulder sleeve insignia of the affiliated unit may be worn at the discretion of the unit commander. Other insignia, badges, flags, patches such as Shoulder Sleeve Insignia, Former Wartime Service (combat patch) or accoutrements, attached or affixed to the uniform, are prohibited.

(3) Variations. Variations of these standards are not authorized. Personnel will not mix civilian attire with military attire; the uniform must be worn as a complete uniform. The wearing of trousers or coat alone, along with other clothing not associated with the uniform, is specifically prohibited. However, the use of complementary and conservative civilian baseball caps designating a specific company or branch are authorized.

(4) Civilian Clothing. Civilian clothing for all personnel must be conservative and in good taste. Tight fitting pants, shirts, or blouses which are sheer, provocative, or

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suggestive will not be worn. Clothing that exposes breasts, buttocks, and midriffs is prohibited.

i. General Conduct.

(1) Saluting. Saluting is the most basic form of respect between two service members and is also a sign of discipline. When appropriate, military personnel will exchange salutes and greetings, to include exchanging salutes with military personnel of friendly foreign nations.

(2) Smoking. Smoking is only authorized in designated smoking areas. Smoking by military or civilian personnel is not permitted within 50 feet of any entrance to any building occupied by U.S. Forces or while operating military or U.S. Government owned or leased motor vehicles or equipment (forklifts, generators, etc.). Military personnel are also prohibited from smoking while walking in uniform.

(3) Swimming. Personnel may swim only in authorized swimming areas and in appropriate swim attire. Males will wear baggy shorts, physical training shorts, or swim trunks; females will wear a one piece sports swim suit or baggy shorts and the PT top. Speedo type and bikini type swimsuits are strictly prohibited. All attire must be modest, conservative, and respectful of host-nation considerations.

(4) Bicycle Safety. While riding a bicycle, reflective belts/vests will be worn diagonally and approved bicycle helmets will be worn. Cyclists will ride with traffic (not on the sidewalk) and adhere to all traffic rules.

(5) Entertainment devices. Any entertainment device that requires earpieces or headphones will not be worn while conducting outdoor physical training or when walking, riding, bicycling or operating a motorized vehicle. Additionally, entertainment devices of any type will not be used at any time while serving as a crew member in any vehicle or aircraft. Earpieces/headphones/ipods/MP3 players will not be worn enroute to or from the gym.

(6) Grooming Standards. Male U.S. military personnel will be clean-shaven on and off duty, except those with valid shaving profiles/medical chits. Mustaches will be worn in accordance with applicable service regulations. Relaxed grooming for operational missions is authorized IAW written authorization by the Commander, CJSOTF-AP.

(7) Body Piercing. Body piercing of any kind is not authorized for U.S. military personnel, with the exception of female military personnel, who may wear earrings in accordance with their service uniform policy. No military personnel may wear earrings while wearing the Army Combat Uniform (ACU).

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(8) Other. Military personnel will observe service customs by not smoking, drinking, eating or talking on cell phones while walking in uniform.

6. Point of contact: Questions on MNF-I policy for uniform wear, appearance, and conduct should be addressed through the noncommissioned officer support chain to the Office of the MNF-I Command Sergeant Major.