
5.D.20. Wear of the NWU Type III by Coast Guard personnel.

The NWU is the standard camouflage uniform worn by the Navy INCONUS and may be prescribed by Geographic Combatant Commanders (GCCs) for wear while deployed. The Navy Type III (NWU III) is the only approved NWU issued to CG members that are authorized wear of a NWU based on mission or assignment. The NWU III is categorized as organizational clothing when worn by authorized CG members.

Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO) funding is currently the only authorized funding source for procurement. NWU funding, item acquisition, uniform issuance, along with life cycle and sustainment, will continue to be maintained by the Director of Logistics Mission Essential Personal Equipment Division (DOL-44). Personnel Service Center, Personnel Service Division, Military Uniforms (PSC-PSD-mu) is the executive agent for the NWU Type III policy and designates units authorized to procure and wear the NWU Type III.

The NWU Type III is of unisex design and includes the Navy Anchor, Constitution, and the Eagle (ACE) emblem in the print of the fabric. The NWU Type III coloring scheme consist of a unique four-shade digital camouflage profile. Normally the NWU Type III uniform is only worn by CG personnel when operating or training in support of a GCC requiring the uniform's wear. CG policy is closely aligned with the U.S. Navy NWU guidance promulgated in NAVADMIN 174/16 and 015/17.

Subject to the uniform policies of the local operational commander, Coast Guard personnel designated by PSC and assigned to or attached to the following units, teams, or detachments are authorized to wear the NWU type III in the following situations.

- a. Coast Guard personnel deployed operationally in support of a GCC for OCO and that directs wear of the NWU Type III. This applies to GCC staffs, Service staffs, Navy Expeditionary Combat Command (NECC) staff or their subordinate units, and Joint Task Forces (JTF).
- b. Coast Guard personnel actively engaged in Port Security Unit (PSU) Active Duty Training (ADT), the PSU Basic Skills Course, Inactive Duty Training (IDT), or equivalent activities may wear the NWU Type III.

Note: PSU members mobilized in garrison to support the deployed elements of the unit must continue to wear the Operational Dress Uniform or other uniform prescribed by the local District Commander when not involved in IDT or active duty periods described above.

- c. Personnel assigned to Patrol Forces Southwest Asia (PATFORSWA).
- d. Coast Guard Headquarters and Area staff personnel conducting official visits of 15 days or more to deployed units supporting OCO that are authorized wear of the NWU Type III by the GCC.

- e. Designated PACAREA Battle Staff members actively serving as a flag level liaison officer to a naval component command that supports OCO in accordance with Reference (o).

Coast Guard personnel requesting wear of the NWU Type III not assigned to or attached to a unit outlined above must submit a wear request via memo to PSC-PSD-mu thru their chain of command. The memo must outline an established requirement for wear of the NWU Type III and specify if the request is in support of OCO. The memo must further identify a funding source for purchase of requested uniform items if the request is not in support of OCO. In accordance with Paragraph 7.c, the Navy Type III uniform is funded as organizational clothing only to Coast Guard personnel supporting recognized OCO.

NWU Type III components and Features.

A retractable mandarin collar with hook and loop fastener, center chest rank tab, chest and shoulder pockets with tapered flaps and combination button and hook and loop fasteners, shoulder pocket flaps with hook and loop to accommodate identification friend or foe (IFF) markers, canted thigh cargo pockets and elevated calf pockets with pocket flaps, and elastic waist band for improved trouser waist adjustment and reinforced ribbon buttons on the fly and cargo pockets.

Components include brown cotton or tan moisture wicking undershirt, black boot socks, blousing straps, black boots, 1 3/4-inch coyote brown nylon woven riggers belt with subdued black finished buckle, eight point utility cap, unisex blouse (shirt) and trousers, and service and name tape.

Prescribed NWU Type III components include a matching pattern, waterproof and breathable fabric parka with slip on insignia, a removable coyote brown fleece liner, and a brown fleece or knit watch cap.

Optional NWU Type III components include 1 3/4-inch wide coyote brown adjustable nylon webbing belt with forged steel buckle D-ring and hook and loop fastener, desert tan/brown boots, brown or green boot socks, earmuffs (with outer garments only), earrings (gold ball for female E-7 and above and silver ball for female E-6 and below), black leather gloves, matching print inclement cold weather pants, and Navy approved hard hats.

The following Coast Guard specific modifications and guidance is provided for NWU Type III manner of wear:

- a. Headgear: An eight-point cap will be worn squarely on the head so that the visor is on a line just above the level of the eyes. All officers, chief petty officers, and petty officers will wear the appropriate embroidered rank insignia centered on the front of the cap. The bottom of the insignia will be approximately 1-1/4 inches from the visor.
- b. Sun Hat: The camouflaged utility sun hat may be worn squarely on the head so

the visor is on a line just above the level of the eyes only when prescribed by the operational commander. No insignia is worn on the camouflage utility sun hat.

- c. Watch Cap: When authorized by appropriate authority, the watch cap will be worn during cold weather conditions as required. The watch cap will be worn diagonally from the base of the back of the head, across the ears and on the forehead. Rank/rate insignia is not authorized to be worn on the watch cap.
- d. Blouse/Shirt: Normal wear is outside the waistband of the NWU Type III trousers. When directed by appropriate authority, the shirt can be worn tucked inside the trouser waistband. When worn in garrison, the mandarin collar will be folded down flat and the neck tab extension secured under the left collar with hook and loop tape. For tactical application (such as when wearing chemical biological radiation gear, body vest armor, and carrying weapons with a sling), the collar is worn in the up position with the hook and loop tab pulled across the center of the neck and secured to the underside of the opposite collar. Sleeves may be worn rolled up as directed by appropriate authority. When authorized, NWU Type III sleeves must be rolled (cuff right-side out) forming a 3-inch wide band covered by the cuff of the shirt (the outside fabric of the NWU Type III will show). The termination point of the roll is approximately 2 inches above the elbow. This manner of sleeve roll presents a short sleeve appearance and facilitates expeditious de-rolling and fastening during emergent situations. The Seabee logo is the only authorized unit logo or patch on the NWU Type III uniforms.
- e. Trousers: Normal wear is fastened fully on the waist with belt buckle centered over the trouser fastener. The trouser legs must be bloused with blousing straps so the blouse covers the top three rows of the boot eyelets. When authorized to wear the trousers un-bloused, the trouser leg length will not extend below the bottom of the boot heel.
- f. Belt and Buckle (Riggers Belt): All personnel will wear the 1 3/4-inch coyote brown one piece nylon woven riggers belt with subdued black finished buckle, or a 1 3/4-inch wide coyote brown one-piece adjustable nylon webbing riggers belt with forged steel buckle, d-ring, and hook and loop fastener. The excess end of the fastening tip will be oriented to the left of the buckle of the wearer's body. When properly worn, the belt tip will extend 2-4 inches from the buckle.
- g. Boots: Bootlaces will be tucked in a manner to present a well-kept appearance. Steel-toed boots are not authorized. Socks must be black, brown, or green and extend above the top of the footwear to ensure comfort.

Black composite-toed boots are the standard boot worn with the NWU Type III for personnel authorized wear of the NWU Type III but not assigned to an expeditionary unit. Desert tan or coyote brown rough-side out/brushless composite-toed boots are authorized for wear as organizational clothing by

expeditionary forces. Coast Guard expeditionary forces include personnel assigned to PATFORSWA and PSUs. Coast Guard staff conducting official visits to deployed units are authorized wear of the desert tan or coyote brown rough-side out/brushless composite-toed boots at the members expense.

- h. Undershirts: Must be brown (coyote), 100% cotton or tan moisture wicking, and have a quarter-length sleeve and elliptical (crewneck) collar.
- i. Thermal Underwear: Unit issued or personally purchased thermal underwear is authorized to be worn underneath the NWU Type III undershirt and trousers. Thermal underwear will not be visible when worn underneath the undershirt.
- j. Outerwear: Cold Weather Parka is the standard outerwear worn with the NWU Type III. It has a detachable coyote brown fleece liner that provides extra protection during extremely cold conditions. The parka is equipped with a fold-out hood located inside the hook and loop closure section of the collar. The hood is designed to provide additional protection during inclement weather conditions.

To maintain its watertight integrity, puncturing, pinning, or sewing items to the parka is not authorized.

- k. The coyote brown parka fleece liner is the only liner authorized to be worn with the NWU Type III. The coyote brown fleece liner is authorized for wear as a stand-alone outer garment with the NWU Type III uniform only. When worn as an outer garment it must be zipped up at least three-quarters to cover the shirt. The rank tab and appropriate slip on rank insignia must be displayed for E-4 through O-10 personnel.

Environmental Extremes. The following modifications are authorized when granted by appropriate authority (GCC/OPCON/TACON/Commanding Officer).

- a. The NWU Type III blouse may be removed on job sites or in work spaces.
- b. The NWU Type III trousers may be worn un-bloused on job sites or in workspaces.
- c. During the winter or inclement periods, the parka hood is authorized for wear. In addition to head gear, black leather gloves and matching pattern inclement weather pants (APECS) are authorized.
- d. The NWU Type III Combat Shirt must only be worn when authorized by the GCC and while also wearing the Coast Guard authorized ballistic protection system.

Rank/Rate Insignia. Appropriate rank/rate insignias will be worn by all officers, chief petty officers, and petty officers. The rank insignia will be slid onto the tab on the front of

the parka and fleece.

All rank, rate, service tapes, name tags, breast insignia, warfare pins, and identification badges will be embroidered on the NWU Type III material without black ink pixels.

Cap insignia (rate/rank) will be worn centered on the front of the NWU Type III eight-point cap by all officers, chief petty officers, and petty officers. The bottom of the insignia will be approximately 1 1/4-inch from the visor.

Note: Officers will wear the regular-size embroidered grade insignia. Chief petty officers will wear the 1 1/4-inch embroidered cap insignia. Petty officers will wear the regular-size embroidered petty officer cap insignia. E-3 and below will not wear a cap insignia.

Rank insignia (pull on/pull off) must be worn by E-4 and above personnel on the parka and blouse center chest rank tab as follows:

Officers, with the exception of vice admirals and admirals (O-9s and O-10s), will wear a regular size embroidered grade insignia. Admirals and Vice Admirals will wear a slightly smaller size insignia to accommodate the insignia's proper fit on the tab. The stars will be stacked vertically with the point up. Chief petty officers and petty officers will wear the regular size embroidered cap insignia.

The rank tab is centrally located on the parka and blouse. The tab is 3-1/2 inches tall and 1-1/2 inches wide. All rank tabs are centrally located for a consistent focal point for identification. On the blouse, the rank tab top edge is in alignment with the top seam of the chest pockets. On the parka, the rank tab edge is located two inches to the wearer's left from the primary zipper.

All ranks will be embroidered with black thread except for the ranks of ensign and lieutenant commander, which will be embroidered with spice brown thread, W-2 will be spice brown and green thread, and W-3 and W-4 will be black and green thread.

Devices: All devices must be embroidered on a strip of the applicable NWU Type III fabric.

Incumbent command afloat, command ashore, and officer-in-charge ashore and officer-in-charge afloat embroidered devices are authorized for wear by eligible personnel. Devices are worn on the NWU Type III blouse above the right pocket centered one-quarter inch above the name strip. Devices must be embroidered on a strip of the applicable NWU Type III fabric.

Post command afloat, command ashore, and officer-in-charge ashore and officer-in-charge afloat embroidered devices are authorized for wear by eligible personnel. Devices are worn on the NWU Type III blouse left breast pocket flap, one-quarter inch below the top of the pocket flap.

Insignia: When applicable, a maximum of two permanent warfare/qualification insignia (or temporary insignia as allowed by CG policy) may be worn on the NWU Type III. The size of the fabric strip on which they are embroidered will be rectangular and the approximate size of the breast insignia. The primary breast insignia will be worn centered above and flush with the "U.S. COAST GUARD" identification marking on the shirt. The secondary breast insignia will be worn on the left breast pocket one-quarter inch below the top of the pocket flap.

Badges: Incumbent command master/senior/chief badges will be embroidered and worn on the left breast pocket. Badges must be embroidered on a strip of the applicable NWU Type III fabric.

Name Tapes: The wearer's name is worn over the right pocket and the "U.S. COAST GUARD" is worn over the left pocket. Lettering may be 1/2 inch to 3/4 inch block style on approximately 1-1/4 inch wide fabric strips. Both tapes will match the width of the pocket.

Patches: NWU Type III pattern Coast Guard Ensign and Reverse U.S. Flag patches are authorized for wear on the NWU Type III. Organizational and/or unit patches are not authorized on the NWU Type III.

- a. A reverse U.S. Flag patch must be worn on the right shoulder pocket flap, affixed with hook and loop tape, and matching colors of the NWU Type III. When authorized, a Tactical/Infrared (IR) Reverse U.S. flag must be worn at the discretion of the unit commander and upon approval from the operational commander.
- b. A Coast Guard Ensign Patch must be worn on the right shoulder pocket flap, affixed with hook and loop tape, and matching colors of the NWU Type III. When authorized, a Tactical/infrared (IR) Coast Guard Ensign must be worn at the discretion of the unit commander and upon approval from the operational commander.

Identification Markings. Identification markings will be embroidered in approximately 3/4-inch block letters on approximately 1-1/4 inch wide fabric strips. Long names can be embroidered in approximately 1/2 inch letters. Proper locations of fabric strips are as follows:

NWU Type III Blouse: Wearer's surname will be sewn centered above and flush with the top of the wearer's right breast pocket.

"U.S. Coast Guard" will be sewn centered above and flush with the top of the wearer's left breast pocket.

Rating badges will not be worn or stenciled on the NWU Type III.

IFF glint tape or other identification/marker may be worn during deployment training exercises and on deployment when approved by the operational commander.

NWU Type III Trousers: The wearer's surname will be sewn centered above and flush with the top of the right rear trouser pocket.

Care. The following instructions must be followed when caring for the NWU Type III in order to maximize service life and maintain optimum performance:

- a. Do not starch the NWU Type III under any circumstances. The use of starch and any process that involves dry-cleaning or a steam press will adversely affect the treatments and durability of the uniform and is not authorized.
- b. When washing and drying, turn garments inside out, close hook and loop fasteners to prevent snagging, machine wash in cold or warm water (120 degrees Fahrenheit max) on permanent press cycle. Use mild detergent containing no brighteners or bleach.
- c. Tumble dry on low heat (not to exceed 120 degrees Fahrenheit). Remove immediately from dryer and fold flat or place on a rustproof hanger. To drip dry, remove from washer/water and place on a rustproof hanger. Do not wring or twist.
- d. Light ironing is authorized if needed. Creating creases in the NWU Type III is not authorized.

Note: Use of commercial cleaners and commercial hot press are not authorized. Commanding Officers must hold individuals accountable for negligent lost or stolen uniforms. The NWU Type III uniforms should be maintained in accordance with the maintenance/care tags sewn into each article of clothing and published Maintenance Procedure Cards (MPCs). Tailoring of the NWU, to include sewing of nametapes and insignias, is completed by DOL-44 at the time of initial issue. If modifications are required after uniform is issued, coordinate with DOL-44 for additional insignias and/or return uniforms for modifications. Requests for modifications at a local tailoring shop must be approved by DOL-44 and be completed at members' expense.

Occasion for Wear.

CONUS:

- a) Wearing NWU Type III uniforms during routine, short-term stops while transiting between work and place of residence via POV or public transportation (e.g. Metrorail, metro bus, commuter bus, VRE, ferries) is authorized. Examples of short-term stops include drop off/pick up for child care, dry cleaners, gas stations, banks, and convenience stores. Shopping at non- military installation retail store outlets or malls or attending off-base entertainment venues are considered extended stops and are not authorized. The NWU Type III uniform is not authorized for wear at formal, off-base Coast Guard or government functions (e.g., sailor of the year events, Navy League functions, or award banquets). The NWU Type III uniform is not authorized for wear at personal, off-base appointments (e.g., court, DMV, civilian medical visits, and off-base education).
- b) Air travel in the NWU Type III uniform is authorized only on military and Government contracted flights between military airfield installations (e.g., AIRSTA Clearwater to AIRSTA Elizabeth City). The NWU Type III uniform is not authorized for wear during commercial travel (e.g. airlines, railways, or bus, etc.).
- c) OCONUS:
- d) Deployed personnel who are traveling in a leave status to/from an OCONUS area of operation or transiting in an emergency leave status will travel in appropriate civilian attire. Uniforms will not be worn when using commercial travel.
- e) Upon entering or departing CONUS, personnel on official travel transferring to/from any AOR are authorized to wear the NWU Type III only on U.S. flagged commercial airlines, military airlift, or Government contracted flights. Personnel will only wear NWU's at the CONUS port of entry or debarkation and will not wear NWU's when arriving or departing any OCONUS civilian airport point of debarkation/entry (APOD/E). Personnel will wear civilian clothes when debarking at the APOD/E. When worn while traveling, NWUs will be clean and present a sharp military appearance. GCC policies on wearing military uniforms in their AOR supersede this Instruction.
- f) In all cases, at least one set of civilian attire is to be packed in carry-on luggage for contingency situations.

Uniform Service Life. Commanding Officers must ensure that:

- a) Damaged uniforms are documented via report of survey. Reports of survey should be sent via Email to DOL-44 prior to requesting replacements.
- b) Personnel are held accountable for negligent lost or stolen uniforms. Notification

of lost or stolen NWU Type III uniform via a report of survey will be sent via Email to DOL-44.

- c) Coast Guard members either retain NWU Type III uniform items (with the exception of the Type III parka and the APECS cold weather trousers which are returned), or turn in the items for disposal at the unit's expense. At no time is a Coast Guard member authorized to donate, transfer, or sell retained NWU Type III items.