

# ENLISTED UNIFORM GUIDE

## ENLISTED SPAR IN SERVICE DRESS BLUE UNIFORM

1973

**GROOMING**--Neat and attractive hair style. No hair may show on forehead below hat brim. Hair may reach the lower edge of collar at back of neck. Make-up should be properly applied and not theatrical.

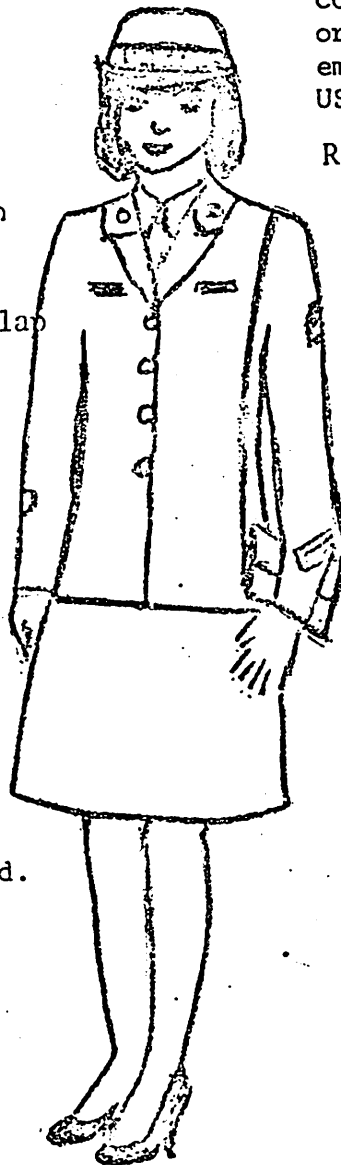
**METAL INSIGNIA**--Worn 1" from the bottom and midway between the sides of the lapels.

**NAMETAG**--worn on rt.pocket flap

**SHIELD**--A white shield is worn on blue uniforms midway between the top of the cuff and elbow. On the blue dacron dress and white shirt the blue shield is worn on the center line of the right sleeve, 1" above the top edge of the cuff.

**SKIRT LENGTH**--Not lower than mid-knee and not higher than the top of the knee.

**STOCKINGS**--Hose should be beige colored and undecorated. Dark seams are not uniform. Seamless allowed.



**COMBINATION HAT**--Worn with blue dacron or white cover as applicable with band embroidered in gold letters: US Coast Guard.

**RIBBONS**--worn on lt. pocket flap.

**TIE**--Tied in a square knot so that the two ends are even and fall naturally.

**GROUP RATE MARKS AND RATING BADGES**--Worn on white shirts, blue jacket, and the blue summer working uniform and white dress. Position: left sleeve, midway between the shoulder and elbow.

**HASHMARKS**--Gold, red or blue worn when earned on blue and/or white uniform.

**GLOVES**--White gloves are worn on formal or social occasions. Black leather or fabric gloves are worn or carried with the blue dacron uniform. They are worn if prescribed locally for duty in winter.

**POCKETBOOK**--Worn with the strap over the left shoulder--or without the strap.

**SHOES**--Black service oxfords or plain dress pumps are worn with the service dress blue or blue dacron uniform. The heel should be a minimum of 1" and a maximum of 2" in height. White dress pumps are worn with a white uniform.



# SPAR NEWSLETTER

Coast Guard Headquarters (GRA/82)  
Washington, DC 20590  
February 1973

The new year opens on a happy note. Sunday, 4 February the first six SPAR officer candidates reported to Yorktown for active duty. The group includes a resident of the birthplace of the Coast Guard..Newburyport, MA; a daughter of a Naval officer; and one married to a Coast Guard officer. They come from the 1st, 3rd, 5th, 11th, and 12th districts. There are 29 men in the class.

We are also proud to report that Admiral Moreau's program for enlisted recruiting for inactive duty billets is continuing well. Two week classes are scheduled to begin at Yorktown on 1 April. Check your unit for convening dates during 1973 if you have not yet attended the SPAR indoctrination course.

Applications are being solicited from inactive duty SPARs who are college graduates for consideration for inactive duty direct commissions. If you are qualified, consult your Commanding Officer.

Wedding bells rang out recently for HM3 Marie McCarthy Lynch who has transferred to New York from Cape May, and for SK3 Diane Alldaffer Homer who is on her way west to California to live. HM3 Lana Pegg Proffitt decided to leave active duty and prepare for family life. Another newly married corpsman, Dianna Espinosa is on her way to Kodiak with her Coast Guard husband. Which means there will be two SPARs on active duty in our 49th state, since HM2 Connie Swaro is already up there. Perhaps they will let us know what it's like to be on Alaskan duty. Welcome to LTJG Elizabeth Karr who became the first interservice officer transferee in 30 years. The ex-Navy officer has reported to Yorktown for duty. Also at the Reserve Training Center as staff members are SK2 Katherine Tully, recalled to active duty, and YN1 Wanda Parr who will be arriving from Long Beach legal office to assist LCDR Rita Wetzel with the SPAR basic indoctrination classes.

So many new SPARs are having difficulty getting proper information as to where to sew on shields and place metal devices on their new uniform issues that I have attempted to draw a reasonable facsimile of an enlisted SPAR in the service dress blue uniform. (You'll just have to take my word for it that my drawing is really the blue uniform). The insert will be made available to your commanding officers also, so they will know whether you are in the proper uniform. Now, chubby old-timers, like me..that skirt length means UP to the mid-to-top of the knee; and you young, slim ones..it means DOWN to the top of the knee. Gold 35-line Coast Guard buttons are worn with the anchor straight up and down on the service dress blues or whites; navy blue plastic Coast Guard buttons are worn on the summer dacrons. This means that the Navy buttons which come with these uniforms must be replaced. The lapel devices are NOT worn on the service dress white uniform. And incidentally, service dress whites are required as part of the seabag for active duty, but not inactive duty SPARs. Service dress BLUE is always appropriate; the light blue and white dacron is authorized in warm climates and for summer wear in most districts; service dress whites are ceremonial and are not to be worn for office work..they are for summertime dates, change of command, weddings etc..anytime officers may wear, or are required to wear their service dress white uniform, the SPAR white uniform is appropriate; but when men wear tropical white uniform..the SPAR equivalent is the blue dacron. Enlisted personnel and student trainees are also authorized to wear the garrison cap in lieu of the combination or "bucket" hat. The cap device is worn on the side without the seam...officer rank pins are worn on the seamed side. Enough about uniforms for this month.

CDR Jeanne Lindaman, now on the Inactive Status List, is still helping out by interviewing SPAR applicants in central Pennsylvania. Many thanks.



Reserve Administration Division could use some YN/SK help. Anyone available?

Some miscellaneous trivia for you: those of you who have married since coming into the Coast Guard may choose to retain the maiden name or you may have your records changed to reflect your marriage name. Changing your name will facilitate cashing your checks and keep the postman from getting confused. To do so, send a short note requesting that your records be changed, via channels, to COMDT(GPE/72) if on active duty, or to COMDT(GRA/82) if on inactive duty, with a copy of your marriage license enclosed.

AIRLINE travel..under a new ruling effective 1 January 1973, Reservists on active duty for training orders of less than 90 days are not eligible for Military Standby or Reservation fares if they decided to go on trips when they have weekend liberty. Of course, no Reservist is eligible for reduced military fares when reporting to or returning from and ACDUTRA period since they receive travel money for that, if they have not elected to ask for a Transportation Request. All airlines now require a GREEN ID card, and will not accept a red ID card as authority to sell reduced fares.

The new Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) is now on the books. Any married SPAR who is eligible for retired pay at age 60 will automatically be enrolled in the plan and her retired pay reduced to provide the coverage for her husband, unless she declines coverage in writing at least 60 days before she becomes entitled to receive retired pay. Single SPARs may now also name a person who has an insurable interest in her, as a legal beneficiary of SBP in the event of her death in retirement. Contact COMDT(GRA/82) for information and watch for an item on this new law as it affects inactive duty SPARs in upcoming issues of the Reservist. Active duty SPARs interested in knowing more about coverage which is automatic upon retiring after 20 or more years of active service unless specifically declined 60 days prior, should contact COMDT(GPS/73).

We are sorry to have to report that a couple of SPARs have failed to use good judgment recently. It is hoped that there will be no more such disciplinary problems anywhere. We have such high hopes for the Coast Guard SPARs and their future; and we have always been proud of our members and expect them to maintain their integrity, realizing that we are all part of the same team.

SK1 Shirley Kuppinger will remain on activated duty for training at least through July. Division chiefs who have had SPAR personnel assigned to them at HQs have been very pleased with the quality of the work they have performed.

Hope some of you escaped the 'flu, and didn't have any automobile injuries like CWO Betty Splaine (RET) who, thank goodness can at least proudly display her stitched upper leg with a smile, (not a laugh which is Betty's trademark, since she cracked a couple of ribs also). And YN2 Peggy Blackman has returned to her desk in the 14th district's engineering office after conquering double pneumonia. Peggy could probably use some help for her 20 little blind girls at the Saigon orphanage where she sends a large portion of her CG paychecks. Aloha, Peggy!

As you all know, the promotion freeze is still on. But waiting on the second class list for it to be lifted are HM3s Hoganson, Klays, and McCarthy (Lynch)...All our congratulations to each of you. If we forgot to mention it earlier..let me also send felicitations to our only CWO-LTJG SPAR Mary Klasek, glad you got the promotion LTJG Klasek, out there in Omaha.

Did you know we have less than a dozen officers in pay billets at units nationwide

(202) 426 1139  
(703) 780 6726

Eleanor C. L'ECUYER, CAPT, USCGRW  
Senior SPAR Officer Present



# SPAR NEWSLETTER

CAPT Eleanor C. L'Ecuyer USCGRW  
Coast Guard Headquarters (GRA)  
Washington, DC 20590  
March 1973

This is just a quick note to bring you all up to date on happenings at Headquarters and other locales. The best news we have to report is that our 5 OCS trainees are doing well at the Reserve Training Center in Yorktown. Our reserve units are right up there when it comes to recruiting SPAR petty officers...more than a hundred are now scheduled for their two weeks indoctrination course at Yorktown. And with the increase on our rolls, for which we are all thankful, my job becomes a little more hectic. As you know, the Commandant has given me the collateral duty as the senior woman on active duty to answer any queries any of you might have, and to be in liaison with other services for the purpose of helping each of you. So my phone has been ringing at all times and I hope to be able to get replies to each one who calls or writes. For those of you who do not know how to reach me...my office phone is (202) 426-1139 and my home phone is (703) 780-6726. But since I shall be away on leave for the last two weeks of March, Chief Warrant Officer Jefferson as the alternate senior SPAR officer will be available in my absence. Her office number is (202) 426-1604.

Grooming has been uppermost in many of your minds this past month. Admiral Steele has indicated that while he will not issue any directive authorizing women to wear wigs, he also will not issue one which will prohibit you from so doing. HOWEVER, the styling must conform with the uniform regulations, and the style as well as the color must be as shown on your ID card; you may not keep changing the color; and if necessary you should purchase a larger hat size so your bonnet won't be riding way up on top! More about woman's crowning glory: yes, under Change 3 to the Naval Uniform Regulations there is authorization for Navy women to wear plain gold or tortoise shell color barrettes in their hair. I presume this will be adopted for Coast Guard use, but it has not yet come before the Uniform Board.

And speaking of Navy Regs...BUPERS NOTE 1910 of 27 Dec 72 cancels the unilateral option a Navy woman had to request and get a discharge merely because she married. While she cannot be discharged just for the asking, the Navy does try to do all that is possible to see that she and her husband are stationed together or that she be assigned in the vicinity of her civilian husband's home. And I shall check with the other services to find out what their latest policy is concerning "maternity leave" since that question has also been posed to me.

Our uniform survey addressed to officers concerning their bridge coats resulted in an overwhelming affirmative to change to shoulder boards. However, since the few objections came from SPAR officers who would more likely be wearing the bridge coat than some others, I have decided not to bring this question to the Uniform Board.

Congratulations to new Cape May brides...Stephanie Harris Etheridge and Teresa Brown Clark....and also to those of you who are getting your advancement notices now that the military freeze is over.

I enjoyed a trip out to Seattle where some present and former SPARs were having a very pleasant annual luncheon get-together. And was disappointed that I could not take advantage of LCDR LONG's invitation to continue on up to Valdez, Alaska....she and the Chamber of Commerce make such a trip very intriguing.

A real enterprising group of SPARs up at Cape May has sent me their design for a new SPAR uniform. I have had their sketches duplicated and am sending them off to several officers who know more about materials and seamstressing than I do. If it is felt feasible to recommend to adopt their suggestions or a modification of them it still would be many months before any change would actually occur. New styles and materials must be tried at various parts of the country, on different age and figure groups, and the materials and dyes tested by government laboratories before bids can be accepted from manufacturers who must produce adequate supplies of new uniforms at reasonable prices....so don't think we are on the verge of a new look yet. The labs are making up a model of our present style uniform but in the new blue fabric that the men's new uniform is being contracted for. I hope this will be available in the not too distant future. I certainly appreciate the interest shown in this regard, and welcome more help in this area.

But, in turn, I should like more help from each of you. Please wear your uniforms proudly, your hair and skirt at the proper length...one not too long and the other long enough...and YOU know which order that goes! Earrings are not authorized for wear with the uniform, newspaper comments to the contrary. And officers and chief petty officers are REQUIRED to have new, unshiny, well-fitting uniforms with new shields, braid, crews, and ribbons for all duty assignments, whether on ACDUTRA, ACDU, or at unit meetings. I am afraid I shall have to go along with any plan to remove SPARs from drill pay status who do not take the time to order replacement uniform items before their present ones get shabby. CWO Jefferson will be happy to advise you on where you can order the necessary items if you do not know. Hats are another accessory as are handbags which some of you keep putting off ordering. E 3-E6 SPARs on inactive duty may have outgrown or worn out clothing replaced (except for shoes and handbags) by bringing the article to their commanding officer or clothing officer and turning it in when the replacement item has been received at the unit. This does not mean that if you foolishly cut off your skirt so it is too short and want another, you can get one at government expense.....NO WAY...you'll have to furnish it yourself, so be careful when you get your alterations done.

For those of you who have asked about "what to bring to Yorktown", I have asked that you all be advised of suggested items. This is being done as an added page to the pamphlet issued by Yorktown a couple of weeks ago. See your commanding officer. But a word of warning...pack lightly. If you have your uniforms already, you should bring them all so you can be sure they are properly fitted; and if you don't have uniforms yet you are going to need quite a bit of suitcase room to carry them home with you. And you can't arrive with an entourage of luggage...just one suitcase and a tote type second bag. But do plan to learn much about the Coast Guard in a short time and I am sure you will enjoy the diversions of visiting at historic Williamsburg and Jamestown while you are in the colonial area. LCDR Wetzel and her staff are looking forward to welcoming you.

Direct commission applications are being accepted from INACDUTRA SPARs who have college backgrounds and the necessary military experience to qualify...see your commanding officer if you feel you have the basic qualifications for applying.

Cherry Blossom time is coming to Washington and Spring to every corner of the nation...so check your uniform regulations and directives to see when your area changes to summer uniforms.

LEGISLATION: it appears that the "Reserve Bonus" bill may not pass this year... we will keep you apprised of Coast Guard legislative proposals affecting Reserves when any are sent to the Congress.

But for now...Happy Spring...I shall let you know if anything of special note for