



CHIEF OF THE NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU INSTRUCTION

NGB-J1
DISTRIBUTION: A

CNGBI 1305.00A
10 October 2025

WEARING NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU PATCHES AND DISTINCTIVE UNIT INSIGNIA

References:

- a. Department of Defense Directive 5105.77, 30 October 2015, "National Guard Bureau (NGB)," Incorporating Change 1, 10 October 2017.
 - b. Department of the Army Pamphlet 670-1, 26 January 2021, "Guide to the Wear and Appearance of Army Uniforms and Insignia."
 - c. Department of the Air Force Instruction 36-2903, 29 February 2024, "Dress and Personal Appearance of United States Air Force and United States Space Force Personnel," Incorporating Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Manpower and Reserve Affairs Change, 01 February 2025.
 - d. National Guard Bureau General Order 2024-01-02, "Assignment of Functions and Responsibilities within the Office of the Chief of National Guard Bureau and the National Guard Bureau Joint Staff," 31 July 2024.
1. Purpose. This instruction establishes policy and assigns responsibilities for wearing the National Guard Bureau (NGB) shoulder sleeve insignia (SSI) and patch, the Chief of the NGB (CNGB) patch, Office of the CNGB (OCNGB) patch, and the NGB distinctive unit insignia (DUI) in accordance with reference a.
 2. Cancellation. This instruction cancels and replaces its previous version, CNGB Instruction 1305.00, 19 January 2024, "Wear of National Guard Bureau Patches and Distinctive Unit Insignia Guidance."
 3. Applicability. This instruction applies to all uniformed personnel assigned to the NGB.
 4. Policy. It is NGB policy that Service members assigned to an organizational element of the NGB, defined in reference a and reference d, will wear the three-inch NGB SSI and patch. Service members assigned to NGB but serving at a location other than the

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Herbert R. Temple, Jr. Army Readiness Center, or the Air National Guard Readiness Center located on Joint Base Andrews-Naval Air Facility Washington, or the Pentagon, will follow Service guidance in accordance with reference b and reference c. See Enclosure A, Figure 1.

a. OCNGB and CNGB Patch. Only Air National Guard Service members assigned to the OCNGB are authorized to wear the OCNGB patch on the Operational Camouflage Pattern and one-piece Flight Duty Uniforms upon publication of this instruction. For purposes of this issuance, the OCNGB and CNGB patches are classified as “organizational unit of assignment patches” or “NGB organizational patches” in accordance with reference c.

(1) The CNGB is the only Service member authorized to wear the CNGB patch. See Enclosure B, Figure 2. The Vice CNGB is authorized to wear the subdued OCNGB patch in accordance with reference c. See Enclosure B, Figure 3. Wear instructions for the OCNGB and CNGB patch are addressed through Service-specific paragraphs below.

b. Army Personnel assigned to the NGB. Army National Guard and Active Component Army personnel assigned to the NGB will wear the NGB SSI and DUI as follows:

(1) Army Combat Uniform. Service members will wear the subdued NGB SSI on the left shoulder and, if authorized, a shoulder sleeve insignia for military operations in hostile conditions on the right shoulder of the uniform top in accordance with reference b and Enclosure C. The NGB DUI will be worn in accordance with reference b. The instructions of this paragraph also apply to the wear of the Army Aircrew Combat Uniform and the Improved Hot Weather Combat Uniform.

(2) Army Service Uniform and Army Blue Uniform. The NGB SSI is not authorized to be worn with these uniforms. The NGB DUI will be worn in accordance with reference b.

(3) Army Green Service Uniform. Service members will wear the full-color SSI on the left shoulder and, if authorized, a full-color shoulder sleeve insignia for military operations in hostile conditions on the right shoulder of the uniform coat in accordance with reference b and Enclosure C. The NGB DUI will be worn in accordance with reference b.

(4) Army Restrictions. Army National Guard and Active Component Army Service members are not authorized to wear the OCNGB patch or any other NGB organizational patch. See Enclosure C, Figure 4.

(5) CNGB Interservice Exception. If CNGB is an Army National Guard Officer who is authorized to wear the Air Force one-piece Flight Duty Uniform, they will wear the full color CNGB patch on the left shoulder and will follow Air Force standards in

accordance with Enclosure E.

c. Air Force Personnel Assigned to the NGB. Air National Guard and Active Component Air Force personnel assigned to the NGB will wear the NGB patch as follows:

(1) Air Force Operational Camouflage Pattern or Two-piece Flight Duty Uniforms. See Enclosure D, Figure 5.

(a) Service members will wear the subdued NGB SSI or patch on the left shoulder as the “higher headquarters” patch and the subdued Air National Guard or applicable NGB organizational patch on the right shoulder below the United States (U.S.) flag in accordance with reference c.

(b) Service members are authorized to wear the subdued version of a graduate or other equivalent completed school patch as listed in reference c, paragraphs 5.1.6.2.4 through 5.1.6.2.4.1, on the left shoulder. Wear and placement of the subdued NGB SSI or patch will be on the right shoulder below the U.S. flag patch.

(2) One-Piece Flight Duty Uniform. See Enclosure E, Figure 6.

(a) Service members will wear the full-color NGB patch on the left shoulder as their “higher headquarters” patch, the full-color Air National Guard patch on the right breast, and a full-color organizational (directorates, office, or equivalent) patch on the right shoulder.

(b) Service members who are authorized to wear a graduate or other equivalent completed school patch as listed in reference c, paragraphs 5.1.6.2.4 through 5.1.6.2.4.1, will wear the full color version of such patch on the left shoulder, the full-color Air National Guard patch on the right breast, and the full-color NGB patch on the right shoulder.

(c) Service members authorized to wear the CNGB or OCNGB patch as defined in paragraph 4.a will wear the full-color patch on the right shoulder, the full-color Air National Guard patch on the right breast, and the full-color NGB patch on the left shoulder.

(d) Service members authorized to wear the CNGB or OCNGB patch and a graduate or other equivalent completed school patch will wear the full-color NGB patch on the right shoulder, the full-color Air National Guard patch on the right breast, and the full-color graduate or other equivalent completed school patch on the left shoulder. See Enclosure E. When authorized and wearing the Desert Flight Duty Uniform, personnel will wear all subdued patches in accordance with guidance in paragraph 4.c.(2) (One-piece Flight Duty Uniform) unless deployed in support of Combatant Command. Service members deployed in support of a Combatant Command will comply with local uniform guidance.

d. Other U.S. Military Services. Other U.S. military Service members assigned to the NGB will wear the NGB patch to reflect unit of assignment in accordance with their Service's uniform policy.

e. Foreign Military Services. Foreign military Service members assigned to the NGB may wear the NGB patch to reflect unit of assignment and in the manner of the corresponding U.S. Service, unless prescribed otherwise by foreign governing uniform regulations.

f. Other Patches. No other patches in lieu of the patches described in this CNGBI Instruction are authorized for wear by Service members assigned to the NGB.

5. Definitions. See Glossary.

6. Responsibilities. Office of the Chief National Guard Bureau, NGB Joint Staff, Army National Guard, and Air National Guard Directorates will coordinate purchases to issue to their Service members, if required.

7. Summary of Changes. This instruction is updated to reflect wearing the CNGBI and OCNGBI Patches and further clarifies the wear of the NGB SSI, Patch, and DUI on Army and Air Force service uniforms.

8. Releasability. This instruction is approved for public release; distribution is unlimited. It is available at <<https://www.ngbpmc.ng.mil/>>.

9. Effective Date. This instruction is effective upon publication and must be reviewed annually by the Proponent/Office of Primary Responsibility for continued validity, and must be revised, reissued, canceled, or certified as current every ten years.



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Enclosures:

- A -- National Guard Bureau Shoulder Sleeve Insignia, Patch, and Distinctive Unit Insignia Description
- B -- Chief of the National Guard Bureau Patch and Office of the Chief of the National Guard Bureau Patch
- C -- National Guard Bureau Shoulder Sleeve Insignia on Army Uniforms
- D -- National Guard Bureau Shoulder Sleeve Insignia or Patch on Air Force Operational Camouflage Pattern and Two-Piece Flight Duty Uniforms

E -- National Guard Bureau Shoulder Sleeve Insignia or Patch on Air Force One-
Piece Flight Duty Uniforms
GL -- Glossary

ENCLOSURE A

NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU SHOULDER SLEEVE INSIGNIA,
PATCH, AND DISTINCTIVE UNIT INSIGNIA DESCRIPTION

1. The background, diagonally separated by dark blue and ultramarine blue, represents the Army and the Air Force working cohesively. Bagby green and spice brown replace the dark and ultramarine blue respectively in the subdued version. Its dimensions will be three inches by two and sixty-seven hundredths of an inch (3" x 2.67").
2. The shield, a classic heraldic shape bearing the identity or duty of the organization, refers to national defense fortitude.
3. The eagle with two fasces is the insignia of the NGB, symbolizing the administration and their functions and mission to the NGB.
4. The full-color patch comes in both sew-on and hook-and-loop backing (VELCRO™) to accommodate the One-Piece Flight Duty Uniform. The subdued SSI and patch comes in hook-and-loop backing to accommodate the Army and Air Force Operational Camouflage Pattern Uniforms and the two-piece Flight Duty Uniform. Dimensions for both versions will be 3" x 2.67".



Figure 1. NGB SSI and Patch

ENCLOSURE B

CHIEF OF THE NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU PATCH AND OFFICE
OF THE CHIEF OF THE NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU PATCH

1. The full-color patch comes in both sew-on and hook-and-loop backing to accommodate the Flight Duty Uniform.
2. The NGB eagle figures prominently to represent the organization.



Figure 2. CNGB Full-Color and Subdued Patches



Figure 3. OCNGB Full-Color and Subdued Patches

Note: Only Air National Guard Service members assigned to OCNGB are authorized to wear the OCNGB full-color patch. Wear is authorized on the right shoulder sleeve of the Flight Duty Uniform. The Vice CNGB is authorized to wear the OCNGB subdued patch on the left shoulder in accordance with reference b and reference c upon publication of this instruction.

ENCLOSURE C

NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU SHOULDER SLEEVE INSIGNIA ON ARMY UNIFORMS

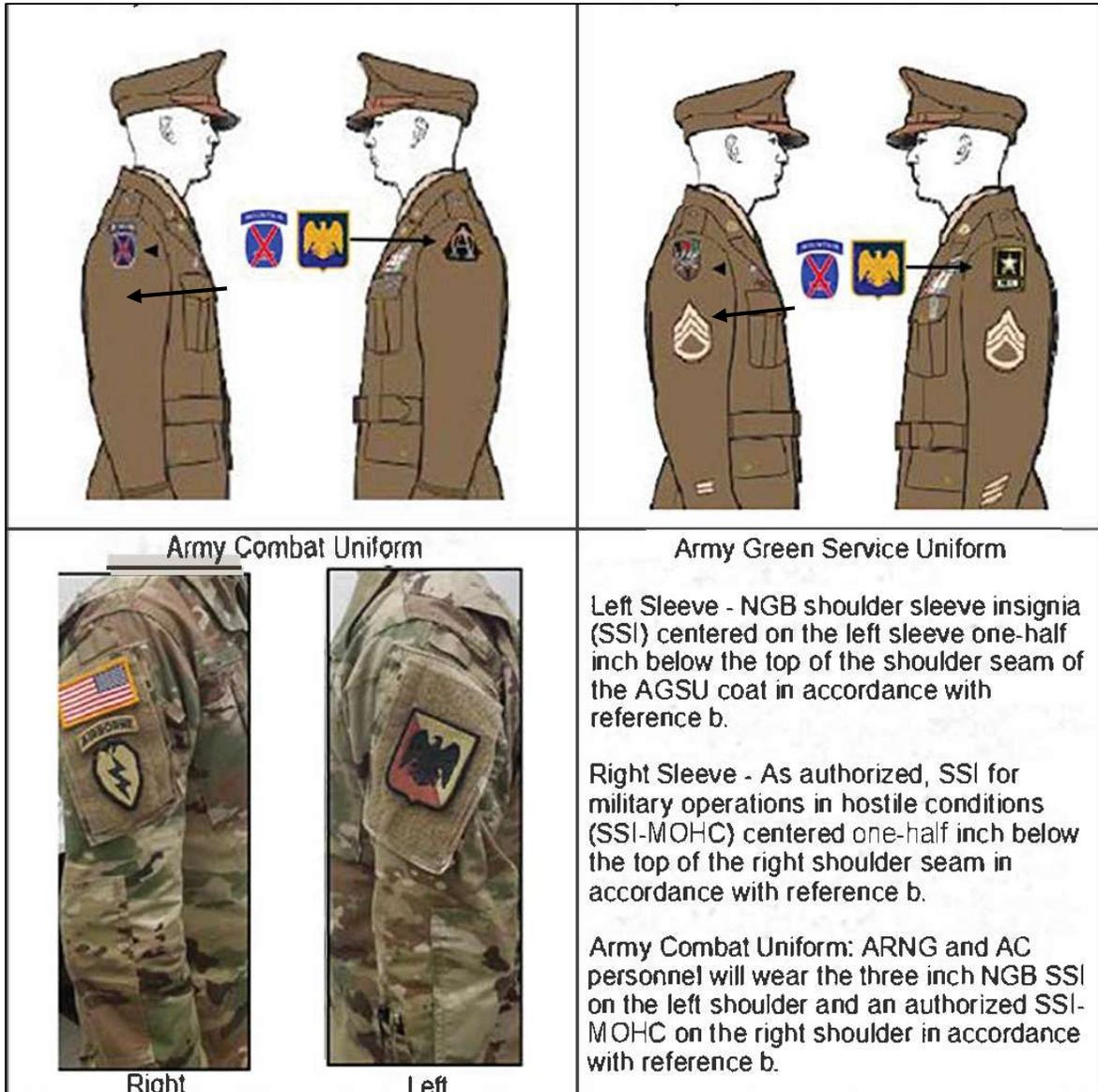


Figure 4. Wear of NGB SSI on Army Uniforms

ENCLOSURE D

NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU SHOULDER SLEEVE INSIGNIA OR PATCH ON AIR
FORCE OPERATIONAL CAMOUFLAGE PATTERN AND TWO-PIECE FLIGHT DUTY
UNIFORMS

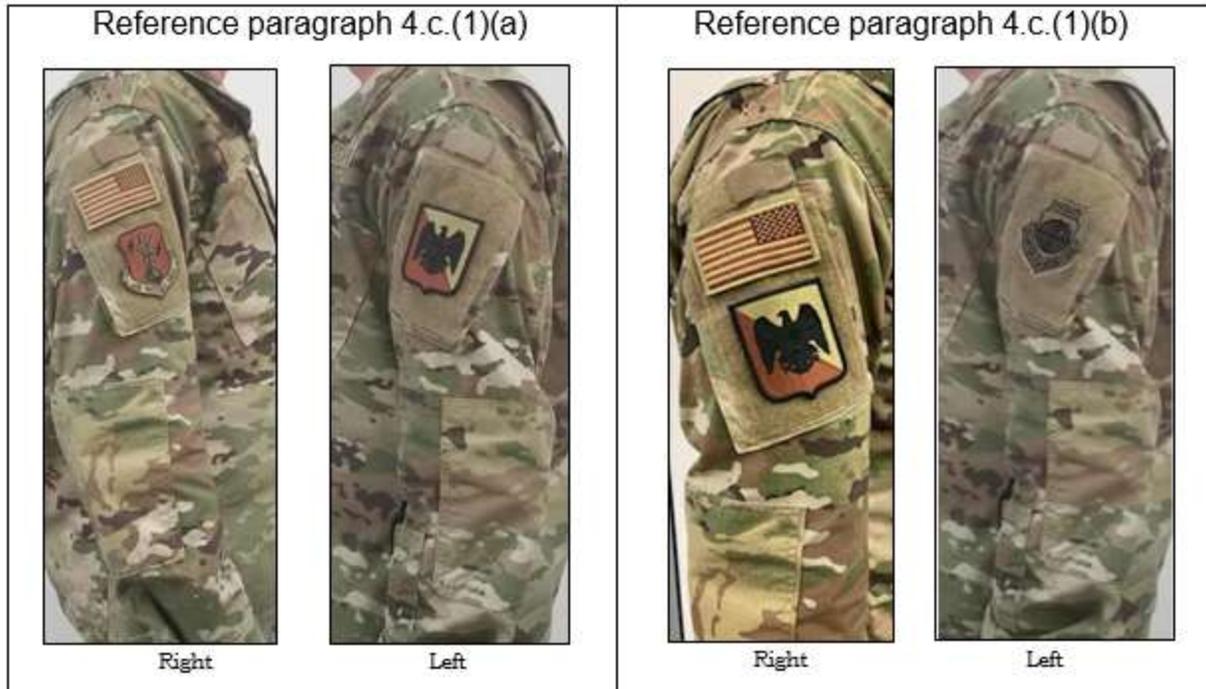


Figure 5. Wear of NGB SSI or Patch on Air Force Operational Camouflage Pattern and Two-Piece Flight Duty Uniforms

ENCLOSURE E

NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU SHOULDER SLEEVE INSIGNIA OR PATCH ON AIR
FORCE ONE-PIECE FLIGHT DUTY UNIFORMS



Figure 6. Wear of NGB SSI or Patch on Air Force One-Piece Flight Duty Uniforms

GLOSSARY

PART I. ACRONYMS

CNGB	Chief of the National Guard Bureau
DUI	Distinctive Unit Insignia
NGB	National Guard Bureau
OCNGB	Office of the Chief of the National Guard Bureau
SSI	Shoulder Sleeve Insignia
U.S.	United States

PART II. DEFINITIONS

National Guard Bureau -- The National Guard Bureau as defined in reference a and reference d.

Office of the Chief of the National Guard Bureau -- Office of the Chief of the National Guard Bureau personnel include principal officials and staff offices listed in Sections II and IV of reference d.

Patch -- A cloth depiction of an emblem or design that can be affixed to a uniform. For this instruction, the National Guard Bureau shoulder sleeve insignia can also be classified as a patch within the context of Air Force uniform wear.