Subject: RE: Wearing of Head Dress [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Attachments: Wearing of Headdress - CASAC decision comment.doc

UNCLASSIFIED

Sir,

I have added some comment in red. We are taking a big step but it is the right one if we are to deliver a work place that is more aware of sun damage. We need to chase down the Sun Smart (Safe?) policy.

Regards,

IMPORTANT: This email remains the property of the Department of Defence and is subject to the jurisdiction of section 70 of the Crimes Act 1914. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email.

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, 11 June 2010 18:13
To: [Redacted]
Subject: Wearing of Head Dress [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Importance: High

UNCLASSIFIED

Gents,

Attached is a draft of the minute that will outline policy concerning head dress. I have made some amendments to the text, but also added commentary to frame the outstanding issues arising from today's discussion (as best as I could keep up to it). As requested by CA, your responses by COB Wednesday would be appreciated.

Yours

'IMPORTANT: This e-mail remains the property of the Australian Defence Organisation and is subject to the jurisdiction of section 70 of the Crimes Act 1914. If you have received this e-mail in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the e-mail.'

IMPORTANT: This email remains the property of the Department of Defence and is subject to the jurisdiction of section 70 of the Crimes Act 1914. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email.
From: [Redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, 15 June 2010 17:57
To: [Redacted]

Subject: RE: Wearing of Head Dress [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Gentlemen,

I have now had the opportunity to canvass most of my subordinate commanders. The strong view is that the beret policy does not go far enough and that the removal of that form headdress should also include Army Aviation and Military Police. On reflection, so do I. A clear policy that recognises the iconic nature of the slouch hat, and provides for protection from the sun is what is required. I would like to see the policy broadened to include those Corps as well as all of the Infantry Corps (i.e. 3 RAR). There seems to be no logical reason for the beret, when the slouch hat or the bush hat can meet every requirement.

There is also strong support for the proposal to have our soldiers involved in the DMO procurement process and I can facilitate that as directed. I would like to see some further discussion, perhaps at our next UTC, how best this could be done.

IMPORTANT: This email remains the property of the Department of Defence and is subject to the jurisdiction of section 70 of the Crimes Act 1914. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email.

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, 11 June 2010 18:13
Subject: Wearing of Head Dress [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Importance: High

UNCLASSIFIED

Gents,

Attached is a draft of the minute that will outline policy concerning head dress. I have made some amendments to the text, but also added commentary to frame the outstanding issues arising from today’s discussion (as best as I could keep up to it). As requested by CA, your responses by COB Wednesday would be appreciated.

Yours

'IMPORTANT: This e-mail remains the property of the Australian Defence Organisation and is subject to the jurisdiction of section 70 of the Crimes Act 1914. If you have received this e-mail in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the e-mail.'
OCA/OUT/2012/R5218543

See Distribution

ARMY STANDING ORDERS FOR DRESS – WEARING OF HEAD DRESS

Reference:
A. AHQ Minute OCA/OUT/2010/R5218543 dated 30 Apr 10

1. Reference A sought comment from Functional Commands and Heads of Corps on the wearing of head dress – berets in particular – in order to establish a consistent approach across Army. The responses were briefed to CA and then discussed subsequently by CASAC on 11 Jun 10. This Minute advises the outcomes, with greater detail to be provided in the new release of Army Standing Orders for Dress (ASOD).

2. Hat Khaki Fur Felt. CA directed that the Hat Khaki Fur Felt (Hat KFF) is to be Army’s primary form of garrison headdress. ASOD will provide revised guidance on the wearing of Corps and regimental hat badges, based on the principle that the Unit Colour Patch (UCP) is the prime identifier of a member’s unit with the Corps hat badge being the primary hat badge. The exception will be for RAAC, RAINF, Special Forces (SF) and AAVn, in which case ‘qualified members’ will be authorised to wear regimental hat badges in lieu of Corps hat badges. A ‘qualified member’ is considered to be a member of the Corps upon which the regiment is based, or in the case of CFA units, those individuals who have attained SF qualifications appropriate to that unit. This will mean, for example, that an RAINF member posted to NORFORCE will wear the NORFORCE hat badge and UCP, while an RACT member posted to that unit will wear the RACT hat badge and NORFORCE UCP. This policy is to apply to all members of Army.

3. Berets. Berets will no longer be an authorised form of head dress for members of the Australian Army. CA has firmly held the view that the health of Army’s personnel should not be put at risk through sun exposure as a consequence of heritage considerations involving berets. This outcome emphasises the iconic and quintessentially Australian nature of the slouch hat, while also affording superior sun protection. CA has agreed to exempt members of SOCOMD from this direction under revised policy arrangements that will be articulated in ASOD. This exemption is on the basis that earning the right to wear the distinctive Special Forces berets remains a central element of the values, culture and underpinning ethos of SOCOMD. SOCOMD commanders authorising the wearing of berets will be required to conform strictly to the sun smart principles articulated in the Army Sun Smart policy.

4. CA has further directed that COMD FORCOMD, through COMD 2 Div, develop by 31 Jul 10 a consistent policy for the wearing of head dress and embellishments within University Regiments (UR). That policy is to conform to paragraph 2 above, with CA’s preference being that UR adopt a model similar to RMC-D. This additional time is provided to enable consultation with UR stakeholders.
5. The new version of ASOD will be signed by CA by 18 Jun 10. I anticipate that a subsequent version of ASOD will be authorised in Oct 10 to reflect the outcomes of Phase 2 of the Garrison Clothing Review.

D.T. MULHALL
BRIG
COFS AHQ

R1-4-A099
Tel: (02) 6265 1790; Fax: (02) 6265 2455

Apr 12

Distribution:

For information:
From: [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, 16 June 2010 16:54
To: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Berets [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Attachments: Wearing of Headdress - CASAS decision.doc

UNCLASSIFIED

Gents,

I have yet to discuss with CA as I am still waiting for a couple of responses, I have amended the attached Minute to that which I think CA will agree to (influenced largely by [Redacted] recommendation).

In relation to [Redacted] have made some comment below. I ask that this not be discussed with [Redacted] after I have had the opportunity to talk with CA.

[Redacted]

IMPORTANT: This email remains the property of the Department of Defence and is subject to the jurisdiction of section 70 of the Crimes Act 1914. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email.

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, 16 June 2010 15:30
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: Berets [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Sir,

As a follow up to our conversation I have spoken to [Redacted]

As a result his preferred option for all members posted to SOCOMD would be that those qualified wear the Unit/Regimental Beret, those not qualified wear the Army blue beret with all members wearing the Unit/Regimental badge.
OK. Commonwealth funds are not to be used to purchase berets.

Currently IRR is wearing the Army Blue beret with the Eng/Corps badge. It was asked that this continue.
OK. Commonwealth funds are not to be used to purchase berets.
When in polyesters all members to wear the beret and unit lanyard with Aust shoulder titles. OK, although we need to specify some exceptions. For example, an SF qualified member posted to the AFG or participating in a ceremonial activity should be dressed like everyone else (i.e., with slouch hat). SF members attending All Corps courses should also be dressed like everyone else etc.

Hat KFF. It was requested that members posted to SOCOMD wear the Unit/Regimental badge. Note* if this is to occur with the wearing of the Aust titles, unit lanyard and UCP there is no way of identifying those that are qualified and those not qualified.

No. I believe CA's exemption for SOCOMD to wear berets is as far as we should go. SOCOMD should conform with the rest of Army when wearing Hat KFF. Unit identity is provided through the UCP and lanyard.

Policy on wearing of beret overseas. Current policy states no berets are worn O/S unless UN or MFO. It was asked if this could be amended to allow SOCOMD members travelling/posted O/S to be able to wear their beret as per their O/S counter parts. I could live with this one, but I'm not sure how CA might wish to proceed.

Policy when posted out of SOCOMD is not to wear the beret. It was asked if this could be addressed to allow the continued wearing of the beret for those qualified members to promote recruiting within Army. No. CA's exemption, in my view, should only relate to those members posted to SOCOMD. When not posted to SOCOMD, then the dress of SF members should be the same as the rest of the Army.

regards

IMPORTANT: This email remains the property of the Department of Defence and is subject to the jurisdiction of section 70 of the Crimes Act 1914. If you have received this email in error, you are requested to contact the sender and delete the email.
ARMY STANDING ORDERS FOR DRESS – WEARING OF HEAD DRESS

Reference:
A. AHQ Minute OCA/OUT/2010/R5218543 dated 30 Apr 10

1. Reference A sought comment from Functional Commands and Heads of Corps on the wearing of head dress – berets in particular – in order to establish a consistent approach across Army. The responses were discussed in a meeting between CAMDCA, RSM-A and myself, and then the issue was discussed subsequently by CASAC on 21 Jun 10.

2. **Hat Khaki Fur Felt.** CA directed that the Hat Khaki Fur Felt (Hat KFF) is to be Army’s primary form of garrison headdress. Army Standing Orders for Dress (ASOD) will provide revised guidance on the wearing of Corps and regimental hat badges, based on the principle that the Unit Colour Patch (UCP) is the primary identifier of a member’s unit with the Corps hat badge being the primary hat badge. The exception will be for RAAC, RAINF, Special Forces and AAAvn, in which case ‘qualified members’ will be authorised to wear regimental hat badges in lieu of Corps hat badges. A ‘qualified member’ is considered to be a member of the Corps upon which the regiment is based, or in the case of SF units, those individuals who have attained SF qualifications appropriate to that unit. This will mean, for example, that an RAINF member posted to NORFORCE will wear the NORFORCE hat badge and UCP, while an RACT member posted to that unit will wear the RACT hat badge and NORFORCE UCP. **Note: SF variations in this were not discussed in CASAC, but this policy would apply to all units.** This means that a non-qualified member of an SF regiment, when wearing Hat KFF, would wear their Corps hat badge and the regimental UCP. In polys etc, they would also wear the regimental lanyard and accoutrements. The aim is to have a standard application of this method of wearing corps and unit hat badges across Army.

3. **Berets.** CA has directed that Option 1 outlined in reference A be adopted. Only qualified members of specific Corps are authorised to wear the related beret and Corps/regimental hat badge, with the remainder of personnel in that unit to wear a Hat KFF with their Corps hat badge and relevant UCP. **[WORDS TO BE DEVELOPED FOR SocomdJ]** In the case of Avn Regt, for example, an AAAvn member would wear a light blue beret and regimental hat badge, while an RACT member would wear the Hat KFF, RACT hat badge and relevant UCP. This means that only SF qualified personnel, AAAvn, RACMP and qualified members posted to 176 AD Sqn and PTS (air dispatch and parachute riggers) will be authorised to wear berets. ASOD will provide specific guidance as to which units may wear berets and when berets may be worn. Berets are not to be worn in Army Training Establishments, except in SFTC and PTS. An annex with those units authorised to wear berets will be developed for inclusion in ASOD.

**CASAC discussion points:**

1. **Berets no longer to be worn by RAINF and RAAC.**
2. Berets may be worn by 3 RAR until relocation to Townsville, at which time Hat KFF is to be worn. To extend this point, should a similar time frame be applied to 176 AD Sqn (i.e. that unit wears dull cherry beret until relocation of 3 RAR)? I believe it should, which also provides an equitable “sunset arrangement”.

3. AAVn and RACMP to continue to wear berets for now. Is there scope to discuss the development of coloured puggarees rather than wear the standard hat KFF?

4. SF members to wear berets in accordance with current practice; e.g. in the case of SASR, SAS qualified members wear the sandy beret and SAS regimental badge, and non-qualified members wear a blue beret and SAS regimental badge – this is SOCAUST’s strongly preferred position. There is a relationship here with AAVn, where COMD 16 Bde wishes all members of a unit, regardless of Corps wear the light blue beret and regimental hat badge. This has generated strong emotion among other HOC, who feel strongly that their Corps members should remain identified with their Corps. The options therefore:

   a. All members of SF units and AAVn units wear the appropriate regimental hat badge with berets regardless of Corps and qualification. In SF units, qualified members wear the sandy/commando beret, whereas non-qualified members wear the blue beret (current practice).

   b. SF units as per para 4.a. AAVn units either conform with para 3 above, or all unit members be authorised to wear the light blue beret with aviators to wear the AAVn regimental badge and other Corps wear their Corps hat badge.

   My recommendation is that SF units conform to SOCAUST’s preferred position, whereas all other units (including 3 RAR) wear headdress in accordance with paras 2 and 3.

4. CA is firm in his guidance that he will not allow the health of Army’s personnel to be put at risk through sun exposure as a consequence of heritage considerations involving berets. COs authorising the wearing of berets will be required to conform to the sun smart principles articulated in the Army Sun Smart policy.

5. CA has further directed that COMD FORCOMD, through COMD 2 Div, develop by 31 Jul 10 a consistent policy for the wearing of head dress and embellishments within University Regiments (UR). That policy is to conform with paragraph 2 above, with CA’s preference being that UR adopt a model similar to RMC-D. This additional time is provided to enable appropriate consultation with UR stakeholders.

6. The new version of ASOD will be signed by CA by 18 Jun 10. I anticipate that a subsequent version of ASOD will be authorised in Oct 10 to reflect the outcomes of Pagse 2 of the Garrison Clothing Review.

D.T. MULHALL
BRIG