

Defence

DEFGRAM 654/2024

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CHANGES TO ROYAL SYMBOLS ACROSS DEFENCE

1. On 27 September 2022, Buckingham Palace announced changes to the Royal symbols used to represent King Charles III. These changes include the change from the Cypher used by Queen Elizabeth II (E II R with St Edward's Crown) to His Majesty's Cypher (C III R with Tudor Crown).
2. Defence has recently received formal advice from PM&C regarding the changes to Royal Symbols. PM&C advised that, in line with the United Kingdom Government's approach, Australian Government Departments will update the Royal symbols in use in accordance with Symbols of the State Guidance.
3. Changing Royal symbols across Defence will be a significant undertaking. To ensure Defence makes changes via an organised and cost-efficient process, the Secretary and Chief of Defence have directed that:
 - a. ADFHQ is appointed as the initial lead for the change process.
 - b. ADFHQ is to establish, and lead, a working group to identify the extent, costs, timings and other impacts of the required changes. The Working Group will develop implementation and communications plans to support any required Defence's changes.
 - c. Defence's approach to changes will utilise the following principles:
 - (1) Defence will adopt a 'grandfathering' approach to the transition of Royal symbols. Defence organisations should adopt a low-cost approach to implementation and new costs should be avoided where possible.
 - (2) Defence will determine the timeframe for the transition of all Royal symbols. No timeframe for any changes has been directed by Government and both the Tudor and St Edward's Crowns remain valid Royal symbols. This approach follows the precedent from Queen Elizabeth II's reign, where the changeover to the St Edward's crown was made over ten years.
 - (3) Defence will determine a process for Defence areas to seek approvals for changes. All Defence changes to Royal symbols will need to be agreed by the Senior Leadership Group, through the ADFHQ working group.
4. To assist ADFHQ with identifying appropriate membership of the ADFHQ-led working group, all Defence organisations who have an stake, or interest, in the issue are requested to email ^{s47E(d)} [REDACTED] [@defence.gov.au](mailto:[REDACTED]@defence.gov.au) with their nominated POC details.

5. Any questions about changes to Royal symbols should be raised, in the first instance, via the appropriate Service or Group chain of command. Further questions can be addressed to ^{s47E(d)} [REDACTED] [@defence.gov.au](mailto:[REDACTED]@defence.gov.au).

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Air Force uniform

8.18. SNCOs are authorised to wear sashes when acting as colour escorts when conducting single-Service activities. An example of an Air Force uniform is at Figure 8.4.

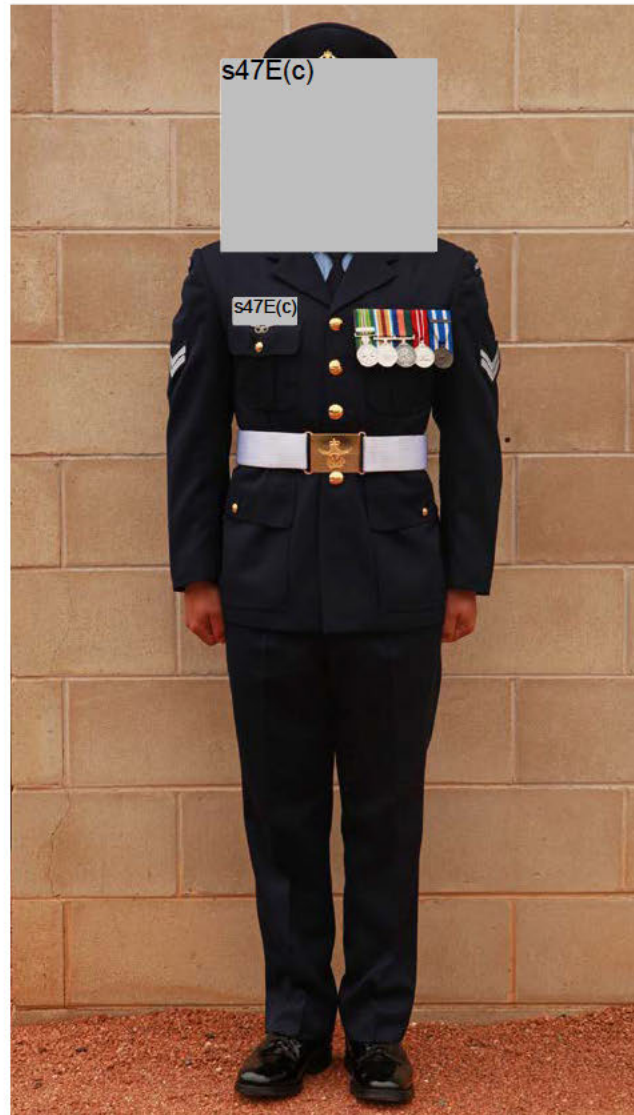


Figure 8.4: Air Force Australia's Federation Guard member in 4A Ceremonial Dress Air Force blue tunic

Ensigns

8.19. The AFG carry devices on all single-Service and Joint-Service guards. The four devices used are the Australian National Flag (ANF), Australian Defence Force Ensign (ADFE), Australian White Ensign (AWE) and Royal Australian Air Force Ensign (RAAFE). Devices are carried by SNCOs using Joint-Service or single-Service colour belts.

Joint and single-Service colour belts

8.20. The Joint-Service colour belt is used to parade the ANF and ADFE on

Joint-Service Full and Half Guards. The Joint-Service colour belt is designed in traditional Joint-Service colours with gold embroidered edging, with an embroidered Australian Coat of Arms and Defence Force Crest. Figures 8.5 and 8.6 show the Joint-Service colour belt with ANF and ADFE.



Figure 8.5: Joint-Service colour belt with Australian National Flag