



United States Coast Guard
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

U.S. Coast Guard History Program

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE
REGULATIONS
FOR
UNIFORMS**

1920

GENERAL REGULATIONS

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE,
BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES,
Washington , January 9, 1920.

All male employees on tenders and light vessels, and keepers and assistant keepers at light stations and depots, shall wear the uniform prescribed for their respective grades at all times when on duty.

Laborers employed at light stations, and attendants in charge of river and other minor lights, are not required to wear uniforms.

The wearing of any part of the uniform with citizen clothes, except the overcoat, is forbidden. In foul weather the wearing of rain clothes is permitted.

When the nature of the work requires, such as when keepers and assistant keepers are cleaning lamps and other station equipment, handling coal or supplies, etc., working clothes may be substituted for uniforms.

Engineers, in repairing or cleaning machinery of vessels, may wear plain blue overalls to save the uniform.

Employees are authorized to have the uniforms made wherever they may prefer, but all uniforms must conform to these regulations and the accompanying illustrations.

These regulations supersede those prescribed in 1912.

G.R. PUTNAM,
Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Approved:
J.W. ALEXANDER,
Secretary of Commerce

REGULATIONS FOR UNIFORMS IN THE LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE.

LIGHTHOUSE TENDERS

OFFICERS OF TENDERS

Coat of dark navy-blue cloth in winter or navy-blue serge or flannel in summer, shaped to the figure, and to descend to top of inseam of trousers a slit over each hip, extending 5 inches from the bottom of the coat; single breasted, with a "fly" front fitted with plain, flat, black, gutta-percha buttons; and to have a standing collar. The collar, edges of the coat, side seams of the back from the shoulder to the lower edge of the skirt, and edges of the hip slips to 5 inches from bottom of coat shall be trimmed with lustrous black mohair braid, 1 1/4 inches wide, laid on flat. There are to be no pockets on the outside of the coat.

Overcoat of the Caban style, of navy-blue cloth, with rolling collar 5 inches deep, double breasted, with six large gutta-percha buttons on each side, the top button to be near collar seam, the bottom button 18 inches from bottom of skirt, and the others spaced equally between top and bottom buttons. The skirt to descend to 3 inches below the knees. Pockets to be in the side seams, breast high. No sleeve ornaments are to be worn on overcoat.

Cap of the pattern shown in plate 1, with adjustable chin strap of gold lace one-half inch wide, fastened to the sides by two small regulation gilt buttons; in the middle of the front of the cap a gold-embroidered wreath 1 inches high by 2 inches spread, inclosing a silver-embroidered lighthouse three-fourths inch high; a black mohair braid 1 1/2 inches wide to be worn around the cap. The visor to be patent leather on the outside and green underneath. For cold weather, where a heavy cap is needed, a plain blue cloth cap similar to the overcoat, with ear flaps, may be worn.

Trousers of navy-blue cloth in winter, or navy-blue serge or flannel in summer, cut in the prevailing styles, with pockets in hip seams all seams; to be plain.

Hot weather.-In hot weather white uniforms may be worn, as follows:

(a) Coat of white linen or cotton duck or similar material and trimmed with white linen or cotton braid 1 1/4 inches wide, similar in cut and fit to blue coat. Ornaments and marks to be of white tape or embroidery, or, at the option of the employee, metal ornaments in the form of pins may be worn.

(b) Trousers same as blue trousers, except to be made of the same material as the coat.

(c) A white cover to fit neatly over the cap underneath the chin strap and the mohair braid, or a skeleton cap with device, mohair braid, and visor, the same as the blue cap, may be worn.

Shoes, high or low, shall be of black calfskin or patent leather, or of white canvas or buckskin. White shoes shall only be worn with white trousers.

Socks.- Plain black socks shall be worn with black low shoes, and plain black or plain white socks with white low shoes.

Clerks and radio operators on tenders.-Uniforms of clerks and radio operators shall conform to that prescribed for officers of tenders.

QUARTERMASTERS, MACHINISTS, AND BOATSWAINS ON TENDERS

Coat.-A double-breasted sack coat of navy-blue cloth in winter, or navy-blue serge or flannel in summer, with five large regulation gilt buttons on each side-the top button placed close to the collar, the lower button about 6 inches from the bottom, and the other buttons at equal spaces between the top and bottom buttons; the length of coat to be the extended arm and hand; the coat to be provided with two inside breast pockets and two outside hip pockets, the latter to have flaps so arranged as to be worn inside the pockets if desired. Each sleeve to have two small buttons on the cuff seam, one-half inch apart, the lower button 1 inch from bottom of cuff.

Vest of navy-blue cloth in winter, or navy-blue serge or flannel in summer, and cut single-breasted, with five small regulation gilt buttons and a small rolling collar, so as to show about 6 inches of the shirt bosom; to have a watch pocket in the left side and a lower pocket on each side.

Trousers of navy-blue cloth in winter, or navy-blue serge or flannel in summer, cut in the prevailing styles, with pockets in hip seams.

Necktie of black silk or satin, string, of uniform width, not less than three-fourths inch nor more than 3/4 inches and not less than 32 inches nor more than 36 inches in length.

Cap of the same pattern as that worn by masters of tenders, the device to be a silver lighthouse with gold-worked letters "U.S.L.H.S.," five-eighths inch in length, in a circle at the base of the lighthouse. The chin strap is to be patent leather.

Hot weather.-White uniforms of cut and fit similar to blue, but of white linen or cotton duck, may be worn in hot weather.

Shoes and socks.-Same as for officers of tenders.

Plain blue overalls may be worn when engaged in dirty work.

SEAMEN ON TENDERS

For working purposes, seamen shall wear a blue dungaree uniform and white hat; for dress occasions, a white duck uniform and white hat similar- to the working dress of the Navy pattern shall be worn.

For winter-weather work a watch cap and sweater of the Navy pattern, knitted of dark-blue yarn, or blue flannel shirt, may be worn.

Rain suits of oiled canvas, consisting of a jumper, pantaloons, and ~southwester, known as Cape Anns, may be worn in wet weather.

FIREMEN ON TENDERS

For working purposes, firemen shall wear a blue dungaree uniform and blue hat, similar to the working dress of the Navy pattern; for dress occasions, a white uniform, similar to that prescribed for seamen, but with the addition of a red stripe on the sleeve or sleeves, shall be worn.

STEWARDS, COOKS, AND MESS ATTENDANTS ON TENDERS

Caps same pattern as masters of tenders, but without ornaments or braid band. The chin strap to be patent leather.

The cook to wear a cook's cap and white apron when cooking. The steward, when waiting, to wear a white apron and plain single-breasted white jacket without pockets, with military collar, rounded corners, felled seams, single-stitched edges, and four large regulation gilt buttons removable for laundering. Material to be 10 1/4ounce double-filled bleached duck. Mess attendants to wear the same, except that jacket shall have plain white buttons.

COLLAR DEVICES, OFFICERS ON TENDERS (PLATE 2).

Deck officers.-A gold-embroidered anchor, 1 inch long lengthwise, upon each side of the collar of the blue coat, fluke end pointing in.

Engineer officers.-A gold-embroidered three-bladed propeller, 1 inch in diameter, upon each side of the collar of the blue coat, one blade pointing up.

Clerks and radio operators.-No collar device is to be worn by clerks and radio operators on tenders.

SLEEVE ORNAMENTS, OFFICERS ON TENDERS (PLATE 2).

Captain.-Four stripes of thick lustrous black mohair braid, laid on at intervals of one-fourth inch. The first stripe to be 2 inches from the bottom of cuff. The two outer stripes to

be one-half inch wide, and the two inner stripes to be one-fourth inch wide.

Master.-Same as captain, except that each of the four stripes of black braid to be one-fourth inch wide.

First Officer.-Same as master, but with three stripes of one-fourth-inch black braid.

Second officer.-Same as master, but with two stripes of one-fourth-inch black braid.

Third Officer.—Same as master, but with one stripe of one-fourth-inch black braid.

Cadet officer.-No sleeve ornaments.

Chief engineer.-Three stripes of thick lustrous black mohair braid laid on at intervals of one-fourth inch. The first stripe to be 2 inches from the bottom of the cuff. The two outer stripes to be one half inch wide and the inner stripe to be one-fourth inch wide.

Engineer.-Same as chief engineer, except that each of the three stripes of black braid to lie one-fourth inch wide.

First assistant engineer.-Same as engineer, but with two stripes of one-fourth-inch black braid.

Second assistant engineer.-Same as engineer, but with one stripe of one-fourth-inch black braid.

Cadet engineer.-No sleeve ornaments.

Radio operator.-Three zigzag lines, flaring outward, each 1 1/2 inches long, embroidered in gold thread, to be worn on right coat sleeve midway between the shoulder and elbow, without other ornament.

Clerk.-A quill, 1 1/2 inches long of proportionate width, pointing downward, embroidered in gold thread, to be worn on right coat sleeve midway between the shoulder and elbow, without other ornament.

Quartermasters.-A steeling wheel 1 1/2 inches in diameter embroidered in white silk or white thread, to be worn on right coat sleeve midway between the shoulder and elbow.

Machinists.-A three-bladed propeller 1 1/2 inches in diameter embroidered in red silk or red thread, to be worn on left coat sleeve midway between the shoulder and elbow.

Boatswain.-Two anchors crossed, 1 1/2 inches long, fluke ends down, embroidered in white silk or white thread, to be worn on right coat sleeve midway between the shoulder and elbow.

The sleeve insignia for radio operator, clerk, quartermaster, machinist and boatswain shall be embroidered on separate patch 3 inches by 4 inches in size, of the same material and color as the uniform, and the patch fastened to the sleeve by sewing.

LIGHT VESSELS

OFFICERS OF LIGHT VESSELS

Coat.-A double-breasted sack coat of navy-blue cloth in winter, or navy-blue serge or flannel in summer with five, large regulation gilt buttons on each side-the top button placed close to the collar, the lower button about 6 inches from the bottom, and the other buttons at equal spaces between the top and bottom buttons; the length of coat to be the extended arm and hand; the coat to be provided with two inside breast pockets and two outside hip pockets, the latter to have flaps so arranged as to be worn inside the pockets if desired; each sleeve to have two small buttons on the cuff seam, one-half inch apart, the lower button 1 inch from bottom of cuff.

Vest of navy-blue cloth in winter, or navy-blue serge or flannel in summer, and cut single-breasted, with five small regulation gilt buttons and a small rolling collar, so as to show about 6 inches of the shirt bosom; to have a watch pocket in the left side and a lower pocket on each side.

Necktie of black silk or satin, string, of uniform width, not less than three-fourths inch nor more than 1-1/2 inches, and not less than 32 inches nor more than 36 inches in length.

Trousers, cap, and remainder of regulations for uniforms to be the same as for officers of tenders.

CREW OF LIGHT VESSELS.

Same as crew of tenders.

COLLAR DEVICES, OFFICERS ON LIGHT VESSELS (PLATE 2).

Deck officers.-A gold-embroidered anchor 1 inch long on each lapel of the sack coat, fluke end pointing down.

Engineer officers.-A gold-embroidered propeller 1 inch in diameter on each lapel of the sack coat, one blade pointing up.

SLEEVE ORNAMENTS, OFFICERS ON LIGHT VESSELS (PLATE 2).

Master.-Three stripes of one-fourth-inch thick lustrous black mohair braid laid on at intervals of one-fourth inch, the first stripe to be 2 inches from the bottom of cuff.

Mates.-Same as master, but with two stripes for first mate and one stripe for second mate.

Engineer.-Same as first assistant engineer of tenders.

Assistant engineer.-Same as second assistant engineer of tenders.

LIGHT STATIONS AND DEPOTS

Keepers of lighthouses shall wear the same uniform in all respects as the masters of light vessels, except the ornaments on the collar and sleeves of coat and the gold chin strap on cap. The chin strap on cap will be of leather. They will wear on each lapel of the sack coat a loop embroidered in gold, 2 1/2 inches long by three-fourths inch wide, the border of loop to be one-tenth inch broad. If principal keeper, the letter "K" will be worn within the loop. For assistant keepers, the figures "1," "2," "3," etc., indicating their respective rank, will be worn embroidered within the loop. (See plate 3.) No sleeve ornaments, except service insignia, to be worn.

Working uniforms similar to those prescribed for seamen on yessels may be worn when engaged in (lirty work.

Efficiency stars shall be worn on the left-hand lapel of the coat or vest, as preferred.

Gold service stars and bars, to indicate length of service, may be worn on left sleeve, the proper number of stars and bars being worn to represent length of service (one star to represent 25 years' service, and one bar to represent 5 years' service), the bars to be placed vertically in a row, bottom of bars to be 2 inches from edge of sleeve, and star to be directly above bars. Bars to be 3/16 inch wide by 7/8 inch long, 1/2 inch center to center; stars to be 7/8 inch in diameter.

Hot weather.-In hot weather white uniforms, of cut and fit similar to blue, may be worn at such times and stations as the Superintendent may designate. Ornaments and marks to be of white tape or embroidery, or, at the option of the employee, METAL ornaments in the form of pins may be worn.

Depot keepers shall wear the same uniform and service insignia as keepers of light stations.

WATCHMEN AT THE GENERAL LIGHTHOUSE DEPOT

Coat.-A single-breasted sack coat of navy-blue cloth in winter, or of navy-blue flannel in summer, cut after the pattern of the Army blouse, with a turnover collar 2 to 2 inches deep, buttoned up to the throat, with 5 large regulation buttons on the right side, the top button just below the collar seam, the lower button just below the waist, the other buttons equally spaced between the top and bottom buttons. The letter "W," 1/4 inch high, worked in gold, inclosed in a gold-embroidered loop of same dimensions as that worn by lightkeepers, to be worn on each end of the collar, 1 inch from bottom.

Vest of navy-blue cloth in winter or flannel in summer, to be so cut as to show about 5 inches of shirt bosom, and to have 5 small regulation buttons on right side; the vest to have a watch pocket on left side and a pocket on each side below.

Trousers of navy-blue cloth in winter or flannel in summer, cut in the prevailing style, with pockets in the side seams.

Cap of the pattern shown in plate 3, with adjustable chin strap of patent leather 1/2 inch wide, fastened to the sides by two small regulation gilt buttons; a black mohair braid 1 3/4 inches wide to be worn around the cap. The visor to be patent leather on the outside and green underneath. An ornament, as shown on plate 3, to be placed above the chin strap in the middle of the front of the cap. The letters "U.S. Lighthouse Service," the figures of the eagle and the lighthouse, and the border of the ornament to be in relief and polished, the body to be stippled. The ornament to be either nickel or silver plated, except that the ornament to be worn by the captain of the watch shall be gold plated.

Belt of adjustable black leather, 2 inches wide, with gilt clasps, on which in raised letters to have the word "Police." When overcoats are worn the belt will be worn outside, with a leather stall to carry the climb.

Shield.-A shield of the design adopted by the Department shall be worn on the left breast of the sack coat in summer or the overcoat in winter. These shields will be furnished by the Bureau upon request therefore. The shields are Government property, to be worn by the watchmen so long as they hold their positions, and shall be surrendered by them upon their relinquishing such position.

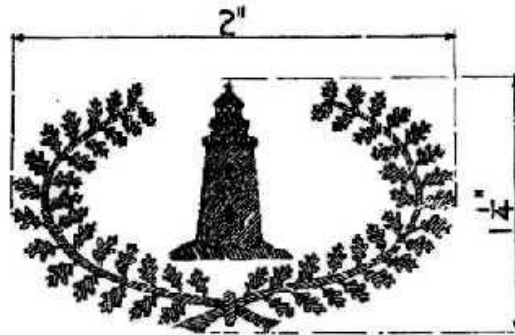
Overcoat, double-breasted, of navy-blue cloth, with five large regulation buttons on each side, equally spaced between the top button at collar seam and the bottom button 18 inches from the bottom of the skirt. The skirts to descend to the knees, and the rolling collar to be 5 inches deep. The pockets on each side to be breast high, cut vertically, and two pockets with flaps cut horizontally just below the hips. A cloth belt of same material as overcoat to be fitted from the side seams, 2 inches broad, to button behind with a large-sized regulation button. The back middle seam to be slashed up 10 inches with a fly flap, closed by four small-sized regulation buttons. The collar to be fitted to turn imp and button with a strap of cloth to a small regulation button.

Cap of blue cloth, with ear flaps, to turn down over the ears for protection in cold winter weather, day or night, may be worn. When not needed, to tie up in front with silk ties.

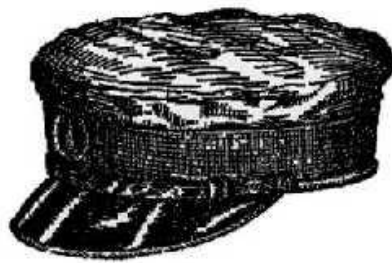
Shoes and socks.-Black shoes shall be worn, and plain black socks shall be worn with low shoes.

Watchmen at depots other than the General Lighthouse Depot.- Shields similar to those worn by the watchmen at the General Lighthouse Depot shall be provided for and worn by all watchmen at lighthouse depots, under the same conditions as are prescribed for the watchmen at the General Lighthouse Depot.

FOR GENERAL SERVICE.



CAP ORNAMENT.



CAP.

Pattern shown is for officers of vessels. Other caps will be similar, but with changes in ornaments as provided in the Regulations.

REGULATION BUTTONS.
To be triple gilt on brass.



Large, 1 inch.



Medium, $\frac{3}{4}$ inch.



Small, $\frac{1}{2}$ inch.

PLATE 2.

LIGHTHOUSE VESSELS.

Officers

SLEEVE ORNAMENTS

CAPTAIN.
2 outer stripes,
 $\frac{1}{2}$ inch.
2 inner stripes,
 $\frac{1}{4}$ inch.



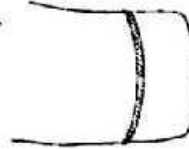
SECOND OFFICER,
FIRST ASST. ENGINEER OF
TENDER,
FIRST MATE OF LIGHT
VESSEL,
ENGINEER OF LIGHTVESSEL,
2 stripes, $\frac{1}{2}$ inch.



CHIEF ENGINEER,
2 outer stripes,
 $\frac{3}{8}$ inch.
1 inner stripe,
 $\frac{1}{4}$ inch.



THIRD OFFICER,
SECOND ASST. ENGINEER OF
TENDER,
SECOND MATE OF LIGHT
VESSEL,
ASST. ENGINEER OF LIGHT
VESSEL,
1 stripe, $\frac{1}{2}$ inch.

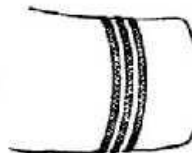


CADET OFFICER AND CADET ENGINEER.
No stripes.

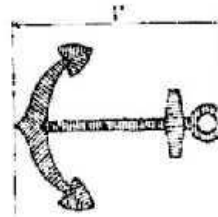
MASTER OF TENDER,
4 stripes, $\frac{1}{4}$ inch.



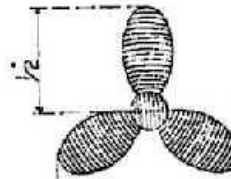
FIRST OFFICER,
ENGINEER OF
TENDER,
MASTER OF LIGHT
VESSEL,
3 stripes, $\frac{1}{4}$ inch.



COLLAR DEVICES.

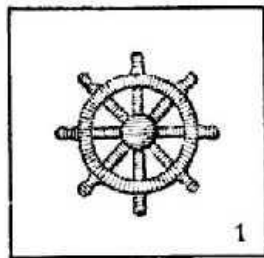


One inch from
front of coat.
DECK OFFICERS.



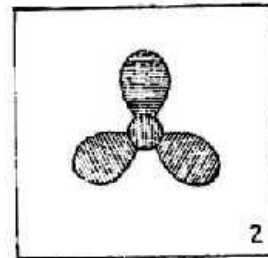
One inch from
front of coat.
ENGINEER OFFICERS.

Petty officers.

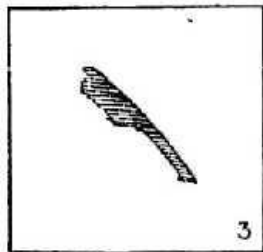


QUARTERMASTER

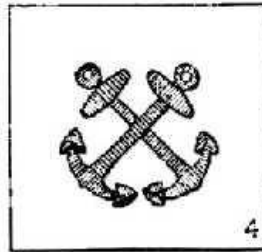
For details as to dimensions,
etc., see page 6.



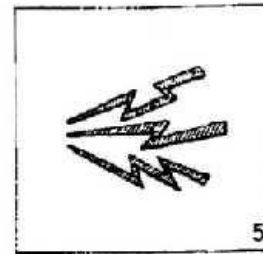
MACHINIST



CLERK



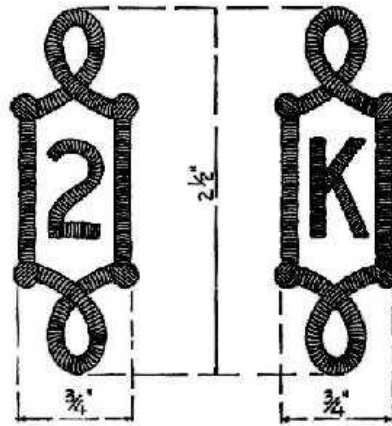
BOATSWAIN



RADIO OPERATOR

LIGHT STATIONS AND DEPOTS.

Keepers of lighthouses.

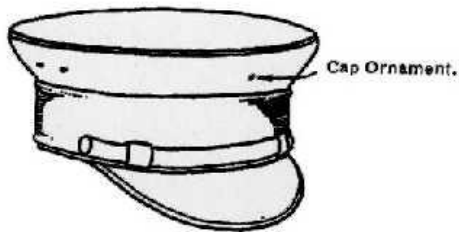


K for keeper.

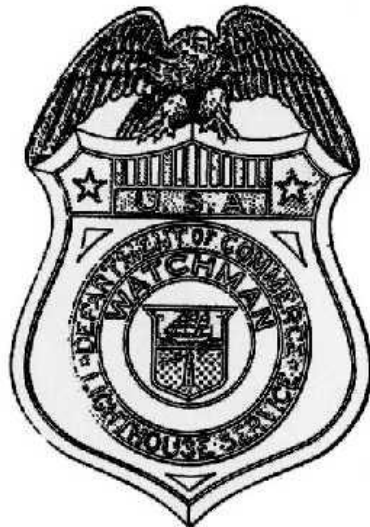
1 for first assistant keeper.
2 for second assistant keeper

3 for third assistant keeper.
4 for fourth assistant keeper.

Watchmen at general depot.



CAP.



SHIELD.



CAP ORNAMENT.