

John Charles Hofmann – Service to Our Nation 15 September 1960 – 8 September 1963



The Seventh Army was the first US Field Army to see combat in World War II and was activated at sea when the I Armored Corps, under the command of Lieutenant General George Patton, was redesignated on 10 July 1943. It was inactivated in March 1946, in Germany, reactivated for a short time at Atlanta, Georgia, and assigned to the Regular Army with headquarters at Patch Barracks, Stuttgart-Vaihingen, Germany, on 24 November 1950.



A Private is a soldier of the lowest military rank (no insignia). In the United States Army, recruits usually enter the army as private in pay grade E-1. No insignia was used until 1968. After that time Private (E-2), was designated by a single chevron and was typically an automatic promotion after six months of service.



Private first class (E-3), equivalent to NATO grade OR-3. After 1968 this rank was designated by a single chevron and a rocker stripe and is more common among soldiers who have served in the U.S. Army for one year or more. Soldiers with prior military training such as JROTC, Sea Scouting or similar program, or who have achieved the rank of Eagle Scout in the Boy Scouts or have achieved an associate degree or its equivalent are entitled to enter the army at this pay grade. Advancement from private first class is typically to specialist, although occasionally it may be to corporal. From 1959 through 1968 this rank was designated by the single chevron shown above.



Specialist (abbreviated "SPC") is one of the four junior enlisted ranks in the U.S. Army, just above private first class and equivalent in pay grade to corporal. Unlike corporals, specialists are not considered junior non-commissioned officers (NCOs). Specialist is the most common rank advancement available to a Private First Class, and becomes available after two years of service and upon completion of a leadership and officer candidate training course.



Corporal is a rank in use in some form by most militaries and by some police forces or other uniformed organizations. It is usually equivalent to NATO Rank Code OR-4.

The rank of corporal nominally corresponds to commanding a section or squad of soldiers. However, in the United States Army, but not the U.S. Marines, a corporal is usually a fire team leader or second-in-command of a squad of soldiers.



A Sergeant is the second-lowest grade of NCO (Non-Commissioned Officer), directly above Corporal. Sergeants command small units of soldiers ranging in size from a fireteam, 4-5 soldiers, to a squad, which consists of two fireteams, and have a great deal of influence of the everyday lives and activities of their men. Sergeant is the 6th rank in the United States Army, ranking above Corporal and directly below Staff Sergeant.



Army Good Conduct Medal



1. Description: The Bronze medal is 1 ¼ inches in width. On the obverse is an American bald eagle with wings spread (denotes vigilance and superiority) perched on a sword (denoting loyalty) and atop a book (denoting knowledge acquired and ability gained. The eagle is encircled by the words "EFFICIENCY, HONOR and FIDELITY". On the reverse, a lone star denotes merit and the wreath of laurel and oak leaves denotes reward and strength. Included on the reverse are the words "FOR GOOD CONDUCT".

2. Ribbon: The ribbon is 1 3/8 inches wide and consists of the following stripes: 1/16 inch Scarlet; 1/16 inch White; 1/16 inch Scarlet; 1/16 inch White; 1/16 inch Scarlet; 1/16 inch White; center 1/2 inch Scarlet; 1/16 inch White; 1/16 inch Scarlet; 1/16 inch White; 1/16 inch Scarlet; 1/16 inch White; center 1/16 inch Scarlet.

3. Criteria: The award is for soldiers completing three years "honorable and faithful service" active service after 28 June 1941. Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishments, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses. If a service member commits an offense, the three-year mark "resets" and a service member must perform an additional three years of service without having to be disciplined, before the Good Conduct may be authorized.

The criteria was amended by Executive Order 9323, dated 31 March 1943, to authorize award for three years service after 7 December 1941 or one year service while the United States is at war. Executive Order 10444, dated 10 April 1953, revised the criteria to authorize award for three years service after 27 August 1940; one year service after 7 December 1941 while the United States is at war; and award for the first award for service after 27 June 1950 upon termination of service, for periods less than three years, but more than one year. The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active-duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of. The Good Conduct Medal may also be awarded posthumously, to any service member killed in the line of duty.

4. Background: a. The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States military. The Navy Good Conduct Medal was first issued in 1869, followed by a Marine version in 1896. The Coast Guard Good Conduct Medal was issued in 1923 and the Army Good Conduct Medal in 1941.

b. The Army Good Conduct Medal was established by Executive Order 8809, dated 28 June 1941. It was designed by Mr. Joseph Kiselewski and approved by the Secretary of War on 30 October 1942.

c. The Air Force was the last service to create a Good Conduct Medal authorized by Congress on 6 July 1960, but not created until 1 June 1963. The USAF discontinued the Good Conduct Medal for a brief period from February 2006 to February 2009.

d. Between 1947 and 1963, Air Force personnel were issued the Army Good Conduct Medal. For those serving both before and after 1963, both the Army and Air Force Good Conduct Medals could be worn simultaneously on an Air Force uniform.

e. All Good Conduct Medals are the same as the Army Good Conduct Medal, except for the colors of the ribbons.



f. The Air Force Good Conduct Medal has remained unchanged in appearance since its original design over forty years ago.

g. Additional awards of the Air Force Good Conduct Medal are denoted by oak leaf clusters.

h. The criteria for award of the Air Force Good Conduct medal are as follows: It is awarded to Air Force enlisted personnel during a three-year period of active military service or for a one-year period of service during a time of war. Airmen awarded this medal must have had character and efficiency ratings of excellent or higher throughout the qualifying period including time spent in attendance at service schools, and there must have been no convictions of court martial during this period.

i. In October 2005, the 97th Air Force Uniform Board met and considered discontinuing the medal with the rationale that good conduct of Airmen is the expected standard, not an exceptional occurrence worthy of recognition. The decision was finalized on 8 February 2006 and the medal was no longer issued. Airmen who had previously earned the Good Conduct Medal were still authorized to wear it.

j. On May 2008, Air Force officials reconsidered the policy. On 11 February 2009, the medal was reinstated and made retroactive to 8 February 2006, with all eligible recipients being awarded the medal automatically.

Sharpshooter – Carbine and .45 Caliber Pistol



Qualification Scoring Today - Soldiers are scored based on the number of targets hit during a qualification course. The specific qualification course varies by weapon. For example, in the Combat Pistol Qualification, soldiers must shoot pop-up targets at a distance of 10 to 31 meters. He will engage targets from a standing position and while moving forward through the course. The rifle 25-meter scaled target alternate course requires soldiers to engage a total of 25 silhouette targets from prone and kneeling positions. Soldiers receive 40 rounds of ammunition and score one or two hits per target. Shooters who achieve 23 to 29 hits earn the marksmanship badge, while 30 to 35 hits earn the shooter a sharpshooter badge. Expert level badges are awarded to shooters who hit 36 to 40 targets.

United States Army Military Police Corps Branch Insignia



1. Two crossed gold color metal pistols 3/4 inch in height.
2. The insignia was approved in 1922.
3. The M1805 pistol, sometimes referred to as the Harper's Ferry Pistol (Harper's Ferry Model 1805) (made at the Harper's Ferry Arsenal), was selected since it was the first American military pistol and remained the Army model for many years. The parts of this weapon were standardized and inter-changeable, thereby marking an advance in

MP Corps Cross Pistol Insignia History

The insignia of crossed pistols for the Military Police Corps was approved in 1923. The insignia is not crossed dueling pistols as many people believe. The device is a scale model of the Harper's Ferry Army officers' sidearm and holster pistol of a century and a half ago. The original pistols, for the design were in the collection of Major Jerome Clark, U.S. Army.

The device and its development were the idea of Captain George M. Chandler, War Department General Staff, U.S. Army. The drawings for the insignia were made in 1922 by the Heraldic Section, Quartermaster General. In 1920, when a reorganization of the Army occurred, the original staff study assigned 5000 infantrymen to the military police mission. Chief of Infantry, Major General Farnsworth, protested this arrangement because it charged him with troops that he would never have under his control. He won his point with the general staff, and the War Department created another temporary arm of the service--The Corps of Military Police.

A new corps insignia was needed, and a new collar mark had to be devised. The infantryman carried a musket, the cavalryman wore a saber, and the military policeman carried a billy-club. The draftsman was instructed to draw crossed billy-clubs. The result was a failure. At saluting distance, the MP could not be distinguished from the field artilleryman. The club insignia looked like crossed cannon.

Next the medieval military club, the mace, was tried. Beautiful drawings were made but looked like crossed potato mashers. The MP was armed with a .45 caliber automatic pistol. This was tried as an

insignia but looked like carpenter's squares. The .45 caliber pistol, like the others, made inartistic devices. The heraldic section was reminded of the Harper's Ferry Army Arsenal flintlock pistol. Everyone interested in the new insignia agreed, and the Chief of Staff, General Pershing, signed the drawings and later approved the metal collar mark which is now worn by the Army Military Police. The above pistols are the Harper's Ferry Army Arsenal flint lock, Model 1806, caliber .54, were adopted as the insignia of the Corps of Military Police in 1923.

The initial design consisted of crossed billy-clubs because that was the primary weapon of the MPs at that time but that symbol became confused with the field artillery crossed cannons. The next proposal was crossed maces, the medieval clubs, but they appeared to be potato mashers. The third proposal was crossed M-1911 .45 caliber automatic pistols but they appeared to be carpenter's squares. Then they agreed on the 1806 Model of the Harper's Ferry pistols and it was adopted. The order was signed by the Chief of Staff, General John J. Pershing in 1923 and became official.



United States Army Military Police Corps Branch Plaque

The plaque design has the branch insignia, letters, and rim in gold. The background is green.



United States Army Military Police Corps Regimental Coat of Arms

1. The coat of arms appears on the breast of a displayed eagle on the regimental flag.
2. The coat of arms is: Vert, a fasces palewise, axe Or and rods Proper (brown); thereover in fess a balance and in saltire overall a key with bow in sinister base and a sword with hilt in dexter base all of the second.
3. The crest (On a wreath of the colors Or and Vert a pair of crossed pistols of the first) is displayed above the eagle's head.
4. The background color of the flag is green and the fringe is yellow. The coat of arms was approved on 2 May 1986.



United States Army Military Police Corps Regimental Coat of Arms - 3 Elements:

Shield--Four Elements: The *Faces* are a war axe bound within a bundle of rods by a red strap. This was the symbol of authority in the Roman armies and was used to restore order and carry out punishments. The *Sword* represents military leadership and guidance. The *Key* represents security, both of personnel and vital military assets. The *Scales* are the scales of justice representing the values of impartiality and fairness.

Banner--"Assist, Protect, and Defend" *Assist*: embodies the mission of aiding the commander in maintaining order and safeguarding the rights of Soldiers and their families *Protect*: the MP combat support role of protecting fellow Soldiers and equipment on the battlefield *Defend*: represents the

combat mission of resisting, containing, and defeating the enemy to secure forward support and command and control elements to sustain and win the battle.

Crossed Pistols: These are the 1806 Harper's Ferry .54 caliber pistols adopted as symbolic of the MP Corps in 1923. The banner surrounds the shield and is connected with the pistols to represent the unit of the Military Police Corps. This crest is surrounded by the Seven Army Values.



United States Army 385th Military Police Battalion Crest Patch and Pin



United States Army Collar & Hat Pins



United States Army Military Police School



MP Colors

There are a few theories as to how the Military Police Corps acquired the colors of green and yellow. 1. The uniform coats of the enlisted dragoons during the American War I, the military police of the American Expeditionary Force has the same lineage as the Cavalry, both having originated with the Dragoons, thus the yellow of the Cavalry was retained. The green was taken from the

staff of the Provost Marshal Branch. In any case, in 1921 the colors of green and yellow were officially adopted for the Army Military Police with green on the field of yellow. In 1941 the colors were reversed with yellow on green

MP Badge



The development of the Military Police badge began in 1972 when the Provost Marshal General's office began considering proposed designs. The initial design incorporated the symbols of the 15th and 18th MP Brigades, the only two active brigades at the time. This was changed and the resulting badge was approved on 16 January 1975. The badge is silver plated with an oxidized satin

finish and has three distinct components: Shield--represents defense and the traditional police authority Eagle--perched on top of the shield represents alertness and vigilance Armament Crest--placed in the center replicates the crest of the official Department of the Army seal.



United States Army Military Police Tools of the Trade.



APO 403, US Forces

AEAPM-P

JUL 15 1963

SUBJECT: Letter of Appreciation

THRU: Commanding General
Headquarters, Seventh Army
APO 46, US Forces

TO: SP4 John A. Backscheider,
RA 15640590
SP4 Ronald L. Bolling,
RA 15342189
404th Military Police Company
APO 326, US Forces

SP4 John C. Hoffman
RA 12610744
7th Army Military Police Detachment
APO 46, US Forces

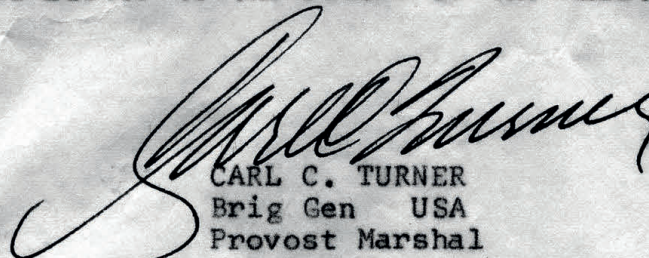


1. United States Army, Europe provided various types of support to other federal agencies during the visit of Mr. John F. Kennedy, President of the United States, to Europe during the period 23 June through 2 July 1963. One of the most sensitive support functions involved security of critical material.

2. Your selection as a member of a security team supporting Presidential visit activities in Bonn, Germany during the period 23 - 25 June 1963 was indicative of your commander's confidence in your professional competence and personal integrity. The outstanding manner in which you performed your duties more than justified that confidence.

3. It is my privilege and pleasure to convey to you the appreciation of the Commander in Chief, United States Army, Europe, for the exemplary manner in which you discharged your responsibilities and thereby contributed to the accomplishment of this vitally significant mission.

4. In addition to the Commander in Chief's expression of appreciation, I wish to add my recognition of your outstanding performance; it added luster to the record of the Military Police Corps.


CARL C. TURNER
Brig Gen USA
Provost Marshal