

# Army Clothing Record

## Unraveling the Mystery: Your Questions About Army Clothing Records Answered

Army clothing records are detailed documents that track the issuance, maintenance, and return of uniforms and other clothing items to military personnel. These records are crucial for logistical purposes, ensuring soldiers are properly equipped for their duties, and for historical research, providing insights into military organization and individual service histories. Accurate and readily accessible clothing records are vital for budgetary control, accountability, and maintaining operational readiness within an army. They also play a crucial role in determining entitlement to benefits or resolving discrepancies in equipment provision. This Q&A session aims to demystify army clothing records and address some common questions surrounding them.

**Q1:** What information is typically included in an army clothing record?

**A1:** The specific information contained within an army clothing record varies depending on the era, the army in question, and the level of detail required. However, common elements include:

**Soldier's identification:** This usually involves the soldier's name, rank, service number, unit, and date of enlistment. For instance, a record might show "Pvt. John Smith, 12345678, 1st Infantry Division, Enlisted 01/01/1943."

**Date of issuance:** The record specifies when each clothing item was issued to the soldier. For example, "Issue Date: 15/02/1943 - One pair of combat boots, size 10."

**Description of items:** Detailed descriptions of each clothing item, including its type, size, and often a unique serial number if applicable (e.g., "One M1942 field jacket, size Medium, Serial No. ABC1234").

**Condition upon issue and return:** The record usually notes the condition of the clothing upon issue ("Good condition") and upon return ("Worn, but serviceable," or "Damaged beyond repair"). This is particularly important for assessing wear and tear and determining replacement needs.

**Signatures and verification:** Signatures or stamps from issuing and receiving officers verify the transactions.

**Disposition of items:** This section details what happened to the clothing item after it was no longer needed, whether it was returned to the supply depot, destroyed, lost, or transferred to another soldier. For example, "Returned to 1st Supply Depot, 20/03/1945".

**Q2:** How are these records maintained and accessed?

**A2:** Historically, army clothing records were primarily maintained as paper-based documents, filed

within unit and larger army archives. Access was often restricted, requiring specific authorization. However, modern armies are increasingly digitizing these records. This allows for easier access and retrieval through searchable databases. For example, the US Army uses various digital systems depending on the timeframe and the type of record. Access to these systems is typically controlled through security protocols and permissions based on the individual's need-to-know status. Researchers often need to go through specific channels, such as the National Archives, to access historical records. Accessing records from conflicts like World War I or II might require navigating through various archives and potentially facing limitations based on privacy regulations.

Q3: What is the importance of clothing records in historical research?

A3: Army clothing records provide invaluable insights for historical research. They offer granular details about the equipment used by soldiers, providing evidence for understanding logistical challenges, supply chains, and the development of military equipment over time. For example, analyzing clothing records from the Vietnam War could shed light on the effectiveness of different types of uniforms in a tropical climate. Further, by examining the frequency of replacements, researchers can infer the durability of specific equipment and the demands placed on soldiers' clothing. Individual clothing records can also provide biographical context, enriching the narratives of individual soldiers' experiences.

Q4: What happens if a soldier loses or damages clothing items?

A4: The consequences of losing or damaging army clothing items vary depending on the circumstances and the army's regulations. Usually, the soldier is responsible for the lost or damaged items. In some cases, soldiers might face disciplinary action, especially if the loss or damage is deemed due to negligence. However, justifiable loss (e.g., destruction due to combat) would generally be handled differently. Records document these events, showing the initial issue, the loss/damage report, and the subsequent investigation and action taken. This documentation safeguards the army against fraud and ensures accountability for issued equipment. For instance, a report stating "Lost in action, 05/06/1944" would be handled differently than a report stating "Damaged due to carelessness, 10/10/1944."

Q5: Can these records help in claiming veterans' benefits?

A5: In certain cases, army clothing records can provide supporting evidence for veterans' benefit claims. For instance, documentation of injuries sustained while wearing specific equipment might corroborate claims related to disability compensation. The records might show the type of clothing worn, which might indirectly indicate the nature of the soldier's duties and potentially contribute to claims regarding exposure to hazardous materials or conditions. However, clothing records are rarely the sole piece of evidence used in such claims; they typically work in conjunction with medical records, service records, and other supporting documents.

Conclusion:

Army clothing records are more than mere inventories; they are vital historical documents that offer insights into logistics, individual experiences, and military advancements. Their proper maintenance and accessibility are crucial for ensuring accountability, managing resources effectively, and providing valuable historical and genealogical information.

FAQs:

- 1. Are all army clothing records publicly accessible? No, access is often restricted due to privacy concerns and security protocols. Access to historical records might require navigating specific channels and obtaining authorization.
- 2. How long are army clothing records typically kept? Retention periods vary depending on the army and national regulations. Some records are kept indefinitely, while others are destroyed after a certain period.
- 3. What if I cannot find a clothing record for a specific soldier? There could be various reasons for this – loss or destruction of records, inaccurate record-keeping, or incomplete documentation. Further research through alternative sources might be necessary.
- 4. Can these records be used for genealogical research? Yes, clothing records can be useful, particularly when combined with other documents, to trace family history and provide details about the life and service of an ancestor.

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**Clothing record "^" symbol :** **r/army - Reddit** Jul 7, 2022 · Pretty much. It means the item was updated/added on your clothing record, could be something you got added that wasn't from your previous duty station (like JLIST if you inprocess at Humphreys CIF in Korea), equipment added on to your clothing record (like if you didn't get an IFAK originally issued and had to get partial issue later at your assignment) or RFI.

**ETS CIF Question : r/army - Reddit** May 8, 2019 · Your clothing record tells you what to turn in. ... The Army' rate of deaths last year was among the ...  
*r/army on Reddit: Is your OCIE record you can print off the same ...* Jun 22, 2023 · Sorry this may be an absolute dumb question but I was looking through my records on IPERMS and I printed them out to prepare for CIF and make sure I...

**Clothing record : r/army - Reddit** Jun 26, 2021 · Don't use your clothing record to determine what CIF wants. Go there with a copy of your orders, and get a "line out" and look at it before you leave. Anything you don't know what it is, ask.  
**ETS cif : r/army - Reddit** Sep 13, 2019 · As other people have been saying, pull up your clothing record, if it has an "N" in the ETS column, you don't have to turn it in. That being

said I just cleared CIF this week so there are some discrepancies. FRACU's, camelback's, combat shirts, combat pants, and boots do not have to be turned in, even though it says so on your clothing record.

Clothing Record CIC Codes? :  
r/army - Reddit Jun 27, 2016 · Don't Bother Getting Another 1 This will get you started DA Pam 708-3. which will direct you to SB 700-20. ...

RFI Items missing from OCIE record : r/army - Reddit Jun 17, 2021 · E: you just bring all the stuff in and dump it on the floor

then start throwin it on the sorting table and the cif people take it, their list is in a different order than your clothing record so you just toss stuff in a random order. Make sure your canteens are bone dry, and your puss pad doesnt have crap on it.

*Clothing Record Question :*  
r/army - Reddit Feb 2, 2024 · Clothing Record Question . Good morning to all ofy Active Duty brothers and sisters!! ... Former U.S. Army ...

**Where Can I Find Pictures For The OCIE? : r/army - Reddit Nov 1, 2023** · In that

app the Army developed like 15 years ago that has full color pictures of all OCIE and NSN items for just these kind of occasions that every Soldier has gone through. Please note, this app doesn't actually exist, maybe after they're done with the upcoming blue book app

Anyone know where to get tour basic training clothing record?  
May 17, 2023 · Edit: you can also check with a cashier at Clothing Sales to see if CIIP input your name in the system for any shortages they had and get any incomplete issues articles of clothing from there possibly as well.