

Department of Defense Identification



Joint Army and Air Force Bulletin Number 8, issued in April 1949, established this badge with the title “The National Military Establishment Identification Badge.” Army Regulations Number 600-70, dated September 1951, changed this to the Department of Defense Identification badge. Patent 160,909, issued November 1950, covered this badge

Initially personnel in the Joint Chiefs of Staff offices wore this badge but at the end of 1962 the Secretary of Defense limited its award to those personnel on his staff, since wear of the badge had spread to many supporting offices. In 1986 Army Regulations Number 670-1 called the award the Secretary of Defense Identification badge to more properly reflect the thinking of the Secretary of Defense.

Initially the requirement was for 6 months service and after that time soldiers could wear the badge. Soon the requirement became one year for permanent wear of the badge. It is worn on the left pocket.