



U.S. COAST GUARD



Homeland Security

Flag Voice 226

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OPERATIONAL DRESS UNIFORM (ODU) ROLLOUT UPDATE

Now that more than 162,000 ODUs have been distributed, we are in the final phase of the initial ODU rollout to our Active and Reserve workforce. We awarded a follow-on contract last week for the production of several thousand additional uniforms in those sizes that our most recent analysis indicates are or will be in short supply during the final weeks of the rollout. These additional quantities should arrive at the Uniform Distribution Center (UDC) in mid to late September 04.

There are approximately 1300 members on the backorder list. Those personnel who have not yet received their uniforms can be assured that their need is being tracked and they will receive their uniforms as soon as their specific size arrives. The most common shortages are currently in jacket sizes 38L, 40L, 42R, 44R, 46L, 48R, and 48L, and pants sizes SR (Small Regular).

The complete backorder listing is now posted on the UDC website at <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/g-w/g-wp/udc/>. Members are strongly encouraged to check the UDC website. Those who have not yet received their initial issue and do not see their name on the UDC site should follow the instructions on the website by sending an email to the designated UDC point of contact. The UDC staff will research the issue and work with the member to have their name added to the backorder list if appropriate. Please keep in mind that on a very busy day more than 1,000 individual orders are shipped from the UDC. Consequently, the backorder list is very dynamic.

As indicated in Flag Voice 225, we are pushing very hard to fill all initial rollout orders by 30 September 04. That said, we recognize that continued swings in sizing demand and delinquent orders could result in a small number of personnel receiving their uniforms after 30 September. In an effort to minimize the impact of such a delay, the UDC is adjusting its production schedule in two very important ways. First, the UDC has shifted its end-of-fiscal year inventory to this week from the last week of September. While this will cause a near-term slowdown, it will free up the maximum number of employees in mid-September to handle the influx and distribution of expected additional uniforms. Second, as previously discussed, the UDC is scheduling a three-month clean-up and restocking period during October-December. During this period, they will continue to handle initial issue orders as well as individual orders from Active and Reserve members in need of replacement uniforms. The Auxiliary rollout is still scheduled to begin in January 2005.

Regards,

RADM Kenneth T. Venuto
Ken Venuto

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