



Emblem & Insignias

Last updated November 2012

Emblem

Description On a light blue oval edged white, two palm fronds Proper crossed at base supporting a red oval-shaped shield coming to a point at the top and bottom, surmounted by a blue shield edged white bearing the green land masses of Africa, all within a blue oval designation band edged white, with the inscription "UNITED STATES AFRICA COMMAND" around the top of designation band, in white and displaying in base four white stars.



Symbolism Light blue denotes the Department of Defense and total military readiness. The palm fronds indicate Africa's hope to achieve unity on the continent and to build a partnership throughout the world. The red oval shield suggests the capacity of the U.S. AFRICOM's involvement to enhance national security, to stop the growth of terrorism and to promote peace in Africa. Green denotes prosperity. The land masses of Africa signify the command's potential challenges to strengthen democracy, economic growth and future for the people of Africa. The four stars represent the grade of the military leadership of the unified command.

Background The emblem was approved by the U.S. AFRICOM Commander on November 1, 2007.

Shoulder Sleeve Insignia

Description On a light blue oval-shaped embroidered item, coming to a point at the top and bottom, two palm fronds crossed at base Proper, surmounted by a blue oval shield edged with a 1/16 inch red border bearing the green landmasses of Africa; all within a 1/8 inch (.32 cm) black border. Overall dimensions are 3 1/8 inches (7.94 cm) in height and 2 7/16 inches (6.19 cm) in width.



Symbolism Blue alludes to the commitment to the unity and coordination of Africa's allies to promote the United States Africa Command mission. The palm fronds indicate Africa's hope to achieve unity on the continent and to build a partnership throughout the world. Red stands for liberation. Green denotes prosperity. The landmasses of Africa symbolize the continent's fortitude and the command's area of operation.

Background The shoulder sleeve insignia was approved on November 26, 2007.

Distinctive Unit Insignia

Description A silver metal and enamel device 1 5/32 inches (2.94 cm) in height consisting of a blue oval shield coming to a point at the top and bottom bearing a green stylized landmass of Africa, all within a red diminished border, above and between two palm fronds crossed at base. Attached above the device a blue scroll inscribed "UNITED STATES AFRICA COMMAND" in silver.



Symbolism Blue alludes to the commitment of unity and coordination of Africa's allies to promote the United States Africa Command mission. The palm fronds indicate Africa's hope to achieve harmony on the continent and to build a partnership throughout the world. Green denotes prosperity. Red stands for liberation. The stylized landmass of Africa symbolizes the continent's fortitude and the command's area of operation.

Background The distinctive unit insignia was approved on April 30, 2008.