



Letter to Airmen

Michael W. Wynne
Secretary of the Air Force

11 September 06

New Uniform for the Cyberspace Mission

In my [previous “Letter to Airmen,”](#) I said that Information Management personnel will be authorized to wear a “digital flight suit” that was under development. We’ve said for years that “every computer is a weapon system,” and it’s time to change the way our people dress when they fly and fight in cyberspace.

Our new digital flight suit is shown here in a photo taken on the fifth anniversary of the terror attacks. It’s the first combat uniform with an optional skirt.

Some of the informal feedback about the digital flight suit includes 3C0XXs who wanted to revamp the traditional blue uniform to look “more military.” Other comments have suggested that the new uniform should reflect the vital role of the Information Manager in today’s Air Force. One senior airman said, “the current blue uniform makes us look like nerdy businessmen.” A staff sergeant called it “a cheap cubicle outfit.”

An airman in the 5th MOB said, “if we can retire the old USAF logo for a high-tech logo, then we can retire the blue suit for a digital flight suit.” On an Internet message board an airman recently wrote, “I want to look good and be proud to fight in cyberspace.” A senior NCO observed that “our new mission is a triad. There’s a flight suit for air, a flight suit for space, and there should be a flight suit for cyberspace.”

Digital flight suit “beta testers” will put the uniform through its paces at stateside bases and classified AOR locations. A formal survey will soon provide more opportunities for Information Managers to provide feedback through the uniform board process.



SMSgt Dana Athnos (left) and Brig Gen Robert Allardice “beta test” the new digital flight suit. (U.S. Air Force photo by SSgt C. Todd Lopez)

Michael W. Wynne