

COMMERCIAL ITEM DESCRIPTION

FLAG, NATIONAL, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, INTERMENT

The General Services Administration has authorized the use of this commercial item description for all federal agencies.

1. SCOPE. This commercial item description covers the requirements for the United States of America interment flag. The intended use is to provide the flag of the United States for burial ceremonies of deceased military personnel and veterans.

2. SALIENT CHARACTERISTICS.

2.1 Design and construction. The interment flag of the United States shall have a 5-foot hoist by 9-foot 6-inch fly, be constructed in accordance with the dimensions specified in The Institute of Heraldry Drawing 5-1-17, and be made of 100 percent cotton. For special orders, the flag shall be manufactured from a 65 percent/35 percent blend of cotton and two-ply polyester bunting. When cotton is used, the cotton bunting shall be a two-ply yarn with a weight of at least 4.5 ounces per square yard with a minimum of 31 yarns per inch in the warp and 30 yarns per inch in the filling. The weave shall be plain with a mercerized finish. When cotton-polyester is used, the blended two-ply bunting shall be of a plain weave with a weight of at least 4.5 ounces per square yard with a minimum of 50 yarns per inch in the warp and 32 yarns per inch in the filling. The finished cotton or cotton-polyester cloth shall show a colorfastness to light, water and soap equal to or better than a rating of "good" when tested in accordance with AATCC 16A, AATCC 61 and AATCC 132 test methods. The warp of the base cloth shall run in the direction of the stripes. The finished cloth shall conform to the physical requirements listed below when tested in accordance with the cited testing methods. The appearance of the flag shall have no apparent defects when viewed from a distance of 36 inches.

	<u>COTTON</u>	<u>COTTON-POLYESTER</u>	<u>TEST METHOD</u>
WEIGHT, OUNCES PER SQUARE YARD (minimum):			ASTM D3776
Bunting	4.5	4.5	
Duck	8.5	8.5	

Beneficial comments, recommendations, additions, deletions, clarifications, etc. and any other data which may improve this document should be sent to: Director, The Institute of Heraldry, US Army, ATTN: Technical and Production Division, 9345 Gunston Road, Room S112, Fort Belvoir, Virginia 22060-5579.

YARNS PER INCH:				ASTM D3775
Warp:	Bunting	31		50
	Duck	84		84
Filling:	Bunting	30		32
	Duck	28		28

BREAKING STRENGTH IN POUNDS (Minimum):				ASTM D5034
Warp:	Bunting	50		50
	Duck	100		100
Filling:	Bunting	50		50
	Duck	105		105

2.1.2 Flag design. The flag shall consist of 13 horizontal stripes, 7 red and 6 white, which shall alternate beginning and ending with a red stripe. On the face side, each stripe shall overlap the stripe beneath it, forming a shingle effect. The right vertical hem of the canton shall lay on top of the short stripes and the bottom hem of the canton shall lay over the first long white stripe. The four corners of the flag and of the canton shall be squared. All opposed edges or hems shall be parallel.

2.1.3 Canton. The canton shall be blue and constructed in accordance with the dimensions specified in The Institute of Heraldry drawing 5-1-17 (Figure 1). The canton shall contain 50 five pointed machine embroidered white stars arranged in nine horizontal rows. There shall be five rows of six stars and four rows of five stars which shall alternate beginning at the top and ending at the bottom with a row of 6 stars. Each star shall have one point upward. Stars shall be symmetrically arranged in horizontal, vertical and diagonal rows. The thread used for embroidery shall be a bleached two-ply cotton. The design and stitch count of the embroidered stars shall be in accordance with The Institute of Heraldry Cartoon 3.718. Piecing of the canton is not allowed.

2.1.4 Flag colors. The colors for the flag shall match the cable numbers cited in the Tenth Edition of the Standard Color Card of America as follows:

<u>COLOR</u>	<u>CABLE NUMBERS</u>
Old Glory Red	80108
Old Glory Blue	80075
White	80002

2.1.5 Heading. The flag heading shall be constructed as shown in The Institute of Heraldry Drawing 5-1-45B (Figure 2) with two grommets. The duck shall be made from 100 percent cotton duck, be white or in-the-gray, shall weigh between 7 ounces and 8.25 ounces per square yard, have two ply yarn in both the warp and filling with a breaking strength of not less than 105 pounds in the filling. The grommets shall be a commercial trade size 2 bright finish brass grommet with toothed washers. The turn-in of the header shall be 1.5 inches and be squared with the width of the flag.

2.1.6 Stitching. Seams, heading and hems shall be sewn with 9 to 11 stitches per inch. Selvage hems shall be of type EBF-2. Stripes shall be joined by a double needle felled seam type LSc-2 using a 3/16 inch to 3/8 inch gauge machine with a greater than 3/32 inch margin. Only the needle thread should be visible on the front side of the flag. The color of the thread for sewing the interment flag shall be a white 50/50 cotton-polyester blend except for a selvage or a raw edge that must be hemmed, then the thread shall be of the same color as the cloth. The colorfastness of the thread shall be equal to or better than the material on which it is to be used. The following shall apply:

a. White colored thread shall be used to sew the fly hem, the bottom canton hem with the white stripe, the seam joining the canton with the short stripes, the duck heading, and stripe hems between stripes.

b. Blue thread shall be used to sew the canton top hem when a top hem is necessary.

c. Red thread shall be used to sew the bottom or top red stripe hem when a hem is necessary.

### 3. QUALITY ASSURANCE PROVISIONS.

3.1 Contractor Certification. The contractor shall certify and maintain substantiating evidence that the product offered meets the salient characteristics of the Commercial Item Description, and that the product conforms to the producer's own drawings, specifications, standards, and quality assurance practices. Substantiating evidence means manufacturer's and/or raw-material vendor's test results and certifications. The government reserves the right to require proof of such conformance prior to first delivery and thereafter as may be otherwise provided for under the provisions of the contract.

3.2 Bid samples. One complete interment flag shall be submitted for bid sample testing.

3.2.1 Visual Examination. The finished interment flags shall be examined for the defects listed below. Failure of any of the tests listed shall be cause for rejection of the test lot.

a. The dimensions of the flag are not within the tolerances allowed.

b. The flag is not of the specified materials or colors. An off color shade seriously affects appearance.

c. Wrong type of grommet. Grommet clinched excessively cutting cloth or clinched too loosely, grommet rotates. Grommet broken, malformed or contains rough or sharp edges.

d. Wrong color thread. Stitches partially or completely missing. Seams improperly formed, material caught in unrelated stitching operation or ends of stitching not backstitched.

e. Raw edges not hemmed. Hems are uneven or on wrong side of flag.

f. Wrong type of heading. Sides and ends of cloth of heading out of alignment.

g. Stars have broken stitches, stitches not covering base cloth (front and back) or execution of embroidery not clear and distinct.

3.2.2 Tolerances. Provided that the following tolerances do not detract from the appearance of the flag or its durability, there shall be allowed a tolerance of plus or minus 2 percent for dimensions exceeding 4 inches, except that the maximum and minimum measurements of the same dimensions on a single flag shall not differ by more than 1 percent; a tolerance of plus or minus 1/4 inch shall be allowed for dimensions from 2 through 4 inches; and a tolerance of plus or minus 1/8 inch shall be allowed for dimensions that are less than 2 inches.

3.3 Regulatory requirement. The offer/contractor is encouraged to use recovered materials in accordance with Public Law 94-580 to the maximum extent practical.

#### 4. PACKAGING.

4.1 Preservation, packing and marking shall be as specified in the contract or order.

#### 5. NOTES.

5.1 Source of Government documents. Copies of Federal documents are available from:

Department of the Navy  
Defense Printing Service  
Detachment Office  
700 Robbins Avenue, Bldg. 4D  
Philadelphia, PA 19111-5093

##### 5.1.1 Sources of non-Government documents.

The American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) Test Methods:  
ASTM D3775 - Fabric Count of Woven Fabric  
ASTM D3776 - Fabric, Woven, Mass per Unit Area (Weight)  
ASTM D5034 - Fabrics, Textile (Grab Test), Breaking Force and  
Elongation of

The American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) - Applications for copies should be addressed to:

American Society for Testing and Materials  
1919 Race Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19103-1187

American Association for Textile Chemists and Colorist (AATCC) Test Methods:

- AATCC 16A - Colorfastness to Light: Carbon-Arc Lamp, Continuous
- AATCC 61 - Colorfastness to Laundering, Home and Commercial:  
Accelerated
- AATCC 132 - Colorfastness to Dry-cleaning

American Association for Textile Chemists and Colorist (AATCC - Applications for copies should be addressed to:

American Association for Textile Chemists and Colorist  
P.O. Box 12215  
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

The Standard Color Reference of America, Tenth Edition - Applications for copies should be addressed to:

The Color Association of the United States  
343 Lexington Avenue  
New York, NY 10016-1187

5.2 The Institute of Heraldry drawings and cartoons are available from:

The Institute of Heraldry  
ATTN: Technical and Production Division  
9325 Gunston Road, Room S112  
Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5579

5.3 National Stock Number 8345-00-656-1432 applies.

MILITARY INTERESTS:

Army - IH

CIVIL AGENCY COORDINATING ACTIVITY

GSA - FSS  
VA - OSS

PREPARING ACTIVITY:

Army - IH

Project Number 8345-0217



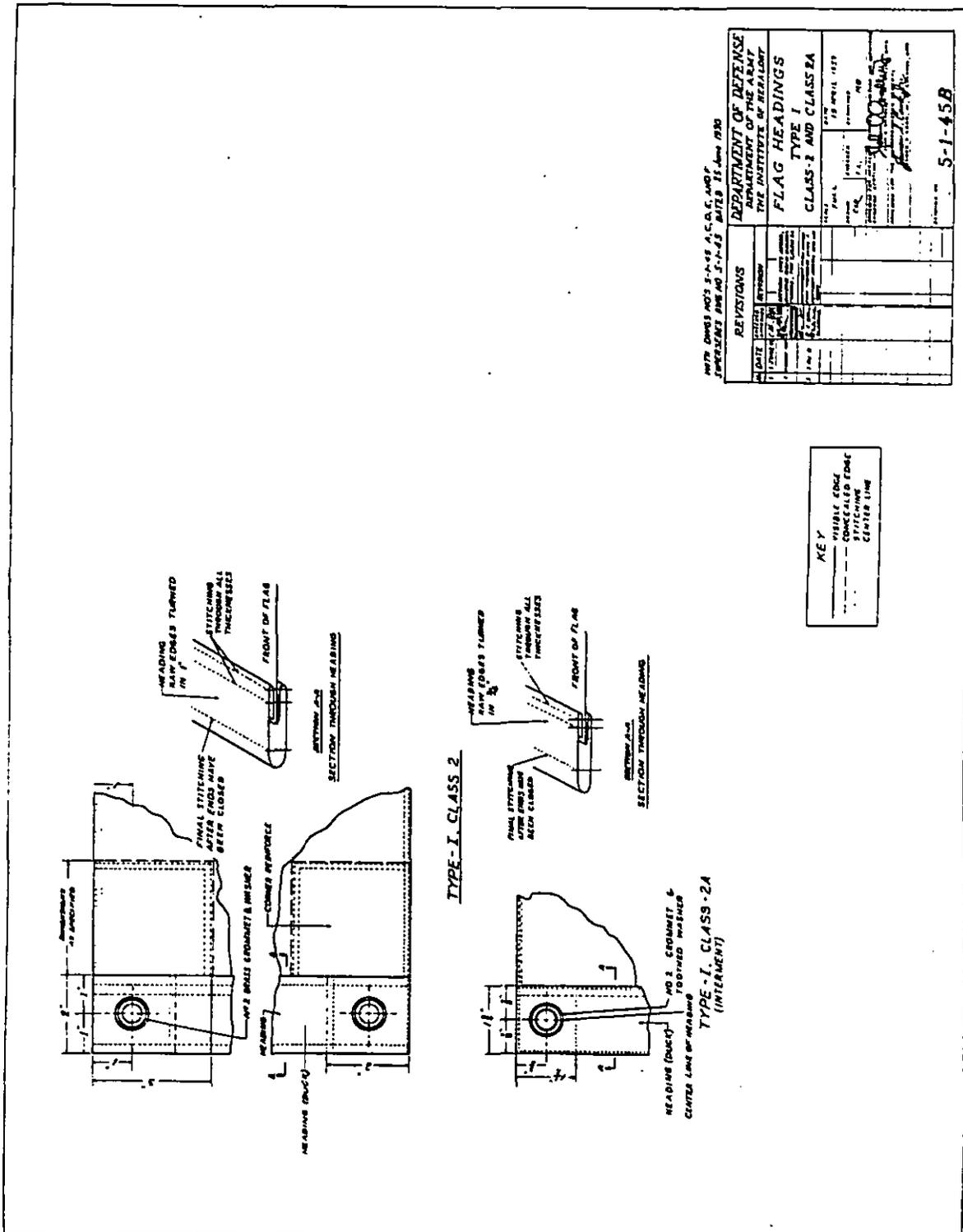


FIGURE 2 - FLAG HEADINGS TYPE I, CLASS 2 AND CLASS 2A