

Department of
Veterans Affairs
JAN 29 1993

Memorandum

Date: Director, Office of Memorial Programs (403)
From: OMP Navy/Coast Guard Inscription Policy
Subj: Director, Claims Evaluation Service (403A)
To: Thru: Deputy Director, Office of Memorial Programs (403) *WDS 1/29/93*

1. After careful consideration, I have approved the inscription of Master Chief, Senior Chief, Chief Petty Officer or Petty Officer designation on VA-provided headstones and markers for Navy and Coast Guard Veterans. In addition, modern warfare specialties are authorized for inscription on headstones and markers for navy veterans. The modern warfare specialties referenced are Surface Warfare (SW), Submarine Service (SS), and Aviation Warfare (AW). The parenthesis are intrinsic to the inscription of these items.
2. This minor, unpublicized change to inscription policy is effective January 28, 1993, and will not be retroactively applied, i.e., markers will not be replaced at Government expense solely to include the items affected by this change.
3. In the event a headstone or marker is replaced at Government expense for other reasons and the applicant is aware of this policy, the replacement will be inscribed to reflect these changes in accordance with the applicants wishes. In addition, when responding to applications where only the pay grade is shown i.e., E-7, the applicant will be afforded the opportunity to choose the inscription items set forth in this memorandum.
4. This change affects inscription items specific to the U.S. Navy and U.S. Coast Guard and is in keeping with our total quality improvement philosophy: the customer defines quality. The Chief of Naval Personnel and the families of deceased Navy and Coast Guard Veterans desire this change.
5. Please note, the occupational specialty e.g., Electrician 3rd Class, recognized in the rating structure may not be shown along with the specific petty officer designation. The abbreviation for the petty officer designations are:

	PAY GRADE
MCPO - Master Chief Petty Officer	E9
SCPO - Senior Chief Petty Officer	E8
CPO - Chief Petty Officer	E7
PO1 - First Class Petty Officer	E6
PO2 - Second Class Petty Officer	E5
PO3 - Third Class Petty Officer	E4

These Ranks are not spelled out