



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
THE INSTITUTE OF HERALDRY, UNITED STATES ARMY  
CAMERON STATION, ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22314

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

31 JUL 1984

DAAG-HDP-A

SUBJECT: Distinctive Unit Insignia for the 818th Medical Battalion, North Dakota  
Army National Guard

Commander  
818th Medical Battalion  
North Dakota Army National Guard  
Post Office Box 1817  
Bismarck, North Dakota 58505

1. A distinctive unit insignia is authorized this date for the 818th Medical Battalion, North Dakota Army National Guard. The description and symbolism of the design are as follows:

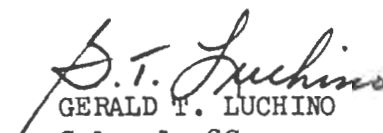
DESCRIPTION

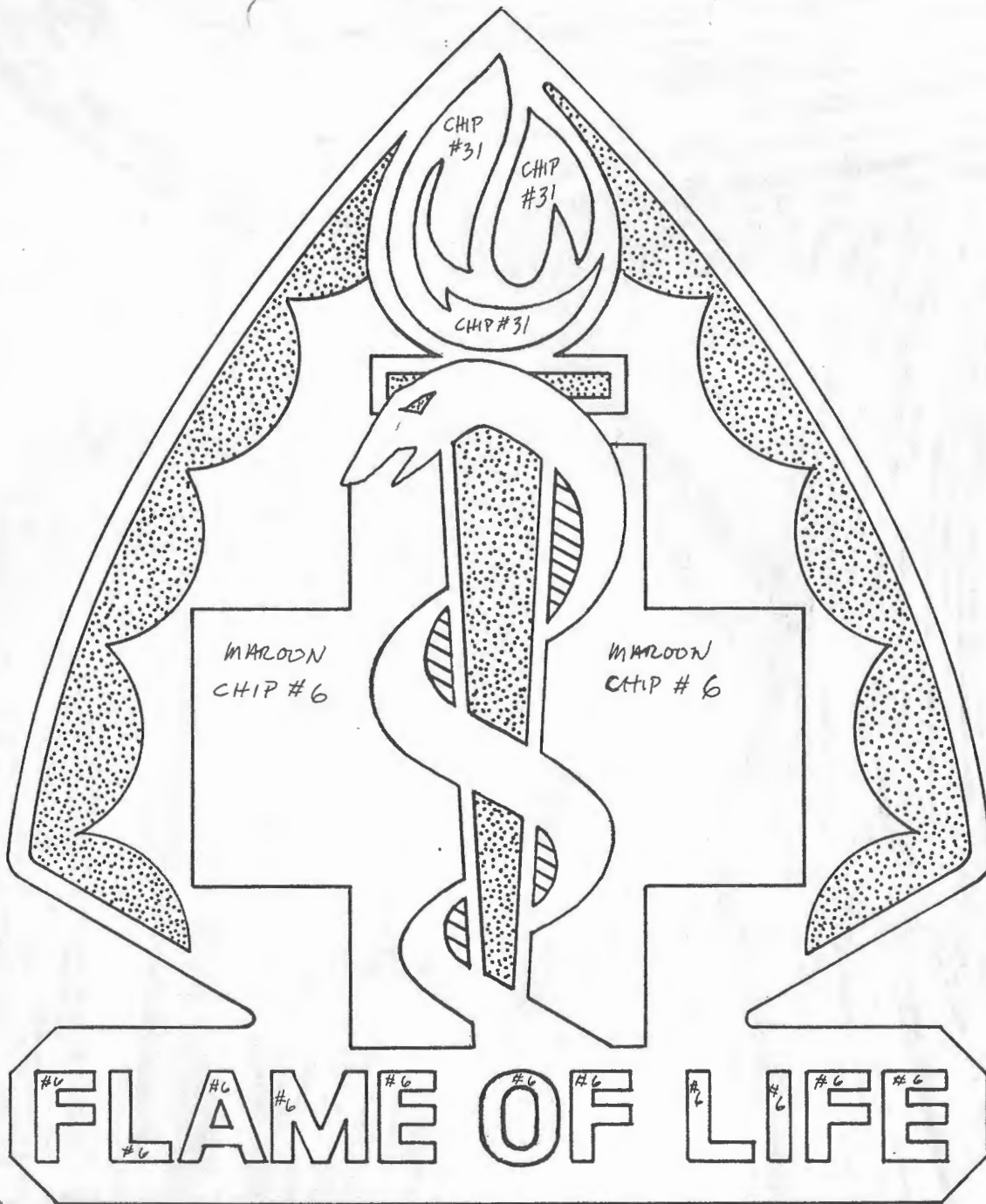
On a silver arrowhead scalloped on each edge bearing the motto "FLAME OF LIFE" in maroon letters on the stock, a maroon cross surmounted by a silver torch enflamed yellow and entwined by a silver serpent.

SYMBOLISM

Maroon and white (silver) are the colors associated with medical units. The arrowhead is suggestive of the tribes of native Americans indigenous to North Dakota, home area also of the 818th Medical Battalion. The maroon cross is a traditional symbol for medical service. The torch is a symbol of knowledge and alludes to the unit's motto and the medical training necessary to maintain the quality of life as espoused by the motto. The serpent entwined on the torch refers to the staff of Aesculapius, a symbol identified with the healing arts.

2. This authorization is in accordance with paragraph 26-21a, AR 670-1.
3. This authorization letter will become a part of the permanent organizational history files of the organization in accordance with File No. 228-08, AR 340-2 or AR 340-18-2.

  
GERALD T. LUCHINO  
Colonel, GS  
Director

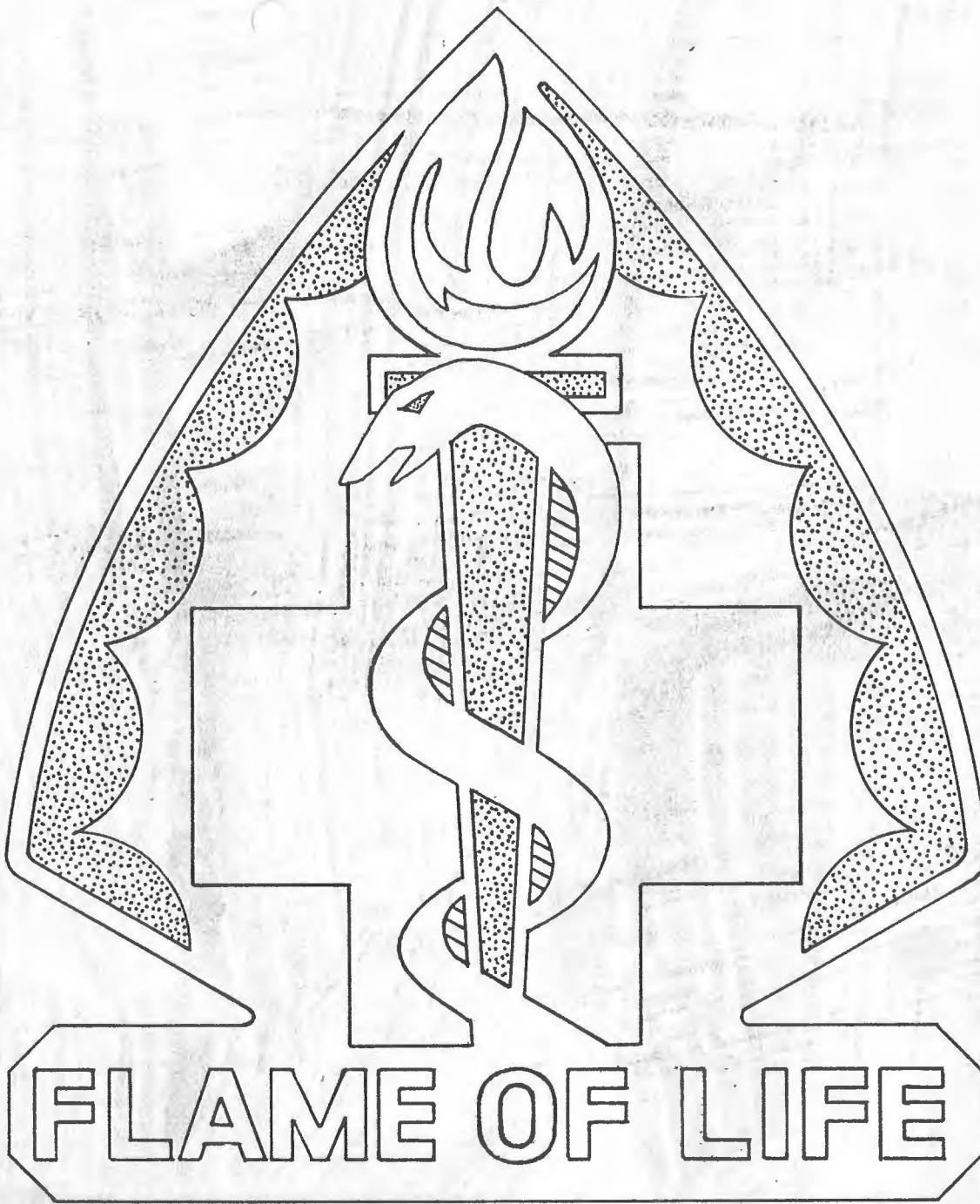


D-5713

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*gm*  
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818th Medical Battalion  
 North Dakota Army National Guard  
 ACTUAL SIZE  $1\frac{3}{16} \pm \frac{1}{64}$  Inches height  
 METAL COLOR ..... Silver  
 FINISH .... Mirror Like Polish  
 DEVICE .... ENAMEL - Vitreous Opaque  
                   CHARGES -Flush (Torch handle  
 and background between scalloped area and  
 edge of device - recessed and textured)  
 (Ventral side of snake - lined)  
 LETTERING ... Enamel (Maroon # 6)  
 PIERCING ..... None  
 CHIP No ..... Yellow # 31, Maroon # 6

APPROVED  
 31 JUL 1984  
 THE INSTITUTE OF HERALDRY, U.S. ARMY  
*G. T. Luchino*  
 GERALD T. LUCHINO, COLONEL, GS  
 DIRECTOR



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*G. T. Luchino*  
 GERALD T. LUCHINO, COLONEL, GS  
 DIRECTOR

*The Institute of Heraldry  
Cameron Station  
Alexandria, Virginia*

SUGGESTED DESIGN

Distinctive Unit Insignia

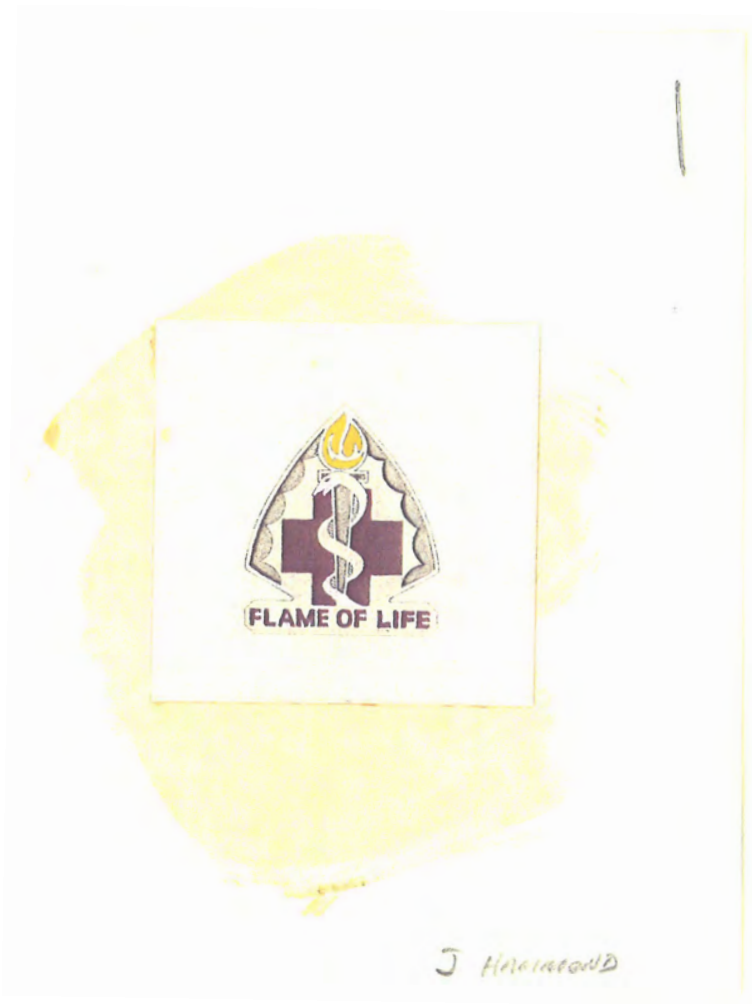
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818th Medical Battalion  
North Dakota Army National Guard

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18 June 1984

(DATE)





**FLAME OF LIFE**