

# The Story of the Pine Bluff Arsenal Commander's Coin for Excellence

## FRONT (PINE BLUFF ARSENAL / FOR EXCELLENCE)

**Dragon (top center):** CBRN Readiness production. Placing it at the top makes it the “guardian” over the mission set beneath it (Chemical Corps Commanders).

**Left background scene (assembly line with workers):** U.S. manufacturing / munitions production — the workforce, precision, and industrial capability required to produce and assemble critical items at scale. It highlights “people + process” and the Arsenal’s production heritage.

**Right background scene (fabric spool):** Textile manufacturing capability — representing protective textiles and fabric-based production (e.g., uniforms, protective materials, mission-essential textile outputs). The spool of fabric makes the textile connection instantly recognizable.

**M18 smoke grenade canister (bottom center):** A direct nod to non-lethal / signaling capability and battlefield support. It ties the coin to real-world products and readiness—showing the Arsenal’s role in providing operational tools that support training and missions.

**Smoke plume coming from the canister:** Represents output in action (the product working), as well as readiness and responsiveness—capability that’s deployable when needed, not just manufactured.

## Enduring Message

This coin reflects a legacy of adaptation and trust. Pine Bluff Arsenal began as a critical producer of non-lethal munitions, evolved to meet chemical and CBRN defense requirements, and today stands as a modern, partnered, and strategically essential installation—ready to deliver for the Army and the Nation, now and into the future.

## BACK (AMERICA’S ARSENAL / ARSENAL READY)

- **Compass rose/star (center):** Symbolizes vision, strategic outlook, direction, precision, and worldwide readiness—support wherever the mission demands.
- **Handshake (upper-left):** Represents partnership and trust—teamwork with customers, teammates, and mission partners.
- **Industrial/facility imagery (background/right):** Reinforces industrial base power — the infrastructure and workforce behind sustained readiness – Defense industrial park.
- **Circuit/technology motif (lower-right):** Represents engineering, modernization, automation, and Innovation, smart-capability powering production.
- **Sunburst/light (lower-left):** Symbolizes vigilance, hope, and forward momentum— a “new day” – Arsenal of Tomorrow - mission clarity theme.
- **Hand/arm (lower-left):** Represents the human element—hands-on skill, effort, craftsmanship, and ownership of the mission.
- **Stacked product silhouettes (lower-right):** Represents tangible output— completed items/production results that enable readiness.
- **Segmented panel layout:** Shows multiple mission facets working together— people, partnerships, production, technology, and results.

## **Rustic / antique finish (style meaning)**

*“The antique, engraved look reflects Pine Bluff Arsenal’s 1941 heritage and America’s enduring industrial strength—old-school craftsmanship powering modern readiness.”*