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MEN-AT-ARMS SERIES

70

THE US ARMY 1941-45



PHILIP KATCHER CHRIS COLLINGWOOD

EDITOR: MARTIN WINDROW

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Text by

PHILIP KATCHER

Colour plates by

CHRIS COLLINGWOOD

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Introduction

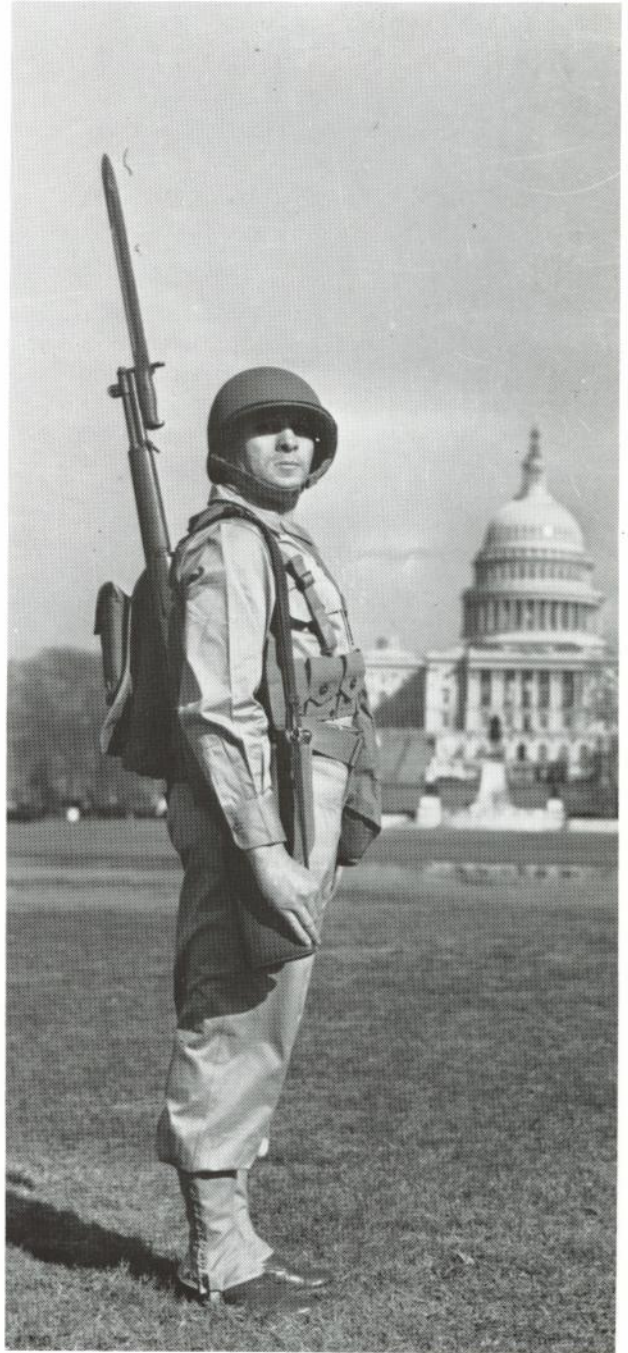
In the original edition of this title, published in 1977, the author attempted to give a summary of various aspects of uniform practice, particular insignia, organisation, combat deployment of divisions, and so on. In this revised edition, in response to the expressed interests of the growing number of uniform collectors on both sides of the Atlantic, the scope of the text has been limited to a detailed examination of uniform items, drawing upon official sources. The colour plates have been prepared from these official contemporary sources, confirmed by wartime photographs and by examination of surviving examples of all the items illustrated.

* * *

The United States Army took an unusual approach, for the period, towards the design of its uniforms. Rather than attempt to find an all-purpose uniform, such as the British battledress, it attempted to design special-purpose dress for every possible duty, from combat in cold climates to dress parades in hot ones.

According to the 1942 edition of *The Officers' Guide*: 'There are many kinds of uniforms, each for a definite purpose, which are required or authorised to be worn. Few officers own all of them. The wool service uniform may be said to be the only one required to be in the possession of all officers of the Army of the United States. The cotton service uniform is prescribed for summer wear at nearly all stations, although officers are privileged to wear the woollen uniform, if they wish to do so, while the troops are in cotton. It is customary, however, for officers on duty with troop units to wear the type which is prescribed for troops.'

The specific types of uniforms listed are the wool service uniform with coat, the wool service uniform



The khaki shirt and trousers worn as combat dress, 1941. (US Army)

with olive-drab shirt, the service cotton uniform with cotton or wool olive-drab shirt, and the fatigue uniform of olive-drab herringbone twill. Dress uniforms included the full dress uniform, the blue dress uniform, the full dress or blue dress uniform for mounted officers, the blue mess uniform, the white dress uniform, and the white mess uniform. Special uniforms were authorised for flying, armoured forces, parachute units, aviation cadets, ski troops and arctic service.

The basic field uniform for officers included a garrison or 'overseas' cap, service shirt and trousers, a field jacket when weather required it, Army russet brown leather high shoes, canvas gaiters or high russet brown boots, identification tags, a weapon and web field equipment. The same uniform served for field service for enlisted men. Some substitutions could be made, such as a long or short overcoat for officers, or a long overcoat for enlisted men, instead of the field jacket. Additions could also be made, such as the sweater designed for wear under the M1941 field jacket.

A variation of this dress was called the 'work

uniform', and it included a herringbone twill cap or hat, gloves when necessary, service shoes, and a one-piece or two-piece herringbone twill suit or shirt and trousers, with identification tags. The one-piece suit was to be worn by members of the armoured forces and mechanics, while everyone else was to wear the two-piece suit. Weapons and field equipment would also be carried.

Civilians serving with the armed forces in the field were to wear the appropriate officer's uniform, without rank insignia but with the regulation brassard. There were a number of such civilians with the Army, ranging from postal employees to newspaper correspondents.

All uniforms were, according to Field Manual 21-15, to be kept clean and neat and in good repair. Missing insignia and buttons were to be quickly replaced. Overcoats, coats and shirts were always to be buttoned. The emphasis, however, especially in the field, was more on comfort and ease of use of uniform, equipment and weapons than strictly on appearance. This has been the emphasis in the uniform and equipment philosophy of the United States Army throughout its history.

The final result was that US troops in the field, especially in Europe, did not always appear to have the 'soldierly' qualities often displayed by both the enemy and the other Allies. On 5 May 1943 Capt. Harry C. Butcher, USN, public relations aide to Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, noted in his diary: 'Ike

US Army combat uniforms of 1941, posed in front of the US Capitol Building; the men are as embarrassed as soldiers always are when forced to play-act, but the uniforms are interesting. Left to right: a soldier equipped for snow-shoe operations; the summer khaki dismounted uniform; the winter dismounted uniform; the winter armoured trooper's uniform; the ski operation uniform; a paratrooper, fitted out for this shot in an Air Corps seat-type parachute; and the summer mounted uniform. (US Army)



has been impressed by the virtual impossibility of American officers and soldiers appearing neat and snappy in their field uniforms. He has suggested to Gen. [George C.] Marshall [Army Chief of Staff] that the Quartermaster begin now to have designed another winter uniform for next winter's wear. He thought the material should be rough wool because it wouldn't show the dirt and is more easily kept presentable. He liked the appearance of the British battledress, but thought Americans should design something distinctive for themselves. He thought our head covering was not too good—the helmet is splendid, and its stocking cap inter-lining is suitable for wear outside the combat zone. While on pass, or working at rear headquarters, the overseas cap is acceptable. He thinks that sloppy fatigue hats and mechanics' caps should be abolished, as most GIs [slang for an enlisted man, from *Government Issue*] seem to prefer them to more soldierly headgear. He has issued an order prohibiting the wearing of fatigue hats in North Africa.'

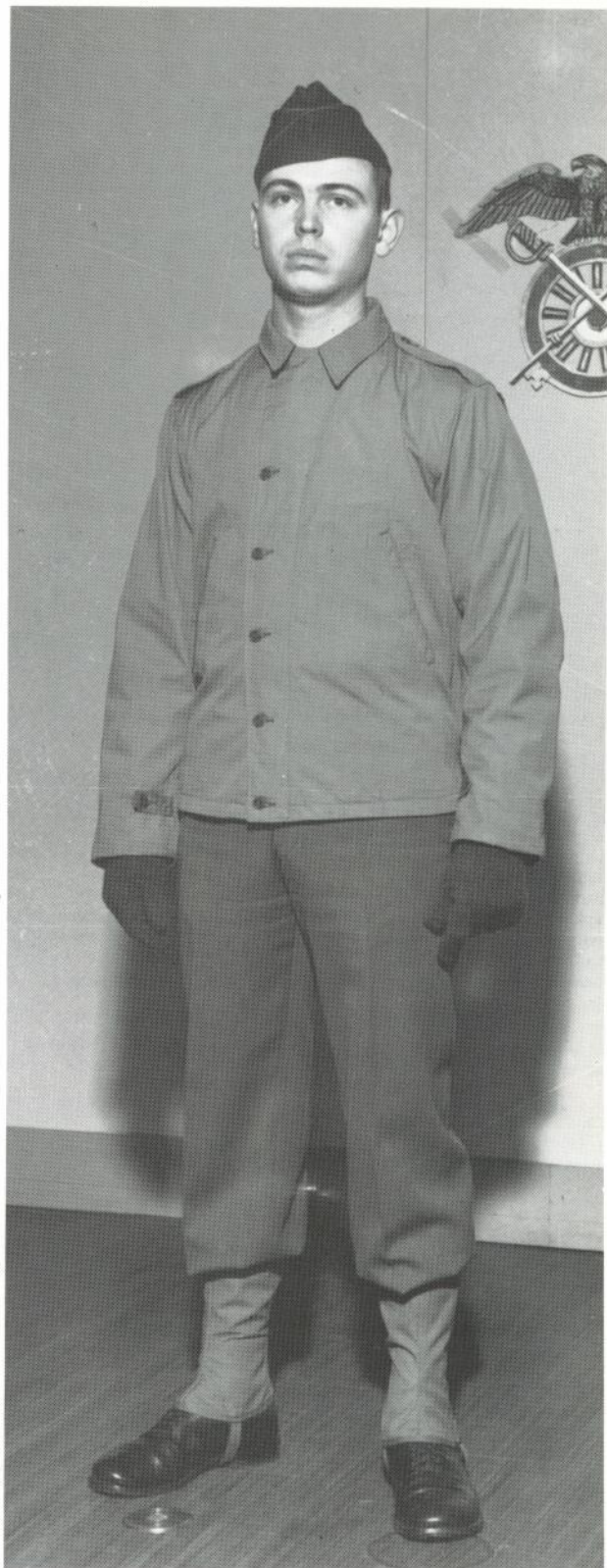
Gen. George S. Patton went further, fining soldiers in his command for wearing the knit M1941 wool cap without wearing a helmet over it. Even so, it turned out to be impossible to keep the American volunteer soldier looking anything like a 'picture book' soldier, and, in the end, comfort prevailed over appearance.

Uniform Colours

According to the 1942 8th Edition of *The Officers' Guide*: 'Prescribed articles of service uniforms or outer clothing, except such articles specified as of "commercial pattern", will conform in quality, design, and color to the corresponding approved samples and published specifications.'

Unfortunately, the Army Regulations governing uniforms blandly throw around the term 'olive-drab' for virtually everything, when in fact vastly different shades of olive-drab were called for. It was not until the 31 March 1944 AR 600-35 was published that specific shades were described, and then only by number.

It was impossible to be too pedantic about the exact shade of everything. *The Officers' Guide* recognised this when making suggestions on what



The winter field uniform included a garrison (overseas) cap with arm-of-service coloured piping, the M1941 field jacket, wool trousers, gaiters and service shoes. (US Army)



An officer's coat, to 1944 regulation standard. These were privately made, and details of lining and labels vary. The only label in this example bears the US coat of arms and 'REGULATION ARMY OFFICER'S COAT.' The insignia is that of a Signal Corps officer, with an American Campaign medal ribbon and an expert rifleman's badge. (All close-ups of uniform items are from the author's collection unless otherwise indicated.)

wool trousers a new officer should buy:

'A good chance to make an unwise purchase is presented in the choice of wool trousers as to color. Olive-drab (dark shade) trousers are prescribed for wear by officers when in the field. Drab (light shade) trousers may be worn by officers at other times. Drab trousers are an article optional with the individual officer (Par. 35, AR 600-40).

'The light-colored trousers are advantageous in one important respect in that they can be worn with any service coat. Due to fading and variation in dyes, the olive-drab dark shade trousers are worn properly only with the service coat made from the same cloth. Tables of Basic Allowances prescribe that the officer must provide two pairs of trousers, and that is certainly a minimum to allow for dry cleaning. In satisfaction of this requirement, olive-drab (dark shade) is advised. If a third pair is

purchased, it is desirable to select the drab or lighter shade. For arduous service, the trousers issued by the Quartermaster to enlisted men and sold to officers are entirely satisfactory. However, because of variation in shade, it would be bizarre to wear these trousers with a standard officer's service coat.'

According to AR 600-35, 31 March 1944, the official shades were: for service and garrison caps, olive-drab shade No.51 (dark shade); for breeches and trousers, either olive-drab shade No.51 (dark shade) or drab shade No.54 (light shade); for wool shirts, either olive-drab shade No.51 (dark shade), drab shade No.54 (light shade), khaki shade No.1, or olive-drab shade No.50; for cotton shirts, khaki shade No.1, and for short officers' overcoats, olive-drab shade No.52. For long officers' overcoats the colour was olive-drab shades No.2 and No.7. The M1943 field jacket was to be olive-drab shade No.7. Every piece of the summer uniform, including coats, breeches, trousers, shirts, and garrison and service caps, was to be khaki shade No.1. Neckties were to be khaki shade No.5.

Special cards were produced by a private association in New York showing exactly what these shades were to be, and including dye information, for manufacturers. These cards can still be obtained through the modern counterpart of that organisation, now called The Color Association of the United States, 24 East 38th Street, New York NY 10016, USA.

Uniform Regulations

**Uniforms according to AR 600-35,
10 November 1941**

Officers' and Warrant Officers' service coat

General description from Army Regulation 600-35: 'A single-breasted collar and lapel coat; lining, if desired to be same color as coat. To fit easy over the chest and shoulders and to be fitted slightly at the waist to conform to the figure so as to prevent wrinkling or rolling under the leather belt when worn. The back to have two side plaits¹ not less than 3 inches in depth at shoulders and to extend from shoulder seam where it joins the armhole seam to waistline, buttoned down the front with four large

¹In British parlance, 'pleats'.

regulation coat buttons equally spaced. The crossing of the lapels will be approximately $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches above the top button.

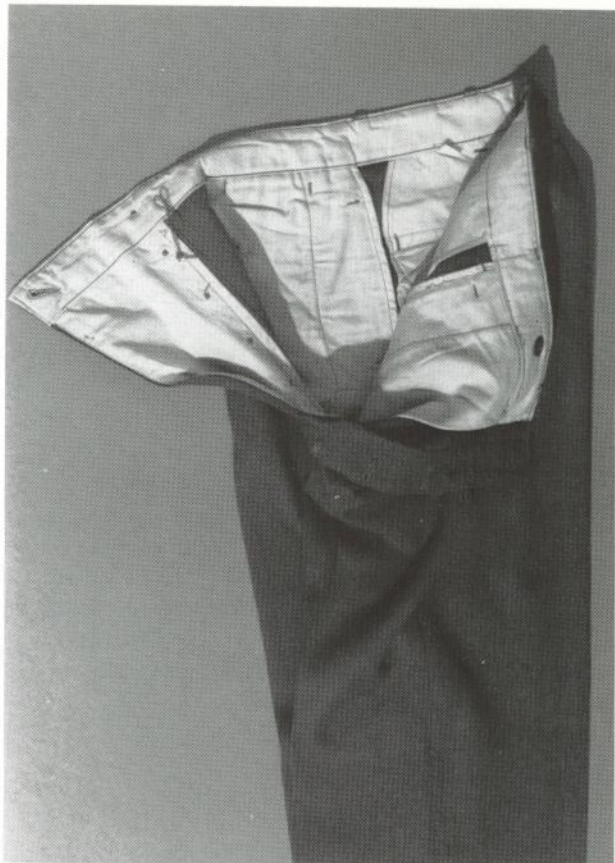
'To support the belt, except for officers of the Army Air Forces, two metal hooks of the same material as the metal trimmings on the leather belt will be let into the side seams at the waistline.

'For officers of the Army Air Forces, the coat will have a belt approximately 2 inches wide of the same material as the coat, sewed down all around the waistline, with the bottom button placed slightly below the sewed-on belt.

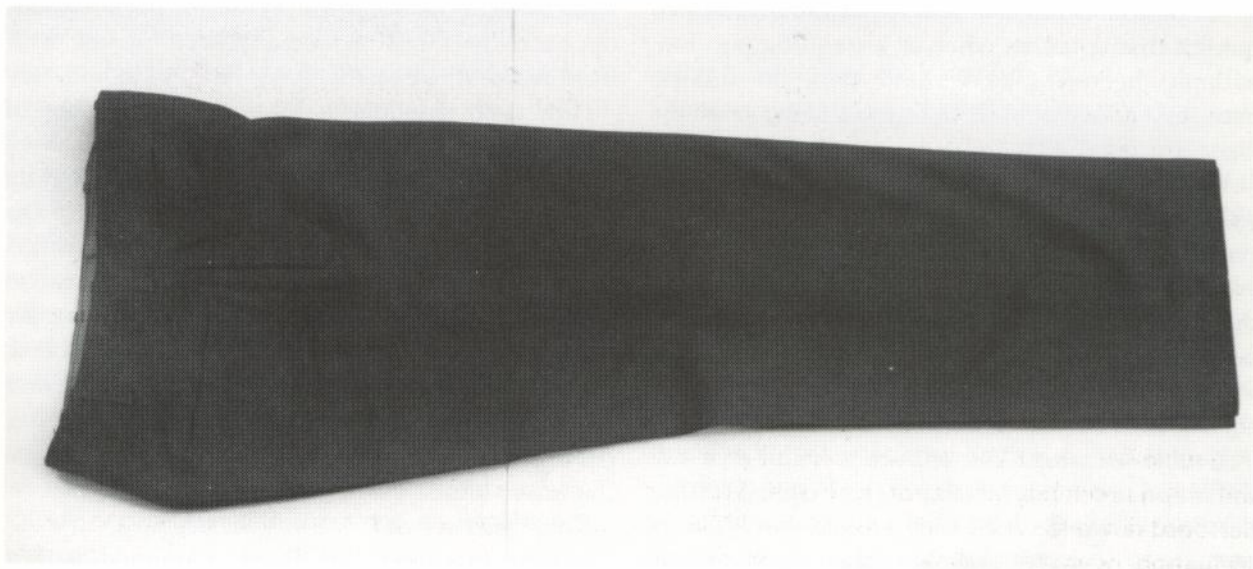
'There will be four outside pockets, two upper and two lower, covered with flaps, buttoned with small regulation coat buttons at the center and placed so that the upper lines are horizontal. The two upper pockets to be patch pockets, slightly rounded at the lower corners, with a box plait $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in width on the vertical center line. The flaps to be rounded slightly at the corners and reaching to a slight point at the center. The flap buttons to be in line with the top buttons of the coat.

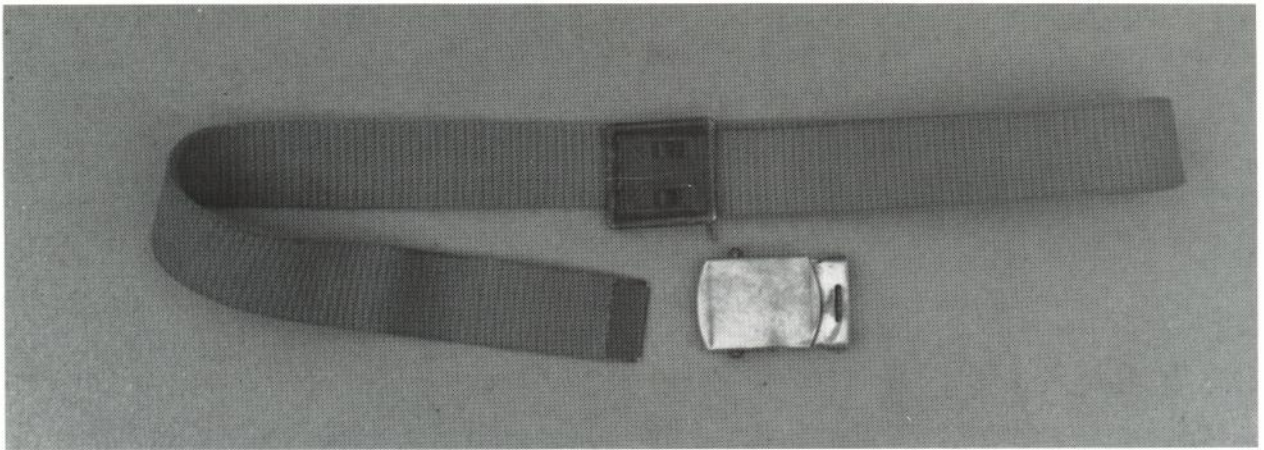
'The two lower pockets to be hung inside the body of the skirt, covered by flaps with the lower corners slightly rounded and the lower edge horizontal. The pockets to be attached to the body of the skirt only at the mouth. The top lines of the lower pocket flaps to be placed slightly below the waistline.

'On each shoulder a loop of the same material as the coat, let in at the sleeve head seam and reaching to approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ inch beneath the collar,



The olive drab wool issue enlisted man's trousers; there are two rear hip pockets, two slash side pockets and a watch pocket at the front of the right hip. There is a button fly; all pockets and inside linings are of white cotton duck. Underneath the right side pocket is a white label printed in black 'TROUSERS, WOOL, SERGE, O.D./SPECIAL-LIGHT SHADE/ Stock 4557-86632/ 30 x 31/M. FINE & SONS/MFG. CO. INC./ P.O. No.3391/ Dated Oct.17,1941/Spec. P.Q.D. No. 353/Dated April 17, 1943/ Phila. Q.M. Depot'.





The khaki web issue belt, marked 'U.S.' inside near the buckle and dated 1943. The black frame buckle is the issue enlisted man's type; the brass plate buckle was to be worn by officers only.

buttoning at the collar edge with a small regulation coat button. Loops to be about $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in width at the lower end and $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in width at the collar edge and cross-stitched down to shoulder for a distance from about 2 inches from lower end.

'The skirt to be full with a slight flare, and to extend 1 to 2 inches below the crotch, according to the height of the wearer, with a slit in the back extending from the waistline to the bottom of the skirt following the back seam with an underlap of approximately $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches. The front overlapping left edge of coat to be cut with a pronounced flare to the right from the bottom button to the bottom of the skirt, so as to appear straight from the lapel opening to the bottom of the coat and to remain overlapped not less than 4 inches when in a standing position, without the use of hooks and eyes, the fullness necessary to accomplish this result being over the hips.

'For officers a band of olive-drab braid $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in width on each sleeve, the lower edge 3 inches from end of sleeve. For warrant officers and enlisted men who served honorably as commissioned officers in the World War a similar band of forest green braid similarly placed. Other warrant officers will have no braid on the sleeves.'

Officers' overcoat

'A double-breasted ulster with convertible style roll collar and notch lapel, lining of same color as ulster; buttoned down the front with a double row of large regulation overcoat buttons, three on each side

below the roll of the lapel with the top buttons approximately $6\frac{1}{2}$ to 7 inches apart; a button placed under the right collar and a buttonhole at the top of each lapel, one for use when collar is converted and the other for appearance; the lining slit and fastened to pocket openings to allow the hand to go through to pocket of breeches or trousers; slit closed with a small button and buttonhole. Back to be plaited and to have back straps let into the side seam at the waistline, fastened together with two large regulation buttons and buttonholes. Skirt not longer than 10 inches or shorter than 3 inches below the knee; slit in the back extending from bottom of back strap to bottom of skirt and closing with small concealed buttons and buttonholes. The front corners to be provided with buttons and buttonholes so that the corners may be turned back to facilitate marching.

'Two outside welted pockets, one on each side, with vertical openings; the center of pocket about opposite lower button and placed on a line with front seam of sleeve.

'On each shoulder a loop about 5 inches in length, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in width at the lower end and $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in width at the upper end, which is slightly pointed, same material as the coat, let in at the sleeve head seam, buttoning at the upper end with a small regulation overcoat button.'

Officers were to have plain sleeves, except for generals, who were to wear 'two bands of black braid, the lower band to be $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches in width and about $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches from the lower edge of the sleeve, the other to be $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in width and $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches above the lower band.'

Officers' short overcoat

'A double-breasted coat, lined or unlined, with a



A regulation dark shade olive drab shirt with the insignia of a lieutenant colonel of the Inspector General's Department. Again, officers' shirts were privately purchased and labels vary. Enlisted men's shirts were of the same pattern but without epaulettes.

shawl roll collar approximately 5 inches in width, buttoned down the front with a double row of large regulation overcoat buttons, three on each side below the roll of collar with additional buttons or loops so that the coat can be buttoned to the neck. A detachable belt of the same material as coat, held in place with loops sewed on at side seams.

'Two outside patch pockets, one on each side.

'On each shoulder a loop about 5 inches in length, 2½ inches in width at lower end and 1½ inches in width at the upper end, which is slightly pointed, of same material as coat, let in at the sleeve head seam and buttoned at the upper end with small regulation overcoat button.

'Skirt to extend to 6 inches above the knee. Slit in the back extending about 15 inches from the bottom.'

Cuff decoration was the same as for the long overcoats.



The M1941 field jacket, lined with thin blanket wool. The '36 L' label indicates size in inches round the chest, and 'long'; 'R' and 'S' stood for 'regular' and 'small'. There are no other labels in this jacket, which bears the left shoulder patch of the 101st Airborne Division, and lieutenant colonel's rank leaves on the epaulettes.

Officers' and Warrant Officers' raincoat

'A waterproof coat of commercial pattern, with shoulder loops, as nearly as practicable olive-drab color.'

Officers' and enlisted men's dress gloves

'Chamois leather or chamois color material', or 'white cotton or lisle.'

Officers' and enlisted men's service gloves

'Leather of light russet color, lined or unlined, snap fastener, pull-on or buckle type', or 'wool, olive-drab.'

Officers' service cap

'Of adopted design about 11¼ inches from front to rear and 10½ inches from side to side, based on size, 7⅝, stiffened in front by springs and falling without stiffening to the rear; two eyelets ½ inch from the welt seam and about ¾ inch on each side of side seam of quarters. Top to be stiffened at rim with grommet and cloth on top of crown to be slack. The grommet

used to stiffen the rim will be flat $\frac{3}{16}$ inch in width (measurements of crown above to be made with grommet in position in cap), inside of top to have a waterproof material cut to the size of the crown.

'Top of visor of Army russet leather lined with embossed green hatters' leather, waterproofed. Greatest width of visor about $2\frac{3}{16}$ inches and slope from vertical about 55 degrees.

'Chinstrap of Army russet leather $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in width and $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length fastened at each end of visor with small regulation cap button.

'A band of olive-drab braid about $1\frac{7}{8}$ inches in width around entire cap.'

Army Air Force Officers' service cap

The same as above except 'front spring stiffening may be omitted and the grommet may be removed.'

Enlisted men's service cap

The same as above 'without band of braid.'

Service hat for all ranks

Made of 'beaver color' felt, it was 'a standard adopted design with "Montana peak", four indentations, crown $5\frac{1}{4}$ inches high for size $7\frac{1}{8}$, with an olive-drab band and bow $\frac{15}{16}$ inch in width. Hat to

This olive green knitted wool sweater was designed to be worn under the M1941 field jacket in cold weather.



be equipped with a leather chinstrap $\frac{5}{8}$ inch in width for officers and $\frac{3}{8}$ inch in width for enlisted men.'

Field jacket for all ranks [i.e., 'M1941' field jacket] 'A six- or seven-button jacket, depending on length, with a two-piece adjustable collar with tab to button, semi-peaked lapels, one-piece back with stitched-on belt (side body to side body) and side plaits; two diagonal inside hanging pockets, slide [i.e. zip] fastener to close front in addition to buttons and buttonholes; adjustable tabs to button at cuff of sleeves and bottom of jacket; on each shoulder a loop of same material as the coat let in at the sleeve head seam and reaching to approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ inch of collar, buttoning at the upper end. Loops to be about $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in width at lower end and $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in width at collar end, and cross-stitched down shoulder for a distance of about $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches from lower end. All buttons to be olive-drab 24 ligne.'

Necktie for all ranks

Either khaki or black 'without stripe or figure.'

Service shirt for all ranks

'Of adopted pattern. For officers only, on each shoulder a loop of same material as the shirt let into the sleeve head seam and reaching to the edge of the collar, buttoning at the upper end with a small regulation shirt button. Loops about 2 inches in width at lower end and $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in width at collar end, and cross-stitched down to shoulder for a distance of 2 inches from lower end.'

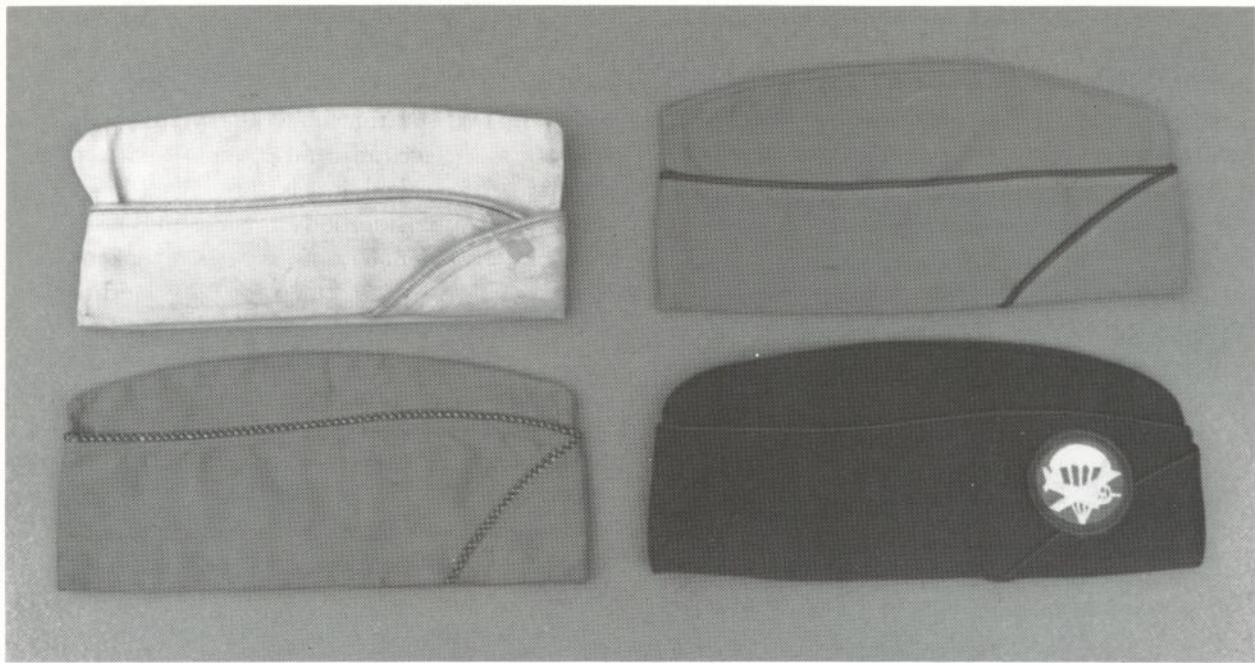
Trousers for all ranks

'Of adopted standard, cut on the lines of civilian trousers, without cuffs and without plaits.'

Changes made to AR 600-35, 4 September 1942

Coat, Service, Summer for Officers and Warrant Officers To be made of khaki gabardine, it was 'a single-breasted semiformal-fitting sack coat, extending to crotch, with no pronounced flare or waistline seam. To fit easily over the chest and shoulders and to be fitted slightly at the waist to conform to the figure. The left front to appear straight from top button to bottom of front; buttoned down the front with four large regulation coat buttons equally spaced. Sufficient flare to be on the right front in order to remain underlapped. All buttons to be detachable.

'A vent in the back to extend from immediately below waistline to bottom, following the back seam



Various examples of overseas caps. Top left: Faded almost to white, a khaki summer-weight enlisted man's cap with sky-blue infantry piping. Top right: The mohair officer's summer cap, with black/gold piping. Bottom left: Enlisted man's summer cap piped in maroon and white, indicating medical personnel. Bottom right: Winter dark shade olive drab officer's cap, with the airborne troops patch authorised in spring 1943—white glider and parachute motif on medium

blue disc bordered red. From 1941 until spring 1943 airborne patches were worn on the left side of the cap in sky blue, bearing a white parachute or a white glider for parachute or glider infantry respectively; artillery wore the patch with a red ground. In spring 1943 the new patch, which combined all the airborne arms, replaced these; and officers moved theirs to the right side, to accommodate rank insignia on the left side, although enlisted men continued to wear them on the left.

and with an underlap of approximately $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

'The collar to measure approximately $1\frac{3}{8}$ inches in width at the back, the opening between collar end and lapel not to exceed $\frac{1}{2}$ inch. The lapels to be semi-peaked, not wider than $\frac{1}{2}$ inch more than the collar end, and the top edge to be horizontal.

'On each shoulder a loop', as on the winter service coat. The same cuff braid as on the winter coat was also to be worn, and the four pockets were the same as the winter coat.

Officers' overcoat

To the 1941 overcoat was added 'a 36-ligne button placed inside the top left large regulation front button for use in holding right front fly in place.'

Headgear

The Model 1941 knit wool cap for all ranks, 'a standard adopted design with curtain and visor', made of 'olive-drab, wool knit' was added to the list of available headgear: this was the 'beanie', so hated by George Patton.

Necktie for all ranks

Now only to be of 'cotton, mohair, olive-drab, No.3.'

Service shirt

Warrant officers were to wear the officers' pattern shirt with shoulder epaulettes.

Uniforms according to AR 600-35, 31 March 1944 (additions and changes since 1941, 1942)

Service breeches

To match the service coat in colour and material. The materials were wool, elastique, baratheia, or whipcord, $14\frac{1}{2}$ –26 ounce, while the colour was 'olive-drab shade No.51 (dark shade)'.

The breeches were 'cut snug at the waist, top about 2 inches above hip bone, full in the seat and loose in the thigh, with sufficient length from waist to knee to permit wearer to assume a squatting position without binding at the seat or knee, breeches to present an appearance of fullness when standing; cut right for about 3 inches immediately below the knee and easy for the balance of the length so as not to bind the muscles of the calf. To have a strapping of the same material or buckskin of similar color on the inside of the leg at the knee, extending to a little below the top of the boot and



The olive drab cotton flannel long-sleeved undervest or T-shirt issued for winter wear.

from 6 to 8 inches above the knee.'

Officers' and Warrant Officers' service coat

Basically the same as before, to be made of wool, elastique, baratheia, or whipcord, 14½-26 ounce, coloured 'olive-drab shade No.51 (dark shade)'. The back was now 'to be plain'. The bottom button was changed from a regulation gilt button to a 'four-hole 36-ligne button of bone, plastic, or other suitable material of a color closely approximating that of the coat'. This was hidden by 'a matching cloth belt 1¾ inches in width having a mitered end and equipped with a 1¾-inch tongueless bar buckle with rounded corners, raised polished rims and horizontally lined background of gold color metal ¼ inch in width. The belt may be either fully detachable or sewed down around the waistline to a point approximately 2½ inches from the front edge of the coat on each side at the option of the individual. When the belt is detachable, provision

will be made for two ¾-inch cloth belt loops placed at the side seams sewed on so that they will not mar the coat if removed for a sewed-on belt. The belt will cover the horizontal seam at the waistline and the buckle will be centered over the bottom button of the coat when buttoned. The mitered end of the belt will pass through the buckle to the left, extend not more than 3 inches beyond the buckle, and may be held in place by a cloth keeper 9/16-inch in width.'

Field jacket for all ranks

The Model 1943 field jacket was to be made of cotton cloth, wind resistant and water repellent, of 'olive-drab shade No.7'. It was 'a coat type jacket, plain back, fly front with six 36-ligne buttons and with adjustable waistline drawcord, body and sleeves lined throughout, with two outside breast cargo type pockets and two lower inside hanging pockets with all straps and concealed buttonhole tabs. Provided with throat tabs with two buttonholes for 30-ligne buttons and shirt cuff type with adjustable sleeve closure. On each shoulder, a loop of the same material as the jacket let in at the sleeve head seam and reaching to the neckband, buttoning at the upper end with a small button. Loops to be about 2½ inches in width at lower edge and 1½ inches in width at upper edge.'

Muffler

'Wool, olive-drab, commercial pattern.'

Necktie for all ranks

To be of a cotton warp, mohair filling fabric coloured in 'khaki shade No.5'.

Officers' and Warrant Officers' long field coat

Made of wind resistant and water repellent cotton poplin or twill 5-ounce cloth, this was available in 'olive-drab shades No.2 and No.7'. It was 'a utility coat, two-ply throughout with a buttoned-in removable wool lining; double breasted with convertible style roll collar and notched lapel, buttoned down the front with a double row of large overcoat buttons, four on each side, with the top buttons approximately 7 inches apart, a diagonal buttonhole placed in lower corner of each front to button to side seams to facilitate marching. A yoke for right shoulder buttoned in front with a 30-ligne button and a throat tab provided with two buttonholes for 30-ligne buttons. Back to be plain with set-in cantle piece closed with a small loop and 30-ligne button. A detachable belt same material as coat with 2¼ inches tongueless bar buckle and belt

keeper held in place by two side loops and a strap keeper and belt strap. Adjustable tabs to button at cuff of sleeves.

‘Two diagonal hanging pockets, cut hand opening in lining, and finished with pointed flaps buttoning to the rear.

‘On each shoulder a loop about 5 inches in length, 2½ inches in width at the lower end, and 1½ inches in width at the upper end which is slightly pointed, the same material as the coat, let in at the sleeve head seam, buttoning at the upper end with a 30-ligne button.’

The lining was ‘made from an olive-drab wool fabric with inside yoke extending down 5 inches below armhole, and facing of olive-drab rayon fabric, 14 buttonholes for buttoning into overcoat body. Four buttons are positioned on right front for using as a separate garment. Two large patch pockets with diagonal slash above each pocket in line with openings through coat.’

Officers' and Warrant Officers' short field coat

This coat was coloured ‘olive-drab No.51’. It was made from 26–32 ounce beaver, 26–32 ounce

doeskin, 26–32 ounce jersey, or 26–32 ounce melton cloth.

The coat was ‘a double-breasted coat, lined or unlined, with a notched lapel roll collar approximately 5 inches in width, buttoned down the front with a double row of large regulation buttons, three on each side below the roll of collar with additional buttons or loops so that the coat can be buttoned to the neck’. It had ‘two outside patch pockets, one on each side. On each shoulder a loop about 5 inches in length’, otherwise the same as on the long overcoat.

‘Skirt to extend to 6 inches above the knee. Slit in the back extending about 15 inches from the bottom.’ Sleeve decoration was the same as for the 1941 officers’ overcoat.

Officers' and Warrant Officers' raincoat

‘A coat of commercial pattern, with shoulder loops, color, olive-drab No.7.’

The heavy cotton duck gaiters. The stencilled ‘0165K’ is the owner’s identification number. The other stamp reads ‘LEGGINGS, CANVAS, M 1938—DISMOUNTED (O.D.)/MASCO AWNINGS INC./10 20 43 W12-036 QM 130 012830-4 X G/STOCK NO. 72-1-01089/ JEFF. Q.M. DEPOT’.



Identification tags

According to AR 600-35, these were 'of monel metal, approximately 2 inches long by $1\frac{1}{8}$ inches wide, and about $\frac{1}{40}$ inch thick, the corners rounded and the edges smooth. Each tag has a capacity of five lines of type, 18 spaces to the line, and will be embossed by a machine provided for that purpose as follows:

'First line: Name of wearer.

'Second line: First eight spaces, Army serial number; ninth space vacant; tenth, eleventh, and twelfth spaces, record of tetanus immunisation (date completed) (letter T and the last two numerals of the year); thirteenth space vacant; fourteenth and fifteenth spaces, the last two numerals of the year in which the immunity stimulating injection of the tetanus toxoid is completed; sixteenth space vacant; seventeenth space, the letter signifying the blood type; eighteenth space vacant unless the blood type is indicated by two letters. For example: "33333333 space T41 space 42 space A"; or, "33333333 space 41 space 42 space AB". Blood types are indicated by the symbols "A", "B", "AB", or "O".

'Third line: Name of person to be notified in case of emergency.

'Fourth line: Street address of person to be notified in case of emergency.

One type of winter boot, the feet made of black rubber attached to a lace-up leather upper.



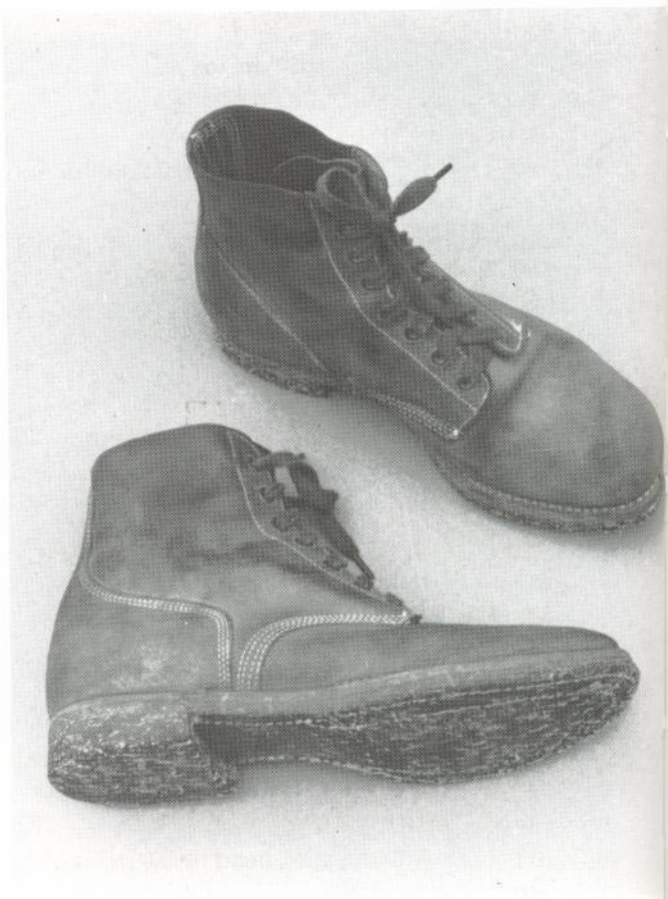
'Fifth line: City and State address of person to be notified in case of emergency.

'The religion of the wearer, when stated, will be stamped in space 18 of the fifth line if that space is vacant, otherwise in space 18 of the fourth line, and will be indicated by a capital letter as follows: C for Catholic; H for Hebrew; and P for Protestant.'

The name and address of a person to be notified in case of emergency was eliminated with the 31 March 1944 copy of AR 600-35.

The tags were to be worn around the neck 'by a cord or tape 40 inches in length passed through one small hole in the tag, the second tag to be fastened about $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches above the first one on the same cord or tape, both securely held in place by knots', according to Circular 262, War Department, 19 December 1941. 'These tags are prescribed as part of the uniform and will be habitually worn by the owner.'

The issue combat boot, made with the russet brown leather 'rough side out', and soles of black rubber with white cords running through them for added strength.



Insignia

According to Army Regulation 600-35,
10 November 1941

General

- a. Except as otherwise prescribed, insignia for wear upon uniform clothing will be made of gold or gold color metal.
- b. Elements superimposed on insignia of officers, except as otherwise prescribed, will be of bronze finish or brown enamel.
- c. Elements superimposed on insignia of enlisted men will be of the same material as the insignia.
- d. Certain insignia which involve the use of heads will be made to face to dexter.
- e. Metal insignia will have screw backs or similar attachments so that they will be held closely without turning or flopping.
- f. Insignia of grade for shoulder loops may be embroidered.
- g. Metal insignia of grade may be knurled or smooth.

Insignia and ornamentation for headgear—**a. Cap, garrison:**

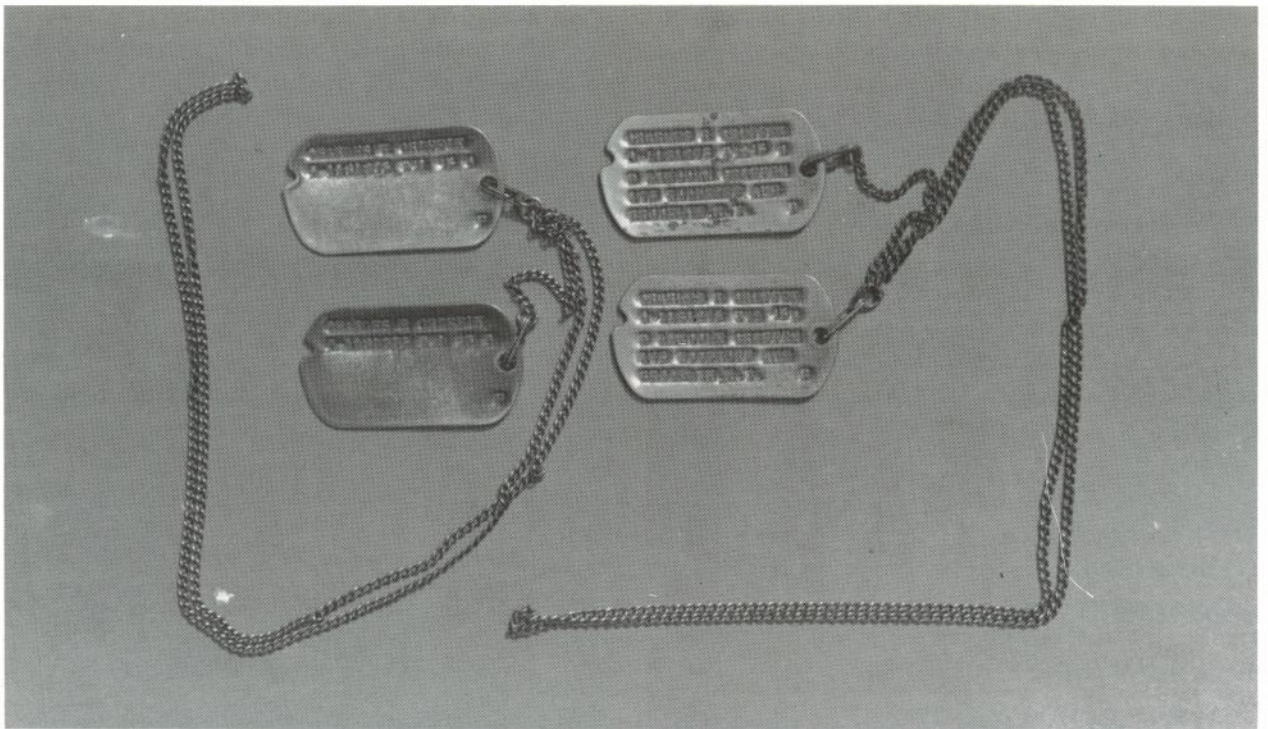
- (1) Ornamentation:
 - (a) *General officers*—Cord edge braid of gold bullion or metallised cellophane of gold color.
 - (b) *Other officers*—Cord edge braid of gold bullion or metallised cellophane of gold color and black silk intermixed.
 - (c) *Warrant officers*—Cord edge braid of silver bullion or metallised cellophane of silver color and black silk intermixed.
 - (d) *Enlisted men*—Cord edge braid of the color of arm, service, or bureau.

Insignia of grade.—**a. Officers**

- (1) *General*—Four silver stars 1 inch in diameter.
- (2) *Lieutenant general*—Three silver stars 1 inch in diameter.
- (3) *Major general*—Two silver stars 1 inch in diameter.
- (4) *Brigadier general*—One silver star 1 inch in diameter.
- (5) *Colonel*—A silver spread eagle $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in height and $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches between tips of wings. Insignia to be made in pairs so, when worn, head of eagle will face to the front.



This coat, first issued in 1941, was made of two-ply cotton lined with alpaca pile fabric in the body and hood; sleeves were wool-lined, and the hood had a slide fastener in the centre for opening and closing. (US Army)



Identification tags: right, 1941 style, and left, 1944 style without name and address of next of kin. The wearer's serial number on this example has an 'O' prefix, indicating an officer.

(6) *Lieutenant colonel*—A silver oak leaf 1 inch in height and 1 inch across.

(7) *Major*—A gold oak leaf 1 inch in height and 1 inch across.

(8) *Captain*—Two silver bars each $\frac{3}{8}$ inch in width and 1 inch in length. Bars to be $\frac{1}{4}$ inch apart.

(9) *First lieutenant*—One silver bar $\frac{3}{8}$ inch in width and 1 inch in length.

(10) *Second lieutenant*—One gold bar $\frac{3}{8}$ inch in width and 1 inch in length.

b. Warrant officers, Army Mine Planter Service

(1) *Master*—Four bands of brown braid $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in width and an embroidered brown fowl anchor 1 inch in length for each sleeve.

(2) *Chief engineer*—Four bands of brown braid $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in width and an embroidered brown three-bladed propeller 1 inch in diameter for each sleeve.

(3) *First mate*—Three bands of brown braid $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in width and an embroidered brown fowl anchor 1 inch in length for each sleeve.

(4) *Assistant engineer*—Three bands of brown braid $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in width and an embroidered brown three-bladed propeller 1 inch in diameter for each sleeve.

(5) *Second assistant engineer*—Two bands of brown braid $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in width and an embroidered brown three-bladed propeller 1 inch in diameter for each sleeve.

(6) *Second mate*—Two bands of brown braid $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in width and an embroidered brown fowl anchor 1 inch in length for each sleeve.

[Other warrant officers were marked only by their coat lapel and cap insignia.]

d. Enlisted men

(1) Non-commissioned officers and first class privates will have insignia of grade on a background forming an edging around the entire insignia and between each chevron, as follows:

(a) Cotton, khaki chevrons, arcs, and lozenge on a dark blue cotton background.

(b) Olive-drab wool chevrons, arcs, and lozenge on a dark blue wool background.

(2) *Master sergeant (first grade)*—Three chevrons and an arc of three bars, the upper bar of arc forming a tie to the lower chevron.

(3) *Technical sergeant (second grade)*—Three chevrons and an arc of two bars, the upper bar of arc forming a tie to the lower chevron.

(4) *First sergeant (second grade)*—Three chevrons and an arc of two bars, the upper bar of arc forming a tie to the lower chevron. In the angle between

lower chevrons and upper bar, a hollow lozenge.

(5) *Staff sergeant (third grade)*—Three chevrons and an arc of one bar forming a tie to the lower chevron.

(6) *Sergeant (fourth grade)*—Three chevrons.

(7) *Corporal (fifth grade) and acting corporal*—Two chevrons.

(8) *First class private (sixth grade)*—One chevron.

Brassards

All brassards to be of cloth 18 inches in length and 4 inches in width of the color specified. When the brassard consists of more than one color, the colors will be of equal width and will run lengthwise of the brassard.

(a) *General Staff Corps*—The letters 'G.S.C.' in rounded block type 1 inch in height to be placed in the center of the brassard. The colors for the various

headquarters will be as follows:

(1) *Divisions*—Red with white letters.

(2) *Army corps and corps areas*—Blue and white, blue uppermost, with red letters.

(3) *Armies*—White and red, white uppermost, with blue letters.

(4) *Headquarters of field forces and War Department*—Blue, white and red in order from top to bottom, with blue letters.

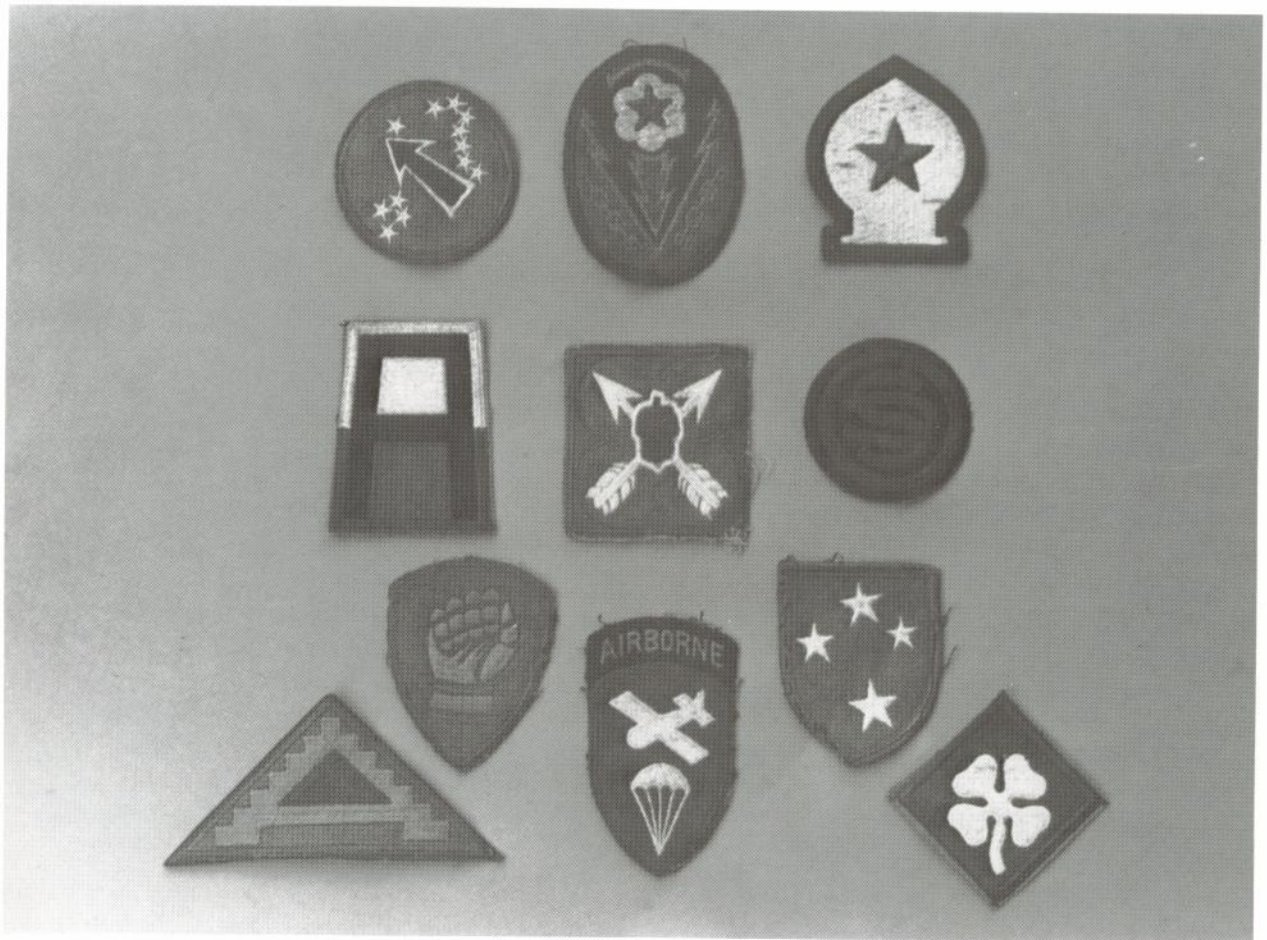
(b) *Military police*—The letters 'M.P.' in block type in white 2½ inches in height on a dark blue background.

(c) *All persons in the military service rendered neutral by the terms of the Geneva Convention in time of war*—A red Geneva cross on a white background.

(d) *Men on recruiting duty*—The words 'Recruiting

Operations—blue star on white, red edge. *Second row: 1st Army*—black on white and red; XXI Corps—red and white on blue shamrock on olive; Officer's Candidate School—olive on black. *Third row: 46th Infantry Division*—yellow on blue; American Division, white on blue. *Bottom row: 7th Army*—red and yellow on blue; Airborne Command—white on red shield below yellow on black title; 4th Army—white on red.

A representative group of left shoulder insignia; the soldier would wear that of the smallest organisation to which his immediate unit belonged—division, corps, army, theatre of operations, etc. These are, from left to right: *Top row: Pacific Theatre of Operations*—white and red on blue; *European Theatre of Operations, advanced base*—blue star on white, red flashes, yellow details, on blue; *Middle Eastern Theatre of*



Service' in white block letters 1 inch in height on a dark blue background.

(e) *Members of fire truck and hose companies*—The word 'Fire' in white block letters $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches in height on a red background.

(f) *Port officers*—The letters 'A.T.S.' in black $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches in height, followed immediately below by designation of position of department, as provided in AR 30-115, on a buff background.

(g) *Members of veterinary service*—A green cross on a white background.

(h) *Newspaper correspondents, photographers, and broadcasters attached to and authorized to accompany forces of the Army of the United States in the theater of operations and their chauffeurs and messengers*—The appropriate title, 'Correspondent,' 'Photographer,' 'Radio Commentator,' 'Correspondent Chauffeur,' 'Photographer Chauffeur,' 'Correspondent Messenger,' 'Photographer Messenger,' or 'Radio News Messenger,' in white block letters $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches in height on a green background.

Changes and additions of 4 September 1942

c. Warrant officers other than that of the Army Mine Planter Service

(1) *Chief warrant officer*—One gold bar $\frac{3}{8}$ inch in width and 1 inch in length, with rounded ends, having a brown enameled top and a longitudinal center of gold $\frac{1}{8}$ inch in width.

(2) *Warrant officer (junior grade)*—One gold bar $\frac{3}{8}$ inch in width and 1 inch in length, with rounded ends, having a brown enameled top and a latitudinal center of gold $\frac{1}{8}$ inch in width.

d. Enlisted men

(6) *Technician (third grade)*—Three chevrons and an arc of one bar forming a tie to the lower chevron. In the angle between lower chevrons and bar a letter T.

(7) *Sergeant (fourth grade)*—Three chevrons.

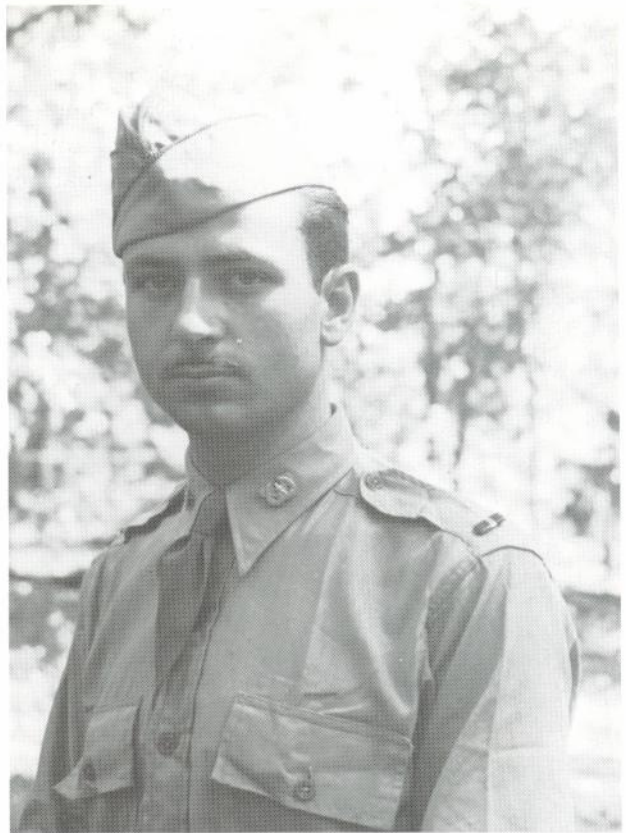
(8) *Technician (fourth grade)*—Three chevrons above a letter T.

(9) *Corporal (fifth grade) and acting corporal*—Two chevrons.

(10) *Technician (fifth grade)*—Two chevrons above a letter T.

Brassards

h. Newspaper correspondents, photographers, and broadcasters attached to and authorized to accompany forces of the Army of the United States in the theater of operations:



A warrant officer (junior grade) in summer dress; note the insignia of this rank worn on the shoulder loops and the shirt collar points. Cap piping would be silver and black.

(1) *Journalists, feature writers, and radio commentators*—A white block letter 'C' 2 inches in height on a green background.

(2) *Photographers*—A white block letter 'P' 2 inches in height on a green background.

j. Civilian employees in forces of the Army of the United States in theater of operations having a status recognised by the War Department as part of the forces:

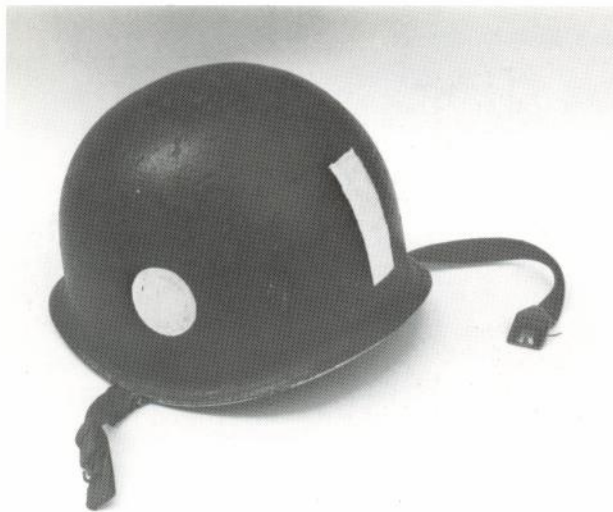
Emblem, sleeve, noncombatant—For civilian employees in forces of the Army of the United States, having a status recognised by the War Department as part of the forces, and civilian personnel of all United States military missions in theaters of operations and overseas garrisons, an emblem of dark blue cloth, $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in width, $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in height, charged with a white equilateral triangle with the letters 'US' in dark blue, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in width and $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in height, thereon.

Insignia, officer candidate school—On a dark-blue cloth background, $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches in diameter, the letters 'CS'

Army Branch Colours and Insignia

<i>Branch</i>	<i>Colour</i>	<i>Insignia</i>
Adjutant General's Department	Dark blue piped with scarlet (white until March 1944)*	Dark blue shield
Air Force	Ultra marine piped golden orange	Wings and propeller
Armoured Units	Green piped with white	Tank
Cavalry	Yellow	Crossed sabres
Chaplains	Black*	Latin cross (Christian) Double tables and interlaced triangles (Jewish)
Chemical Warfare Service	Cobalt blue piped golden yellow	Benzol ring and crossed retorts
Coast Artillery	Scarlet	Crossed cannon and projectile in red oval
Detached Enlisted Men's List	Green	Arms of the United States
Engineer Corps	Scarlet piped white	Castle
Field Artillery	Scarlet	Crossed cannon
Finance Department	Silver gray piped golden yellow	Diamond
Infantry	Light blue	Crossed rifles
Inspector General's Department	Dark blue piped light blue (white until March 1944)*	Crossed swords and fasces and a wreath
Judge Advocate General's Department	Dark blue piped with white (light blue until March 1944)*	Crossed sword and pen wreathed
Medical Department	Maroon piped white	Caduceus
Military Intelligence Reserve	Golden yellow piped with purple	Sphinx within a circle within an eared shield
Military Police	Yellow piped with green	Crossed pistols
Militia Bureau	Dark blue	Crossed fasces and eagle
Ordnance Department	Crimson piped with yellow	Shell and flame
Permanent professors of the US Military Academy (USMA)	Scarlet piped with silver gray*	USMA coat of arms
Quartermaster Corps	Buff	Eagle surmounting wheel with crossed sword and key
Signal Corps	Orange and white	Crossed signal flags with flaming torch
Specialist Reserve	Brown piped with golden yellow*	Arms of the United States
Tank Destroyer Units	Golden-orange and black	M3 self-propelled gun
Transportation Corps	Brick red with golden yellow	Winged car wheel on a shield on a ship's wheel
Warrant Officers	Brown*	Rising eagle within a wreath
Woman's Army Corps	Old gold piped with moss-tone green	Head of Athena

* Colours seen only as officers' dress uniform trim—all-officer branch.



The M1 steel helmet. The vertical white bar painted at the rear indicates a commissioned officer; the white disc at the sides is the unit marking of the 101st Airborne Division's artillery component. Such unit flashes were not common in the field.

in monogram form, within the letter 'O' in olive-drab, all elements $\frac{5}{32}$ inch in width.

Changes and Additions of 31 March 1944

Insignia of grade—*a. Officers*

c. Flight officer—One gold bar $\frac{3}{8}$ inch in width and 1 inch in length, with rounded ends, having a blue enameled top and a latitudinal center of gold $\frac{1}{8}$ inch in width.

d. Enlisted men

(3) *First sergeant (first grade)*—Three chevrons and an arc of three bars, the upper bar of arc forming a tie to the lower chevron. In the angle between the lower chevrons and upper bar, a hollow lozenge. Insignia to denote excellence, Army Specialised Training Program—On an olive-drab disc, a blue star 1 inch in diameter.

Brassards

i. Technical observers and service specialists accompanying United States Army forces in field—The letters TO in black $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches in height on an orange background.

k. Gas personnel—The letters 'GAS' in golden yellow letters $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in height on a cobalt blue background.

l. Auxiliary military police—The words 'AUXILIARY MILITARY POLICE' in blue letters $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in height on a white background.

Emblem, sleeve, combatant, and emblem, sleeve, non-

combatant—For civilian employees in forces of the Army of the United States, having a status recognised by the War Department as part of the forces, and civilian personnel of all United States military missions in theaters of operations and overseas garrisons, a sleeve emblem, as follows:

a. Combatant—For personnel who are required to perform combatant duties, an emblem of dark blue cloth, $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in width, $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in height, charged with a scarlet equilateral triangle with the letters 'US' in dark blue, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in width and $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in height, thereon.

b. Noncombatant—For all other personnel, as in *a* above, except that the triangle will be white.

Insignia, bomb disposal personnel—On a black projectile shape, point downward, $1\frac{7}{16}$ inches in width by $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches in length, a red conventionalised drop bomb fimbriated in yellow $\frac{7}{8}$ inch in width by $2\frac{3}{8}$ inches in length.

Personal Equipment

Combat Headgear

In 1942 the M1 helmet and liner was introduced into the US Army. It was made of steel, with web chinstraps fastened by a claw-like metal double hook on the left side which snapped around an 'arrowhead' tongue in a buckle on the right side. The chinstrap in the European Theatre of Operations was usually tucked up on the rear rim of the helmet away from the chin: if left dangling it could catch into the field jacket epaulette. The helmet was painted olive green shade No.7 in a paint and sand mixture, giving the finish a dull appearance for camouflage purposes.

Airborne units wore the M1C version, identical except for additional web A-straps attached to the liner, to which was buckled a leather chin cup. The cup was sometimes discarded during ground combat, and the thin web A-straps tucked up inside the liner.

The helmet liner was made of a lightweight compressed fibre, painted the same colour as the helmet on the outside, and had a striped brown or green and black finish inside. It fitted snugly to the head by means of a set of thin leather sweat bands adjusted by metal clips to the web belting

permanently arranged in the liner. Officers officially had a special style helmet liner, with a thicker rim and a fabric finish; but these were rarely seen in any of the combat areas. The helmet liner was widely worn by itself for parade use. Officers wore their rank badges on the fronts of helmet liners, and often unit insignia were painted on them.

Helmet shells were often marked, too. Military police usually had block letters 'MP' painted on the front, while medical personnel had red Geneva crosses painted on all four sides. In the Pacific unit markings and sometimes rank insignia were painted on the backs or sides of the helmets, but not on the front. Officers' rank badges were often required to be painted or affixed to the fronts of helmets in the European Theatre of Operations, especially in Gen. Patton's command. It was also common in various commands in the ETO for the back of helmets to be marked with a vertical white stripe for a commissioned officer and a horizontal white stripe for a non-commissioned officer. Some units in the ETO also placed their distinctive insignia on the sides of their helmets, but this was rare in combat zones.

The helmet gave poor protection from cold weather, even though it was excellent protection in combat; and various extra types of headgear were worn with it in severe weather.

The first was the M1941 wool knit cap. This had a 'curtain' flap at the sides and rear which could be

The M1910 haversack, showing maker's markings and date.



The M1923 rifle belt, marked 'U.S.' on the right front hip pouch, and dated inside 1943. Note how it can be adjusted to fit by an inside belt. The open pouch shows a clip retainer.

worn down over the ears when needed, or left folded up. It also had a small peak in front. For even colder weather an olive drab wool knitted toque, a sort of 'Balaclava helmet', was issued. These were often made by civilian volunteer knitters and varied tremendously in exact shade and style, as well as type of wool. Their use was uncommon.

With the introduction of the M1943 field jacket came the M1944 hood. This was made of the same material as the jacket, a treated cotton, and buttoned on around the jacket collar. It was cut quite large so that it could actually fit over the helmet, buttoning snugly under the chin. Because it restricted hearing and head movement it was not very popular among front line combat troops, although support troops who were still required to wear helmets used their M1944 hoods widely. The hood could also be worn under the helmet.

In the ETO dark green string netting coverings were usually worn over helmets for additional camouflage. When needed, leaves and small branches could be inserted into them, but this was not commonly done. These coverings were rarely seen in the Pacific.

The M1 helmet was one of the most successful pieces of equipment introduced in the Army during the Second World War. Not only did it provide excellent protection for the head, neck and ears, but because the helmet and liner were separate the helmet shell itself could be used as a wash basin, a water-carrier, or for various other front-line chores.



Both these types of first aid pouch were widely used. The top one is marked 'M.W. CO. LTD. 1944/BRITISH MADE'; the lower one, 'THE M-H CO./ 7-1918', indicating manufacture in July 1918.

Field Equipment

The basic combat infantryman's load was developed and later modified in 1910. It included a cartridge belt with pockets, each one holding two five-round clips of rifle ammunition; a haversack; a pack carrier; a canteen and cup within a cover; and

a set of mess gear within a pack. A bayonet scabbard and bayonet and an entrenching tool within its cover could be carried either on the cartridge belt or on the haversack. The haversack was carried on braces with the combat pack, which also included the mess gear pouch (known as the 'meat can and pouch'), the bayonet and scabbard, the entrenching tool and cover, and a first aid packet on the belt. A complete pack included all this, with a pack carrier holding a roll with blankets and spare clothing within a shelter half.

The Model 1936 field bag, usually called a 'musette bag', was carried as part of this equipment by officers and mechanised troops. Because of its relative inflexibility, the Model 1910 'long pack' was replaced with a Model 1944 cargo pack, a Model 1945 combat pack, and a pack originally designed for jungle use but later designated the Model 1943 field pack.

With the introduction of the M1 rifle, which held an eight-round clip, some changes had to be made to the cartridge belt. The Model 1923 belt, changed from the Model 1910 belt in only minor ways, was found to hold 80 rounds of M1 ammunition in clips, and so was the most common cartridge belt of the war. It was made with retaining straps for the clips within the pouches, although these do not seem to have been put into American-made M1923 belts after 1943. British-made M1923 belts dated as late as 1945 still have them.

However, in 1938 a modified M1923 cartridge belt, the M1938 belt, was introduced. It is the same as the earlier belt except that the pouches are made narrower so that one more pouch could be squeezed into each side. The M1938 belt therefore had a 96-round capacity, in the unmounted version. The mounted version had an 88-round capacity and a pouch for two .45 automatic pistol ammunition clips.

In late 1944 the colour of all web field gear was officially ordered changed from khaki to olive-green, Shade No.7.

A special 'landing' or 'assault' pack was issued to designated units making the D-Day invasion landing in Normandy: these included the 16th and 18th Infantry Regiments of the 1st Infantry Division and the 116th Infantry Regiment, 29th Infantry Division. These packs were made in the form of a waistcoat, with four large pockets in the

front and two large pouches in the back, one on the square of the back and the smaller one below the waistline. The pack was issued in the staging areas in England just prior to the invasion and, because of its great unpopularity, was abandoned by virtually all wearers two or three days after landing.

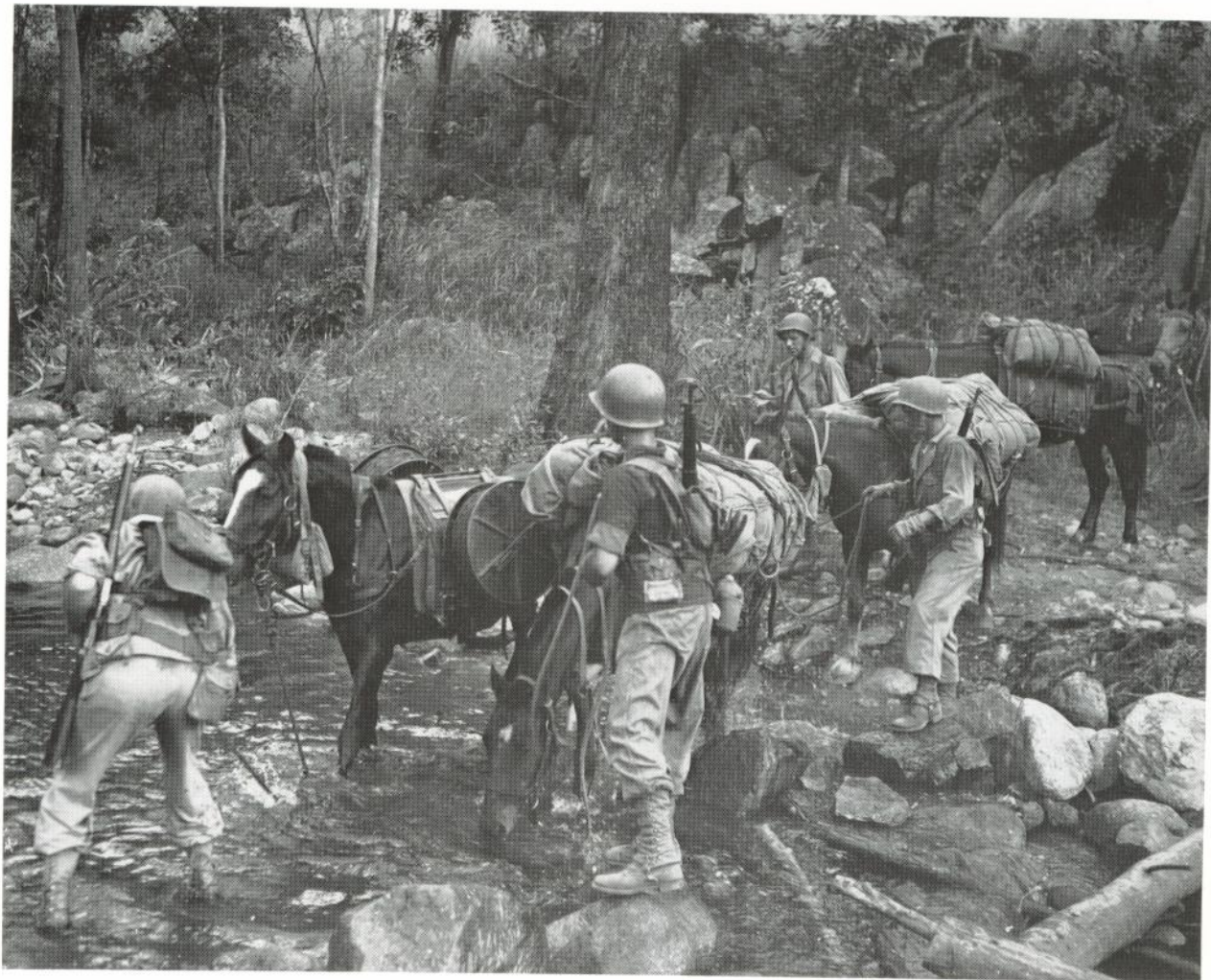
The first aid packet was modified so that the cover, which used to cover the entire front and was fastened with two snaps, was replaced with a V-shaped cover shut with only one snap in the centre of the packet. Both styles were seen throughout the war.

The aluminium cap of the canteen was replaced by 1942 with a black plastic model. Again, due to vast supplies remaining from 1918, both styles were seen throughout the war.

The rifle cartridge belt was felt to be unsatisfactory by some troops, and many men, including infantry riflemen, preferred using light-weight,

olive-green cotton clip-pouch bandoliers slung around the neck. Instead of the cartridge belt they wore a Model 1912 web pistol belt, made with eyelets through which the various other pieces of equipment—such as the canteen, first aid packet and entrenching tool cover—could be hooked. The M1912 web pistol belt was also worn as issue equipment by all officers, senior non-commissioned officers, and enlisted men whose positions called for the use of a pistol or carbine instead of a rifle, such as drivers or photographers. According to paragraph 61, AR 600-40, the standard field equipment for officers included the M1912 web pistol belt, the M1936 suspenders, and the M1936 canvas field bag. Whitened pistol belts were worn by MPs in the European theatre.

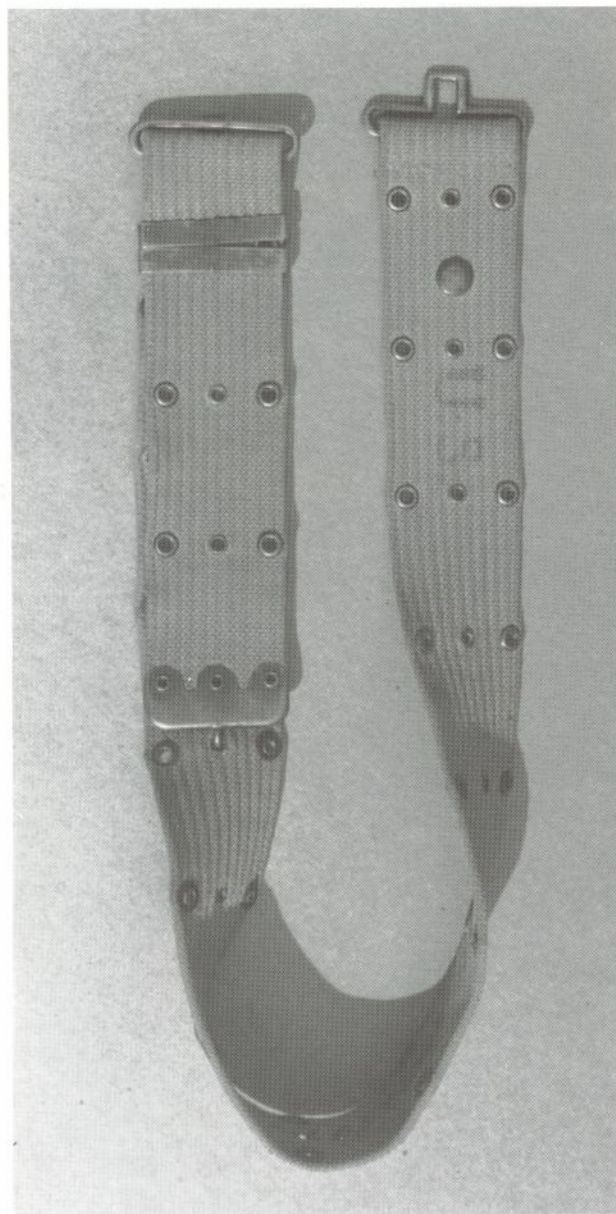
Troops on manoeuvres in Australia in March 1943, displaying typical tropical field dress. Shirts are worn outside the trousers with rolled sleeves, and trousers are not always tucked into leggings. (US Army)



When the pistol was issued it was carried in a russet leather holster on the right hip. Two spare clips of ammunition were carried in the ammunition pouch worn on the left front hip. This was an unusual item among the issue web equipment, in that it did not hook to the belt, but was made with a wide web loop at the back which slid over the belt.

All web equipment, and the leather pistol holster, were visibly marked with the block letters 'U.S.'; web gear markings were in black, while the holster was stamped with the letters within an oval. All web

The M1912 pistol belt, showing how it can be adjusted for size.



The M1936 officer's field bag, or 'musette bag', with a stencilled marking showing the officer's name and O-prefix serial.

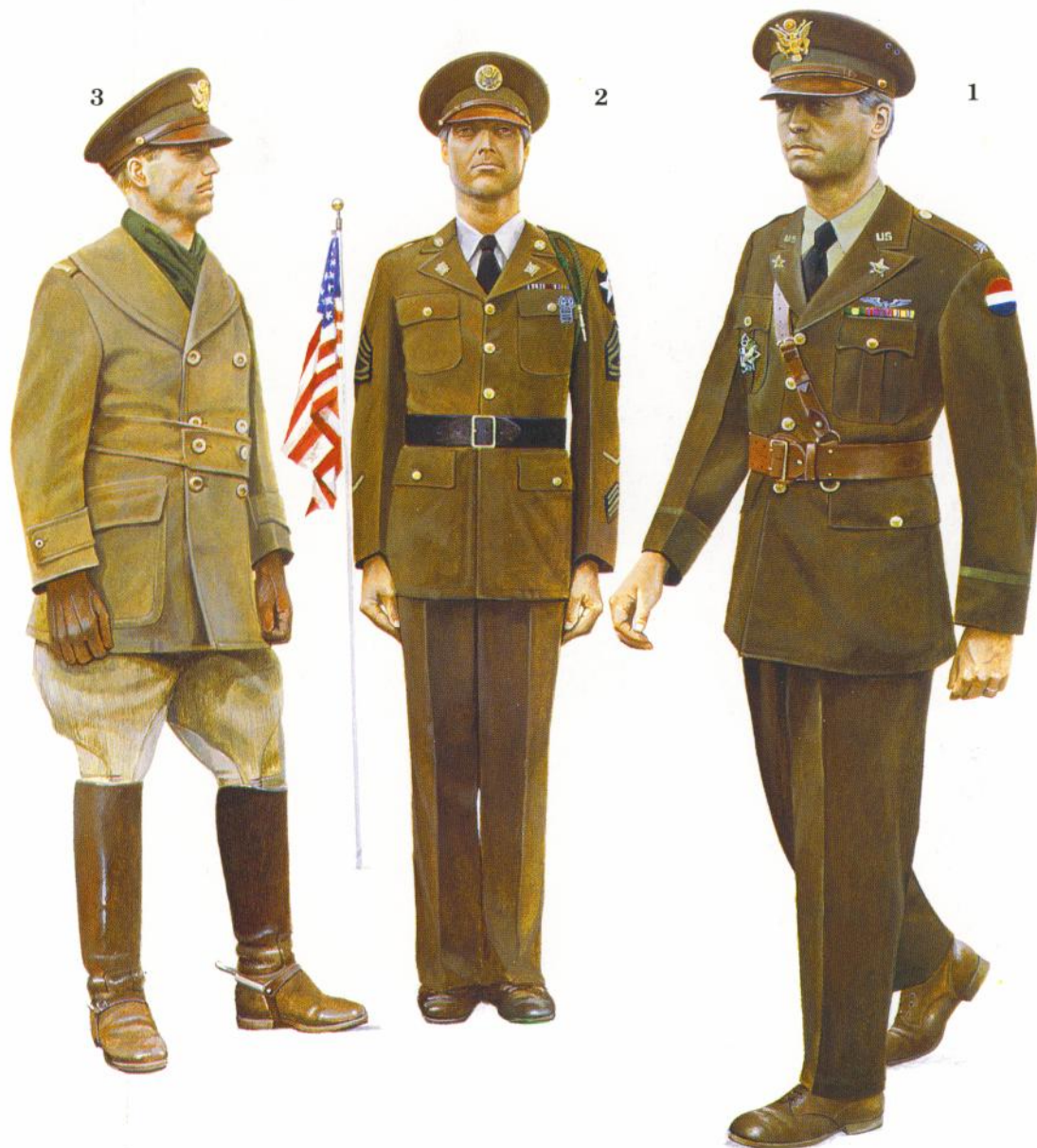
gear was marked with the maker's name and date of manufacture inside pouch flaps or belts where it would not be visible when the equipment was worn.

The gas mask, rarely carried in the field in Europe or the Pacific, was carried separately from the other web equipment in its own large pouch slung on the left side.

Special types of web gear, still conforming to the general principles of the 1910 equipment, were issued to troops needing them. For example, special large bags similar to the M1936 field bag were issued to field Medical Corps personnel. Among other types of equipment issued were ammunition pouches for the M1922 Browning Automatic Rifle, M1928 Thompson sub-machine gun, M1 carbine and M3 sub-machine gun. These pouches, needed quickly in combat zones, were not only made in the United States, but by British and Australian makers as well. The snaps used on American-made equipment differ from those made by foreign makers, however.

Infantry Weapons

M1 Rifle: Although the old '03 Springfield bolt-action rifle saw use early in the war, the standard



1: Lt. Col., General Staff; USA, 1941
2: Tech. Sgt., 9th Inf., 2nd Inf. Div.; USA, 1941
3: 2nd Lt., mounted branch; USA, 1941

- 1: PFC, Ordnance Corps; Pacific Theatre, late 1941
2: Master Sgt., 59th Coast Arty.; USA, 1941
3: Major, 4th Eng., 4th Inf. Div.; USA, 1941
4: Col., 2nd Cav., 2nd Cav. Div.; N. Africa, 1944





1



2



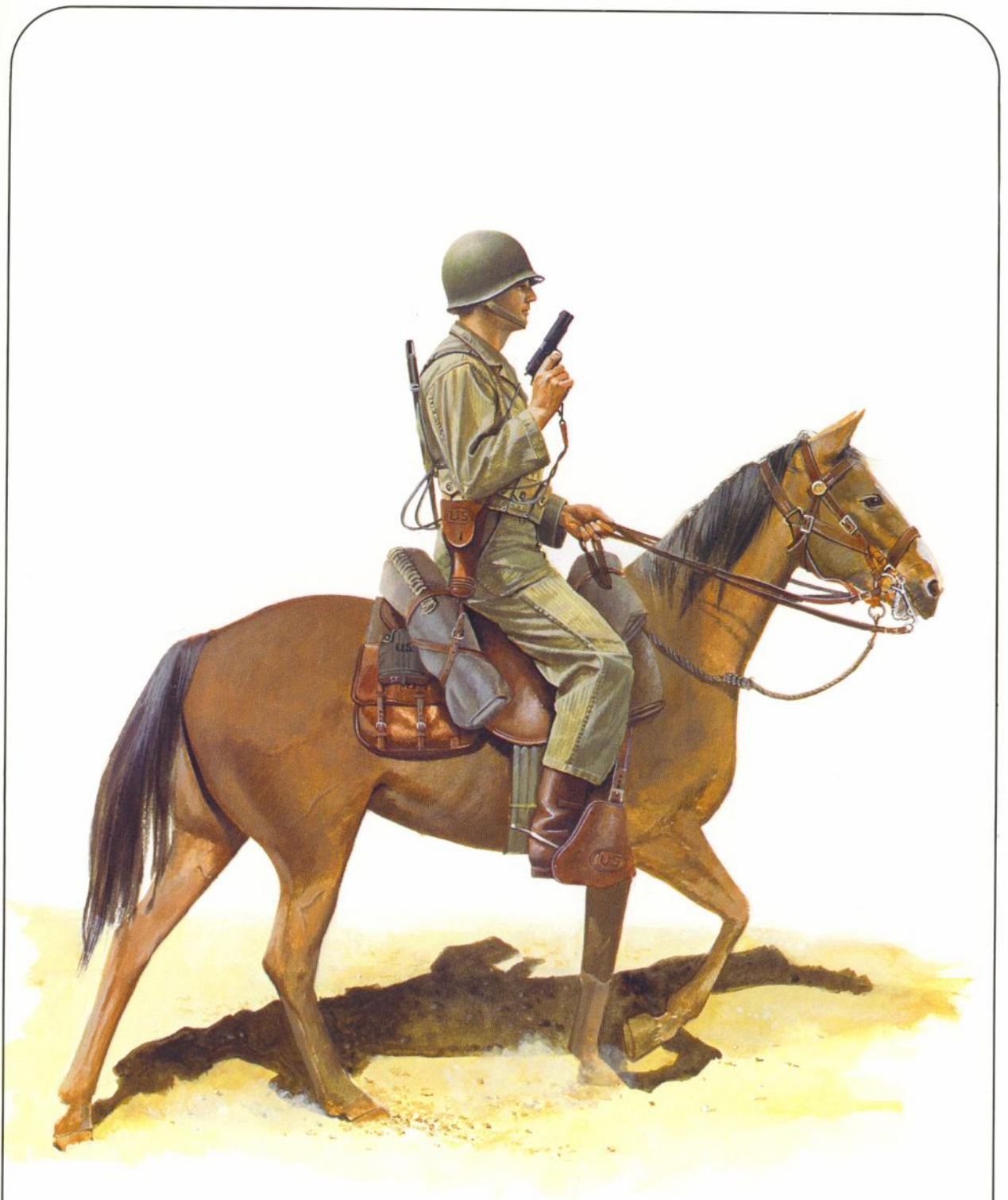
3



1: 1st Sgt., 28th Inf. Div.; USA, 1942-43
2: 1st Lt., 8th Inf. Div.; USA, 1942
3: Cpl., 1st Cav. Div.; USA, 1942



1: Sgt., 45th Inf. Div.; N. Africa, 1943
2: Tech. 4th Grade, 51st Sigs. Corps; France, 1944
3: Brig. Gen., Services of Supply, 1942



Private, US Cavalry; USA, 1942



1: Tech. 3rd Grade, tank bn., 102nd Inf. Div.; France, 1944
2: Tech. 5th grade, 94th Inf. Div.; Germany, 1945
3: Staff Sgt., 17th Airborne Div.; Belgium, 1944



1: PFC, Alamo Scouts, 6th Army; Pacific Theatre, 1944
2: 2nd Lt., 81st Inf. Div.; Pacific Theatre, 1944
3: Pte., 17th Armd. Eng. Bn., 2nd Armd. Div.; Normandy, 1944



1: Tech. 5th Grade, MP Co., III Corps; Germany, 1945
2: 1st Sgt., 1st Special Service Force; Europe, 1944
3: Capt., 32nd Armor, 3rd Armd. Div.; Germany, 1945

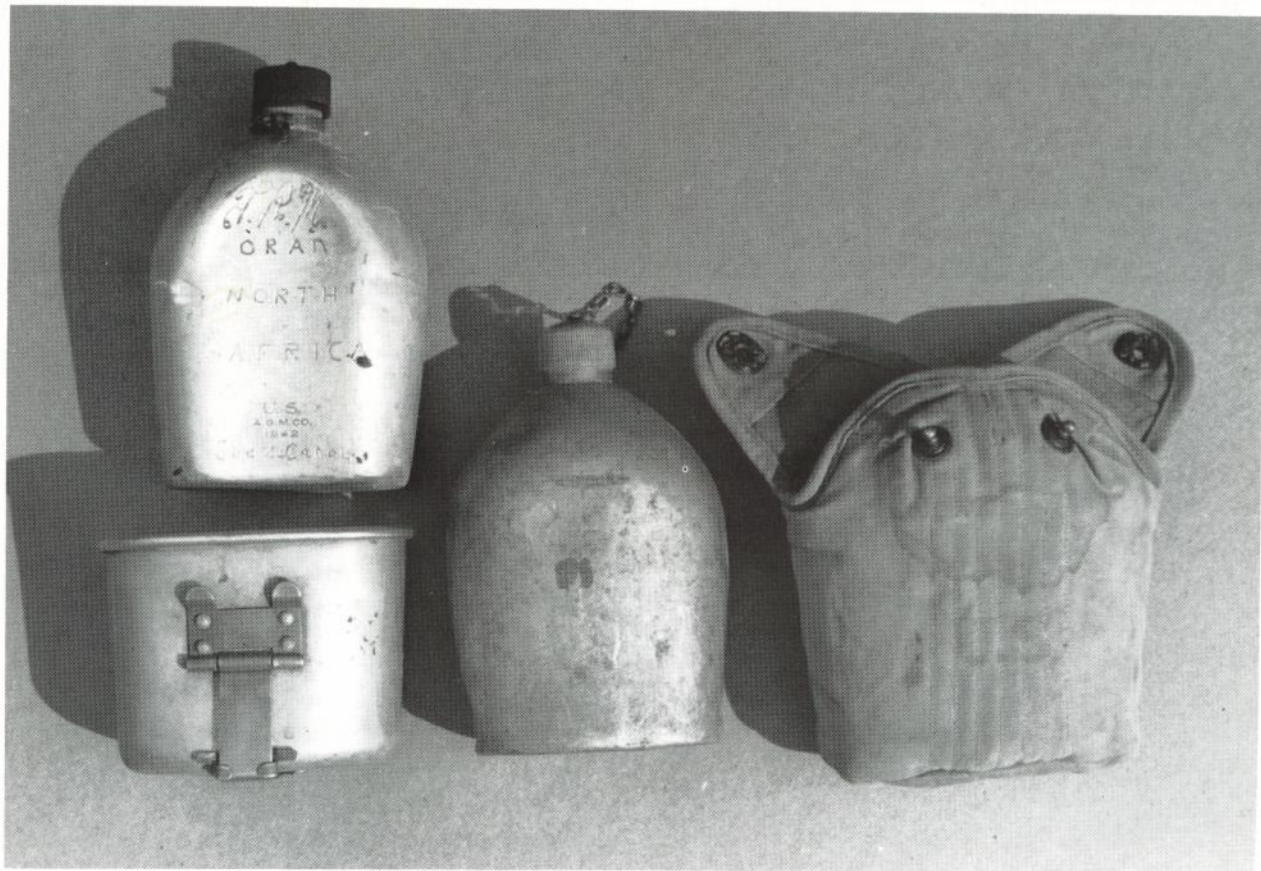
infantry weapon from 1942 onwards was the Garand M1 semi-automatic, gas-operated rifle. This .30cal. weapon was 43.6ins long, weighed 9.5lbs, and had a muzzle velocity of 2805fps.; it proved a reliable and accurate rifle, and served the GI well. Its effective range was at least 500 yards, and its rate of fire was as fast as the rifleman could pull the trigger. It had a non-detachable eight-round magazine, into which 'en bloc' clips were inserted; the cartridges—and, after the eighth shot, the clip itself—were ejected automatically. (The noise made by the clip hitting the ground could be a disadvantage to infantrymen fighting at close range, since it revealed that they had to reload.)

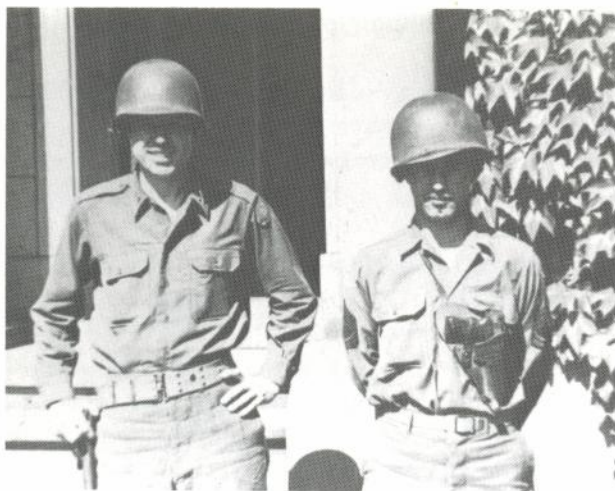
M1911A1 Automatic Pistol: The classic .45cal. 'Colt auto' pistol, in use since before the First World War and much sought after by GIs as a personal 'weapon of last resort', was officially issued to junior leaders and vehicle crews. It was a conventional recoil-operated semi-automatic pistol, taking seven rounds in a detachable magazine; length was 8.62ins, weight 2.43lbs, and muzzle velocity 830fps. Inaccurate at any but the shortest ranges, it had

considerable 'stopping-power' in hand-to-hand combat.

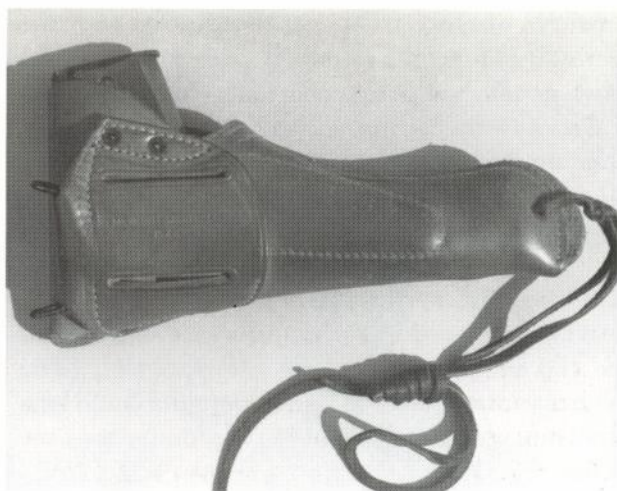
M1 Carbine: The day of the pistol on the battlefield was felt to be almost over, and this .30cal. carbine, based in some respects on the M1 rifle, was issued during the war as a superior alternative for those officers, NCOs and crewmen who carried pistols. It was a gas-operated, semi-automatic weapon, only 35.6ins long and weighing just 5.5lbs; muzzle velocity was 1970fps. Handy and attractive, it was at first popular with any infantryman who could scrounge one; but in combat the short effective range and very limited impact of its cartridge, much shorter and less powerful than rifle ammunition, proved to be a disadvantage. It was, indeed, an 'alternative pistol', not an 'alternative rifle'. The folding-stock M1A1 version was issued to para-

Both types of canteen saw widespread use; the centre one actually dates from before the war, while wartime examples were made with black plastic caps to save metal. This example bears the maker's stamp 'A.G.M. Co./1942', and the owner has personally engraved it with a U.S. cypher, his name, and where he served. Beneath it is the canteen cup, the handle folded to fit inside the canteen pouch, far right.





Vehicle and armoured crews and flying personnel often wore these all-leather shoulder holsters, as worn by the technical sergeant on the right, in place of the standard waistbelt holster, left.



The back surface of the issue holster for the M1912 pistol belt, made of russet-brown leather; note slits, so that it could be used on an ordinary leather belt if needed. It is marked 'MILWAUKEE SADDLERY CO./1944.'

troopers; and at the end of the war some examples of the fully-automatic M2, with a 30-round 'banana' magazine replacing the M1's 15-round detachable straight box type, reached the Pacific.

M1928A1 & M1 Thompson Sub-Machine Gun: The US Army issued sub-machine guns on a more lavish scale than other armies. The squad leader's weapon for most of the war was the classic 'Tommy gun', in several slightly differing versions. This delayed-blowback weapon had a selective fire capability, and put out around 725rpm on full automatic; length was 33.7ins, weight 10.75lbs, and muzzle velocity 920fps. Its practical range was not much more than 100 yards, but in street-fighting or jungle this was adequate, and the .45cal. round had tremendous stopping-power. Both 50-round drum and 20- and 30-round box magazines were used.

M3 Sub-Machine Gun: A mass-produced alternative to the Thompson was introduced late in the war, and nicknamed 'Grease gun' from its stubby, utilitarian appearance. Cheaply made out of steel pressings, the M3 was a .45cal. blowback-operated gun weighing 7.15lbs and measuring only 29.8ins long—seven inches less with its skeleton butt retracted. It had a straight 30-round box magazine; and in its improved M3A1 version it was cocked simply by putting a finger into a hole in the exposed side of the bolt and pulling it back. Muzzle velocity was 920fps, and rate of fire up to 450rpm.

M1922 Browning Automatic Rifle: At squad level the

standard light automatic support weapon was the BAR, a gas-operated, selective-fire, .30cal. rifle with a 20-round detachable box magazine. Length was 41ins, weight 19.2lbs, and muzzle velocity around 2700fps; rate of fire on full automatic was 550rpm.

M1919A4 Browning Machine Gun: Normally seen at infantry company level, this air-cooled version of the belt-fed .30cal. Browning machine gun was 41ins long and weighed 31lbs, plus another 14lbs for the M2 tripod mounting. Its muzzle velocity was 2800fps and its rate of fire up to 550rpm. The M1919A6 modification had an added shoulder stock and a bipod mount. Effective range was up to a mile.

The Plates

A1: Lieutenant-colonel, General Staff; United States, 1941
The officer's service uniform was of dark olive drab, although trousers of a light shade, known as 'pinks', could also be worn with this cap and coat. The russet-brown M1921 'Sam Browne' belt was worn until 1943, officially, although it was often abandoned before that date. On 26 November 1942 a belt of the same material as the coat, with a brass buckle, was authorised to be sewn to the waist of the

coat, replacing the Sam Browne, which was forbidden from 7 June 1943.

This officer wears the insignia of the General Staff on his lower lapels. The silver oak leaves of this rank are worn on both shoulder straps. He wears the silver qualification wings of a balloon pilot on the left breast, above ribbons for service on the Mexican Border, in the 2nd Nicaraguan campaign, and for National Defense: the latter was awarded for US Army service in a period just prior to America's official entry into the war.

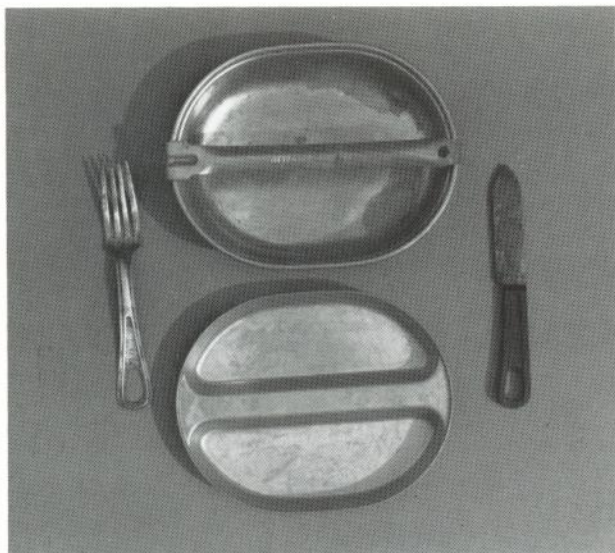
His embroidered left shoulder patch indicates assignment to the General Headquarters of the US Army. The large enamelled metal insignia on the right breast pocket is a War Department General Staff Identification, authorised for officers who had served for not less than a year, at any time since 4 June 1920, on the War Department General Staff. After 1 March 1942 it could be worn by anyone who served on the General Staff if awarded by the Secretary of War or Assistant Chief of Staff.



Both one-piece (centre) and two-piece camouflage-printed combat fatigues are worn in this photo of US infantry on Bougainville in winter 1943; these may be men of the 3rd Marine or the 37th Infantry divisions. Very light personal equipment is carried, and trousers flap loose at the ankle; note also cotton clip bandoliers slung round the centre soldier—the most popular and practical way to carry rifle ammunition. (US Army)

The two-piece camouflage-printed fatigues in use in the European theatre of Operations: engineers photographed in the front line at Canisy in Normandy in June 1944. The experiment was short-lived. (US Army)





The mess kit, officially called a 'meat can', included a knife, fork, and a spoon (not shown); the spoon and fork were similar in design, while the knife had a black plastic handle, this one marked 'U.S.' on one side and 'L.F.&C./1941' on the other. The handle of the 'meat can' is stamped 'U.S./THE HAMLIN METAL PROD. CO./1942'.

A2: Technical Sergeant, 9th Infantry, 2nd Infantry Division; United States, 1941

Obviously a First World War veteran, this man holds the second highest non-commissioned officer's pay grade, indicated by the chevrons on both upper sleeves. His embroidered left shoulder patch identifies the 2nd Infantry Division, while the gilt badges on each lower lapel identify the 9th Infantry Regiment, assigned to that formation. His upper lapel insignia carry 'U.S.' above '9' on his right, and the crossed-rifles infantry branch badge on his left. His ribbons include a Silver Star, awarded for bravery; a Purple Heart, for suffering a wound; and the rainbow ribbon of the First World War Victory Medal. Under them is pinned an Expert's Badge, the top shooting award, with clasps for Pistol and Rifle.

The small chevron on the right forearm is a First World War wound stripe. The three on the left forearm indicate completed terms of enlistment; the bottom one, edged buff, indicates National Guard service, presumably in the period between the World Wars. The gold chevron worn above these service stripes indicates six months' overseas service in the First World War.

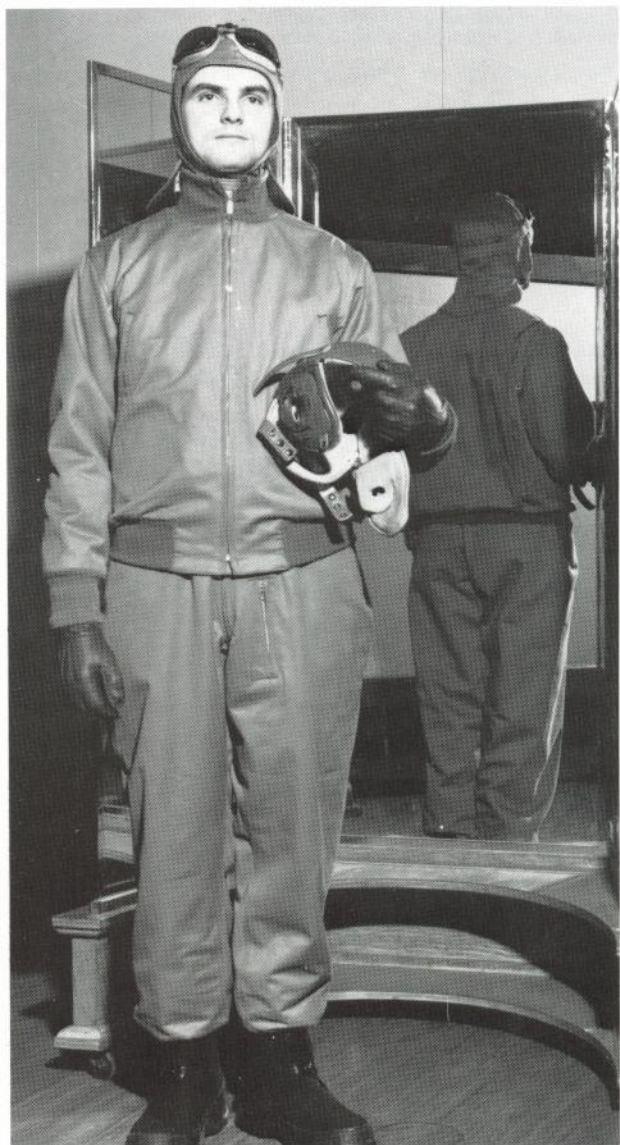
The lanyard is a French *fourragère* in the green and red of the Croix de Guerre ribbon, representing

two citations; this was awarded to the 9th Infantry by the French government for First World War service.

On 10 November 1941 the leather garrison belt was eliminated from the uniform, as were the white shirt and black tie; these were replaced by either an olive drab or a khaki shirt and a khaki tie.

The 2nd Infantry Division was to land in Normandy on 7 June 1944; fighting their way across Europe, they reached the German-Czech

The armoured force winter field uniform posed for official photographs of record: the 'tanker's jacket' with knitted wrists, collar and waistband worn over thickly lined overtrousers cut high to the chest and attaching to adjustable shoulder braces. Flyer's-type gloves were issued, and rubber overshoes. (US Army)



border by VE-Day, their last action being the capture of Pilsen.

A3: Second Lieutenant; United States, 1941

The short overcoat for commissioned officers was first authorised in 1926. It could be worn only on military bases, and not for ceremonies or official duties; and if the troops were dressed in their long overcoats, the officers had to follow suit. However, the short overcoat could be worn in the field or when mounted, and it was ideal for riding; and this officer's riding breeches and boots indicate service with a mounted branch, either cavalry or field artillery. The branch is not otherwise identified, since only rank insignia—here, the gold bar of second lieutenant—are worn on the coat. On 3 April 1943 a new-style short overcoat was authorised, virtually the same as this pattern but with notched lapels and without the cloth waist belt. Unit shoulder patches were authorised for the new coat; and when worn by general officers it bore two black worsted braid bands around each cuff.

B1: Private First Class, Ordnance Corps; Pacific Theatre of Operations, late 1941

The Army's khaki 'chino' shirt and trousers were designed originally to serve both as summer service dress and field uniform. In actual practice it saw service as a field uniform only in the Pacific Theatre and in exercises in the United States early in the war, being replaced by specialised combat uniforms.

Rank chevrons were embroidered in khaki, bordered in dark blue; one chevron identified Private First Class (PFC). Originally the gilt collar discs bearing 'U.S.' and the appropriate branch badge on right and left respectively were worn on the shirt; the insignia of the Ordnance Corps was a flaming bomb. In the new Army dress regulations of 10 November 1941 no mention was made of collar insignia, and they were generally omitted in the field.

Equipment stocks, both in the Pacific and the United States, were fairly obsolete in 1941. Rifles were frequently the old Model 1903 Springfield of the First World War, and the long bayonet was frogged on the left hip. Ammunition was carried in khaki web rifle belts supported by braces, with a canteen at left rear and a first aid packet at right



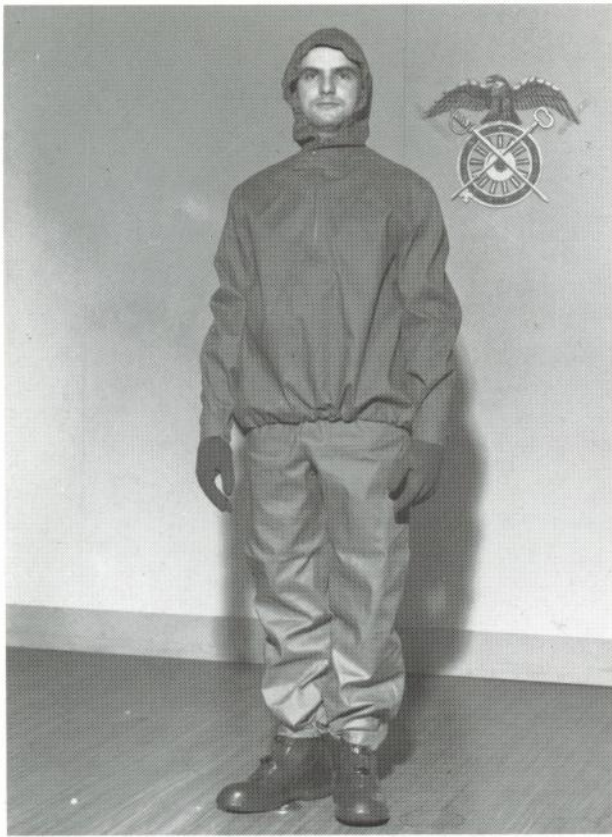
A rather more realistic study of the front-line use of the same uniform is provided by this 'candid snap' of M7 Priest crewmen of the 274th Armd.Fld.Arty.Bn., 3rd Armd.Div. in the Ardennes during early January 1945. The wool 'beanie' is worn under the fabric 'flyer's' helmet issued for cold-weather wear beneath the leather tank crew helmet. The bib-fronted overtrousers are worn over the tanker's jacket. To fit the rubber overshoes actually on top of leather boots required an enormous size; many men simply wore them as conventional boots, over several pairs of socks. (US Army)

rear. Olive drab leggings were worn over the dull-finished russet boots in the field. Steel helmets were of the old 1918 pattern copied from the British model, painted dark olive drab.

B2: Master Sergeant, 59th Coast Artillery; United States, 1941

The Coast Artillery Corps had the task of attacking enemy naval vessels with artillery and submarine mines, and enemy aircraft with A/A fire.

The campaign hat was the standard field headgear in the United States except among



armoured and airborne troops, who wore the flat overseas cap. The distinctive regimental insignia was pinned to the front in enamelled metal form; the hat cords were in corps colours, in this case scarlet. The regimental number appears below the national cypher on the right collar disc, while the left disc bears the corps insignia of a shell on an oval cartouche on crossed cannon; the cartouche was white, edged with red, on officer's insignia. The sleeve chevrons identify the grade of master sergeant, the highest NCO grade in the Army.

B3: Major, 4th Engineers, 4th Infantry Division; United States, 1941

The overseas cap, worn in France in 1917–18, was then abandoned until 22 August 1933, when it was revived for use by tank and mechanised cavalry units. Originally officers wore authorised piping in corps colours, while enlisted men wore unpiped caps; on 19 April 1940 all officers below general rank were ordered to wear intermixed black and gold campaign hat cords and overseas cap piping, and enlisted men wore corps-coloured piping thereafter. Distinctive regimental insignia were to

be worn on the overseas cap, and on the centre of the 'shoulder loops' or epaulettes. This officer wears that of the 4th Engineers, with the shoulder patch of the 4th Infantry Division. Officers of the Corps of Engineers were unique in wearing special coat buttons—all others wore the standard button bearing the Arms of the United States. The left breast pocket badge is a 1st Army Corps area rifle team marksmanship award. A similar Army area badge was also awarded, with silver crossed rifles, and a background in branch of service colour to the lower bronze motif.

The 4th Infantry Division was to land in Normandy on D-Day, fighting inland to join up with the 82nd Airborne Division. It fought in the ETO throughout the remainder of the war, reaching Miesbach on the Isar River on 2 May 1945, when it ceased active fighting.

B4: Colonel, 2nd Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Cavalry Division; North Africa, 1944

The 2nd Cavalry Division had been inactivated on 15 July 1942, but was re-activated on 25 February 1944, with all black enlisted men. It was sent to

Far Left: This two-ply, rubber-coated set of jacket, trousers, overshoes and gloves was intended for use in very wet climates. Near Left: The parka, which was reversible olive green/white, was designed for arctic conditions. Note composite rubber/leather boots. Below: A private of the 503rd Parachute Bn. models a winter ski-trooper's uniform in January 1942. Right: The official tropical garrison uniform included a set of khaki cotton twill shirt and shorts worn with olive drab stockings and russet shoes, topped off with a cloth-covered fibre sun helmet. The latter was little worn except by senior officers. (US Army)



North Africa on 9 March 1944, and performed garrison duties until the end of the war.

The overseas cap also came in khaki cotton chino, edged in the same colours as the olive drab winter-weight wool cap. On 25 August 1942 officers were ordered to substitute, for the distinctive unit insignia previously worn, their rank insignia; enlisted men retained unit insignia. The ranking of a colonel was a silver eagle, always worn so as to face forward. It is repeated on the right collar point; branch insignia, here the cavalry's crossed sabres with the regimental number, is worn on the left. The 2nd Cavalry Division shoulder patch was first approved on 3 May 1928.

C1: First Sergeant, 28th Infantry Division; United States, 1942-43

This NCO on field exercises wears combat uniform which was to be typical of the European theatre. The M1 steel helmet, first authorised in November 1941, was usually worn with the chinstrap hooked up over the rear lip out of the wearer's way. The 1941 pattern wool knit cap or 'beanie', authorised on 14 August 1942, could be worn under the



The M1944 wool field jacket—'Ike jacket'—worn by a member of the 11th Airborne Div. in Japan shortly after the war. He wears the paratrooper's patch on the left side of his overseas cap; paratrooper's qualification 'wings' on the left breast, and a Distinguished Unit emblem on the right breast. The only change in practice visible on this immediately post-war uniform is the use by an enlisted man of two 'U.S.' discs and two arm-of-service insignia discs on upper and lower lapels respectively, instead of one of each on the upper points.

helmet, with its rear flap folded down over the ears in cold weather. The olive drab field jacket, of (theoretically) water-repellant and wind-resistant cotton cloth, was first authorised on 10 November 1941. Formation insignia were worn on the left upper sleeve in the form of embroidered patches; see inset for the 28th Inf. Div. patch. NCOs wore chevrons on both sleeves of the jacket. On 22 September 1942 the grade of first sergeant was raised to be equal to that of master sergeant, and a third 'rocker' was added to the chevrons. Weapons for this grade usually included an automatic pistol as well as a rifle or, later in the war, a carbine. The trousers worn with the field jacket were still the olive drab wool type of the everyday service uniform.

Pennsylvania's National Guard, the 28th Inf. Div., was to land in France on 22 July 1944. It was badly mauled in the Hürtgen Forest that winter; its last combat was the drive on the Ahr River on 6 March 1945.

C2: First Lieutenant, 8th Infantry Division; United States, 1942

The officer's overcoat was first authorised in 1926. The buttons were of bone. Ranking, here the single silver bar of first lieutenant, was worn on the shoulder straps, and the formation patch on the left upper sleeve. These trousers are of the light olive drab shade known as 'pinks'.

The 8th Inf. Div. was to land on Utah Beach, Normandy, on 4 July 1944. It went on to fight throughout the NW Europe campaign, its final battles coming with the destruction of German forces in the Ruhr Pocket in mid-April 1945.

C3: Corporal, 1st Cavalry Division; United States, 1942

The coat worn here is the 1942 pattern mackinaw, first authorised on 26 November 1942; NCO chevrons and left shoulder formation patches were applied. The three-strap leather boots for mounted men replaced the laced type worn previously from mid-1940. The rifle is the recently-issued M1; as a mounted man this corporal also carries an automatic pistol, in the usual russet holster on the right hip, with two spare clips in the web pouch slipped over the rifle belt at front left. A first aid packet—the older, two-snap type left over from the First World War—is worn at left rear, and a canteen would be worn at right rear.

The 1st Cav. Div. arrived in Australia on 11 July 1943, and first saw combat in the landing on Los Negros Island on 29 February 1944. The division formed part of the invasion force which landed on Leyte on 20 October 1944, and fought in the Philippines until active operations there ended, officially on 1 July 1945.

D1: Sergeant, 45th Infantry Division; North Africa, 1943

The one-piece herringbone twill overalls were authorised for field use on 5 April 1941; they were supposed to be worn over another uniform, e.g. the khaki cotton chino shirt and trousers, but were usually worn by themselves, tucked into the web leggings. This NCO wears full marching equipment

with pack, including the large gasmask case worn under the left arm by straps round the waist and over the right shoulder; in practice this item rarely survived for long once soldiers reached the combat zone. The rifle is the M1 Garand. The divisional patch is worn on the left shoulder, and chevrons on both upper sleeves.

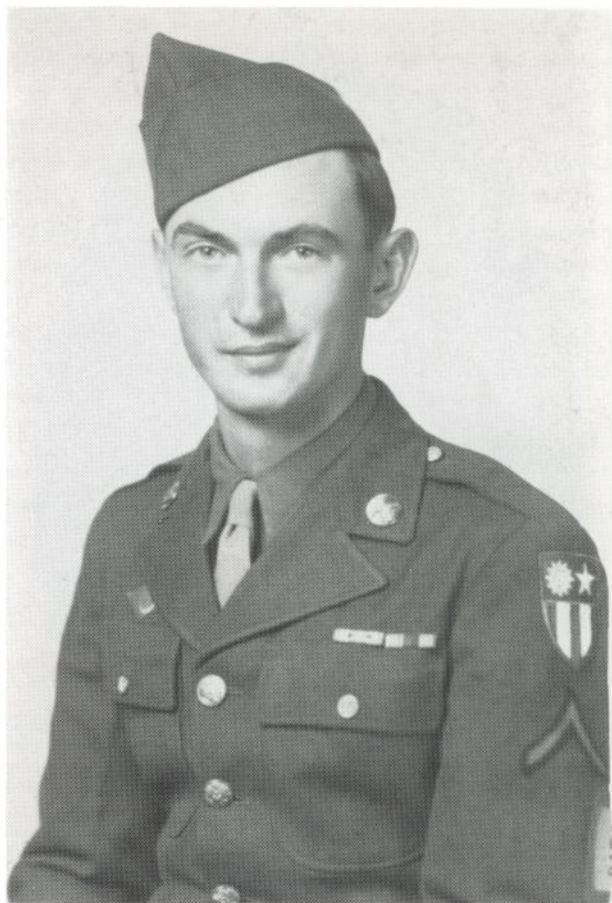
The 45th Inf. Div. was a National Guard formation drawn from the states of Colorado, New Mexico and Oklahoma; it landed in North Africa on 22 June 1943, and took part in the invasion of Sicily on 10 July 1943. The division was in the fourth assault wave at St. Maxime on the French Riviera during the US VI Corps landings of 15 August 1944; and saw its last fighting at Munich on 30 April 1945.

D2: Technician Fourth Grade, 51st Signal Corps; France, 1944

Although photographers were found on the tables of organisation of many types of unit, the Signal Corps was officially responsible for all the Army's photographic efforts. This photographer's overseas cap is therefore piped in Signal Corps orange and white, and he wears on it the distinctive insignia of his unit, the 51st Signal Corps. The overcoat was designed for both field and dress wear; it was not very popular in the field, however, as it became heavy when wet and muddy. The shoulder patch is that of 3rd Army, activated in August 1944, and commanded by Lt.Gen. George S. Patton Jr. during its famous dash across France and forcing of the Rhine. Commands smaller than a division and not assigned to a division normally wore the patch of the higher formation—that of their Corps or Army. The grades of technician third, fourth and fifth class were authorised on 4 September 1942; the chevrons were worn on both sleeves of the overcoat, although partly obscured here by the second-type photographer's brassard on the left arm.

D3: Brigadier-General, Services of Supply, 1942

The mission of the SOS was to provide services and supplies to meet the military requirements of all but the Army Air Forces, which obviously had unique requirements. As a full general officer this brigadier-general wears all-gold piping on his overseas cap. A single silver star marks his rank, and is worn on the cap, the shoulders of his model A2 Army Air Force

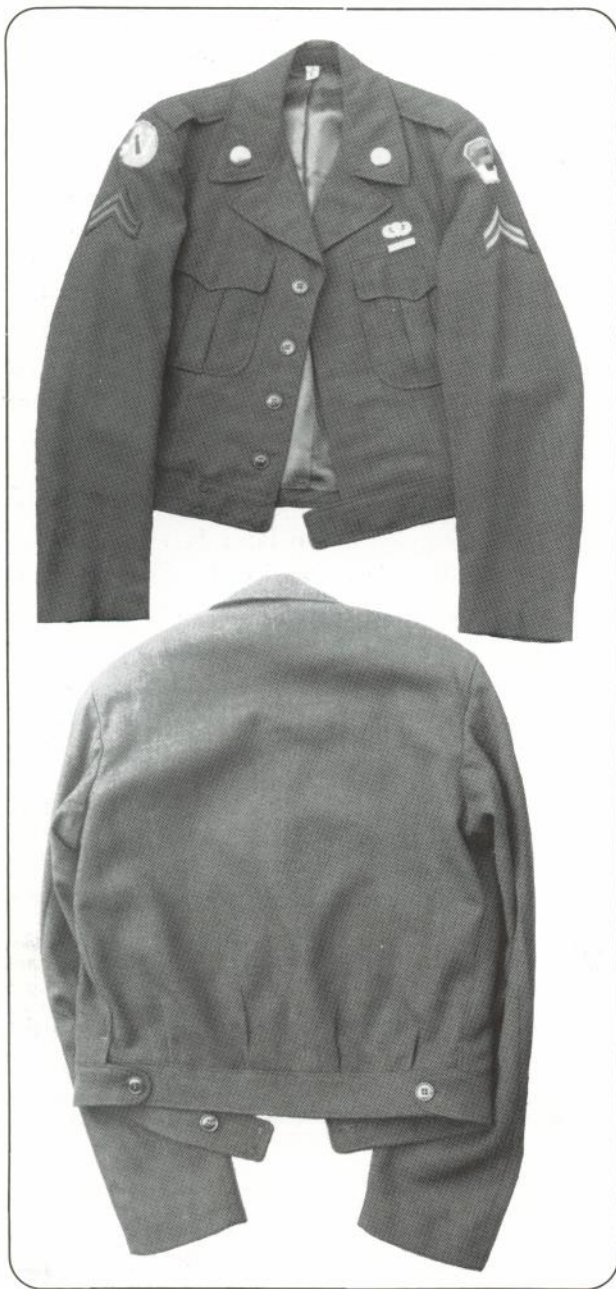


This private first class wears the China-Burma-India shoulder patch, and ribbons for the Pacific Theatre of Operations and good conduct. The diamond-shaped light olive insignia bearing a yellow eagle within a circle on the right breast indicates that this man has been discharged, but can still legally wear his uniform for a short time. By 1944, with a vastly expanded army and men transferring frequently from one branch to another, overseas caps were issued without coloured piping for enlisted men.

leather crew jacket (a desirable item, acquired through the unauthorised channels for which SOS personnel were famous), and both points of the OD wool shirt collar—general officers wore only rank and not corps badges on the collar. Over the shirt he wears the olive drab knitted wool jacket intended for wear under the 1941 field jacket. The Services of Supply patch is sewn to the left shoulder of the crew jacket.

E: Private, US Cavalry; United States, 1942

Strange as it may seem, mounted cavalry did not die quickly. Even the sabre was not eliminated as an issued weapon until 1934; it was not until 9 March 1942 that the office of the Chief of Cavalry was



Two views of the M1944 wool field jacket. The patch on the left shoulder indicates current service under 2nd Army, which was a training army based in the USA, and that on the right indicates past combat service in a unit coming under Pacific Theatre of Operations command. The combined parachute/glider 'wings' are worn on the left breast; the medal ribbon is for Pacific campaign service, and—invisible here—in fact bears two battle stars. The jacket is lined with olive green sateen, stamped with the owner's surname initial and the last four digits of his service number. The only label on this corporal's jacket indicates a 38in. chest and 'extra long' fitting—'XL'. Note the rear tightening tabs at the waist, and the generally high quality of manufacture. It is easy to see why GIs preferred to keep this as their walking-out jacket, smartening it up even further by replacing all possible buttons with concealed snap-fasteners, and sometimes purchasing special high-quality versions of embroidered insignia, etc.

eliminated, and the 2nd Cavalry Division remained mounted until March 1944. Even as late as November 1944 some serious consideration was being given to using mounted cavalry against the Japanese.

This trooper wears the cotton herringbone twill fatigue combat uniform, over an OD shirt and riding breeches and the boots seen in more detail in Plate C3, with the steel helmet. Practicing the 'pistol charge', he holds his .45in automatic, its butt secured by a lanyard passing diagonally around his body from right armpit to left shoulder; the doubling was held in the desired place by a russet leather slide. He wears the webbing rifle belt and braces, with the long bayonet scabbarded diagonally behind his shoulder, attached to the right hand brace. The saddle is the Model 1928 McClellan, basically the same as used before the American Civil War of 1861–65, with Model 1940 wooden stirrups.

F1: Technician Third Grade, Tank Battalion, 102nd Infantry Division; France, 1944

The 102nd Inf. Div. arrived at Cherbourg on 23 September 1944, and first saw action on 26 October. After its final action of the war, the capture of Breitenfeld on 15 April 1945, the division reached the Elbe River before VE-Day. Armoured units were attached to each US infantry division, and this figure represents a crewman from the division's Sherman tank battalion.

Specialised clothing for armoured units began to appear in 1941 with the introduction of this waist-length, weatherproofed cotton tanker's jacket. With its blanket lining and knit wool cuffs, collar and waistband it was a comfortable and popular item, much sought-after by officers and men of other branches. Early versions had a large patch pocket on each side, and later patterns had vertical slash pockets. In the winter of 1943–44 heavy, padded overalls with a 'bib' front were introduced for armoured crews; later versions eliminated the 'bib' and were cut straight around the waist.

The leather tanker's helmet had a high-domed skull for protection against knocks inside the tank, pierced for ventilation; and flaps for earphones held in place by leather-covered flat springs and by snap-fastened elastic straps to the rear flap. Introduced in 1941, it replaced an earlier type in russet leather which had featured a large 'doughnut' pad all

round at brow level.

Overshoes came in several styles. Black rubber civilian types with metal snaps were widely used; another type had heavy leather uppers and rubber soles, and laced at the front.

Rank chevrons and the divisional patch are worn on the sleeves. Tank crews rarely wore more in the way of personal equipment than a pistol belt with holster, clip pouches and first aid packet: their other necessities were stowed in nooks and crannies of the tank, and all armoured crews have a horror of being snagged by equipment catching on one of the scores of projecting assemblies inside a tank while trying to escape in an emergency.

F2: Technician Fifth Grade, 94th Infantry Division; Germany, 1945

By the Geneva Convention medical personnel were non-combatants and should not have been targets. They wore regulation brassards, and marked their helmets—usually with red crosses on white discs, but in some units with the crosses simply outlined in white. These precautions did not prevent many medics from being shot, however, and the Germans claimed that they were not sufficiently visible. In

the 94th Inf. Div. medics in combat adopted this large white over-vest with a prominent red cross.

Over his M1941 field jacket and OD wool trousers this medic, snatching a hasty meal, wears medical pouches slung from his shoulders on braces; his personal first aid packet would be worn at the front of the pistol belt, which often had two canteens slung behind the hips, so that water could be spared for wounded men. Under his helmet this soldier wears the M1944 hood, designed for attachment to the M1943 field jacket, even though it cannot be attached to his own M1941 jacket; such mixtures of uniform items were common in the field. His boots are the double-buckle type which appeared in the last year of the war, doing away with the need for webbing leggings—see also Plate H1.

The 94th Inf. Div. landed in France on 8 September 1944 and was sent into the line against

The front-line GI: heating up a snatched meal on a field cooker, this squad wear the M1941 field jacket and, over their OD wool trousers, the trousers of the greyish-green herringbone twill fatigue suit as improvised combat dress. Note that most have the web chinstrap of the helmet fixed above the rear lip of the shell, and a narrow leather chinstrap from the fibre liner fixed over the front lip. (US Army)



the German forces holed up in the Atlantic ports of Lorient and St. Nazaire. In January 1945 they were sent against the Siegfried Line, crossing the Saar in February and reaching the Rhine on 21 March. Their last action was during the reduction of the Ruhr Pocket in mid-April.

F3: Staff Sergeant, 17th Airborne Division; Belgium, 1944
Specialised equipment for airborne troops included the M1942 jump jacket and trousers, sometimes worn alone, sometimes over other combat clothing. This suit had extra-large pockets for equipment, and tie-tapes from the inside leg seams helped control these when they were swollen out with rations, ammunition, and all the other necessities carried on the drop. The cloth used for this suit tended toward a khaki shade; subsequent reinforcement of knees and elbows with cloth from other sources sometimes gave a strongly contrasting 'patchwork' effect. The russet 'Corcoran' jump boots laced all the way up the ankle and lower calf, and no gaiters were needed. The M1C helmet modification is worn here, with the chin cup hanging loose; a first aid packet was sometimes fixed to the camouflage netting, for quick access.

Insignia include an American flag patch worn on the upper right sleeve for quick identification in combat: their role put airborne troops at risk in sudden encounters with friendly troops. The 'AIRBORNE' flash above the divisional patch on the left shoulder was common to all airborne units, though some had white lettering and others yellow. Rank chevrons were worn in the normal manner.

The webbing pistol belt is worn here, in preference to the rifle belt: a more flexible mix of items could be attached to it, an important factor for paratroopers. This NCO is armed with the M1A1 folding-stock carbine; its double clip pouch is slipped over the belt at front left. A first aid packet is worn at front right, a canteen at right rear, and an entrenching tool at left rear; the bayonet, or any one of a number of patterns of knife, was often worn strapped to the leg, as here.

The 17th Airborne Div. was activated on 15 April 1943. It served in the defence of the Meuse River line on 25 December 1944 during the Ardennes campaign. The division was dropped into Westphalia on 24 March 1945 as part of Operation 'Varsity', the crossing of the Rhine. Its last combat

was on 18 April 1945 in the Ruhr Pocket.

G1: Private First Class, Alamo Scouts, US 6th Army; Pacific theatre, 1944

The Alamo Scouts were organised by 6th Army headquarters in late 1943, and trained to penetrate deep into Japanese-held territory. Their first action was a reconnaissance of Los Negros Island on 27–28 February 1944. They later formed part of a force which freed 516 Allied prisoners of war from Cabanatuan prison camp, 25 miles behind enemy lines on the Philippines.

Their dress was basically the same as that worn by all combat soldiers in the Pacific: two-piece herringbone twill utility fatigues. No rank or unit badges were worn in the field. Web gaiters were often worn under the rolled trousers, to discourage insects. Although most combat units in the PTO wore helmets, the Scouts found the twill utility cap—here in khaki chino—better suited to their type of mission. Identity discs—'dog tags'—were usually wrapped with black tape to prevent noise and reflection.

This soldier's weapon is the Thompson sub-machine gun. In a jungle encounter the first few seconds can be vital, and for the sake of initial firepower the 50-round drum magazine is fitted here; for later reloading box magazines are carried in a five-pocket pouch on the left hip of the pistol belt. A .45in pistol, pistol clip pouches, first aid packet, and two canteens are also carried.

G2: Second Lieutenant, 81st Infantry Division; Pacific theatre, 1944

The two-piece herringbone twill fatigues are worn with rolled sleeves, and trouser legs hanging loose over the boots. Photos in the divisional history show a camouflage pattern on the helmets, apparently painted to individual taste. Medical personnel also had very narrow red crosses painted on the sides of their helmets. Other than this, no insignia of any kind were worn: Japanese snipers were rightly feared, and officers and NCOs were priority targets. Minimal equipment is worn; the fighting tended to be of great intensity but covering limited areas, and agility and energy in the strength-sapping heat was of more importance than carrying unnecessary kit. The pistol belt is worn without braces, and supports only a canteen, a first aid packet, and a double clip

pouch for the M1 carbine—which has a second pouch attached to the butt. Most men seem to have worn watches. Out of the line, white T-shirts and herringbone twill fatigue caps were the usual dress.

The 81st Inf. Div. served in Hawaii until July 1944, but entered combat in the invasion of Anguar Island in the Palau Group on 17 September of that year. The division's 321st Inf. Regt. was moved in to relieve elements of the 1st Marine Division during the bloody fighting on nearby Peleliu on 23 September. Between 4 November 1944 and 1 January 1945 the 81st Inf. Div. captured Pulo Anna Island, Kyangel Atoll, and Fais Island. The division's last actions were fought during the mopping-up of Leyte, ending on 12 August 1945.

G3: Private, 17th Armored Engineer Battalion, 2nd Armored Division; Normandy, 1944

For the sake of visual logic we place this figure with two Pacific subjects; but he in fact represents one of the few US Army units to be issued with camouflage-printed clothing in the European theatre.

The US Army did much work in developing camouflaged uniforms, and an early type issued to some units in the Pacific in 1942 was of this pattern but made in one piece, supported by a system of internal braces. It was not a success, its one-piece design being highly unsuitable for men fighting in a climate where digestive disorders were frequent. This two-piece suit, which had a similar design in shades of brown and tan on the inside for use on beaches, lasted slightly longer; but the Marines complained that they in fact made the wearer even more visible when he was moving, and they were withdrawn in favour of the plain olive drab fatigues.

The 2nd Armd.Div. landed in Sicily on 10 July 1943, fighting there until November. They landed over Omaha Beach, Normandy, between 11 and 14 June 1944; fought right across France, the Ardennes, and Germany; and reached the Elbe River on 10 April 1945. During the fighting in the densely-wooded Normandy *bocage* country this engineer battalion was issued with the camouflage uniform shown here; it was as unpopular in the ETO as it had been in the Pacific, having the added disadvantage of similarity to the clothing worn by Waffen-SS troops in that campaign. The personal equipment of this GI, shown loading his M1



The front-line GI: a BAR-man of the 29th Inf.Div. photographed in the ruins of Julich, Germany, in February 1945. He wears the M1941 field jacket with M1943 field trousers, giving a colour contrast, and appears to have 'liberated' paratrooper jump boots. Note BAR magazine pouch belt; and the small-mesh helmet camouflage net, giving an oddly German outline to the helmet when held down by a rubber band—a rarely seen feature in 1941–45. (US Army)

Garand, is otherwise conventional.

H1: Technician Fifth Grade, Military Police, III Corps; Germany, 1945

This Model 1943 field jacket and matching trousers were adopted in response to complaints about the poor quality of the M1941 jacket. Of wind-resistant and water-repellant cotton cloth, it was in an olive drab shade generally of a stronger green than the M1941 jacket. First issued in 1943 to troops of the 3rd Inf. Div. in Italy, it was increasingly available in NW Europe during the last year of the war, but it never entirely replaced the earlier items; both styles were seen together, sometimes mixed in the same man's kit, right up to VE-Day.

Some soldiers went to the trouble of having extra cargo pockets sewn to the outside thighs of these

trousers. The GI generally preferred to carry the necessities of campaign life stuffed into pockets and bandoliers, and slung from his belt, rather than carrying packs or pouches.

In 1944 a new combat boot, with built-in leather gaiters fastened by two buckled flaps, replaced the old ankle-length boot and webbing gaiter. The web leggings, with their many loops and hooks and eyelets, were hard to get off in an emergency, and the laces tended to break easily in daily use.

This military policeman is assigned to the MP company of III Corps, as shown by the triangular left shoulder patch representing a caltrop, an ancient anti-cavalry device. The brassard was regulation for all MPs, while the helmet was sometimes marked as illustrated, sometimes only with the letters 'MP', and sometimes left plain; in rear areas helmets were painted all white. High-visibility markings were important, since a primary duty was traffic direction near the front, often under fire.

The web pistol belt and braces support a .45 automatic in the usual russet holster, pistol clip pouches, first aid packet, canteen, and—obscured here—a carbine bayonet on the left hip. Carbine clip pouches are attached to the butt of the weapon.

H2: First Sergeant, 1st Special Service Force; ETO, 1944

The last Special Service Force was an outfit unique in the US Army. Including both Canadians and Americans, it was organised for Project 'Plough', a plan to raid enemy plants in Norway or Italy in winter 1943, to keep the Germans on their toes and guessing about the actual target of the Allies' forthcoming invasion. The 1st SSF participated in the airborne assault on Kiska, Alaska. After transferring to the ETO they fought in the Naples-Foggia and Rome-Arno areas before taking part in the landings in the South of France. The unit was de-activated on 5 December 1944, Canadians returning to their own army and Americans going into other airborne and infantry units. This young NCO wears the typical airborne-trained soldier's uniform, including the proud distinction of tucking the dress trousers of the OD wool uniform into jump boots.

The 1st SSF was an American Indian-oriented outfit, and the men were called 'Braves'. The left shoulder patch was a red arrowhead bearing 'USA'

and 'CANADA' in white. The collar badge was a pair of crossed arrows, an insignia copied from the recently de-activated US Army Indian Scouts. The unit was distinguished by having its own coloured piping in red, white and blue, worn here on the overseas cap (which, like the rest of the uniform, was of US rather than Canadian design for the whole unit). The same colours are displayed in a lanyard round the left shoulder.

The cap bears the round patch in light and dark blue and white identifying glider-trained paratroop infantry. Both American and Canadian parachute wings are worn on the left breast, the former with a single star indicating a combat jump. He also wears the silver and sky-blue Combat Infantryman's Badge, indicating service in an infantry unit in combat. His medal ribbons are, from left: Good Conduct, American Campaign, and Pacific Campaign. The Good Conduct Medal required an unblemished three-year record.

H3: Captain, 32nd Armor, 3rd Armored Division; Germany, 1945

This battalion medical officer wears the M1944 wool field jacket—the 'Ike jacket'—first suggested by Gen. Eisenhower in May 1943 as a garment for both combat and dress use, like the British battledress. In practice the jacket was largely reserved for dress use.

This captain, in parade dress, wears the liner of his helmet without the steel shell, with his rank bars attached to the front. His scarf is in the maroon colour of the Medical Corps; such scarfs were worn for parades, off duty, and on duty in some headquarters. His 'Ike jacket' and wool slacks are in a matched shade of olive drab—in this case, the very dark, rather green shade found in many surviving examples of privately tailored officers' uniforms.

On the upper left sleeve is the divisional patch, in the universal design worn by all armoured divisions, differenced only by the black number. On each shoulder strap are his rank bars and the 32nd Armor's distinctive regimental insignia, pinned through the green cloth loop awarded to combat leaders. (Although medical men were not technically combat officers, this man wears the loop because he leads a platoon within an armoured unit—according to regulations this gives him the

technical right to it.) This distinction was first awarded in the ETO during 1944. Note that this officer also wears, on his upper right sleeve, the shoulder patch of the 29th Inf. Div., a National Guard formation from the Pennsylvania–Maryland border country. The wearing of a second patch on the right arm indicates previous service in combat with that formation.

On his lapels are the officer's cut-out national cyphers, and the Medical Corps insignia. Above his right breast pocket is the gold-bordered blue ribbon of the Distinguished Unit Citation, awarded to the 32nd Armor for operations in NW Europe. On the left breast is the Medical Badge, awarded to personnel who served in a medical detachment with an infantry regiment or battalion in combat; he obviously earned this badge, analogous to the Combat Infantryman's Badge, when serving in the 29th Inf. Div. at an earlier date. Below the badge are the ribbons of, from left to right: the Bronze Star, with 'V' for valour; the Army Commendation Medal; and the Purple Heart.

On his right forearm is the golden wreath of the Meritorious Unit Commendation, awarded to units for outstanding services for at least six months in action after 1 January 1944. Above this are three bars representing one and a half years' overseas service.

The 3rd Armd. Div. was first blooded on 29 June 1944 in Normandy. Driving through France, the division reached Liège, which fell on 9 September. They broke through the Siegfried Line on 12 September; held Houffalize, Belgium, during the enemy's 'Bulge' offensive; and saw their last combat in the capture of Dessau on 21–23 April 1945.

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The paratrooper carried a massive personal load during the jump, since resupply was so uncertain. Two comrades help this paratrooper secure backpack harness and equipment, before adding the chest reserve rig which can be seen at left foreground. Above the musette bag slung in front of his groin is a Thompson SMG with two box magazines taped along its length. The first aid packet is taped to the front of the helmet net, where it can be ripped off instantly if needed. Note (left) national flag patch, and holster for the folding-stock M1A1 carbine; and (right) leather shoulder holster for .45in. pistol. (US Army)

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Notes sur les planches en couleur

A1 La ceinture a été remplacée en 1943 par un modèle en tissu cousu sur la tunique. La pièce rapportée sur l'épaule gauche identifie le service du grand quartier général, l'écusson du côté droit de la poitrine le service de l'état-major général. Les 'ailes' sont les insignes de pilote de ballon. A2 La pièce rapportée sur l'épaule gauche identifie la division, les écussons en métal sur le bas des revers,

Farbtafeln

A1 Der Gürtel wurde 1943 durch ein an den Uniformrock genähtes Exemplar aus Stoff ersetzt. Das linke Schulterabzeichen bezeichnet die Zugehörigkeit zum Allgemeinen Hauptquartier, das Abzeichen auf der rechten Brustseite steht für den Generalstab. Die 'Flügel' sind die Qualifikation als Ballonpilot. A2 Die Division wird durch das linke Schulterabzeichen markiert, das Regiment durch

placés sous les disques, portant les lettres 'US' et le numéro de régiment ainsi que les fusils croisés de l'infanterie identifient le régiment. La *fourragère* a été décernée à la 6^{ème} infanterie en 1918. Le chevron sur l'avant-bras droit indique une blessure et celui sur l'avant-bras gauche six mois de service à l'étranger, tous les deux datant de la 1^{ère} guerre mondiale. Le bloc de rayures sur l'avant-bras gauche indique des périodes de service plus tardives. **A3** La capote courte marquée seulement avec les barres de rang sur les bandes d'épaulette, la culotte et les bottes indiquent toutes qu'il s'agit d'un officier d'une arme montée.

B1 Uniforme typique de combat dans le Pacifique pendant les premiers mois de la guerre, alors qu'il était prévu que la chemise 'khaki chino' et les pantalons serviraient d'uniforme quotidien et de combat en été. On utilise encore le vieux fusil Springfield et le casque de style britannique. **B2** La garniture de tête quotidienne aux USA était la 'campaign hat', avec l'écusson du régiment porté sur l'avant et des cordes dans les couleurs de l'arme du service. **B3** Le 'overseas cap' porté seulement par les troupes blindées et aéroportées depuis 1933 a été repris pour tous les rangs comme alternative plus commode que le 'campaign hat', en matériaux d'été et d'hiver. A cette époque on y portait les écussons de régiment: noter le liseré or et noir du calot d'officier. **B4** À partir du mois d'août 1942, les insignes d'unité ont été remplacés par les insignes de rang sur les 'overseas cap' d'officier. Les lettres 'US' portées à droite sur la chemise par les troupes ont été remplacées par les insignes de rang pour les officiers; ils étaient de forme découpée, comme les lettres 'U.S.' des officiers, les insignes de l'arme de service et le chiffre afin de contraster avec les disques portés par les troupes.

C1 L'apparence typique du 'GI' européen commence à se profiler ici avec le casque M1, la veste de campagne M1941 et les pantalons de laine avec des longues jambières de toile. Le fusil est encore un Springfield; en tant que sous-officier supérieur il porte aussi un pistolet 45. **C2** La capote de l'officier a des boutons d'os. Ces pantalons sont les 'pinks' autorisés en alternative à ceux vert olive foncé portés par la figure A1. **C3** Le *mackinaw* M1942, les bottes d'équitation à sangles de 1940 et l'équipement personnel complet, y compris le nouveau fusil M1 Garand et un pistolet 45.

D1 La combinaison de coton *HBT* (*herringbone twill*) a été autorisée comme uniforme de combat et était portée pendant une courte période en Tunisie. Il porte l'équipement complet de marche, avec le paquetage, et le large sac du masque à gaz en bandoulière sous le bras gauche; ce sac était en général abandonné rapidement. **D2** La pièce rapportée sur l'épaule est celle du 51^{ème} Corps des Transmissions et le liseré orange et blanc des Corps de Transmissions apparaît sur l'*overseas cap*. **D3** Un général des services d'approvisionnement pouvait obtenir tout ce qu'il voulait – y compris même une veste de pilote en cuir! Les généraux portaient leur étoile de rang sur le calot à liseré doré, sur les épaulettes de la veste et sur les pointes du col de chemise. Le pullover de laine est celui qui fut distribué pour être porté sous la veste de campagne M1941.

E1 La dernière unité de cavalerie n'a pas abandonné ses chevaux avant le début de l'année 1944. Cet homme de troupe porte la combinaison *HBT* de coton comme habit de travail, sur sa chemise, culotte et bottes. Le tire-feu du pistolet passe tout autour du corps en diagonale.

F1 Homme d'équipage du bataillon de chars Sherman attaché à une division d'infanterie. Le casque de char, avec écouteurs intégrés, etc., a été distribué à partir de 1941, ainsi que la 'tanker's jacket' confortable et désirable avec ses poignets et son col tricotés. Les pantalons de protection rembourrés avaient initialement une bavette devant. On a utilisé plusieurs types de couvre-chaussures pour l'hiver, en cuir ou en caoutchouc. **F2** La capuche de la veste de campagne M1943 portée avec la veste M1941 – un mélange typique. Noter les nouvelles bottes à agrafes portées sans guêtres. **F3** Uniforme spécial de parachutiste avec poches extra larges, bandes de casque supplémentaires, etc. La couleur de l'uniforme était plutôt brun couleur sable que vert olive. On préférait la ceinture pour pistolet à celle pour fusil – on pouvait y suspendre un choix d'équipement plus flexible.

G1 On portait normalement des uniformes de corvée simples, composés de deux pièces, au combat dans le Pacifique; ce membre d'une unité de scout a préféré une casquette de corvée au casque. Il n'y a pas d'insigne. La mitraillette Thompson est équipée d'un magasin circulaire à 50 coups et des magasins supplémentaires 'boîtes' à 30 cartouches sont portés à la ceinture. **G2** On ne portait pas d'insigne de rang ou d'unité normalement dans la jungle. Cette division a peint des camouflages peu courants sur ses casques. Seul l'équipement le plus léger est porté; l'arme utilisée est la carabine M1, avec magasins supplémentaires dans les poches sur la crosse. **G3** En fait cette personne a combattu en Normandie, cependant le camouflage imprimé sur l'uniforme était plus commun dans le Pacifique. Il n'a pas eu beaucoup de succès.

H1 La veste de campagne M1943 et les pantalons assortis sont portés avec les bottes à agrafes de 1944. La pièce rapportée sur la manche gauche est celle du III^{ème} Corps. **H2** Cette unité de *paracommando* amér./canadienne porte des insignes spéciaux y compris les flèches en croix sur le col, et la pièce rapportée d'épaule en pointe de flèche; une fourragère tricolore; et les 'ailes' de parachutiste des deux nations. **H3** Cet uniforme de parade comprend la doublure de casque portée sans le timbre d'acier; on peut voir aussi la veste de laine de campagne M1944, 'Ike jacket', avec de nombreux insignes – la pièce rapportée sur l'épaule gauche de la 3rd Armored Division; la pièce rapportée sur l'épaule droite de son unité d'origine, la 29th Inf. Div.; sur les bandes d'épaulette, l'écusson de régiment de la 32nd Armored, ainsi que les barres de rang de capitaine, sur les boucles en tissu vert de commandant d'unité de combat; sur le côté gauche de la poitrine l'écusson de personnel médical qui a été au combat avec une unité d'infanterie; sur le côté droit de la poitrine la 'Distinguished Unit Citation'; sur le col les chiffres nationaux au-dessus de l'insigne de Corps Médical; sur l'avant-bras la couronne de 'Meritorious Unit Citation', et trois barres indiquant 18 mois de service à l'étranger.

Metallabzeichen unten auf dem Aufschlag unter dem 'US' Zeichen mit der Regiment-Nummer, sowie durch die gekreuzten Gewehre der Infanterie. Die 'fourragère' wurde 1918 der 9. Infanterie verliehen. Der Winkel auf dem rechten Unterarm signalisiert eine Wunde, der auf dem linken Arm steht für sechs Monate langen Einsatz in Übersee, beide während des Ersten Weltkriegs. Die Streifenblöcke auf dem linken Unterarm bezeichnen spätere Einsätze. **A3** Der kurze, nur mit Rangstreifen auf der Schulter Schlaufe gekennzeichnete Mantel, die Kniehosen und die Stiefel identifizieren einen Offizier der berittenen Abteilung.

B1 Typische Kampfuniform für den pazifischen Raum in den ersten Kriegsmontaten, als die 'khaki chino' Hemden und Hosen für täglichen Gebrauch und bei Einsätzen im Sommer gedacht waren. Das alte Springfield Gewehr und der Helm im britischen Stil werden noch benutzt. **B2** Die tägliche Feld-Kopfbedeckung in den USA war der 'campaign hat' mit dem Regimentsabzeichen auf der Vorderseite und Bändern mit den Farben der entsprechenden Abteilung. **B3** Die 'overseas cap' war seit 1933 für bewaffnete und Luftlandtruppen reserviert und wurde für alle Ränge als Sommer- und Winterausrüstung als praktikablere Alternative zum 'campaign hat' wieder aufgenommen. Zu diesem Zeitpunkt wurden darauf wieder Regimentsabzeichen getragen, man beachte ausserdem den schwarz-goldenen Schnurbesatz bei Offizieren. **B4** Seit 1942 wurden auf den 'overseas caps' der Offiziere Rangabzeichen anstelle der Einheitszeichen getragen. Auf dem Hemd wurde das von den gemeinen Soldaten rechts getragene 'U.S.' bei Offizieren ebenfalls durch Rangabzeichen ersetzt; diese hatten ebenso wie das 'U.S.' der Offiziere eine ausgeschliffene Form, im Gegensatz zu den runden Abzeichen der gemeinen Ränge.

C1 Der typische 'look' eines 'GI' in Europa deutet sich hier bereits mit M1 Helm, M1941 Feldjacke und Wollhosen mit langen Segeltuch-Beinen an. Das Gewehr ist noch immer eine Springfield; als leitender Unteroffizier hat dieser Soldat ausserdem eine 0,45 in Pistole. **C2** Der Mantel dieses Offiziers hat Hornknöpfe. Die Hosen sind die als Alternative zu der dunkel olivgrünen Farbe von Figur A1 getragenen 'pinks'. **C3** M1942 'mackinaw', 1940 geschnürte Reitstiefel und vollständige persönliche Ausrüstung, darunter das neue Garand M1 Gewehr und eine 0,45 in Pistole.

D1 Der Overall aus *HBT* ('herringbone twill') Baumwolle wurde als Kampfuniform ausgegeben und für kurze Zeit in Tunesien getragen. Vollständige Marschausrüstung mit Tornister und grosser Tasche für die Gasmaske unter dem linken Arm; letztere wurden gewöhnlich schnell weggelassen. **D2** Das Schulterabzeichen gehört zum 51. Signal Corps; der orange-weiße Schnurbesatz des Signal Corps erscheint ausserdem auf der 'overseas cap'. **D3** Ein Offizier vom Versorgungsdienst konnte alles haben, was er wollte – darunter eine lederne Pilotenjacke! Generale trugen ihren Rangstern auf der Mütze mit goldenem Schnurbesatz, auf den Schultern der Jacke und an den Spitzen des Hemdkragens. Der wollene Pullover wurde unter der M1941 Feldjacke getragen.

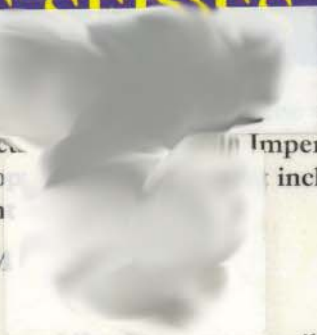
E Die letzte Kavallerieeinheit gab erst im Frühjahr 1944 ihre Pferde auf. Dieser Soldat trägt den *HBT* Baumwoll Overall als Arbeitskleidung mit Oberhemd, Kniehose und Stiefeln. Der Pistolengürtel wird diagonal um den Körper getragen.

F1 Besatzungsmitglieder des an eine Infanterieabteilung angeschlossenen Sherman Panzerbataillons. Der Panzerhelm (mit eingebautem Kopfhörer u.a.) wurde seit 1941 ausgegeben, ebenso wie die bequeme und sehr beliebte 'tanker's jacket' mit gestrickten Manschetten und Kragen. Die gefütterten Überhosen hatten ursprünglich einen Latz. Mehrere verschiedene Gummi- oder Lederstiefel wurden im Winter übergezogen. **F2** Die Kapuze für die M1943 Feldjacke, getragen mit der M1941 Jacke – eine typische Kombination. Man beachte die ohne Gamaschen getragenen geschnallten Stiefel. **F3** Spezielle Fallschirmspringer-uniform mit besonders grossen Taschen, speziellen Helmschürzen usw. Die Uniformfarbe war eher sandbraun als olivgrün. Statt des Gewehrgehäuses wurde ein Pistolengürtel gewählt, da man eine flexiblere Auswahl von Ausrüstungsgegenständen daran befestigen konnte.

G1 Einfache zweiteilige Arbeitsuniformen waren bei Einsätzen im pazifischen Raum üblich; dieses Mitglied einer Scout Einheit hat eine Arbeitsmütze anstelle eines Helms. Er trägt keine Abzeichen. Die Thompson Maschinenpistole hat ein rundes Magazin mit 50 Ladungen; zusätzliche Magazine mit 30 Schuss werden im Gürtel getragen. **G2** Im Dschungel wurden gewöhnlich keine Rang- oder Einheitsabzeichen getragen. Diese Division trug die Tarnmuster auf den Helmen, eine ungewöhnliche Einrichtung. Nur sehr leichte Ausrüstung wird getragen; die Waffe ist der M1 Karabiner mit zusätzlichen Magazinen in Beuteln am Gewehrkolben. **G3** Dieser Soldat kämpfte eigentlich in der Normandie, aber seine mit Tarnmuster bedruckte Uniform war im pazifischen Raum verbreitet. Sie war nicht erfolgreich.

H1 Die M1943 Feldjacke mit passenden Hosen wird mit den geschnallten 1944 Stiefeln getragen; das Abzeichen auf dem linken Ärmel bezeichnet das III. Corps. **H2** Diese amerikanisch-kanadische *Paracommando* Einheit trug spezielle Abzeichen, darunter die gekreuzten Peile auf dem Kragen und eine Pfeilspitze auf einem Schulterabzeichen, eine dreifarbige Kordel und die Fallschirmspringer-'Flügel' beider Nationen. **H3** Zu dieser Paradeuniform gehört das Helmfutter ohne die Stahlhaube sowie die wollene M1944 Feldjacke ('Ike Jacket') mit zahlreichen Abzeichen: linkes Schulterabzeichen der 3rd Armored Division, rechtes Schulterabzeichen der ehemaligen Einheit (29th Inf. Div.), beide Schulterbänder, Regimentsabzeichen der 32nd Armored und die Rangstreifen des Hauptmanns auf den grünen Stoffschleifen eines Kampfeinsatzbefehlshabers; auf der linken Brustseite das Abzeichen eines Angehörigen des medizinischen Stabs, der bei einer Infanterie-Einheit im Einsatz war; rechts die *Distinguished Unit Citation*; auf dem Kragen die Nationalfarben über dem Abzeichen des Medical Corps; auf dem Unterarm der Kranz der *Meritorious Unit Citation* und drei Streifen (für 18 Monate Dienst in Übersee).

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Avec annotations en français sur les planches en couleurs.
Mit Aufzeichnungen auf Deutsch über den Farbtafeln.

