

WAR DEPARTMENT

FORT MILES PUBLICATION

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BASIC EVENT GEAR LIST

December 2, 2008

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Prepared under the direction of the
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. Introduction	5
CHAPTER 1. Garrison Gear	6
CHAPTER 2. Quartermaster Issue List	8

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INTRODUCTION

This short guide will help you to prepare your gear for an event at Fort Miles. Of course, the type of event you will be attending, the weather, and the impression you will be doing will all have an effect on the gear that you do bring, but this overall list will help to jog your memory and help you to remember some items that may otherwise be easy to forget in the rush of packing for an event.

Most of the events at Fort Miles are garrison events, meaning that you will have a bunk and an area for a foot locker for display. However, Fort Miles does host field events where you will be taking only what you carry out into the field for up to 3 days. In these instances, you will be required to carry period gear only, with the exception of some modern allowances. Most field events will have their own preparation guidelines, and you will be informed of which modern items you will be permitted to carry with you.

In any case, period items are preferred. Unfortunately it is not always possible to obtain a war dated item. In many cases, items such as mess kits, cots, blankets, sleeping bags, canteens, etc. that were manufactured in the decades after WWII are identical to the war dated items, and may be used instead. Please use good judgment in the employment of these items. If you are unsure about any item, please bring it to the attention of your first sergeant or commanding officer. They will assist you.

If finding a period correct item or an item identical to one is impossible, then the use of modern items will be permitted. Please keep in mind that we are trying to create an experience for the visitor, so modern items should be carefully hidden from view during public hours when participating in a garrison event. If modern items are to be used in a field event, please keep their use to a minimum. Again, your first sergeant or CO will be able to guide you in the use of these items.

CHAPTER 1

GARRISON GEAR

The following items are a list of recommended gear for a garrison such as Fort Miles. All items are period correct unless otherwise noted. Some modern items will be permitted for use during non public hours. For post regulations concerning modern items and the use of them at Fort Miles, please refer to Fort Miles regulation FMP1-001, available for download at <http://www.fortmiles.org>.

Clothing

- Overcoat, OD Wool
- Raincoat
- Tunic, Service (4 pocket)
- Tie, Khaki (black for enlisted only)
- Shirts, OD Wool
- Trousers, OD Wool
- HBT Shirts
- HBT Trousers
- Web Belt
- Field Jacket (M41)
- Overseas Cap
- Wooden Hangers for all items
- Socks, 6 pair
- Spare Shoe Laces
- Wool Sweater (5 button)
- Long Underwear
- T-Shirts (OD or White)
- Watch, analog
- ID Tags
- Leggings
- Jeep Cap
- Scarf, OD
- Gloves
- Service Shoes
- Boot, Combat

Insignia

- Regimental DI's / shoulder patch
- Brass BOS insignia
- Insignia of grade

Hygiene

- Towel
- Wash Cloth
- Hand Towel
- Shaving Cream
- Razor & Blades
- Soap
- Comb
- Mirror
- Foot Powder
- Toothpaste / Powder
- Toothbrush
- Handkerchief

Weapons

- Rifle, M-1 Garand
- Rifle, M1903 Springfield
- Pistol, M1911 .45 ACP
- Carbine, M-1
- Other (period correct piece)
- Sling
- Cleaning Kit (solvent, patches, etc.)
- Ammo
- Stripper clips / magazines

Equipment

- Shelter Half
- Tent Pole & Rope
- Tent Pins (5)
- Belt, Cartridge, 10 pocket
- First Aid Kit
- Canteen (w/ cup & cover)
- E-Tool
- Bayonet & Scabbard
- Mess Kit (with K,F,S)
- M1928 Haversack
- M1936 Suspenders
- M1 Helmet w/ liner
- Gas Mask
- Pocket Knife
- Flashlight
- Compass
- Padlock, Brass US

Equipment Care

- Shoe Polish
- Polish applicator
- Buffing Cloth
- Metal Polish
- Polishing Cloth

Manuals

- FM 21-100
- FM 4-5
- FMP 1-001 (Fort Miles)

Bedding

- Blanket, Wool OD (2)
- Sheets
- Pillow (with white case)

It is a good idea to pack some modern items to help fill in where period items might not be available. The following is a suggested list of items to bring to events. If you happen to have a period correct item that you would like to use instead of a modern item, please use the period item in place of the modern ones.

Sleeping Clothing Sweats or light clothing to sleep in (depending on weather).

Modern Toiletries There are shower facilities available at Cape Henlopen State Park. You might want to bring your modern shower items such as soap, shampoo, deodorant, etc. to utilize the facilities. Save the period items for your display.

Pain Killers Aspirin or Ibuprofen

Hand Sanitizer A small bottle of hand sanitizer is a good thing to have during the day to help freshen up. This stuff is great for not only your hands, but it's a good idea to use this on your feet when changing boots. You may also want to keep a small bottle or tube of hand lotion hidden away.

Bug Spray Original bug repellent is pretty hard to come by, and putting it on your skin may not be the best idea. Make sure to pack this item, especially in summer months.

Bug Net It's nearly impossible to find a WWII era bug net with no holes in it. However, the Vietnam era nets are nearly identical to the originals, and are usually available in un-issued condition.

Bottled Water A case of bottled water is an absolute must for an event.

Food Packaged snacks are recommended for event days or late evenings. We don't always get to break away for lunch, especially on event days, so it is a good idea to have something stashed away to snack on until dinner. If we are doing a field tactical at Fort Miles, you may carry modern MRE rations in your gear for the event. Some type of hard candy will help with thirst by keeping the mouth from becoming dry on hot days.

Bag, Zip-Lock These are handy for putting trash, wet clothing, wet wash cloths, or whatever else you might have to carry out of the park with you.

Twine A roll of twine is useful for hanging uniforms from rafters and rigging your bug net. You can find small rolls of twine in the camping or sporting goods section of most stores.

Fort Miles Manuals Manuals covering various topics can be downloaded at <http://www.fortmiles.org>. The Fort Miles Post Regulations are available in the Regulations section of the website. It is required reading for all re-enactors and should be readily accessible at events. The battery commander will also have a copy of the post regulations at the Supply and Administration building.

First Aid Kit Most pharmacies sell a small personal first aid kit that is conveniently about the size of a Carlisle bandage. These fit nicely into your first aid pouch.

CHAPTER 2

QUARTERMASTER EQUIPMENT LIST

Initial Entry Clothing and Equipment Issue

For reference, this is the original quartermaster issue list. These supplies were given to each newly inducted enlisted man.

- Tags, Identification (2)
- Raincoat (1)
- Shaving Brush (1)
- Tooth Brush (1)
- Comb (1)
- Razor (1) / w 5 blades
- Towel, huck (2)
- Towel, bath (1)
- Barrack Bags (2)
- Drawers, Cotton (5)
- Undershirts, Cotton (5)
- Shirts, Wool OD (2)
- Shirts, Cotton, Khaki (2)
- Jacket, Field (1)
- Trousers, Wool OD (2)
- Trousers, Cotton, Khaki (2)
- Leggings, Pair (1)
- Gloves, Wool, Pair (1)
- Belt, Web (1)
- Coat, Serge, OD (1)
- Overcoat, Wool, OD (1)
- Jackets, HBT (2)
- Trousers, HBT (2)
- Hat, HBT (1)
- Liner, Helmet, w/1 neckband & 1 headband (1)
- Cap, Garrison OD (1)
- Caps, Garrison, Khaki (2)
- Cap, Wool, Knit (1)
- Meat Can (1)
- Knife (1)
- Fork (1)
- Spoon (1)
- Handkerchiefs, Cotton (4)
- Tape for ID tags, Cotton (1)
- Canteen (1)
- Cover, Canteen (1)
- Cup, Canteen (1)
- Manual, Basic Field (1)
- Neckties, Mohair (2)
- Socks, Pair, Wool, Light (3)
- Socks, Pair, Cotton, Tan (5)
- Shoes, Pair, Service (2)