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INSTRUCTIONS

FOR

FITTING AND WEARING THE EQUIPMENT,
BANDOLIER, PATTERN 1903.

WAR OFFICE, 1904



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brass fitting for regulating size of bandolier on which a strap for steadying the bandolier is secured (see photograph No. 6).

4. *Haversack*.—Is a canvas bag of the colour of the service dress, with a small pocket sewn on back end to take the emergency ration. The band is similar to that now in service.

NOTE.—This haversack is intended for carrying food and not articles of kit, &c.

5. *Waterbottle and Strap*.—Either of the existing service patterns Mark IV (paragraph 7955, "List of Changes in War Matériel" or Mark V (paragraph 11460, "List of Changes in War Matériel") will be used.

6. *Mess Tin and Cover*.—The mess tin is of the "D" shaped pattern now in the Service, with canvas cover of the colour of the Service dress. This cover forms a bag into which the tin is inserted and secured by a "lid" buttoning over it. By unbuttoning this lid the mess tin can be extracted without removing the cover from the belt. On the flat side of the cover are two leather keepers through which the belt is passed, and on the upper inner top edge is a brass ring (for use see later).

7. *Carrier, Coat, Web*.—This consists of—

- (A) Two web straps with hooks on front ends.
- (B) Metal adjusting slides.
- (C) Securing buckles.
- (D) Web cross piece.
- (E) Steadying strap with brass hook (see photographs Nos. 5 and 7).

8. *Strap, Great Coat, Brown Leather*.—The existing buff coat straps will be used up, then similar straps in brown leather will be provided.

METHOD OF WEARING EQUIPMENT. — MARCHING ORDER.

(See Photographs Nos. 1 to 4.)

9. Belt round waist with—

- (a) Mess tin in middle of back.
- (b) Bayonet in frog on left side.
- (c) Tin in cover, for foot grease and rifle oil on right rear.
- (d) Four cartridge pockets—one 15-round and one 10-round on each side, the 10-round pocket to the front.

10. Haversack suspended from right shoulder on to left side under belt and as far to the rear as possible.

11. Waterbottle on right side suspended from left shoulder and under belt.

12. Bandolier on left shoulder, pockets in front.

13. Great coat in carrier on back over the bandolier, the web straps passing to the front over the shoulders, and hooking into dees of each 15-round pocket. Top of coat should be level with top of shoulders.

TO FIT THE EQUIPMENT.

14. *Belt* (buff pattern).—Having adjusted to correct size, remove the locket and adjusting buckles, if necessary, then—

- (e) Slide mess tin in cover to middle, keepers inside.
- (f) Next slide on the bayonet frog in the usual way.*
- (g) Then tin in cover, for foot grease and rifle oil on right rear.
- (h) Then slide on the pockets: one 15-round and one 10-round on each side—the 15-round pockets first.

Now restore the adjusting buckles and locket, and secure the belt in the usual manner.

If the positions for adjusting buckles and cartridge pocket coincide, the buckle should be placed in between the two pockets or in front of them, as the case may be. After placing on the locket, the end turned back should be passed through the keeper on ammunition pocket. If, owing to the thickness of the buff belts or the tightness of the pockets, this is not possible, pass the end direct to the buckle and secure it.

The articles are placed on the new brown leather belt in the same order, and adjustments for size are made with the buckle which should come in the centre of the body.

15. *Haversack*.—The size of haversack sling is regulated by the slide in the usual way. When in position the top of the bag should be on a level with the cross-piece of the bayonet, and outside it.

16. *Waterbottle*.—The waterbottle is worn under the belt with the buckle of shoulder strap to rear, the web portion being on top of shoulder.

17. *Bandolier*.—The bandolier is adjusted by buckles on front and back so that the ammunition pockets do not impede the freedom of the right arm, or the sloping of the rifle on left shoulder.

18. *Coat Carrier and Coat*.—The carrier will be issued with the loops already formed to receive the coat, which will be folded 15 inches long by 9 inches deep, and placed one end in each loop. The size of loops and also length of web braces is regulated by shifting the adjusting slides (*B*), and the coat secured by pulling each shoulder strap (*A*)—(*A*) through buckle (*C*). The more the

* When stock of Frogs, buff, G.S., and scabbard, bayonet, 1888 pattern, are used up, the scabbard detailed in para. 11181 L. of C., with loop scabbard riveted on, then that in para. 11811 will be issued.

straps are pulled the tighter they are held gripping round the coat. The buckle is released by lifting web tab stitched on buckle, the coat is then free.

The length of the steadying strap (*E*) having been previously regulated by means of the brass slide, the coat is placed on the back, the straps passed over the shoulders and down the front, and hooked one each into the 15-round pockets. The right-hand strap is passed under the bandolier, the left-hand one over the bandolier.

The coat is steadied on the back by hooking the steadying strap (*E*) into the brass ring on inner top edge of mess tin cover (see photographs Nos. 3 and 4). When properly in position, this steadying strap should lie parallel to back. The position is exaggerated in photograph in order to show how it is fitted.

NOTES.

19. The arrangement of the equipment for the various Orders of Dress will be as follows :—

Marching Order—(Service Dress). As above.

Review Order—(Full Dress).

Waistbelt, bayonet and scabbard.

Great coat on back of belt. One 10-round cartridge pocket. Haversack and waterbottle } When ordered.

Drill Order—(Service Dress).

Waistbelt with two 10-round cartridge pockets, bayonet and scabbard. Bandolier.

Haversack, waterbottle. Great coat on belt ... { When ordered.

20. To carry the great coat on the waist belt, the coat should be rolled about 15 inches long; great coat straps should be fastened round it in two places, at about 3 inches from each end; the belt, either buff or brown leather, can then be passed through these and buckled round the waist.

21. The equipment should be adjusted so as to give the utmost freedom for breathing. The object of securing the coat carrier straps to the rearmost cartridge pocket is to take pressure off the chest, and also to check any tendency of the coat to cause the waist belt to be drawn upwards in the front.

22. The cartridge pockets should be worn well over the hips in order not to impede a man lying flat when in the prone position.

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No. 1.

MARCHING ORDER—FRONT VIEW.



No. 2.

MARCHING ORDER—BACK VIEW.



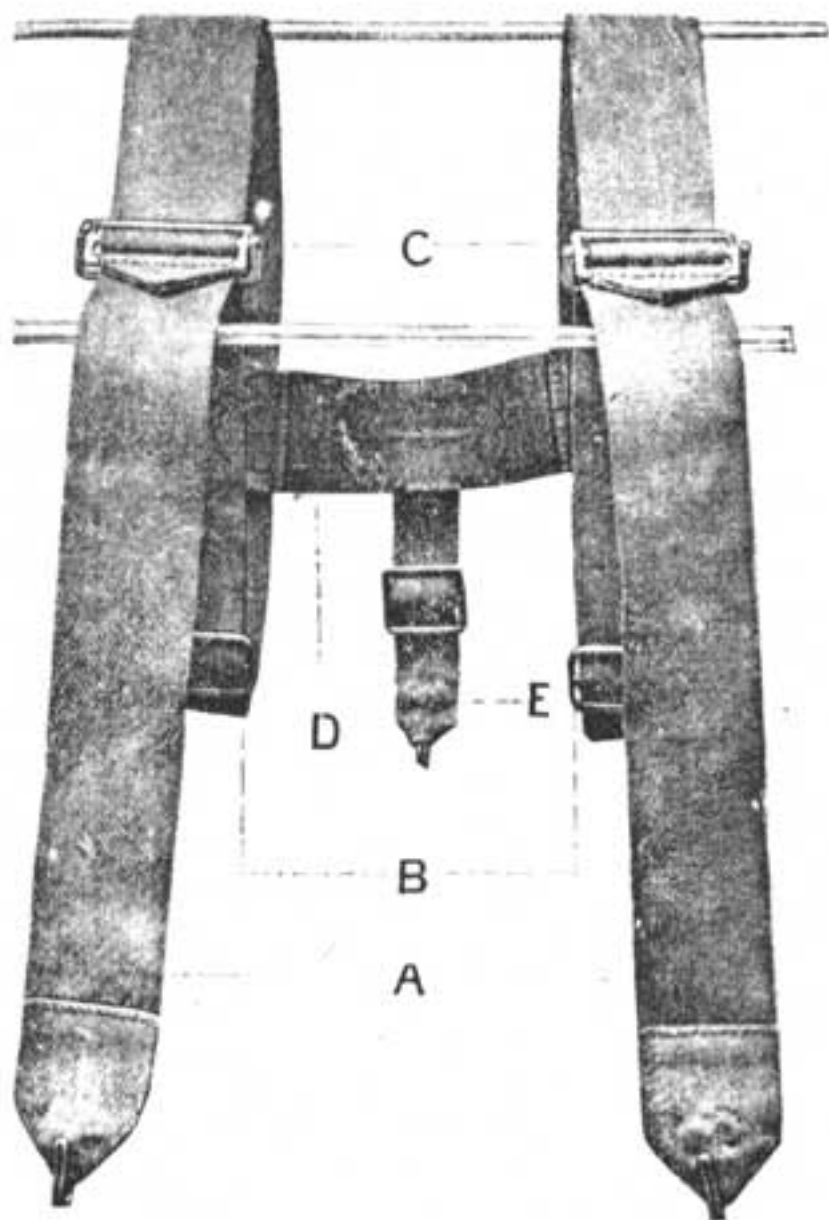
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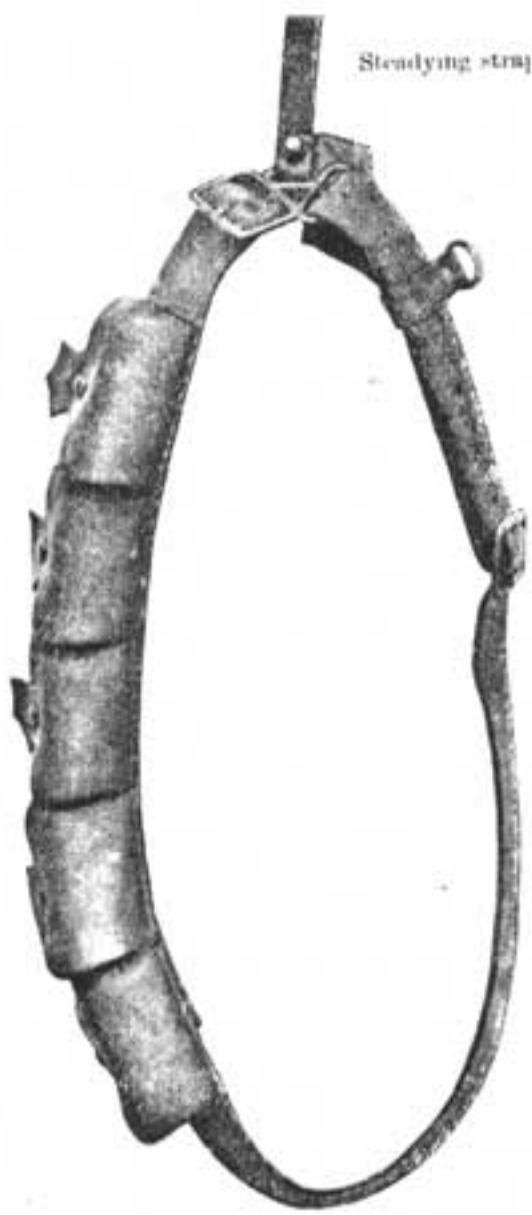
MARCHING ORDER—RIGHT SIDE VIEW.



NO. 4.

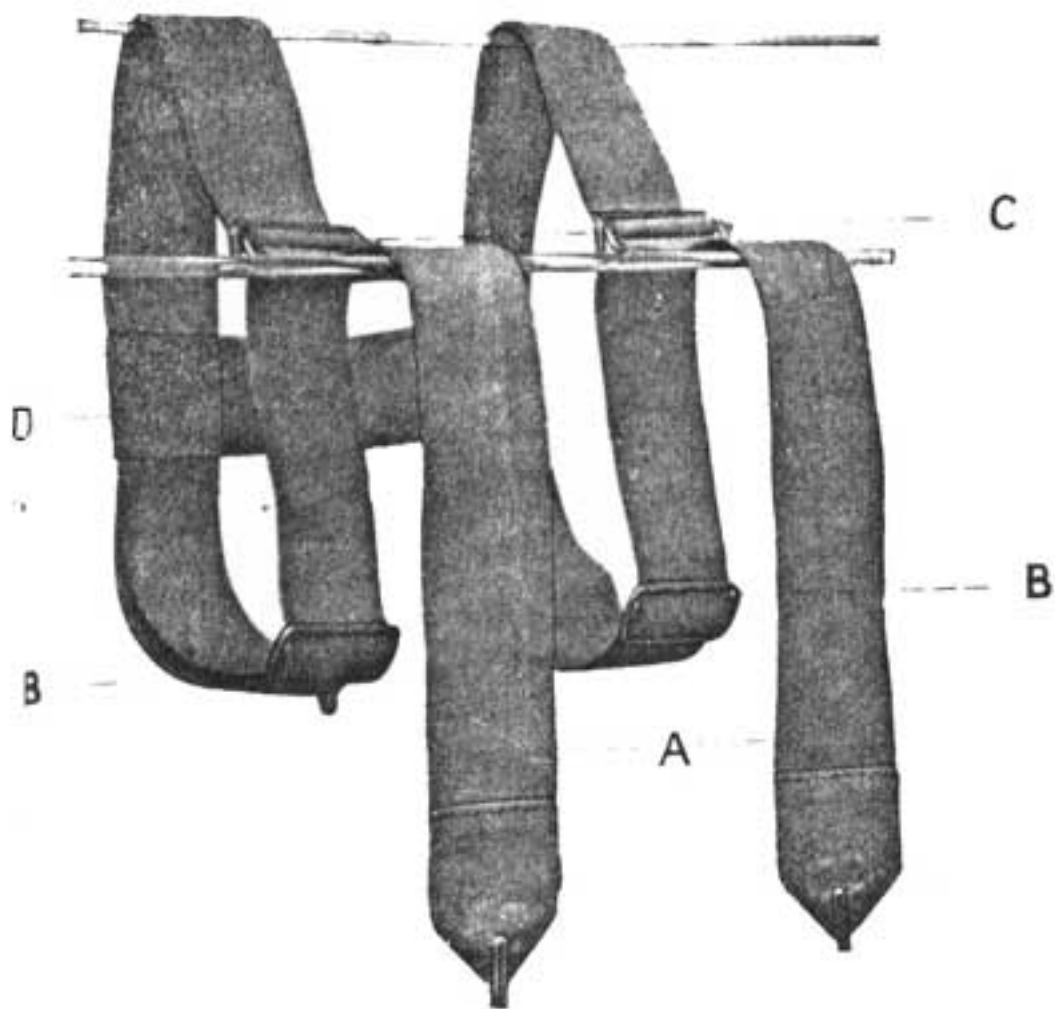
MARCHING ORDER—LEFT SIDE VIEW.





Steading strap.

No. 6.



No 7