

SUPPLIED FOR THE PUBLIC SERVICE.

ROYAL NAVAL HANDBOOK
OF
FIELD TRAINING

1920.

By Authority of Lords Commissioners of the
Admiralty,

G. 5729/20.

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48. *Rest on Arms Reversed from the Order.*

- Rest on your Arms Reversed.** { As in first motion of *Slope* from *Order*, Section 5.
- Two.** { Lower the muzzle forwards and downwards and catch the butt just below the heel with the left hand, back of the hand to the left, fingers to the right, and place the muzzle on the toe of the left foot.
- Three.** Cover the butt with the right hand.
- Four.** { Cover the right hand with the left and droop the chin on the breast.

49. *Present from Rest on Arms Reversed.*

(ii) *For Use of Parties Lining Streets.*

- Present—Arms.** } As in the first motion, Sect. 46.
- Two.** } As in the second motion, Sect. 46.
- Three.** { Lower the butt towards the body and come to the position of *Present* as in Section 7.

Accoutrements.

50. WEBBING EQUIPMENT FOR SEAMEN.

General Description. (Plate 13.)

(1) The main principle underlying the design of the Pattern 1908 Web Equipment is that the complete set which is called the "Marching Order" equipment can be divided into two parts.



"Marching Order"—Rigged.

(2) The first part consists of such portions of the equipment as is necessary to enable the following items to be carried, viz. :—

Rifle (with sling).
Bayonet.
Ammunition.
Intrenching tool.
Waterbottle.
Haversack.

To these may be added one iron ration, knife, spoon and fork, and such food as can be carried in the haversack.

When a second iron ration is to be carried, it will be distributed about the equipment as most convenient.

The second part consists of the pack and supporting straps, which can readily be removed from the remainder of the equipment.

(3) If necessary the first part only can be worn alone. It is known as "marching order without pack." (Plate 17.)

The remainder, which consists of the pack and supporting straps, can, together with the contents of the pack, be discarded when it is considered desirable, and forwarded as opportunity offers.

The pack contains :—

Great coat.	Holdall.
Comforter cap.	Razor.
Spare pair of socks.	Comb.
Mess tin and cover.	Towel.
Tooth brush.	Soap.
Shaving brush.	Housewife.

This arrangement allows of a man having normally with him the whole of his equipment, while, when

specially ordered, the pack can be discarded,* and, if necessary, extra ammunition in cotton bandoliers carried in its place.

(A) *The component parts of the equipment are all directly connected together. The result of this is that the whole of it can be taken off in one motion, and unless it is required to be taken apart for any purpose, remains intact and ready for putting on again at a moment's notice. (Plate 13).*

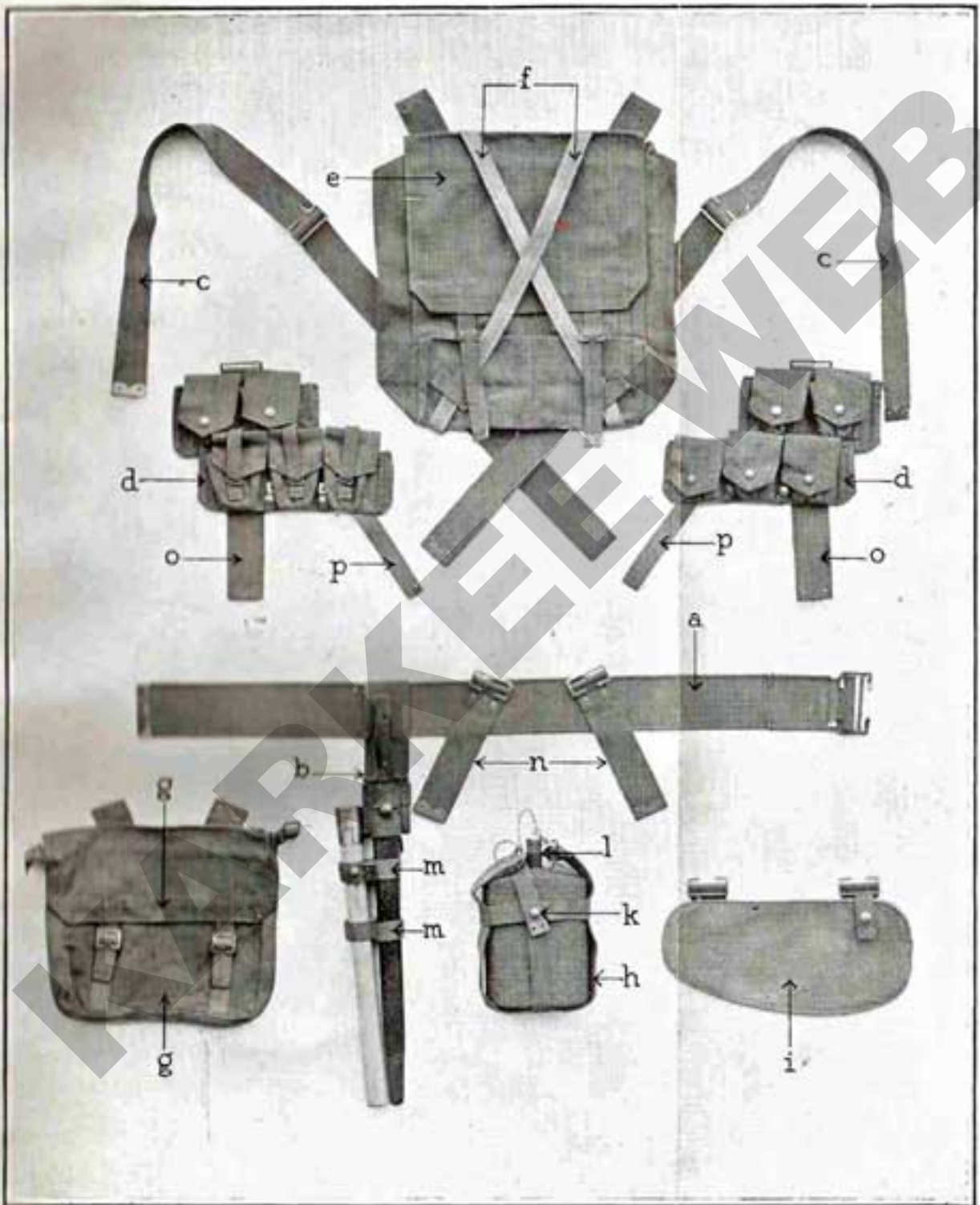
The component parts of the equipment consist of the following :—

(Plate 14.)

- (a) Waistbelt.
- (b) Frog.
- (c) Braces (2).
- (d) Cartridge carriers (1 left, 1 right).
- (e) Pack.
- (f) Supporting straps (2).
- (g) Haversack.
- (h) Waterbottle carrier.
- (i) Intrenching tool carriers (head).
- (j) Loop on haversack.
- (k) Loop on waterbottle carrier.
- (l) Extending piece (waterbottle carrier).
- (m) Intrenching tool carrier (helve).
- (n) End pieces.
- (o) Extending piece (cartridge carrier).
- (p) Carrier diagonal strap.

(a) *Waistbelt.*—This is issued in three sizes, large, medium and small, the over-all length of the webbing being 48, 44 and 40 inches.

* The mess tin can, if necessary, be removed from the pack and strapped to the back of the waistbelt.



"Marching Order"—Unrigged.

Plate 15.



"Musketry Order."



"Fatigue Order."

Plate 17.



Marching Order—"Without Pack,"



Marching Order—Front.



Marching Order—Back.



Marching Order—Side.



Marching Order—Side.

51. To Assemble the Equipment.

As has been previously stated, the design of the equipment admits of variations in the relative positions of certain portions of it, but the normal arrangement will be as now described.

- (1) Adjust the waistbelt until it is comfortably tight, taking care that when fastened the large buckle comes in the centre of the body in front, and that the two smaller buckles are in a perfectly central position at the back. When the belt is fastened there should be about 3 inches of the running end clear of the buckle. *This running end may be tucked away under the left side of the belt, in which case both gateways of the buckles should show to the front. The "outside" of the belt is the side on which the rear buckles are fixed. The runner should be slid close up to the buckle.
- (2) When the belt has been satisfactorily adjusted, lay it out on the ground, inside downwards and the large buckle to the right. Slip the bayonet frog over the tongue of the belt and bring it round to a position on the left hand side so that it will hang, when the belt is put on, just in rear of the left hip bone.
- (3) Attach the cartridge carriers on the outside of the belt by passing the double hooks over and under the edges of the belt. Their position on the belt may vary with each man, but, speaking generally, the rear double hooks should be set close up to the rear buckles on the belt, the carrier will thus lie over the frog. When the position has been determined, pass the small securing straps round the inside of the belt and snap them on to their studs.

* *Note.*—The photographs illustrating this Section have all been taken showing the running end of the belt *not* tucked away.

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- (4) Take one of the braces and secure one of its ends to one of the rear buckles on the belt, pulling it through the buckle until, in the case of an averagely tall man, it coincides with the fixed end piece on the belt. Pass the other end of the brace (taking care not to twist it) through the cartridge carrier buckle on the *opposite* side, and pull it through until it coincides likewise with the fixed end piece. Repeat this operation with the other brace.

Although each of the braces is symmetrical, that is to say, is reversible fore and aft, it is essential that their sliding buckles should be on the rear part of the braces, and so disposed that the *open* sides are directed upwards.

- (5) Try the equipment on in its present state, getting into it as if it were a waistcoat. If it has been properly fitted the belt should rest in its natural position all round the waist, while the braces should show no slack in them. The latter will be crossed behind and come down vertically in front, while four end pieces will hang below the belt on each side, two being to the front, and two to the rear, and one of each pair on top of the other. Make any necessary adjustments, then remove the equipment and lay it on the ground as before. Insert the bayonet and scabbard in the frog.

On many men the bayonet will be found to ride more comfortably if the frog be worn on the belt *between* the two rear pockets of the lower row: in this case the rear small securing strap cannot be passed round the belt, but this is not essential.

- (6) Attach the carrier for the helve of the intrenching tool, slip the rear loops of the carrier over the scabbard and slide the carrier up until the top edge of the buckle abuts against the bottom edge of the frog.

The strap connecting the two loops should be nearest to the hip. Buckle the carrier to the frog, taking care that the buckle is just below the frog and not between it and the thigh. Insert the intrenching tool helve and close the snap fastening round it.

- (7) Attach the haversack by its large buckles to the two outer end pieces on the left-hand side. Adjust it so that it hangs in a convenient position on the left hip without interfering with the drawing or returning of the bayonet.
- (8) In a similar way attach the carrier for the head of the intrenching tool to the inner end pieces on the right-hand side, adjusting it until it rests comfortably on the hip.
- (9) Then similarly attach the waterbottle carrier (with the waterbottle in it) to the outer end pieces on the same side, and adjust both carriers until they ride comfortably. The free end of the vertical strap of the waterbottle carrier must be made secure by twisting it round the horizontal band to prevent the weight of the filled waterbottle drawing it through the loop.

The equipment as it now stands represents the part essential to fighting efficiency. (Plate 17.) It will be known as "marching order equipment without pack." When the complete equipment is to be worn proceed as follows :—

- (10) The articles which are carried in the pack call for careful packing, if a neat and compact result is to be obtained. The mess tin should be the last article placed in the pack.
- (11) Lay the assembled equipment face downwards on the ground and place the pack with the opening upwards upon it. Attach the buckle of one of

the supporting straps to the carrier diagonal strap coming out from the back lower corner of one of the cartridge carriers, taking care that the buckle is as close up to the corner of the belt as possible. Pass the end of the supporting strap through the web loop on the bottom of the pack and lead it diagonally across the front of the pack up to the small buckle on the opposite suspension tab. Pass it through the buckle, pull it as tight as it will go and secure it. Repeat the operation with the other strap.

As the correct balance of the equipment depends almost entirely upon these supporting straps, it is very important that they should be as taut as possible, as they then bind the pack tightly to the main body of the equipment and prevent it shifting.

- (12) Adjust the sliding buckles on the braces so that they come naturally to the point of attachment of the securing tabs on the pack. Pass the tabs through the sliding buckles on the braces; if properly fitted the braces should now lie flat against the back of the pack, being neither slack nor in a state of strain, and the bottom of the pack should be on a level with the lower edge of the waistbelt.

The essential point to remember is that the weight of the pack is, in the first instance at any rate, carried by the diagonal straps, attached to the carriers, and not by the securing tabs at the top of the pack. The function of these latter is to keep the pack from falling away from the body. After a short time the weight of the pack slightly stretches the narrow end straps of the carriers, the weight then becoming partly transferred to the securing tabs. If the whole or even the greater portion of the weight be allowed to be transferred to the securing tabs, the essential merit of the design is sacrificed.

To Open the Pack when Attached.

- (13) Cast off the supporting straps from the small buckles attached to the securing tabs, loosen and open the cover.

To Reclose the Pack.

- (14) Secure the cover and refasten the supporting straps as before, *taking care that they are drawn taut.* If this is not done the weight of the pack will hang from the shoulders, the most important point to be avoided.

To Discard the Pack.

- (15) Cast off the lower ends of the carrier diagonal straps and free the securing tabs from the brace buckles. The pack will then drop off, the supporting straps remaining attached to it. This is much more easily done when the whole kit is removed.

To Put the Pack on Again.

- (16) *See (11).* The operations numbered 13 to 16 cannot well be carried out by a man unaided so long as the equipment is in position. Having regard, however, to the speed and facility with which the whole equipment can be taken off and put on again, it is a simple matter to slip the whole equipment off, carry out what is required, and replace it.

To Carry the Haversack and Waterbottle on the back.

- (17) Lay the equipment on the ground and remove the pack, waterbottle carrier and haversack. Secure the 1 inch diagonal end pieces of the

cartridge carriers to the small buckles at the lower corners of the haversack. Draw the sliding buckles down the braces until they come into a convenient position opposite the fixed ends of the tabs with brass tips at the top of the haversack. Secure these tabs to the sliding buckles. *The weight of the haversack should not be taken by these tabs, but by the lower corner buckles above mentioned.* Lay the water bottle carrier on the front of the haversack. If the waterbottle carrier is provided with the snap fastener and the haversack with the corresponding stud, snap the fastener on the stud and secure the extension piece on the carrier to the small buckle on the top of the haversack, pulling it well through.

If there be no snap fastener on the waterbottle carrier, a horizontal loop is provided on the flap of the haversack. This latter arrangement is provided in the latest makes of carrier and haversack. Withdraw the extension piece of the carrier from the loop in the web piece running round the upper portion of the waterbottle, pass it through the loop on the flap of the haversack, then through the carrier loop and secure it to the buckle on the centre of the top of the haversack as before.

*To Carry the Waterbottle, Haversack, or
Intrenching Tool separate from the
Rest of the Equipment.*

- (18) Separate one (or both if required) of the braces from the rest of the equipment, and attach it (or them) by the ends to the article (or articles) which it is desired to carry. The ordinary method of slinging across the shoulder can then be resorted to. (Plate 6.)

52. *Ammunition Carried.*

The amount of ammunition carried will depend on circumstances. The total number of rounds which can be carried is 150.

Note.—*Cartridge Carriers*: These are not interchangeable, one being reserved for the right and one for the left hand side; in all other respects they are identical.

Each consists of an assemblage of five 15-round pockets in two tiers with separate covers secured by means of snap fasteners.

53. *Care, Preservation and Marking.*

When the equipment has once been properly fitted to each man it should be kept assembled as far as possible, although the pack need not always remain attached. It will be found convenient if, when a correct fit has been obtained, a light mark is made to show where each adjustment should always come. This saves trouble in case the equipment has to be taken apart and re-assembled.

Should the equipment become in a dirty or greasy condition, it may be washed, using warm water, soap and a sponge. A scrubbing brush should not be used on the equipment on any account. Dust and mud (when dry) should be removed with an ordinary clothes brush. The metal work should not be polished but allowed to get dull, so as to avoid catching the rays of the sun.

Should the various straps be found to slip after they have become much worn the horns may be slightly bent below the surface of the buckle: this bending must on no account exceed one-tenth of an inch.

The component parts of the equipment may be marked in black.

The following table shows the corresponding rig for officers and men :—

Description of Dress.	Officers.	Petty Officers and Men Armed with Rifles.
Drill Order ...	Sword and belt, gaiters and whistle.	As in Plate 5.
Musketry Order ...	Sword and belt, field glasses, gaiters and whistle.	As in Plate 15.
Marching Order with pack.	Complete equipment, field glasses, whistle and gaiters.	As in Plates 18 to 21.
Marching Order without pack.	Do. do.	As in Plate 17.
Fatigue Order ...	Stick (optional) ...	As in Plate 16 (gaiters optional).