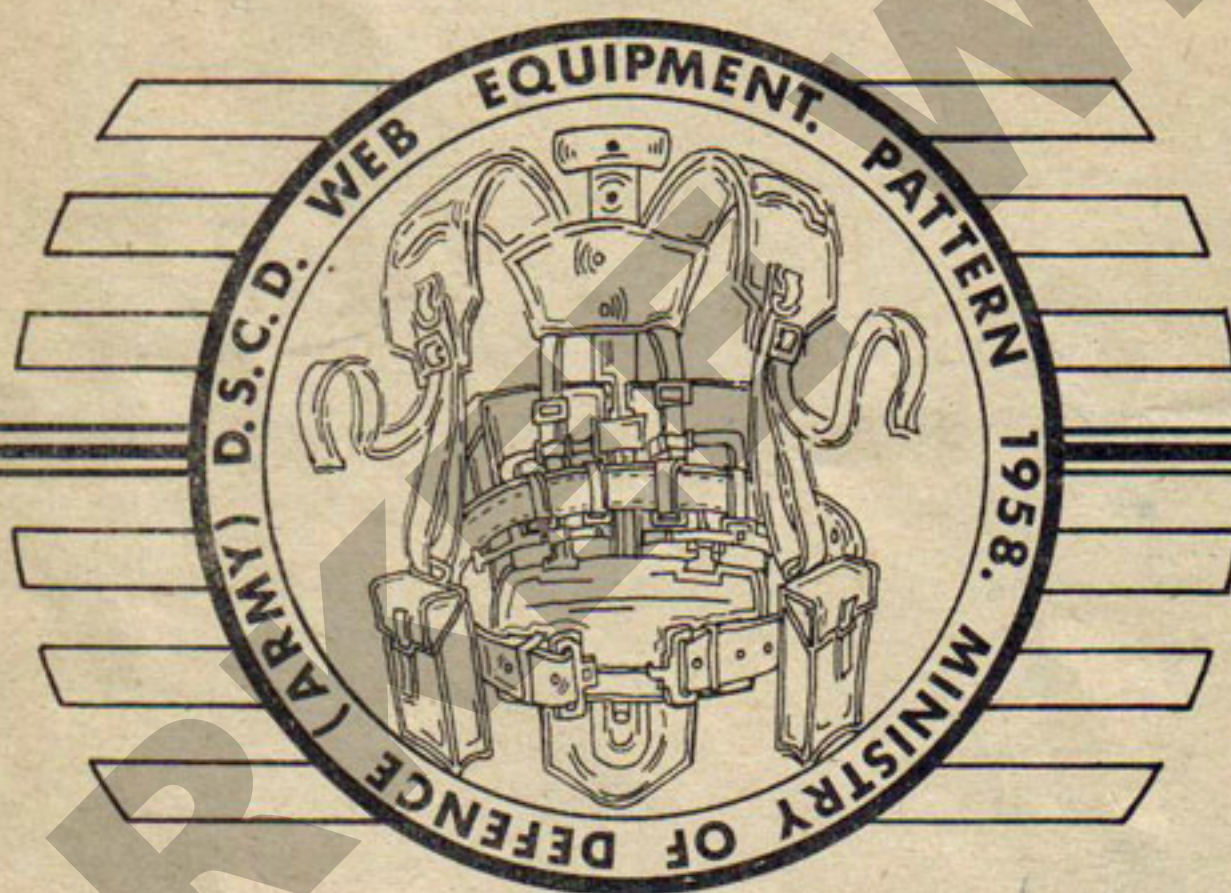


WEB EQUIPMENT PATTERN 1958



INSTRUCTIONS for ASSEMBLY
issued by
Ministry of Defence (Army)
Directorate of Stores
&
Clothing Development

WEB EQUIPMENT PATTERN 1958

Introduction

The 1958 equipment has been designed to have certain advantages over earlier patterns, the most important of which are:

- a. the front of the wearer is left free of equipment
- b. the load is better distributed; although a considerable proportion is normally carried by the waist, the load can be transferred entirely to the shoulders simply by unbuckling the belt.
- c. adjustments to the load can be made on the march by easily adjustable straps,
- d. quick-release fittings have been used wherever possible to give quick and easy access to the contents of pouches, etc.

Since its introduction, the design has been the subject of further improvements, which are incorporated in this Handbook.

The main items are made of light-weight webbing, dyed to British Standards Specification colour No. 298 Olive Drab. The metal fittings are of a light alloy with a dull protective finish which should NOT be removed.

DESCRIPTION OF THE EQUIPMENT

BELT, WAIST

This is 2 1/4 inches wide and is supplied in two sizes:

Normal - adjustable from 28 inches to 41 inches

Large - adjustable from 34 inches to 47 inches

The belt is provided throughout its length, on the inside near the edges, with a series of pockets to take the ends of the 'C' hooks when fastening the yoke and ammunition pouches. It has also two 'D' rings for attaching the cape carrier.

Each end of the belt is fitted with a metal hook, which engages in a series of eyelets for adjustment of length. The belt is fastened by a clasp buckle with slides to hold the two parts of the clasp in position.

YOKE, FIELD PACK

This consists basically of a wide 'V'-shaped assembly of webbing, padded with sponge rubber. To the free end of each arm of the 'V' is attached a one-inch front strap with length adjuster; these straps connect ultimately to the metal links on the top rear of each ammunition pouch. To the edge of the apex of the 'V' are attached two adjustable-length, one-inch rear straps, terminating in fittings with 'C' hooks which connect to the rear of the waist belt. To the outer side of the padded apex of the 'V' is attached a wide strap with spigot and metal link and left and right straps with quick-release links and tongue, for attachment of the pick handle, or the shovel handle.

POUCHES REAR

This item consists of two pouches, each 8 inches wide and 8 inches deep, joined together at the back by two straps, and closed by hooded flaps with quick-release straps. Each pouch has two one-inch wide straps and key-way fittings, staples and long tongues for attaching the pouch to the belt. Attached at right angles to each of these long tongues is a strap with a short tongue, which fits into the top pair of staples at the rear of the pouch to keep the pouch upright.

POUCH, AMMUNITION, LEFT

This is approximately 10 inches deep and 4 1/2 inches wide, and is closed with a 'box' lid with a quick-release strap. The top of the pouch has metal 'C' hooks for connection to the belt, and a metal link for connecting to the yoke adjustable strap. On the rear side of the pouch there are two webbing loops to hold the bayonet scabbard, and a metal link for connection to the cape carrier.

POUCH, AMMUNITION, RIGHT

Similar to the above, except that it has an external pocket on the rear side for a grenade launcher or signal discharger.

CARRIER, CAPE

This holds the cape, or the poncho, in the form of a roll 18 inches long, and is sufficiently large to take the jersey also.

Spring hooks on top of the carrier connect to the 'D' rings on the belt. Two adjustable straps and spring hooks are provided at the sides for connection to the two ammunition pouches. The lightweight pick-head may be carried in a pocket on the outside of the carrier.

FIELD PACK

The Pack, which is approximately 17 inches wide and 14 inches deep, with 5-inch gussets, opens at the top and is closed by a flap secured by two straps and buckles. On the rear panel of the pack is a white patch for personal identification markings.

On the top rear edge of the pack there are two adjustable carrying straps, each terminating in a flat hook, for connection to the yoke of the equipment.

At the bottom of each side of the pack there is a quickly adjustable strap carrying a spring hook for connection to the link at the top of each ammunition pouch.

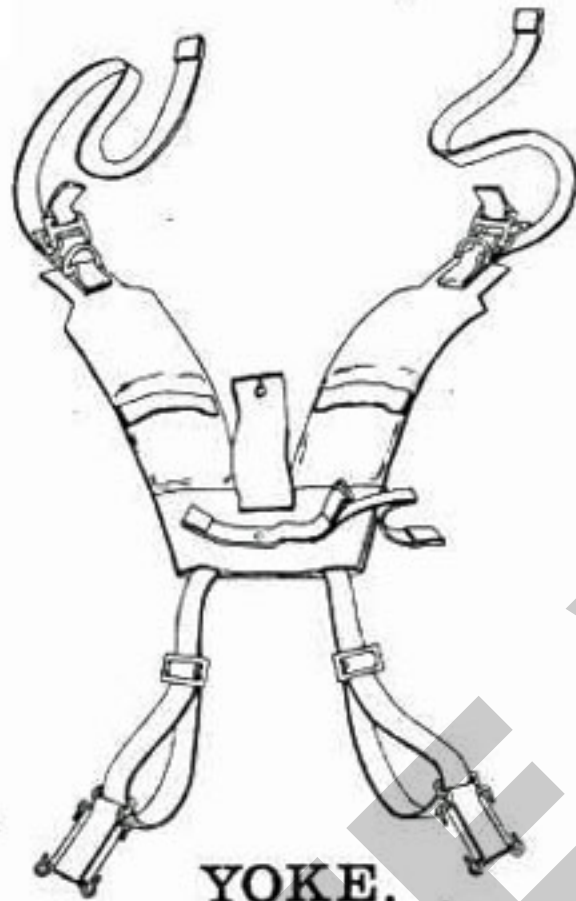
Attached to the main flap of the pack is a pick or shovel fitting similar to that on the Yoke. Above this is a horizontal webbing loop to hold the pick, or the shovel, in an alternative position.

On the top of the main flap two straps, with buckles, are fitted to hold the parka or the bedding roll.

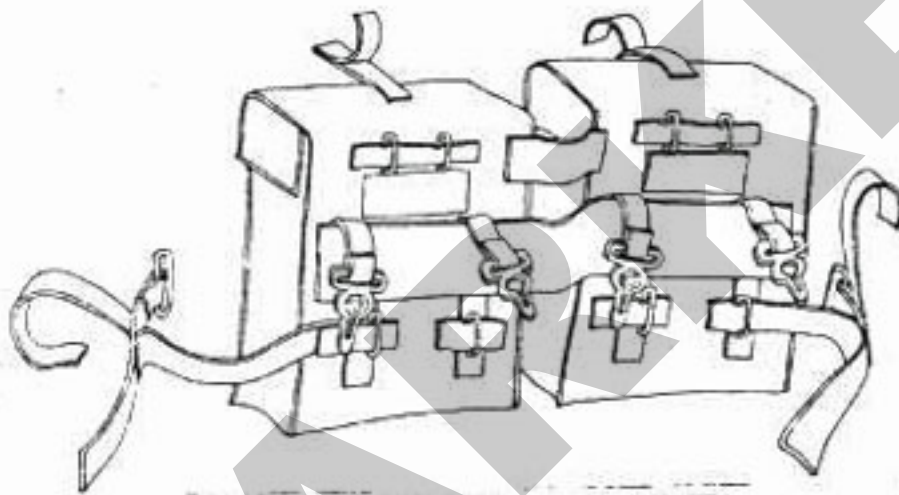
Two straps, for holding the steel helmet, are fixed to the top front edge of the pack, cross diagonally over the front of the pack, and are secured on the underside of the pack by two buckles.



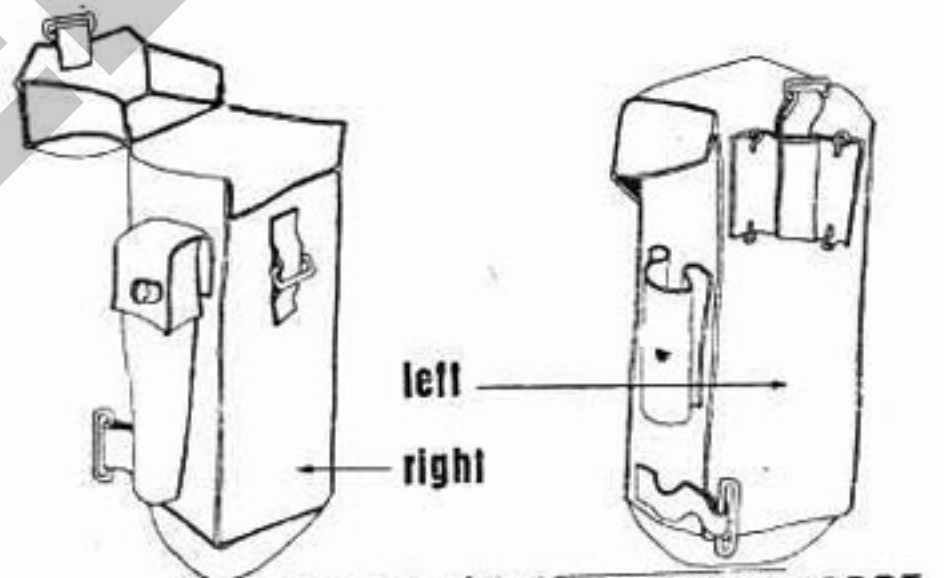
BELT.



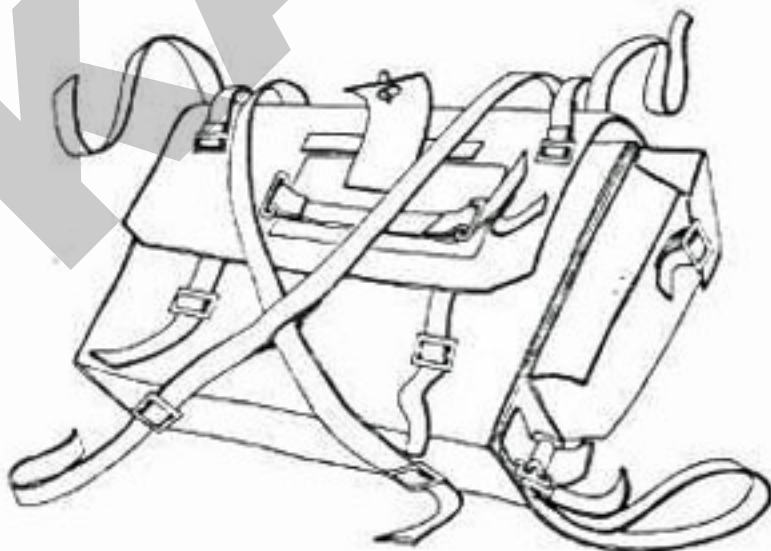
YOKE.



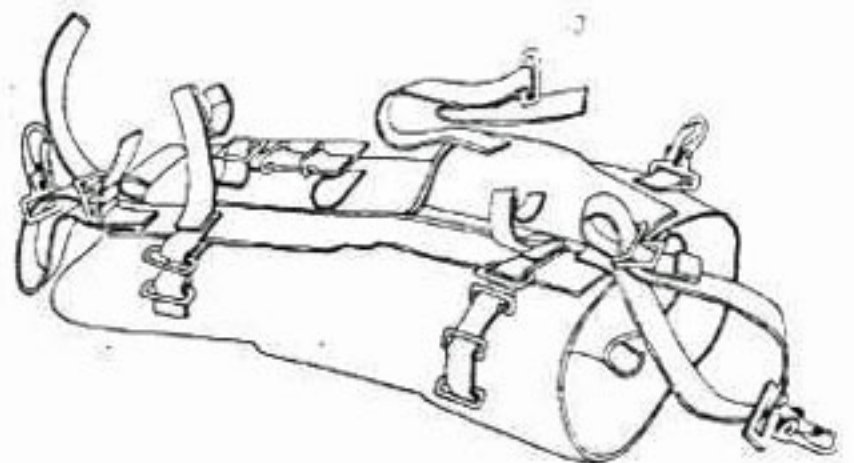
POUCHES. REAR



POUCHES. AMMUNITION



FIELD PACK



CARRIER. CAPE

ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

1. BELT

Adjust the belt to fit the waist by means of the end hooks, locating them in convenient eye-lets, and ensuring that the double ends of the belt are of equal length or as nearly so as possible consistent with a good fit.

Push the belt slides close up to each half of the clasp buckle.

Check the fit of the belt by wearing it. Note that the two 'D' rings are on the *lower* edge of the belt. Note also that the hook of the right-hand half of the buckle is inserted through the loop of the left-hand half from the inside to the outside (see illustration).

While wearing the belt with the clasped buckle centrally in front of the body, mark on the outside of the belt the two places where the belt crosses side seams, or pocket openings, of the trousers.

Remove the belt and place it on a level surface with the inner side uppermost and the two 'D' rings towards you.

2. AMMUNITION POUCHES

The ammunition pouches with the webbing loops for the bayonet scabbard should be worn on the left side of the body, and the ammunition pouch with grenade launcher pocket, on the right side.

Fit the ammunition pouches on to the outside of the belt centrally over the trouser seam marks by means of the 'C' hooks, the ends of which are inserted into the appropriate pockets on the inside of the belt.

Check the positioning of the ammunition pouches on the belt, and that the two 'D' rings are on the lower edge of the belt when it is worn.

Remove the belt etc. and place it on a level surface with the inner side uppermost and the two 'D' rings towards you.

3. YOKE

The rear straps of the yoke are the two straps terminating in pairs of 'C' hooks.

Connect the two pairs of 'C' hooks on the rear straps of the yoke to the belt between, and close to, the 'D' rings, with the yoke extending from the upper edge of the belt. The ends of each pair of 'C' hooks should be fitted into the woven loops on the inside of the belt.

Thread the right-hand front strap of the yoke through the metal link on top of the right-hand ammunition pouch from inside the belt to the outside.

Thread the front strap end through the two-piece buckle on the end of the yoke.

Repeat the process with the left-hand front strap and the left-hand ammunition pouch.

Release the right and left-hand front straps of the yoke by the release tabs until the doubled ends of these straps touch the two-piece buckles.

Wear the equipment with the belt clasp buckle fastened. It is important that all initial height adjustment of the yoke is effected by means of the rear straps.

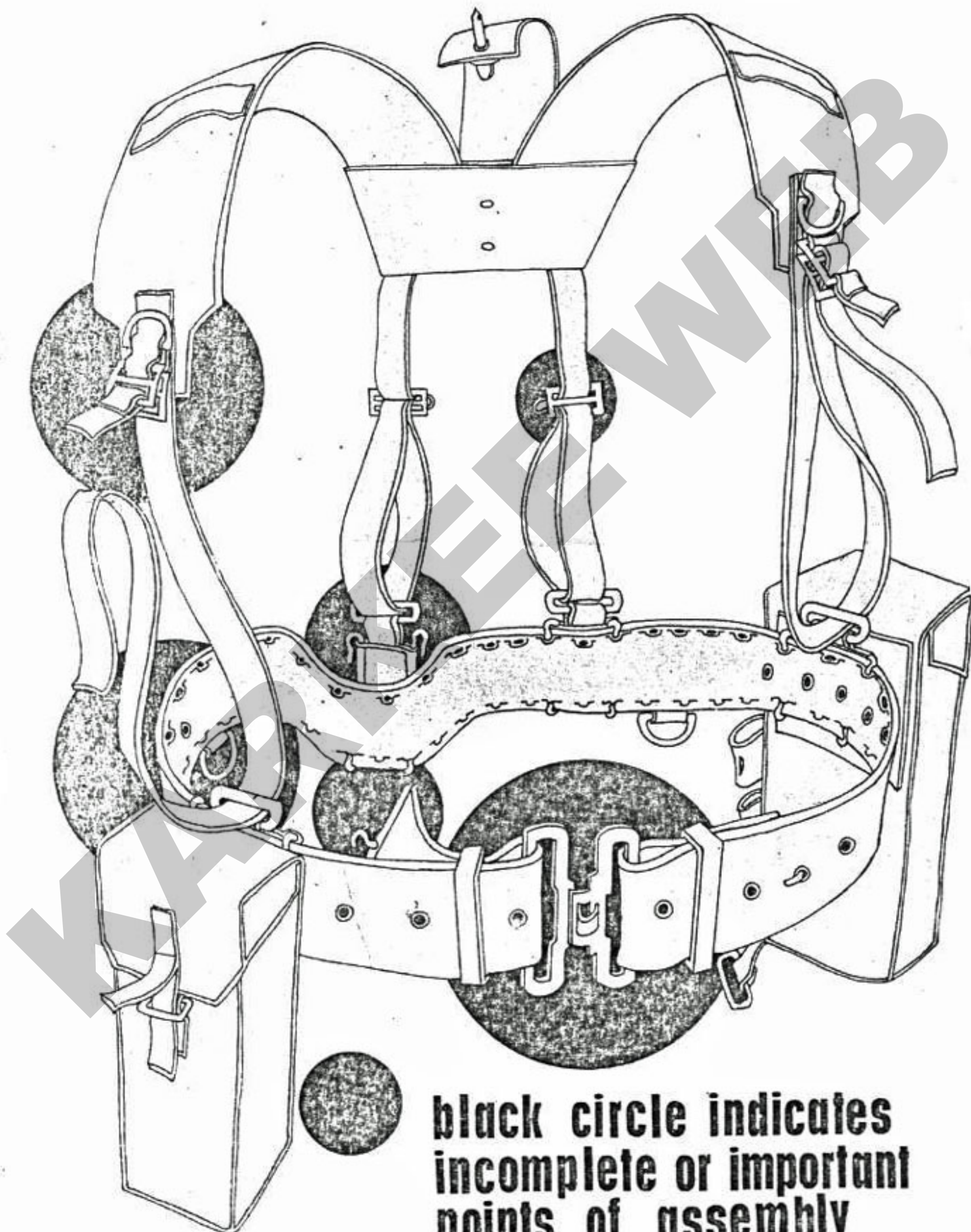
The yoke should be sufficiently high on the back of the wearer to prevent the two-piece buckles and the adjacent 'D' rings on the front of the yoke obstructing a rifle butt in the firing position. On the other hand, the yoke should not be so high on the back that the inner edges of the 'V' chafe the neck or collar.

It should be noted that the front straps of the yoke and the release tabs are intended for occasional adjustments of pressure on the shoulders during normal wear of the equipment.

The front straps are adjusted to the required length, after adjustment of the rear straps of the yoke, by pulling the ends of the front straps downwards to increase tension, or lifting the tabs on the two-piece buckle to decrease tension.

NOTE: The assembly of Belt, Yoke and Ammunition Pouches is known as the 'Skeleton Order'. If required, the Cape Carrier may also be carried. (See para 5)

assembly of BELT, YOKE, & AMMUNITION POUCHES



**black circle indicates
incomplete or important
points of assembly**

4. REAR POUCHES

Place the rear pouches on a level surface with the four key-way straps unfastened and uppermost.

Take off the equipment and lay the centre portion of the belt with the inside uppermost, across the two rear pouches.

The four straps with the key-way fittings should be passed over the waist belt with the two inner key-way straps between the two sets of rear yoke harness 'C' hooks.

Locate the four key-way fittings on the four staples and secure in position by means of the two long-tongued straps.

Pass the short-tongued strap upwards between the belt and the pouch, locate the rear yoke strap between the two staples on the rear of the pouch, slide the short-tongued strap through the two staples.

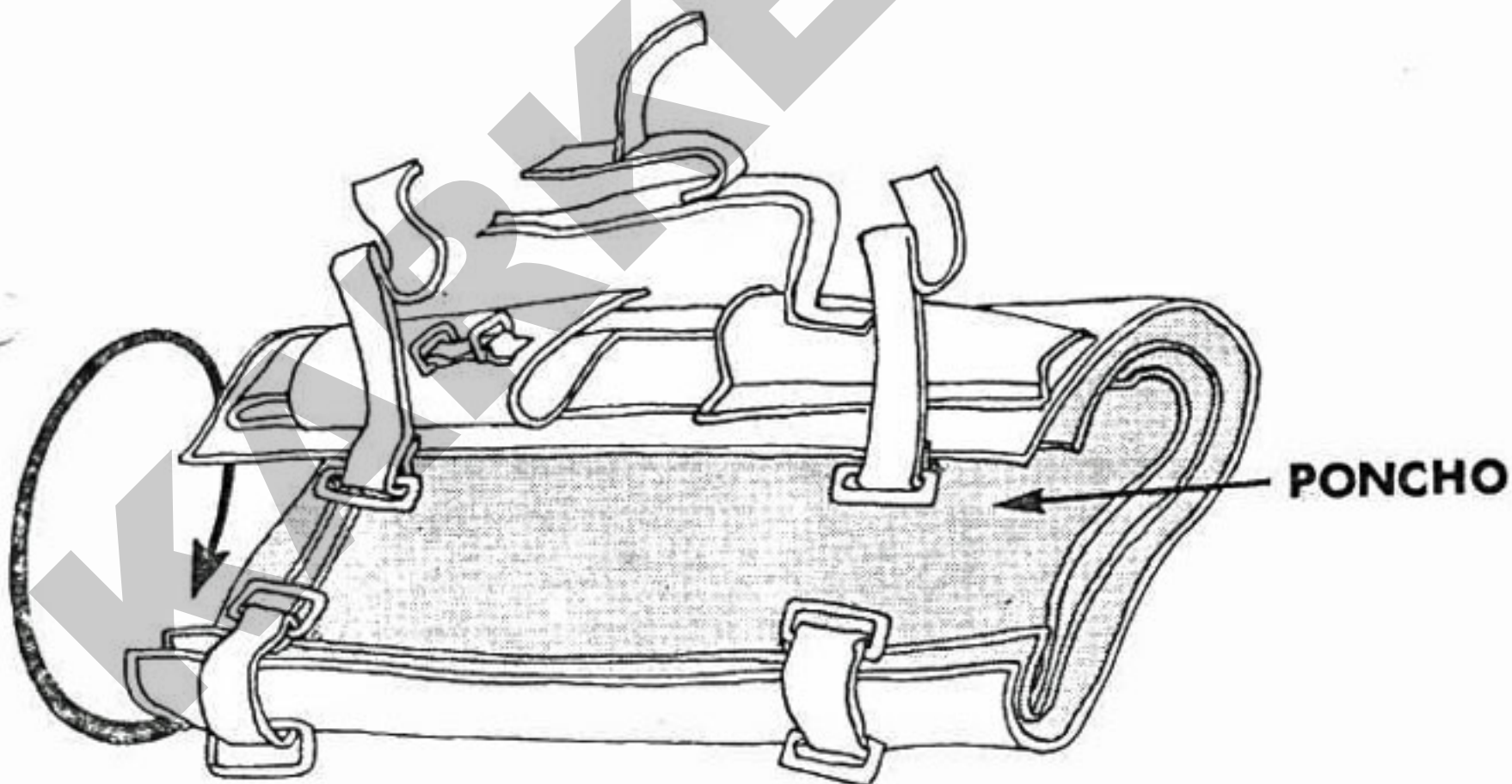
5. CAPE CARRIER

Take off the webbing equipment and place it on a level surface, with the inside uppermost and the yoke furthest away from you.

Lay the cape carrier on a flat surface with the pick-head pocket uppermost and furthest from you. Lift the cape carrier by means of the two central spring hooks so that it folds over, with the pick-head pocket away from you, and attach the spring hooks to the two 'D' rings on the rear of the waist belt.

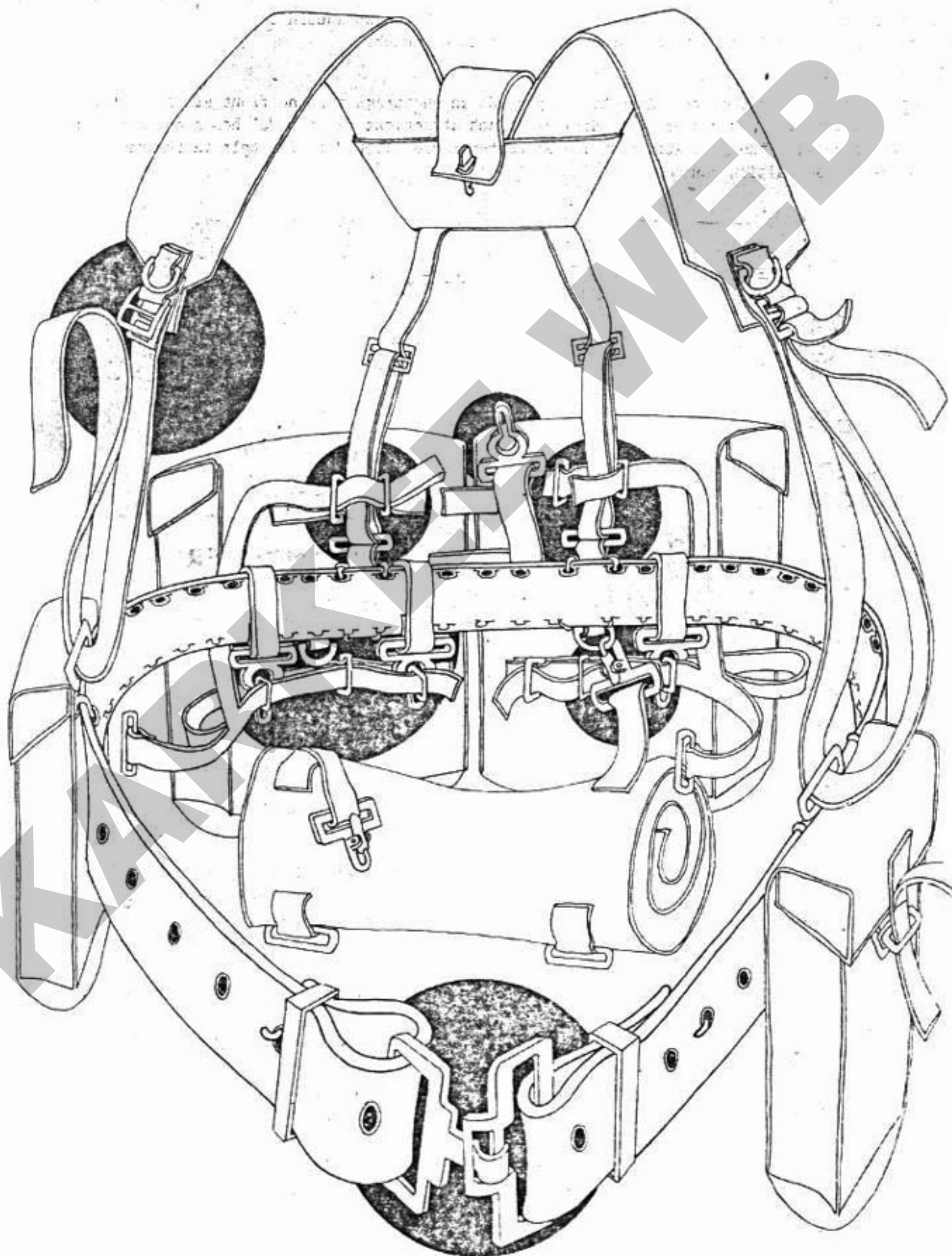
The two spring hook straps on the ends of the cape carrier should be fully extended, and the spring hooks attached to the metal links on the bottom rear of the two ammunition pouches. When the equipment is worn, these two spring hook straps should be tightened by pulling the free ends of the straps forward. This prevents the bottoms of the ammunition pouches chafing against the body.

Make a further fitting check by wearing the equipment with the waist belt buckle unfastened. If the equipment hangs with all the components fitting closely to the body, without a gap between the belt and the wearer's back, the fit is correct.



cape carrier with poncho

assembly of POUCHES, REAR & CAPE CARRIER.



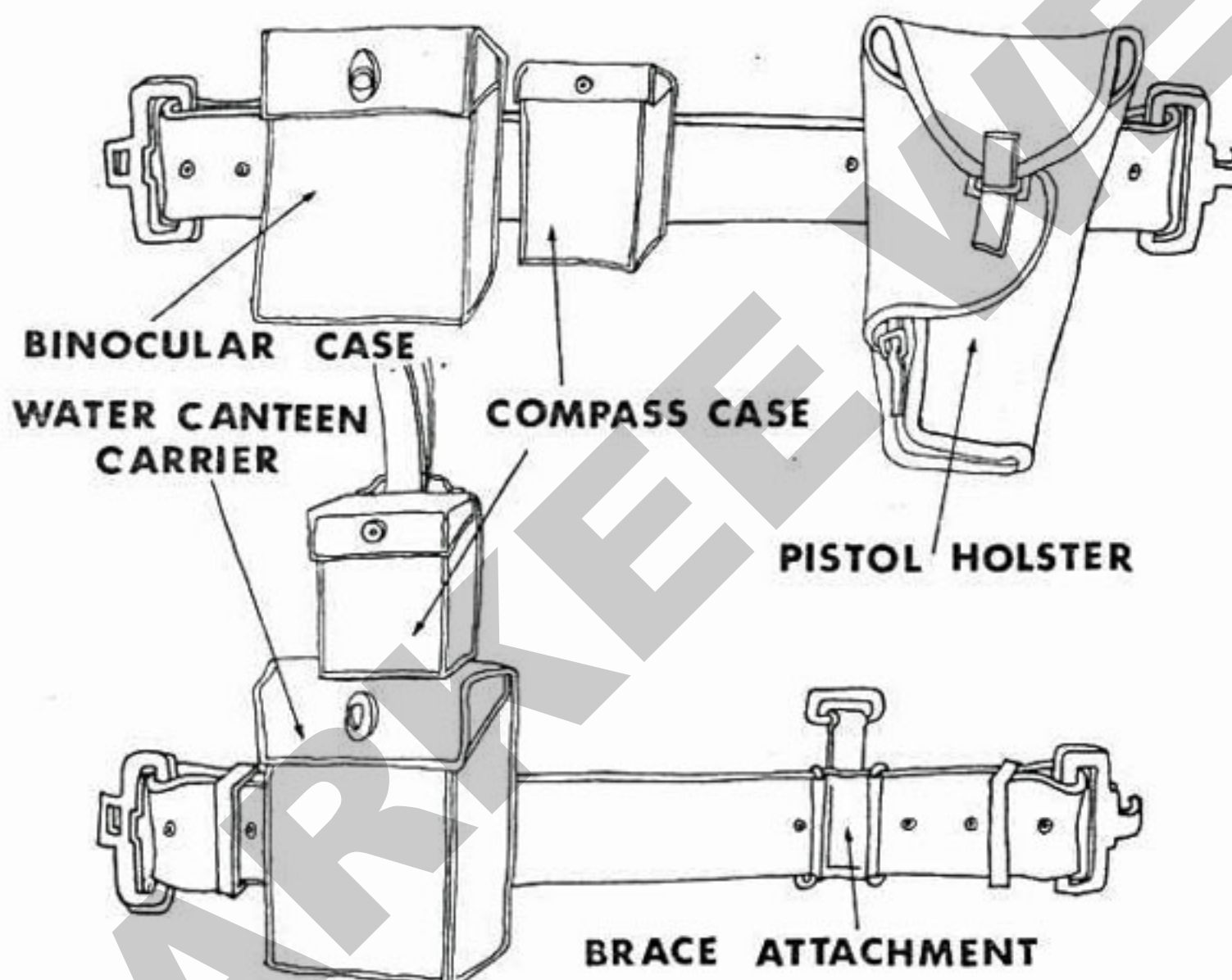
6. ATTACHMENT OF FIELD PACK

The pack is attached to the yoke by placing one carrying strap with the flat hook over each shoulder, passing it through the loop on the yoke, and hooking them into the 'D' rings on the front of the yoke. These two straps should be adjusted by means of the adjusting buckles to give the correct pack height.

On each side of the pack, under the side pockets, there is an adjustable strap with spring hook, which should be lengthened to its fullest extent; the hooks should then be connected to the corresponding metal link on the top of each ammunition pouch.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

Brace Attachments The two Brace Attachments provide an anchorage for the front straps on the yoke if the ammunition pouches are not carried. Each attachment has two 'C' hooks and a link at the top for receiving the yoke straps. The attachments are clipped to the belt in the same position as the ammunition pouches.



Pistol Holster The holster may either be clipped to the belt by two 'C' hooks, or it may be attached to a leg strap by means of a webbing loop sewn between the 'C' hooks. A link similar to that on the ammunition pouches provides anchorages for the front yoke straps. A 'D' ring at the bottom enables the holster to be anchored, if required, to the canteen carrier or to the main pack, to prevent the holster from swinging about and chafing the legs.

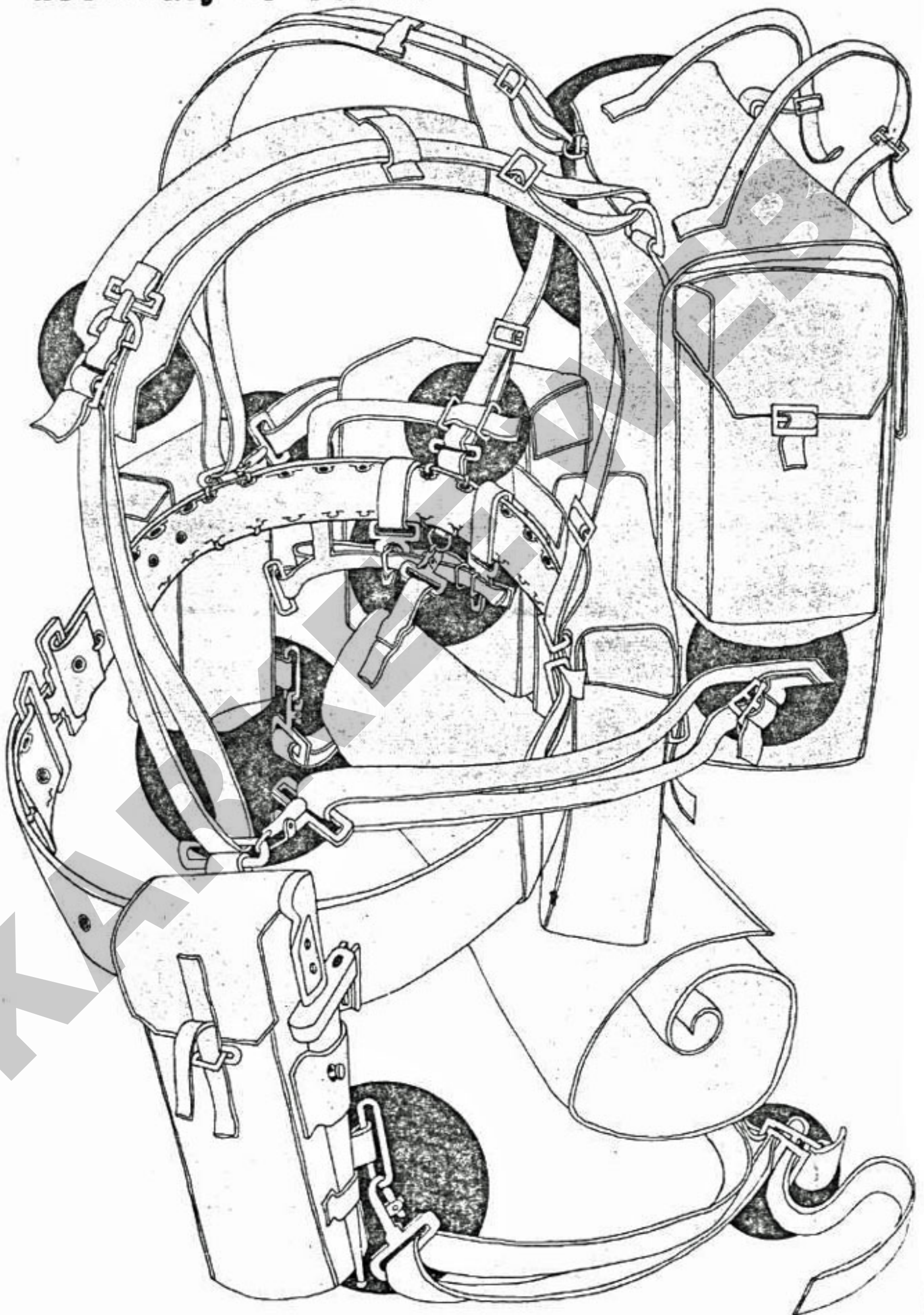
Binocular Case Two 'C' hooks are fitted on the back of the Binocular Case in a manner similar to that on the Pistol Holster.

Pocket Compass Case This is provided with one 'C' hook and a loop, and may either be clipped to the belt or attached to one of the front yoke straps.

Water Canteen Carrier The lid of the Canteen Carrier has a pocket on the inside for envelopes containing sterilizing powder. 'C' hooks are provided for attaching the carrier to the belt if required.

NOTE: The Water Canteen Carrier is normally only carried when a second Water Canteen is required. The first Water Canteen is usually carried in one of the rear pouches.

assembly of PACK.



ASSEMBLY OF THE FIGHTING ORDER

Assemble the belt, ammunition pouches, yoke, rear pouches and cape carrier, described in paragraphs 1-5 on pages 4 and 6.

(i) Cape or Poncho

Form the cape, or the poncho, into a roll which is the same length as the cape carrier. Place the roll in the carrier, and fasten the two quick-release strap fittings.

(ii) Lightweight Pick

Separate the pick handle from the pick head by tapping the grip of the handle on the ground.

Release the quick-release strap, the quick-release strap link and the buckle strap on the pick-head pocket, which is on the cape carrier.

Insert the pick head in the pocket with the convex surface outwards, and fasten the buckle strap.

Lay the metal end of the pick handle flat on the back of the yoke, bring the wide strap with spigot and metal staple down over the pick and engage the spigot in the hole in the metal end of the pick handle (see sketch A).

Fold the left and right straps over the pick handle, and place their quick release metal links over the metal staple projecting from the wide strap (see sketch B).

Engage the stiffened quick-release strap (see sketch C).

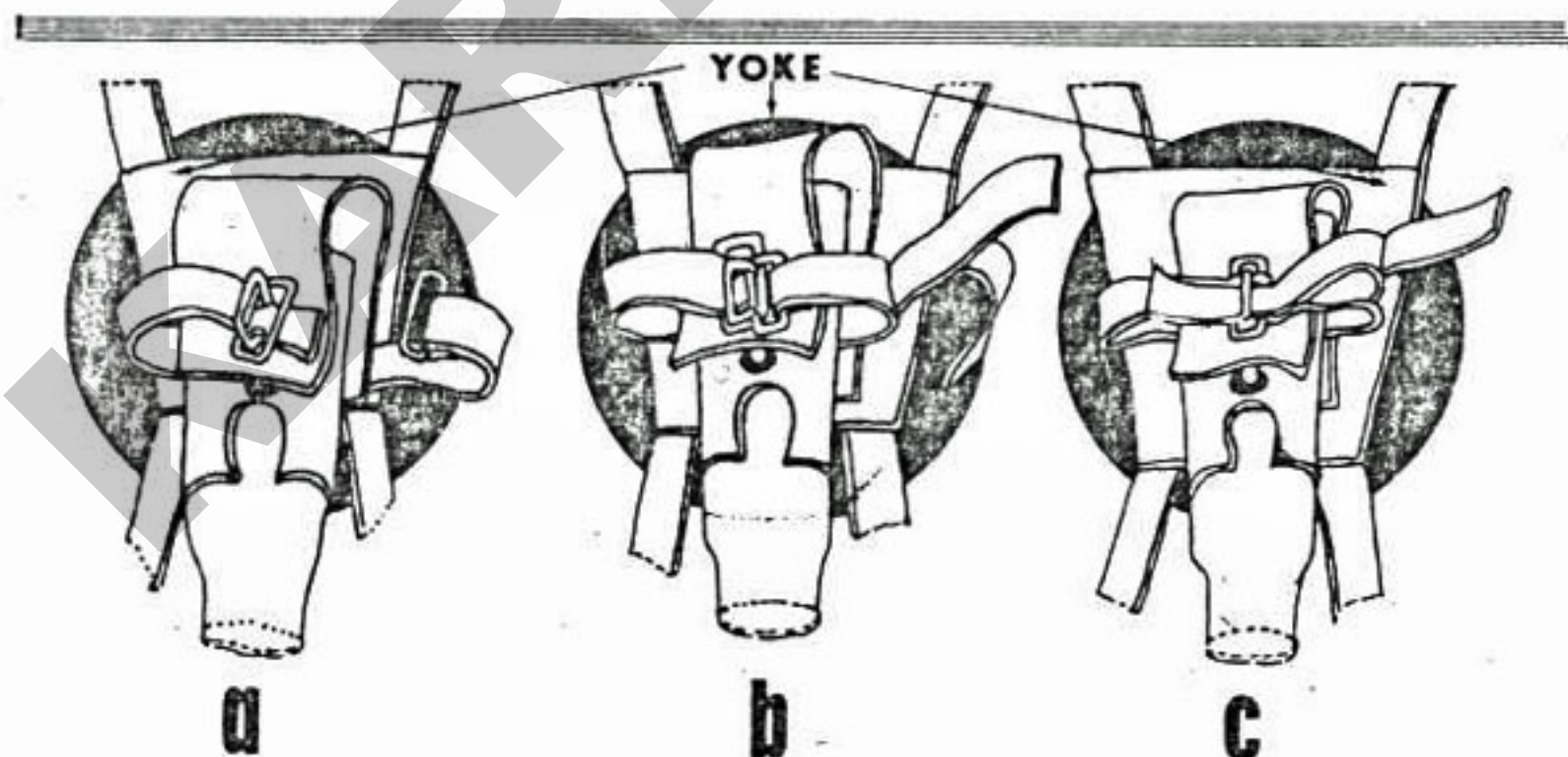
Press the pick handle between the rear pouches. The pick handle should now be touching the exposed metal of the pick head in the pocket in the cape carrier.

Place the quick-release strap on the pick-head pocket over the pick handle and engage the link with the metal staple nearest the opening, securing it with the stiffened quick-release tongue.

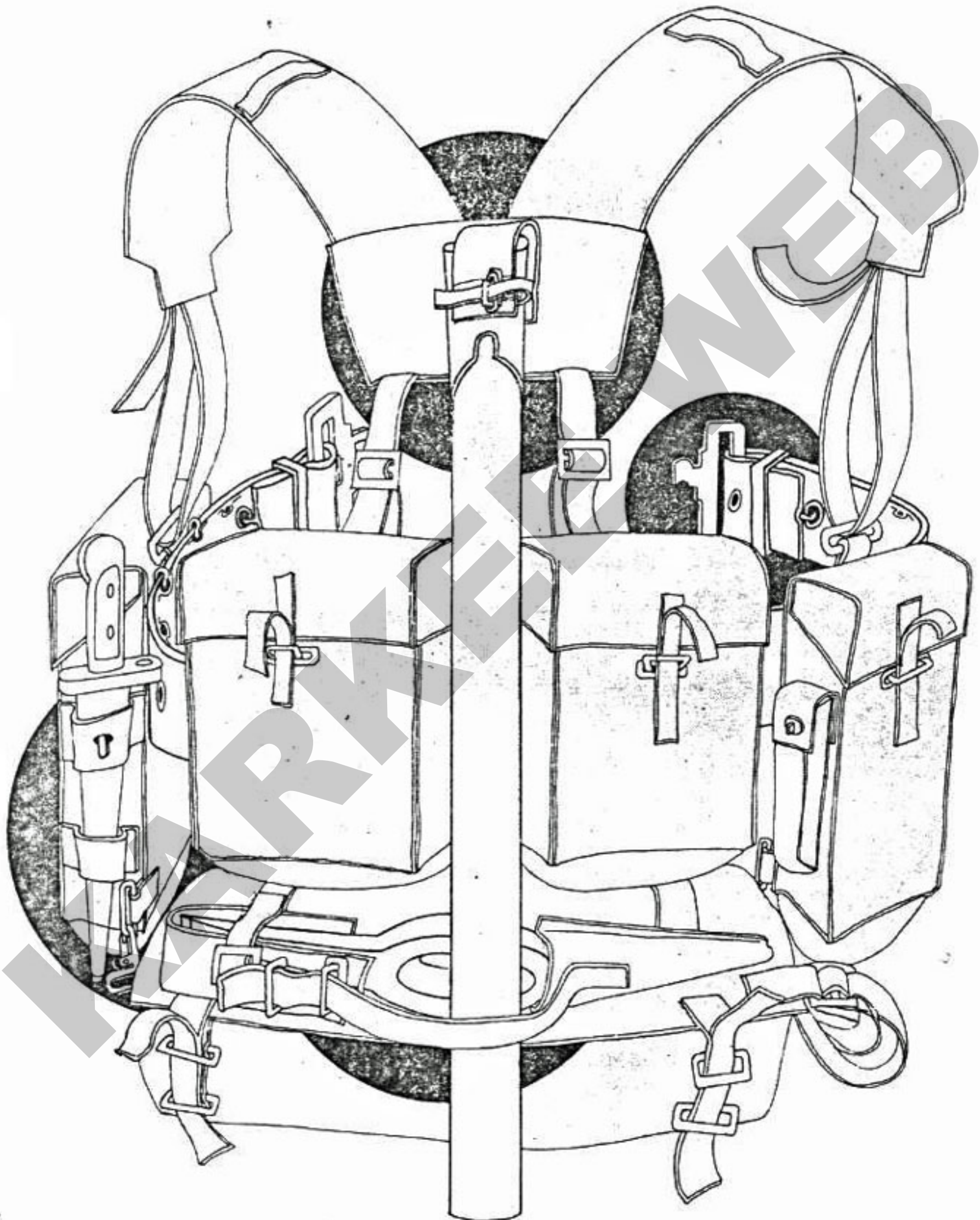
(iii) Lightweight shovel

The shovel fits into the same position as the pick handle when carried as an alternative to the pick. The fitting instructions for the pick handle apply to the shovel except that the quick-release strap on the pick-head pocket should engage with the metal staple furthest from the opening.

The shovel may be worn with the blade facing inwards or outwards according to Unit preference.



FIGHTING ORDER



MARCHING ORDER

Before attaching the pack, the pick handle, or the lightweight shovel, must first be removed from the 'fighting order' equipment, by pulling the quick-release strap on the pick-head pocket, and the stiffened quick-release tongue on the yoke.

The pick handle, or the shovel, is then fastened to the main flap of the pack by the assembly (wide strap with spigot, metal loops and quick-release straps) similar to that on the yoke.

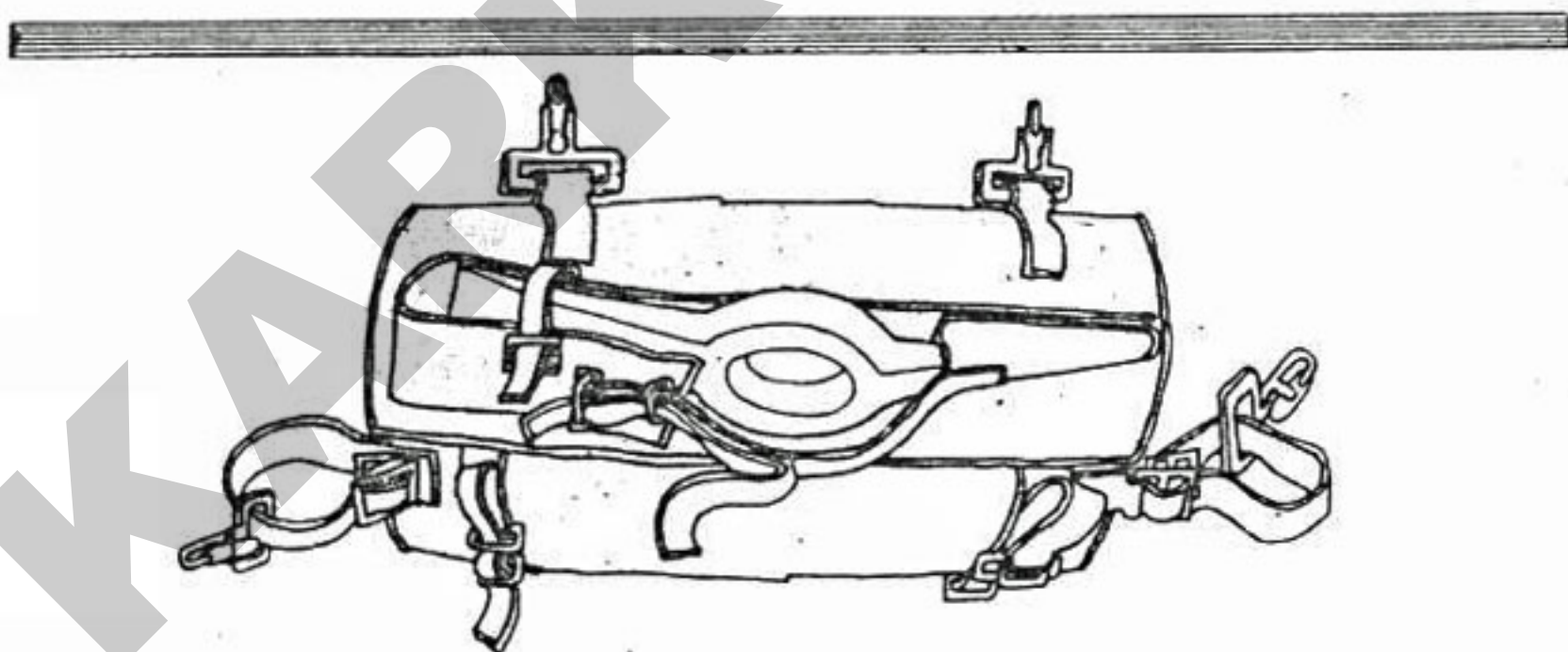
An alternative position for the lightweight pick, or the lightweight shovel, is provided for on the 'marching order' pack. This consists of a horizontal webbing loop above the assembly. The pick handle, or the shovel handle, is passed down through this loop until the pick head, or the shovel blade, is retained by this loop.

The parks, or blanket, or sleeping bag, is carried rolled on top of the pack, secured by the two fixed straps.

The steel helmet may be carried by placing it over the head end of the pick handle, or the handle of the shovel. The two cross straps should be brought down over the helmet and secured to their adjusting buckles on the bottom of the pack, one strap being passed through the loop in the other.

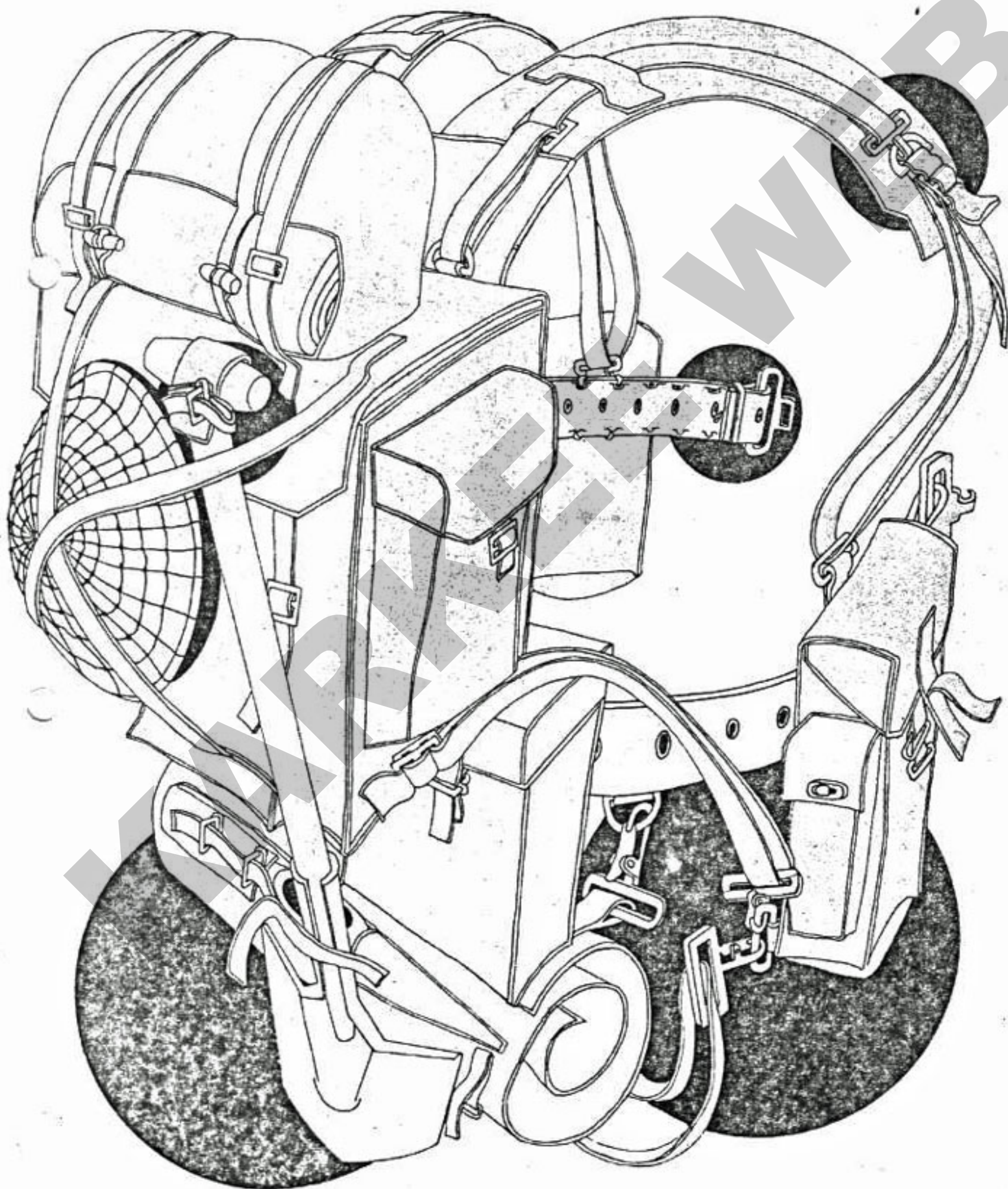
CARE AND PRESERVATION OF THE EQUIPMENT

The equipment should not be scrubbed, bleached or 'biancoed'. Dirt should be brushed off, or if this proves ineffective, the items may be sponged, care being taken not to saturate the webbing unnecessarily.

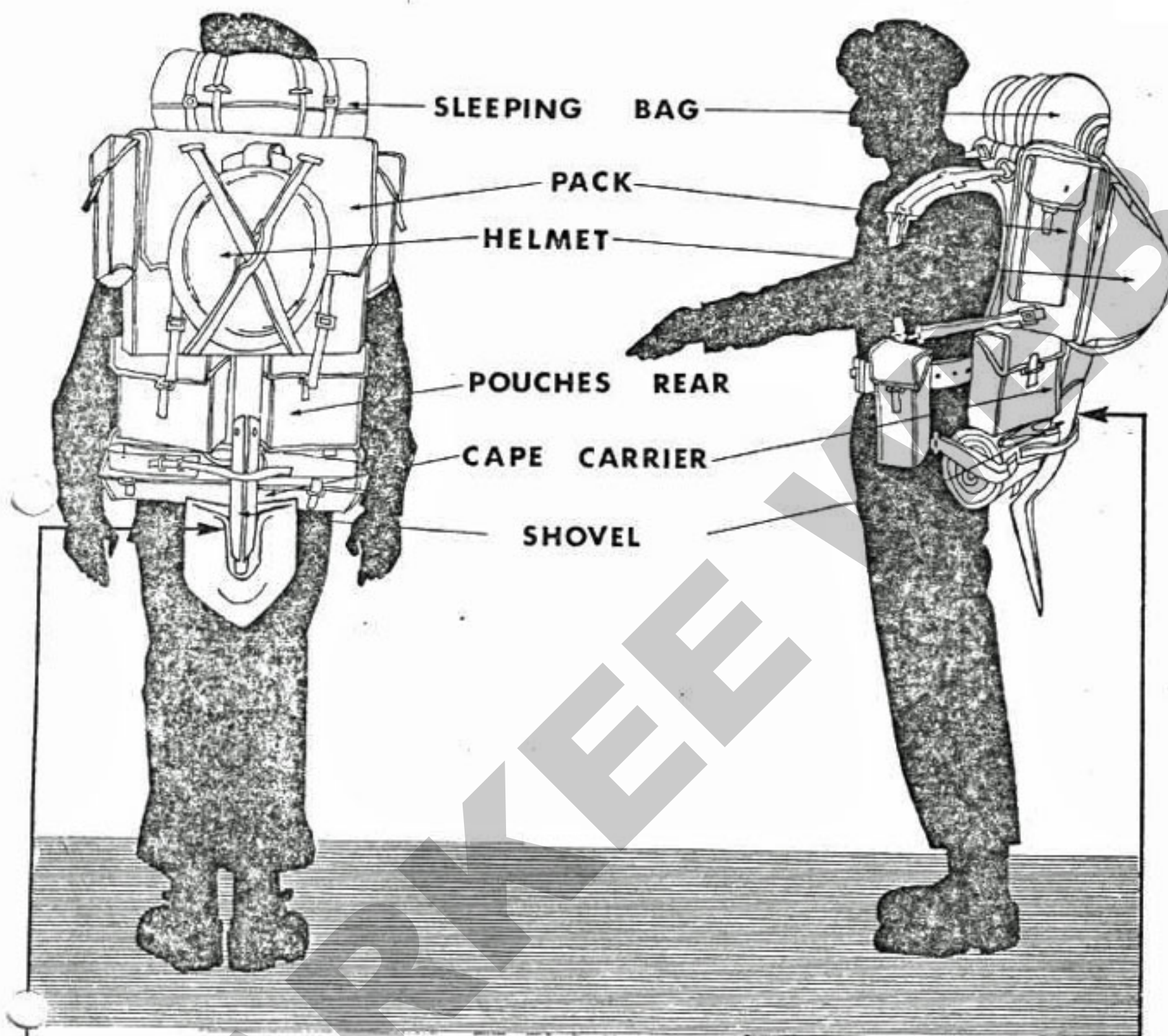


**cape carrier with pick head & release
strap**

MARCHING ORDER

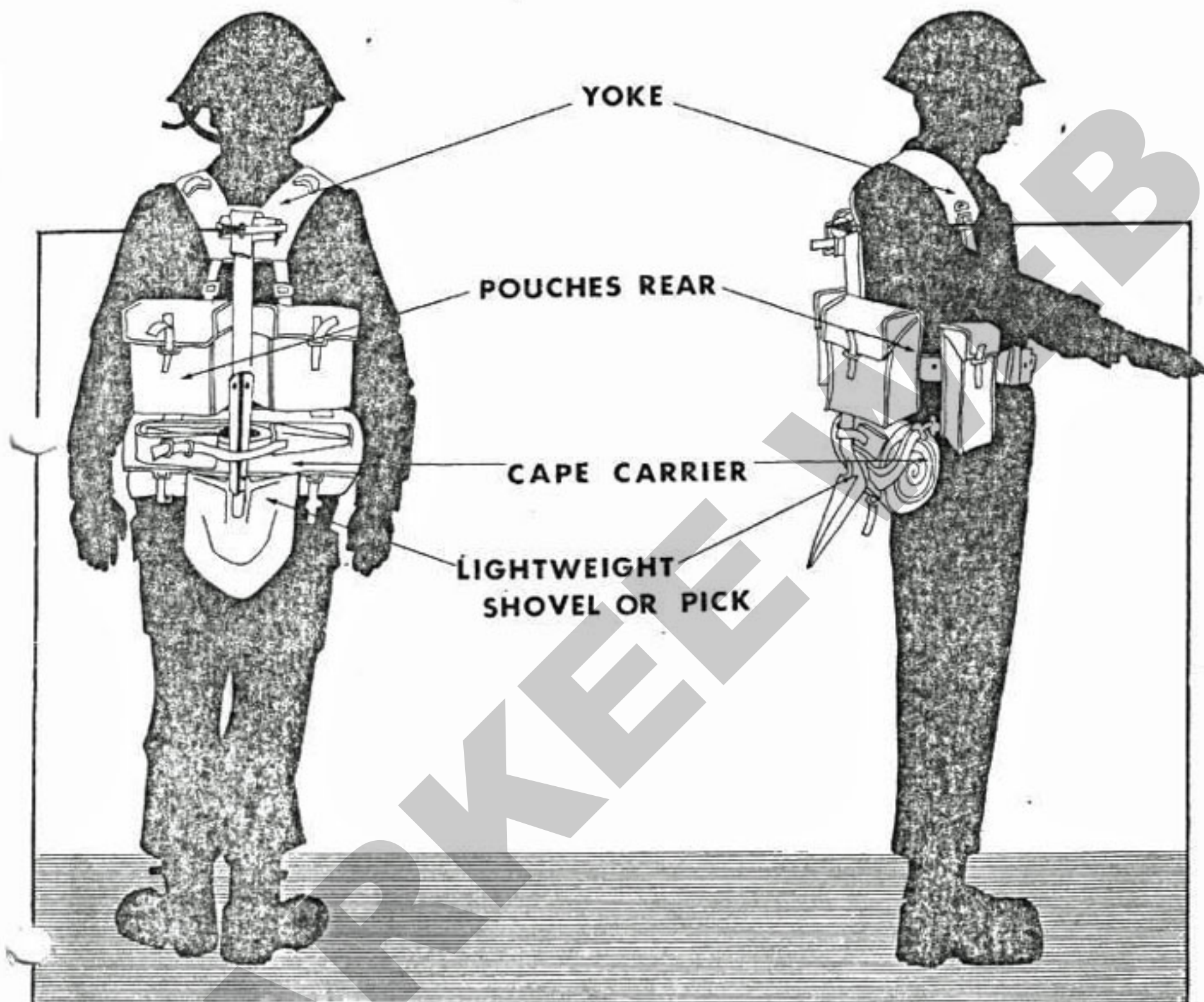


Marching Order



**The SHOVEL may be carried
with the blade facing
inwards or outwards**

Fighting Order



The equipment must NOT be scrubbed or BLANCOED.
The dull finish on metal parts must not be removed.

PARTS LIST

Cat. No.	Description
CN 8465-99-973-6217	Belt, Waist, Normal
CN 8465-99-973-6218	Belt, Waist, Large
CN 8465-99-973-6219	Carrier, Cape, with pick-head carrier
CN 8465-99-973-6666	Carrier, Water Canteen
CN 8465-99-973-6959	Case, Binocular
CN 8465-99-973-6960	Case, Compass
CN 8465-99-973-6220	Field Pack, Canvas, with spigot carrier for shovel
CN 1095-99-973-6492	Holster, Pistol
CN 8465-99-973-6221	Pouch, Ammunition, Left, with bayonet carrier
CN 8465-99-973-6222	Pouch, Ammunition, Right, with grenade projector
CN 8465-99-973-6223	Pouches, Rear; comprising left and right pouch joined by fixed connecting strap webbing, utility
CN 8465-99-973-6224	Strap, Webbing, Utility, 18' long with buckle and tab. (Not illustrated)
CN 8465-99-973-6225	Yoke, Field Pack