

**QUARTERMASTER
CORPS MANUAL**

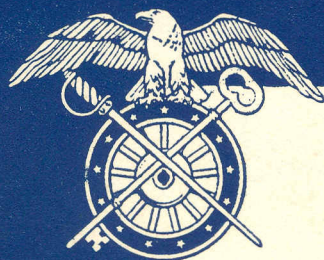
QMC 17-3

U. S. ARMY

• SUPPORT • SURVIVAL • ASSAULT • COMBAT

RATIONS

AND SUPPLEMENTS



ARMY SERVICE FORCES

OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL

Infantry Division Preservation Group
www.90thidpg.us

ARMY SERVICE FORCES
Office of the Quartermaster General
Washington 25, D. C.

Quartermaster Corps Manual QMC 17-3 is published for the information, guidance, and compliance of all concerned.

E. B. GREGORY
Lieutenant General
The Quartermaster General

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FOREWORD

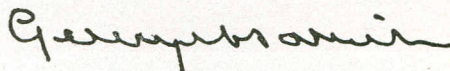
At the outbreak of the present war, the Quartermaster Corps was faced with tremendous responsibilities. Among its many problems was the job of supplying food for an Army which covered the entire world.

At first, we had to use what food was available. The flames of war had spread fast. There had been too little time to plan and develop the special rations so necessary if our troops were to fight with the utmost efficiency under all types of climatic and battle conditions.

However, at the Quartermaster Corps' Subsistence Research and Development Laboratory, the development of rations tailored to the complex requirements of global warfare was begun immediately by the Research and Development Branch of the Military Planning Division.

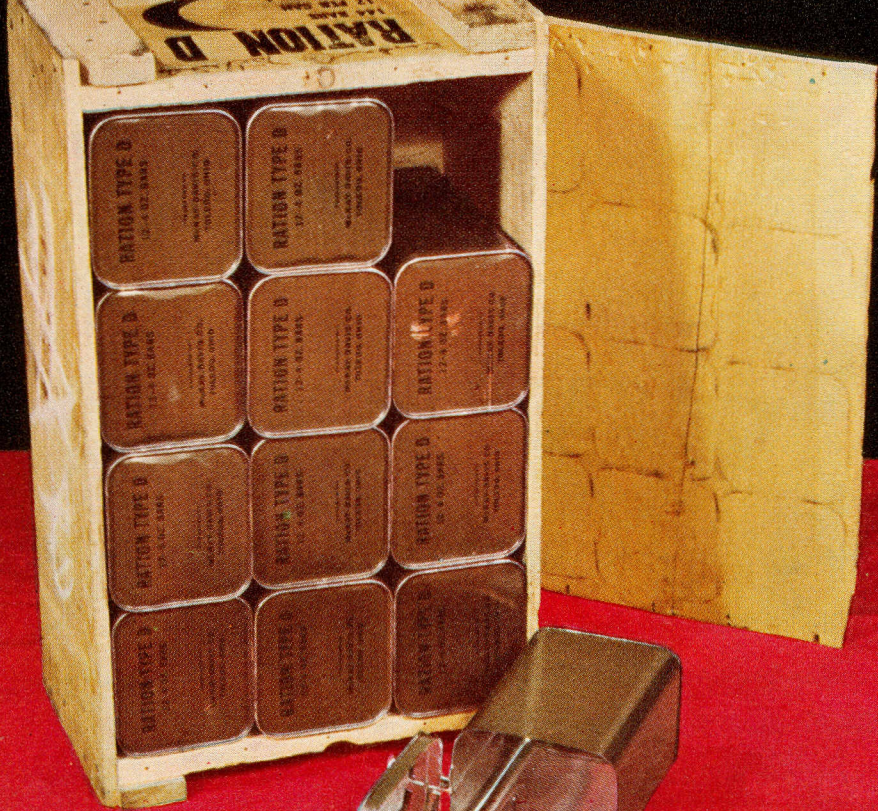
The Office of The Quartermaster General publishes this manual to illustrate and explain the composition of the various special rations and the purpose for which each was developed and designed by the QMC Subsistence Research and Development Laboratory with the co-operation of the food industry.

This is the story of the results *already* achieved.



GEORGES F. DORIOT
Brigadier General, QMC
Director, Military Planning Div.





RATION, TYPE D

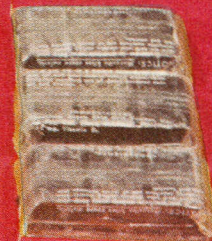
Stock No. 56-R-9960

Weight per Ration.....13.75 Oz. Rations per Case.....16

Case Weight.....1.09 Ft.

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RATION, TYPE D

Stock No. 56-R-9960

| | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------|-----------------------|----------|
| Weight per Ration..... | 13.75 Oz. | Rations per Case..... | 16 |
| Case Weight..... | 48 Lbs. | Case Cubage..... | 1.09 Ft. |
| Calories per Ration—1,800 | | | |



RATION, TYPE D.

A Survival Ration

The earliest concentrated emergency ration used by the United States Army dates back to pre-World War I days, and owes its inspiration to Mexican and Indian raiders along the southern border, whose subsistence, aside from "living on the country," consisted of jerked beef and "pinole."

With this as a guide, the original Army emergency ration, which gradually evolved into the so-called "Armour Ration" of World War I, was composed largely of powdered, evaporated beef and parched, cooked wheat, to which was added a small quantity of sweetened chocolate.

In 1934, the Quartermaster Corps began the development of an emergency ration to replace this World War I ration. The product which emerged in 1937 as the result of these experiments was a palatable 4-ounce bar whose chief ingredients were chocolate, sugar, milk powder, cocoa fat, oat flour and vanillin, fortified with Vitamin B-1.

Standardized in 1938 as Ration "D," each ration consists of three of these bars, and is probably the highest practical concentration of food in the Army Rations.

Designed to sustain a man for a short period only the "D" Ration is issued in excess of the prescribed daily ration and is used only under survival conditions when all other methods of supplying food do not exist.



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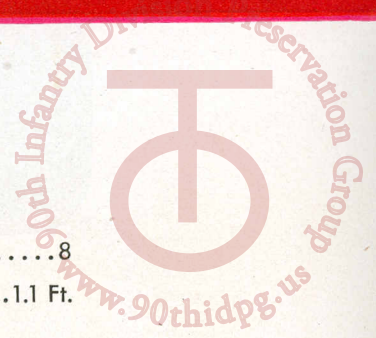




RATION, TYPE C

Stock No. 56-R-9875

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Weight per Ration.....4 Lbs. 8 Oz. | Rations per Case.....8 |
| Case Weight.....42 Lbs. | Case Cubage.....1.1 Ft. |
| Calories per Ration—3,800 | |



RATION, TYPE C

A Combat Ration

The "C" Ration, designed specifically for men in actual combat where no messing facilities are available, represents the culmination of scientific experiments begun in 1938 and aimed at solving the pressing demand for a ration that could be carried by the individual soldier and provide him with three full, satisfying meals per day.

When the "C" Ration was first designed, it was felt the men would be on such a diet for a very short time only. Experience in modern warfare proved otherwise. Consequently, the original menus, limited in variety and therefore presenting a morale and physiological problem, have been greatly expanded.

The "C" Ration is packed in six small cans. Three of the cans, one for each meal, contain the meat or M-components, and offer any one of ten different varieties such as chicken and vegetables, ham and lima beans, pork and rice, and meat and spaghetti. The three other cans, again one for each meal, contain the bread or B-components which include biscuits, beverage, sugar, confection items, pre-mixed cereal and jam in any one of six different combinations of varieties. An accessory kit is also provided, including cigarettes, matches, gum, salt tablets and toilet tissue for each day's issue of this ration.



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RATION, TYPE K

A Combat Ration

The original "K" Ration was developed for paratroopers inasmuch as the "C" Ration, because of its cans and weight, was not considered appropriate. The "K" Ration was therefore created to provide a good nutritional ration light in weight, and yet suitably packaged to withstand the rigors of combat. Its worth has been proven to such an extent that quite often its procurement and use by the Ground Forces exceeds that of the "C" Ration.

The ration is packaged in three wax dipped units distinctively marked both as to lettering and color. The markings designate the packages as Breakfast, Dinner and Supper units. Each meal includes approximately 4 ounces of either meat, meat and egg product, or cheese spread, together with biscuits, confections, gum, and beverages with sugar. A wooden spoon, cigarettes, toilet tissue and salt tablets are also included.

Twelve rations come snugly packed in one case in order to facilitate supply where rough terrain is encountered and transportation is limited, and to provide for more successful dropping from the air.



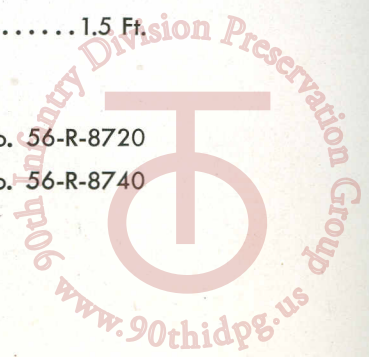
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RATION, TEN-IN-ONE

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Weight per Ration | 4 Lbs. 14 Oz. | Rations per Case | 10 |
| Case Weight | 49 Lbs. | Case Cubage | 1.5 Ft. |
| Calories per Ration—4,100 | | | |
| Menu No. 1 | Stock No. 56-R-8710 | Menu No. 2 | Stock No. 56-R-8720 |
| Menu No. 3 | Stock No. 56-R-8730 | Menu No. 4 | Stock No. 56-R-8740 |
| Menu No. 5 | Stock No. 56-R-8750 | | |



RATION, TEN-IN-ONE

A Support Area Ration

The need for a ration which would serve troops in all areas in advance of the field kitchens but sufficiently protected to permit small group feeding was discussed early in 1943 in a conference between representatives of the Office of the Quartermaster General and the Army Ground Forces.


The "10-in-1" is the Quartermaster's answer to this problem. It provides food for ten men for one day, although it is so packaged that it can be used to feed as few as five men at a time. The case and contents, weighing forty-nine pounds, can be easily carried by one man.

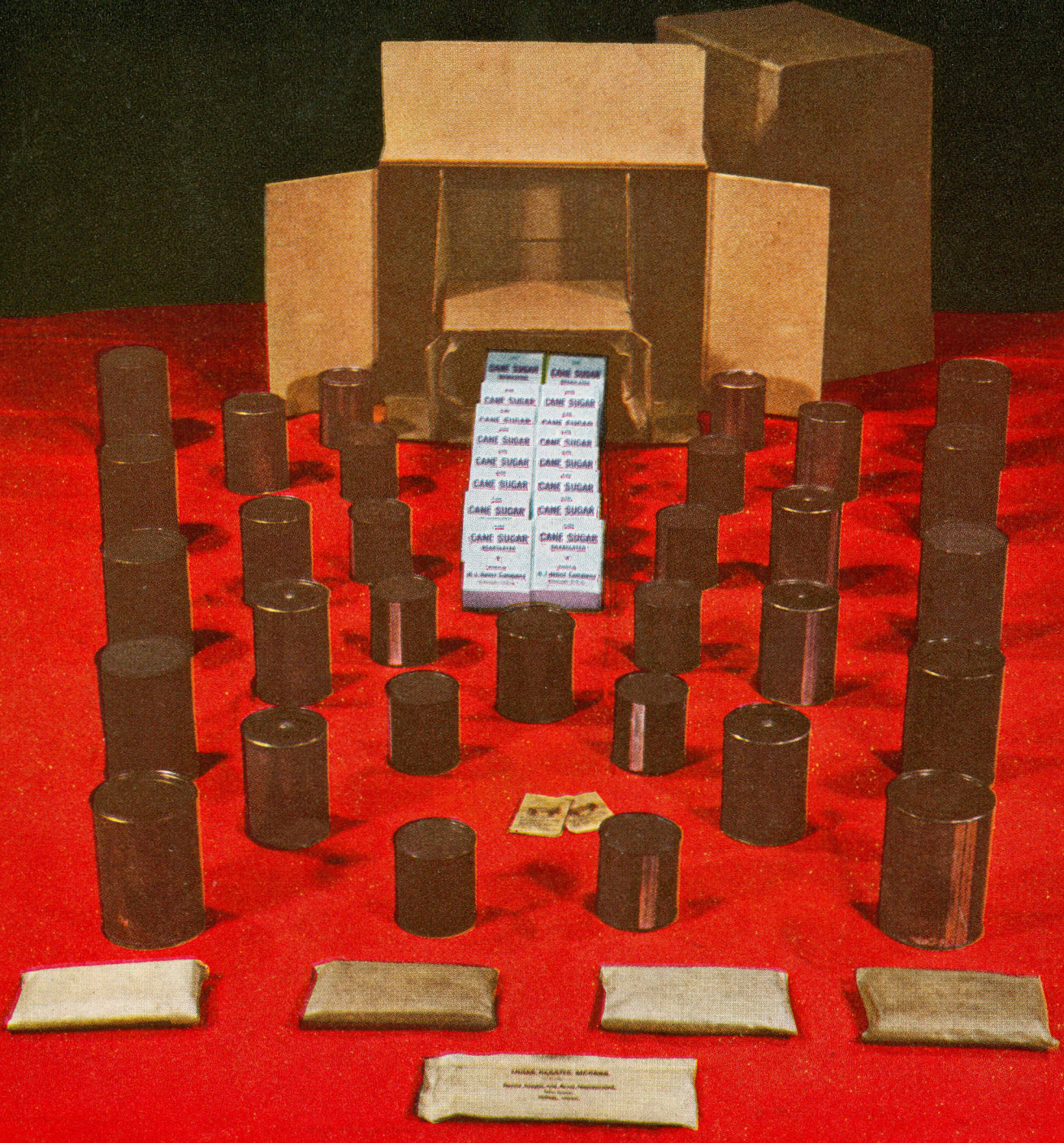
Each case contains one of five distinct menus and is marked accordingly, thus permitting each soldier fifteen different consecutive meals. The five menus are various combinations of 16 canned meat items, 3 types of biscuits, 5 types of puddings, 5 kinds of cereal, jam, vegetables, butter spread, sugar, milk, beverages, confections, and accessory items consisting of cigarettes, matches, can openers, toilet tissue, soap, water purification tablets, and paper towels.

From a nutritional point of view, the "10-in-1" is suitable for use in all climates, and is sufficiently resistant to hot and cold weather to permit storage and distribution under all climatic conditions.



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BEVERAGE PACK, AID STATION

Stock No. 56-B-15025

Supplements (12 oz. Drinks).....290 Case Weight.....40 Pounds
 Case Cubage.....1.1 Ft.



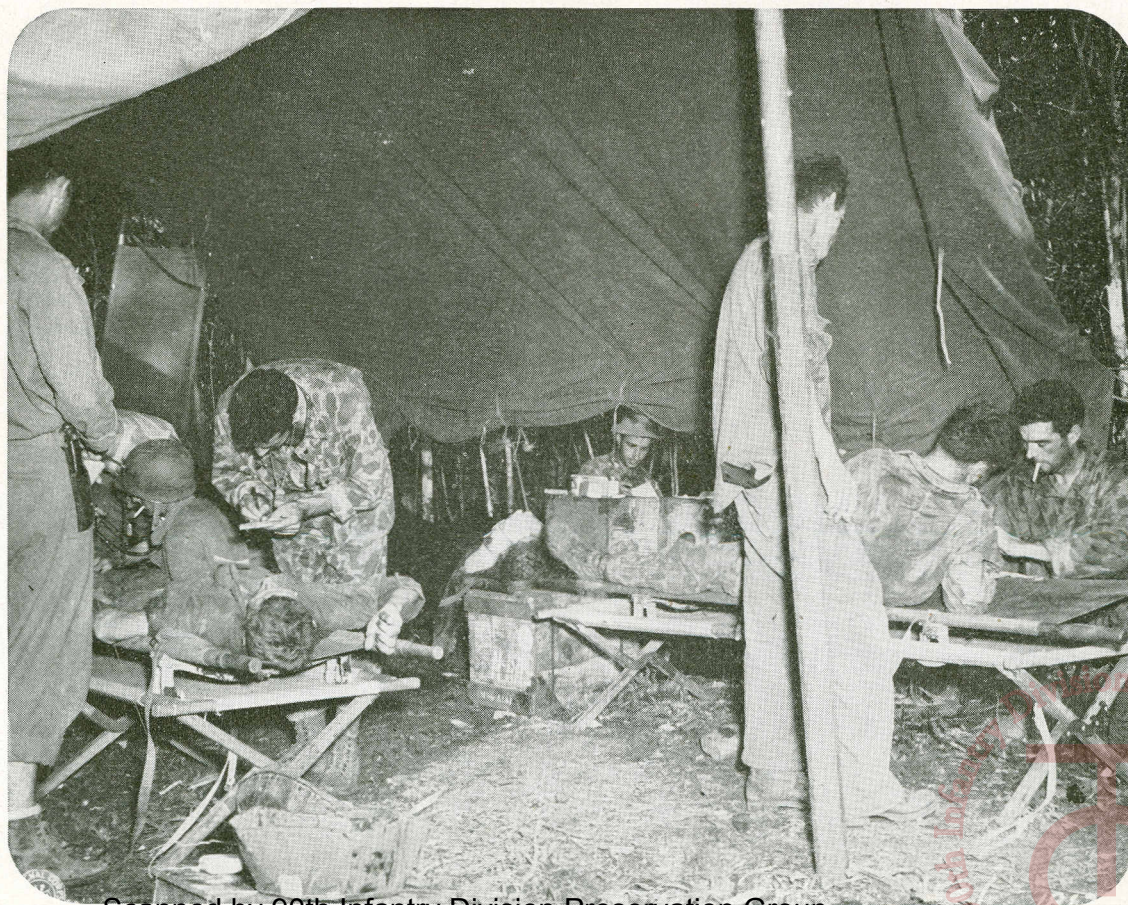
BEVERAGE PACK, AID STATION

A Ration Supplement

This ration supplement, first issued in January, 1945, was designed by the Quartermaster Corps to provide a variety of hot, stimulating beverages for casualties clearing through aid stations and aid station personnel, particularly litter bearers. The beverages, either coffee, tea or cocoa, offer nourishment, assist in the treatment of shock, and promote comfort and general well being.

The Aid Station Beverage Pack contains sugar, milk, toilet tissue, can openers and plastic sippers, in addition to the beverage components.

Intended as a supplement to the normal issue of prescribed rations, the Aid Station Beverage Pack is cased in a container that can easily be carried by one man, thus making it suitable for transport under all conditions of combat.



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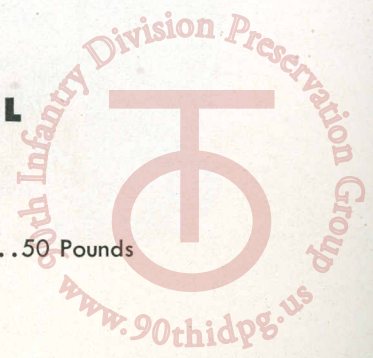


RATION, SUPPLEMENT, HOSPITAL

Stock No. 56-R-10650

Supplements.....25 Rations Case Weight.....50 Pounds

Case Cubage.....1.4 Ft.



RATION, SUPPLEMENT, HOSPITAL

A Ration Supplement

In answer to the need for a ration which could be used as a supplement to regular hospital feeding in theatres of operations, the Quartermaster Corps' Subsistence Research and Development Laboratory in Chicago in cooperation with the Surgeon General's Office and the medical profession developed the Hospital Supplement Ration, which was adopted as standard in November, 1944.

Designed for use in all medical installations other than aid stations, the Hospital Supplement Ration contains an assortment of nutritious, easily digested foods and beverages. Included is a variety of fruits, fruit juices, soups, compressed cereals, beverage ingredients, and various accessory items such as plastic sippers, can opener, paper towels and toilet tissue.



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SPICE PACK, KITCHEN

Stock No. 56-S-28500

Supplements.....1,000 Rations Case Weight.....40 Pounds
 Case Cubage.....1.2 Ft.



SPICE PACK, KITCHEN

A Ration Supplement

The Kitchen Spice Pack, a revision of the Condiment and Kitchen Accessory Kit, was developed for use in the more tasty preparation of B Ration dishes.

It contains an assortment of nineteen different spices, flavorings, extracts and leavening agents, including such new additions as sage, ground cloves, paprika, celery salt, garlic salt and chili powder.

Issued as a single unit to insure a balanced supply rather than to rely on a breakdown issue of each item, the Spice Pack Kitchen provides, in a single case, sufficient flavoring, seasoning ingredients and leavening agents for 1,000 B Rations.

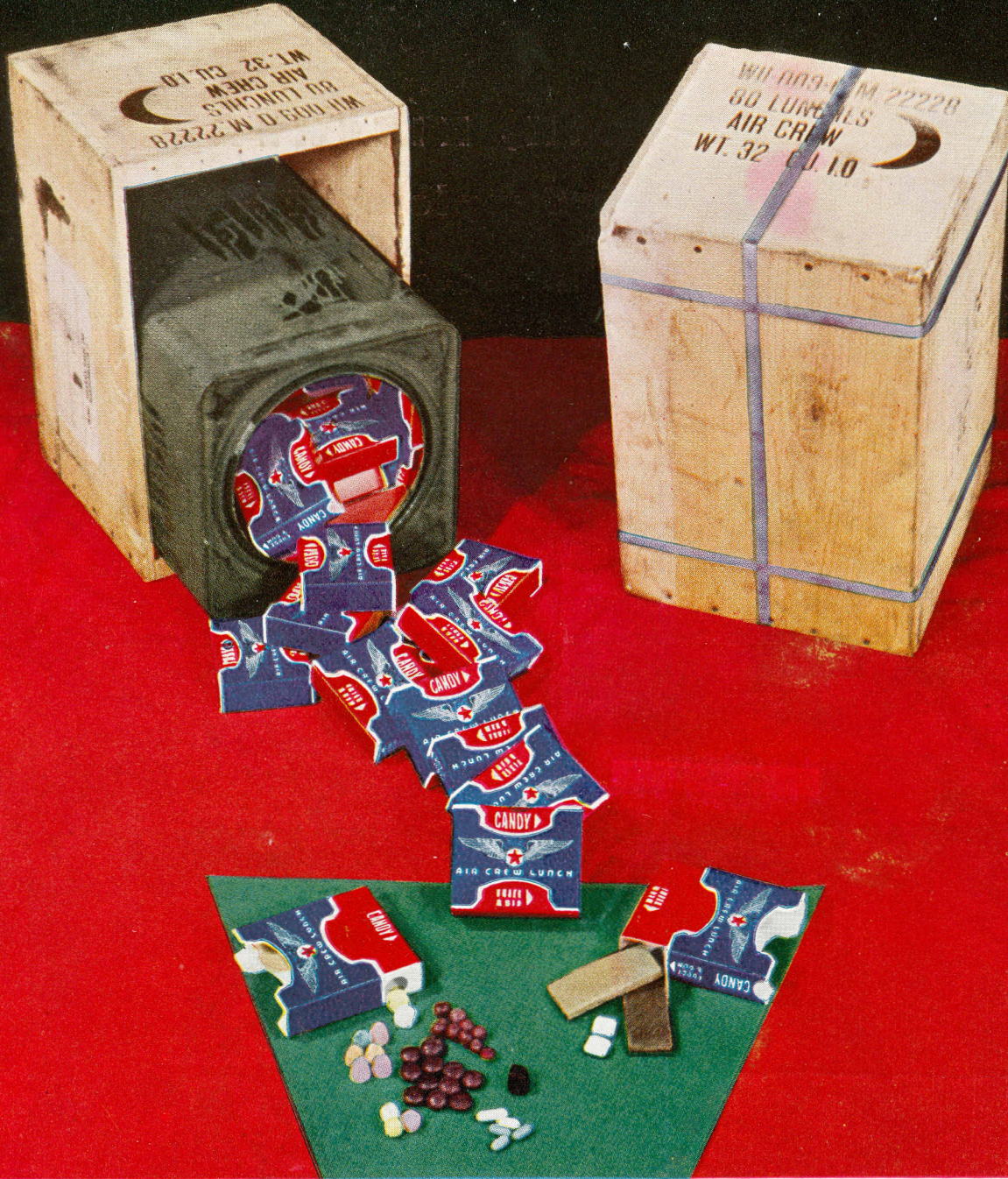
The various items are packed in rectangular metal containers with the exception of the cornstarch which is packaged in a sift-proof cardboard carton.

All the components are placed in a domestic corrugated box and overpacked in an asphalt laminated creped kraft bag. The whole assembly is then placed in a style IV-nailed wood box.



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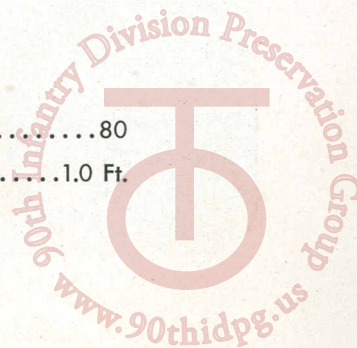
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LUNCH, AIR CREW

Stock No. 56-L-5775

| | | | |
|------------------------|---------|-----------------------|---------|
| Weight per Lunch..... | 4.8 Oz. | Lunches per Case..... | 80 |
| Case Weight..... | 32 Lbs. | Case Cubage..... | 1.0 Ft. |
| Calories per Lunch—470 | | | |



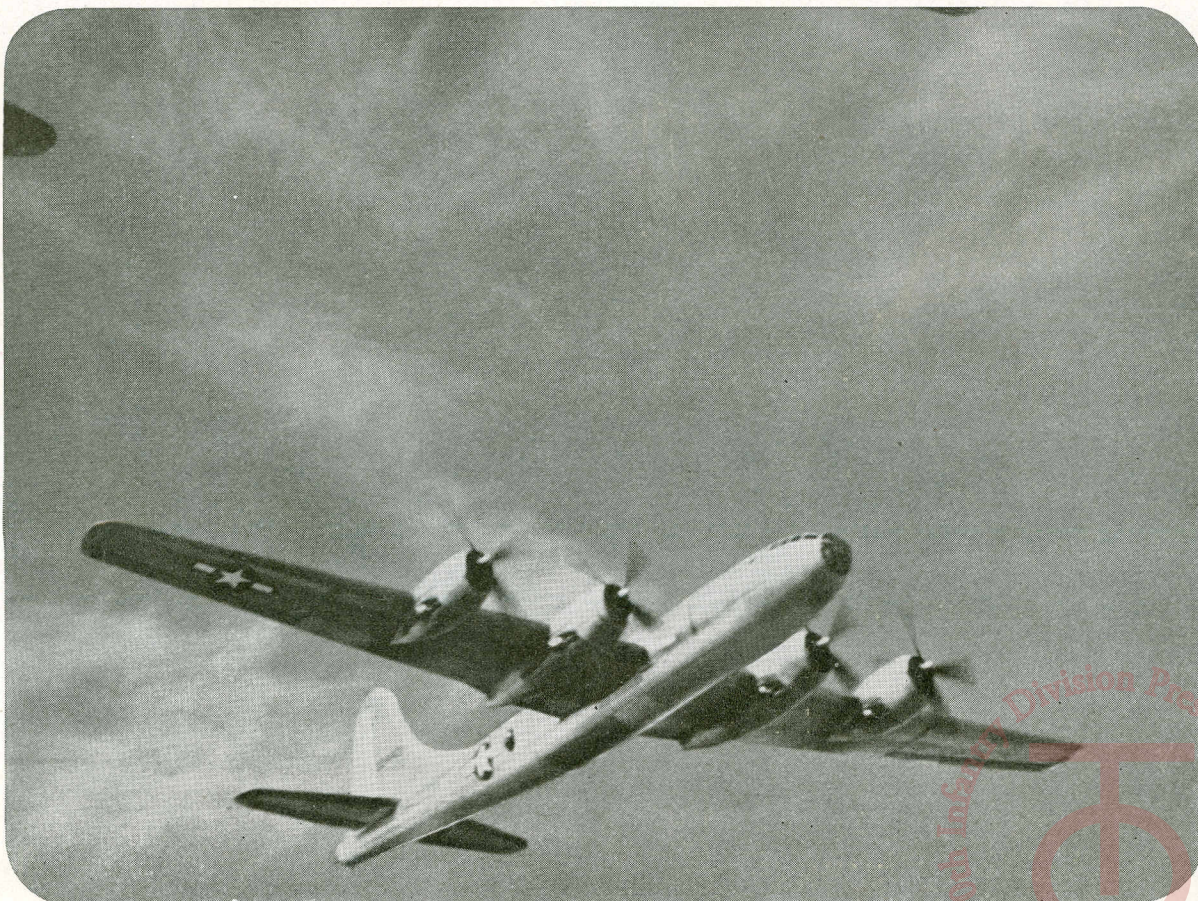
LUNCH, AIR CREW

A Ration Supplement — Air Force

The Air Crew Lunch is a sustaining ration for fliers unable to stop performance of their duties for a regular meal.

It has been found from experimental work and practical flying experience that a high carbohydrate diet increases both the efficiency and accuracy of the high altitude flier, as well as his resistance to fatigue. The Air Crew Lunch therefore is chiefly carbohydrate.

The package might be compared to a match box. By pushing one end, the flier without removing his gloves may have assorted candies. Pressure on the other end will enable him to obtain a fudge or chocolate bar and chewing gum. The package is purposely designed so that it will fit conveniently into his flying suit pocket.



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NOT PACKED FOR
OVERSEAS SHIPMENT



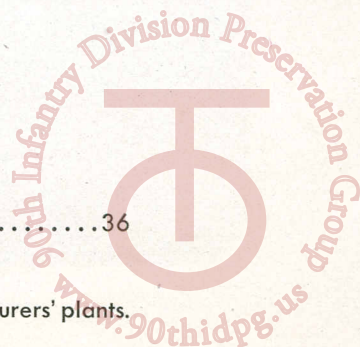
RATION, LIFE RAFT

Stock No. 56-R-7225

Weight per Ration.....1 Lb. 10 Oz. Rations per Case.....36

Calories per Ration—2,310

Not packed for overseas shipment, but stowed in life boats and rafts at manufacturers' plants.



RATION, LIFE RAFT

A Ration Supplement — Air Force

The Life Raft Ration, designed by the Quartermaster Corps to provide food best adapted for use by survivors of planes forced down at sea, is stowed in life rafts or life boats carried by planes.

The flier stranded on a life raft is likely to be much more concerned with thirst than with the prospect of starvation. Therefore, the paramount feature of this ration must be its ability to conserve the body fluids, as well as supply energy. This is accomplished in the Life Raft Ration by supplying a balance of foods which when consumed require a minimum of water. Chewing gum is added as the means of keeping the mouth moist. Also included are Vitamin B Complex Tablets, as it has been found by experience that in addition to whatever physiological benefits may be derived, vitamins as such are a potent morale factor.

This ration supplement is packed in an all metal container and assembled in the life rafts here in the States.



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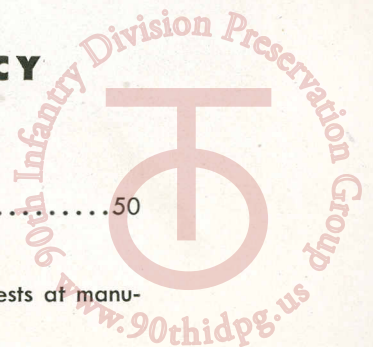
RATION, PARACHUTE, EMERGENCY

Stock No. 56-R-8600

Weight per Ration.....11.5 Oz. Rations per Case.....50

Calories per Ration—1,062

Not packed for overseas shipment, but placed in parachute emergency vests at manufacturers' plants.



RATION, PARACHUTE, EMERGENCY

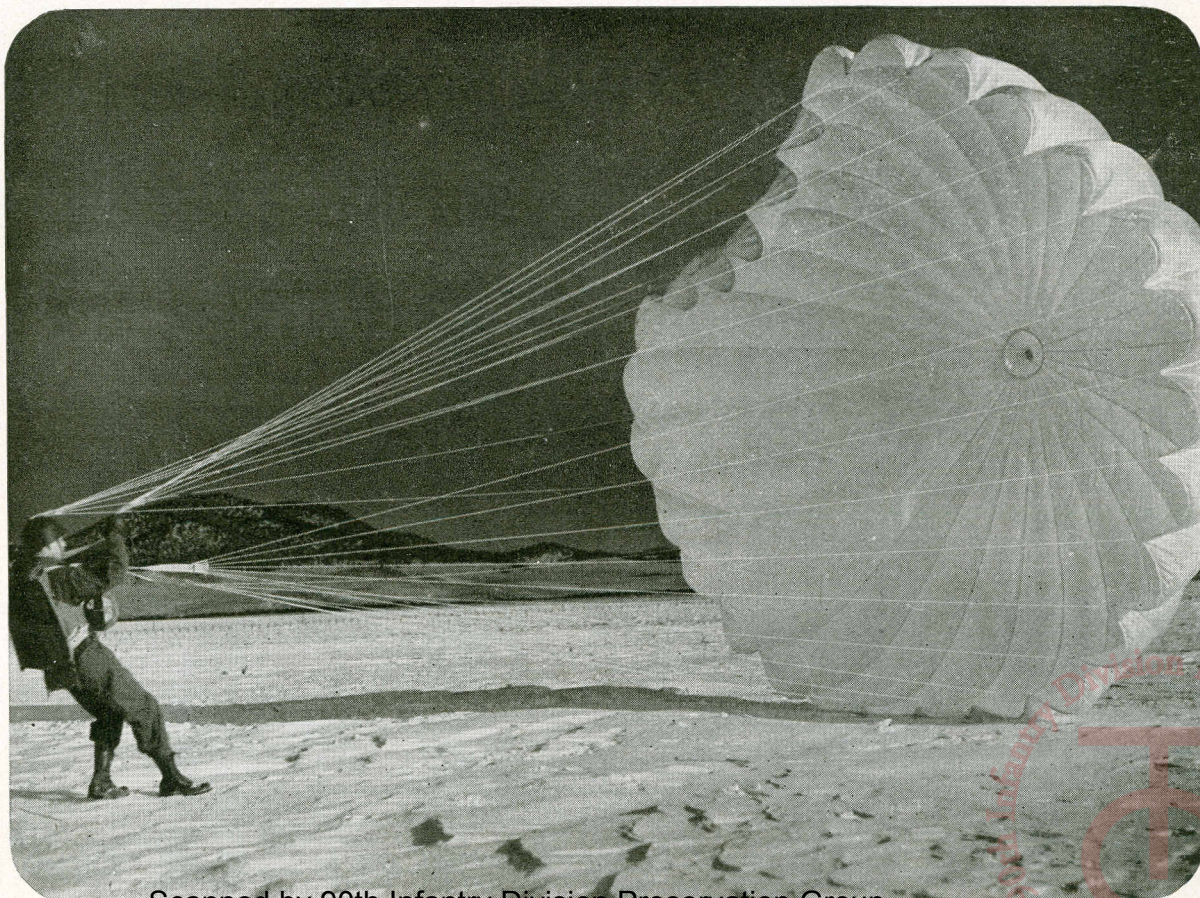
A Survival Ration — Air Force

The Parachute Emergency Ration was developed specifically for fliers who have to "bail out." Its package construction is such that it will fit neatly into the pocket of the flier's emergency vest.

Designed for limited subsistence, the Parachute Emergency Ration is composed of hard candy, chocolate bars, cheese and cracker bar, coffee, sugar, gum, bouillon cubes, cigarettes, water purification tablets, can opener and a laminated cellophane bag for carrying unused portions of the ration after the can has been opened. Each man carries two cans.

The individual components are packaged in various types of materials, such as grease-proof paper, laminated cellophane and laminated foil. They are then placed in a hermetically sealed seamless drawn metal fish-can type container.

They are assembled in the flying vest here in the States.



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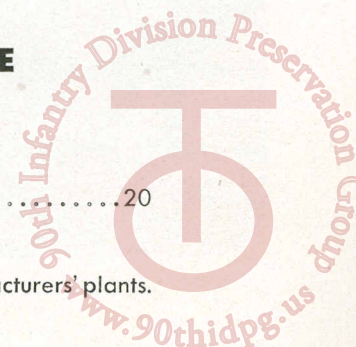
RATION, LIFE BOAT, AIRBORNE

Stock No. 56-R-6900

Weight per Ration.....5 Lbs. 7 Oz. Rations per Case.....20

Calories per Ration—1,900

Not packed for overseas shipment, but stowed in life boats and rafts at manufacturers' plants.



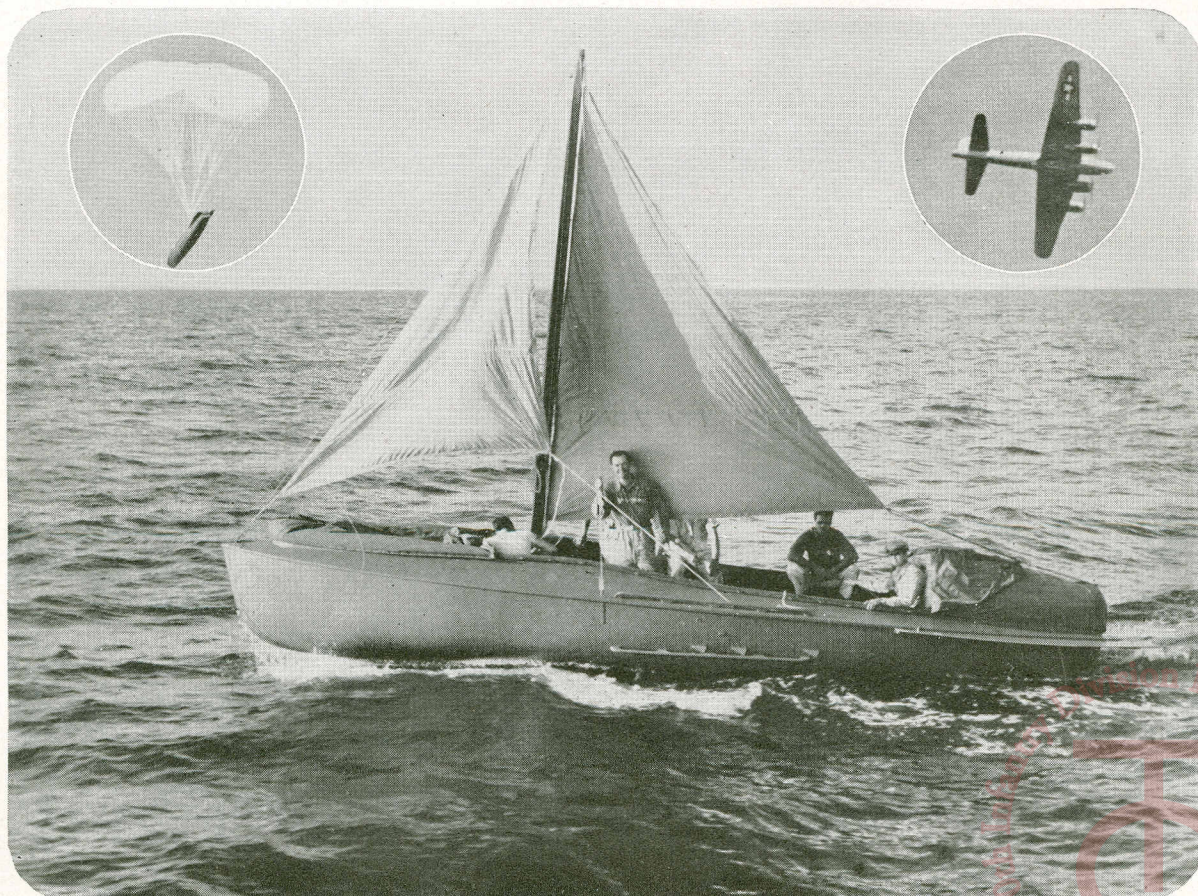
RATION, LIFEBOAT, AIRBORNE

A Survival Ration — Air Force

Military operations over broad expanses of water created the need for an airborne lifeboat and a special ration suitable for inclusion therein. To fill this need, the Quartermaster Corps first issued in September, 1944, a survival ration especially designed as part of the standard equipment of airborne lifeboats which are attached to the fuselage of a rescue plane and dropped by parachute.

The Airborne Lifeboat Ration provides breakfast and supper for two men and consists of various meat items, biscuits, hard candy, cereal, coffee, cocoa beverage powder, soup, matches, toilet paper and a can opener. In spite of critical weight and space factors, this ration is packed in the lifeboat in sufficient quantities to sustain ten men for twelve days.

Each airborne lifeboat carries 120 of these rations, which are supplemented by the previously mentioned Life Raft Ration.



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