

Name _____

Date _____

How Fast is Fast?

Activity Sheet

Combat Load of Average Infantry Soldier Winter 1944-45

Document B



CLOTHING	WEIGHT IN POUNDS
Underwear	0.43
Socks	0.19
Long John's	2.24
Pants and Shirt (wool)	2.82
Pants Belt with buckle	0.19
Knit Cap	0.13
Boots (with side buckle)	4.38
Field Trousers	2.00
Sweater (wool)	1.12
Field Jacket (1943)	3.30
Parka	2.81
Scarf (wool)	0.41
Gloves (wool)	0.13
Socks, extra	0.19
Blanket (wool)	3.69
Shelter, canvas	4.50
Personal Items (include toilet items)	1.90
TOTAL WEIGHT	30.52

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COMMON EQUIPMENT	WEIGHT IN POUNDS
Helmet, with liner, net	3.19
First Aid pouch, M1942	0.40
Canteen M1910 (cup and cover x2)	7.38 (filled) 3.69 each
Entrenching tool, with carrier	2.94
Suspenders M1936	0.95
Field Bag, M1936	1.81
K-ration, 3-meals	2.31
TOTAL WEIGHT	18.98

UNIQUE ITEMS	WEIGHT IN POUNDS
Radio, SCR 300	38.23
Transceiver	13.00
Battery Pack (BA-70)	15.00
Misc. Items (cables, frames, etc.)	8.43
Handset	1.80
Radio, SRC 511 (battery)	16.00
Radio, BC 6111 Handie Talkie	6.00
Binoculars with case	3.50
Gas Mask, M9 with carrier	4.00
TOTAL WEIGHT	105.96

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Bar Gunner's Load (total)	98.69
Rifleman's Load (total)	82.02

SOURCE: LTC Hugh F. Foster III (RET)

Activity Questions

Using the charts, complete the following math activities.

1. For a 150lb soldier, what percent of his body weight would be clothing gear?

2. Since D-Day was in the summer, eliminate gear that was wool. Replace the wool blanket with one that is half the weight. Replace the wool pants and wool shirt with ones half the weight. What is the new weight of the backpack and the percent of decrease of weight the soldier must carry?

3. What is the sum of the clothing backpack and the common equipment? What is the percent of change in the load the soldier must carry?

4. Do you think being a soldier would be more difficult in the winter months or in the summer months? What specific thoughts contribute to your answer?

5. What would be the most important personal item you would carry?