

UNITED STATES ARMY

TRAINING MANUAL No. 1

OFFICIAL UNIT MANUAL

FOR THE

133rd INFANTRY REGIMENT

34th INFANTRY DIVISION

PREPARED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF
THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER

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WORLD WAR TWO
HISTORICAL REENACTMENT SOCIETY INC.

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INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the 1st Battalion, 34th Infantry Division Reenactment group! We portray American soldiers of the 34th Infantry Division "Redbulls" between 1942 to 1945. These years were the main years in which American soldiers enlisted to serve overseas against the Axis powers. A big part of reenacting is portraying these American soldiers authentically, respectfully and with honour. For further questions, ask your unit CO or your squad NCO.

The 34th Infantry Division formed in August 1917. 100 years later in 2017 the 34th Infantry Division Reenactment group formed to honour and respect the original soldiers who enlisted to serve under this historical division.

Once you join the 34th Infantry Division Reenactment Group, you also join our parent organisation, the Historical Reenactment Society of New Zealand. The HRS is recognised by the NZ Police. A new member must have a New Zealand Firearms License or begin the process to obtain one within 6 months of joining. Every member who has one WILL carry their firearms license on them at events at all times.



A new member will undergo a probation period of either three months or three events (Including a battle) - whichever one is longer - and is subject to the final approval of the unit CO. Unit members pay a \$40 subscription to the Historical Reenactment Society of New Zealand.

AUTHENTICITY:

Authenticity is our number 1 priority within the reenactment group. We must be putting in our best effort to essentially bring back history. The uniforms worn need to be correct, we need the right equipment, and for the history buff 'elitists' of the hobby, walk and talk like they would of. It is understood that reenacting like this is hard for new recruits starting out in the hobby, so ask your CO and fellow unit members for spare kit, we're always happy to help out until you can purchase the kit required. It is advised that new members purchase their uniform and boots before anything else.

STRUCTURE:

Each reenactor who joins our ranks begins as a private. Privates were the majority within the ranks of the original United States Army, they were the General Infantry (GI's) who went out into combat. The ones leading them were the Non-Commissioned officers (NCOs) or the Commanding Officers (COs). The main soldier would be a basic rifleman who would be equipped with an M1 rifle (M1 Garand) or an M1903 Springfield.

TURNOUT -

The more the merrier with each event. Events come down into three categories. Training days, Parades, and Public events.

TRAINING -

We train each month, usually at MOTAT (Museum of Transport and Technology) in Auckland on the third Sunday of each Month. Your CO will inform the entire unit either through social media, email, or phone call if this changes as sometimes the training day can be held elsewhere, held on another date, an event may clash with the day, or the training day could be called off completely. Training consists of Foot Drill, Rifle Drill, Combat Drill, Physical Training, Weapon and Equipment training, and Patrols. This is all important to have a good understanding about who we are portraying.

RUCK MARCHES AND TACTICALS -

Sometimes the unit will go out ruck marching in full kit. This helps a bond form between members, gives some physical aspect to the hobby, gives a better understanding of what being a WWII infantryman had to do (We're not the armoured so no jeeps for us!). The ruck marches are also a lot of fun and a good day out with the unit to enjoy the company and surroundings, imagine it like a day hike in World War II gear! Tacticals are also an occasional event that the unit gets involved in. Tacticals are usually a Society event where simulated battles are done. This can go from either a day right through to 24 hours in a closed area with other units, this is a great training exercise for everyone involved.

PARADES -

The 1st Infantry attend service events and parades occasionally. These events are important, we need to look sharp and it is when our foot and rifle drill pays off. We wear our Class A uniform perfectly and neatly to remember who we're doing this for, the original members of the unit we portray.

PUBLIC EVENTS -

Public events are the most common out of the three types of events. These events are very important too, it's when we're in the public eye the most. It is why the training exercises are important as it is a time where we set up all of our kit and teach the public about the gear, the weapons, and the history behind the 1st Infantry Division. We usually wear our combat gear for these events as mock reenactment battles can be simulated. Overnight events means we can live in an authentic camp complete with WWII tents, campfires, and warm uniforms to have a great night shared with our fellow reenactors. If a member is approached by a member of any media

GROOMING-

As well as having the right uniform, members must keep up with the grooming standard. For parade events a clean shave and short back and sides is what is needed. Hair must remain short on the sides and back where it will be seen out from a helmet or cap. Hair can be longer on the top as that was quite common back in the 1940's within the youth, although short and slicked to the side is good. If we are at a public event where the time period is set for combat, light stubble can be allowed although it is not the best, always ask your CO about your facial hair and if it suits regulation.

If you are unsure just ask your barber for a short back and sides tapered or the "Mad Men" look. Moustaches were uncommon, especially if you were a private. Pencil moustaches were popular for the 1940's and there are some photos of servicemen sporting them, but if you can avoid facial hair. Ask your Commanding officer or other reenactors if they think it is acceptable for the time period and for your rank and place in the unit.



UNIFORM AND EQUIPMENT:

As said previously, authenticity is one of our biggest priorities within the unit. The biggest part of that is owning the correct gear. Within the So here are lists and photos of the kit and where to get your own.

THE BASIC INFANTRYMAN.

The regular GI would be equipped with the following kit:

- M37 wool shirt (More than one advised although not needed when starting)
- Wool trousers (Again, more than one advised)
- M41 Field Jacket
- Roughout boots/Type II service boots/jump boots (Any of the three)
- M1938 Leggings
- HBT uniform set
- Watch cap or Jeep cap
- M1 Helmet (Fixed Bales and front seam are good)
- Garrison cap with blue infantry piping
- M1923 Cartridge belt
- M1928 Haversack
- M1941 Canteen cover w/cup
- M1924 Carlisle pouch (Carlisle tin is good to have, but no big deal not to have)
- bandolier x2 (Optional)
- General Purpose Bag (Optional)



REENACTING AN AMERICAN FROM THE 1940's

As Historical reenactors, authenticity and realism is a big part of our hobby. We like to immerse ourselves and the public into the era to make history more interesting. Living in New Zealand may make it harder to act like an American from WWII as we're on the other side of the world, but we hope this page will help you with some information from the era. This should teach you how to act, walk, and talk like an American.

American Culture is a big part of this, American culture has very much shaped the world we live in today, so here are some things you yanks should know about American culture.

Baseball world Series (1941-1945) was the biggest and most popular past time sport that the Americans played. Baseball was always played by the American servicemen when they had some down time. Boxing was even intergrated into their training! So it is important you know the results of America's World Series from the time that they were serving their country-

1941- New York Yankees (Won)
1941- Brooklyn Dodgers (Lost)

1942- St. Louis Cardinals (Won)
1942- New York Yankees (Lost)

1943- New York Yankees (Won)
1943- St. Louis Cardinals (Lost)

1944- St. Louis Cardinals (Won)
1944- St. Louis Browns (Lost)

1945- Detroit Tigers (Won)
1945- Chicago Cubs (Lost)

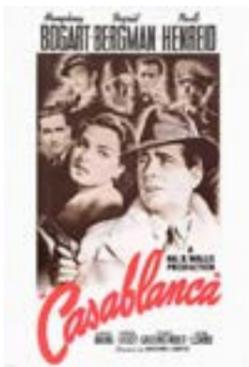


American troops tuned into the radio to listen to the World Series while serving overseas.

Slang and Lingo is very important. We can speak like this at events to immerse the public into the world of the American troops. It makes things realistic and interesting, rather than hearing a group of kiwis in American uniforms talking. They are good to throw into your conversations. There are many websites online that go over slang, as there is too much to include in this.

Music is a very important aspect of a GI's life. It's played in their camps, on leave, the U.S Army even had a swing band! Glenn Miller, Cab Calloway, Ella Fitzgerald, Billie Holiday, Benny Goodman, Bunny Berigan to name a few were big artists from the 1940's. Their songs fueled the American fighting machine and kept morale high. Swing music, Scat music, Jazz, and blues were the main genres of music that was popular during the 1940s.

Movies were a big part of American culture, movies with sound were out and every American soldier would flood the pictures when they weren't fighting or training. Casablanca (1942), Citizen Kane (1941), and the Maltese Falcon (1941) were big hits in America, so it's suggested you watch those three and more if you haven't already.



Food is also a big part of the American soldier's life. Even in New Zealand when the Americans were stationed here, they introduced our country to the wonders of processed food and what America had to offer. Spam, Coca-Cola, Hershey's Chocolate, so much of what you'd find in the aisles in your local supermarket today was brought over and first introduced by the Americans during World War Two. They had great ration packs too, full of coffee, crackers, candy, canned food. In that time, the K Ration pack was one of the best ration packs you could get. They even had tootsie rolls in their ration packs.

DRILL -

Drill gives this citizen's army of farm boys the discipline it needs to look sharp in front of his friends and foe. It keeps him and his buddies sharp and ready to go. We don't want a slack group of men wandering around, we want a quick and clean formation of troopers ready to impress! Here is a list of each drill you need to learn to serve in this man's army.

FOOT DRILL-
Right Phase
Left Phase
About Phase
Forward March
Left turn
Right turn
Halt
Attention
At ease
Stand easy

RIFLE DRILL -
Port arms
Shoulder arms (Right shoulder arms)
Left Shoulder arms
Present arms
Inspection arms
Order arms



All training will be taught to you on training days. This is just so you know what you will learn just in case you know them prior to doing training.



FIREARMS -

You must have your firearms license or be in the presence and have permission to handle a firearm from somebody who has one, no exceptions. **DO NOT CARRY A FIREARM WHILE WALKING AROUND WITH THE PUBLIC**

Firearms used by the 34th ID during WWII:

PISTOLS (manual and semi-automatic)

Colt Model 1903 Pocket Hammerless

Colt M1911A1

Colt/S&W M1917 revolver

Colt Official Police (Colt M1927 Aka "Colt Commando")

FP-45 Liberator (Dropped into occupied territories for use by insurgents)

Smith & Wesson M&P

AUTOMATIC PISTOLS AND SUBMACHINE GUNS

M3/A1 'Grease Gun' (.45 ACP / 9 mm Parabellum)

Thompson submachine gun (.45 ACP)

M50/55 Reising (.45 ACP)

M42 (UD42) (9mm Parabellum)

M2 'Hyde' (.45 ACP)

RIFLES

M1903 Springfield (.30-'06)

M1 Garand (.30-'06)

M1917 Enfield rifle (.30-'06)

M1941 Johnson rifle (.30-'06)

M1 and M1A1 carbine

Winchester Model 70

SHOTGUNS

Winchester M1897

Winchester M12

Browning Auto-5

Winchester Model 21

Remington 31

GRENADES AND GRENADE LAUNCHERS

M7 grenade launcher

Mk 2 grenade

MINES

M16 Mine

RECOILESS RIFLES

M18 recoilless rifle

FLAMETHROWERS

M1A1 flamethrower

M2-A1 flamethrower

Ronson flamethrower



Photo of the basic firearms used by the GIs during World War Two.

HISTORY OF THE 34th INFANTRY DIVISION

1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry Regiment, 34th Infantry Division "REDBULL DIVISION"

The 34th was originally activated as a Nation Guard unit in 1917 from the states of Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska and the Dakotas. The division began training at Camp Codey, in New Mexico. This led to the given name "The sandstorm division" and led to the invention of the distinct insignia of a red steer skull over a black olla (Mexican water jug). They were then given the name "RedBulls" by the Germans and adopted this unofficially until it later became permanent.

During the inter war years, the division continued to serve as a Nation Guard unit. The unit was incorporated in "precautionary training" during the year of 1941 with the build up to WW2. The division was part of the intense training seen at Camp Columbine, Louisiana following its official activation on February 10th.

WWII

Africa.

After the US entered the Second World War, the 34th took part in operation Torch on November 8th 1942, the allied invasion of North Africa. Elements of the 34th landed at Algiers, and joined other allied forces in chasing the German forces towards Tunisia. The operation was a success, however the division was involved in the heavy fighting that broke out in 1943 over the mountain passes at Faid pass, and Fondouk Gap, which saw many G.I.s captured, as well as heavy casualties were sustained during the battle of Kasserine pass.

During April 1943, the division was tasked with the capture of the German bastion of hill 609, a heavily fortified position that allowed the Germans to reinforce Africa via way of Sicily. After two days of heavy fighting, the division took the position, a victory the division was eager to achieve after the setbacks at Kasserine, Faid and Fondouk. Two weeks later German forces surrendered and the division was recognized as being battle hardened, and sent to garrison in Tunisia where rest and intense training began for their next major operation... Italy.

The 34th missed the invasion of Sicily as it instead underwent additional training in preparation for the invasion of Italy. The 34th was held in reserve, and later became a part of Clark's 5th army and arrived at Salerno and began a slow advance toward the north into the mountains. Tasked with taking the "Gustav line" which was a heavily fortified German line spanning the entire peninsula above Naples. The division fought hard through the weaving hills, freezing weather, and the rough Volturno River, capturing several key points along the way including Monte Pantano, Monte Chiaia, San Vittore, Monte Trocchio and the Rapido River. The German resistance was bitter and hand drew many allied troops into hand to hand fighting to route them from their positions in the hills. The worst was far from over as now the division was now caught in the grim and costly assault on the famed Monte Casino.

The division took on a series of hills leading up to Monte Casino, and attempted to assault the abbey itself but was forced backed from the heavy German resistance.

Due to the brutal fighting of the Italian winter, the division was pulled off the line for rest in mid February. The casualties sustained were once again a high toll for the division to pay for their efforts. With only a month to catch its breath, the 34th was called on to assist in the landings at Anzio, an



allied attempt to buy pass the Gustav Line. The 34th after encountering heaving German counter attacks broke out in May 1944 and assisted with the push into Rome on the 4th of June. ..Two days later the Allies invaded Normandy, France.

Next came the drive North and the division was once again caught in fierce, yet thinning resistance engaging the German forces at Belvedere, San Vincenzo, Cecina, Rosignano, Leghorn, and Pisa, as well as other locations. The 34th then went head to head with German forces at Arno River and the Gothic line near the Apennines and the campaign Po River Valley. The final major fight for the 34th came in April 1945 leading to the German rout in May. This lead to the elements of the German LXXV Corps surrendered to the 34th near Milan. A few days later the surrender of Germany was announced and the war in Europe had come to a close with the division near the borders Switzerland and France.



34th infantrymen at Monte Cassino

THE FORGOTTEN CAMPAIGN;

The Red Bull Division had adopted the phrase “ATTACK, ATTACK, ATTACK” early in the war as their battle cry, and an impressive 517 days on the line, and some elements seeing 600 days over five major campaigns. The division was highly rewarded for its efforts, but was quickly forgotten due to the invasion of Normandy, leaving the Italian campaign and the Allied troops whom fought in it, to become a forgotten campaign.

RANK

As we portray a U.S rifle squad, these were typically lead by sergeants acting as the squad leader and a corporal who would act as the assistant squad leader. As living historians we try to reenact this as accurately as possible by having rank based on numbers available to a U.S rifle squad. Rank is awarded by dedication, time, and effort the individual puts into the unit, and as a result is expected to live up to the responsibilities associated with the rank given.

QUALIFICATIONS AND AWARDS

Due to the fact that we are civilians and this is a hobby, it is ill advised to wear medals we didn't earn on our uniforms. This is because they were not earned in the line of service of one's country and it is disrespectful to the memory of veterans whom made the sacrifices in the line of duty. Due to this reason only the following awards have been allocated when the criteria has been met.

Rank - Contributing to the unit and being an official member of the unit. Wear the rank you have been promoted to only.



Good Conduct ribbon bar - Awarded after one active year within the unit



Unit Citation Award - Awarded after one 24 hour training session, one 24 hour tactical, and one 24 hour public event.



European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign ribbon - Awarded from 1942 onwards for servicemen in the ETO and MTO (Awarded after 2 completing 2 years of consistent attendance within the unit)



Infantry Combat Qualification Award - Awarded after you complete 20 consistent training sessions.



No other medals or awards should be worn unless authorised by the unit commanding officer.

Medals such as the American Defense Service ribbon should be avoided as it was awarded for active servicemen between September 8th 1939 and December 7th 1941. Another medal to be wary about is the Victory ribbon as it was post war (First awarded in 1946) and as we reenact troops between 1942 and 1945 it should be avoided as the war wasn't over yet.

DEALING WITH THE PUBLIC-

When a member is in uniform and the public are present, the member is to present themselves in a proper and respectful manner.

DEALING WITH THE MEDIA-

If approached by a representative of the media, be courteous and polite, direct them to the unit CO, and if you have the opportunity advise the kiwi CO so that they can be in attendance. Let the CO deal with the interview. A unified approach gives less of a chance of being misrepresented.

FARB -

The term "Farb" is a term used by Historical Reenactors to name the group of individuals in the hobby who use the incorrect gear. Here are some following examples of what you shouldn't do in reenacting:

- 1- In the eyes of the public, you use a cellphone and eat food out of modern packaging.
- 2- Wearing accessories like sunglasses and earrings.
- 3- Having long hair and a big bushy beard
- 4 - Having modern combat boots on and a modern surplus uniform, trying to pass it off as WWII.
- 5 - Leaving modern items such as food or clothing around the camp.

WHAT YOU DO INSTEAD-

- 1- Use your cellphone or eat modern food out the back of the camp, or eat food out of your canteen cup.
- 2 - Buy a pair of period sunglasses (And that doesn't mean aviators). Remove earrings before an event or tape them.
- 3 - A simple haircut and shave will do the trick. It's simple!
- 4 - If correct gear is unavailable, borrow what you need or get something as close as you can to it before replacing that item with the authentic counterpart.
- 5 - All troopers must have a duffelbag of some sort where they can stow their excess kit when it isn't needed.

NOTES



Thank you for reading! Good luck and have fun on your reenacting journey with us!

Written by Spencer Bott (2017)



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