

**1. Fallschirm Division
Fallschirmjäger Regiment 3
Lehrbataillon
3 Kompanie**

Unit Manual



Welcome to Fallschirmjäger Regiment 3!

Willkommen! This Unit Manual has been designed to give you a mid-level view of FJR3, with historical background and all the information you need for starting re-enactment as a Fallschirmjäger. For a deeper view or for any questions you might have, just ask the German CO, your Unit CO, or your Fallschirmkameraden.

Raison d'être

The purpose of our Unit is to re-enact the experience of the Luftwaffe Paratrooper as it occurred during the Second World War. We do this through first-person interpretation at living history events, public battles, and tactical battles within the operational parameters of the Historical Re-enactment Society. Our aim is to entertain and educate, whilst we ourselves learn more about the recent past.

We portray a unit from 3 Kompanie I Battalion (Lehrbatallion) Fallschirmjäger (Parachute) Regiment 3 (I/FJR3). Fallschirmjäger is usually translated as 'Hunter from the Sky'. We chose to portray FJR3 as this Regiment fought against 2nd NZ Division on Crete, in Africa, and finally in Italy.

FJR3 is absolutely NOT about politics, nor will we tolerate any individuals who wish to spread extremist views of any kind. Such persons will not be welcome in our Unit. Our members are students of history, and although we portray German Soldiers we are NOT Nazis. We wear the hakenkreuz (swastika) only because it was used throughout the Third Reich period (1933-1945) as a national symbol.

Remember - although we portray Germans, first and foremost we are patriotic Kiwis! We respect and honour the sacrifices that were made by our own men and women when called upon to serve our country.

HRS Requirements

When you join FJR3 you become a member of our parent organisation, the Historical Re-enactment Society Inc (HRS). The HRS is recognised by the NZ Police, and all events (either public displays or battles) are conducted under their auspices.

HRS rules require a member to either hold a valid NZ Firearms Licence or begin the process to obtain one within six months of joining the Society. Once a member is licenced, they must also purchase a standard firearm pertinent to their unit, which in FJR3's case is the Mauser K98 rifle. Whilst engaged in Society activities, members must carry their Firearms Licence at all times.

The new member will also undergo a probation period of either three months or three events (including at least one battle) - whichever takes longer - and is subject to the final approval of the Unit CO.

The HRS charges an annual membership subscription of \$40 per annum to facilitate the function and promotion of the society.

This is FJR3

History of the Regiment

In 1935 the Luftwaffe was officially created and a year later moves were taken to establish a parachute section using the former Prussian Landespolizei Gruppe 'General Goring'. The Army already had a parachute kompanie that was later raised to battalion strength. The two services paralleled each other until 1938 when Hermann Goring decisively brought all the parachute elements together under the control of the Luftwaffe as Fallschirmjäger Regiment 1 (Goring reasoned that anything that involved flying at all fell under the domain of his Luftwaffe). FJR2 was formed in early 1939.

The two regiments saw little action in the Polish Campaign; Hitler preferred to save his new regiments for operations that were more suited to their special skills. At the start of the Campaign in the West the both were kept very busy, with operations in Norway, Belgium, and the Netherlands.

Fallschirmjäger Regiment 3 was formed in August 1940 around a nucleus of veterans from FJR1. After eight months of intensive training, the unit was considered combat-ready.

Crete (Kreta) was to be the first test of the new Regiment, and they formed up as part of the largest German Airborne operation of the war. They were tasked with taking the capital, Chania, and all three battalions jumped in the first wave on 20 May 1941. After eight days of intensive fighting in difficult conditions, the Fallschirmjäger finally captured Chania.

They remained on Crete until July 1941, and after re-strengthening in Germany they were hurriedly sent to Russia in October to reinforce the front along the river Neva. Here they remained doggedly resisting Russian attacks until the depletion of numbers meant a return to Germany in December.

From January to June 1942, I/FJR3 became the '*Lehrbattalion*', testing new airborne tactics and weapons until it was assigned to Airborne Brigade *Ramcke* (as its 2nd Battalion) and dispatched to Africa. After landing in Tobruk, they moved to the front and were soon engaged the Battle of El Alamein. Cut off from the rest of the retreating Afrika Korps, they endured a 200 mile journey back to German lines, capturing a few British vehicles on the way. As the tide turned for the Germans in Africa, elements of the decimated Battalion were flown back to Germany and others escaped to Italy as the Afrika Korps capitulated in Tunis.

The Regiment returned to Russia in October 1942 and stoutly defended the Ribschevo sector until March 1943. After some rest in Germany it was moved to France, then to Sicily in July to meet the Allied invasion.

FJR3 was to remain in Italy until the end of the war. The IV Battalion was renamed I Battalion and veterans from Africa reinforced the newly renamed unit. After determined resistance against the Allies in Sicily the Regiment returned to the Italian mainland. I Battalion was taken to reinforce 16 Panzer Division at Salerno, later rejoining the rest of the Regiment at Ortona.

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FJR3 then played a pivotal role in the series of engagements that was the Battle of Cassino. From February to May the Fallschirmjäger defied all attempts by the Allies to take the town and Monastery Hill, despite the overwhelming numbers of men, and concentrated air and artillery bombardment that was reigned against them, and the high number of casualties they suffered. Bloodied but undefeated, the Fallschirmjäger withdrew as ordered only when the Allies' breach of the Gustav Line threatened to encircle the Cassino position.

From May 1944 to May 1945, FJR3 and the rest of 1st Parachute Division fought delaying battles as the Allies pushed onwards up the country, establishing and holding one defensive line after another. When the war ended, FJR3 was situated south-east of Bologna, and they finally surrendered to the US 88th Infantry Division on 2 May 1945.

Commanders of the Regiment

Oberst Heidrich	August 1940 to August 1942
Oberstleutnant Heilmann	November 1942 to October 1944
Oberstleutnant Schneider	November 1944 to May 1945

Commanders of I Battalion

Hauptmann Freiherr von der Heydte	August 1940 to May 1943
Major Böhmler	June 1943 to September 1944
Major Rohrbach	October 1944 to May 1945

Regimental and Divisional Symbols

Fallschirmschützenabzeichen

The parachutists badge, awarded upon completion of six jumps. The very hallmark of a Fallschirmjäger!!

Four-Leaf Clover

This was the official unit symbol of FJR3 was worn on caps and was found painted on vehicles and equipment belonging to the Regiment.

The badge of I Fallschirm Korps

The stylised parachute with red/black/white segments was used on official documents by the Division, and worn as an enamel badge on the left side of the various Fliegermützen.

Die Luftwaffe

Waffenfarbe (Arm of Service Colour)

Like the Army, the Luftwaffe employed a series of colours to denote the branch the wearer was serving in. This was called Waffenfarbe and is most commonly seen on the edge of shoulder boards and around the edge of collars. In the Luftwaffe's case, it was also used on the collar patches. Below is a small list of Luftwaffe Waffenfarbe.

Gold Yellow	Flying branch, and those not covered by other waffenfarbe
Red	Anti-aircraft Artillery
White	" <i>Hermann Goring</i> " Division
Dark Blue	Medical
Gold Brown	Air Signals
Jäger Green	Luftwaffe Field Divisions

Fallschirmjäger wear Gold Yellow Waffenfarbe.

Luftwaffe Rank Table

Hauptmann	Captain
Oberleutnant	1 st Lieutenant
Leutnant	2 nd Lieutenant
Stabsfeldwebel	Sergeant-Major
Oberfeldwebel	Master- Sergeant
Feldwebel	Technical Sergeant
Unterfeldwebel	Staff-Sergeant
Oberjäger	Sergeant
Hauptgefreite	Senior Corporal
Obergefreiter	Corporal
Gefreiter	Lance-Corporal
Jäger	Private

N.B. Exact parallels with Allied Army ranks are often not possible.

Military Etiquette

Address

NCOs (from Feldwebel and above) and all Officers are addressed as “Herr”. For example, “Herr Leutnant”, “Herr Hauptfeldwebel”.

Saluting

In the Luftwaffe, NCOs (from Feldwebel and above) and all Officers are saluted. The German hand salute is best described as a “loose” version of the British salute; the right hand is brought up closely to the outside, then raised, palm-forward to the visor or cap edge. The outside (heel) of the hand is at a very slight angle away from the vertical with the hand loosely together and the arm horizontal to the elbow and angled to the visor. **NEVER** give the “*Hitler Grüss*” (Nazi salute)!!

Hats, Helmets

Remove caps whilst indoors unless on duty. The level of preparedness of a soldier on duty was indicated by his headgear. Bareheaded, he may just want to talk; with cap on indoors he may be on official business; with stahlhelm on, he means action.

Uniform, Equipment, and Weapons

Uniform

As the Fallschirmjäger were part of the Luftwaffe, they wore basic Luftwaffe uniform with the addition of some items created specially for them. Hence, their look is completely different to that of the standard German Army soldier.

There are two types of uniform - winter temperate and summer tropical.

Stahlhelm / Steel Helmet

Fallschirmjäger Steel Helmet (due to the cost of these and reproductions, we also use the GSG9 helmet which is nearly identical). Can be worn with a cover in green or Splinter B material, or a helmet net.

M35 or M42 Steel Helmets can be worn instead of the FJ Helmet until one can be acquired.

Mütze / Cap

Temperate:

Fliegermütze - Flight cap, the "schiffschen" in blue wool.

M43 Einheitsfeldmütze - mountain-style cap, both one and two button varieties, in wool.

Schirmmütze - Peaked cap in blue wool, piped in yellow (ORs) or silver (officers).

Tropical:

Tropenfliegermütze - Tropical flight cap, in tan cotton drill.

M43 Tropeneinheitsfeldmütze - Tropical mountain cap, in tan cotton drill, no buttons.

Sommermütze - White-topped peak cap, piped in yellow (ORs) or silver (officers).

Hemd / Shirt

Temperate:

Mouse-gray wool knitted shirt without pockets.

Field-gray cotton shirt with pleated pockets.

Tropical:

Tan jersey-shirt with pleated pockets.

British/NZ shirts in tan cotton drill with pleated pockets are also acceptable.

Dienstanzug / Jacket

Temperate:

Luftwaffe Fliegerbluse in blue wool.

Tropical:

Luftwaffe Tropenrock in tan cotton drill with four pockets.

Fallschirmshützenbluse / Paratrooper Smock

Smock 2nd pattern in green cotton drill with four pockets, side zips and step-in legs.

Smock 3rd pattern in Splinter B cotton drill with four pockets and button-up legs.

Hosen / Trousers

Temperate:

Fallschirmhosen in green or gray wool, with knife pocket, pocket flaps and leg ties.

Kielhosen M43 in gray wool.

Tropical:

Überfallhose - tropical trousers in tan cotton drill with large map pocket on left leg.

Fußbekleidung / Footwear

Jump boots 1st pattern - side lacing (11 eyelets).

Jump boots 2nd pattern - front lacing (10 eyelets).

Equipment

The Luftwaffe used brown leather equipment at the start of the war, but progressed to black as the war went on. By 1943 standard army leather equipment was much in evidence, as was Army tropical webbing. Combinations of the leather and web types were not uncommon.

Leather and Web Equipment

Koppel - Waist Belt.

Koppelträgestell - Y-straps Luftwaffe pattern, narrow without secondary tabs and d-rings (leather only).

Koppelträgestell - Y-straps Army pattern, wide with secondary tabs and d-rings.

Belt loops with d-ring.

Koppelschuhe Unberittene - Bayonet Frog, infantry pattern.

Koppenschuhe für Berittene - Bayonet frog, mounted pattern with securing strap.

Tasche - Entrenching Tool cover #1 with open back.

Tasche - Entrenching Tool cover #2 with closed back.

Tasche - Entrenching Tool cover #3 in pouch style for folding tool (leather only).

Pistol Holster for P08, P38, or other (leather only).

Mantelriemen - Equipment straps with extra strap and dome.

Kochgeschirr Riemen - Mess kit straps without strap and dome.

Koppelschloß / Belt Buckles

ORs box pattern with Luftwaffe emblem in aluminum, greyblue, or tan.

Officers pattern with two-prong claw buckle in aluminium or tan.

Klappspaten / Entrenching Tools

Squared shovel in one piece.

Wedged shape with folding arm and bakelite securing lug.

Patronentasche / Ammunition Pouches

Mauser K98 ammunition pouches in black or brown leather.

Fallschirmjäger ammunition bandolier in either green, blue, tan, or Splinter B cotton drill.

MP40 canvas ammunition pouches.

MP43/44 canvas ammunition pouches.

Feldflasche / Canteen

Aluminium bottle, brown-grey wool (Army) cover, black leather straps, green metal cup.

Aluminium bottle, bluegrey wool (Luftwaffe) cover, black leather straps, black metal cup.

Compressed wood bottle with no cover (tropical), web straps, brown or black plastic cup.

Gasmaske u. Tragbuchse / Gasmask Containers

M36 gasmask tin with web straps.

Fallschirmjäger canvas gasmask bag with web straps.

Other Equipment

Kochgeschirr - Mess kit, 2-piece in grey or green.

Seitengewehr - K98 Bayonet with scabbard.

Brotbeutel - Breadbag in Luftwaffe blue (Army green or khaki canvas as second choice).

Zeltbahn - Shelter-quarter in Splinter material with poles and pegs.

Gravity Knife - Steel blade with wooden handle and marlinspike.

Erkenningsmarke - Dog tags.

Gasplane - Gas-sheet bag.

Essbesteck - Eating utensils.

Hosenträger - Trousers suspenders.

Miscellanea

Jump Gloves - black or grey leather.

Mittens - grey wool.

Toque - green-grey wool.

Glasses - round 1930s-40s type.

Sunglasses - round 1930s-40s type.

Gas Goggles - German or British made from celluloid.

Soldbuch - personal military record, carried at all times.

Scarf - silk, made from parachute silk or blue with white polkadots.

Binoculars - small sets, German or French manufacture with strap and restraint.

Goggles - German or French manufacture.

Map Case - Black or brown leather

Torch

Basic Uniform - Winter

Stalhelm

Hemd

Fallschirmshützenbluse

Fallschirmhosen / Kielhosen

Koppel mit Koppelschloß in grey-blue or aluminium.

Fußbekleidung

Basic Uniform - Summer

Stalhelm

Tropfenhemd

Fallschirmshützenbluse

Überfallhosen

Koppel mit Koppelschloß in grey-blue or tan.

Fußbekleidung

Weapons

The primary weapon of the Wehrmacht until the end of the war was the Mauser K98 carbine. Every member of FJR3 will have their own K98 for drilling purposes and for parades. This needs to be purchased within six months of joining the HRS. WWII or later manufacture is permitted, to be authorised by the Unit CO. Purchase and use of German firearms other than the K98 for re-enacting purposes should first be discussed with the Unit CO. The Germans also utilised weapons of foreign manufacture, and the HRS has made allowance for this. If you wish to use a firearm other than German issue, discuss this first with the Unit CO.

German Firearms

- Mauser K98
- Mauser Gew43
- MP38/40
- MP43/44
- MG34
- MG42
- Luger P08
- Walther P38

Italian

- Beretta MP38

Russian

- PPsH 41 MP
- PPs 42/43 MP

Polish

- Radom Pistol

Belgian

- Browning Pistol

Note: Imitation pistols may also be carried if the user does not have a B Class Firearms License. Fallschirmjäger normally carried a sidearm, usually a P08 or P38 but sometimes a captured pistol. **DO NOT CARRY YOUR SIDEARM WHILST WALKING AMONGST THE PUBLIC**

Combat Decorations and Qualifications

Whilst no-one can qualify for the following Decorations and trade qualification awards, it is felt that to fulfil our twin aims of Historical/Education and Theatrical/Entertainment the wearing of Medals/Badges with the utmost respect and honour for those that actually earned and wore them is warranted.

All earned awards will be worn in accordance with *Wehrmacht* regulations.

Awards will be authorised and issued by the Unit Commanding Officer.

Awards earned prior to transferring into the unit are subject to approval.

To recognise the age variation and /or experience of the unit members there is to be a 'Veterans' category. This is for those forty years of age and over. Plus early members of the unit. This at time of print includes... Kerry Adams, Phil Kenny, Jani Kovacs, and Craig Tuohy.

'Non Veterans' are all those under forty years of age, or the more recent members.

COMBAT DECORATIONS

Erdkampfabzeichen der Luftwaffe

Luftwaffe Ground Combat Badge

Instituted March 1942 and awarded to Luftwaffe soldiers (Fallschirmjäger and Field Division) for participation in three ground combat actions on three different days. Worn on the left breast.

The Erdkampfabzeichen der Luftwaffe is awarded to all FJR3 members who have obtained Basic kit, shown regular attendance and co-operated at all manner of events, and have participated in three battle units

Fallschirmschützenabzeichen

Parachutist Badge

Instituted November 1936 and awarded for completion of parachute training and six qualification jumps. Worn on the left breast.

The Fallschirmschützenabzeichen is awarded to all FJR3 members who have completed 18 months service and eight battle units

Eisernes Kreuz 2. Klasse

Iron Cross 2nd Class

Re-instituted September 1939 for a single act of bravery in combat beyond the normal fulfillment of duty. Worn as a ribbon in the buttonhole or on the medal bar.

The Eisernes Kreuz 2. Klasse is awarded to all FJR3 members who have two years service and participated in ten battles units.

Kreta Ärmelbande

Kreta Cuff Title

Instituted October 1942 for members of the Wehrmacht that participated in the Battle of Crete. Worn on the left sleeve above the cuff.

The Kreta Ärmelbande is awarded to FJR3 'Veteran' members who have three years service and participated in fifteen battle units.



Nahkampfspange der Heer

Army Close Combat Clasp (Bronze)

Instituted November 1942 for bravery whilst in close combat. Worn above the medal bar.

The Nahkampfspange is awarded to FJR3 ‘ Non Veteran’ members who have completed three years service and fifteen battle units.

Eisernes Kreuz 1. Klasse

Iron Cross 1st Class

Re-instituted September 1939 for three to five acts of bravery in combat beyond the normal fulfillment of duty. Worn on the left breast.

The Eisernes Kreuz 1. Klasse is awarded to all FJR3 members who have four years service and participated in twenty battles units.

Afrika Ärmelbande

Afrika Cuff Title

Instituted in January 1943 for all members of the Wehrmacht that had served with the Afrika Korps. Worn on the left sleeve above the cuff.

The Afrika Ärmelbande is awarded to FJR3 ‘Veteran’ members who have completed five years service, and twentyfive battle units.



Nahkampfspange der Heer

Army Close Combat Clasp (Silver)

Instituted November 1942 for bravery whilst in close combat. Worn above the medal bar.

The Nahkampfspange is awarded to FJR3 ‘ Non Veteran’ members who have completed five years service and twentyfive battle units.

Erdkampfabzeichen der Luftwaffe mit 25

Luftwaffe Ground Combat Badge 25 class

Instituted November 1944 and awarded to Luftwaffe soldiers (Fallschirmjäger and Field Division) for participation in 25 ground combat actions.

The Erdkampfabzeichen der Luftwaffe is awarded to all FJR3 members who have completed twentyfive battle units. Replaces the previous Ground Combat Badge.

Nachrichtenpersonalabzeichen

Signals Operator Badge

Worn on the lower left sleeve.

The Nachrichtenpersonalabzeichen is awarded to FJR3 members who hold a CB or Amateur Radio licence, or who are qualified radio/technical personnel.

Sanitätsunterpersonalabzeichen

Medical Personnel Badge

Worn on the lower left sleeve.

The Sanitätsunterpersonalabzeichen is awarded to FJR3 members who hold medical qualifications, or have completed an Advanced First-Aid course.

Ritterkreuz des Eisernes Kreuzs

Knights Cross of the Iron Cross

Instituted September 1939 for extreme and conspicuous acts of bravery, and as a reward for commanders performing above expectations. A recipient was only eligible for this award after winning the Iron Cross 1st and 2nd Classes (although in a few instances all three were awarded at once). Worn around the neck.

The Ritterkreuz des Eisernes Kreuzes is awarded to FJR3 members who save a life while participating in an event. If necessary the *Eisernes Kreuz 2. Klasse* and *Eisernes Kreuz 1. Klasse* will be awarded simultaneously with this award.

Verwundeten-Abzeichen

Wound Badge

Re-instituted September 1939 and awarded to all personnel who suffered wounds due to enemy action. Worn on the left breast. In three classes:

Black - one or two wounds

Silver - three or four wounds

Gold - five or more wounds.



The Verwundeten-Abzeichen is awarded to FJR3 members who require medical attention for a battle wound within 24 hours. There are three categories:

Black - wounds requiring stitches or bandaging

Silver - a subsequent Black Badge wound, or a wound requiring a cast

Gold - a subsequent Silver Badge wound, or a wound requiring hospitalisation.

NOTE: Obergefreiter Kaufman will maintain a record of members attendance. When the required number of Battle Units has been attained, he informs FJR3 C.O. Oberjager Kessler then writes the award certificate which is then signed by G.C.O. Stabsfeldwebel C.Barczewski. At the next available meeting a presentation will be made. That completes the process, and the award may be worn with the pride and respect it deserves.

Unit Structure

Section Structure

The section structure is at the Unit CO's discretion, on advice from the Authenticity NCO, but must not deviate too much from historical norms.

Gruppe (Section) Structure:

One **Gruppe** consists of 8 *Jaeger* - commanded by one *Unteroffizier* (Gruppefuhrer), one *Obergefreiter* (Truppfuhrer or 2IC), remaining ranks *Jägers* and *Gefreiters*.

Two **Gruppe** consisting of 16 *Jaeger* - commanded by either one *Feldwebel*, plus the normal Gruppe structure listed above.

Three **Gruppe** consisting of 24 *Jaeger* - commanded by one *Leutnant* (Zugfuhrer), one *Feldwebel* (2IC), plus the normal Gruppe structure listed above.

Three sections now comprise a '**Zug**' (the German equivalent of a New Zealand/English Platoon).

Rank – Awarding and Removal

Rank can be conferred by the Unit CO, but must be confirmed by the Unit as a whole. All ranks are honorary - orders will only be given during training drills or battles. At other times requests only may be made, but please try to agree to these requests if possible.

The Unit CO is appointed at the unit meeting after the HRS AGM. The Unit CO can be replaced in two ways. Firstly he can voluntarily hand command over to someone else; the new appointment must be confirmed by a majority of Unit members. Secondly the Unit CO can be removed at a Unit meeting by a majority vote of all Unit members. Removal of a Unit member is a drastic action that must only be taken as a last resort.

All new members start as a **Rekrut** until the probationary period is completed. They then become a **Jäger**.

Promotion to **Gefreiter** can be awarded after a minimum of 18 months service, on the approval of the Unit CO and completion of all of the following-

- paid their annual membership fees,
- participated in five battles (including one weekend Tactical),
- attended 6 training days (or appropriate alternative approved by the Unit CO),
- acquired a current Firearms Licence Class A (at least),
- acquired a complete basic uniform (Winter),
- can recite the first verse of *Deutschland Über Alles*,
- can recite the first verse of *Das Fallschirmjägerlied (Rot Scheint de Sonne)*, and
- can complete the following drill to a satisfactory standard- *Das Gewehr Über, Gewehr Ab, Stillgestanden, Ruhurt Euch* and *Marsch* .

Promotion to **Obergefreiter** can be awarded after a minimum of 24 months service, on the approval of the Unit CO and completion of all of the following-

- paid all their annual membership fees,
- participated in ten battles (including 3 weekend Tacticals),
- attended 10 training days (or appropriate alternative approved by the Unit CO),
- have a current Firearms licence Class A (at least),
- own a K98 Rifle as approved by the Unit CO,
- acquired a complete basic uniform (winter), and field equipment
- attained the *Fallschirmschützeabzeichen*,
- can recite the complete *Deutschland Über Alles*,
- can recite the complete *Das Fallschirmjägerlied*,
- plus recite the first verse of the FJR3rd unit song (whatever it is) and
- can complete all basic drill competently.

Promotion to **Unteroffizier** can be awarded after a minimum of 36 months service, on approval of the Unit CO and completion of all of the following-

- paid all their membership fees,
- participated in 15 battles (including 5 weekend Tacticals),
- attended 15 training days (or appropriate alternative approved by the Unit CO),
- have a current firearms licence Class A (at least),
- own a K98 Rifle as approved by the Unit CO,
- acquired both complete basic uniforms (winter and summer) and field equipment,
- can recite all 3 of the Units songs,
- can demonstrate a good knowledge of the unit's history,
- can give accurate, short lectures on unit history, correct wear of uniforms, unit tactics, assist new Jäger, etc,
- can complete all basic drill competently and demonstrate a basic understanding of drill leadership, and
- assist the Feldwebel as required.

Promotion to **Feldwebel** and above can be awarded after a minimum of 48 months service, on approval of the Unit CO and completion of all of the following-

- paid all their membership fees,
- participated in 20 battles (including 8 weekend Tacticals),
- attended 20 training days (or appropriate alternative approved by the Unit CO),
- demonstrated competent leadership ability both on and off the battlefield.

Note: The Unit CO or German CO may at any time promote an individual to a higher rank at their discretion, subject to the approval of the Unit as a whole. This promotion can be made irrespective of whether or not the individual has met the qualifying criteria.

Unit Meetings

The Unit CO will act as the Chairman (or designate someone in his place if unable to attend) during Unit Meetings, which will be held on training days after training. Members must advise whether or not they are able to attend in advance.

Unit Responsibilities

To be decided.

Your Impression and Conduct

Your Self

So now you look like a Fallschirmjäger. You have the uniform, the weapon, the knowledge. One way you can further extend the authenticity is to adopt a German character or persona whilst you re-enact. Its not too difficult; all it takes is some imagination and a bit of research, and it adds another dimension to your portrayal. Here are some simple suggestions to get you started.

Name

The first thing you need is an identity. Choosing a name is a fun exercise. You **ca**n use your own name if its of German extraction (or even translate it from its current language to German), use the name of a relative, or use a German name that catches your fancy. Or, you could take the name of a Fallschirmjäger from I/FJR3 that was killed in action - its a great way to honour their memory!

Be careful in selecting a name. Don't try for obvious names like "Steiner", "Bismarck", "Shicklegruber" and others of the like- you won't be taken seriously. And avoid the "von" prefix as well. Nobility rarely served as other ranks - they would be officers.

Where are you From

From where in the Reich are you? From one of the well-known cities or towns, or from a small village in Thuringia? Try to find a pre1945 map of Greater Germany and have a look around for a place that catches your eye. Have you lived there all your life, or have you moved around a bit?

Birthday

When were you born? Our impression is set in 1943/44, so count backward to get your year of birth.

Family

What is your family like? Are both parents still alive? Where do they live? Do you have siblings? If so, how many? What is your father's profession, or is he retired?

About You

Are you married / engaged / divorced / a widower? Do you have children? If so, what are their names and ages? What class in society are you from? What was your profession before the war? Were you in the Hitler Jugend / in the SA / in the SS / a member of another Partei organisation? Did you do your time in the Labour Service? Do you have higher education? Are you religious?

Military Career

Did you volunteer to be a FJ? Were you conscripted into the Luftwaffe? Did you transfer from another Luftwaffe branch, or from the Army? Which campaigns have you been in? Have you any decorations / awards? Received any wounds? Were you in the Great War?

Using these questions as a starting point, you can build up a detailed background to your persona, and eventually fill out a reproduction *Soldbuch*, the soldier's personal record book that they carried at all times.

Behaving as a German

Even if you don't have a German identity or persona, you need to behave like a German when you wear the uniform. Now, this doesn't mean goose-stepping everywhere and talking in a fake German accent. Remember, its not *Hogan's Heroes*, and that's not our aim!

Behaving like a German soldier means having pride in yourself and your unit. Wear your uniform correctly, and keep it as tidy and maintained as possible- we're not on the parade-ground, but we're not sloppy either. Don't be tempted to wear non-period uniform or equipment. Check with your Unit Commander, Authenticity NCO, or Fallschirmkameraden if you have any doubts. If your Fallschirmkameraden have adopted German names, then use them and use their ranks as well, and accord those ranks the appropriate respect.

And the Cardinal Rule- ensure that your rifle is cleaned after each engagement!

Use as many German words as possible in your conversation- call your uniform and equipment and weapons by their German names. If you speak German, so much the better! If you don't, then its not too difficult to make yourself sound more German by using a few German words in the right place and using German pronunciations- 'W' said as 'V', 'V' said as 'F', 'J' said as 'Y'.

Behaving as a German Member of the HRS

When in German uniform you are not only representing the unit you portray, you also represent the HRS. It has taken us a long time to build up goodwill with various military institutions, the public and the Police, to the point where we feel we act professionally and they all expect that we will act professionally- in all situations.

Don't forget that we re-enact under the auspices of the Police. If they feel that we are not behaving in a manner they believe is appropriate, then they are fully justified in withdrawing their support and will prevent us from further reenactment. As well as conduct with firearms, this also refers to our behaviour in public whether as a group or as individuals. And an individual's questionable behaviour in uniform will reflect upon the HRS as a whole.

The final analysis is this- if you are going to do something in uniform that some may consider "questionable", ask yourself - "Is there a possibility that my actions may have negative consequences for myself or for the HRS?" If the answer is 'yes', then **DON'T DO IT!!!**

Simple, isn't it?

Dealing with the Public

Being in uniform in public is a very fun and rewarding experience, as the public get to see us and all the neat things we have and we get to educate them just a little bit. But it also has its pitfalls. Two things must always be remembered:

- 1/ Germany lost the war
- 2/ History is always written by the Victor.

The American experience has shown that in all but a few cases, the public have a limited knowledge of the war and that knowledge is always presented from the viewpoint of #2 above. Thus there will always be a certain stigma attached to reenacting a German unit.

You will find that 99.9% of the public likes what we do, is entertained by it, and is openminded enough to learn something from us. But in certain situations you will encounter people that don't like us, and are openly critical. For them the German uniform is the "red rag to a bull", and they don't care who we are and aren't interested in finding out about us. In extreme cases there are those who are looking for nothing more than an opportunity to aggravate, to incite trouble, or a fight.

Ways to handle this:

- Try to not put yourself in such a position in the first place.
- Think about what you say before you say it.
- If you feel you are in a situation that may become out of hand, remove yourself from it at the earliest opportunity. Be calm, be polite, and leave.
- Don't be afraid to request assistance from your Unit CO, the German CQ, your Fallschirmkameraden, or even a Kiwi comrade. Defence by an 'enemy' can have a very disarming effect!
- Don't be tempted into a fight. **Walk away.** Even if you win, because of the uniform you wear, *you will lose!* And so will the HRS. Period!

Members should also recognise that there are times when uniform should not be worn and civilian clothes are more appropriate. One should always have a change of clothes handy, especially whilst on campaign.

Remember - dealing with the public is a mixture of common sense, responsibility, diplomacy, and courtesy.

Dealing with the Media

The American experience has shown that the media can be both friend and enemy. Naturally we try to put ourselves forward in the most positive light; therefore we don't wish to have any misunderstandings when dealing with the media.

If approached by any representative of the media, be courteous and polite.

Direct them to the German CO or the Unit CO. If you get the opportunity, advise the Kiwi CO as well so he can be in attendance. A unified approach to the media means the less chance we have of being misunderstood, and therefore being misrepresented.

German Songs

Deutschland Über Alles

Deutschland, Deutschland über alles,
Über alles in der Welt,
Wenn es stets zu Schutz und Trutze
Brüderlich zusammenhält,
Von der Maas bis an die Memel,
Von der Etsch bis an den Belt -
Deutschland, Deutschland über alles,
Über alles in der Welt.

Deutsche Frauen, deutsche Treue,
Deutscher Wein und deutscher Sang
Sollen in der Welt behalten
Ihren alten schönen Klang,
Uns zu edler Tat begeistern
Unser ganzes Leben lang.
Deutsche Frauen, deutsche Treue,
Deutscher Wein und deutscher Sang.

Einigkeit und Recht und Freiheit
Für das deutsche Vaterland!
Darnach laßt uns alle streben
Brüderlich mit Herz und Hand!
Einigkeit und Recht und Freiheit
Sind des Glückes Unterpfand.
Blüh' im Glanze dieses Glückes,
Blühe, deutsches Vaterland.

Deutschland, Deutschland über alles
Und im Unglück nun erst recht!
Nur im Unglück kann sich zeigen,
Ob die Liebe wahr und echt.
Und so soll es weiterklingen
Von Geschlechte zu Geschlecht:
Deutschland, Deutschland über alles
Und im Unglück nun erst recht!

Das Fallschirmjägerlied (Rot scheint die Sonne)

Rot scheint die Sonne, fertig gemacht
Wer weiß ob sie morgen für uns auch noch lacht.
Werft an die Motoren, schiebt Vollgas hinein,
Startet los, flieget ab, heute geht es zum Feind.
An die Maschinen, an die Maschinen,
Kamerad, da gibt es kein zurück.
Fern im Osten stehen dunkle Wolken
Komm' mit und zage nicht, komm' mit.

Donnern Motoren, Gedanken allein,
Denkt jeder noch schnell an die Lieben daheim.
Dann kommt Kameraden, zum Sprung das Signal,
Wir fliegen zum Feind, zünden dort das Fanal.
Schnell wird gelandet, schnödl wird gelandet,
Kamerad, da gibt es kein Zurück.
Hoch am Himmel stehen dunkle Wolken,
Komm' mit und zage nicht, komm' mit.

Klein unser Häuflein, wild unser Blut,
Wir fürchten den Feind nicht und auch nicht den Tod,
Wir wissen nur eines, wenn Deutschland in Not,
Zu kämpfen, zu siegen, zu sterben den Tod.
An die Gewehre, an die Gewehre.
Kamerad, da gibt es kein Zurück,
Fern im Westen stehen dunkle Wolken.
Komm' mit und zage nicht, komm' mit!

Erika

Auf der Heide blüht ein kleines Blümelein
Und das heißt: Erika.
Heiß von hunderttausend kleinen Bienelein
Wird umschwärmt Erika.
Denn ihr Herz ist voller Süßigkeit,
Zarter Duft eintströmt dem Blumenkleid
Auf der Heide blüht ein kleines Blümelein
Und das heißt: Erika.

In der Heimat wohnt ein kleines Mägdelein
Und das heißt: Erika.
Dieses Mäd'el ist mein treues Schätzelein
Und mein Glück, Erika.
Wenn das Heidekraut rot-lila blüht,
Singe ich zum Gruß ihr dieses Lied.
Auf der Heide blüht ein kleines Blümelein
Und das heißt: Erika.

In mein'm Kämmerlein blüht auch ein Blümelein
Und das heißt: Erika.
Schon beim ersten Morgengrau'n sowie beim Dämmerchein
Schaut's mich an, Erika.
Und dann ist es mir, als spräch' es laut:
Denkst du auch an deine kleine Braut?
In der Heimat weint um dich ein Mägdelein
Und das heißt: Erika.

FJR3 Unit Manual

MENU

Welcome to FJR3

- Raison d'être
- HRS Requirements

This is FJR3

- History of the Regiment
- Commanders of the Regiment
- Commanders of I Battalion
- Regimental and Divisional Symbols (with pictures)

Die Luftwaffe

- Waffenfarbe
- Rank Visuals (with pictures)
- Rank Table
- Military Etiquette

Uniform, Equipment & Weapons

- Uniform
- Equipment
- Basic Uniform - Summer
- Basic Uniform - Winter
- Weapons

Combat Decorations and Qualifications

- Combat Decorations (with pictures)
- Qualification Awards (with pictures)

Unit Structure

- Section Structure
- Rank - Awarding and Removal
- Unit Meetings
- Responsibilities of Rank

Your Impression and Conduct

- Your Self
- Behaving as a German
- Behaving as a German Member of the HRS
- Dealing with the Public
- Dealing with the Media

Commands

(with pictures)

German Songs

- Deutschland Über Alles
- Das Fallschirmjägerlied (Rot scheint die Sonne)
- Erika

*This is a living document written by Janos Kovacs from an original template by Mark Ridgeway.
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