

~~R~~ 3596 UNCLASSIFIED

Increased Authorization for Infantry Units-ETO
of Small Arms

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Immediate Report Number 49,
HQ., Twelfth Army Group

ETO

9 September 1944

Extract:

III SUPPLY

Comments of Lt. Col. Eymer, G-4, 1st Division.

1. Rations. a. "During the present phase of this campaign, we are feeding principally 10 in 1 rations. Until about ten days ago, we usually were able to feed B rations for two meals.
b. "We prepare 10 in 1 or C rations in company kitchens and serve hot breakfast and supper. For the noon meal, K rations are issued to the men and are eaten cold.
c. "Kitchen trains are always released to units. We have not held them under division control except on two or three occasions. Unit trains advance well forward beyond a designated line prior to darkness. Rations are issued between 0600 and 1200 daily and not at night.
d. "Mess gear is cleaned with hot water heated by kitchen units.
e. "I strongly recommend that supplementary issues of coffee be made. A 50 percent extra issue of coffee would help our fighting men.
2. Ammunition. "None of the units in this division establish distributing points. We move with basic load with none being carried on division ordnance. Ammunition resupply is accomplished by unit trains passing through division ammunition point, where they receive requests or orders for drawing ammunition from army dump. Army has experienced considerable difficulty in keeping the ammunition dump sufficiently close to the using units. Fortunately the expenditures have been very light so far, or we would have been short of ammunition.
3. Replacements of Weapons. "The replacement of all weapons has been exceptionally good. We have a medium ordnance company in direct support of the division, through which we obtain replacements immediately from army supply points. They are then issued to division ordnance by this company.
4. Other Class II Supplies. "Replacements of clothing, shoes, etc. have been very poor. I have had to send five trucks, that were gone five days, all the way back to Formigny. The dumps farther forward were very inadequately stocked. The recent increase in feet marches has greatly increased replacements of shoes and socks, which articles were obtained from the Formigny dump."

IMMEDIATE ACTION

Headquarters Army Service Forces
Office of The Adjutant General
Washington 25, D.C.

SPX 474 (19 Oct 44) B-S-SRDO

FM/1q 2B-939 Pentagon.

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~~RESTRICTED~~

19 October 1944.

IMMEDIATE ACTION

SUBJECT: Increased Authorization of Small Arms for
Infantry Units, European Theater of
Operations.

.....
: ~~RE~~ :
: Auth: T. A. G. :
: Initials: 18 :
: Date: 19 Oct 44 :
.....

TO: Chief of Ordnance
Chief of Transportation.

1. Reference is made to:

a. That part of Change 1, 30 June 1944, to TO&E 7-16, 26 February 1944, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Infantry Battalion, which established the additional allowances of:

6 each Gun, Machine, Browning, Cal. .30, M1919A6
"Outside Continental United States when authorized by Theater of Operations Commander"

6 each Mount, Tripod, Machine Gun, Cal. .30, M2. "One per light Machine Gun"

b. That part of Change 1, 30 June 1944, to TO&E 7-17, 26 February 1944, Infantry Rifle Company, which authorizes:

6 each Rifle, Automatic, Cal. .30, M1918A2, additional
"per company outside Continental United States when authorized by Theater of Operations Commander"

2. In his radiogram EX 53850, 12 October 1944 (CM-IN-12098, 13 October 1944), the Commanding General, Communications Zone, European Theater of Operations, reports that the Commanding General, European Theater of Operations, has extended the allowances referred to above to all such units of his command. Further he requests that units proceeding to his theater be also equipped according to these changes as soon as possible.

3. It is therefore desired that the Chief of Ordnance take the following action:

RESTRICTED

by authority of ACP of S, G-2, WDGS

SECRET

E. S. JOHNSTON
Colonel, Infantry

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~**IMMEDIATE ACTION**

~~SECRET~~

SPX 474 (19 Oct 44) OB-S-SFDDO

(Cont'd)

19 October 1944.

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a. Include these changes to TO&E 7-16 and TO&E 7-17, into the computations of allowances for 30 September 1944 edit of the Monthly Materiel Status Report and on the basis of such edit take the necessary action to make available in priority AlBl the additional quantities of Automatic Rifles and Machine Guns, Cal. .30, M1919A6 necessary to fill the requirements of the European Theater of Operations.

b. Insure that these added allowances have been included in the Army Supply Program.

c. Take immediate action to ship 4,000 Rifles, Automatic, Cal. .30, M1918A2, complete with organizational spare parts and accessories to the Port Transportation Officer, New York Port of Embarkation, to arrive not later than 31 October 1944, marked for MAIL-W-ORDII-STO-SG354. This shipment is to accomplish the initial equipping of units on hand or enroute to the European Theater of Operations and is furnished in anticipation of shortages to be developed by the 30 September Monthly Materiel Status Report edit.

d. Ship to the proper Port of Embarkation those quantities of Rifles, Automatic, Cal. .30, M1918A2, required to completely equip the following units with this increased allowance:

63rd Infantry Division	42nd Infantry Division
66th Infantry Division	65th Infantry Division
69th Infantry Division	89th Infantry Division
76th Infantry Division	71st Infantry Division
70th Infantry Division	

4. The Chief of Transportation will provide the necessary transportation, both rail and water, to insure the delivery of this material to its destination.

By command of Lieutenant General SOMERVELL:

Lester D. Somervell
Adjutant General

COPIES FURNISHED:

Commanding General, New York Port of Embarkation (10)
Assistant Chief of Staff, Operations Division, WDGS (1)
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3, WDGS (1)
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-4, WDGS (1)
Director of Plans and Operations, ASF (1)
Director of Plans and Operations, ASF (Attn: Planning Division) (2)
Director of Plans and Operations, ASF (Attn: Mobilization Division, Major Burton) (3)

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SPX 474 (19 Oct 44) Ord-S-SPDDO

(Cont'd)

19 October 1944.

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Director, Distribution Division, ASF (Attn: Ord-CWS Issue Branch) (2)
Chief of Ordnance (Attn: War Plans and Requirements Division) (3)
Chief of Ordnance (Attn: Issue Branch) (5)
Chief, New York Field Branch, Distribution Division, ASF (3)

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