



101st Airborne Division

502nd PIR I Company 3rd Battalion

327th GIR F Company 2nd Battalion



A. Rules and Regulations

1. Purpose

Our purpose in portraying the 101st Airborne Division is to preserve their history through reenactments, living histories, parades, and other WWII-related events. Our primary impression is to portray the Division prior to the Fall of 1944.

2. Definition

The 101st Airborne Division consists of three (3) parts:
502nd Parachute Infantry Regiment, 3rd Battalion I Company
327th Glider Infantry Regiment, 2nd Battalion F Company
101st Military Police Platoon

3. Eligibility for Enlistment

You must be at least 18 years of age to participate in Battles. As a new member you must be sponsored by a current unit member. To become a member you must agree to all the rules and regulations found herein. We reserve the right to refuse or revoke membership at any time. There will be a one-year probation period for new members during which you must acquire the equipment and uniform for your primary impression. Previous military experience is not required. You must also be a member in good standing of a nationally recognized WWII reenactment organization.

4. Membership Dues

The unit dues are **\$20.00** per year or **\$25.00** for a family. Dues are payable upon enlistment and no later than 31st of January each year. Unit dues help to fund operating costs and events.

5. Personal Standards – Discipline

All members, while in uniform, will maintain a military appearance and obey all military disciplines and courtesies. It is suggested that you acquire a copy of **FM 21-100 (Soldier's Handbook) July 23, 1941** for guidance.

6. Attendance

While it is understood that you cannot participate 100% of the time, that is our goal! You are encouraged to attend as many events as possible. Unit members are required to contact the Platoon Sergeant to let him know their availability to attend a scheduled upcoming event, no later than seven (7) days prior to that event.

7. Rank and Structure

This Unit is commanded by an officer. A Sergeant serves as senior NCO and an Authenticity Officer will also serve as a member of the staff. The staff also includes a Mess NCO, a Supply NCO, Squad Leaders and a Safety Officer. This group comprises the unit staff and is responsible for formulating unit policies based upon all members' input when at all possible and/or practical.

All new members will enlist as privates. PFC is awarded after one year of membership and by attending a minimum of three Unit events. Additional promotions, when made, will be determined by the attendance and the recommendation of the Staff.

8. Safety and Authenticity Regulations

1. Firearms will be treated in an appropriate and military fashion at all times.
2. The Authenticity Officer's word is **final**.
3. The Safety Officer's word is **final**.
4. All HRS Rules and Regulations will be obeyed.

B. Uniforms, Equipment, and Weapons

1. Dress Standards

Grooming: Haircuts will be of a 1940's style military haircut. Hair will be off the collar and will not touch the ears. Mustaches are allowed but are to be trimmed to the corners of the mouth and are not to extend past the edge of the upper lip. **Absolutely NO beards or goatees are allowed.**

If you wear eyeglasses, you are required to purchase an appropriate 1940's period set of eyeglasses or wear contacts.

All Dress and MP uniforms when worn will be clean and pressed.

All combat uniforms and equipment will be kept clean and repaired.

All shirts and jackets will have the unit patch (sewn ½" below the left shoulder seam and centered) and have appropriate rank insignia sewn on.

All boots will be russet brown in color and carry a polish. All dress boots should be highly polished.

2. Combat/Garrison Uniforms.

a. Parachute Infantry Combat Uniforms.

The primary uniform worn will be the M-1942 Jump Uniform. It may be worn plain or with reinforcements. It will be khaki in color (no camouflage). The upper left sleeve pocket may be worn as an option. Also, U.S. Army or Army Air Corps Suspenders may be worn. Your name on a tab above the left breast pocket may also be worn.

The secondary uniform worn will be the M1943 Field Jacket and Field Trousers. The trousers will be modified to have two side cargo pockets sewn to the legs. Suspenders may be worn.

b. Glider Infantry Combat Uniform.

The uniform worn will be the enlisted man's mustard wool shirt and mustard wool trousers (M1938) or HBT trousers with M1941 Field Jacket depending on weather. The M1937 khaki web belt with blackened brass open-face buckle will be worn with the trousers, along with brown rough out leather ankle boots and khaki web leggings.

An optional secondary uniform is the M1943 Field Jacket and Field Trousers. This will be worn as described in B.2.a. You must have the uniform as described in B.2.b.

c. Military Police Uniform.

The long-sleeve khaki cotton uniform is the standard summer issue uniform for MP duty. The enlisted man's wool uniform with M1941 or Tanker Field Jacket will be worn for winter MP duty. The M1911 or M1911A1 and hip holster, with lanyard, may be worn as an option. MP equipment will include the khaki web pistol belt with khaki first aid pouch, canteen with khaki web cover, MP armband (worn on upper left sleeve), military-style whistle with lanyard, and MP helmet (see Headgear section). Rifles may be required to carry occasionally.

d. Garrison Uniform.

The Herringbone Twill Fatigue Uniform or Coveralls may be worn while in camp for a Garrison Impression. It will be clean, pressed, and have only rank insignia. Any of the other approved uniforms may also be worn in camp.

You will be expected to be in proper uniform at all times while at an event once we are set up.

3. Dress Uniforms

a. Parachute Infantry Class A Uniform.

The four-pocket tunic is preferred with the Ike jacket as an acceptable substitute. The following insignia should be worn: 101st A/B patch, Rank insignia, Collar disks, Jump Wings with 502nd Oval, Combat Infantry Badge, one overseas bar sewn to lower left sleeve cuff, American Defense, American Theater, and European Theater ribbons. ETO ribbon will be worn with one bronze arrowhead and one Bronze Star. The order of the service ribbons when viewed from the front (i.e. someone looking at them on you) shall be from left to right: American Defense, American Campaign, and ETO. High lace jump boots, mustard wool shirt and mustard wool

trousers (M1938), khaki belt and khaki tie (tucked between second and third shirt buttons).
Wool overseas cap, infantry piped, with Parachutist Patch or a Paraglider Patch.

b. Parachute Infantry Class B Uniform.

M1941 or Tanker Jacket, mustard wool shirt, khaki tie, and mustard wool trousers (M1938), high lace boots, wool overseas cap with infantry piping and Parachutist Patch or a Paraglider Patch. The M-1942 Jump Uniform may be worn with the above, replacing the jacket and wool trousers.

c. Glider Infantry Class A Uniform.

The four-pocket tunic is preferred with the Ike jacket as an acceptable substitute. The following insignia should be worn: 101st A/B patch, Rank insignia, Collar discs, Glider Badge, Combat Infantry Badge, one overseas bar sewn to lower left sleeve cuff, American Defense, American Theater, and European Theater ribbons. The order of the service ribbons when viewed from the front (i.e. someone looking at them on you) shall be from left to right: American Defense, American Campaign, and ETO. The ETO will be worn with one bronze arrowhead and one Bronze Star. Brown ankle boots, brown dress shoes, or jump boots, mustard wool shirt and mustard wool trousers (M1938), khaki belt and khaki tie (tucked between second and third shirt buttons). The wool overseas cap (infantry-piped) should have a Glider patch or Paraglider patch.

d. Glider Infantry Class B Uniform.

M1941 Field Jacket, mustard wool shirt, khaki tie, and mustard wool trousers (M1938), brown ankle boots with khaki web leggings or jump boots, wool overseas cap with Glider patch or a Paraglider patch. If the M1941 jacket is worn, the khaki tie must also be worn.

4. Tee Shirts

- a. Khaki, white or OD tank-style shirts.
- b. Khaki, white, or OD Tee shirts.
- c. No modern issue brown Tee shirts are to be worn.

5. Headgear

- a. WWII M1-C Steel helmet with fixed/swivel bales and 502nd PIR or 327th GIR insignia on both sides with brown leather chinstrap and chin cup.
- b. WWII M1 Steel helmet with fixed/swivel bales and 327th GIR insignia on both sides.
 - 1. The tick mark for the 502nd is at nine o'clock.
 - 2. The tick mark for the 327th is at six o'clock.
- c. Khaki chinstraps sewn to bales (NO CLIPS).
- d. Nets for helmets are required. Correct type is a cotton knotted string type. Scrim is optional. 502nd PIR helmets must have the Air Corps-type bandage tied to netting.
- e. MP helmet will be the same as for regular infantry except for the addition of the letters MP and white band. See staff for proper sizes and types.
- f. Officer and NCO ID bands will be painted on back of combat and MP helmets.
- g. Jeep cap or acceptable reproduction.
- h. Wool and khaki overseas caps with light blue infantry piping and Parachutist, Glider, or Paraglider Patch as determined by date of enlistment.

6. Boots

- a. Russet brown paratrooper boots. Trousers will be bloused.
- b. High lace late war infantry boots. Trousers will be bloused.
- c. Russet leather two-buckle boots may be worn with M1943 uniform only.

Glider troops wear the rough out brown ankle boots with the khaki web leggings in all prescribed uniforms except the Class A Dress Uniform, as described above.

7. Equipment

- a. Khaki web ten-pocket cartridge belt.
- b. Khaki web pistol belt (MP or carbine use).
- c. Khaki web M1936 combat suspenders.
- d. Khaki web Carlisle first aid pouch with useable bandage.
- e. Khaki web canteen cover, with aluminum canteen (aluminum or black plastic cap), and canteen cup.
- f. WWII mess kit with fork, knife, and spoon.
- g. T-handle entrenching tool with issue- or shortened-length handle. This item is optional.
- h. Bayonets and knives
 - WWII M-1 short bayonet with OD fiber scabbard worn from cartridge belt.
 - M-3 knife with M8 Fiber or M6 Leather scabbard, worn from belt or leg.
 - M1918 Knuckle knife is optional.
 - Bayonets or knives are required for the particular firearm you carry.
- i. M1936 Musette Bag is the required pack. Gas mask, rifle grenade, or ammo bags may also be carried, but not as a substitute for the Musette Bag. While they were used, the M1928 Haversack was not commonly used by Glidermen in Europe.

Strongly suggested, but non-mandatory items:

- M1943 e-tool and cover.
- Sleeping bag – WWII wool type preferred.
- 4 or 5 buckle rubber overboots.
- WWII poncho or raincoat.
- Wool knit sweater with WWII buttons.
- OD wool knit scarf.
- Leather jump (strongly suggested), wool knit, or leather-palmed wool gloves (no modern issue black).
- Wool overcoat.
- Army cot.
- Sewing kit.
- Khaki shelter half, with six wooden tent pegs and folding tent pole. Better to have a whole tent.
- Footlocker or Duffel Bag.
- Army wool blanket.
- Dog tags. (will be provided by the Staff for all members)

8. Weapons

- a. The U.S. **M-1 Garand** is the preferred weapon. To be a WWII vintage M-1 Garand, it must have locking-bar rear sight and milled trigger guard.
- b. The U.S. **M-1 Carbine** is an acceptable substitute. It must be of military manufacture; no Universal types. It must have the flip rear sight and a flat bolt. No bayonet lugs, thirty-round magazines, or external blank adapters are permitted. The regular standard stock is to be used by the Glider Infantry and the M1A1 folding stock can be used by the Parachute Infantry.
- c. The U.S. **M-1903/ M-1903A3 Springfield** is also an acceptable substitute.
- d. U.S. issue automatic weapons are also acceptable (and encouraged). Acceptable types are the M1928 or M1A1 **Thompson**, the M3A1 **Grease Gun**, or the **Browning Automatic Rifle**.
- e. The Parachute Infantry may carry M1911 or M1911A1, M1917, or SW Victory Model pistols and/or revolvers in hip or shoulder holsters. Sidearms are reserved for Officers and NCO's in the Glider Infantry.
- f. Slings will be either the WWI-style leather or the khaki web type. Quick connect clips on rear of slings must be removed.

Your weapon must be properly blank adapted if it fires in automatic or semi-automatic mode.

9. Other

All Dress and MP Uniforms and web gear will be in better condition than combat gear. Please help keep our camp military-looking and authentic at all times. **Hide or cover up your non-authentic items, at all times.** If staying in camp, help out by doing your share in setting up, striking down, and policing our camp.

If you have any questions concerning this handbook, please contact one of the staff members who will answer your questions. See the Unit Roster for phone numbers and e-mail addresses.

10. Recommended Reading

Our web site: <http://www.eagle502nd.org>

Historical Reference:

Rendezvous with Destiny, Rapport & Northwood
Band of Brothers, Ambrose
Currahee!, Burgett
Seven Roads to Hell, Burgett
The Road to Arnhem, Burgett
Beyond The Rhine, Burgett
Hell's Highway, Koskimaki
The 101st Airborne at Normandy, Bando
Utah Beach to Cherbourg, Nelson
Pont of No Return, Detrez

Uniforms & Gear:

Geronimo!, Rentz
America's Finest, Howard
Doughboy to GI, Lewis
The World War II GI in color, Windrow & Hawkins

11. Suppliers of Goods

While the businesses below are reputable and highly recommended, it would be wise to seek the advice of the Authenticity Officer, or another member of the staff, before making major purchases for your impression.

At The Front (reproductions)
430 Rose Lane
Columbia, KY 42728
1-866-213-3946

<http://www.atthefront.com/>

World War II Impressions (reproductions)
8312 Firestone Blvd.
Downey, CA 90241
(562) 622-8260

<http://www.wwiiimprssions.com/>

What Price Glory (reproductions)
206 Massolo Court
Salinas, CA 93907
(831) 754-2351

<http://www.whatpriceglory.com/>

Bayonet, Inc. (reproductions)
Internet site only.

<http://www.bayonetinc.com/>

eBay (originals)
Internet auction website

<http://listings.ebay.com/aw/plistings/list/category4716/index.thml>

Crossroads Coins (originals) AKA “The Coin Shop”
Mr. Bart Reames
344 East National Road
Vandalia, OH 45377
(888) 416-2646

Veterans Memorial Museum
123 S. Main Street
Germantown, Ohio 45327
937-855-4763
Dave Shortt – President
ddshortt@aol.com