



14 Nov 89

CLOTHING AND TEXTILES MANAGEMENT POLICY LETTER (CTMPL)-
90 PATTERN (INFANTRY) WEBBING EQUIPMENT

Reference:

A. D/DCT/12/1/16 CT2a dated 26 Apr 88.

1. General. Reference A, which was widely distributed, gave initial information and instructions concerning the introduction into service of the 90 Pattern (Inf) Equipment formerly referred to as Personal Load Carriage Equipment (PLCE).

2. Title. - 90 Pattern (Infantry) Webbing Equipment. The complete set of equipment can be broken down to meet the requirements of Complete Equipment Fighting Order (CEFO) into:

- a. CEFO/Assault Order.
- b. CEFO/Combat Order.
- c. Complete Equipment Marching Order.

3. Sponsor - Development CT1a - Used Advice CT2a.

a. Development. The development was carried out in answer to a long standing need for a replacement to the current in-service 58 Pattern Webbing which was considered to be limited in versatility and the strapping complicated. The load carrying capacity was too small and being made of cotton material absorbed water too easily, which then in cold conditions became stiff and unworkable.

b. User Advice. The equipment has been designed to be completely versatile; it is based on a conventional design of yoke and waist belt, carrying ammunition pouches, water bottle carrier, pouch for a folding shovel, utility pouch and respirator haversack, but the novel feature lies in the rucksack which becomes an integral component of the overall set. The side pouches of the rucksack can be detached and with the separate yoke side pouch can be used singly or together as lightweight back packs. This then allows the soldier to leave his less immediate equipment in the main rucksack in the rear area. Alternatively, the rucksack can be worn complete, dependent on the operational conditions under which the soldier is operating or moving.

c. Cost. £120.00 per set.

d. Other Government/Service Interest. Tri-Service (RN, RM, RAF).

e. NATO Stock Numbers (NSNs). Equipment stocked by individual components. See Annex A.

4. Description. The multi-purpose rucksack set consists of the rucksack (long or short back fitting) with detachable side pouches, adjustable waist belt, separate yoke and 2 utility straps. The rucksack includes a light aluminium alloy frame fitted into internal pockets in the rucksack. The frame moulds to the individual body shape for increased comfort.

An integral yoke gives support over the shoulders and is adjusted by buckles and straps attached to the rucksack base. The main rucksack carries a separate pocket

at the front, an external pocket on the main lid as well as a map and document pocket built into the inside of the lid. A carrying handle is provided at the top of the rucksack and various load-carrying attachment points on the lid, sides and base to secure extra items including the sleeping bag by means of the utility straps.

The lid is elasticated, and has a shroud to prevent ingress of water.

The 2 side pouches are attached to the main body by heavy duty zips, supplemented for emergency by plastic clips and extra straps which can be used to secure the pouch to the rucksack, should the zips fail, or to reduce the girth (ie volume) of the rucksack. The lid of each pouch has a heavy duty zip opening.

5. Materials. The main fabric used throughout is Woven Textured Nylon (trade name Cordura). All straps, ties etc are of nylon. Plastic buckles and fitting are used throughout. Zip fasteners are of heavy duty type. Cordura is 'dimensionally stable' in that it does not shrink or stretch even when wet and does not absorb water. The cloth is NATO IRR olive drab in colour.

6. Dimensions and Weight.

a. Main Rucksack Body.

- (1) Long Back Size - 360mm wide x 580mm high (at back).
- (2) Short back Size - 360mm wide x 490mm high (at back).
- (3) Side pouches - 210mm wide x 370mm high
- (4) Weight - Rucksack complete with belt, 2 side pouches, separate yoke, utility straps and internal frame - 2.5kg.

NB. The load capacity of both sizes of rucksack is the same ie approximately 100 litres.

7. Sizing and Fitting. There are only 2 components for which there are separate sizes:

a. Waist Belt. The waist belt is produced in 3 sizes: small - 28", medium - 32", and large - 35". Each size has a 9" adjustment range so that a range of waist sizes from 28" to 44" can be accommodated. The waist belt has a quick release/adjustment buckle and incorporates small pockets that can accept metal or plastic stiffeners to prevent crushing.

b. Rucksack. There are 2 sizes of rucksack; long and short back, the choice offering optimum fit dependent on individual stature. Small soldiers (5'6" and below) would be advised to try the shorter rucksack. The rucksack belt can be fastened below or above the webbing belt and is a matter for personal preference.

8. Associated Items.

a. ETH. A small foldable shovel, used for digging preparatory field defences, prior to the arrival of picks and shovels GS.

b. 90 Pattern (Other Arms) Webbing Equipment now under development. Commonality of items with the infantry version has been sought, but the equipment set will have separate:

- (1) Rucksack.
- (2) Holster.
- (3) Harness, holster.
- (4) Pouch ammunition - SA80 magazine.

c. Combat Body Armour - for which attachment points/loops for 90 Pattern Webbing are provided.

d. Pouch, Side Medical Pack.

e. Pouch for Pack Trauma, Medical Equipment Set.

f. Pack Board (manpack carrier).

g. Amilon Bags. These are provided in mob stocks for use in general war to protect the contents of the main component and side pouches from chemical agent contamination. They will also protect the personal kit from getting wet as the coated material (Cordural) is only showerproof. Other options for protecting the personal kit from the wet are being examined.

9. Details of Items to be Replaced.

- a. 58 Pattern Equipment
- b. 44 Pattern Equipment
- c. 37 Pattern Equipment
- d. Rucksack frame SAS
- e. BERGHAUS Crusader

10. Care and Maintenance. The equipment may be washed and scrubbed with warm soapy water to clean off mud and dirt. Grease and oil may be removed using detergent.

11. Repair. First line repairs to buckles and straps etc may be carried out by units with a repair facility. Major repairs are to be carried out by RAOC Depot Workshops. NSNs for components needed to carry out repairs and available through normal supply channels will be published later.

12. Hazards. Flame and friction burn will melt or damage the woven textured nylon of the equipment.

13. Scaling. Units will be scaled to War Establishment: to be accounted for on Unit Equipment Table (ET). An additional Utility Pouch will be issued for every 4 sets, to enable the 4 man Fire Team in a Section to have extra ammunition carrying capacity.

90 PATTERN (INFANTRY) WEBBING EQUIPMENT
NATO STOCK NUMBERS (NSNs)

Ser	NSN (CN)	Item Description	Qty Per Set	Remarks
1	8465-99-130-9350	Pouch, Side Rucksack	2	
2	9251-3	Belt Waist (small, med, large)	1	
3	9354	Yoke, Pouch Side Rucksack	1	
4	9355	Yoke Main	1	
5	9356	Strap Yoke Pouch Side	2	
6	9357	Haversack, Respirator	1	
7	9327	Frog Bayonet	1	
8	9359	Pouch Water Bottle	1	
9	9358	Pouch Ammo Left	1	
10	9360	Pouch Ammo Right	1	
11	9361	Pouch Utility	1	
12	9362	ETH Shovel Carrier	1	
13	7098	Strap Utility	2	
14	8465-99-978-5360	Rucksack (Inf) Long Back	1	
15	5361	Frame Rucksack (Inf) Long Back	1	
16	5362	Rucksack (Inf) } ^{or} Short Back	1	
17	5363	Frame Rucksack (Inf) Short Back	1	
18	5120-99-173-5474	Shovel Folding (ETH)	1	
19	8465-00-001-6474	Plastic Carrier for ETH	1	
<u>ASSOCIATED ITEMS</u>				
20	8465-99-130-7100	Bag Plastic (Amlon) 310mm x 610mm	2	
21	7101	Bag Plastic (Amlon) 660mm x 800mm	1	