

Headquarters World War II Historical Association
Fort Indiantown Gap, PA
"Belgium, December 1944"

Field Order)
:
Number 18-001)

January 28, 2018

I. **SITUATION** (historic and operational background):

a. The time is December 1944 in Belgium and the German Offensive has been underway for almost a week. We anticipate cold weather, potential snow, and conditions similar in the field to those encountered by the soldiers and civilians of the period. Dress warmly and take care of yourselves!

b. The garrison area will begin setup on Wednesday, 31 January with reenactor check in starting that afternoon. All reenactors must leave by 0700 on 4 February 2018.

c. In this historic format US Army Field Order are many of the basic policies and procedures for the event. Please read and be familiar with them.

d. This Field Order will be updated as required and will be posted at a minimum in the WWIHA Registration/Command Post building (Bldg 13-135 E/W), Allied Garrison CP (13-49) and Axis Garrison CP (13-148). Any barracks/registered unit leader that wants to post a copy in the barracks can obtain a copy from WWIHA Command Post.

II. **MISSION:**

WWIHA conducts Battle of the Bulge commemoration/reenactment at Fort Indiantown Gap from 31 January - 4 February 2018 to commemorate the battle, honor our veterans, and educate our members, attendees and public in a safe and responsible manner.

III. TACTICAL MISSIONS FOR SUBORDINATE UNITS

a. General Tasks for ALL Participants:

1) Registration Management:

A) Registration Operations is Matt Speidel. The WWIHA Command Post (CP) and Event Registration are in Bldg 13-135W.

B) Times for registration are posted in the schedule.

C) Ensure you bring a Government Issued Photo Identification and are prepared to check in your ammunition and present your class III weapons paperwork for verification.

2) Ammunition Management:

A) Ammunition manager is (Sergeant Major Charles Smyle)

B) All ammunition (blanks) will be stored in the apex behind buildings 13-153 E/W and 13-154 in three trailers managed by WWIHA. Munitions will be issued on Friday and Saturday morning for the Field Exercise (battle). Any blank munitions not expended on Friday will be turned back into WWIHA Staff by 1800 Friday.

C) All reenactors MUST check blank munitions upon registration; all registrants are reminded to check their munitions before arrival to ensure no live munitions are present prior to arrival and inspection. Blanks WILL be inspected by WWIHA personnel to ensure no live munitions are intermixed.

(1) No blanks are allowed in the barracks or buildings at Fort Indiantown Gap.

(2) Reenactors/historians MUST have an ammo stamp to board the busses or depart on the convoy. If you are not bringing ammo (i.e., a fellow historian will bring your ammo and check it or you go to the field unarmed), you are still required to get an ammo stamp to enable you to board the bus or ride a military vehicle.

(3) A list of all personnel by barracks and registered unit will be annotated to indicate those individuals who turned in ammunition. This listing will be provided to the Allied and Axis leadership for review.

D) All blanks used at Fort Indiantown Gap will be commercially procured small arms blanks.

E) Tank and artillery/anti-tank guns will fire ONLY commercial 10 and 12 gage shotgun shell blanks. All shotgun shell blanks will be fired using professionally procured custom blank adaptors. No full charge blanks or saluting charges will be used at Fort Indiantown Gap.

F) There will be NO blank ammunition sales at Fort Indiantown Gap during the event. Please purchase all your blank munitions prior to attending the event.

G) Ammunition Issue and Turn-In:

(1) Ammunition issue on Friday and Saturday morning will be from 0700-0730.

(2) Ammunition will be issued by Barracks. Unit leaders in each barracks will select a detail and identify a leader to draw the ammunition for all the personnel in their barracks regardless of unit. The barracks unit leader's details are required to return the ammunition containers before boarding the busses or military vehicles.

(3) Upon return from the Friday exercise, ammo check station will remain open until 1800 hours to facilitate turn-in. Upon return from the field, the barracks ammunition details that issued ammunition in the morning will expeditiously report to ammunition turn in to assist with turn-in of ammunition. Ammunition bins will be laid out by barracks and turn in will be by barracks. Ammunition turn in teams will facilitate this turn-in action under supervision of Ammunition manager. Barracks ammunition teams will assist the Ammunition manager in storing the returned munitions in the trailers.

(4) WWIHA representatives lead by Joe Lombardo will be in the wash rack area to monitor securing of ammunition of troops returning with armored vehicles.

(5) There are upwards of 900 personnel who will be checking and receiving ammunition - at least an 80% increase over 2017. The support from Barracks issue/turn-in teams is critical. The Ammunition Management Section cannot move this quantity of blank ammunition without assistance. Registered unit leaders must support this effort.

3) Use of Inert (non-functioning/non-blank loaded) Land Mines in Field Exercise (Battle):

A) Fort Indiantown Gap Range Control has approved use of INERT WWII period land mines (or replicas) during the field exercised.

1. All land mines must be marked INERT or DUMMY. It is strongly recommended that inert land mines be further painted blue to conform to Army policies.

2. All land mines must be fully INERT - no smoke charges, no bang devices, no pyrotechnic capability whatsoever.

B) All land mines must be laid above ground and only on roads or established trails in the training area that are identified on the approval map. This map has been provided to your leadership. You must have a copy of this map if you are deploying land mines. All land mines must be recovered after use. The specific areas and trails where mine use is authorized will be available in the WWIHA, Allied and Axis Headquarters.

C) As part of Range Control approval, all land mines taken to the field will be reported as part of the morning reports. The reports will require:

1. Registered unit and Team/Kampfgruppen with the land mines

2. Type and count (number of vehicle mines, number of personnel mines)

D) Before return from the Field on Saturday, all registered unit leaders and Team/Kampfgruppen leaders will confirm to the Allied and Axis Leadership and to the Umpires (to the Field TOC) that all land mines have been recovered. Exceptions (losses) will require general location of the loss as well as number/type lost. Lost land mines may result in the requirement to search for these mines prior to return to Garrison on Saturday.

E) This level of control is required to ensure we as an organization do not create the need for an Explosives Ordnance Disposal (EOD) incident because our land mines cannot be identified by the post or other organization after we depart.

4) HAND GRENADES (Inert) will NOT be carried into the field or used in the Field (Battle). This is to prevent any from being

lost and generating an EOD bill to WWIHA from Fort Indiantown Gap.

5) Vehicle Safety:

A) Vehicle Safety Managers are MAJ Gary Miller (Allied) and George Rich (Axis).

B) All Tracked vehicles will move using at least two ground guide personnel during the day while at the wash rack, in garrison area, and when in the field within 50 yards of dismounted troops.

C) At night or in periods of low light visibility tracked vehicles require FOUR ground guides.

D) Some wheeled vehicles (like armored cars) will require the same level of ground guide support as the drivers and vehicle commanders have very limited visibility.

E) The responsibility to provide Ground Guides for tracked and armored vehicles rests with the Axis and Allied Leadership and Vehicle Owners/Responsible agents. They must work together to ensure safe operation of vehicles at all times.

F) Wheeled vehicle speed limit in garrison area is 10 mph.

G) Track vehicle speed limit within 50 yards of troops is 5 mph.

H) Dismounted individuals will not operate within 10m of tanks during event or vehicle movements.

I) The number of people in/on a motorcycle shall be limited to two, those motorcycles with side car are to be limited to three riders.

- J) All motorcycles operating on base roadways, must have a current state issued license plate and the operator must be licensed to operate that vehicle. This does not apply to tank trails.
- K) Operators of motorcycles must be wearing eye protection while operating on based roadways.
- L) Jeeps operating on base roads must have a windshield
- M) Jeeps must not be overloaded while operating on the base roads. The limit is 4 passengers for a WWII jeep.
- N) Jeeps must have all lights working while operating after dark. The single rear running/ brake light must be working.
- O) The base will be mounting a temporary receptacle board that will host up to 16 vehicles. The board will be mounted near the small block control building for the wash rack. Vehicles will have to park at the north-west corner of the wash rack.
- P) Vehicle owners are recommended to bring at least two 100 foot extension cords per vehicle.
- Q) The priority for electric connections will be for Tanks, Half-Tracks, Bren Gun Carriers and armored cars.
- R) All heavy vehicle (tank, half-track, armored car, truck) owners MUST have recovery assets coordinated and information provided to WWIHA vehicle managers (Gary Miller/George Rich) prior to arrival at Fort Indiantown Gap. Participants are prohibited from seeking assistance from military assets at Fort Indiantown Gap.
- S) See Annex for HISTORIC VEHICLE POLICIES for additional guidance and policies

6) GENERAL Safety:

A) All participants are reminded this event occurs at the coldest time of the year in Pennsylvania. Ensure you dress warmly for weather in the high teens to low 20s. Expect high winds with well below freezing wind chill. Ensure you bring the following:

- 1) Gloves
- 2) Scarf
- 3) Heavy wool period coat and sweater
- 4) Boots appropriate for snow and wet, cold weather

B) The event Safety Officer Joe Lombardo will conduct daily inspections between 0800 - 1100, to ensure every building / unit complies with all safety regulations. Additionally, smoking is only permitted on the streets and not in buildings or doorways. Anyone observing unsafe conditions are directed to contact the Safety Officer.

C) A warming tent will be provided in the field and warming buses will be located near the training area.

D) Medical personnel will be present in the field.

E) Report any suspected Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) to your chain of command and umpires so that it can be reported to the event field TOC and range control notified for resolution.

7) WEAPONS Safety:

A) Hearing protection is required issue during Registration for all reenactors. Hearing protection is strongly encouraged around any firing of blank munitions firing.

B) Small Arms blanks will not be fired at personnel within 20 feet of the muzzle of the weapon.

C) Tank, artillery and anti-tank gun munitions will be 10 or 12 gage shotgun shell blanks using blank adapters. Adaptors will be custom fit to the guns and for tanks will be actuated inside the turret.

D) Weapons will not be loaded until (1) deployed to the field exercise area; (2) departed the bus and (3) ordered by event leadership.

E) All weapons will be cleared prior to boarding transportation to return from the field.

F) No weapons will be loaded in garrison area.

G) No edged weapons or pistols allowed outside of garrison area except to deploy to the training area (exercise/battle) on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

H) Public Battle demonstration weapons will be loaded when directed by Public Battle manager. All weapons will be cleared before return to the Garrison area by unit leadership and confirmed by event Public Battle manager.

8) Social Venue Passes:

A) As part of the agreement with the Army, WWIHA institutes a historic period pass system for access to all open and closed social venues. Passes are required and will be checked. The Saturday Dinner Dance pass is the Event Registration Card as noted.

B) The Allied and Axis garrison Command Posts will issue Social Event Passes. There are four types of passes recognized for social venues. One of these must be presented to gain entry to event social venues.

1) German Café Pass

- 2) German Officer's ID card
- 3) US Enlisted Pass
- 3) US Officer's Club Pass

C) The following open social venues are approved by WWIHA and require passes:

1. Café Trois - Axis pass required (no Allies)
2. Piccadilly Pub - Allied pass required (no Axis)
3. USO All Ranks Club/Drunken Monkey Tiki Bar - Pass required
4. Old Hickory Club - Allied Pass required (no Axis)

D. Any unit or group hosting a social or private function involving alcohol, must inform the WWIHA Operations Officer SS-Sturmbannfuhrer Karl Rosenkranz the date, time and location of the event.

E. Press passes shall be issued by the Public Affairs Officer COL Larry Mihlon to vetted individuals.

F. WWIHA event staff can be identified by a pin that says "STAFF" in 1940's livery. Anyone else claiming to be a "staff" member without this identification shall be directed to the nearest event staff member. Several senior officers of the Association will not be wearing staff badges. These personnel are members of the senior management team. However, seek those who wear staff badges to address operational event issues before engaging them regarding event operations issues. These personnel are:
BG Joe DiGiovanni - WWIHA Trustee Chairman (Allied CO)
COL Shawn Welch - WWIHA Trustee (Allied Deputy)
GenMaj Egon Spangler - WWIHA Trustee (Axis CO)

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS:

- a. Service of supply (abbreviated)

1) Class I - Civil Air Patrol Mess Hall located in Bldg 13-21
1. Open to all reenactors
2. Hours are: 0600 to 2100 hours daily beginning
Wednesday and ending Saturday evening.

2) Class V - Blank ammunition - See Tasks for All
Participants

3) Class VI - Follow all guidelines concerning consumption of
alcohol.

A) Alcohol consumption has been approved by Fort
Indiantown Gap leadership. As part of the agreement with
the Army, WWIHA institutes a historic period pass system
for access to all open and closed social venues. Any label
printed in RED on the event registration card indicates the
individual is below the age of 21.

B) Consumption of alcohol by persons under the age of 21
is strictly prohibited.

C) Consumption of Alcohol in the barracks will be
monitored by senior unit leaders in each barracks and
subject to inspections and age checks by the event Provost
Marshal or those MP/FG's operating under his supervision.

D) Unit leaders/representatives will be held responsible
for the conduct of their registered participants, both
male and female. NO drunkenness, rowdiness, or other
inappropriate behavior will be tolerated. If a unit
member is disorderly or out of line, WWIHA leadership can
and will exclude his or her entire unit from the event.

E) No sales of Alcohol will be permitted in event area by
vendors or participants.

F) Alcohol consumption in the field, in the garrison area during the day, or in the presence of the public during interpretive events is strictly prohibited.

G) Public drunkenness will NOT be tolerated.

H) Violation of these rules can result in immediate removal from the event at the sole discretion of the WWIHA leadership and/or senior officials from Fort Indiantown Gap.

i. Any WWIHA event staff member, social venue manager or those otherwise offering alcohol can ask an individual to provide proof of registration, event social pass and proof of drinking age.

j. After 2230 there shall be no loitering outside of any barracks other than yours, there shall also be no bagpipes, bugles, drums, or marching up the company street.

4) Class VII - N/A

b. Building Management:

A) Coordinate all building maintenance actions and problems with heat or other utilities with Axis or Allied Garrison HQs, who will liaison with WWIHA HQ.

B) All contact with the Fort Indiantown Gap garrison engineers will be via WWIHA HQ and WWIHA personnel.

C) Movement of furniture: Furniture can be moved after approval by Allied or Axis Garrison Operations Officers in consultation with WWIHA as required. The barracks officer shall conduct daily "inspections" for barracks supplies (Paper towels / toilet paper, etc.). All paperwork is submitted to HQs respectively and held until barracks is

cleared Sunday morning. Those units that do not move furniture back will be incurring any and all maintenance fees and will NOT be invited back until payment is received. If multiple units are in one barracks, all C.Os within the requesting barracks MUST sign off on respective area (s) / floors.

c. Flea Market management:

A) Flea Market manager / vendor relations is Mike Benton and Rich Moran.

d. Transportation - Public Parking Bus Schedule (see Schedule Annex)

Personally Owned NON PERIOD vehicle parking: See Map online and in Annex.

e. Parking for Public and Period Military vehicles (see Annex from WWIHA Event Page)

f. Event Military Police (see Annex from WWIHA Event Page)

g. Religious Services: "Christmas Eve Service" held on Friday. See event schedule for time and location. POC is Chaplain Uhler (45th ID Chaplin).

h. Medical:

a) Medical OIC - MAJ Robert Riley.

b) Additional medical support personnel include Joe Lombardo, CPT Paul Cusano (MD), Josh Chase, Doug Riley, John Bower.

c) A period WWII ambulance will be provided by Doug Riley (WC 54).

d) All event personnel are REQUESTED to carry a medical emergency card at all times to assist first responders. The card will be available at Registration or from event medical personnel.

e) First aid will be available in the registration building during normal operating hours. 911 is to be called if an ambulance is needed for a life-threatening emergency while in cantonment. When calling inform the dispatcher that you are at Fort Indiantown Gap, and provide them your building number.

f. Nearest Hospital: Hershey Medical Center, 500 university Drive, Hershey PA 17033

g. (see Annex from WWIHA Event Page)

i. Impressions:

a) All impressions shall be of good taste and accurate to the 1943-45 time period. US Army Insignia instructions distilled from official US Army documents (officer, enlisted, nurse and WAC) are available on the WWIHA Website, Allied Information, as a PDF download (http://www.wwiha.org/new/application/files/3614/4651/2033/Officer-Enl-Nurse-WAC_insignia_-_1943-45.pdf).

b) You must at all times wear the impression under which you are registered. (Axis stays Axis/Allied stays Allied).

c) All officer rank impressions shall be recorded by the respective HQ. The German HQ issues the Axis Officer's ID card, and the Allied HQ will issue the Allied Officer's Club Card. Participants portraying officers must possess one of these cards at all times.

V. SIGNAL COMMUNICATIONS

a. Command

Location of WWIHA Command Post (Headquarters): Registration
Building #13-135E/W
Event Director: MG William F. Bethke

b. Signal Communications:

1) Wire Communication:

- A) Switchboards and message centers are located in Axis and Allied CPs
- B) See respective Allied and Axis orders for details.
- C) At least one Field Telephone will be available in WWIHA CP/Registration Building to contact Allied and Axis personnel as needed by Event Staff.

2) Radio frequencies

Refer to the Allied & Axis Chain of Commands for additional information.

Allied Communication Officer - John Teller

Axis Communication Officer - Kevin Air

C. Wire Communications System Emplacement. These wire emplacement rules to comply with FIG Garrison needs are:

- 1) Communications wire will be hung on existing poles at the existing height of other wires.
- 2) If "lance poles" are used, the wires must be at least 12 feet high over roads and traveled ways.
- 3) Communications wire hanging teams using ladders require both a climber and a spotter at the bottom of the ladder
- 4) Communications wire entering buildings must be run through the windows. Once run, the windows must remain closed-- this will require some care regarding not breaking the wire.
- 5) All wires over roads and on the ground around traveled ways will be staked with flagging tape to ensure visibility.

- 6) All communications wire runs will be coordinated with the respective Allied and Axis garrison CP communications personnel.

d. REPORTING:

- 1) Morning Reports due to WWIHA by 0830 on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

- A) Personnel Status Report
- B) Historic vehicle status
- C) Land Mine status

- 2) EVENT NOTIFICATIONS

Major Event reminders will be provided via field telephone to respective Axis and Allied CPs for transmission to attendees.

HISTORIC VEHICLE POLICIES ANNEX

1. Area 12 Wash Rack Motor Pool.

a. Due to space limitations, only armored combat vehicles and select wheeled combat support vehicles will park in the motor pool.

b. Parking spaces will be designated to maintain unit integrity.

c. After offloading, haulers will park in Area 14 where designated; parking haulers at the motor pool is not permitted due to space limitations.

d. Spectators may view the armored convoy's departure or arrival from the area designated in the enclosure but will not enter the motor pool until invited to do so.

e. Only registered Battle of the Bulge participants are permitted on board or inside vehicles in the motor pool.

f. Saturday Evening Departures.

(1.) Upon entering the motor pool, departing vehicles will continue past the wash rack along Hemlock Street to awaiting, pre-positioned haulers along Routes Able (Allied) and Baker (Axis) as depicted in the enclosure.

(2.) Haulers may be positioned along the designated route(s) not earlier than 1500 hours on Saturday, 28 January 2017.

(3.) Haulers will park along the right side of the designated route(s) to allow traffic to pass on the left, with sufficient spacing to facilitate loading.

(4.) After loading, haulers will proceed along the designated route to Logan Road, execute a right turn to Clement Avenue and exit the installation.

2. Petroleum, Oils and Lubricants (POL).

a. Vehicles will have a spill kit (ie floor dry, cat litter, "pig pads", etc.) to mitigate spills and drip pan(s) sufficient to contain any POL leaks.

b. Immediately report spills to the event staff via the unit chain of command.

3. Safety.

a. Vehicles will be equipped with a First Aid Kit and an operational BC fire extinguisher.

b. Tanks will be equipped with an operational intercom system incorporating, at a minimum, the tank commander and driver.

c. Attempts to board or approach a vehicle for the purpose of inserting or affixing a faux explosive device or pyrotechnic are strictly prohibited and will result in immediate ejection from the event.

d. Dismounted troops will maintain a minimum safe distance of 50 feet from armored combat vehicles during tactical operations.

e. Ground guides will use standard period US Army hand and arm signals from the WWII period.

WWII HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION
OPERATION ORDER NO. 18-001

Annex follows no specific format.
Use for admin data not covered in opord format

---end annex---

Use this page for site layout map, provided SEPCOR.

Use this annex for all supply / qm needs. No specific format.

Use this annex for command and signal specifics. No specific format.