

WAFFEN-SS IMPRESSION GUIDELINES for MURMANSK (March 1943)



In short, this is a KG Franzsky Palm Party type event. March 1943 is technically too early M42 helmets, M43 kielhosen trousers and M42/M43 Jackets (at least for W-SS), but if that is all you've got, wear them without shame, but leave your Type II smocks and helmet covers at home along with your 44 Dot and your Italian camo. By March 1943, all of the hand-screened and most of the machine printed and hybrid smock/zelt/cap/helmet cover patterns had been developed and fielded, so the only restricted camouflage patterns are Oak A and B. Go ahead and use Oak A and B zelts if you need to, but avoid Oak A and B helmet covers, caps, and smocks. If you don't have a Type I smock or helmet cover, we can probably hook you up. Let your squad leader know.

We will be running as SS-GJ Regt. 11 of 6. SS "Nord" for this event. If you want to re-badge. Bill Bureau and Reddick Militaria have BeVo cufftitles. Wehrmachts Effekten (Facebook) has RZM-style cufftitles. 1944 Militaria may have cap Edelweiss. Elsenau (Facebook) and Wehrmachts Effekten (Facebook) have sleeve Edelweiss. Elsenau (Facebook) and ATF have GJ shoulder boards. If you have more specific questions about rebadging PM me.

Also, if you want to use Nordic sweaters, gloves, and Pukka knives, they are heartily approved.

Weapons

Authorized weapons for this event include the K98k, G41, MP38/40, Zb 26/30, MG34 and MG42, P08/38. Captured weapons should be limited to those found on the Eastern Front (PPSH-41, SVT-40 and DP-28). Suomis are also appropriate for the event. In addition, photo evidence of SS units in the 20th Mountain Army show a good number of freaky SMGs (like Bergmanns, Ermas or Steyrs). MKb42s were issued to the 20th Mountain Army during the Winter of 1942-43, but the event is too early for MP43/44s and G43s.

Uniform

Caps (Feldmutze) – W-SS Bergmutze, M34 or M40 field gray wool cap with the proper insignia. M42 reversible camo cap. No Italian camo caps. (They are still our allies at this point). Bergmutzen can be acquired from Ebay seller 3_reich.

Tunic (Feldbluse) M36 or M40/41 with the correct insignia. This scenario is too early for M42/M43s, but if you are having trouble sourcing an M36 or an M40, go ahead and wear what you have. Rebadge for Nord if you want to, otherwise keep cyphered boards and other LAH bling to a minimum. Vendors: At The Front, On the March, Panther Store, Lost Battalions

Trousers (Feldhosen) – M37 or M40 Feldgrau straight leg trousers. M43s are technically too late for this event, but they are OK. Mountain trousers can be found at Shuster.

Suspenders (Hosenträger) - These can be reproductions, originals, civilian types, etc.
Service Shirt (Hemd) –brown or gray collared shirt with or without pockets. Vendors: At The Front, 1944 Militaria, SM Wholesale, Panther Store

Footwear (Schuhzeug) – Mountain boots, M1937 low boots or M1939 Marching Boots.

Socks/Footwraps (Socken) - Any correct German issued socks or foot wraps. Your preference.
Leggings (Gemaschen) - The only gemaschen allowed can be purchased from At The Front. You can get Styrian Gaiters from Frank Barone on EBay or Puttees from Schuster.

Field Gear

Helmet (Stahlhelm) –M35, or M40. (Original shells strongly preferred) Single SS decal allowed. The helmet must be painted with the correct feldgrau paint. The paint may be flat factory paint or factory paint with texture. The event is too early for an M42, but if that is all you have, go ahead and wear it. Just keep a camo cover on it.

Equipment Belt (Koppel) - Black, leather belt or Webbed belt- Vendors: At The Front, 1944 Militaria, SM Wholesale

Belt Buckle (Koppelschlosser) - Aluminum or Steel, silver wash or field gray paint. Vendors: At The Front, 1944 Militaria.

Kar98 Ammunition Pouches (Patronentaschen) - Original or Reproductions. The only reproductions allowed at from At The Front. Please, no Chinese made pouches.

Breadbag (Brotbeutel) - Original or reproductions from At The Front, Schuster, or SM Wholesale.
Canteen (Feldflaschen) - This includes: Strap, Cover, Flask, and Metal or Bakelite Cup. Original or quality reproductions allowed.

Mess Kit (Kochgeschirr) - Original (Strongly Preferred) or Post War.

Issued Spork - German Army issued folding spoon/fork combination. Reproductions can be found at At The Front or Hessen Antique.

Gas Canister (Tragebusche) - Original or high quality reproduction. Must be painted the correct color.

Shovel (Schanzzeug/Klappspaten) - Original or certain post war flat shovels, or folding shovels. Please see KG Franzsky leadership on what post war shovels are allowed.

Shovel Cover - Straight or folding shovel carrier - At The Front. (Standard issue black or Prestoff accepted)

Bayonet (Seitengewehr) - Original or reproduction. Originals preferred.

Bayonet Frog (Seitengewehrtasche) – Webbed, leather or mixed construction. Dismounted or mounted. Vendors: At The Front, 1944 Militaria

Mess Kit Strap - Original, post war, or reproduction. Leather or webbed types allowed. Vendors: At The Front, 1944 Militaria

Greatcoat Straps/Equipment Straps (3) - Original or Reproduction. Leather type. These are very

handy to use on your M42 Rucksack or for attaching gear to your Y straps. Vendors: At The Front, 1944 Militaria

Tier II

Greatcoats (Mantel M36, M40, M42 (Surcoat). W-SS and Heer Surcoats were different. The most obvious difference is that Heer Surcoats had French cuffs and W-SS Surcoats had plain sleeves. W-SS used both, but the W-SS model was more common among W-SS troops.

Hard to go wrong with Sturm Greatcoats. Call Drew M or Glenn before purchasing from other sources.

Reversible Parkas, Mittens and Trousers. Field Gray is preferable to camouflage garments. Although they are very common on the Eastern Front during the last two winters of the war, I have not seen any period photos of reversible Oak A/B Blurred Edge or 44 Dot camo parkas from the 1942-43 Winter. Vendors: ATF, SM Wholesale and Panther Store

Kharkov Parkas. 1942-43 was the first winter of the Kharkov Parka and trousers. They are definitely approved for the event. Vendors: SM Wholesale and GMax.

Sweater (Schlupfjacke) – V-neck or Roll-neck variants are acceptable.

Gloves (Handschuhe) - German issued or civilian. Vendors: At The Front 1944 Militaria

Field Gear

Y Straps (Tragegestell) - Leather or tropical types are appropriate. Vendors: At The Front , 1944 Militaria, SM Wholesale

Zeltbahn - SM Wholesale or ATF reproductions are approved. Avoid other copies. Post war Norwegian zelt poles are allowed by the unit as they are identical or originals (apart from markings.) Avoid Swiss poles and accessory bags. No restrictions on camouflage Gas cape bag - Original or Reproduction.

Blanket (Mannschaftsdecken) - Reproduction or Post War variant. Vendors: At The Front, Kriegsende

Smocks(Tarnjacken) Type I Only. No Type IIs. No 44 Dot. No Liebermuster. Otherwise, there are no restrictions on camouflage patterns. All of the hand-screened patterns and most the fully- and partially-machine-printed patterns were available by the Winter of 1942-43. I can't date Oak A or B any earlier than Kursk (July 1943). I know zelts are scarce right now, so I think it would be unwise to restrict the use of Oak zelts, but try to avoid Oak A and B caps and helmet covers. Let your chain of command know if you need to borrow one in an earlier pattern.

Helmet Cover (Tarnhelmüberzug) Type I Only. No Type IIs. Any W-SS camouflage pattern but 44 Dot (of course). Vendors: At The Front, SM Wholesale, 1944 Militaria, Panther Store.

Reed-Green Drillich was widely used by W-SS units months on the Ostfront. Two-pocket jackets only. Four pocket jackets are Heer/LW items. ATF and SM Wholesale are acceptable sources. Panther Store and Gavin are also OK.

Italian Camouflage: Leave it at home for this event. They are still our Allies. You will be charged with theft if you have it.

SS-KB Blaurock



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Photo: US National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)



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