

UNIFORM and EQUIPMENT REGULATIONS: WESTERN THEATER CONFEDERATE



1. Whereas the Texas Rifles are frequently called upon to do a western theater Confederate impression, at those times the Texas Rifles' uniforms and equipment should parallel uniforms and equipment likely to have been used by troops in that theater of operations.
2. After the collapse of the Commutation System under which troops supplied their own clothing) in 1862, western theater soldiers would have received subsequent issues of uniforms and equipment from the various clothing depots in their area. Thus at the peak of the struggle, western theater Confederates would have received clothing and equipment produced within the western theater, limited captured Federal supplies, or goods imported from foreign sources.
3. We propose that the Uniform and Equipment Regulations offered below be secondary to the primary Texas Rifles impression of eastern theater soldiers. Members would not be required to obtain any of the following items. However, those Texas Rifles members desiring an authentic western theater impression are advised to adhere to these regulations. Western theater uniform and equipment items owned by current members, but not conforming to these regulations can be used until replaced. New recruits will be required to conform to all regulations in this document.
4. The goal of these regulations is to maintain the Texas Rifles as one of the premier organizations of its kind in the United States and to more accurately portray the rank and file of the western theater Confederate soldier.

I. WEAPONS



The initial armament of many Confederate infantry units was .69 caliber smoothbore U.S. muskets. Throughout its service the Confederate Army increased the proportion of rifled-muskets, particularly imported Enfield Rifled-Muskets, to smoothbore muskets. Although the Enfield was imported in large numbers beginning in 1862, the U.S. pattern .69 caliber smoothbore and .58 caliber rifled-muskets were present in significant numbers throughout the war in the west. However, since the P1853 Enfield is currently over represented in our ranks, the following weapon preferences are recommended:

Recommended Weapons: Preference #1 M1842 .69 caliber US musket
Preference #2 M1816 .69 caliber US musket, percussion conversion
Preference #3 M1861 .58 caliber Springfield rifled-musket
Preference #4 M1855 .58 caliber US rifled-musket
Preference #5 P1853 .577 caliber Enfield rifled-musket

Acceptable Weapons: M1863, M1864 .58 caliber US rifle-muskets

Discouraged Weapons: M1841 .54 or .58 caliber "Mississippi" Rifle
P1858 .577 caliber Enfield

Each weapon must be equipped with the appropriate bayonet, tompon and cleaning tools (such as a worm and nipple wrench) and cartridge box. Cone protectors for Enfield muskets are optional.

II. ACCOUTREMENTS



The following items are recommended. Often, these accoutrements will allow the member to participate as either a Federal or Confederate soldier. Uniquely Confederate accoutrement items of issue can be added later as desired. Cartridge box caliber should match caliber of weapon.

Recommended Accoutrements:

Cartridge Boxes

- Preference #1 M1857 .58 or .69 Cartridge Box unmarked & unriveted
- Preference #2 Confederate manufactured early war Cartridge Box
- Preference #3 M1857 .58 or .69 US Cartridge Box, early or pre-war stamps
- Preference #4 M1839 (42) .69 Cartridge Box
- Preference #5 Enfield Pattern Cartridge Box

When doing a Confederate impression the oval "US" cartridge box plate and round "Eagle" plates should be removed, or turned upside down.

Cartridge Box Slings

- Preference #1 M1857 Black "Waxed" Leather Cartridge Box Sling
- Preference #2 M1857 Black Leather smooth-side out Cartridge Box Sling
- Preference #3 Confederate Cartridge Box Sling, painted cloth
- Preference #4 Confederate Cartridge Box Sling, unpainted cloth
- Preference #5 Enfield Pattern black leather Sling

When doing a western theater impression, the cartridge box sling is optional on some boxes.

Waist Belt Buckle

- Preference #1 Confederate Georgia Frame Buckle
- Preference #2 Confederate Forked Tongue Buckle
- Preference #3 Roller Buckle
- Preference #4 Pewter "CSA" Buckle
- Preference #5 English "S" hook pattern Buckle
- Preference #6 "US" Oval Waist Belt Plate

Waist Belt

- Preference #1 Smooth or Waxed leather belt for frame or US oval buckle. No brass keeper.
- Preference #2 Confederate Waist Belt, painted cloth
- Preference #3 British pattern Waist Belt with "S" hook belt plate

The buckle you use may determine the waist belt style; make sure they are compatible

Musket Sling

- Preference #1 M1839 US pattern russet leather Musket Sling
- Preference #2 Confederate pattern linen Musket Sling

Using a musket sling is optional. Many Confederates probably did not have one at all.

Bayonet Scabbard

- Preference #1 M1857 US Gaylord pattern Bayonet Scabbard, two rivet or all sewn
- Preference #2 Confederate pattern Bayonet Scabbard, all sewn, brass or tin tipped

Capbox

- Preference #1 M1850 US pattern Capbox, shield or tapered front
- Preference #2 Confederate pattern Capbox

II. Quartermaster Equipment

Recommended Quartermaster Equipment:



Knapsack

- Preference #1 Texas Rifles Confederate/ Mexican War Pattern single bag Knapsack with russet leather straps, stenciled with company letter, soldier's company number and regimental number
- Preference #2 US M1853 "Double-Bag" Knapsack, early war version
- Preference #3 Blanket Roll (no knapsack)
- Preference #4 Isaac & Campbell British Knapsack
- Preference #5 Any authentic period Knapsack



Haversack

- Preference #1 US regulation painted Haversack with liner bag and black leather closing strap, stenciled with company letter and soldier's company number
- Preference #2 Unpainted cotton duck Haversack with button closure

Tent

- Preference #1 Gaede Type IIa pattern Shelter Tent Half
- Preference #2 Gaede Type IIIb pattern Shelter Tent Half

The Texas Rifles is a "campaign style" unit; our shelter must be comfortably transportable in our knapsacks or in a blanket roll. Sibley and "A" frame tents are suitable only at static events. Wall tents for enlisted men are unacceptable. Many Confederates had no shelter on campaign.



Canteen

No Texas Rifles preference; any authentic period canteen is appropriate. Federal style canteens should be covered, or re-covered, in Texas Rifles approved gray/brown jeans.

Rain Protection

- Preference #1 Painted Oilcloth
- Preference #3 US pattern painted cloth "Gum Blanket"
- Preference #1 US pattern rubber coated Gum Blanket (no reinforced head hole)



Cooking and Eating Gear

Texas Rifles members must have an authentic period tin cup, tin plate, knife, spoon and fork. Each member needs access to authentic period cooking gear for food preparation. These items could include a sheet iron frying pan and a tin boiler. All cooking items must be of a size suitable to be conveniently carried by one man. No stainless steel or cast iron.

Blanket

- Preference #1 Any authentic period blanket or coverlet
- Preference #2 US pattern wool Blanket with "US" stitched into center

III. Uniform

Recommended Uniform:



Jacket

- Preference #1 Columbus Depot Jacket, Type I or Type II, Sheep Grey wool/brown cotton jeans with French blue kersey collar & cuffs, five to seven button front with "I" buttons, lined in period Osnaburg
- Preference #2 Department of Alabama Depot Pattern Jacket (Mystery Jacket)
- Preference #3 Generic CS Jeans Jacket with low collar, one piece sleeves & six piece body
- Preference #4 CS Single Breasted – Jean Cloth Frock Coat
- Preference #5 Any Authentic Period Civilian Sack or Frock Coat
- Preference #6 US Pattern Sack Coat

Trousers

- Preference #1 Trousers, any authentic period civilian trousers of cotton, wool, linen or wool/cotton jeans with porcelain, wood, metal or bone buttons
- Preference #2 Trousers, US pattern sky blue kersey of the Schuylkill Arsenal or contractor design. Machine sewn and hand finished with black tin buttons.

Hats



- Preference #1 Any authentic period slouch hat. No fedoras, outback or modern cowboy hats
- Preference #2 Any authentic period civilian hat, including wheel, straw, mechanic's, top and bowler hats.
- Preference #3 CS Kepi or Forage Cap of wool, cotton or wool/cotton jeans.
- Preference #4 US pattern dark blue Forage Cap

The western theater of the Civil War was not supported as well materially as the eastern theater. Insignia should be kept to a minimum, or not used at all. Avoid the use of leather drawstrings on slouch hats and animal parts.

Shirts

No Texas Rifles preference, however white muslin shirts are over represented in the ranks. Although the CS authorities issued shirts, no standard style, or fabric has been identified. Many Confederate soldiers were outfitted with donated shirts and/or civilian shirts from home. These shirts were either made from homespun cotton or manufactured print patterns. They were frequently colorful and pleasing to the eye, as dictated by the fashion of the day. Small glass or porcelain buttons of many varieties and colors were used most often. Metal, bone and wood buttons are over-represented.

Socks

No Texas Rifles preference; any authentic period sock made of 100% wool, cotton, or wool/cotton blend.

Shoes



- Preference #1 Confederate pattern shoes
Preference #2 Any authentic period working class shoes
Preference #3 US pattern black leather Brogan shoes with leather laces



Braces (Suspenders)

No Texas Rifles preference; any authentic period non-elastic suspender is appropriate. Suspenders were not an item of issue to soldiers.

Accessories

Items which are useful, but not required by the Texas Rifles, include the following:

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Federal or Confederate Overcoat | Spare pair of Socks |
| Cotton or linen long Drawers | Spare shirt |
| Period Hatchet for cutting fire wood | Wool shirt for cold weather events |
| Housewife (sewing kit) for in-the-field repairs | Vest |

Recommended Sutlers:

Blockade Runner

1027 Bell Buckle/Wartrace Rd.

Wartrace TN, 37183

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

file:///C:/Texas%20Rifles/blockaderunner@midtnn.net

Phone (voice): 931-389-6294 24 Hr Fax: 931-389-0486

C & D Jarnagin Co.
P.O. Box 1860--or--UPS: 103 Franklin Street
Corinth, Mississippi 38834-1860
<http://www.jarnaginco.com/>
<file:///C:/Texas%20Rifles/cjarnagin@bellsouth.net>
Phone (662) 287-4977 *Fax (662) 287-6033

Clearwater Hat Company
1007 Clearwater Road
Newnata/Timbo, AR 72680
<http://www.clearwaterhats.com/>
(870) 347-2252

Chris Graham (suspenders)
1420 E. Vineyard Rd.
Hayesville, North Carolina 28904
(704) 389-6126

Company Quartermaster (defarbed reproduction Enfield M1853 muskets)
258 Zimmerman St.
North Tonawanda, New York 14120-4509
members.bellatlantic.net/~vze3jhwa/
<file:///C:/Texas%20Rifles/t.schultz5@verizon.net>
(866) 693-3239 (ask for Terry)

Dirty Billy's Hats
20 Baltimore St.
Gettysburg, Pennsylvania 17325
<http://www.dirtybillyshats.com/>
717-334-3200

Evergreen Acres Farms
N2784 Camp Riversite Road
Sheboygan Falls, WI 53085
<http://Evergreenacresfarm.com/homepage.html>
(920) 564-3101 or (920) 893-0683

Fall Creek Suttlerly
P.O. Box 92
Whitestown, IN 46075
<http://fcsutler.com/>
<file:///C:/Texas%20Rifles/FC%20Sutler%20@aol.com>
(765) 482-1861 and (765) 482-1848 fax

Frank J. Marek (uniforms and military caps)
P.O. Box 1953
Dayton, Texas 77535
<mailto:fjmarek@aol.com>
936-257-1323

Frazer Brothers (sutler)
5641 Yale Blvd.
Suite 125
Dallas, Texas 75206
<http://www.frazerbrothers.com/>
frazer@frazerbrothers.com
214-696-1865

Jersey Skillet Licker (sutler)
www.skilletlicker.com/
<http://www.skilletlicker.com/>

John Keahey (uniforms, equipment, military & civilian caps)
2810 W. Pebble Beach
Missouri City, Texas 77459
jjpkeahey@pdq.net
281-261-0665

John Zaharias
P.O. Box 31152
St. Louis, Missouri 63131
jazsutler@worldnet.att.net
314-966-2829

John G. Zimmerman Defarbed Civil War Muskets (& Pistols)
P.O. Box 1351 (1195 Washington St.)
Harpers Ferry, WV. 25425
<http://www.edsmart.com/jz/>
(304) 535-2558

Kathy Kleiman (socks)
10264 Eaglenest Ct.
Fairfax, Virginia 22032
<file:///C:/Texas%20Rifles/dortheadix@aol.com>
703-323-1219

Mattimore Harness (boots)
509 S. Second St.
Laramie, Wyoming 82070
<http://www.civilwarboots.com/>
<file:///C:/Texas%20Rifles/tom@civilwarboots.com>
Call evenings only 307-745-8460

Mickey Black
6378 US 601
Salisbury, North Carolina 28147
<http://www.salisburyemporium.com/mickeyblacksocks.htm>
<file:///C:/Texas%20Rifles/mickey@salisburyemporium.com>
(704) 637-3331

Missouri Boot & Shoe Company (Robert Serio) (shoes, leather goods
accoutrements)
951 Burr Crossing Road
Neosho, Missouri 64850
<http://www.missouribootandshoe.com/index.asp>
(417) 451-6100

Orchard Hill Sutlery
417 Esperance Road
Esperance, NY 12066
<http://www.orchardhillsutlery.com/>
info@orchardhillsutlery.com
sales@orchardhillsutlery.com
518-875-9981

Sam Doolin (wooden canteens)
1670 Lewis St.
Lakewood, Colorado 80215
<http://www.cjdaley.com/>
Samramdoolin@aol.com
Oldrebelshop@aol.com

Tim Allen (hats)
1429 Becket Rd.
Eldersburg, Maryland 21784
<http://www.timallenhats.com/>
<file:///C:/Texas%20Rifles/tahats@starpower.net>
(410) 549-5145 (call between 7-9PM EST)

Tim Bender Hats (TP & H Trading Co.)
121 Carriage Drive
Birdsboro, PA 19508
<http://groups.msn.com/timbendershats/timbendershats.msnw>
<file:///C:/Texas%20Rifles/timbendershats@groups.msn.com>
file:///C:/Texas%20Rifles/tph_trading@msn.com
(610) 582-0327

Wisconsin Veterans Museum (research archives & resources)
30 W. Mifflin St.
Madison, Wisconsin 53703
<http://museum.dva.state.wi.us/>
<file:///C:/Texas%20Rifles/Veterans.Museum@dva.state.wi.us>
(608) 267-1799

Texas Rifles Military Authenticity Committee