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No 24

**R**oyal  
**E**ngineers  
**T**raining  
**M**emorandum



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**FOR SMITH**

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Prepared under the direction of the Chief of the Imperial General Staff

coverings, a light beside each bed and a cheerful decorative scheme will provide good value for the £20 limit per man. In each block of six huts one is to be set aside as a sanitary annexe or toilet area—as the new nomenclature will have it—connected to the others by covered ways.

### SECTION 41.—“ 44 ” PATTERN WEB EQUIPMENT

#### 1. Components and weight

<i>Normal Items</i>	<i>Weight</i>		<i>Additional Items</i>	<i>Weight</i>	
	lb.	ozs.		lb.	ozs.
Waistbelt ... ..	0	6 $\frac{3}{4}$	Rucksack (less shoulder straps) ... ..	2	5
Bayonet, frog ... ..	0	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	Machete sheath ... ..	0	6 $\frac{3}{4}$
Basic pouch, left ... ..	0	10 $\frac{3}{4}$	Brace attachments (2) ... ..	0	3 $\frac{1}{4}$
Basic pouch, right ... ..	0	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	Pistol case ... ..	0	6 $\frac{1}{4}$
Braces ... ..	0	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	Ammunition pouch ... ..	0	2
Waterbottle cover ... ..	0	5 $\frac{3}{4}$	Compass pocket ... ..	0	2 $\frac{3}{4}$
Haversack ... ..	1	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	Binocular case ... ..	0	10
Shoulder straps, pair... ..	0	5 $\frac{1}{4}$	Officers haversack ... ..	0	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
	4	6 $\frac{1}{4}$			

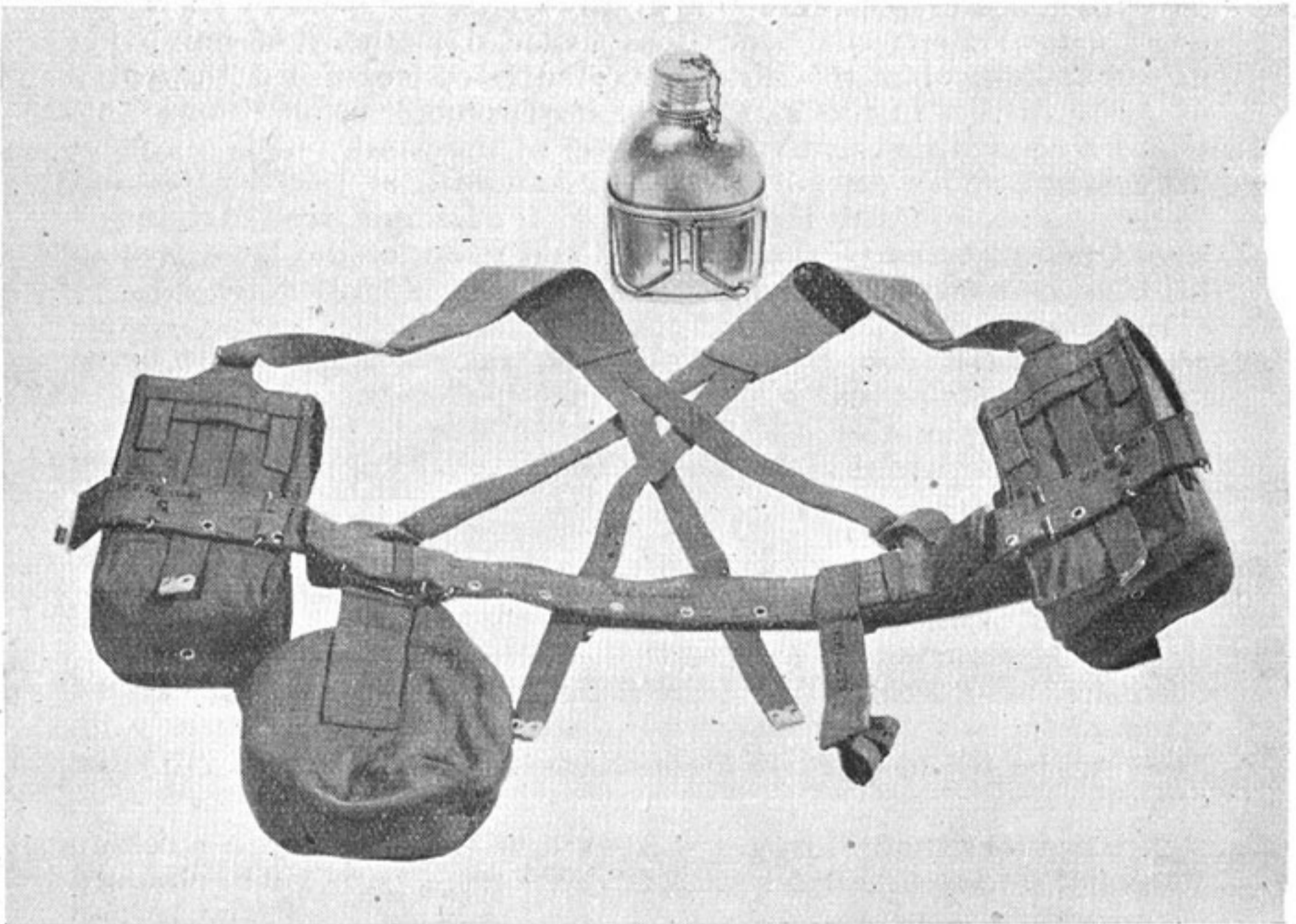


FIG 42—“ 44 ” pattern equipment—showing water bottle and inside of equipment

**2. Historical.**—This equipment was designed, during the war, specially for jungle warfare. Owing to the sudden termination of hostilities, it was never issued although large quantities had been manufactured.



FIG 43—"44" pattern equipment—left side

**3. Advantages.**—The design of the equipment is basically the same as that of the "37" pattern equipment but it includes the following improvements :—

- (a) The webbing is thinner, lighter, and more pliable, and the shoulder straps are wider.
- (b) The water bottle is made of aluminium, and includes a drinking cup.
- (c) The small pack has several compartments, including one which is waterproofed. In addition, its capacity has been increased.
- (d) The large pack has been designed on the rucksack principle, it will hold more kit, and has a variety of compartments, one of which is waterproofed. Thus clean and dirty articles can be packed separately. The pack will hold all the field scale items of clothing and necessaries, including a spare pair of boots and a spare suit of battle dress. It is not normally intended to be carried by the man, but on unit transport.

- (e) Special provision has been made for the carriage of a blanket and/or extra digging equipment without the necessity of improvising a means of attachment.
- (f) The equipment, including the small pack, can be worn with the back centre portion of the belt completely removed, without the equipment "flopping about." Thus, constriction at the waist is avoided, and the equipment can be worn by men with minor waist injuries, and in those climatic conditions where it is important that the clothing should not be pressed tightly against the skin.

4. **Policy.**—It is intended to introduce the "44" pattern equipment on a maintenance basis as stocks of the "37" pattern are expended. It is anticipated that the change over will not commence until approximately 1949.

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#### **RETM SUPPLEMENT. (WO CODE No. 8272)**

A supplement to RETM dated December, 1947, has been issued on the same scale as RETM No. 24. It shows the diagrammatic representation of a field engineer regiment (Armoured or Infantry Division). This supplement has been produced so that it can be inserted in the RE Reconnaissance Pocket Book.

NOTE—In future, RETM will be issued at six monthly intervals.