



Introduction to our painting guide no 9

This WWII figure painting guide has been produced for use with our US Airborne 1943-44 range of 20mm scale figures. It will enable you to paint your new American paratroopers with a high degree of accuracy.

This guide describes a typical infantryman of the type that filled the ranks of the 82nd and 101st Divisions that preceded the 1944 Allied D-day invasion of Europe. The US Paratrooper wore the distinctive M1942 tan two piece uniform, (not Olive Drab) and wore a large national flag on the upper right arm.

If you wish to know more about the unique US airborne Tan uniform we would recommend reading *The US Army 1941-45* by P. Katcher available from Osprey Men at Arms- No70.

UNIFORM DETAIL	HUMBROL	VALLAJO	COLOUR PARTY
M42 Tunic/Trousers	118 Matt Tan	977 Yellow	C4 Tan
Jump Boots	186 Brown	879 Brown	MA14
Webbing	103 Cream	819 Sand	MA63
M1C Helmet	91 Black Green	896 Dark Green	MA60
Buckles	11 Silver	790 Silver	MT2
Rope	34 Matt White	951 White	MA 1
Wooden parts	186 Brown	879 Brown	MA14
M3 Knife Scabbard	76 Uniform Green	968 Green	MA4
Elbow/Knee patches	91 Black Green	879 Green	MA60
M1910 Spade Cover	103 Cream	819 Sand	MA63
M1911 Holster	186 Brown	879 Brown	MA14
M7 Gas mask Bag	H/L 145 Grey	H/L 994 Grey	MA50

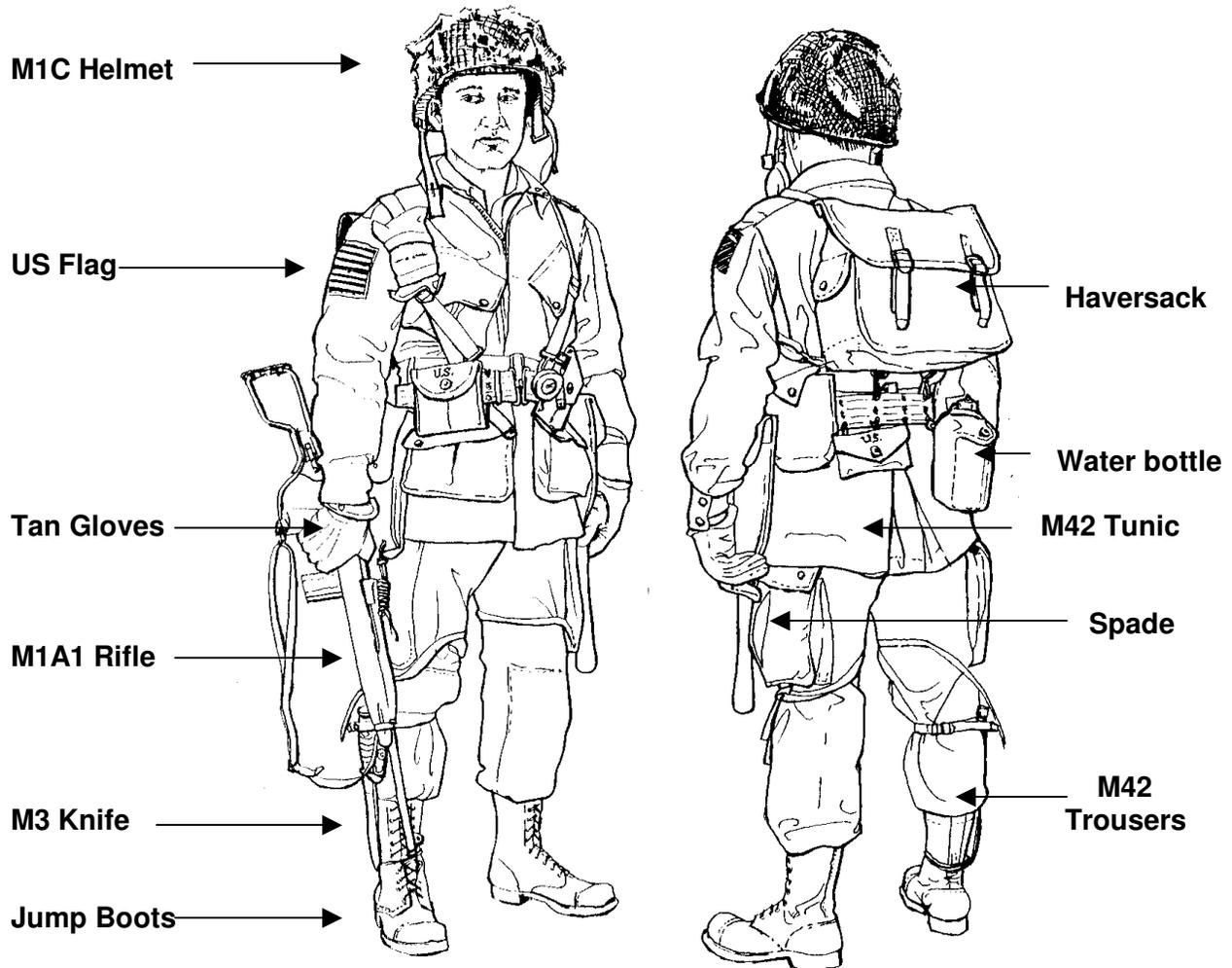
SOME USEFUL PAINTING TIPS

To achieve the best result from your painting we recommend that you clean the figures with water and remove all flash/mould line with a file before undercoating the figures with Matt Black paint. We also suggest that you use a good quality paintbrush such as a Kolinsky type brush with a fine point.

Any colour applied to the Matt Black undercoat will appear brighter and provide depth to the model. Once the base colours have dried it is a good idea to highlight your earlier work. Mix a little white to the original colours and highlight the creases and raised parts of the model with this new colour. If done carefully this will give the model a nice finish. Remember to varnish all finished work, as this will protect your figures from any potential damage.

This guide was prepared by S. Pearson and R. Rowell for SHQ Miniatures.

US Airborne 1943-44



Personal weapons included the M1 Rifle, M1928A1 Thompson machine gun and the M1 carbine. For squad support the M1918A2 Browning automatic Rifle was issued. Heavier support was available in the form of the Browning 30Cal machine gun. Many paratroopers carried the Colt 45 cal. M1911A1 pistol.

UNIFORM NOTES

NCO rank insignia was displayed on the right and left hand mid upper arms in the form of tan or off white stripes. Officers wore a series of small metal buttons on their tunic collars denoting their seniority. Typically officers removed their insignia before an air operation as a security measure. All airborne troops wore either a brassard or cloth patch with the national flag printed on it. This was worn on the upper right arm sleeve.

Each airborne division wore its own unique coloured badge on the upper left-hand arm of the tunic. The 101st Divisional badge was a white eagle's head on a black shield surmounted by the words airborne. The 82nd had the letters AA on a blue circle, this was mounted on a Red square badge. An airborne badge also surmounted this.

Paratroopers carried a heavy load into combat unlike many of their contemporaries of the time. In combat the average infantryman wore the M36 pistol belt with the M24 first aid pouch, M1910/1943 entrenching spade, M1910 water flask and appropriate ammunition pouches.

Apart from this a M1911 pistol holster could be worn alongside the black assault gas mask bag. Specialist troops also carried their equipment into battle alongside their personal weapons.