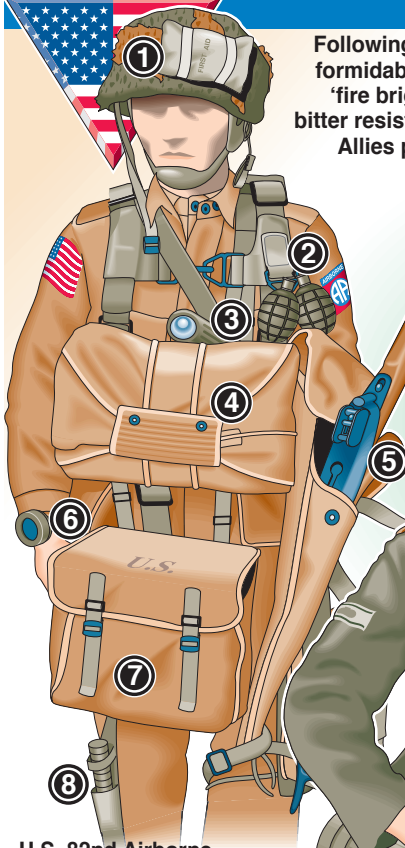


Fighters on the front line

Following the D-Day landings, Hitler rushed the formidable Waffen-SS armour and infantry – his 'fire brigade' – to the new front. They provided bitter resistance to the invasion force, making the Allies pay dearly for every yard of French soil



U.S. 82nd Airborne Division paratrooper

1. Steel helmet with first-aid pack
2. M1 hand grenades 3. Torch 4. Reserve parachute 5. *Garand* M1 .30 calibre rifle with eight-round magazine, accurate to 2,000 yards, muzzle velocity 2,740 feet/second 6. Wrist compass 7. Ammunition bag 8. Fighting knife



Waffen-SS Infantry NCO

1. Helmet with removable camouflage cover 2. Binoculars 3. M1924 stick grenade 4. Triple magazine pouches 5. *MP40 Schmeisser* 9mm calibre sub-machine gun capable of firing 500 rounds/minute, 32 shot magazine, muzzle velocity of 1,247 feet/second 6. Standard issue gas mask in steel case 7. 'Pea-pattern' camouflage trousers

