

DANS LA PEAU D'UN SOLDAT

de la Rome antique
à nos jours

EXPOSITION
DU 12 OCTOBRE 2017
AU 28 JANVIER 2018

Musée de l'Armée
Invalides



Young people
Age 8

Game booklet

At this exhibition, you will find out all about the different moments in the life of a soldier during military campaigns, from Antiquity to the present day.

To start your visit, go to the Vauban Room on the ground floor, where the exhibition begins. The models and equipment on display show how military equipment and the image of soldiers have changed over the last two thousand years. When their equipment or uniform is grey, like the leather bag in the photo opposite, it means that it is a replica created in our 21st-century workshops. We use our archives of historical documents to make sure we reproduce the original element exactly.



Travelling through time

Take a close look at the model of the Roman legionary, then find the two fighters shown below.

1- Drawing on your powers of observation and logic, use arrows to link each soldier to his equipment.

1- Harquebusier, circa 1610



- a- Cabasset (helmet)
- b- Matchlock musket
- c- Matchlock harquebus
- d- Plug bayonet with a spike positioned at the tip of the firearm for close combat. It can be stored in a pouch attached to the belt.
- e- Kit: bag of pellets and powder horn for loading the weapon.
- f- Sword
- g- Military uniform, from 1680
- h- Civilian clothing before 1680

2- Infantry rifleman, circa 1690



Go to the back of the room...



Use the clue opposite, which is the insignia of the Soviet army, to find me in the gallery. I'm one of the 100,000 soldiers in my country, the USSR. In 1943, I was an elite sniper. You can see the scope I use to aim accurately at my target, even from far away.



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This woman is wearing a uniform made of a camouflage fabric with an 'amoeba-like' pattern adopted in 1938. The large brown patches have a similar shape to amoebas, single-cell creatures whose shape changes depending on whether they live in water, wet soil or moss...

Amoeba visible thanks to a microscope



Now go over to the last model in this chronological gallery. He is wearing a 'new generation' battle dress like the French soldiers on duty in Afghanistan in 2011.

2- What do you think the inscription 'A+post+' means?

- a- A plus, or possibly plus plus.
- b- A positive is the soldier's blood group.

Leave the room and go to the 3rd floor to continue with the visit.



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From now on, you will be following a soldier's typical day, thanks to the objects and documents on display. Don't make any noise, he's just waking up...

Sleeping and washing

Go further into the exhibition to see the representations of military camps during different eras.

3- What story do the details below tell? Add the missing words.



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image n° a- A canteen keeper prepares and sells _____

b- One laundress washes _____ while another hangs them up

c- A _____ is playing with a dog

d- A soldier buys a _____

e- Soldiers are washing their _____

f- A _____ is cutting meat to sell to his customers

Take a good look: none of the scenes, apart from the photo by Édouard Elias (detail opposite), shows soldiers washing or taking care of their appearance! For many years, artists felt that it was too private – or maybe it was not something they often witnessed. However, a lack of hygiene is the cause of a great many infections and diseases that put the health of people and animals at risk.



Dressing, being identified

Look at the uniforms around you. Soldiers in Western armies began to wear military uniforms regularly from the end of the 17th century to make it easier to recognise which side they belonged to. Uniforms are usually paid for by the State employing the combatants.

4- Position the three uniforms in chronological order and note down the century when they were made. The youngest visitors can decipher the codes to find the answers.



a- _ _ _th century

●◆★★-----



b- _ _ _th century

●※※※-----



c- _ _ _th century

●▼●●-----

Code
● 1
★ 5
※ 6
※ 7
◆ 8
▼ 9

The equipment also has distinctive features, such as insignia, that show what role the soldier plays in the army.

5- Solve the first part of this puzzle to find the object in question :

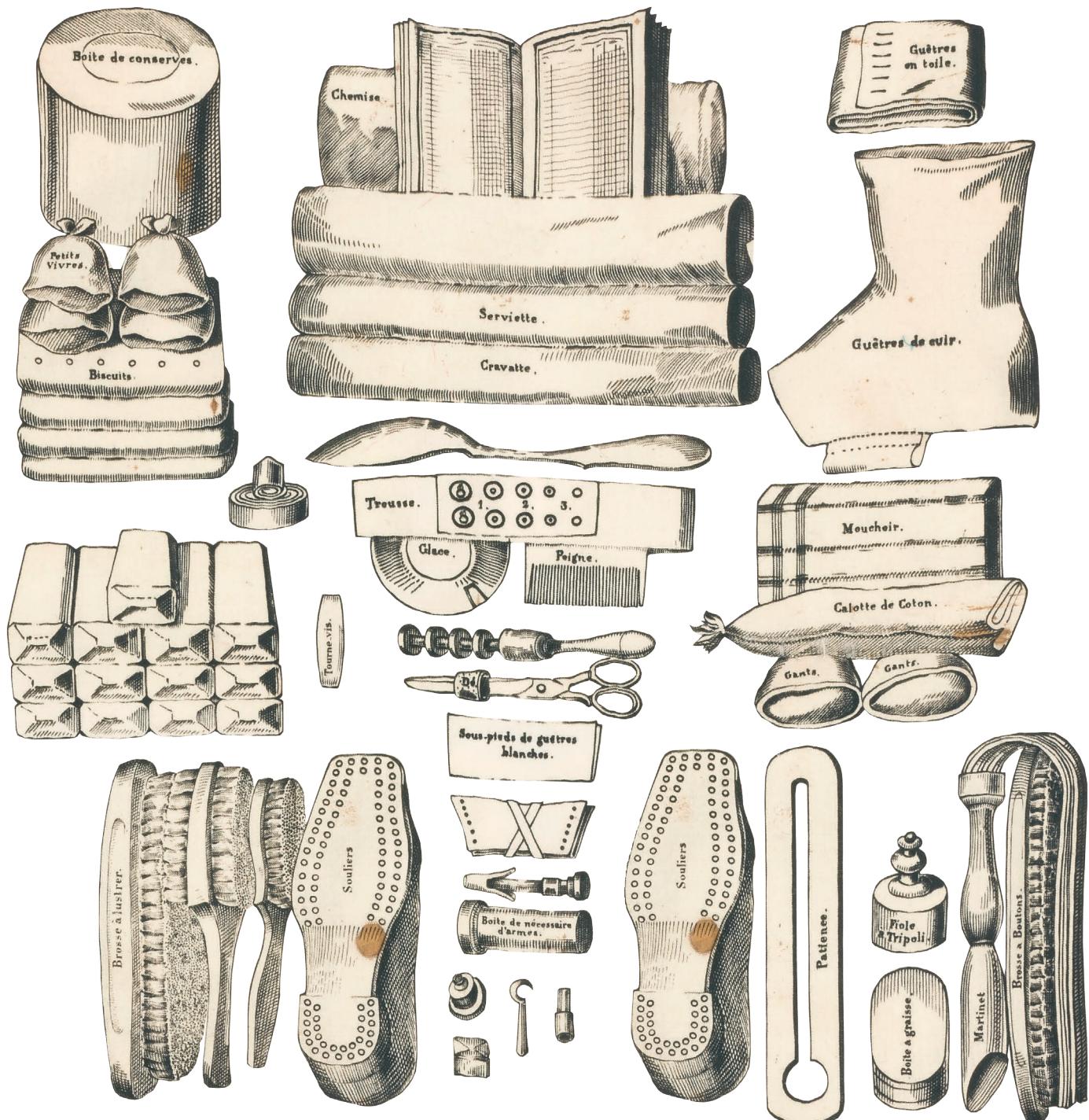
I'm made of metal and date from the 20th century. My decoration is a humorous way of referring to the role of a company in the French army that used to make bread. It represents a famous mouse created by Walt Disney, -----, wearing a uniform and armed with a rifle. The mouse is standing guard over bags of -----, while ----- mice are getting dangerously close to the ingredient that is so important to making the precious bread.

Carry on with your visit and identify the bags worn by soldiers in different eras.

Carrying (the soldier's storage space)

From Antiquity to the present day, an infantryman (foot soldier) on active duty has always carried a load weighing around 30 kg made up of clothes, equipment, baggage and weapons.

6- Compare the bag supplies below with the supplies on the instructional handkerchief displayed in the exhibition and circle the 7 differences.



Eating

Food is very important in a military context because it gives soldiers the energy they need to put up with the harsh conditions of life in the field and during combat. Food that is copious enough, tasty and varied helps to keep soldiers' spirits up. Soldiers usually carry at least two days' worth of provisions.

7- Use the detail opposite to find an 18th-century soldier running away... He has just stolen a chicken and a piglet, both alive. He will have to prepare and cook them himself.

Finish looking round this room, then **go to the last room in the exhibition.**



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Communicating

During a military operation, it is vital to have several means of communication so that actions can be coordinated and organised, even during battles and when smoke and other obstacles make it difficult. Musical instruments and flags played this role in armies for many years.



8- Use the image opposite to find the name of the communications equipment contained in the bag.

(used from 1937)

Carry on with your visit until you reach the 'Hiding' section.

Becoming invisible

The development of weapons capable of shooting further and using powder producing very little smoke – invented in 1884 – meant that the uniforms in bright colours visible from faraway worn by soldiers from the 17th century to the end of the 19th century were abandoned. During World War I, camouflage was used to make equipment almost ‘invisible’ – on land, on water and in the air – to protect soldiers during combat or when on the move. Artists work with the armies of countries at war and adapt their artistic techniques and scientific knowledge about optical illusions to create camouflage techniques.

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Take a close look at the camouflaged uniforms to help you play the next game.

9- Cross out the odd one out in the image below.



a



b



c

Find the image of 17th-century soldiers who lived here, in the Hôpital des Invalides, during the reign of King Louis XIV.

Treating the wounded

When soldiers are badly wounded during their career, they can be invalidated out of the army. In other words, their wounds mean they can no longer serve in an army.

10- Use arrows to link each caption to the corresponding image.

a- The young soldier has had his right arm amputated

b- The old soldier has had his left foot amputated

c- The young soldier has a wooden leg

d- The young soldier is wearing a special shoe



1



2



4



3

The magnified soldier

Finish off your visit by retrouve finding the helmet shown below. In every era, efforts are made to increase soldiers' efficiency by improving weapons, uniforms, equipment, machines, training, food and so on. Today's new technologies sometimes give the impression that soldiers are like superheroes, almost invincible.

The ECAD (*Équipement du CombAttant Débarqué – dismounted combatant equipment*) helmet below was tested by the French army between 1997 and 2000 as part of the FÉLIN (*Fantassin à Équipements et Liaisons INtégrés – future infantry soldier system*) programme. The programme's goal is to create a new type of equipment for infantrymen.

The helmet is fitted with:

- a ballistic shell, which is bullet-proof and shrapnel-proof;
- a radio system with an osteo-microphone which uses the vibration of the bones in the wearer's skull to send sound to the inner ear;
- a built-in optronic vision system soldiers use to see images filmed by the camera mounted on their weapons. They can see and shoot without exposing their heads to enemy fire;
- a night vision system;
- a cable that transmits recorded data and powers the electronics equipment.

Have you been to the small room opposite the ticket check point? You can go there to test the equipment for yourself.



Réponses :

1- 1=a, c, e, f, h ; 2=b, d, e, f, g ; **2-** b ; **3-** 1b = washing, 2c = child, 3a = food, 4f = butcher, 5e = horses ; **4-** b= 18th century, 1776 ; a= 19th century, 1855 ; c= 20th century, 1911 ; **5-** Mickey, floor, three, insignia of the 353th bread-making company ; **6-** Roger Rabioule ; **8-** A campaign telephone EE8B de l'US Army **9-** a, fur coat of a First World War pilot ; **10-** 1b, 1c, 2e, 3d, 4a.