

Uniform Guidelines:

7POTA 57th Independent Reconnaissance Battalion. Soviet Red Army

"Сила в тени, мудрость в молчании" (Sila v teni, mudrost' v molchanii) ~ "Strength in Shadow, Wisdom in Silence"

The 57th Independent Reconnaissance Battalion, as part of a Category B unit, is a lower-tier force that may not receive the latest equipment or frontline assignments. Operating with older vehicles and limited resources, the battalion is accustomed to making do with what it has. Despite its lower status, the 57th plays a crucial role in supporting higher-tier units, conducting reconnaissance missions that others might overlook. The battalion's soldiers are hardened by necessity, relying on ingenuity and experience to fulfill their duties. While they may not be in the spotlight, the 57th's work is indispensable, proving that even a lower-tier unit can make a significant impact when it counts.



Required uniform:

The required basic uniform for all members should contain the following: Softcap, Uniform, Camouflage oversuit. Black Boots, Webbing, Weapon. While additional items are encouraged, participants are only required to have these items. Failure to meet the minimum requirements for this faction may result in you being ineligible to participate.

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Ranks: No ranks or awards are to be worn unless authorized by the event admins. Generic grunt is the way to go!

Packing List Overview

The following can be saved or printed as a packing list for the event. An overview of each item on the list can be found on the pages following this list.

Required:

- ☐ **Tunic and Trousers:** m69/73(Strongly Preferred) or M88 uniform w/collar liner, and sky blue or white A-Shirt.
- ☐ **Soviet Issue Oversuit:** KLMK or KZS
- ☐ **Helmet:** ssh40, ssh60, ssh68
- ☐ **Soviet Soft Cap:** 'Pilotka' side cap or M88 kepi and ushanka
- ☐ **Boots:** 'Sapogi' jackboots, soviet lace up boots or any black leather military boots.
- ☐ **Webbing:**
 - ☐ 1x Brown Combat Belt with Hammer/Cycle Buckle
 - ☐ 1x Brown 'Y' Combat Suspenders
 - ☐ 1x Magazine Pouch in Khaki Canvas
 - ☐ 1x Grenade Pouch in Khaki Canvas
 - ☐ 1x Canteen with Tan Cover
- ☐ **Weapon:** AKM(S) or AK(S)-74 (No AKS-74u)
- ☐ **Appropriate Eye Protection:** Full seal airsoft goggles
- ☐ **Cold Weather gear:** Greatcoat, M69 or M88 Parka Set or sufficient under layers appropriate to weather conditions and Fake Fur Ushanka in Dark Gray
- ☐ **Shelter/Rain Gear:** Soviet Plash Palatka rain cape
- ☐ **Sleep system:** Military style sleeping bag or wool blankets
- ☐ **BB's:**
- ☐ **Dead Rag:**
- ☐ **Personal Items:**
 - ☐ Food
 - ☐ Water
 - ☐ Extra Socks x3
 - ☐ Extra Batteries/Gas
 - ☐ Personal First Aid Kit
 - ☐ Personal care kit (Bug spray, sunscreen, asswipes etc.)
 - ☐ **Watch *REQUIRED***
 - ☐ Pen/pencil and notepad
 - ☐ Mess kit

- ☐ Equipment maintenance kit (Unjamming rod, allen wrenches, screwdrivers, sewing kit ect.)

Optional: but strongly recommended

- ☐ **Rucksack:** Veshmeshok
- ☐ **E-Tool with Cover:** Soviet spade
- ☐ **Bayonet with Frog:** Rubber training or original bayonet.
- ☐ **Comfort items:** Hammock, sleeping pad or cot.
- ☐ **Flashlight:** East Bloc "box light"
- ☐ **Gas Mask Bag:** various models, 'Square' type with single leather buckle recommended

Basic Uniform Overview

All participants are required to have the items listed in the basic overview. For more specific information, please see the section for each loadout.

Uniform: [Required]

Soviet Uniform

First adopted to replace the traditional high-collared m43 uniform in 1969, the m69 model would become the standard uniform until the fall of the Soviet union in the early 90's.

A move to replace the m69 with a four pocket BDU was made in the early 1980s, this new design would see widespread distribution by 1988.

The m69 came in two configurations: parade, and subdued. In parade configuration, bright red insignia would be worn on the collar, shoulders, and sleeve. In combat, this would be removed in favor of simple green painted infantry pins attached to the collar. This uniform should be worn without bright parade insignia on the field.



The m88 field uniform is made in a lightweight summer and heavier, lined winter version; both consist of a long, loose fitting 6-pocket BDU-style jacket with large stand-and-fall collar, epaulets, concealed buttons, armpit vents, and tube-style field trousers with cargo pouches on the thighs. A field cap made from sturdier cotton and featuring ear flaps which could be unbuttoned and lowered to protect the ears was supplied with the uniform.



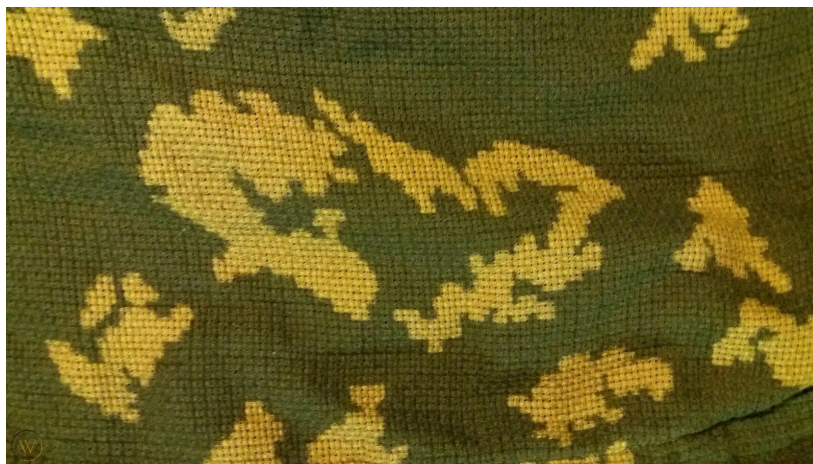
** uniforms should have infantry collar pins:
Collar liners are required.

Camouflage: [Required]

KLMK Oversuit: One piece oversuit in green with white splotches. Strongly recommended that you sew up the butt flap as otherwise the buttons will pull right out.



KZS Uniform Set: These were initially designed to protect from thermal damage and were flame resistant. However, they are much more lightweight and far less durable. Allowed, but not recommended if you use and abuse your uniforms.



Headwear [Soft Cap Required]

Steel Helmet: ssh40, ssh60, ssh68 models are all acceptable. Must be painted in soviet green paint. No custom camouflage schemes allowed. Helmets with parade red stars should be avoided. Helmets must have a simple liner consisting of three or four separate pads in either black or brown oilcloth. If it's any more complicated than that, it's likely Czech or Hungarian.



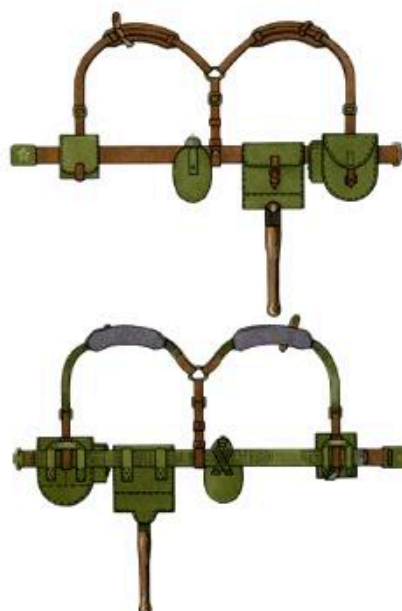
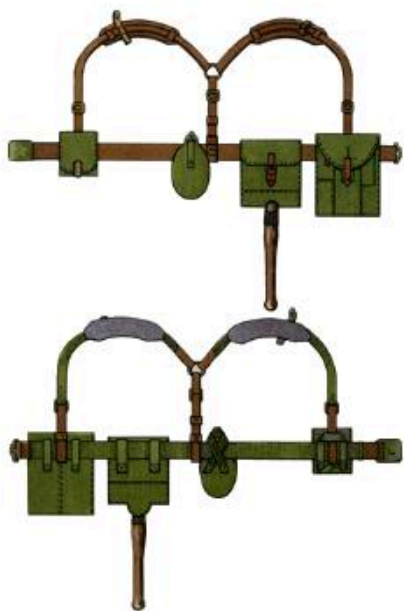
Soft Cap: Pilotka side caps or M88 kepi with subdued (painted green) or red star and ushanka. M88 'panama' hats may be worn once the participant reaches the required veteran status.

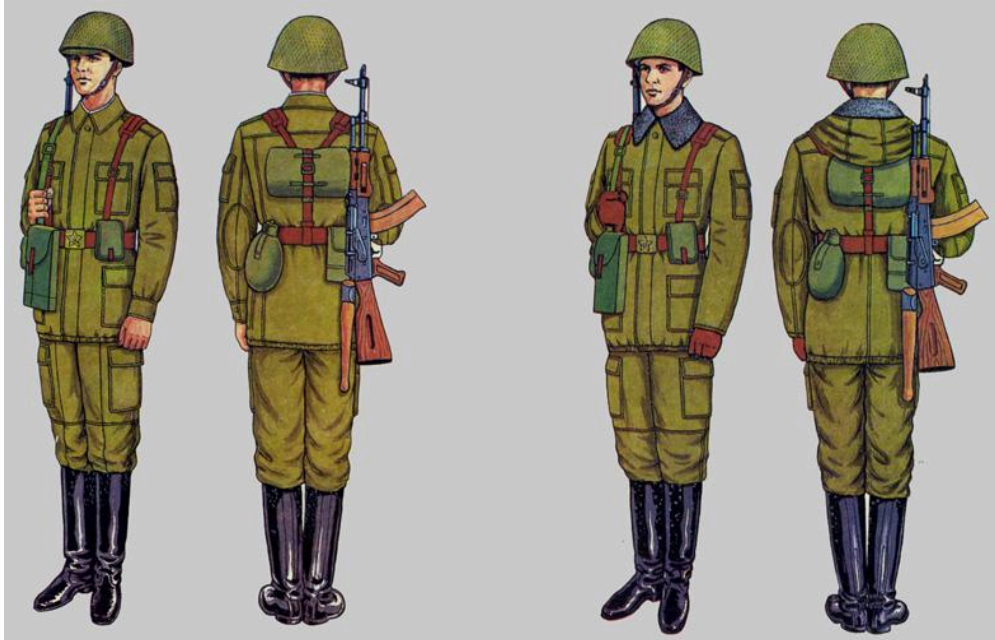


Webbing: [Required]

Basic Soviet Webbing: This should include a brown rubberized or leather belt with brass or subdued buckle, brown rubberized suspenders, three(AKM) or four(AK-74) cell AK pouch, grenade pouch, shovel with carrier, and canteen.

** Belt, canteen, and magazine pouch are acceptable for a first event, but members with the webbing will be expected to assemble a complete set.

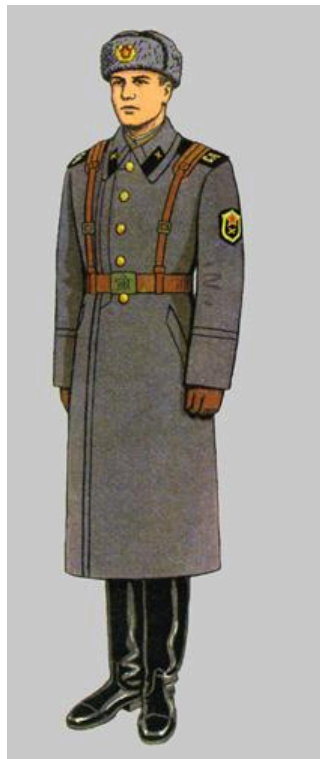




**all pieces of gear should be Soviet surplus. Generic east block items are not allowed.

Winter sets:

Soviet greatcoat (with hooks, not buttons [officer version]) and blue-gray Ushanka (black are navy) This was intended more as a garrison uniform, but can commonly be seen used during combat drills well into the late 1980's. Collar and shoulder boards should be a subdued green.



M69 or M88 Parka Set. These uniforms were designed to be issued out to replace the greatcoat for troops destined for combat. It's shorter length allows for greater movement at the sacrifice of less overall coverage.



Additional items:

Plash Palatka Rain Cape
Veshmeshok Pack
Mess Tin (regular, not VDV)
Additional Canteens (regular, not VDV)
Surplus Wool blanket(s)
Sleeping Bag (surplus military, or civilian ok)



Gas Mask Bag: Any military model Soviet gas mask bag is allowed. While they do not need to contain an actual gas mask, they should at least appear full and are great for a drop bag for carrying additional items. Military masks had larger filters and bigger bags. Tall and thin = civilian, large and square = military.



Boots: [Required]

Jackboots: Any model soviet or East German jackboot is allowed.



Soviet boots are a bit roomier than normal as they are meant to be used with cloth wraps around the feet instead of socks.

Please spend some time wearing your boots to figure out how to make them fit comfortably. Your feet should be snug in the boot with minimal slipping around. Ankle support braces, insoles, additional socks, or even the traditional foot wraps are all good ways of achieving a nice snug fit. (your feet will thank you.)

Rifleman Loadout

The Red Army grunt. The rifleman was the backbone of the Soviet infantry squad.

Rifle:

AK-74 (contact us if you have another AK variant you'd like to use)

**Machine Gunner:**

Using the reliable RPK-74 series LMG, or in less well supplied units the RPD, the machine gunner was the backbone of the Soviet squad's firepower.

RPK-74



****All LMGs must be the full length configuration with iron sights and wood furniture. Shortened guns, modern optics, pistol grips, or modern camo prints or schemes are not allowed.**

Gear:

Soviet machine gunners used the same gear as the regular infantry with an RPK magazine pouch in place of the regular ammunition pouches. RPK pouches will have an attached strap for going over the shoulder, while RPD pouches will be for drum mags.



****This role is restricted based on squads. Please check first for available slots.
Support Role****

Distributed on the platoon level, these roles provided versatile support to the soldiers on the ground.

Sniper:
SVD



Gear:

Soviet snipers used the same gear as the regular infantry with a SVD magazine pouch in place of the regular ammunition pouches.



Heavy Support
PKM



Gear

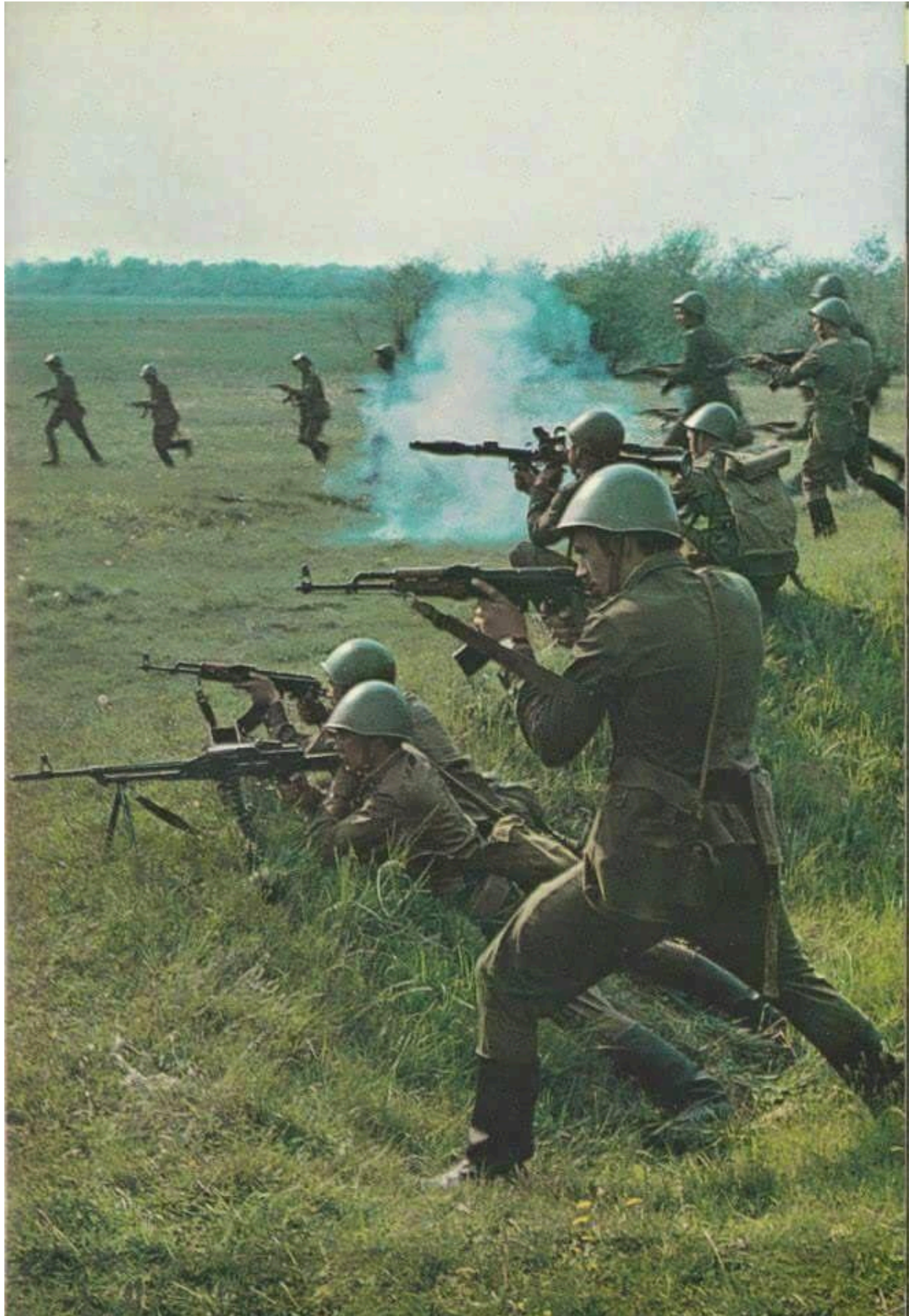
PKM gunners were not issued any particular pouches, and just used the standard infantry webbing. Additional ammo can be carried in a gas mask bag. It is recommended that all support roles also have an AK series weapon as backup.

Grenadier

RPG-7

Reference Album:











Was ist
denn schon
Besonderes
an mir?

