iviountain equipment accessories

(Right) Each soldier was issued with four olive-drab cotton bags for stowing equipment, and two boot bags. Most had metal grommets with drawstrings around the top; the equipment bags had triangular panels in various colours at the corner, so that those holding various items of gear could easily be identified from one another. Also seen here is a field-made bag for a small stove as used by some troops. The stove runs on petrol, and came with various accessories such as a spanner tool and filling spout. The assembly was closed with a screw lid, and when opened three angled bars were turned outwards to support a mess tin for heating.





(Left) A Gebirgsjäger, wearing the reversible anorak, settles down in his snow cave. A small climbing stove (probably a civilian item) heats a mess tin; and at right, note one of the many styles of Army-issue lanterns, hanging from a suitably placed entrenching tool.

(Right) At top, a pair of waterproof olive-drab calico over-mittens, the thumb and the area opposite it reinforced with leather. Note the wrist strap with a friction tightening buckle, and a loop and toggle to secure the gloves together for carrying. Below left are grey suede leather gloves typically worn by officers, but available for private purchase by enlisted personnel. Below right are a pair of general issue grey woollen gloves; the white rings round the folded cuff indicate sizes - from one, up to four for extra large. At bottom left are a pair of issue wristlets (Pulswärmer); despite being officially discontinued in 1937 these were seen in use throughout the war.



(Below) At top, slotted snow goggles (Schneebrille) which protected the eyes from bright direct and reflected sunlight. Examples also exist with white wool and rubber bodies supporting the carefully designed metal vision plates. The second pair are heavily tinted and have mesh sides to protect the eyes from rock splinters; the lower two pairs are simply tinted for sun protection note small ventilation holes around the rims of the lenses, to prevent condensation.



