Video 5 Surviving the winter war



1. Compare the American soldier to the soldier of the Wehrmacht.

Which problems did the American uniform have?



U.S. soldier



Soldier of the Wehrmacht

True or false?

In december 1944, U.S. soldiers were equipped with winter uniforms.

The U.S. M43 uniform was warm and water-resistant.

The U.S. M43 uniform was a summer uniform.

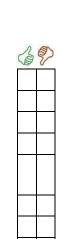
The U.S. M43 uniform could be turned inside out, making it suitable for camouflage in snow.

The U.S. soldiers were given bedsheets by the Luxembourgish civilians to camouflage themselves.

The American buckle boots were made from thin leather.

Many American soldiers caught frostbite on their feet.

The shoes of the American soldiers had a thick sole with good grip.



2. The U.S. Army quickly managed to solve the initial problems, due to the high efficiency of the American war industry.

Match the pictures to the descriptions:

- White camouflage clothing
- Shoe Pac (Mickey Mouse Boots)
- Overshoes
- Wool Overcoat







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U.S. soldiers eating C-rations.



German soldiers using a Feldküche.



Various C-rations.



German transport vessels for food and water.

Match the following statements to the respective logistical systems.

The food	tasted better	when it was	freshly pr	repared.
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The soldiers carried their own food and could always prepare it themselves.

The food was well-balanced and always included enough calories.

A soldier was responsible for supplying food to the combat units.

Additionally to the food, soldiers were given other useful items, such as toilet paper.

If the soldier with the food didn't arrive, the fighting units stayed hungry.

A lot more manpower and material were needed to supply the provisions.

There was not much variety in the food.

The soldiers were regularly supplied with food, so their morale remained high.

Many soldiers suffered from hunger, sapping their will to fight.

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4. Medical supplies in the U.S. Army



The U.S. Army had a carefully planned system to take care of their wounded soldiers. The first measures were taken by the medics, who were present on the battlefield.



Box of morphine with five phials.

The American medics were equipped with phials of morphine, which could be given to very badly wounded soldiers, so that they wouldn't feel any pain.

The equipment of a medic





5. The suffering of the civilian population

During the Battle of the Bulge, civilians suffered too. They had to decide whether to seek refuge in a cellar or to run away.

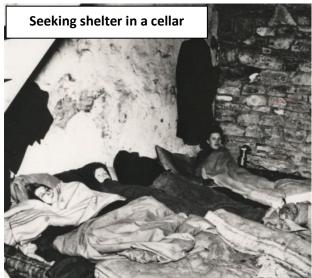
Which statements are true for which of the two groups? Connect them to the pictures below.

They had to decide quickly what to take with them and what to leave behind.

They were scared because of the artillery fire.

They had to leave their possessions behind.





They had to be outside in the freezing cold.

They didn't know whether they had enough food.

They risked running into German soldiers again.

What would you do in this situation, and why?					