

Video 6

Weapons and equipment



1. Match the weapons to the descriptions.



M1 Thompson

USA

Submachine gun

700 rounds / minute



M1919 Browning

USA

Machine gun

800 rounds / minute



MP 40

Germany

Submachine gun

500-600 rounds / minute



MG 42

Germany

Machine gun

1200 rounds / minute

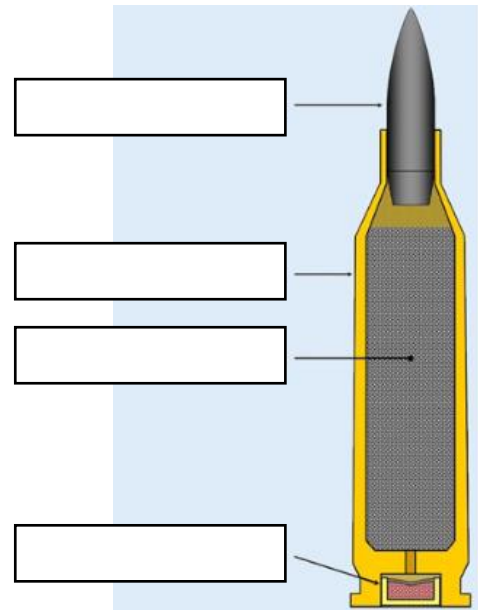
2. The composition of an artillery shell (or a bullet)

Label the illustration using the prompts below.
(Case / Powder / Projectile / Primer)

A bullet's calibre describes the diameter of the projectile.



Different calibres of rifle ammunition



The artillery used different types of shells. Depending on the situation, a different calibre and projectile was used.

The following types were used:

- Training ammunition, smoke shells
- Armour-piercing ammunition, explosive shells, cluster munition

Use the internet to find out what the different types of shells were used for.



Different types of artillery shells.

Artillery is the collective term for large calibre cannons and missile weapons.

3. Constant danger

How could a soldier be wounded during the Battle of the Bulge? Choose the correct answers.

- by bullets from pistols, rifles or machine guns, ...
- by poisonous gas
- by flame throwers
- by mines or explosive traps
- by cold and wet socks or boots, which could cause 'trench foot'
- by cavalry attacks with sabres
- by freezing
- by atomic bombs
- by bombs from planes



4. "Heimatschuss" vs. One million dollar shot



The slang terms *Heimatschuss* or *one million dollar shot* were used to describe a wound so serious, it could only be treated at home, or whose physical or psychological consequences would lead to the wounded man being withdrawn from military service. In the best case, such a wound was serious enough to stop a soldier from being able to fight on, but not so bad as to cause a lasting physical disability.

Often, a soldier was awarded a medal for having suffered such a wound in service of his country, like this *Purple Heart*.



Some desperate soldiers even wounded themselves with their own gun. Why do you think they did this?

If soldiers were caught maiming themselves in this way, they were severely punished. How did the *Wehrmacht* punish these men?



How did families often react to this?

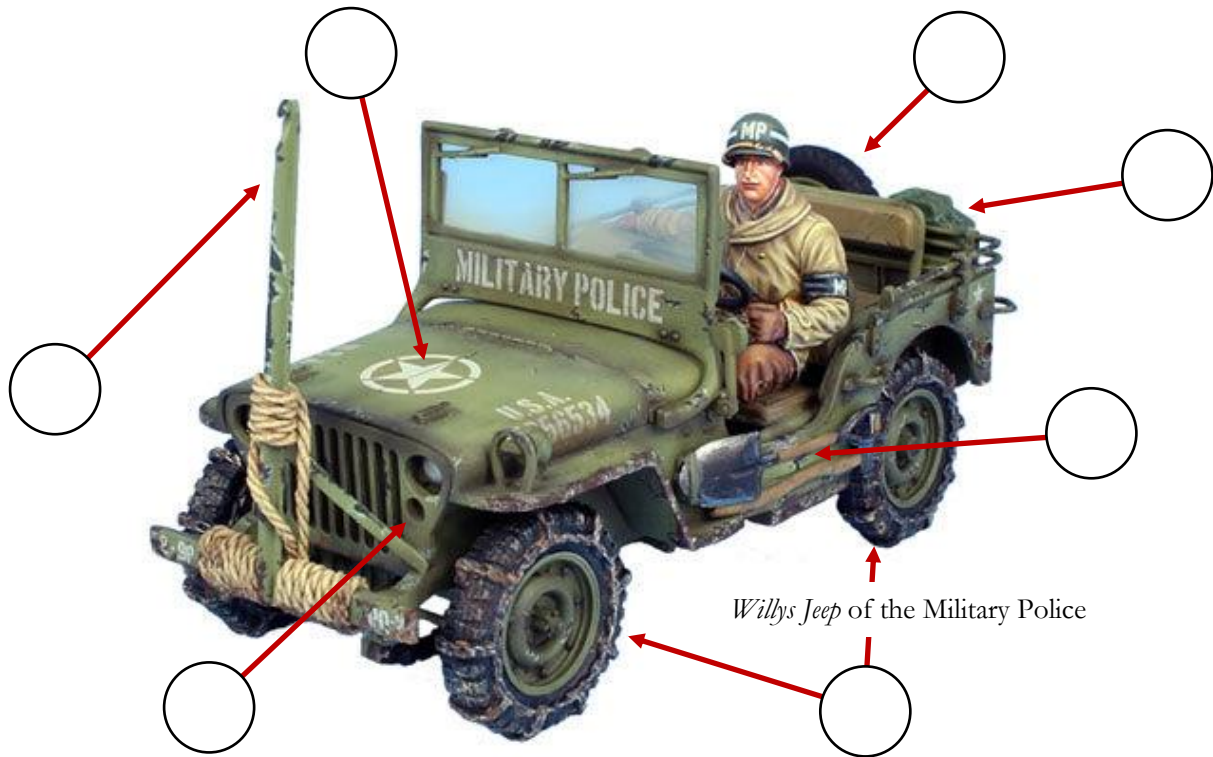
"Lieber Günter! Die Welt ist voll Leid und Kummer, und uns drückt das Schicksal, einen ungeratenen Sohn zu haben. In Deiner Hand lag alles, Dein hartes Los zu ändern. (...) Du hättest Dir und uns die Schande ersparen können."

"Dear Günther! The world is already full of sadness and sorrow, and yet fate has still given us an undutiful son. You had the possibility to change your hard life (...) You should have spared both yourself and us this shame"

Last letter from a mother to her son

5. The *Willys Jeep* of the U.S. Army

Label the picture by choosing the correct explanations.



Willys Jeep of the Military Police

1. Spare tire

Symbol of the U.S. Army

2. Jerry Can

Headlights, which can't be seen by enemy planes

3. Blackout

Allows crew to change tire while in action

4. 4x4 with military tire tread

Allows crew to refuel while in action

5. Wire Cutter

Allows crew to help themselves if the vehicle got stuck

6. Axe and shovel

Improves the offroad capabilities of the vehicle

7. White Star

Removes steel wire traps which the Wehrmacht set across the roads