



FOOD PACKET, SURVIVAL, GENERAL PURPOSE (GP)

On aircraft, on life rafts, in remote storage areas...at sites like these, Soldiers are provided with survival food packages that each contain six compressed bars of food.

WHY IS IT NEEDED?:

The Food Packet, Survival, General Purpose (GP) is primarily an Air Force Product stored in aircraft for emergency situations. The General Purpose survival ration has been procured since the 1960s. In 1993 a new design was implemented which updated the components and packaging improving the acceptability and producibility.



KEY FEATURES:

Contents: The six compressed bars or tablets are packaged individually and contained in a water-resistant paperboard box. Food components include: all-carbohydrate wintergreen tablets, a shortbread bar, a chocolate chip bar, a granola bar, and two cornflake cereal bars. The ration also includes one packet each of lemon tea, and a soup base. The total package is 33 in³ and weighs 336 grams.

Nutrition: The survival food packet must contain approximately 100 grams of carbohydrate and a low protein level (< 8% of the calories) to counteract the effects of starvation and to conserve body water. This ration provides 1447 kilocalories with 18 grams of protein (5% of the calories), 202 grams of carbohydrate (56% of the calories), and 64 grams of fat (39% of the calories).

Storage: Survival packets are stored for as long as five years, including periods of time at very high temperatures — such as on an aircraft sitting on asphalt during the summer. Due to these environmental conditions, the storage requirement for this ration is five years at 80° F and one month at 140° F.



BENEFITS:

Well Received...In user tests, the post 1993 Food Packet, Survival, General Purpose won significantly higher ratings for variety and acceptability than the old General Purpose Survival Packet. The product has been produced successfully and is available for procurement.

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