

## Logistics Group Four: Food

Meeting the physical needs for members of the armed forces is a fundamental challenge for all military organizations. Feeding an army on the move requires extensive logistical planning and coordination. Food has to be secured, transported, prepared, and distributed.

As a group, discuss the following questions:

What do you think it takes to feed an army on the move? (Consider amounts, delivery, menu, preparation, etc.)

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What systems or supports would need to be in place to provide those meals?

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What are some specific challenges you could predict for feeding an army on the move?

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Predict what consequences could result if an army on the move has an inadequate food supply.

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Early Finisher Vocabulary Challenge! Write a three or four word definition for the word logistics.

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Next Steps: As a group, examine each of the following sources to answer the prompts for each. Remember your assigned role during this activity. When you answer the prompts, cite evidence from the sources.

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## Logistics Group Four: Source A

*Photograph, Chow is served to American Infantrymen on their way to La Roche, Belgium.  
347<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, January 13, 1945*

National Archives and Records Administration (111-SC-198849)



What type of source is this? \_\_\_\_\_ When was it created? \_\_\_\_\_

Who created it? \_\_\_\_\_

What repository is the source housed in? \_\_\_\_\_

(Where do they keep it?)

# Logistics Group Four: Source A

Visual elements	Inferences
Who is pictured in this image?	Based on what you see, what emotions are captured in this image? Cite your evidence.
What objects do you observe in the image?	Based on the objects depicted, what do you know about this moment in time? Cite your evidence.
What actions are captured in the image?	Based on the objects depicted, what do you know about this moment in time? Cite your evidence.

What can you infer about feeding an army on the move from this source? Cite evidence to support your position.

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## Logistics Group Four: Source B

Poster, *Do With Less - So They'll Have Enough!*, 1943

Hennepin County Library (MPW00219)



# Logistics Group Four: Source B

What type of source is this? \_\_\_\_\_ When was it created? \_\_\_\_\_

Who created it? \_\_\_\_\_

What repository is the source housed in? \_\_\_\_\_

(Where can you find this source?)

Images	Words
List people, places and objects depicted on the poster.	Are there printed words on the poster? If so, what is written?
What symbols are depicted on the poster?	What is the message that the words are trying to portray?
What do you notice about the colors and design?	Who published the source? When it was published?

What emotions does the poster generate? Cite evidence to support your position.

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What can you infer about feeding an army on the move from this source? Cite evidence to support your position.

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## Logistics Group Four: Source C

*"...Near the end of the war, our quartermaster got lost or was on vacation. One morning our top sergeant announced that the MP Platoon was without Rations. The Platoon had its own kitchen, but usually it was near division headquarters. I asked my sergeant for permission, while on patrol that morning to find or hunt available rations...He told me he could not authorize me to do this. My jeep driver went by the name Trybala. Along about midmorning that jeep led us to a farm. Most farm hands were Poles. Guess who could speak Polish? We soon learned that the owners of the farm had not turned in all their weapons. Among these was a beautiful shotgun. The owner consented for us to turn his weapons in. We also learned that there were 26 hens and 1 turkey that had not surrendered. We took all of them prisoner and went back to the CP. Now it happened that our kitchen was acting as a POW cage for this type of Prisoner. After turning them over to the proper authorities we left. Shortly afterward the prisoners tried to escape and were killed. We heard later that our kitchen had a lot of visits from division headquarters for lunch...."*

Excerpt from Preston Stillings, *9<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division in World War II as told by the Men*

What type of source is this? \_\_\_\_\_

Who created it? \_\_\_\_\_

Summarize the sequence of events that is being recounted in the excerpt:

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How did Stillings tell the story and explain why you think it was told in this way.

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## Logistics Group Three: Source C

This quote provides a personal perspective. What can you infer about the importance of rations to the individual soldier? Cite evidence to support your position.

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Why do you think the command staff responded to the situation in the way that they did?

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What can you infer about feeding an army on the move from this source? Cite evidence to support your position.

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# Logistics Group Four: Group Activity Analysis

Reflect on all three sources and answer the following prompts. As a group discuss how you will share these sources with the class.

What types of sources did you evaluate?

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How did the sources relate to each other?

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After analyzing all three sources how would you explain the challenges of feeding an army on the move?

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Based on your analysis, what logistical planning and systems are required for feeding an army on the move?

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Rank the following supply lines from most important to least important for maintaining an army on the move.

Ammunition _____	Clothing _____	Food _____	Gas _____	Water _____
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Explain your reasons for the ranking.

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