

Tribute to Our 10th Mountain Division Soldier

Mt. Rainier

The 87th Mountain Infantry Battalion was activated on November 15, 1941 at Fort Lewis, Washington. This unit was the first American regiment of mountain troops. It was expanded into a regiment in 1943. In May 1942, the regiment was reorganized as the 87th Mountain Infantry at Fort Lewis Washington. The 87th joined the 10th Mountain Division at Camp Hale, Colorado and trained there during 1942-43 on winter military operations and mountaineering.



Soldiers training at Mt. Rainier, 1942

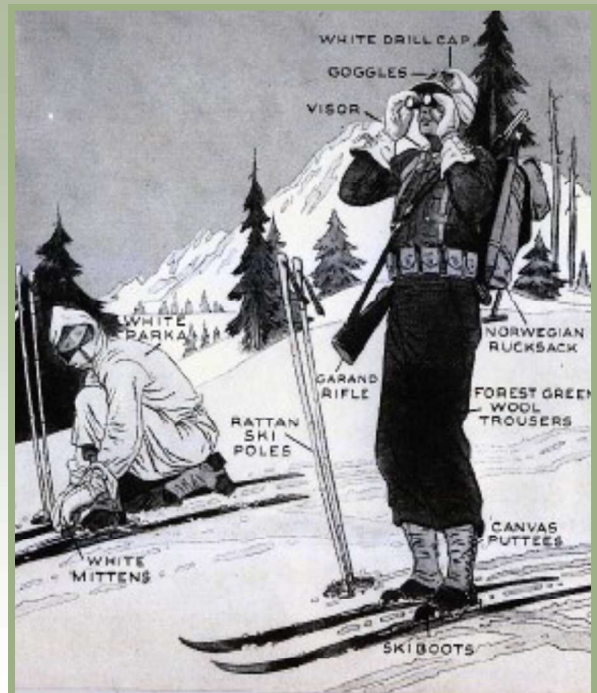
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Mt. Rainier, 1942-1943



Ski Trooper



Ski Trooper 1941

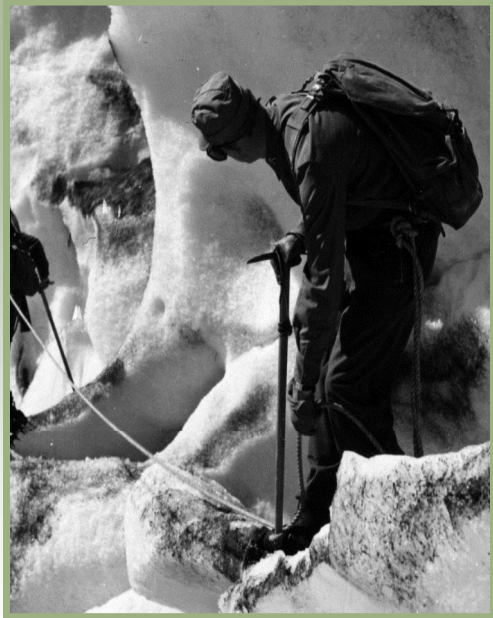
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Mt. Rainier from North Fort Lewis, Washington 1942



Training near Mt. Rainier 1942



*John Woodward and Peter Gabriel on
Nisqually Glacier, Mt. Rainier*

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Kiska

On 29 July 1943, the regiment sailed to the Aleutian Islands as part of Amphibious Task Force 9. The regiment conducted an amphibious assault along the Kiska coastline and quickly climbed the rock cliffs to obtain its initial objectives.



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Camp at Kiska



Unloading supplies at the Southern Sector Command Post

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On top of Kiska Volcano



Aleutian Islands

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Camp Hale

The Army created the Mountain Training Center (MTC) at Camp Carson, Colorado, but a national search for a suitable location for winter/mountain training led to the development a site in the Colorado Rocky Mountains close to Leadville, Colorado, that became Camp Hale. During May and June of 1942, the 2nd and 3rd Battalions of the 87th Regiment were activated and during November 1942 Camp Hale become the home post of the MTC.



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Train entering Camp Hale



Pando Train Station Camp Hale

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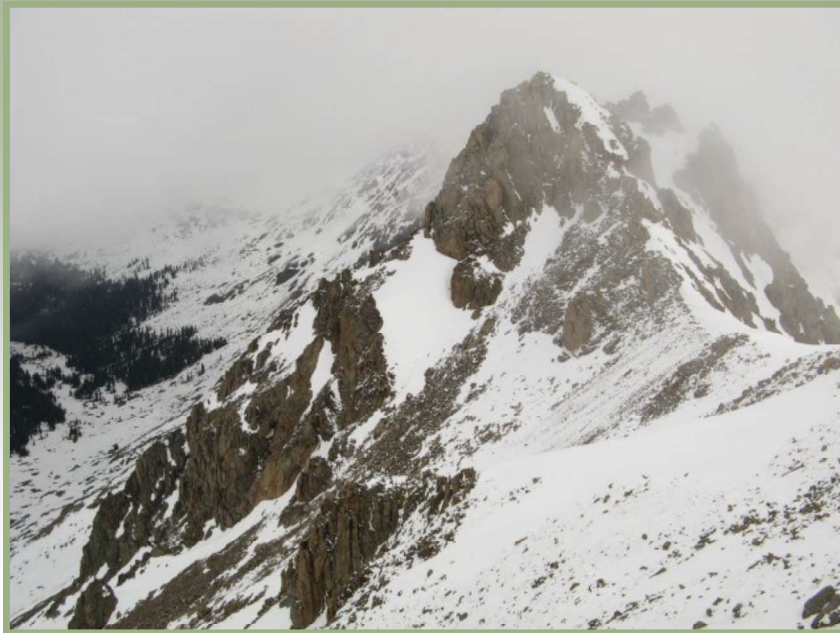


Camp Hale Marching Formation



Camp Hale 1943

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Camp Hale Mountains