***Operational Instructions***

***Company “B” 104th Infantry Regiment, 26th Infantry “Yankee” Division (Re-enacted)***

***(These Instructions are pursuant to the 26YD-HRG By-Laws)***

***Article A. Procedure of Enlisted rank.***

**1.** All WWII US G.I. Training is based on US Army Manuals ranging from 1941-1945, Executed within reason to train a person with no military experience, in the basic knowledge closely equal to that of the average US Army Soldier of WWII. This includes (again," within reason") Military bearing of the period, Customs and courtesies of the period & knowledge of equipment and basic infantry tactics of the period.

1. **The three Phase Testing**
Phase-1, A foundation of basic historical fact relating to the Yankee Division from periods 1941-45.
Phase-2, Military Drill and Ceremonies.
Phase-3, Technical Knowledge of equipment and weapons, this also covers the chronological issue of equipment.

**Example:**
**E1.** Items issued to the Infantry GI from 1941-43 and year introduced into the European theater.
**E2.** Infantry items introduced to the GI in the European theater from 1944-45.

* 1. **The Basic Program is a 3-phase course for all Enlisted Ranks.**
	2. **The quarterly training consists of classes on, and examples of, all types of equipment as found in:**
	**A**. Henri-Paul Enjames "US Army European Theater of Operations Collectors Guide".
	**B**. “US Army Uniforms of WWII" by Shelby Stanton.
	**C**. A Practical application of Drill and Ceremony from the "NEW Infantry Drill Regulation" United States Army dated 1941.
	**D**. A practical application with the unit weaponry on the rifle range. Consolidating live fire and weapons cleaning with all the weapons used by the Infantry Regiment. Excluding the Rocket launcher's (Bazooka) and Mortar's (60MM & 81MM). Troops are required to learn the weapons, disassemble and reassemble them. Our scope is to train and educate our Re-enactors just as the US Army National Guard has done from it inception through WWII.

**3. Rank and Grade testing during training events only:**
**A.** *January Training Event's:*Testing for Corporal available for qualified Troops.
**B.** *April Training Event's:*Testing for Sergeant (Assistant Squad Leader/ 1944 TO&E) Testing for Sergeant available for qualified Troops.
**C.** *July Training Event's:*Testing for Staff Sergeant (Squad Leader / 1944 TO&E) Testing for Staff Sergeant Available for qualified Troops.
**D.** *October Training Event's:*Testing for Private First Class, Required for all Privates with a minimum of 365 days in the Yankee Division Historical Re-enactment Group.

**4. Technician Grades (T/3, T/4 & T/5) Testing Based upon Knowledge Skills and Abilities:
A.** WWII Military Vehicle Owner/Driver's - *January Training Events*.
**B**. Communications Equipment Owners and Operator's - *April Training Events*
**C.** Technical Operations & Preparations Specialties - *July Training Events*
**D**. Heavy Weapons Owner/Operator's - *October Training Events*

1. **Time in Grade:**Private............................ 1 Year Minimum time in grade from date of joining.
Private First Class...........1 Year Minimum from date of promotion to PFC.
Corporal - T/5 .................2 Years Minimum from date of promotion to Cpl or T/5.
Sergeant.........................3 Years min.
T/4 ..................................2 Years Min.
3 Years Minimum time in grade for all remaining NCO ranks.

**6. Advancement in Grade:**

1. It is understood that in order for an YDHRG Re-Enactor to progress in the rank structure, the enlisted re-enactor will be required to take on more responsibility within Company “B” 104th IR.  Such responsibility includes Increased attendance to unit events, making the public aware that WWII Historical Re-enacting Exists, Recruiting & Retaining Re-enactor's / Living Historians and Learning the written history of the 26th Infantry "Yankee" Division & 104th Infantry Regiment from it's conception to the present day.
2. **\*** *The availability of Grades and Ranks within the unit, Is ultimately up to the unit Commander.  Enlisted Positions will be filled by the direction of the Unit Commander.*

**7. Disciplinary Measures / Termination.**1.Any violation of orders given by a superior or any violation to the prejudice of good order and/or safety or any circumstance where a superior must act to restore order, Will result in action by the Unit Commander or YD-HRG E-Board as they may Direct.

2. Any member brought before the Unit commander to answer for charges of conduct unbecoming to the good nature and good prejudice of a Yankee Division HRG member, will be disciplined by the unit commander and only as the unit commander may direct and/or shall be afforded the opportunity to present their case before the E-Board, should they differ in opinion to the Unit Commander.

1. The Unit Commander or E-Board is the only YD-HRG entities with authority to remove a Member.

**Article B, Political Affiliation.**

* 1. Company B 104th IR ***is NOT*** affiliated whatsoever *with ANY* political group.

**Article C, Organizational Structure.**

* 1. Company B 104th Infantry Regiment, Follows the 1944 US Army Infantry TO&E as follows:
* **Unit Commander** - Commanding Officer / Company Commander – Rank of Captain:
* Conducting administrative duties as necessary for the operation of the Company (See “Exercise of Command” in the Officers Guide, Edition 8 or 9.
* XO- 1st Lieutenant (When Manpower Permits.)
* Platoon Leader (3) Lieutenant (When Manpower Permits)
* First Sergeant- Grade 1 (1)
* Mess Sergeant- Staff Sergeant (1) (When Manpower Permits)
* Supply Sergeant- Staff Sergeant (1) (When Manpower Permits)
* Communications Sergeant – Sergeant (1) (When Manpower Permits)
* Platoon Sergeant (3) (When Manpower Permits)
* Platoon Guide (3) (When Manpower Permits)
* Squad Leader (9) (When Manpower Permits)
* Assistant Squad Leader (9) (When Manpower Permits)
* Privates- Many.
1. Company “B” Follows the US Army 1944 TO&E for the Infantry “Rifle” Company.
2. The Commanding officer will perform his duty to the best of his ability for the betterment of the unit and answers directly to ***and only to*** the 26*YD-HRG Executive Board*.
3. **Company Officers & NCOs’**
4. All Commissioned Officers in Company B 104th IR serve at the direction of the “Unit Commander” and 26YD-HRG E-Board as they may direct.
5. All Noncommissioned Officers' serve at the direction of the Unit Commanding Officer and/or the 26YD-HRG E-Board, as they may direct.
6. All Officers and Noncommissioned officers are required to follow the chain of command and obey the orders directed them by the senior’s appointed over them in the chain of command.
7. Pursuant to the ***“Officers Guide” 1942 - 8th edition / 1943 - 9th edition, Section entitled “Exercise of Command”*** The manual and specifically this section are to serve as the operational Instructions for Company B 104th Infantry regiment, 26th Infantry Division, “Yankee Division” Historical Re-enactment Group. This manual will be followed by all Officers, Noncommissioned officers and troops of this organization.

***Article D. Safety and Authenticity.***

1. All officers & NCOs’ act as Safety Officer’s, their rules are controlled and enforced by the 26YD-HRG E-Board, Unit Commander, Commissioned Officers’ and all NCOs in the 26YD-HRG, and will follow instructions and guidelines of Safety and Authenticity.
2. It is the responsibility of each individual member to be inspected for authenticity by a member of the Unit Cadre other than their unit commander before taking the field at any event.
3. All male and female participants will present a proper military appearance in representing a member of the 26th Infantry Division in WWII (1941-1945)
4. No current issue medals of valor shall be worn by any individual that did not earn them in actual service of the US military.
5. A system of awards is set up in the soldier’s guide & on the 26yd website. The 26YD-HRG will not violate any federal laws or regulations regarding US military awards.
6. A hairstyle correct for the prescribed time period of the event will be required of all participants.
7. Proper mustaches are allowed. Females portraying male combat personnel must outwardly assume the appearance of a male, that is, the hair must be covered, and no makeup or jewelry. Uniforms must be worn as per regulations for a service person of that time period. No earrings or other visible piercing will be allowed.
8. The Unit commander is responsible for the safety, conduct, and authenticity of all participants serving in this unit and the units attached to it during an event.
9. “Freelancing” or participating without proper unit authorization will not be permitted and can be grounds for dismissal or removal from the 26YD-HRG.
10. Uniforms and equipment must be of the model or type in use and proper to the war time period being portrayed, used by the unit portrayed or an acceptable replica. If a person can prove a unit or individual used a certain weapon, equipment, or uniforms by period letters, period photographs or period film, then use will be permitted.
11. Remember the periods being portrayed and use period photographic and written sources as your guides. Be prepared to back up your appearance with period sources if called upon to do so.
12. Owners and drivers of VEHICLES are not exempt from hair regulations**.**
13. Head wear is up to the Company Commander or cadre member in charge.
14. This unit issues military rank, which it does through testing and time in the unit. Unit rank is for the sole purpose of re-enacting / Living History, portraying a WWII soldier and to help the unit maintain a chain of command / authority at unit activities and through the respect that the individual commands through performing the duties of the rank.
15. We are not a political group and past politics of any country are not allowed. The questions were settled on the battlefields of the past.
16. **\*\*\* *We are here to honor the memory of those before us, who served their country***; Politics have no place within this unit.

**D-1 Authenticity Violations.**

* + 1. Authenticity Officer will give 1st a verbal notice and if necessary, on a 2nd infraction, written notices to the member who is deficient in some area(s) of authenticity (that is, haircut, equipment, uniforms) The E-Board member must point out TACTFULLY what was wrong and offer possible suggestions to help the 26YD-Member. The written notice will indicate the area of deficiency. The individual and their unit commander will each receive a copy, as will the Vice-President. At the following event where the individual is present, the individual will be checked again and if the problem has not been corrected to the satisfaction of the Authenticity Officer, the individual will be escorted off to remedy the problem or leave.
		2. Units or personnel that accumulate more than 20 individual authenticity warnings in a 12-month period will be prohibited from participation in future 26YD-HRG attended events (for a period not to exceed 6 months).
		3. Major infractions or deficiencies such as no attempt to get a haircut, completely wrong uniform, etc. will result in immediate suspension from 26YD-HRG activities or termination from the unit.

**D-2 Safety Regulations.**

1.Safety is our number one priority.

2. Alcoholic beverages and/or illegal drugs may not be consumed at any event in violation of civil laws. Alcoholic beverages are not to be used when weapons or vehicles are in use.
3. Providing alcohol to minors (those under the age of 21 years) is prohibited by law and will result in immediate removal from the event.
4. The only drugs allowed are those prescribed by the participant’s family physician, or the normal over the counter type.
5. All 26YD-HRG members are responsible for their own safety, as well as the safety of others.
6. Any person or unit that sponsors an event where the 26YD-HRG name is used, must have a 26YD-HRG Safety Officer or designate on site.
7. All participants at all events where the 26YD-HRG name is used, MUST be ID carrying members of the 26YD-HRG or another recognized reenacting Society.
8. All 26YD-HRG members will have on their person, their membership card.
9. Motorized Vehicles:
 a. All motor vehicles must be driven by a licensed driver, regardless, if used on or off road.
 b. Proper liability insurance is mandatory and required in vehicles at all times.
 c. All vehicles must pass a safety check of braking system to participate in the event.
 d. All vehicles must have a working fire extinguisher on board to participate in event.
 e. Any vehicle driven off road must have a ground guide, to avoid personnel hiding in the foliage.
 f. ABSOLUTELY NO IGNITABLE DEVICES ARE TO BE THROWN OR FIRED INTO ANY VEHICLE. NOTHING, NO MATTER WHAT, IS TO BE THROWN AT THE DRIVER.
 g. Vehicle Operators must adhere to all federal, state and local vehicle regulations when not in the tactical area.
10. No weapon is to be fired directly at anyone closer than 20 yards.
11. No projectile object may be fired.
12. No live ammo is to be brought to any event. Exception: Live Ammo may be used at any Shooting Match.
13. No one may fix any bayonet to a weapon during a tactical.
14. Military Simulators (artillery, etc.) can be used in staged spectator events, under the supervision of an approved Safety Officer, in a controlled area.
15. Safety Regulation Violations and Disciplinary Actions:
a. Refusal to follow the instructions of a Safety Officer or member of the Event Staff is grounds for immediate dismissal.
b. Any unit or individual that accumulates five (5) or more safety violations within a twelve (12) month period will be suspended from tactical events. There is no appeal to this. SAFETY IS OUR TOP PRIORITY!!!!

**D-3. *REGULATIONS FOR PYROTECHNICS USAGE AND CONSTRUCTION:***

1. ALL LOCAL, STATE AND FEDERAL RULES MUST BE ADHERED TO AT ALL TIMES. ALL TYPES OF SIMULATORS AND CANNON ROUNDS MUST PASS A SAFETY CHECK PRIOR TO USE AT ANY EVENT.

**Article E. General Practices.**

* + - 1. We are a “not for profit business”, But, we must make money to stay in business. We don’t host events just to have our name on the event. As a Not-for-Profit Business, must be run as such, thus we are very concerned about the bottom line and profitability our organization makes.

			**2.** This is a Not-for-Profit Business organization which portrays a unit of the WWII 26th infantry Division and generates revenue for operation through membership dues, paid events held throughout the year.

**A.** ***Schedule of Fees:***

**1**. Fees are generated by attending paid parades, certain events and membership.

**B***.* ***Profits*** gained or earned will be spent on Organizational Costs as set forth by the E-Board and in order of priority as the E-Board directs. Expenses such as Office Supplies and Equipment, and Event Expenses such as Portable Toilets, Site Rentals, Ammo Bounties, and Vehicle Reimbursements. This list is not exhaustive but is representative of the costs that may be incurred in the normal course of business operations.

**C. Types of Events.**
1. 26YD-HRG Hosted Event
a. Is run by 26YD-HRG Officers and Appointed Members, who will also be responsible for Safety and Authenticity.
b. Is covered under Insurance.
c. All finances are controlled and distributed by the 26YD-HRG Treasurer.
d. After all event bills are paid, all profit revenue is returned to the Treasury.

2. ***Sponsored Event***
a. Are run by a 26YD Host Unit, with an appointed Unit Safety and Authenticity Officer (who will be appointed by the 26YD-HRG E-Board, (usually the host is the unit commander)
b. Is covered under Insurance, after basic fee deposit is made.
c. All finances are controlled and distributed by the 26YD-HRG E-Board Treasurer
d. After all event bills are paid, all profit revenue is submitted to the 26YD-HRG E-Board Treasurer.

**26th Yankee Division Historical Re-enactment Group updates are effective 1/17/2025**