



The alternative to the sleeping bag

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A Jervenbag instead of a sleeping bag? Is it unthinkable that the sleeping bag is not a necessary part of the field equipment? The Jerven Bag is being evaluated as an alternative to the sleeping bag for certain units in the Military.

The Jerven Bag is a large, rectangular piece of textile, which may be pulled over a person, with a backpack, for bad weather protection. By means of three zippers the

bag may be transformed into a wide sleeping bag. Or into a windsack.

The Jerven Bag may also be stretched between bushes or trees and function as a shelter against rainy weather or nasty wind.

The Jerven Bag is being supplied in 6 different models. The Jerven Mulimate has been developed on the initiative from the Military, on the basis of many ideas from the users within the Military.

Throughout the years The Norwegian Military has been buying a great number of Jerven Bags, in different models. This year alone the Military will buy about 4 000 Jerven Bags without lining, and about 2 000 bags with lining. In addition, several units have shown their interest in

the model, which is the result of the cooperative development work.

Officers with the Specialist Platoon in Sør-Varanger in Northern Norway have used the Jerven Bag Extreme, when spending the night outdoor, in minus 36°C. (about -40°F.). The purpose was to spend the night outdoor, without the use of a sleeping bag, but rather by means of the equipment available in the battlefield pack, only.

With a ground sheet on the ground and with all available clothing in the battlefield pack on, the persons executing the test slept through the entire night, in spite of the extreme cold. The field-testing in Sør-Varanger is being confirmed by tests in a wind tunnel in Oulo in Northern Finland.

The Air Force is working to upgrade the so-called "seat pack", which is placed under the seat in our F-16 fighter planes. The seat pack follows the pilot when he, in an emergency situation has to catapult from the plane. The pack contains emergency equipment, enabling the pilot to manage on the ground following the parachute landing. Among other things, this seat pack today contains a vacuum packed down sleeping bag, and it is this sleeping bag, which is being considered replaced by a model of The Jerven Bag.

This project is still in the development stages and the results will decide as to whether the Jerven Bag, which has been used in the seat pack of Norwegian F-16s, will replace the sleeping bag or not. During the operations in Afghanistan one decided to take out both the sleeping bag and the small one-man rescue life raft, which is placed under the seat, and replacing these items with the Jerven Bag. The Danish air force has equipped their Hercules C-130 planes, flying transportation missions to Greenland, with the Jerven Bag. They have also placed Jerven bags in their Fennick (A-555) helicopters.

Several French specialist forces have, in addition, purchased a number of Jerven Bags, so in many ways the small company in Odda, Norway have gotten a lot of interest from the Military, following the first variant of The Jerven Bag, way back in the 1980-ties.