

TABLE 1.—*Classification of splinting of compound battle fractures by phase of management, in relation to timing, objectives, and facilities*

Phase of management	Time after wounding	Anticipated duration	Medical installation	Surgical personnel	Methods	Materials, facilities
Emergency, transportation to a forward hospital.	0-12 hours...	4-24 hours...	Battlefield, battalion aid station.	Medical aidmen.....	Improvised, standard.....	Improvised, half- and full-ring splints, basswood, wire ladder splints, slings.
Initial surgery, transportation to a fixed hospital.	8-36 hours...	1-10 days....	Battalion aid, collecting, clearing stations. Field, evacuation hospitals.	General-duty medical officers. General, orthopedic surgeons.	Inspection, adjustment, replacement. Plaster casts, skin traction (amputation), metal splint (occasional).	X-ray facilities, plaster, standard splints.
Reparative surgery, maintenance fracture reduction.	5-10 days....	21-120 days..	General, special station hospitals.	General, orthopedic surgeons, physiotherapists.	Skeletal traction, plaster casts, internal and external fixation, metal splints, walking irons, simple braces.	X-ray facilities, plaster, standard splints, Kirschner wires, Steinmann pins, Balkan frames, bone plates, screws, external-fixation apparatus, braceshops.
Transportation to Zone of Interior. ¹	21-120 days.	7-28 days....	.....do.....	.....do.....	Plaster casts, simple metal splints.	Do.
En route to Zone of Interior.	.....do.....	10-14 days...	Hospital ship..... Plane.....	General-duty officers..... Nurse.....	Changes of cast ² None.....	Plaster. None.
Reconstructive rehabilitative.	.....do.....	.....do.....	Army general hospitals, special centers.	Orthopedic surgeons, physical and occupational therapists.	Plaster casts, special individual splints and prostheses.	Complete, brace and prosthetic shops.

¹ After partial or complete bony union.

² Only if necessary.