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Fairfield, CT 06825. *Partial decomposition bases and Warfield groups*. Preliminary report.

We consider the class of abelian groups with partial decomposition bases. This class was developed by C. Jacoby in order to extend Barwise and Eklof's classification of torsion groups in $L_{\infty\omega}$ to Warfield groups. We prove that this class is the natural generalization of Warfield groups in $L_{\infty\omega}$ and that it is identical to the class of k -groups of Hill and Megibben, and, as such, closed under direct summands. (Received August 25, 2012)