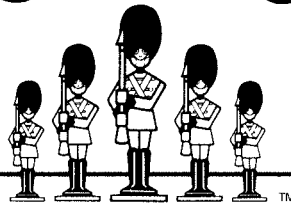


Fall  
2011

The Journal for Collectors

Volume 35 Number 3  
\$10.00

# OLD TOY SOLDIER



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**Old Toy Soldier** is published quarterly.

**Publisher**

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**Staff Cartoonist**

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Russ Bednarek

*Old Toy Soldier* is printed by  
Banksville Express Printing  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA

**Specialist Contributors**

Rob Wilson and Joe Wallis, Britains Military  
Louis S. Steinberg, Richard O'Brien and  
Stan Alekna, Dimestore Figures

Correspondence, including Manuscripts, Trade and  
Toy Soldier Marketplace Advertisements and all  
general inquires, should be forwarded to:

Old Toy Soldier

P. O. Box 13324

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15243-0324

Telephone (412) 343-8733

Fax (412) 344-5273

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ISSN1064-4164

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**ON THE COVER**

DIMESTORES RAREST OF THE RARE

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Periodical Postage paid at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:

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Old Toy Soldier (ISSN 1064-4164) is published quarterly for \$32 per year by:

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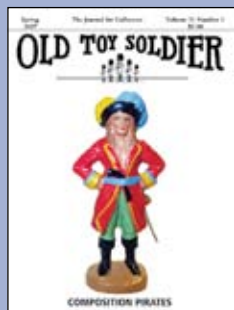
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1. Publication Title <b>OLD TOY SOLDIER</b>		2. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below <b>V35 #2 AUGUST 10, 2011</b>	
3. Issue Frequency <b>4 PER YEAR</b>		4. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below <b>09/19/11</b>	
5. Number of Issues Published Annually <b>4</b>		6. Annual Subscription Price <b>\$50.1ST/\$32.2ND</b>	
7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4®) <b>OLD TOY SOLDIER, 1039 LAKEMONT DR., PITTSBURGH, PA 15243</b>		8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer) <b>RAY HARADIN, 1039 LAKEMONT DR., PITTSBURGH, PA 15243</b>	
9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank) <b>RAY HARADIN, 1039 LAKEMONT DR., PITTSBURGH, PA 15243</b>		10. Owner (Do not leave blank) <b>NORMAN JOPLIN</b>	
11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box. <b>None</b>		12. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at nonprofit rates) <b>None</b>	
13. Publication Title <b>OLD TOY SOLDIER</b>		14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below <b>09/19/11</b>	
15. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)		16. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)	
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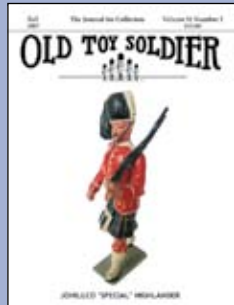
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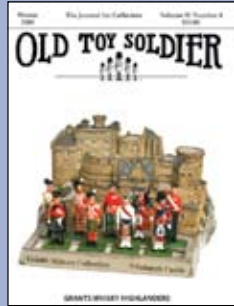
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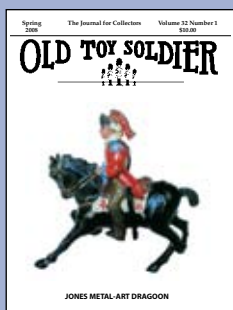


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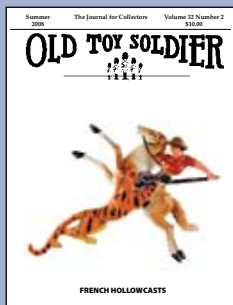


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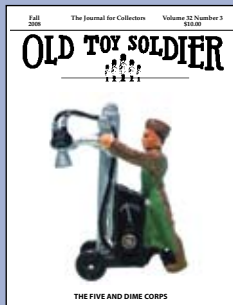
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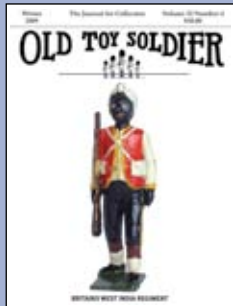
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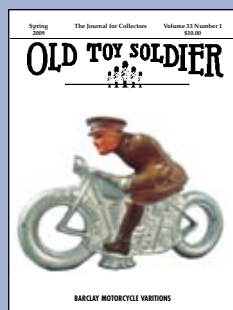


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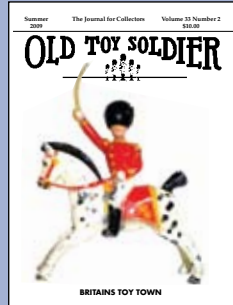


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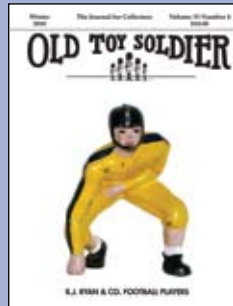
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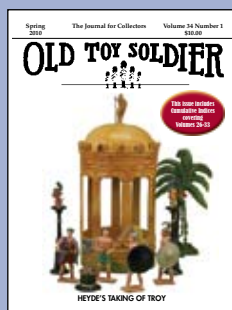


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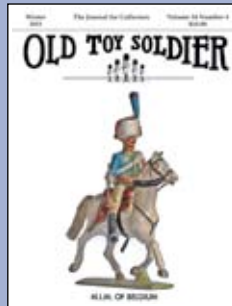
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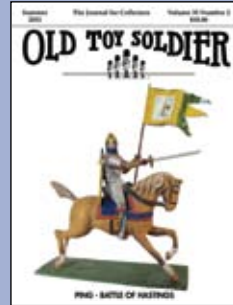


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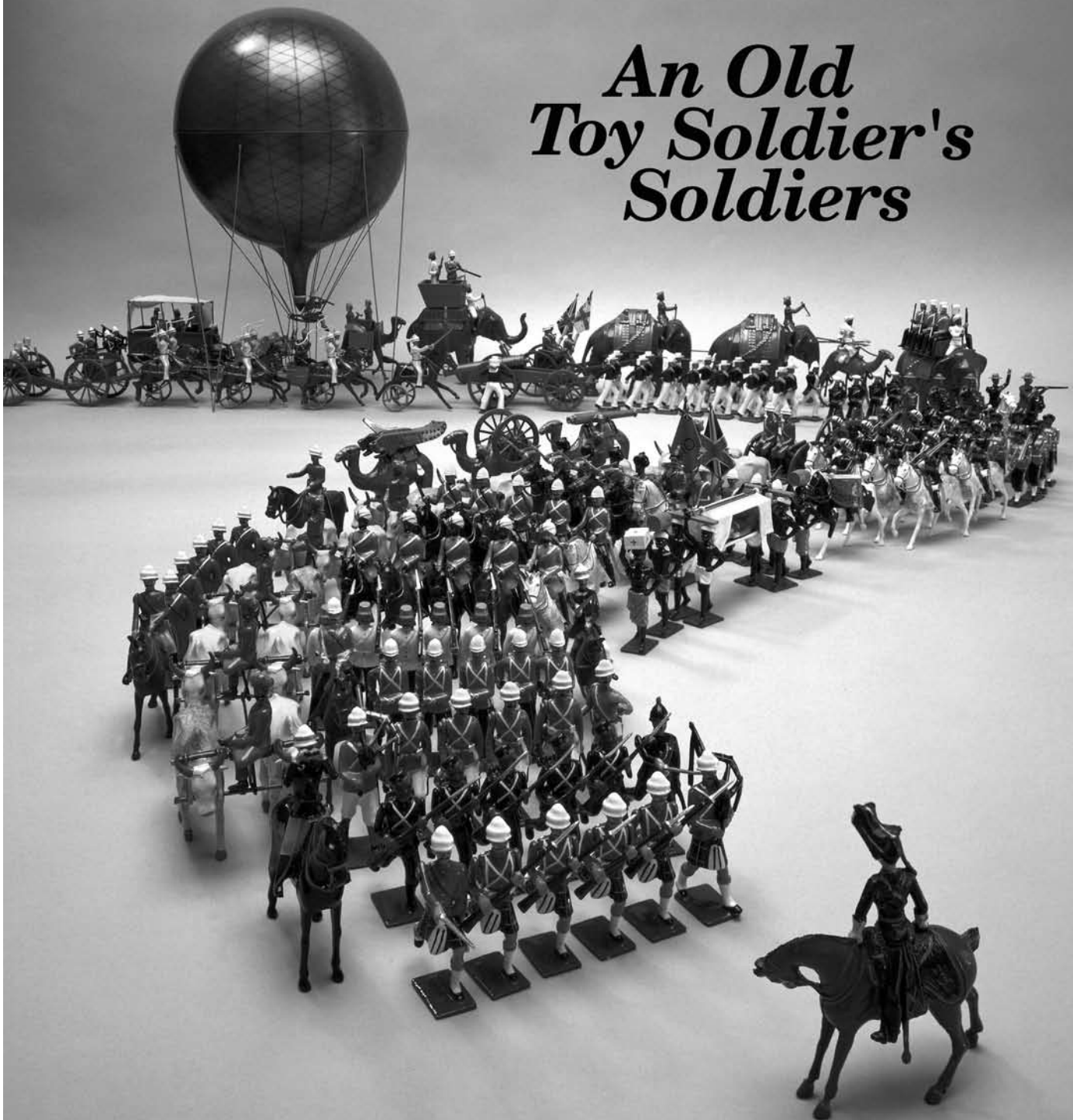
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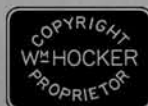
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## OBITUARY ❧ "BRIT"



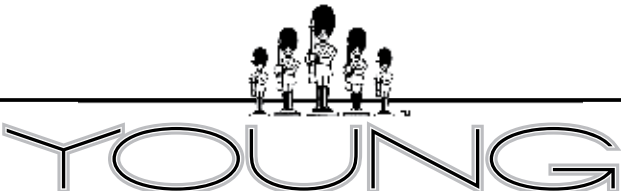
O.C. Britton ("Brit") passed away on July 7, 2011 shortly before his 92nd birthday.

Brit had a passion for collecting toy soldiers. He also felt that toy soldier companies did not provide a wide enough variety of poses. So he began to sculpt dimestore figures that were never made commercially. His molds included doughboys shooting craps, a doughboy being shaved by one of his buddies, mounted "China Marines" in dress blues, a provocative French maid and many more. In addition, he modified and repaired dimestores as well as Britains Limited pieces. As a result of his creativity in modeling, restoring and modifying dimestore figures, he gained a great reputation as he corresponded with many collectors around the country.

During WW II, Brit first served as an instructor in the Medical Corps and was then sent to the Phillipines, Tinian and Occupied Japan.

After the war, he and his bride settled in Cleveland, Ohio, where they reared three daughters. He is survived by Vi, his wife of 65 years, daughters and three grandsons. Brit was a good friend, a patriotic American who supported the Democratic Party through thick and thin, a believer in the labor movement, a supporter of civil rights and an advocate for the mentally challenged. In short, Brit was an all around "good guy" who will be missed by many.


- by Tony Teper



## TOY SOLDIER COLLECTOR

### Ian Peplow

Ian Peplow is seven years old. He is the youngest member of the South Carolina Military Miniatures Society. Ian and I enjoy collecting old and new Britain's Plastic and Metal Soldiers. This hobby is a great way for parents to play with and learn history with their children.



Show at South Carolina State Museum 8/13/11.  
Ian with his diorama and award.

## Advance Notice

### OLD TOY SOLDIER AUCTION

*June 2nd & 3rd, 2012*

OLD TOY SOLDIER



AUCTIONS USA

## OBITUARY ❀ BERTEL BRUUN

**Bertel Bruun Is Dead at 73; Designed Book for Birders**

**By Dennis Hevesi**

Bertel Bruun, a co-author and designer of a hugely successful guidebook that helped make bird-watching more satisfying for millions of binocular-toting neophytes, died on Sept. 21 at his home in Remsenburg, on Long Island. He was 73.

The cause was heart failure, his son Erik said.

Dr. Bruun, a neurologist and an amateur ornithologist, wrote or helped write more than a dozen books, but none has been more popular than “Birds of North America,” part of the Golden Field Guides series. First published in 1966, it became an instant hit with birders (a term they prefer to bird-watchers) and more than four million copies have been sold.

The guidebook built on the work of renowned ornithologist Roger Tory Peterson, whose “Field Guide to the Birds” (1934) popularized what had been an esoteric interest with a blend of science and evocative prose.

“Birds of North America,” written by Dr. Bruun with Chandler Robbins and Herbert Zim and illustrated by Arthur Singer, was a more terse and accessible handbook for those trying to discern whether it was a golden-winged warbler or an eastern wood pewee that had just fluttered away. “What is compelling about it is its utilitarian simplicity,” said Pete Dunne of New Jersey Audubon, an organization independent of the National Audubon Society.

Though Dr. Bruun wrote some of the text, perhaps his biggest contribution was designing a layout that served that simplicity. Whatever the reader needs to know about a genus or a species is presented across two pages. One on the right-hand page are vivid illustrations; on the left, the information: distinguishing characteristics, behaviors, habitat, a map showing the season-by-season range across the continent. (A distinguishing characteristic of the eastern wood pewee: “Song is a plaintive, whistled pee-oo-wee, pee-oo.”)

Dr. Bruun’s layout, though no longer considered unusual, was a breakthrough. In Peterson’s guides, the illustrations (with brief summations) were on one page while the full texts were elsewhere in the book.

“In a way, even though he contributed the least amount of content, Bruun’s contribution was the most important,” said Kenn Kaufman, a field editor for Audubon magazine. “The design was just so convenient for field use that it



became hugely popular right away and affected the design of almost all subsequent field guides – birds and other subjects.”

Mr. Dunne recalled how one day as a youngster he was roaming the woods near his home in northern New Jersey when he caught “a one-second glimpse of a golden-winged warbler as it hopped from one branch to another, and I recognized it. I wouldn’t have done that without this book.”

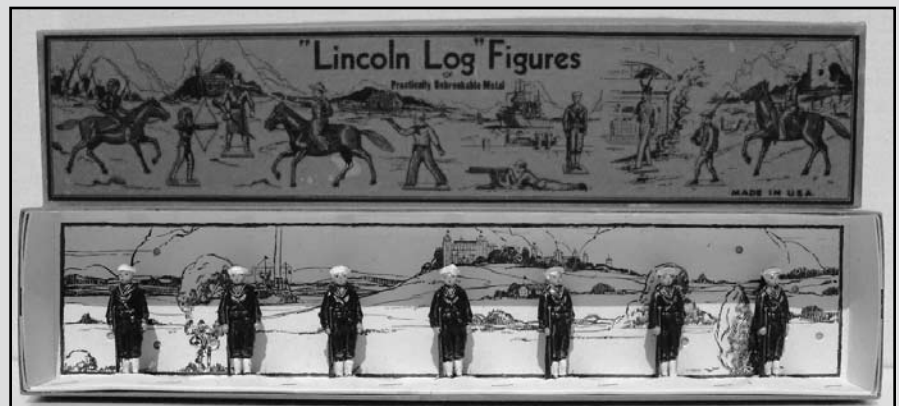
Born in Skaelskor, Denmark, on Nov. 13, 1937, Bertel Bruun was the son of Erik and Ebba Poulsen Bruun. After earning his bachelor’s and medical degrees at the University of Copenhagen, he moved in the mid-1960s to New York, where he specialized in neurology.

Besides his son Erik, Dr. Bruun is survived by his wife of 41 years, the former Ruth Dowling; two other sons, Peter and Christian; two stepsons, Timothy and Thomas Newman; a stepdaughter, Isabel Blackburn; and 15 grandchildren. His first marriage, to the former Barbara Leventhal, ended in divorce.

After a stroke left him unable to practice medicine, Dr. Bruun moved to Long Island in 1989 and, in addition to wandering the woods searching for birds, engaged in another childhood fascination. He started March of Time, a company that traded in antique toy soldiers – more than 5,000 of which lined his shelves, many posed in battle formations. In 1994, he wrote “Toy Soldiers Identification and Price Guide.”

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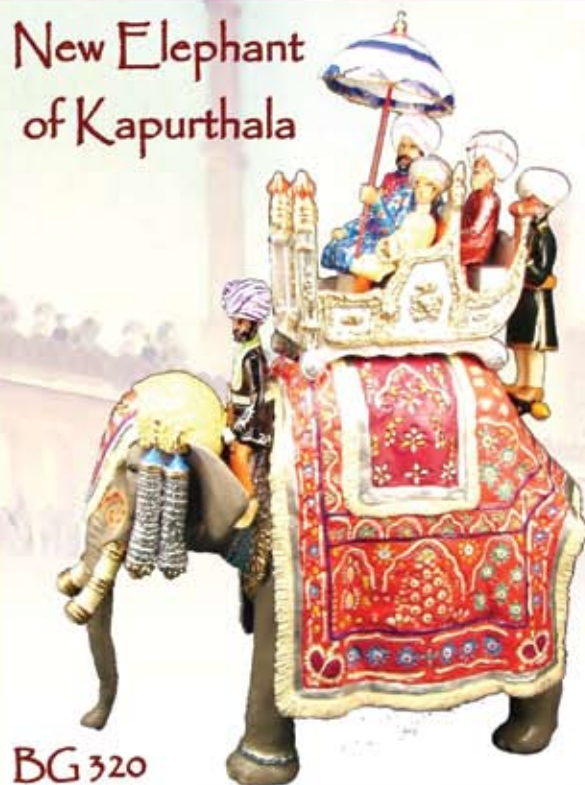
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# UPDATE on the RAREST BARCLAY, MANOIL & GREY IRON SOLDIERS

*By Stan Alekna*

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Several collectors who have ordered items from our mail order catalogs asked my opinion on which figures I consider to be the scarcest of those made by the three major American Dimestore soldier makers. That is what prompted me to write this article that updates my previous ranking of the rarest Barclay, Manoil and Grey Iron soldiers.

I developed my original ranking in conjunction with a talk that I gave at the Dimestore Breakfast at the 2002 OTS (Chicago) Toy Soldier Show. I was ready to mail a copy of my 2002 rankings to those callers who had asked for it when I reread the material from my talk. I quickly realized that my rankings for all three Dimestore makers had changed over nine years for three reasons. First I had acquired some variants that I believed were scarcer than some figures in my original ranking. Secondly, the frequency of appearance of some "rare" figures on eBay has made them more available. And thirdly, I decided to delete a few figures from the rankings because I no longer regarded them as valid, collectible variants. Disqualifying figures is a major decision and I did so only after lengthy discussions, phone conversations and emails with advanced collectors, other Dimestore dealers and Richard O'Brien. However, the disqualification of these figures rests solely on my judgment. I realize that this may be regarded as controversial by some and heresy by others but that's OK. I would like nothing better than to reinstate these figures so please let me hear from those of you who have **hard evidence** to support their existence as bonafide variants.

In order to develop rankings that most Dimestore collectors could identify with, I used the same criteria that I used back in 2002. Very few people strive to collect one specimen of every item made by Barclay and/or Manoil and/or Grey Iron but most collectors try to acquire some, if not all, of their 3-inch soldiers. This then became the rationale for the ranking criterion, which are as follows:

1. Only full size (3") **MILITARY** figures were considered - No civilians, cowboys, Indians, midi's, sports figures or vehicles were considered even though many of these are much scarcer than some "rare" soldiers.
2. Figures of cadets and foreign soldiers of the three makers were considered.
3. Distinctive, verifiable, seldom seen paint variations were considered

4. The presence or absence of mold markings alone does not represent a collectible variant for the purpose of this ranking. There has to be clearly identifiable differences in the casting itself for a figure to be considered unique. For example, there are many differences in the casting of M58 versus M58a, Manoil stretcher- bearer, besides having the number "32" cast into the back of M58a.

5. Personal frequency of seeing the figure plus feedback from advanced collectors, dealers and figures seen on eBay.

I had not intended to provide photos of the fifty-six ranked figures because I sold my personal collection several years ago as had Don Pielin, and Richard O'Brien, and I knew of no other collection that contains very many or most of these rarities. But thanks to the continuous goading of Norman Joplin, with his very British "we can do it" attitude, I was able to collect photos of all but Manoil's M48a which I will address later. I had photos of some of the figures in my archives. Others who graciously provided photos are credited with their contributions. The rest of the "famous fifty-six" were found in the book *AMERICAN DIMESTORE Toy Soldiers* by Don Pielin, Norman Joplin and Verne Johnson, and Norman was able to isolate and extract individual photos for this article from the book's archives.

Here's how my new rankings came out:

## **BARCLAY TOP 20**

The Barclay ranking underwent the least change from 2002. I elevated the Legionnaire flag bearer to #1 and I dropped B18a altogether. B18 is a pretty common figure and has a glued-on helmet. B18a is a valid variant of B18 but it is not nearly so scarce as previously thought, at least in my opinion. I believe it is simply a modification of B18 wherein the head and upper torso of the mold were enlarged to accommodate the hook of the tin helmet when this transition was made. It is the same in all other respects including height and length of rifle. The "sling around hand" was an occasional casting fluke in my opinion. Although it is not common, it is not unheard of to find slush cast figures with excess lead or flashing that was not removed in the finishing process and that was painted over. One photo I saw of a "B18a" had a large amount of flashing on the rifle, base and arms that was painted over. A recent OTS DIMESTORE UPDATE article pictured a B134 parachutist that had



## UPDATE on the RAREST BARCLAY, MANOIL & GREY IRON SOLDIERS (Cont.)

none of the lead removed from between his legs and was painted brown. To me, this is an interesting, manufacturing anomaly but not a collectible variant. I have sold 3 or 4- B18a's as described above, in 95 to 98% paint for around \$75 each over the last 24 months and I think this price fairly reflects its rarity.

Dropping B18a left an opening that I filled by listing B25a, officer without chest strap, in khaki and blue, separately.

I am aware that two more B56a's, long stride Naval officers in **blue** have appeared in the last couple of years. Also, I had someone tell me that they had a B54a, Naval officer with tin top to his cap, in blue, "many years ago" which is only the 2nd report of this rarity. The short stride naval officer in blue, B55a and the blue nurse, B83a remain as very, very seldom seen figures. So here are my top 20 Barclays:

1. B150 Legionnaire Flag Bearer
2. B37 Cadet painted as wooden soldier
3. B25a Officer in blue, no chest strap
4. B25a Officer in khaki, no chest strap
5. B19 Tall, advancing w/ leveled rifle
6. B244A Red podfoot aviator
7. B255A Red podfoot wounded on crutches
8. B256A Red podfoot wounded, arm in sling
9. B54a Naval officer in blue, tin top to cap
10. B83a nurse, hand on hip in blue

11. B120b Searchlight, smooth lens, no elevation wheel, plain/simple pattern to base
12. B120a Searchlight, smooth lens, no elevation wheel, fancy/mesh pattern to base
13. B120 Searchlight, smooth lens, elevation wheel
14. B55a Naval officer in blue, short stride
15. Bn Officer on charging horse w/ sword
16. B75 Tall grenade thrower
17. B235A Podfoot officer in blue, white helmet
18. B56a Naval officer in blue, long stride
19. B28 Officer w/ sword in blue, cast helmet
20. B149 Legionnaire

Not a single Barclay foreign soldier made the list even though some of them sell for over \$350 in top condition, nor did the diver with an axe that sells for \$450 plus. In the process of having Richard O'Brien review this article, he pointed out that neither I, nor anyone else, seems to accept that B260B podfoot, marching with slung rifle (I can never call it a gun) is a true variant. Several photos of this rarity can be seen on pages 28 and 29 of Richard's *THE BARCLAY CATALOG BOOK*. The leggings or boot tops of this B260 variant are clearly longer than the same feature of every other podfoot figure. Has anyone ever seen one of these guys?? Are we just overlooking them because their differences are so subtle? If we can locate one, it may have to be ranked and that would boot B149, the Legionnaire, out of the top 20. How about that!!



B150



B37



B25a



B25a



B19



# UPDATE on the RAREST BARCLAY, MANOIL & GREY IRON SOLDIERS (Cont.)



B244A



B255A



B256A



B54A



B83a



B120b

B120a

B120



B55a



Bn



B75



B235A



B56a



B28



B149

# UPDATE on the RAREST BARCLAY, MANOIL & GREY IRON SOLDIERS (Cont.)

## MANOIL TOP 20

The Manoil rankings underwent the most change due to new discoveries, deletions and scrambling of the earlier ranking. The super elusive M48a, standing firing, with the short, square rifle has still not been seen by anyone I know but it is pictured in O'Brien. While Don Pielin's 3rd edition of *THE AMERICAN DIMESTORE SOLDIER BOOK* shows two kneeling Manoil snipers, one with a thin and the other with a thick, square rifle, no standing figure with a short, square rifle is shown in this excellent, old reference book. If one doesn't turn up after this article is published, M48a may have to go the way of B18a.

John Cullen's photo of the nurse pushing a soldier in a wheelchair is the only evidence I have that this figure exists. The casting does not appear to have the same level of sculpting definition of most Manoils but it looks like a complete, single cast figure and not a conversion. I continue to rank this item as 2nd to M48a.

I acquired two new Manoil paint variants over the last few years; M29a and M24a sailors, and each has assumed a position in the 20 rarest Manoils but only after many emails and discussions with "experts" who helped validate them. No one I know in our hobby is willing to accept a newly discovered variant some 90 years from the first manufacture of American Dimestores without lots of critical study and evaluation. I can find no rationale that reasonably explains the small number of some Manoil naval figures in blue as well as M22a Cadet in dark blue. This same anomaly occurs with Barclay's three, blue naval officer figures, the blue B83a nurse and the dark blue podfoot officer, B235A. It seems so strange that the two most prolific Dimestore makers would have issued so few of a limited number of figures in

blue paint. Any thoughts on this? Your speculation is as good as anyone's.

The 2-prone and 1-seated "skinny" machine gunners, M174, M174A and M173, were cut from the previous ranking based on frequency of sightings, which, after adding the two newly discovered blue sailors, enabled M86 Paymaster to sneak in at #20. And I think it's noteworthy that although it continues to command prices above \$450, M113, aviation mechanic with prop away from head, is seen so frequently that it still does not make it into the top 20.

1. M48a Sniper standing, short thick rifle
2. Nurse pushing soldier in wheelchair
3. M88b Parachutist in gray
4. M22a Cadet in dark blue uniform differences
5. M205 500 series stretcher-bearer
6. M29a Sailor signalman in blue
7. M88a Parachutist in white
8. M206 500 series wounded on stretcher
9. M127a Parachutist, rt. foot casting and other differences
10. M24a Sailor, 2nd version in blue
11. M7 Parade, #8 on back, other differences
12. M44 Folding rifle, kneeling
13. M58a Stretcher bearer, #32 on back, other
14. M18 Prone machine gunner, many differences from other prone machine gunners
15. M1 Hollow-based flag bearer
16. M47 Folding rifle, standing
17. M61a Hostess in khaki
18. M91 Cooks helper, WW 2 helmet, 2 eggs on griddle
19. M61 Hostess in white
20. M86 Paymaster

NO PICTURE  
AVAILABLE

M48a



SOLDIER IN WHEELCHAIR



M88b

# UPDATE on the RAREST BARCLAY, MANOIL & GREY IRON SOLDIERS *(Cont.)*



M22a



M205

M206

M205



M29a



M88a



M127a



M24a



M7



M44

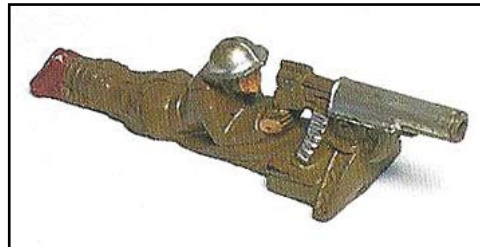


## UPDATE on the RAREST BARCLAY, MANOIL & GREY IRON SOLDIERS *(Cont.)*

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M58a



M18



M1



M47



M61a



M91



M61



M86

### GREY IRON TOP 16

All I did to the 2002 ranking of Grey Irons was to list the Royal Guard figures in red, white and blue as separate items, and I dropped G36 mounted flag bearer and G10a U.S. Infantry, shoulder arms with no tie, from the ranking. I listed the Royal Guard in red, white and blue separately because they are so rare and because some other Grey Iron military figures carry a unique O'Brien number based simply on paint color variation. These changes placed G3, the colonial flag bearer with the 13-star colonial flag carried in front, as the rarest Grey Iron Soldier, which I believe is its rightful position.

Since no one has ever seen any differences in the casting of the horse and rider of G36 compared to G34, I just don't feel that sticking a flag in the casting seam of the horse results in a true variant. Furthermore, neither the early Grey Iron catalog nor Don Pielin's early reference book contain a mounted, Grey Iron, soldier flag bearer. As to G10a, I have had several G10's with very faint neckties and one that could have passed as having no tie. The casting of the one with "no tie" had very rounded edges as occurs when a sand casting mold is near the end of its useful life. Every G10a I have seen has been painted in the post war fashion, which means that the molds that

## UPDATE on the RAREST BARCLAY, MANOIL & GREY IRON SOLDIERS *(Cont.)*

produced these late figures were quite old and heavily used. I believe this is what accounts for the “missing” tie so I do not consider it to be a true Grey Iron variant. Others may disagree.

So by eliminating these 2 figures from my 2002 rankings, and adding the Royal Guards, I ended up with 16 rare Grey Irons that met the evaluation criteria. I have owned several of the sand colored, full size soldiers that some have speculated were painted as British soldiers in desert uniforms but their paint is always faded and dull, not crisp like the two British (Italian) figures, G91 and G92. I just can't accept these sand colored figures as variants, at least not at this point. I could identify no other seldom seen Grey Iron figures that met the criteria so I ended up with 16 rather than 20 in this ranking, hence the “famous fifty-six” rather than the “famous sixty”.

1. G3 Colonial flag bearer w/ 13-star flag
2. G106 U.S. cavalryman, earliest version
3. G103 Radio operator w/ both antennas
4. No O'Brien # Royal Guard in red
5. No O'Brien # Royal Guard in white
6. No O'Brien # Royal Guard in blue
7. G113 Foreign legion officer in blue
8. G114 Foreign legion cavalryman in blue
9. G107 U.S. cavalry officer, earliest version
10. G102 Greek evzone
11. G21 Ammo carrier
12. G92 British officer (Italian)
13. G91 British infantryman (Italian)
14. G100 Aviator
15. G104 Nurse and wounded soldier
16. G105 Doughboy supporting wounded soldier



G3



G106



G103



ROYAL GUARD



ROYAL GUARD



ROYAL GUARD



# UPDATE on the RAREST BARCLAY, MANOIL & GREY IRON SOLDIERS *(Cont.)*

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BOX FOR ROYAL GUARDS ABOVE



G113



G114



G107



G102



G21



G92



G91



# UPDATE on the RAREST BARCLAY, MANOIL & GREY IRON SOLDIERS (Cont.)



**G100**



**G104**



**G105**

## SUMMARY

Well, there it is. Insofar as prices go on these rarities, there is no telling what an avid collector will pay for the one figure he has been seeking for ten or fifteen years. I know that a Barclay Legionnaire flag bearer sold for \$1,700 at 98% and a Grey Iron G3 flag bearer w/ colonial flag, at 95%, sold for \$975, both within the last few years. But as previously pointed out in this article, rarity and price are not strictly related in all cases. Several of the rarest figures sell for under \$200 and some figures that don't make the rankings sell for over \$400.

I am sure that others will have different opinions of the rarest Dimestore soldiers based on their own observations and experiences. Hopefully, this paper can at least serve as an interim catalog of the rarest Barclay, Manoil and Grey Iron soldiers until a better one comes along and I hope it does. Discussing super rare Dimestores and challenging the validity of some figures are part of what I have enjoyed so much for nearly 30 years. I think healthy debate adds life, spice, interest, and real value to our hobby. I'm almost glad that we cannot absolutely prove or disprove some of our opinions with documents or scientific data because it means that the debates will go on and on.

God; I love this hobby.....

Stan Alekna, 732 Aspen Lane; Lebanon, PA 17042.  
(717) 228-2361; email: salekna1936@yahoo.com

## Rarest Soldier Photo Credits

### Barclay

*Stan Alekna B83a, B120, B120a, B120b*

*Rodney Hopson B25a (Officer in Blue) B255A, B256A, Bn*

*Don Sherman B54a, B55a, B56a*

*Brien Weid B244A*

*George Zazzali B25a (Officer in Khaki)*

*American Dimestore Toy Soldiers and Figures Book - Joplin, Pielin & Johnson B19, B28, B37, B75, B149, B150, 235A.*

### Manoil

*Stan Alekna M22a, M24a, M29a, M127a*

*John Cullen Nurse Pushing Soldier in Wheelchair*

*Don Sherman M7, M58a, M88b, M88a*

*American Dimestore Toy Soldiers and Figures Book - Joplin, Pielin & Johnson M1, M18, M44, M47, M61, M61a, M86, M91, M205, M206*

### Grey Iron

*Stan Alekna G3, G91, G92, G100, G104, G105, G102, G113*

*Peter Paul Royal Guards Box.*

*Don Sherman G21, G114, Royal Guard in Blue, Royal Guard in White.*

*Hank Whittaker G106, G107.*

*American Dimestore Toy Soldiers and Figures Book - Joplin, Pielin & Johnson G103, Royal Guard in Red.*

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# A VISIT TO THE CHICAGO HISTORICAL SOCIETY (THE CHICAGO HISTORY MUSEUM)

*By Norman Joplin*

When I made my first visit to the Old Toy Soldier Show in 1989, my good friends Don Pielin and Steve Sommers told me of the collection of toy soldiers that was held at the Chicago Historical Society, now named The Chicago History Museum. At that time the late Walt Keener worked at the Society and was responsible in part for cataloguing the various collections that had been donated to the society.

Each year that I returned to Chicago it was proposed that I make a visit with Don and Steve to meet with Walt and view the collections as a research project. Scheduling the visit proved difficult each September and eventually Walt moved on to another job and the opportunity to visit passed me by.

In 2000 when Ray Haradin bought the Old Toy Soldier Newsletter and appointed me as editor, one of my first thoughts was to try and secure permission to visit the Society with a view to writing an article on the toy soldier collections housed at the Society. However, time always seemed against a visit and obtaining a contact let alone arranging a visit proved difficult, but eventually in 2006 and 17 years after learning of the collections I finally, wearing my Old Toy Soldier Magazine Editor's "hat", achieved my ambition and was lucky enough to meet Senior collections

manager Rob Kent. He made it possible for me to spend a full day inspecting the items in the societies storage areas.

There were several collections that had been donated to the Society over the years, most consisted of Britains figures; however the most intriguing was the donation made by Chicago Toy Soldier maker Edward Jones, who in 1944 entrusted some 400 figures to the Society.

Many of the items that I viewed were Jones products both 3 inch and 54 mm. Some were items that had not previously been photographed or documented in toy soldier reference books.

Many unidentified and previously unseen items donated by Jones and possibly accumulated by him in order to gain ideas for his own line were included and it is these figures that are illustrated in this article.

As for the Jones products, I also viewed them. However in light of the impending publication on Jones by Don Pielin these are not included in the article, but may be covered after the publication of Don's book in a subsequent article.



**2 French Hollow Casts, 2 Britains (Possibly prototypes) and a large scale Heyde Guardsman**



## A VISIT TO THE CHICAGO HISTORICAL SOCIETY *(Cont.)*

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French Aluminum, 2 Unidentified Solid Marlborough era troops, Unidentified French Drummer and Solid Cast Unidentified Viking.



Unidentified Solid Landsknecht, 2 French Hollow Cast Farm figures, Unidentified Hollow Cast Piper and 40 mm Unidentified Indian.



2 Unidentified Royal Canadian Mounted Police 40 mm figures and 2 British Hollow Casts possibly by Reka



# SHOW REPORT

## OLD TOY SOLDIER SHOW REPORT CHICAGO 2011 YEAR 31

Just about everything that can be said, has already been said about the annual Old Toy Soldier Show in Chicago over the past 31 years... however it is still worth repeating.

The largest Toy Soldier event in the world, superb organization, excellent facilities at the Hyatt Hotel, pre show room trading starting Thursday before Sunday's event. Hundreds of dealers from the USA and from throughout the world, Saturday's Old Toy Soldier Auction's Empty Box Sale and Bargain Room, great hospitality and hundreds of thousands of toy soldiers to see over this extended week.

The photo gallery in this article testifies to the above but really only gives the reader a "snapshot" of the week's activities.

A survey of the first 150 people in line carried out before Sunday's show opened indicated that 20 people were attending for the first time, while 5 had attended all 31 shows, 50 had attended for 10 years or more, with the others accounting for various years of attendance.

The survey also revealed That 38% collected New Britains, 24% had no specific focus but collected whatever took their eye, 18% King and Country, 14% Old Britains, 4% Composition, 2% Marx. Interestingly enough none of those in line were Dimstore collectors.

These statistics reflect those who were visiting the show only on Sunday and do not include the many hundreds of collectors who attend throughout the week for the pre show room trading.

***See ad in this issue  
for details of Year 32***



**Sunday's morning line.**



**OTS Auctions Bargain Room, Saturday.**



**Sheri Morris and Jeff Caufield with their well stocked tables.**



## SHOW REPORT (Cont.)



Andy of King and Country.



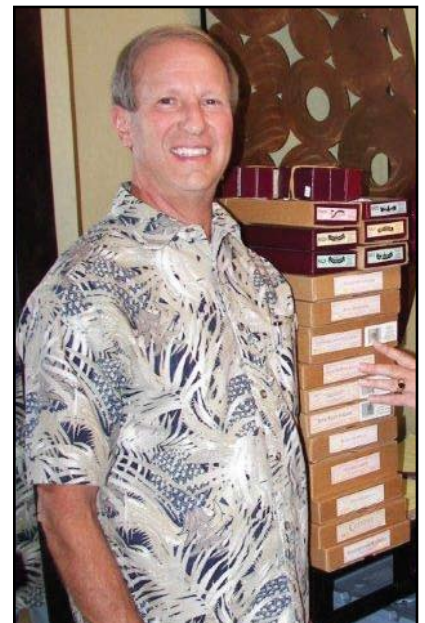
Bargain Room Empty Box Sale, Norman, Sue and Ray



Ken Osen, Richard Walker, Britains First Gear owner



Verne Johnson and Bob Bailey early morning set up Sunday.



Mike Shore purchases his haul of Britains.

*Photos for the Chicago show report are attributed to Noel Schlageter*



# FRAZIER MUSEUM

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## Toy soldiers march into the Frazier History Museum

*One of the nation's largest collections of toy soldiers to be unveiled in December*

**August 16, 2011 (Louisville, Ky.)** The Frazier History Museum, known for its exclusive partnership with the British Royal Armouries and exceptional collection of arms and armor, is soon going to be known for something else-- toy soldiers.

The Frazier Museum's rare collection of more than 12,000 toy soldiers, which portrays time periods ranging from Ancient Egypt through World War II, will be on display to the public starting December 10. The collection, some of which previously belonged to Malcolm Forbes, is expected to be one of the largest toy soldier collections on public display in the U.S. The Frazier's diverse collection consists of toy soldiers produced in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century through modern day, and includes one of the largest St. Petersburg Collections® on display in the country, as well as Haffner, M.I.M., Lucotte, Britains, Fouille and Marklin models.

"We're very excited about this amazing collection! There's an element of nostalgia and childhood playfulness to toy soldiers that's undeniable," said Frazier Museum Executive Director Madeleine Burnside. "It allows us to show a broader range of history and do it in a very approachable way."

Earlier this year, the Frazier Museum announced its new vision to become the region's premier history institution, the result of a year-long strategic planning process. The museum decided to shift its focus to become a more comprehensive history museum and dramatically lessen its focus on guns and weapons. The toy soldier installation, which is permanent, is part of more substantial changes to the museum's galleries to this end.

Currently, Frazier Museum staff are cataloguing the vast toy soldier collection, as well as designing the integration of the tiny models throughout its permanent galleries, which cover more than 1,000 years of world and American history. "These little figures depict real historical events and people," said Burnside. "We wanted to create a unique and educational way to display them, so they'll be exhibited side by side with genuine artifacts."

Much of the toy soldier collection originally belonged to donor and lifelong toy soldier aficionado Charles Stewart, who decided to donate the collection so it could be enjoyed by the public. Toy soldier collector Orson Munn of Long Island, N.Y., has contributed a significant collection of flat toy soldiers. The Frazier's collection continues to expand.

The Frazier History Museum is located in downtown Louisville, Ky. on Main Street's "Museum Row." The museum is open Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday noon to 5 p.m. Museum admission includes access to permanent galleries, some temporary exhibitions and daily historical performances. For more information, visit [www.FrazierMuseum.org](http://www.FrazierMuseum.org) or call (502) 753-5663.

## FRAZIER MUSEUM (Cont.)



Mignot



Mignot



Metayer



Large Heyde



## FRAZIER MUSEUM *(Cont.)*



Flats



Elastolin



M.I.M.



Coronation Diorama



Vertunni





# 1928 SOLDIERS - INCLUDING J&G SCHEURING?

By Richard O'Brien

Once again, Butler Brothers has given us some information on toy soldiers, this time in their October, 1928 catalog.

William Feix seems to have been one of the two major early American toy-soldier makers (with number one being American Soldier Company). Feix appears as early as 1903, and seems to have gone out of business by the summer of 1927, if not a year or two earlier. The distributor Owens-Kreiser, from at least 1919 through 1925 listed only Feix as its soldier-maker. In 1927 the soldier-manufacturing firm J&G Scheuring replaced William Feix on Owens-Kreiser's list. I've often wondered what their figures looked like. This "Pewter Toys" Soldier Sets illustration suggests, if Feix indeed was gone, that the Scheurings may simply have bought Feix's molds and produced from them, issuing at least "soldiers, Indians and cowboys".

On page 493 of my book "Collecting American-Made Toy Soldiers" there's a photo of Milton Bradley's "Soldiers Five With Pistol". But the illustration is different in 1928. At first glance, the soldiers appear to be part of the boxtop. A close examination shows that's not the case, but at least we now know what the actual figures looked like.

Finally, some "Composition Toy Soldiers", but not from a U.S. firm. I'd seen a scan when this catalog was up for bids, but it wasn't till I received the catalog itself that I could read the labels. It's all Lineol.

If you have any comments, questions or new information, I can be reached at [kokywriter@windstream.net](mailto:kokywriter@windstream.net).

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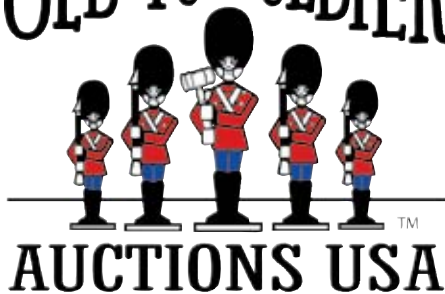
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# AUCTION PREVIEW

## OLD TOY SOLDIER



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**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20TH ~ 10 A.M. E.S.T.**

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# AUCTION PREVIEW (Cont.)



Britains Famous Racing Colours VERY RARE Canadian Racing Colour Seagram Stables.



CONDON EXCEPTIONALLY RARE Vintage Old Crock Car - Grandad's Car with Driver - London to Brighton Road Race 1900-1950 with Original Illustrated Box.



Roy Selwyn Smith VERY RARE. Princess/Queen Elizabeth the Second in Ball Gown 1952



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Britains Set # 1654 Snow White and Seven Dwarfs in Tied Original Illustrated Box with the names of the Dwarfs and Snow White printed on the inset card.



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# BOOK REVIEW

## *Die Zinnlaube* Old German Figure Magazine *Reviewed By Steve Sommers*

*Die Zinnlaube*, 2011-12 is the first annual edition of an all color 88 page magazine devoted to old German-made lead figures. Priced at 10 Euros plus postage it is an amazing bargain. This magazine fills a niche in one of the hottest areas of our hobby. More over, *Die Zinnlaube* is simply beautifully produced with over 125 color photos, some of which fill the whole 8x11 inch page. The nine major articles are in German with English and French translations or summaries. Additionally, there are several short articles and photo features ranging from rarities from the Gisbert Freber collection to several pages of pictures of collectors from Europe and America. There are six pages of advertising plus a 2011-12 events/show calendar. The annual is edited by Ignacio Czeguhn, Gisbert Freber, and Erhard Schraudolph.

The first article is on Frederick the Great figures; a few of these are Flats, but most are full round from a host of makers from Heinrichsen to Haffner, Heyde, Spenkuch, Schildknecht, and even composition from Lineol and Elastolin. *Die Zinnlaube*, however, focuses almost exclusively on lead. Two of the articles are on little known makers Seidel and Zufall and a second on Theodor Salomon of Berlin. Another article reveals large size, cloth-dressed Nativity figures by Anni Schweizer. All the known Charles Dickens character figures based on the drawings of the English illustrator Kyd is the focus of an article; these were probably cast by Heyde. An interview with collector-author Dr. Hans-Henning Roer includes a collecting anecdote even his friends may not have heard. Seven pages of photos show some of the rarities from Gisbert Freber's collection; among these photos are Heyde nodders, a boxed 80mm Rupprecht gun team, Tipple-Topple's Hansel and Gretel and a Theodore Krause truck-drawn group of circus wagons. Oh yes, on the back cover is a set of six Heyde, British Camel Corps, 16 centimeters tall! That photo alone may well be worth the price of the annual where every picture seems to be something unique. And finally there is a Wollner feature, another on Markus Greins' current favorite comic Heyde, and even more. The editors packed a lot into 88 pages.



*Die Zinnlaube* was a very short print run, but there are a few copies still available. Email: [info@ruchtstiftung.de](mailto:info@ruchtstiftung.de) to order a copy, and get on next year's mailing list. They will accept payment through Paypal: the cost of US orders is 15 Euros including postage. Or write: Ignacio Czeguhn, VirchowstrauBe 10, 97072 Wurzburg, Germany



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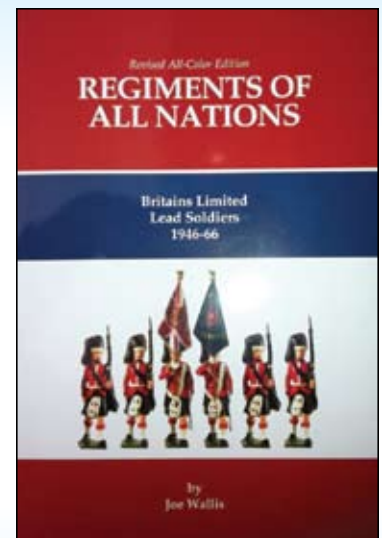
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# BOOK REVIEW

## REGIMENTS OF ALL NATIONS

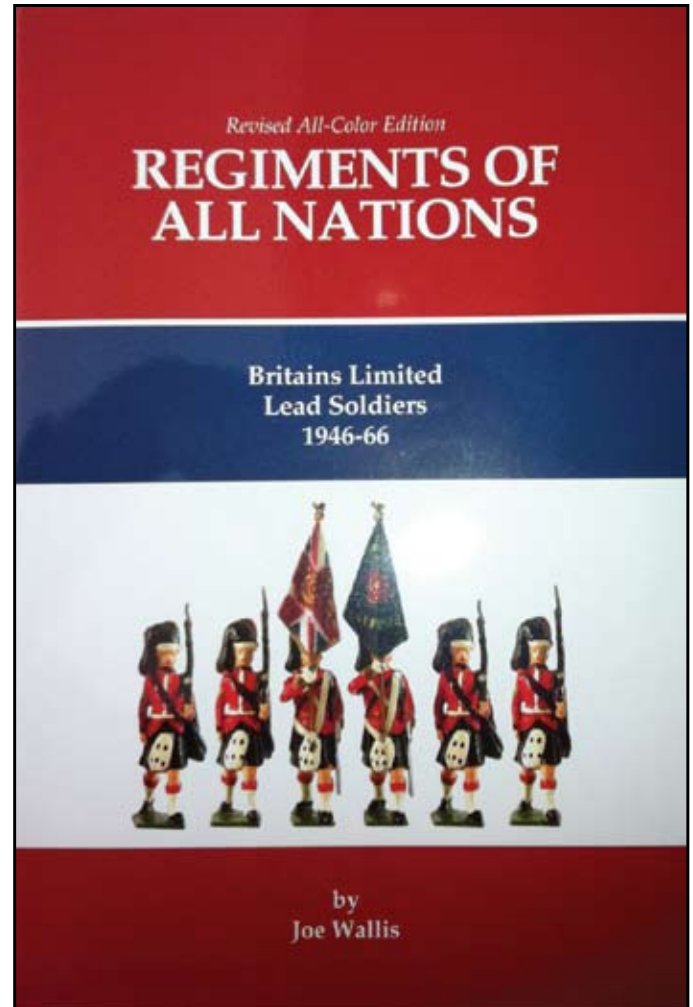
By Joe Wallis

Reviewed by Russ Bednarek

In 1981 Joe Wallis wrote *Regiments Of All Nations*, a study of Britains toy soldier production from 1946-1966. For the past 30 years *Regiments* has continued to be a classic reference work not only for Britain's collectors, but for all toy soldier aficionados. The toy soldier collecting community enthusiastically embraced and valued Mr. Wallis' tome through 6 re-printings. The chronological and systemic examination of Britains post-war production explored in *Regiments* proved to be the benchmark for all future works regarding toy soldiers. The popularity of *Regiments Of All Nations* remained strong and as of 2002 was out of print. Contemplating an eighth re-printing, Mr. Wallis decided to tinker with his classic work.

During the 30 year life of *Regiments Of All Nations*, much new information regarding Britains post-war production had come to light. Not content with doing another "standard" re-print of *Regiments*, Mr. Wallis decided to further enhance the next edition. So how does the eighth printing differ from the 1981 original edition? Collectors will find numerous enhancements; some cosmetic, some numerical. The 2011 edition has 415 pages, a significant increase from the 260 pages that comprised the 1981 edition. Readers will find all photographs are now in color and 100 new photographs were added, for a total of 504 pictures. Racing Colours (Jockeys) are examined in a new seven page study. Finally, the 2011 edition of *Regiments Of All Nations* is now a hardback, something all reference books unfortunately are not.

The new revised edition of *Regiments Of All Nations* continues to be a classic toy soldier book and is a "must" for every collector's reference library. Given the amount of pages and color photographs, \$60 (postpaid), is an excellent value for a hardback book of such exceptional quality. Regardless of whether you are a Britains collector or not, this is a book that no toy soldier collector should be without. I would like to thank Mr. Wallis for providing a copy of his new classic for this review.



### ORDERING INFORMATION

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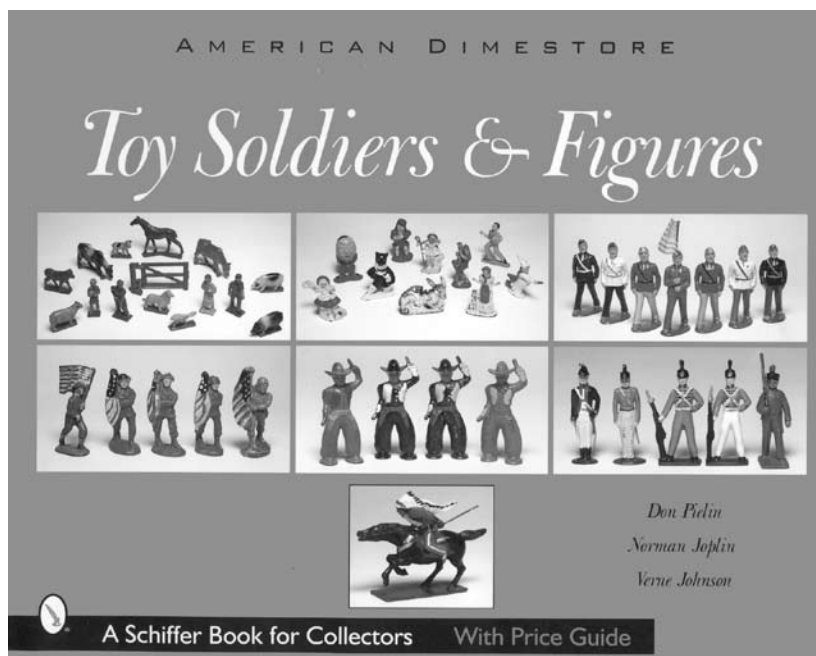
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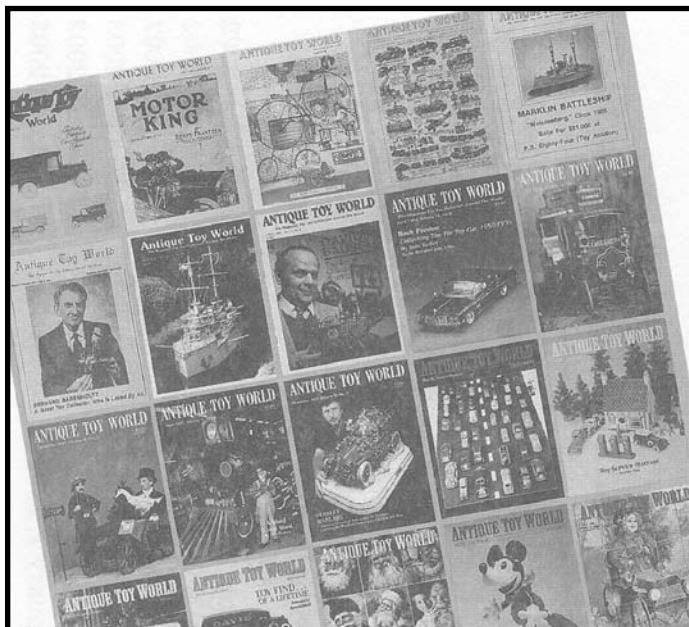
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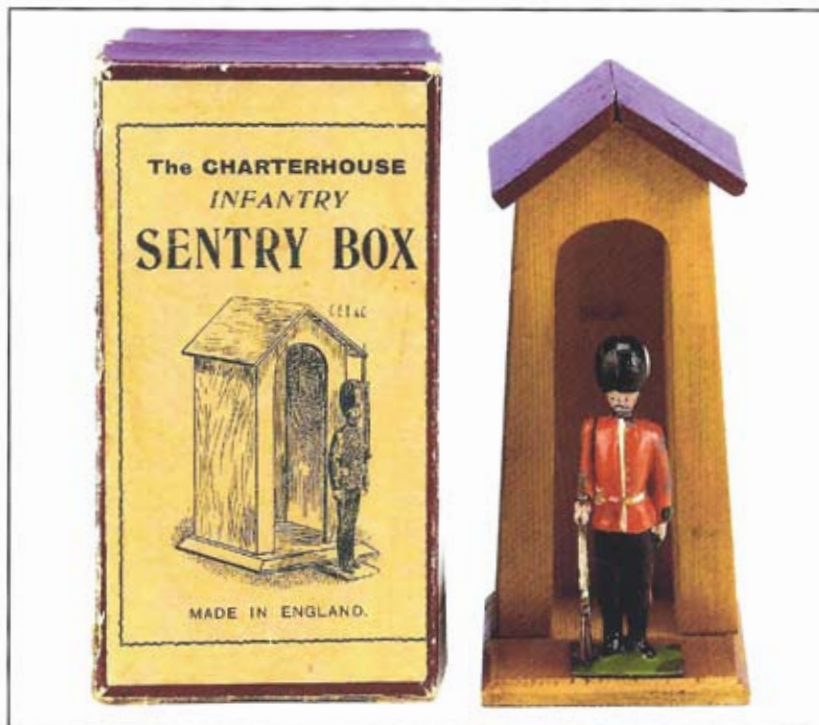
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While Britains are included to a certain extent the main focus is on the other makers of the period. Volume 2 which will be available in 2012 will concentrate solely on Britains advertisements of the same period and beyond.

Note: this book is only available directly from the authors, it will not be offered by Amazon or via any cut price on line merchant.



# THE KING'S AFRICAN RIFLES

*By Jan Britton*

The King's African Rifles (KAR) were "no angels" according to my father, who served with the 1st Battalion KAR in Nyasaland (now Malawi) in the 1950s. Angels they may not have been, but some great toy soldiers have been inspired by this British colonial regiment of white officers and African troops called "Askari" from the Swahili word for "soldier".

The KAR were formed in January 1902 by the amalgamation of various earlier regiments in British East and Central Africa. The first toy soldier is from one of these earlier regiments: the East African Rifles, which was originally the private militia of the Imperial East Africa Company but became a regular army regiment when the Company transferred its land to the British Government in 1895 to form the East Africa Protectorate (now Kenya).

Figure 1 shows an East African Askari made by Reka, a hollow-cast manufacturer in London between 1908 and 1932. At its formation in 1902 the KAR had a strength of 100 British officers and 4,500 Askari, in six battalions across Central and East Africa. From this date, the KAR fought their longest single campaign against Mohammed Abdullah Hassan - known to the British as the "Mad Mullah" - a Muslim leader who led an anti-imperial war against British, Italian and Ethiopian forces in Somaliland (modern Somalia) for over 20 years until his death in December 1920.

The First World War interrupted the KAR's role as colonial enforcer and the regiment grew to 22 battalions with over 30,000 Askari in the campaign to capture German East Africa (later Tanganyika, now Tanzania). One of these new recruits was Hussein Onyango Obama, the paternal grandfather of US President Barack Obama.



The hard-fought East African campaign started in August 1914, a few weeks after the outbreak of war in Europe, when the British broke an agreement not to allow a European war to spread to Africa by attacking German outposts on Lake Victoria. It continued until the German forces led by the tenacious General Paul Emil von Lettow-Vorbeck, surrendered a fortnight after fighting ended on the Western Front in November 1918, because of the time it took for confirmation of the armistice to reach them.

The second toy soldier depicts a KAR Askari from the period 1902-1920 – and fortunately it is more accessible to the collector having been introduced by Britains in 1926 and continuing in their catalogue until



(Figure 1)

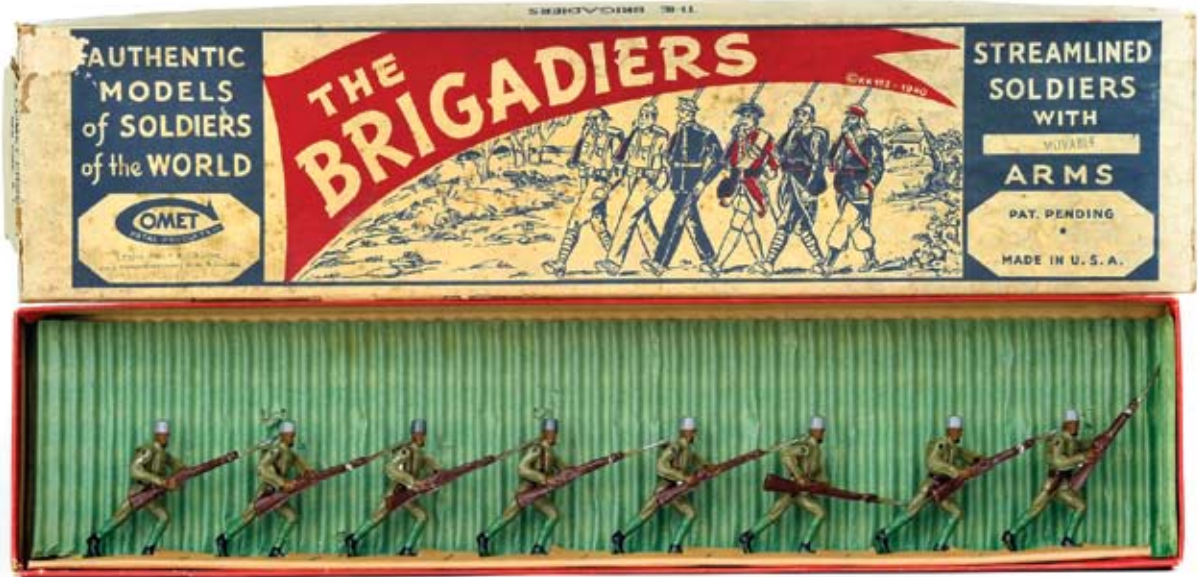


(Figure 2)



(Figure 3)

## THE KING'S AFRICAN RIFLES (Cont.)



(Figure 4)

the Second World War stopped production in 1941 – and then returning in 1946 until 1959 with a final flourish in 1966 (Figure 2).

There were variations in colour and finish over this period – and special paintings were available to order through Hamleys, the famous London toystore – but the basic figure remained the same throughout its forty years of production.

The composition figures 3 and 13 were almost certainly made by German manufacturer Lineol in the 1920s or 1930s. This might be one of Lettow-Vorbeck's German Askari, but most pictures show them wearing long trousers tucked into puttees below the knee, whereas this figure has characteristically-British short trousers and the same style webbing and bayonet belt as the Britains figure, so I am confident he represents the KAR.

Figure 4 depicts another KAR Askari from the First World War – this time by American manufacturer Comet as part of their 'Brigadiers' series which first appeared in 1940 and I presume continued until the late 1950s or early 1960s, although I know next to nothing about this company.

After 1920 the KAR returned to its peacetime establishment of six battalions and fell to fewer than 3,000 officers and men. This decline was reversed by the outbreak of the Second World War in 1939. During this war, the KAR rose in strength to forty-four battalions and fought against the Italians in Italian East Africa (now Ethiopia and Somalia), the Vichy French

in Madagascar and the Japanese in Burma, including the terrible monsoon campaign of 1944-45 to cut-off the Japanese retreat across the Chindwin River.

The set of six plastic figures made by Cherilea in the 1960s appear to be KAR Askari of the Second World War. The figures are grotesque parodies rather than accurate depictions of the troops or their uniforms – funny then that the weapons they are carrying are portrayed with sufficient accuracy to identify one as a Thompson sub-machine gun (figure 5, left) and another as a Bren gun (figure 5, right) – the weapons date them to the Second World War.

Rather better are the set of ten figures by Lone\*Star who made factory-painted plastic figures from 1955 -1976. These show KAR Askari in the Australian-style slouch hat which was adopted early in the war and replaced the traditional fez in battledress (figure 6). In fact, Lone\*Star offered exactly the same figures as Australian infantry with white-painted faces instead of black.

The marching Lone\*Star figure is my personal favourite depiction of a KAR Askari. As I do not know of any later toy soldiers, it is this image that must also serve for the regiment's post-war history: reduced again to six battalions, but deployed to Malaya (now Malaysia) to fight communist insurgents, Kenya to suppress the Mau-Mau uprising - *where the KAR met President Obama's grandfather again but in less happy circumstances* – and numerous colonial policing actions in the dying days of the British Empire.



## THE KING'S AFRICAN RIFLES (Cont.)



(Figure 5)



(Figure 6)



(Figure 7)



(Figure 8)



(Figure 9)



(Figure 10 & 11)



(Figure 12)

## THE KING'S AFRICAN RIFLES (Cont.)



(Figure 13)



(Players Cigarette Cards)

As Britain's African colonies came to independence in the 1960s, each country's KAR battalion became the nucleus of its independent army. The KAR traditions continue to influence the modern national armies of these former colonies, particularly in Kenya where the Army still celebrates the battle-honours of its KAR predecessors. There are echoes of the KAR in the Kenya Police figure from Marx's Jungle Jim / Daktari Playsets of the 1960s (figure 7).

As an amateur historian, I have explored my interest in the King's African Rifles through the medium of toy soldiers. However, I accept that there are limitations to collecting by regiment (unless perhaps you choose the Guards) and, as I have become more of a toy soldier collector, I have considered ways to overcome these limitations.

The first is to follow history: for example, before the First World War most KAR battalions contained an Indian contingent, therefore Britain's Royal Indian Army Service Corps (figure 8) would be an authentic reinforcement for a KAR column marching on the Mad Mullah or taking punitive action against recalcitrant tribesmen for cattle raiding.

Another way to overcome the limitations of collecting by regiment might be to extend to the Askari regiments



(Figure 14)

of the other colonial powers. There are Italian figures – mostly pre-war, because Italy had little to celebrate after being ejected from East Africa by the KAR (figure 9) and some excellent figures of French Tirailleurs (meaning “skirmishers”) from North and West Africa, including the aluminium figure 10 & 11 whose right-shouldered rifle marks him as French almost as clearly as if he were carrying a flag (probably made in France by Quiralu in the 1950s) – and the superb figure made in Eire by Authenticast (figure 12).

Another alternative is to risk the passage from old toy soldiers to military models. There are dozens of models that depict the KAR – far more than were ever made as genuine toy soldiers. The figures made in 1980 by the British manufacturer Dorset Soldiers strike me as being an acceptable balance between the two (figure 13 & 14).

In their short, sixty-year career the King's African Rifles made an indelible mark on history and on the world of toy soldier collecting – and I have enjoyed exploring one through the other in both directions.



# GENERAL INSPECTION

## Bivouac of the 1st Empire and L'Armée d'Afrique

*Reviewed By Russ Bednarek*



The soldier's life during the campaigns of Napoleon are often portrayed in grandeur scenes of combat. Panoramic paintings depict dense columns of infantry smashing into each other as artillery pieces belch forth their deadly loads at point blank range. Massive cavalry charges are often lead by heroically posed figures, all overlooked by Napoleon and his assorted marshals. In reality, combat occupied but a small fraction of time in the career of a Napoleonic soldier. Marching, foraging, setting up and taking down camp was what soldiering for Napoleon was all about. In an effort to represent these unsung aspects of military life of the men who fought for their Emperor, Edouard Pemzec, owner of Lucotte has created a series of charming sets.

"Le Bivouac sous l'Empire", is a series of 12 vignettes that accurately captures the day to day activities of Napoleon's men. Card playing, baking, feeding their horses, and eating are but a few of the activities represented utilizing exquisite Mignot figures. Each vignette has four figures, supporting accessories and a scenic base. The figures are expertly done as are the various supplementary pieces whether they be a small bush, cannon barrel or cart. The figures are charmingly posed and convey a relaxed feeling as they eat, play their cards, or as they labor to replace a cannon barrel. There is even a vignette portraying a legendary *sapeur* of the grenadiers of the Imperial Guard. Legend has it that when Napoleon reviewed the grenadiers of his Imperial Guard, *sapeur* Mariolle, a man of immense strength, was at-arms with a bronze

# GENERAL INSPECTION (Cont.)

## Bivouac of the 1st Empire and L'Armee d'Afrique

cannon barrel in lieu of a musket. The vivandiere and her cart is sure to be popular with collectors.

To enable collectors to expand or create their own camp scenes, an additional seven individual figures are available. The figures are performing such tasks as carrying a large sack, fishing, walking with an arm load of boots, and, my favorite, two men carrying a large barrel set upon two rails. "L'Bivouac sous l'Empire" is a welcomed addition for Napoleonic collectors as an alternative subject matter. This endearing series deserves a place in every Napoleonic collection. It is this reviewer's hope that to compliment this excellent series, perhaps M.Pemzec will create some medical vignettes.

By the late 1880's, France still retained much of her global colonial holdings. From the sun baked arid holdings of North Africa to the steamy jungles of Senegal and heavily forested hills of Chochinchine, France relied on the imports of her subjugated colonies. Large numbers of troops were required to maintain control and to insure that the colonies highly sought resources continued to flow to France. Because it was numerically impossible to exclusively use French troops to occupy the colonies, various indigenous units were raised. The result of the French led native regiments was the creation of the *l'Armee d'Afrique* and *l'Armee d'Orient*. During this period in French military history, it was difficult for an officer to earn a promotion if he was not politically or financially connected. Accepting an officer's rank in *l'Armee d'Afrique* or *l'Armee d'Orient* was an alternative for those without connections. Promotions often took two or three times longer than in the army stationed in France; *Armee Metropolitaine*. Frustration over the slowness of promotions, and an overall inferior class of officers often resulted in harsh discipline and ruthlessness in combat. Results on the field of battle was a way to be noticed and many officers did whatever was needed to gain the attention of their superiors.

Lucotte has created an entirely new range of figures named ELGE, devoted to replicate the various regiments of *l'Armee d'Afrique* and *l'Armee d'Orient*. To date five of the fifteen sets have been produced; Spahis algeriens, Spahi officer and porte fanion, tirailleurs Senegalais, tirailleurs Malgaches, and Marine infantry. Each infantry set is composed of nine marching figures; six enlisted men and one officer, a flag and a drummer. Cavalry sets are of five figures; three troopers and one officer and flag.

Cleanly sculpted and expertly painted the ELGE figures realistically capture the élan these colonial forces. Collectors should note that the castings are not from the old Lucotte molds but are completely new sculpts. The spahis in particular are very visually striking in their white capes and turbans with red vests and blue pants. Attention to detail is of the highest level ; an example being the crescent star that is accurately painted on the horses blinders. Proposed future offerings for *l'Armee d'Afrique* include; zouaves, tirailleurs, algeriens and band, and chasseurs d'afrique. The *l'Armee d'Orient* has not been started yet, but a listing shows nine proposed sets to include; Annamites, spahis, tirailleurs chinois and tirailleurs Tonnkin among others. With so many options to create truly exotic troops and uniforms, the ELGE range is a welcomed addition. The *l'Armee d'Afrique* and *l'Armee d'Afrique* have long been neglected by toy soldier manufacturers. Lucotte has filled this collecting void with a range of figures that are expertly researched, sculpted and painted.

With these unique, creative offerings Lucotte continues to please their faithful collectors while attracting new enthusiasts. Collectors can rely on extremely high quality figures released on a consistent basis that appeal to many differing interests. New releases will appear when available on the Lucotte website. Bravo, Monsieur Pemzac, on your new creations.

Both the "Le Bivouac sous l'Empire" and the ELGE range are available exclusively from Jack Carleton, the sole US agent for CBG Mignot and Lucotte. Mr.Carleton offers fast and dependable service in addition to collecting advice and suggestions regarding CBG Mignot/Lucotte.

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### TYPES OF THE



A number of regiments appear in different forms, e.g. both reserve and foreign service orders, or on different horses than used, or with different weapons. Such departures from the norm added variety to the overall display, and nicely complemented their standard versions. The names given below each figure indicate which that figure was first introduced, and when it would have been removed from production.

Included on the bottom row, in addition to the Field Marshal found in some of the larger display sets, are seven examples of Britains' small size figures, the "5 series". These figures are of 4mm size, rather than the standard 14mm, and were issued in first quality paint style. They were produced from 1896-1914.



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# The Dutch Navy in Composition

By Vincent J. Russo & Patrice Servais

## I. Introduction

In a previous Old Toy Soldier article (Vol. 31, No. 1), The Authors had the pleasure of exploring The “Seas” through the adventures of pirates, who sailed the open waters in search of adventure and plunder.

These exploits were illustrated using composition figures from various Belgian Manufacturers.

We now continue our exploration of the seas, but will shift our focus to the “Navies” of World War II, that were depicted by composition figures, again made by Belgian “Figurine” manufacturers, most notably by Durso.

These companies produced “marine” figures representing The Navies of many countries, i.e. Holland (Dutch Navy), France, Germany (Kriegsmarine), Great Britain, Russia and The United States Navy. (Also produced were “generic” naval figures representing no country in particular)

For the purposes of this article, we have chosen, for our center of discussion. The Dutch Navy from 1939-1945, which will be illustrated using solely “Durso” figures.

## II. Background

Holland has had a long Naval Tradition and in the 17th century her navy was among the most powerful in the world.

Since Holland was very much dependant on “Trade”, this naval power was necessary to protect its lucrative trade routes and the merchants who sailed them.

This tradition of a strong navy fared well for many years, but then The Royal Navy of Great Britain eventually surpassed The Dutch Navy during the 19th century.

Economic difficulties then forced The Netherlands to progressively reduce the tomage of their fleet until, in 1914, it had retrogressed to that of a minor power,(7th in the world). In 1939 it was ranked just behind The Soviet Navy and just ahead of Sweden.

However, even with this decline, Dutch Naval construction was of very high quality, and Holland was one of the few Navies of importance, that was not dependent on any foreign shipyards.



D-7510/1

D-7510/1

Photo #1 Dutch Sailor Standing “On Guard”, in White  
Figure on left with “buttons” on uniform was very limited early production.



D-7510/2

D-7510/2

Photo #2 Dutch Sailor Standing “On Guard”, in Blue  
Figure on left with “buttons” on uniform was very limited “early production”.

## The Dutch Navy in Composition (Cont.)

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D-7551/1

D-7551/1

Photo #3 Dutch Sailors Marching "At Slope", in White  
Figure on left with bayonet was very limited "early production"



D-7551/2

D-7551/2

Photo #4 Dutch Sailors Marching "At Slope", in Blue  
Figure on left with bayonet was very limited "early production"

### III. The War Years, (Europe)

In September of 1939, The Dutch Navy in Europe consisted of:

- 4 – Cruisers
- 8 – Destroyers
- 11 – Torpedo Boats
- 22 – Submarines
- 107 – Various other craft

When war was declared in September, 1939, The Netherlands hoped to stay neutral, but this lasted only until The German invasion of The Netherlands (The Blitzkrieg) in May of 1940. Then on May 15, 1940, one day after the bombing of Rotterdam, The Dutch capitulated and subsequently The Dutch government and The Royal Family went into exile in London.

By this time, the main Dutch Fleet was reduced to:

- 2 – Cruisers
- 1 – Destroyer
- 6 – Torpedo Boats
- 9 – Submarines

Most of these proceeded to get underway to avoid capture and/or being sabotaged. These vessels continued action in Europe, in conjunction with The Royal Navy of England, until the end of the war.



## The Dutch Navy in Composition (*Cont.*)

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D-7555/1

Photo #5 Dutch Sailors Marching with "Slung" Rifles



D-7555/2



D-7575 (Captain)

Photo #6 Dutch Naval Officers



D-7575/A (Lieutenant)

### **IV. The War Years (The Indies)**

The Dutch Colonies in the Indies presented a major vulnerability in light of The Threat of Japanese "expansionism" in the area. The Dutch Navy could hardly match the power of The Japanese Fleet, but was capable of presenting an efficient defense of their assets, while waiting for assistance from The Australian, The British and The Americans.

At stake was the crude oil production of The Dutch Indies, which at the time represented one seventh of the total world supply, and ten times more than Japan had on its own soil.

At this time, The Dutch Navy consisted of its European Fleet and also three forces in Asia. These were:

1. "OOSTINDIES KONIGINSMARINE" – The squadron that consisted of the larger ships, Cruisers (4), Destroyers (7), Submarines (15), and others.
2. "OOSTINDIESMARINE" – This consisted of shore defense and mine sweeping vessels.

3. "GOUVERNEMENTSMARINE" – Local forces containing patrol boats and other vessels, which were under the control of the Governors of the Islands.

Even as war broke out in Europe, The Dutch Naval Forces in The Indies remained intact to protect their interests in the area. On December 8, 1941 (The day after Pearl Harbor), the Netherlands declared war on Japan, and on January 10, 1942, The Japanese invaded The Dutch East Indies (Now Indonesia).

Dutch Naval Ships then joined forces with the allies to form The "ABDA" fleet (American – British – Dutch – Australian), but on February 27-28, 1942, under The Command of The Dutch Admiral Karel Doorman, this fleet suffered heavy losses at the Battle of the Java Sea, and essentially were no threat to the Japanese after that.

The Dutch Submarines, however, survived The Battle and eventually re-united with Allied Forces in Australia and resumed action.

## The Dutch Navy in Composition (*Cont.*)

---



### How to Identify Dutch Naval Figures

Sailor –

From the Front – Blue Collar in “V” Shape, Flat Cap

Sailor -

From the Back – Two (2) Ribbons Hanging From Cap

Officer –

From the Side – Orange “Cockade” on Hat

### **V. Epilog**

After the War, The Netherlands re-constituted her Navy by building two large “Classic” Cruisers. These were among the last to be built in Europe.

### **VI. Conclusion**

Once again, The Authors wish to express our sincere appreciation to “Old Toy Soldier” Magazine for the opportunity to showcase Belgian made composition figures.

### **VII. Acknowledgement**

Photos by Veronique Servais

### **VIII. Editor’s Note**

See the advertisement for the book “Composition Figures of Belgium – The Durso Company,” by Vincent J. Russo, Bertel Bruun and Lucien Maris on page 55 of this issue.



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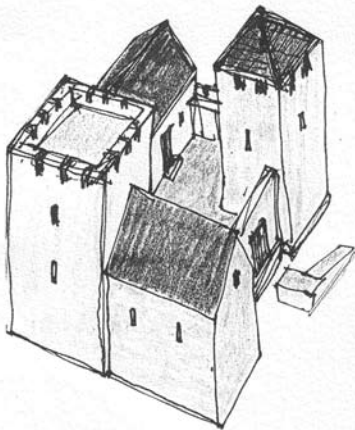
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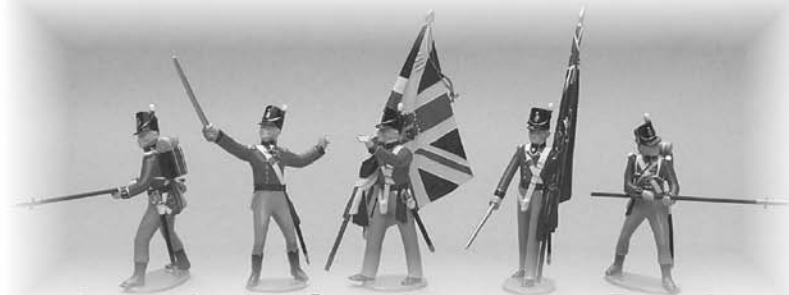
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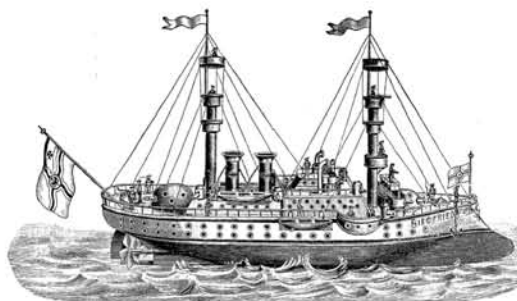


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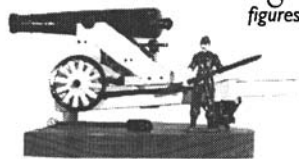
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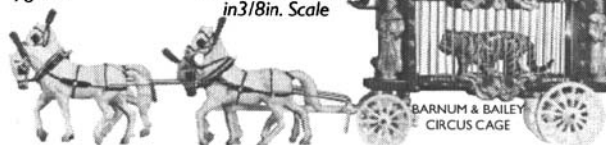
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**November 6th - Sunday.** 12th Annual Toy Soldier Show. 9am-4pm Cantigny Park and Museum, Winfield Road. Wheaton. Illinois. Contact Nick Albanese 920-261-1323 Email camprandall@charter.net

**November 6th - Sunday** 29th Annual East Coast Toy Soldier Show Rothman Center Fairleigh Dickinson University Hackensack Contact Bill Lango bill@vintagecastings.com Tel 973-831-8900.

**November 15 Tuesday.** Vectis Auctions Nils Fischer Collection Teeside UK Contact 44 + 1642 750616 See ad in this issue

**November 16th-Wednesday** Bonhams Toy Soldier Auction, Montpelier Street. Knightsbridge London UK. Contact Leigh Gotch 44(0) 208-963-2836 www.bonhams.com

**November 19th and 20th - Saturday and Sunday.** Old Toy Soldier Auctions USA. Contact Ray Haradin 1 800 349 8009 raytoys@aol.com or Norman Joplin 262-692-3913 info@normanjoplin.com www.oldsoldierauctions.com

**November 20th Sunday.** The 13th Annual Pennsylvania Toy Soldier, Military Miniature, Civilian and Action Figure Show and Sale Ramada Levittown, 6201 Bristol Pike, Levittown, PA 19057 Info: Ed Greis 201-342-6475 Or larry@larryslegions.com

**November 26th- Saturday.** Richard Opfer Toy Soldier Auction Timonium MD. Contact 410-252-5035 See ad in this issue

**December 3. Saturday.** 34th Annual Hear of the South Toy Solder, Military Miniature Figure Show and Sale Annandale VFD Community Center, 7128 Columbia Pike, Annandale, VA 22003 Info: Ed Greis 201-342-6475 Or larry@larryslegions.com

**December 21st- Wednesday.** Bonhams Knowle Toy Soldier and Figures Auction Leigh Gotch 44(0) 208-963-2836 www.bonhams.com

## 2012

**January 29th.** 18th Annual Florida Toy Soldier, Action Figure and Collectables Show 9am- 4pm Scottish Rites Masonic Hall. Lake Worth, Florida Contact Email mskurda@inbox.com Telephone 954-699-6040 or 561-968-5571

**March 11- Sunday.** West Coater Toy Soldier Show Irvine Marriott Hotel Contact 1-800-228-9290 See ad in this issue.

**March 25 - Sunday.** Indy Toy Soldier Show. Indianapolis Marriott. Contact Barry Carter 765-345-5665. See ad in this issue.

**June 2nd and 3rd Saturday and Sunday.** Old Toy Soldier Auctions USA. Contact otsauctionsusa@yahoo.com

**September 8 - Saturday.** Norman Joplin's Old Toy Soldier and Figure Show, Holiday Inn, Bloomsbury London Contact info@normanjoplin.com

**September 23 - Sunday.** Old Toy Soldier Show Chicago. Schaumburg Hyatt Regency See ad in this issue.

*Dates and times are correct at the time of printing; however, it is strongly advised that before traveling, contact is made with show organizers to confirm date(s).*

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