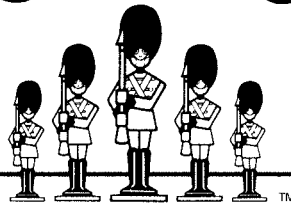


Spring
2013

The Journal for Collectors

Volume 37 Number 1
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GREENWOOD AND BALL

KING JOHN SIGNING OF THE MAGNA CARTA

Photograph courtesy Rob Wilson

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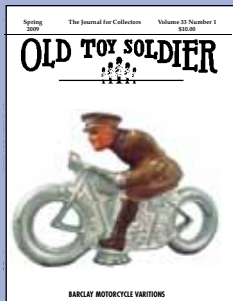
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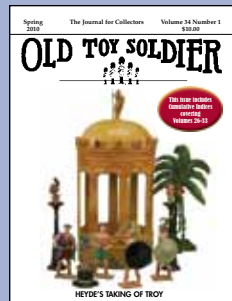
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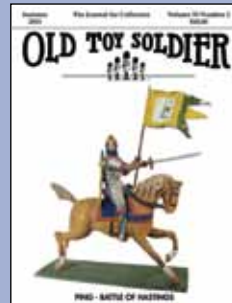
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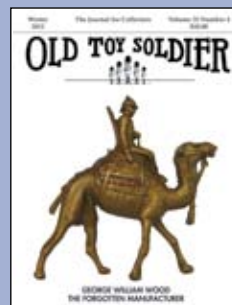
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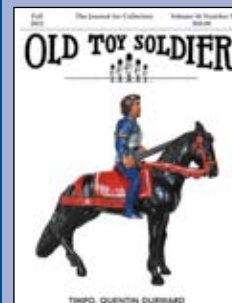
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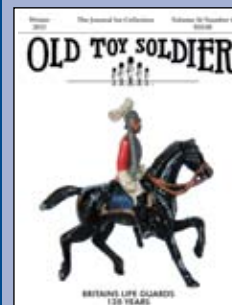
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~ OBITUARY ~

Charles Biggs 1932- 2013

By Norman Joplin



Charles Biggs died March 9th 2013. He is survived by his Wife Joyce, Son Kevin, Daughter in Law Lisa and Grandsons Jake and Jamie.

Born December 14th, 1932 in Deptford London, England, Charles first entered the toy and toy soldier business in 1947 and was initially employed by Zang of Herald fame during the period that Zang owned Modern Packaging. Charles continued to work for Zang and later

Willmore, who produced Timpo up until he was eligible to be called up for National Service. Serving in the Royal Electrical Mechanical Engineers and stationed in Gibraltar, Charles rejoined Zang in 1954 after being demobbed from the services. Upon the incorporation of Zang and his Herald range into the Britains company Charles remained at Britains as designer and sculptor and was instrumental in assisting with the design of the famous Swoppett line of plastics.

In 1992 Charles left Britains and became a freelance consultant and started his own toy soldier company with collector Arnold Rolak. They named the company Sceptre, but later it changed and became Premier and it was featured in Britains catalogs of the time until the contract was ended. Charles continued to produce and distribute his Premier range as an independent manufacturer thereafter. Well known and genial at all times within the toy soldier world Charles attended many toy soldier events on both sides of the Atlantic and will be sadly missed by his many toy soldier compatriots.



Charles Biggs in his Britains days.

GREENWOOD AND BALL: AN EXAMPLE OF THE 25MM CONNOISSEUR RANGE – MAGNA CARTA

By Rob Wilson



The complete ensemble – Magna Carta by Greenwood and Ball in 25mm scale

Greenwood and Ball's range of 54mm figures depicting types of the British Army as well as other types are highly sought after by a small number of collectors. Less well known is the fact that they produced an extensive range of figures in the much smaller 25mm scale.

John Greenwood of Wellington, Shropshire began making 40mm figures before the Second World War. In the 1940s he began working in 20-25mm scale (aimed in part at least at the war gaming market) before eventually moving to the 54mm scale figures which may be more familiar to most readers of this magazine.

His early figures were sand-cast, and therefore rather crude. They were individually animated by simply bending the limbs into position, with weapons being cast separately and soldered in place. This sometimes led to rather stilted poses. The bodies were not cast with great detail, many features being dependent on the painter's brush rather than the sculptor's tool (a trick that toy soldier manufacturers such as Britains were familiar with). Fortunately, much of the early output was painted by Katherine Ball (hence the company name of Greenwood and Ball).⁴ Her consummate skill brought relatively simple castings to life, with work that stands comparison with the best of her contemporaries such as Courtenay or some of the French masters. She was later joined by 4 other female painters who were not always able to match her high standards.

Although produced in war gaming size, the 20-25mm figures produced at that time (up to the mid 1960s) were generally regarded as collector's items rather than for the creation of mass armies. Along with Edward Suren (Willie figures), and Charles Stadden (of Tradition) Greenwood was famous for producing complex dioramas, depicting historical scenes.

By the 1970s Greenwood and Ball were morphing into a rather different company as first John Tassell developed the much chunkier range of Lasset models and Cliff Sanderson the Sanderson range of historical figures (covering less military subject matters, including slave markets, and tavern scenes). The Garrison range of wargaming figures continued the earlier tradition of small scale 25 figures, albeit rather more chunky and pre animated than Greenwood's earlier designs. The main emphasis by then was selling castings for collectors to paint themselves, rather than painted figures.⁵ John Greenwood sold his interest in the company in 1966 and died in 1971.

This article focuses on the earlier work of John Greenwood in the period up to 1966. The 20/25mm range covered a large variety of different types, but the main focus was on the British army. There was demand for some collectors for more esoteric types. John Garratt refers to one such commission in a set featured in the collection of Herbert Charles Faulkner.⁶ This set is featured here. Comprising 18 pieces it relates to one of the great turning points in British history.

⁴ Ms Ball later married to become Mrs Nathaniel

⁵ For more information on Greenwood's wargaming ranges, including the latter fantasy series see the Website by GARRISON: http://www.garrisonminiatures.com/greenwood_ball.asp

⁶ John G. Garratt, *Model Soldiers for the Connoisseur*. Weidenfeld and Nicolson, 1972: London, (page 94-96 and page 158). See also *The World Encyclopaedia of Model Soldiers*. Frederick Muller, 1981: London (page 73).

GREENWOOD AND BALL: AN EXAMPLE OF THE 25MM CONNOISSEUR RANGE – MAGNA CARTA *(Cont.)*

Regarded by many authorities as the cornerstone of modern democracy, the “Magna Carta” was drafted in 1215 to resolve conflict between King John the 1st of England and some of his most powerful subjects. The Magna Carta can be seen as the starting point of a long historical process that led to the rule of constitutional law throughout the English speaking world, inspiring later constitutional documents, including the United States Constitution.

On 15 June 1215, under some duress, King John met with barons and others at Runnymede fields (somewhere between modern day Staines and Windsor), and put his seal to the document. It required him to proclaim certain liberties for his subjects and accept that his will was not arbitrary. As a consequence, no “freeman” (in the sense of non-serf) could be punished except through the law of the land, a right that still exists today.

The Greenwood and Ball set includes King John seated at a table with the scrolls in front of him, poised with quill pen in hand. In fact neither John nor anyone else actually signed the charter. It was sufficient for him to simply attach his seal to each of the copies made.

John is accompanied by men at arms and his standard bearer. The latter holds the Royal Standard of three gold lions passant on a red ground (the coat was created by his brother Richard 1st (Lionheart) who he had succeeded to the throne some 16 years earlier).

The scene was witnessed by at least 25 Barons present as surety for the enforcement of the agreement, numerous Bishops as witnesses (including the Archbishop of Canterbury) and various Abbots (also acting as witnesses and involved in drafting the document).

The Barons are represented by 6 knights, two with standards and an escort of three men at arms.

The Abbots are represented by monks in white, grey, black and brown robes. Franciscans’ robes were gray or brown, Dominicans’ were white with black cloaks, Benedictines’ were usually black but sometimes white.

The standard of painting for the time was exceptional, the detail of the Archbishop of Canterbury provides a good example of Ms. Ball’s work in this tiny scale.

Greenwood and Ball produced many other figures in this tiny scale, with a special focus on the Types of the British Army. These and their magnificent 54mm scale cousins will be the subject of a more detailed treatment in future articles, but the images shown here provide some indication of the quality of the work of this fine manufacturer.

Those who are known to have been party to Magna Carta included the following 25 Barons:

- William d’Aubigny, Lord of Belvoir Castle
- Roger Bigod, Earl of Norfolk and Suffolk
- Hugh Bigod, Heir to the Earldoms of Norfolk and Suffolk
- Henry de Bohun, Earl of Hereford
- Richard de Clare, Earl of Hertford
- Gilbert de Clare, heir to the earldom of Hertford
- John FitzRobert Clavinger, Lord of Warkworth Castle
- Robert Fitzwalter, Lord of Dunmow Castle
- William de Fortibus, Earl of Albemarle
- William Hardel, Mayor of the City of London
- William de Huntingfield, Sheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk
- John de Lacy, Lord of Pontefract Castle
- William de Lanvallei, Lord of Standway Castle
- William Malet, Sheriff of Somerset and Dorset
- Geoffrey de Mandeville, Earl of Essex and Gloucester
- William Marshall Jr, heir to the earldom of Pembroke
- Roger de Montbegon, Lord of Hornby Castle, Lancashire
- Richard de Montfichet, Baron
- William de Mowbray, Lord of Axholme Castle
- Richard de Percy, Baron
- Saire/Saher de Quincy, Earl of Winchester
- Robert de Roos, Lord of Hamlake Castle
- Geoffrey de Saye, Baron
- Robert de Vere, heir to the earldom of Oxford
- Eustace de Vesci, Lord of Alnwick Castle

GREENWOOD AND BALL: AN EXAMPLE OF THE 25MM CONNOISSEUR RANGE – MAGNA CARTA (Cont.)

The bishops included:

- Stephen Langton, Archbishop of Canterbury as well as the Archbishop of Dublin and Bishops of Bath and Wells; Chichester; Ely; Hereford; Lincoln; London; Salisbury; Rochester; Winchester; and Worcester.

Abbots included those from: Abbotbir; Abingdon; St Albans; St Augustine's in Canterbury; Bello; Chertsey; Cirencester; St Edmunds; Evesham; Hartstary; Hyde; Malmesbury; Middleton; Peterborough; Reading; Selby; Sherborne; Westminster; and Winchcomb.

Others included: Llywelyn the Great and other Welsh Princes; Master Pandulff, subdeacon and member of the Papal Household; Brother Aymeric, Master of the Knights Templar in England; and Alexander II of Scotland.

If readers know of other examples of Greenwood and Ball's work in 25mm scale they are invited to contact the author (r.a.wilson@warwick.ac.uk) or the editors. Images are especially welcome.



King John about to put his seal to the charter



The Archbishop of Canterbury



John's Standard

The Abbots with the Archbishop



Barons and Men at Arms

GREENWOOD AND BALL: AN EXAMPLE OF THE 25MM CONNOISSEUR RANGE – MAGNA CARTA *(Cont.)*



Other Participants



Another view of the whole group with John centre stage surrounded by Barons, Clerics and “enforcers”!



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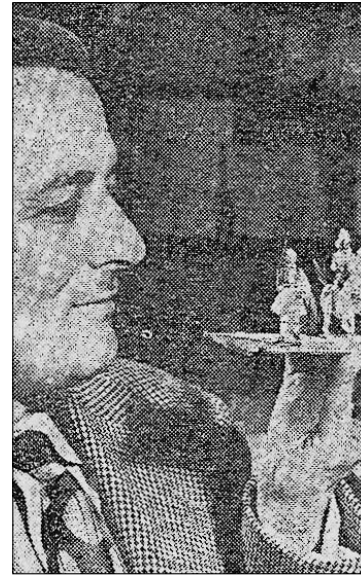
MIDWEST BRITISH IMPORTERS OF MILWAUKEE

By Joe Wallis

From time to time sets of lead figures appear with an intriguing box label entitled "Midwest British Importers." I recently acquired a 12-page Catalog and a 1952 Price Schedule from this wholesalers firm.

The Price Schedule highlights the cost per dozen, as well as the retail "List Price" for a single item. The standard wholesale trade discount of a 40% reduction from retail prices was applied. The 1952 Price Schedule gives an address of 444 North Plankinton Avenue, Milwaukee 3, Wisconsin (from the days before Zip Codes). Their catalog contains only a small number of specifically identified Britains items—predominately artillery pieces 1201, 1263, 1264, 1266, 1292, 1725 and 2026; anti-aircraft instruments 1638, 1639, 1728 and 1729, but does note that "all other single sets are available at \$14.40 per dozen with a list on request" (referring to the single-row first quality sets that retailed at \$2.00 per box). The Price Schedule contains several horse-drawn items, including Set 39 Royal Horse Artillery, Set 234 "The Meet" Hunt Display, Set 2034 Prairie Schooner, and Set 2042 Prairie Schooner with cowboy escort and attacking Indians. The wholesale price for the magnificent Royal Horse Artillery gun team was \$5.70, and shops buying from Midwest British Importers typically sold Set 39 at a retail price of \$8.95. Three of Britains Second-Grade Fort Range sets: 212-S Cowboys and Indians (7 pieces), 232-S Scots Greys and Highlanders firing (13 pieces), and 237-S Foot Guards (7 pieces) were included. These Second-Grade sets were listed at the wholesale price of \$7.20 per dozen, half the price of the First-Grade line, or \$14.40 per dozen for the larger Set 232-S. A cryptic entry in the Price Schedule is "Collector Figures, \$3 to \$14.50 each (List on Request)". Which manufacturer's line this refers to can only be a matter of conjecture and speculation.

Their 12-page catalog also proposed that "this catalog is available with your imprint for \$50 per thousand. Minimum quantity, 500 at \$27.50." Several retailers, including the renowned Gimbels Department Store of Milwaukee, followed up on this offer and presented parts of the Midwest British Importers' catalog as their own for mail orders. The address given in the 12-page catalog issued by Midwest British Importers is 618 West National Avenue, Milwaukee 4, Wisconsin. The catalog features classic advertising jargon: "A mere flip of the pages that follow will show the variety and scope of our new collection of miniatures, so enthusiastically welcomed by collectors of all ages. Each series offers a wide divergence of sets and individual pieces for countless play combinations.



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The front page of the catalog consists of Britains Set 1330, Royal Engineers Limbered Wagon retailing for \$3.75; Artillery pieces 1201, 1725, and 2026; and four Gama wind-up tanks "imported from the U.S. Zone of Germany" and ranging in price from \$1.25 (for a midget tank) to \$6.50 (for an colossal tank 7½ inches long, 4½ inches wide, and 4 inches high). Page 2 contains ten Johillco sets of the Union and Confederate armies at a retail price of \$1.95 for 6-piece or 7-piece single row sets and \$3 for 12-piece display sets. The third catalog page presents eleven "Historical Coaches" from the firms of F.G. Taylor or A. Barrett ranging from a Governess Cart for 75 cents to a charming Brewer's Dray with six beer barrels and a Watney's Ale sign for \$3. On page 4 are found more Taylor and Barrett items, including a Dutch-style windmill, a Blacksmith with anvil and forge shoeing a horse, and Zoo animal rides, as well as the TIMPO Big Game Tiger Hunt with two elephants with howdahs for \$7.95, and TIMPO farm and zoo sets plus a six-piece set of "My Pet" dogs. Page 5 contains Johillco "Infantry in Action" for fighting World War II, with ten single-row sets retailing for \$1.50, plus a beachhead made of masonite with gun emplacements and trenches measuring 18 inches by 10 inches by 6½ inches which included 12 Johillco khaki soldiers selling for \$5. Fifteen different single-row boxes of Johillco infantry encompassing Royal Navy sailors, Welsh Fusiliers, Highlanders, Evzones, U.S. Military Police with truncheons, West Point Cadets and U.S. Marines—all retailing for \$1.50

MIDWEST BRITISH IMPORTERS OF MILWAUKEE (Cont.)

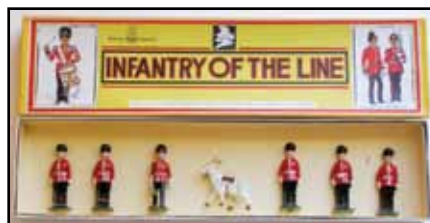
could be found on Page 6. A wide range of TIMPO Wild West sets of Cowboys and Indians containing 7 pieces for \$1.50 or \$1.75, single "Picture Packs" of Cowboys and Indians on foot for 50 cents each, and an 18-inch long wooden replica of storefronts along the "Main Street of the town of Golden Gulch" constitute the offerings on Pages 7 and 8. The 9th and 10th pages of the catalog feature larger Johillco sets: a 20-piece British Guards band, a 9-piece Crusaders set, a 13-piece unit of Guards in Winter Dress (comparable to Britains Set #429), a 6-piece set of Arabs on camels with their rifles raised above their heads, a 7-piece Beefeaters set along with 6 ravens, a Roman arena display set consisting of 6 Romans with shields and raised swords, two chariots confronting two lions, a leopard, a tiger and a black panther. The Roman set retailed for \$10, although a wooden tower and drawbridge guarded by 8 crusaders only cost \$5. Page 11, the penultimate page, includes a Johillco railroad station set of 11 pieces for \$2.50 as well two fairly simple Triang castles for \$5 and \$10, respectively. The final page of the catalog shows five artillery pieces made by Astra: the Fort Gun for \$2, a six-barrel rocket launcher for \$6.95, a twin-barrel pompom gun for \$7.95, a small Anti-Aircraft Gun for \$5, and a larger 3.7 inch Anti-Aircraft Gun with a 9-inch long barrel for \$10.95. These retail prices were all subject to a 40% discount for the shops and stores buying from the Midwest British Importers catalog. The catalog I purchased had an address label for Colonial Hobbies in Asbury Park, New Jersey.

An article dated September 18, 1949 from a Milwaukee newspaper reveals the man who started and ran Midwest British Importers. He was M.D. Orum, born in Manchester, England. His family migrated to the United States in 1927. Before founding his firm, Orum was a merchandise manager for a major department store in Milwaukee (not identified in the article, but the major department stores there were The Boston Store, Chapmans, Gimbels, and Schusters). The 1949 article emphasizes that Orum's company had an



Midwest British Importers Brewer's Dray/Taylor & Barrett

arrangement with Hambro Trading Company of America that facilitated the payment of U.S. dollars to British firms and a war-ravaged economy that badly needed American funds to help its balance-of-payments deficit and to repay American loans during the War years. The Hambro Company was established by Hambros Bank in England to pay British manufacturers in British Pounds, but then take payment from U.S. buyers in American dollars instead of using the prevalent letter-of-credit system. Periodically, dollars would be remitted to England through the Hambros Bank in London. The 1949 newspaper article mentions that Orum "has placed substantial orders for hand painted lead cowboys and Indians and farm animals," and the photograph accompanying the article shows him holding two Britains figures: a Greek Evzone from Set 196 and a mounted Indian from Set 152. It is hard to say when Midwest British Importers wound down its business, but I knew Don Darneider, a long-time Milwaukee collector, back in the 1970s, and he told me that he bought many of his Britains, Johillco, and TIMPO sets directly from Midwest British Importers during the 1960s—perhaps after Orum's retirement. Judging from the number of Midwest British Importers boxes that show up, Orum ran a pretty successful business during the 1950s.



Midwest British Importers Box Art with post war Johillco Figures



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Britains Royal Horse Artillery at Halt



Courtenay # H1 Sir John Lord Beaumont Mounted, Signed By Richard Courtenay, Condition Excellent \$300-\$500.



Gosso Tinplate mobile artillery truck with 2 troops and mobile search light truck (electric) Both clockwork Excellent condition 4 pieces \$500-800



Frontline Glenn Miller's United States Air Force Band 2 boxes Excellent condition with box 50 pieces \$400-600



Charbens Man Pulling Cart & Horse



Courtenay King Edward 1st presenting the Prince of Wales, Signed By Richard Courtenay, Condition Excellent \$400-\$600.



Britains Paint Sample Cards



King's Country Elvis Presley with stamp block Very Rare no box 1 piece \$800-1200



John Tunstall Drums and Bugle of The Royal Marines Excellent condition with box 1 broken arm 65 pieces \$500-800



Tippco Tinplate military ambulance with medical grouping Excellent condition 7 pieces \$500-800



Crescent RARE New York Police Mounted and Foot. Post War 5 Pieces. Tied in Original Box. Condition Excellent Box \$250-\$350.



Graham Farish Coronation Series 1952. Exceptionally Rare State Trumpeter Condition Excellent \$200-\$300.



Britains Blue Bird Record Car



Rare Rex 1937 Coronation Lion Mascot



Very Rare Flip the Frog



Britains Railton Wonder Record Car

AUCTION PREVIEW (Cont.)



Very Rare Britains Exploding Trench



Courtenay # M2 Earl of Pembroke with RARE Original box as Purchased From Charles Morrell retail establishment in Burlington Arcade, London, later Hummel's Condition near mint. \$600-\$800.



Courtenay # 8 Sir Thomas Wattenhale & Bertrand de la Tour - Duplex, Signed By Richard Courtenay, Condition Excellent \$600-\$800.



Spenkuch Rare Set 1090 Frederick the Great Guards with two black drummer boys. On original tie card and box bottom--no lid or sides. 23 Pieces, Condition: Near Mint \$2000-\$3000



Hausser/Elastolin German Army Communications motorcycle. Complete original. Excellent condition \$600-900



Tommy Toy Nursery Rhyme



Tippco Renault clockwork tinplate camouflage tank. Original treads Very good to excellent condition \$250-400



Spenkuch Medieval Knights. On original tie card--no box. 12 Pieces Condition Very Good \$200-\$300



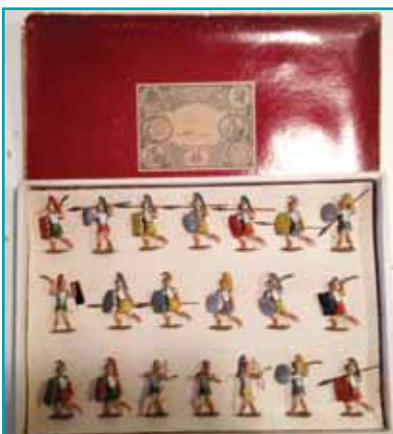
Lineal Troop carrier truck with canvas truck original truck original canopy 6 R. Krock figures Box is reproduction, replaced flag \$1000-1400



Vertunni Chasseur 'A Cheval Louis 16th Mounted Condition Excellent \$300-\$400.



Tippco Bomb dropping plane. No military markings. Repainted tail fins, one loose, incorrect bombs, reproduction pilot Good to very good condition \$700-900



Heyde Set 921 Romans on Foot in Original Box. 20 Pieces, Condition Excellent Box Very Good (missing edging on lid) \$400-\$600



Tippco Armoured command car tinplate clockwork. Complete original with driver Excellent condition \$600-1000



Courtenay H11 King of France, Signed By Richard Courtenay, Condition Excellent \$600-\$800.



Hausser/Elastolin Anti-aircraft truck with Wehrmacht troops clockwork and electric lights (rewired) Excellent condition 7 pieces \$900-1400



Unknown Maker Elephant Gatling Gun Team Very good to excellent condition. No box 1 leg of rider broken. 19 pieces \$150-200



Hausser/Elastolin Communications truck tinplate, communications. Complete with Morris Code Unit and operator. Excellent original condition \$1750-2500



Heyde Set 924 Romans Mounted and on Foot 16 Pieces, Condition Very Good (one shield detached) Box Good (missing edging on lid) \$400-\$600

AUCTION PREVIEW (Cont.)



Lot 1 Britains VERY RARE Set # 316 Kings Troop Royal Horse Artillery at Halt with Mounted Officer Pre War 9 Pieces. Unboxed. Condition Excellent \$1500-\$2000.



Courtenay # Captal De Bugh - Tournament Knight with RARE Original box as Purchased From Charles Morrell's retail establishment in Burlington Arcade, London, later Hummel's Condition near mint. \$800-\$1200.



Britains SCARCE Set # 236 Hunt Display Tied in Original Two Layer Box and lift out Tray. Post War 38 Pieces. Condition Excellent. Box Very Good (Split at one End) \$800-\$1200.



Charbens Andover Series EXCEPTIONALLY RARE MAJORETTES Tied in Original Illustrated Box. 4 Girls with Hands raised, One Girl with Baton and Girl With Megaphone. Post War 6 Pieces. Condition Excellent. Box Very Good, Descriptive label frayed \$2000-\$3000.



Vertunni 3 Figures including General Wellington (Third Right) Condition Excellent \$200-\$300.



Mignot Cook's Polar Expedition (diorama) Excellent condition Boxed. 51 pieces \$1500-2500



Charbens VERY RARE Hikers SET with Tent Pre War Unboxed. 5 Pieces. Seated and Walking Female Hikers, Reclining and Walking Male Hikers with Tent \$600-\$700.



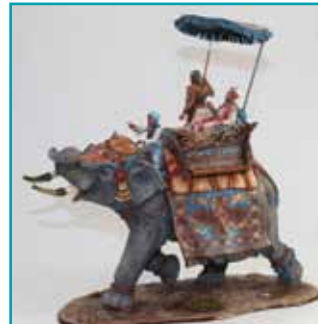
Argentine Manufacturer VERY RARE Arctic Sledge, Driver and 4 Huskies. Post War Unboxed. 6 Pieces and equipment on Sledge. Condition Excellent \$300-\$400



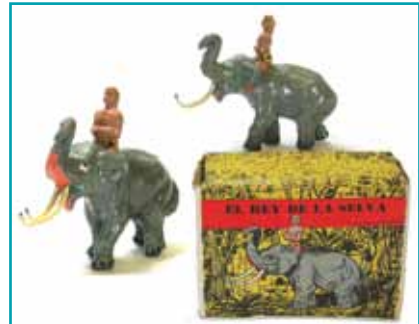
Star Soldiers Silk Road Elephant Excellent condition. 14 pieces \$300-500



St. Petersburg Russian War Elephant 70mm scale Excellent condition Painted to the Highest Standard 1 piece \$500-800



St. Petersburg Ceremonial Elephant 70mm Excellent condition No box. Painted to the highest Standard 1 piece \$500-800



Reyco Argentina VERY RARE TARZAN riding Elephant with Original Illustrated Box. Post War 1 piece. Condition Excellent Box Excellent \$500-\$700.



EG Toys/Argentina Manufacturer VERY RARE Tarzan Display Set Tied in Original Box with Animals and Tree. Post War 12 Pieces. \$500-\$600.



Lot 1 Ostrich carrying two Black Children- RARE Vienna Bronze. 1 Piece Unboxed. Condition Excellent \$300-\$350.



Mignot Alpine Diorama (3 tiers) Excellent condition (one broken rifle). 32 pieces \$800-1200



Timpo VERY RARE TARZAN and Hippopotamus with Original Illustrated Box. Post War. 2 Pieces. Condition Excellent Box Excellent \$400-\$600.

AUCTION PREVIEW (Cont.)



Selwyn Smith RARE Mounted Knight, Heraldry Unknown Post War Condition Very Good \$300-\$500.



Mignot Battle of Camerone 1863 (2 tier diorama) Excellent condition with box. 39 pieces \$600-800



Haffner American Cavalry with Bugler Pre War 15 Pieces. Condition Very Good \$400-\$600.



Britains VERY RARE Set # 1431 Army Co-operation Auto Giro and Pilot with Original Box Pre War 2 Pieces Condition Very Good, Box Very Good \$1000-\$1500.



Britains Set # 1426 St John's Ambulance Brigade with Original Box Pre War Untied 8 Pieces. Condition Very Good, Box Good (Label edge Frayed) \$800-\$1200.



Mignot French Cavalry Maneuvers (diorama) Good to excellent condition Boxed 2 horses missing tails, 1 horse broken tail, 1 horse broken foot, 1 soldier with broken spear with flag. 113 pieces \$1500-2500



Mignot 101 Arabian Knights Diorama Excellent condition 1 guards arm broken and crescent detached from overhang. 30 pieces with box. \$400-600



Britains Set # 2110 U.S. Military Band Full Dress - Unboxed. Post War 21 Pieces. Condition Excellent \$600-\$800.



Mignot Coronation of Napoleon Diorama Excellent condition with box (many attached with gummy adhesive, some paper tear on floor). 50 pieces \$500-700



Heyde Scarce Minstrel Band -Nodding Nipples / Souvenir items Pre War 5 Pieces. Condition Very Good \$500-\$800.



Courtenay Greenhill #22/22 Laird of McKennon bearing the Banner of Mackenzie Condition Excellent \$300-\$400.



Heyde Exceptionally Rare Nodding U.S. Artillery Officer 100 mm. Circa 1890 Condition Very Good. \$700-\$900.



Mignot Joan of Arc Storming the Castle (diorama) Excellent condition Boxed. 51 pieces \$600-800



Britains Exceptionally RARE Set # 1331 Royal Engineers Limbered Wagon Steel Helmet Version Issued 1940/41 Only Unboxed Pre War 4 Pieces Condition Excellent \$600-\$1000.



Britains VERY RARE Set # 1392 Cierva C30 Autogiro and Pilot Tied in Original Box Pre War 2 Pieces. Condition Very Good (slight Paint Scratches) Box Good (Lid Split at 2 Corners) \$1500-\$2500.



Britains VERY RARE Set # 318 Royal Artillery Active Service at The Halt with Mounted Officer, Standing and Kneeling Gunners with Original Box Pre War Issued 1929-1933 only 17 Pieces. Condition Very Good. Box Poor (Ends missing and end of lid gone, corners split.) \$1500-\$2500.



Britains Set # 434 Royal Air Force Monoplane, Pilot and 6 Aircraftmen with Original Aircraft Hanger Box Pre War 8 Pieces. Condition Very Good, Box Very Good \$1500-\$2500.

AUCTION PREVIEW (Cont.)



Britains RARE Royal Marine Colour Party Hamley's Special. Pre War 7 Pieces Unboxed. Condition Very Good \$1200- \$1800. Provenance A.J Rolak



Courtenay # H2 Sir Walter Pavy Pembroke with RARE Original box as Purchased From Charles Morrell's retail Establishment in Burlington Arcade, London, later Hummel's Condition near mint. \$400-\$600



Courtenay Greenhill # Z 10 Jean de Chambes Condition Excellent \$200-\$300.



Mignot Felisc Faure (diorama)Boxed. 1 helmet crest broken. 79 pieces \$1500-2500



Heyde Scarce Rabbit Band -Nodding Nipples / Souvenir items Pre War 6 Pieces. Condition Very Good \$800-\$1200.



Britains Set # 134 Japanese Infantry RARE Dark Blue Version with Box & Non Original Tie - Pre War 8 Pieces. Condition Excellent. Box Excellent \$800-\$1200.



Britains RARE Set # 143 Matelots Tied in Original Box Pre War. 8 Pieces. Condition Excellent. Box Excellent (Frayed at edges, Tie Card not original. Part of Descriptive End Label Torn) \$800-\$1200.



Marlborough Durbar Camel Drummer with Original Box. 3 Pieces. Condition Excellent Box Excellent \$150-\$250



Britains Set # 1521 Royal Air Force Bi Plane and Pilot with Hanger style Box with Original Box Pre War 2 Pieces Condition Very Good, Box Very Good \$1500-\$2500.



Mignot Napoleon's Wurst Wagon and others Good to very good condition no box. 24 pieces \$200-250



Wm Hocker Royal Engineers Balloon Section Set #1 Very good to excellent condition with box. 15 pieces \$300-400



Heinrich British Guardsmen including Flag Bearer & Bugler, Approx 60 mm with Original Wooden sliding top box and packaging, Box marked 1890 in pencil on back of box cover 11 Pieces. Condition Very Good, Box Very Good. \$800-\$1200.



Britains Set # 460 Scots Guards Colour Party with Original Box Pre War 7 Pieces Condition Good (One Head repaired) Box Good (Frayed Edges to Lid and 2 Splits- No Tie Card) \$600-\$800.



Britains RARE Set # 322 Coldstream Guards Drum and Fife Band with Escort with Original Box Pre War 25 Pieces. Condition Excellent, Box Fair (Edges of lid missing and box split at 4 Corners) \$800-\$1200.



Britains Set # 211 Royal Field Artillery 10 Horse Gun Team with Original Box. Pre War 21 Pieces. Condition Very Good (One Helmet Ball Missing) Some Shells included. Box Fair (Sides Split and Detached, One end of lid missing and Corners Split) \$1500-\$2500.



Courtenay Earl of Wiltshire Tournament Knight with RARE Original box as Purchased From Charles Morrell's retail Establishment in Burlington Arcade, London, later Hummel's Condition near mint. \$600-\$800.

AUCTION PREVIEW

SPECIAL AUCTION SERVICES The Peter Flatau Collection

S.A.S. will offer rare items from the private collection of Peter Flatau on Tuesday, July 16th, 2013.

Mr. Flatau is well known for his stall in London's Portobello Road and his inventory was previously sold at Special Auction Services. See accompanying ad in this issue.



Rare Britains 1939



Previously undiscovered J Hill Austrians

Rare Britains 1939



Teddy Tail and Dr. Beetle by Pixyland/Kew



Britains Tower of the Empire with original box.



Cenotaph by unknown manufacturer



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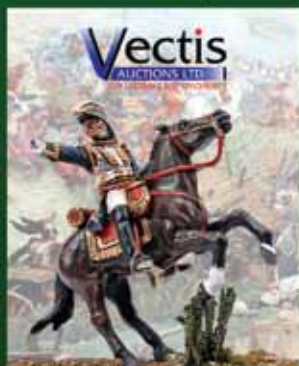
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A 380 lot sale highlights to include Boer Infantry and Cavalry, slotted arm Mounted Bands, PARIS OFFICE figures and wagon, RARE sets 253 Welsh Guards, 1831 Gun and Limber, 1896 RAMC, SPECIAL PAINTING Drums and Fifes of the Durham Light Infantry (lot 1050), Barrage Balloon with Anti-aircraft, 315 10th Hussars, 1721 Scots Greys, 1732 Army Hut, 2093 Band of the Royal Berkshire Regiment, 1722 Drum and Pipe Bands of the Scots Guards (two versions). RARE Farm set 111F with Buildings (lot 1103), PREVIOUSLY UNKNOWN 8H Seated Terrier (lot 1113), RARE CBG Mignot Arctic Exploration four tier Diorama Set circa 1908, Heyde War Elephants (1208), Fall of Troy (parts), Triumph of Germanicus. Also over 100 boxed sets of Britains hollowcast with as many more unboxed. Royalty, Coaches, Delhi Durbar, Artillery, full dress Household Cavalry, Dragoon Guards, Dragoons, Hussars and Lancers, Military Bands, Foot Guards, Highlanders, Infantry, Rifles and Fusiliers, The British Empire, Armies of the World, American Civil War, Vehicles and Guns. Plenty of interesting lots of broken figures, repainted and converted items including Prussian Army by Freddie Green. Britains, Timpo, Heyde, Composition, CBG Mignot and New Toy Soldiers.

Illustrated: Lot 1103, 1113, 1050, 1208.

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COLLECTIBLE SYROCO FIGURINES

By Stan Alekna

During the years when we were building our Dimstore soldier collection, we traveled to many toy soldier, toy and antique shows, antique malls and auctions and would occasionally see some wood-like figures that dealers said were "syroco". They intrigued me but there was virtually no information available on them and certainly no "O'Brien book" on syrocos. By talking with dealers and meeting syroco collectors, I gradually developed contacts, pieced together what information I could find and began collecting these interesting figures. I sold our Dimstore collection several years ago but I still have my syroco collection that numbers over 200 figures. In a recent conversation with Norman Joplin, I mentioned that I would be selling my syroco collection and after I told him more about it, he suggested that I share the information about this niche of collecting with the OTS readers while I could still photograph the figures, so here it is.

The word "syroco" is a trade name acronym of the **Syracuse Ornamental Company** of Syracuse, New York, that operated from 1908 until 2005. The company was well known for casting a wide range of decorative furnishings and house wares using a formula of wood flour and polymers and their finished products closely resembled carved wood. The reason for this appearance is that the original mold masters were in fact hand carved by skilled artisans from wood blanks. Their product line was quite broad and ranged from wall plaques, small cigarette boxes, cork screws, paperweights, and pen holders to very large, ornate picture and mirror

frames to highly detailed room moldings and even casket decorations. Eventually, they coined the name "SyrocoWood" and began applying a foil label to their products embossed with this name and the name of their company. .

Totally unrelated to the Syracuse Ornamental Company, a company was established in Chicago in the early 1940's by the name of Multi-Products Inc., not to be confused with the Molded Products composition, toy soldier maker. Multi-Products began making figurines of characters from the ever-popular Pinocchio story for Walt Disney. Multi-Products also had their original mold master figures hand carved from wood so the finished figures had the same carved wood look of syroco. To my knowledge, no one has ever chemically compared the casting compound used by the Syracuse Company and Muti-Products to determine if Multi-Products copied the Syracuse company's formula or developed one of their own. Although Multi-Products cast their name into each figure, people still called them "syroco" and the name stuck, similar to the generic names of xerox and kleenex.

All seven of the main Pinocchio characters; Pinocchio, Geppetto, Jiminy Cricket, Lampwick, Giddy, Honest John, and Figaro the cat, were made in three sizes; 2-inch (the most common), 5-inch and 7-inch. The character's name was cast into the front of the base and the back of the base was marked with a copyright "C" " WALT DISNEY PROD MULTI-PRODUCTS CHICAGO". While all figures were made in each size,



Three GI's in Jeep 3" X 3-1/2" Paper Weight



SyrocoWood Label

COLLECTIBLE SYROCO FIGURINES (Cont.)

the poses were not necessarily the same for all three sizes. There are four different poses of Pinocchio and Geppetto probably because they were the two main characters in the story.

mailing box. A rare, surviving original box is pictured. These figures were also sold in five and dime and variety stores.



Two-inch Pinocchio series



Four Geppetto Figures

A set of three 3-1/4" X 5-3/4" Pinocchio syroco wall plaques, table lamps, and other Pinocchio related accessories for children's rooms became popular at this time because that was when Disney's Pinocchio movie debuted. Prices today range from \$375 for the largest Pinocchio to \$300 each for the wall plaques and \$85 for a 2-inch Giddy, in near mint condition. As in all collectibles, condition is everything and syroco is brittle and will chip if abused.

In 1944, Multi-Products began making figures of contemporary comic strip characters under license with King Features Syndicated, Inc. (KFS). The five inch tall figures had the name of the character cast into the front of the base and the copyright "C" and "K.F.S. 1944" cast into the back of the base. Some of the figures were offered through magazine ads that advised that a figure could be purchased for 25 cents and the top from a Pillsbury Farina cereal box. The figures were shipped in a corrugated, cardboard sleeve that was inserted into a colorful, illustrated,



Set of Three Wall Plaques

COLLECTIBLE SYROCO FIGURINES (Cont.)



KFS Figure Shipping Box



PHANTOM



FLASH GORDON

Here are the twenty-four KFS figures made by Multi-Products, listed in the order of their value. Those with known color variations are so indicated.

1. PHANTOM in purple & brown
2. FLASH GORDON
3. TOOTS
4. TILLIE as a WAC
5. OLIVE OYL
6. BLONDIE in a red & blue dress
7. MAGGIE of Jiggs & Maggie
8. PRINCE VALLIANT
9. ANNIE ROONEY
10. ROSIE
11. LITTLE KING
12. POPEYE
13. TIM TYLER as a sailor
14. BARNEY GOOGLE as a sailor
15. ARCHIE as a soldier
16. ALEXANDER Bumstead as a Boy Scout
17. COOKIE in a red & blue dress
18. CASPER
19. CAPTAIN of Katzenjammer
20. DAGWOOD in black & brown trousers
21. FRITZ of Katzenjammer
22. HANS of Katzenjammer
23. JIGGS with and w/o cigar
24. WIMPY of Popeye



TILLIE



ARCHIE

COLLECTIBLE SYROCO FIGURINES (Cont.)



The Bumsteads

The syroco name carried over to their KFS figures and is still used to describe them today. Prices range from around \$1,500 for the PHANTOM to \$750 for FLASH GORDON to \$75 for the smaller figures of children like COOKIE, FRITZ and HANS. The adult female figures sell for \$375 or more because so many have been repaired at their ankles since they are so thin and easily broken at this point. Professionally repaired, rare figures are still very collectible but sell for much reduced prices. The astounding increase in value of these KFS figures, from their 25-cent original price, is far greater than the increase in value of most toy soldiers, primarily because so few KFS figures were made.

Another highly collectible set of syroco figurines is the GREAT AMERICAN SERIES. These six inch tall statues, with the exception of the soldier and sailor, have their name on the front of the base in capital letters and a copyright "C", a large "A" and "1941" on the back of the base. The complete set of eleven figures includes:

Abe LINCOLN
General MACARTHUR
Ben FRANKLIN
Peter STUYVESANT
BUFFALO BILL
Teddy ROOSEVELT
DIAMOND JIM Brady
George WASHINGTON

WILL ROGERS in a red and a brown jacket

A caricature of a salty sailor (No name on front)

A caricature of a tough 1st sergeant (No name on front)

I'm not sure how Peter Stuyvesant, the governor of New Netherlands (New York) in 1612, qualified for membership in this famous group but he did have a

cool wooden leg. Also the New York millionaire of the 1900's, Diamond Jim Brady, seems out of place in this gallery. However, I was happy to see that the maker regarded soldiers and sailors as GREAT AMERICANS. Prices for all GREAT AMERICAN figures are generally the same and range from \$150 to \$175 depending on condition. The maker has never been positively identified but most syroco collectors believe that Multi-Products made them.



Washington



Lincoln



Soldier



Sailor

COLLECTIBLE SYROCO FIGURINES (Cont.)

Figural syroco thermometers, with a chemically treated section that changed color with the weather and served as a poor mans barometer, were quite popular in the 1940's and 50's. I have never seen one marked with a manufacturers name but most syroco collectors assume that Multi-Products made most if not all of them.



Syroco Thermometers

Multi-Products made other interesting syroco statues that served as recognition or appreciation pieces for those employers who solicited their employees on behalf of the old Community Chest charity that later became the United Fund and United Appeal. Most of these seven-inch tall figures contain the year of manufacture and MULTI PROD INC. on the back of the base, and most also had a foil label on the front of the base embossed with "COMMUNITY CHEST" or "UNITED FUND", the year, and "CAMPAIGN AWARD". The glue that held these labels in place dried over the years and caused many of the labels to be lost. Some figures had a tiny hole in their head into which a small red feather, the traditional symbol of the campaign, was inserted. Every contributor to the charity, even school children, was rewarded with a small red feather that they proudly displayed on their shirts, blouses and jackets. PETER PAN was selected as the figure of the year for several years; the old Kentucky Colonel for three years, CHARLIE BROWN for two years in two different poses, JIMINY CRICKET, WILL ROGERS and most others only held the spotlight for a single year. Prices range from \$35 for PETER PAN to \$95 for WILL ROGERS, CHARLIE BROWN and other single year figures. The figures in my collection span from 1946 to 1966 and a few of them are pictured along with an old, red feather.



Syroco COMMUNITY CHEST AWARDS

A large number of syroco figures were made by the Syracuse Ornamental Company and Multi-Products, depicting a wide range of subjects from Boy Scout memorabilia, animals, caricatures, advertising pieces and more but a great many are not marked in any way. Pictured are some of my favorite miscellaneous syroco pieces. None are marked except as indicated.

SENATOR SNORT cartoon character marked "C 1953 FIELD ENT." (the company that owned the rights to the cartoon character) 6-1/2"; advertising piece for Louisiana Coffee, marked "FAMOUS LOUISIANA MAMMY, 6-1/2"; soldier at attention, 6"; sailor at ease, 5-1/2"; "Pilot" in cold weather flight gear, marked in script on the front, 5-1/2"; ash tray with the nose and wings of P-51's, 5" long; a beautifully detailed cigarette box with various battle scenes on each side and a combat soldier on the lid 4" X 5" Marked "1941 MULTI PRODUCTS CHICAGO"; a 6-1/2" tall bartender with a bottle opener in the base and a "SyrocoWood" foil label: and a 9" tall old nag with a lantern around it's neck that I think is neat.



Senator Snort



Famous Louisiana Mammy

COLLECTIBLE SYROCO FIGURINES (Cont.)



Soldier



Sailor



Airman



Ashtray



Cigarette Box



Bartender



Bartender Base with Bottle Opener



Old Nag

Prices vary widely on these miscellaneous pieces with advertising and military figures bringing around \$125 and the bartender, \$65. Small syroco animals and caricature figures sell for as little as \$5.

Well that's the story and I hope you found it interesting. While there may have been some smaller companies that made syroco-like items, the Syracuse Ornamental Company and Multi-Products made the vast majority of them. You may see the words *sirocco* or *syrocco* (with an extra "c") used in describing syroco items but these are simply innocent spelling errors and do not refer to a different compounding material or company. Perhaps as you travel around in

your search for toy soldiers you may run across some of these most interesting figures from the 1940's and 50's. But be careful...you could get hooked on them and most of them take a lot more display space than a three-inch toy soldier.

If you are interested in receiving a sale listing of my syroco figures, call, write or email me with your name and address.

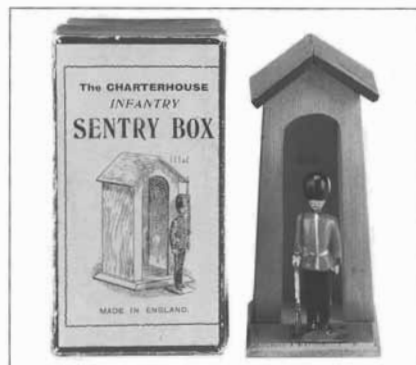
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While Britains are included to a certain extent the main focus is on the other makers of the period. Volume 2 which will be available in 2012 will concentrate solely on Britains advertisements of the same period and beyond.

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.

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Tony Borges / Florian Winckel

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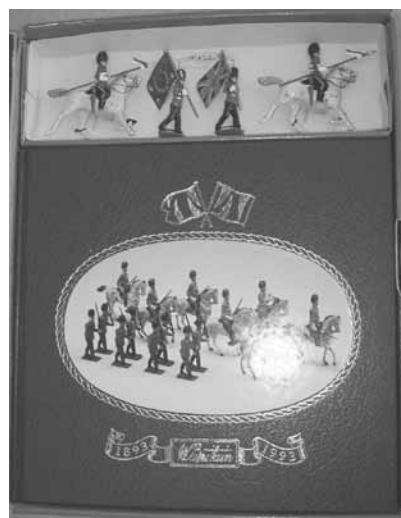
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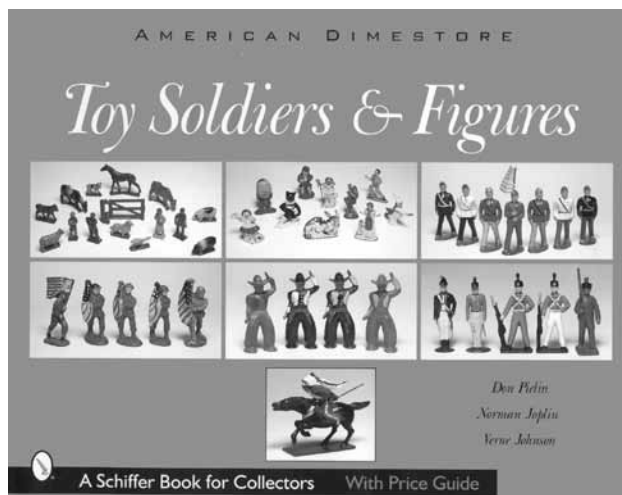


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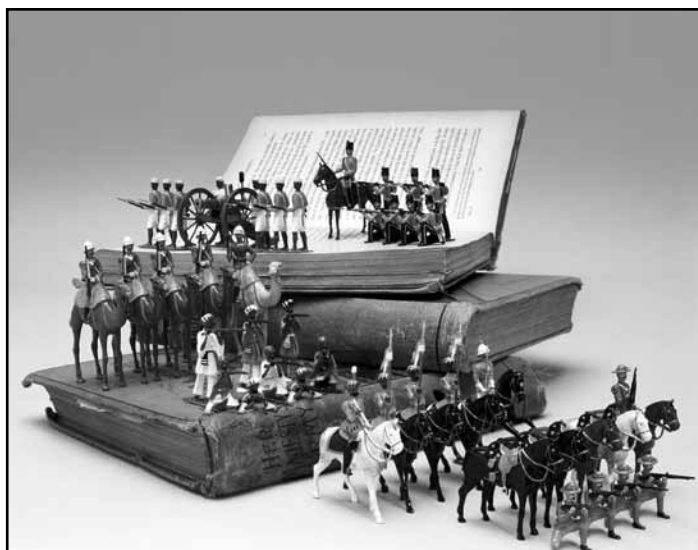
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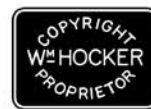
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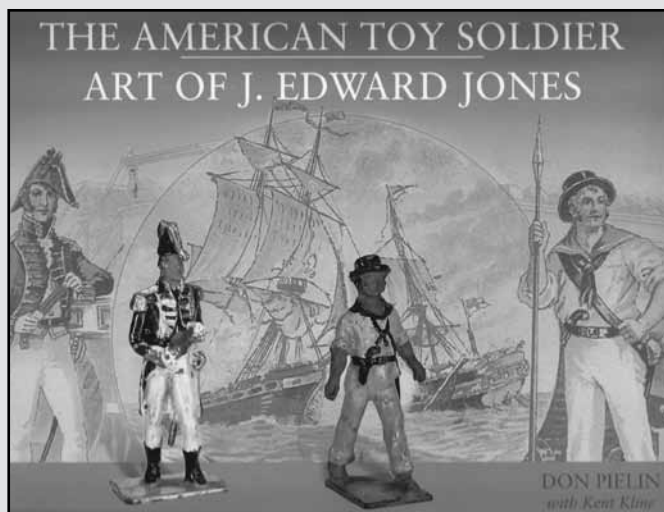
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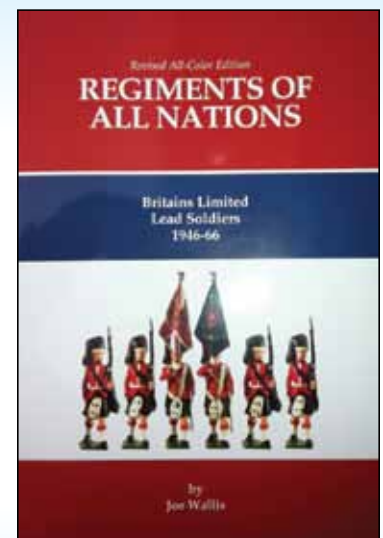


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TARZAN

By Don Pielin



Timpo Tarzan, Hippopotamus and Original Box

Tarzan was born, so to speak, on the pages of the October 1912, issue of *All Story* magazine, one of the many pulp adventure publications available at the time. It was unusual in that the entire book was published in a single issue. It was entitled "Tarzan of the Apes" and created a sell out issue. The author was the then unknown writer, Edgar Rice Burroughs. Burroughs, himself, was born in Chicago in 1875, one of 5 sons of Civil War veteran, Major George Tyler Burroughs. Raised in the suburb of Oak Park, his schooling was somewhat scattered as his parents moved him around to avoid the various epidemics spreading through large cities near the end of the nineteenth century. He did eventually graduate from the Michigan Military Academy and applied for admission to West Point. When he failed the entrance exam, he enlisted in the army, requested a posting to the cavalry and found himself in the famed 7th Cavalry, of Custer fame. After a few years of chasing renegade Apaches around Arizona (and never catching any), Burroughs was discharged because of health issues. He returned home and went to work for his father in the battery business, married and had 2 children. Striking out on his own, Burroughs was a failure at almost everything he tried; his strong suit was his imagination, which wasn't a very saleable commodity in the business world. He now found himself broke with few resources to help him out of his situation.

Edgar Rice Burroughs tried his hand at writing for the pulp magazines because as he put it "if people were paid for writing rot such as I read in some of those magazines that I could write stories just as rotten.

As a matter of fact, although I had never written a story, I knew absolutely that I could write stories just as entertaining and probably a whole lot more so than any I chanced to read in those magazines" With the success of his stories on the pulp press, his first stand alone book was published in 1914, *Tarzan of the Apes* is still in print. Hence an American icon was born, 26 of his Tarzan stories were published as books, over seventy movies were made from his stories, and countless collectibles have been produced based on the Tarzan character.

There were numerous paper and cardboard representations of Tarzan available from the onset of the book's publication. Possibly the first toy figure of Tarzan was a premium from the Foulds Pasta Company of Libertyville, Illinois, dating from sometime in the 1930's. The set included not only Tarzan, but also several other characters as well as animals in a hollow cast white ceramic material, meant to be painted by the child who sent away for the set.

Although the first Tarzan movie was made in 1918, starring Elmo Lincoln, it was the movies of the 1940's and 50's that spurred the production of toy figures. Johnny Weissmuller, the former Olympian, and Buster Crabbe in the lead role wowed the kids of the era. It is from this period that most of these toys came.

The Timpo, Reyco and EG/Toys sets will all be featured in the upcoming Old Toy Soldier Auction on Saturday, June 22, 2013.

TARZAN (Cont.)



Plastic Tarzans by Mattel



Argentine lead copies of Marx Plastic Warriors of the World converted from Apache Indians.



EG Toys/Argentina



French Plastic by Jim

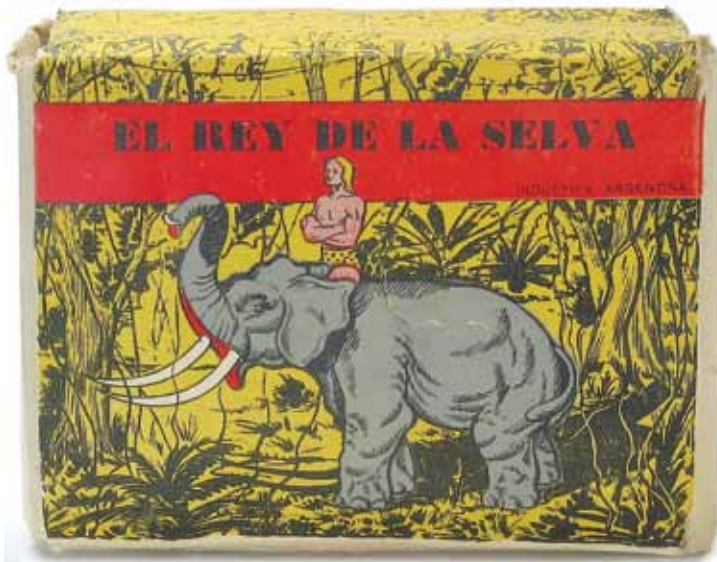
TARZAN (Cont.)



The Factory of Foulds Macaroni.

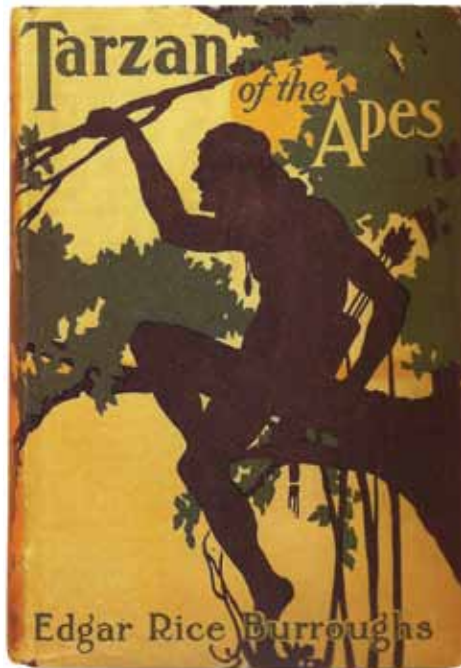


Foulds Macaroni advertising Premium Tarzan.

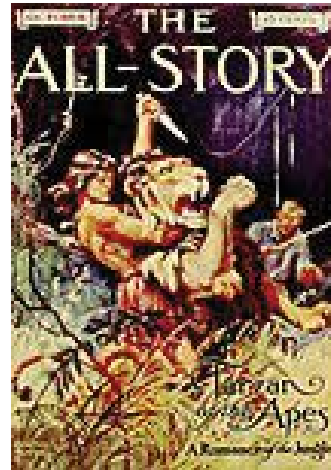


Reyco/Argentina Tarzan, Elephant and Original Box.

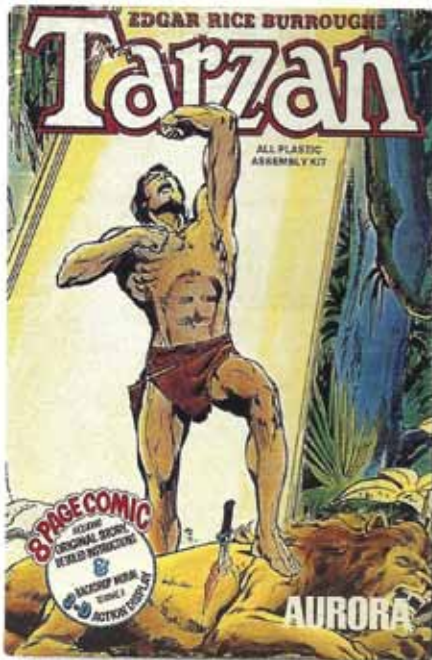
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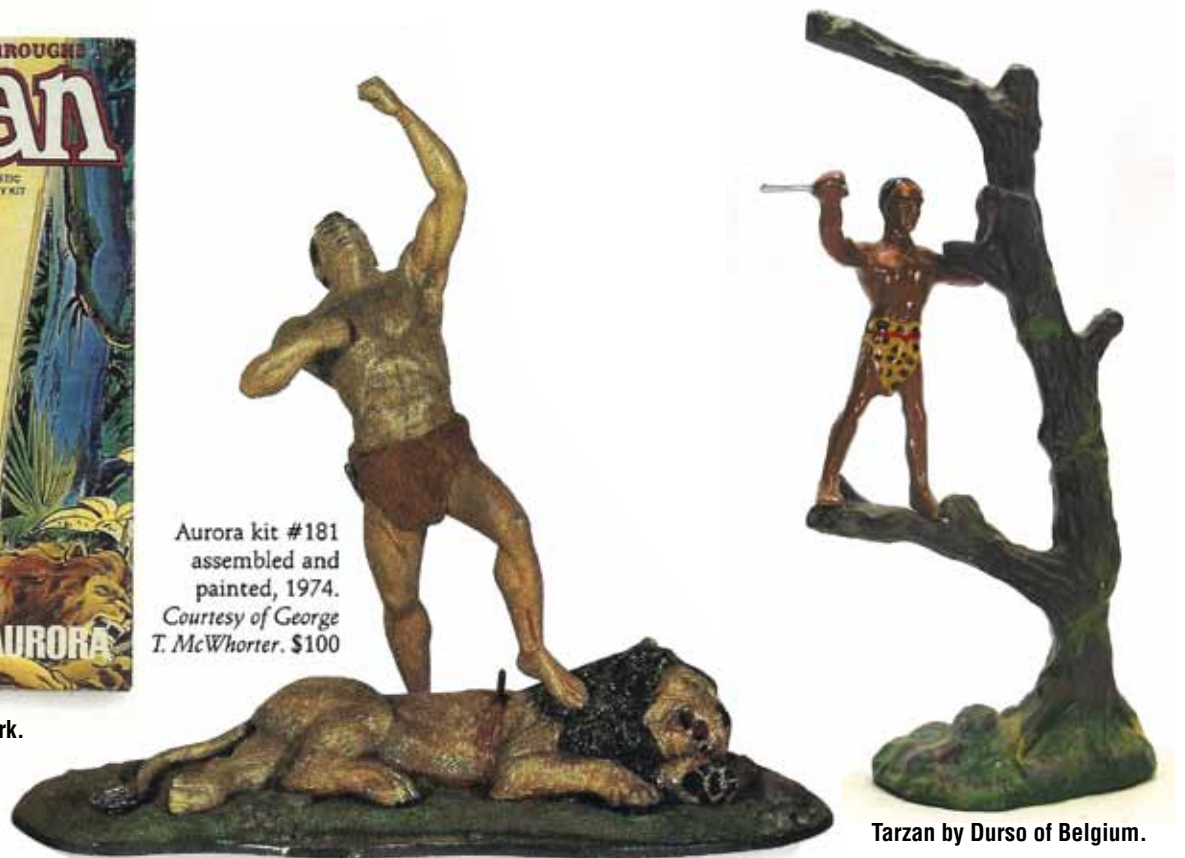
Tarzan book covers.



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Aurora Kit Box artwork.



Aurora kit #181
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SHOW REPORT

19th Annual South Florida Toy Soldier Show

On January 26th on a beautiful winter Florida day, the Alexanders, father Jim, son James and I took our short drive across Florida, dog-legging around Lake Okeechobee (Seminole for "Bigwater") to Lake Worth, for the Annual South Florida Club Show. Again I was not disappointed. Last year, I mentioned the number of older Dimestore and other vintage items available at this large regional club show. This year was no exception.

Like other club-sponsored shows, the day-before dealer setup is a most attractive feature. It gives plenty of time for a leisurely table setup, getting re-acquainted with old friends and of course, often buying the goodies. The South Florida Club allows a whole half day for this and tops it off with a free - repeat, FREE - Italian dinner, served to 60 people by Chef Tony Angelo and crew, on site.

This year's show, like recent ones, was a sellout with 50 plus dealers and 150 tables. Regular show dealers like Hobby Bunker, The Marxman, Dutkin's Collectibles and Crown Miniatures made the trip South and had their usual multi-table array of many current makers. It's always good to see all my long-time friends like Hank Horn and Alan Gwin.

To my great surprise, close buddies Steve Snyder and Marvin Pontiff (Capt. USCG, Ret.) drove down from Charleston to sell goodies from their collections.



Steve Snyder and Captain Marvin Pontiff (USCG Ret.) from the South Carolina Military Miniatures Society came all the way from Charleston

As usual, at this show, Dimestore and other vintage soldiers and toys were available as aging guys cull out their collections. I got some great figures, including several mint Auburn Rubber and Manoils from my Venice, Florida neighbor, Richard Walker and another gentleman. Ten scarce Lineol composition SA men were grabbed up at a price under ten dollars each!

Show co-chairman, John Lesinski and Mike Skurda reported paid attendance at 350 plus. Like most show reports these days, with money tight, attendees appear to be more cautious in their purchases. This was, all in all, a terrific show. Next year's 20th anniversary event founded by Frank Burns, all those years ago, will be held on January 26, 2014 at the same Lake Worth location.

Welcome South, brother!
Jack Matthews



Painted Figure Competition Entry



Tony Angelora - Chef Extraordinaire

SHOW REPORT (Cont.)



Regular show dealer Alan Gwin and wife.
The Central Florida Cattle Rancher.



Best of Show Winner - John Lohla



View of main show room



Another John Lesinski Creation!



Main show room



Figure competition entries

SHOW REPORT

24th Annual Westcoaster March 10, 2013

Woody Lambrith and Craig (Bubba) McClain once again provided toy soldier collectors and dealers with a superb event at the Irvine Marriott California. Snapshots of the pre-show room trading and show day illustrate the wealth of items available.



Helen Bailey, Ed Ruby



King and Country Diorama



John Cullen's room



Peter Clark - Roy Easton's room



Figarti room - Peter Wang



Checking out Scott Morlan's Boxed Britains



Bill Hocker, Bob O'Connell



Brian Cornall's and Clarke Volbrect's room

SHOW REPORT (Cont.)



Larry Simons - March Through Time



Woody Lambrith and Andy McClain



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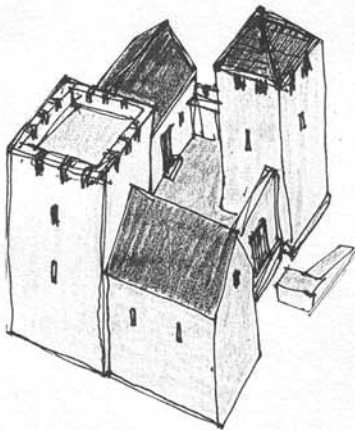


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KRIEGSMARINE MARCHING

By Vincent J. Russo & Patrice Servais

I. Preface

As part of his production coverage of World War II military figures, Michel Klimov, owner of The Durso Company of Liege Belgium, did indeed produce composition figures of the German Navy (Kriegsmarine). More about this later in the article.

II. Background

In 1919, the signing of the Treaty of Versailles, which officially ended World War I, set limits on the size and scope of future German Military Forces.

The Reichswehr, as this small military force was known, was established for defensive purposes only, and its size and composition was to be strictly controlled by the Allies in order to prevent future German aggression.

The total number of men in the Reichswehr was limited to 100,000 and was divided between a small Army, the Reichswehr, and a defensive Navy, the Reichsmarine.

This scenario remained in effect for fewer than 15 years, as the political climate in Germany was rapidly evolving.

III. Discussion

In 1933, under the leadership of Adolf Hitler, the National Socialist German Workers Party (NSDAP) emerged to take control of the country and the infamous Third Reich was formed.

Shortly thereafter, in 1935, came sweeping changes to the German Military that were initiated by the unilateral renouncing of the Treaty of Versailles by Germany.

The Armed Forces became known as the Wehrmacht, and rapidly expanded to include not only the Army, but also a Navy, now to be known as the Kriegsmarine, and a newly created Air Force, the Luftwaffe.

Kriegsmarine Standing



4510



4511



4525



4526

KRIEGSMARINE MARCHING (Cont.)

IV. Kriegsmarine 1935 - 1945 (World War II)

In May of 1935, under the Third Reich, the Kriegsmarine was established and grew rapidly, not only in the number of ships and men, but in the scope of its influence. In just a few years, its makeup consisted of three main components:

1. The Kriegsmarine boasted a fleet of “thousands of ships”, including its highly effective and dreaded U-Boat contingent.

2. The Ground Forces of the Kriegsmarine provided a massive network of large Naval Guns, and other artillery units, that wielded much influence along the Atlantic and all across Western and Eastern Europe.

3. Naval Infantry Forces, Communications and Engineering Units completed the third component of the Kriegsmarine structure.

Kriegsmarine Marching



4551



4555



4575



4552



4556



4576

KRIEGSMARINE MARCHING (Cont.)

V. Conclusion

During the period of World War II, over 1 1/2 million military personnel served in the Kriegsmarine alone.

Although its Naval Force never equalled that of the Royal Navy of Great Britain, the effectiveness of the Kriegsmarine did present a large measure of concern to the Allies until 1944 when Allied Naval and Air Forces essentially destroyed the entire German High Seas Fleet and U-Boat Force.

Although small “shore boats” and other auxiliary vessels continued to function during the waning days of World War II, the threat and influence of the German Navy was over (kaput).

In August of 1946, the Kriegsmarine, after an existence of slightly over 11 years, was officially disbanded by the Allied Control Commission.

Kriegsmarine Musicians and Flag Bearers



4501



4503



4579



4502



4504



4580

KRIEGSMARINE MARCHING (Cont.)

VI. Durso and The Kriegsmarine

Our Readers may recall that in previous issues of Old Toy Soldier Magazine we featured composition figures made by Durso of the Dutch Navy (vol. 35, no. 3) and the French Navy (vol. 36, no. 2)

Now with the German Navy, the coverage of Durso production of World War II Naval figures is complete.

At the request of a collector, a 16 figure Kriegsmarine series was produced in Michel Klimov's home in the mid to late 1970's (after the Durso factory had closed its doors in 1972). As long as he had the molds fabricated, Mr. Klimov decided to make a limited amount of these figures to sell to other collectors. In a departure from his design in the latter part of the factory production, Klimov decided to make the Kriegsmarine figures with a rectangular base (rather than oval) in order to be similar to the Lineol Kriegsmarines.

Since the last "catalog" to be published by Durso was in 1961, this Kriegsmarine Series was never officially cataloged by the company and given an "ID Number". However, as an aid to all collectors, a "new number series" was created by knowledgeable collectors in Belgium utilizing the first digit "4", which Durso reserved for German figures.

VII. Appreciation

As always, the authors wish to express our sincere appreciation to "Old Toy Soldier" magazine for the opportunity to showcase Belgian made composition figures.

VIII. Acknowledgement

Photos by Veronique Servais

IX. Editors 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 51 of this issue.

This new numbers chart is depicted below:

Kriegsmarine Standing

<u>Description</u>	<u>Number</u>
Sailor on Guard, white	4510
Sailor on Guard, blue	4511
Officer with white kep.	4525
Officer with blue kep.	4526

Kriegsmarine Marching

<u>Description</u>	<u>Number</u>
Sailor with rifle on shoulder, white	4551
Sailor with rifle on shoulder, blue	4552
Sailor with slung rifle, white	4555
Sailor with slung rifle, blue	4556
Officer with drawn sword, white kep.	4575
Officer with drawn sword, blue kep.	4576

Kriegsmarine Musicians and Flagbearers

<u>Description</u>	<u>Number</u>
Drummer, white	4501
Drummer, blue	4502
Bugler, white	4503
Bugler, blue	4504
Flagbearer, white	4579
Flagbearer, blue	4580



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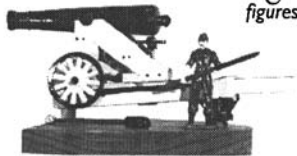
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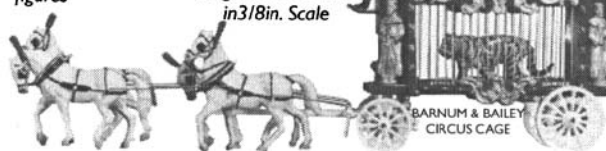
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Contact: Dennis Fontana, Tel: 803-419-6747; email: fintana@sentry-box.com

**August 31 - Saturday. Norman Joplin's Old Toy Soldier Show. London Holiday Inn Bloomsbury
Contact info@normanjoplin.com 262 692 3913.**

**September 22nd - Sunday. OTSN Annual Show Year 33. Hyatt Regency, Schaumburg.
Contact Don Pielin dimestores@aol.com See ad in this issue.**

October 20 - Sunday Columbus Ohio Toy Soldier Show- see ad in this issue
Contact Rod Chapman 740-924-2531

November 2 - Saturday The Toy Soldier Museum Open House and Cellar Sale
Contact Jim Hillestad for road closure details and directions 570-629-7227

November 3 - Sunday. 31st Annual East Coast Toy Soldier Show, Hackensack, NJ
Contact Bill Lango www.Eastcoasttoysoldiersshow.com

**November Old Toy Soldier Auctions USA. Date to be announced. Contact Ray Haradin raytoys@aol.com
1-800-349-8009 or Norman Joplin 262-692-3912 info@normanjoplin.com www.oldtoysoldierauctions.com**

*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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*Tradition have now closed our Mayfair London shop and all future orders can be obtained direct via our mail order service or via one of our agents.
Production will still be in England, mail order will be from the Stockholm office.*

Tradition Toy Soldiers are available in North America from the following dealers:

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