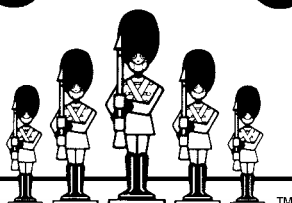


Fall
2003

The Journal for Collectors

Volume 27 Number 3
\$9.00

OLD TOY SOLDIER



***American Metal
Flamethrower Tank***



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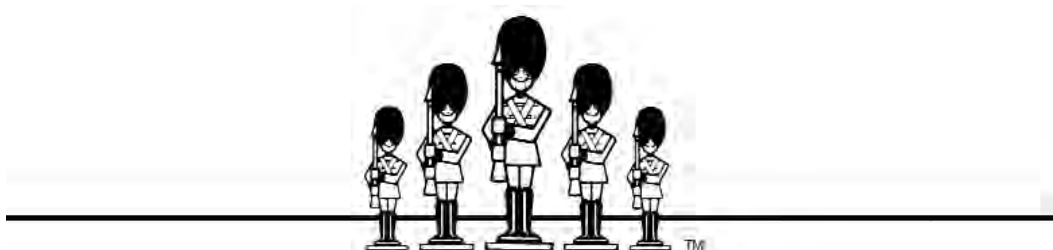
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ON THE COVER

American Metal Flamethrower Tank

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Summer Issue	June 10	August 10
Fall Issue	September 10	November 10
Winter Issue	December 10	February 10

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Nearby two other figures on horseback appear – a Chasseur a Cheval on escort duty and a Chasseur aide de camp.

Elsewhere a British Officer has been captured and is being interrogated. Among other new releases are three more 3rd Line Infantry Grenadiers.

On the British side, three Light Infantrymen of the 71st. Highlanders...one marching...another advancing and...a burly Pioneer corporal – all ready for action.



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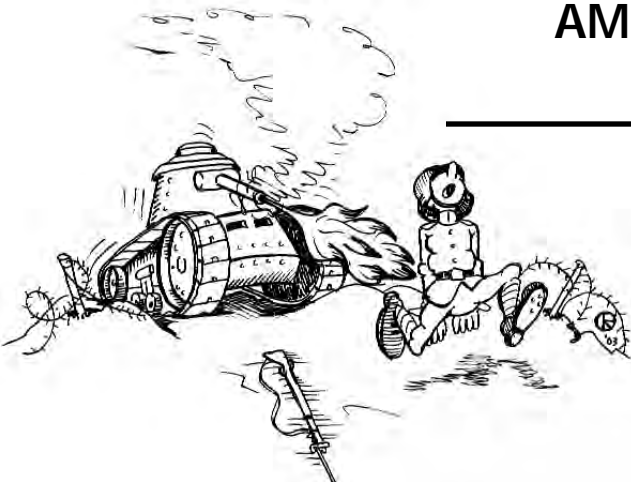
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AMERICAN METAL TOY'S TANKS

By Stan Alekna



All models of American Metal Toys (AMT) tanks are hard to find but I think I have come up with at least one variant to add to the list of these scarce Dimestores. (Yes, the "D" in Dimestores should always be capitalized as a mark of respect!!). Richard O'Brien lists the following four AMT tanks on page 217 of his latest COLLECTING AMERICAN TOY SOLDIERS book. I have added the verbiage in brackets to further identify distinguishing characteristics of the various models.

AMV1 Tank, throwing flame, flame touching hull [no mold markings; 4 drive wheels on each side]

AMV2 Tank, throwing flame, flame not touching hull [no mold markings; 2 drive wheels on each side]

AMV3 Tank, throwing flame, "25" [on left side; flame touching hull; "MADE IN USA on right side; 4 drive wheels on each side]

AMV4 Tank, "22" on [left] side; ["MADE IN USA" on right side; multi barreled cannon facing rearward; 4 drive wheels on each side]

Prices for these tanks are about the same for each model and would approach \$175 if in 98% or better condition. If you think that's a lot, consider that these tanks are rarer than many of the American Metal Toy soldiers that carry price tags well over \$100. We do not have an AMV1 in our collection but AMV2, 3 and 4 are pictured below.



AMV2



AMV3



AMV4

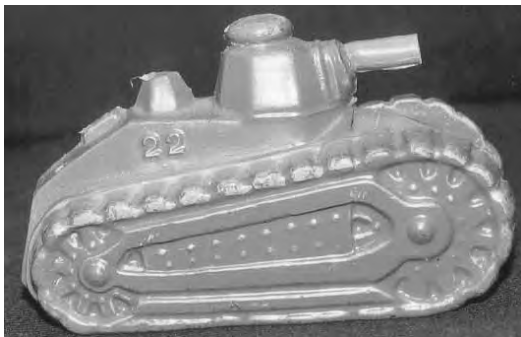
In 1994, I acquired the AMT tank labeled as AMV5 below and believed it to be a home conversion of the unmarked AMV2 with a tin tube inserted as a cannon barrel where the flame had been broken off. Like many collectors, I will buy pieces that interest me whether they are documented in the literature or not. Over the years, this practice has resulted in the acquisition of several items that were eventually identified as being quite rare. I thought no more about the "converted" tank until I recently acquired yet another AMT tank, labeled as AMV6 below, with a cannon barrel made of what appeared to be the same tin tubing, as a replacement for the missing flame. However, this tank had a "22" on the right side and "MADE IN USA" on the left side in the same style as AMV3 and AMV4. The plot was thickening. If AMV3 qualifies as a variant of AMV1 simply based on the presence of mold

markings, then it is probably fair to establish that AMV6, with the flame intact, and marked as shown, could be considered as an undocumented variant of AMV2. Voila, we have what appears to be another variation to add to our "WANT LISTS".

AMERICAN METAL TOY'S TANKS (Cont.)



AMV5



AMV6

Apart from the mold markings, other differences between AMV5 and AMV6 are that the cannon barrel on AMV5 is 11/16" long and painted silver whereas the cannon on AMV6 is 3/8" long and painted khaki like the rest of the tank. The tin tubing is of the same diameter.

Not being content to have found a new variant tank, let me now propose the following scenario for your consideration.

We know that the large flame on the end of the thin barrel of AMV2 is very easily broken off. I have seen several "flameless" AMV2's over the years and only a couple with the flame intact. Let us assume that some, or maybe even many AMV2's had their flame broken off in the process of removing them from molds or from other handling at the factory. Now could it be that the owners of American Metal Toys decided that replacing the broken flame with a cannon barrel made from a piece of common tin tubing would be preferable to melting the damaged tanks down for use in new production? And you have to admit that the tanks certainly look good with their replacement tin cannons. While thinking about the possibilities of such a reclamation program, I went to the display case that holds our Barclay vehicles. My attention was immediately drawn to Barclay's BV56 Renault Tank. The turret, hatch and cowl where the barrel attaches to the turret are

identical to the same features on AMV2 as shown in the photograph below. Also, BV56 has a 3/8" long cannon barrel. Exchange the rubber tires for stationary wheels, eliminate the wench/tail hook assembly from the rear and BV56 becomes a prototype of the AMT tank.

If BV56 was in fact the prototype, then maybe it was a natural step to salvage damaged AMT flamethrower tanks by making them into regular tanks. We are well aware that some toy soldier makers, including AMT, were not above copying some of their competitor's figures. Just take a look at the two riflemen shown below and quickly determine which is the AMT figure and which is the Manoil. And since we don't have precise dates on when specific figures were made, perhaps it was Barclay and Manoil that were copying AMT figures and tanks!



BV56 and AMV6

Could these AMT tanks with the tin cannon barrels be yet another variant to seek??

In any case, I hope I have at least succeeded in convincing you that AMV2 with flame not touching the hull exists in both the marked and unmarked versions. But I really hope that I have hooked a few of you on my salvage theory. If there are any more of these **AMT** tanks with the hollow tin tube cannon barrel out there, please contact me and I will submit a follow up article to OTS. However, if on the other hand you **KNOW** for certain that these conversions were home made, I would also like to have that sad news as well.

This would also result in a follow up article albeit a much sadder one. It would start with the line; "I deeply regret to inform you that", reminiscent of the sad telegrams of WWII. And if anyone out there has an extra AMV1 or a marked AMV2 they would be willing to part with, please give me a call. Stan Alekna; 732 Aspen Lane; Lebanon, PA 17042-9073; Phone: (717) 228-2361; FAX: (717) 228-2362; Email: salekna@bellatlantic.net.



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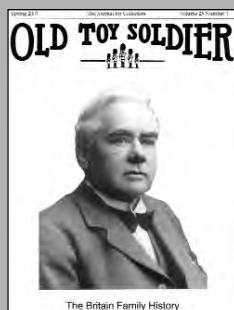


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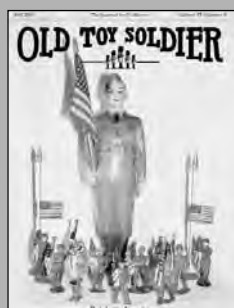
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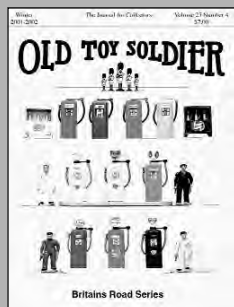
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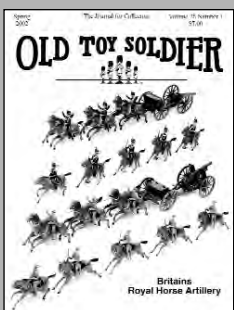


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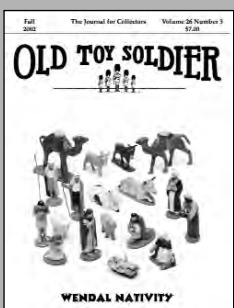
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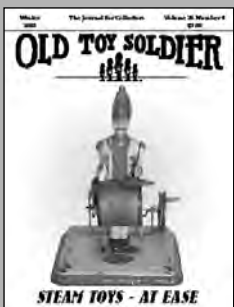
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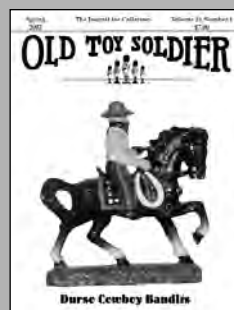


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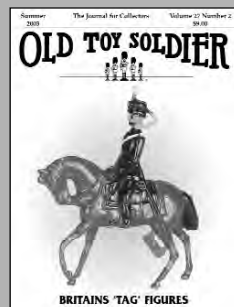


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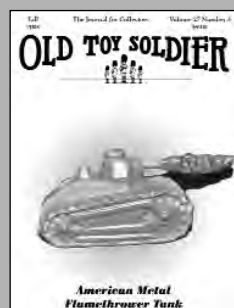
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OBITUARIES

Al Shaw



Al Shaw (Alban Peoples Shaw III) died at the age of 81 in early July from asbestosis. This is a very sad loss to all his friends and family. Al was vital in making the MFCA Show what it is today. Al ran the show for many years at Widener and at Valley Forge. He made the commercial side the success it is today. Many vendors fondly remember Al, usually in blazer and tie, helping them get established and then visiting them to make sure all was right. Al was active almost to the end. He was at the May show and was making plans for his bi-annual pilgrimage to Kulmbach. For his many services to the hobby he received awards from the MFCA and from the World Expo in Toronto.

In all the discussion about Al (sometimes known as Chub) the word(s) gentleman and gentle man keep coming up, as is appropriate. Al is survived by a son and a daughter and six grandchildren who he helped raise and two great grandchildren. In addition to the MFCA, Al was a long time member of the Company of Military Collectors and Historians and his local Lion's Club. His presence will be sorely missed by all that knew him.

William Young Carman F SA, F R Hist S. 1909- 2003

William Carman, known to his friends as Bill, was born in Ottawa, Canada, the son of a professional soldier. He moved with his family to Mortlake, London in 1922, and attended school in Barnes. His father's love of military uniforms and model soldiers inspired his lifetime interest and work. He trained at Richmond Art School where he met and married fellow art student, Consuelo, in 1936.

Bill served as a regular in the Royal Artillery, Essex Regiment during the 2nd World War. His active service was terminated when his unit was bombed during Axis hostility in Tobruk during the campaign in the Middle East, but his artistic talent enabled him to join the experimental camouflage team in Cairo, providing the 'spoof vehicles' that were the basis of Monty's deceptive 'Army' at El Alamein.

On returning to his family in 1947, he began producing the finely modeled and detailed metal soldiers, which were sold through quality outlets such as Hamleys famous toyshop in London.

In 1950 he joined the Imperial War Museum, Lambeth as museum assistant. He belonged to many Military Societies, was a founder member of several and, as his expertise grew and his reputation as a military historian developed, became Chairman, President and Honorary/Life President of so many.

In 1965 he transferred to the National Army Museum, originally housed in an unused gymnasium in the grounds of Sandhurst Military Academy. Under the leadership of Field Marshall Sir Gerald Templer, he took the Museum's modest beginnings to the present site in Royal Hospital Road. He served here, as Deputy Director until his retirement in 1974.

Still very active in retirement, he continued in his love of military matters and was a major contributor to the militaria societies. He produced a prodigious list of books, renowned for their depth of knowledge and accuracy, as well as writing articles for such well known periodicals as *Military Illustrated*, and *Military Modeling*, in addition to the *Men At Arms* series of booklets.

He was one of the old school of historians, who knew how to glean snippets of information from old documents, catalogues and archives, and through thorough detective work, arrive at a sound, often novel conclusion. His accuracy and judgement were respected by all. He shared his knowledge and skills with generosity to everyone and his passing will long be lamented by his many friends and associates throughout the world.



Charles Stadden

It has been announced in several of the hobby magazines that Charles Stadden died at the age of 83 in 2002. His son, Andrew, will continue the line. Andrew has been sculpting for many years. An excellent write up on Charles Stadden is at the Andrew Stadden web site:
<http://www.stadden.btinternet.co.uk/CCStadden.htm>.

HOBBY NEWS (Cont.)

DUCAL MODELS

Jack Duke

Jack Duke one of the partners of Ducal Models is at present in hospital after a heart attack on 21st September, and is to have a by-pass operation shortly. During his stay in hospital and subsequent recovery the business will continue in the capable hands of Thelma Duke and the staff at Fort Ducal. Under the circumstances we will be unable to attend the Toy Soldier and Figure Show on 6th December 2003 at the Royal National Hotel. Items for Christmas would normally be delivered at the Show, however any requests for Christmas can be ordered direct from us and sent by post. Please make sure you order early. The death of Max Schulman, our U.S.A. agent occurred earlier this year. After much consideration we have decided not to appoint a new agent but to deal with all U.S. sales from our workshop at Fort Ducal, 5 Weavills Road, Eastleigh, Hants, SO50 8HQ, or catch us on the web at www.fort-ducal.co.uk. We will be pleased to hear from you.

OLD TOY SOLDIER HOME

Craig "Bubba" McClain has the thoughts and prayers of the soldier collectors of the world. Bubba was unable to attend this years Chicago show due to surgery. He is a fighter who always greets you with a smile. His loyal friends of the Old Toy Soldier Home in Vista, California always come to his aid helping keep Craig's spirit present at the show. The staff of OTS offers their most sincere wishes to Craig and his loving family.

BRITISH PATHE NEWS

Some Pathe Newsreels, a regular news feature shown in British Cinemas pre and post World War 2 can now be accessed via the web site www.britishpathe.com.

By going to the site and searching either the basic or advanced search facilities it is possible to view and download the Films.

There are a number of Film clips that will be of interest to toy soldier collectors and by entering the following ID #s the following can be viewed.

Manufacture of Toy Soldiers at the Britain's Factory.Hornsey London 1965. Film ID # 309.10:

Model of the Coronation Procession 1937. Film ID # 1232.37:

Toy Soldiers, A look at how Toy Soldiers are made,Britain's Factory 1949. Film ID # 1271.28:

There are several other toy soldier related clips. For further information contact the Editor OTS info@normanjoplin.com

NEW TOY SOLDIER SHOP FOR CHICAGO

Bart Bryerton of Bryertons Military Miniatures has announced that he hopes to open his Toy Soldier Shop in Chicago within weeks of this issue of OTS going to press, for further information contact bryertons@aol.com or visit the Web Site www.bryertons.com.

Dimestore Breakfast

By Ray Haradin

The 5th Annual Dimestore Breakfast was held on Saturday, September 27th in conjunction with the OTS show. This event was founded by Donald Hovde and has continued to grow since his death in 2001. The Breakfast was the largest to date. An additional table was rushed in to accommodate the gathering of nearly 50 avid Dimestore collectors and dealers. If you have never attended the breakfast, it offers collectors and dealers the chance to gather and exchange information. In keeping with tradition, the event started with Christian Keller leading the pledge of allegiance. We then had a Dimestore show and tell in which people brought oddities they had collected over the past year. This year there were many interesting pieces which could be inspected and examined. It was a chance to view first hand the Elastolin School Room (V27 #2, pg



Peter and Kathy Paul hosted the Dimestore Breakfast



Joe Saine with examples of New Dimestore Products illustrating his Breakfast presentation.

33) and Ron Eccle's Lincoln Log Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs (V27 #2, pg 35). Ron also produced a commemorative copy of the Tommy Toy Jack and Jill figure. Nearly every attendee purchased the figure but there are still a small number available through Ron. Marv Breitlow brought his "At the Post" which is one of the great Dimestore sets. Another oddity was Don Boyden's Lincoln Log previously unknown and unnamed "Two Horn" version of the "Three Horn" Dinosaur which, like many recent finds, turned up on the internet. (See Reconnaissance in this issue.)

Everyone settled in and had some breakfast. Kathy Paul presided over the meeting and introduced the first speaker- Toledo's own Joe Saine. Joe, with the help of several collectors,

displayed an impressive array of modern Dimestore figures. Joe discussed many of the modern producers from Ed Poole to Ron Eccles. He is interested in compiling information about as many of these producers as possible. It is a very difficult job since many of the manufacturers produced for a very limited times and produced a very small number of figures. Based on the notion of "Today's soldiers are tomorrow's antiques", Joe would like to save the history of these manufactures before the information is lost forever. If you have information on any of these small manu-



Ron Eccles once again produced a limited edition Dimestore piece for the breakfast in the form of a reproduced Tommy Toy Jack & Jill



Marv Breitlow with his 'Show & Tell' Dimestore at the Post.

facturers, contact Joe Saine. Look forward to his articles about this subject in the future.

After Joe completed his 15 minute presentation it was my turn to take the podium. The topic I chose to speak on was entitled "Your Collection and the Market". I outlined some simple steps every collector should perform to protect their collections. The response from the collectors was so great that the details of the lecture will follow. Kathy Paul then closed the breakfast with special thanks to Charlie O'Brien, the organizer of the event who, unfortunately, could not attend. Verne Johnson and Don Peilin were also singled out for their efforts along with all the attendees who made the morning gathering possible. Please plan on attending next year's Breakfast.

"Your Collection and the Market" *by Ray Haradin*

When asked to speak at the annual Dimestore Breakfast in conjunction with the OTS show in Chicago, I quickly accepted the invitation. After several weeks of internal debate, I decided that I should speak about the subject that I know best, the antique and collectible market. An aspect of the market that many collectors partially or completely ignore is to develop a plan which will be used when their collection is sold. Despite robust statements like "I will never sell" or "I don't collect for the money", virtually every collection makes it to the auction block one day. Statements like the aforementioned illustrate the passion and commitment shown by collectors in order to build great collections; however, these statements are usually made when the collector is actively buying in their 40's and 50's. Much of the thrill in collecting is "the chase".

Once you have obtained many of your wanted figures and your purchases dwindle to a few figures every year, the thrill begins to diminish. Combine this with your increasing age and the realization that your collection will be sold and that it is an investment; a plan should be in place which will give you or your family a starting point to sell the collection. Most great collections are built over decades. It amazes me to see collections which were painstakingly created sold at a moments notice. There are five steps all collectors should perform which will be of significant benefit to themselves or their families when it is time for the collection to be passed on to the next generation of collectors.

1) MAKE A LIST It is surprising how many collectors don't know what they own. Every collection should have a listing, with at least one copy kept off premises, which accurately represents what is in your collection. This copy should have a date and is best if accompanied with a video or photographs. Many collectors enjoy cataloging their collections; however, if you are one of the many who does not, a simple figure count can be of great use. It is also a good idea to take pictures of your shelves periodically. When I return from a trip and have a roll of film with several unexposed frames, I finish the roll taking pictures of my shelves. These photos are fun to return to in the future. Collections change over time.

2) APPRAISE YOUR COLLECTION You may pay for a professional appraisal. However, as a collector you know much about the value of your collection. You know how much you have paid for your figures, you know when you bought them and you know the condition. Once you have a listing, it is relatively simple to assign values and determine what you consider to be fair market value. This number should accompany your listing and again will be of tremendous benefit to your family if they must sell. If you do not wish to share this information with them, it is a good idea to leave a copy of the appraised value with your important documents. Negotiations are much less stressful if your family has an idea of what they are dealing with.

3) INSURE YOUR COLLECTION The dichotomy of insurance is, if you fully insure your collection the premiums you pay generally offset the appreciation of your collection. I still recommend insurance and in many instances your collection will be covered under the contents portion of your homeowners insurance. Generally, insurance companies offer replacement value of your home's contents up to half of the value of your home's value. Thus, if your home is insured for \$200,000 you will have \$100,000 in content value. Use the appraised value and determine if you are adequately insured. A professional appraisal is best if the items have been in the family for a long period, over 20 years. If the collection has been built within recent history receipts are extremely valuable. Insurance companies

like receipts; however they are often not given in the heat of the exchange. Although rates vary, the insurance industry generally assumes that collectibles appreciate at 5 percent a year. They will compare this value based on your receipts with the appraised value. If there is a large discrepancy between the adjusted purchase price and the appraised value, a professional appraisal should be obtained. It is also a good idea to save any information you have on unique items such as auction results and for sale lists.

4) PROPERLY STORE YOUR COLLECTION The elements can quickly diminish the value of your collection. Make sure that your collection is safely housed or stored. Collections should be stored in the living areas of a home. You may take storage facilities to the extreme, but generally if you have central air conditioning the temperature and humidity will remain relatively constant. Make sure that the person in charge of your estate realizes this and does not pack everything up and move it to the damp basement or hot attic for storage while the estate is being settled.

5) CREATE THE PLAN You are the person best suited to make the decision on whether or not it is time to sell and if the price is right. Most collectors have some sort of plan. However, this should be put in writing so that your family or estate has some direction and information. With the use of the inventory and appraisal, your beneficiaries will be in a much better position to negotiate a fair deal. Many times collectors make preliminary deals with dealers or auction houses with instructions on what to do in case of their deaths. Make sure that your family is aware of these plans. Leave the name of a very trusted collector friend who should be contacted first. It is very nice to have someone who understands the hobby to talk to before you contact potential buyers. Include a listing of dealers and auction houses that you trust and would like to be considered when it is time to sell.

If you perform these simple steps and review them every other year, the soldiers that have brought you so much pleasure and enjoyment to you will in their own way bring that enjoyment to your family.



Ray Haradin delivering his
Dimestore Breakfast presentation

SHOW REPORT

A Visit to Kulmbach by Steve Sommers



Alexis Poliakoff and Gisbert Freber

silver flats, the traditional European collectible. Flats seemed to shine especially this August in the midst of Europe's hottest summer in years. It was nearly a hundred degrees outside and even hotter in the tented hall. I saw no flats melt, but I believed that they might!



fabulous Dresden Georg Heyde Exhibition he put together; it runs through this Fall. (See related stories on the Exhibition and my review of Marcus's fine book.)

Kulmbach was a great trip; it was Josey's and my first trip to Germany, and we hope to go back in 2005. The town is renowned for its castle museum with fabulous dioramas of flats, but hunt for the small room on the fifth floor; it has old full round figures worth the climb. Kulmbach is about an hour drive north of the pre-War toy-making city of Nuremberg and there are great sites to see; we did five toy museums in the area! Germany was beautiful; new and old friends were great and, oh yes, there is the local beer and the fine Franconian wines. But then, who would be interested in that?

Kulmbach is a bi-annual August toy figure show. Taking its name from the south central German town which hosts it, this Zinnfiguren Borse is a three-day event. The show fills a canvas-roofed town square. OTS has covered Kulmbach most recently in a terrific article by Michael Henry, OTS Vol. 20, #4. Little has changed since Michael wrote except that there are a growing number of dealers selling full round, old and new figures. Despite this, probably 90% of the space is still displays of brilliant



Markus Grein and Joe Shimek

Most of the sellers and shoppers were from the Continent, but Steve Hare of Tradition London came across the channel to show his wares. OTSN Show regular Joe Shimek made the trek from Texas; assisted by friend Ray Bell, Joe filled two tables with his Heyde-like Potsdammer figures. Joe's exploding battleship toy was the hit of the show for several kids, including the grandson of Paris toy maker Alexis Poliakoff. Two German dealers, Werner Klotzsche and Dieter Schwarz, also had especially well made Heyde reproductions. Old figures were offered by Gisbert Freber, Walter Badusche and Old German Toy Figure author Hans Henning Roer. Newest Heyde author Markus Grein was there signing copies of his just off the press Heyde company history and promoting the



The Show Venue



Gisbert Freber

SHOW REPORT

Michigan Summer Toy Soldier Show

by Michael Mattimore

On Sunday, July 20th, toy soldier collectors and enthusiasts who normally brave bone-chilling temperatures, wind-blown snow, gusting winds and treacherously icy roads in order to attend the Michigan Toy Soldier Show, discovered that there doesn't have to be snow on the ground (or whipping through the air) for them to enjoy what has become the biggest and best of the Midwest regional shows.

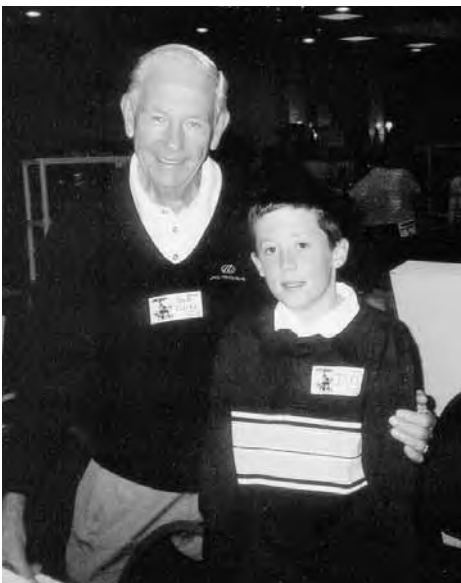
This show is normally held on the last Sunday in January at the Holiday Inn on Six Mile Rd. in Livonia, one of Detroit's western suburbs. Over the years, it has become somewhat of a test of endurance and commitment for dealers and collectors alike. Last January, for example, found OTS Editor Norman Joplin in

a ditch somewhere in Northern Indiana, wondering if he was really meant to go to Detroit at that time of year. However, inclement weather has never seemed to dampen the enthusiasm of those who swell through the gate even on the most inhospitable of days. But the prospect of clear blue skies, lots of sun and no snow proved just too hard to resist. Show organizer Rick Berry said that he had to order a number of additional tables due to the high dealer response to the idea of a summer show.

All of the usual Midwest dealers were in attendance, many of them "old hands" at this particular show. Long-time participants like Joe Saine, Carlos Araujo, Donald Case and K. Warren Mitchell joined a significant number of folks from the East Coast who made the long trek to Michigan. Matt Murphy of the Hobby Bunker in Malden, Massachusetts, was just one of the many "easterners" who had journeyed westward for the event. His impressive display of old and new plastics was hard to beat. Of course, displays of the magnificent new Russian-made figures were very much in evidence and, as always, drew considerable attention. Overall, a wide range of contemporary and vintage figures were on offer, with a breakdown of about 40% new-production figures, 30% older figures & 30% plastics. Amazingly, attendance was actually slightly less than that of a usual winter show, but overall, dealers in all three areas reported that sales were generally brisk throughout the day. Apparently, the guys at Michigan Toy Soldier were encouraged by the response to their experiment, as another summer show is scheduled for July of 2004. Of course, the winter show will continue as always and is set for January 18th, with a special toy soldier auction to be held at noon on Saturday the 17th, the day before the show, making for an entire weekend of great toy soldier activity.



Rick & Doug of Michigan Toy Soldier organizers of the Livonia Show



Bob Luyckx and grandson Jake

SHOW REPORT



23rd ANNUAL OLD TOY SOLDIER SHOW Hyatt Regency, Woodfield Shaumburg, Illinois September 2003 *By Norman Joplin*



Reports for the "Chicago show have appeared in Old Toy Soldier magazine each year since the show was started 23 years ago.

This years report takes a look at a little of what goes on behind the scenes as well as paying tribute to the show organizers, dealers and collectors who make what has become an annual pilgrimage to the worlds largest toy soldier show.

Perhaps the word "show" does not do justice to the event, convention or even toy soldier experience may be a better term.

Show Chairman Don Pielin assisted by his partner Steve Sommers work tirelessly throughout the year ensuring that all participants are suitably accommodated, many dealers like to be "housed" in the same bedroom each year for the now famous room trading that takes place prior to the Sunday show.

The Hyatt Regency is often used for training new Hyatt front desk staff, who are somewhat thrust into what can only be described as a mad house as dealers, collectors and toy soldier enthusiasts arrive as early as Tuesday prior to the show to check in.

Room bookings and inquiries are handled in a most professional manner and with the prior organizational skills and planning of Don and partners everyone is "housed" to their satisfaction.

Convention services manager Heather Doughlin and her staff together with catering departments at the hotel are well equipped to handle the sudden onslaught of those checking in and so the week begins.

Dealers arriving early in the week usually have vast amounts of stock which must be transported to their designated bedroom. This task is undertaken by a number of Bellmen (including Jason who has worked at the hotel for a number of years and has carried the stock of yours truly on at least ten occasions) in a most efficient and caring manner.

Once set up, bedrooms begin to open as early as Wednesday on both the 4th and 5th floors. This earlier set up and opening bears testimony to the commitment shown by dealers who have traveled from afar.

As the week progresses, more and more rooms open up, until by Saturday some 180 to 200 rooms are occupied and open for viewing.

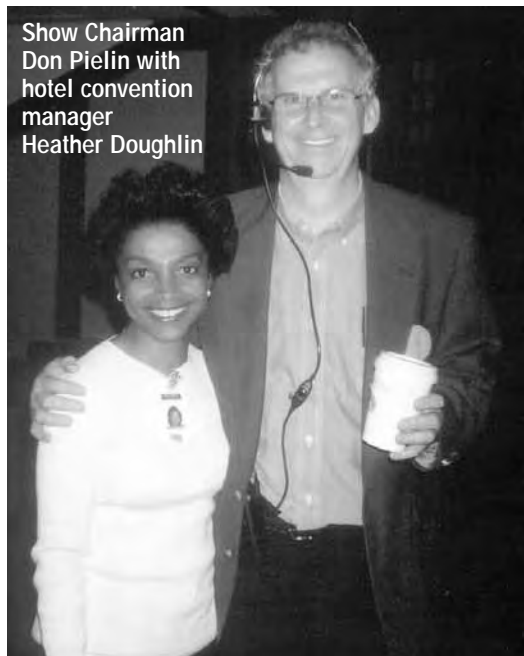
Guests have great service by the maids who quickly clean the rooms each day, taking care not to knock over the figures and displays set up in each room. The hotel has an excellent restaurant, but for those not wishing to leave their room to eat, the Hotel catering room service is fast and efficient.

Want to contact a fellow guest or find out if that elusive figure is still for sale in room 5105?, no problem, just dial zero and Madlynn and Sue the cheerful and helpful switchboard operators will connect you in a flash.

If you do decide to take a break, perhaps because your spouse is putting a little pressure on you, then one of the largest shopping malls in America is right across the street.

The Woodfield Mall is massive and has most of the well known department stores, specialty stores and restaurants.

The hotel shuttle bus leaves and picks up on the hour, the Mall is too far to walk for most yet not far enough to drive.



Show Chairman
Don Pielin with
hotel convention
manager
Heather Doughlin

SHOW REPORT (Cont.)

23rd ANNUAL OLD TOY SOLDIER SHOW

Those who want to see a little of Chicago itself can contact the Avis rent a car desk, where Barb will be glad to help with maps and directions, or for a bit of luxury call My Chauffeur Limousine and go in style.

The Chicago Show, as it has become known, is a time to meet old friends and make new ones and exchange stories about the finds throughout the year. Many dinner parties are organized as friends get together to exchange views on the hobby at Knuckles, the hotel bar. Barman Bob has seen many years of duty and looks forward to serving the "Toy Soldier Crowd" each evening as collectors and traders relax after a days trading.

Toy Soldier Collectors, Dealers and Manufactures specializing in Old Lead, New Toy Soldiers, Plastics, Flats and Composition come not only from all over the US and Canada, but from around the world.

International participants this year included the UK and Northern Ireland, France, Germany, Belgium, Hong Kong, South America, Australia, Russia and China.

By Saturday evening, the quantities of toy soldiers and figures that have changed hands must run into many thousands. One may think that things are now starting to subside; think again, this is the Chicago show and every minute counts.

From 4pm until 6pm, in the fourth floor suite of Don Pielin, the traditional Old Toy Soldier Show hospitality room is open, the famous bathtub of beer is manned by Seattle collector Verne Johnson, Steve and Jo Sommers serve wine and sodas, while Don and the Pielin Family register the traders, issue the show pins and allocate the tables for the following days show. Dealers and collectors alike file into the room and the noise at times from excitable groups necessitates many raised voices in order to be heard above the noise, as again old acquaintance's are renewed and new participants welcomed.

Hospitality over, it is back to the bedrooms for that last minute trading before Sundays show approaches. It is time for the stock to be packed again ready for the move to the show venue.

Sunday morning the Bellmen are once again ready with their golden carts and so the massive task of transporting everyone and their goods begins, the elevators creak with the strain as everything is moved to the ground floor and soon the three main Ballrooms and anterooms are being filled with toy soldiers. Don Pielin reported again that the show was sold out and a waiting list for tables is effective for 2004.

By 9am the line for admission is forming and by the 10am entry time the line stretches out of the hotel lobby to the street.

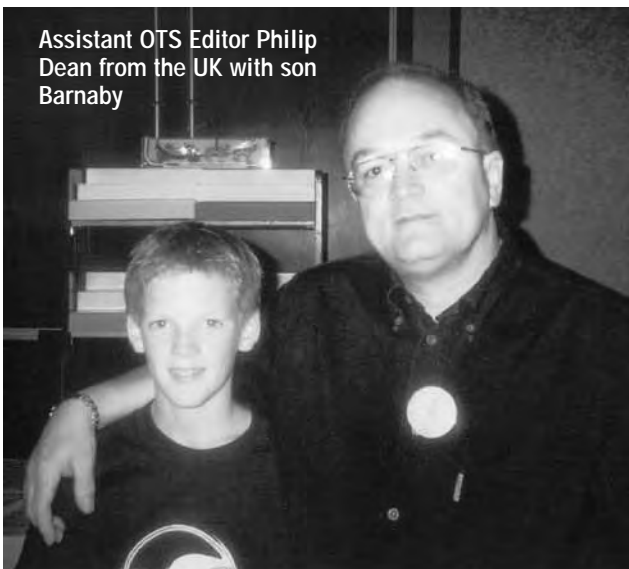
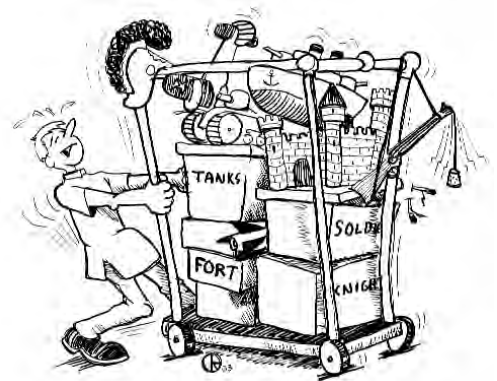
Don's wife, Linda, assisted by daughter Kate and sons in law Rudy and Ian, take the admission fees. Steve and Jo Sommers are aided by security men Jim Pogwitz and Marv Breitlow directing traffic, first of all guiding the waiting collectors down to the lower Ballroom.

The attendance is once again a record one and the venue is filled almost to capacity, trading is brisk all day and as the show starts winding down around 3pm, tables are cleared, soldiers are packed away, and yes - here come the Bellmen again to get everyone loaded back into their vehicles for the long trek home or to the Limos for the airport connections to O'Hare some 9 miles away.

The show has once again been a huge success and the only tinge of sadness is that we have to wait another year before we can do it again.

There is a saying that "There is no place like Home" -- True, but if you cannot be at Home this is the next best place.

Next year is year 24 and the date is Sunday September 26th.



Assistant OTS Editor Philip Dean from the UK with son Barnaby

PHOTO GALLERY (Cont.)



Kate (Don Pielin's daughter)
Linda (Don's wife) and son-
in-law Ian take admissions
to the show



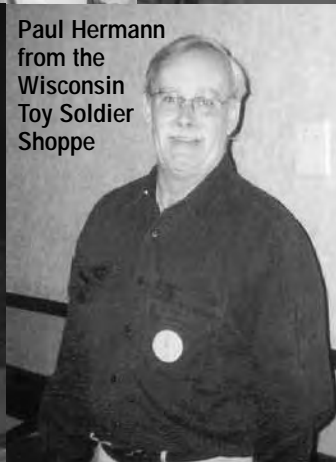
Jim Pogwitz - OTS security



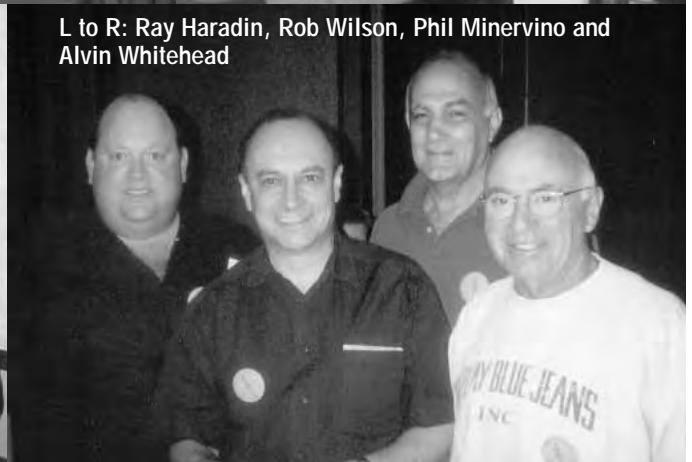
Donny Fisher
with mother
Barbara



Michael O'Donnell from California



Paul Hermann
from the
Wisconsin
Toy Soldier
Shoppe



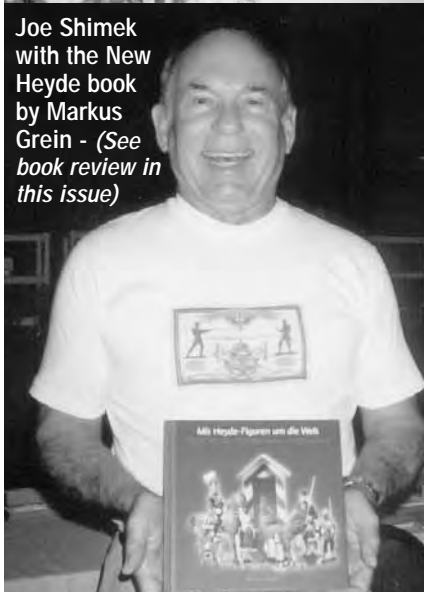
L to R: Ray Haradin, Rob Wilson, Phil Minervino and
Alvin Whitehead



Francois Beaumont -
Cleaned out Marshall
Fields department
store



Ani and Paul Kemkennian



Joe Shimek
with the New
Heyde book
by Markus
Grein - (See
book review in
this issue)



Pat Nicholson
with his WW2
Jeep parked
outside the
Hyatt show
venue



Russ Bednarek
-OTS New
figure
reviewer
and General
Inspection
columnist

PHOTO GALLERY (Cont.)

Pennsylvania Collections LtoR Bob Shulman, Kent Kline, George Case, Bob Shoulberg, Alan Ernst and Bud Born



Sue Joplin at the editors table



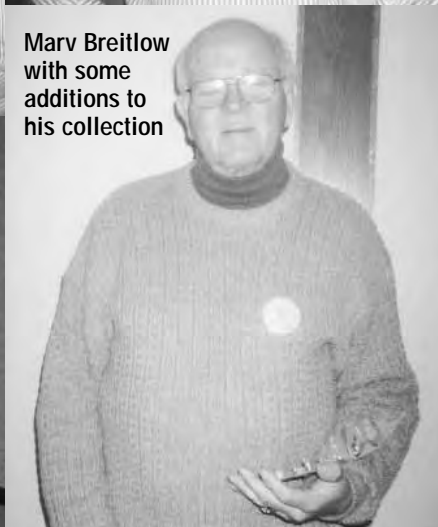
OTS Staff - Cartoonist Roger Garfield and wife Jan



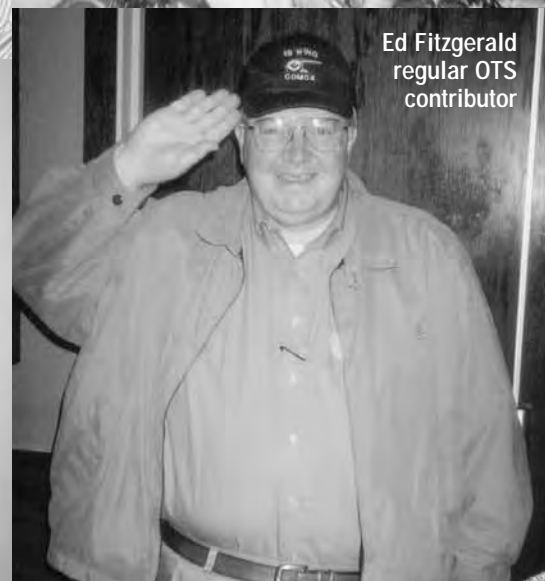
Collector Bill Grant from Massachusetts



Marv Breitlow with some additions to his collection



Ed Fitzgerald regular OTS contributor



Dick Pielin with the Pielin Brothers table



Glenn Smith - Looking for plastics to add to his collection



Carol and Jim Hillestad of the Toy Soldier Pennsylvania

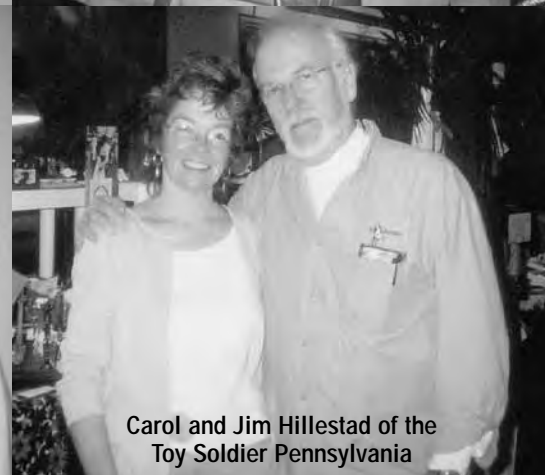


PHOTO GALLERY (Cont.)

L to R: Frank Johnson, Phil Minervino
and Lenoir Josey



John and Mary Rollins



Karen and Don Boyden
having their first
OTSS table



Norman Rodriegas and
Michael Mattimore



Tom Reilly and friend Gary at Tom's mother
Marion Reilly's Table



Patrick Adams from England - The British Toy Soldier Company



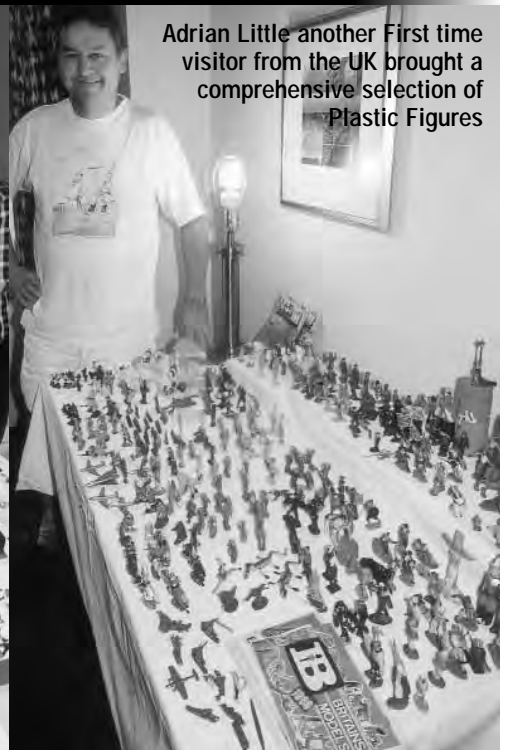
PHOTO GALLERY (Cont.)



Vectis Auctions -
Bryan Goodall and Peter Rumsey



Warren Mitchell and Joe Wallis



Adrian Little another First time
visitor from the UK brought a
comprehensive selection of
Plastic Figures

THE PRE SHOW ROOM TRADING



Allen Hickling (UK) - First time visitor to Chicago (right)
and regular OTS contributor via his Fort Articles.



Bob Fisher



Jack Carleton's Mignot room - Le Petit Toy Soldat



Ron Race

PHOTO GALLERY (Cont.)

23 YEARS SERVICE

The following photos show those dealers who have attended every OTS Show



Ron Hillman



Merrill and Sheri Morris, Candi and Jeff Caufield

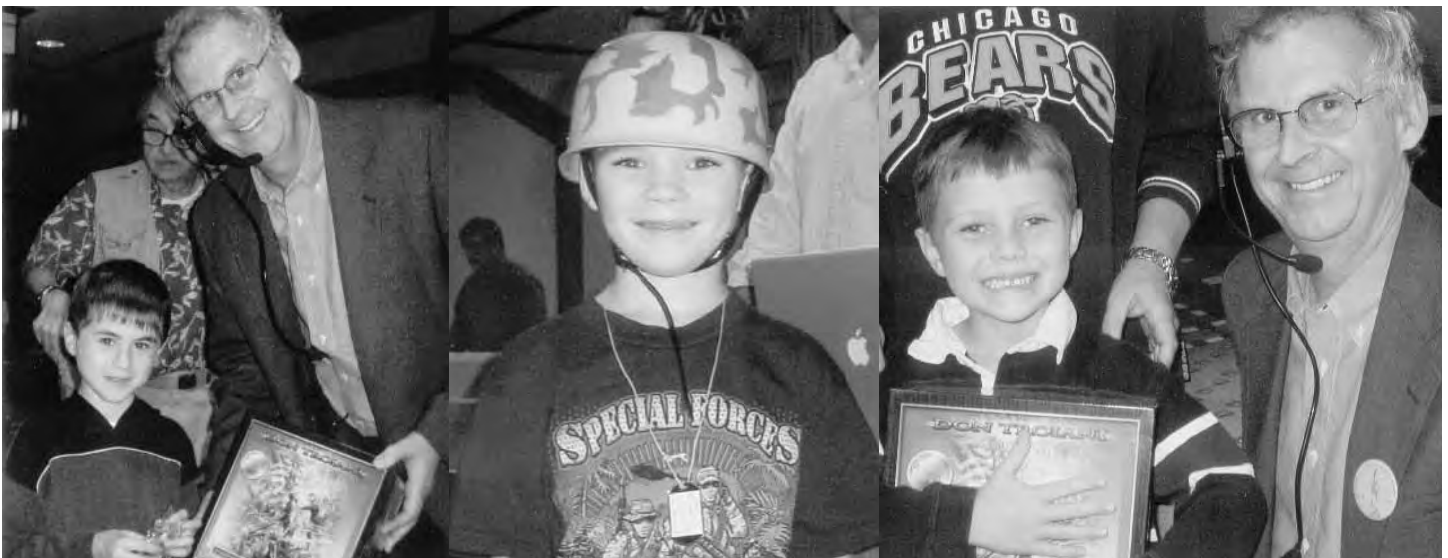


Gene Parker and Jim Casey



Dale Pauwels and Gary Linden

Young enthusiasts attending Old Toy Soldiers 23rd Show were each presented with a gift from Conte Collectibles. Don Pielin, Show Chairman is shown here with some of the youngsters and their gifts.



SHOW REPORT (Cont.)

MMSI Show Report by Norman Joplin

The Military Miniature Society of Illinois held their annual show at the Oakbrook Hyatt, in Chicago this fall.

Displays of fine sculptured and intricately painted figures are a feature each year for enthusiasts of Military Miniatures.

A vendors area is open Friday evening with the show on Saturday being followed by seminars and prize presentations for the various modeling categories.

The society magazine *The Scabbard* - editor Dick Pielin, is available as part of the MMSI membership package. Those wishing further information should contact Andy Hansen, Treasurer MMSI, 5012 Kenneth Drive, Crystal Lake, Illinois 60014.

Show Chairman Dave Peschke extended a warm and courteous welcome to all and echoed the words of the MMSI Show brochure in providing a unique mix of midwestern hospitality, modeling exhibition and seminars.

First started in 1975, next years show is scheduled for 16 October 2004.



Dave Peschke,
MMSI Show Chairman



Medieval Knights, Diorama using Courtenay, Selwyn Smith
Britains, Ping, Hornung, Alymer, etc. created by Marc Gaines



Britains Entry - Form Square by Al Piper

See us at the following shows:

- British Toy Soldier and Figure Show
London December 6, 2003
- Florida Toy Soldier and Action Figure Show
February 8, 2004

Old Toy Soldier Representatives will be at the above shows and look forward to meeting you.

**ALL
NEW
SHOW**

THE HUDSON VALLEY TOY SOLDIER MILITARY & MINIATURE FIGURE SHOW AND SALE

at the
Hilton
Tarrytown

455 South Broadway
(route 9)
Tarrytown, New York

**SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 16th, 2003**

**SHOW HOURS
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

ADMISSION
ADULTS \$5.00
Children Under 10
Free with Adult

**FREE
PARKING**

ANTIQUE AND CONTEMPORARY TOY SOLDIER COLLECTIBLES FROM ALL PERIODS.
FEATURING: BRITAINS, ELASTOLIN, DIME STORES, TIMPO, KING & COUNTRY, CONTE, LEMANS,
TROPHY, FRONTLINE, AMERICAN & RUSSIAN CONNOISSEUR FIGURES, ETC.
PLASTIC FIGURES GALORE! - PLAYSETS AND VEHICLES (G.I. JOES) (DRAGONS)
MILITARY MEMORABILIA, BOOKS, KITS, AND MUCH, MUCH MORE!!!

AUTO DIRECTIONS

FROM NYC: From Major Deegan Expressway to New York
Thruway (North). Exit 9 (Tarrytown last exit before bridge). At end
of exit ramp, go left at light. Continue to traffic light and make left.
At next light, turn right into the Hilton Tarrytown.

FROM LONG ISLAND (EASTERN):
Thruway Neck or Whitestone Bridge to New York Extension of New
England Thruway to Route No. 287 to New York State Thruway
(North). Follow directions from NYC.

FROM LONG ISLAND (WESTERN):
Tri-borough Bridge to Major Deegan Expressway to New York State
Thruway (North). Follow directions from NYC.

THIS SHOW
SPONSORED BY:
THE MARX-MAN (JOHN STENGEL)
and ED GRIES

For Information Call: 718-418-9439
or 201-342-6475

For Directions Call: 914-631-5700
Members of the Fraternity of Toy Soldier Dealers

NEXT SHOW
FEB. 28TH, 2004

PSMA
psmashows.org



THE 5TH ANNUAL PENNSYLVANIA TOY SOLDIER MILITARY & MINIATURE FIGURE SHOW AND SALE SUNDAY

**NOVEMBER 23rd, 2003
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

AT
the **SHERATON BUCKS COUNTY HOTEL**

400 Oxford Valley Rd., Langhorne, Pennsylvania

Approx. 8 Miles North of Exit 28 of PA Turnpike (Rte. 276). Take Route 1 to Oxford Valley
Road exit. Go right at the light and go three lights and make a left.



FREE
PARKING
REAR OF
HOTEL

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DRAWINGS FOR
FREE
PRIZES

ADMISSION
ADULTS \$5.00
Children Under 10
Free with Adult

Antique and contemporary toy soldiers of all periods of history
Civilian, Farm, Zoo, Hunt, Railroad Figures, G.I. Joes and Action Figures.
Cowboys, Indians, Knights and Historical Figures, Marching Bands & Military Miniatures.
Plastic Figures, Dioramas, and Play Sets Featuring Marx, Toy Artillery and Vehicles

Over 100 Tables Featuring Britains, Elastolin, Trophy, Marlboro, Dime Stores, Lemans,
Frontline, Conté, King and Country, Dinky, Manoil, Barclay, Grey Iron, Johilco, Timpo and more ...

Including Modern American and Russian Connoisseur Figures, Military Memorabilia,
Posters, Books, Video Tapes, Supplies, Prints, Molds, Kits, Castings, etc., etc. etc.

THIS SHOW SPONSORED BY:
RELIC GOLDEN AMUSEMENTS INC.
c/o Box 572, Hackensack, NJ 07602

PSMA
psmashows.org

For Information Call - Ed Gries: 201-342-6475 - Evenings
or Fax 201-342-5954
a Member of the Fraternity of Toy Soldier Dealers

Next Show, Sunday, November 21, 2004



HEART of the SOUTH TOY SOLDIER MILITARY & MINIATURE FIGURE SHOW AND SALE

**SATURDAY
DECEMBER 6TH, 2003
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

**FREE
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AT THE ANNANDALE
VFD COMMUNITY CENTER

7128 COLUMBIA PIKE ANNANDALE, VIRGINIA 22003
6000 SQ. FT. (NEW FACILITY) 80+ TABLES

DIRECTIONS: RTE. 495 (WESTERN SPUR) TO LITTLE RIVER TURNPIKE EXIT,
GO EAST 7 LIGHTS TO JOHN MARR DRIVE, TURN LEFT & GO TO LIGHT (COLUMBIA PIKE),
& TURN LEFT, GO 1/2 BLOCK, # 7128 COLUMBIA PIKE IS ON THE RIGHT

Antique and contemporary toy soldiers of all periods of history
Civilian, Farm, Zoo, Hunt, Railroad Figures, G.I. Joes and Action Figures.
Cowboys, Indians, Knights and Historical Figures, Marching Bands & Military Miniatures.
Plastic Figures, Dioramas, and Play Sets Featuring Marx, Toy Artillery and Vehicles

Over 80 Tables Featuring Britains, Elastolin, Trophy, Marlboro, Dime Stores, Lemans,
Frontline, Conté, King and Country, Dinky, Manoil, Barclay, Grey Iron, Johilco, Timpo and more ...

Including Modern American and Russian Connoisseur Figures, Military Memorabilia,
Posters, Books, Video Tapes, Supplies, Prints, Molds, Kits, Castings, etc., etc. etc.

THIS SHOW SPONSORED BY:
RELIC GOLDEN AMUSEMENTS INC.
c/o Box 572, Hackensack, NJ 07602

For Information Call: 201-342-6475
or Fax 201-342-5954

PSMA
psmashows.org

Next Show, Saturday, June 12th, 2004

or 215-794-5686
CARL HOEGERMEYER
or 703-876-2922
BILL HARLOWE
For Local Directions

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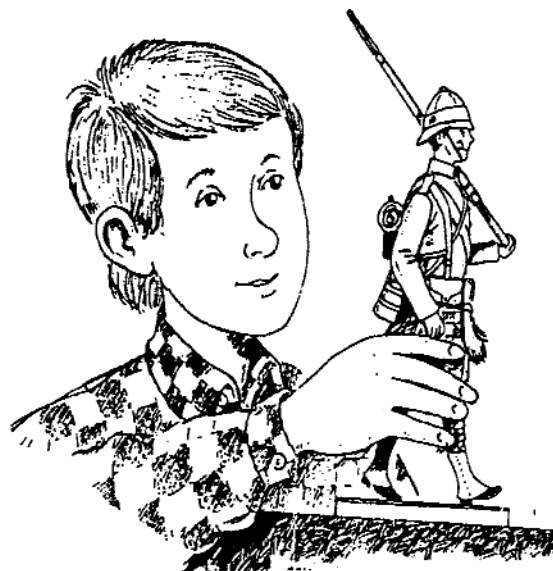
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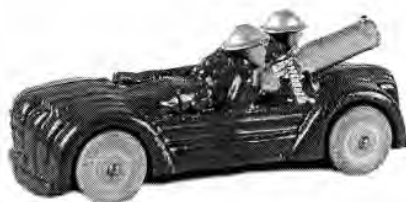
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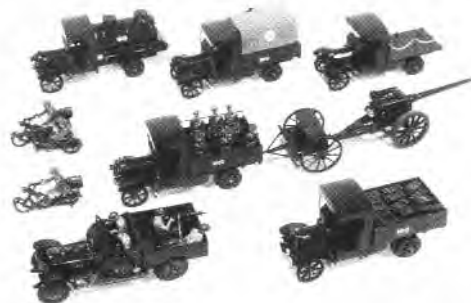
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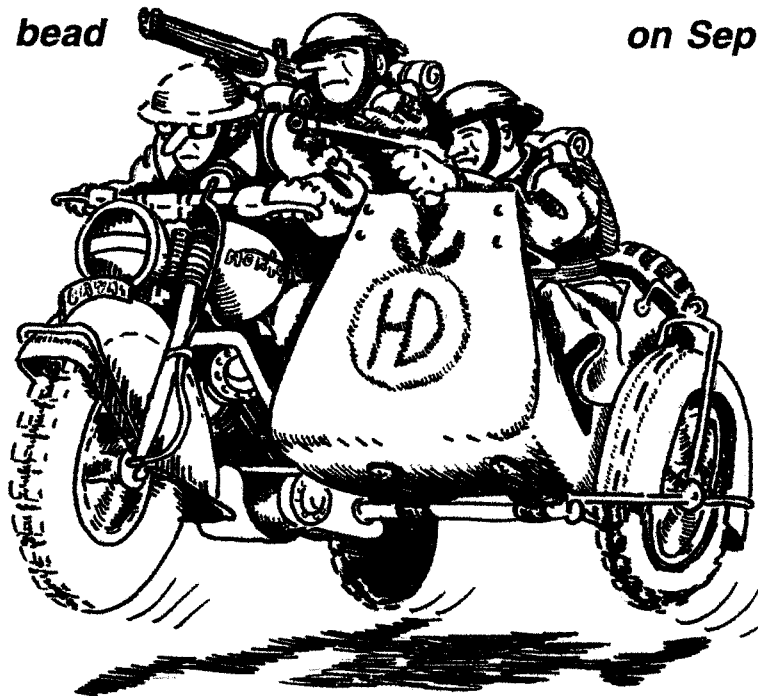
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The Dresden Exhibition

by Steve Sommers

My wife Josey and I chose to go to Germany this summer so that we could see the George Heyde Exhibition created by Markus Grein in Dresden, the company's home. Even if we had not been welcomed by good friends, the Frebers and the Roers, attended the Kulmbach Zinnfiguren show, and been able to visit fabulous sites including the Nuremberg toy museum, the Heyde in Dresden would have been reason enough for the trip.

Markus Grein, the Heyde expert,



"Professor Heyde," combined the best of his collection with the most special pieces from a dozen other collections for this one-time-only exhibit. The Museum Fur Sachsische Volkshunst is on the opposite side of the river from the Baroque center of Dresden still being reconstructed, stone by stone, sixty years after much of that city was destroyed in February of 1945.



There were few signs of that war in the dozens of bright glass cases of Heyde production in the museum. Despite the steep climb up old circular stairs to the third floor exhibition room, my first impulse was to run from case to case

down the fifty-foot room. I reminded myself that I am an adult, and that I could be confident that the cases would not disappear in a toy soldier nightmare. Magical it was, however! Although I've collected Heyde figures for twenty years, most of the exhibition was items that I'd never seen before and all of it was rare. Markus had conceived the display that way-not as a Heyde catalog, but showing the essence and scope of Heyde production through items which would amaze even the experienced eye. What a success!

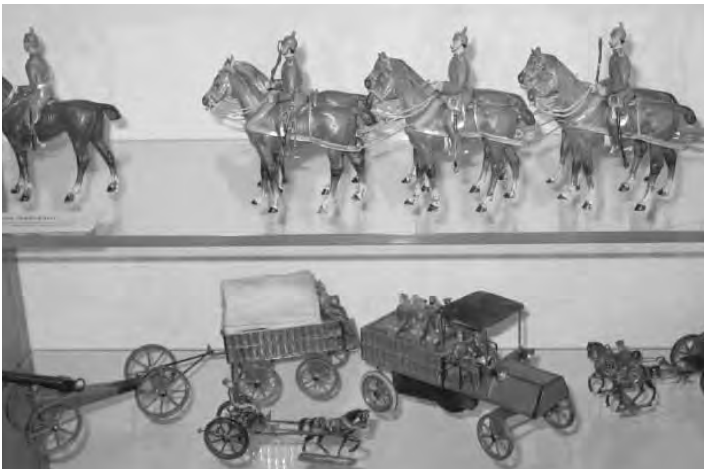


The Dresden Exhibition (Cont.)



Among the most remarkable was Heyde's ancient Olympic Games set, a Roman catapult, a paper-covered tin castle, and a South-West Africa colonial science hospital with a seated doctor looking through a microscope. Equally fabulous was a parade of carriages for the 1901 wedding of Netherlands Queen Wilhelmina, 10cm mounted Boer personality figures, a 22cm mounted lancer, unusual motor vehicles, metal-based multi-figure groups and rare knick-knacks by the score.

Sadly, this spectacular runs only from June through November 2003, when these Heyde marvels all return to collector's shelves; happily much of the exhibition is preserved in Markus Grein's new Heyde history. (See the review in this issue for more comment.)



The above pictures of the exhibits from the Dresden Exhibition courtesy Steve Sommers.



Gisbert Freber and Jo Sommers



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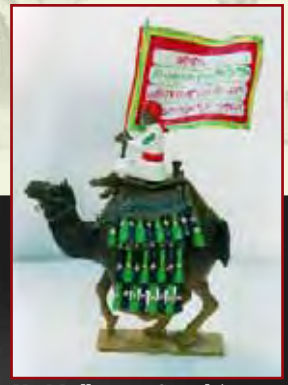
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World War II Through the Eyes of DURSO

By Vincent J. Russo and Patrice Servais

INTRODUCTION

As we have reported in past articles, the Durso Company officially opened in Liege, Belgium by the founder and owner, Michel Klimov, on February 1, 1938. Prior to this date however, Mr. Klimov produced composition figures in his home. These were marked "Fabrication Belge" or "Belgium", and mostly depicted combatants soon to be involved in the "upcoming" World War II.

In 1938, a prominent Dutch Toy dealer, Michel Meijer, placed an order with Mr. Klimov for a series of figures representing the Dutch Army. (Many believe that this helped launch Mr. Klimov and Durso into a business that would last fifty years.)

Mr. Meijer reportedly made this request because he was most dissatisfied with the "German" manufacturers. He somehow felt that the German figures did not accurately represent the uniforms and equipment of other countries. Indeed, what was usually done was to put a new head (for different countries), on the bodies of German soldiers and simply change the color of the uniform. As an example, from these early years we find Belgian, Dutch or English soldiers, throwing a "Superb" German hand grenade.

This article will not attempt to capture all of the Durso production depicting the Military aspects of World War II, however we will show, through photos, representative figures of the Armies involved in this great struggle, using a chronological series of significant events.

THE WAR IN EUROPE

Understandably, being a European company, Durso concentrated all of its efforts in the production of Military figures involved in the War in Europe. To our knowledge, Mr. Klimov did not produce any figures depicting the "War in the Pacific".

Durso was very careful to represent each country in its authentic uniform, so even as the war progressed, and uniforms changed and evolved, so the Durso figures also evolved. Every effort was made to represent, as accurately as possible, the Armies of the combatants in the war.

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

For Europe, World War II began on September 1, 1939 and ended on May 8, 1945.

SEPTEMBER 1, 1939 - GERMANY INVADES POLAND.

SEPTEMBER 3, 1939 - FRANCE and ENGLAND DECLARE WAR on GERMANY.



GERMANS L to R: SS Officer-Sailor in White*, Naval Officer, and Force in action



BRITISH EXPEDITIONARY FORCE L to R: Throwing Grenade**, On the March**, Officer with Staff-Drummer**, Officer Attacking

**Sailor was also made with blue uniforms.*

***Note the use of the "Ventral bag". As the war progressed, the use of these bags was eliminated, and so was its depiction in Durso figures (See photo 17).*

MAY 10, 1940 - GERMANY ATTACKS HOLLAND, FRANCE, BELGIUM, and LUXENBOURG.

MAY 15, 1940 - HOLLAND SURRENDERS.

MAY 28, 1940 - BELGIUM SURRENDERS.

World War II Through the Eyes of DURSO (Cont.)



DUTCH L to R: Throwing Grenade, Telephone Operator, Marching with Slung Rifle, "Fusilier" Throwing Grenade*, Sailor at attention**

**Fusiliers were naval personnel assigned to protect and defend strategic sites such as arsenals, communication centers, etc. They were also trained as "Commandos" for special operations.*

***This figure was also made in White uniform.*



BELGIAN MOUNTAIN TROOPS L to R: Helping wounded, Border Guard, Officer with Map, Bicycle Patrol



BELGIAN ARMY with ADRIAN HELMET L to R: Officer in Gas Mask, Officer Charging, Standing Flagbearer, Officer in coat, Throwing Grenade



BELGIAN ARMY with ADRIAN HELMET L to R: Soldier with back pack, firing, Assisting wounded



BELGIAN ARMY with ADRIAN HELMET L to R: Bass Drummer, Tuba, Marching with Slung Rifle, Drummer



BELGIAN ARMY with ADRIAN HELMET L to R: Parade Drummer, Drum Major, Marching Flagbearer



BELGIAN CAVALRY with ADRIAN HELMET L to R: Soldier-Officer, Bugler



BELGIAN CAVALRY with ADRIAN HELMET L to R: Officer in coat with Sword, Flagbearer in coat

World War II Through the Eyes of DURSO (Cont.)

JUNE 10, 1940 - ITALY DECLARES WAR on FRANCE
JUNE 22, 1940 - FRANCE SURRENDERS



ITALIAN ARMY L to R: Soldier Firing
"European" Uniform), Officer
Presenting Sword ("African" uniform)



FRENCH FORCES L to R: Sailor in Blue, "Liberation"
Flagbearer*, Alpine Troop, Sailor in White



FRENCH FORCES L to R: "Liberation"
Officers*, Naval Officer, Officer with
Sword in Blue Uniform**

**FRENCH "Liberation" Forces wore uniforms similar to Americans but with a little French Flag emblem on the arm.*

***Most historians depict the French Army in light blue uniforms and Adrian helmets, but in 1940 nearly all the troops wore light khaki uniforms. Durso produced all French figures with Adrian Helmets in Blue and in light Khaki uniforms.*

FEBRUARY 2, 1941 - BELGIAN CONGOLESE
"Force Publique" Attacks
Abyssinia (Annexed by
Italy in 1936)

JUNE 22, 1941 - GERMANY ATTACKS RUSSIA



FORCED PUBLIQUE L to R: Native soldier with Bicycle, Native Marching
with Flag, White soldier with Slung Rifle, Native Soldier Firing



RUSSIAN ARMY L to R: Officer Marching with Sword,
Wounded with 2 Comrades, Standing firing Rifle



RUSSIAN ARMY L to R: Lying Firing Rifle, Charging
with Rifle, Officer with Binoculars, Flagbearer,
Kneeling Firing Rifle

NOVEMBER 8, 1942 - ALLIED LANDING in
NORTH AFRICA
(OPERATION "TORCH")

JULY 10, 1943 - ALLIED LANDING in SICILY

SEPTEMBER 8, 1943 - ITALY SURRENDERS

SEPTEMBER 13, 1943 - ALLIED LANDING in CORSICA

JUNE 6, 1944 - "D-DAY", ALLIED LANDING in NORMANDY (OPERATION "OVERLORD")

World War II Through the Eyes of DURSO (Cont.)



ENGLISH ARMY L to R: Soldier marching with Slung Rifle*, Drummer, "Tommy"-Soldier with Tommy Gun

**Note the absence of the "Ventral bags"*



AMERICAN ARMY L to R: Seated Soldier waving "Hello", Officer marching, MP with Slung Rifle, Flagbearer, Soldier with Slung Rifle

SEPTEMBER 3, 1944 - LIBERATION of BRUSSELS

MARCH 7, 1945 - AMERICAN TROOPS ENTER GERMANY

MAY 8, 1945 - GERMANY SURRENDERS

POST WAR

After the formal end of hostilities in Europe, Durso continued to make WW2 figures to satisfy the "Special requests" of customers. These were produced in relatively low quantities, but still were authentic in every detail. These figures were generally "Uncataloged" and understandably, are very rare today.

CONCLUSION

The Authors sincerely hope that we successfully illustrated the excellent "quality of production", and the "Attention to detail", that the Durso Company exhibited in the manufacture of the Military figures of the countries involved in the European theater of World War II.

To complete the Military scene, you have noted that Durso produced figures other than "Soldiers in Combat". Wounded, Communications and Parade are just some of the figures that were designed to recognize the contributions and importance of all phases of the conflict.

All these composition figures are truly a tribute to the talent, imagination, and integrity of Michel Klimov.

We invite you to find out more about the Durso Company by visiting the Durso Website at:

<http://users.skynet.be/DURSO>



BELGIAN LIBERATION ARMY (PIRONS BRIGADE)* L to R: Telephone Operator, Officer Saluting, Flagbearer, Officer Charging

**Pirons Brigade were Belgian Troops who were trained in England. They wore English Helmets and uniforms closely resembling those of the British, but there were subtle differences, which were accurately depicted by Durso. Piron's Brigade participated on D-Day and in the liberation of Brussels.*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Photos by Veronique Servais

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 69 of this issue.

PLASTICS ON PARADE

Lido Plastics USA - A British Connection

By Norman Joplin

Richard O' Brien gives a brief history of Lido in his book *Collecting American Made Toy Soldiers # 3* and deduces from interviews with the original owners that the first Toy Soldiers may have been issued in 1951.

The accompanying photos from advertisements appearing in *Plaything Magazine* confirm that Lido figures were being offered in 1950.

Lido, as Richard notes, had a policy of "Copy anything and produce it cheaper".

There is evidence in some of these 1950s advertisements that perhaps some of the copies were taken from British made Toy Soldiers.

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CYpress 2-4942-3-4

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SHOWROOM
200 5th AVE
NEW YORK
ROOM 206



COWBOY AND INDIAN plastic toys have been added to the Lido Toy Corp., 781 E. 135th St., New York 51, line. This set (No. 101) consists of five assorted horses and riders in eye-appealing colors. Packed in a colorful sales display box with cellophane, each box contains cut-outs, for a corral, sheriff's office, etc. Suggested retail price is 59¢. The firm also has its 1950 catalog available.

The set of plastic Cowboys and Indians on foot announced as new lines for 1950 are clearly those produced as hollow cast lead pre WW2 by Crescent in England, who are also known to have had connections with Lincoln Log.

These foot figures were later introduced into Lido's Round Up boxed display set which featured mounted Cowboys and Indians on hollowed out plastic horses. These items were available post WW2 in the UK and made by Tudor Rose and Poplar Playthings of Wales.

PLASTICS ON PARADE (Cont.)

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NO. 121
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NO. 103
Suggested Retail Price **59¢**

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Suggested Retail Price **\$1.00**

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59¢
Suggested Retail Price

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COWBOYS & INDIANS

SIZE OF BOX 8" x 11"

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Illustrated is one of the many fast selling toys manufactured by Lido. Write today for new 1950 catalog in full color which describes the entire Lido line.

LIDO TOY CORPORATION
781 E. 135th STREET • NEW YORK 54, N. Y. CYPRESS 2-4942-3-4

Poplar Playthings were also connected with Thomas Toys in the US, both firms issuing Rubber Spacemen and Aliens in self colored material.

The Lido Captain Video Space items derived from the US Television show also have a connection with Britain in that during the early nineteen eighties these molds were obtained by a small company in the south of the country and reproduced in lead.

Capt. VIDEO & VIDEO RANGER
No. 2105

Hero of millions of young tele-viewers and seen in the movies each week. Featuring Space Men, Space Ships, Rocket Launchers, etc., in the most futuristic design imaginable. Assorted colors. Packaged in a six color counter display box with cellophane window. Sets are priced to retail from 49¢ to \$1.98. Suggested retail price of box shown.*

\$1.49

EBAY FINDS



Britains Buck Rogers set \$2225



Britains Picture Pack Salesmans
Sample boxes offered by a Utah E Bay
member remained unsold.

RECONNAISSANCE



Jones previously undiscovered West Point Cadet Style Drummer and U.S. Infantryman made of inferior metal marked Chicago and probably one of Edward Jones earliest issues.



Another mystery figure surfaced at the OTS Show in Chicago. Bruce and Pam Fournier own the piece, it is brass and well detailed. Write to OTS Magazine if you can help with identification.



Lincoln Log Three Horn, the item shown at the bottom of this picture was presented at the Dimestore Breakfast by Don Boyden. It bears no casting name of either Three Horn or Lincoln Log and has only two horns. It is light brown in color rather than the usual dark blue.

Can anyone identify the manufacturer? L to R: Abraham Lincoln, Amish Man, Amish Woman and Baby, Pocahontas. Bought in three different US locations Arizona, New Jersey and Wisconsin. These aluminum figures range in size from 60 mm to 48 mm.



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New Figure Review by Russ Bednarek

Toy soldier collecting has truly become a global hobby. Individual collectors span all age, ethnic, socio-economic, and geo-political boundaries.

The diversity of collectors is reflected in the worldwide manufacturing of toy soldiers. The results of "collector diversity" is twofold: 1) companies continue to set high standards for sculpting and painting, and, 2) companies seek "untouched" historical periods for new ranges of their figures.

Francois Beaumont (Paris, France), and Figarti, (Shanghai, China), are two young companies which have managed to produce high quality figures each portraying a unique niche in military history.

FRANCOIS BEAUMONT

Francois Beaumont is the owner of the Paris toy soldier shop "La Boite de Soldat". When in Paris, you owe it to yourself to visit the shop which is full of countless toy soldiers.

Besides being a toy soldier dealer, Francois Beaumont has within the last year and a half ventured into the business of producing his own line of toy soldiers, "The French Army 1939-1940".

Cast in resin, the 70mm figures are superbly done. The current range of 10 line infantry includes, officers, infantrymen, machine gunners and assistant, and a flag bearer. At this year's OTSN Show, Francois unveiled two new figures to further compliment the range, a drummer and trumpeter.



Detail of the 1935 pattern equipment is outstanding. Haversacks, cartridge pouches, belts, and buckles are all done in astounding detail. This is accomplished by each piece being individually sculpted from wood. From the wood master, a mold is made, the individual piece is then cast and attached to the figure. The result is a highly detailed, realistic toy soldier.

A finely applied matte painting style adds even more realism to each figure. The rich brown leather tones are nicely set off against the khaki greatcoat and pants. All equipment and weapons are accurately painted insuring historical accuracy.

The final figure to be added to the line infantry range will be a mounted officer. Future ranges will include chasseurs a pied, chasseurs alpins, and infanterie de forteresse.

Francois is in attendance at the OTSN Show selling from his room and at the Show on Sunday. If you collect World War II, or the French Army, these figures will be wonderful additions to your collection.



FIGARTI

Located in Shanghai China, Figarti is the creation of the father son team of James and Rick Wang. In just six short months, Figarti has managed to produce an impressive range of figures representing the Sino-Japanese War (1937-1945).

The Chinese Communist Party (CCP), aligned itself with Chaing Kai Shek's Kuomintang Army (KMT), to repel the Japanese invasion of China.

Figarti's range depicts the CCP and Japanese forces. Figures are available individually and in sets. Eight individual figures are offered for the Chinese Communist Army, along with three sets. Each set is

GENERAL INSPECTION-NEW PRODUCT REVIEW (Cont.)

comprised of four pieces. Likewise, the Japanese Army range also has eight individual figures and three sets, each of four pieces.

The figure submitted for review is C-1003 Chinese Soldier with Sword. The sculpting of the 60mm metal figure is of the highest standard. Pockets, straps and bandoleer are all crisply crafted. Set atop a terrain base, the folds, creases and drape of the gray uniform help convey a very natural pose.

The exemplary painting style admirably complements the fine sculpting. Figarti has decided on a shading/highlighting painting style which results in a most realistic look.

This year marked Figarti's inaugural trip to the OTSN Show. I was fortunate enough to personally view the entire line, and am happy to report that quality is consistent throughout the line. An enthusiastic James Wang indicated that future releases may include The Burma Road and Flying Tigers.

Figarti is committed to customer service and produces an exceptional product at a competitive price. This is definitely a company to keep your eye on.



Contact Information:

Figarti, Phone: 86 136 0189 0760, Fax 8621 5420 6309, Web www.figarti.com
 Francois Beaumont, La Boite de Soldat, 28, rue Violet, 75015 Paris, France, Fax 33 01 45 78 89 44



70003 Foot-soldier with battleaxe Fantassin avec hache d'armes	70004 Halberdier Halebardier
70006 Archer Archer	70008 Mounted knight on horse Chevalier à cheval

SCHLEICH PLASTIC KNIGHTS

Schleich of Canada have issued a superb new line of Plastic Knights in eighteen different poses. The mounted figures are 140mm in height and the foot 90mm. The North American agent for this range is Sandy Adcock who was displaying them for the first time at this year's Old Toy Soldier Show in Chicago. Sandy can be contacted on 402 614 6604 or via email sra6604@aol.com

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- The ultimate conflict at Sekigahara (1600), which led to the establishment of the Tokugawa shogunate (1603).



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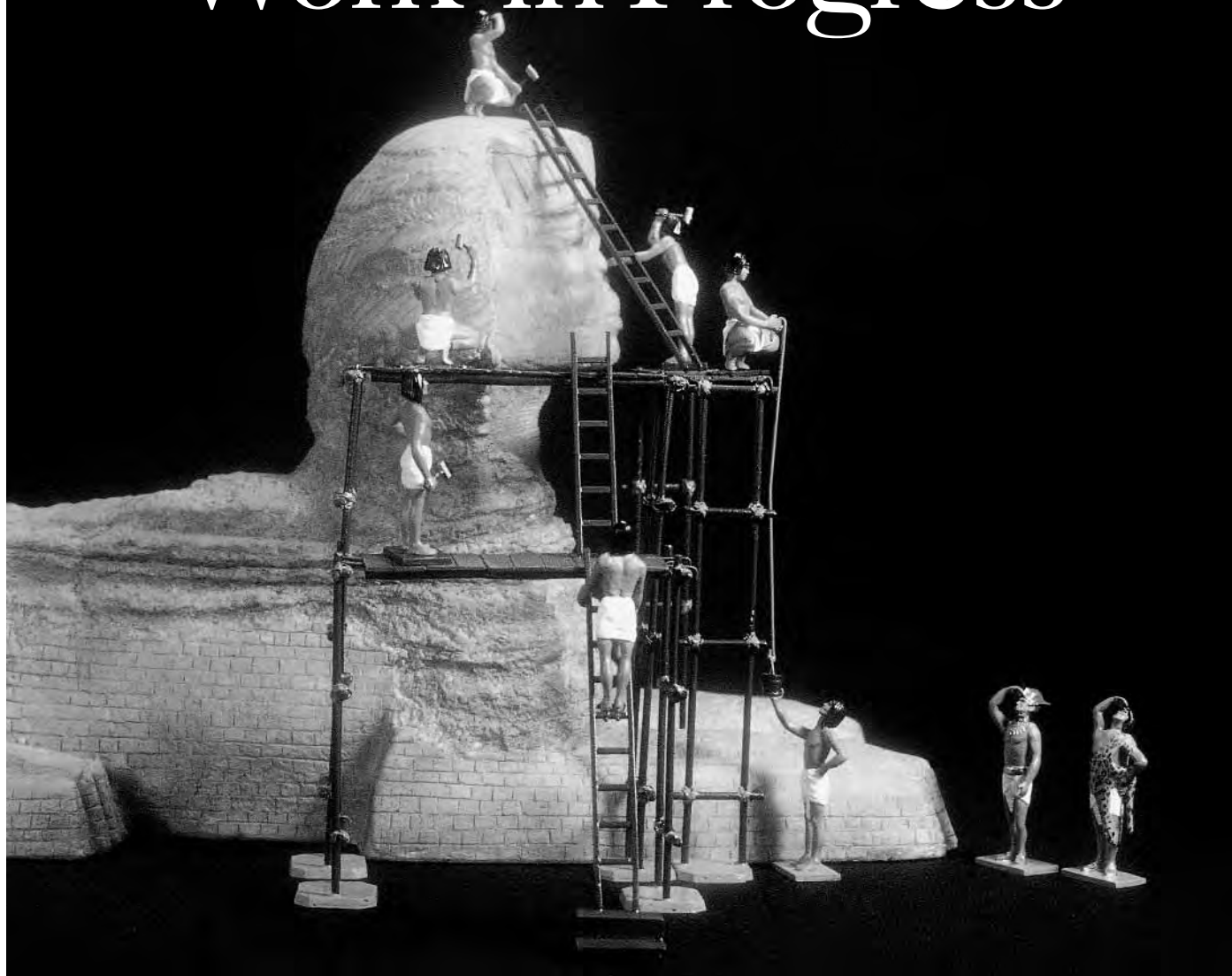
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Flamboyance in Motor Transport

By E. W. Fitzgerald

George S. Patton, Jr., the World War II U. S. Third Army Commanding General, is frequently pictured being driven around northwest Europe in a Dodge “command car.” The official nomenclature of which was: truck 3/4 ton, 4x4, Command Reconnaissance Model WC56. This vehicle weighing over 5,600 pounds, was powered by a 6-cylinder 92 BHP engine and had a 98-inch wheel base. 27,000 were



produced during 1942-1944. The flamboyant Patton believed in being seen by his troops and, accordingly, had his command car specially outfitted with attention-getting truck air horns, and white and red front fender pennants made of 1/4" steel plate so they always stood out. Third Army insignia and Lieutenant General's stars were indicated on these red and white pennants which were the traditional colors of the Horse Cavalry. The picture of the prototype is courtesy of the Patton Museum of Fort Knox, Kentucky.

Recently, two very well done scale models of Patton's command car have become available. The first in 1/32 scale resin was produced by King & Country and is pictured left with Patton, packing his ivory-handled pistols, and his dog, Willie, “talking down” to his boss, General

Eisenhower! (Above) The second, illustrated right, in 1/8 scale plastic was imported by American Century Toys selling through Toys-R-Us. Note both models feature those famous fender pennants. The latter model is armed with a .50 calibre machine gun just as shown in the picture of the prototype. Old “Blood and Guts” would be proud.



AUCTION PREVIEW

Christies South Kensington London December 2003 Auction

Hugo Marsh, head of Christies, South Kensington Auction House London has announced the sale of a major collection of Heyde and other continental Toy Soldiers and figures.

The Frank Johnson collection together with items from the collection of another prominent American collector also features Britains, Courtenay, Mignot and Lucotte.

The sale takes place in London on Friday, 5th December 2003, see the two Christies advertisements in this issue.



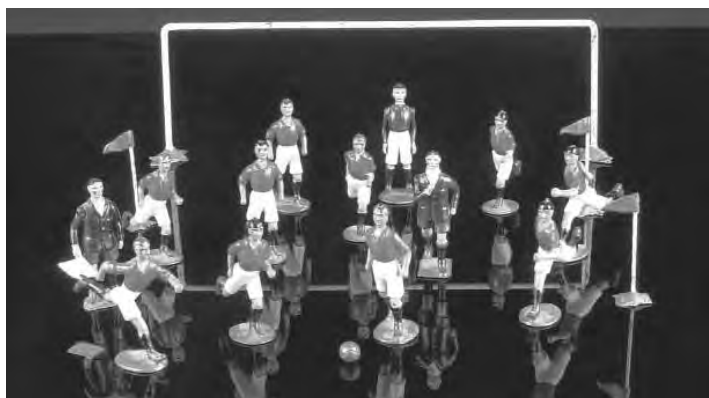
Britains. Racehorses, originally sold as part of the Britains Archive Auction in June 1994 as lot 291.



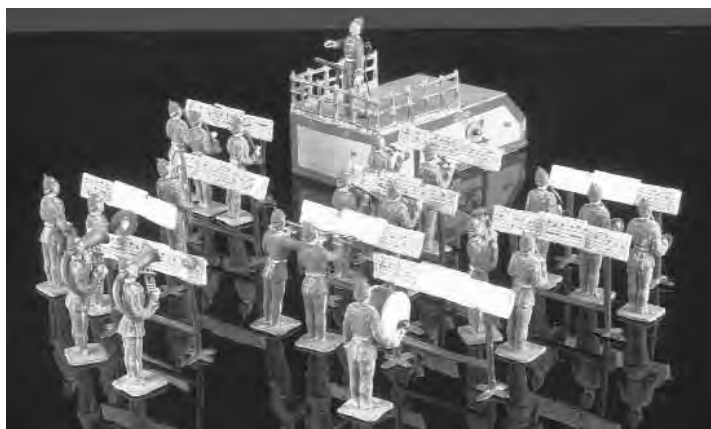
Heyde. Mounted Hussars on rocking horse type sprung bases.



Heyde. A group of 24 American Revolutionary War American troops.



Britains. Famous Football Team - Liverpool.



Heyde. US Infantry Band with conductor on clockwork musical podium.



Heyde. US Khaki Infantry camp.

AUCTION PREVIEW (Cont.)

Vectis December 2003 Toy Soldier Auction

Vectis Auctions are holding another specialized sale of Military and Civilian figures on Thursday 4th December in Buckingham, England.

Comprising of some 500 lots, this auction takes place just two days prior to the London Toy Soldier Show and is therefore expected to attract many overseas collectors.

Some of the many interesting items include Britains Set 92 Spanish Infantry, Set 1413 Police Car, Set 1620 Royal Marine Light Infantry, Set 1850 Netherlands Infantry and Set 2013 Rare Indian Mountain Artillery Set. There are also figures by Heyde, Mignot and other makers. Composition figures by Lineol and Elastolin. A superb collection of Britains Herald Models, all boxed, together with later Britains and other plastic figure manufacturers.

Also included is a good selection of modern figures by Imperial of New Zealand depicting the Crimean War, again with figures by many other makers. Civilian and farm figures and vehicles are represented by Britains and others, many being boxed.

The full catalogue will be available to view on the Vectis Website www.vectis.co.uk three weeks prior to the auction.

This is a sale which will appeal to all interests and any inquiries should be to Peter Rumsey or Simon Clark at Vectis. Tel: +44 1642 750616, Fax: +44 1642 769478, Email admin@vectis.co.uk





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Wednesday November 19 2003 at 11am
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The highlight of the sale is a fine and extensive overseas collection of Heyde - including bands, US and European infantry and historical figures - as well as boxed Mignot and Britains

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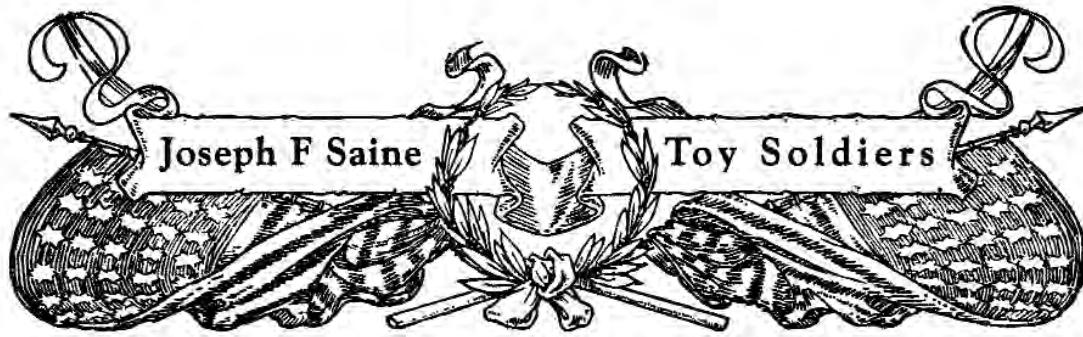
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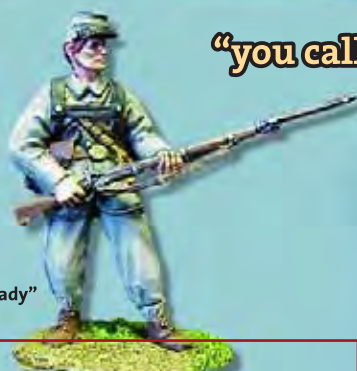
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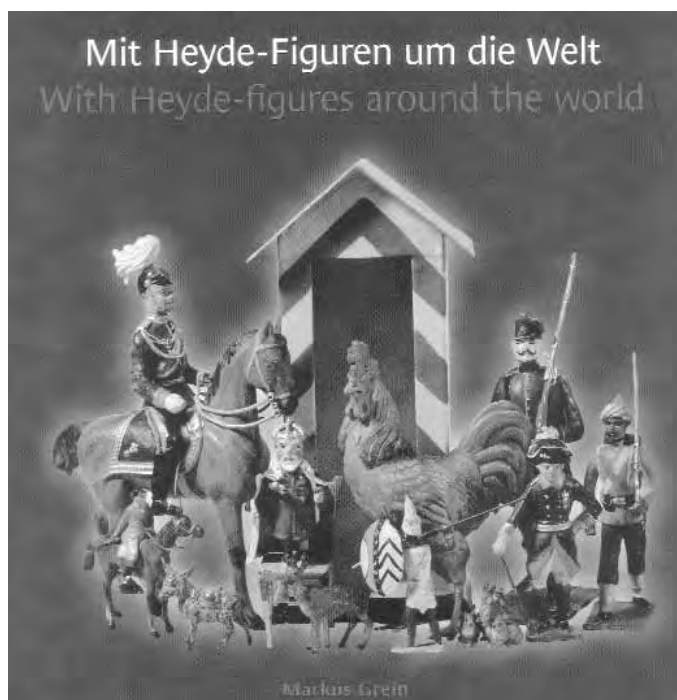
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BOOK REVIEW

With Heyde Figures Around the World - Markus Grein by Steve Sommers



With Heyde Figures Around the World by Markus Grein is a history of the Georg Heyde company of Dresden. In the past 100 years this prolific company's name has come to be used generically for all German solid casts, but this book is just on Heyde. Markus Grein's all color, 120-page hardcover book has a bilingual (German and English) text. It is a companion to the Dresden exhibition of Heyde Company figures which Markus orchestrated this summer. This book, however, is not a museum catalog, although most of the rare and spectacular Heyde shown in its sixty pages of big color photos were on Dresden display. (See the Heyde Exhibition article in this issue.)

Rarities pictured include a boxed polo team, a set of migrating ancient Germanic people, a Wallenstein encampment, and a tied-in-the-box kettledrum wagon of 18th century Saxony artillery. In another photo a Prussian coronation coach crosses

in front of a nearly scale Brandenburg Gate; tin buildings accompany the Arab encampment. There are "late production" 1930's boxes: an SA band and a panzer crew in action. That is just a start through the book's color photos.

Of equal value for the Heyde enthusiast is the authoritative company history based on unique Heyde family sources and photos. Markus traces the firm from Georg Heyde's 1848 Leipzig birth and his entry into the pewter toy trade in 1872, to turn of the century toy soldier boom and post WWI bust, through the founder's death in 1928. Grein's book chronicles how Heyde son Walter Georg reluctantly took the helm but let his staff lead the way in the 1930's. On February 13th, 1945 the factory, located behind the Heyde home, was largely destroyed by Allied bombing. In the post-War East Germany days production was reduced to a trickle of non-military figures and finally, ignominiously, to fishing weights (pilgers). When Walter Georg died in 1973 the property was sold, ending a century of Heyde.

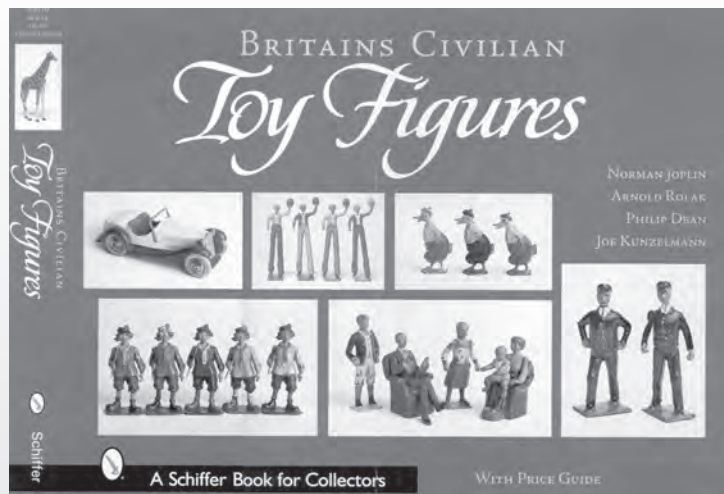
Markus Grein's sophisticated and tasteful book is a must for the collector of German solids and should be read by everyone interested in the history of old toy soldiers; it is great research beautifully presented.

With Heyde Figures Around the World by Markus Grein, ISBN 3-993124-16-6, is published by Krannich, 2003, and should retail for about \$50. It is available from Joe Shimek; Potsdam Tin Soldiers; P.O. Box 291387; Kerrville, TX 78029. Steve Sommers



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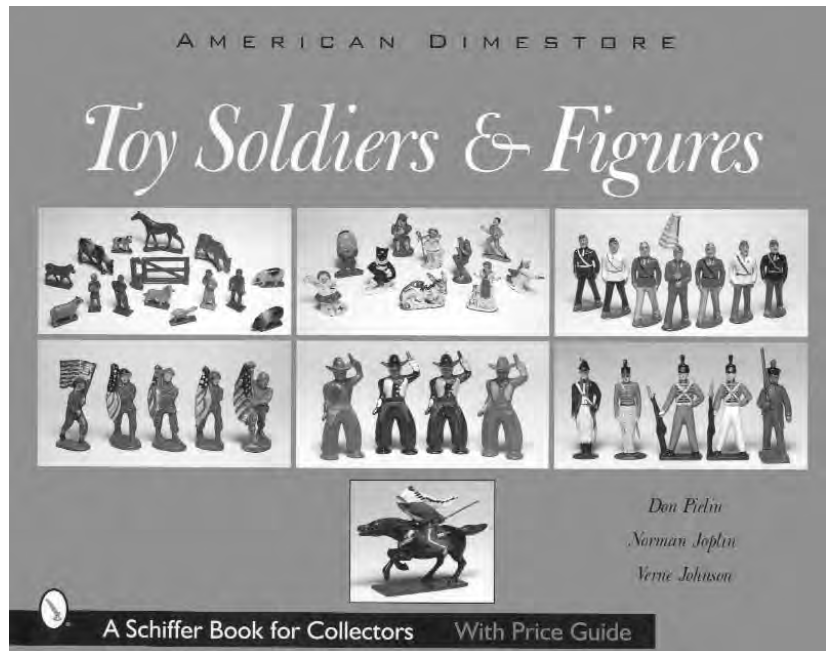
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A TALE OF TAILS

By Richard (the zooman) Lewis

Most people seem to be familiar with the two versions of the Britains #573 Bull. Namely the pre-war flying tail version and the Post-war type with the tail down and fixed to the rear of the animal. However I wonder how many collectors have come across several other Britains animals that have had a similar modification to their tails?



Firstly, when the adult Bactrian Camel #918 first appeared it too had a 'flying tail' but this seems to have been modified quite early on as very few have survived and of these, nearly all have their tails broken off. On examination of these, it can be seen that the tail was never attached to the left rear leg as it is in the later version. Interestingly, the catalogues show the



camel as a line drawing with a 'flying tail' and I had always thought this to be 'artistic licence' until I came across a 1932 Britains Zoo Advert showing a photograph of the camel with the tail sticking out and unattached to the rear leg.



Secondly, the early #968 Water Buffalo had a very different tail to the one moulded



down the left rear leg that is most commonly found. This early tail is quite rounded and separate from the body until the tip, which is lightly joined to the right rear leg. It seems likely in the cases of the Bull and Camel that these changes were made to solve breakage problems, but this is more unlikely with the Water Buffalo as its tail is quite secure and very similar to that of the Highland Cattle, which survived unchanged. Maybe the mold got damaged

which necessitated the change - who knows? A tail change of a more minor nature is also evident in the #539 feeding cow - see photo. With regard to the 'artistic licence' in the catalogue line drawings has anyone come across an Eland Bull with a 'flying tail' as in the catalogue or a Llama with a turned hoof? I think maybe not! But

(Opposite) Photographs of Britains Animals Shown in a 1932 Britains Zoo Advert



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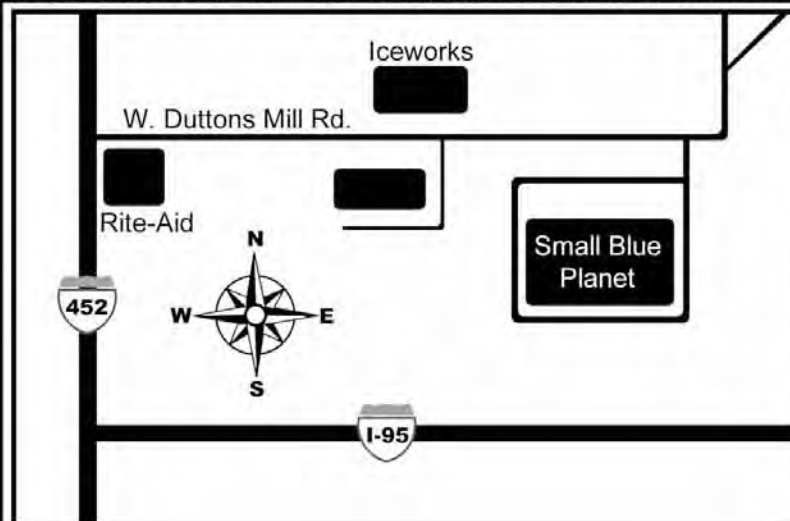
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Britains Royal Horse Artillery: Variations on a Theme, Part 2

by Rob Wilson with photographs by Allen Hickling

Introduction

A previous article in OTS (Volume 26, No 1, pp 43-50), summarized the main sets offered by Britains representing the Royal Horse Artillery. These included sets 39, 39a, 317 and 2077. All of these were in Britains standard size. There was, of course, another important strand to Britains production, aimed at those with somewhat smaller pocketbooks. This was their long-running "b-sized" range. The Royal Horse Artillery was represented in two sets in this series: Set 125b in Review order and 126b in Service Dress. These were not covered in the earlier discussion. The present article repairs this omission, as well as providing a few additional photographs of Set 2077, as discussed in the previous article.



Set 125b, RHA, Review order, first version , postillion and pair of horses

The team pulled a simple two wheel limber and a small gun (see Figure 3). This had an external sprung-steel spring plate design to propel matchstick ammunition. The gun saw separate service as part of a number of the Beiser Military Display sets.

Both teams were escorted by a team of 4 gunners and an officer. Initially, these made use of the existing castings used for the Hussar regiments. The 4 gunners were on black

Britains "b-sized" Gun Teams

There were two main versions of the "b-sized" teams. These were introduced simultaneously in 1902. Both sets comprised a 6 horse gun team, with 3 fixed arm postillions, taking a rather stiff and upright seat, given that their mounts are at a full stretch gallop. The Review order set were in blue uniforms with yellow frogging and a red trouser stripe and wearing a similar cap to the hussars (see Figure 1).

The service dress variation were in khaki uniforms with a tropical service "pith" helmet (see Figure 2). The figures were dated 1.11.1901 on the horse's bellies.



Figures from Britains Set 125b and 126b compared.



Guns used in sets 125b and 126b, from left to right: first, intermediate and final versions



Escorts for Set 126b, from left to right: first and second versions

and brown cantering horses (see Figure 4). They carried carbines. The officer rode a walking grey (see Figure 5). He was armed with an outstretched sword. These figures were undated.

Set 125b was painted in essentially the same uniform as Set 39. Many of the early sets are painted very neatly, the details of the frogging ,

Britains Royal Horse Artillery (Cont.)

faces, etc. being very nicely executed. The gun and limber were painted dark grey. They make an excellent accompaniment to their large scale brothers, especially when used at the back of a display in order to give an impression of perspective.

Set 126b, in contrast to its large scale bretheren, was always depicted in Boer war service dress, rather than the WW I style khaki and peak caps. This probably reflects its early date of introduction. The larger scale Sets 39a and 144a did not



Officers for Set 125b, from left to right: first and second versions



Set 125b, RHA in Review order, first version

appear until 1916. By then the Boer war was distant memory, given the more immediate concerns of dealing with the German army on the Western Front.

The set continued in this form until it was withdrawn in 1941. The foreign service helmets make for a very attractive set, which fits well with Britains other Boer war offerings (see Figure 7). What a shame that they never produced the full-sized teams in similar uniforms! The gun and limber for this version were painted in various shades of khaki.

When first introduced the price was just 2/6d. This was less than half the price being charged for set 39. They must have been popular, since many fine examples survive, and they continued in the catalogue well beyond the time when most of the "b-sized" range were deleted after 1918.

The two sets used essentially the same box, the only distinction being the set number. The early sets were distributed in boxes with "Printers Flowers" style decoration, (for an example, see James Opie, The Great Book of Britains, page 81). At some point after 1908, a new label was designed by Fred Whisstock (Figure 8). Again, this was common to both sets. The same packaging was used right up until 1941.



Set 126b, RHA in Boer War service dress, second version



Whisstock designed Box label for Set 125b (The box for Set 126b was identical apart from the set number).

Britains Royal Horse Artillery (Cont.)

After only a couple of years (in 1904) the main variation was introduced to both sets. This involved the replacement of the escort (both officer and other ranks) by new castings based on a horse, dated 9.5.1904, and at full stretch (see the figures on the right hand side in Figures 4 and 5). This was much more in keeping with the "flat out" pose depicted for the team itself. Otherwise, the set was essentially unchanged. It continued in this form until 1932. The officer still carried a sword, while the other ranks were armed with carbines. The main castings were otherwise identical. The only distinction between sets 125b and 126b was in the head-gear. The paint finish was essentially unchanged from the earlier variants.

In 1932 the final variation was introduced. This simply involved replacing the gun by the new one introduced in Set 1263. This used a more conventional firing mechanism in place of the external sprung steel strip (see the gun on the far right side of Figure 3).



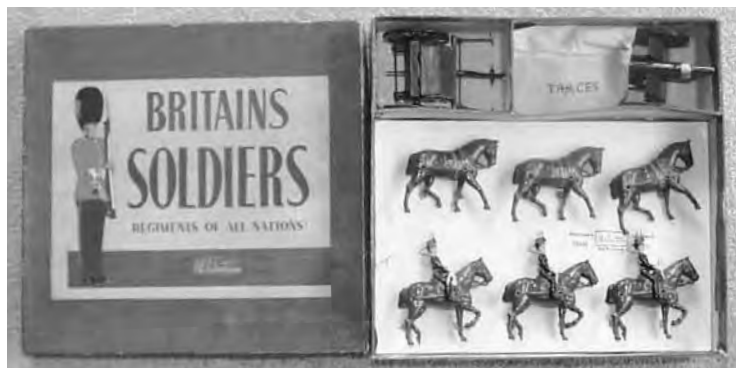
Set 125b, second version, in original box, with stamp for The National Scheme for Disabled Men

Britains Set 2077

This set was described in the previous article. Introduced in 1953 to fit in with range of Coronation Procession figures, it depicted a King's Troop, RHA team at the walk, without escort. The team was assembled using the "H" clips used by Britains for all their later military horse drawn vehicles post-war. In 1956 the team was used in an updated version of Set 73, where it replaced the Royal Artillery team that had been used pre-war. In this form, it was accompanied by a mounted officer, riding the heavy horse used by the ADCs in Set 201 (right).



Set 126b with original box



Set 2077 in Regiment of All Nations Box.



Set 2077, assembled, with officer as used in set 73



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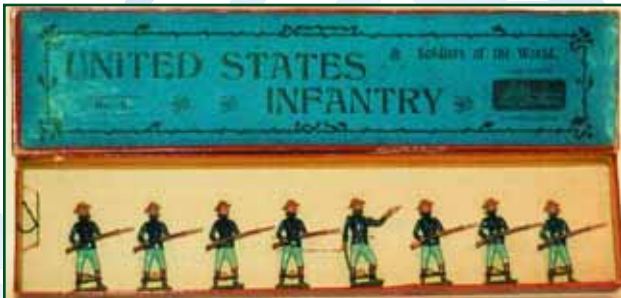
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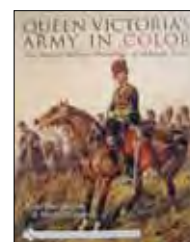
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It's a cover up

by Philip Dean

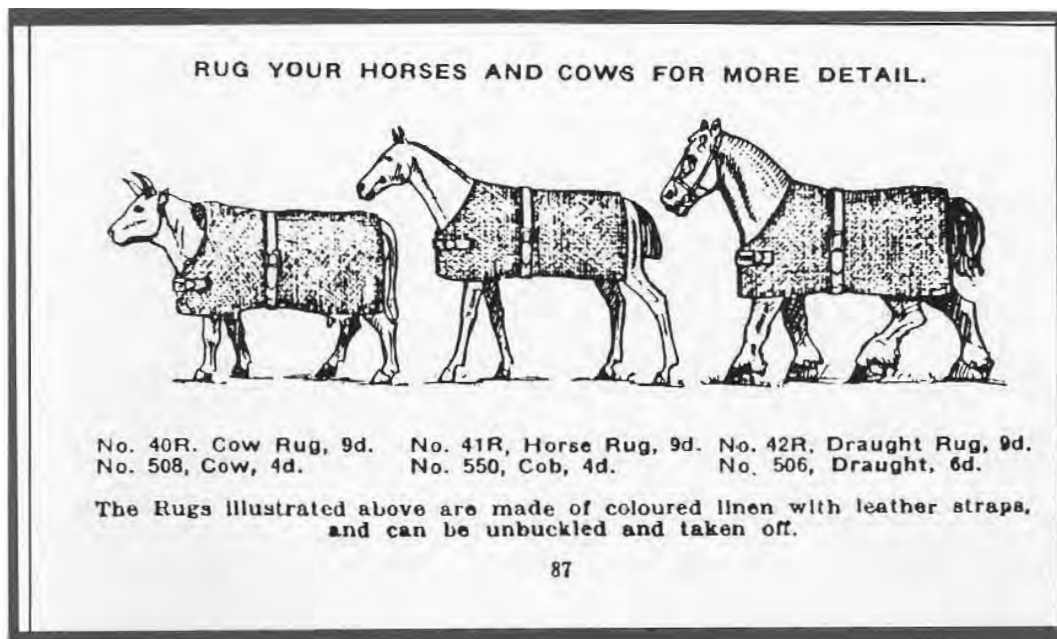
Produced by the Australian department store, Walther & Stevenson, were three “rugs”, supplied in sizes for cows and horses. The “rugs” were only sold at this store, which was not only a toy shop but also a saddlery. The workers in the saddlery were also the manufacturers.

The animal covers can now be seen to be very small (5cm x 4cm) and intricate with tiny leather straps and mini wire buckles, with neat stitching.

Previously, these had only come to light when researching for “Britains Civilian Toy Figures” when a copy of an advert was kindly supplied by Australian collector Robin Yates. At that time no actual samples were available.

A few weeks ago I had an email from Robin telling me to expect a small package from Australia. It contained the cob blanket shown below. An extremely rare item, both in and out of Australia. As far as I am aware this is the first time that an actual photograph has been published, another first for the OTS magazine.

To Robin and Pauline Yates, my antipodean friends, thank you for all your efforts in acquiring the “rug”, it is appreciated more than I can say and worth lots of drinks when I see you again, in Chicago or maybe, England.



Copy as shown in “Britains Civilian Toy Figures”



Britains cob wearing the “rug”



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BRITAINS LTD. PROFILES

A REVIEW OF BRITAINS LTD. POLICEMEN (1908-1960)

By Joe Wallis

The modern police force did not appear on London's streets until 1829. Sir Robert Peel organized this institution and the nickname of "Bobbies" was quickly applied to these guardians of public order and civil authority. As H.G. Wells lamented in his book *Floor Games*, Britains Ltd. had concentrated on military figures, and there was a dearth of civilian types until 1908. In that year, the Firm issued Set #158, a "Complete Railway Station Set," which supplied various newly designed civilian pieces to use with the popular model trains offered by Hornby and other makers. Later, in 1926, the railway figures were also offered as single items numbered 800-817 (remaining in the catalog through 1941).

Amongst the contents of Set #158 was a standing Policeman who wore the familiar dark blue uniform and helmet of the London Policeman. He had two fixed arms at his sides, and wore white gloves. He was customarily depicted with the blue-and-white armband of the Greater London Metropolitan Police. Subsequently (from 1912), this figure was also sold in Set #168, entitled "Civilians" at first and later "Pedestrians." This Policeman sometimes appeared with a red-and-white armband on his left wrist; this signified that he was a member of the City of London Police Force (the City was the Financial Center of London and the oldest part of the metropolis). Prewar, the Policeman with helmet had a brown or a green base. He was contained in prewar Sets #158, 168, and 319. Postwar, the Policeman with helmet was



only listed in the Farm Series, as #776, from 1954-59, with a grey base. A smaller O-Gauge scale model of the same policeman with helmet was included as part of prewar Railway Sets #1256 and #1423, and was sold singly as well from 1936-1941 as #824.

Another policeman wearing a Bobbie's helmet was #621, but this was a policeman directing traffic. He had white gauntlet gloves up to his elbows, and the raised left arm was fixed and gesturing to the left. The right arm was movable, and could be left down at the waist, or raised in a "halt" position to stop oncoming vehicles in an exceptionally realistic manner. The #621 Traffic Policeman lacked any armband (presumably it was covered by the gauntlet gloves). He was sold singly from 1929-41 and from 1946-59; he was also offered as part of prewar Sets #319, #1428, and #1429, but was never part of the Railway Series. It is my belief that a rare prewar version in peak cap, rather than a police helmet, may be the most logical hypothesis for the contents of the mysterious U.S. Police in Set #428. This rare set was only in the 1930-31 catalogs.

Number 659 used the same figure of a standing policeman, but with a peak cap. He appeared in the catalog from 1936-41 and was revived postwar from 1954-59. He usually wore a blue-and-white armband. This piece was also supplied as part of Set #1430.



The next policeman was on horseback (see above), to be employed at parades and events for crowd control. The Mounted Policeman was first seen as part of Set #319, inaugurated in 1929 and listed in the catalog through 1941. He was mounted at the halt, usually on a bay horse, with a truncheon attached to the left side of the saddle, but sometimes a grey horse was supplied. As Britains Ltd. issued items to portray the 1937 Coronation of King George VI, four of the Mounted Police were provided in large Display Set #1477, and Set #1511 contained five Mounted Police. These sets were only part of the Britains Ltd. line from 1937-41. This figure was sold singly in the postwar Farm Series as #775 from 1954-59 (typically on a grey horse).



A REVIEW OF BRITAINS LTD. POLICEMEN (1908-1960) (Cont.)

Perhaps the most seldom seen Britains police other than Set #428 (see discussion above of the Traffic Policeman in peak cap on foot) are the Mobile Traffic Policemen on motorcycles produced in Set #1792 from 1939-41. They wore peak caps, and rode the same updated motorcycles with revolving wheels that the Royal Corps of Signals dispatch riders of Set #1791 employed. The speed cops were dressed in dark blue tunics, trousers, and peak caps. They had silver buttons and collar tabs, white gauntlets, and black boots. Their motorcycles were black with red gas tanks, silver headlamps, and silver exhaust pipes. They used the same rectangular box as Set #1791, and the label used the same illustration with a bursting shell on the horizon beyond the motorcyclist from that military set.



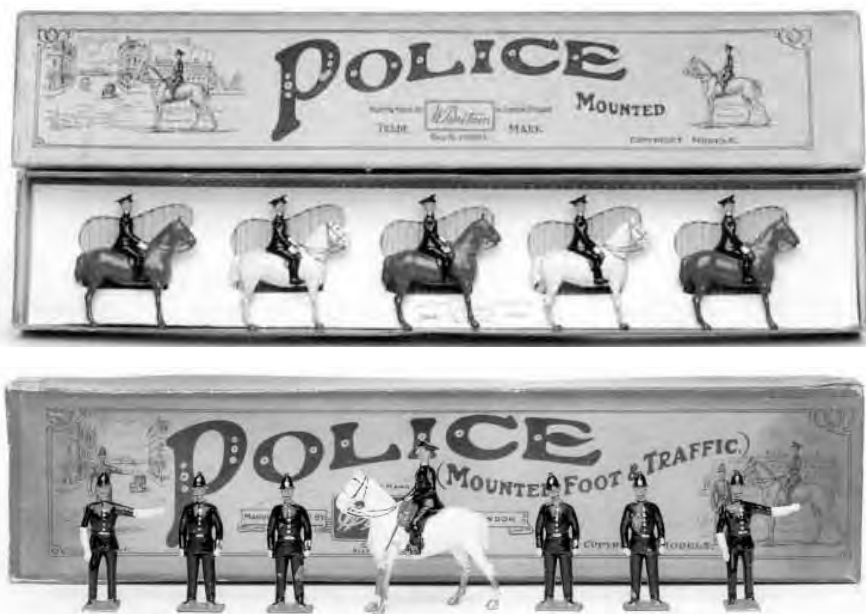
The motorcycle cops were not the only mobile police unit made by Britains Ltd. In 1936, Britains Ltd. Sets #1413 and #1430 were introduced and both contained a Police Car with two seated police officers wearing peak caps. They were shoulder-to-shoulder, cast as one piece, cut off at the thighs. The driver has his right arm raised, perhaps signaling a turn. They wear dark blue peak caps, tunics and trousers, and feature white gauntlets. The lap rug has a grass-green plaid pattern on a dark green background. The car itself is typically brown or green. The #1413 Police Car was only produced from 1936-41. (The car was later enrolled in the Armed Forces as Set #1448, the Army Staff Car, with the car in an olive drab paint scheme, and its passengers in khaki uniform.)



A walking Military Policeman in peak cap, based upon the Home Guard casting of Set #1918, appeared in Set 1-R postwar from 1954-59. His peak cap included a red capband. This postwar Railway Set is quite rare, and therefore so is the Military Policeman. The "P" Series of Second-Grade figures shown in the 1954 New Lines List included #149-P, a plainly painted "Speed Cop" on a motorcycle all in dark blue except for his face. Lastly, among the civilian military police types of Britains Ltd., was a small-scale Speed Cop on a motorcycle, #LB/550 in the Lilliput Series. He was pantographed down from the 54-millimeter version to go with HO Trains, and was offered singly from 1952-60 and in Set L11 from 1957-60.

To recapitulate, Set #319 contained one Mounted Policeman, two Traffic Policemen (#621), and four Policemen with Helmets (#808). Set #1511 had five Mounted Policemen, but only four were included in Coronation Display Box #1477.

Perhaps worthy of mention in this article is Set #239, the Automobile Association Scouts (sold singly as #578), but they were not actually policemen. Other sets with a police connotation include the following: the Mexican Rurales of Set #186, the Canadian Northwest Mounted Police of Sets #214, #1349, and #1554 (subsequently retitled the Royal Canadian Mounted Police), the Texas Rangers of noncatalogued Sets #1508 and #1509, the Italian Carabinieri of Set #1437, the U.S. Military Police of Set #2021, the United Nations Infantry of Set #2155, and the Bahamas Police of Sets #2184, #2185, and #2186.





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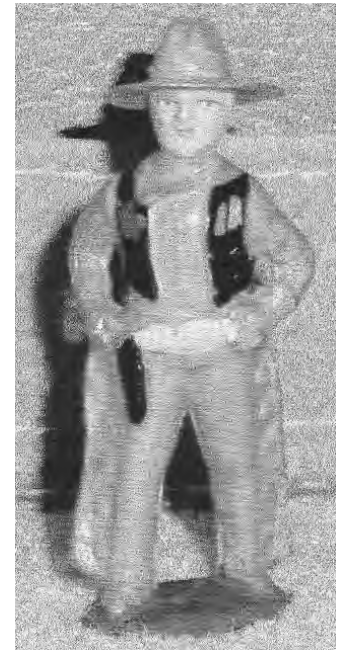
DIMESTORE UPDATE: “GOLDEN” BARCLAYS, 1955 GREY IRON, ETC. *by Richard O'Brien*

A few issues back, OTS reported on a boxed set of Barclays that sold on eBay. I'd already got in touch with the winning bidder, Stephen Taylor, and he'd sent me some excellent photos of the contents. What I find interesting is that four of the five pieces in the set have gold trim; apparently an attempt by Barclay to make the pieces distinctive, and thus worth the extra money (the “#50/99 - 5 Piece Masked Rider Set” sold for half a dollar; the pieces bought separately - without the trim - would have cost a kid only 35 cents).

The mounted Indian's rifle is gold, and the horse's eye, oddly, is gold. The standing firing cowboy has two gold pistols (and a black bandanna hiding the lower part of his face). The mounted cowboy has a gold pistol, gold gun belt, and gold saddle. His horse has gold reins and a gold bridle. The cowboy with a tin hat brim has a gold sheriff's badge and two gold slashes on the other side of his vest. I'd always wondered about those slashes, which have turned up on all the known sheriffs, and in Barclay's catalog illustrations. Stephen checked around, and found that cowboy clothing of the dude-ranch type often had these slashes as decorations, so apparently that's all this is.

The sole figure without a bit of gold to his name is the Indian with his rifle across his waist. So my guess is, any time you find a Barclay cowboy or Indian with a touch or so of gold (or a bandanna covering the lower portion of his face), he came from a boxed set.

Another item that turned up on eBay is a 1955 Grey Iron flier. Grey Iron was still using the same numbers for these pre-war figures, but the descriptions occasionally varied a bit; For instance, the first soldier on the page was known pre-WW II as “6 U.S. Doughboy, Shoulder Arms”, but in 1955 simply as “No. 6 U.S. Infantry”. A gross of the six military figures cost the retailer eight dollars. For some reason, a gross of the three cowboys was a bit more expensive; \$9.33. I'd assumed it was



Barclay cowboy sheriff with star on left and two decorative slashes on the right.
Photo by Stephen Taylor

because of the wire lasso for one of them, but then noticed the lasso doesn't turn up in the drawing, suggesting it was no longer produced. At any rate, at those prices probably each of these Grey Irons cost kids no more than ten cents.

Back to Barclay for a moment, while remaining with eBay. A Kresge's catalog from 1938 was offered, with “A Tremendous Assortment of Brightly Colored Metal Soldiers” comprising one of the illustrations. Shown are fifteen Barclay soldiers, plus the BC4 cannon. Just common stuff; no surprises. What I did find interesting was that B79a, the seated machine gunner with cast helmet, appears in that photo. Add 1938 to the catalog appearances of 1939, 1940 and I believe, 1941, and this soldier was around for a long time. So, why so relatively hard to find? I asked knowledgeable dealer K. Warren Mitchell and his suggestion was that this piece was vulnerable in the foot area, and so probably was often thrown away after it broke. Adding to the mystery is that this is one of the few Barclay pieces with no known number, and no appearances in all the extant Barclay catalogs.

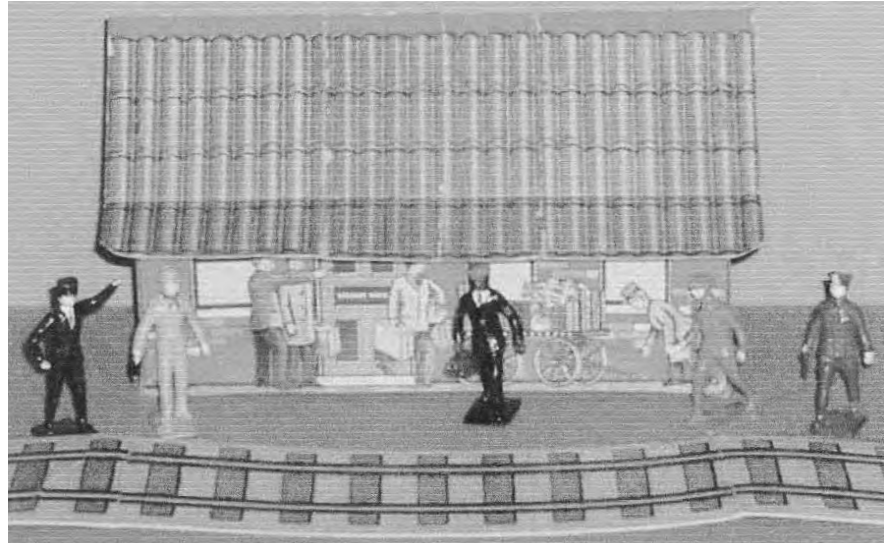


1955 Grey Iron page

“GOLDEN” BARCLAYS, 1955 GREY IRON, ETC. (Cont.)

Ron Steiner has found a rare Lincoln Logs item; previously unknown both to him and to me. It's "Set No. 30" Lincolnville railroad station. Ron says it's postwar. It came with eight railroad figures. Ron also sent along a scan of his boxed set of Canada's plastic Superior "Fighting Commandos".

The September, 1935 Butler Bros. catalog offered five Barclay "Building and Painting Sets". The one that caught my eye is shown. It's the bottom right compartments that intrigues me. I believe the soldier on the left is the early Barclay 2B10 or maybe 2B20. But what about the one on the right? It's got to be a doughboy, but I can't figure out which one. Furthermore, I've also tried to determine, without any luck, how they managed to cram all ten listed pieces into that box. It would seem to be one too many. The big mounted cowboy, or "Texas Ranger" at left, is of course BAD.



Lincoln Logs "Set No. 30". Photo by Ron Steiner



Boxed set of Superior's "Fighting Commandos", all Beton copies. Photo by Ron Steiner

Soldiers", I'd have recommended a printing of just 8000. Alas, my publisher didn't ask my opinion and whopped out 12,000. And 10,000 of "Collecting Foreign-Made Toy Soldiers". The American book, as of December 31, had sold 8371 copies.

Respectable, but still plenty of copies piled up in the warehouse. The foreign book, as of that date, had sold 7473. My publisher is doing everything it can, via drastically lowered prices, to get rid of the things, but even if it does, I don't know if they'll ask for new editions. eBay may have put a crimp in price guides, as it has in a lot of other areas. But in the meantime I continue to collect prices, photos, and information, just in case, four large boxes full (so far). So if you've anything you'd like to contribute, just get in touch. My email address is grammy3@hargray.com.

Finally, I'm occasionally asked if I'll be doing any more editions of my toy-soldier books. I don't know. The first edition of "Collecting Toy Soldiers" sold a bit over 10,000 copies. So did the second. Since there was going to be almost nothing in the way of foreign-made soldiers in "Collecting American-Made



Barclay paint-your-own Army Set in a 1935 Butler Bros. catalog

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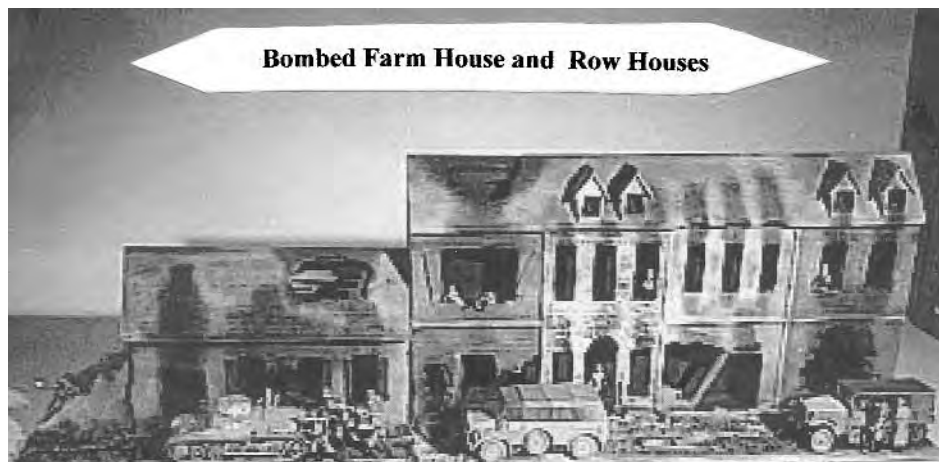
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ONE YEAR LATER

By William J. Miele



It's Thursday, August 16, 2002 and I'm driving to Pittsburgh International Airport to meet two young English ladies. Several weeks earlier, based on the recommendation of Ray Haradin and Norman Joplin, I'd executed an agreement with Vectis Auctions Ltd. to arrange the sale of my collection of Britains Ltd. lead soldiers. Negotiating the final agreement had been straightforward and pleasant. Vectis' Chairman and Managing Director Brian Goodall was easy to deal with and readily agreed to my special conditions. Among the conditions was that he would dispatch Vectis personnel to the U.S. to pack and ship, at his cost, the collection to their offices in the U.K. True to his word, I met two attractive and engaging young ladies at the airport, Vicky Weall, General Manager and her assistant Debbie Cockerill who have the most delightful accents. Over the next four days, they worked tirelessly packing the collections, using supplies delivered to the house earlier in the week.

The ladies stayed at our home and my wife, Joanna, went out of her way to make them feel welcome and comfortable. Usually they worked from early morning until 10:00 or 11:00 at night. Each evening we enjoyed a nice family dinner with the ladies and we got to know them quite well. Sunday evening we went out for dinner and, to my surprise, Vicky picked up the check. Had I known that we would have gone to a much fancier establishment.

The collection consisting of over 800 lots (mostly boxed sets) took nearly 50 large containers. Monday morning an average size lorry arrived to transport the collection to the airport. It took three trips. Later, after having dropped Vicky and Debbie at the airport I began to have grave reservations. The collection lovingly assembled over 30 years was gone and in just four days.



Vicky and Debbie in the soldier gallery



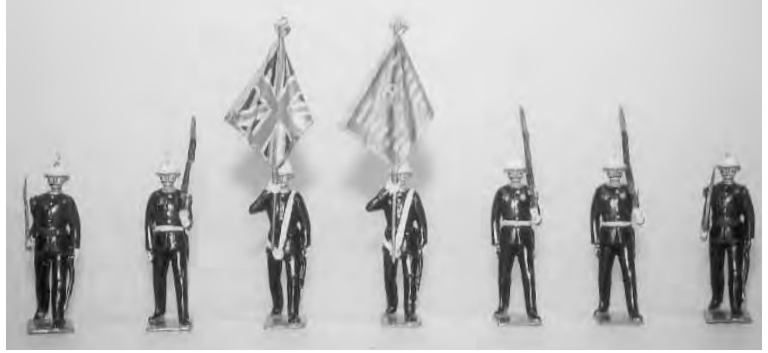
Vicky, Debbie and Joanna Miele at dinner

Encouraged by Roger D. Hecht, collector extraordinaire, my collection grew expediently during the mid to late 80's. At one time the collection topped 1,500 Britains boxed sets. While my wife was relieved, I was devastated. *What was I going to do without my babies?* Soldiers had been a big part of my life as long as I can remember. The gallery that housed the collection was empty. Although I did retain a number of my favorite sets, the bulk of the collection was now airborne and winging its way out of the country. Over the previous 10 years or so, in order to thin out the collection, Ray Haradin had sold a number of sets on my behalf. That had been painful but nothing like this.

Over the next month Peter Rumsey of Vectis organized, cataloged and priced the collection. We talked often over that period and he handled me with great kindness and sensitivity. He must have sensed that I was hurting. It's hard to imagine a more pleasant fellow to deal with. Peter recommended that the collection be sold in 2 parts with the first auction to be held on December 5, 2002. He produced a magnificent catalog with all lots being photographed individually. The artistic nature of the catalog did help ease the pain. *At least my babies were going out in style.*

ONE YEAR LATER (Cont.)

The day of part one of the auction I was a wreck. I wasn't concerned so much about the money. More than anything, I wanted people to like my collection. Had the auction not done well I would have been devastated. At the conclusion of the auction on the 5th, Peter Rumsey called with the results. Even with his reserve he could not hide his enthusiasm. The sale had been a huge success. The collections crown jewel, Set No. 1520, the Short Monoplane Flying Boat, 1937, realized almost \$16,000 when including buyers premium. The Salvation Army (11 lots), Steel Helmeted sets, Bahamas Police (2 lots), Pink Room figures, and large displays all did very well. Set No. 2013, Indian Army Mountain Battery in Review Order, 1948, realized an amazing \$7,000. The small Beaufighter prototype, of which only 2 exist, sold for \$2,600. In spite of these outstanding results however, some items did not sell, such as the Royal Mail Van #1552, 1937 version and a couple of gun teams. Overall, the sale gained 30% above the high estimates. Brian, Peter and the rest of the Vectis staff had done a great job.



Royal Marine Colour Party sold for \$2800



Set #318 RHA at the Halt sold for \$6425

In spite of the fine results, I was still in pain. Warren Mitchell even stopped sending me his lists. It was Toy Soldier Purgatory. Gradually the pain has dissipated, helped somewhat by a large bank draft from Vectis.

I learned a lot from this experience. First, the advice received from Ray and Norman was invaluable. Next, there isn't a better organization in the toy soldier world to deal with than Vectis. They did a wonderful job and fulfilled every commitment. The most important lesson learned, however, was that Vicky and Debbie are real cute and Ray and Norman are not.



Set #1301 USA Army Band in Steel Helmets sold for \$5100



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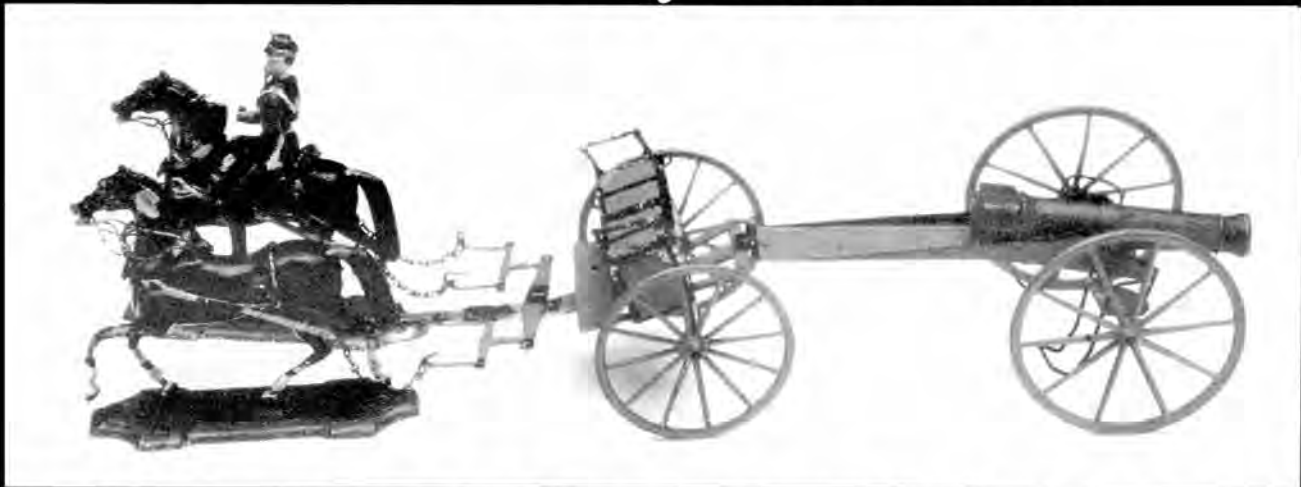
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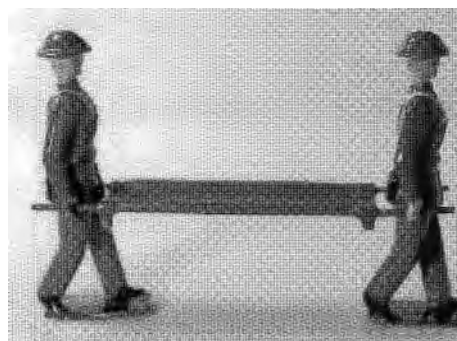
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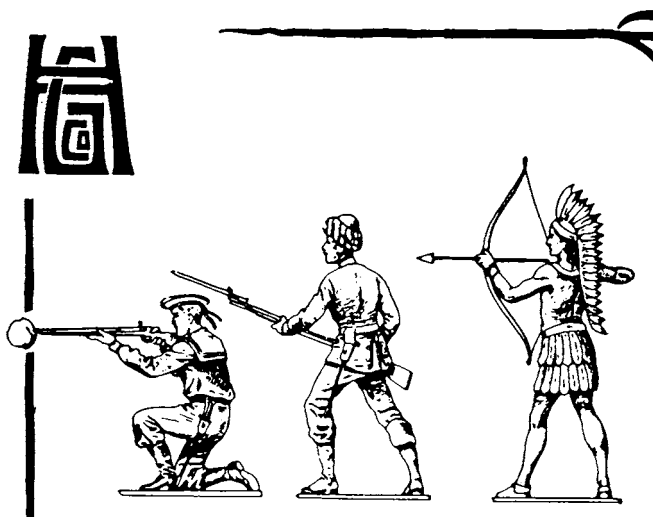
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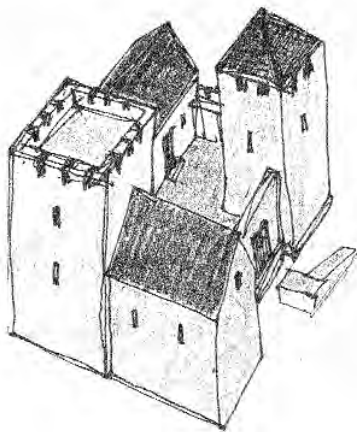


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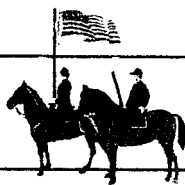
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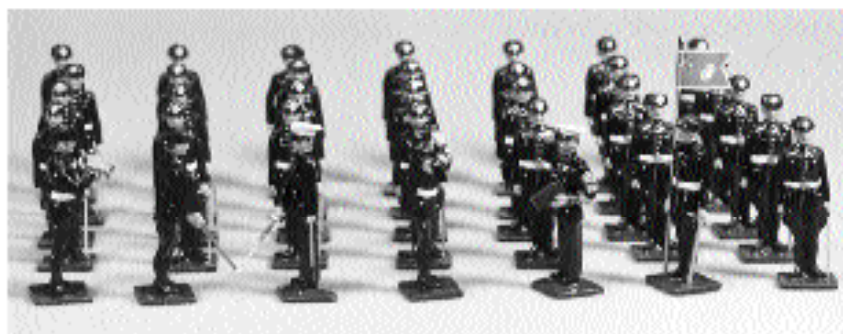
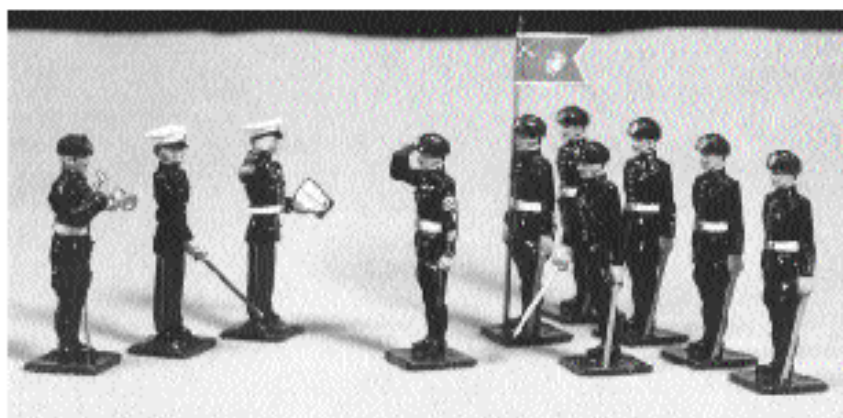
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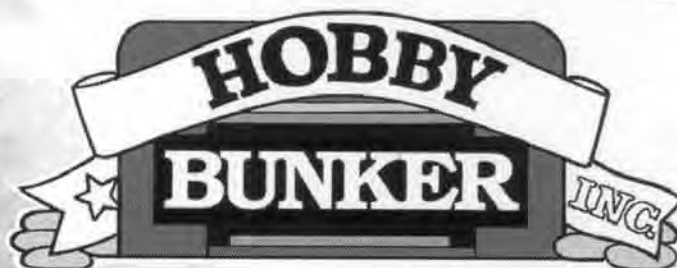
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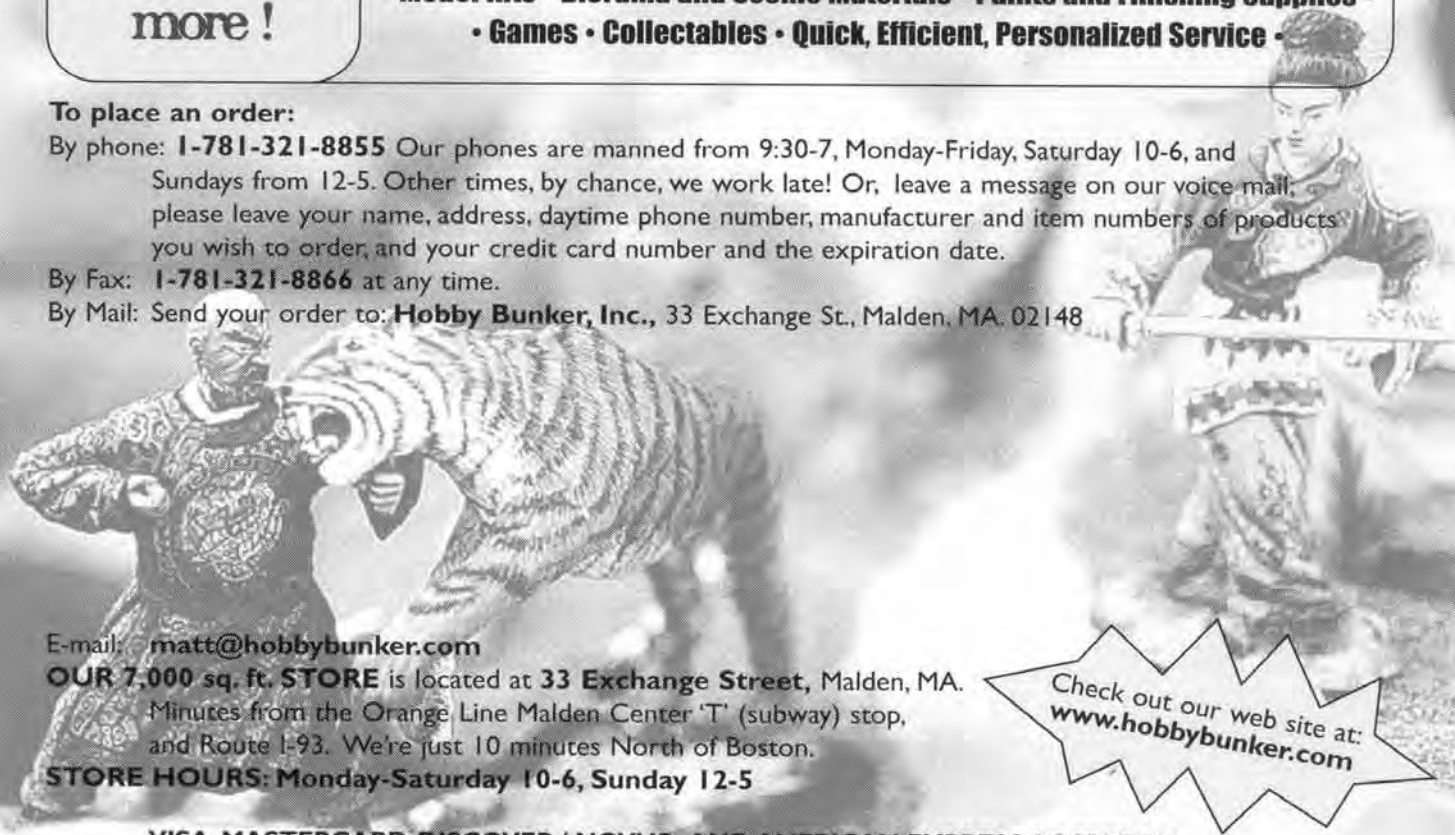
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TOY SOLDIER SHOW & AUCTION CALENDAR 2003/2004

2003

November 16 - Sunday. Westchester Toy Soldier Muster Show and Sale 10am - 3pm. Ramada Inn.94 Business Park Drive. Westchester Business Park.Armonk NY. Contact Daniel Karpinen (917) 864 4755

November 16 - Sunday. Kalamazoo Toy Soldier Show. 10-3. Holiday Inn West, 2747 South 11th Street, Kalamazoo, Mi. 49009. Donald Case 248-335-5626 or dsptoyssoldiers@aol.com

November 16 - Sunday. Hudson Valley Toy Soldier Military & Miniature Figure Show and Sale. Hilton, 455 South Broadway (route 9) Tarrytown, NY. Contact Ed Gries (201) 342 6475.

November 19 - Wednesday. Bonhams Toy Soldier Auction. Knightsbridge London.Contact James Opie 44(0) 207 794 7447. EMail lgotch@bonhams.com
www.bonhams.com <<http://www.bonhams.com>>

November 23 - Sunday. Annual Pennsylvania Toy Soldier, Militaria and Miniature Figure Show and Sale 9am-3pm. Sheraton Bucks County Hotel. 400 Oxford Valley Road. Langhorne,PA Contact Ed Gries (201) 342 6475.

November 23 - Sunday. Connecticut Toy Soldier Muster, Show and Sale 11am-4pm.Ramada Inn Bradley, 5 Ella Grasso Turnpike, Windsor Locks,CT.Located at juncture of RT20 & RT75 off I-91 (exit 40). Contact Daniel Karpinen (917) 864 4755.

November 29 - Saturday. 2nd Bloomfield Toy Soldier Show 10-Marriott (Centerpoint) 3600 Centerpoint Parkway, Pontiac, Michigan 48341 Contact Donald Case (248) 335-5626. dsptoyssoldiers@aol.com

December 4 - Thursday. Vectis Auctions. Toy Soldier Auction. 10.30 am. Buckingham Community Centre. England. Contact E mail admin@vectis.co.uk Telephone 44(0) 1642 750616

December 5- Friday. Christies Toy Soldier Auction. South Kensington .London
Contact Hugo Marsh Telephone 44(0) 207 752 3274. Email hmarsh@christies.com

December 6 - Saturday. The British Toy Soldier and Figure Show. 10am-4pm The Royal National Hotel, Bedford Way,(off Russell Square) London. Contact Debbie Cockerill,Vectis Auctions,(44) 1642 750616. Fax (44) 1642 769478).E-Mail admin@vectis.co.uk

December 6 - Saturday. Springfield Toy Soldier Show. 10-3. Holiday Inn Express, 6401 Brandon Ave, Springfield, Va. 22150. Donald Case 248-335-5626 or dsptoyssoldiers@aol.com

December 6 - Saturday. Heart of the South Toy Soldier Show and Sale.9 am -3pm Annandale VFD Community Center.7128 Columbia Park. Annandale Virginia. Contact Bill Harlowe (703) 878 2922. Ed Gries (201) 342 6475

December 7 - Sunday. Central New England Toy Soldier Show. Ramada Hotel. 5 Ella Grasso Turnpike. Windsor Locks, Connecticut. 10 am to 4pm Contact The Hobby Bunker 781-321-8855
Email: matt@hobbybunker.com

December 13 - Saturday. Annapolis Christmas Toy Soldier Show. Loews Hotel. Contact 410 268 1141. Email richsossi@friend.ly.net

December 14 - Sunday. The Empire State Toy Soldier Show and Sale.9am-3pm. Adria Hotel 221-17 Northern Blvd. Bayside .New York. Contact John Stengel (718) 418 9439.

TOY SOLDIER SHOW & AUCTION CALENDAR 2003/2004 (cont.)

2004

January 17 - Saturday. Toy Soldier & Militaria Auction. Holiday Inn - Livonia, MI. I-275 and 6 Mile Road. 12:00 pm, Preview 9:30 am. Contact Joseph F. Saine Toy Soldiers 419-691-0008 Email: josaine@att.net

January 18 - Sunday. Michigan Toy Soldier & Figure Show. 9am - 3pm Holiday Inn, Livonia

January 25 - Sunday. South Carolina Military Miniatures Society (SCMMS) 5th Annual Kiawah Island Toy Soldier Show. East Beach Conference Center. Contact Jack Mathews 828 884 6080. Email jmatth@mind-spring.com or Lance Leader 843 795 8728.

February 8 - Sunday. South Florida Toy Soldier Show. 9am- 3pm. (New Location) Fort Lauderdale Plantation Holiday Inn. 1711 North University Boulevard. Plantation, Florida. Contact Alan McGhee 954.431.9295 Email secretary@southfloridatoysoldier.com

February 14 - Saturday. Dan Morphy's Antique Toy, Doll & Advertising Show. 9am - 3pm. York Fairgrounds. York, Pennsylvania. Contact 717 335 3435

March 7 - Sunday. "The West Coaster" Irvine Marriott Hotel. (Orange County Airport) 1800 Von Karman Avenue. Irvine . California, Show information PO Box 1755 Vista California 92085. Telephone /Fax (760) 724 7488. Hotel Information 1.800.228.9290

March 27 - Saturday. British Toy Soldier and Figure Show. Royal National Hotel. Bedford Way (Russell Square) London. Contact Debbie Cockerill at Vectis Telephone 44(0) 1642 750616. Email admin@vectis.co.uk www.vectis.co.uk

March 28 - Sunday. - Indy 2004. Fifteenth Anniversary Toy Soldier Show. Sheraton Inn North 8787 Keystone Crossing. Indianapolis. Indiana. Contact Barry Carter 765 345 5665. Email indytoysoldier@hotmail.com

May 8 - Saturday. 5th Springfield Toy Soldier Show. Holiday Inn Express. 6401 Brandon Avenue Springfield, Virginia. Contact Donald Case. 248 335 5628. Email dsptoyssoldiers@aol.com

June 26 - Saturday. British Toy Soldier and Figure Show. Royal National Hotel. Bedford Way (Russell Square) London. Contact Debbie Cockerill at Vectis Telephone 44(0) 1642 750616. Email admin@vectis.co.uk www.vectis.co.uk

September 26 - Sunday. OTSN Incs 24th Annual Chicago Toy Soldier Show. Hyatt Regency. Woodfield. Schaumburg. Illinois. Contact Don Pielin. 630 497 1239

October 16 - Saturday. 6th Springfield Toy Soldier Show. Holiday Inn Express. 6401 Brandon Avenue Springfield, Virginia. Contact Donald Case. 248 335 5628. Email dsptoyssoldiers@aol.com

December 4 - Saturday. British Toy Soldier and Figure Show. Royal National Hotel. Bedford Way (Russell Square) London. Contact Debbie Cockerill at Vectis Telephone 44(0) 1642 750616. Email admin@vectis.co.uk www.vectis.co.uk

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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