

Madame Tussaud's Souvenir Figures



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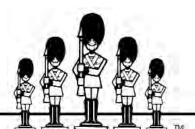
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ON THE COVER

Madame Tussaud Prince of Wales T6 Photograph Courtesy Philip Dean

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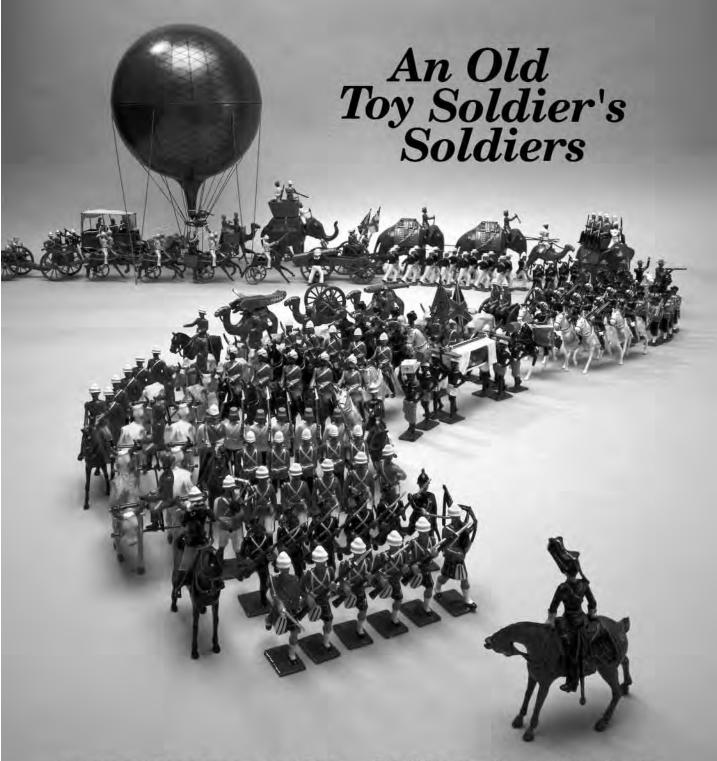
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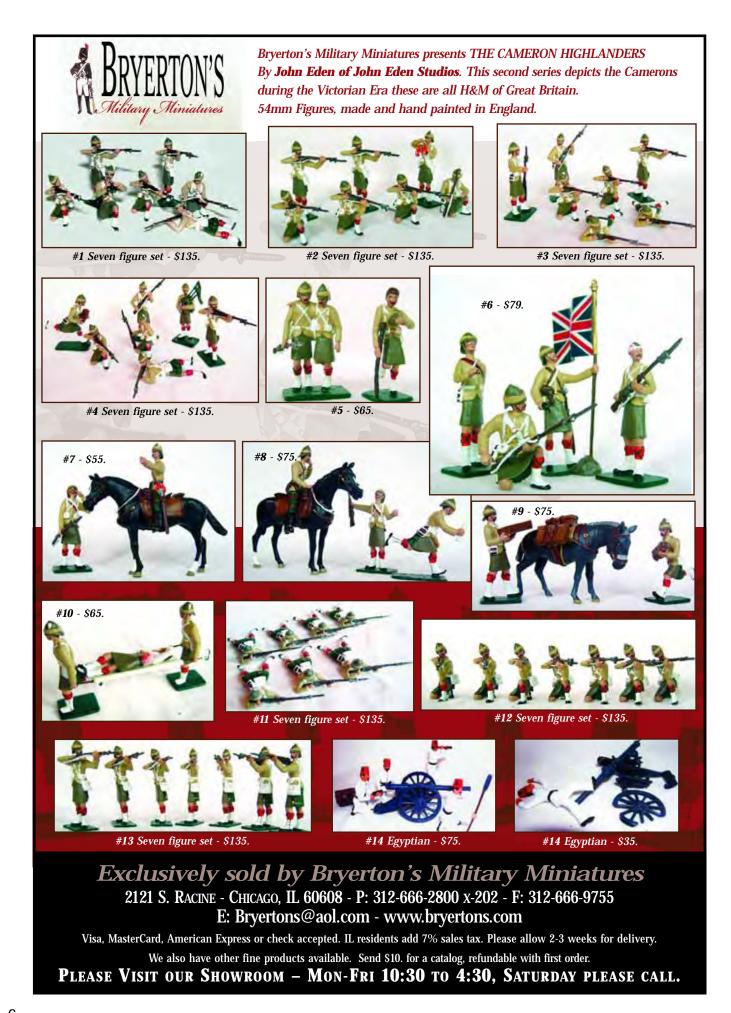
Time was a toy soldier knew what it meant to be a toy soldier. All spit and polish, bright shiny uniform, lean and rugged, big pink cheeks, manual-of-arms, upright and proper even in the din of battle. Most new toy soldiers - a sorry lot. No group discipline, dull and wrinkled uniforms - refugees from some old diorama. And fat. Half seem to be dying. Can't speak English - Russian or Chinese more'n likely. Right. Well our troops still pass muster. Our men know know how to march together and how to fight together and look smart doing it. Our men want to be thrown onto the battlecarpet and properly pummeled like the toys they are - not given some shelf job commanded by a namby-pamby "connoisseur". Our men can take it and still shine. Our men know what it means to be a real toy soldier.

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"MADAME TUSSAUD" "IF YOU WANT TO GET AHEAD" by Philip Dean

Marie Grosholz (later Tussaud) was a great believer in the old adage" if you want to get ahead - get a head" as she, reputedly, learnt her trade sculpting the newly decapitated heads from the guillotine! Born in Strasbourg in 1761, her mother was housekeeper to Doctor Phillipe Curtius, Marie referred to him as her uncle, but he was probably her father. She learnt the art of wax modelling from Curtius and became, for a time, art tutor to the sister of King Louis XVI and lived at the Royal Court of Versailles. When she returned to Paris, both she and Curtius would mould the heads of the guillotine victims, the death masks of the "enemies" of the Revolution, including many of her former friends from Versailles. She later modelled the head of Robespierre, the man responsible for many of the executions, who, in the end, suffered the same fate. The doctor opened an exhibition of life size wax figures at the Palais Royale in Paris during the 1770's and Marie inherited the business when he died in 1794.

The same year Marie married Francois Tussaud, an engineer, but left him in 1802 to bring her exhibitions to England, she was then 41 years old with a four year old son. She toured for 33 years as a travelling show, during this time her adventures included being shipwrecked in the Irish Sea and burnt out in the Bristol riots of 1831. Then, aged 74, she finally put down roots in Baker Street, London, at the Bazaar, where she presided over her show as if she was one of the exhibits, causing as much interest as her wax figures. She died in 1850, and was succeeded by two sons. Her company was a great success, she had resisted an American buy-out, her memoirs had been published, her portrait had been painted by a court painter, she was immortalized by Charles Dickens (as Mrs Jarley) in "The Old Curiosity Shop" and caricatured by Cruikshank.

The waxworks moved to Marylebone Road in 1884 and, as before, the Chamber of Horrors (so named by Punch magazine) where the horrors and relics of the French Revolution were displayed, drew the greatest crowds. Admission was never cheap as it was "Madame's desire to limit entrance to the prosperous middle classes."

In 1925 (also 1894) there was a great fire at Tussauds (must have been one heck of a candle!) The whole building was gutted, destroying nearly all the wax figures, their costumes, the furnishings and paintings. Many of the original head moulds were saved and in 1928 a new building emerged, complete with cinema and restaurant. During World War II, a German bomb destroyed the cinema, leaving Hitler as one of the few surviving figures. The planetarium was then built on the site of the old cinema.

It was in the early 1930's that records show the production and introduction of lead figures for sale as souvenirs in Madame Tussauds. About 1931 Pixyland produced busts of George V and Queen Mary, on the rear they were inscribed "Copyright R.H.L.", these being the initials of R.H.Lewis, the founder of Pixyland, and the front bore the legend "A Souvenir of Madame Tussauds" A bust of Madame Tussaud was also produced and is extremely rare. The Pixyland contract was negotiated several years prior to the arrival of Britains souvenirs. Dennis Britain, when, many years later, was shown the Pixyland Royal busts by Colonel Donald Pudney, expressed surprise as he had personally handled the arrangements with Tussauds and reckoned on their contract being an exclusive first.









Pixyland King George V & Queen Mary

Copyright R.H.L.

Pixyland Madame Tussaud Bust

Britains & Pixyland Madame Tussaud Busts

"MADAME TUSSAUD" "IF YOU WANT TO GET AHEAD" (Cont.)

The Smallwood notebooks show that the moulds for all six of the Britains souvenir Tussaud figures were made in the Engineering, Machine and Tool room department between April and August 1934 and introduced in late 1934 or early 1935, at which time, presumably, they replaced the Pixyland figures. The six figures were numbered TI through T6 and consisted of two historical Royal figures, two fairy tale characters, one military figure and the bust of Madame Tussaud.



Britains Madame Tussaud bust - gold-silver-bronze



Britains Madame Tussaud bust (boxed)

King Henry VIII (TI) was the first mould finished on April 11th and required 36 hours of work to produce the master. This was followed, on June 6th" by the bust of Madame Tussaud (T2) which required an initial 40 hours, plus an additional 36 hours on June 15th to complete this masterpiece. Red Riding Hood (T3) took 53 hours to June 18th, then Queen Elizabeth I (T4) on June 28th after 54 hours work. Cinderella (T5) arrived (presumably after midnight, judging by her dress) on July 5th, taking 66 hours. The final figure, and the rarest of all, H.R.H. Prince of Wales as Colonel in Chief of the Welsh Guards (T6) left the toolshop on August 27th 1934 after 70 hours of creative endeavour.

The figures shown in this article form part of the collection of the author, who is indebted to Norman Joplin for the acquisition of the Pixyland and boxed Britains Madame Tussaud busts.

Photography by Philip Dean

See OTSN Volume 8 #6 for previous Madame Tussaud article.



Red Riding Hood & Cinderella (both boxed)



Henry VIII & Elizabeth I (both boxed)



Prince of Wales (boxed)



His Majesty King George VI-Colonel in Chief of The Welsh Guards Special souvenir issue of his Majesty's visit to South Africa 1947 adapted from the Tussaud Prince of Wales Figure T6

HOBBY NEWS

Arnold Mead 1937-2004 Bill Coakley 1933-2004 by Steve Balkin



Arnold Mead at Steve Valkin Art Exhibit 1982

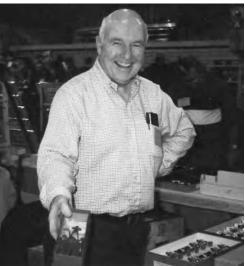
This past month our toy soldier fraternity lost two of its charter members. I knew both Arnold and Bill for some 3 decades. They were what I would call True Toy Soldier men. They began their love of toy soldiering as young as I did, with our noses pressed up against the glass partitions at a local Five & Dime. The dime tightly pressed in a small hand so as not to loose it while the selection was being made. They carried their passion lifelong.

Arnold will be remembered as one of the independent producers. His lines were S.T.A.R. and A.I.M., specializing in aspects of American History. Over our 35-year friendship he would often send long letters about ways to develop his production. I would respond by long phone conversations. Sometimes the letters contained snapshots of his toy battlegrounds. How I would imagine the joy that he had building and playing with his toy armies. Digging his grandmother's backyard, the hours of pure pleasure.

Arnold left us on August 3rd 2004.

Bill was just about the happiest toy soldier enthusiast you would ever want to know. We often shared dinner during a show weekend. Once such evening before a show a few years ago, we discovered that we nearly met about 45 years before in the Mediterranean as his ship had departed shortly before mine arrived. We had a good laugh about it. After his heart surgery 16 years ago, he told me of his decision to devote the rest of his days to doing just what made him happy. He had wonderful childhood memories and wanted very much to recapture that happiness. He was good to his word. He loved the hunt, attending shows and above all friendships that toy soldiering brought him. His tables, always a fixture at every show. Bill left us on September 1st 2004.

Good bye Arnold and Bill, we will all miss you and the members of the toy soldier fraternity send the deepest and heartfelt condolences to your loved ones.



Bill Coakley at Hackensack Show November 1993

Toy Soldier Collectors of America. Established in 1979 Will be publishing a special double-issue Directory to cover 2003-2004. Membership dues are still \$10.00 a year. Membership allows you to post free classified ads, reviews and photos to the internet, and provides a closed forum for members only, as well as an annual Directory. New members receive a card and button. TSCA can be contacted at PO. Box 179, New Ellenton, SC 29809 USA, Telephone 803-652-7932, Email toysoldiercollectersamerica@yahoo.com

> Make checks or money orders payable to Charles L. Duval-TSCA

HOBBY NEWS (Cont.)

A LETTER FROM THE COAKLEY FAMILY

Dear Steve Balkin,

Please forgive me for writing like this. I have received numerous very nice cards from the Toy Soldier collectors and many others. Thanks to all of you for your wonderful cards of condolences. My kids and I appreciated that very much. I wanted to let you know how much Bill enjoyed doing all the shows with you, especially the one in Chicago. He never minded the long drive out there. Collecting, buying and selling Toy Soldiers meant the world to him. It was a very important part of his life. He shared that love with all of you. You were like 'family' to him. He loved doing the shows, going out to dinner with some of you, making friends and so much more. His passing was very quick. I am sure that he did not know what happened, a massive heart attack. It just happened and he was gone in minutes. For him this was the best way since he was always afraid of getting sick for a long time. We buried Bill in the ocean near Nubble Light in York, ME. The last few years we spent a lot of time there, walking the beach, etc. It was a very private burial with just the kids and myself. This was the way he wanted us to do it because we talked about it some time ago. My kids and I want to thank you for being part of his life. Your friendship and companionship made him very happy. I know that we will all miss him tremendously. Bill was a great person, very unassuming, always giving of himself without being asked. He always helped out wherever he was needed. He loved doing that. Many thanks to all of you for your friendship with Bill. It meant a lot to him. Please pass this letter on to the folks at the Chicago Show or perhaps you can publish it in your magazine, if you want.

Sincerely,

Marian, Robert & Susan son daughter

EDGAR KEHOE THE MAN WHO FOUNDED WEND-AL 1903 - 2004

by Philip Dean

The range of aluminium figures produced by Wend-al are known to many of you, but perhaps lesser known is the name of Edgar Kehoe, he was the man who founded the company. It is sad to have to report the death of Edgar, aged 101, on 22nd July 2004. peacefully at the hospital local to his Hampshire home. I only knew him for a year, but Edgar Kehoe had 100 years before that to leave a lasting impression on his world, and what an impression. He was born in 1903 in Buenos Aires, and his greatest joy was messing about with cars. He raced for the Riley works team, completed three Monte Carlo rallies and long distance races at Brooklands. At the famous 1936 Berlin Olympics, the polo gold medal was won by Argentina and three of his cousins played in the team. Every year, the Argentine Ambassadors Cup, played at Cowdray, was followed by a barbeque at his Hampshire home.

He was upset when, at 90 years young, he was asked to hand over his official duties at Silverstone to someone younger. Just after his 95th birthday he underwent a hip operation and found the convalescence rather tedious, hoping that the condition would not return every ten years or so.

To his family, and all who knew him, hopefully his passing will be softened by the wonderful legacy he left behind in his models, they were his business, cars and racing were his life. It was an honour to have known him.

The photograph (right) was taken by Philip Dean on July 5th, 2003 at the Kehoe home during an interview with Edgar as part of the history of Wend-al and its products. The book is due for release in 2005. A fitting epitaph to a wonderful man.



HOBBY NEWS (Cont.)

MICHEL KLIMOV IN MEMORIAM

by Vincent J. Russo and Patrice Servais

It is with the deepest regret and sadness that we must report the passing of Michel Klimov, founder and owner of the Durso Company. The following is an excerpt from Alexis Klimov's tribute to his father.

My father, Michel Klimov, passed away peacefully, only eight days from his 99th birthday. After an adventurous, creative and passionated life, he left this world on the 12th of July, without any regrets. He probably had a rendezvous with his beloved wife, Valentine, an artist and painter gone after a long and painful illness in April 1983, whose paintings were admired in many countries.

His funeral was held at the Russian Orthodox church of *rue du Laveu*, in Liége, at a church where he regularly worshipped, and where he always found this peace of soul which helped him to overcome so many hardships. In the midst of icons, this form of art of which he had become an eminent specialist, he could dream about Russia where he spent his childhood and teen years, and where a part of his heart was still living.



The other part, he had devoted to Belgium: so friendly a country, so rich from the beauty of its ancient cities, its arts, its roman and gothic churches, its castles, and its people.

But what made him a celebrated person, first in the world of children, then in the world of collectors, are the tens of thousands of little toy soldiers produced by The Durso Company which he had founded in Liége. After the Second World War, when figures made of plastic became commonplace, the interest in Durso toys dropped sharply! Michel Klimov had to fight to maintain his craftsmanship.

As it happened however, the interest in plastic soldiers and other figures gradually faded, and collectors became conscious of The Durso Company products once again. The care taken with details, craftsmanship, elegance of the pieces, wide variety of figures, etc. Everything being based on exemplary documentation.

As the years went by, moments of great joy appeared. He, the immigrant, became officer in the Ordre de Léopold II, many articles and books were written about him.

Certainly, if all the soldiers would look more or less like the Durso armies, we would live in a world of peace, justice and happiness! A world where the word *humanist* would hold its full significance.

Michel Klimov was warmly greeted in Trois-Riviéres by writers, essayists, artists and book lovers. Not only by those gravitating around Clement Marchand, but also by those who would keep his living memories, as Christian Bouchard commented. Finally, Michel Klimov had become an adopted citizen of Trois-Riviéres.

Translation From French by J.L. Dion

Alexis Klimov Membre de la Societe Royale du Canada Academie des Lettres et des Sciences humaines

<u>Note</u>: Clement Marchand is a well known Writer and Poet in Quebec. Christian Bouchard is a noted Professor of Literature, Journalist and Canadian Radio Personality.

The Durso Company "Escorte Royale de la Gendarmerie"

by

Vincent J. Russo and Patrice Servais

Introduction

History has shown that virtually all major manufacturers of composition figures produced a special "series", that truly highlighted the beauty and workmanship of their output. Most often these were depicted in the form of "Parades". German producers had their English, Scottish and Danish Guards, while the Italians featured "Papal" and other "Neopolitan" types.

In Belgium, Michel Klimov, the founder and owner of The Durso Company, once again showed his creative talents and his deep commitment to historical accuracy, by producing the prestigious "Escorte Royale de la Gendarmerie" (This is the true name, but in this article we will refer to them simply as "Royal Escort" or "Escorte Royale".)

These figures present a beautiful and imposing display that can excite Toy Soldier Collectors all over the world. In this article, we will feature these figures with photos, and will also present a short historical review of how this elite force came into existence, and how it functions.

Background

From the start of Belgian independence in 1830, up to the time of World War I, The "Royal Escort" were merely horsemen who preceded and followed the Royal Coach. Initially they were "bourgeois" guards, later they were civic (city) guards, then state policemen, and finally Army personnel were chosen to perform this function.

During the World War I era, the Army's uniforms, and thus the colorful uniforms of The "Royal Escort" were replaced by khaki and metallic "Adrian" helmets.

In 1937, during the reign of King Leopold III, the Belgian Cavalry changed from the use of horses, into a "mechanized" force, and it was mandatory that this transformation be complete in all aspects. Wanting to continue with the function of The "Royal Escort", and fully appreciating that a stately horse is much more prestigious than a motorcycle, Belgium on August 6, 1938 selected the "Gendarmerie" (State Police) to fill the ranks

of The "Escorte Royale". However, much work remained to be done. Getting horses was not a problem since the State Police already had many, but the police were clad in black uniforms, which caused many, at the time, to say "they look like undertakers".

James Thiriar, an artist, was then called upon to design a new uniform for The "Royal Escort", and inspired by the colorful uniforms of the past, he created a splendid uniform befitting its "royal function". On May 20, 1939, The "Escorte Royale", arrayed in their new uniforms, made its debut on a visit to Liege. Then on May 23, 1939, they were designated to escort Queen Wilhelmine of the Netherlands, during her state visit to Brussels.

(It should be noted that the service in The Royal Escort is not "full time", and when not needed, these participants reverted back to their regular duties)

Durso and The "Escorte Royale"

In all, Durso produced three distinct versions of The Royal Escort. This of course, was to portray historical accuracy as "true life" events unfolded.

Version # 1 (King Leopold III) At the beginning of the reign of Leopold III in 1934, The Royal Escort consisted of Army personnel on horseback. They were still dressed in khaki uniforms and metal helmets.



Officer with drawn sword (203) Officer standard bearer (205)



Soldier with drawn sword and slung rifle (201)



Officer "saluting" (207) Trumpeter (209)

Durso produced five (5) figures for this version. You will note that all of these figures that we have shown are clad in "long coats". These were worn when the King chose to wear his "long coat".

This version received the following catalog numbers and descriptions:

Catalog No.	Description
201	Rider with drawn sword and slung rifle
203	Officer with drawn sword
205	Officer standard bearer
207	Officer "saluting"
209	Trumpeter

Note

Durso also made these figures in regular "battledress" uniforms. King Leopold also was depicted in both "long coat" and "battledress".

It is possible for collectors to create The "Escorte Royale" in both uniforms, however it is evident that "long coats" are most sought after because of their beauty and thus are the more difficult to find.

Version # 2 (King Leopold III)

After the change from the Army to the State Police, and the adoption of the new uniform, Michel Klimov once again displayed his determination to produce Durso figures as historically accurate as possible. He was able to secure from the Commanding Officer of the State Police at the time, General Kettel, the complete cooperation of the State Police, and was provided with all the documentation he needed to ensure "realism" in all his figures.



Colonel (or Major) with white plume (245)



Captain (or Lieutenant) with red plume (246)



Standard Bearer (247)



Non-Commissioned Officer (248)



NCO Trumpeter (249)



NCO Kettledrum (250)

The Durso Company "Escorte Royale de la Gendarmerie" (Cont.)

When King Leopold III was in the parade, he was on horseback and was "flanked" by a senior officer (colonel)

Durso produced six figures of The Royal Escort of Leopold III in ceremonial uniforms. These first appeared in the 1940 catalog (color of the horses, and location of the scabbard, were important factors for each figure).

Catalog No. 245	Description Officer (colonel,major)	Horse Dark Brown	Scabbard left
	with drawn sword		
246	Officer (captain,lieutenant) with drawn sword	Dark Brown	left
247	Officer standard bearer	Brown	right (sword)
248	NCO with drawn sword	Brown	right
249	NCO Trumpeter	Brown	right (sword)
250	NCO Kettledrum	Black & White piebald	right (sword)



King Leopold III, saluting

The Parade of Leopold III "ceremonial" Escort can be organized as follows: (*see note)

1 Kettledrum 8 NCO Trumpeters 1 Officer w/ drawn sword 1 NCO with drawn sword – 1 Standard Bearer – 1 NCO with drawn sword King Leopold – Colonel 1 Officer with drawn sword 12 NCO's with drawn swords

Version # 3 (King Baudouin)

On July 17, 1951, Baudouin succeeded his father as King of Belgium when Leopold III abdicated in favor of his son.

In 1952, under Baudouin, four platoons of The Royal Escort who carried swords, were replaced with platoons of "Lancers". Predictably, Michel Klimov reacted quickly and created a new figure, a lancer with the lance in a vertical position. Some years later, in response to a subtle change, Durso produced a lancer with the lance in a horizontal position.

The position of the lance took on a significant role in the parade formation of The "Royal Escort".

Three (3) Lancers always led the parade as a "front arrow".

(one in front followed closely behind by two abreast).



"Baudouin" Lancers (vertical and horizontal)

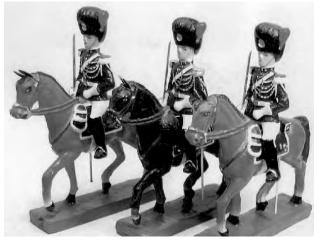
Kettledrum and Trumpet

The lances were vertical when the King was <u>not</u> in the parade and were horizontal when the King was present.

Three Lancers always brought up the rear of the parade, in a position opposite of those in the front (the "back arrow"). The Lancers at the rear of the parade always hold their lances in a vertical position.

The Durso Company "Escorte Royale de la Gendarmerie" (Cont.)

Another subtle, but very important aspect was the position of the scabbard (right or left side of the horse). NCO's were utilized as "aide de camp" or "messengers" for the Senior Officers and as "protectors" of the standard bearer. They were positioned on the flanks and the scabbards were always on the side of the horse away from The Central Figure.



Officer "escorted" by Two NCO's



Standard Bearer "protected" by Two NCO's

(Note the position of the scabbards in these photos)

When King Baudouin was in the parade he always rode in a black open car (i.e. Mercedez, Lincoln, Cadillac, and Buick were used). He was always accompanied by a "aide-de-camp" and a driver. It is interesting to note that King Baudouin was never seen in public on horseback.

Although Durso did not produce vehicles, they did produce "seated" figures to once again accurately portray the situation.



L – Aide de Camp C- King Baudouin R – Driver

For some reason, Durso did not assign catalog numbers for The "Baudouin Royal Escort". However, their descriptions are as follows:

The Durso Company "Escorte Royale de la Gendarmerie" (Cont.)

Figure NCO Kettledrum NCO Trumpeter Officer(Captain, Lieutenant) with sword NCO "estafette" (for officers)	Horse Brown and white piebald Light Grey Dark Brown Medium Brown with scabbards on left	Scabbard left (sword) left (sword) left 2 different figures
NCO Lancer with horizontal lance NCO Lancer with vertical lance Officer Standard Bearer NCO's (for standard bearer)	Light Brown Light Brown White White	and right left left 2 different figures with scabbards on left and right
Officer (Colonel or Major)	Very Dark Brown	right
NCO Driver Baudouin Saluting Aide-de-camp	All Seated	
The Parade of Baudouin's Royal Escort can be organized as follows: (* see note) 3 NCO Lancers with horizontal lance ("front arrow") 1 Kettledrum		

8 Trumpets
1 Officer with drawn sword
12 NCO Lancers
1 NCO (left flank) – 1 Standard Bearer – 1 NCO (right flank)
Baudouin in Car – 1 Colonel
1 Officer with drawn sword
12 NCO Lancers
3 NCO Lancers ("back arrow")

*Note

We should point out that the parade "formations" that we have outlined here are for the benefit of collectors, and should be considered as a guide. In reality there were 131 figures in the actual parade of The "Escorte Royale", and although all figures are represented, it is nearly impossible (due to scarcity and expense) to collect <u>all</u> the figures required to accurately complete the entire parade.

Conclusion

It should be noted that in 1988, in recognition of its fine service to the Country, The "Escorte Royale" was featured on a Belgian postage stamp.

The authors once again want to thank "Old Toy Soldier" for giving us the opportunity to contribute to this fine magazine. We invite our many readers to visit The Durso website at: http://durso.stools.net

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 68 of this issue.

SHOW REPORT

Old Toy Soldier Show CHICAGO 2004

When a chef creates a culinary masterpiece, he will use only the finest ingredients in his recipe; this way he can better guarantee the end result. He will have, around him, a very important team, on whom he will rely, and they all, in their own way, take a part of that success.

Now I have no idea how Don Pielin rates as a chef, but as an organizer, with his team, he creates the best in figure shows, the masterpiece of the toy collecting world.

His clientele arrive from all over the world to sample the delights on offer in the rooms of the Hyatt Regency in Schaumberg. The tariff ranges from inexpensive to <u>very</u> costly, and the menu has offerings to suit all tastes.

Collectors, from all over the world, make this a truly international event, it takes over 24 hours to fly in from Australia, yet at least 4 collectors made the journey.

This was the 24th year of the show and it attracted foreign visitors from Argentina, Australia, Canada, Japan, United Kingdom, Germany, France and Sweden, all there for, at least part of, the week of room trading, finishing with the show on Sunday. The first dealers taking up residence on Monday, but even after the week of wandering the corridors, the Sunday show still produced many delights and treasures for both newcomers and the old timers. This is one of the many joys of Chicago, you can return anytime and still find so much to keep you happy.

The show was honoured by the attendance of the nearest thing to royalty in the toy collecting world, (no, not you, Arnold Rolak!) but the lovely Keith and Clare Camplin from England, (sorry you have to hear it again, Keith) Clare's father was Dennis Britain and they have discovered the joy of collecting the Britains Products. In the photograph of Clare with Stewart Saxe from Canada, maybe the box label should read "My Dad's Set".

With so much to see, it is inevitable that you concentrate only on the figures closest to your heart, which is a shame as there are so many other beautiful collections to discover and I was privileged to see many items, all so well made and presented, it is not possible to collect them all, as the demands on your pocket and your time are both finite.

It is almost impossible to describe the show to one who has yet to discover the potential of so much in one place at one time. In fact, one Chicago first timer, who waged a one man campaign to buy out the show, was very nearly successful and only stopped when he ran out of money, (not just his, but everyone else's as well) but he has already booked for next year. I was taken to task for not explaining, well enough, just how much money he would spend!



Stewart Saxe and Clare Camplin

Old Toy Soldier magazine staff had a dozen boxed plastic Cowboy and Indian sets, and wanted to give them out to the first children in the queue on Sunday morning, it was rather disappointing that we had to pass about 300 people before we found enough delighted children to receive the gifts. Children are the future of toy collecting, but where are they? It was a pleasure to see many 30-40 year olds waiting to enter the show as they were not around at the time of original figures, so, hopefully there is still a future for real toys.

For the second year running, a box sale, this time by Norman Joplin, was very successful, with many collectors finding the elusive container for their precious figures, and, in some cases, at least doubling their worth.

The dimestore breakfast produced the limited edition of the recast of manoils egg timer, courtesy of Ron and Debbie Eccles.

SHOW REPORT (Cont.)

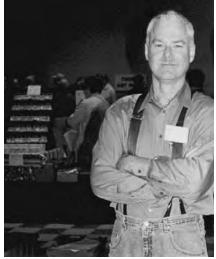
This was my third consecutive visit to the show, and this time, I had the great pleasure of having my two sons with me. It did limit, but only in a small way, my time at the show. They tried to convince me of a world outside the hotel, I just dismissed it as a vicious rumor started by sad people who are not collectors.

Next year, 2005, will be the 25th anniversary of the show, what delights will the team assemble to wet our appetites for this special event, every year I think that it just cannot get any better, but it always does.

So to Don and his team, and to his family, who also play a big part, thanks for the last 24 years and, thanks for the years still to come. By then, Don, hopefully you will remember the route from the airport to the hotel.



Don Pielin with Clare and Keith Camplin



Neil Rhodes - Washington, D.C.



OTS Editor Norman Joplin



Empty Box Sale



John Rollins

SHOW REPORT PHOTO GALLERY

Chicago Old Toy Soldier Show 2004 Photo Gallery



Steve Sommers and Roger Garfield



L to R Rob Wilson, Francois Beaumont and Ray Haradin



Arnold Rolank and Philip Dean examining repro village idiot soldiers



Members of the Ontarior Soldier Society of Canada



Bill Hurlbutt (center) with Australians LTOR Rob Charles, Robin Yates, Philip Todd and Rob Tindal

SHOW REPORT PHOTO GALLERY (Cont.)



Bob Fisher (left) and Nils Fischer from Sweden



Marcus Grein and Dr. Hans Henning Roer from Germany



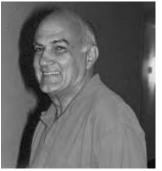
Ted Deddens and Alain Gineys



Verne Johnson and Bob Bailey - Seattle



Mark Young with his book BLAST OFF



Phil Minervino

SHOW REPORT (Cont.)

Rare Finds at the Old Toy Soldier Show Chicago 2004



Britains Set 21F English Flint Wall



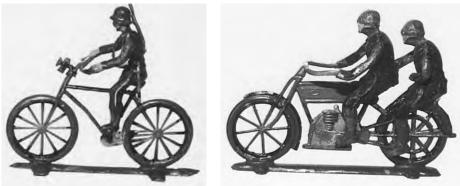
Rare Grey Iron Sunset Farm Set on offer from Ron Eccles



Haffner Romans in original box



Previously undiscovered Reka Soccer Player



Heyde Cycle Figures on offer from British Dealer Adrian Little





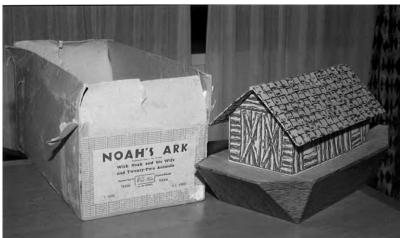
Cherilea Baseball Set in original box

SHOW REPORT (Cont.)

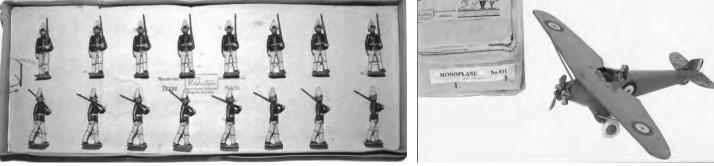
Rare Finds at the Old Toy Soldier Show (Cont.)



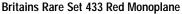
Nils Fischer (left) and Robin Yates negotiating the sale of Britains rare Noah's Ark with original box



Britains Noah's Ark with original box



Britains Rare Set 412 Argentine Cadets





Britains Rare Exploding Trench



Village Idiot Set returns to Chicago. The late Gus Hansen had this special box made for 8 village idiots in 1989. The towns listed on the label of the box are suburbs of Chicago. The Eight Village Idiots are original Britains figures. The set was on offer at the OTS 2004 show.





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RECONNAISSANCE



Heyde Zoological Garden, photo courtesy Phillips, Son & Neale.

Heyde Zoo sold at Philips Auction House during the 1980s reproduced from OTSN ten year index Volume 12 # 1 April 1988. See Bob Phillips article in OTS Volume 28 #2, 2004



Flat Tin Knockdown Cowboys and Indians (see Don Boydon's article in this issue) Similar to Marx - Can anyone identify the manufacturer?



Giroux an obscure France Manufacturer believed to have made contemporary figures in the 1860s. Plaster with a wooden base, it is one of the featured figures in the upcoming Bonhams Auction. James Opie would like to hear from anyone who has further information on this company. James can be reached via email james-opie@james-opie.co.uk

PLASTICS ON PARADE

WHERE ARE THEY NOW? by Norman Joplin

While carring out research at the Target Headquarters in St. Paul, Minnesota, the home of the Marshal Field Department Store Archives, I came across this illustration of a prehistoric plastic animal set. In 1958, the caption states that these figures are five and a half inches tall. Ten animals with caveman and cavewoman feature. According to the advertisment this group was assembled exclusively for Fields, yet the manufacturer remains unknown.



GENERAL INSPECTION-NEW PRODUCT REVIEW



by Russ Bednarek

Once again the OTSN Show provided toy soldier enthusiasts the opportunity to add to their collections. Whatever your specialty, be it metal, plastic, composition, Dimestore, old or new you could find it at the Show.

Thank you to all who offered their compliments and encouragement regarding "General Inspection". I appreciated them all as it made my weekend.

TOY SOLDIERS OF SAN DIEGO "1863 CONFEDERATE FIRING LINE"

Confident that they could produce a superior product, Nick and Deanna Versteeg of Toy Soldiers of San Diego, (TSSD), have launched their own range of plastic figures. To insure success, TSSD went to the consumer and asked them what attributes plastic figures should possess. The next step was to find a skilled sculptor who could produce a product based on the consumer's criteria. Sculptor David Lea has successfully created a line of figures which are sure to please the most discriminating plastics collector.

Measuring 60mm, the figures are compatible with most other manufacturers lines. It is here where the similarities to other plastics ends. Two qualities put this range far above other plastic figures; a hybrid plastic, and the robust size of the figures.

The hybrid plastic was specifically created for TSSD. The miniature is stiff enough to insure straight weapons, yet pliable enough to lend itself to be easily cut for conversion figures. Curved weapons have often been the bane of plastics collectors, but not so with these figures. I took several figures and removed arms, legs and heads with ease.

The robust full-sized style of David Lea is very realistic. Most plastic figures have a somewhat thin look when viewed head on. TSSD's figures do not suffer from this pitfall as all the pieces have an extremely realistic proportions when viewed from all angles.

A bag contains 16 figures in 8 active poses. The "1863 Confederate Firing Line" contains two each of the following; kneeling firing, standard bearer, barefoot standing firing, firing pistol in cavalry boots, advancing, standing with pistol and rifle, standing firing with blanket roll and standing firing pistol. Collectors will be happy to note the absence of casualty and lying firing figures.

Priced at \$18 per bag, these figures are an excellent value as they represent everything you would

want in a figure be it metal or plastic. Historically accurate, dynamic poses, excellent detail and sculpting, these figures are just begging for a coat of butternut and gray paint.

Collectors are advised to frequently check the TSSD website for updates and future releases. A bag of Union Charging figures is currently available.

Toy Soldiers of San Diego website:www.sdsoldiers.com phone 1-760-723-6583.



Toy Soldiers of San Diego Confederate Firing Line

GENERAL INSPECTION-NEW PRODUCT REVIEW (Cont.)

FRANCOIS BEAUMONT

Every year Francois Beaumont brings numerous treasures from his Paris shop to the OTSN Show. Lucotte, Vertunni, Mignot, Quiralu and others are all available. I must admit to falling prey to some of the afore mentioned figures, but what I am most eager to see are the new figures Beaumont has made for his own line of toy soldiers, "France 1939".

This year there was only one new figure, a mounted officer saluting, done to perfection. Those familiar with Beaumont's line, (see OTSN Vol.27 No.3) will be extremely pleased with this figure as it compliments all previously issued pieces.

Cast in resin, sculpted and painted flawlessly, this is the crowning piece of Beaumont's line. Detail is outstanding from the well muscled physique of the horse to the plate on the officer's Adrian helmet. The subtle shading of both horse and officer help to convey a most realistic effect. This one piece, (that's right, one piece) casting is just over 100mm tall, complete with metal reins held lightly in the officer's hands. Detail of the uniform and horse furniture is superb as buckles, belts, rings and buttons are masterfully executed.

Collectors will need to act quickly if they wish to obtain an example, as an extremely small number were produced. This is due to the painstakingly labor intensive process required to complete each model to such a high standard.

Various regiments are planned for future release. Be sure to check out Monsieur Beaumont's website; www.laboitedesoldat.com



Francois Beaumont's Mounted Officer-France 1939

IN THE PIPELINE

While making the rounds at the OTSN Show I was privy to several items which are of interest to collectors. JACK CARLETON of Le Petit Soldat now offers 4 figure boxes of Mignot advancing, firing, or charging figures. Much welcomed by Mignot collectors who want more "action" in their display. www.lepetitsoldat.com

TROIANI HISTORICAL MINIATURES had the prototype of their next release, "US Marines 1861-1865" on display. Well executed. www.thmsoldiers.com

SCHLEICH of Germany will release in November five new 90mm Crusaders. Two mounted, (sword, standard), and three foot, (axe, pike and warhammer), will be priced at \$12.50 and \$5 respectively. Nice figures. www.michtoy.com

THE OLD NORTHWEST TRADING COMPANY definitely THE BEST new company at the Show. Focusing on Normandy 1944, Series 1 will be comprised of four different sets. Two sets will feature GI's while the remaining two will be a German Panzer crew, and fallschirmjagers. All sets will be \$75, with each set being four figures or three figures and a scenic piece. I am pleased to announce that I will be reviewing the fallschirmjager set in the next issue of OTSN. If World War II is your collecting interest you must check out the website, www.oldnwtc.com

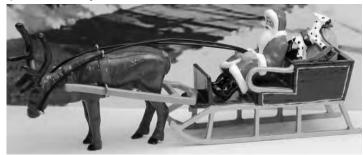
GENERAL INSPECTION-NEW PRODUCT REVIEW (Cont.)



NEW PRODUCTS REVIEWED

Marion Reilly has released two new holiday related items, Santa Claus With Sack of Toys and A Reindeer Drawn Sleigh With Santa, complete with a choice of individual toys in the back of the sleigh, a tiny rocking horse is available as one of the options. Marion's Miniatures of Elegance were available at this years Chicago Toy Soldier Show, her display, was as usual quite eyecatching with a toy shop facade as one of the backdrops enhancing her exquisite artistry.

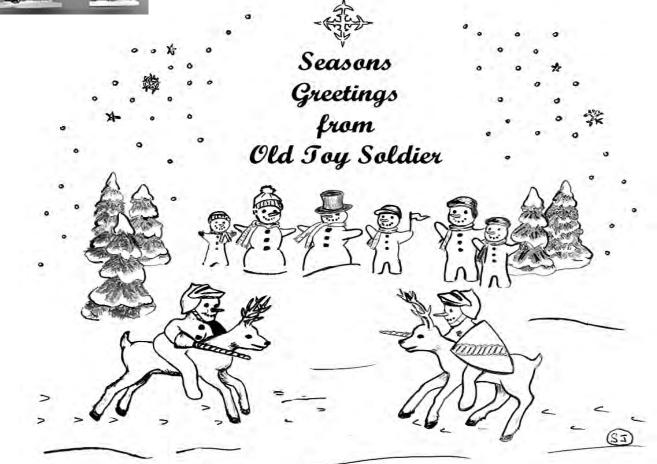
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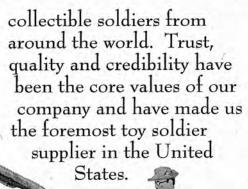
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BARCLAY'S FIRE ENGINES by Stan Alekna

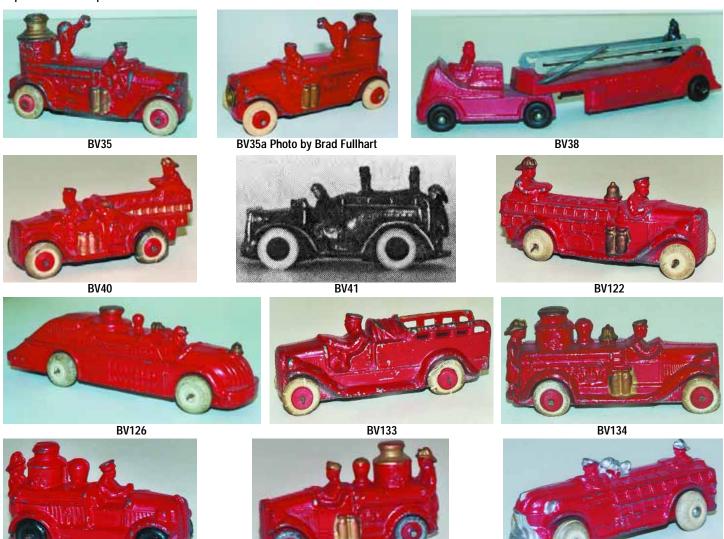


Young boys have always been intrigued by fire engines so it was only natural and also good business for Barclay to offer several models of these exciting vehicles almost from their inception as a toy company.

In keeping with my standard format for such articles, the following table and related photos are intended to provide a comprehensive reference guide for those who are interested in collecting these vehicles. The VAL-UES are from actual prices paid, or from consensus among several dealers and collectors on the rarer vehicles for which there was little or no sales information.

Richard O'Brien's <u>COLLECTING TOY CARS & TRUCKS</u> is the most complete reference book for Dimestore vehicles but the publication rights to this book now belong to the publisher, Books Americana, a subsidiary of Krause Publications. Krause asked me to edit the Barclay and Manoil sections of the book for what will become the 4th edition of this excellent reference guide. The target publication date is late this summer. I involved a few other Dimestore vehicle collectors in this major project and together, we identified and documented 27 previously unlisted Barclay vehicles. Also, nearly 100 new photos will be included in the 4th edition to support the newly listed vehicles and to provide photos for previously listed vehicles that had no photograph, and as replacements for those photos that were not clear. The reason I mention this information is because in this article, I have used some of the newly assigned Barclay Vehicle (BV) numbers from what will become the 4th edition of <u>COLLECT-ING TOY CARS & TRUCKS</u> for those fire engines that have not been listed before. There are five of these new discoveries and they are indicated by an asterisk in front of the BV number in the table.

Lastly, I had Richard O'Brien, our Godfather, and a Barclay vehicle expert, Doug Ehrenhaft, provide their input and critique on a draft of this article.



BARCLAY'S FIRE ENGINES (Cont.)



BV182



BV183

BARC	LAY'S	FIRE	ENGIN	IËS

O'Brien No.	Type & Description	No. Of Firemen	Type of Wheels	Length in inches	VALUE @ 95%
*BV35	Large pumper w/ small crane attached to boiler	1	tires on large hubs	3-7/8	\$125
*BV35a	Same as BV35 but w/ battery powered headlight	1	tires on large hubs	3-7/8	\$275
BV38	Hook & ladder, die cast, 2 pc. permanently attached, sm. blue fireman ascends ladder when it is raised by lever	2	black rubber	5-7/8	\$275
BV40	Hook & ladder, firemen on each side hanging on for dear life	4	tires on hubs	2-3/4	\$65
BV41	Ladder truck. See photo from O'Brien's Collecting Toy Cars and Trucks.	2	tires on large hubs	4?	Unknown
BV122	Hook & ladder w/ cast bell behind driver	2	white rubber	3	\$65
BV126	Large pumper, marked "FIRE DEPT No. 99"	1	large white rubber	5-3/4	\$100
BV133	Hose truck	1	tires on hubs	3-1/8	\$65
BV134	Pumper w/ cast bell	2	tires on hubs	3-1/16	\$65
BV137	Pumper, steering wheel above hood, 7-hood vents, 2-fire extinguishers on driver's side only (not shown in photo)	2	black metal	2-1/4	\$75
BV137a	Pumper, steering wheel level w/ hood, 3 hood vents, 2 fire extinguishers on each side, many other mold differences from BV137	2	Grey/red metal	2-3/8	\$75
*BV177	Hook & ladder w/ searchlight behind driver	2	white rubber	2-3/4	\$85
*BV182	Pumper or water cannon truck; marked "MADE USA"	2	white rubber	2-3/4	\$85
*BV183	Large hook & ladder, small crane behind driver	2	tires on large hubs	4-7/8	\$125

* ~ indicates newly identified vehicle with new "BV" number

Hopefully, the table and photographs stand on their own without the need for much more verbiage. All of the fire trucks, except for the only die cast model, BV38, were made in the 1930's based on available documentation. BV177 and BV182 were probably made around the late '30s or early 1940's. The tires, casting pattern on the bottom, and the lighter color of red paint of these 2 items seem to indicate that they were companion and contemporary vehicles. While there is general acceptance of the progression of Barclay wheels from metal to hubs/tires to white tires to black tires, many advanced collectors also agree that it is not uncommon to find the same vehicle with different type wheels due to factory production changeover factors. The same model vehicle can be found with metal wheels on one and hubs/tires on another. I have also seen the same model vehicle with small hubsltires and another one with solid white tires. In my opinion, differences in wheel types and minor variations in paint do not constitute a true variant deserving of an alphabetic suffix to the BV number. However, I do know collectors who aggressively seek such variations and more power to them I say. I even know a collector, who shall remain nameless, who considers Barclay podfoot figures with different colored dot eyes to be collectible variants!

I contacted a fireman who supplied some technical information about the equipment on the pumper model fire trucks. The large vessel at the rear of the vehicle is a boiler that contained a double acting water pump and the knob or dome located in front of the boiler contained an air bubble which served to smooth the flow of water when pumping.

The most controversial Barclay fire engine is BV41 which was photographed at the Evelyn Besser collection many years ago and was included in the Barclay vehicle section of his books by Richard O'Brien. Richard states that 3 former Barclay employees verified that the vehicle in the photo was made by Barclay. Despite all of the contacts I made during the previously described editing project, not one person, including those who have collected Barclay vehicles for 30+ years, has seen a Barclay fire engine that resembles BV41. It could have been produced by a foreign manufacturer and considered as a prototype that never reached production status. I'm leaving it on my "WANT LIST" but I really don't think I'll ever see one, this side of Dimestore Heaven.

Apart from BV41, I judge the two rarest fire trucks to be a tie between BV35a and BV38 because fewer of these vehicles have been seen, even though they are the earliest and latest fire engines made by Barclay. BV35a is easily distinguished by it's light bulb socket in the radiator. In the process of gathering data for the edit of Krause's book, we discovered **FIVE** different Barclay vehicles with the battery powered headlight feature. BV18, the cannon car, and BV149A, the race car, had previously been listed and pictured. BV35a, the fire engine, had not been listed before and is being introduced in this article. The other two newly discovered variants with battery powered headlights are BV30a, the 4.1/2" coupe and BV81a, the early, large, 4" wrecker. All five were made in 1934-1935.

BV38 was clearly the last of the Barclay fire engines as it is die cast with black tires. Also, it is by far the most mechanically complex item made by Barclay in that the small blue fireman ascends the tin ladder when it is raised by pulling up on the wire lever on the left side of the fire truck.



B38 Ladder Raised



BV38 Fireman at Top of Raised Ladder

There have been a few examples of BV35 and BV183 seen with a small bell attached to the hole in the tip of the crane by a tiny loop. However, it is not known for certain if the bells are Barclay OEM equipment or a creative addition since these vehicles are among those that have been newly documented and have not been pictured on any old Barclay or toy catalog pages found so far.

If anyone has a BV41 or additional models of Barclay fire engines, I would sure appreciate hearing from you so I can submit an update to OTS. And if you think this article will be helpful to your collecting efforts, you should consider submitting an article to OTS on **YOUR** Dimestore anomalies and discoveries. Nearly every time I see a Dimestore collection of any size, I find some unusual or variant item that deserves further investigation. Your article does not have to be lengthy or complex. It can be limited to a discussion of a single rare or unusual figure or even an unidentified figure or vehicle. The staff at OTS is ready, willing and able to aid you in composing your article so please consider contributing to the growth of knowledge, information and documentation of our hobby. Besides, I am running out of material and Ray Haradin is putting the heat on me for more Dimestore articles, so I would appreciate some help in sharing the load.

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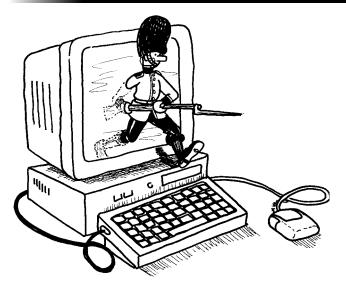
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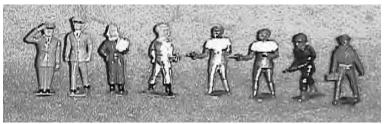




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Toy Soldiers and Antique Malls

by Don Boydon

With the advent of eBay, some people think you can't make good toy soldier finds in antique malls anymore. I think there has been a drain, but I still consistently find good items on my weekend antiquing trips. Norman Joplin, OTSN editor asked that I chronicle these toy soldier-related successes for an occasional article – so here is the first.

Appropriately enough, this first article is about my finds going to and from the 2004 Old Toy Soldier show in Chicago, with a side trip to my



Britains Coronation Coach

family in Wisconsin. We got a late start from our home in Plymouth, Michigan, so we skipped several of my favorite places. Bob's Hobby Shop in Watervliet, MI is one of them. His third floor is all vintage toys and always a case of soldiers. \$20 a piece for each one whether repainted, missing an arm, or a good condition Manoil boxer or banjo player (got those a few years back). Did stop at the Great Lakes Antiques Mall at the Coloma exit off 94 in Coloma, Michigan (found an Elastolin raging elephant there last year poor shape, but couldn't pass him up at \$10). This year no vintage pieces, but a case at the checkout counter is filled with high quality hand painted metal soldiers. Passed on those, and that was it for the trip out.

After the Chicago Show the continuation trip through Wisconsin yielded much better results. At the Hoff Mall in Mt. Horeb there was a very attractive farm set in one of the cases. Had one Elastolin 10 cm farm girl, good condition, and a dozen Elastolin farm animals (pigs, horses, cows, fowl) in poor to very good condition. The farm was a puzzler – no compo, all wood. Large barn, silo, a dozen wood fence pieces. All professional quality, well painted red and white, but no markings. I couldn't make the buildings as German, the figures were a mixed lot, and the overall price was around \$150, so I passed.

In Middleton, Wisconsin we hit the Middleton Antiques Mall – 4 floors of high quality antiques and lots of small stuff. Bought a Britain's coronation coach – great paint, one ding to a horses neck, slight bend to the rear wheel assembly - \$135; a Johillco Roman gladiator chariot mint in box with original wax paper wrappings plus a bonus foot gladiator - \$85; 10 unusual tin knock down cowboys and Indians – not Marx, they look much earlier, face of the cowboys look like Tom Mix - \$30.

Broadway Antique Mall, Monona, Wisconsin was disappointing. The only soldiers were two lots of horrible condition dimestores, missing paint and arms, sold at \$10 each and not a one of them even salvageable for parts.

Roscoe Antiques Mall, Roscoe, IL was frustrating. One case had high quality Barclay civilians but they were all fully priced - such as a very nice minister walking at \$40. Another case had a mixed bag of dimestore soldiers, most in poor condition and over priced: soldier with pigeons, soldier with separate (missing) radio antenna, etc. all at \$20 each. Feeling the need to spend I did buy the only good piece a very nice condition Manoil M110 guy with rocket launcher which I picked up for \$23.

Well, that's it for this trip. Nothing too exceptional, but certainly enough to keep me hunting through those cases!



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Nobunaga achieved control over the province of Owari (around the modern city of Nagoya) in 1559. As many other daimyo, he was keen on uniting Japan. Strategically and favorably located; he succeeded in capturing the capital in 1568. After establishing himself in Kyoto, Nobunaga continued to eliminate his enemies in



turn. Among them were some militant Buddhist sects, especially the Ikko sect (Pure Land Sect) which had become very powerful in several provinces. Nobunaga destroyed the Enryakuji monastery near Kyoto completely in 1571 and his fight against the Ikko sect continued until 1580.

Nobunaga was rather fortunate concerning his two most dangerous rivals in the East: Takeda Shingen and Uyesugi Kenshin. Both of them died before they were able to confront Nobunaga! After Shingen's death, Nobunaga defeated the Takeda clan in the battle of Nagashino (1575), making use of the arquebus and modern warfare strategies. In 1582, general Akechi murdered Nobunaga and captured his Azuchi cast le. Toyotomi Hideyoshi, a general fighting for Nobunaga, reacted very quickly, defeated Akechi, and took over control. Hideyoshi continued to eliminate remaining rivals. He subdued the Northern provinces and Shikoku in 1583 and Kyushu in 1587. After defeating the Hojo family in Odawara in 1590, Japan was finally reunited.

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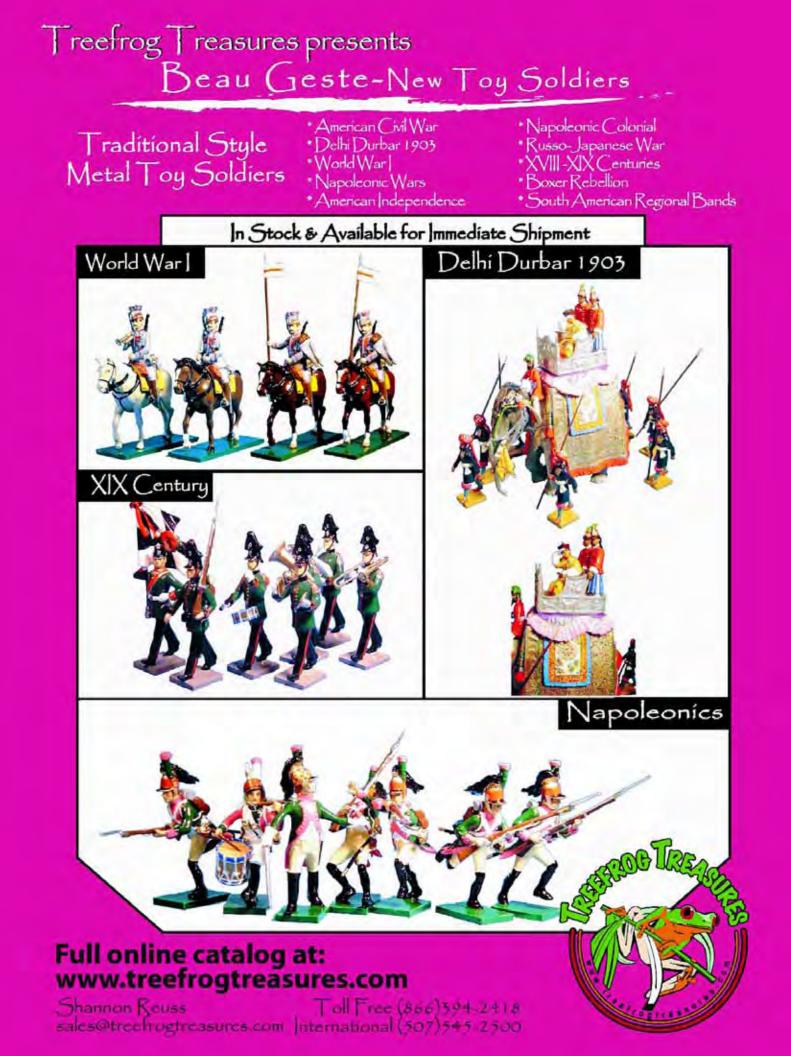


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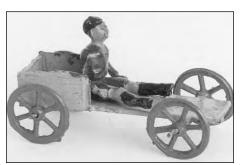
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Toy Soldier Postcards

...*an update* By David Scheinmann



An article entitled "Toy Soldier Postcards" by Steve Sommers appeared in the Winter 2000-2001 issue of Old Toy Soldier. As you may suppose the article showed a splendid selection of old postcards featuring toy soldiers.

I greatly enjoyed seeing this article as I have always had a fondness for toy soldier "ephemera", and I had several of these postcards in my modest collection.

The article prompted me to search for further toy soldier postcards. I must say, I have been very fortunate and have found several good examples over the intervening two or three years. I thought you might enjoy seeing some of these.

I am certainly no expert on postcards neither am I knowledgeable enough to try to identify the toy soldiers featured, but I'm sure there are a great many readers who can readily do so.

* * *

Picture postcards came into being in the 1870s and reached the height of their popularity during the period from the early 1900s to the end of the First World War. Not only was the picture postcard a popular means of speedy communication, at a time when postal deliveries seem to have been somewhat more frequent and reliable than they are today, but they were also very collectable in their day.

During this "golden age" of the picture postcard, they were produced in vast numbers and in huge varieties. The range of pictorial subject matter featured on these picture postcards was limitless, so perhaps it is not so surprising that toy soldiers should appear on a few of them.

There were millions of Allied soldiers serving in France during the First World War. Far from home the troops wanting to write their loved ones, created a huge demand for postcards. To cater for this demand there was a vast production of picture postcards in France,

many being of the real photograph type, frequently hand

tinted, depicting posed patriotic, heroic or sentimental scenes.

Many of these featured French and Allied soldiers, or more probably photographic models or studio assistants dressed up as soldiers! Amongst this type of postcard can be found several featuring small boys in "uniform" with toy soldiers, the cards bearing appropriate patriotic captions.

The French photographic postcards were printed directly from glass negatives. In most cases several photographs would be taken at each "sitting", presumably to be able to increase the printing capacity. This resulted in the production of several similar, but not identical images, owing to the "models" (both human and toy) either intentionally or accidentally having moved between each photographic exposure!

In England and the U.S.A., postcards were more commonly produced by mechanical printing means. Nevertheless, variations can still be found, as certain images seem to have been published by more that one company, or reissued at different times with different captions or overprinted with various greetings.

* * *

The majority of the toy soldier postcards in my collection are mostly either English or French in origin, and I suspect that there must be many other examples yet to be found

I would greatly appreciate hearing from any readers who have any other examples of toy soldier postcards, and If possible, I would like to borrow these with a view of including them in a future follow up article.

If agreeable I would also like to add these to my range of "Nostalgia" greeting cards, which feature images reproduced from old postcards. I am particularly keen to get hold of an example of the postcard entitled "A Cavalry Charge" shown in the original "Toy Soldier Postcards" article.

I can be contacted via email at scheinmann@aol.com

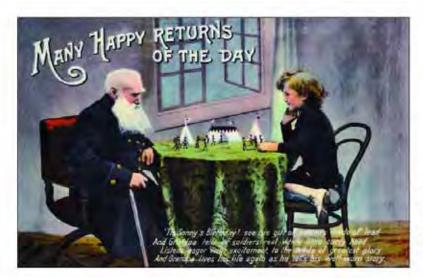




Fig. 1: A Chelsea Pensioner and a young boy. The better known sepia version shown above is entitled "Fighting His Battles O'er Again" and was presented free with the weekly publications "Yes or No" and "Smart Fiction". The coloured version (left) of the same image was published by A. & G. Taylor of London.



Fig. 2: A boy in sailor suit with toy soldiers (above) entitled "Young England" published by Raphael Tuck & Sons, one of the most prolific producers of postcards. On the right is a variation of this pose, although with a less pleasing arrangement of toy troops! This postcard, also by Raphael Tuck, is entitled "Real British". Both postcards curiously bear the same number - "Postcard no. 3112".







Fig. 3: A charming tinted photographic Christmas postcard published by E. A. Schwerdtfeger & Co. London – Printed at their works in Berlin (presumably prior to the First World War!). The set of toy soldiers by Heyde (detail shown above) indicates that the studio photograph also originated in Germany.



Fig. 4 (above): "Général en Herbe". A young zouave with toy soldiers shown in this First World War French postcard.



Fig. 5: "Le Départ pour le Front". An exceptionally clear photograph of young boy in uniform with his toy soldiers in this First World War French postcard.

Fig. 7 (right): Two French postcards with a similar theme, although produced by different studios/publishers. The upper postcard is dated 1913 and the lower postcard 1917.



Fig. 6 (above): Two French postcards (both dated 1914), unfortunately rather damaged, of a young Zouave with toy soldiers. These are variations of the postcard illustrated in the previous Old Toy Soldier article.





Fig. 8 (above): A French postcard of two young boys in 'uniform' with toy soldiers, captioned "Vive le 75!" This is a variation of the pose and caption shown in the previous Old Toy Soldier article. Both cards bear the same number "326".





Fig. 9 (above and left): Two French postcards, written in 1915, of a boy with a very large model cannon. No doubt part of a set of postcards.



Fig. 10 (left): An American postcard with an embossed surface and border. Published by the Stecher Lith. Co. Roch. N.Y., this postcard is numbered "Series 338 B". I have another example by the same publisher without the embossing, in which the picture has been flipped horizontally and is numbered "Series 731 B".

Fig 11 (right) From a series of postcards by Raphael Tuck & Sons of "The Queen's Dolls' House". Part of the caption reads "The picture displays some of the many attractive items provided in the Royal Nursery of the Queen's Dolls' House. The toy Soldiers with movable arms and the model Train with Windsor Station as the stopping place will appeal to every boy."and no doubt to a few collectors also!

The toy soldiers are no doubt a unique miniature version of their normal sized counterparts, by William Britain.

The Queen's Dolls' House was featured at the British Empire Exhibition of 1924. Tuck published six sets of eight postcards featuring items from the Doll's House.



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VECTIS AUCTIONS October 7, 2004

Vectis Specialist Sale Review – An East Coast Collection & Other Military & Civilian Figures – Thursday 7th October 2004 – a live & on-line sale in association with Ebay Live & Live Auctioneers.com

Vectis held its October specialist figure sale at the Company's Thornaby Headquarters on Thursday 7th. The sale was attended by many dealers & collectors in person, in addition many bidders worldwide chose to buy on the telephones and via the live Internet links. The sale began with a 200-lot collection of composite animals, buildings, vehicles & figures, mainly from the makers Elastolin & Lineol. Bidding was brisk on most lots with a high price being achieved for a rare Elastolin Castle [£800+] dating from the 1930`s, a number of horse drawn vehicles & guns achieved respectable prices in the £250-400 range & a small Noah's Ark made £345.

The highlights of the Civilian section were undoubtedly a small selection of Phillip Segal Toys boxed nursery rhyme characters produced in the 1950's. Prices ranged from a record breaking £1840 for; "The Old Woman who lived in a Shoe" to £550 for; "Dick Whittington & his Cat". A Britains boxed Middlesbrough football team dating to the early 1930's achieved over £600 and a Civilian Autogiro [unboxed] reached £1150.



German Composition Castle



Britains Royal Field Artillery 18 Inch Heavy Howitzer Set #211



Phillip Segal Old Woman In The Shoe Box Set

Not to be outdone Britain's military sets performed well with an early boxed version of set 211 - 18"Heavy Howitzer & 10 horse team achieving a respectable £2875, a set [No 170] of unboxed Greek Cavalry was purchased for £1035 & set 2777 – Band of the Royal Berkshire Regiment made £1265.

The next Vectis Specialist sale will be held on Tuesday 14th December & will include a comprehensive selection of Military Antiques, Books, Military & Civilian lead figures, Plastics, Composites & Buildings/Accessories.

AUCTION PREVIEW

BONHAM'S NOVEMBER 24TH 2004 SALE OF TOY SOLDIERS AND FIGURES

As usual, the outstanding feature of this sale is its enormous diversity, with five hundred lots containing tens of thousands of items covering just about every aspect of toy figure collecting. Military miniatures, some of fine quality, put in an appearance, as do recent 'New Toy Soldiers' at very reasonable prices. Ancient pieces en masse are here for the handymen to add to their displays after suitable refurbishment. Occasionally the odd prize piece lurks in these lots. Also on display are battalions already expertly refurbished..

For Britains fans, highlights of the usual sections can be presented by the numbers:

Pre-First World War:

Set 12, 11th Hussars, set 13, 3rd Hussars, set 83, Middlesex Yeomanry, all first version, officers with throat plumes. Plug shoulder Fusiliers and 12th Lancers. Sets 72 and 73, early versions. Boer War figures, Boer Cavalry and Imperial Yeomanry. Indian Army Cavalry, sets 62, 64 and 66, and set 49 South Australian Lancers.

Between the wars:

Set 130, Scots Guards display, set 1908 Infantry Officers, four sets of Special paintings, Royal Marines colour party, a set of French Chasseurs in a highly unusual box, Arabs on camels, set 1395, King's Own Scottish Borderers, Limbered Wagon in service dress and more Boer War figures, Gloucestershire Regiment and 6th Dragoons.

Post-Second World War:

Set 1836, Argentine Military Cadets, a complete set of Picture Pack showcases, set 73, set 2043 Rodeo, with a number of other boxed sets of Cowboys and Indians, Knights of Agincourt, set 2097 French Foreign Legion and Arabs, Musical Ride of the Household Cavalry, Band of the Berkshire Regiment and several of the sets in No.1 dress made just after the 1953 coronation.



Britains Volunteer Ambulance

Civilian items:

Set 2024 Light Goods Van, Hunting Series, Racing Colours, Farm with tractors and horsedrawn equipment, Zoo, Miniature Gardening, set 1513 Volunteer Corps (St John's) Motor Ambulance, Record and Police Cars (two colour schemes). Altogether a hundred lots of civilian stuff, about two thirds of it Britains.

British manufacturers other than Britains:

The most unusual set here is by Fry, set 10A, with six German infantry of 1914 holding up their hands. The box is entitled Mercy, Kamerad! How much simpler the Great War would have been if this piece of miniature wish fulfilment had come true.

This among twenty lots containing Hill, Timpo and other Britains competitors.



Royal Horse Artillery Mounted Gunners Rare combination of head and body possibly made of samples in the 1946-1948 period (lot 1032A)



Unusual Early British Hollow-Casts



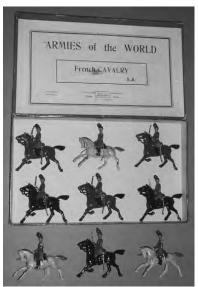
John Hill and Company Pre-war and WWII Military including rare Japanese Dispatch Rider

AUCTION PREVIEW (Cont.)

Continental manufacturers:

A number of lots of composition and CBG Mignot figures, but taking pride of place some superb sets of Heyde no.2 size Prussian Grenadiers with Frederick the Great. As a curiosity there is a set of composition French infantry of the line where the kepis are made of tinplate. There is also an unusually fine set of semi-flats depicting the Franco-Prussian war. This time it is the French who are shown running away, so this set was probably made in Germany.

Colour pictures of many of these items can be seen on James Opie's website, james-opie.co.uk



Britains Set #139 Chasseurs



CBG Mignot Chasseurs



Prussian Grenadiers



Britains Rare Sixth Arm Boar War Trooper Rocking Horse Version



Tipple Topple Box Label



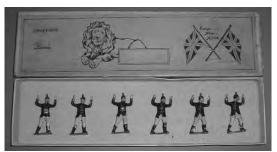
Franco German War Flats



Taylor and Barrett Road and Traffic Set #45



Unknow French Composition



Fry? Mercy Kamerad

AUCTION PREVIEW (Cont.)

Vectis Specialist Sale Preview – The Cumbrian Collection Tuesday 14th December 2004

Vectis Specialist Sale Preview – The Cumbrian Collection – Tuesday 14th December 2004 – a live & on-line sale in association with Ebay Live & Live Auctioneers.com

For the December specialist sale Vectis are departing from their usual sale format to include an incredible collection [some 300 or so lots] of military antiques & books. Not only will purchasers be able to buy the troops of their choice in miniature but also full scale examples of their uniforms & weapons! Highlights include a group of Boer & First World War ceramics, edged weapons [sabres, bayonets, dress daggers & swords], a superb selection of flintlock & percussion pistols and a stunning group of helmets



Selection of Militaria from the Vectis Auction to be held on the 14th of December 2004

& other headgear, together with a large selection of associated militaria & ephemera. This is the ideal opportunity to acquire that decorative antique piece for the hobby room.

Following the military antiques a comprehensive selection of military art, military greeting cards & bookmarks. Original art works [including a Simpkin & a number of Kemp watercolours, gouaches & oils] and prints, both framed and loose will be offered for sale. An extensive library of military books will complete this first half of the sale, and will include volumes ranging from a study of the Waterloo campaign [printed shortly after the battle in 1815] to contemporary uniform & equipment studies and a good selection of model soldier tomes.

The second "conventional" half of the sale will comprise 300 + lots of military & civilian figures. Britains pre-war highlights include early "wide" box issue Cavalry sets [7th Dragoon Guards & Prussian Hussars being two examples] and a very unusual green "Armies of the World" boxed Italian infantry/cavalry display set No 1368. The Paris Office section of the sale will be spotlighted by a [possibly] unique set of WW1 German Infantry, marching at the trail in field grey with covered picklehaubes. Other Paris Office lots will include a 4 x horse French G.S. wagon [finished in an olive green colour with canvas tilt] complete with 2 drivers in red kepis & blue tunics and also a number of mounted French Officers. All are in excellent condition and are sure to attract a good deal of interest.

Hugar will be represented with an extremely rare set [No1748- barrack buildings with parade ground & guard huts] and three assorted field emplacements.

For those with an interest in Britains post war items a wide selection of ROAN sets will be offered, these are supplemented by equipment sets, civilian & circus items.

For the plastic collector there is a rare English Civil War set [H7042] in "picture frame" box, a comprehensive selection of Herald & Swoppets, ACW Guns Teams and civilian items.

The selection of European figures on offer will include an excellent collection of Heyde & Mignot supplemented with composition offerings from Elastolin & Lineol. All in all a sale with something for everybody, better start writing those Christmas "wants" lists now!



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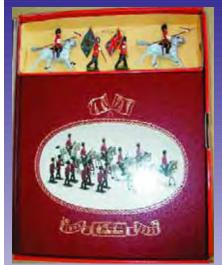
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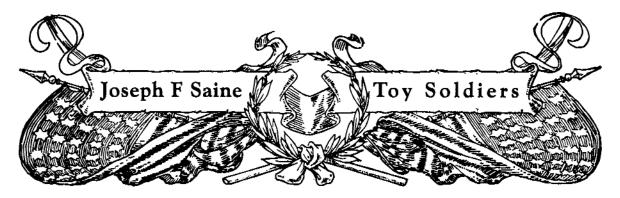


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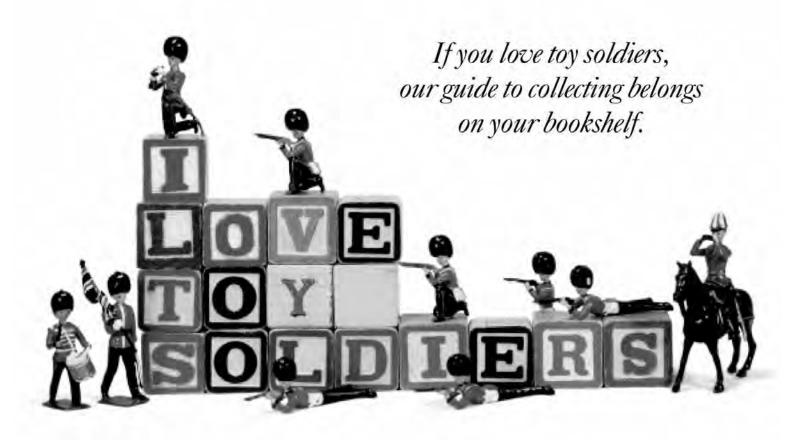
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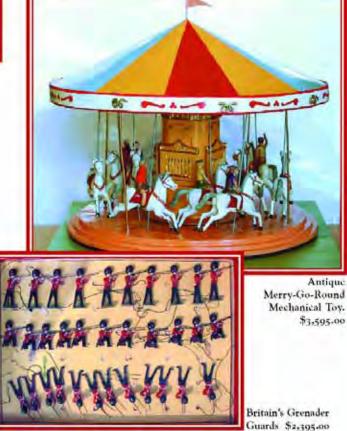
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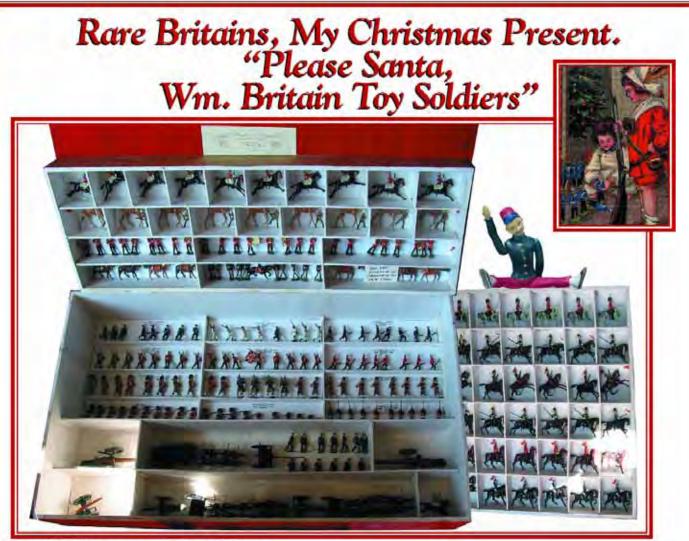
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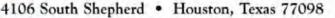
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BOOK REVIEW

TOY KNIGHTS BY PETER COWAN Reviewed by Russ Bednarek

At this years OTSN Show I had the honor and privilege of meeting Peter Cowan, author of "Toy Knights". It was during this meeting that Mr.Cowan's enthusiasm and infinite knowledge of toy knights became apparent as we paged through my complimentary copy of his work. Quick to point out the most minute of differences between figures pictured in the book, Mr.Cowan's mastery of the subject borders on encyclopedic. "Toy Knights" is the product of Mr. Cowan's passion for collecting toy knights and the continuous research of producer, production and product.

"Toy Knights" is a study of both metal and plastic production. A most informative introduction provides background on the development of coats of arms, the roll of heralds and their influence and duties within the feudal system.

After a brief chapter on flat figures, Cowan dives into the "Who's Who" of toy knight artisans. Courtney, Doran, Cherrington, Greenhill, Ping, Selwyn-Smith and others are all given their due. Cowan does an excellent job of presenting the chronological production history of each maker and how their particular product came to market. It is interesting to note how many of these artists and their product were interwoven with their peers. It was not at all uncommon for individuals to formally work for a particular company/individual, and yet do freelance work for another.

Cowan next moves on to the production of Britains metal and plastic knight production. The production of plastic figures dominates this chapter as Cowan relates how the acquisition of Herald Miniatures along with the talented Selwyn-Smith saved Britains. The plastics market was extremely competitive and it was Selwyn-Smith, now the Technical Director who was responsible for developing Swoppets. With interchangeable body parts, and weapons, Swoppets dominated the plastics market. Cowan continues his study by describing the emergence of Deetail under the direction of Charles Brigg.

Subsequent chapters deal with German, American, Continental and miscellaneous English makers. A short, but interesting chapter on Robin Hood figures will also interest readers.

For collectors, the Appendix will prove invaluable. A series of charts is provided for the variations of the Britains Deetail Series. Each range is listed with the figure production number given. Beneath this number is listed uniform components, weapons and horse. Appearing across the top of the chart is listed the years of



production. By cross indexing the various components with the year, a collector can find the correct color of for example plume, coat, reins and more.

"Toy Knights" is a hardcover 144 page masterpiece. On each page there are anywhere between 2 to 6 high quality color photographs. Photographs depict various versions of a particular figure or an entire range of knights. Printed on glossy paper, "Toy Knights" is a publication of the highest quality. Readers are advised to check the advertisement in this issue for ordering information. Peter Cowan is to be commended for creating what is sure to be one of the classic toy soldier books.

PETER 🌮 COWAN



heraldic miniatures.

As a leading sculptor of Miniatures Peter Cowan has created figures for major Collections. Muscums and Model Manufacturers throughout the world for over 25 years. From 2000 to 2004 he wrote, as Contributing Editor, the journal of the William Britain Collectors Club. and he writes for other journals on topics from toys to military history.

His main love is Heraldic Miniatures and he has three different ranges of these. From the exotic Knights of the Golden Fleece via intricate conversions of original hollowcast Knights of Agincourt to his Bespoke Knight figures, which can incorporate Family Coats of Arms, his artistry provides a delightful miniature to treasure for the future.

TOY KNIGHTS

"The Other 100 Years War" by PETER COWAN

The trusty knight and his dastardly foe have been the staple fare of childhood battles for many years. Toy Knights are both favoured playthings, nostalgic reminders and prized possessions for many people.

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Reviewed in OTS Fall 2000.

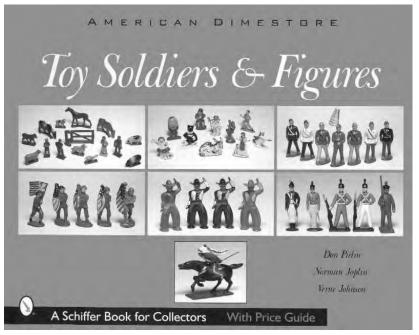
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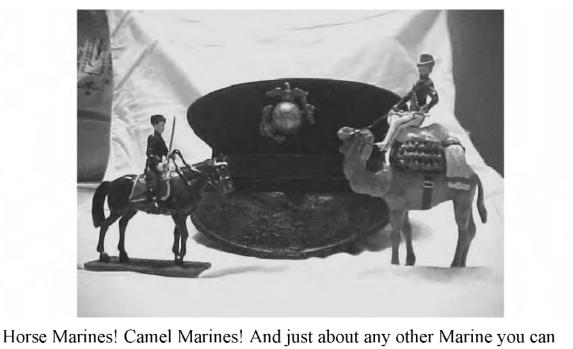
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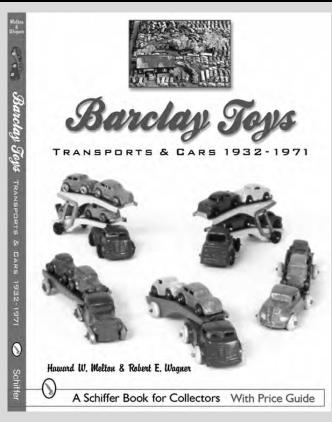
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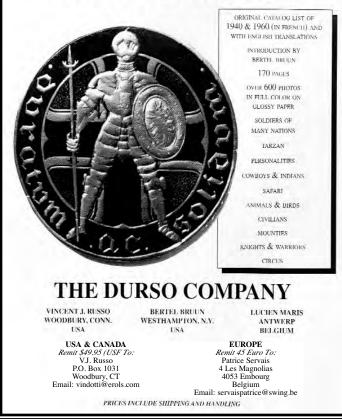
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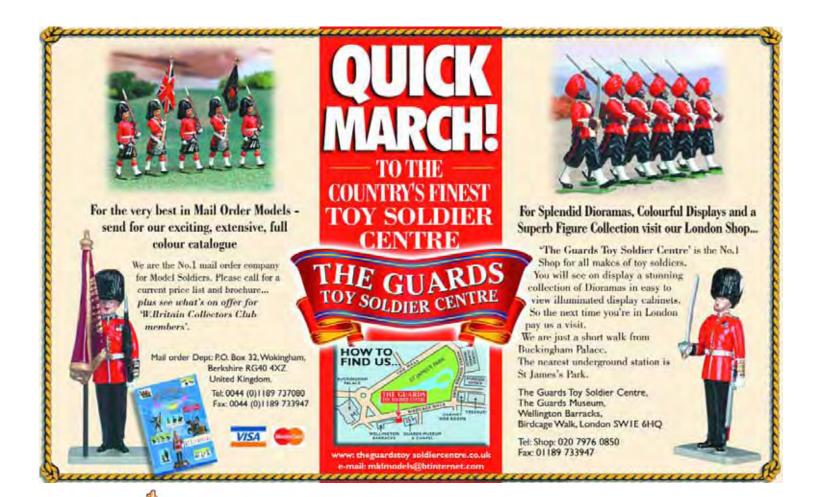
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Britains Set #1536 The Colonials at Present

by Colonel Donald Pudney

The following article was written over twenty years ago when I was sent a photograph of the set to confirm its' composition from the old Britains factory records.

It was only a black and white photo so I was uncertain at the time, about the colours of the cap plume and gaiters, virtually the only distinguishing marks from the later Australians of set no. 1545.

The article was intended for the OTS Newsletter of that time, but was put aside pending a closer examination of the set, something I never got around to doing.



Britains Set #1536 The Colonials at Present

I was re-motivated to retrieve my notes as the opportunity to purchase the set arose and I finally got to see it. This honoured a promise of the former owner to give me the "first refusal" whenever, in his own words "it is needed to contribute to my pension fund."

It is, without doubt, the most costly single line set I have ever purchased in some years of collecting, (sixty six years, if you count my Christmas 1937 gift of a Triang Fort and 10 Guardsmen), but to acquire a set reliably considered to be the only surviving example, no price seems too much to pay for the pleasure of its ownership, even if I only keep it for a while until my own pension fund beckons.!



Box and label for Set #1536

Britains Set No. 1536 "The Colonials"

by Colonel Donald Pudney

The discovery of this previously unknown set in 1980 was the first confimation of information noted in the "Britains Master Lists" which lists Set No. 1536 "Colonials at Present".

To the casual observer, the figures are identical to the Australians in Set 1545 and, apart from some minor paint differences, they are. However, using the figures to depict Australians did not occur to Britains until June 1937. It can be seen from the old records that Mr. Smallwood and his staff were required to make Mould No. 472 in February 1937 so that a general-purpose figure could be made representing several Colonial armies who were expected to be at the Coronation and that this figure should be at the 'Present' for "Lining the Route" at the Coronation parade taking place in London on 12 May 1937.

The "Smallwood" records show that a Mr. Falcon took some 22 hours of work to produce the new mould. Quite a long time in comparison with others at the time, but this new figure was very different and quite beautifully proportioned. It depicts a soldier in breeches and long boots wearing the campaign hat popularised in the Boer War.

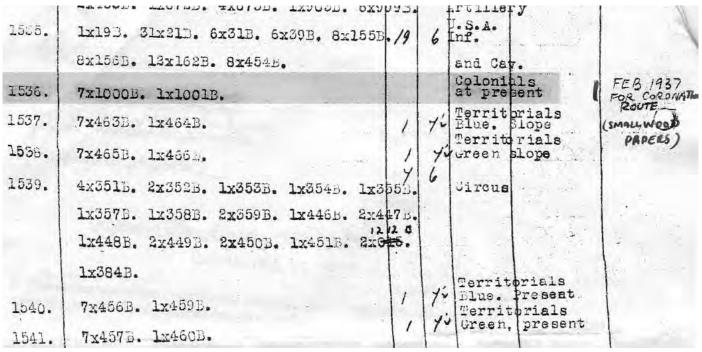
Later, in June 1937, with just a few painting differences, Britains were able to make good use of the mould again for the issue of the Australians in Set No. 1545.

There are probably more of these figures, which were issued only for that brief period, languishing in collections and wrongly identified as Australians.

Look out for puttees (Australians) versus boots (Colonials) and Green Cockade (Australians) rather than black, or very dark brown (Colonials).

Set 1536 is contained within a blue, Types of the Colonial Army Box.

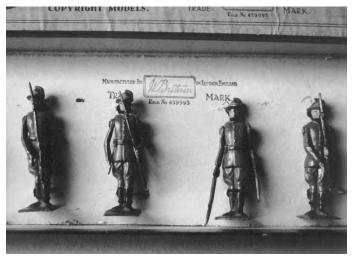
When Shamus Wade wrote in O.T.S.N. (Issue Volume 8 #2) about Britains painting reference cards there was illustrated one that included Models 1000B and 1001B, Officer and Soldier respectively, from this set. Whoever purchased part of that card from Mr. Wade owns two very rare and valuable figures. The author owns the wrong half of that same card, alas.



Excerpt from the Britains Factory Records showing the entry for Set#1536



Reference Card previously owned by Shamas Wade



Closeup of the contents of Set #1536



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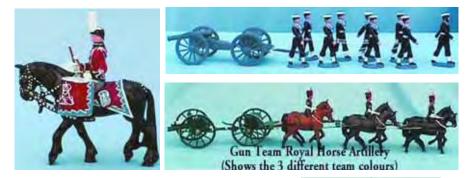
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THE BARCLAY KHAKI-BASE DILEMMA

by Gordon Lattey and Bob Griffin

When we started our effort to put the silver pot helmet figures into the Barclay timeline, we had no idea the twists and turns our quest would take (see last issue). It all seemed simple enough – somewhere in the scheme of things, for some reason, Barclay painted some of its pot helmeted figures silver. That led to checking out several hundred figures, thanks to e-bay.

The first question led to additional questions, like:

Why were six WWI helmeted figures produced with green helmets and when was that decision made?

In dating figures, if we followed the guideline that immediately after WWII Barclay bypassed painting bases (creating khaki bases), why did so many figures fall outside the guideline?

What happened to certain figures with WWI cast helmets after WWII?

Why were we turning up khaki based tin helmeted figures?

Our theory is that khaki bases show up



Three of the pre-war tin-helmet, khaki-based figures our research has uncovered to date. We have since found another of the band figures with a khaki base.

three times during the 1935-1951 life cycle of Barclay three and a quarter inch figures. They were:

Just before World War II

Just after World War II

Just before Barclay switches to the smaller pod-foot figures

We pretty solidly established the last two points, but proving the first – pre-war production of khaki bases – was a bit tougher. It was pretty hard to determine if a cast helmet figure was produced pre- or post-war. Then we started looking at the tin helmet figures in addition to the cast helmet versions.

Our six months of reviewing Barclay figures in collections, at shows and on e-bay turned up seven tin helmeted figures with khaki bases. They are: B13, sniper kneeling; B15, soldier on parade; B32, drummer; B66, soldier pigeon dispatcher; B76, bomb thrower; B79, French horn player, and B105, raiding. Since there is no indication that Barclay produced tin helmet figures after World War II, all seven figures had to be pre-war production.

The figures, save one (B76), have several things in common. None were continued after World War II; none had WWI cast helmet versions, and most showed up on the Barclay product sheet that appears on page 87 of O'Brien's Collecting American-made Toy Soldiers, 3rd Edition.



The only cast helmeted figures that have not turned up with khaki bases to date are (from left): B130 falling with rifle, B131 digging and B133 crouching with binoculars. Interestingly, the B131 digging figure appears again with a green helmet.

We had started with the assumption that the "Bomb Thrower" figure (B76) transitioned to the cast helmet version before the war and then into the green cast helmet version sometime after the war. However, the fact that B76 with tin helmet shows up with khaki base could well indicate it was produced right up to April 1942 and that the cast helmeted version did not appear until after WWII. It is our theory that the B77 cast helmet molds may have been completed just before the April 1942 shut down. It would fit in with several "unfinished" figures that have been found and that were not produced, a sentry figure that probably was going to replace B71 and an updated B69 ammunition carrier. A plaster "786" figure (an unused number) is also known to exist (O'Brien's book, page 84). It is quite probable that Barclay decided in the post-war atmosphere that producing these figures would not enhance sales.

Probably the most common tin helmet pre-war figure with khaki base is the B13 (703) sniper kneeling (in response to our first article Rob Steiner sent along a photo of his khaki-based B13). We assume that is simply because as the war in Europe and then in the Pacific turned hot, the "fighting" figures became popular.

Also of interest is the fact that we have turned up numerous examples of green and khaki based B73s (cast helmet tommy gunner). What makes these figures interesting is the fact that we have khaki base B73s with red guns and black guns. We also have green-based B73s with red guns and black guns. Black gun versions appear to be pre-war and red is probably post-war. All pot helmeted tommy gunners seen so far have red guns and all tin helmet B72 figures have black guns. This would indicate that cast World War I helmeted figures with khaki bases were issued both pre- and post-war.

Three cast helmet figures which do not appear to have been produced after World War II B92, soldier

charging with gas mask; B107a, bayoneting, and B109, clubbing – have all been seen with khaki bases. In fact, we have or have seen all cast helmet figures with khaki bases, save three B130, falling with rifle; B131, digging, and B133, crouching with binoculars. All three are uncommon, despite the fact that B131, soldier digging, shows up as one of the half dozen postwar green helmeted figures.

The weight of the evidence leads us to conclude khaki-based figures were produced in the months leading up to World



The full run of tommy gun figures. They are (from left): B72 tin helmet, B73 green base/black gun, B73 khaki base/black gun, B73 khaki base/red gun, B73 green base/red gun and B207 pot helmet - khaki base/red gun.

War II – probably in an effort to get as much product to market as quickly as possible -- and were produced in the months immediately after World War II probably for the same reason as before the war. And, khaki bases show up at the very end of the production line this time, probably, to save money.

We hope that this second in a series has again raised questions in the reader's mind and will encourage feedback. Input is welcome and we hope that some of you will check your collections and inform us of your findings. Of particular interest are some of the questions we raised in the last issue and have added some new ones:

Does anyone have any silver pot helmet figures not previously mentioned in the article? Or, any that are mentioned? (Don Boyden reports a silver helmeted B201 which will be covered in the next article.) Does anyone have a B201 or a B205 with a dark green base?

Does anyone remember having acquired silver WWI helmet figures after World War II; what they were, and do you still have them? (We have had some excellent feedback from several collectors which will be covered in the next article.)

Does anyone remember having purchased "new" any pot helmet figures; when, what they were, and if you still have them?

Does anyone have a B130, B131 and/or a B133 (silver or green helmet) with a khaki base? Again, we thank everyone, in advance, for any input they may have. Please send e-mails to: Gordon at ussslater@aol.com, or Bob at BG65@hotmail.com. Or, you can send snail mail to either of us at Barclay Soldier Study, PO Box 697, Guilderland, NY 12084-0697.

See previous artilce by Gordan Lattey and Bob Griffin in OTS Volume 27 #4



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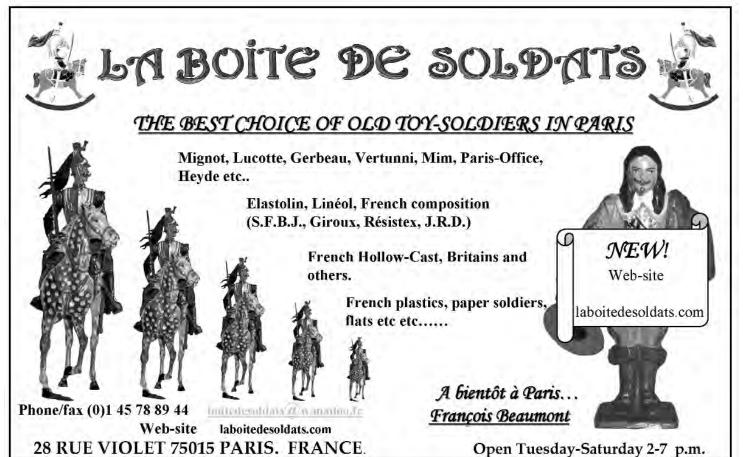
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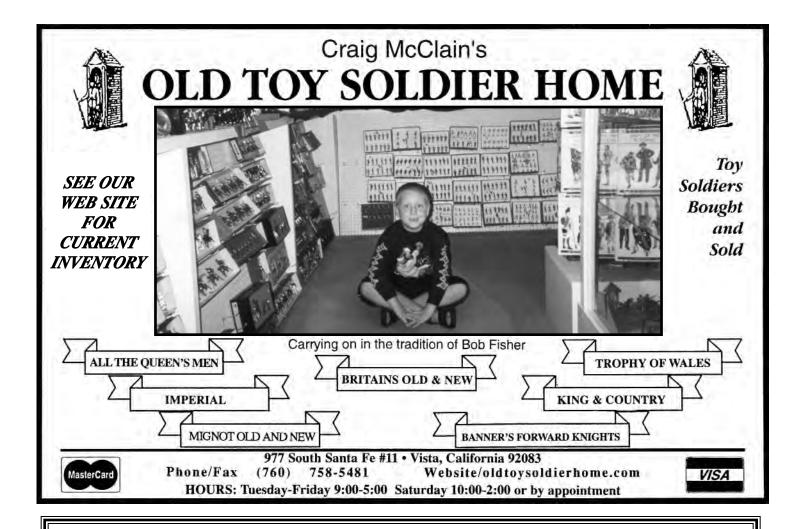
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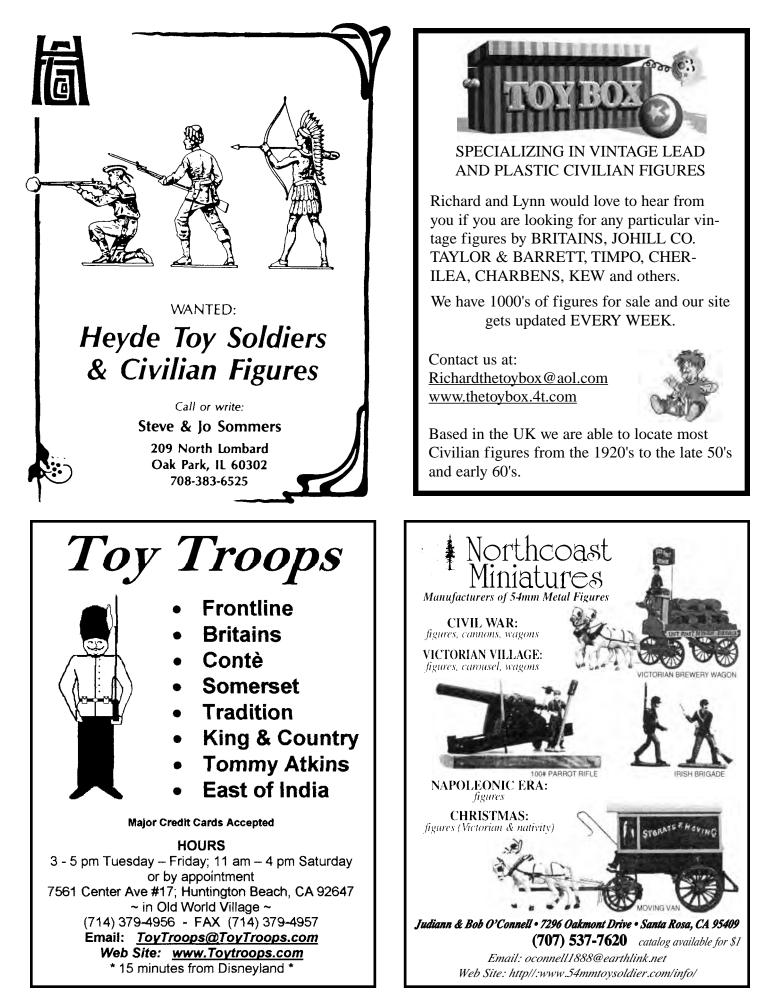
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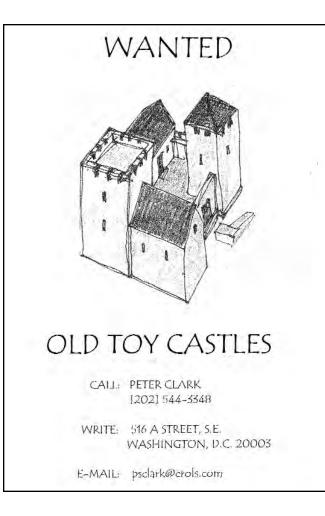
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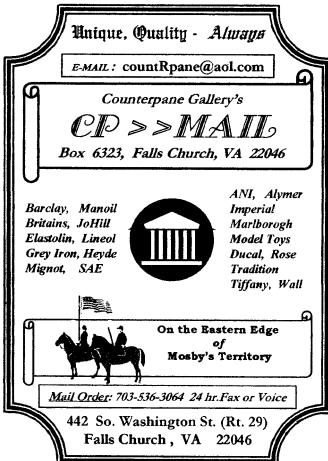
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DIMESTORE UPDATE by Richard O'Brien

In the Depression-pre- WWII era, one WP A project was to photograph every building (even empty lots) in all five boroughs of New York City. Today, an outfit is selling copies of these photos. Unfortunately, my experience is that they're pretty erratic, with some luck on my part, and some noresponses on theirs. Unfortunately, my request for a photo of Manoil's Brooklyn factory resulted in the latter.

Somehow, it had never occurred to me to wonder what that company's Waverly, New York (it moved there in 1940) buildings looked like. Luckily, collector Jan Beck had more curiosity, and has done considerable research in Waverly, plus some good picture-taking. The first factory, which appears to be huge (in the pre-war years, Manoil employed 225 people), was located at 142 Providence. Its size makes the Manoil brothers' hope, mid-war, to turn it into a warehouse and then a poultry farm, look like ideas that had some logical basis, even though neither worked out.

The address for the factory comes from a copy of a 1948 Waverly Directory that Jan sent me. For the record, the Waverly home addresses for Jack and Maurice, respec-



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tively, were 314 Chemung and 109 Park Place. This seems an appropriate time to point out that the names of the two were inadvertently transposed under their photos in "Collecting American-Made Toy Soldiers". Jack, as I'd shown in previous books, is the tough-looking one with a cigarette hanging out of his mouth, and Maurice (pronounced "Morris") the more sedate-looking bespectacled guy in the tie.

Manoil moved to the smaller brick factory in 1953. The address there, according to a 1957 toy trade magazine, was 533 Broad Street. It was at that address that it expired, probably in 1959.

It occurred to me recently that my books have never listed the Grey Iron animals that seem to have come out about 1941. The Xerox I have of a Greyart Miniatures page is too fuzzy for reproduction. However the listings and sizes should be enough for the experienced Grey Iron collector should he or she stumble over these pieces. The numberings are Grey Iron's.

No 1 Horse. (Trotting) 4 in. high, 5 in. long. No.2 Horse. (Grazing) 3-1/2 in. high, 5 in. long. No. 10 Bull (standing) 2-1/2 in high, 4-1/4 in. long. No. 12 Cow (lying) 2 in. high, 4 in. long. No. 14 Cow (standing) 2-3/4" high, 4-1/2" long. No. 15 Calf (standing) 2-1/4" high, 3" long. No. 20 Sheep (standing) 2 in. high, 3-1/4" long. No. 30 Pig (looks as if he may be feeding) 1-3/4" high, 3-1/2" long. All came in various colors.

The remaining have no sizes given, but presumably are small. 50 Rooster, 54 Hen, 58 Chick, 59 Quail, 60 Duck, 65 Goose, 66 Gander. A 1941 Shackman catalog lists some of these barnyard figures, and doesn't add anything not on Grey Iron's page.

Collector Tim O'Callaghan sent me this news photo of Sun Rubber's tank and scout cars. It's dated May 7, 1946, and the caption mentions the "new Sunroco items developed by the Sun Rubber Co. of Barberton, Ohio". Interestingly, the caption also states that the vehicles were "made of the same synthetic rubber used by our armed forces in their bullet-sealing gasoline tanks".

This may be my last column for a while, or last column, period. Very simply, I've run out of research material. If I turn any up - and I check eBay daily - I'll of course get the news out.

A quick correction: the George Grampp codings in my last article should have read "left to right", not the reverse. My mistake, not the typesetter's.





Maniol's second and last Waverly factory. Photo by Jan Beck

Maniol's second and last Waverly factory. Photo by Jan Beck



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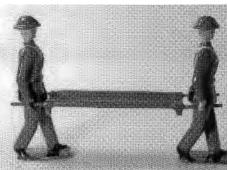
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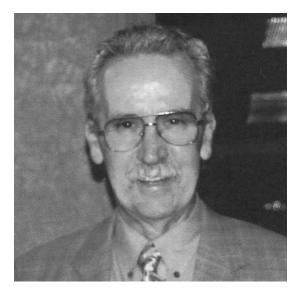
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REMINISCENCES

by Jack Matthews

Finally unpacking the last moving boxes of my *eight tons* of books (not a misprint) I found a treasure; a 3-ring binder of several dozen articles circa 1973-1990 on toy soldiers collections and collectors published in general circulation national magazines and local newspapers. I assume people sent most of them to me at the time they were published. What a great many memories they stirred!

The extensive publicity then given to the large collection of publisher Malcolm Forbes resulted in a spate of articles in non-hobby magazines. An early all-color article featuring Forbes curators, my old Brits friends Ann and Peter Johnson resulted in several articles in such "high end" publications as *Connoisseur, Town and Country, American Heritage, Smithsonian* and *National Geographic*. My law clients must have sent me a dozen copies of the American Airlines maga-



zine, American Way, which contained an article on the alleged investment aspects of the hobby, "Toy Soldiers Never Die They Just Turn To Profit."

In the next decade or so we had articles in local newspapers such as: A young Major Dennis Fontana's collection in a 1985 *Leavenworth Times*. Stan Stanton, Steve Snyder and yours truly, several times in the Charleston, SC *Post and Courier*. Ernie Owens in the *Washington Post* and Preston Russell in the *Philadelphia Inquirer*.

They mostly emphasized the joys of the hobby and its historical perspective. Sadly, a few articles early on emphasized the alleged financial rewards and monetary rarity of the figures, aspects which evidently held priority with certain collectors. Better, in my view was a younger Bill Speer's take on toy soldiers, when he told the *Atlanta Journal and Constitution* in 1985: "I have no interest in growing up."

For the life of me, in pre-Google internet-search days, I don't know how I came across the articles on Docs Jim Wengart and Will Bierwaltes medical miniatures collections in 1985 issues of *Medical Economics* and the *Henry Ford Hospital Medical Journal*, respectively. I don't recall subscribing to these popular publications.

My old binder is a repository of marvelous nostalgia of the earlier days when our great hobby really went public. A partial list of well known names, some no longer with us like Hank Anton and Phil Bryan: Collectors like Pielin, Pudney. Stanton, Snyder, Morris, Russell, Gatti, Sinclair, Potterfield, Poole, Middleton, Fontana, Bill O'Brien, Balken, T. Wethergill Knipe (my favorite!), Ferguson, Bell, Owens, Lango, Ryan,.... are discussed therein.

There have been tons of articles since - worldwide. I've probably been interviewed over fifteen times. This simply focuses on the "earlier days".

I'm sure there are many, many, more who throughout the country shared their thoughts and collections with the print media and helped so much to spur interest in the hobby. With very few exceptions, rereading these old articles gives one a really neat feeling about the people in this hobby. Their love of history, the colorful visual displays, the friendships, camaraderie and yes, the thrill of the hunt. These aspects are what bind us together.

For well over thirty years my wife Meriam has told me how important collecting toy soldiers has been to us, particularly during the stressful professional years of my life. She's often called it a blessing, and as usual, she's right.

We are very lucky, my friends!

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TOY SOLDIER SHOW & AUCTION CALENDAR 2004/2005

<u>2004</u>

November 21 - Sunday. Annual Pennsylvania Toy Soldier, Militaria, and Miniature Figure Show. 9am-3pm. Sheraton Bucks County Hotel, 400 Oxford Valley Road, Langehorn, Pennsylvania. Contact Ed Gries 201 342 6475

November 24 - Wednesday. Bonhams Toy Soldier Auction. 11 am. Montpelier Street. Knightsbridge London. Contact Leigh Gotch 44(0) 20 7313 3137. leigh.gotch@bonhams.com

November 27- Saturday 3rd Bloomfield Toy Soldier Show. Marriott Hotel.3600 Centerpoint Parkway.Pontiac Michigan. Contact Donald Case 248 335 5626 Email dsptoysoldiers@aol.com

December 4 – Saturday. Heart of the South Toy Soldier Show and Sale. 9am-3pm.Annandale VFD Community Center 7128 Columbia Pike.Annandale Virginia. Contact Bill Harlowe 703 342 6475 or Ed Gries 201 342 6475.

December 4 - Saturday. British Toy Soldier and Figure Show. Alexandra Palace, Wood Green, London. Contact Debbie Cockerill at Vectis Telephone 44(0) 1642 750616. EMail admin@vectis.co.uk www.vectis.co.uk

December 11 - Saturday. Annapolis Christmas Toy Soldier Show. Loews Hotel.9am-3pm. Contact 410-268-1141 or E Mail richsossi@friend.ly.net for show information and hotel location. For room reservations call 410-263 7777.

December 12 – Sunday. Empire State Toy Soldier Show and Sale .9am –3pm.Adria Hotel.221-17 Northern Boulevard, Bayside, New York. Contact John Stengel 718 418 9439 or Ed Gries 201 342 6475

December 14 - Tuesday. Vectis Toy Soldier and Figure Auction - The Cumbrian Collection A live and on line sale. Vectis Headquarters. Thornaby, Stockton on Tees. Cleveland England. Contact Peter Rumsey or Simon Clark 44 (0) 1642 150616.

<u>2005</u>

January 29 - Saturday. Toy Soldier Auction 12 noon (preview 9.30 am) Holiday Inn ,Livonia, MI. I275 and 6 Mile Road. Contact Joe Saine PO Box 50506, Toledo. Ohio 43605 419 691 0008.

January 30 - Sunday 12th Michigan Toy Soldier and Historical Miniature Show. Holiday Inn, Livonia, Michigan. Contact infor@michtoy.com or www.michtoy.com

January 30 - Sunday. Florida Toy Soldier and Action Figure and Painting Competition. Plantation Holiday Inn. 1711 N University Drive. Plantation Florida. Contact Eddie Tomasini 954 791 5698, Email tomasini@comcast.net

March 19 - Saturday SC Charleston Toy Soldier Show Patriots Point Holiday Inn.250 Johnnie Dodds Blvd.Highway 17 Mount Pleasant. 10am-4pm Contact Marv Pontiff 843 270 3664 or 843 884 6598 Email pontiffm@bellsouth.net

May 6 Friday and May 7 Saturday 64th Miniature Figure Collectors Show and Mart. Contact Dennis Levy 865 665 8909.

June 25 – Saturday. Vectis Toy Soldier Show. Alexandra Palace. Wood Green. London 10am-4pm. Contact Debbie Cockerill 44(0) 1642 750616 E Mail admin@vectis.co.uk

December 3 - Saturday. Vectis Toy Soldier Show. Alexandra Palace. Wood Green. London 10am – 4pm Contact Debbie Cockerill 44(0) 1642 750616 E Mail admin@vectis.co.uk

February 12 - Saturday. Dan Morphey's Antique Toy ,Doll, Holiday and Advertising Show. York Fairgrounds Expo Center. West Market Street ,York,Pennsylvania.Contact Dan Morphey. 717 335 3435. E Mail danmorphy@dejazzd.com

March 6 - Sunday. "The West Coaster" Toy Soldier and Collectable Figure Show,9am-3pm. Irvine Marriott Hotel (Orange County Airport) 18000 Von Karman Avenue. Irvine. California.Contact Phone/Fax 760 724 7488. Write,PO Box 1755 Vista. California 92085. Hotel Bookings 1 800 228 9290

TOY SOLDIER SHOW & AUCTION CALENDAR 2004/2005 (cont.)

March 6 - Sunday. The Empire State Toy Soldier Show and Sale 9am-3pm Hotel Adria 221-17 Northern Boulevard, Bayside, NY Contact John Stengel 718 418 9439

March 12 - Saturday. British Toy Soldier and Figure Show. Alexandra Palace. Alexanda Palace Way. Wood Green. London.10am-4pm. Contact Vectis 44(0) 1642 750616 Fax 44(0) 1642 769478 Email admin@vectis.co.uk www.vectis.co.uk

March 13 - Sunday. The 8th Annual New Jersey Toy Soldier and Military Miniature and Figure Show and Little Giant Toys and Collectible Show 9am-3pm.Shhuetzen Park, 32nd Street and Kennedy Boulevard, North Bergen NJ. Contact Ed Greis 201 342 6475

March 19 - Saturday. London Toy Soldier Show. Royal National Hotel, Bedford Way.(off Russell Square) London 10am. Contact Ian Carrick 44 (0) 1677 470841 Email i.c.toys@btopenworld.com

March 20 – Sunday. The Hudson Valley Regional Toy Soldier, Military Miniature Figures Show 9am-3pm Tarrytown Hilton Hotel 455 South Broadway, Tarrytown NY Contact John Stengel 718 418 9439

March 20 - Sunday. Indy Toy Soldier Show 10am - 3pm Sheraton, Indianapolis. Indiana. Contact Barry Carter 765 345 5685 E mail indytoysoldier@hotmail.com

May 14 - Saturday. Virginia War Museum Toy Soldier Show. 9285 Warwick Boulevard. Newpot News. Virginia 23607 Contacy Colin Romanick 757 247 8523 Email aromanick@nngov.com

June 11 - Saturday. London Toy Soldier Show. Royal National Hotel.Bedford Wat (off Russell Square. London. 10am. Contact Ian Carrick 44 (0) 1677 470841. Email i.c.toys@btopenworld.com

June 11 - Saturday. Heart of the South Toy Soldier Show and Sale. Annandale VFD Community Center. 7128 Columbia Pike, Annandale. Virginia. Contact Bill Harlowe 703 878 2922 or Ed Greis 201 342 6475

August 28 - Sunday. The Hudson Valley Regional Toy Soldier, Military Mimiature and Figure Show and Sale. 9 am –3 pm The Tarrytown Hilton Hotel 455 South Broadway. Tarrytown,NY Contact John Stengel 718 418 9439

September 11 - Sunday. Empire State Toy Soldier Show and Sale.9am-3pm Adria Hotel,221-17 Northern Boulevard, Bayside NY. Contact John Stengel 718 418 9439

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December 18 - Sunday. Empire State Toy Soldier Show and Sale.9am-3pm Hotel Adria,221,17 Northern Boulevard, Bayside. NY Contact John Stengel 718 418 9439

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". J am delighted with the service and care that was taken to ensure customer satisfaction." Keith Dixon **99**

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Right: Set no. 610 American Woodland Indians (French Allies) A Chief and seven Warriors





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This special edition set will only be available from September 2004 until 31st December 2004 when production of this particular set will cease

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Arquebus Military Miniatures Pomfret Centre, Connecticut www.arquebus.com Email: webshop@arquebus.com

> Military Miniatures Mill Creek Road . PO Box 8 Wake . Virginia 23176 Phone (804) 776 7367

Bryerton's Military Miniatures 2121 S. Racine Avenue Chicago . Illinois 60608 Phone (312) 666 2800

TNC Enterprises 318 Churchill Court Elizabethtown . Kentucky 42701 Phone (502) 765 5035 Dutkins' Collectables 1019 West Roule 70 Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08002 Phone (856) 428 9559 Kings X Toy Soldiers 206 Alamo Plaza San Antonio . Texas 78205 Phone (210) 226 7000

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