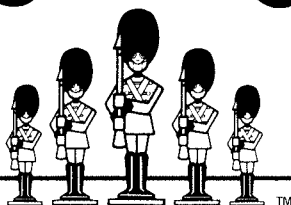


Winter
2011

The Journal for Collectors

Volume 34 Number 4
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MIM Trompette Chasseurs a Cheval
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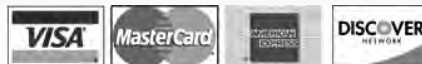
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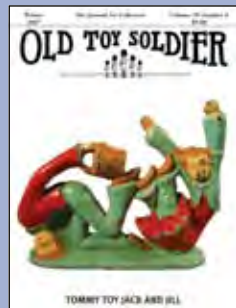
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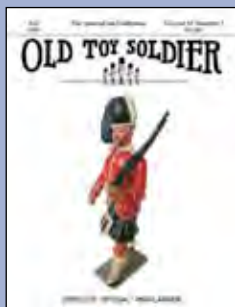
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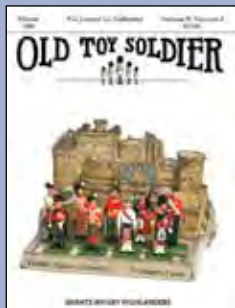
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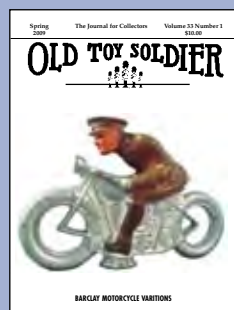


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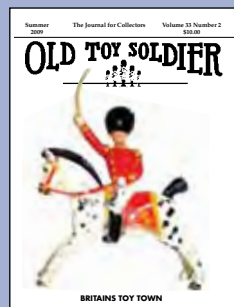


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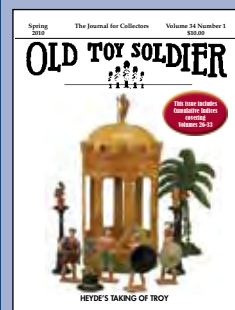


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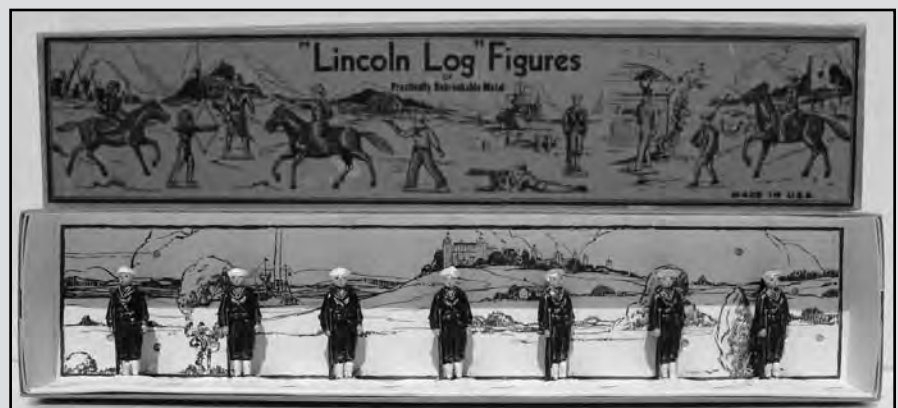
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Wayne Jagielski In Memoriam S. Mark Young

Avid space toy and figure collector, Wayne Jagielski passed away unexpectedly on August 17, 2010. Wayne collected space toys for most of his life and his knowledge on the subject was vast.



Wayne had a wonderful Buck Rogers collection that included many seldom-seen items such as the Buck Rogers School Bag, the Scientific Lab, the children's space costume and many original advertising pieces. He also had an extensive anthology of space-themed, non-sports cards. I featured much of his collection and his quest to attain these treasures in the Buck Rogers chapter of *Blast Off! Rockets, Robots, Ray Guns and Rarities from the Golden Age of Space Toys* (Dark Horse, 2001).

Wayne also loved the Johillco and Cherilea lead space figures from England but always wanted more poses. For several years he puzzled over how to sculpt these 54 mm figures in that tradition. His work, which was meticulous, was completed about 18 months ago and he was in the process of trying to produce these and 54 mm copies of the Archer slot hand (Men from Mars) figures.

Seemingly quiet and unassuming, Wayne had a wry sense of humor that often came out after he had consumed his favorite drink, Jack Daniels with a touch of Coke. Wayne's nickname, *Jet*, was emblazoned on one of his license plates and formed part of his eBay handle. His friends had given him the nickname because he moved very slowly and methodically. For many years we toured the halls of the Hyatt Regency in Schaumburg at the OTS show together. I always like to keep a brisk pace, and would often be talking to Wayne assuming that he was next to me, only to find out that he was 20 yards behind. I would motion to him to step up the pace, but his response was always, the same, "Where's the fire?" It became our running joke.

I was a close friend of Wayne's for over 20 years and will miss him greatly. His wife, Peggy and their children, John and Melissa, survive him.



Obituary: John Ross

John Ross, an avid toy soldier collector who enjoyed all aspects of the hobby passed away on Nov. 20, 2010, after a battle with leukemia.



John possessed a ready smile, was very generous with his time with respect to the hobby and helped his friends with projects and repairs that required his knowledge as an electrician, his chosen profession. He also was active in his community having been a moving force in organizing and encouraging an area baseball league for young boys. He was active in this pursuit long after his own sons had outgrown their involvement in the league. In June of 2009, the city of Willowick, Ohio acknowledged his many contributions by naming their baseball complex John Ross Field. John was active in the Boy Scouts having served as a Scout Master for a number of years.

He helped to organize the North Coast Mini- Men, a group of collectors from the Cleveland, Akron and Medina areas of Ohio. John and his wife Marilyn opened their home virtually every third Wednesday of the month for the group not only to discuss toy soldiers but, to solve world problems.

The Chicago Show was a must on John's agenda. He enjoyed roaming the halls looking for that special figure or set. He was always one of the first in line to enter the show on Sunday and would stay to the very end.

A very proud former Marine, John will be missed by Marilyn, their children and grandchildren and his many friends. Semper Fi, John.

www.zinnfiguren-bleifiguren.com

A list of (old German) tin and lead figure manufacturers

Submitted by Earl Jorgensen

www.zinnfiguren-bleifiguren.com is a relatively new website devoted to the history of the German lead/tin toy soldier industry. The site has only been online since May, 2009 and is based on forty seven years of research by Mr. Bernhard Schwarz. Although his original intent was to write a book, he decided to simply make the information available to all via the internet. There are no fees, no passwords and nothing is for sale.

As stated above, the site is built around a list of over 200 names of people involved with the manufacture of early German-made tin or lead toy soldiers. To date he has posted extensive historical information for 98 of them all supported by an array of documents

including catalog excerpts, photos of packaging and figures, company issued advertising announcements and even newspaper articles. The site is an ongoing project with new materials added on a regular basis. Although the site is presented in German, Google does a great job of translating.

Mr. Schwarz is a very pleasant person. He welcomes all comments and actually takes the time to answer e-mail inquiries. I believe he is providing a great service to our hobby which deserves our support. If you would like to participate, photos of identified packaging are always appreciated.

WHEN AUTHENTICAST TOY SOLDIERS CAME TO BROOKLYN—A DAY TO REMEMBER

By Henry I. Kurtz

In the aftermath of World War II, Curt Wennberg, a Swede, and Fred Winkler, a German expatriate—who had previously developed a line of model warships produced in England—teamed up with Holger Eriksson, the Swedish master designer of fine quality miniature soldiers, to create the Authenticast line of toy soldiers for the Comet Metal Products Company in New York. Out of this collaboration came some of the finest toy soldiers ever made. Known for their realistic appearance, Eriksson's figures have a natural rough-hewn quality as if they had been sculpted out of wood, and at their best, as Steve Sommers wrote in an early article for *Old Toy Soldier Newsletter*, are “art to be played with.”

I grew up in Brooklyn, and when Authenticasts came my way they did so with a bang, as the following account of their arrival illustrates. It happened one bright autumn day in 1948, when I found myself entering the spanking new Macy's Department Store on Brooklyn's Flatbush Avenue with my mother in tow—or was it the other way around. We had been enticed by a full-page newspaper advertisement announcing a storewide sale to mark the opening of Macy's Brooklyn branch. The ad made mention of an exciting new line of toy soldiers. So while my mother trooped off to dresses and gowns, I made a bee-line for the toy department. Only a few months earlier, I had started my serious toy soldier collecting



British World War II Infantry in action poses. By Authenticast.



World War II British Infantry in action.

WHEN AUTHENTICAST TOY SOLDIERS CAME TO BROOKLYN—A DAY TO REMEMBER (*Cont.*)

when I received as a birthday present a Britains set of the Coldstream Guards. Two other Britains sets had since been added to my toy army, but now I was anxious to expand my horizons.

The sight that greeted me as I eagerly trotted through the doors leading to the toy department was—if you will pardon the use of a hackneyed contemporary expression —totally awesome!

There before my wide eyes were long tables grouped in squares and piled high with literally hundreds of boxes of Authenticast toy soldiers. As I made my way from table to table inspecting the troops, I was overwhelmed by the wide variety of colorful uniforms and military types. There were 16th Century Pikemen with pikes so long they looked as if they could turn a group of attackers into shishebab, along with musketeers for the same era. There were 18th Century English line infantry with tricorne hats, Prussian grenadiers in mitre caps, and Morgan's Riflemen (American Revolution) in hunting jackets. There were esoteric sets also—some of which I haven't seen since—such as 1860's Brazilian Infantry in green-and-white American Civil War-style uniforms, and 1930's Chinese Railroad Police in cream-colored khaki uniforms and peak caps. Each set, of course, tied into the Familiar red boxes with the red, white and blue labels featuring line drawings of fighting men from ancient times to World War II.

Yes, I can still see them all—French Turcos and Foreign Legionnaires; British World War II Infantry in desert kit; German Raiding Parties in action poses; French Fortress Troops; Union and Confederate Infantry marching and attacking; Napoleon's Grenadiers of the Guard and Chasseurs of the Line. Even at that early age I was struck by how much more lifelike and realistic the figures were than the glossier and stiffer Britains toy troops.

And best of all, they were to be had at the grand opening bargain price of 98 cents—yes, that's right, 98 cents—per box!

Given my meager weekly allowance of 35 cents, I was only able to scrounge up enough dimes and nickels (if only I had had a Mastercard in hand!) to buy one set. In fact I still have it—a set of French Turcos in pale blue jackets, white baggy trousers and red fezes

marching with slung arms. Beautifully sculpted as all of Holger Eriksson figures were, and with the nice paint job that marked the early days of Authenticast production. It still resides in its original box, almost as bright and shiny as when I acquired it.

Not long after the Macy's opening event, boxes of Authenticasts began appearing in local toy stores and small mom and pop stationery stores, which in addition to school supplies and the like, often carried a small selection of toy items. One of these was located across the street from Erasmus Hall High School, which I entered in 1950, and was run by a pleasant elderly man who had served in the Imperial German Army during World War I and had immigrated to the United States in the 1920s.

Naturally, he carried a selection of Authenticast German troops. One of the sets I purchased from him was a World War I German Infantry unit in field grey uniforms and pickelhauben marching with slung rifles and full packs. The proprietor, whose name regrettably I have forgotten, delivered a knowledgeable lecture on German infantry uniforms and equipment, commenting on the general accuracy of Eriksson's figures, as he wrapped up the set. (Try to find that kind of informed commentary from a contemporary sales clerk!) Later I acquired from the shop a detachment of Prussian Grenadiers from the period of Frederick the Great, and a marvelously animated World War II German Raiding Party—each figure in a different pose and with different weapons, including rifles, grenades, machine guns and a bazooka.

For us toy soldier buffs, those were indeed the good old days! And for this fan of Authenticast figures, it all began with a department store excursion. Decades have passed since I made that pilgrimage to the Brooklyn Macy's store. But the memory remains as sharp and clear as if it occurred yesterday. It was indeed a day to remember.

Henry I. Kurtz is a toy soldier collector and dealer and author of [The Art of the Toy Soldier](#).



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AUBURN RUBBER - 1938

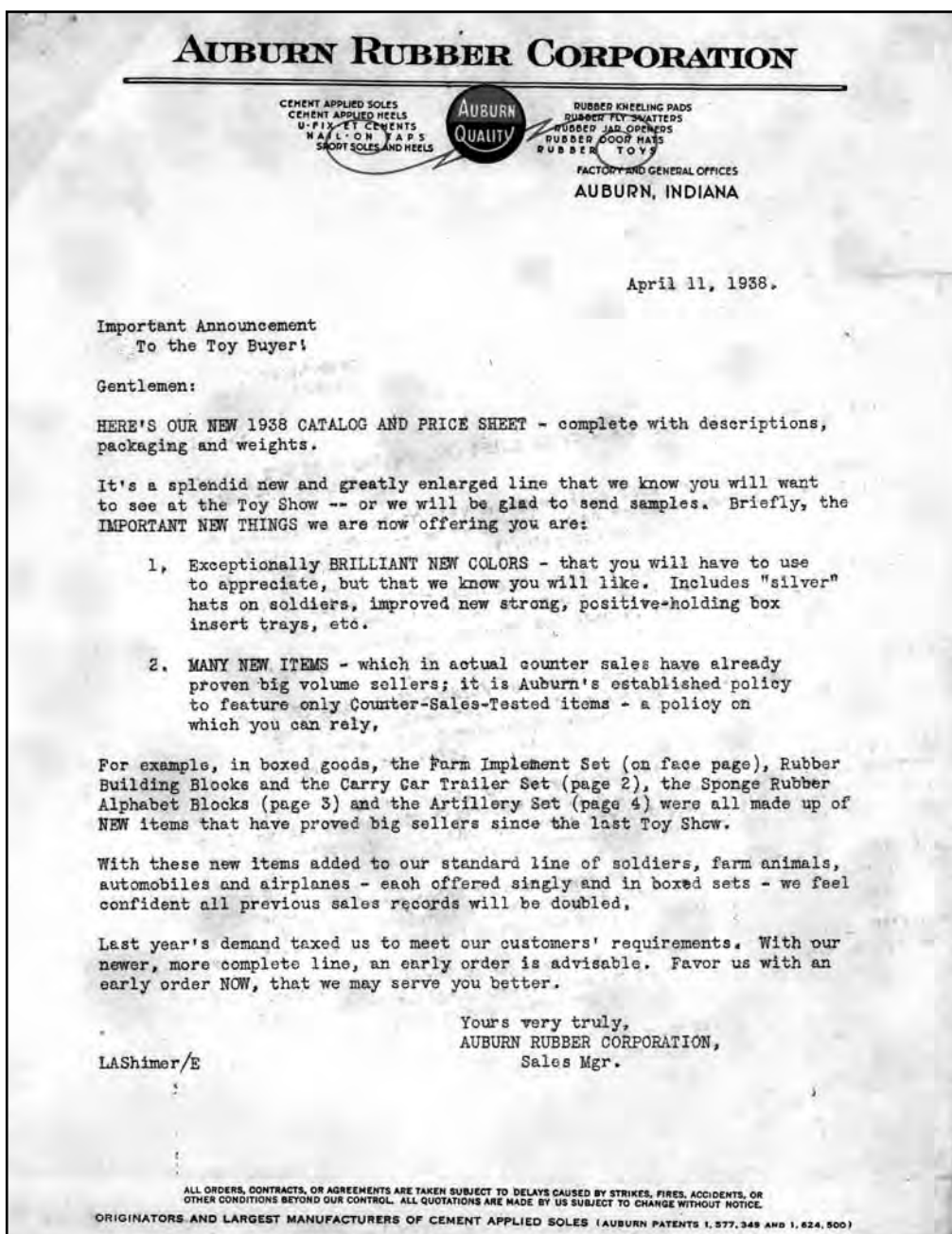
by Richard O'Brien

As most collectors know, you can learn a lot about a company's products from catalogs, both general and those from the manufacturers.

We Auburn Rubber fanciers have got pretty lucky. The company dated all of its known pre-WWII catalogs, and they were all in color. 1940 turned up first, then 1937, and after that 1936 and 1941. Recently, I got lucky and wound up with the firm's 1938 eight-pager, plus two extra pages.

I didn't expect too much, what with what we already had in those catalogs, plus the firm's soldiers that were shown in 1939 general catalogs. And I didn't find a lot, but some of it is interesting.

The firm's accompanying April 11, 1938 letter to toy buyers emphasized the toys (not just the soldiers) being in "BRILLIANT NEW COLORS", with an emphasis (their quote) on "silver" hats (their word) on the soldiers. The catalog emphasized it too, as Auburn's printer used a silver dye that actually looks like silver on the original page (Manoil employed this too in their circa 1939 pages). What eventually caught my eye was the fact that the headgear on the Foreign Legion also shows that metallic silver. I've never seen one of the legionnaires with a silver "hat", and when I checked with him, dealer K. Warren Mitchell hadn't either. Has anyone?



AUBURN RUBBER - 1938 (Cont.)

A new offering in 1938 was the "Canon with Tractor" in "army olive green". A mimeographed legal-size sheet that accompanied the catalog states that it sold for \$1.60 per dozen. That figures to a bit over thirteen cents. Since this was the Depression, it's possible the tractor only retailed for fifteen.

Back to the Legion. We now know the colors for the Foreign Legion infantry, as opposed to Auburn's White Guards and Royal Guards. The Legion privates could wear a red jacket with blue pants or a white jacket with black trousers. The 1936 catalog shows the Royal Guard officer and trooper both in dark blue with red helmets and the White Guard trooper with white jacket and red pants and helmet. The officers for the White Guard and Foreign Legion were interchangeable.

As a kid, I'd wondered if the white Auburns were meant as sailors, despite their helmets and uniforms. But white or blue, they're always Marines.

Some oddities; though they're shown in boxed sets, the A22 242 Anti-Aircraft Gun, The A18 216 Observer With Binoculars, the A22 242 Anti-Aircraft Gun, the A23 516 Motorcycle Cop (though 1516 here) are not displayed on the toy-soldier page, nor are they listed in the catalog or the mimeographed sheet. Thus they share the same fate as the seated machine gunner, also shown in boxed sets in 1937 and 1938, but otherwise invisible. Was this a mistake, or at this point were they sold only in sets?

It's nice to have all this information, but I'd love to see a 1935 catalog, if there was one, to find out if Auburn also portrayed its infantry as Italians and Ethiopians. Even more, I'd like to fall upon, if it existed, a 1942 issue, which might perhaps finally show the running "pilot" I know existed. My suspicion is that it would also only appear as part of an illustrated boxed set. Like some of the above.

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220	Foreign Legion Officer	1/2	2	.40
214	Foreign Legion Private	1/2	2	.40
218	Foreign Legion Private	1/2	2	.40
232	Officer on Horse	2 1/4	1	.80
1236	Signaller	1/2	2	.40
1238	Charging Soldier	1/2	2	.40
1520	Tractor	3 3/4	1	.80
528	Trailer	6	1	1.20
526	Plow	7/8	1	.80
504	Ford Coupe	1 3/4	3	.40
502	Ford Sedan	2	3	.40
1518	1938 Oldsmobile	4 1/2	1	.80
506	Airplane - Small	7/8	3	.40
508	Airplane - Large	1 1/4	1	.80
512A	Motorcycle Cop	2	1	.80
102	Horse	2 5/8	1	.80
108	Cow	2 1/2	1	.80
1028	Assorted Horse & Cow	2 1/2	1	.80
104	Colt	7/8	2	.40
106	Pig	1	2	.40
110	Calf	7/8	2	.40
114	Sheep	1 1/8	2	.40
116	Collie Dog	1 1/8	2	.40
4046	Assorted Animals (2 Colt, 3 calves, 3 sheep, 1 collie, 3 pig to dz.)	1	2	.40
513	Cannon W/Tractor (Army olive green)	7 7/8	1	1.60
305	Hop Bunny (3 pc. string)	5 3/8	1	1.80
307-9	Scotty Dogs (3 pc. string)	5 3/4	1	1.80
311	Hen & Chicks (3 pc. string)	6 1/2	1	1.80
322	Sponge Eggs	1	3	.36
PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE				

AUBURN RUBBER - 1938 (Cont.)

1938 AUB-RUB'R TOYS

FREE DISPLAY
A dealer's real help — with initial order.

BUYERS' INFORMATION

THERE ARE NO OTHER TOYS LIKE THESE. Molded ALL RUBBER, beautifully designed and hand decorated. Superior to other materials, because HARMLESS, UNBREAKABLE, CANNOT SCRATCH either the child or furniture. LIGHT WEIGHT and WASHABLE. Small wonder that mothers everywhere are enthusiastic.

The most complete line on the market with every new toy tested and a general test. All wheeled items have our "Spin Lock" axle which prevents either wheels or axles coming off.

NEW! NEW! NEW! NEW SOLDIER AND ARTILLERY ITEMS WITH NEW BRILLIANT COLORS AND "SILVER" HATS. NEW WHEELED ITEMS. NEW TRACTOR WITH FARM MACHINERY HUTCH-ON. NEW BRICK BUILDING SETS and SPONGE RUBBER BLOCKS.

KEEP A YEAR AROUND DISPLAY. Because small children need to be continually amazed and even develop their own growing tastes of "soldiers," "farm," "trucks," etc., our shipment records show substantial repeat orders every month.

FARM IMPLEMENT BOXED SET

A combination of AUB-RUB'R's FASTEST SELLING items

GOOD ALL SEASONS OF THE YEAR

No. 505 Farm Implement Set—16" x 9" x 4 color box—1 seed tractor, 1 green tractor, 1 stalked trailer, 1 disc, 1 spreader, 1 plow, 1 1800 Oldsmobile.

1 dozen weight 27 lbs. Packed 1 dozen.

Page 2
BOXED SETS **AUB-RUB'R TOYS** Auburn Rubber Corp., Auburn, Ind.

RUBBER BRICK BUILDING BLOCKS

An EDUCATIONAL TOY with YEAR AROUND SALES APPEAL

Includes 46 designs in complete architectural booklet.

In 4 color 16" x 9" box.

No. 601

No. 602 Brick Building Blocks—Illustrated—\$1.25 retail, consists of 18 rubber pieces, two roofs, and BOOK OF DESIGNS. These are: 46 whole bricks, 30 half bricks, 32 quarter bricks, 4 1" grey blocks, 8 1" grey blocks, 2 1" grey blocks. Books No. 1 and No. 2, and BOOK OF DESIGNS. 1 dozen weight 28 1/2 lbs. Packed 1 dozen.

No. 603 Brick Building Blocks—double size—\$1.50 retail, consists of 180 rubber pieces, three roofs, and BOOK OF DESIGNS. These are: 180 whole bricks, 60 half bricks, 48 quarter bricks, 12 1" grey blocks, 18 1" grey blocks, 4 1" grey blocks. Books No. 1, No. 2, and No. 3, and BOOK OF DESIGNS. 1 dozen weight 43 lbs. Packed 1 dozen.

No. 611 Book of Blocks. 50 retail. Additional or replacement blocks in paper proportion for above sets, 1 dozen weight 10 1/2 lbs. Packed 1 dozen.

CARRY CAR TRAILER

Beginner of G.M. model

Includes 3 OLDSMOBILES in NEW 4 COLOR 18" x 9" DISPLAY CARTON

75c retail

No. 611 Carry Car Trailer with 3 Oldsmobiles—in 4 color 18" x 9" box—12" long, colored red and blue. 1 piece Olds, 1 grey Olds, 1 Ford Olds. 1 dozen weight 27 1/2 lbs. Packed 1 dozen.

BOXED SETS **AUB-RUB'R TOYS** Auburn Rubber Corp., Auburn, Ind. Page 3

ANIMAL BOXED SETS

50c and \$1.00 retail

MAY BE USED FOR TEXTING TOYS

WHEEL SETS

New Toys securely hold Toys in place

All items have one-piece non-removable axle

NEW HIGH LUSTER FINISH

BRILLIANT COLORS

SPONGE RUBBER BLOCKS

50c retail

GOOD QUALITY WHITE SPONGE

RUBBER WAGON MADE TO ATTACH TO NO. 100 TRACTOR (See page 1).

No. 605 Dances Blocks—50 retail 12" x 12" x 1/2" Sponge Rubber Blocks. Lettered four sides. Box 7" x 9". 1 dozen weight 9 1/2 lbs. Packed 3 dozen.

No. 612 Wagon of Blocks—50 retail Wagon is 6 1/2" long, colored red. Right 1 1/2" blocks. Box 5 1/2" x 6 1/2". 1 dozen weight 8 lbs. Packed 3 dozen.

Page 4
BOXED SETS **AUB-RUB'R TOYS** Auburn Rubber Corp., Auburn, Ind.

SOLDIER BOXED SETS

NEW INSERT TRAYS HOLD TOYS SECURELY IN PLACE

EACH BOX A 4 COLOR DISPLAY CARTON

ALL SOLDIERS have NEW high luster finish.

BRILLIANT COLORS

SILVER HELMETS

\$1.00 and 50c retail

Non-removing to furniture.

See page 6 for description of individual soldiers.

No. 207 ARTILLERY SET, as illustrated. 1 dozen weight 22 lbs. Packed 1 dozen.

No. 208 U. S. INFANTRY, as illustrated. 1 dozen weight 7 1/2 lbs. Packed 3 dozen.

No. 209 FOREIGN LEGION, as illustrated. 1 dozen weight 7 1/2 lbs. Packed 3 dozen.

No. 210 MARINE SET, as illustrated. 1 dozen weight 14 lbs. Packed 1 1/2 dozen.

No. 211 MARINE SET, as illustrated. 1 dozen weight 14 lbs. Packed 1 1/2 dozen.

AUBURN RUBBER - 1938 (Cont.)

SPECIFICATIONS

AUB-RUBR TOYS

Page 3
Allstate Rubber Corp., Auburn, Ind.

WEIGHTS AND PACKAGING

BOX SETS

Stock No.		Weight to 1 lb.	Packed to Carton
207	Artillery Set (assorted artillery weapons and soldiers, khaki)	23 lbs.	1 dozen
209	Infantry Set (assorted infantry weapons and soldiers, khaki)	16 lbs.	1 1/2 dozen
213	Marine Set (assorted blue and white, 1 officer, 2 lieutenants, 14 privates)	15 lbs.	1 1/2 dozen
223	Foreign Legion Set (red, white, blue, black, 2 officers, 14 privates)	18 1/2 lbs.	2 dozen
225	Infantry Set (khaki) 1 officer, 3 lieutenants, 6 privates)	9 1/2 lbs.	3 dozen
226	Marine Set (blue, white) 1 officer, 1 lieutenant, 6 privates)	7 1/2 lbs.	3 dozen
209	Foreign Legion Set (red, white, blue, 1 officer, 7 privates)	12 1/2 lbs.	1 1/2 dozen
103	Farm Animal Set (14 large and small figures, etc. housed lot)	27 lbs.	1 dozen
104	Farm Animal Set (8 large and small figures, mounted)	12 lbs.	3 dozen
105	Farm Implement Set (7 large wheeled implements, mounted)	26 1/2 lbs.	1 dozen
503	Wheeled Set (3 large, 3 small mounted wheel toys)	20 1/2 lbs.	1 dozen
504	Wheeled Set (3 large, 3 small mounted wheel toys)	20 1/2 lbs.	1 dozen
505	Carry Car Trailer (1 G.I. truck, 3 Oldsmobiles, model)	22 1/2 lbs.	1 dozen
515	Wagon of Blooms (8 1/2" x 10" color assorted latched blooms in 5 1/2" x 10" size)	9 lbs.	3 dozen
609	Seven Blocks (square) 1 1/2" Alphabet Blocks in 7" x 8" box)	8 1/2 lbs.	2 dozen
601	Brick Building Blocks (with design border and center)	22 1/2 lbs.	2 dozen
602	Brick Building Blocks (with design border and center)	43 lbs.	1 dozen
811	Set of Building Blocks (no supplement No. 801, 602) (not boxed)	10 1/2 lbs.	1 dozen

See pages 1, 2, 3, 4 for descriptions.

BULK TOYS

Stock No.		Weight to 1 lb.	Packed to Carton
1200	U. S. Infantry Private (khaki, yellow, black, silver)	1/2 lb.	2 dozen
1201	U. S. Infantry Bugler (khaki, red, black, silver)	1/2 lb.	2 dozen
1204	U. S. Infantry Officer (khaki, yellow, black, brown)	1/2 lb.	2 dozen
1210B	Marine Private, blue (blue, black, yellow, silver)	1/2 lb.	2 dozen
1212B	Marine Bugler, blue (blue, yellow, black, silver)	1/2 lb.	2 dozen
1204B	Marine Officer, blue (blue, yellow, black)	1/2 lb.	2 dozen
1210W	Marine Private, white (white, black, silver)	1/2 lb.	2 dozen
1212W	Marine Bugler, white (white, blue, silver)	1/2 lb.	2 dozen
1204W	Marine Officer, white (white, yellow, black)	1/2 lb.	2 dozen
220	Foreign Legion Officer (khaki, red, yellow, black)	1/2 lb.	2 dozen
214	Foreign Legion Private (red, blue, yellow, silver)	1/2 lb.	2 dozen
218	Foreign Legion Private (white, black, silver)	1/2 lb.	2 dozen
222	Officer on Horse (khaki, red, yellow, black)	2 1/2 lbs.	1 dozen
1230	Soldiers (khaki, red, white, black, silver)	1/2 lb.	2 dozen
1232	Chargers (khaki, black, silver)	1/2 lb.	2 dozen
1230	Tractor (mounted 8 red, 4 green to dozen)	3 1/2 lbs.	1 dozen
903	Tractor (red, silver)	5 lbs.	1 dozen
521	Pew (red, silver)	1/2 lb.	3 dozen
504	Ford Coupe (assorted 6 red, 2 green, 2 blue, 2 bottlecap gray to dozen)	2 lbs.	2 dozen
502	Ford Sedan (assorted 6 red, 2 blue, 2 green, 2 bottlecap gray to dozen)	2 lbs.	2 dozen
1514	1938 Oldsmobile (assorted 6 red, 2 blue, 2 green, 2 bottlecap gray to dozen)	4 1/2 lbs.	1 dozen
500	Alphabets—assorted (assorted 1 red, half silver)	1/2 lb.	2 dozen
509	Alphabets—gray (assorted half red, half silver)	1 1/2 lbs.	1 dozen
1516	Motorcycle Cop (khaki, trimmed)	2 lbs.	1 dozen
102	Horse (brown and cream)	2 1/2 lbs.	1 dozen
108	Goat (black and white)	2 1/2 lbs.	1 dozen
102B	Assorted Hens & Cows	2 1/2 lbs.	1 dozen
104	Cat (brown and cream)	1 lb.	3 dozen
106	Pig (black and white)	1 lb.	3 dozen
110	Goat (white and black)	1 1/2 lbs.	2 dozen
114	Sheep (white and black)	1 1/2 lbs.	2 dozen
116	Celkie Dove (white and tan)	1 1/2 lbs.	2 dozen
1040	Assorted Animals (2 colts, 3 calves, 3 sheep, 1 Collie 3 pigs to dozen)	3 1/2 lbs.	1 dozen
517	Common or Tractor (spring drive green)	3 1/2 lbs.	1 dozen
505	Big Bunnies, 3 piece string (blue, yellow, black)	3 1/2 lbs.	1 dozen
307-4	Seattle Dogs, 3 piece string (black, black-white)	3 1/2 lbs.	1 dozen
311	Hen and Chickens, 3 piece string (white, yellow, red)	1 lb.	3 dozen
322	Spring Eater Toys (assorted red, blue, yellow)	3 1/2 lbs.	1 dozen
811	Set of Block Building Blocks (no supplementary Board Set No. 801, 602)	10 1/2 lbs.	1 dozen

See pages 6, 7, 8 for descriptions.

QUALITY TOYS

AUB-RUBR TOYS

Page 7
Auburn Rubber Corp., Auburn, Ind.

CANNON WITH TRACTOR

Replica of New Army Gun

A new line of out-
standing play val-
ues—completing any
line of warlike toys.
See **SOLDIERS**

ESTAB. 25c

No. 313—CANNON WITH TRACTOR
Colts army size, green, 11 1/2" long
1 dozen weight 7 1/2 lbs. Packed 1 dozen.

STRINGED PULL TOYS

No. 305—HOP KICKER—3 piece string—12" long
1 dozen weight 4 1/2 lbs. Packed 1 dozen

No. 311—MEN AND CHICKEN—piece string—9 1/2" long
1 dozen weight 2 1/2 lbs. Packed 1 dozen

Scottie
Strings

No. 327-B

No. 307-A Scottie String—11 1/2" long—42 cent
Assorted ball colors, ball chain
1 dozen weight 2 1/2 lbs. Packed 1 dozen

FARM ANIMALS

Stock up the Farm

No. 112 Cows—2 1/2" long
White and black—42 cent
1 doz. wt. 7 1/2 lbs. Packed 1 doz.

No. 118 Cows—2 1/2" long
White and black—42 cent
1 doz. wt. 1 1/2 lbs. Packed 1 doz.

No. 126 Pig—2 1/2" long
White and black—42 cent
1 doz. wt. 1 lb. Packed 1 doz.

No. 128 Cows—2 1/2" long
White and black—42 cent
1 doz. wt. 7 1/2 lbs. Packed 1 doz.

FARM ANIMALS

WELL DESIGNED

QUALITY RUBBER

MAY BE USED FOR

TEETHING TOYS

Good Year Around Sellers

No. 114 Sheep—2 1/2" long
White and black—42 cent
1 doz. wt. 1 1/2 lbs. Packed 1 doz.

No. 184 Cows—2 1/2" long
Brown and cream—42 cent
1 doz. wt. 7 1/2 lbs. Packed 1 doz.

Assortments:

No. 102—Assorted HORSE and COW—Assort-
ed 5 boxes, 5 each.
1 dozen weight 2 1/2 lbs. Packed 1 dozen

No. 408—Assorted KIDNALS—2 colors, 2
series, 1 sheep, 1 COW, 1 pig in each.
1 dozen weight 1 lb. Packed 1 dozen

No. 185 Horses—4" long
Brown and cream—42 cent
1 doz. wt. 7 1/2 lbs. Packed 1 doz.

Page 6
SOLDIERS

AUB-RUBR TOYS

Auburn Rubber Corp., Auburn, Ind.

No. 1204
Infantry
Officer

No. 1205
Infantry
Soldier

No. 1206
Infantry
Private

No. 1208
Charging
Soldier

SOLDIERS

NEW HIGH LUSTER FINISH
SILVER HELMETS
BRILLIANT COLORS

YEAR AROUND SELLERS

QUICK PROFITABLE TURNOVER

(See page 4 for Soldier Box Sets)

U. S. SOLDIERS — 3" High 1 dozen weight 1/4 lb. Packed 2 dozen to carton.

No. 1209
Marine
Officer

No. 1210
Marine
Bugler

No. 1211
Marine
Private

No. 1204W
Marine
Officer

No. 1212W
Marine
Bugler

No. 1213W
Marine
Private

U. S. SOLDIERS — 3" High 1 dozen weight 1/4 lb. Packed 2 dozen to carton.

No. 220
Officer

No. 218
Private

No. 219
Private

No. 1208
Signalman

No. 222
Soldier on Horse — 3 1/4" High
1 dozen weight 1/4 lb. Packed 1 dozen.

FOREIGN LEGION — 3 1/4" High
1 dozen weight 1/4 lb. Packed 2 dozen to carton.

Page 8 WHEELED TOYS

AUB-RUBR TOYS

Auburn Rubber Corp., Auburn, Ind.

No. 306 Small Airplane
31½" wing spread—½ oz.
Assembled full red and half silver
in 2 dozen containers
1 doz. weight ½ lb. Packed 2 doz.

No. 308 Large Airplane
6" wing spread—1½ oz.
Assembled full red and half silver
in dozen
1 doz. weight 1½ lb. Packed 1 doz.

IMPROVED and NEW WHEEL TOYS

AN EXCLUSIVE FEATURE—All have one-piece nonremovable axle—no need to get into child's mouth.
NEW high rubber finish, brilliant colors.

The NEW 1933 Oldsmobile is a fast selling big toy.

MOTORCYCLE COP is a brand new number.

No. 3104 Motorcycle Cop—8" long
Rubber, wimble—1½ oz.
1 dozen wt. 2 lbs. Packed 1 doz.

No. 3133 1933 Oldsmobile—21½" long—1½ oz.
Assembled 6 red, 2 blue, 2 green, 2 grey to dozen
1 dozen weight 6½ lbs. Packed 1 dozen

No. 304 Ford Coupe—6" long—½ oz.
Assembled 6 red, 2 green, 2 blue,
2 grey to dozen.
1 doz. weight 1½ lbs. Packed 2 doz.

No. 302 Ford Sedan—6" long—½ oz.
Assembled 6 red, 2 green, 2 blue,
2 grey to dozen
1 doz. weight 1½ lbs. Packed 2 doz.

FARM WHEELED IMPLEMENTS

NOTHING ELSE ON THE
MARKET LIKE THEM

No. 3120 Tractor—16½" long, 21½" high—1½ oz.
Assembled 6 red, 4 green to dozen
1 dozen weight 5½ lbs. Packed 1 dozen

No. 318 Plow—8½"
long—1½ oz.
Red, with silver
shoes

1 dozen weight 1½ lbs.
Packed 1 dozen

YEAR AROUND
SALES APPEAL

No. 312 Tractor—6"
long—1½ oz.
Red

1 dozen weight 1½ lbs.
Packed 1 dozen

Tractor has universal hitch for attaching plow, trailer, camera (page 7) and Wagon or Wheelbarrow (p. 12).

GENERAL INSPECTION-NEW PRODUCT REVIEW

BEAU GESTE, FIGARTI AND TOY SOLDIERS OF SAN DIEGO RELEASES

Reviewed by Russ Bednarek



Old Toy Soldier was pleased to learn of several outstanding new releases from three exceptional manufacturers of the toy soldier world; Beau Geste, Figarti and Toy Soldier of San Diego. Beau Geste, under the direction of Ana Donzino, is well known for their outstanding gloss paint and solid cast figures. Nick Versteeg provides the creative energy that enables Toy Soldiers of San Diego to always be on the cutting edge of new releases in the world of plastic toy soldiers. Figarti specializes in World War II figures and is well known for their superb vehicles, boats and planes.

The Dehli Durbar range is one of the most exotic offerings from Beau Geste. The dazzling color of the marching figures combined with bands and elephants makes the Durbar range hard to resist.



Beau Geste's newest release, the elephant of Jhind, is sure to delight Durbar collectors. The colorful trappings of the massive elephant and the sled-like *howdah* with its two riders provide another exciting addition to the Dehli Durbar line. Durbar collectors anxiously await any

new release to their range and the Jhind elephant is a great addition.

Beau Geste Napoleonic collectors are sure to be pleased with the newly released Band of the Mameluks of the Imperial Guard. This thirteen piece grouping is historically correct; not only in the composition of the band but also its uniforms, instruments and accoutrements. Mounted on walking horses, the brightly uniformed musicians with their exotic instruments and "Jingling Johnnies" are a visual delight. The band is available in four distinct sets. The line of trumpeters is one offering, another comprises two cymbaliers and drummer, followed by two *chapeau chinios* plus drummer and finally the trumpet major, guide and *timbalier* (kettle drummer).

Collectors of Toy Soldiers of San Diego's "Custer's Last Stand" are sure to be pleased with the "Dismounted Casualties" set. The seven figure group of two dead horses, three dead and one wounded trooper plus two firing men may also be used for the American Civil War. Outstanding poses and excellent castings are the trademark of Toy Soldiers of San Diego and this set is sure to please "Custer" collectors.

For the Napoleonic era, a superbly painted French supply wagon with four figures is simply outstanding. The painting is of very high quality, especially the four accompanying Frenchmen; one driver and three foot

GENERAL INSPECTION-NEW PRODUCT REVIEW (Cont.)



in greatcoats. Napoleonic collectors should definitely add this piece to their collection.

Toy Soldiers of San Diego not only creates figures but scenic pieces and buildings as well. A sandy grass hill is a new addition to the "Reno Hill" line. The most impressive piece, however, is the northwest corner building for the Alamo range. The structure is cast in eight pieces with a removable gun ramp, two removable roofs and more. Once again, outstanding detail is the norm and this piece easily fits into any collection whether it be plastic or metal figures.

Figarti continues to offer outstanding pieces for World War II collectors. Every year Figarti creates a truly stunning work of art. Who could forget their magnificent B-17 plus ground crew, or the V-1 rocket plus launch? The latest Figarti masterpiece is the "Karl Morsen 54cm" siege mortar mounted on a railroad car. The Karl Morsen was the largest self propelled weapon of the war. The detail is simply breathtaking and once again Figarti has managed to top them-

selves with this magnificent model. You really do have to see it to believe it. To compliment the mammoth Karl Morsen, Figarti has created the Karl Morsen IV Loader, a PzKfw chassis converted to an ammunition carrier with crane.

Collectors interesting in obtaining the Beau Geste offerings are directed to Treefrog Treasures who offer excellent service. Plastic collectors should contact Toy Soldiers of San Diego directly.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Treefrog Treasures

website:www.treefrogtreasures.com

email:sales@treefrogtreasures.com

Toy Soldiers of San Diego

website:www.sdsoldiers.com

email:tssd@sdsoldiers.com

Figarti website:www.figarti.com

email:sales@figarti.com



AUCTION REVIEW

Old Toy Soldier Auctions USATHE TOY SOLDIER & FIGURE COLLECTON OFTHE LATE FRED WEHR ~ PART I & OTHER IMPORTANT PROPERTIESNovember 20th &21st, 2010



Lot 1 Britains Set # 95 VERY RARE Japanese Display Cavalry and Infantry. - \$4250



Lot 19 Britains Set # 122 Black Watch Standing Firing with RARE round based Officer holding Binoculars. - \$950



Lot 579 Britains Set # 2061 Exceptionally RARE Cowboy and Indian Display Set Britains largest Post War item. - \$6000



Lot 169 King and Country RARE GLOSSY Set CP1K203 Cameron Highlanders Colour Party in Original Box with Certificate # 203/1000. - \$1500



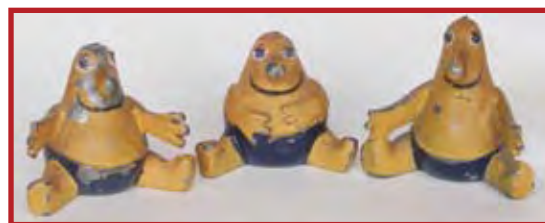
Lot 380 Britains Exceptionally VERY RARE Cowboy firing pistol only issued in Half Set # 2145 1 Piece. - \$550



Lot 174 King and Country RARE GLOSSY Set #RA 1-71 Royal Artillery With Gun, 4 Pieces in Original Box with Certificate #71/1000 and RA 253 Royal Artillery with Maxim Gun, 4 Pieces in Original Box with Certificate # 53/1000. - \$1300



Lot 452 Britains Set # 186 Mexican Infantry with Officer "La Federacion de Mexico" in Various Colored Uniforms - \$1000



Lot 233 EXEPTIONALLY RARE The Bumbles Circa 1950 British Childrens Television Characters. - \$1600

AUCTION REVIEW (Cont.)



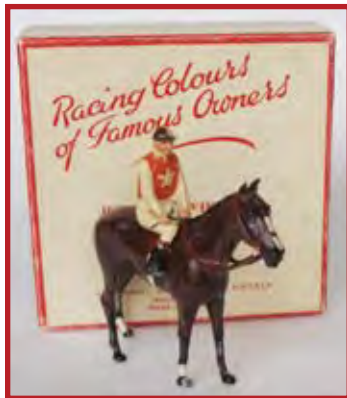
Lot 1100 King and Country Waffen SS, 88mm Gun, Base and Figures, WSS20A - \$550



Lot 387 Barrett and Son VERY RARE Pixy Tea Party with Toadstool tables. Seated Pixies and Waiters. - \$950



Lot 1195 Marlborough: D54 Review Stand, 11 seated figures incl. British Officer, Indian Princess and Shah, Burmese Chieftans. - \$600



Lot 232 Britains Famous Racing Colours # RC 119. Milky Way Farms in Original Box marked John Hay Whitney. - \$1300



Lot 142 Mignot Set 361/18 British Napoleonic Troops with Officer (Sword Damaged) Drummer and Standard Bearer - \$400



Lot 451 Britains From Set 1315/1316 VERY RARE Salvation Army Band - \$4500



Lot 1353 DUCAL: Band and Corps of Drums of Her Majesty's Royal Marines 1985 N. American Tour Set E30275 Ltd. Edition - \$500



Lot 186 Marklin Germany RARE 7 Inch Brass Barrel Howitzer with Tracked Wheels 1910. - \$900



Lot 477 Britains VERY RARE Set # 101 Lifeguards Band Gold and Blue Uniforms. - \$2800



Lot 1162 Wm. Hocker: Queens Own Toy Soldiers, 100/18, Very Rare. - \$3000



Lot 172 King and Country RARE GLOSSY Set #K23 "Vignette" Cameron Highlanders in Action with Certificate #23/1000. - \$2500

AUCTION REVIEW

Vectis Military, Civilian Figures, Equipment and Accessories Sale



The last Military, Civilian Figures, Equipment and Accessories sale of 2010 was held on the 1st December and despite arctic weather conditions attracted a full room, with bidders travelling from as far afield as Belgium. The full room combined with heavy commissions and hectic telephone/live internet activity helped ensure the sale was the most successful of the year!

The London Collection [section 2 of the sale] was particularly popular with steady bidding throughout, highlights included: £420 for the W Hocker Durbar Pavilion, £950 for a Britains post war Farm Range sample set, £1400 paid for a Britains Football Set [Tottenham Hotspur] and £420 for a post war final issue Britains set 1448 – Army Staff Car.

Section 3 [Specialist and Collectors Section] of the sale sold steadily throughout with consistently high prices and a couple of World records. A Heyde Boxer Rebellion vignette [2 figures] achieved £500, a rare Britains Racing Colour depicting the colours of Sir Abe Bailey [1936] made £370 and a rare Lineol Pontoon Wagon sold for £740.

However it was in the Connoisseur Plastics Section that the highest overall prices were achieved these included, seven Timpo boxed Waterloo Cavalry figures issued in the late 1950's which made between £150 - £220 each, a rare Timpo Wild West range shop display card containing three Cowboys in mint condition sold for £400 and £190 was paid for a Timpo boxed mounted Roman issued in the mid 1950's.

Pride of place must however go to two Britains/Herald development sample sets dating to 1962-63 containing un-released Greek and Trojan types. The first

consisting of two figures [Hector and Achilles] sold for an amazing £2200 and the second containing 12 figures [6 Greeks and 6 x Trojans] made a staggering £8000 Both prices are believed to be World records for plastic figure sets.

All in all a very successful sale to end a very successful year in the Vectis Figures Department.

All prices include buyer's premium
For further details contact Simon Clark on
01642 750616 or email simon.clarke@vectis.co.uk



AUCTION REVIEW

Bonhams Toy Soldiers & FiguresNovember 17th 2010 (sale No.17972)

HIGHLIGHTS



Lot 1010

Britains RARE set 149, AMERICAN SOLDIERS, 1907

This set was one of two which Britains tried out in 1907 to see if the patented 'New Military Display and Game' invented by the American, Charles W. Beiser, would work for the British market. The soldiers stood in hinged clips attached to a board, which let them be knocked over by toy gunfire, but held in position by the clips. Rotating the board forward made the soldiers stand up again. Britains, anticipating good sales, started to convert its entire output of toy soldiers from oval bases to rectangular bases which would fit the clips. This rare set of twelve American soldiers and a toy gun once belonged to the famous Surrey collector Major Edmund Roche-Kelly.

Sold for £1,000



Lot 1253

Heyde No.2 size RARE U.S. Arctic Exploration Set, 1935

The set comes comprising aeroplane with suspension loop on snow skids, kayak with explorer paddling, survey party, sled with four huskies, explorers with tools and supplies, radio operator with radio, national flag, signal flags, explorers on snow shoes, skis and on foot hunting two polar bears and fishing with harpoon, snow covered shrubs, two large background pieces with cave and water, and five ice covered rocks in original plain red box with interior fittings

Sold for £1,600



Lot 1040

Britains set 1254, Royal Engineers Pontoon Section, Service Dress, 1938

Four horse team with drivers in khaki with peak caps, wagon in dark green finish, pontoon boat and roadways, in original Whisstock box.

Sold for £450



Lot 1264

Heyde novelty Cat's Tea Party

Five cats seated around a tea table, furnished with three cups of tea and two saucers for the two cats holding cups. One cat with paper, one cat with pencil and one cat with biscuit.

Sold for £520



Lot 1270a

Heyde no.2 size Indian Elephant with passengers, 1910

Indian mahout with gong and parasol bearer, ornate howdah with seated Indian prince and European adviser

Sold for £1,700



Lot 1184

Charbens 'Jack's Band', 1936

With Piano, Pianist, Banjoist, Piano Accordion, Sou-saphone, Violin, Cello, Cornet, Saxophone, Conductor and eight chairs in original illustrated box

Sold for £480

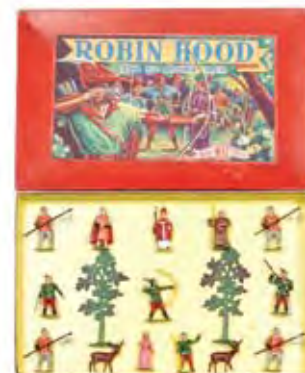


Lot 1270

Heyde no.2 size Indian Elephant with passengers, 1910

Indian mahout with gong, parasol and banner bearers to rear, ornate howdah and two seated visiting European dignitaries, one with top hat and one with white hair

Sold for £1,700



Lot 1300

Benbros RARE set Robin Hood and His Merry Men, 1952

Set comprising Robin Hood, Little John, Friar Tuck, Maid Marion, Will Scarlet and Much the Miller's Son, Sheriff of Nottingham with four guards, two deer and two trees in original colour illustrated box

Sold for £950

AUCTION REVIEW

Sotheby's

EST. 1744

Press Release New York

For Immediate Release

New York | +1 212 606 7176 | Lauren Gioia | Lauren.Gioia@Sothebys.com | Darrell Rocha | Darrell.Rocha@Sothebys.com

The Malcolm Forbes Toy Collection Brings \$2.4 Million at Sotheby's New York

LEADING THE FLOTILLA WAS AN IMPORTANT MÄRKLIN "LUSITANIA" OCEAN LINER SOLD FOR \$194,500

** NEW RECORD FOR A TOY BOAT AT AUCTION **

17 December 2010 – A packed salesroom of toy collectors and enthusiasts watched as The Malcolm Forbes Toy Collection achieved \$2,388,637 today at Sotheby's New York. The collection of toy boats, soldiers, motorcycles and classic board games was lovingly gathered over nearly four decades by legendary collector Malcolm Forbes and his sons.

Boats by the celebrated German maker Märklin dominated the top prices brought in the first half of the auction. The sale was led by a **Märklin "Lusitania" Ocean Liner** that sold for \$194,500, a new auction record for a toy boat. The toy had previously held the record when it was purchased by Mr. Forbes at Sotheby's New York in 1983 for \$28,600. Also drawing interest from several bidders was an **Exotic Clockwork Gunboat Attributed to Märklin /Rock and Graner** which achieved \$134,500.

The groups of toy soldiers offered this afternoon sparked considerable interest from bidders in the room, on the phone and those participating online. The group was led by **The Sack of Troy** that features a tinsplate walled city of Troy, a suspiciously large horse, and Heyde figures of Greek and Tro-

jan warriors, which sold for more than four times the high estimate of \$5,000 to bring \$21,250*. **Aloys Ochel Figures and Aztec Pyramid**, which depicts a dramatic battle between the Aztec warriors and the troops of Hernando Cortez around the Pyramid of the Sun in Tenochtitlan, sold for a remarkable \$13,750, well in excess of the pre-sale high estimate of \$3,500 (pictured left). Two rare sets of finely detailed medieval heraldic model figures handmade in Great Britain by Richard Courtenay also sold well: a group of **29 Courtenay Mounted Knights, England, circa 1930s-1950s** brought \$15,000, while a group of **13 Courtenay Mounted Tournament Knights, England, circa 1930s-1950s** sold for \$8,750.



Another major highlight from today's sale was an **original Monopoly game-set of circular design, handmade by Charles Darrow, probably 1933**, and descended in



his family. The game-set sold for \$146,500, well-above the \$80,000 high estimate. It is the earliest Darrow set known to survive, the only one of circular shape, and the earliest to include the rules.



*Pre-sale estimates do not include buyer's premium 25%

AUCTION PREVIEW

Vectis Military, Civilian Figures, Equipment and Accessories Sale of 2011



The first Vectis Military, Civilian Figures, Equipment and Accessories Sale of 2011 will take place on Wednesday 30th March 2011 and will set the standard for 2011 in terms of quality and diversity for figure auctions the World over. The sale will include Part 1 of the Nils Fischer Britains Collection. This collection, one of the most renowned in the World represents some of the finest and rarest items to come to the open market since the iconic sales of the late 20th and early 21st Centuries [Britains Archive sales, Arnold Rolak, Charles Biggs, Bill Miele Etc.]. In fact many of the lots on offer originate from those very same sales.

The collection comprises a comprehensive selection from the first known WM Britain [1880] catalogue including The Mechanical Runners, Four Horse Race, The Waltzers and The Mandarin. An extensive selection of Britains Archive material including [Pink Room] Paint Sample Cards / Tagged Figures, Britains Design Department Uniform Study Files 1930's – 1950's, Original Clay Figure Masters, Hand Mould Tools and Original Clay Moulds for Figures, Animals and Accessories dating from 1900 to the 1950's.

Britains Aircraft feature heavily with no less than 4 colour [Blue, Yellow, Dark Green, Pale Green] variants of the U.S. Monoplane, three being boxed examples. Two British variants, two boxed Autogiros and the original Brass Mould Master for the Civilian Autogiro complete the section.

Vehicles, both civilian and military are well represented with many rare colour variants [8 Farm Lorry's in various pre/post war schemes] and types/versions on offer. This section will include the prototype model for set 1512 – Army Ambulance [2nd version]. Artillery also forms a major section with a huge array of versions and colour variants spanning the period from the 1930's up to the 1970's.

Collectors of the civilian ranges will not be disappointed with a huge array of pre/post war issue Farm, Zoo, Miniature Garden sets, Racing Colours [inc' a Mickey Mouse variant] pre/post war trade packs, Coco Cubs and individual pieces. Over 50 buildings by Hugar include the ex-

tremely rare Casualty Clearing Station, four different MG/
Gun Emplacements and a number of boxed examples.

Plastic collectors will be able to choose from a huge array of sets, Toy Fair Displays, Promotional Pieces and Unique Original Masters by RA Sillman, R. Selwyn-Smith and C. Biggs. Ranges include Herald [1953-1976], Mini Sets, Swoppets, Deetail, Super Deetail, Space and Eyes Right.

The first part of the sale [around 400-500 lots] will be rounded off with a selection of Britains/Herald Shop Display Cabinets, original Artists Proofs, Box Artwork Proofs and Britains Ephemera [Inc' The signed W. Britains Ltd Staff Pension Agreement from the early 1970's !].

Part 2 of the sale will comprise lots from other vendors and includes the first part of a fine collection of early issue [1894 – 1938] military sets [Infantry, Cavalry, Equipment, Paris Office Etc.]. Sections offering Plastics, Tinplate and Composition, Books/Ephemera, Connoisseur Plastics, Other Makers and Modern Issues will complete the day.

All in all a fine start to 2011 and definitely the sale not to miss, part 2 comprising a second mouth-watering selection will follow in late June, 2011. For further details contact Simon Clarke at simon.clarke@vectis.co.uk



AUCTION PREVIEW

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Britains, Wm Hocker, Potsdamer/Shimek, Marlborough, Kingcast, Ducal, Charles Biggs, Trophy, King & Country, Imperial, Nicholson Miniatures, Blenheim, Star, Fire & Drum Miniatures, Boys of the Old Brigade, Hiriart, Mulberry Miniatures, Tradition, Alymer, Conte, Under two flags, Steadfast, Hornung Art, Soldier Centre Miniatures, Mignot, Combat Ready Collectibles and MORE!!!



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British Midwest Importers



Minikin Napoleon



Timpo Hopalong Cassidy



Britains Ski Troop



Britains Unique Bulk Pack Ford Henry Pioneer



Britains Rare Pre War R.H.A. at the Halt.

AUCTION PREVIEW (Cont.)



Rare Crescent New York Police



Britains Pre War Egyptian Infantry and Cavalry



Britains Pre War Arab Display



Britains Swopett Knights



Britains Post War Cavalry



Britains Pre War Infantry and Cavalry



Britains Home Farm



Timpo Model Zoo

AUCTION PREVIEW (Cont.)



Britains Pre War British Army Display



Crescent Triple Row West Point Cadets



Timpo Tiger Hunt



Britains Tractor



Britains Picture Pack Display Cabinet



Britains Rare Pre War Coronation Territorials



Benbors Robin Hood



"Ancient" Britains



Britains Pre War Infantry and Cavalry



Charbens Pre War Organ Grinder Set



Britains Pre War Coldstream Band



Britains 9000 Series



Britains Rare Boxed Label for 12th Royal Lancers

AUCTION PREVIEW (Cont.)



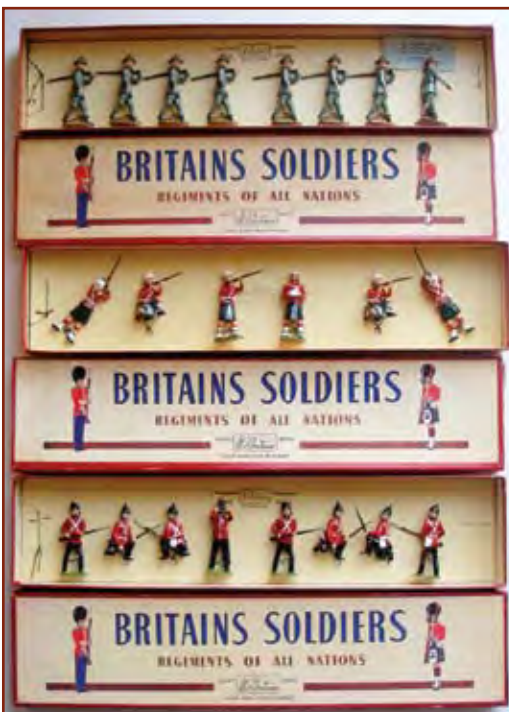
Britains Eyes Right Bands



Heyde Cavalry with Original Boxes



Mignot Displays



Britains Post War Infantry



Britains Pre War Rare Set 93



Britains Post War Animals

AUCTION PREVIEW (Cont.)



King & Country Ancient Egypt



King & Country Kaiser's Staff Car



Imperial Highland Color Party



Mignot French Horse Drawn Artillery



Pottsdamer/Shimek Cottage set



Soldier Centre Steam Tractor



Mark Time Royal Engineer Balloon Winch Unit



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Hiriart Germans



Pottsdamer/Shimek Churchill Train Set



Trophy Zulu War



Trophy Napoleonic

AUCTION PREVIEW (Cont.)



Mignot Caserne



Blenheim Zulu War Gift Set



Tradition Napoleonic



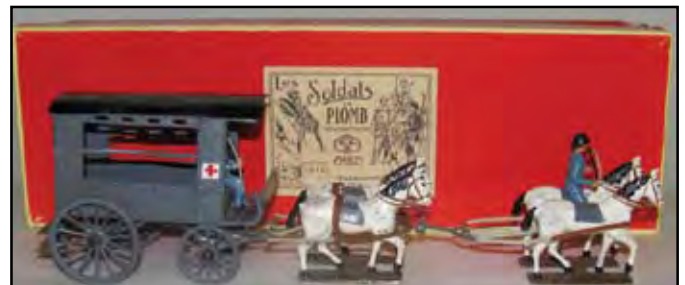
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Knights of the Roundtable



King & Country Crusaders



Alymer Chariots



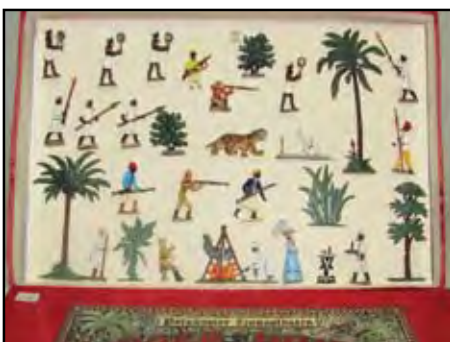
Mignot Ambulance



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H.G. WELLS: PLAYING AT WAR

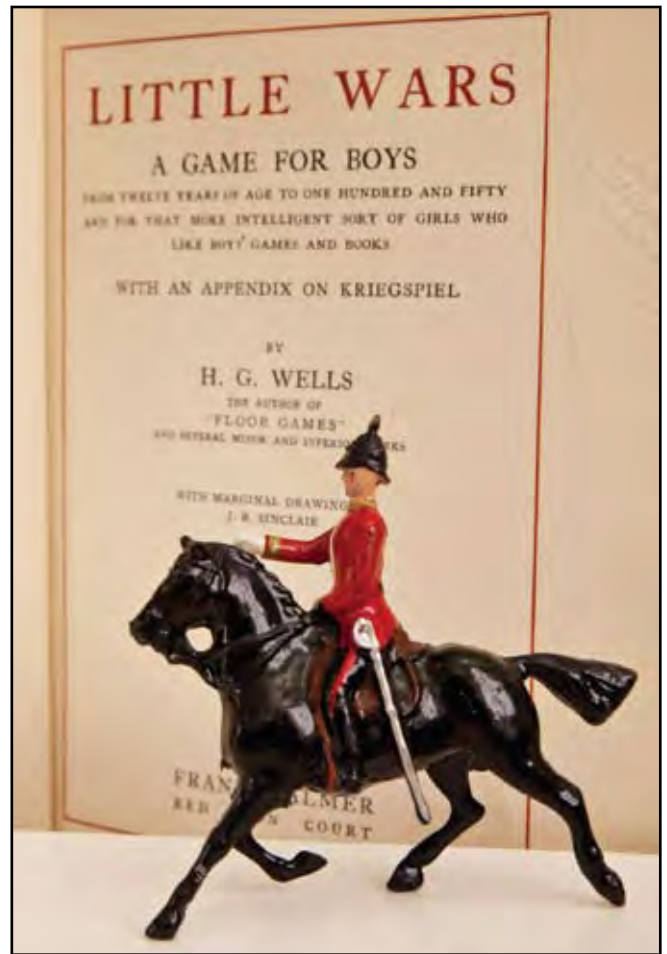
By Scott A.G.M. Crawford

Herbert George Wells lived from 1866 to 1946 and established himself as a respected novelist, whose science fiction scenarios made him the first great writer in that field. He and the American Jules Verne, can rightly be called the Fathers of Science Fiction.

Wells was born in Bromley, Kent, England into a lower middle class family. His mother had worked as a servant and his father was the owner/operator of an unsuccessful shop. The family's economic situation was such that H.G. Wells was placed in an apprenticeship in a drapery store. This apprenticeship, and others failed, and it was not until he won a scholarship to the Normal School of Science, later renamed the Royal College of Science in South Kensington, London, that his personal life took a turn for the better. Eventually, in 1890, Wells received a B.Sc. degree in Zoology at the University of London.

While Wells virtually wrote non-stop from the early 1890s up to his death, his most well known work happened early in his career. *The Time Machine* and *The Island of Dr. Morau* were published in 1896. *The Invisible Man* appeared a year later, and *The War of the Worlds* came out in 1898.

In many respects H.G. Wells is most recognized and remembered for penning *The War of the Worlds*. It was recently seen by a new generation in a 2005 Steven Spielberg directed film, of the same name, that starred Tom Cruise and Dakota Fanning. Arguably, H.G. Wells's ultimate brush with fame-and notoriety- was when Orson Welles in 1938 broadcast his version of *The War of the Worlds* on the KTSA radio station in San Antonio, Texas. The real-



H.G. Wells: Playing at War (Cont.)

ism and special effects conjured up by Welles terrified a nation, and created national terror, panic, and hysteria.

H.G. Wells was featured on the cover of *Time* on 20 September, 1926. By that time, Wells had established a reputation for being not just a novelist but a prophet, a journalist, and a forward thinking maverick. One of his later books advocated government by supermen, and a global religion built on an everyman's view of physics.

Floor Games (1911)

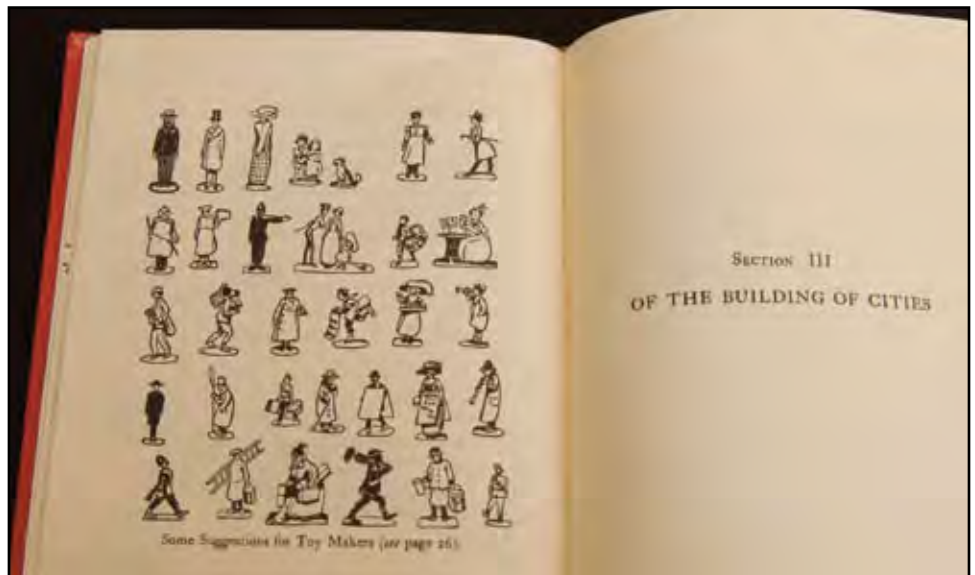
For the purposes of this narrative the focus is on two extraordinary books written by H.G. Wells and published in 1911 and 1913. The first is entitled *Floor Games* and, at 94 pages in length, it is short enough to be read in one sitting. The print is large- the sort found in contemporary adult books for the sight impaired- and the tenor of the writing is obviously aimed at a younger, rather than older, audience. The prose is boyish, cheerful, and energetic. The book is divided into four chapters- "The Toys to Have," "The Game of the Wonderful Islands," "Of the Building of Cities," and, "Funicular's Marble Towers, Castles, and War Games, But Very Little of War Games."

Wells, in his opening page, enthusiastically champions the joys and challenges of structuring play activities.

The jolliest indoor games for boys and girls demand a floor... it must be a floor covered with linoleum or cork carpet so that toy soldiers and such-like will stand upon it.¹

In his opening paragraphs, no oxymoron intended, Wells demonstrates a focused seriousness about play and recreation. His ethos is about such activities being educative and creating opportunities for character building.

Upon such a floor may be made infinitude of imaginative games, not only keeping boys and girls happy for days together, but building up a framework



of spacious and inspiring ideas in them for after life. The men of tomorrow will find new strength from nursery floors.²

There is no doubting Wells' passion for this form of leisure time activity. He describes contemporary toy soldiers (circa 1911 that is) as "magnificent beings"³ and then notes:

There has been an enormous improvement in our national physique in this respect. Now they stand nearly two inches high and look you broadly in the face, and they have two move-

able arms and alert intelligence of scientifically exercised men. You get five of them mounted or afoot in a box for a small price. We...like those of British manufacture best; the other makes are of incompatible sizes....⁴

Wells was a noted pacifist and, up until 1914, and the start of World War I, campaigned robustly against "going to" war. He alludes to this when he speaks of his concern that play figures "suffer from an exaggerated curse of militarism" and comments negatively on a grocer figure that wears epau-

H.G. WELLS: PLAYING AT WAR (Cont.)

lettes. Wells sought more civilian figures such as a butcher, a baker, and a merchant.

With such boxes of civilians we could have much more fun than with the running, marching, swashbuckling soldiery that pervades us.⁶

“The Game of the Wonderful Islands” essentially is Wells advocating “toy soldiers” being encamped on a variety of different islands. There are people of color, Native Americans, savages, and civilized groups. Plasticine is used freely and ships are crafted out of wooden blocks. There is much movement of populations and an emphasis on exploration and discovery.

We land and alter things, and build and rearrange, and hoist paper flags or pins and subjugate populations and confer all the blessings of civilization upon these lands.⁷

The third chapter of *Floor Games* explores the building of cities and concludes with Wells hoping that such childhood endeavors would create, “some profit, in thoughts widened, in strengthened apprehensions.”⁸

Wells’ final chapter is essentially an ode to funiculars, that is, mountain railways, and expressions of zest for castle building.

Castles are done with bricks and cardboard turrets and a portcullis of card and drawbridge and moats; they are mere special sort of city-building, done because we have a box of men in armor.⁹

The book has a series of black and white photographs showing Wells’ toy lay-outs/plans that he put together with his sons. Every page of the book has magical marginal drawings by J.R. Sinclair.

Little Wars (1913) is a much more sophisticated and challenging study compared to *Floor Games*. While *Little Wars* is ostensibly packaged for a teenage audience (it is subtitled “A Game for boys from twelve years of age to one hundred and fifty and for that more intelligent sort of girl who likes boys’ games and books”), it is a complex analysis of playing at war. Indeed, it now stands as the first recreational war game study, and Wells is seen as the father of miniature war gaming.

It is exciting to read Wells’ prose and come across the account of he and a friend creating what, very possibly, was the first ever “war game.”

We got two forces of toy soldiers, set out a lumpish Encyclopedia land upon the carpet, and began to play. We arranged to move in alternate moves: first one moved all

his force and then the other; an infantryman could move on foot at each move, a cavalry man two, a gun two, and it might fire six shots, and if a man was moved up to touch another man, then we tossed up and decided which man was dead. So we made a game, which was not a good game, but which was very amusing once or twice.¹⁰

The conclusion to *Little Wars* deserves serious and sustained analysis. For some it will read as polemic. Others will decry it as overly sentimental and romantic. The thesis for Wells is really rather simple. He argues that playing at war can be a sort of homeopathic remedy to insulate, and remove us, from ever engaging in, his words, “The Real Thing!”¹¹

It seems fitting to allow H.G. Wells to sing the praises of floor games and little wars. In his play time, there are thrills, victories, disasters, and death but “no smashed nor sanguinary bodies, no shattered fine buildings, nor devastated country sides, no petty cruelties.”¹²

As a novelist and story teller, Wells’ forte was to engage and, for him, embrace his audience with phrases and ideas tossed out as a subtle lure for his fictional fishing line. There is a Peter Pan quality to the end page words, penned by Wells in his final chapter intriguingly called, “Ending with A Sort of Challenge.”

You have only to play at Little Wars three or four times to realize just what a blundering thing Great War must be.¹³

References

1. H.G. Wells, *Floor Games* (New York: Arno Press, 1976), 9
2. Ibid., 10.
3. Ibid., 23.
4. Ibid., 24.
5. Ibid., 27.
6. Ibid., 28.
7. Ibid., 46.
8. Ibid., 81.
9. Ibid., 93.
10. H.G. Wells *Little Wars* (London: Frank Palmer 1913), 13.
11. Ibid., 97.
12. Ibid.
13. Ibid., 100.

Scott A.G.M. Crawford is an Emeritus Professor of Kinesiology and Sports Studies at Eastern Illinois University and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts. This is his second, in a series of essays, examining great writers and their affection for toy soldiers. His first piece, on Robert Louis Stevenson, appeared in *Old Toy Soldier*, Fall 2006.

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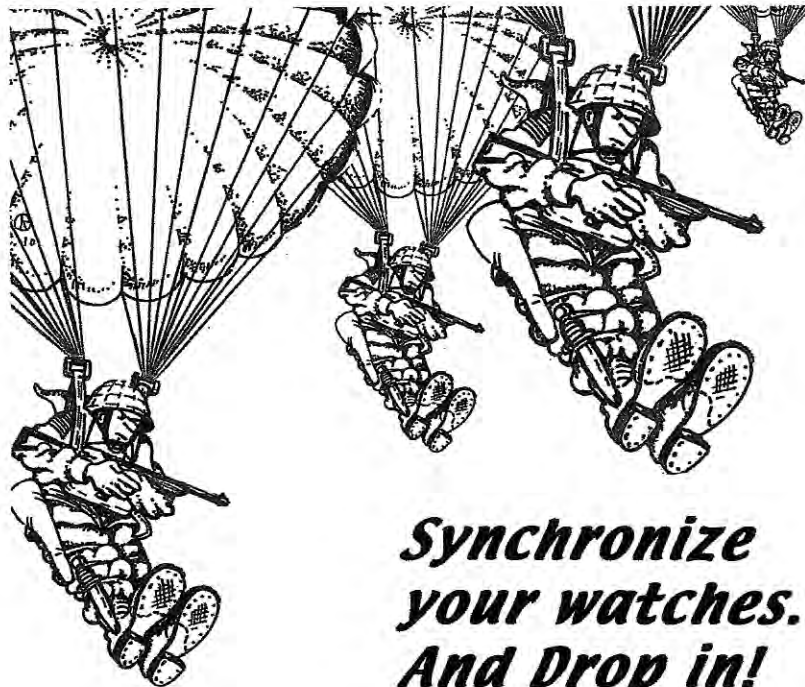
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Illustrated

Rare Heyde no.2 size Indian Elephant with passengers. Sold for £2,040 at our Fine Toy Soldier sale November 2010.

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LA GUERRA (OF SPAIN)

by José María Sanz-Hermida

The company D. Baldomero Casanellas was founded in 1896 and began marketing their products under the name "La Guerra".

Banker Carles Juande had previously owned the factory in 1890, Flat Tin Soldier specialist Victor Lleonart's moulds were also acquired and made by Casanellas.

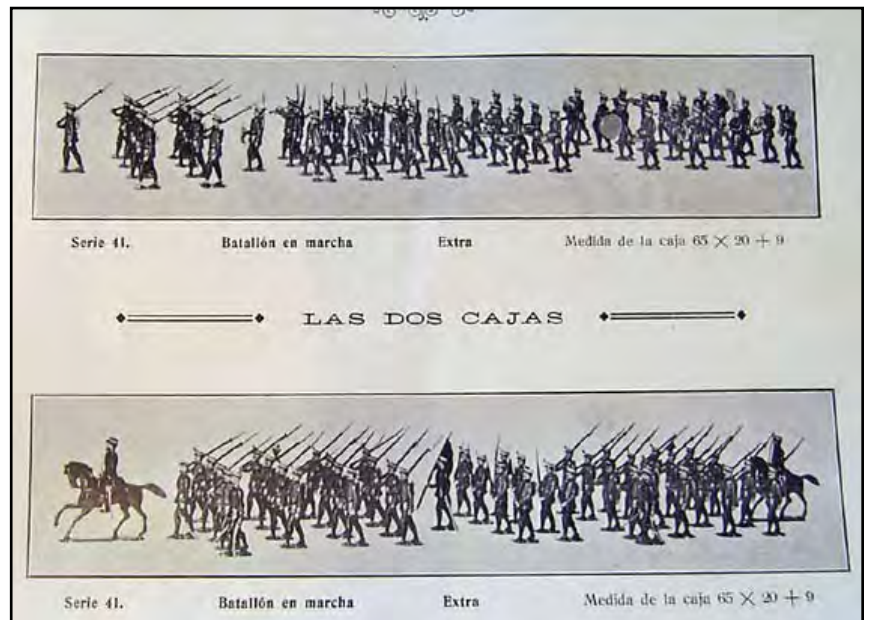
D. Jose Capell, nephew -grandson of Casanellas provides an undated document listing the factory as being at 4 Camp Street San Gevasio, Cassolas, the firm's patent registration was 47936, the company being known as "Military Man" and managed by Cassanellas and a Mrs. Ortiz. It seems that Casanellas broke from all of these companies in 1897 and advertised his line under the "La Guerra" name, using the trade mark showing Minerva the Roman Goddess of war in it's advertising. Toy Soldiers Bullfighters were some of the earliest known products.

A profusely illustrated catalog was issued in 1914, it shows 44 lines of Toy Soldiers etc., the figures were obviously influenced by Heyde of Dresden Germany and GBG (Mignot) of France.

45 mm and 65 mm scale; Spanish Infantry, Cavalry, Artillery and Musicians were featured in the catalog; as were 15 different types of horses. Products often had sections of the interior removed to save lead and in a way it seems like there was an attempt to imitate or copy the Britains Hollow cast style. Trumpets flags were molded separately and heads were plugged in similar to German style manufacturer.



Front page of the Catalogue of "La Guerra"



Pages from the 1914 catalog



British Infantry of the Line



Spanish Infantry at the Present

LA GUERRA (OF SPAIN) (Cont.)

The Catalogue had 31 pages in which were represented photographically
44 Series listed as follows:

Series 1 Infantería al paso (ordinarios)
Series 2 Infantería al paso (finos)
Series 3 Infantería en batalla
Series 4 Infantería Guardia Civil
Series 5 Infantería firmes
Series 6 Infantería Músicos
Series 7 Infantería Melilla
Series 8 Alabarderos
Series 9 Infantería Francesa
Series 10 Infantería Mora
Series 11 Infantería Inglesa al paso
Series 12 Infantería Inglesa en batalla
Series 13 Infantería Alemana en batalla
Series 14 Toreros Lidia
Series 15 Caballería Lanceros al paso

Series 16 Caballería Guardia Civil al paso
Series 17 Escolta Real
Series 18 Húsares Pavía
Series 19 Caballería Mora
Series 20 Caballería Melilla al galope
Series 21 Estado Mayor General
Series 22 Guardia de Seguridad montada
Series 23 Dragones Ingleses
Series 24 Caballería Francesa Coraceros
Series 25 Caballería Hulanos Alemanes
Series 26 Caballería María Crisitina
Series 27 Caballería María Cristina (semi-extra)
Series 28 Infantería Surtidos Ciclistas
Series 29 Motoristas surtidos (Extra)
Series 30 Arrastre

Series 31 Artillería montaña
Series 32 Infantería al paso (Extra)
Series 33 Infantería Guardia Civil (Extra)
Series 34 Alabarderos (Extra)
Series 35 Infantería Músicos (Extra)
Series 37 Caballería Lanceros al paso (Extra)
Cabalería Cuardia Civil montada
Series 38 Artillería Rodada
Series 39 Batallón firme (2 box)
Series 40 Batallón en marcha (2 box)
Series 41 Batallón en marcha (Extra, 2 box)
Series 42 Soldados Romanos
Series 43 Cañón con disparo
Series 44 Combinación tres armas



Spanish Infantry Band



Example of a "La Guerra" box



Dragoons of Santiago



Mountain Artillery Gun Team



Examples of both 45mm and 65mm figures



Boxed set of Arabs



French Cycle Troop

LA GUERRA (OF SPAIN) (Cont.)

There were two sizes of boxes both for the infantry and for the cavalry. Boxes 1 and 2 differed in the number of pieces that were contained in each box. Box 1 of cavalry had six cavalymen; Box 2 contained ten cavalymen. Box 1 of Infantry consisted of ten pieces, whereas Box 2 contained eighteen soldiers.

The boxes were red in color with white edges. Each contained an image of Minerva Goddess of War as a trademark.

Series 39, 40, 41 and 42 were larger display boxes of Infantry in 45 mm.

Series 44 presented figures in three sizes of Infantry, Artillery and Lancers. Box 3 included a cycle battalion, representing Spanish, French and German troops.

Series 43 included two large cannons.

Not included in the catalog was a line entitled "Series Art" which were wooden boxes containing 12 Cavalry in 65mm scale.

The figures of "The War" had influence on other Spanish manufacturers of toy soldiers. Palomeque, Madrid began his production from 1922, and used three models of Casanellas's horses and a model of the artillery mule. Toy soldiers by Palomeque are of greater quality. Baldomero Casanellas supplied orders to two collectors. Mr. Arturo Llovera Grases commissioned a Spanish army line of 65mm which consisted of ten thousand figures with all kinds of military cars, bicycles, ambulances, motorcycles and trucks. So large was the order Casanellas had to ask another manufacturer, Eulogio Gonzalez of Barcelona for help in completing the order. The work was finished in 1928 and the collection, known as the "Collection Llovera", was displayed in 2009 at the Military Museum of Montjuïc's Castle in Barcelona.

The second order was from a Mr. Rowe, who asked Casanellas to produce in 45mm large groups of toy soldiers of infantry and cavalry with English uniforms.



Bullfighter Set



Roman Soldiers



Infantry of Guardia Civil (Extra)

LA GUERRA (OF SPAIN) (Cont.)



This collection was sold some years ago and at present it is distributed between several collectors who bought small groups. The quality of the figures of "The War", which cover a third of a century of the manufacture of toy soldiers made in Spain, did not escape the notice of collectors from other countries. Toy soldiers made by Casanellas were exported to France, United Kingdom, Germany and USA.

Baldomero Casanellas died in 1926. Production at his factory was continued by his nephew Jose, later joined by his brother Baldomero Capell Coixet.



45mm and 54mm
Alabarderos Officers

Photos proceeding from the collection of Jose Maria Sanz-Hermida and Miguel Angel Sanz-Hermida.



Examples of various horses in two sizes



Spanish Infantry in action

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MIM OF BELGIUM

By Russ Bednarek



Trompette Chasseurs a Cheval



Trompette Chasseurs a Cheval and Legere Tambour Major

When Britians introduced the hollow-cast method of production in 1893 it revolutionized the toy soldier industry. Manufacturers could now efficiently and economically produce large quantities of figures. Prior to 1893 the standard casting technique was solid-cast, a time consuming and expensive process. Many new toy soldier manufacturers implemented and embraced the hollow-cast technology resulting in long tenures of profitable production. There still remained a small number of makers dedicated to solid-cast figures. Heyde of Germany continued its prolific production of multi-sized lines of figures, in addition to the firms of Noris and Haffner. In France, CBG Mignot and its high end cousin Lucotte experienced a continued growth of their solid-cast figurines and remain in business today. Often overlooked, or probably unknown to most collectors, are the exquisite figures produced by the Belgian firm MIM.

MIM, (Maximum in Minimis) was the creation of Belgian born Emmanuel Steinbach. Steinbach was a well educated young man when, in 1930, he established his own printing firm in Paris. The decision to abandon his current profession to establish a toy soldier company was, as he wrote, "a matter of personal taste" and his desire to "contribute to the education of children". MIM began production in 1938 in Brussels along with Steinbach's second newly created line of composition figures named INCAMIM. Readers are directed to *Old Toy Soldier* Vol.34 No.2 for Vincent J. Russo and Patrice Servais's excellent article on INCAMIM figures. Steinbach's high standards of quality are reflected in his MIM figures.

Emile Salkin was hired by Steinbach to develop master figures for the MIM line. An artist of the highest standard, Salkin tirelessly visited museums, researched archives and created sketches that insured the historical accuracy of the figurines. Once the master figure was created, it was the responsibility of Alice Vander Elst to accurately paint it. Vander Elst, who had been studying monumental painting, would become Steinbach's wife. Over 60 employees were required to successfully bring to fruition Steinbach's dream of producing historically correct high quality figures.

Four ranges of 60mm infantry and 80mm cavalry figures were produced. Over 350 different figures were possible using various combinations of bodies, heads and arms.

MIM OF BELGIUM (Cont.)



Descriptive Base

The four ranges are:

Antiquity-Egyptians, Assyrians, Persians,
Romans and Gauls.

The Consulate-infantry and cavalry of
1799-1804 France

First Empire-Infantry and cavalry of Napoleon's
Grande Armee and the Imperial Guard.

Modern-American and British troops that
participated in the liberation of Belgium
during World War II.

Over 75% of the MIM line was dedicated to the First Empire. Infantry is represented by officers, drummers, flagbearers, infantrymen and musicians. The mounted arm has officers, trumpeters, standard-bearers, *timbaliers* (mounted drummer) and musicians. Figures were sold in their own individual box (see photo), although auction results show infantry bands of 12 figures and mounted bands of 9 figures. An examination of a post-war MIM catalogue does not list musician figures or sets for either infantry or cavalry. Napoleon and his staff comprise a further 12 figures in the First Empire line.

The majority of MIM figures were exported to France and Switzerland, with a fair amount designated for the United States. Steinbach insured his high standards of quality by producing for each figure its own production card. Listed on the card were the catalogue mold number of the body and the corresponding mold numbers for arms, heads and various accoutrements to be used. Painters had a folder containing a card for each figure with painting instructions to be precisely followed when applying the high quality enamel paint. Unfortunately the casting/assembly and painting cards have been lost.

MIM figures are recognizable by their size, outstanding sculpting and quality painting. Cast on the bottom of the base of each figure is the catalogue number, range, name of the regiment and MIM logo (see photo). Collectors should carefully inspect cavalry figures so that the name on the base of the horse matches its rider. A horse with a base cast, "No.140 First Empire Grenadiers a Cheval" should not have a Hussar figure as its rider. All too often these incorrect "marriages" are offered for sale, so a



Examples of Boxes

MIM OF BELGIUM (Cont.)

competent knowledge level of Napoleonic uniforms is invaluable to prevent regrettable purchases.

In 1947 Steinbach was unable to secure the export licenses needed for France and Switzerland. With the loss of such a large marketshare, Steinbach reluctantly terminated production in 1948. At the time of cessation of MIM, 241 figures were in production, 189 of them First Empire. Sadly, an exciting new addition to the "Antiquity" range, 20 Greek figures, were near completion. The INCAMIM molds were sold in 1948 to Durso owner Michel Klimov who continued production. The MIM molds are now in the possession of toy soldier collector and owner of Lucotte, Edouard Pemzecz.

The superb sculpting and painting coupled with an extremely short production run, (1938-1948) makes

MIM figures highly sought after. Unfortunately, some MIMs have suffered the same fate as older Lucottes; previous owners have sought to further embellish the figures by additional painting. When finding a MIM for one's collection, it is evident that Emmanuel Steinbach's goal "to contribute to the education of children" still persists and brings out the child in us all.

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Napoleonic 1st Empire. Garde Imperial.
Grenadier A Cheval Trumpeter.



Napoleonic 1st Empire.
Hussard Trumpeter.



Napoleonic 1st Empire.
Cavalier Lourde Carabiniers Trumpeter.



Napoleonic 1st Empire. Lancer.



Napoleonic 1st Empire.
Garde Imperial Dragon
1806 Trumpeter.



Napoleonic 1st Empire.
Garde Imperial Chasseurs A
Cheval trumpeter.



Napoleonic 1st Empire.
Garde Imperial Artillerie A
Cheval Officer.



Napoleonic 1st Empire.
Etat Major Louis Bonaparte.
Condition Excellent.



Napoleonic 1st Empire.
Garde Imperial Chasseur A
Cheval Standard Bearer.



Napoleonic 1st Empire.
Garde Imperial Dragon 1806.



Napoleonic 1st Empire. Garde
Imperial Trumpeter



Napoleonic 1st Empire.
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CRU028 Mamluk Leader
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COMPOSITION FIGURES OF BELGIUM



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JOHN GREENE'S ARTISTIC DIMESTORE FIGURES TAKING AIM WITH HIS 2nd SHOT

By Louis S. Steinberg



John the Creator

My own attempt to resolve any confusion as to what we may recognize as "art," in seeking its clarification, could well venture to becoming an art in itself. I might believe that within a room full of artists, no two of them could reach a valid consent with the other as to what art really is. Although, each is verily an artist whose creative works display their imagination.

A basic definition states that art is "an expression or realm, according to aesthetic principles, of what is beautiful, appealing, or of more than an ordinary significance."

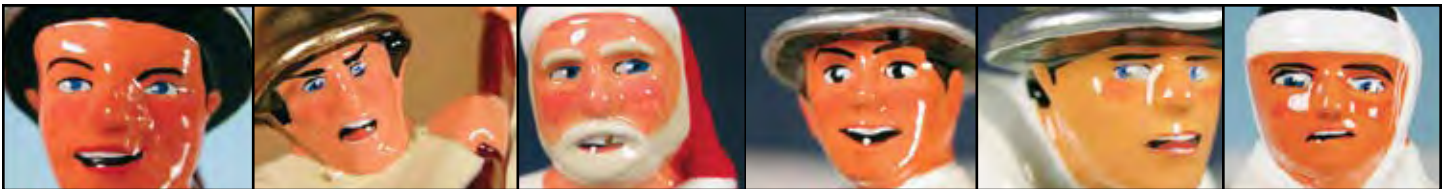
It also has been said, "Only artists know their own intent and that alone determines its worth as art." Because one individual may not like another's creativity does not suggest that the other is not an artist.

Whereas, an Internet posting mentions, "Maybe. Art only in the eyes of its artist is of little value to the rest of the human race. And, maybe that's OK."

Many, including myself, have created things in which no one is interested. That happens. But, I am not able to understand that anyone could create anything without pre-conceived intent. You are the guide to your art, commanding how it will look when completed.

In juxtaposing art with talent my position is that art becomes art through the applied talent of its doer, the one we all call the artist.

Thus, having talent may be the gift we graciously accept from Mums and Da Da enabling us to do something effortlessly when in reality it is difficult. Or, it is simply a learned mechanical behavior that progresses to a greater skill level through the doer's self-sacrificed dedication to much very hard work. Either way, the final results by both are said to be talented.



These Visual Facial Expressions of John's Dimestore Figures Accentuate The Individual Uniqueness Offered by Each Soldier

In life's small neighborhood of all that is known about "toy soldiers" we are fortunate to be mortared together by the many sundry disciplines possessed within the sphere of our knowledgeable colleagues.

"Dimestore" toy soldiers are endemic to America. The major companies producing them occupied one of the smallest historical time-frames amongst the many other fighting figures of yesteryear.

Today, our major Dimestore companies are gone, as well as the handful of independent producers that followed their demise. Yet, a flickering flame of quality collector/dealers still exist, offering an abundance of original, common and rarer Dimestore pieces. This *Old Toy Soldier* magazine publishes their advertisements. Then, of course, there is E-bay and a smattering of Internet others.

Plus.... There is John Greene! And, his distinct... *2nd Shot!*

Well, John Greene is accurately an exceptional creative, real artist that has channeled his inventive and unusual imagination towards returning to his childhood hobby of toy soldiering in a much different way.

2nd Shot is exactly that... "getting off another round one more time."

John told me, "As early as I can remember, my father would always sketch pencil drawings for my brother and I of whatever I asked. I was always in awe and know it is the reason, that I began studying art, drawing, painting and sculpture when I later attended Louisiana State University."

By re-winding a bit further back, the cosmos, our great planet and especially Marguerite and John Greene welcomed to Watertown, Massachusetts, in August of 1950, their beloved son John.

Those past childhood days can often recall memories that have become most visually intense.



JOHN GREENE'S ARTISTIC DIMESTORE FIGURES (Cont.)



Head Fitted with Magnet

John says, "At the time I was growing up in the fifties, the only metal toy soldiers I saw were the Barclay Podfoots. My brother and I shared an upstairs bedroom which became the battleground on which we would play with our soldiers. He defended one side of the room and me the other. From cardboard shoe boxes we made buildings complete with cutout doors and windows and with our Lincoln Log buildings the battle scene was then set. And, man did we go at it, day after day!

"We would also draw for hours, outlining planes dropping bombs and battleships shooting and at the same time we were making voice sounds of explosions.

"While growing older, I introduced myself to a variety of hand and electric tools in my father's workshop and learned their usage. We were forbidden to go into the basement and play with the tools. But, we always did! My other hobby is building furniture."

However, it was soon after high school and a few different jobs in Watertown that John met his Uncle Sam. In 1970 he served Stateside in the Army as a Military Policeman.

In '71 he saw Vietnam as part of a special security force assigned to protect Pre'Line Mountain, a main signal installation site.

Shortly after being discharged, he and a Louisiana buddy motored south to Baton Rouge in August '72. John says, "We both worked off shore for awhile. Met a guy that shared a house with a couple of LSU girls. That's where I met my future wife. She was 'one of the girls.' It definitely was love at first sight. Gwen and I got married in March of 1975. We have no kids... I am the kid!"

John further related that before graduating LSU in 1979 he changed his major from "starving artist" to advertising design. From obtaining an entry job with Root and Associates, a major Baton Rouge ad agency, he quickly rose from illustrator to Art Director.



Respecting Our Fallen Buddies



Collectible AfroAmerican



Imaginative Santa Pirate

JOHN GREENE'S ARTISTIC DIMESTORE FIGURES (Cont.)

While creating thorough campaigns for each of their clients, he was honored with multiple gold awards.

In 1984 and 1986, John won Best of Show Art Direction selected by judges from other markets as to what they believe is the best work done for the entire year. In 1993 John began freelancing and has continued to this day.

"I had no interests in toy soldiers until in 2002, when I took a trip back home for my Mother's funeral."

Through the sadness of that visit, John also took time to drop by his brother's house. It was there that he literally rediscovered, while noting his brother's collection, their old type Barclay pod foot figures.

His interest was so heightened that upon returning home and checking out E-bay, he quickly became enamored with the larger size of the WW I soldiers that he soon learned were called "Dime-store."

John remarked, "The overall girth of the Manois made the Barclays look so pathetic, though they still do have an endearing charm."

"I could imagine the meeting that took place when Barclay's execs compared its Short Stride pieces to the more beefy and lyrical Manois. They must have been horrified that their soldiers looked so wimpy and primitive next to the Manois."

"So....I'll bet an edict must have been laid down that we need more manly soldiers. And so, unfurled the Barclay Long Strides." Could that be a possible summation?

John, now focusing on Manois, accumulated a collection of "played with," off-condition figures. He was very amazed that there was no representation of African American soldiers.

He says, "I couldn't believe it! That's when I first started painting toy soldiers. It was to give the African American soldier a place in this hobby."

Soon he learned the shoppers had little interest in buying a simple repainted Manoil soldier. While painting, he studied the sculpting detail in each figure and the compromises that Manoil had to make in their casting process. This guided John to begin filing away any lead slag at the figure's mold seams, as well as re-aligning its puttees.

During this process, he states, "The slag and misalignment of the molds must have driven Walter Baetz, Frank Krupp and other sculptors out of their minds. My quest became more obsessive towards completing a very finished and acceptable sculptured state for these small artistic gems."

"It was at this point that I decided on a new painting theme for future soldiers, now calling them *Winter Whites*. But, the main reason for the light color is that it allowed the detail on the figure to appear more prominent."



Digger, Why So Happy?



Maybe All Diggers Are Happy



Brilliant Uniforms Display Early Cadets

JOHN GREENE'S ARTISTIC DIMESTORE FIGURES (Cont.)



Present Off White Uniform



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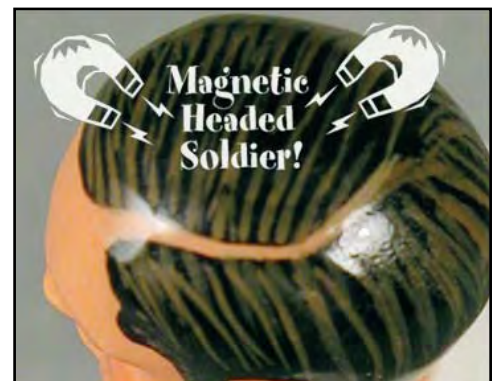
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You're right. I See More Dogs Over There



JOHN GREENE'S ARTISTIC DIMESTORE FIGURES (Cont.)



What's Funny? I'm Really Hurting



And, Watch Over Those in Battle



Where? Well, for Me It's Only L. A.

John further generalized to me that he liked to think of his soldiers as "little sculptures" but comical as well. His thought was to paint them in a comic book manner, since in looking at Manoil's bloated series, they appeared comical to him.

"I didn't go for reality in my painting approach, but sought to get an individual expression on each painted figure. I tried for different visuals on the 'little sculptures' that might go with the action each depicted," stated John.

"My *Winter White* figures eventually came to signify to me a design and thus evoking the outfit of the universal soldier. Their uniform is off-white. I feel it symbolizes the desire to do right, but sometimes falling short.

"They have no time-frame or particular war in which they fought. They are just plain male soldiers caught in a moment of time.

"Like possibly some of us may be. It could be the past. It could be the future. I really don't yet know...."

John's first figures, although, were painted in a number of adventurous colorful uniforms just to see what they would look like.

Fortunately, these have become sought after by various collectors. E-bay is his sole outlet. He has not found time to attend shows.

"This whole mind set was just something I started for my own enjoyment. At home I usually go out to my shop early on weekend mornings to paint my figures. While listening to 40's and 50's radio music and viewing my work through an illuminated mag-

nifying lens, my thoughts would drift to war and to today's dilemmas."

Such solitude in John's workplace created wanderings from world problems, to why the hole in the top of a Barclay's head, when all he wanted was to just paint hair?

Cheerfully he says, "So I decided to have some fun. I epoxied a small magnet in the hole and rounded it out with modeling compound. Sanded it then painted in the hair.

"The nice thing about the magnetic helmet approach is that it can be positioned on the head in a number of ways which could change the visual imagery of the soldier, plus it is easily removed.

"None of this would matter to the purist, but that didn't matter! This was something that I found fun to do. Regarding fun, I found early on that commission pieces seemed to drain the fun out of the process, so I do not do them anymore. However, I have begun simple conversions by repositioning body parts and using parts from other soldiers."

In structuring this article I found John Greene to be a much different kind of Dimestore hobbyist, way, way far from its traditionalist collector types. Its label of Dimestore may apply only to the fact and size that he works with his original raw material of off-conditioned Barclay and Manoil figures.

The artistic craftsmanship that John presents to the marketplace is so very unique that it stands alone, unable to be justly compared to anything else within our hobby. It certainly may qualify as

JOHN GREENE'S ARTISTIC DIMESTORE FIGURES (Cont.)

miniature figure art and not solely some outlandish kind of repaint.

Foremost, it is art by intent; art to its exceptional attention to each detailed painted facial expression; to color blending's and shading; to outstanding figure preparation and finishing.

If not Dimestore, in what other category in our hobby should it be placed? Some may challenge that it is only the most simplistic type of conversion to the larger size Dimestore figures.

For those that get a galvanic mouth shock looking at the enigma that *2nd Shot* brings to Dimestore, I do accept that narrow-mindedness is not terminal when art is in question.

John Greene's work engenders another appearance to the staidness of the generic Barclay and Manoil caricatures of soldiers.

Knowing that *2nd Shot*, by its archetypal intent, was infused with fun, enjoyment and salient forethought, should nobly and unquestionably allow with impunity its acceptability amongst today's modernistic Dimestores. And...That's all I've got to say!

Thank you John Greene for your wonderful creations!

John may be reached at johngreene@cox.net.



Yeah, Just Plain Bart Bart Negro



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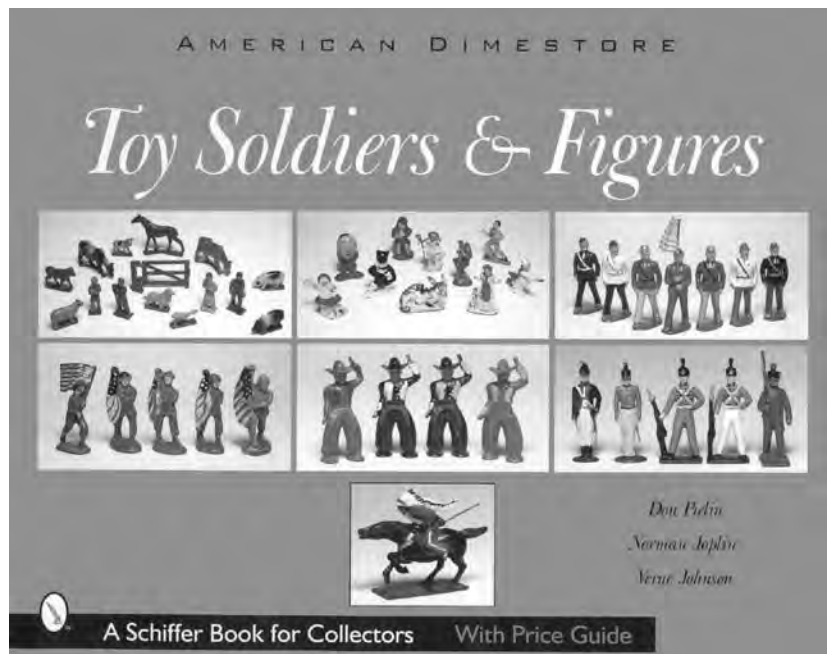
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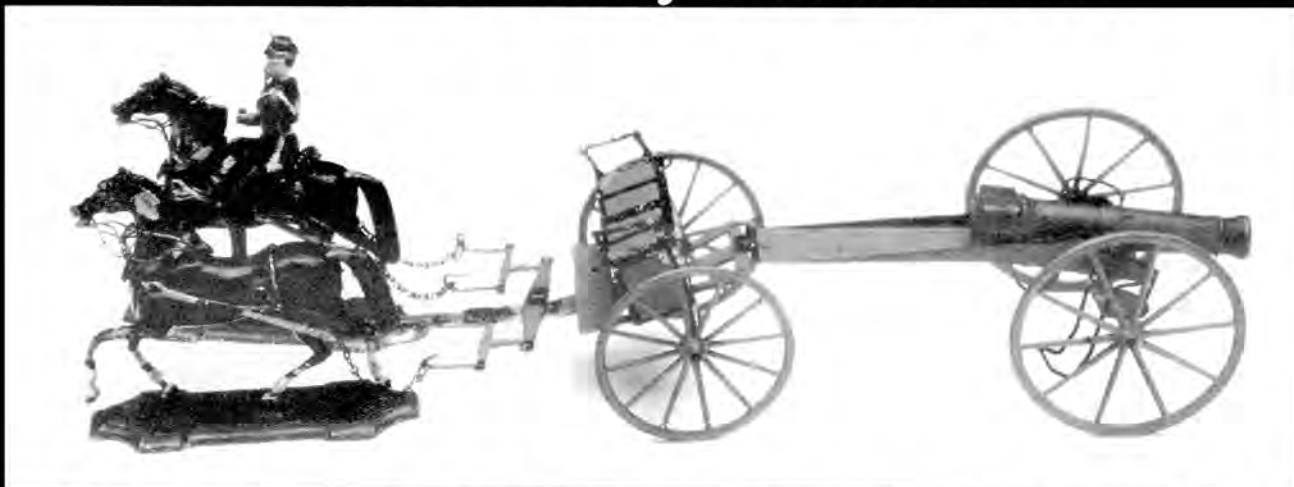
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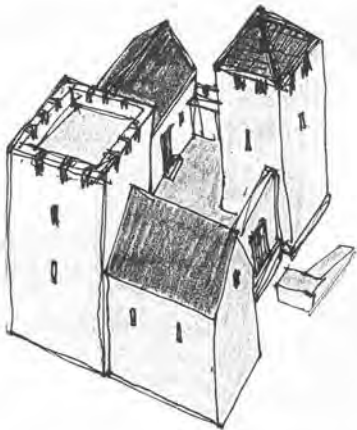
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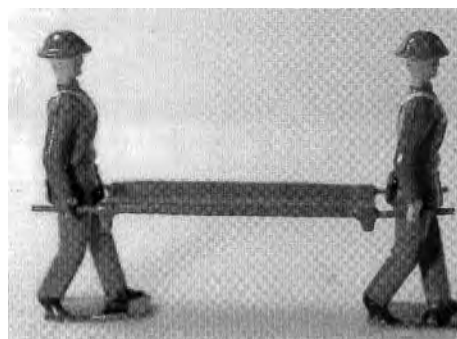
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March 20 - Sunday Grande Bourse Internationale. 8:30 am - 1:00 pm Espace Chevreul, 97/109 Avenue de la Liberté, 92000 Nanterre. Free Admission. Organised by Eurofigurines.

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March 27 - Sunday North East Toy Soldier Show, Boston Marriot Matt Murphy www.hobbybunker.com.

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