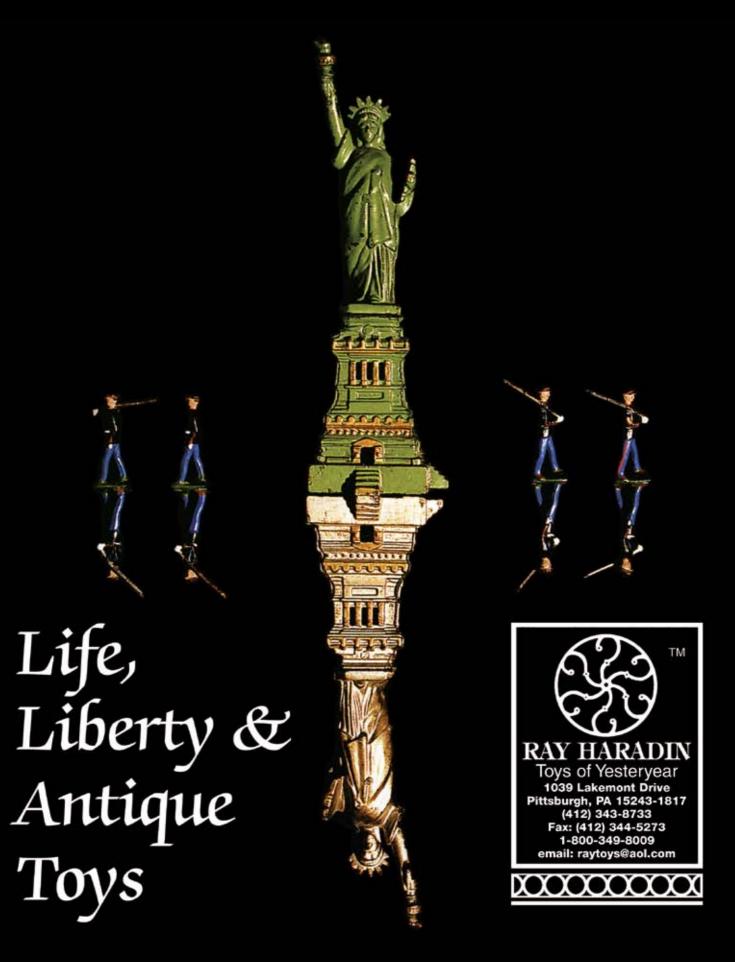
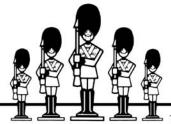
OLD TOY SOLDIER



GEORGE WILLIAM WOOD
THE FORGOTTEN MANUFACTURER





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IN THIS ISSUE VOLUME 35 NUMBER 4 - WINTER 2012

ARTICI FS

AITHOLLO
CHARLOTTE BRONTË,
G. W. WOOD AND CO. PART I 16-17 THE FORGOTTEN MANUFACTURER By Norman Joplin
ZULUS: BRITAINS SETS 147 AND 188 40-43 By Joe Wallis
WILLIAM ROBERT LANGO PART II 46-50 WITHIN THE SHADOWS OF THE BARCLAY MFG. CO. By Louis S. Steinberg
ERIKSSON RECONNAISSANCE 52-53 By Lou Sandbote All photos courtesy Philip Dean

FEATURES

By Norman Joplin

Hobby News	6-8
Show Report	18-20
Auction Review/Previews	24-34
Book Review	36
Toy Soldier Market Place	62-63
Toy Soldier Show and Auction Calendar	64
Advertisers Index	65-66
Subscriptions	67-68

LIBERATION OF PARIS56-57

ON THE COVER

GEORGE WILLIAM WOOD BRITISH CAMEL CORPS Photo Courtesy Rob Wilson

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All display advertisements should be submitted on disc in MAC or PC format or as camera ready artwork. If submitted on disc, please include fonts and images used in layout. PDF files are acceptable with fonts embedded and images included. Photos should be CMYK with resolution of 350 ppi or grayscale with resolution of 266 ppi. Typesetting and layout are available at additional charge.

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Summer Issue	June 10	August 10
Fall Issue	September 10	November 10
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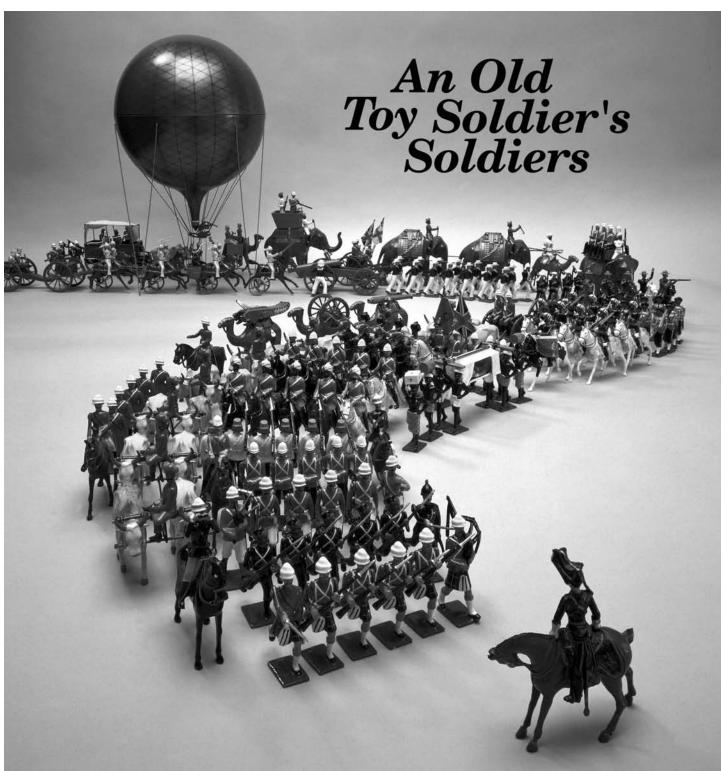
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Time was a toy soldier knew what it meant to be a toy soldier. All spit and polish, bright shiny uniform, lean and rugged, big pink cheeks, manual-of-arms, upright and proper even in the din of battle. Most new toy soldiers - a sorry lot. No group 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.

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HOBBY NEWS



Small World. Big Stories.

The Frazier History Museum has unveiled one of the nation's largest toy soldier displays featuring 19th century pieces and other rarities

January 20, 2011 (Louisville, Ky.) Welcome to their world. They number more than 10,000 strong. That makes the Toy Soldier Collection at the Frazier History Museum, which was unveiled December 10, one of the largest public displays of toy soldiers in the United States.

There are soldiers that depict real people and historical events; soldiers that focus on uniforms, such as different tartans for Highland regiments. Soldiers that serve as historically accurate marching and mounted bands. They celebrate notable weddings and festivals. They represent people from Ancient Egypt, the Ottoman Empire, South Africa, India, Europe and the Americas. There is even an exhibition of Queen Elizabeth II's coronation procession in breathtaking miniature.

The Frazier boasts one of the largest St. Petersburg® groupings in the country, as well as those of Heyde, Haffner, M.I.M., Lucotte, Courtenay and W.M. Britain. Fifty different manufacturers from six continents are represented, not to mention some prized rarities once owned by publisher Malcolm Forbes. While some of the collection's earliest items date from the mid-19th century, the finest examples of 20th and 21st century figures are also on display.



Retour des Cendres

It's extraordinary to consider that most of the pieces on view are hand-painted. Artists like Madame Metayer have their own distinctive style, highly prized by collectors and well represented at the Frazier. Interestingly, women—who sometimes had a hard time sustaining themselves as professional fine artists—often found their livelihoods as toy soldier painters. One can't help wondering if the touch of whimsy on a little figure's face does not reflect a brother, boyfriend, or fellow art student.

The permanent exhibition includes large tableaux as well as shelves of toy soldiers, alongside with genuine artifacts from the periods depicted. Bronze Age arrowheads, French Royalist swords, a Russian woman tank commander's medals—all reveal the real lives behind the stories that the toys tell.

The collection provides a small window to a bigger historical picture. Soldiers have been favorite toys since ancient times, but in the 18th century, mass production allowed for new possibilities. No longer limited to single, handmade pieces, whole opposing armies could be assembled and these toys even provided insights into soldier's more personal lives. From peeling potatoes to wrestling alligators, these little men did it all and— once World War II took place—women entered the fray.

The collection was founded with a gift of 10,000 soldiers from Charles W. Stewart, a Frankfort, Ky. native. Mr. Stewart describes playing with plastic figures in his childhood and then forgetting about them. Roughly 20 years ago his interest was piqued again and he began to consider himself a serious collector. As the Frazier Museum's toy soldier "world" continues to expand thanks to other donors, including Orson Munn of Long Island, N.Y., we invite you to march in and enjoy this nostalgic, playful and permanent part of our collection.

For more information on Frazier Museum exhibitions, programs and events, visit www.FrazierMuseum.org or call (502) 753-5663.

HOBBY NEWS (Cont.)



Retour des Cendres





Rare tin flats in grouping

HOBBY NEWS

TOY SOLDIER SHOW LONDON UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

By George Philips

The final toy soldier show of 2011 at London's Royal National Hotel proved a success under the management of new organisers, Guideline Publications. There were figures galore for collectors of every persuasion and some enthusiasts have shared their ideas for making the shows even better...

I'd have to rate the December Toy Soldier Show as my favourite of the three organised each year at the Royal National Hotel. The crisp winter air on the walk to venue, the long but good-natured queues of collectors in the lobby and the pre-Christmas buzz around the exhibition halls make the whole thing a little bit special.

As reported in issue 41 of Toy Soldier Collector, this year's show was under the new management of Guideline Publications, filling the shoes of the King and Country (K&C) UK team for the first time.

The night before the event, a number of dealers and the team from Guideline enjoyed a get-together at which Mike Neville of K&C was presented with a cut glass vase as a token of the appreciation of the toy soldier trade in the UK for his seven years at the helm of the London shows. On the day, more than 1,100 collectors passed through the doors of the hotel's twin halls to peruse the goods of 91 traders spread across some 215 tables. In addition to UK dealers, traders at the show had travelled in from Germany, Belgium, Latvia, France, the USA and Russia. Regis Auckland of Guideline revealed that many had pre-booked their tables for the whole of 2012.

2012 Dates 31st March 2012 30th June 2012 1st December 2012

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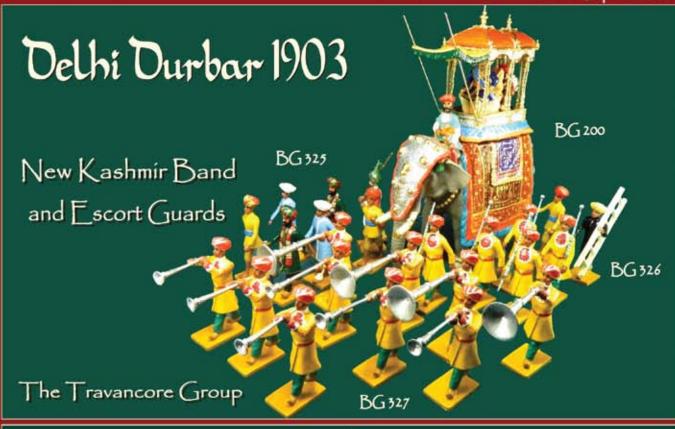
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CHARLOTTE BRONTË, PATRICK BRANWELL BRONTË THEIR TOY SOLDIER CONNECTION

By Scott A.G.M. Crawford

Introduction

Charlotte Brontë was born in Thornton, Yorkshire on 21 April 1816. While her literary fame rests on *Jane Eyre* (1847), written under the pen name Currer Bell, a close reading of an early biography by E. C. Gaskell (*The Life of Charlotte Brontë*) reveals an extraordinary tale of a short life in which Charlotte Brontë's existence was a testament to mental toughness in the face of repeated tragedy, death and incessant ill health.

She was the third of six children. Her two elder sisters, Maria and Elizabeth, died in June 1825 at the ages of 11 and 10 respectively. The cause of their death was tuberculosis. Patrick Branwell Brontë, her only brother, passed away in September 1848 as a result of chronic bronchitis, alcohol excess, and possible overuse of laudanum. Emily and Anne, who had also established writing reputations - see Wuthering Heights (1847) and The Tenant of Wildfell Hall (1848) - died in 1848 and 1849 of pulmonary tuberculosis. Charlotte did not survive Emily and Anne by many years. Her death, on 31 March 1855, at the age of 38, is thought to have been tuberculosis made worse by a combination of malnourishment and dehydration.



Toy Soldiers

Charlotte Brontë's father was an Irish Anglican clergyman Patrick Brontë who moved to Haworth when appointed Perpetual Curate of St. Michael and All Angels Church. His wife Maria, and Charlotte's mother, died in September 1821.

E.C. Gaskell refers to Patrick Branwell Brontë and his "extraordinary precocity of talent". She then points out that "he was associated in many of his sisters' plays and amusements. They were mostly of a sedentary and intellectual nature". Gaskell goes on to describe the play scenarios, mostly crafted by Charlotte Brontë, which allowed the family to create all manner of soldierly drama and action.

"I [E.C. Gaskell] have had a curious packet confided to me, containing an immense amount of manuscript, in an inconceivably small space; tales, dramas, poems, romances, written principally by Charlotte, in a hand which is almost impossible to decipher without the aid of a magnifying glass".³

Thanks to the investigative thrust of the Charlotte Brontë Poetry Foundation the pieces of the mysterious jig-saw are joined up, and provide a fascinating canvas revealing Charlotte Brontë's literary imagination with toy soldiers as key personages.

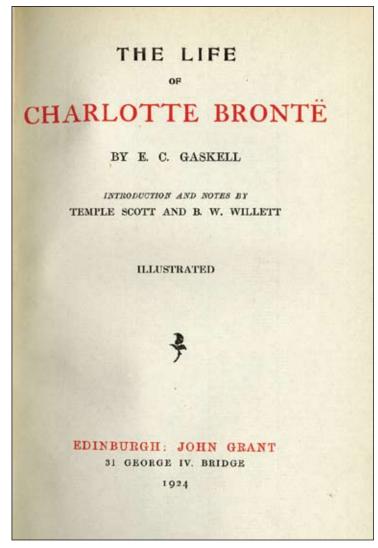
CHARLOTTE BRONTË, PATRICK BRANWELL BRONTË - THEIR TOY SOLDIER CONNECTION (Cont.)

"The seminal event of the Brontë's literary apprenticeship occurred on 5 June 1826, when Mr. Brontë returned from a trip to Leeds with a present for Branwell - a box of toy soldiers - to which all four children Branwell, Charlotte, Emily and Ann] immediately laid claim. Each child selected a soldier as his or her own, naming them for their respective childhood heroes -Charlotte's was the Duke of Wellington [victor at Waterloo 1815]. They began to construct plays and narratives around and through the voices of these characters. The earliest of such works were written in an almost microscopic hand in miniscule manuscripts so they would be compatible in size with their supposed authors – the toy soldiers."4

E.C. Gaskell in conversations with Charlotte Brontë fills out the story of the arrival of the toy soldiers.

"Papa bought Branwell some wooden soldiers at Leeds; when Papa came home it was night, and we were in bed, so next morning Branwell came to our door with a box of soldiers. Emily and I jumped out of bed, and I snatched up one and exclaimed, 'This is the Duke of Wellington. This shall be the Duke!' When I had said this Emily likewise took up one and said it should be hers; when Anne, came down, she said one should be hers. Mine was the prettiest of the whole and the tallest, and the most perfect in every part. Emily's was a grave - looking fellow, and we called him 'Gravey'. Anne's was a queer little thing much like herself, and we called him 'Waiting- Boy'. Branwell chose one, and called him 'Buonaparte'"5

The Poetry Foundation charts Charlotte Brontë's fascination not just with the Duke of Wellington,





CHARLOTTE BRONTË, PATRICK BRANWELL BRONTË - THEIR TOY SOLDIER CONNECTION (Cont.)

and his sons Charles and Arthur Wellesley. The toy soldiers saw early "service" in her detailed outlines of the various military campaigns and battles that comprised the Peninsular War, 1808-1814. The notion of a slight, fragile and never truly healthy young female having to be house manager and would – be parent, and all of this in her teenage years, yet so robust in outlook and temperament that she embraced toy soldiers as animate characters to bring adventure and action to Haworth Parsonage, a home fringing a graveyard and endlessly buffeted by bleak winds, is nothing less than astonishing.

The twelve wooden soldiers were to become the action pieces – the mouthpieces if you will – of a series of fictional narratives that were launched, beginning in December 1827. The microscopic writing was compressed into myriad books the size of matchboxes. Charlotte and Branwell wrote heroic tales about their fabulous country of Angria, while Emily and Anne explored life and experiences in a place called Gondal. Literary experts argue that this playtime, and playwriting, laid the foundations for future literary vocations.

Conclusion

Two Finnish scholars, Petri Liukkonen and Ari Pesonen, remind us that Charlotte Brontë was, even in adulthood, of a minute build. They comment that her dress, now on display at the Brontë Parsonage Museum, would fit a contemporary eleven-year old girl. Liukkonen and Pesonen succinctly give a nicely understated summary of the hours, days and weeks spent by the teenage Brontës as they set up their wooden figures, and crafted fictional scenarios in a room at Haworth Parsonage not much larger than a closet.

"When other children enjoyed to play outdoors, they created imaginary kingdoms, which were built around Branwell's toy soldiers, and which inspired them to create continuing stories of fantasylands. Later in a poem Charlotte wrote:' We wove a web in childhood, A web of sunny air;'."6

Afterword

On December 14, 2011 an unpublished Charlotte Brontë manuscript – and one of her miniature "little books" inspired originally by Branwell's toy soldiers – sold for \$1,100,000 at Sotheby's auction house in London. The book was written in 1830, when Charlotte Brontë was aged 14. It was set in Glass Town, one the of favored fictional landscapes constructed by the Brontë siblings. The tiny manuscript was purchased by the Musee des Lettres et Manuscrits in Paris, France where it is now on display.

References

- 1. E.C. Gaskell, *Life of Charlotte Brontë* (Edinburgh: John Grant, 1924), 66.
- 2. Ibid.
- 3. Ibid.
- See "Charlotte Brontë:
 The Poetry Foundation" at www.poetryfoundation.org/bio/charlotte-brontë, p.3 [3 January 2012].
- 5. Gaskell, Charlotte Brontë, 73.
- See "Charlotte Brontë (1816-1855)" –
 Petri Liukkonen and Ari Pesonen, 2008 at
 www.kirjasto.sci.fi/cBrontë.htm,
 p.1 [3 January 2012].

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 third, in a series of essays, examing great writers and their affection for toy soldiers. His first piece, on Robert Louis Stevenson, appeared in *Old Toy Soldier*, Fall 2006. His second, on H.G.Wells, was published by *Old Toy Solider*, Winter 2011.

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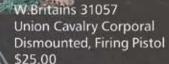
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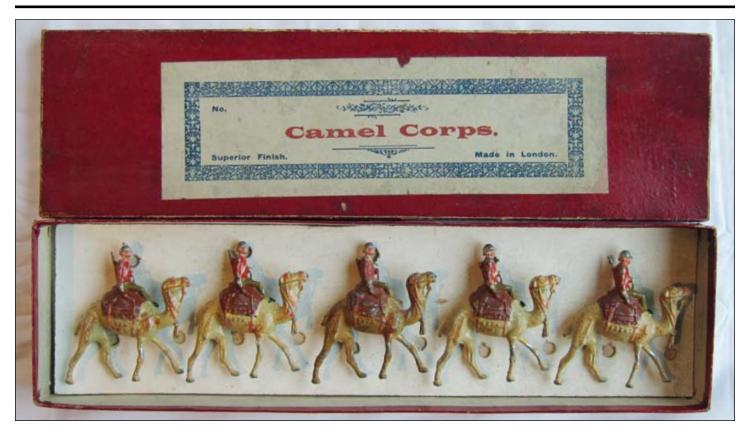
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G. W. WOOD AND CO. PART I THE FORGOTTEN MANUFACTURER

By Norman Joplin



The Cover illustration of this issue of *Old Toy Soldier Magazine* shows a British Camel Corps Figure in gilt finish, often misidentified by authors and auction company catalogers.

In 2011 a boxed set containing painted examples was auctioned by Vectis Auctions in the UK and described as BMC, Bonham's also auctioned a group of these items in 2011 and described them as Hanks, quoting in the catalog description a registration number stamped on the figure.

Andrew Rose in his excellent book *The Collectors* all- Colour Guide to Toy Soldiers shows the figure amongst the pages dedicated to Abel, Fry and WTC, while James Opie in his "Pink" book *British Toy Soldiers 1983 to the Present* lists the figure as by an unknown company. I, in my *Great Book of Hollow Cast Figures* also incorrectly identified the figure as by Hanks for Abel.

Research has moved on since these books were published and being curious about the registration number quoted in the Bonham's auction I decided to intensify my research by visiting the National Archives in Kew just outside of London, armed with the registered design number printed on the figure.

Some prior research on the National Archive web site indicated that the number mentioned in the Bonham's catalog was in fact a digit short, as registered designs of the period normally contained six numbers. By searching the Board of Trade references (more on this system in a future article) and experimenting by adding as a suffix a digit between the numbers 1 thru 9, I came up with something that enabled me to search the relevant hand written registered design records during my visit to the archives.

As can clearly be seen by the cover illustration the registration number is 632428 and was registered on 17th February 1914 by G.W. Wood and Company.

The Registered Designs and Trade Marks act 1839-1964 enabled manufacturers to register and protect their designs as a form of copyright. The classification in relation to the figure in question falls within the revised Trade act of 1907.

I had previously discovered when writing my latest book entitled *Old Toy Soldiers and Figures 1900-*1939, Four Decades of British Advertising (See advertisement and book review this issue for details) that George William Wood and Hubert Rose traded as G.W. Wood and Company, at 139 New North Road,

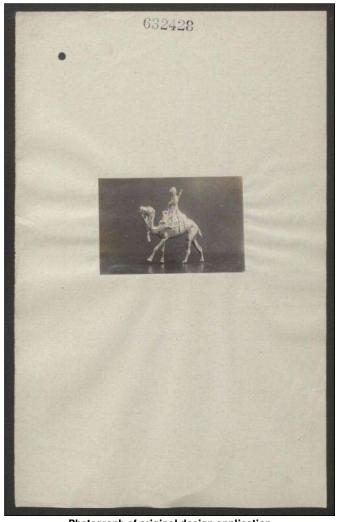
G. W. WOOD AND CO. PART I THE FORGOTTEN MANUFACTURER (Cont.)

London, N. they first advertised in *The Toy* and *Fancy Goods Trader* magazine of 1913. Further research I hope will prove that Wood was operating much earlier in the century and that possibly he was the founder of J Hill and Company.

Having been successful in identifying this item and discovering that G.W. Wood had also registered other designs as early as December 1913 I continued to "dig" into the National Archives records and found a number of links suggesting G. W. Wood, J Hill and Company and BMC (Brushfield Manufacturing Company) were all connected with one and other prior to and during the World War One period.

Time as always ran out during my visit to the UK, however my next trip to the National Archives will no doubt throw more light on the products history and figures from this period and provide me with material for future articles'.

My thanks to Rob Wilson, friend and fellow researcher for supplying the photos of the Camel Corps figure and boxed set from his collection and for simultaneously discovering the complete registration number.



Photograph of original design application







SHOW REPORT

EAST COASTER NOVEMBER 6, 2011

Bill Lango once again organized his East Coast Toy Soldier Show with his usual superb set up.

The following images reflect the diversity of the items on display.

Photos courtesy Noel Schlagter.









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AUCTION REVIEW

STORMING FINISH TO THE VECTIS 2011 MILITARY, CIVILIAN FIGURES, EQUIPMENT AND ACCESSORIES SALE SEASON





In a storming finish to the Vectis 2011 Military, Civilian Figures, Equipment and Accessories sale season it was yet again the plastics sections which led the way, achieving some stunning prices. A Trojan "Half Moon" display card made £1100, 2 x un-catalogued Trojan half sets £2600 and £2500 apiece, a scarce issue boxed Windmill by FG Taylor made an amazing £600 and an early Timpo U.S. Marines display set £740.

Following closely on the heels of the plastics were two superb civilian sections, highlights included, a staggering £6200 paid for a [possibly] unique boxed Phillip Segal set of Cricketers, £1100 for a rare version T and B Jazz Band, £3500 for a unique Nestle's World Cow Farm set, £1300 for T and B Visitors at Tea set, £1400 for a Britains Set 137F – Tractor and Clockwork Trailer and £950 for a Britains M/C Combination.

The sale featured the final part of the Nils Fischer Collection which contained a number of original Britains Moulds and Casting Tools, a set of "plasters" for The Edwardian Family made £530, £360 was paid the Football Series and £560 for the rare Buck Rogers set. A Lilliput shop counter display made £800, a Lilliput Sales Display £700 and a Monoplane in Green with USAAC marking made £2100.

All in all a fitting end to the current year, we are now busily preparing for the first sale of 2012 with an equally mouth watering selection, watch this space!

For further details visit Vectis.co.uk or email simon. clarke@vectis.co.uk

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AUCTION REVIEW

JID TOY SOLDIFR **AUCTIONS USA**

THE BOB GOING, DON DARNIEDER PART II AND THE FRED WEHR PART III COLLECTIONS WITH **ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT PROPERTIES**

Saturday, November 19th ~ 10 a.m. E.S.T. Sunday, November 20th ~ 10 a.m. E.S.T.



Lot 145 CONDITON EXCEPTIONALLY RARE Vintage Old Crock Car - Grandad's Car with Driver - London to Brighton Road Race. \$1300



Lot 286 Britains Set # 76 **RARE Middlesex Regiment at the Slope with** Wasp waisted Officer and Pioneer with Axe. \$1000



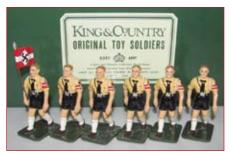
Lot 86 Britains Set # 212 The Royal Scots. \$800



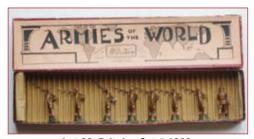
Lot 64 Britains Set # 113 East Yorkshire Regiment at Attention. \$850



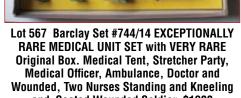
RARE MEDICAL UNIT SET with VERY RARE Original Box. Medical Tent, Stretcher Party, Medical Officer, Ambulance, Doctor and and Seated Wounded Soldier. \$1200



Lot 1199 King & Country: Glossy Hitler Youth. \$950



Lot 99 Britains Set # 1293 RARE Durban Light Infantry. \$1000





Lot 337 Elastolin/Hausser Long Raft with Four Seated Oarsmen and three seated passengers with Rifles, Lineol, Two Standing Oarsmen and two seated passengers with Rifles. \$1000



Lot 354 Lineol World War Two, Clockwork Retractable Canvas Topped Car with Driver, passengers and Officer in Original Box with Key. \$2200



Lot 487 Britains Set # 2112 US Marine Band Summer Dress. \$1800



Lot 1186 King & Country: SS Band LAH097. \$600



Lot 530 Blenheim Princeton Set. EXCEPTIONALLY RARE Complete Set # 108 of 150 produced at the date of purchase by the vendor August 1976. George Washington, General Cornwallis,& Officers and Men Of American, British and Hessian Regiments who fought at the Battles of Trenton and Princeton December 1776 - January 1777. The set was specially made to order for The Princeton Battlefield Area Preservation Society by Blenheim Military Models. \$2400



Lot 163 Johillco/ John Hill and Company EXCEPTIONALLY RARE Pirate Play Pack Display Set with original Fold Out Box and Scenic Back Drop. \$3600



Lot 41 Britains EXCEPTIONALLY RARE Picture Pack Counter Display BOX #3/115 with Perspex front and hinged lid to allow the set to stand for display Contains 33 Pieces. \$5500



Lot 161 Timpo Exceptionally Rare Set KN9. Timpo King Arthur and the Knights of The Round Table Display Set. \$3300



Lot 42 Britains EXCEPTIONALLY RARE Picture Pack Counter Display BOX #3/116 with Perspex front and hinged lid to allow the set to stand for display Contains Pieces 33 Pieces. \$4600



Lot 164 Elastolin Composition Store Display set of Indians. \$1800



Lot 1044 Mark Time Observation Balloon. \$600



Lot 1130 Trophy-Zulu Wars Rorkes Drift Store House with Soldiers & Accesories. \$1000



Lot 5 Britains Set # 23 SCARCE 5th Royal Irish Lancers. \$750



Lot 192 Britains EXCEPTIONALLY RARE Set # 2103 Special Order for Selfridge's Department Store in London. \$8500



Lot 6 Britains Set # 28 Mountain Artillery with Mules. \$850



Lot 53 Britains Set # 45 Madras Cavalry. \$700



Lot 277 Britains Set # 9 RARE Rifle Brigade with Valise Packs and Bemedalled Officer. \$1100



Lot 483 Britains Set # 2093 RARE Berkshire Regiment Band. \$1200



Lot 364 Haffner RARE Medieval Knights, 80 MM scale. \$1700



Lot 43 Britains EXCEPTIONALLY RARE Picture Pack Counter Display BOX #3/117 with Perspex front and hinged lid to allow the set to stand for display Contains 33 Pieces. \$5500



Lot 44 Britains EXCEPTIONALLY RARE Picture Pack Counter Display BOX #3/118 with Perspex front and hinged lid to allow the set to stand for display Contains 37 Pieces. \$5000



TOY SOLDIER COLLECTION OF

Saturday, June 2, 2012 10

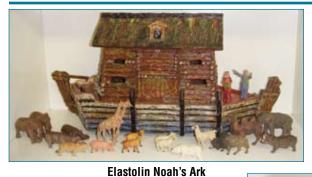
OLD TOY SOLDIERS (DAY ONE)

BRITAINS PRE WAR, BRITAINS POST WAR, BRITAINS PLASTICS, BRITAINS SWOPPETT, BRITAINS CIVILIANS, AEOHA PLASTIC, CHARBENS, CHERILEA, COURTENAY, ELASTOLIN, ERIKSSON, FRY, HEINRICH, HEYDE, IMPERIAL, JOHILLCO, KING AND COUNTRY GLOSSY, KING AND COUNTRY MATTE, KROLYN, LINEOL, MARX, MIGNOT, MINIKIN, ROSE, SACUL, S.A.E, SEGAL, STADDEN, TAYLOR AND BARRETT, TIMPO, WENDALL, VERTUNNI, PLUS OTHERS

Sunday, June 3 **NEW TOY SOLDIERS (DAY**

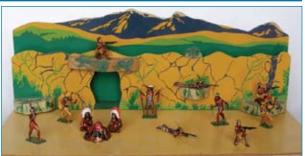
ALYMER, BANNERS FORWARD, BLENHEIM, BRITIANS, CONTE, DELI DURBAR, EAST OF INDIA, EDEN STUDIOS, EDMUNDS, FRONTLINE, FUSILIER MINIATURES, HIRIART, HORNUNG ART, IMPERIAL, KING CAST, KING & COUNTRY, LITTLE LEGION, MARLBOROGH, MARTIN RITCHIE, PICKLEHAUBE, RUSSIAN MINIATURES, SOLDIERS OF THE WORLD, SOMMERSET MINIATURES,

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Johilco Indian Camp





Fry Trees Etc.



Britains Racing Colours

Heyde Dogs/Cat Jockeys







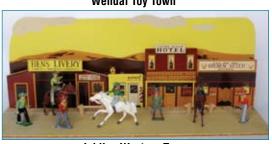


Krolyn



Timpo Crusaders

Johilco Display Sets



Johilco Western Town



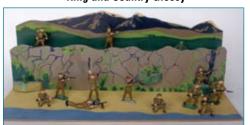
King and Country Glossy



King and Country Glossy



Britains/FAO Schwartz



Johilco Beach Head





Johilco Display



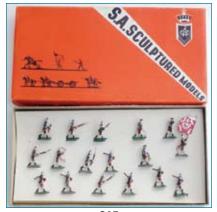
Britains Agincourt Knights



Heyde Mr. Punch



Britains Building



SAE



Timpo Ivanhoe



Sacul Knights



Britains Pre War



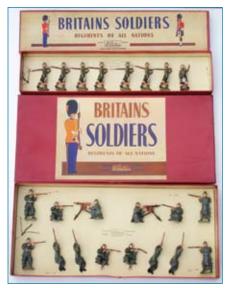
Britains Pre War



Britains Pre War

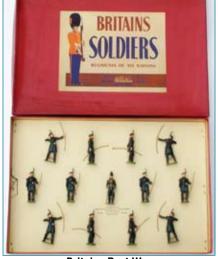


Britains Historical Series



Britains Post War





Britains Post War



Britains Post War



Stadden Napoleon



Segal Captain Hook



King and Country



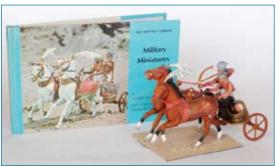
King and Country



Phillip Segal



Heinrich



Rose



Timpo



Old Luccotte



Elastolin Stage Coach



Piefer US Infantry in Montana Hats



Minikin Samurai



Rare Cherilea Baseball set



Britains Adult Giraffe



Britains Post War



Salco Disney Sets



King and Country



Extremely rare Britains Set #1331 in Steel Helmet



Rare E.G. Toys Fernand the Bull



Britains Lord Strathcona

Sunday, June 3, 2012 10 A.M. E.S.T. NEW TOY SOLDIERS (DAY TWO)







Imperial Naval Gattling Gun

Wm Hocker Deli Durbar #6/7

King & Country Fuherwagon







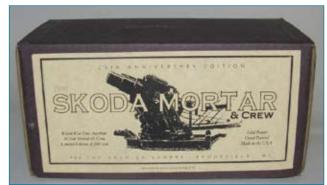
Crawfords Blues & Royals



Soldiers of the World Napoleonics



Little Legion Napoleonics



Toy Soldier Shoppe Skoda Gun



Front Line Egyptian Charriot



East Of India Samurai



East Of India Samurai



Captains & Cavalry Russian Army



Somerset Ltd



Ducal Royal Marine Band



King Cast Royal Marine Band



Marlborogh Deli Durbar



Bob Hornung Knights



Trophy Officers Encampment

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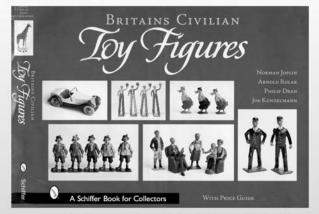


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BOOK REVIEW

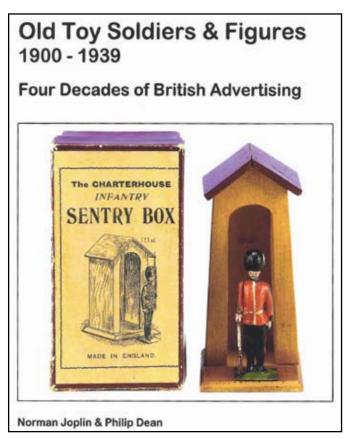
OLD TOY SOLDIERS & FIGURES 1900-1939 FOUR DECADES OF BRITISH ADVERTISING By Norman Joplin and Philip Dean

Reviewed by Russ Bednarek

Noted toy soldier author Norman Joplin has written a number of books that have proven to be groundbreaking works regarding our hobby. Joplin's "The Great Book of Hollow-Cast Figures" was the first encyclopedic work dedicated to the study of non-Britains hollow-cast figures. That monumental work of outstanding photographs and information set the bar for his future tomes, "Britains Civilian Toy Figures", "Hollow Cast Civilian Toy Figures", and "Britains New Toy Soldiers 1973-Present". The focus of each of Mr. Joplin's works has always been to educate collectors regarding his subject matter. The author holds true to his mission with his newly published "Old Toy Soldiers & Figures 1900-1939 Four Decades of British Advertising".

Once again Mr. Joplin delves into an area that until now has been completely unexplored and ignored by toy soldier experts; that of advertising. The period examined represents the "birth" of toy soldier manufacturing in Great Britain. Prior to the outbreak of World War II, toy soldier companies did not produce catalogues for their customers, the exception being Britains, Kew and Reka. Makers often announced their new and future products in trade magazines such as "The Toy & Fancy Goods Trader", "Games & Toys", and the "Toy Trader". The ads were black and white renderings of the various figures offered and included a list of figures, the company's address and in, some instances, prices. Text typically was dedicated to lists of figures/prices, but could be solicitous. The best example of this appeared in the ad of W.Fasham & Son encouraging buyers with the slogan "We Need You-You Need Us".

"Old Toy Soldiers & Figures 1900-1939" is a compilation of toy soldier ads that appeared in various trade publications. The advertisements in some cases are presented in conjunction with a superb color photograph of a set or figure that was the focus of the ad. Readers are treated to numerous unique and unusual sets and individual figures that they may not be familiar with. The vintage artwork of the advertisements make for interesting viewing. When applicable, the manufacturer's ads are presented in a chronological sequence allowing the reader to examine the expanded offerings and price increases. The collector will discover that "Old Toy Soldiers & Figures 1900-1939" is in some cases a "genealogical" study of toy soldier makers. The Hill, B.M.C. and G.W.Wood are all related via their products when each company's pedigree is studied.



Mr. Joplin compiled over 30 years of research conducted in the British Museum Newspaper Library and the National Archives at Kew in London to produce an extremely valuable reference work. The book is available in either hard or soft cover and has within it's 196 pages numerous vivid color photographs of figures and sets. The ads reproduced with their great vintage art provide a wealth of information when closely examined. "Old Toy Soldiers & Figures 1900-1939" is a most informative look at the birth of the English toy soldier industry. For those who enjoy research and a closer examination of the early makers, this book is invaluable and highly recommended. Norman Joplin and Philip Dean have provided toy soldier enthusiasts the opportunity to study, examine and enjoy an era of toy soldier manufacture previously ignored. Thank you to Mr. Joplin who generously donated a copy for this review. It should be noted that the book is selfpublished and available from Mr. Joplin exclusively.

ORDER INFORMATION

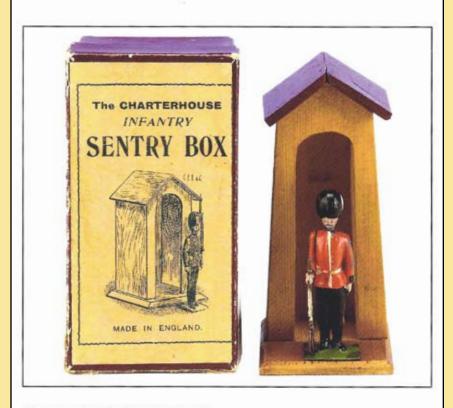
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Old Toy Soldiers and Figures 1900-1939 - Four Decades of Advertising is a unique record of Toy Soldier advertising from the World War 1 and pre World War 2 Periods.

Privately published and complied by Norman Joplin and Philip Dean, it illustrates many advertisements never before available to Toy Soldier Collectors and is the result of over 40 years of research by Norman Joplin

The book also illustrates many individual rare single figures from the period and concentrates on over 30 manufacturers. Abel, Australian Hollowcasts, B.M.C. Chad Valley, Charterhouse, Cheerio Manufacturing Company, Crescent, EA Doran, Dunham White, CF Eckhardt, Exella, Faudel Phillips & Son, Fry, Erecto Toy Company, Godschalk, Hanks and Hanks Brothers and Sutton, A J Holladay, John Hill/Johillco, Kew, Laurie Hansen, Lord Roberts Workshop, Marlborough Manufacturing Company, Model Toys, Oliver Harper, Pixyland Manufacturing Company, Reka, Richards Art Company, Renvoize, Russell Manufacturing Company, Stoddarts, Wellington Toy Company, and G.W. Wood

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

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

AMERICAN DIMESTORE Toy Soldiers & Figures

Reviewed in OTS Fall 2000.

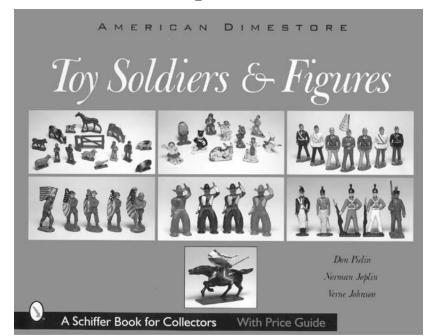
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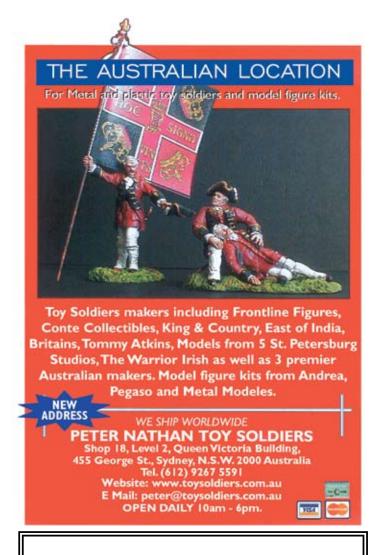
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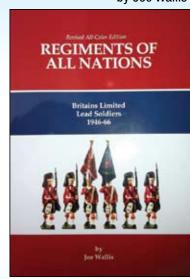
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by Joe Wallis

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picture packs, and civilian lines (Farm, Hunt, Zoo, Circus, and Racing Colors), including color schemes, the dates of production, and changes in the composition of sets.

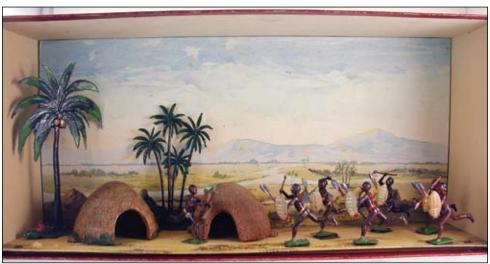
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ZULUS: BRITAINS SETS 147 AND 188

By Joe Wallis





For many toy soldier collectors, one of the best films ever made was the movie Zulu directed by Cy Endfield, narrated by Richard Burton, and starring Michael Caine, Stanley Baker, and Jack Hawkins. This well-done portrayal of the 1879 battle of Rorke's Drift in South Africa was released in 1964.

In summary, the Zulu War began when the Zulus were presented with an ultimatum by the colonial government of the Cape Colony in South Africa in December 1878. Its terms included the surrender of certain Zulus for trial by British courts in Natal or the Transvaal, payment of a fine of 600 cattle, the return and undisturbed operation of Christian missionaries that had been expelled in 1877 for their interference in Zulu society, and the complete disbanding of the Zulu army. Many of these conditions were impossible to meet within the 20 to 30 days given for compliance, and the British can be charged with provoking a war. The Zulu Nation of 300,000 could field an army of

40,000 men organized into 26 active regiments that had a reputation for discipline and ferocity.

However, the British did not respect the combat abilities of the Zulus. Six regiments of British infantry invaded Zululand from Natal in January 1879, divided into three widely separated columns. The northern column, commanded by Colonel Evelyn Wood, consisted of the 1st battalion of the 13th Foot (the Somerset Light Infantry) and the 90th Foot (the Perthshire Light Infantry—which later became the 2nd battalion of the Scottish Rifles). The middle column, commanded by Lord Chelmsford, included both the 1st and 2nd battalions of the 24th Foot (the 2nd Warwickshire Regiment-which became the South Wales Borderers). The column nearest the coast was commanded by Colonel Charles Pearson, and was composed of the 2nd battalion of the 3rd Foot (the East Kent Regiment, or "Buffs"), the 99th Foot (the Lanarkshire Regiment-which became

ZULUS: BRITAINS SETS 147 AND 188 (Cont.)

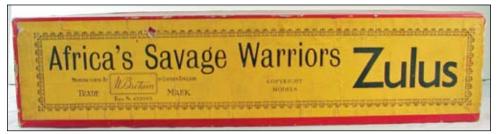
the 2nd battalion of the Wiltshire Regiment), and a Naval Brigade formed from sailors and Royal Marines taken from the Royal Navy ships in the Cape of Good Hope Squadron. To make up for a lack of cavalry, mounted infantry detachments were drawn from the British regiments and colonial mounted volunteer units were formed. Natal native units were formed, but were not well armed, and were not eager to confront the Zulus.

On January 22, a surprise Zulu attack was made upon the British camp at the base of a mountain named Isandhlwana. Chelmsford had taken one battalion of the 24th Foot and four of his six cannons from the camp to find the Zulus. He had given orders to strike the camp and to get ready to move forward the rest of the troops of the central column. However, the Zulu Army (or impi) was resting in a hidden valley several miles from the camp. When their presence was discovered by mounted scouts, the Zulu force ran to attack the camp. The Europeans in the camp totaled about 1,000 (although only about 600 of these were infantrymen of the 24th Foot). They were attacked by about 20,000 Zulus.

The contemporary story offered to explain how natives could wipe out a battalion of British troops was that the ammunition supply failed when quartermasters could not unscrew the heavy wooden boxes of cartridges fast enough. In fact the British line was too extended, and some of the men may have been held back packing up for the move of the camp. The troops were not formed into the square formation used at Waterloo that was impossible to outflank, and



Early Box



1930s Box



1950s Box



Set 147



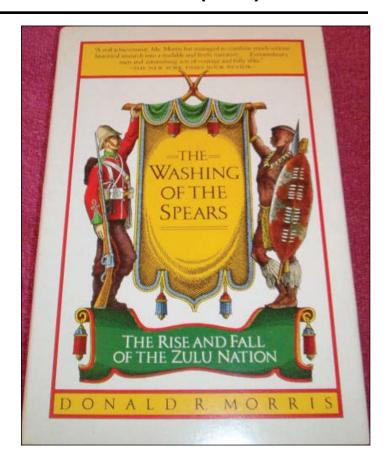
Second Grade Zulus Set 22a

ZULUS: BRITAINS SETS 147 AND 188 (Cont.)

which would be regularly employed in future battles in Zululand and the Sudan. The irregular mounted troops under Colonel Durnford (mostly Basutos and Christian natives), which arrived about the same time that the Zulus were first discovered, had gone into battle without the number of bullets that the 24th Foot had been given. When officers were sent back by Durnford, they could not find their own ammunition wagon, and the quartermaster staff of the 24th Foot refused to resupply them. So, when Durnford's men ran out of ammunition for their carbines they retreated, exposing the right flank and the Zulus surged forward all along the line. The 24th died fighting to the last man, with only a few dozen mounted staff officers and Royal Artillery escaping.

Three regiments of Zulus that had circled around the Isandhlwana mountain and had not been involved in the fighting crossed the Buffalo River into Natal, and attacked the 120 troops of the 24th Foot at the hospital and storehouse at Rorke's Drift about four miles west of Isandhlwana. The resulting "last stand" was depicted in the epic film Zulu starring Michael Caine. Whereas almost 1,000 British and 2,000 Zulus died at Isandhlwana, the British repulsed the 4,000 Zulus at Rorke's Drift at a cost of 17 dead in contrast to over 400 Zulu dead. Eleven Victoria Crosses (the largest number ever granted for a single action) were awarded to the defenders of Rorke's Drift—which distracted the public from the disaster of Isandhlwana.

On January 21, 1879, the coastal column crossed the Tugela River. The next day they were attacked by some 6,000 Zulus, but the British drove off the onslaught at the battle of Inyezane with the Gatling guns manned by the Naval Brigade and the steady fire of the Buffs and the 99th Foot. Over 350 Zulus were killed. 1,300 men from Pearson's column marched on about 30 miles into Zululand, but were subsequently besieged at the Eshowe mission station for ten weeks. In response to the news of Isandlwana, more than 10,000 reinforcements were rushed to South Africa. With the arrival of some of these reinforcements, Lord Chelmsford mounted a Relief Column comprised of the 57th Foot (the Middlesex Regiment), the 3rd Battalion of the 60th Foot (the King's Royal Rifle Corps), the 91st Foot (Argyllshire Highlanders), and parts of the 3rd and 99th Regiments not inside Eshowe. At the battle of Gingindhlovu on April 2, 1879 about 12,000 Zulus attacked 3,400 British troops in their entrenched camp. The fighting only lasted 20



minutes, during which 7 British and 1,000 Zulus died. Then Eshowe was evacuated.

The Northern Column under Evelyn Wood lost 94 men on March 27, 1879, in a mounted raid on Hlobane Mountain when they were surprised by 20,000 Zulus advancing from the south. Redvers Buller, who would command the British force that eventually relieved the Boer siege of Ladysmith in 1900, won a Victoria Cross along with five others who rescued wounded or dismounted men from the oncoming Zulus. The next day, March 28, Wood's entrenched camp at Kambula was assaulted by an estimated 24,000 Zulus. The British garrison of almost 2,000 British troops from the 13th and 90th Regiments repulsed fierce charges and killed over 1,000 Zulus at a cost of 29 British dead.

On July 4, 1879, the final battle occurred at the Zulu capitol of Ulundi. By now, the Zulus fully knew the killing power of .45 caliber Martini-Henry breechloading rifles, Gatling guns, and artillery. The British force of almost 4,200 men led by Lord Chelmsford included the 13th, 21st, 58th, 80th, 90th and 94th Regiments, as well as a squadron of 17th Lancers, a troop of the 1st Dragoon Guards, two Gatling

ZULUS: BRITAINS SETS 147 AND 188 (Cont.)

guns, and 12 cannon. Nevertheless the Zulus bravely charged the British square. In 30 minutes time 10 British and over 1,000 Zulus were killed.

This is the context for the place of the Zulus in the history of South Africa and of the British Army. Britains Limited did not issue Set #147 representing the Zulu Warriors until May 23, 1906. The impetus was events in the news-the Bambatha Rebellion of April 1906, which was quickly subdued by colonial forces alone. Set #147 featured eight pieces, including four holding knobkerries (clubs), two holding vertical assegais (spears), and two with assegais held overhead ready for throwing or stabbing. Each pose included a tan shield. The Zulus were the last Britains set to have an oval base, modified by 1913 to a rectangular one. Their green bases became dark brown after 1920 and then tan in the 1950s. Their loin cloths were red, yellow, or blue. Set #147 was popular enough to be produced from 1906 to 1959. It was revived for one last year in 1966 as Set #9190 in a cellophane-fronted box with one less man with a knobkerrie. There was never a Whisstock box label for Set #147. The printers label used prewar for the set featured the subtitle "Africa's Savage Warriors." A simpler printer's label was used in the 1930s. Postwar it was sold in a box with the sentry box, stork, tree, and cow label-or an ROAN label (see accompanying illustrations).

James Opie has suggested that Britains Limited was perhaps inspired by Mignot display boxes when it introduced Set #188 "Zulu Kraals with Warriors, Palm Trees, and Scenic Background" in 1915. This box contained three charging Zulus holding their spears overhead, two with vertical assegais, and two with knobkerries. A tall Coconut Palm. a smaller Date Palm, and two huts completed the box for a total of 11 pieces. The huts were initially of a composition material resembling half of a coconut shell—possibly supplied by an outside firm to Britains. Later, about 1935, the huts were cast of lead. The trees were first sold only in Set #188, but later they were offered in Set #224 Arabs with Camels, in Set #1313 Eastern Peoples, and in the Zoo Series. The panoramic background showed the African plain with mountains in the distance. There were metal hinged clips in Set #188 for the Zulus to fit into, as originally designed by Charles William Beiser and used in Sets #148 and #149 (but never in Set #147). Small tabs projected from the rims of the huts, which allowed them to be wired down to the base of the box, which is also the explanation for the notches on the sides of the

rectangular bases of the charging Zulus—even though the Beiser clips were installed as a quicker method of exhibiting Set #188. (It must have been pointed out to Britains that wiring the Zulus down to the baseboard meant that they could not easily be taken out for play by small generals.) The 1915 catalog launched Set #188 with the assertion: "a certain seller, but must be seen to be appreciated" and further stated that it was "quite the best method of boxing and displaying toy soldiers." Set #188 cost two shillings six pence at first, then varied from four shillings nine pence to four shillings 4½ pence to four shillings 1½ pence from 1917-1939 before being raised to five shillings three pence for the 1940-1941 period. This large display box (measuring eight inches high, 17 inches long, and five inches deep) was not made after 1941.

Noncatalogued boxes of Zulus were Set #1207 with its ten Zulus circa 1931, Set #1299 with one less Zulu with assegai and one less hut than Set #188 circa 1933, and Set #1684 providing only seven charging Zulus circa 1938.

Set #188 is definitely one of the harder sets to acquire, partly because of its cost in the catalog, and partly because of its unique nature. The deep box required extra space for the store selling it, as well as for the buyer in his home. Not everyone wanted the scenic background in the box, which was factored into the cost of the set, and the clips were not spaced in a manner that allowed for the Zulu figures to be knocked over and stood up conveniently. Still, this unusual scenic display box did remain in the catalog from 1915-1941.

To complete the record, a fixed-arm Zulu holding a wicked spiked knobkerrie was provided in various Second Grade Series from 1928-1941. For the best read on the Zulu War, find a copy of the classic Washing of the Spears by Donald R. Morris. The first half of the book is background, but Part Two is a stirring account of the fighting.



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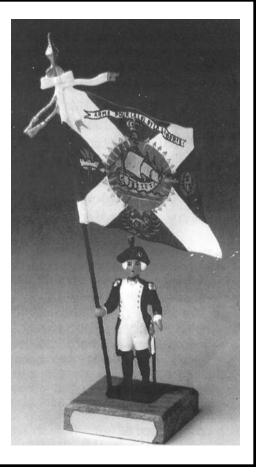
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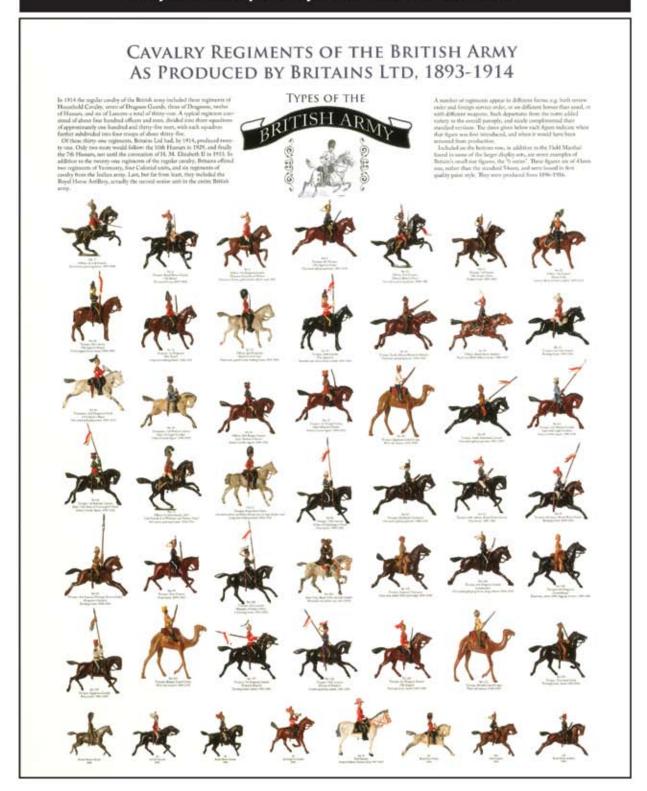
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WILLIAM ROBERT LANGO....PART II WITHIN THE SHADOWS OF THE BARCLAY MFG. CO.

By Louis S. Steinberg



Dimestore Collecting Gave Me Much Joy

Being disposed to tell the truth, (now stop that laughing), I have been waiting a rather long time to come across a Dimestore collector that actually experienced living in New Jersey nearby the immediate area of the Barclay Mfg. Co.

Someone so close to the Barclay Plant could certainly tell us much gossip as to what had been going on there. Great effort Bill! Having forgotten about Bill Lango's Union City, New Jersey abode, which was a scant three miles north of Barclay's early West Hoboken, NJ, residence, I quickly recovered from my brainfreeze that recently has been going around and seems to be somewhat catchy.

Operating as a business, for sure by 1924, and named after Barclay Street in Hoboken, Leon Donze and his partner Michael Levy eventually grew their Barclay production company from 1935 to the largest toy soldier manufacturer in the United States.

In 1939 Barclay also bought Tommy Toy Soldier Company of Union City, NJ. However, by 1942 all toy output concluded as Barclay and other toy companies addressed our military needs for World War II.

After the War and through the mid-40s and the entire 50s, Woolworths and other five and dime stores were the preeminent distributors for Barclay's gigantic production, estimated to be over 500,000 toys a week.

Woolworths and the others dropped the line in the later years of the 1960s when then they became hobby-store, for-sale items. By the end of the decade more legendary toy companies like A.C. Gilbert and Lionel no longer continued kicking-their-can-down-the-road. They were gone!

Later, Don Pielin thus coined the toy soldiers as "Dimestore" figures. May it always be used!

While pausing when thinking back to the 60s, Bill remembers how his own Union City town had begun to undergo a shrinking evolution. He mentions, "Like many other American urban communities, we also had experienced somewhat of a cultural shock. Suburbia had become the new horizon for those who wanted to escape our crowded population centers. Old time residents of every European background, having worked hard for most of their life, packed up 'all their cares and woes' and migrated to discover their own individual American dream.

"Big decisions of just what to take when leaving became very important when moving to a new home. Often left behind were things so long kept in storage, as well as children's and families unwanted playthings which could include electric trains, lead toy figures, Christmas items, dolls, and all mixed with outgrown clothes, etc, etc..."

Bill and other die-hard collectors relished the selfimposed citizen exodus to an adventurous suburban new life. Every weekend it created, as luck would have it, a flurry of unimaginable occurrences of estate, garage and yard sales. Vacant lots would cater to a flea market swell of apartment renters. Moving sales with larger goods put an ultimate stamp of terminality on that street address.

"In the shadows of Barclayville," says Bill, "and by then being happily settled into married life, it was only natural for Barclay figures of every era and description to turn up in abundance.

"My interest in Lionel Trains, lead figures and slushcast autos was really heightened and rekindled. Janice's fondness for Barclay winter figures, vintage Christmas items and dolls made weekend roaming more pleasurable than many of other searching times."

I imagine sunrise coming up in the neighborhoods ergo the early collectors beginning to position themselves to take a first run at covering both sides of each neighborhood block.

WILLIAM ROBERT LANGO....PART II WITHIN THE SHADOWS OF THE BARCLAY MFG. CO. (Cont.)

Conversely, the sellers at morning's very initial "false" light begin lugging boxes onto the lawn. At times one is witness to the hyper-active early-bird that decides the worms are hidden in the seller's yet unopened boxes. He tries and is promptly castigated.

Bill remarks, "Little if any WWI style Barclay figures turned up. However, an abundance of Podfoots, winter and train figures were found over and over again.

"My income was modest, so I would pass on those items we already had in our collection, rather than buy more only to fight for our limited display space. The Five and Tens still offered .29 cent winter figures, while a nickel or dime could fetch most at a garage sale or flea market."

But soon this situation was about to change! Legislation in 1967 then prohibited the use of lead in toys. The public recanted. It was like overnight that seemed to prompt a surge of interest to acquire lead figures.

"There was no big announcement and even little notice was given in 1971 when the Barclay Mfg. Co. finally padlocked its doors," said Bill.

Further of my research told me that the prohibition of lead usage was not the cause for closing. The

manufacturing costs of labor and different materials had escalated. Sales significantly were depressed with the loss of the major Woolworth account. The previous War had uniquely turned many metal items into now usable plastic commodities. Like it or not, Plastic was here to stay! How could such a presage been so predictable?

Bill stopped, reminisced then spoke, "Quickly afterwards as Barclay's factory doors were intensely secured for good, that large dumpsters lined their property bordering New York Avenue. Eye witness accounts of kids and local residents were seen 'dumpster diving' and removing all salvageable flotsam and jetsam stuff.

"A few months later the Barclay factory, sitting on its prime parcel of land, high on the New Jersey Palisades, was torn down.

"Nothing was left except a beautiful unobstructed view of Manhattan across the river and Hoboken down below the cliffs on Palisade Avenue."

Bill and Janice still continued their search for more and more different Barclay figures for their growing collection. Then they decided to try placing some inexpensive, wanted-to-buy ads in the local newspaper. The ads worked fantastic wonders.



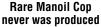
Barclay Christmas Display of Winter Figures



Barclay Cadet Painted as a Wooden Soldier

WILLIAM ROBERT LANGO....PART II WITHIN THE SHADOWS OF THE BARCLAY MFG. CO. (Cont.)







Window Display Believed to be of S H Kress Store, Roosevelt Field, NY

"The phone rang often with calls from ex-Barclay employees with figures to sell. I also asked if they had any photos taken in the old Barclay plant. Nothing ever surfaced. No amateur snapshots ever turned up," expressed a rather surprised Bill.

Bill told me of a notable call from a single woman, a "foreman" at Barclay, and her married sister who worked on the production line. Both had been with the Company for years. The lady foreman had a tendency to flirt with the men back in the paint room. Occasionally they would paint up various figures in Pink and give them to her to give to her sister's two young girls. She showed Bill several long stride sailors in Pink. He bought some and sold them at the next Toy Figure Show. Has anyone ever come across one??

We also have seen photos of the West Point Cadet (B 36) painted as the likes of a toy wooden soldier (B37) and listed as "rare," only four known. Maybe, the rosyred poultice to the figure's cheeks and in white pants, as well as, (B 38a) in white pants and gloves, is also the mischievous shenanigans of a finisher or so back in Barclay's paint room?? I'm only guessing! But, Mitt, you can place my bet on that!! (See page 47.)

Another phone call prompted Bill to visit a Victorian estate on the Bluff overlooking nearby Weehawken. Every Christmas the elderly, wealthy lady in residence decorated her large closed-in porch and set up about the Christmas Tree an elaborate village of Barclay

winter figures. On Christmas Eve she entertained the neighborhood children handing each a gift of toy figures.

After the New Year passed Bill received another phone call to revisit her. She had taken everything out of storage. Bill said, "The amount of figures she had was mind boggling! I mean at least a dozen Barclay One Horse Open Sleigh Sets in original boxes, rare Santa's going down the chimney and Santa's with sack of toys, plus hundreds of other figures.

"Needless to say, the collection was priced right, so we bought it all!"

However, the "piece de resiststance" phone call came from long-time Barclay employee, George Fall. Bill remarks, "This call really put things in motion for me. We set a date and George came over to the house with many figures, Richard O'Brien's first book and a copy of The *Old Toy Soldier Newsletter*. I became hooked on Dimestore soldiers.

"The OTSN magazine introduced me to Hank Anton, George Grant and Warren Mitchell, and opened my eyes to Dimestore heaven. Each was a fountain of knowledge to share and greatly helped me reacquire the figures Grandpa Lango gave me for play when I was a child.

"O'Brien's Collecting Toys had an entire chapter devoted to toy soldiers. He went on to publish three

WILLIAM ROBERT LANGO....PART II WITHIN THE SHADOWS OF THE BARCLAY MFG. CO. (Cont.)



Bronze half-mold with raw casting of Man Passenger



Little people molds with raw cast of Groom and Steward



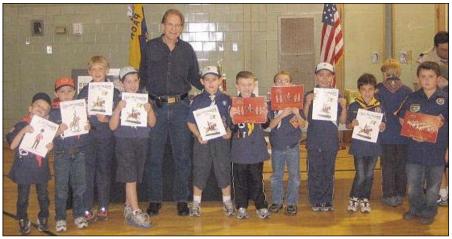
Original Slush mold of Minister on left. Fully painted in foreground.



Slush mold of small Esso truck. Truck never was produced.



Larger Bronze half-mold with podfoot flamethrower



Bill gave a presentation in October, 2011, on Toy Soldiers to Cub Scout Pack 2, Cedar Grove, NJ. Two eight foot tables displayed all types of Soldiers.

After the presentation and all questions and answers, each Scout received a current issue of *OTS* magazine, courtesy of *Old Toy Soldiers*.

WILLIAM ROBERT LANGO....PART II WITHIN THE SHADOWS OF THE BARCLAY MFG. CO. (Cont.)

editions of *Collecting American Made Toy Soldiers*. The third edition is yet today's "go to book" for Dimestore collectors.

"I believe that it was O'Brien's effort in authoring those editions that his books became the glue that bound together Dimestore collectors. Even at current Shows, so many collectors carry copies of various pages in order to track their collection and its purchases."

Janice's high school classmate, Jeff Maund, in 1975 discovered and told her that a close by 5 & 10 Cent Store from the 20's had been purchased by a new owner. Indeed it had! At their visit, two elderly clerks then brought up from the basement some storage trays of the remaining stock of Barclay Winter Figures. The Lango's purchased the lot.

"Jeff was more informed than anyone I knew about Barclay. He lived just two blocks from the Barclay Plant," Bill continued his thoughts. "At one time or another, members of his family worked there.

"Also as a garage-sale addict, he turned up all kinds of interesting finds. Like the time he stopped by Peter Rubin's garage in Bergen County. Peter was a member of the Manoil family. He had put out for sale, by today's standards, a very rare, one-of-a-kind, pre –production model of a Manoil Traffic Cop with arm up in the air. That was a lucky find." (See page 48.)

Well, I understood the phone never stopped ringing from the repeating newspaper ad. Next for Bill and Janice, later on in 1975, was the rental of a very small store around the corner from their home. Its large window facing Broadway displayed their intent, reading We Buy Lionel Trains....We buy Old Dolls and Toys... and, of course, their Phone Number. Thus, another means was created to further their collecting passion. Great marketing!

Interestingly, the Store was not manned like a typical retail store, but used as a magnet to attract folks wishing to sell their old play toys. Roofers, plumbers and oil burner repairmen, spending much time in attics and basements became a good client source.

Janice's fond interest in antique ladies apparel soon found a display area for many items in the store's large front window. So now, the New Vintage Casting/ Broadway Limited Antiques generated a large amount for collecting as well as for reselling at Train Meets and various weekend Shows.

The local Antique Shop owners referred to the Langos as "The Barclay Figure" collectors. One day the rumbles on the street were that someone had a grouping of original Barclay molds and was looking to sell them.

It had been found out that the owner had taken several of the molds to the Model Train Show at York, PA. No one showed any interest. That was fortunate for Bill.

"The owner," states Bill, "needed money to buy a boat. I gave much consideration to buying his molds. After all, they were original Barclay molds.

"I jousted with my own apprehension. This was now very serious money to spend on molds that I may never use. I learned that in the mold grouping there were some vehicle, slush-molds. My interest became keener.

"It was coincidental that Nat Polk's Die Cast Vehicle Show was on in nearby Hasbrouck Heights. Nat was a walking encyclopedia on old antique toys, so I ran the mold story past him and asked his advice.

"Smiling, he told me that if I could get them at the right price....jump at it! I made the deal with the mold's owner. He was able to buy his boat. I got my original Barclay molds. I still have those molds, but his boat is long gone."

Since I have always been a Dimestore person, it became a sincere pleasure in writing this article and discovering points of tangency to our iconic mother, The Barclay Manufacturing Company of Union City, NJ.

My own envies of others being in the atmosphere of such close proximity to "The Plant" are strong enough to make jealousy a virtue.

Many thanks to Bill Lango for his contribution of these past Dimestore toy soldiering tales.

Well, Yogism tells me, "It ain't over till it's over!" A Part III article is in the making to capture Bill's Venture Casting activities; his early magazine; and, his long running East Coast Toy Soldier Show. Stay tuned...



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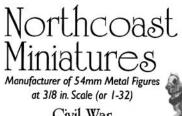
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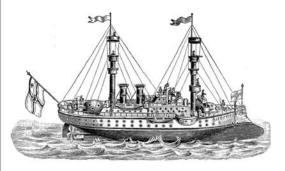
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ERIKSSON RECONNAISSANCE

By Lou Sandbote

The definitive reference book documenting the products and companies associated with Holger Eriksson is nearing completion.

After many years of research into Authenticast Eire, S.A.E. (Swedish African Engineers) Malleable Mouldings, Frank Rogers and HE figures from Sweden the identity of the Uniforms illustrated in this article still remains unknown.

If any subscribers are able to identify any of these uniforms please contact Old Toy Soldier magazine editor Norman Joplin info@normanjoplin.com or by telephone 262 692 3913. The following notes are for guidance and may assist in identifying uniforms and figures based on the original source of the retail outlets who supplied them to collectors.

Irving Bechky was the New York-located, USA exclusive distributor for S.A.E. products. S.A.E 54 mm figures were not sold as S.A.E. sets, They were sold as individual figures, either painted or as raw castings to be painted by collectors. However, Bechky had his own company Military Cast or MILICAST which put together sets of six in white boxes with the MILICAST label. In some cases, Bechky put six cavalry figures together, head to head, in the S.A.E. orange boxes designed for the 30 mm sets. Cavalry figures in both metal and plastic also were sold in individual, red boxes that held one horse/rider, whether two-piece or onepiece. In the 30 mm line, the smaller, green boxed sets of six figures had a larger variety of subjects than did the orange boxed sets. I believe some illustrated here are from six-figure, 30 mm green boxed sets.

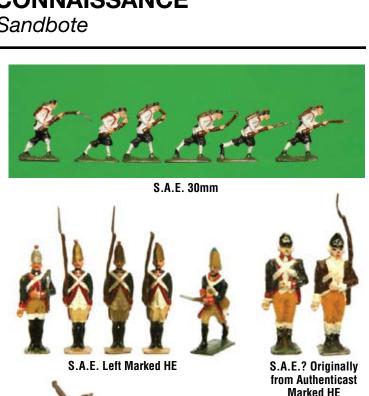
Authenticast sold its figures made in the EIRE factory in boxes usually consisting of 7 or 8 figures.

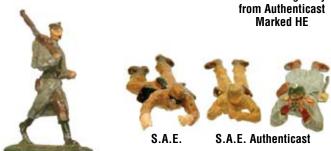
Holger Eriksson sold his own line of 54 mm figures from Sweden, but I don't think any of these items are illustrated here

Malleable Mouldings sold its figures painted from its shop in London or the factory in Deal.

See also Market Place advertisement in this issue.

Photos courtesy Philip Dean.







S.A.E. 30 mm



ERIKSSON (Cont.)



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Liberation of Paris

By Norman Joplin

Found at the Paris flea Market these portrait style cardboard sheets depicting the Liberation of Paris in August 1944 and containing cut out Soldiers ,Tanks, French Liberation figures and accessories were illustrated by Roland Forgues a French Artist and printed by Edition L' Office Central. De L'imagerie, Paris.

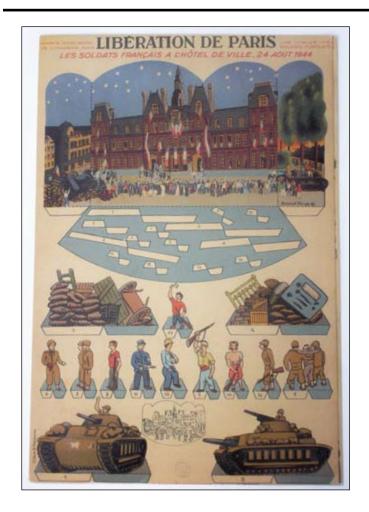
The landscape cardboard sheet states--- Avec L'Armee Du General Leclerc Et Les F.F.I. 1 and seems to be by a different artist.

Have any subscribers come across these items before or have any information about them? if so please email O.T.S. Editor Norman Joplin info@normanjoplin.com.





Liberation of Paris (Cont.)







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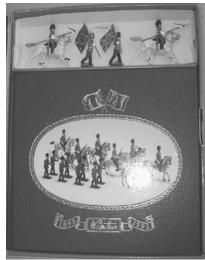
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March 11- Sunday. West Coaster Toy Soldier Show. Irvine Marriot Hotel Contact 1-800-228-9290. See Ad in this issue.

March 21 - Wednesday. Vectis Toy Soldier and Figure Auction. Teeside UK. Contact simon.clarke@vectis.co.uk www.vectis.co.uk Tel 44-1642-750616.

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

March 31 - Saturday. Toy Soldier Show London. Royal National Hotel. Contact Guideline Publications Email regisaucklamd@btinternet.com 44-908-274433 See feature in Hobby News this issue.

May 18-19 Friday & Saturday. Miniature Figure Collectors of America. MFCA Valley Forge Convention Center King of Prussia. PA. See MFCA Web site for details.

May 26-27 Saturday and Sunday. Texas Toy Soldier Show Menger Hotel San Antonio. Contact Martin@kingsx.com 210-226-7000.

June 2nd and 3rd -Saturday & Sunday. Old Toy Soldier Auctions USA. Contact Ray Haradin 1-800-349-8009 raytoys@aol.com or Norman Joplin 262-692-3913 info@normanjoplin.com www.oldtoysoldierauctions.com

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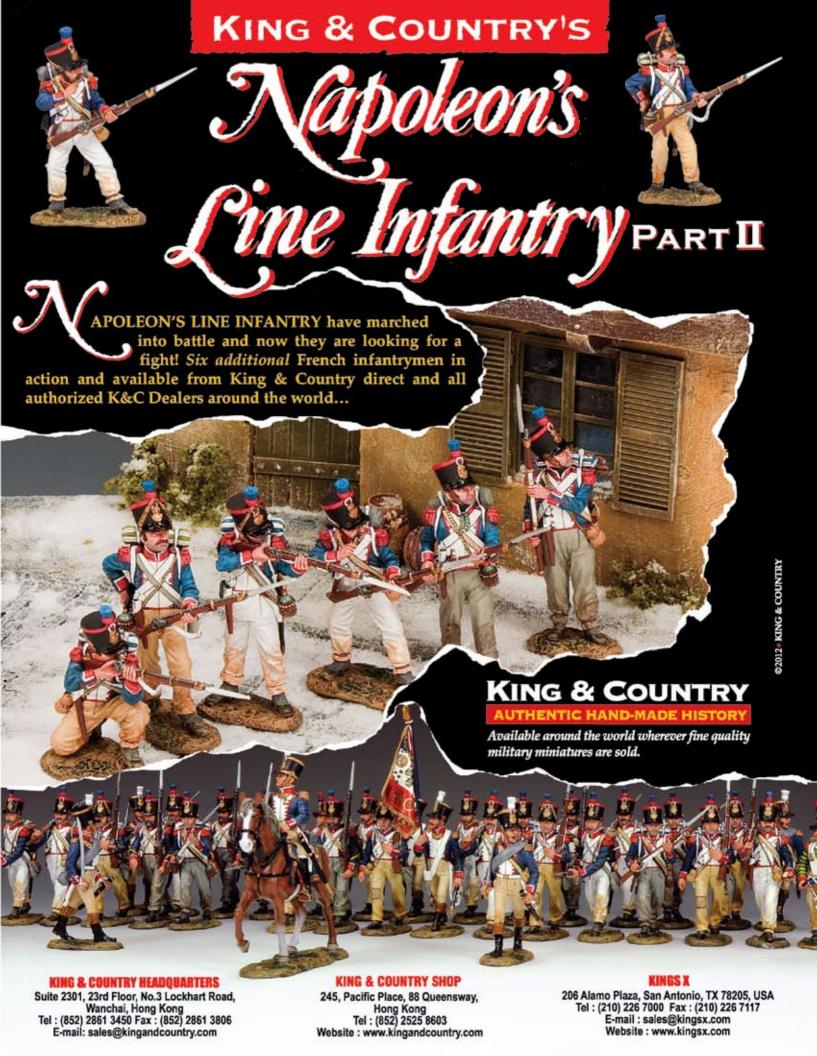


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Moorefield Miniatures 937-399-6507......58

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Morlan, Scott G. Tel: *82 949 574 9259 email: scotoyz@hotmail.com	55
Norman Joplin's New Book Old Toy Soldiers and Figures 1900-1939 Email: info@normanjoplin.com	37
Norman Joplin's Old Toy Soldier Show Email: info@normanjoplin.com	22
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Old Toy Soldier Back Issues Email: raytoys@aol.com	3
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OTSN Chicago Show Contact 630-497-1239 Email: dimestores@aol.com	23
Peter Nathan Toy Soldiers Tel: (612) 9279 2668 Fax: (612) 9279 2658 www.toysoldiers.com.au Email: peter@toysoldiers.com.au	39
Regiments of All Nations Book - Joe Wallis	39
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West Coaster Toy Soldier Show	21



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