

COLLECTOR

An original sketch by Andy C. Neilson for the "CRUSADER" serie

v From The Trenches...

This Quarter's "COLLECTOR" is, from a historical point of view, one of the most diverse and varied we've ever produced...

> The main feature, of course, is the release of "CRUSADER Cross & Crescent" - the story in miniature of the first four "Crusades" to liberate "The Holy Land" from Muslim vassalage. It's sadly ironic that recent tragic events in Lebanon and Iraq have kept the spotlight on the Middle East and its constantly boiling cauldron of politics and violence.

Our "Crusader" cauldron is a good deal older but just as fascinating and brutal as the present day.

From the Middle East we move thousands of miles to Texas, 1836 for the famous struggle between Santa Anna's Mexican Army and a handful of settlers... adventurers and... frontiersmen at a little abandoned mission called - "The Alamo"

When KING & COUNTRY took over KINGS X in San Antonio, Texas earlier this year we knew we had to produce a range of dynamic figures depicting one of the most famous struggles for independence in history. Several years ago K&C had produced a small group of "Alamo" figures for KINGS X previous owner. This time however we were determined to do it properly with a whole bunch of great new figures and display accessories

My brother Gordon, who was closely involved with the project has also built a massive 6 feet by 4 feet diorama of the Alamo" which will be a main feature of the "new" KINGS X in

San Antonio.

From Texas in 1836 to France in 1940 is quite a jump but we made it to bring you just the second release of "Fields of Battle" figures and fighting vehicles. Following last year's successful launch of this "Early War" range we felt it was time to extend and expand it. We hope you agree.

Still in World War Two... but a little later...

we're showing off our latest "Winter Germans". These troops will work equally well in either an Eastern Front scenario or a Western Front diorama - the choice, as usual, is yours...

Well, as you can see

I've run out of space so, without further ado, I'll say a fond adieu - Best wishes and... happy collecting!

Andy C. Neilson Co-founder & Creative Director King & Country One of the heroic defenders of the Alamo with the Texas State Flag.

2.3.4 Crusaders Cross & Crescent

Winter War 7&8 France 1940 9&10 "Remember the Alamo"

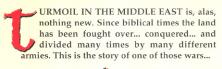
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RUSADERS CROSS & CRESCENT

In return for taking part in the Crussade, and perhaps, dying in pursuit of its aims the Church offered "indulgences" and "pardons" for all participants. And there was more... the opportunity to plunder and pillage over all conquered Muslim lands and the people therein.

AN EPIC SERIES

KING & COUNTRY's major new series will focus on the dramatic and bloody battles that took place during the period of the first four "Crusades" between 1095-1204.

Of these four campaigns only one, the first, succeeded in capturing the holy city of Jerusalem and establishing a number of "Crusaler City States".

It was also at this time that many of the crowned heads of Europe led their armies onto the field at the behest of the Pope himself. England's Richard The Lionheari and France's Louis VII were two of the most famous.

The armies that went with them were typical of the time - Knights... Menat-Arms... Peasants... Priests... and Plunderes!

Our intention with this colourful new series is to portray not only the pomp and pageantry of this early medieval age but also the grim reality of combat and campaigning in the Middle East cauldron of almost a thousand years ago.

This initial release is well over 40 individual figures plus battlefield accessories split into two parts - the first of almost

twenty figures (foot and mounted) and a huge siege tower will be available in September.

The second part comprising even more "Crusaders", a catapult and a whole host of Saracers will come "on stream" in, we hope, December, 2006.

he Crusades that erupted in the late 11th Century were in fact the result of almost one hundred years of constant change in the Roman Catholic Church.

During this same period there was considerable economic growth in the countries of Western Europe. These factors alone however did not create the mass religious fervour of the First Crusade...

Since the earliest Christian times warfare had been seen as one of the great evils of mankind. At this important juncture a major change took place. the Churchi itself under the papal leadership of Urban II called on all of Urbistendom to take up arms in a "Holy Quest". This quest or "Crusade" was to liberate the Hole Land

was to liberate the Holy La and reopen the pilgrimage routes for Western travelers to and from the Middle East.

K&C's giant siege tower MK003 complete with attacking knights and men - ai - arms.



WHY THIS? WHY NOW?

fighting accessories... and special display pieces can educate as well fascinate a broad band of military and historical enthusiasts.

Another reason for doing this is that, up until now, the bulk of "Crusader" type figures produced have been the exquisite but extremely expensive Russian-made ones. At K&C we want to tell an important story

Standing Knight with a wide range of w/Sword & Shield figures and accessories that are affordable to the average collector and will also appeal in quality and outstanding value to the

"Russian" enthusiast. ABOUT THESE FIRST PIECES...

Mounted Knights. Knights fighting on foot... Men-at-Arms... and even a Bishop in combat are among this first batch of "CRUSADER" figures. As can be seen the Armies of this

period were less than uniform in their appearance. The military fashions of the day changed less regularly than you might think - armour... weapons... even special clothing were all hand-made and expensive. That meant items were often passed down through the generations from father to son... perhaps several times over. A Knight or a Man-at-Arms might often appear equipped in the manner and style of 50, 60 or even a hundred years before.

As today those soldiers and armies with the deepest pockets and the largest purses could afford the latest equipment and the most modern styles. For the rest



they made do with what they had handed down to them and what they could afford. Among our "CRUSADERS" are

Knights Templars and Hospitallers as well as humble peasant yeomen and even paid mercenaries. Their weapons are as varied as their dress - battleaxes... maces... swords... pikes... and crossbows - all different and all decidedly lethal!

THE FIRST CRUSADE

he armies which marched east at the end of the 11th century represented a wide spectrum of the West European military establishment, as well as other sections of y. But not all European countries were equally represented. The First Crusaders mostly came from France, western Germany, what are now the Benelux countries and the Norman states of southern Italy. Nor was Europe homogenous in terms of military organization. Northern France and Norman Italy were feudalised with a class of knights having already emerged as a social as well as a military elite. A similar process was seen in southern France and Flanders; but as yet the concept of knighthood had made little progress in Germany.

MKO11 Fighting Knight w/Sword

Plenty of the 'poor' marched with the official First Crusade, and many other participants plumbed the depths of poverty before reaching Jerusalem. The prospects of material gain were in fact so dim and the risks so huge that there remained little scope for purely material motives. The obsession with money and loot shown by so many Crusaders was basically a matter of survival. Many still starved to death, particularly in Anatolia and during

Some K&C collectors might

wonder why we're producing a "CRUSADER" series at this time. The answers are deceptively simple... for quite a while K&C has wanted to design and produce a new series with a strong medieval theme. Most of our competitors

in this area have usually selected the well-trodden path of the French / English wars and the Battles of Crecy... Poitiers... and, of course, the most famous, Agincourt.

Here at K&C we wanted to cast our historical net wider and by doing that we settled on "The Crusades". This huge struggle between Western and Middle Eastern cultures... between Christian and Muslim has direct echoes to the world we live in today. These

first battles and campaigns to see who would control The Holy Land" have rarely been dealt with by most makers of military miniatures and toy soldiers.

We believe that the King & Country style of designing and producing a broad and extensive range of figures ...



K012 Crossbowman Loading

emerged from the twilight. The Tafurs seem to have been a particularly functical group of destitute Crusaders who would expel from their ranks anyone obtaining money. Their tendency to slaughter and rape, and their perhaps mythical habit of eating dead Turks during the Antioch famine, turned the Tafurs

into a legend. One of the most remarkable features of these early Crusades was the speed with which they marched across Europe and the Middle Geoffrey



Bouillon's force averaged 15.5 miles

per day in 89 days, of which 59 were

time that a semi-legendary

Norman knight known as the

'king of the

actually on the road. Peter the Hermit's Peasants Crusade achieved 17.7 miles per day in 103 days, of which 86 mere on the march. Smaller groups of horsemen could make 20 to 25 miles per day for a limited period, while some of the huge later armies had a line of march three days long.

Naturally

there were

MK014 Knight Fighting w/Axe & Shield desertions, but late-comers joined the column and troops could also be picked up along the way. A

certain Hugh Bunel even turned up during the siege of Ierusalem, having wandered the Middle East for 20 years after committing a murder in his native Franc As if the First Crusade did not face enough

problems, it soon auarrelied with the Buzantines, A





tide of anti-Byzantine sentiment along the rank and file was unwelcome to the leadership, who realized that they still needed the Byzantine Empire for supplies, for

overland communications, and because it remained, despite recent reverses, the major Christian power of the Middle East. In the event the Crusaders captured and held Antioch without Byzantine help in a series of episodes which were at the time regarded as

remaining non-Christians inhabitants. As is well known, part of the garrison surrendered as prisoners of war. Some Christians may have been found sheltering in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and the surviving Jews were forced to clean the bodies of slain Crusoders before flering to Fatimid-held Asqalon along with the ransomed garrison. Other unransomed prisoners were later slaughtered, although a few survived by turning Christian. Jerusalem had been captured and recaptured many times during previous inter-Muslim conflicts, but had never seen such slaughter, and the

the Fatimid garrison, and surviving letters in the

Cairo Geniza (synagogue documents store) skow

that the Crusaders did not quite exterminate the

savagery of the 'Frankish Western Christians sent shock wapes throughout region. On the other

the Knight Drawing Sword hand the Crusaders do not appear to have indulved in the ritualized and partly symbolic rape of female captives which had been

a feature of

MK019

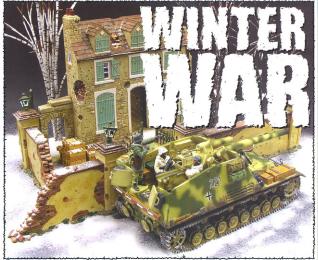
Horn Riower Man-at-arms

Fighting

miraculous. Quarrels over the city's future simply exacerbated a divided leadership. The conquest of lerusalem by the

First Crusade has probably been analysed more than any other Crusader battle, yet questions remain and new evidence is still coming to light. It now seems that not all the Christians were driven out as potential 'fifth columnists' by

Attacking Knight w/Axe & Shield



AMPAIGNS", a famous French General once said, "should always be fought in the summer... seldom in the spring or autumn... and never, ever in winter!"

Hitler, of course, had scant regard for the advice of anyone... least of all French Generals. When the Germans invaded the Soviet Union in June 1941

they expected a "walkover". They anticipated yet another successful "blitzking" campaign similar to their earlier battles in Poland, Belgium, Yugoslavia and

Most German
military opinion
(including
Hitler's) was
that the war
would be
won if not
in weeks

WS081 Kettenrad (Motorcycle)



then certainly in two to three months

Early battlefield successes seemed to confirm this view... many thousands of enemy tanks, vehicles, artillery, aircraft and millions of

Russian soldiers were destroyed... disabled... or captured.

Everywhere along the vast Eastern front the Soviets were in disarray and retreat. The German armies surged forward deeper and deeper into European Russia.

By November 1941 they had surrounded and were laying siege to Levingrad... They were also at the gates of Moscour... From their forward command posts they could, through their powerful field glasses, even see the spires of the PKemiliri.

'GENERAL WINTER' STRIKES...

But that was as far as they got. The Russian winter descended on the lightly-

clad German troops with a vengeance!

Machine guns froze... engines

refused to start... oil turned to sludge... tank tracks were frozen solid... and that was just the beginning...



Gepard Flakpanzer 38(T)

The German Army, in its supreme confidence, had simply not expected a long, drawn-out campaign. They did not have the equipment

W8079

three-quarter length "parkas". Under



or even the uniforms to survive fighting in sub zero temperatures. Most units were still "kitted-out" in their light summer

uniforms. As fighting gradually subsided the first, hurriedly put-together winter coats and uniforms began to slowly filter through to the beleaguered army. Many harsh lessons were taught to the Germans that first winter in Russia. Even one of Hitler's best Generals, Heinz Guderian was forced to admit... "We seriously underestimated the dogged tenacity of the enemy soldier... the sheer

size of the

their helmets and covering most of their heads are warm woolen 'tocques' or hollow scarves that can either be worn around the neck or over the head. Most of the men were now issued

with double-thickness combat trousers and fur-lined boots. White camouflagedpaint was also liberally used on both helmets and vehicles.

THE NEW

'WINTER' RELEASES All of these new

K&C pieces can be used in either Eastern or Western Front "Winter"

dioramas and displays. WS079 "Winter Hummel". Winter Stent Mounted on Panzer chassis this

self propelled WS085 Winter Warrior Set A artillery piece comes with four crew figures and is in the markings of the 3rd SS "Totenkopf" Division. WS080 "Gepard Flakpanzer

38(T)". This little 20mm flak gun is mounted on the Czech 38(T) tank body and is being used in the "ground attack" role. Four crew figures included. WS081 "Kettengrad Motorcycle

Halftrack". Our version is being used to lay field telephone cable and is "winter" camouflaged. Three soldiers included.

WS082 "Winter MG 42 Gun Set" MG42 in "fixed-firing" mode on a tripod along with three gun crew.

WS083 "Lt. Gen. Hasso Von Manteuffel". One of Germany's best... commander of the famous Grossdeutschland" Division. Manteuffel is dressed in a tailor-made general's greatcoat and the set comes with longrange field glasses.

"soldaten" hauls a wounded comrade to the nearest aid station. WS085 "Winter Warriors Set A". A kneeling rifleman takes aim while his

partner covers him with a machine WS086 "Winter Warriors Set B". While

the sniper selects his target his kneeling sergeant prepares to fire a flare.

MANTEUFFEL - HITLER'S TINY TROUBLE-SHOOTER

ASSO-Eccard Von Manteuffel (1897-1985) was career Wehrmachs officer who first came to Hitler's notice in 1941 when still only a colonel. outer suburbs of Moscow itself

After Moscow, the German leader began to utilize this distinutive soldier the was just 5 ft. 2 in. tall) to lead his "fire brigade" troops sending them

wherever and whenever dynamic action was required to redress the battlefield situation. With Mantereffel's military

recognized by uffel was soon commanding full buttlegroup... then a ade... and finally... the elite

Grossdeutschland" Division - the est in the Wehrmacht. As the end of the war roached Manteuffel was nunding the 3rd Panzer

Army with which he fought the final battles around Berlin before surrendering to the





country ... but most of all, the terrible

treachery of the Russian Winter .. !" DRESSING THE PART

By the second winter of the Russian Campaign the Germans were much better prepared... and clothed.

K&C's latest release of German "winter warriors" shows a German Army radically different in appearance to the victorious conquerors of 1939 and 1940.

Now our men are well-wrapped up in winter camouflage smocks and

WS086 Winter Warrior Set B

Within days Holland and Belgium had fallen and the French and British armies were reeling back from a succession of well-timed and well-aimed blows from a strong, powerful and confident enemy.

Throughout the sixweek campaign that humbled France the Germans consistently showed themselves to be the masters of a fluid and fastmoving battle plan. They took chances and created

and created opportunities to exploit French and British weaknesses and indecision. They proved

themselves expert at coordinating relentless french General air and ground attacks in pursuit of often weak and demoralized opposition.

But they were not allpowerful... on a few rare occasions they come up against

fierce, determined opposition.

There are several, wellrecorded instances when the
German army was not only
halted but soundly defeated in
local actions.

Overall though, the great tide of battle went in Germany's favour and France fell on June 20, 1940. Expenses

FRANCE 1940

Although many brave Frenchmen fought and died to save France from final humiliation, defeatism gripped both political and military

leaders. They wanted peace... at any price!

"Fields of Battle" continues the story that began with our first FoB release "Postcards from Dunkirk" in 2005.

"LE MOIS TERRIBLE" "The Terrible Month" - June

1940. Our latest additional figures and fighting vehicles add extra depth and texture for those &&C collectors interested in this dark and dramatic time.

As usual we've produced a

As usual we've produced a series of individual figures - nine "fool" and two "mounted" plus two very special 1940-vintage vehicle models.

On the infantry front there are no less than six all-new French soldiers... A marching officer... A general... and a Regimental flag bearer. There are also three Infantrymen "in action" including a superb "Hotchkiss" machine gunner.

Two mounted French cavalrymen remind us that the French Army still, in 1940, had several fullyhorsed divisions of cavalry on its strength.

"THE B.E.F."
On the "British

Expeditionary Front" there





FoB022 British Rifleman w/ helmet

are two more "Temmires" - a Sergeant Major and a marching private plus a really nilty locking "Vickers MK VI Light Recommissions" tank alongwith two crew. Unfortunately these little tanks were undergunned, under armoured and virtual deuthraps for their crews, gunned German opponents or simply abandoned on the roads of Northern France when they ran out of they are not they are not for the principles.



"ACHTUNG WEHRMACHT!" For the fist time in "Fields of Battle" we're introducing some German pieces...

notably the "Kubelwagen" - Germany's answer to the jeep! Actually the "Kubel" predated the

PÉTAIN-OLD MAN OF VICHY

or or patriot? Opinions still differ about Henri Philippe Petain (1856-1951). A World War I hero at the age of 60, he was later prominent among those keen

In May 1940 he became Premier Paul Reynaud's deputy, taking over when Reynaud resigned. Petain made an armistice that allowed him to govern southern France an alliance with Hitler, but Petain had no wish

F0B018 French Soldier **Machine Gunner**

several years and by the summer of 1940 was already proved and battle-tested in the invasion of Poland in September 1939.

erman Kubelwayen Cai

K&C's version in "field gray" comes with a seated driver and two German officers - a general (note the red trouser stripes) and his Aide-de-Camp. An additional staff officer is also available. "Kubelwagens", in

many guises and Vickers MK VI Tank

FoB021 Wehrmacht Officer w/Binos

French Cavalry Officer (Mounted)

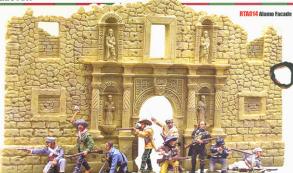
FoB014 French Cavairy Trooper (Mounted) colour schemes were a familiar

sight on the battlefields of France and later the frozen steppers of Russia and in the blistering deserts of North Africa. Even today, no self respecting WWII movie is ever complete without at least one or more of these ubiquitous little vehicles appearing in it.

and sacked him in December 1940. Hilter made Petain reinstate Laval in 1942; from that time, Vichy France collaborated with Germany and Petain was powerless. The Germans occupied Vichy France in 1942, and took Petain back to Germany when they retreated in 1944, but he returned voluntarily to be tried for treason in 1945. Convicted and sentenced to death, he was reprieved by President de Gaulle and given a life sentence

French Soldier Standing Ready

French Soldier Kneeling Firing



O Remember THE ALAMO

N THE EARLY predawn hours of March 6, 1836, the thirteenth day of the siege, columns of Mexican infantry silently rose to their feet and marched towards the walls of the old mission.

For the first time in many days and nights the almost continuous artillery bombardment had ceased... Most of the mission's defenders lay asleep... those on guard duty stood or sat in a drowsy wakefulness...

Suddenly, out of the darkness, a lone Mexican voice shouted, "Viva Santa Anna!" At the same time the little fort's outer pickets were overrun and swiftly disposed of.

Behind the mission's walls the defenders awoke to find the enemy almost upon them...

So began the final assault



that would climax the doomed struggle to defy the power of General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna and the might of the Mexican Army - the Battle for "The Alamo"

A SYMBOLIC BATTLE

The struggle for Texasi independence did not begin or end with "The Alamo" but the dramatic events of the thirteen day siege have entered both Texan and American history as a symbol of the fight for freedom and the price that often comes with it.



Antonio López de Santa Anna (1794-1876)

Earlier this year King & Country were privileged to take over one of the oldest, best known and best located toy soldier stores in America, Kings X. Situated in historic San Antonio, Texas on the ground floor of the equally famous Menger Hotel and just one hundred yards from "The Alamo" itself, Kings X is a jewel of a retail operation.

Because of its unique position K&C's cofounder Laura McAllister Johnson, a San Antonian resident, desperately wanted an "Alamo" connection. That

was the brief that fell on the other cofounder and K&C's creative director Andu C. Neilson. He was

to design develop a

RTA019 Col. William B. Travis, SC

massive and ongoing range of "Alamo figures and accessories for both tourists and toy

TAN15

soldier enthusiasts alike to collect. Andy takes up the story, "Even as a wee boy growing up in Scotland I

knew a lot about "The Alamo" and especially Davy Crockett," But I knew that was not enough. Andy was fortunate in being no

stranger to San Antonio, "Boo Hausser, the original owner of Kings X is an old friend and had produced a small range of K&C designed Alamo figures back in the early 1990's. I had the opportunity then and many times since



to visit "The Alamo" and explore what's left. I also met a few "Alamo" experts, saw most of the movies and read several books including Stephen Harrigan's excellent "Gates of the Alamo". Myself and the K&C design team distilled all of this information and came up with," Andy says, "what we

"We do plan," Andy says, "on designing more... but not until 2007. We want to give collectors an opportunity to collect this first batch!" HOW YOU CAN SEE

THE REST OF THE ALAMO SERIES... If you would like to view all of

the figures currently available simply check out our website at: WWW.KINGANDCOUNTRY.COM or ask your favourite K&C dealer for a "Remember The Alamo" full colour brochure.

think is the biggest and most extensive Alamo series produced yet!"

THIS SEPTEMBER...

Both at the Chicago Toy Soldier Show in late September and in San Antonio a few days later K&C will launch all of the first releases - over 20 different Mexican soldiers (including Santa Anna) and almost 20 original Texian and Tejano defenders (including the most famous Crockett, Bowie and Travis). Cannons, an "Alamo" facade and mounted figures are also included.

A special feature of the launch in San Antonio is a superb. 6 foot by 4 foot scale model of "The Alamo

compound which will be the focul point of the Kings X store. Built by Andy's brother, Gordon Neilson, this will be the perfect dramatic setting for these new figures and any ongoing additions.



Crockett's

LMANACK, 37 OF WILD SPORTS IN THE WEST.

Life in the Backwoods, & Sketches of Texas.



CHRISTMAS Napoleonic Style...

This is the sixth year that K&C have produced a special "Christmas-only" release to celebrate the Festive season.

2006's offering depicts a Santa Claus of the Napoleonic era along with a delightful pair of little French drummerboys. Make sure you place your order with your favourite K&C dealer to avoid disappointment!

Available October



see the latest "Streets

of Old Hong Kong" releases...

HK151 "The Suckling Pig Set".

Suckling pig is a great Chinese delicacy...



roast a pig over the open fire coals. Another already prepared dish is at his side. HK152

"The Curio Seller". Selling and displaying porcelain bric-abrac on the street can still be seen in

present-day China and Hong Kong, A potential customer, with his magnifying glass, inspects what's on offer,

and has been for centuries. Here a chef "Setting SP025 "Machine Gun Bunker". A two part piece with detachable roof depicting a log and stone the Scene"

defencework suitable for machine guns. SP026 "Mortar Pit". Another log and stone, open-ended piece suitable for mortars

or a small artillery piece.



figures and fighting vehicles looks good just wait until you add a few display accessories or diorama pieces.

Our latest additions can be used in a variety of dramatic ways and scenes...

SP023 "French Walls & Gates", Two lengths of traditional stone wall connected by wrought-iron gates - perfect for any WW2 scene or even a Napoleonic one.

SP024 "Supply Depot". Every army

SP026 Mortar Pi



gasoline.

and a "Supply Depot" sign.

SP023 French Walls and Gate

SP027 "Tank/Artillery Bunker". A

bigger version of the above bunker that can

be a command position or take an artillery

gun or even a small tank.

