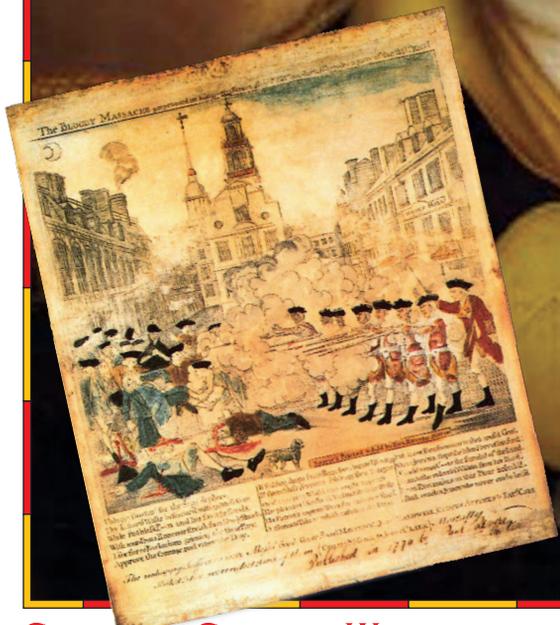


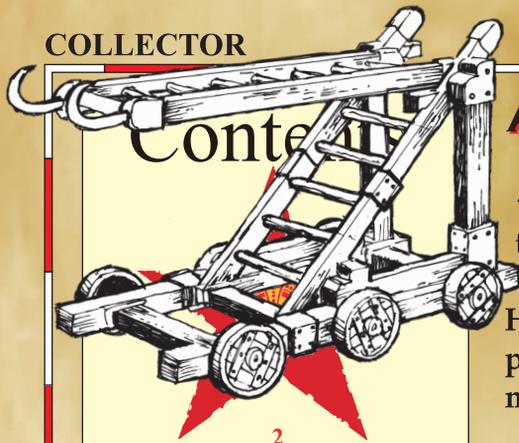
# COLLECTOR

蒐集者

# 1776



GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON 1732 - 1799



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US NAVY LCM(3)

LANDING CRAFT MECHANISED

Headquarters Room 2301, No. 3 Lockhart Road, Hong Kong Tel: (852) 2861 3450 Fax: (852) 2861 3806 Shop 245, Pacific Place, Queensway, Hong Kong Tel: (852) 2525 8603

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## A VIEW FROM THE TRENCHES . . .

HI GUYS, allow me to begin this Winter Edition of 'COLLECTOR' with a very special note of gratitude to the *Royal Hong Kong Police*. Quite simply if I had not arrived in what was then The British Crown Colony of Hong Kong to begin my training with the R.H.K.P. I would probably never have come to this amazing city or made it my home for the last 48 years!

Like many other people from all over Asia and the rest of the world this busy, bustling port on the southern coast of China has provided a wealth of opportunities and a safe haven for many of its citizens to pursue their dreams and aspirations.

During almost five decades of living and working in Hong Kong and sharing both the good and not-so-good times here I have come to appreciate the incredible work ethic and creativity of the local Cantonese people as well as their unique sense of humour and friendship.

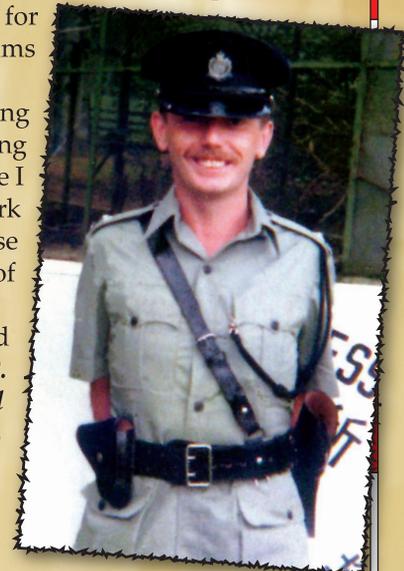
All of that and much more I experienced first-hand, originally with the *R.H.K.P.* and later when I served in the *Royal Hong Kong Regiment* from 1980 until its disbandment in 1995.

So, here we are with this latest edition of 'COLLECTOR', Issue #62, and the first little feature, on the page opposite is all about our new classic *Royal Hong Kong Police LAND ROVER* in its striking blue and white livery. A happy memory of a different time when I first came to this great city that helped inspire myself and my cofounder Laura to start a little toy soldier company we called 'King & Country'.

Now, read on and... Enjoy!

On duty with the *Royal Hong Kong Regiment* at the border between Hong Kong and China in 1985.

ANDY C. NEILSON  
CO-FOUNDER & CREATIVE DIRECTOR  
KING & COUNTRY



ON 17 APRIL 1969, a special issue of the official Gazette of the Government of Hong Kong announced that the Hong Kong Police had been honoured by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II with the title "Royal".

This was a very special honour rarely given in the long history of the British Empire. There were few people in this bustling port city perched on the coast of Southern China who doubted that the men and women of Hong Kong's police force did not deserve the unique tribute awarded to them by the Crown.

Just two years before thousands of violent rioters had taken to the streets to challenge the local authorities.

Over the tense and dangerous months that followed, throughout



the long, hot summer of 1967, the men and women of the *Hong Kong Police* were to stand strong and steadfast protecting law, order and public safety in the *Crown Colony*.

This thin brave khaki line never wavered and Hong Kong was saved to prosper once more.

**A TRIBUTE TO ASIA'S FINEST**

Throughout Hong Kong's history, from its earliest days until the present, the city's policemen and women have been a constant presence on its streets either on foot patrol or in a variety of different vehicles providing safety and security to all members of the general public.

For several decades from the 1950s until the late 1990s among the most familiar police vehicles seen on the city's streets and highways were these blue and white, long-wheel base *Series II* and *Series III Land Rovers*.

K&C's latest addition to our popular "*Hong Kong All Our Yesterdays*" range depicts a pair of these smart-looking Land Rovers belonging to different *RHKP* units on Hong Kong Island.

Each model comes with a seated police driver.

# The Hongkong Beat



THE CASTLE STOOD PROUDLY ON TOP OF A HILL.

With its towers and thick stone walls it dominated the surrounding landscape. From its highest features lookouts could see for miles in every direction.

All over medieval Europe and in certain parts of the Middle East were thousands of similar structures, large and small.

Each was a king or nobleman's home and fortified base where he kept his garrison of mounted knights and men-at-arms. From such a castle, the ruler could sally forth to

# Siege!

force of *Crusaders* are attempting to capture the battlements of a *Saracen* castle using special mobile siege ladders called 'Escalades'.

At the same time, a wheeled 'Battering Ram' is trying to break through the massive wooden main gate of the castle.

Providing 'covering fire' for these assaults are the *Crusaders'* own archers and crossbowmen maintaining a continuous hail of arrows and crossbow bolts onto the heads of the *Saracen* men-at-arms defending the walls and towers.

protect his own lands or, perhaps, attack his neighbour's.

At other times, the ruler's own castle might be threatened by the approach of a dangerous enemy with a strong army and powerful siege weapons.

## BESIEGED!

The scene shown here pictures a joint assault where a large



MK238

The Medieval 'Escalade' Siege Ladder #1

MK247

The Medieval 'Escalade' Siege Ladder #2



SP130

'The Castle Façade Backdrop'

Crusader men-at-arms usually wore coats of quilted canvas (and occasionally chain mail) for protection. On their heads they wore a variety of different helmets. Their weapons included all kinds of swords, axes, war-hammers, maces, spears and halberds alongwith shields of every description.

# Weapons of War

A **'BATTERING RAM'** WAS A SIEGE ENGINE that originated in ancient times and was designed to break open the masonry walls of castles or splinter their wooden gates.

MK239



In its simplest form, a **'Battering Ram'** was just a large, heavy log carried by several men and moved with great force against a stationary obstacle.

By the early medieval period thick, heavy beams formed a frame that supported a sturdy arched-wooden canopy from which hung the actual battering ram itself. This was then mounted on 3 pairs of large, wooden, steel-shod wheels.

Our new **'Battering Ram'** comes with a detachable, thick wooden, battle-scarred roof and 5 strong, able-bodied **Men-at-Arms**

to push it forward.

Today, only much smaller, hand-held rams are in use but this time utilized by law enforcement officers to break down or open locked doors.

MK248



Elsewhere on the battlefield (or on top of a castle's battlements) other **Men-At-Arms** of both friend or foe alike, are using Longbows, Crossbows, Axes and all kinds of other deadly weaponry to kill, maim or capture their opponents.

Here is just a small selection of what King & Country can offer...

*Saracens Archers*



*Crusader Archers*



*A Selection of Crusader Knights & Men-at-Arms*



MK253



Throughout medieval history bishops and their priests have joined together with kings and armies on the battlefield – not to console or minister ... but to fight and to kill!

At the Battle of Hastings in 1066, the Norman Duke William, soon to become 'William the Conqueror' rode along with his brother Odo who was then *Bishop of Bayeux* when they led the Norman cavalry in a victorious charge against the right flank of King Harold's Saxons.

During the *First Crusade* (1096–1099) another French bishop, Adhemar de Puy jointly led hundreds of knights from his *Provençal Region* into battle on their way to Constantinople in 1096.

MK249



In addition, because of their higher social status these fighting priests were usually better armed, equipped and uniformed than the men under their command.

On these two pages you can see our mounted representation of *Bishop Adhemar Le Puy* complete with shield and mace alongside seven individual priests fighting on foot with a variety of different weapons.

MK254



# THE FIGHTING BISHOP & His Warrior Priests

These are just two examples of many high churchmen such as bishops who accompanied their lords and kings wielding sword and mace in combat and support of their Christian Crusade to recapture *The Holy Land*.

In addition, many of the priests who journeyed and battled alongside their bishops had been professional soldiers before they entered the priesthood.

These men not only marched with the soldiers but would bless them

before battle or administer last rites after the fighting was over.

During a battle however they often played a strong supporting role leading smaller groups of *Men-At-Arms* and *Archers* while providing leadership and discipline in even the most trying and desperate of circumstances.

This medieval release is completed by a 2-figure set of an axe-wielding *Saracen Warrior* attacking a fallen *Fighting Priest* who has already lost his shield.

All of these new and colourful medieval warriors provide a welcome addition to the rapidly expanding MK series of *Crusaders & Saracens* fighting for control of *The Holy Land*.

MK255



MK254



MK249



MK255



MK253



MK256

MK251

MK250

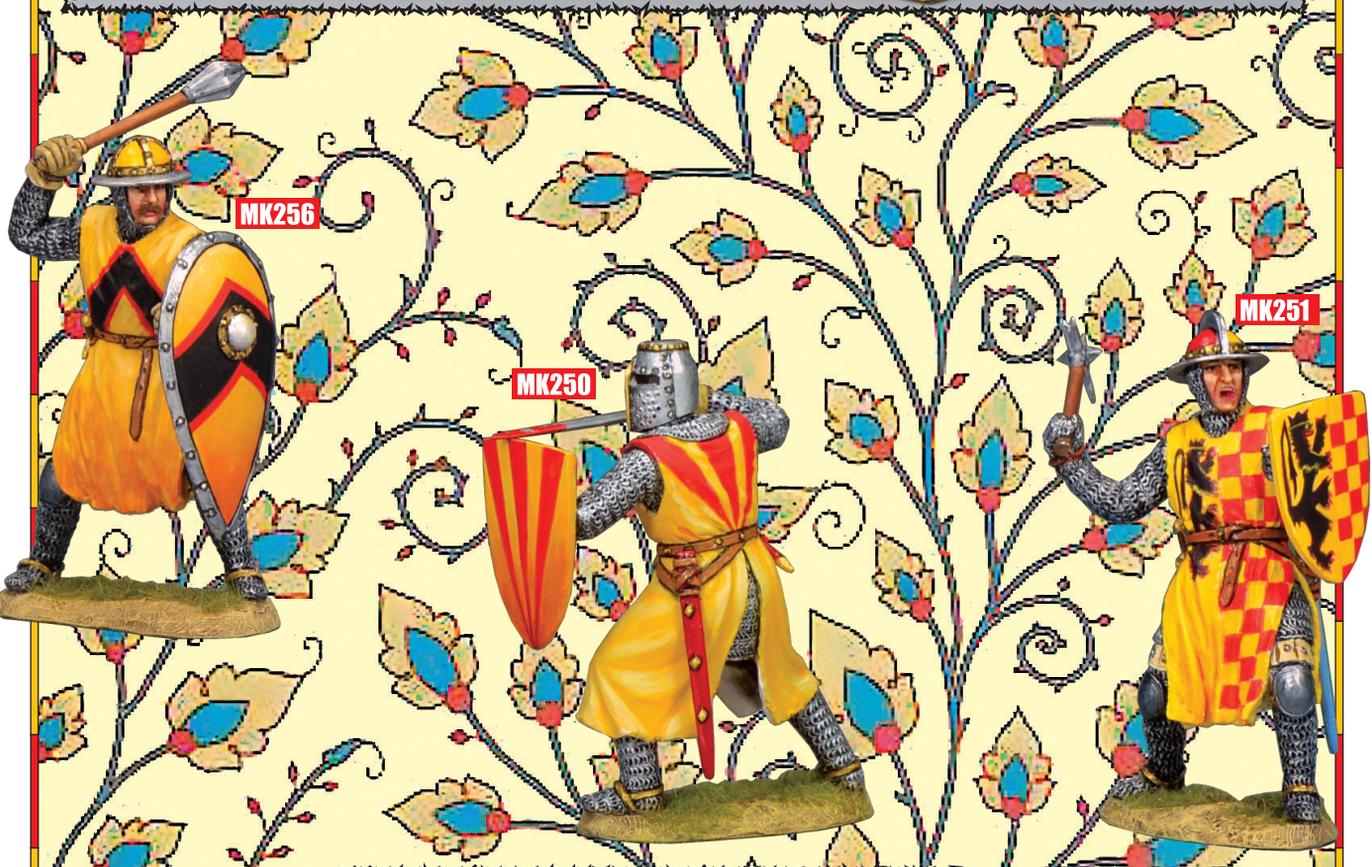


MK252

MK256

MK250

MK251



MK257

MK252



Classic armoured support in the shape of one of K&C's most popular Panzer III Ausf. N tanks from 2015 moves up behind a pair of our latest Classic Wehrmacht Infantry.



WH119

WH021

WH120



# CLASSIC Wehrmacht INFANTRY

ON THE 22 JUNE 1941 Adolf Hitler unleashed more than 3 million men, 600,000 vehicles and almost 3,500 tanks on an unsuspecting Soviet Union.

Even as the Germans swept over the border and deep into western Russia the Soviet dictator, *Josef Stalin* refused to believe that this unprovoked attack was not some kind of terrible military error. Orders were issued to some frontline Russian units not to return fire!

Thus began... '*Operation Barbarossa*'.

At this time, during the attack on the Red Army the Germans deployed some *104 Infantry divisions* marching into battle on foot plus another *15 Motorised Infantry divisions* who rode to battle in a wide variety of halftracks and trucks.

In June 1941, a typical *Wehrmacht Infantry division* was a large unit containing some *17,000* officers and men organized into three infantry regiments, an artillery regiment and various support battalions including engineers, signalers and anti-tank units.

The core of the division was the infantry regiment made up of 3 battalions each of them subdivided into rifle companies and heavy weapons support.



WH122

## INFANTRY WEAPONS

These rifle companies were primarily equipped with the standard bolt-action *Karabiner 98K rifle*, a reliable and accurate weapon in the hands of most soldiers.

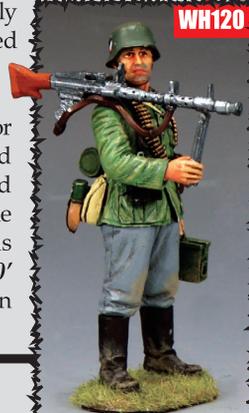
Providing machine gun support at squad, platoon and company level was the excellent and deadly *MG34* originally issued to the army in 1935.

For German infantry officers, including senior non-commissioned officers (*NCOs*) and some squad leaders the weapon of choice was the '*Machinepistol 40*' (the *MP40*) often

WH121



WH120





A squad of K&C's new *Classic Wehrmacht Infantry* take some time to practise their rifle marksmanship under the guidance of an officer.

referred to as the '*Schmeisser*' after its designer *Hugo Schmeisser*.

In addition, many of the above officers and NCOs also carried a pistol... usually the iconic *Luger P08* or the *Walther P38*.

### FIELD & SERVICE UNIFORMS

Most of the German infantrymen taking part in *Barbarossa* would have been wearing the *M1936* uniform comprising a grey/green (*feldgrau*) wool jacket with four patch pockets and a dark green collar. 'Stone-grey' trousers tucked into calf-high jackboots completed the uniform.

On their heads, these German infantry are wearing the *M35* steel helmet, a lower, lighter version of the *M1916/18* 'coal scuttle' helmet from WW1.

All *M35* helmets were painted in a matt '*feldgrau*' finish with two shield-shaped decals on either side; the national *black-white-red diagonal stripes* on the shield on the right side with the *Army eagle* on the left hand shield complete with Nazi '*swastika*'.

### THESE NEW 'CLASSICS'

These latest '*Classic Wehrmacht Infantry*' include more than a few combat poses that will be useful in a wide range of display and diorama possibilities that covers most of the early to mid-war campaigns in *Poland*, *France* and *Russia* from 1939-1942.

One of the more unusual figures among these new releases is the soldier carrying the *Flammenwerfer 35* (or *FmW 35*). This was a one-man flamethrower used throughout WW2

to clear out trenches, bunkers and buildings. It could project deadly bursts of flame up to 25 meters from the user.

The special task of operating the *Flammenwerfer 35* was given to the *Sturmpanziers*, better known as Assault Pioneers. These men enjoyed a hard-won reputation among their infantry comrades and, at the same time, suffered higher casualty rates because of their obvious presence on the battlefield which attracted the attention of enemy snipers and riflemen.



Mounting a 20mm flak gun in the ground attack role this little, now-retired *Flakpanzer* packs a powerful punch as these three new assault pioneers prepare to launch their own attack.



WH117

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WHEN THE FRENCH & INDIAN WAR ended in 1763 it should have been a time of peace and prosperity in the British colonies of North America.

# 1776

# Revolutionary Redcoats



BR096

The old enemy, France, had been soundly defeated and Britain's Royal Navy reigned supreme on the seas connecting a global empire that had expanded all over the world.

That same year, even as the North American colonists were cheering the British troops that had protected them against both the French and their Indian allies trouble was brewing just over the horizon.

For decades Britain's North American colonies had been largely left to govern themselves far away from the Crown and Parliament in London.

Due to the recent war however large numbers of British troops had been sent from the 'Mother Country' to fight in the conflict and, afterwards, help garrison those same colonies...

BR098



And that had cost money...lots of it!

### WHO PAYS?

Now, Great Britain had a huge deficit following this war and Parliament firmly believed that the grateful colonies should pay at least some of this debt.

# R

Without consulting any of the colonial governments London rashly imposed a whole series of new taxes and restrictions on the liberty and independence of the colonists that provoked many to think, for the very first time, of breaking away from that same 'Mother Country'.

### REBELLION & REVOLUTION

As talk of insurgency began to be heard across America, first in taverns, homes and churches and even in

BR095



BR091

colonies as the situation went from bad... to worse!

### FIGHTING FOR THE KING

Among the soldiers sent to North America were the 4th Regiment of Foot one of a number of 'Royal Regiments' that would fight



BR093

state legislatures, groups of men began forming militia units to defend their towns and communities from what they saw as 'British Tyranny'.

Soon, rioting broke out in different towns against British forces and local revolutionaries preached open rebellion. This, of course, ensured even more British troops were dispatched to the North American

in North America throughout the Revolution.

Being designated a 'Royal' regiment was the highly regarded reward and 'battle honour' for long and distinguished service in the field. This also allowed the regiment to have 'Royal Blue' as the facing colours on their uniforms.

Historically, the 4th Foot's actual nickname was 'Barrel's Blues', taken from the name of a popular, former commanding officer who led the regiment from 1734-1749.



BR092



BR094



### The Regiment Today

After the American Revolution the 4th Foot became the King's Own Royal Regiment and fought in the Napoleonic Wars as well as

The Crimean War... The Boer War and both World Wars.

Today, it forms part of the British Army's 'Duke of Lancaster's Regiment'.

This initial release of 'Revolutionary Redcoats' introduces 13 officers and men of the 4th in action attacking the Colonial Rebels as shown here.

Now also available are two officers carrying the **Regimental Colours** and more **Marching Redcoats** as seen on this **Collector's** front cover.

# Gen. Washington's Bodyguards



The Commander-in-Chief's Guards, commonly known as *'Washington's Life Guard'* was a special unit of the Continental Army tasked with protecting the person of General Washington during the Revolutionary War.

First formed in 1776, the Guard, in addition to its protection duties, was also ordered to safeguard the money and official papers of the Continental Army.

With these duties in mind it was important to recruit a certain kind of soldier and Washington himself demanded that each of his hand-picked recruits should be, *"Sober, intelligent and reliable men!"*

To that end Washington issued a *General Order* fully outlining his unit's strict requirements, *"Each recruit must be recommended for their honesty and good behaviour; he should be from five feet, eight inches high to five feet ten inches. Particular attention should be given to his appearance which will be neat and spruce with previous military experience a distinct advantage!"*



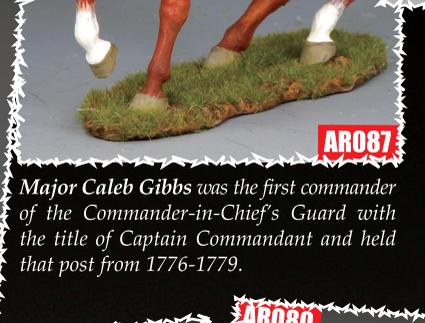
The original strength of the unit was set at 180 men however this was increased to 250 during the winter of 1779-80, when the army was encamped at *Morristown, New Jersey* in close proximity to the British Army.

Because the prestige of belonging to the Guard was unique it was essential that soldiers from each of the 13 states be represented in its numbers.

During its brief existence the Guard had just two commanders... *Major Caleb Gibbs* of Rhode Island and *Captain William Colfax* of Connecticut. K&C's mounted officer shown here represents *Major Gibbs*.

### BATTLE FORMATION

Also on display across these two pages are no less than 12 individual officers and men of *Washington's Life Guard* in a wide variety of action poses in a defensive formation.



Standing in the centre among them is an upgraded version of *General George Washington* together with his personal flagbearer carrying the standard of the Commander-in-Chief.



AR093

AR091



TR020



CE095



CE092



**HENRY VIII** is one of England's best-known kings. Charismatic, extravagant and autocratic, his tumultuous reign lasted from 1508 until his death in 1547.

Famous, or perhaps infamous, for the *English Reformation* and his desire for a papal annulment of his marriage to *Catherine of Aragon* this led to a break with Rome and the creation of the *Church of England*.

Henry VIII is also famed for



During happier times she also provided Henry with a daughter who later became *Queen Elizabeth I*.

*Jane Seymour* (1508-1537) now became Henry's third wife and was said to be his favourite. She had also been a 'Lady-in-Waiting' to both of her predecessors and after marrying the king gave birth to a son and heir to the *House of Tudor* something *Henry VIII* had desperately longed for.

This son, *Edward*, at the age of just nine years old, would later become *King Edward VI* on the death of his father in 1547.

# HENRY VIII

## and A Tale of Two Wives

a succession of six wives whose different fates is well-remembered in the historical rhyme;

*'Divorced, Beheaded, Died...  
Divorced, Beheaded, Survived!'*

This is supported by the facts that two of his royal marriages were annulled... two more spouses were beheaded... while one more died just after childbirth and his sixth and final wife outlived him!

### A ROYAL TRIO

As part of K&C's *'The Royals'* series here is our representation of *HENRY VIII* himself in 1:30 scale together with two of his most celebrated wives – *Anne Boleyn* and *Jane Seymour*.

An important part of designing all three figures was researching and studying contemporary portraits of this *'Royal Trio'* to see what they actually looked like and what kind of clothes they wore.

Obviously Henry, being the monarch, had the most portraits to study and, fortunately for K&C, the best were those painted by *Hans Holbein the Younger*, a German-Swiss artist who was and is considered one of the finest portraitists of the 16th Century.

Holbein's portraits of the English king clearly show the monarch's strength, authority and dynastic importance clearly emphasized by Henry's bold stance with his legs wide apart,

straight, broad shoulders and barrel chest thrust proudly forward.

By contrast, other portraits show *Anne Boleyn* and *Jane Seymour* in much more subdued mood with both ladies displaying a very modest demeanor.

### TWO WIVES... TWO FATES

*Anne Boleyn* (1507-1536) was actually a 'Lady-in-Waiting' to Henry's first wife, *Catherine of Aragon*, when she began an affair with the English monarch. This eventually led to her becoming Queen for just three short years before her execution in 1536 for adultery.



*This is one of the most important portraits of Henry VIII by Holbein when he was appointed the 'King's Painter'.*

This K&C two-figure set shows both of these ladies dressed in the finest and most fashionable gowns of the Tudor period adorned with a fine selection of gold and silver jewellery decorated with a sparkling variety of precious jewels, stones and pearls.

All three provide ample evidence of the pleasures and *perils* of living and loving at the court of *King Henry VIII*.



RTA141

# Remember THE ALAMO

## REVISITED

**THE YEAR WAS 1836** and Texas was part of the Republic of Mexico. To settle this vast northern territory the Mexican Government, since 1822, had been inviting foreign settlers to 'colonize' this land. The majority of those who came were former American citizens. Soon, farms and settlements sprang up across this vast landscape and the dream of Texas was born.

*All too soon however that dream was ended...*

Internal strife and political instability had plagued Mexico since it gained its independence from Spain in 1821 and had led to a self-appointed dictator, **Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna** gaining the Mexican presidency.

By seizing power this self-styled '**Napoleon of The West**' abolished the young republic's constitution and violently crushed all opposition. Among his fiercest opponents were many of the newly-arrived settlers to Texas who called themselves '**Texians**'.



One of the earliest flashpoints to Santa Anna's rule was the small town and old Spanish mission of **San Antonio de Bexar** where Texian rebels and their '**Tejano**' allies (local settlers of Mexican heritage) had defeated the Mexican force stationed there.

This drove the last elements of Santa Anna's authority out of Texas.

### REVENGE & RETRIBUTION

By early 1836, in the depths of winter, Santa Anna decided to march his army north to Texas to crush these upstarts and ungrateful revolutionaries!

On February 23, 1836 Santa Anna's army, several thousand strong, comprising **infantry**, **artillery** and **cavalry** arrived

in San Antonio.

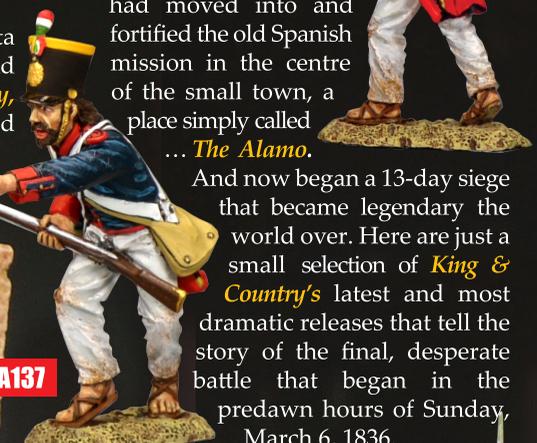
The rebels meanwhile, less than 200 strong had moved into and fortified the old Spanish mission in the centre of the small town, a place simply called ... **The Alamo**.

And now began a 13-day siege that became legendary the world over. Here are just a small selection of **King & Country's** latest and most dramatic releases that tell the story of the final, desperate battle that began in the predawn hours of Sunday, March 6, 1836.

This is...

**'Remember The Alamo Revisited!'**

RTA135



RTA137

RTA126



RTA136



RTA139

RTA125



RTA145



RTA124

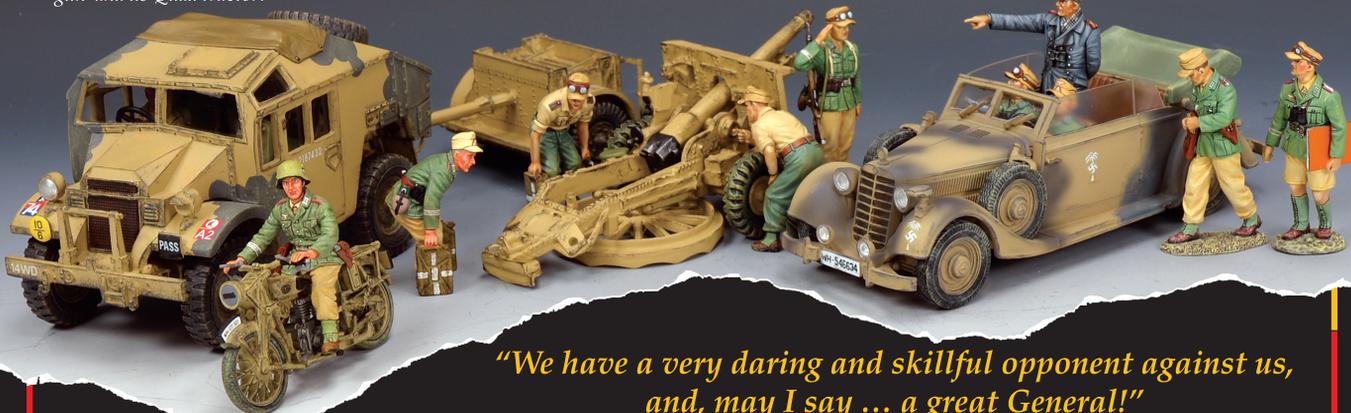


RTA140



# Rommel's Desert Chariot

1942, somewhere in the Libyan desert Rommel inspects a recently-captured British QF 25-pounder field gun and its Quad tractor.



*"We have a very daring and skillful opponent against us, and, may I say ... a great General!"*

WINSTON S. CHURCHILL

**Field Marshal Erwin Rommel** earned his fame as a commander of mobile armoured forces in Europe and North Africa from 1940 until 1943. He was unique in being praised by both sides during the war. It was **British Prime Minister Churchill** who described him as *"a very skillful and daring opponent"* and *"a great general"*. Back in Germany he was simply known as *"the people's marshal"*.

Following the rapid defeat of France in the summer of 1940 where Rommel's armoured division played a pivotal role Hitler described Rommel as *"a military genius"* and ended the campaign as one of its heroes and was clearly destined for promotion and greater things.

In early 1941 Rommel was indeed promoted to *Major-General* and told where his next command would be... **North Africa**.

## THE DESERT GENERAL

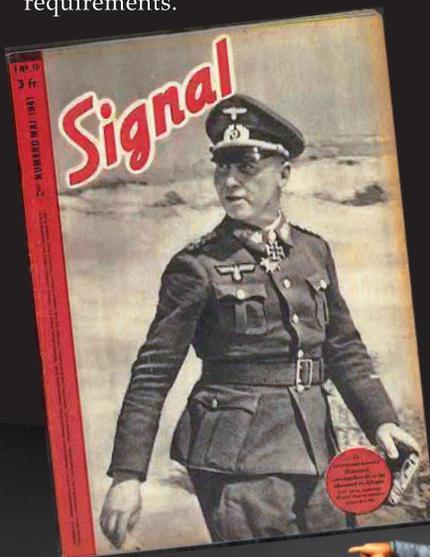
Initially, Rommel was to lead the newly-created **Deutsches Afrika Korps (DAK)** but soon his role and responsibilities were increased and he became commander of all Axis forces (*German and Italian*) throughout North Africa.

The location and conditions, in this 'Theatre of War' were particularly suited to Rommel's strengths. He was often presented with a host of opportunities for rapid movement and maneuver across these vast and sparsely – populated desert sands.

Erwin Rommel was, above

all else, a flexible tactician, leading from the front and improvising imaginative responses to constantly changing battlefield conditions.

To perform these tasks Rommel would utilize whatever vehicles were available and most suitable for his requirements.



He might appear in one of his two specially-designed command half tracks... an armoured car or even a tank... and on this particular occasion, a **MERCEDES Type 320 Cabriolet German Staff Car**.

On this trip to visit a forward unit the General is accompanied by one of his staff officers and a personal driver. The vehicle itself has had its original field gray colour over-sprayed in places with a desert sand finish. Also seen on various parts of this vehicle are the familiar 'Palm Tree and Swastika' symbol of the **Afrika Korps**.

## ALSO IN DEVELOPMENT

In addition to this model is a second **Mercedes Type 320 Staff Car** taking the by now **Field Marshal Rommel** on a tour of inspection of the German defences in **Normandy** in early June 1944. *More details later.*



BY EARLY 1943 the German High Command already knew that the Allies (*Britain and America*) intended to invade Western Europe – What they did not know was exactly *where and importantly when!*

In mid 1943, Germany's *Commander-in Chief of the West, General Gerd Von Runstedt* drafted a report on the inadequate state of the defenses of his area of responsibility which stretched from northern *Norway* to the borders of *Spain* in the south. He also complained about the quantity and quality of the forces he had to man them with.

Hitler responded by appointing one of his favourite generals, *Erwin Rommel, 'The Desert Fox'* to oversee a major build-up of the entire defense network and the troops required to defend it.

### TOURS OF INSPECTION

Rommel moved rapidly around what his Fuhrer called '*The Atlantic Wall*' first by a special train which took him and certain key staff officers to *Belgium, Holland, Denmark and Norway.*

In each country he would see for himself the hundreds of bunkers,



strongpoints and coastal batteries already built and many more still under construction.

On the return journey he went through the *Atlantic* and *Channel* coastline of France inspecting the defenses there. At each major halt Rommel and his staff would leave their special train and utilize a small fleet of military staff cars often provided by the local German garrison to go and see for themselves the progress of the nearby defensive work.

### ROMMEL IN NORMANDY

Here, *Field Marshal Rommel* has halted his staff car and gets out of the vehicle to both stretch his legs and perhaps study the local landscape. One of his staff officers immediately steps forward with his briefcase to pull out a map of the area.

This alternative '*Rommel's Staff Car*' set features the same *Mercedes 320 Cabriolet* vehicle as the '*Afrika Korps*' version shown elsewhere in this '*COLLECTOR*'.

Here the staff car has the typical *3-colour camouflage* scheme representative of German late war vehicles with its markings showing that it has been '*loaned*' to the Field Marshal by the *Panzer-Lehr Division*, an elite armoured unit first formed in 1943 and already stationed in Normandy prior to the invasion.

The *seated driver* and the figures of *Field Marshal Rommel* plus his *staff officer* are all included in this great-looking set.



# Rommel in Normandy





K&C first became aware of the 95th Rifles thanks to the excellent series of historical novels written by Bernard Cornwell based on the military exploits of Richard Sharpe, a fictional hero of the 'Napoleonic Wars'.

Sharpe begins his army career in India as a private in the 33rd Regiment of Foot and by the end of the first book is now a sergeant. While in India at the Battle of Assaye he saves the life of General Arthur Wellesley, the future Duke of Wellington and is rewarded with a battlefield commission.

Several years later, he joins the 95th Rifles as a second lieutenant. At this time, the regiment was a relatively new formation however they were already noticeable as being very different from the rest of the British Army!



For millions of television viewers around the world actor Sean Bean became Richard Sharpe!

As one senior officer noted, "All officers and men wore dark green uniforms rather than the traditional 'red'."

In addition, their belts and trim were black instead of the usual white of other British infantry regiments and this made them a much harder target to shoot on the battlefield."

Other important differences included the fact that the majority of the 95th officer corps were selected on merit and ability and not on 'purchasing a commission or an advancement'.

Because of this, Richard Sharpe advances up through the officer ranks with his many adventures chronicled in great detail by author Cornwell.

#### OTHER ADVANTAGES...

Historically, the greatest difference between the 95th Rifles and their fellow British infantrymen was, of course, their weapon of choice...

#### The Baker Rifle.

This weapon had grooves inside the barrel to spin the bullet as it was fired and thus become much more accurate and... deadly.



"In this distinguished Service, you will carry a Rifle no heavier than a Fowling Piece. You will knock down your Enemy at Five Hundred Yards, instead of missing him at Fifty!"

In addition, Riflemen did not stand shoulder to shoulder firing off volley after volley into a mass of enemy. Instead, they could open fire independently and choose from a much wider choice of firing positions such as standing, sitting, kneeling and even laying down on the ground. Excellent marksmanship and the ability to move rapidly across the ground while utilizing expert field craft were also highly prized in the 95th and well recorded in many of the 'Sharpe' novels.

#### SHARPE ON SCREEN

With the success of the novels, it was only a matter of time before Bernard Cornwell's inspired creation plus a number of his supporting characters were turned into a highly successful television series which initially ran from 1993 until 1997.

While the original series was filmed in England, Turkey, Spain and Portugal two later adventures were produced in India in 2006 and 2008.

All featured the talents and skills of Sean Bean as Richard Sharpe along with a large number of excellent British character actors in the many supporting roles.

A whole lot of time and money went into these productions and it all shows up on the screen with exceptional care taken regarding period uniforms, historic weapons and a wide variety of picturesque locations used to help tell these stories.

Repeated viewings of the 'Sharpe' series proved essential and valuable in designing these new figures and perfecting the look and style King & Country has tried to achieve. These dramatic new Sharpe's 95th Rifles may be bruised, battered and battle-worn... but they will never be defeated!

# Sharpe's 95th Rifles



# Paras, Bootnecks & Penguins.



**ON THE EVENING OF 11 June 1982, the men of 3 PARA (3rd Battalion of The Parachute Regiment) began a night assault on strong elements of the Argentine 7th Infantry Regiment defending Mount Longdon on East Falkland.**

The ground over which the British Paratroopers had to advance was open, highly exposed and could only be crossed at night.... in silence without any preliminary artillery fire to maintain the element of surprise.

After darkness fell 3 PARA moved stealthily up to their 'Start' locations ready to move off at 2000 hrs.

Following a slight delay the first troops began advancing across the open ground toward *Mount Longdon* and were just 500 meters short of the rock formations that dotted the hillside when one of the paratroopers trod on a mine. *Suddenly, that was the end of the silent night assault!*

Almost instantly the Argentine defenders lit up the night sky with

flares, tracer bullets and soon, artillery and mortar explosions.

With the element of surprise now gone the British troops ran forward, screaming to each other and firing their weapons into the enemy trenches, tents and bunkers.

All along the Argentine line of defences the battle developed into a continuous series of vicious hand-to-hand struggles with bayonets, hand grenades and even fists used to clear and destroy enemy positions.

As dawn broke, after 8 hours of desperate battle the guns fell silent





with 3 PARA in control of Mount Longdon. Around them were 18 of their own paratroopers killed and over 40 wounded.

The enemy however had suffered even more with 50 dead and another 50 captured. Meanwhile other Argentinean soldiers had managed to escape as the battle raged and rapidly retreated off the hill and down towards *Port Stanley*.

### FIX BAYONETS!

Among the most recent release of K&C *Falklands* figures are *two '2-man sets'* showing the kind of close quarter fighting that took place on Mt. Longdon on that fateful night.

**TF015 "Fix Bayonets!"** shows a British Para about to bayonet a very

**TF021**



surprised Argentine soldier!

**TF016 "Butting Heads"** Another Para uses the butt of his SLR (Self Loading Rifle) to take out one of his enemy opponents.

**TF019 "Para w/Sterling SMG"** A kneeling British paratrooper aims his Submachine Gun at one of the defenders.

Elsewhere on the Falklands another, quieter little scene plays out with some Royal Marines and a

few of the island's original inhabitants...

**TF017 "Time For Some Scran and A Wet"** Two 'Bootnecks' (RM slang for c Marines) take a brief break from 'yomping' across East Falkland to enjoy some hot rations and a very welcome warm drink!

**TF018 "What Are You Looking At?"** A tired and weary Royal Marine enjoys a short halt while meeting one of the Falkland's more curious natural residents.

**TF021 "The Original Falkland Islanders"** This cute little trio of *King Penguins* and their ancestors settled on the land long before Britain and Argentina laid claim to these lonely, cold and wind-swept islands in the South Atlantic.



Along with these recent 'Falklands War' releases we thought it might also be useful for collectors to know a little bit more about some of the unique 'slang' words and phrases commonly used by Royal Marines...

# 'Bootneck Slang'

**40 words and phrases that only make sense to a Royal Marine.**

Britain's *Royal Marines* are among the toughest and best-trained fighters in the world today, bound together by centuries of tradition, a great military history and their own very original sense of camaraderie.

Throughout *The Corps'* 361 year history, the *Royal Marine Commandos* – or '*Bootnecks*' as they call themselves have developed their very own vocabulary. Some of these have slipped into everyday language while the

vast majority of them will still leave regular '*civvies*' (civilians) completely baffled.

Here are 40 commonly-used '*bootneck*' words and terms with their meanings:

1. '**Brammer**': Outstandingly good!
2. '**Icers and Redders**': Freezing cold and boiling hot.
3. '**Zap/Zapped**': To shoot or be shot at.
4. '**Stickies**': A bun or a cake.
5. '**Common Dog**': Common sense.
6. '**Rice**': Effort as in to 'give it rice'.
7. '**Trap**': To successfully attract a member of the opposite sex.
8. '**Donkey Wallopers**': The cavalry.
9. '**Gonk**': Sleep
10. '**Glophead**': A habitual drunkard
11. '**Rugrat**': A baby
12. '**Waz/wazzer**': Fantastic!
13. '**Banjo**': A sandwich or broken down.
14. '**The Heads**': Toilets
15. '**Oppo**': A good mate or a close friend.
16. '**Crappers**': To be very drunk
17. '**Zeds**': Sleep
18. '**Sneaky beaky**': Intelligence staff or their operations.

19. '**Nutty**': Chocolate, snacks, general confectionary.

20. '**Plums rating**': Someone who is always unsuccessful with women.

21. '**Essence**': A woman who is very pretty or in great physical condition.

22. '**Run ashore**': A short leave or a night out on the town.

23. '**Hoofing**': Excellent, amazing

24. '**Gucci**': Good, new and/or expensive equipment as in 'That is a Gucci piece of kit!'

25. '**Gopping**': Nasty and/or horrible

26. '**Beasting**': To give someone a hard time or physically thrash them.

27. '**Blues**': No.1 dress uniform Royal Marines

28. '**Honking**': Dirty, horrible person or item.

29. '**Gash**': Rubbish, Garbage, Crap

30. '**Jimpy**': General Purpose Machine Gun

31. '**Junglies**': Helicopters and crews of the Royal Navy Air Commando squadrons.

32. '**Dhobi**': To wash yourself/clothes

33. '**Noddy**': A Royal Marine recruit under training.

34. '**Devil Dodger**': Military padre

35. '**Mucker**': A good mate

36. '**Pongo**': Army soldier

37. '**Magic**': Great, marvellous

38. '**Fang Farrier**': The Dentist

39. '**Puzzle Palace**': Headquarters

40. '**Rock Ape**': RAF Regiment



TF020

FV107 'SCIMITAR'  
Light Tank



during the 10-week conflict.

Although one 'Scimitar' was seriously damaged by an Argentinian landmine its crew were unscathed and the vehicle itself was salvaged by a 'Chinook'. Amazingly, this vehicle was then repaired and rapidly brought back into service by the attached REME\* Workshop crew and mechanics before this short, sharp conflict ended.

**ANTI AIRCRAFT VICTORY**

During the Falklands campaign 'Scimitars' utilizing their 30mm cannon in the air-defence role even shot down an Argentine Skyhawk fighter-bomber attacking British forces.

**CURRENT OPERATORS**

Although the U.K. has now retired

# Scimitar Support

THE FV107 'SCIMITAR' was an armoured tracked reconnaissance vehicle (occasionally classed as a light tank) formerly used by the British Army until it was retired in 2023.

Manufactured by ALVIS in the U.K. it belonged to the same 'family' of light armoured vehicles as the very similar FV101 'Scorpion' also made by K&C.

Unlike the Scorpion which mounted a low-velocity 76mm main gun the Scimitar carried a high-velocity 30mm RARDEN cannon in its turret. Both of these vehicles had a crew of 3 men.

**FALKLANDS SERVICE**

Thanks to their long service life with the British Army Scorpions and Scimitars saw plenty of action in wide variety of global hot spots including the Middle East, Bosnia and

Afghanistan. However it was the 1982 Falklands Conflict that first brought them to the attention of the general public in Britain and around the world...

Two troops from 'B' Squadron of the Blues and Royals sailed down to the South Atlantic with the British Task Force to help liberate the lonely windswept Falkland Islands from their Argentine occupiers.

One troop was equipped with four Scorpions while the other with four Scimitars. Backing them up was a single 'Samson' armoured recovery vehicle. This small force comprised the only British armoured vehicles used in action

its 'Scimitars' this great little fighting vehicle is still operating with several countries around the world including... Ukraine, Latvia, Honduras, Nigeria and Jordan to name but a few.

**K&C's SCIMITAR**

In the main turret hatch is an all-new vehicle commander figure. A head 'n' shoulders driver is also in the driving seat.

Just 300 of these very special Falklands fighting vehicles will be available grab one while you can!

\*R.E.M.E. The Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers



IN THE MIDDLE of December 1944, the Germans stunned the Western Allies by launching a major counter-offensive through the densely wooded Ardennes forest that lies between southern Belgium and tiny Luxembourg.

The Ardennes area was, at that time, held by elements of the *United States First Army* and was considered to be 'a quiet sector'.

That all changed in the pre-dawn of 16 December 1944 when a fierce German artillery bombardment began hitting American forward positions.

A short time later masses of German Infantry and armour emerged from the early morning winter fog and advanced steadily towards the American lines.

Here a pair of *M4 Shermans*,



roughly camouflaged to blend into the snow-covered landscape and prepare to ambush some of the approaching Germans...

Back in 2023, K&C launched a whole new batch of 'Winter GIs' to our existing "Battle of The Bulge" series that focused on the bitter fighting in the Ardennes that began at the end of 1944 and finished in January 1945.

In late 2024 we added more U.S. troops to the fighting with the promise of extra reinforcements arriving in 2025. Well, here they are *nine* bitterly cold U.S. Army infantrymen and... one very famous American general accompanied by his faithful bull terrier, 'Willy'.

Providing some very valuable armoured support are these two K&C All-Metal 'winterized' Shermans.

BBA113



BBA118



BBA116



BBA117



# I'm dreaming of A White Christmas...



# GUNFIGHT AT THE O.K. CORRAL



TRW212

'Gunfight at the OK Corral'  
Set#2 (The Lawmen)

ON OCTOBER 26, 1881 a gunfight took place in a small, rowdy town in the Arizona Territory called... *Tombstone*.

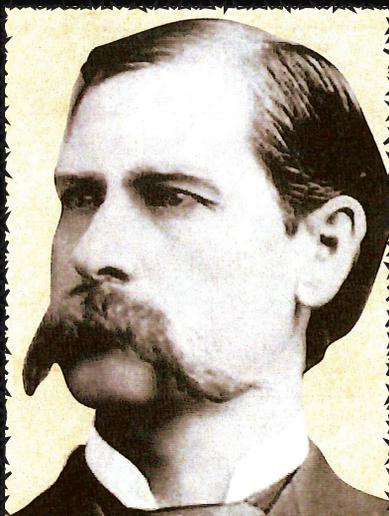
While lasting less than a minute this gunfight has been the subject of numerous books, television shows and several notable feature films.

The gunfight was the result of a long-simmering feud between five outlaws (including two sets of brothers) and four lawmen (that also included three brothers and a close friend).

The lawmen were *Virgil, Morgan* and *Wyatt Earp* and their close friend *John 'Doc' Holliday*.

The outlaws, nicknamed '*The Cowboys*' were five cattle rustlers and horse thieves called *Ike* and *Billy Clanton* and two more brothers, *Tom* and *Frank McLaury* plus another, *Billy Claibourne*.

Despite its famous name, the actual gunfight did not take place in or next to the famous corral but about six doors west of it in a narrow lot on the side of a photography studio.



Before he became a man of the law, Wyatt Earp worked numerous jobs, including as a buffalo hunter and saloonkeeper

The shootout itself involved about thirty shots being fired in roughly thirty seconds. During that

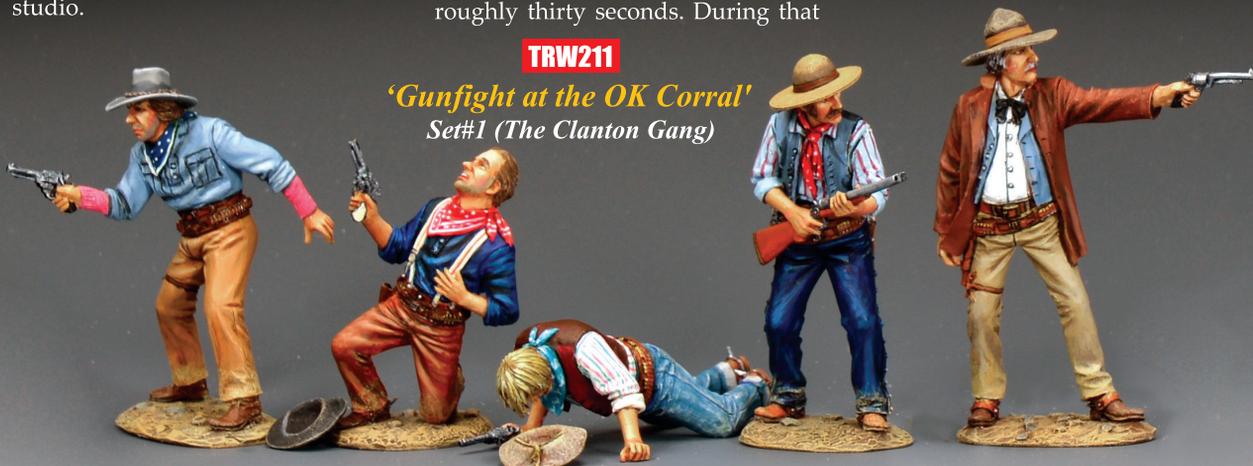
time three men were killed (all outlaws) and one of the Earp brothers (*Virgil*) wounded.

The gunfight was not widely known outside of Tombstone for many years until in 1931 a book called '*Wyatt Earp, Frontier Marshal*' was published. This became a 1939 Hollywood film '*Frontier Marshal*' starring *Randolph Scott*. In 1946 *John Ford* directed another Wyatt Earp film called '*My Darling Clementine*'. That was followed in 1957 by '*Gunfight At The Ok Corral*' starring *Burt Lancaster* and *Kirk Douglas* as Wyatt Earp and 'Doc' Holliday respectively.

The shootout was once more depicted in 1993's '*Tombstone*' and again, a year later in *Kevin Costner's* '*Wyatt Earp*'. And now we have our own *King & Country* version in two sets of 1:30 scale, all-metal, hand-painted miniatures lawmen and outlaws.

TRW211

'Gunfight at the OK Corral'  
Set#1 (The Clanton Gang)



The history of education in China can be traced back sixteen hundred years before the birth of Christ.

Education was then seen as the most efficient way to achieve higher social status for ordinary people. Scholars had to study hard to prepare for special government tests which, if successful, would lead to obtaining an important position within the administration.

This ambition and veneration of the importance of education still persists to the present day and was seen as equally important during the period of *British Colonial* rule in *Hong Kong* (1841-1997).

Here is a little window into the past through the portals of "*Streets of Old Hong Kong*" ...

This little scene depicts one of the many private schools established during the latter part of the 19th Century for the sons of gentle folk in Colonial Hong Kong.

As the elderly teacher examines the work of one male pupil other young boys are variously occupied being mischievous, paying attention or, in one case, having a short nap

on his desk!

In addition to the *7 figures* there are *6 desks* with *bench-seats* for the pupils as well as a *teacher's table and chair*, a jarfull of *ancient scrolls* and a large *wooden map board* depicting Hong Kong Island during the early years of British rule.

All of the figures and accessories fit perfectly into a 2-dimensional, full colour representation of a typical *Chinese Classroom* of the 1890s.

# 學堂

## STREETS OF OLD HONGKONG CHINESE CLASSROOM



HK315

The Chinese Classroom



The Ordnance Quick-Firing 6 Pounder was a British 57mm anti-tank gun, serving during WW2 and was the primary anti tank weapon of both the British and U.S. armies. In addition to being a towed, wheeled gun it was used as the main armament for a number of Allied armoured fighting vehicles.



**MG095**  
Airborne Jeep  
& 6 Pdr. Anti-Tank Gun  
(Set also includes 3 x Paratroopers)

**MG095**

Airborne Jeep  
& 6 Pdr. Anti-Tank Gun  
(Set also includes 3 x Paratroopers)



# DESTINATION: ARNHEM

Field Marshal Sir Bernard Montgomery, whose idea it was to mount *Operation 'Market Garden'* came up with the plan in late summer of 1944 – it was a breathtakingly bold and simple idea.

His forces would bypass Hitler's vaunted 'Siegfried Line' and attack Germany through the 'back door' in the occupied Netherlands.

Three Airborne Divisions *one British, two American* were to seize the main bridges along a single road corridor on which Montgomery's own XXX Corps would then

advance swiftly up before swinging right into the industrial heart of the Third Reich... *The Ruhr Valley*. This was the plan – if all went well and according to the timetable.

Unfortunately, virtually everything that could go wrong did go wrong, almost from the very beginning.

If 'Market Garden' had succeeded it would have definitely shortened WW2 and perhaps the Western Allies might have reached Berlin before the Russians.

But, it failed because Montgomery himself expected just too much of his troops and perhaps because Arnhem was indeed '*a bridge too far*'.

## K&C's MARKET GARDEN

Shown on these two pages are a colourful and dramatic collection of 14 of King & Country's most recent *British Paratroopers* in a wide range of 'action' poses and carrying a varied selection of British infantry weapons including rifles, submachine guns, Bren

guns, an 81mm mortar and even the PLAT anti tank gun.

In addition, K&C's latest '*Airborne Jeep*' pulling the classic *6 pdr. Anti Tank Gun* plus *three Jeep Crew paratroopers* is also available.

If you are interested in WW2 British Airborne figures and fighting vehicles be sure to come to King & Country... *first!*

MAJOR 'BOY' WILSON, commanding the *21st Independent Parachute Company*, floated down onto a calm and seemingly empty patchwork of fields and isolated houses in the early afternoon of Sunday, September 17, 1944.

The place was just west of the Dutch town of **Arnhem**. *Operation 'Market Garden'* had now begun.

As Wilson and his men rapidly laid out 'landing markers' for the main body of paratroop transports and over 3000 gliders that were soon to follow, it was obvious that the local German forces had been taken by surprise.

Soon, as word of the British airborne troops spread hundreds of Dutch civilians began to spill onto the landing zones, many of them enthusiastically clutching bottles of wine and beer to greet their '*liberators*'.

This had its drawbacks... these joyful civilians delayed the troops next move. Among the men

attempting to leave immediately was Major Freddie Gough's 1st Parachute Reconnaissance Squadron in their jeeps which should have been racing towards a pair of vital road and rail bridges over the Lower Rhine river in Arnhem itself.

Once they managed to move off vital time had been lost and their German opponents had now woken up to the threat of this airborne assault and began moving into defensive positions to halt, delay and hinder the entire British operation.

This was just the first of many errors and misfortunes that turned an inspired, if flawed, war-winning plan into a tragic and costly military disaster...



**MG093**

**MG092**

**MG087**

**MG084**

**MG094**

**MG090**



**MG085**

**MG086**

**MG091**

**MG088**

**KING & COUNTRY'S  
SPECIAL EDITION**

# US NAVY LCM (3) LANDING CRAFT MECHANISED

**THE US NAVY LANDING CRAFT MECHANISED (LCM3) was a military landing craft specifically designed to carry vehicles and personnel from ship to shore without the requirement of a pier or other land-based structures.**

Several different models of varying sizes, capacities and power plants were produced during the Second World War and were utilized in every theatre of that war.

Their principal tasks were to land tanks, troops and supplies during major Allied amphibious assaults in both Europe and the Pacific.

The LCM(3) shown here was similar in appearance to the smaller LCVP (Landing Craft Vehicle Personnel) originally designed and manufactured by Higgins Industries of New Orleans, Louisiana.

With a length of 50 feet and an empty weight of 23 tons the LCM (3)

No exact figures are available as to how many were lost in action or indeed how few survived WW2. Today alas, a mere handful remain to be seen in just a few museums around the world.

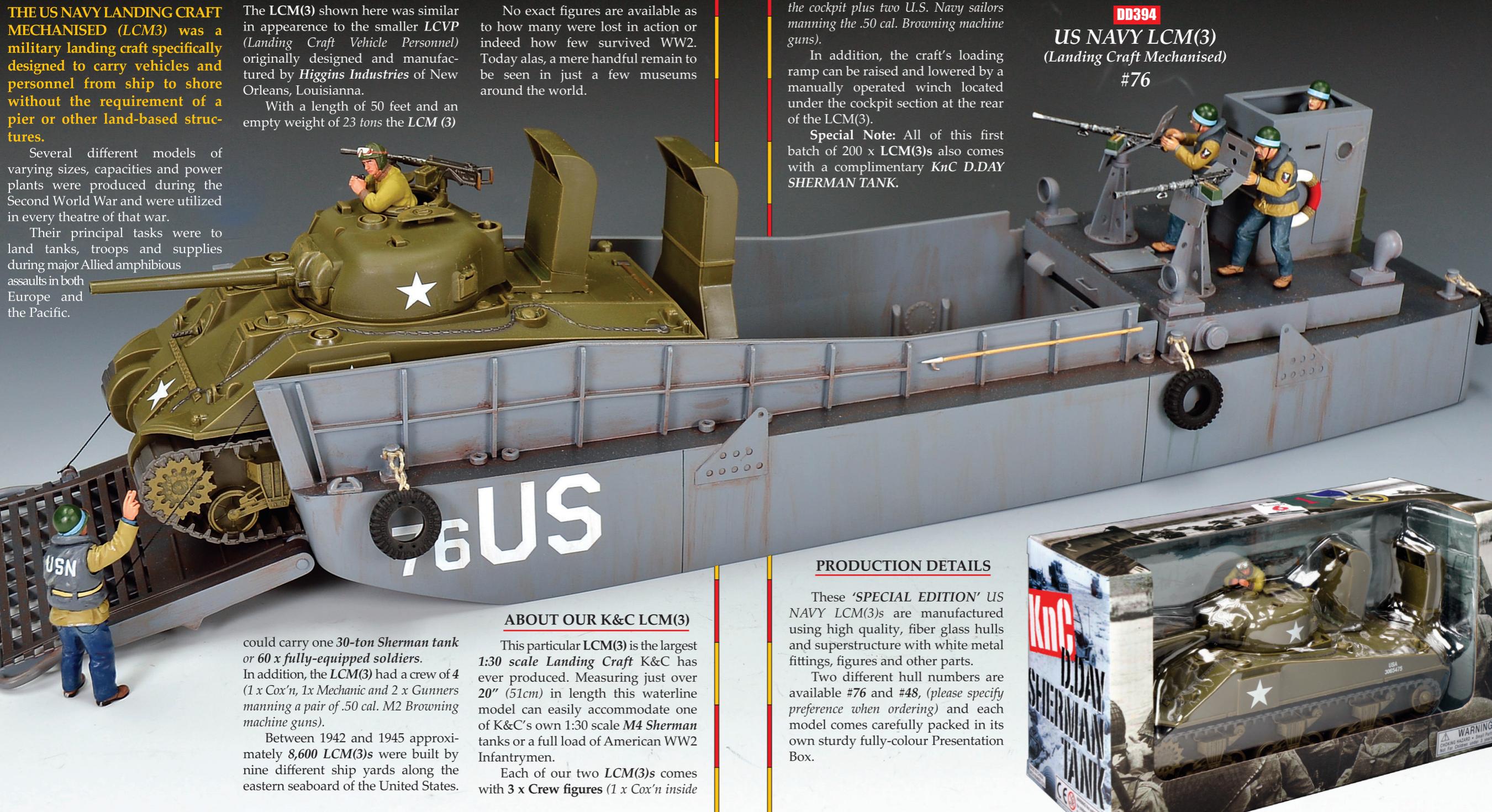
the cockpit plus two U.S. Navy sailors manning the .50 cal. Browning machine guns).

In addition, the craft's loading ramp can be raised and lowered by a manually operated winch located under the cockpit section at the rear of the LCM(3).

**Special Note:** All of this first batch of 200 x LCM(3)s also comes with a complimentary *KnC D.DAY SHERMAN TANK*.

**DD394**

**US NAVY LCM(3)  
(Landing Craft Mechanised)  
#76**



could carry one 30-ton Sherman tank or 60 x fully-equipped soldiers. In addition, the LCM(3) had a crew of 4 (1 x Cox'n, 1x Mechanic and 2 x Gunners manning a pair of .50 cal. M2 Browning machine guns).

Between 1942 and 1945 approximately 8,600 LCM(3)s were built by nine different ship yards along the eastern seaboard of the United States.

## ABOUT OUR K&C LCM(3)

This particular LCM(3) is the largest 1:30 scale Landing Craft K&C has ever produced. Measuring just over 20" (51cm) in length this waterline model can easily accommodate one of K&C's own 1:30 scale M4 Sherman tanks or a full load of American WW2 Infantrymen.

Each of our two LCM(3)s comes with 3 x Crew figures (1 x Cox'n inside

## PRODUCTION DETAILS

These 'SPECIAL EDITION' US NAVY LCM(3)s are manufactured using high quality, fiber glass hulls and superstructure with white metal fittings, figures and other parts.

Two different hull numbers are available #76 and #48, (please specify preference when ordering) and each model comes carefully packed in its own sturdy fully-colour Presentation Box.



# COLLECTOR

蒐集者



**KING HENRY VIII OF ENGLAND 1491 - 1547**