

1983 KING & COUNTRY 2020

COLLECTOR

蒐集者

A Seasonal Look at Our World in Miniature



PEACE ON EARTH
GOODWILL TOWARDS ALL

A VIEW FROM THE TRENCHES...

2020 IS DEFINITELY ONE YEAR that all of us will be happy to see the back of! When I wrote my annual intro for the 2019 Yuletide issue of 'COLLECTOR' King & Country had just come through some of the worst civil disturbances in Hong Kong's relatively brief but colourful history.

Together we looked eagerly forward to a fresh new year developing and producing a whole raft of exciting products as well as adding new items to our existing series and ranges.

Well, that was the original plan but as we all know now reality reared its ugly head in the shape of the dreadful 'COVID 19' which arrived this past January and abruptly changed all of our plans and lives in one fell swoop.

One important change brought in by this awful pandemic was the difficulty of international travel... *From Hong Kong to Europe... to Australia... to America and even to China itself!*

For the last 30 years I have been travelling from Hong Kong into and out of mainland China on a regular basis, usually twice a month, to visit factories and meet our sculpting team. That way we can quality control our production of figures and all of K&C's other items. We could also hand over and discuss new designs with our sculptors and, at the same time, inspect the most recent 'masters' and make any amendments, if required.

Now, due to travel restrictions, all of that has to be done by video link and the internet. While it's not impossible it is more time consuming and everything takes at least twice as long and can get very frustrating.

Nothing, in my opinion, compares to face-to-face meetings and inspections of everything and anything utilizing the 'Mark 1 Eyeball'.

Amazingly though we are still, somehow, able to release all kinds of items each month, although a wee bit slower and perhaps not quite as many as before.

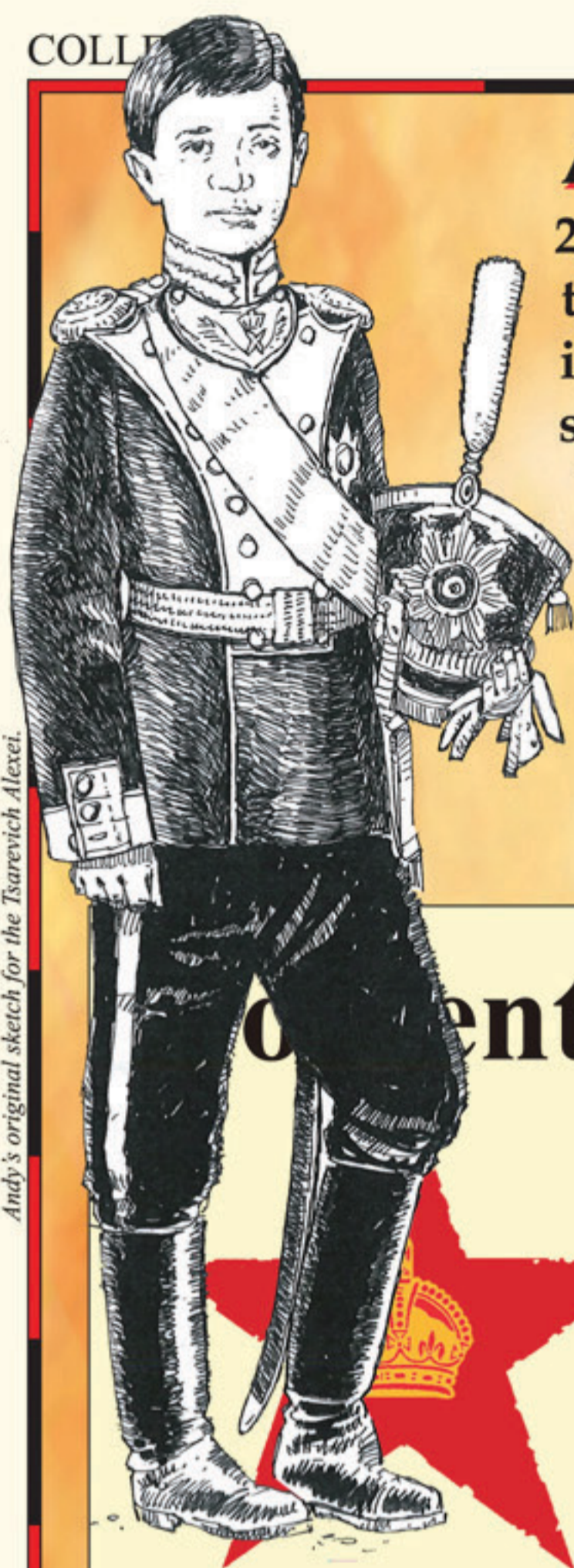
One unexpected bonus for me personally is that because of the cancellation of overseas shows and events it has given me more time to design and produce our displays and dioramas for K&C.

In this bumper Yuletide 'COLLECTOR' you will see some examples of my handiwork helping to show off a choice selection of new additions to our series... *I hope you like them.*

So, on that more cheerful note, may I wish all of you *a better and healthier New Year in 2021* and, of course, *a Very Merry Christmas!*

Andy C. Neilson

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



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A selection of some of our recently-released Italian Grenadiers of the Guard.



Black Watch on Parade

OF ALL THE MANY fine old Scottish Regiments that once existed in the British Army perhaps the most famous was The BLACK WATCH.

For almost three centuries from 1725 until 2006 the regiment's soldiers fought and died in virtually every corner of the globe and, most notably, in two World Wars on behalf of Britain and its Empire.

It was also the 'senior Highland Regiment' because of its formation in 1725 not long after the first *Jacobite Rebellion* of 1715.

When first formed the regiment's recruits came primarily from one of Scotland's most powerful clans... *The Campbells of Argyll*. Three other leading Scottish Clans also provided men... Clans *Fraser*, *Munro* and *Grant*. All of these Highlanders wore a special Government issued 'dark' tartan and acted as a kind of 'military police force' to watch over their often unruly and independently-minded

Highland neighbours and prevent them from sedition, cattle-rustling and general lawlessness.

It was not long before these new soldiers gained the nickname... 'The Black Watch'.

The Regimental Crest of The Black Watch.



The name was officially adopted in 1881 when the 42nd (Royal Highland) Regiment was amalgamated with the 73rd (Perthshire) Regt. of Foot to become the 1st and 2nd Battalions of the newly-named **Black Watch** (Royal Highlanders).

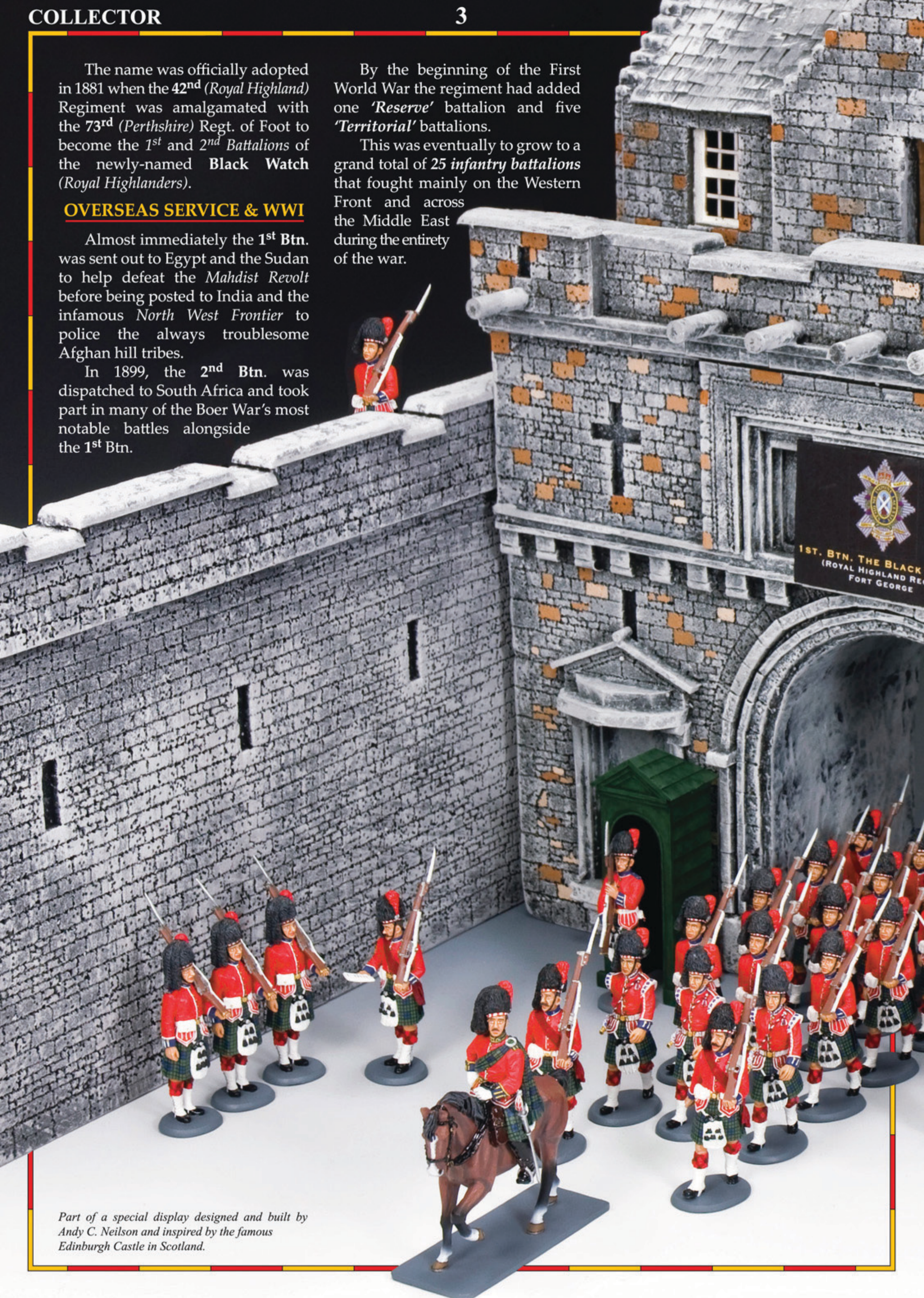
OVERSEAS SERVICE & WWI

Almost immediately the 1st Btn. was sent out to Egypt and the Sudan to help defeat the *Mahdist Revolt* before being posted to India and the infamous *North West Frontier* to police the always troublesome Afghan hill tribes.

In 1899, the 2nd Btn. was dispatched to South Africa and took part in many of the Boer War's most notable battles alongside the 1st Btn.

By the beginning of the First World War the regiment had added one 'Reserve' battalion and five 'Territorial' battalions.

This was eventually to grow to a grand total of 25 *infantry battalions* that fought mainly on the Western Front and across the Middle East during the entirety of the war.



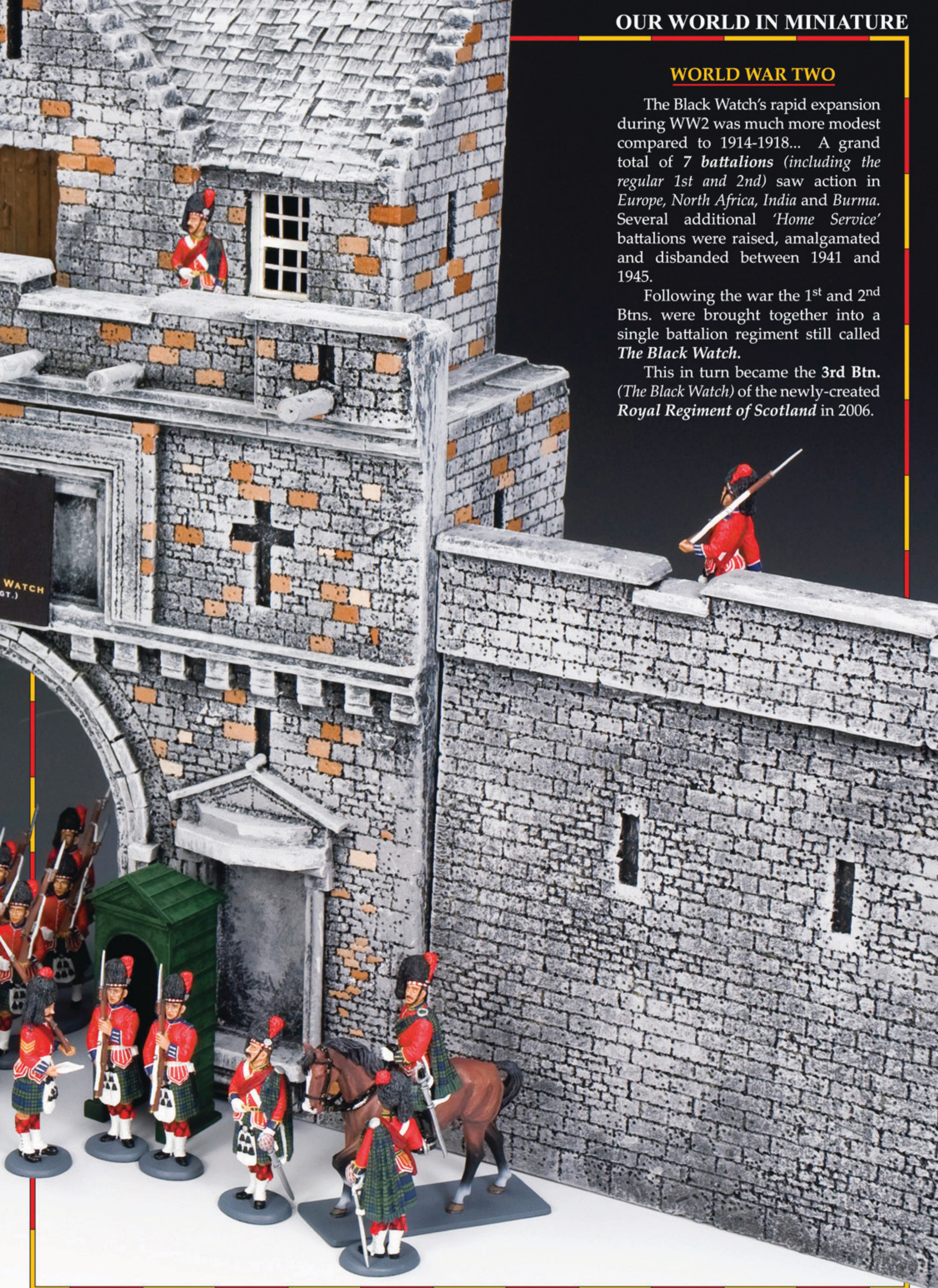
Part of a special display designed and built by Andy C. Neilson and inspired by the famous Edinburgh Castle in Scotland.

WORLD WAR TWO

The Black Watch's rapid expansion during WW2 was much more modest compared to 1914-1918... A grand total of 7 *battalions* (including the regular 1st and 2nd) saw action in Europe, North Africa, India and Burma. Several additional 'Home Service' battalions were raised, amalgamated and disbanded between 1941 and 1945.

Following the war the 1st and 2nd Btns. were brought together into a single battalion regiment still called *The Black Watch*.

This in turn became the 3rd Btn. (*The Black Watch*) of the newly-created *Royal Regiment of Scotland* in 2006.





K&C's BLACK WATCH

Our Highlanders are all in the colourful, ceremonial 'parade dress' uniforms of the interwar years 1919-1939.

Their scarlet doublets contrast well with the traditional dark green and blue of the 'Government Tartan' kilts and the tall, black, feather bonnets adorned with the blood red hackle on the left side.

All of our rank and file are carrying the Mk.1 Lee Enfield, bolt-action, magazine-fed rifles with their long, fixed bayonets attached.

Also available are both *mounted* and *dismounted* Black Watch officers as well as a *regimental bugler* and an impressive **13-piece 'Pipes & Drums'** set which can be added to with *extra pipers and drummers*.

Black Watch Pipe Major



Please Note: This figure is *only sold* with the complete Pipes & Drums Set.

As shown in this article all of these '*Black Watch on Parade*' figures make a spectacular and colourful display... even when shown in relatively small numbers.

Having said that however ... the more the merrier and *the much more impressive!*

PIPES & DRUMS

The term '*Pipes & Drums*' is most commonly associated with military pipe bands. Bands can vary in size but generally comprise a section of pipers (*anywhere from 6-16 pipers including 1 x Pipe Major*) playing the Great Highland Bagpipe... plus a section of side-drummers (*usually 3 or 4*) supported by *2 x tenor drummers and 1 x bass drummer*.

When on parade the '*Pipes & Drums*' is led by a **Drum Major** who directs the band utilizing a long decorative wood and metal mace.

Pipe Bands have a long tradition in countries with strong Celtic roots, notably *Scotland* and *Ireland* and for centuries have been incorporated into all kinds of military formations, the most famous being the British Army.

The tradition has been extended into many former British colonies such as *Canada, Australia* and *New Zealand* as well as other Commonwealth countries.

CE061



Solo Black Watch Piper

CE062



Solo Black Watch Drummer

One of many military paintings by Edgar A. Holloway which influenced these new K&C Highlanders.



LW-S02

'Moving Up To The Front'
(All 6 figs.) Value Added Set



LW087



LW086



LW089



LW090



LW085



LW088



LW086

Fallschirmjäger in Normandy

BY THE SPRING
of 1944 Germany's
High Command
was convinced that the
Western Allies were preparing to
invade France... *soon!*

Unfortunately they did not know exactly when or where the blow would fall. They still however had to make some educated guesses... And so they began to move key military units into France, particularly close to the country's Atlantic coast regions.

One of the elite units transferred into France at this time was the **6th Fallschirmjäger Regiment**. In mid May 1944, the **6FJR** was relocated from Belgium to the area around **Caen** in Normandy before moving onto **Carentan** in the **Cotentin Peninsula**.

The German High Command believed the area around this small Normandy town might be a perfect 'drop-zone' for any Allied Airborne operation.



LW088



LW089

This was where they placed these elite German paratroopers to await the expected invasion.

D.DAY 6 JUNE 1944

On the evening of 5/6 June, *Luftwaffe* radar operators in France picked up huge formations of Allied transport aircraft flying towards the Normandy coast.

6FJR were immediately alerted and began to take up their prearranged

battle positions just before midnight.

Less than two hours later the first Allied parachutes began to open in the skies all across this part of Normandy... *The invasion had begun!*

K&C's FALLSCHIRMJAGERS

Our latest German paratroopers are released in two batches of 6 dramatic figures and are available as *single figures* as well as a pair of six-piece 'Value Added Sets'.

LW-S02 'Moving Up To The Front' shows a six-man section moving through the Normandy 'bocage' heading towards the frontline.

LW-S03 'Going Into Action' has another six-man section in a range of action-poses taking the fight directly to the enemy.

So, whether you collect just a few or all of these new *Fallschirmjäger* you can help tell an important part of a very exciting story... *in miniature.*



LW085

LW084

LW083

LW081

LW082

LW079

LW080

LW-S03

'Going Into Action'
(All 6 figs.) Value Added Set

K&C's own Andy C. Neilson designed and built this 21" x 21" diorama of a small Normandy village street to show off all of the new Luftwaffe Fallschirmjagers moving up to the battle front and preparing to go into action.







The Imperial Russian Double-Eagle symbol of the Romanov Dynasty.

ON AUGUST 12, 1904, Russian churchbells rang out in joyous celebration, as naval and artillery cannons boomed a 300-gun salute and many millions of

Behind the celebrations though was a massive, sprawling Russian empire that had no shortage of social injustices, poverty, hunger and, all too often, cruel and vicious suppression.

Tsar Power!

people from the plains of Poland to the bleak shores of Russia's Pacific coast cheered, danced and drank to the birth of a baby boy.

This little boy however, soon to be christened *Alexei* was the long awaited son for *Nicholas II, Tsar of All The Russias*.

At long last, after the birth of four daughters, *Nicholas*, his wife *Alexandra* and the *Royal Dynasty* of the *Romanovs* believed they had a male heir who would now ensure the continuity of the ruling order and its ongoing progress into this exciting new Twentieth Century.

Many of the Tsar's subjects were convinced that their Royal ruler and the nation's 'little father' must be unaware of their many trials and tribulations.

Guided by God, by whose Divine right he ruled, the Tsar and his newly-born son would



- FW233** *Tsar Nicholas II*
- FW234** *Marching w/Rifle & Bayonet*
- FW235** *Standing Officer Saluting*
- FW236** *Presenting Arms*

surely recognize and eventually cure all of the wrongs and punish the wrong-doers.

As the pomp, parades and pageantry erupted joyfully across the land on that day in August 1904 few could have predicted that *Nicholas*, his wife and four daughters, the *Tsarevich Alexei* and the entire *Romanov Dynasty* would be swept aside forever less than thirteen years later.

NICHOLAS & HIS ARMY

Here we portray a parade of Imperial Russian Infantry, resplendent in their blindingly white 'summer uniforms' as they would have appeared in *St. Petersburg* in the years before 1914.

As the soldiers kneel, salute and march past a mounted figure of the Tsar, he himself is holding an ancient religious icon of the *Russian Orthodox Church* for them to venerate.

NICHOLAS & ALEXEI

Among King & Country's future releases are a special 'Father & Son' set of *Tsar Nicholas II* and his son and heir, the *Tsarevich Alexei*.

TR003

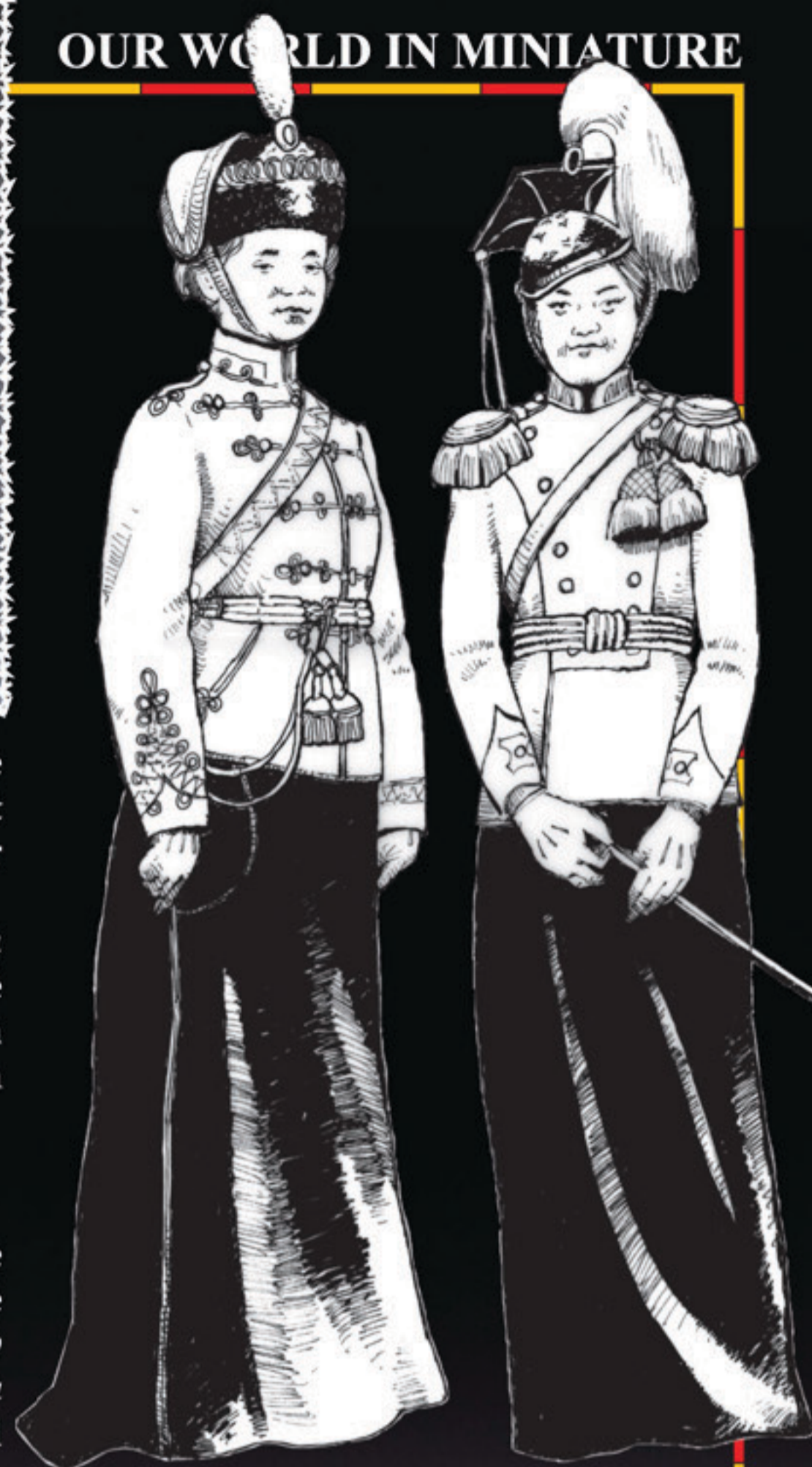


Both figures are dressed in the ceremonial uniforms of different Imperial Russian Army Lancer regiments.

Nicholas is shown as 'Colonel in Chief' of his regiment while the young *Tsarevich Alexei* poses as a junior subaltern of his chosen regiment.

MOTHER & DAUGHTERS

This two-figure set will be followed later in 2021 by five more members of the *Royal Romanov Dynasty*... *The Tsarina Alexandra* and her four daughters, the Grand Duchesses, *Olga*, *Tatianna*, *Maria* and *Anastasia*.



Line drawing sketches for sculpting of the figures of the Grand Duchesses *Olga* and *Tatianna* in military uniform.

FW237

FW239

FW240

FW234



FW237

Standing-at-Attention

FW238

Honouring The Icon

FW239

Senior Subaltern w/The Tsar's Personal Standard

FW240

Marching Officer w/Sword

COLLECTOR
"Never, in the field of human conflict,
was so much owed by so many to so few."

WINSTON S. CHURCHILL

Battle of Britain 1940~2020

Squadron Leader
'Skipper'

RAF077



RAF075

A Trio of Aces

Al Deere, Douglas Bader & "Sailor" Malan

RAF083

RAF
Dispersal
Caravan
1940

THIS YEAR MARKS the 80th Anniversary of a short period in British history which is among the most glorious in the long and often turbulent story of the small island kingdom that lies off the shores of northern Europe.

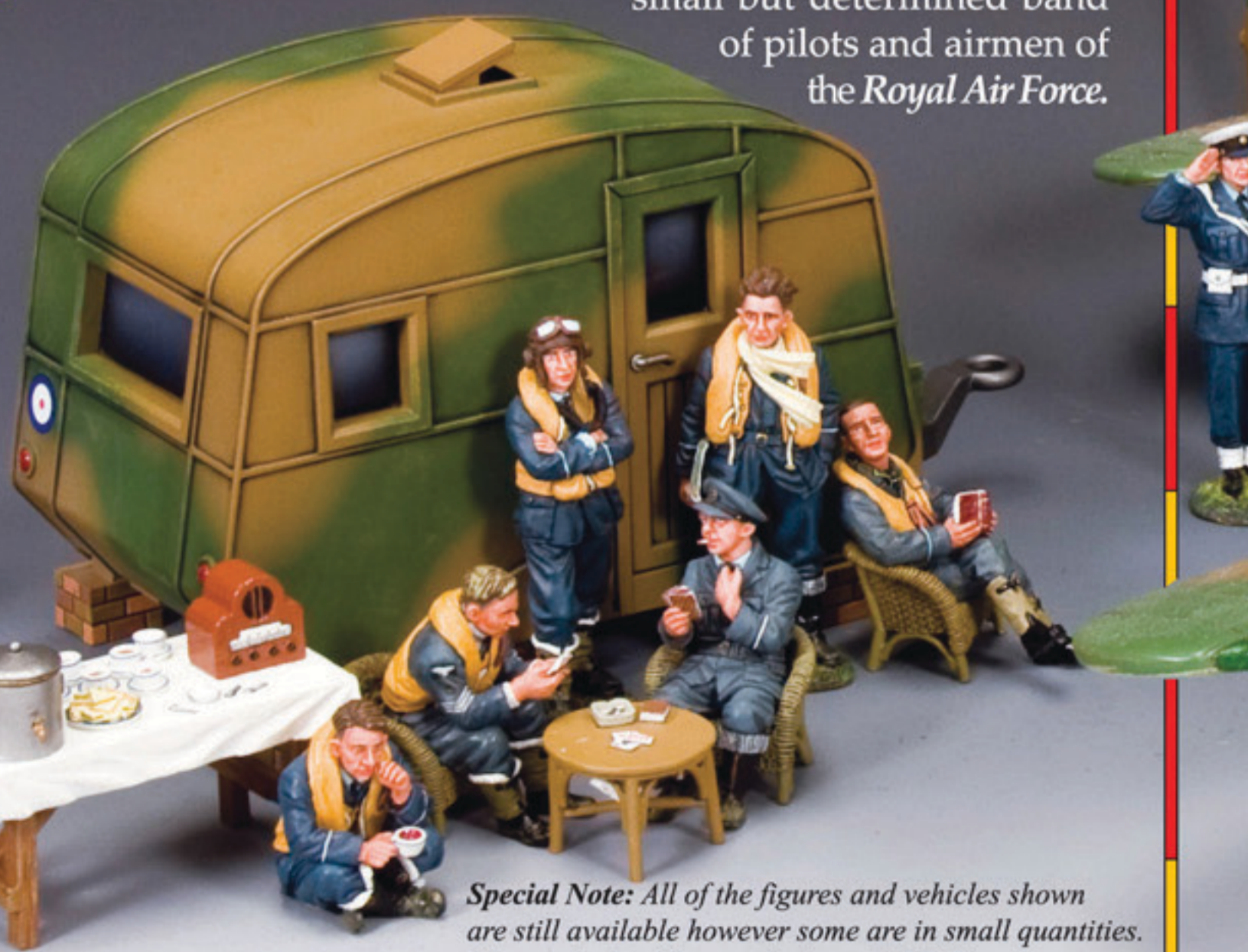
By the summer of 1940, Hitler's armies had swept through France and the Low Countries in just six weeks and stood poised only twenty-one miles from Dover. Had Goering's Luftwaffe then gained air superiority over the English Channel, nothing could have prevented the Germans from launching

the first invasion of Britain in more than nine centuries.

All that stood between a besieged Britain and the Nazi juggernaut was a small but determined band of pilots and airmen of the *Royal Air Force*.



A random sampling of some of our favourite RAF Collection figures, accessories, vehicles and a lone Hawker Hurricane.



Special Note: All of the figures and vehicles shown are still available however some are in small quantities. Please check with your dealer or K&C direct.

These heroes not only included British pilots but also New Zealanders, Canadians, Australians, South Africans and other volunteers from occupied Europe especially Poles and Czechs. There were even some Americans!

THE BATTLE IN MINIATURE

Helping to tell that incredible story in 1:30 scale has been one of King & Country's longest-running and most popular Second World War series.

From our first release of pilots, groundcrew and aircraft back in 2009 our *K&C Royal Air Force Collection* has steadily grown to include some of the best known and most decorated air aces of *RAF Fighter Command* during the height of the aerial battles in the skies above southern Britain in the warm, sunny summer and autumn of 1940.

Among the most honoured RAF aces featured in this *K&C Collection*



RAF041

Humber Heavy Utility Staff Car



RAF087

Force series have been our classic 1:30 scale 'squadron' of *Hawker Hurricanes* and *Supermarine Spitfires* (4 of each model in different squadron markings).

At present we are already at work on our *fifth special rendition* of a *Mk I/III Spitfire* for release in early 2021. An all-new version of the Spit's stablemate, the *Hawker Hurricane*, will follow later next year.

a number of these small, civilian-style holiday caravans for aircrew to relax in or sit nearby that could be moved around airfields as required.

As can be seen here it was also essential that they be camouflaged and 'militarised'... using the standard RAF fighter aircraft colours of that period.

RAF084 'Playing Drafts'

Two young pilots enjoy a game of 'Drafts' (American: Checkers) while waiting for a 'scramble'.

RAF087 'Saluting RAF Policeman'

Providing airfield security was the sole responsibility of the *RAF Police*: This young RAF Policeman salutes a senior officer as he enters the airfield.

RAF088 'RAF Police Dog Team'

This RAF Police Dog and his handler were essential part of the airfield security system.

These useful additions to this great series are our small tribute to what Churchill himself described as '*Britain's Finest Hour*' and should be proudly remembered 80 years after that momentous battle.

RAF084



are names such as *Douglas Bader*, '*Sailor*' *Malan*, *Al Deere* and *Bob Stanford Tuck*.

Also essential to this Royal Air

AIRFIELD ADDITIONS

For the moment however we are happy to introduce some small but very practical 'add-ons' to your airfield display or diorama...

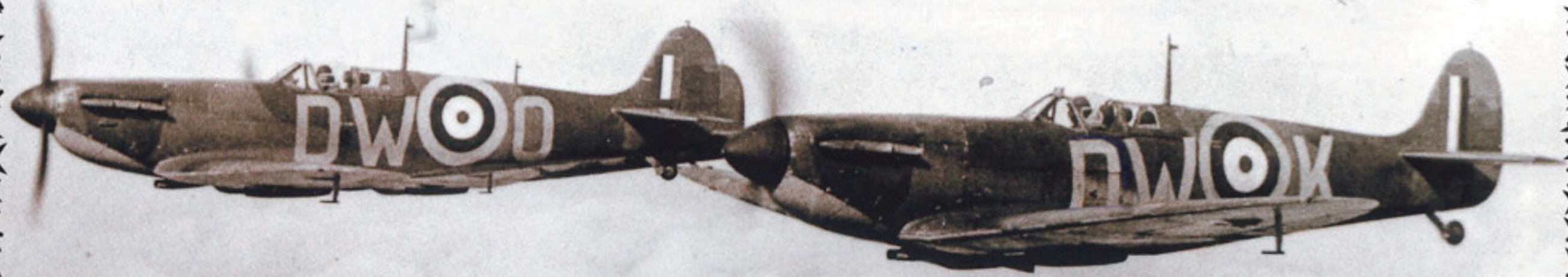
RAF083 'The RAF Dispersal Caravan 1940'

During the battle it was vital for pilots to stay close to their aircraft ready to leap into the cockpit at a moment's notice.

The Royal Air Force purchased

RAF086





One of the best known and most famous images of Spitfires during the Battle of Britain and the inspiration for K&C's latest Spitfire Warbird.

OF ALL THE MANY WW2 Warbirds King & Country have produced over the years the classic MKI/II Supermarine Spitfire is by far the most popular with more than 2,000 manufactured and sold.

On this two-page spread you can see the four previous examples as well as the latest upcoming addition, 'DWK' belonging to the Royal Auxiliary Air Force's 610 Squadron (County of Chester).

It was the end of September 1939 when 610 received its first delivery of 'factory-fresh' Spitfires. All of the young pilots of this reserve squadron, which had been

mobilised on the outbreak of war, relished the opportunity to fly the RAF'S latest and most advanced fighter. However they were to be disappointed not to be sent to France to join the air component of the *British Expeditionary Force*.

Fortunately though that gave the squadron ample time, until the Spring of 1940, to get to really 'know' their new aircraft and practice their air fighting tactics and skills.



Spitfire Squadron


RAF085

Spitfire MKI/II
610 Squadron (County of Chester)
Royal Auxiliary Air Force

BLITZKRIEG!

All that came to an abrupt end on May 10, 1940 with the German assault on France and the Low Countries. The Squadron was soon transferred to *Biggin Hill*, a vital frontline airfield in the *11 Group Sector* and tasked to patrol across the

English Channel and over other RAF airfields.

During the month of May, 610 provided aerial cover for the evacuation of British and French forces from *Dunkirk*. They flew constant patrols to protect shipping and the army as it was squeezed into the ever-shrinking pocket around the French town's crowded beaches and streets.

In the air 610's Spitfires joined other *Fighter*

Command Spitfires and Hurricanes in giving the so-far victorious Luftwaffe a run for its money but not without cost and losses of its own.

After a short respite following the evacuation of *Dunkirk* 610 Squadron was again at the very forefront of the RAF defence against Goering's Luftwaffe at the beginning of the Battle of Britain in June and July.

As the battles in the sky raged above southern Britain the Spitfires of 610 Squadron often faced odds of ten


RAF017

RAF016

or more to one yet still managed to take a heavy toll of their German attackers.

610 Squadron (*County of Chester*) was just one of many Auxiliary Air Force squadrons that together with their regular Royal Air Force comrades helped win the Battle of Britain and give Hitler, Goering and the Luftwaffe their first taste of defeat.

King & Country are proud to welcome this latest recruit to our very own '*Warbird Squadron*'.

SPOOR

ROME'S FRONTIERS began to expand long before the city became an empire. Two centuries before the birth of Christ, the Romans dominated the whole of Italy and, after successful wars, ruled territory in Spain and southwest Europe, Carthage in North Africa and important parts of the Middle East.

Rome's boundaries continued to expand to include Greece and later Egypt. So, by the reign of the Emperor Augustus this once small city state now controlled and administered much of the known and developed world.

EMPERORS & GENERALS

It would be fair to say that many of the men who ruled Rome and its Empire were also great generals who combined the qualities of supreme leadership, self belief and great ambition.

All of the display items shown here are currently available including: Sphinx Statues, Greek Temple Facade and Ancient Egyptian Stone Blocks.

Among King & Country's most recent releases are a fine selection of Rome's best and bravest Emperors and Generals.

Included of course is the most famous of them all... *Gaius Julius Caesar*, closely followed by the *Emperor Augustus* and two other notable rulers, the Emperors *Hadrian* and the seated, *Vespasian*.

AE078

Egyptian Sandstone Block Set (10 blocks)

AG008

Ancient Greece Entranceway

ROM038



Gaius Julius Caesar



ROM037



and intelligence gatherers for the Emperor himself.

It was the Emperor Augustus who formed this first personal security detail and ensured their continued loyalty with higher pay and much better living quarters and benefits than any other soldiers in the army.

For the next 300 years these Praetorian Guards continued to serve subsequent rulers until, eventually, they too succumbed to the intrigues and corruption of Roman politics which ultimately led to their downfall and disbandment.

Two of Rome's most notable Generals are also available... *Pompey the Great*, Caesar's one-time ally and later to be his greatest rival along with *Germanicus*, the brother of one emperor (*Claudius*) and the father of another, the murderous and mad *Caligula*.

PRAETORIAN PROTECTION

Protecting the life of Rome's emperors was an elite unit of the Imperial Roman Army...

The Praetorian Guard.

These specially-chosen and highly-trained soldiers were selected from the best and most experienced of Rome's Legions and served as personal body-guards

AE046

*Sphinx Statue**The Roman Map Board*

RnB041



ROM036

Praetorian on Guard Duty

Shown Above: From left to right Pompey the Great, The Emperor Vespasian, General Germanicus, The Emperor Augustus, The Emperor Hadrian, The Praetorian Centurion, Standing Senior Officer

A Tank Called FIREFLY



The shoulder patch of the British
11th Armoured Division

DURING WW2, THE BRITISH ARMY made extensive use of the American *M4 Sherman Tank* in all the Theatres of War it took part in.

By the middle of 1943 however practical battlefield experience taught them the importance of providing the Sherman with a much more powerful main gun.

Fortunately for Britain the existing, battle-tested 17-pounder (76.2mm) anti-tank gun was readily available.

The turret of the Sherman however was too small to allow for the recoil of the new gun and this necessitated British engineers coming up with a practical solution to solve the problem.

This they did by extending the length of the original turret to allow

for the recoil and at the same time eliminating one crew member to bring the crew down to four. The additional space also provided extra room for the larger 17-pounder ammunition.

READY FOR D.DAY

Throughout the remaining months of 1943 the new, upgraded, upgunned Sherman was also given the nickname '*FIREFLY*' and tested extensively before finally being ordered into full production in early 1944. These first production models began to be distributed to some armoured units of *Field Marshal Montgomery's 21st. Army Group* in May 1944 just weeks before D. DAY.



The 23rd Hussars Cap Badge

The timing was fortunate because Allied intelligence was aware of a large number of German *Tigers*, *Panthers* and *Panzer Mk. IV's* already in France in anticipation of an expected Allied invasion from Britain.

K&C's LATEST 'FIREFLY'

Among the units lucky enough to be supplied with this powerful new Sherman was the *23rd Hussars*, a regiment with a history going all the way back to its foundation in 1716. Disbanded after the Napoleonic War it was reformed in the aftermath of Dunkirk in 1940 and was now an integral part of the *British 11th Armoured Division* which landed in Normandy on D.DAY PLUS 7.



DD334

The New British
Sherman 'Firefly'

DD302

British Dismounted
AFV Crew Set #2
(2 figs.)

DD301

British Dismounted
AFV Crew Set #1 (2 figs.)



DD334

The New British Sherman 'Firefly'

The *23rd Hussars* and their tanks came into France with additional reinforcements on the 23rd of June 1944.

Our new, upgraded model comes with 2 x crew figures... A half-body tank commander and a 'head 'n' shoulders' driver.

Also available are 2 other great (and useful) sets of British tank crew

plus a 3-pack accessory set of boxes, packs and assorted stores that can be placed on top of the rear engine compartment of this new K&C 'FIREFLY' as well as other *British and American Armoured Vehicles*

So, if you've been looking for a great Allied tank to take on those terrible *Tigers* and powerful *Panthers* look no further... *here it is!*



DD135

British Sherman Firefly

K&C's first version of the famous Firefly released in 2010 and retired in 2012 and much requested by collectors ever since!

DD236

Tank Back-Pack Set (3 pieces)

DD136

Dismounted British Tank Crewmen (3 figures)

'Bloody Lance'



'RUNNING THE BUFFALO'

FOR THE PLAINS INDIANS, LIFE REVOLVED AROUND TWO primal elements: 'Hunting' and 'War.' One meant sustenance for the body, the other, honour to warm the soul.

Some of these Plains tribes planted crops. Others traded meat, furs and horses for foodstuffs their nomadic ways would not allow them to harvest for themselves.

These tribes of 'hunters' killed deer, antelope and smaller game for meat and to trade. But far and away their greatest source of food and so much else was the largest, walking commissary of the North American Continent... *The Buffalo*.

This mighty animal furnished almost everything the Plains Indian required for life's necessities... Meat, robes for winter warmth and bedding, hides for the

outer covering of *Tepees*, leather for moccasins and warshields, sinews for sewing, glue for binding and bones for cooking and eating utensils. Buffalo hair could even be woven into ropes or used to stuff saddle pads or anything that required padding.

Virtually nothing of this mighty animal was thrown away or wasted... it was just too valuable.

Before the arrival of the European settlers and the introduction of the horse, hunters stalked the herds on foot, covering themselves with buffalo robes or wolf skins which enabled them to move closer and within arrow range.

This allowed them to entrap the animals or stampede them over a cliff and into deep gulleys.

THE HORSE ARRIVES

Once the horse came to America everything changed... Some tribes managed to steal or capture horses that were running wild and soon mastered the necessary skills to make them superb and natural horsemen.

Most of these 'mounted' warriors formed themselves into 'soldier societies' that organized and regulated the buffalo hunts ensuring that every hunter was granted a fair chance of a 'kill' and, importantly, a fair share of the 'spoils'.

The adoption of the horse also led to a change of tactics in how the Plains Indians fought their wars.



TRW160

"Fallen Buffalo" Set
(2 animals)



20

TRW159

"Running Buffalo" Set
(3 animals)



The speed, strength and agility of the horse meant that the 'mounted' tribes favoured smaller, more mobile war parties that could 'hit and run' much more effectively and suffer fewer casualties than their opponents whether they be other Indian tribes or the growing numbers of the encroaching white men.

ORGANISING THE HUNT

Most hunts would be preceded by a 'buffalo dance', calling upon the

'Great Spirit' to be generous.

If herds were not grazing nearby, scouts were dispatched to locate them. Families would follow the hunters but always stayed at the rear and downwind.

Though the buffalo's eyesight was poor, its sense of smell was very strong!

As the hunters burst upon a startled herd the first goal was to set the animals running in a circle, creating what was called a

'surround'. This confined the 'kill' to a limited area allowing the women to quickly catch up and butcher any fallen animals.

Most good hunters also had prized ponies that they had specially trained to move in close to the stampeding buffalo so their arrows or lances could be driven in more accurately.

Such ponies or horses would respond to the slightest pressure of a knee or a shift in the rider's weight.



TRW156

'Brave Bear'



TRW155

'Black Cloud'



TRW173

'Hunter Becomes Hunted'
(1 buffalo, 1 hunter & 1 fallen horse)



A group of warriors have managed to 'surround' a small buffalo herd and are now picking off the choicest animals.

"Buffalo Lance" **TRW174**



TRW166

Die Longknife!
(3 figure set)



TRW160

"Fallen Buffalo"



TRW160 shows 2 'Fallen Buffaloes' struck down by Indian arrows and lances.

TRW173 'Hunter becomes Hunted' portrays a wounded animal attacking one of the hunters whose horse has been fatally injured and who finds himself trapped underneath.

TRW175

Cheyenne Dog Soldier
'Bloody Lance'



These signals could narrow the distance between hunter and hunted or make the rider's mount dodge from the angry thrust of a deadly buffalo horn.

After a successful hunt it was considered proper to give thanks to both the 'Great Spirit' for their benevolent guidance and the buffalo itself for sacrificing its life to provide virtually everything a Plains Indian would need throughout the long, hard winter.

K&C's BUFFALOES & INDIANS

King & Country now has no less than 6 different Buffaloes to choose from.

TRW159 is a set of 3 different 'Running Buffaloes'.





TRW178
'Eagle's Wing'



TRW176
Fighting To The End



TRW177
'Holding On To His Horse'

TRW163
'Morning Star'



TRW174 shows a young warrior with his lance attacking part of the herd.

TRW175 illustrates another Indian attempting to cut the hamstrings of a buffalo with his lance.

TRW165
The Last Aimed Shot



TRW167
"Wounded Soldiers"
(2 figs. set)

These and many of our other *Sioux* and *Cheyenne* Warriors work equally well on the Buffalo Hunt... or fighting the 'Bluecoat Long Knives' on the banks of the *Little Bighorn*.



On the 28th of October 1664, the Duke of York & Albany's Maritime Regiment of Foot paraded for the first time in the streets of London.

It was a brand-new military formation that was *'to be in readiness to be distributed among His Majesty's ships for sea service'*.

This parade marked the beginnings of the *Royal Marines*, a unique force that would go on to recruit and train sharpshooters... landing parties... 'discouragers of mutinies', ceremonial guards and later gun turret crews and military bandsmen for the *Royal Navy*.

275 years later, at the outbreak of WWII on 3 September, 1939 the



All of the original Commandos came from existing corps and regiments within the British Army and were men seeking action, adventure and a dynamic, unconventional new way of fighting the enemy.

Such was their success that by 1942 they were joined by the first Royal Marine 'Commando' units who were perfectly suited to become seaborne raiders.

After the end of WWII it was decided that the primary 'Commando' role would be the sole responsibility of the Royal Marines.

What followed over the subsequent decades was the almost continual deployment of *Marine Commando* units to virtually every continent of the world and

'BY SEA AND BY LAND'

strength of the *Corps of Royal Marines* was just over 15,000 officers and other ranks.

THE COMMANDO ROLE

After the Fall of France and the evacuation of Dunkirk, Britain's Prime Minister, *Winston Churchill* decided to create an unconventional military force that could still hit

back at Nazi-occupied Europe and prove to the Germans themselves that they were far from invincible.

Taking inspiration from the lightly-armed, fast moving Boer riflemen he encountered during the *Boer War* (1899-1902) Churchill borrowed their name... 'Commandos' to 'christen' his new unit and its first volunteers.

many of the globe's most violent conflicts and trouble spots.

COMMANDO TRAINING

Every Royal Marine (*with the exception of bandsmen*) must complete the grueling 'Commando Course' and successfully finish the 32 week intensive training period.



At the end of that time each Marine is awarded his Commando 'Green Beret' and posted to one of the principal units of the *3rd Commando Brigade*.

In addition to their fighting role the Royal Marines take great pride in their ceremonial drill and parade duties and are a familiar sight taking part in military tattoos and other special events within the UK and around the world.

K&C'S ROYAL MARINES

These newest *King & Country Royal Marines* are uniformed in 'Number 1 Dress Blues' and wearing the white 'Wolseley' pattern pith helmet.

The rifle carried is the standard *L1A1 Self Loading Rifle* with fixed bayonet which was in use from the late 1950's until the mid 1980's.

This was the weapon carried by K&C's own *Andy C. Neilson* when he served in the Corps from 1972 - 1977, hence the choice.

ON PARADE

Also shown in this colourful double page spread are the *Royal Marines Colour Party* carrying the 'Sovereign's Standard' and the Royal Marines own 'Corps Standard'.



A group of 'Special Request' Corporals and Lance Corporals just before being shipped to a major K&C collector in the United States.

Providing the musical element for our parade is the combined *Drums & Bugles* with their saluting *Drum Majors*.

Additional Marines are available both 'marching' and 'presenting arms' as well as solo drummers and buglers together with the 'Royal Marines officer with sword' figure.

BY SPECIAL REQUEST

Any collector ordering a minimum of 6 'Marching' or 'Presenting Arms' can request an additional figure to be painted with 'Corporal' or 'Lance Corporal' stripes at the regular single figure price.

THE CORPS MOTTO

'Per Mare Per Terram' is the Latin motto of the Royal Marines. Simply translated as 'By Sea and By Land'.



Capt. Don Gentile's P51B MUSTANG 'Shangri La'

Dominic Salvatore 'Don' Gentile (1920-1951), was one of the top-scoring aces of the *United States Army Air Force* in WW2. Among his many achievements was surpassing American WW1 flying ace, *Eddie Rickenbacker's* record of 26 'kills'. He later served in the post-war, newly-formed U.S. Air Force.

Already holding a pre war private pilot's licence Don Gentile tried to enlist in the U.S. Army Air Force in mid 1941 but was rejected because he did not have a college education.



Undaunted the young Gentile went North and joined the *Royal Canadian Air Force* and was posted to the UK later in 1941.

By early 1942 he had completed his Royal Air Force flight training and was sent to 133 Squadron, one of the trio of famed '*Eagle Squadrons*' made up of expatriate American volunteers who had joined the Britain's Air Force before the U.S. entered the war.

During his time with the Royal Air Force, Don Gentile scored his first successes... a Ju88 and a FW190.

In September 1942, all three '*Eagle Squadrons*' were transferred to the





AF043

Capt. Don Gentile
and his P51B MUSTANG
'Shangri La'

USAAF, becoming the 4th Fighter Group as part of the rapidly expanding 8th Air Force in Britain.

Initially the group were now flying the powerful and heavy P47 'Thunderbolt' however many of the former 'Eagle' pilots had been used to their lighter, more maneuverable Spitfires and lobbied for a change to the superb P51 'Mustang'.

By early 1944 their 'lobbying' had succeeded and the Group were

reequipped with one of the finest fighter planes of WW2.

Within a few short months, Don Gentile flying his colourfully decorated 'Shangri La', became the 8th Air Force's top scoring ace.

At this point he had built a tally of 20 enemy aircraft destroyed in the air plus another 6 on the ground. Added to that total was his original two *Luftwaffe* 'kills' while serving with the RAF Eagle Squadron.

CRASH LANDING

On April 13, 1944, while 'stunting' over the 4th Fighter Group's airfield at Debden in southern England, Don crashed his 'Shangri La' in front of a group of assembled press reporters and movie cameras.

His Group Commander immediately 'grounded' him and he was sent back to the States for a country-wide tour selling

war bonds and visiting aircraft factories as a morale-booster.

The young fighter ace also took this time to cowrite, with a veteran war correspondent, his autobiography and an account of his 'war in the air'.

POST WAR

After the war Don Gentile, by now promoted to Major, remained in the air force and flew as a test pilot many of the exciting new aircraft just coming into service.

On January 28, 1951, he was killed flying a T-33 'Shooting Star' one of this new breed of jet aircraft in the now independent 'United States Air Force'.

This K&C P51B MUSTANG 'Shangri La', together with the standing figure of *Captain Don Gentile* himself, and some of our other American air force pilots and groundcrew honours the courage and sacrifice of all of the Allied pilots and groundcrew who won the aerial war in the skies over Europe in WW2.



REGIMENTAL FLAGS of the British Army were historically described as 'colours' because they represented the uniform colours and insignia worn by the soldiers of different units.

The principal role of a regiment's colours was to provide a rallying point on the battlefield. This was important in the days before radio communications, when it was all too easy for soldiers to become disoriented by the 'Fog of War'.

For troops to know what their own regimental colours looked like, it was necessary to display them. This was done by young officers marching through the ranks of soldiers formed up in line carrying the regimental 'colours' so they could be easily recognized, by the soldiers.

Hence the term 'Trooping The Colour'.

YESTERDAY & TODAY

The ceremony of 'Trooping The Colour' goes all the way back to the reign of Britain's King Charles II (1660-1685) when it was then decided that this parade would be used to also mark the official birthday of the King or Queen.

The parade became an annual event in 1760 when George III was on the throne. Since then it has

been soldiers belonging to the different regiments of the Sovereign's own *Brigade of Guards* who have continued this unique tradition.

Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II has taken the salute at every parade since her accession to the throne in 1953. Until 1986, Her Majesty took the salute on horseback riding side-saddle on her favourite horse, 'Burmese' and wearing the dress uniform of the particular Guards regiment whose 'colour' was being trooped that year.

ROYAL CEREMONIAL

King & Country's newest 'CEREMONIAL' release features four important mounted figures associated with this special event over the decades.

We have also fondly adopted a degree of historical license to bring all four figures together... on one parade.

The Queen last rode a horse on 'Trooping The Colour' in 1986. Since then she has ridden in a carriage.

CE055 Queen Elizabeth II riding 'Burmese' wearing the uniform of Colonel of the Grenadier Guards.

CE051 His Royal Highness, The Prince of Wales, Colonel of The Welsh Guards has taken part in nearly every 'trooping' since 1969.

CE052 His Royal Highness, Prince William, Colonel of The Irish Guards first took part in 2011.

CE050 Parade Commander, A senior officer of the Coldstream Guards.

Trooping The Colour



Postcards from Vietnam



After the colonial French left Vietnam in 1954 the country was divided into Communist North Vietnam and free South Vietnam.

For a few short years the two halves of the country lived in peace until in 1959, the North decided to conduct a guerrilla campaign in the South to destabilise the government and, they hoped, takeover the other half of the country.

The United States, fearing such a move and the spread of communism across the rest of

South East Asia began to increase its military aid to the beleaguered South... First with military and civilian advisers and then, in 1965, with major American ground forces and supporting naval and air units.

Now the 'real war' could begin...

K&C's VIETNAM

Although a few of our competitors have ventured into the 'VIETNAM WAR' King & Country has

whole-heartedly committed to developing and expanding a major range of figures and fighting vehicles that has no equal in the toy soldier world today.

In 2018, we began with the *Battle of Hue*, during the TET Offensive of 1968 when the NVA (North Vietnamese Army) and their local VC (Viet Cong) comrades launched a widespread assault on virtually every major town, city and military base in the South.

VN075 USMC 105mm Gun & 4 Gunners

VN077

Extra USMC
Artillery Personnel
(2 figs.)

SP112

Sandbag Gun Emplacement

SP113

105mm Shells & Spent Shell Cases

Our U.S. Marines have proven to be one of our most popular 'Modern War' series and have helped create a whole new breed of collector who either has a direct link with the War itself or an interest in more contemporary military conflicts other than the traditional toy soldier subjects such as the *Napoleonic Wars* or even *WW2*.

THE USMC IN VIETNAM

When the *III Marine Amphibious Force* landed at Da Nang on 8 March 1965 they were reinforcing a much smaller USMC commitment that had been sending a handful of advisors to South Vietnam since the mid 1950's.

In addition to the advisors several Marine helicopter squadrons had provided tactical air support beginning in 1962.

This however was the first, large scale deployment of major ground units who were to protect American air bases and other military installations in country.

Eventually over 500,000 Marines would serve in Vietnam from 1962-1975 and at its maximum battlefield strength the *III Marine Amphibious Force* would number almost 86,000 officers and men at its peak in 1968.

During those years the USMC casualties totaled 14,809 killed and nearly 90,000 wounded.

K&C's 'GRUNTS'

Most of King & Country's 'Vietnam Marines' are uniformed and equipped as they were during the *TET Offensive of 1968*... Their range of weaponry includes M16 and some M14 rifles as well as the always reliable M60 machine gun. Other weapons carried by our Marines are the M79 *Grenade Launcher*, and the M72 *Light Anti Tank Weapon*.

On the vehicle front, K&C's Marines have the support of the sturdy little M274 'Mule' as well as the

mighty M42 'Duster' and the ubiquitous 'M113 Armoured Personnel Carrier'.

Add on the artillery element provided by



the '105mm Howitzer' set and the more recently-released

'106mm Recoilless Rifle' gun and crew and collectors have more than enough Marines to take on the NVA and VC anytime... anywhere.

UPCOMING REINFORCEMENTS

That being said, there is always room for more of 'a few good men' and collectors can look forward to a

choice selection of U.S. Marine figures paying homage to one of the greatest 'Vietnam War' movies, "FULL METAL JACKET". We plan on releasing a few very special figures dedicated to this outstanding film and some of its most memorable characters.

While building up our own U.S. Forces in miniature we did not neglect either America's enemies or her allies, particularly the Australians.

AUSSIES AT WAR

As many of you already know, Australia has proven to be one of King & Country's best markets, beginning with our WW1 range of *Australian Light Horse* figures and their Turkish opponents.

Similar success followed with the more recent WW2 *Eighth Army* series, which includes many Australian items. This led us to explore, Australia's important role in the Vietnam War. This has meant an extensive number of releases including armored vehicles and 'in action' figures.

Shown in this issue of 'Collector' are the first two *Australian Army Land Rovers* together with some of the very latest Aussie 'Diggers' on active service in South Vietnam.

VN093

Full Metal Jacket's
'Animal Mother'



ON PATROL NEAR NUI DAT

Soldiers from the *Royal Australian Regiment* clear and sweep a road on the outskirts of their main base at *Nui Dat*, South Vietnam.



VN101



VN081



VN096



Insert photos: A closer look at some of K&C's ANZAC Special Air Service figures together with our second 'Long Tan' action set and the soon-to-be-released Aussie Mine Sweeping Team.



VN082



VN078



VN088



VN021

VN028

VN079



VN080



VN087

VN086



A selection of our most recent Viet Cong guerrillas and North Vietnamese regulars in action.

Vietnamese civilians pause to look at the remains of a downed US Army UH-1 'Huey' as they go about their normal day-to-day duties. Diorama by K&C own Andy C. Neilson.



THE VIETNAMESE

One thing we never forget are the Vietnamese people themselves... both civilian and military.

During the past 12 months we have been designing and developing a fair number of the ordinary South Vietnamese people who were caught up in the middle of that long, bloody conflict...

Young mothers, small children, poor peasants and old village chiefs as well as 'Bar Girls' and even some young ladies on motor scooters are just part of King & Country's unique 'Vietnam' series.

We are also producing the original 'Vietnamese S.U.V.' the 'Water Buffalo'. Together they create a much fuller picture of that troubled country during a very troubled time.



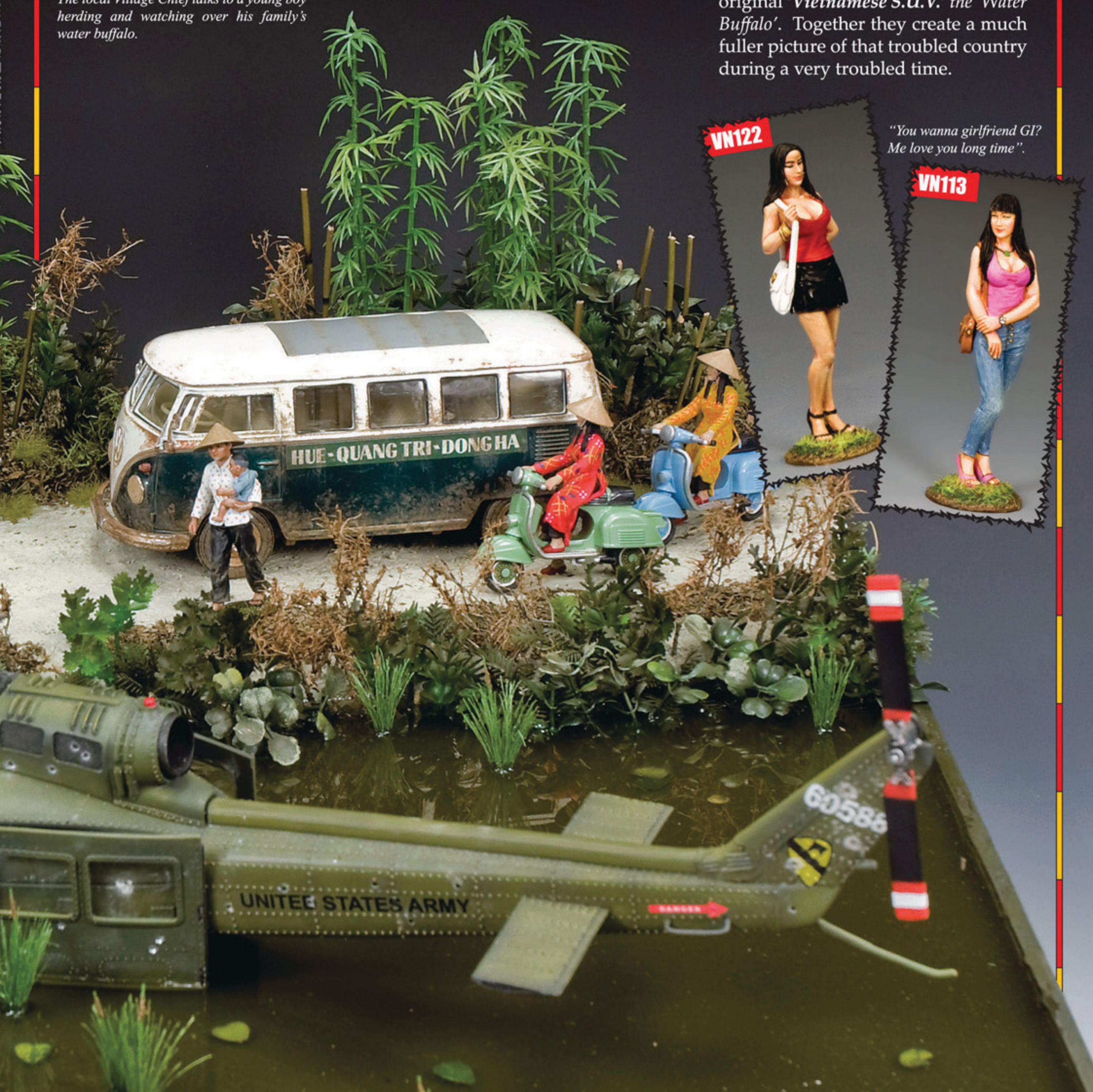
VN054

VN119

VN124

VN114

The local Village Chief talks to a young boy herding and watching over his family's water buffalo.



VN122

"You wanna girlfriend GI? Me love you long time".

VN113



"Good Ol' Rebel Soldier"

Oh, I'm a good old Rebel soldier, now that's just what I am;
For this 'Fair Land of Freedom' I do not give a damn!
I'm glad I fought against it, I only wish we'd won,
And I don't want no pardon for anything I done.

I hates the Yankee nation and everything they do
I hates the 'Declaration of Independence', too!
I hates the 'Glorious Union', tis drippin' with our blood,
And I hates their striped banner and i fought it all I could.

MAJOR INNES RANDOLPH C.S.A.



CW107



CW104



CW106



CW105



THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR saw cavalry tactics move away from the *offensive* towards the *defensive*, with the emphasis on screening, reconnaissance, raiding and harassment.

Development of the rifled musket had also, in many eyes, rendered the cavalry charge both obsolete and highly dangerous!

During the first half of the war, the Confederates enjoyed a clear advantage in cavalry. The South, being a more agricultural society, produced cavalymen who were much more accustomed to the everyday riding and shooting life.

In addition, many of the most experienced cavalry officers from the pre war regular U.S. Army had chosen to side with the Confederacy.

By the second half of the war, from 1863 onwards, *Lincoln's* Union Army had leveled the battlefield to a certain degree by vastly outnumbering their Confederate opponents. However, man-for-man, the Rebel cavalryman was still a superlative mounted soldier and often capable of aggressive and successful action against much larger numbers of Federal horse soldiers.

The 29th Texas Cavalry is a typical example of a volunteer regiment raised in the winter of 1862 in *Red River County, Texas*.

After their initial training the regiment remained in Texas until early 1863 defending settlers against

CW112



CW108



raids by marauding *Commanche* war parties. In addition, the *29th* were to protect North Texas from possible Union Army incursions.

By the Fall of 1863 the regiment moved into Arkansas and took part in a number of actions against Union forces there before playing a major role in a large cavalry raid at the *Second Battle of Cabin Creek* where they helped capture and destroy over *1.5 millions dollars* worth of Northern supplies and munitions.

Early in 1865 the *29th* rode south to Louisiana to join *Walker's Texas Division*. At this late stage of the war lack of supplies, reinforcements and remounts forced these Texas horse soldiers to lose their few remaining mounts

and march on foot back to *Hempstead, Texas*.

It was there, in April 1865, they heard of the end of hostilities and were officially disbanded.



THE 29th IN MINIATURE

These '*Second Edition*' versions of the *29th Texas Cavalry* regiment are dressed and equipped as they would have appeared at that *Battle of Cabin Creek* in the latter part of 1864.

Four individual troopers are utilizing their carbines to open fire on the enemy accompanied by their regimental flagbearer and trumpeter and led by a revolver carrying officer.

Also being revived in this release, are two of K&C's most popular and respected Confederate senior officers... *Cavalry Major General J.E.B. Stuart* and his superior officer and commander of the Army of Northern Virginia *General Robert E. Lee*.

The 29th. Texas Cavalry



ON THE AFTERNOON of 6 October 1973, the might of the Israeli Defence Forces was abruptly awakened by a tsunami of airstrikes, followed by a massive artillery bombardment along the Suez Canal that preceded a carefully planned Egyptian attack on the Israeli-held Sinai Peninsula.

At the same time, a huge Syrian armoured assault advanced on Israeli positions on the *Golan Heights* of Israel's northern border.

That day was the first day of *Yom Kippur*, the most holy day of the Jewish religious calendar and the beginning of a war that would bring the young state of Israel to the very brink of defeat.

Although initially shocked and surprised by these twin strikes the Israelis immediately mobilized their impressive reserve forces while desperately battling to hold back the Egyptians in the south and the Syrians in the north.

Yom Kippur '73

Among the many thousands of Israeli civilians recalled to active duty was one of its best and toughest soldier / civilians...

General Ariel 'Arik' Sharon.

IN COMMAND

Sharon was put in command of a reserve armoured division and sent into the Sinai where the Egyptians had successfully crossed the Suez Canal, breached the Israeli defences all along it and were now advancing deep into Israeli-controlled territory.

Ariel Sharon and his division along with other Israeli units, immediately launched a series of counter attacks that drove the Egyptians back to their initial bridgehead on the banks of the canal.

It was now that Sharon defied his superiors orders to cease attacking the enemy and defiantly forced a crossing over the canal and into Egypt itself.

Once there his division fought off the Egyptian defenders destroying hundreds of their tanks and other armoured vehicles in a series of major battles.

Eventually on 24 October 1973 a United Nations ceasefire halted this '*Yom Kippur War*' and Israel, once again, found itself the victor, albeit one who had lost many more casualties than they had experienced in all of their previous wars.

General Ariel Sharon had also made more than a few enemies on his own side too! Some of his superiors wanted him '*fired*' for disobeying their direct orders.



IDF029

IDF030

IDF028

IDF001

- IDF001 *General Moshe Dayan*
- IDF028 *General Ariel 'Arik' Sharon*
- IDF029 *Israeli Tank Commander*
- IDF030 *Israeli Tank Crewman*

Fortunately for Sharon there was one important superior who supported him... *General Moshe Dayan*... and he was the one superior who really mattered.

SHARON'S 'SHO'T'

Among the Israeli figures and fighting vehicles shown here is one of Israel's best and most powerful

IDF035

Israeli Army
CENTURION 'SHO'T'
Main Battle Tank

All Israeli tank crews were usually armed with the ubiquitous 9mm Uzi sub machine gun. In addition the tank commander would also carry a pistol.

The main armament of the Israeli 'SHO'T' was the Vickers L7A1 105mm main gun. The cupola mounted machine gun is a Belgian-made FN 7.62mm - calibre, general purpose machine gun. The Chevron in white on the side skirt of the tank is a basic Israeli tactical marking.

tanks... the British-made 'Centurion' ... better known to the Israelis as 'The SHO'T' (Hebrew for 'The Whip'). The 'SHO'T' entered Israeli service in the 1960's and fought through the 'Six Day War' in 1967 as well as 'Yom Kippur' in 1973, it continued seeing front line action until the early 1980's.

Our K&C 'SHO'T' comes with 2 x crew figures and is piled high with all kinds of crew stowage and other military items in the Israeli style.

As you can see it also works well with our now retired 'Isherman' tank and our other I.D.F. 'Fighting Vehicles'.

Also available will be a terrific little figure of General 'Arik' Sharon himself as well as additional tank crewmen and more Israeli paratroopers in action.

Now is a great time to add another piece of Israeli 'Heavy Metal' to your I.D.F. collection!



KING & COUNTRY'S

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY SERIES II LAND ROVERS

The Best 4 By 4 By Far!

Nearly 60,000 Australian servicemen fought in the Vietnam War. Deployed alongside them was an eclectic mix of vehicles, tanks, guns and other equipment necessary for maintaining an effective fighting force in the field.

Among the most efficient and useful of the vehicles shipped out of Australia and into South Vietnam was the *Land Rover*.

Conceived in the aftermath of World War Two these British-designed *Land Rovers* with their excellent reliability and cross-country mobility entered service with the Australian Armed Forces in the 1950's.

By the early 1960's, after much experience in the field, Australian modifications and improvements led to the now familiar cut-away, angled front mudguards and the sturdy 'brush guard' mounted on the front bumper.

Rear 'bumperettes' were also added to support 2 jerricans when required.

K&C's LAND ROVERS

Our first-to-be-released 1/4 ton *Land Rover* is the 'Military Police' version complete with a seated MP driver and a fully-fitted Canvas Cover.

The second K&C *Land Rover* will be the 'Patrol / General Service' vehicle, also with an army driver, open-topped and with its side doors and rear hatch removed to provide both easy access and equally easy 'debussing'.

Both vehicles will have additional Australian Army figures released to help create even better display and diorama possibilities.

So, if you are looking for great military model *Land Rovers* accept no substitute... be sure to come over to King & Country!

KING & COUNTRY

AUTHENTIC HAND-MADE HISTORY

Available around the world wherever fine quality military miniatures are sold.



AUTHENTIC HAND - MADE HISTORY