

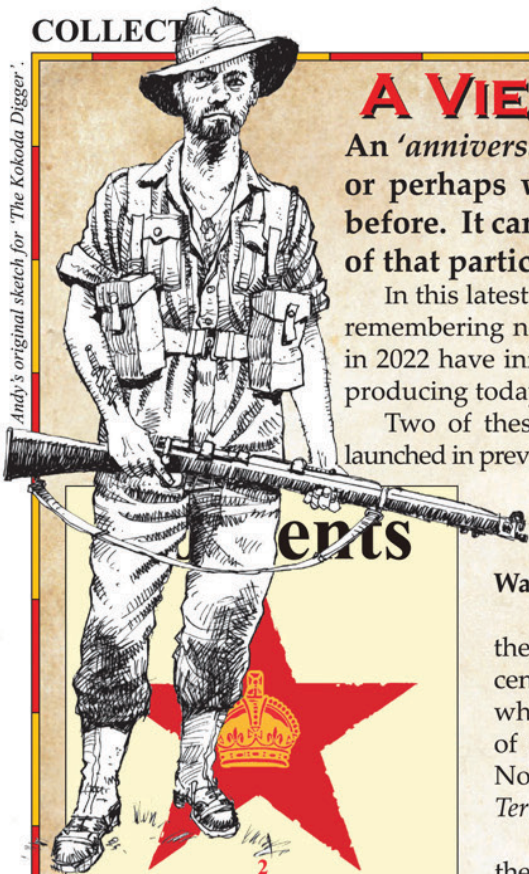
COLLECTOR

蒐集者

A Seasonal Look at Our World in Miniature



ONCE UPON A TIME IN EGYPT



A VIEW FROM THE TRENCHES...

An 'anniversary' is the date on which an important event took place or perhaps when a famous institution was founded many years before. It can also refer to the actual commemoration or celebration of that particular event.

In this latest edition, #58, of 'COLLECTOR' we are, once more, celebrating and remembering no less than three important historical events that in 2022 have influenced and inspired what *King & Country* are producing today!

Two of these three events have already been successfully launched in previous issues of 'COLLECTOR'... #56 and #57.

Here in #58 you will see the latest spectacular release in the 'Ancient Egypt' series as well as the upcoming 'reinforcements' for our 'Falklands War' range.

The 'third' commemorative anniversary announces the August, 2022 launch of an all-new collection centred around *The Kokoda Trail Campaign* which, exactly 80 years ago, consisted of a series of ferocious battles fought between July and November 1942 in what was then the *Australian Territory of Papua*.

This Second World War campaign between the advancing Japanese and the defending Australians has come to be viewed as 'the battle that saved Australia' and played an integral part of the modern ANZAC legend along with World War One's 'Gallipoli'.

Elsewhere in this summer 2022 edition of 'COLLECTOR' we venture once more into Vietnam during that country's epic conflict... Before journeying to snow-bound Belgium during *The Battle of the Bulge*... and then onto the disputed Golan Heights during *The Yom Kippur War* of 1973.

In addition to these other historical destinations we'll also take you on a side-trip to our favourite U.S. city and K&C's brand-new toy soldier store in *San Antonio, Texas*.

So, sit yourself down, put your feet up, and let's celebrate a few great anniversaries!

Very best wishes and happy collecting.

Very best wishes and happy collecting.

Andy C. Neilson

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

Sneak Peek

An advance preview of two different versions of K&C's upcoming M151 'MUTT' jeeps for our 'VIETNAM' range to be released later this year.



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BATTLE OF THE BULGE
WINTER GIs

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SPECIAL PREVIEW

Paras & Prisoners

GOOSE GREEN 29 MAY, 1982

GOOSE GREEN was the first clash and longest land battle of the Falklands War. Over two days, in a fourteen hour struggle, the Second Battalion of The Parachute Regiment (2 Para), fought against a much larger enemy force made up of various sub units of the Argentine army and air force.

Most of the battle was fought in broad daylight over nearly featureless, windswept and uneven ground against well-entrenched defenders.

The Parachute Regt. shoulder patch.



2 Para were heavily outnumbered and lacked sufficient artillery and air support. By all military calculations they should have lost.

In the event however, they not only succeeded but captured or killed the entire Argentine garrison... *a force more than twice their size!*

So set the tone for many of the land battles and skirmishes that were to follow in the drive towards Stanley and eventual British victory in The Falklands conflict.

TF005



THE COST OF BATTLE

During the fourteen hour battle the British lost 18 killed (16 Paras, including their commanding officer, Lt. Col. 'H' Jones, a Royal Marine helicopter pilot and a single commando sapper) together with 64 wounded.

On the Argentine side, 55 were killed and 86 wounded with another 950 captured.

In addition to their prisoners-of-war 2 Para also captured six 20mm Rheinmetal anti-aircraft guns along with two 35mm Oerliken anti aircraft

cannon plus a battery of three 105mm pack howitzers.

Along with these weapons were thousands of rounds of small arms ammunition, hundreds of land mines and many artillery shells.

K&C's GOOSE GREEN PARAS

KING & COUNTRY is proud to present 3 x Two-Man Sets of *British Paratroopers* escorting and searching 3 x *Argentinean Prisoners-of-War* in the immediate aftermath of this first land battle on the Falklands.

For the officers and men of 2 Para their war would go on and they would win and capture *Wireless Ridge*, one of seven strategic hills within five miles of Stanley on the night of 13/14 June, 1982.

The Parachute Regt. cap badge.



For the Argentineans left behind at Goose Green their war was already over.

TF004



TF003



Greetings from

KING & COUNTRY TEXAS



Texas

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San Antonio, TX 78209
Tel: (210) 226-7000
www.kingandcountrytexas.com

Martinez-Garcia as our
General Manager.

Amber was born and
raised in San Antonio
and attended *Texas A&M
University* where she graduated
with her *Bachelor of Art in History*.

SAN ANTONIO is a Texas city with a rich colonial history, bursting with culture and booming with a wide variety of great modern attractions.

At its heart is the historic *Alamo*, the 18th century Spanish mission now preserved as a museum, which marks the site of the famous 1836 battle for Texan independence from Mexico.

San Antonio is also the home of 'KING & COUNTRY TEXAS' our brand- new toy soldier store and the worthy successor to 'Kings X'.

'K&CT' features the largest and most extensive collection of KING & COUNTRY's many different ranges of figures, fighting vehicles and display accessories in all of North America.



READ ALL ABOUT IT

Located at 5945 Broadway, just 10 minutes from downtown San Antonio, in a classic 1920s wood-frame house this spacious, custom-made store contains row upon row of display cabinets

'Howdy Y'all!'

and hand-made dioramas that show off the very best we have to offer.

As well as *King & Country's* own product lines the new store also carries a comprehensive selection of *Osprey* and other military-themed books that provide great illustrative and historical information about the wars, battles and campaigns that K&C replicates in 1:30 scale miniature.

COFFEE CORNER

Another unique feature of our store is our 'Coffee Corner' where collectors, visitors and occasionally wives and girlfriends too can sit down and enjoy a complimentary 'cup of java' while others view the collections and dioramas.

INTRODUCING AMBER...

No matter how nice looking a store appears or what great products it sells it's vitally important to have a happy and helpful personality behind the counter to look after the customers and assist collectors to find exactly what they're looking for.

'KING & COUNTRY TEXAS' is fortunate indeed to have *Ms. Amber*



Even as a youngster, *Amber* loved history and that can be traced back to her family's own personal heritage and connections to the first Spanish settlers that arrived in 'New Spain' in the 17th Century.

While still attending university *Amber* began working in her spare time at the 'Kings X' store, our original toy soldier venue in *The Menger Hotel*, just a stone's throw from the *Alamo* in downtown San Antonio.

5945



Above: Tommy & Claire Gish with their good friend, Crawford Perry, on the steps outside 'King & Country Texas'.

So began her own knowledge of toy soldiers and links with **King & Country**. In 2013, after completing her university degree, K&C was delighted to offer **Amber** the top position at Kings X.

As **Mrs. Laura Johnson**, King & Country's cofounder says, "Amber has got the knowledge, the experience and the kind of warm personality that our customers and collectors really like.

Nothing is too much trouble for her and she will always go that 'extra mile' for her customer to find a special K&C piece or a rare set of King & Country figures that someone, somewhere may have been seeking out for a long time".

Amber herself acknowledges, "This hobby has a very personal side to it and meeting and talking with collectors in person or on the 'phone or even on the internet is what I really enjoy most.

The pleasure I get seeing and hearing how much our customers and visitors enjoy coming into this new venue and seeing our many lines of products is also an added bonus.

Plus, everyday I get the opportunity to be creative... setting up large battles or small scenes or whatever is required to display our figures in the best, possible way."

To assist **Amber** she also has the help and support of **Mr. Gilbert Gonzales**, a relative newcomer to the world of toy soldiers but a very useful, additional pair of hands around the new store.

'**KING & COUNTRY TEXAS**' is looking forward to all kinds of new challenges and introducing our many different historical ranges to collectors, not just in San Antonio but all over Texas and the rest of America.

OUR WORLD IN MINIATURE

If you love all kinds of history and history in miniature be sure to come to San Antonio and stop by '**KING & COUNTRY TEXAS**'...

Where a real Texas welcome is always waiting for you!



YOUNGER COLLECTORS

Although collecting toy soldiers is often seen as a hobby enjoyed by adult enthusiasts it is great to see younger people discovering the world of historical miniatures.

Since '**KING & COUNTRY TEXAS**' opened its doors at 5945 *Broadway* in the heart of San Antonio's *Alamo Heights* district *General Manager Amber* has seen a growing number of young people come into the store, first of all, out of curiosity and then because of their interest in history and the toy soldiers themselves.

Several months back one particular young collector, 12 years old **Tommy Gish** of San Antonio stopped by with his *Mom* and younger sister, **Claire**.

"We were out shopping nearby when we saw the store and thought it looked kind of cool". says **Tommy** "and so we stopped by.

Once inside looking around I saw a WW2 display and really liked it. My Grandpa fought in WW2 so I persuaded my Mom to buy me a few of K&C's American GIs. My little sister also liked the '**World of Dickens**' range of figures so Mom bought her a couple of those too."

Since then these two youngsters have returned to '**KING & COUNTRY TEXAS**' time and time again... Sometimes just to look and enjoy, other times to add a figure or two to their collections. They've also made a point of bringing some of their friends who in turn have also become collectors.

As the youngsters' Mom says, "Collecting toy soldiers or any of King & Country's historical series is a fun way for children to learn about the past and a great way to value their history and the people who made it".

On 6 October 1973, Egypt and Syria launched a surprise attack on Israel on 'Yom Kippur', the holiest day of the Jewish calendar.

In the south, Egyptian forces successfully crossed the Suez Canal and captured the Israeli defence line that the Israelis themselves had established on the opposite bank of the canal following their amazing success during the 1967 'Six Day War'.



several days until the first of their reinforcements began to arrive.

During this fierce struggle to capture the Golan Heights it is reliably estimated that the Syrians lost over half of their tanks while the Israelis had 70 of theirs destroyed or temporarily put out of action.



IDF036-1

Syrian Army T-55A
Main Battle Tank
(#435 'Death to Israel')

IDF036-2

Syrian Army T-55A
Main Battle Tank
(#482 'Allahu Akbar' God is Great)

Valley of Tears & T-55s

At the same time, far to the north, on the disputed Golan Heights, massive columns of Syrian tanks advanced on the Israeli positions there threatening to break through and invade the towns and settlements of northern Israel.

DAVID & GOLIATH

On the Golan Heights the unequal battle was between a massive Syrian force of TWO entire armoured divisions, with more than

1250 tanks (many of them modern Soviet-supplied T-55s) against two understrength Israeli armoured brigades of just 180 tanks (mostly British-built, Israeli-improved Centurions).

Despite being badly-bruised by initial Syrian air strikes, artillery bombardments and forced retreats the Israeli forces somehow managed to hold on for

Dozens more were damaged but were able to be recovered, repaired and returned to service by the IDF's (Israeli Defence Forces) own workshops and replacement depots.

K&C's SYRIAN ARMOUR

On display here are two representative Syrian Army T-55s from the Golan Heights battle. Both 1:30 scale models are painted in their distinctive, 3-colour camouflage

pattern and carry the twin external fuel drums so recognizable on Soviet-designed armoured vehicles.

Each Syrian T-55 also carries a 100mm Rifled Main Gun together with the turret-mounted 12.7mm DsHK Heavy Machine Gun as well as a tank commander figure.

Also available are a pair of dead Syrian tank crew casualties.

THE TELEVISION SERIES

For anyone interested in the 'Yom Kippur War' seek out the superb, Israeli-produced TV series 'Valley of Tears' which is an excellent, fictionalized account of the battle for the Golan Heights and the struggle of Israeli units attempting to hold back the Syrian onslaught.



IDF020

The Israeli Army
M3 Halftrack

IDF011

IDF028

IDF030

IDF017

Israeli M38 Jeep
w/106mm Recoilless Rifle

IDF035

Centurion Sho'T
Main Battle Tank

IDF037

Two-Man set of Syrian Tank Casualties

Discovering TUTANKHAMUN'S MONUMENT

TODAY, anyone interested in Ancient Egypt has heard of TUTANKHAMUN. Through the survival of his tomb, full of treasures, he has become Egypt's most famous pharaoh. Yet in his own time he was not a major ruler and relatively little is known about him.

Tutankhamun came to the throne as a small boy when Egypt was in a state of upheaval. The priests were angry and the general population was confused because the previous pharaoh, Tutankhamun's father, Akhmaten, had forced them to abandon their traditional gods and only worship *Aten*, the sun disk.

Upon his father's death the new boy pharaoh, just 8 or 9 years old, was too young to know how to rule and was controlled by his senior advisors.

Probably under their influence Tutankhamun restored the Ancient Egyptian religion previously discarded by his father. He then brought back its high priests and began restoring older monuments damaged and even destroyed during his father's reign.

ILL-HEALTH & DEATH

The boy pharaoh throughout his short life did not enjoy good health and suffered from a variety of ailments and physical infirmities that required him to walk with the use of a cane, several of which were found in his tomb.

KING TUT'S TOMB & MONUMENT

Many centuries later, when Howard Carter and Lord Carnarvon dug their way into the boy pharaoh's tomb they were dazzled by the riches it held.

Although it had been robbed in ancient

times, the thieves had only taken away items they could easily transport.

The central burial chamber and its surrounding store rooms remained largely intact and had not been plundered,

All the treasures including the huge sarcophagus, in which the pharaoh lay, inside an innermost coffin of solid gold, lay perfectly preserved.



Magnificent jewellery adorned the mummy itself, which wore a stunning head piece of heavy beaten gold, inlaid with precious *lapis lazuli*.

It is the superb craftsmanship of that particular headpiece that directly inspired King & Country's own 'Tutankhamun Monument' design.

The concept behind this latest stone display accessory was to create a large and decorative entrance way to the pharaoh's tomb that would provide the perfect backdrop for any group of figures from K&C's

'Ancient Egypt' series whether they be the original stonemasons and builders or the more modern-day archaeologists and visitors.

As can be seen here and in the following pages this large, imposing, hand-painted *polystone* structure can be used in a number of different historical settings and eras.



AE087
Tutankhamun's Monument

Add a few additional K&C display items and you can tell a number of different stories each and every time.

Here at King & Country we can supply the monument... you simply supply your imagination and enjoyment.

AE086

AE094

AE093

AE091

AE090

AE092

AE089

AE075

NAPOLEON IN EGYPT

ONE OF KING & COUNTRY'S lesser-known Napoleonic ranges colourfully illustrates the dramatic collision between Bonaparte's ill-fated *Army of the Orient* and the mighty, majestic ruins of Ancient Egypt.

Although ultimately a military failure, Napoleon's expedition to the Middle East began an enduring, popular fascination with *Ancient Egypt*, a civilization that was then all but lost to history.

His three-year campaign (1798-1801) would have a lasting impact on Western culture, influencing science, art, design and literature as well as, in later years, cinema and tourism.

These achievements however were not the primary goal of the expedition. France's principal enemy at that time was Great Britain and recognising that a direct assault on mainland Britain could not be successful while the Royal Navy still ruled

the waves, Bonaparte turned his attention elsewhere.

LOOKING SOUTH

A handy alternative appeared to suggest a French move to control the *Mediterranean* by first seizing *Malta* and then *Egypt*.

Making this ancient land a French colony would allow France to replace her recently-lost territories in the West Indies by opening up new, lucrative markets in the Middle East. It would also provide a spring-board from which to attack Britain's 'jewel in its colonial crown- *India*'.



Napoleon ordered a French expeditionary force of 34,000 officers and men to include a certain number of scientists and artists to record and report on the army's progress as well as its findings and discoveries relating to Egypt, its people and their history.

Once the French landed and began advancing across the country they were staggered by the huge abundance of ancient monuments and artefacts which they came upon.

All of this they investigated and recorded in great detail in their '*Description de L' Egypte*'.

This was to go on to become the foundation of modern 'Egyptology'.



conquests against the combined efforts of the declining *Ottoman Empire* and the ascending imperial ambitions of the British.

Beyond the trials and tribulations of the battlefield, the French also had to endure the extreme weather conditions of Egypt in particular and the Middle East in general.

Extremely hot during the day and bitterly cold at night Napoleon's Army had to also contend with thirst, inadequate supplies, bubonic plague and other diseases that rarely distinguished between generals, soldiers, scientists, artists and civilians.

SPOILS OF WAR

By the end of Napoleon's campaign in Egypt his army of soldiers, scientists and artists had been reduced to less than 5,000 men.

15,000 Frenchmen had been killed in battle while almost as many had died of various diseases and maladies during the previous three years.

Amazingly Napoleon's own reputation remained untarnished despite the campaign's failure.

What lasting success there was can be looked upon in the wealth of ancient Egyptian relics that were taken back to France and can still be seen in French museums today.

Above: Tutankhamun's Headpiece

Found on the mummy of the young pharaoh inside the third coffin of the sarcophagus, this stunning 'death mask' is made from solid gold and weighs almost 24 pounds. It was designed to ensure that his spirit recognized his body in the afterlife.

THE HIGH COST OF EXPLORATION

These military and scientific expeditions however, came at a very high price. Over the three-years of the campaign several major battles were fought and sieges undertaken.

First the French defeated Egypt's *Mameluke* overlords and then had to defend their newly-won



Please Note: Special Offer Prices with these yellow tabs.

KOKODA

The Long Bloody Trail

By the middle of 1942 Japan's empire extended in depth across vast tracts of China, the Pacific and Southeast Asia. During the six months after its devastating attack on Pearl Harbor, Hong Kong had fallen, rapidly followed by Malaya and Singapore, then the Philippines and finally, the Dutch East Indies.

Now the Japanese stood ready to attack Australia's territories in New Guinea, just one hundred miles north of the great southern continent.

With New Guinea as a forward base Japan's navy and airforce could attack Australia, threaten its link to America and also act as a 'shield' to protect its newly conquered Dutch East Indies.

Beginning in March 1942 Japanese troops had already landed at various points on the north coast of New Guinea and started to advance towards their key objective, *Port Moresby*, the territory's capital and main port.

In May 1942 however, the *Battle of the Coral Sea* thwarted an additional plan for a Japanese amphibious assault on the port. The main effort now would be an overland thrust south-westwards along the *Kokoda Trail (or Track)*, running across the rugged *Owen Stanley Mountains* via the native village of *Kokoda*. This was also the site of New Guinea's only airstrip.

At this moment the island's Australian commanders mistakenly considered the Trail impassable for large-scale troop movements and the advancing Japanese only encountered

minimal resistance from a small force of New Guinea volunteers.

By the end of July 1942 the Japanese had captured Kokoda and brought almost 14,000 battle-hardened troops into action.

FIGHTING WITHDRAWAL

As the military situation deteriorated, experienced Australian units began arriving at Port Moresby and rushed north-eastwards up the Kokoda Trail towards the advancing Japanese.

The first major clash erupted on August 26 at the small town of *Isurava* as a large enemy force of about 6,000 men slowly forced back a much smaller Australian brigade that became cut-off for a time.

After almost two weeks of vicious fighting in dense, mountainous jungle the remnants of the brigade, just over 300 Australians, managed to fight their way back to a ridge closer to Port Moresby.

Once there a fresh Australian brigade arrived to support them and help hold the line.

COMMAND CRITICISM

Even as the battle raged another battle was being waged behind the lines...

General MacArthur, the American overall Allied commander was an impatient and often impetuous senior officer with little or no knowledge of the difficult and extreme conditions in which the fighting was taking place.

Several top Australian commanders were ruthlessly dismissed even as their forces were slowly beginning to push the Japanese back.

Part of the reason for the enemy retreat was that they had seriously over-extended their supply lines resulting in severe shortages of food and ammunition.



AUSSIE GRIT & GUTS

The struggle for the *Kokoda Trail* was marked by great courage and endurance in the most extreme circumstances by the soldiers of both sides.

Those who took part would never forget the physical and mental demands of fighting in a steep, mountainous terrain with the constant damp of the tropical jungle and the ever present ravages of disease and discomfort.

For Australians in particular the *Kokoda Trail Campaign* is a testament to their endurance and tenacity that echoes the legend of *Gallipoli* and the strength of the Aussie character.

The successful conclusion of this campaign was not the end of fighting in New Guinea... That would continue for many more months but as *Winston Churchill* said of another great Allied victory,

"This is not the end. It is not even the beginning of the end. But, it is perhaps, the end of the beginning!"

These new King & Country figures are our way to honour the memory and sacrifice of all the Australian fighting men who fought and died on that long, bloody trail in a place called '**KOKODA**'.

KT001

'The Kokoda Digger'



KT003

'Walking Wounded'



KT002

'The Patrol'
(4-man set)



THE 83rd. PENNSYLVANIA was a volunteer infantry regiment rated among the very best in the Union Army by the Commanding General himself, *George McClellan!*

The regiment was to participate in almost every major battle in the East including the *Seven Days Battles... Antietam... Fredericksburg...*



troops against the Confederate onslaught.

More than 15 years later, a statue of this brave officer was erected on the south slope of *Little Round Top*. This was the inspiration for K&C's own figure of *Colonel Vincent* at the top of this feature.

“Forward The 83rd!”

Gettysburg... Petersburg and all the way to Appomattox Court House.

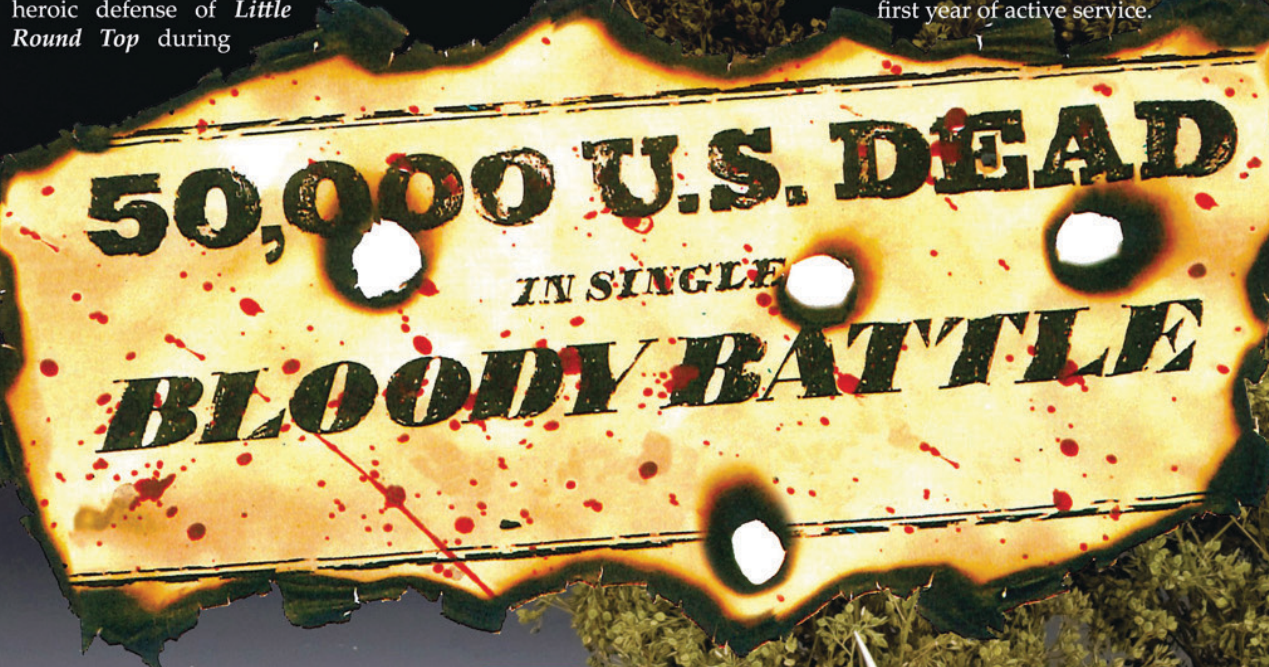
As one of the finest fighting regiments in the *Army of the Potomac*, it fought alongside the famous *20th Maine* in the heroic defense of *Little Round Top* during

the pivotal *Battle of Gettysburg* in July 1863.

It was here that the regiment's commanding officer, *Colonel Strong Vincent*, just 26 years old, was mortally wounded while rallying his

UNIQUE UNIFORM

In addition to its fine fighting reputation the *83rd* was also distinguished by its unusual and original style of uniform adopted during its first year of active service.



It was described as follows... “Our uniforms are of French origin and based on that country's *Foot Chasseur Regiments*. They were part of a large consignment of 10,000 sets of uniforms purchased in Paris and dispatched to the U.S. Quartermaster General for distributing to certain volunteer infantry regiments, including our own, the *83rd*.”

As most Frenchmen of that period were generally smaller in stature than Americans many of the *Chasseur-style* jackets proved to be too small. But, by inserting gussets down the side seams of the jackets, most could be rendered serviceable.

At the same time, the looser, fuller type of French *pantaloon*s proved much more comfortable than their U.S. counterparts. In addition,

the long French gaiters and oil-cloth covered backpacks were both equally popular and practical with the soldiers of the *83rd*.

Another distinguishing feature of this foreign-made uniform were the two large green epaulettes supplied with each jacket.

CASUALTIES

Unique uniforms alone, of course, are no indication of a regiment's battlefield reputation or its fighting ability.

During its time of service the *83rd Pennsylvania* suffered the second-highest number of battle deaths among Union Army infantry regiments throughout the war, second only to the *5th New Hampshire*.

The *83rd* lost 11 officers and 271 men killed in battle and another 153 dying from disease and other causes amounting to almost 25% of total enlistments.

KING & COUNTRY'S 83RD.

All of our latest *83rd Pennsylvania* soldiers are in attacking mode, taking the fight directly to the enemy.

The variety of dynamic ‘fighting’ poses shown here as well as the addition of a number of battlefield casualties should provide an ample abundance of display and diorama possibilities for any serious collector of *American Civil War* military miniatures.





VN108-2

M35A1 Quad .50 Gun Truck
'THE WAR WAGON'



VN108-1

M35A1 Quad .50 Gun Truck
'SUZIE Q'

'Riding Shotgun'

"RIDING SHOTGUN" was a 'Wild West' term used to describe the bodyguard who rode alongside a stagecoach driver, typically armed with a shotgun, called a 'coach-gun', to ward off bandits or hostile Indians.

During the Vietnam War, it was the primary mission of the US Army Transportation Corps to ferry essential military supplies from the coastal ports to inland bases and many other destinations across South Vietnam.

The logistical requirements of the MACV (Military Assistance Command Vietnam) were huge and 200-truck convoys were not uncommon. These massive formations also proved to be tempting targets for the local 'Viet Cong' who frequently sprung ambushes in more remote areas of the country.

Initially, security was provided for these convoys by U.S. Military Police units however they soon realized that they did not have the adequate manpower or equipment for this task.

PROBLEMS & SOLUTIONS

In September 1967 one particularly devastating Viet Cong attack killed seven drivers, wounded another 17 and destroyed more than 30 trucks.

To remedy this dire vulnerability a "hardened convoy" concept was created utilizing an all-new type of security vehicle. This became known as the 'Guntruck'.

It was based on the standard two-and-a-half-ton US Army cargo truck, partially protected by extra sheets of armour plating and carrying multiple machine guns of various calibres.

At the same time convoys were reduced in number to no more than 100 vehicles and their protection and security detail increased to one 'Guntruck' for every 10 transport trucks.

K&C's M35A1 GUNTRUCKS

Now, when it comes to depicting the Vietnam War in 1:30 scale, hand-painted military miniatures no company produces as many or as varied a selection of figures and fighting vehicles as K&C.

So bringing much-needed extra firepower support for our U.S. forces fighting in South Vietnam are two of the toughest and hardest-hitting Guntrucks ever built...

These two M35A1s with their special turret-mounted Quad .50 calibre machine guns provided powerful protection against even the most determined of enemy attacks.

In addition to the four .50 calibre machine guns each truck is also armed with a separate M60 machine gun and comes with an M16 armed driver figure and a gunner manning the Quad .50s.

Put one or both of these unique fighting vehicles into your Vietnam display and see the dramatic difference they make and remember...

'Have Guns Will Travel!'



'CASEVAC!'

It's hard to imagine the Vietnam War without helicopters. In this conflict they revolutionized warfare, airlifting troops, supplies, ammunition, equipment and sometimes even vehicles.

Over the battlefield they conducted visual reconnaissance, command and control, artillery spotting and fire support.

Importantly they also provided medical evacuation flying often gravely wounded troops rapidly back to first aid stations and field hospitals in safe, rear areas.

Many thousands of U.S. and South Vietnamese soldiers lives were saved by the timely arrival of US Army and Marine

Corps helicopters both to extricate troops from difficult situations or to bring in additional reinforcements.

Among the U.S. forces fighting in Vietnam it was the Marines who were the first to see the many advantages of air-borne assault and put it into operation.

Helicopters gave them a unique opportunity to

avoid heavily-defended positions by going over and around them. This technique became known as 'Vertical Envelopment' and utilized large numbers of machines to transport hundreds of troops to make an airborne assault, outflanking the enemy and even cutting off their withdrawal routes.

THE SIKORSKY H-34

Although the helicopter most commonly associated with the Vietnam War is the BELL UH1, better known as

the ubiquitous 'Huey' another American helicopter played a vitally important combat role especially in the early days of American involvement.

This was the Sikorsky H-34 a U.S. manufactured, piston-engined military 'chopper' originally designed as an antisubmarine warfare aircraft for the U.S. Navy.

As mentioned earlier, the US Marines were the first to actually employ their H-34s in a combat role in Vietnam. The Marines in particular appreciated this helicopter's

ready availability and reliability as well as its simplicity of maintenance compared to some of the newer machines just about to enter service.

USMC H-34s were also among the first 'helicopter gunships' trialled in theatre

being fitted with a pair of M60 machine guns and two, 19-shot, 2.75 inch rocket pods.

POST VIETNAM

The H-34 remained in active service with both the regular US Army and Marine Corps aviation units until the late 1960s. After that some of the H-34s were transferred to reserve formations in the U.S. where they continued to serve until 1973.

A total of 1821 machines were built not including an additional 300 for the French Armed Forces.

In the UK a British version, the 'Westland Wessex' was used by the Royal Navy and Royal Air Force. A number of these were then sold to Australia, Brunei, Ghana, Oman and... even Iraq.

THIS K&C H-34

Our King & Country hand-carved, hand-painted, wooden H-34 (shown here) is in the typical USMC colour and markings of machines that served in Vietnam from 1965-1967.

HOW TO ORDER

To obtain one of these superb custom-made helicopter models simply contact King & Country direct for more details...

www.kingandcountry.com



A squad of King & Country's U.S. Marines form a perimeter defense line around an H-34 as it evacuates some wounded 'Grunts' and a few innocent South Vietnamese civilians caught in the crossfire.

In 1965, when America first began committing large numbers of ground troops into the Vietnam conflict a great deal of thought was given to who they would fight... how they would do it... and where exactly the fighting would take place.

General William Westmoreland, the general commanding all American



VN129

Meanwhile, in the country's more heavily populated urban centres, the ARVN (the South Vietnamese Army) and its security forces could eliminate the smaller, lightly-armed Viet Cong elements while also securing government control over the local countryside surrounding its villages, towns and cities.

To achieve all of this and much, much more a constant stream of

Extra Firepower!

additional military resources and troop reinforcements were to pour into South Vietnam until by 1968 the number of U.S. troops 'in country' stood at a peak of 536,000.

K&C REINFORCEMENTS

As many collectors know King & Country's 'VIETNAM WAR' series has proved to be one of our most popular releases of recent years and has gathered enthusiasts from not only the U.S. but all over the world.



VN134

Perhaps, just one of the many reasons for this is the regular introduction of dramatic new figures and fighting vehicles that tell different parts of this very important war story.

Not only do we illustrate America's principal involvement in the conflict but also the participation of one of their main allies, Australia.

At the same time, we can never forget the South Vietnamese people themselves and their suffering and hardships. And finally, of course, we have to recognize the tenacity, courage and, often, the brutality of both the Viet Cong and the NVA (North Vietnamese Army).

Here in these pages you can see a prime selection of our most recent releases as well as an advance preview of some very unique future release that portray another more entertaining aspect of America's involvement in the Vietnam War...

- VN071 *The Battle of Long Tan Set #1*
- VN082 *The Battle of Long Tan Set #2*
- VN121 *Full Metal Joker*
- VN129 *Prisoner & Escort*
- VN131 *FMJ Rafterman*
- VN132 *Smoke Break*
- VN133 *NVA DShK '38 Anti Aircraft Team*
- VN134 *Viet Cong Heavy Machine Gun Set*
- VN135 *M60 FIRE Team*



VN146 *Lying Prone Rifleman*



VN146

Westmoreland's initial plan was that his mostly American forces would engage and defeat the enemy's mainline units in their jungle and mountain strongholds deep in the Vietnamese countryside.

and Allied forces in South Vietnam, firmly believed that the overwhelming superiority of U.S. firepower together with its massive military resources could be applied to destroy the Viet Cong and their North Vietnamese comrades whenever and wherever they chose to fight.



VN135

VN140

M113 APC 'Two-Zero Alpha'



VN144

M113 APC 'Two-Niner Juliet'



VN132

VN131

VN121

VN155

VN148

VN147

'Apocalypse Playmates'

From 1964 to 1972, one of the few constants of the Vietnam War and one of the most eagerly anticipated by American troops, was the annual 'Bob Hope Christmas Show'.

During those years Bob Hope, America's most famous comedian, included South Vietnam on his Yuletide trips to visit U.S. troops stationed around the world.

This tradition began back in World War Two when the entertainer logged more than a million miles performing for U.S. military



'U.S. Army Bob'



'USMC Bob'

THE 1964 TOUR

The very first show in Vietnam was at *Bien Hoa Air Base*, just 25km from *Saigon*. A month earlier the Viet Cong had attacked this base destroying many aircraft and killing several U.S. Air Force personnel.

As Hope reached the stage he quipped, "What a welcome guys, I bet you thought I was your replacement!"

Joking apart though, there were real enough dangers involved in visiting Vietnam at this time.

Bob Hope and the rest of his entertainers were staying at the *Caravelle Hotel* in the centre of Saigon when the nearby *Brinks Hotel*, which served as a **BOQ** (U.S. Bachelor Officers Quarters) was bombed by the Viet Cong killing two Americans and wounding over 60 more Military and Vietnamese civilians.

After 5 more shows at major U.S. bases around the country Hope and his fellow entertainers flew onto a final show at *Clark Air Force Base* in the Philippines. So, ended their first 'Vietnam Tour', eight more would follow but the 1964 trip set the pace and pattern for all future ones.

STARS & GLAMOUR

Over the next eight years, the performers frequently changed and the locations varied but *Bob Hope* was always the star and began each show by strutting out on stage, usually with his golf club in hand and firing off jokes specially written for each base.

He would also have the reigning *Miss World* or *Miss America* with him bringing the troops more than a little outstanding glamour from back home.

Beginning in 1965 he also started appearing on stage in military uniform shirts and jackets outlandishly decorated with all kinds of divisional and



unit patches, stripes and other military insignia.

A TRIBUTE IN MINIATURE

As the number of U.S. Military Personnel stationed in South Vietnam grew each year, so too did the *Bob Hope Christmas Tour's* length and venues expand.

Among K&C's upcoming 'Vietnam' figures to be released are two versions of this great American comedian as he might have appeared during his 1967 / '68 tours.

In one guise he is wearing the standard *US Army field shirt* adorned with oversized, full colour patches of the *Air Cavalry* and the *MACV* (*Military Assistance Command Vietnam*). On his head Bob wears a navy blue ballcap complete with a *Green Berets* cap badge.

K&C's alternative version shows Bob wearing a *USMC* field shirt decorated with no less than 3 x divisional patches of the three U.S. Marine Corps divisions that served in Vietnam (*the 1st, 3rd and 5th*

Marines). Bob's headgear is a red ballcap with **USMC** proudly on the front.

On the back of Bob's Vietnam field shirts are a list of typical venues around South Vietnam where the show would be staged.

A LITTLE FEMALE COMPANY

Representing all of the many beautiful ladies who journeyed out to Vietnam to help entertain the troops are these three beauties. All three

were inspired by the three *Playboy 'Bunnies'* that appeared in the classic Vietnam movie, *'Apocalypse Now'* directed by *Francis Ford Coppola*.

There is an amazing scene in the movie where the three 'bunnies' arrive by helicopter and inadvertently cause a riot among the thousands of GIs waiting to see them.

Now, that never happened on any of Bob Hope's Christmas Tours but I bet you some of the 'Grunts' wished it had!

Thanks For The Memories

audiences in *North Africa, Europe* and the *Pacific*.

After WW2 he continued his holiday season tours every year including *South Korea* even during the conflict there from 1950 to 1953.

As early as 1962 Hope had wanted to go to Vietnam to perform for the growing number of U.S. military advisers there but it was not until 1964 that he made his first official visit.

At age 61, Hope and a hand-picked team of American singers, dancers and musicians flew out of Los Angeles aboard a U.S. military transport aircraft bound for the Far

East with their first stop being *Bangkok, Thailand* before flying on to *Saigon* in South Vietnam.

Security was exceptionally tight for this first Vietnam visit with all the venues for the many shows remaining 'top secret' until the comedian and his troupe actually landed at each location.

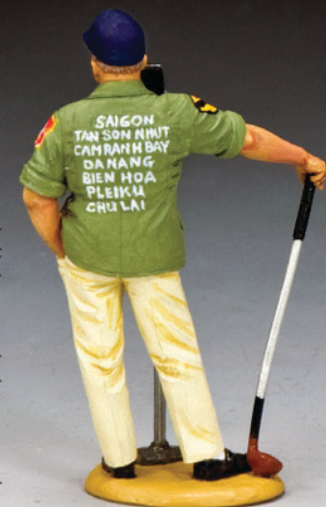


VN151

VN153

VN152

'Bob on Tour'



Please Note:

These three 'Apocalypse Playmates' are available as Solo figures or as a 3-figure Value Added Set.

Salah-al-Din-Yusif-ibn-Ayub better known in the West as 'Saladin', is the single, most famous figure in the history of the Crusades and even better known than his principal Crusader foe, *Richard the Lionheart*.

Saladin (1137-1193) was a *Sunni Muslim* of Kurdish ancestry who at the height of his military success ruled *Egypt, Syria, Upper Mesopotamia, Yemen* and other important parts of *North Africa* and the *Middle East*.

Following his major victory at the *Battle of Hattin* in 1187 he also controlled most of the Holy Land including the city of *Jerusalem*.

The army that he led incorporated three major races: the *Arabs*, the *Persians* and the *Turks*. Each of them contributed different and unique military strengths and skills to the armoury of Islam.

Many of his *Arab* soldiers were superb horsemen and provided the

MK203

The Mighty Saladin



The majority of Saladin's *Persian* soldiers formed the bulk of his infantry force and carried a broad mix of weaponry including swords, lances, battleaxes, daggers and even slingshots. In addition, most also used a wide variety of round shields for defence decorated with all kinds of Islamic designs and symbols.

Among the deadliest warriors in the *Saracen* army were the *Turkic* archers who would often act as lightly-equipped 'skirmishers' operating in small groups or larger formations in and around the field of battle with their short bows and quiver full of arrows.

In close or confined spaces these Turkic bowmen proved particularly lethal to the great mass of European foot soldiers.

Another important advantage Saladin's army enjoyed was the fact that his men were already acclimatized to both the blistering heat of the Middle Eastern day and also the freezing cold of its night.

light cavalry who could rapidly move across the battlefield attacking and inflicting casualties on the more heavily-armoured (and much slower) Crusader knights.

Saladin's Army

Saracen Archers... Ready... Aim... Fire!

MK224

MK226

MK230

MK223

MK220

MK225

MK221



Shield & Flag Detail

MK205

MK204

MK102



The detail on Saladin's shield

MK203



MK229



MK102

Shield Detail



All over the Ardennes small groups of American soldiers still held together determined to delay, harass and disrupt the German juggernaut...

This is our tribute to these brave U.S. fighting men.

BATTLE OF THE BULGE Winter GIs

THE NAZI OFFENSIVE into Belgium in December 1944 was a last-ditch gamble by Hitler that caught the Allies by surprise. Only the raw courage of some isolated and outnumbered American GIs to stand and fight prevented a German breakthrough that might have prolonged the war.

The *Battle of the Bulge* ranks as the single largest battle ever fought by the U.S. Army.

BBA097



More men, tanks, supplies and effort went into this battle than into any other in American military history.

It was larger than the Gulf War and even bigger than the landings in Normandy just six months before.

31 American divisions – fully a third of the entire U.S. Army in WW2 – saw action in this momentous battle.

BBA091



BBA098



BBA091



BBA092



BBA093



BBA094



BBA096



BBA095



BBA099



In just 39 days (December 16 to January 25) 19,000 Americans were killed in the Bulge... Nearly as many as in all 80 days of fighting on D-Day and the Normandy campaign.

K&C 'BULGE' REINFORCEMENTS

It's been far too long since our last release of all-new 'Winter GIs' battling the Wehrmacht and the Waffen SS in the forests of the Ardennes but here they finally are...

12 terrific, action-packed U.S. Army infantry in dramatic battle poses making sure every bullet counts and also ensuring the 'Krauts' pay dearly for every inch of frozen ground they are trying to capture!

BBA050

US Armored Jeep (Winter Version)



BBG119

Winter Jagdpanzer IV



Waffen SS-Obersturmbannführer Otto Skorzeny inspects some of his troops as they prepare to attack an American position on the morning of December 16, 1944.

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蒐集者 COLLECTOR

A Seasonal Look at Our World in Miniature

KOKODA

The Long Bloody Trail



ANNOUNCING A DRAMATIC NEW RANGE