

# COLLECTOR

蒐集者

A Quarterly Look at Our World in Miniature



HAVE YOURSELF A MERRY LITTLE CHRISTMAS

# A VIEW FROM THE TRENCHES...

I CAN'T BELIEVE another year has gone by! Here we are in December already... Is it a sign of growing older that every year now seems to last just six months...?

Or maybe it's only a reflection of how much harder we're all working over at KING & COUNTRY these days!

Now, don't get me wrong this is not, *I repeat not*, a complaint. I love my work and know that I'm the luckiest guy in the world... *I get to play with toy soldiers all day, every day.* Not only that I get to travel almost three months throughout the year to Europe, America and Australasia. When I get to these places I am fortunate to meet and talk with dozens of K&C dealers and literally hundreds of dedicated K&C collectors. I also get to listen and appreciate what these good folks like (and sometimes dislike) about K&C and our products. *And it's also important to hear what collectors would like to see in the future.*

When I'm back in Hong Kong this dialogue does not stop. Thanks to email and telephones I can keep in touch with even more collectors during the rest of the year. These contacts between manufacturer, retailer and collector are vital to *what we do and... how we do it.*

At the same time, the creative and manufacturing process continues on-stop ensuring that dealers and collectors alike receive K&C's regular monthly releases on time... every time.

And that, my friends, is only possible because of the superb team of individuals that make up KING & COUNTRY. I am mightily blessed to have, in my humble opinion, the best in the business (and hobby).

From our sculpting studio gang up in mainland China to our friendly and efficient girls and boys in the Hong Kong head office. Add to that our hard-working warehouse team... the amazingly talented "master painters" and superb "model builders" plus, our shop staff in San Antonio and Hong Kong! *I must also include the great factory workers up in China.*

All of them and yours truly come under the ever-watchful and sympathetic eye of Helen, our M.D. who makes sure we all stay on the right path... most of the time.

So, as you can see work is never a drag and certainly never boring. The days, weeks and months just fly by. And that, I suppose, is why every year just feels like six months.

Now, that I come to think of it.... *I wouldn't have it any other way!*

Have a very merry Christmas and, as we say in Scotland... *a Gird New Year!*

*Andy C. Nilsson*

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

Andy's original sketch for the great commander  
for the new BBG037 Plut '41 Infantry piece.



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"VIVE LE GENERAL!  
VIVE LA LEGION!"

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WS177/SLJ  
"Snow Tiger"

King & Country's latest Tiger tank fits perfectly  
into virtually any winter battle scene.

**F**OR OVER TWENTY YEARS, KING & COUNTRY has been a permanent fixture at the Old Toy Soldier Show in Chicago. This particular show, the largest of its kind in the world, takes place in a suburb of the "Windy City" during the final week of September each year. Collectors come from all over North America (and the rest of the globe) to see the best the toy soldier world can offer in both old and new toy soldiers and military miniatures. At this unique multi-day extravaganza collectors can browse and cruise several floors of the Hyatt Regency, Schaumburg visiting literally hundreds of open hotel rooms where dealers, manufacturers and other collectors have every kind of toy soldier and toy soldier related item on display... or for sale.

Morning, noon and night collectors and dealers wander the hallways seeking that elusive old item or searching for that brand-new product that's just been released!

For all attendees of the show these few days in late September are an opportunity to meet up with old friends (and make a few new ones) as well as getting an "advance look" at what all the major (and minor) manufacturers are up to...

As the show itself has grown with more and more exhibitors taking part so has the effort many manufacturers put into showing-off their products.

### LEADING THE WAY

For almost 15 years KING & COUNTRY has been at the forefront of the movement to display figures and fighting vehicles in realistic settings and environments that echo in miniature the real life historical events being portrayed on a table top. Andy C. Neilson, K&C's co-founder and creative director explains...

"When K&C first attended the Chicago Show way back in the mid-1980's virtually everyone, dealers and manufacturers alike, displayed their soldiers either in the original box or standing on top of the lid. It seemed boring to me but that was just the way it used to be. A few years later however, as K&C started to branch out into fighting

vehicles and aircraft models, I began to see how much better a little display looked when you combined a couple of different elements. Obviously, I was strongly influenced by the 1:35 scale modelers who for instance would put some GI's next to a German tank... Suddenly you began to tell a story".

The next obvious step was for Andy to take K&C figures and vehicles and place them into a small representation of a street corner or a battle-damaged building.

"Of course, the 1:35 scale plastic modelers had been creating and building vignettes like this for years", Andy continues, "But for some reason nobody seemed to be attempting it with toy soldiers".

KING & COUNTRY's first attempt at creating a purpose-built diorama to show off a series of figures began in 1995. "That was the year we launched our "ARNHEM '44" range of WW2 British Paratroopers" Andy says. "When we completed the first two sets, about eleven different Paras, I decided to try and build a little

# "SHOWTIME!"

Every year KING & COUNTRY takes part in major overseas toy soldier shows in Europe, Australia and America. At these events K&C often preview upcoming releases as an integral part of some spectacular hand-made dioramas.

*Here is the story of just one of them...*



*A large section of K&C's winter battle diorama... into it all the vehicles and figures that make any scene or display come alive.*

Dutch scene with several different "scratch-built" houses a railway arch and a cobble-stone street connecting everything".

Working at home, at night and on weekends, that first little Dutch Street scene, about 30 inches by 18, took K&C's creative director almost 6 months to complete.

"It was a long, tiring experience", Andy says, "but enormous fun and... I learnt so much from it".

That first K&C diorama appeared in several company advertisements and was displayed prominently in their own shop window in Hong Kong. Eventually, some time in 1997, it was sold to a wealthy K&C collector in Indonesia and now has "pride-of-place" in his own personal toy soldier "museum" in Jakarta.

### "A BRIDGE TOO FAR?"

With the success of that first display piece K&C were encouraged to create more (and bigger) dioramas... especially for overseas use at shows like the Chicago one and its smaller cousin, "The WEST-COASTER" held every March in Irvine, California near Los Angeles.

"For our first big overseas dioramas we chose again, to focus on our highly

Andy and his brother Gordon began the planning and construction of a massive eight foot long display utilizing a large arched railway bridge complete with "concrete" supports and approach roads.

"We tried to create an iconic scene from the movie *"A Bridge Too Far"* when the Germans attempted to cross the bridge from one side and are driven back by the British Paras dug in on the other side", Gordon Neilson says.

The newest K&C version of the mighty *"Blum"* gun together with a six-man crew to fire the weapon.



successful "ARNHEM'44" series", Andy says.

During the summer of 1997,

"We used a large-scale, ready-made, plastic railway bridge that Andy bought in the states", Gordon adds, "Then I adapted it by removing the rail lines and fitting a road way onto it, complete with pedestrian walkway".



This entire diorama measures 66 inches long by 22 inches wide and can accommodate a wide range of fighting vehicles and figures.



# ARNHEM '44

Gordon then painted it, "useful" the structure and incorporated Dutch and German road signs along it. The final touch was positioning coils of miniature barb wire at key points on the girders and supports of the bridge.

After the bridge itself was finished he turned his attention to the "stone and concrete" supports leading up to it.

"I used lightweight polystyrene to make the basic shapes then covered them with hundreds and hundreds of individually hand-cut cardboard 'bricks' that were placed on top of the polystyrene shapes".

After being firmly attached Gordon painted and dry-brushed the bridge supports. "Again", Gordon says, "we wanted to include lots of little extras like walkways... road blocks... even two little pill boxes to guard each side of the bridge". All of these small touches provided plenty of "points-of-interest" for collectors to notice while studying the whole diorama.

That September 1997, K&C in Chicago, displayed their "Bridge Too Far" and their latest figures and fighting vehicles to much acclaim. The most common remark heard was... "A great display or diorama really brings these figures alive!"



On Sunday 17 September 1944, three airborne divisions, two American and one British, descended on occupied Holland to seize a number of vital road and rail bridges.

These bridges would carry a British armored column into the heart of Nazi Germany. If this operation, codenamed "Market Garden" succeeded it would tear in Europe by

four days. This set comprises: a Radio Operator, a Para Sniper, a Bren Gunner, a Para firing a Sten gun and a Glider Pilot.

SET NO. 1 "THE BATTLE FOR THE BRIDGE"



## OVER THE YEARS

Since then K&C has designed and produced literally dozens of large and small dioramas and displays. Most have been for their own company use at overseas toy soldier events around the world. Others have been specially commissioned by

Andy looked at Gordon... Gordon looked at Andy... both thought the same thing... "I think we might be onto something here!"



international collectors for their personal use with their own collections.

The scope and variety of the displays has varied considerably... everything from a 24 square foot diorama of the Alamo for our own "King's X" in San Antonio, Texas to a massive Normandy Village complete with roads, houses, a church and even a bridge with a river running under it (think saving Pvt. Ryan) that was produced for a collector in South Korea.

These days it's Gordon Neilson, Andy's talented younger brother who does all the "construction-

work" at his studio/workshop on Lamma, one of Hong Kong's outlying islands.

"Andy and me", Gordon says, "talk, design and plan a concept. There's lots of discussions and we'll often scribble out a few 2-dimensional sketches to make sure both of us know exactly what the other is thinking".

Once both brothers are in general agreement Gordon gets down to the hard work... "With the "Winter-Road" scene which we presented in Chicago this past September we created a two-piece diorama that was almost six feet long by nearly two feet wide". We made it in two separate (but connecting) sections so that we could display the Germans on one side and the American GI's on the other".

By having the road blown up at one particular point this created a natural break between the two different sections.

### **SPECIAL FEATURES**

On many K&C designed dioramas

000030  
Sd.Kfz. 247(6Rad)  
Command Car



This obsolete vehicle has been adapted to carry some valuable radio equipment.

you can see a number of different levels for placing figures or vehicles on... that's intentional...

"By having a multi-level display a collector or K&C can fit in more specific pieces that can stand alone yet still tell an interconnected story", Gordon says.

"We already knew that this particular winter display had to contain all of our new "Battle of the Bulge" releases—both German and American".

With that large number of releases Gordon realized he needed as much "road area" as

A view from the rear showing the other side of the small section of the diorama... This proves that K&C care about every angle of the displays and put just as much detail on every side.

Together with the much larger section this 2-piece display took almost six weeks to construct.

possible. A sure way to create extra road space was to design an elevated main road with a branch road running underneath and through it.

Another big release that had to be accommodated on the display was the brand-new Flak 41, the updated, upgraded version of the famous '88 anti aircraft and anti tank gun.

It was jointly agreed by the Neilson brothers that the perfect place for this piece was on the flat

detailed assembly of specific features of the diorama like the tunnel entrance way and the battle-damaged tower and surrounding stone work.

Once all that is complete he returns to the main display and the "carving" begins. The special pink foam board Gordon utilizes is perfect for inscribing fine detail on... but it's a long, slow, painstaking process carving out literally thousands of little bricks and stones... and can take many days.

By comparison natural rock surfaces are relatively easy to construct. Gordon

over the fun begins... Gordon takes up the story... "This is really the part of the whole process I enjoy the most... *"The Painting"* Sometimes when you've been working for weeks just building, carving and sculpting one of these big displays you actually begin to think it's not working out the way you originally planned! I can often get a wee bit nervous..."

Gordon has learned through long experience though to "work-through" these doubts and concerns by starting the actual

*A deserted roadway through the Ardennes Forest sometime in early December 1944.*



grassy surface of the plateau above the main road tunnel entrance.

Another of Gordon's principal objectives was to make sure that the raised upper roadway was wide enough to handle K&C's brand-new, strictly limited "Snow Tiger". Once the basic layout and design was hammered-out construction work soon began.

#### HOW GORDON WORKS...

On every diorama Gordon builds he begins with a solid one inch thick wooden base cut to the required size of the display. In this "Winter Road" scene that meant one large section of board measuring 44" x 22" and the other being a 22" x 22" square.

He then starts to build up the many different layers of foam board required to form the basic "landscape" of the display. With that in place he now begins the

uses a whole range of rubber molds he has acquired over the years to cast these in plaster and within a few hours they have hardened and are ready for application.

It's usually at this stage that Andy gets to see the "work-in-progress" and can (and usually does) put in his tuppence worth (about two cents) of suggestions and comments. Once that little process is

paining process as soon as possible.

"Once basic color is applied and an initial degree of dry-brushing put on it's amazing the change that comes over the model... It really starts to take shape", Gordon explains.

Brick and stone detail begin to blend together naturally.

K&C's latest Strictly Limited "Snow Tiger" can easily use the upper roadway and tunnel seen in the top photograph on this page.





Simultaneously Gordon is also applying additional rocks, grass bushes, broken twigs (masquerading as fallen logs) and a forest load of trees to the new-painted display.

"Once we've completed all of the landscaping", Gordon adds, "it's time for the final little extras..." In this particular case that meant telegraph poles, road signs and even hand-written (or painted) graffiti in German language!

#### HOORAY FOR HOLLYWOOD!

Andy is well-known for his love of movies and movie making and sees a direct connection between a miniature diorama and an actual movie set.

"In the movies", he says, "a set designer creates a whole world on a sound stage in the studio or on location". Gordon does the same thing when he builds a display that forms the backdrop for K&C's figures and fighting vehicles. This plays a major role in the story the company is trying to tell.

"I love", Andy goes on, "when Gordon brings in the dioramas from the workshop and sets it up on our board room table".

"All of us in head office then get to walk around it and view it from all angles... the full 360!"

In the case of the "Winter Road" both Andy and Gordon decided on the final "set dressing" for the model...

"As you know I designed and built this display in two separate but adjoining sections", Gordon states. "When Andy and myself saw it together we both agreed",

Gordon goes on, "that it needed more rubble from the blown-up roadway". "In the little stream bed, below one of the arches, I created quite a few extra chunks of fallen masonry and broken brickwork that provide that little extra something..."

At the same time Andy was busy cutting out more bullet holes and shell damage on the façade of the road tunnel and the safety wall on the side of the upper road.

"One of my failings", Andy admits "is that I like to see all kinds of battle-damage on displays... where I think it is appropriate and realistic".

After Andy has carved out the requisite amount of "extra" battle damage Gordon gets back to work painting it to blend in with the rest of the piece.

The final K&C touch to any display like this might be to spread assorted ammunition boxes... jerricans... and oil drums around.

"It's amazing", Gordon Neilson says, "just how untidy a real battlefield looks... It's not just dead soldiers and knocked-out tanks or other vehicles lying around. It's the whole ephemera of war... weapons, uniforms, equipment, supplies and a hundred other things that soldiers use".

Look carefully into any K&C battle-field diorama and you'll also see lots of that... sometimes in the most unlikely places.

"That's one of the special joys of making these display pieces", Gordon says, "And putting them on show at Chicago or

the Westcoaster also helps. Collectors can (and occasionally do) spend hours studying every single detail... even the most minute!"

Most collectors do it not because they are trying to find faults... but because they want to see how they can do it for themselves with their own collections.

Andy has almost the last word, "Great Displays sell great product and bring a collection, large or small, to life! I would encourage any collector to take a leaf out of Gordon's book and have a crack at building a little display for their figures or vehicles."

"All of the materials I use are relatively cheap and easy to obtain", Gordon adds, "wood, foam board, card and lots of white glue (Elmer's Glue). It's great fun and a creative unique way to show off even just a few pieces of any collection!"

#### A FEW EXTRA DETAILS

- The "Winter Road" diorama took six weeks to design, build and paint.
- It was on display at the 2010 Old Toy Soldier Show in Chicago for 5 days.
- It was sold to a major K&C collector who lives in Holland and was shipped directly to him from Chicago.
- Gordon completed five large dioramas for the Show including a "Desert Train Station" being attacked by Australian Light Horse... "Antebellum Airfield" with our new Fw190 and Me 262... "Hong Kong Harbour" with the USS San Pablo... "Desert Air Strip" with an Me109 and Afrika Korps... the aforementioned "Winter Road"... PLUS... two small display pieces for "Life of Jesus" and our "Christmas" sets. All were sold to collectors either at or after Chicago.



BBA039

BBA037

*"A Gordon for me, a Gordon for me,  
If ye're no' a Gordon ye're nae use to me!  
The Black Watch are braw and the Seaforth's and a'  
But the cocky wee Gordon's the pride o' them a'..."*

# Wellington's Highlanders

**T**hose words come from the chorus of a popular Scottish music hall song of the nineteen fifties written and sung by one of Scotland's leading tenors of the time... Robert Wilson.

As a young boy growing up in Scotland then I can well remember hearing it played many times on the radio. It captured the pride and joy most Scots had in their soldiers and the many fine Regiments they served in.

Of those many fine regiments whose fighting skills and battle honours covered the globe few remain today. Most have disappeared through disbandment and amalgamations as the British Army has been decimated not by some foreign enemy but by the faceless bureaucrats of Whitehall

and the gutless politicians sitting in Westminster.

One of the finest of the Scottish Regiments to disappear through amalgamation was *The Gordon Highlanders*.

## Origins of the Regiment

The Gordons themselves date back to two earlier Highland Regiments... the 75th, and the 92nd, formed in 1787 and 1794 respectively.

The 92nd, more popularly known as *The Gordon Highlanders* was raised by the 4th Duke of Gordon largely from men from his own highland estate in

the north east of Scotland.

The Gordons first saw action in 1799 when they formed part of General Sir Ralph Abercromby's Expedition to Holland during the Napoleonic Wars. A year later they set sail for Egypt where they defeated a much larger force of French at the Battle of Mandora. They fought two further successful actions at *Abeikir* and *Alexandria* the following year (1801). It was here they gained the special distinction of being entitled to wear the badge of the *Sphinx* super-scribed with the legend "Egypt".

In 1807, the Gordons sailed northwards with a strong British force to Copenhagen to demand the surrender of the Danish fleet.

## *"FIGHTING SCOTS"*

*You do not need dozens of soldiers to make an exciting display... Even ten figures like this can brighten up any collection!*



Subsequently, the regiment served under Sir John Moore during the historic and gruelling retreat to Corunna in Spain.

By 1809, after seeing more action at Walcheren in Belgium they once more set sail for the Spanish Peninsula. It was here that they fought and won no less than seven new battle honours before returning home to the British Isles for well-deserved (but more mundane) peaceful "garrison duty".

The peace of Europe however was to be short-lived as the Emperor Napoleon fled his exile on Elba and returned to France in his doomed attempt to regain power. So began "The Campaign of 100 Days" and the Gordons were once more on active service and in the thick of it!

### Waterloo

It was during the Battle of Waterloo that the 92nd, took part in one of the

most heroic engagements of the entire battle... As a force of British cavalry (the 2nd North British Dragoons, better known as The Scots Greys) moved through the



NA211  
"Gordons & Greys  
to the Front!"

massed Gordon ranks to attack a French infantry advance many of the Highlanders decided spontaneously to join them!

Grabbing onto stirrup straps (and even a few horse's tails) many Gordons charged forward side-by-side with the advancing cavalry troopers. Soon this combined force smashed into the ranks of the startled French infantry scattering all before them. Within minutes a shocked and stunned French reversal soon degenerated into a bloody rout as Scottish cavalry troopers and infantrymen cut, slashed and bayoneted the fleeing French soldiers.

### King & Country's Gordons

This is K&C's fourth Scottish Regiment of the Napoleonic Era. Previous releases have featured the 71st Regiment (later to become the famous Highland Light Infantry); the 42nd Royal Highland Regt. (the Black Watch) and, of course, the 2nd North British Dragoons (The Scots Greys).

Since the retirement of both the 71st and the 42nd, many K&C dealers and collectors alike have many times requested another Scottish replacement regiment ... and here it is...



92nd  
Gordon Highlanders



Major Gen.  
HECTOR A. HENDERSON, C.B. 1850

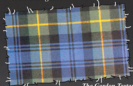


The original badge of  
The Gordon Highlanders.



Among the new releases are ten individual Gordon Highlanders as well as a unique two-piece vignette of a charging Scots Grey trooper alongside a running Gordon reaching for his stirrup strap (A2211).

These new figures include Highlanders that can be grouped together in multiples to form a "British Square" plus running and advancing Gordons that can accompany our other Scots Greys' mounted figures. And they are just the advance guard...



The Gordon Tartan.

Later, in 2011, K&C will be adding more reinforcements for the Gordons including a piper... another officer carrying the King's Colour... additional fighting Highlanders... and a few surprises!

But, for the moment, enjoy the current releases...



A 19th-century Gordon Highlander. By noted military artist Bryan Fozzard, courtesy of Osprey Books.

### About The Gordons

- When the regiment was raised in 1794 the Duchess of Gordon, a noted beauty, went around the country fairs offering a kiss to any man who enlisted!
- During the First World War the Regiment raised a total of 21 battalions.
- One of K&C's Co-founders, Andy C. Neilson had an uncle who was a piper with the 1st Battalion in France in 1940... He was captured with the rear guard at Dunkirk and spent 5 years in a German Prisoner-of-War camp in Poland.
- The Gordons were amalgamated with the Queen's Own Highlanders in 1994 to form "The Highlanders" (Seaforth, Gordons and Camerons). They in turn suffered further amalgamation in 2008 to become the Royal Regiment of Scotland.



### THE SCOTTISH SQUARE

Just two sides of a full square... ready to rebuff and repel some charging French cavalry.



*Bronze metal shoulder title worn above both sleeves.*

AL016



SP043  
Desert Village  
Temple/Mosque

# BEERSHEBA 1917

It has often been said that Beersheba was the world's last cavalry charge. That may or may not be true... but what is certainly true is that it was the world's last great cavalry charge!

Palestine 1917... Outside the town and railway junction of Beersheba a Brigade of Australian Light Horse

Following the successful launch of King & Country's first batch of Australian Light Horse in December 2009 and the follow-up of Turkish defenders in March 2010 it was decided that additional Australian and Turkish figures be prepared for release in December 2010.

Among these new pieces are a Turkish artillery set (AL015) featuring

AL014



AL015

stand ready by their mounts preparing to assault the Turkish garrison. Their task is to capture the town along with its vital water wells. This is all part of a much larger plan by the British Commander-in-Chief, General Edmund Allenby to roll back the Turkish defenses and take Gaza first and then liberate all of Palestine.



a Krupp-built 77mm field gun (complete with three gunners)... Three additional mounted Australians, all in dramatic action poses... And no less than six dismounted Turks and Australians including a "rescue" set where an Aussie carries his wounded mate out of harm's way.

As can also be seen K&C have produced a unique new Desert Village building... "The Temple/Mosque" (SP043) and several sand bag emplacements which provide the perfect setting for the action to take place in and around.

Throughout 2011 Light Horse collectors can look forward to more additions to this colourful and dynamic series featuring the First World War in the Middle East.



*The "sunburst" badge is worn on the turned up left brim of the slouch hat.*



**A**DOLPH "Dolfo" GALLAND (1912-1996) was one of Germany's leading air aces who flew throughout World War 2. In six years of war he flew 705 combat missions... virtually all of them on the Western Front. He was shot down on 4 separate occasions and was credited with 104 "kills"— British, French and American aircraft!

As one of the most famous fighting airmen of WW2 KING & COUNTRY has featured him several times alongside two of his "warbirds".



*General Der Jagdflieger Galland in typical confident mood.*

Several years ago, when K&C first "experimented" with polystone aircraft models we chose as one of our two examples the "classic" Me.109 "Emil" in the personal markings of Adolph Galland.

At that time Galland commanded JG26 one of the most respected and decorated Jagdgeschwaders in the Luftwaffe. Galland's "Emil" with the yellow nose and tail and the "Mickey Mouse" cartoon on the fuselage was a familiar and dreaded sight over the skies of Southern England during the summer and autumn of 1940.

One year later, at the age of just 29, he was made Inspector General of all the Luftwaffe's fighters on the

# ADOLPH GALLAND'S Luftwaffe

*Galland in his ME 262 along with several of his fellow jet pilots.*



*"Nose" Nosey demonstrates to his colleagues how he shot down an American B17 using some scale models.*

*From left to right  
Famous ME 262 pilots included:  
Major Rudolf "Rudi" Sauer  
Oberfeldwebel Heinz Arnold  
Major Walter "Nose" Nosey  
Unteroffizier Eduard Schallmayer  
Hauptmann Anton "Toni" Hackl*

Western Front.

By 1943 he was promoted to become the youngest General in Nazi Germany's High Command with the title *General der Jagdflieger*. He also earned the coveted *Knight's Cross with Oak Leaves, Swords and Diamonds*!

### TURN OF THE TIDE

As 1943 turned into 1944 Germany's *fortunes-of-war* began to dramatically worsen... On the Eastern Front the Russians pushed relentlessly and ruthlessly forward. In the west, the British and American air forces continued their "round-the-clock" strategic bombing of Germany. Galland and his superior *Reichsmarschal Hermann Goring* would often clash over how best to combat the Allied bombing of the Third Reich.

At this time, in early 1944, Galland's fighter forces in the west were being constantly depleted... More and more aircraft and pilots were being sent to the *Eastern Front*... While the British and Americans were sweeping the skies over Western Europe in advance of the long-awaited invasion.

What reinforcements Galland was receiving were usually under-trained and inexperienced and fell easy prey to their British and American opponents.

Once the actual Normandy invasion began in June 1944 the situation became even worse with the German fighter force being virtually eliminated from the sky over France. With



the situation worsening by the day Goring was only too happy to blame failures and defeats on anyone else other than himself.

Adolph Galland was to become one of his prime "targets". In early 1945

Galland was dismissed from his post and

put under "house arrest" for insubordination. For two months he had to "cool his heels" while Nazi Germany's plight continued to deteriorate daily.

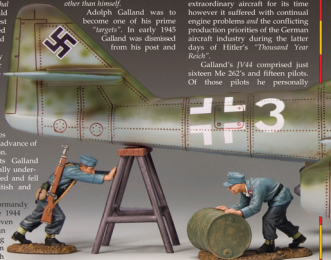
### RETURN TO COMBAT

Finally in March 1945, Galland returned to operational flying and was ordered to form a brand-new jet fighter squadron... *Jagdverband 44*.

This new unit would fly the revolutionary *Messerschmitt 262*, the twin-engined fighter bomber that was to be one of the *Führer's* much-vaunted "Wonder Weapons".

Fortunately for the Allies and sadly for the Nazis it was "too little... too late". The Me 262 was an extraordinary aircraft for its time however it suffered with continual engine problems and the conflicting production priorities of the German aircraft industry during the latter days of Hitler's "Thousand Year Reich".

Galland's JV44 comprised just sixteen Me 262's and fifteen pilots. Of those pilots he personally



### GALLAND MEETS GALLAND!

With the backdrop of K&C's earlier polystone ME109 one of our latest Adolph Galland figures walks up to meet a previous incarnation...



Some of K&C's new Luftwaffe Ground Crew working on the ME262.



An embroidered Luftwaffe Eagle.



selected several top air aces including Johannes "Mack" Steinhilber... Heinz

Tegernsee (in Southern Germany) that the war ended and he was taken prisoner first by the Americans. Shortly thereafter he was handed over to the British and flown to Britain to be interrogated and questioned by Royal Air Force officers about the Luftwaffe, its organization and all

personal friends with 19 2 of his former enemies, RAF aces, Robert Stanford-Tucker and legless pilot Douglas Bader.

He married three times and died peacefully in his own home outside Bonn, Germany in February 1996.



EW36

Adolph Galland's Me262 is in typical late war camouflage and carries two 500kg. bombs slung underneath the forward fuselage.

Bar and Gerhard Barkhorn.

On 5 April 1945 Galland led an interception on a large force of American bombers shooting down three B17's. In the following days he led several more missions claiming his final two victories on 26 April 1945. It was during this action that he was wounded in the knee, had to crash-land his "262" and was hospitalized.

It was while in the hospital at

technical aspects of its aircraft. In August 1945 he was returned to Germany before being finally released from a prisoner-of-war camp in April 1947.

Postwar he involved himself in several successful business ventures related in some way with flying and aircraft. He was also the principal German technical adviser for the epic aviation film "The Battle of Britain". At the same time he became great



KING &amp; COUNTRY SHOP 342, PACIFIC PLACE, 88 QUEENSWAY, HONG KONG. TEL: (852) 525 8603 OR FAX: (852) 877 9612

## WINTER RELEASES FROM KING &amp; COUNTRY

## MODEL MASTERPIECE

The Fairey Swordfish is without doubt one of King & Country's finest aircraft models yet.



\*Please note: Pilot figures not included

**T**he FAIREY SWORDFISH, affectionately known by its crews as "The Stringbag", was already obsolete by the outbreak of World War Two in 1939.

It nevertheless flew throughout the war with great distinction in a variety of roles with Britain's Fleet Air Arm. Perhaps one of its two finest moments came in 1940 when, in Britain's darkest hour, they launched a surprise night attack on the Italian Fleet lying at anchor in Taranto harbour.

Three battleships and two fleet auxiliaries were sunk and three enemy cruisers badly damaged. This effectively ended Mussolini's

aspirations to make the Med an Italian Lake.

## "SINK THE BISMARCK"

Little more than a few months later the venerable Swordfish were again in action against the pride of the German Fleet - the battleship BISMARCK. In company with the heavy cruiser PRINZ EUGEN the pair ventured out into the Atlantic to disrupt British merchant shipping.

After a short sharp battle in which BISMARCK sank the mighty battle-cruiser HMS HODGKINSON, the fugitive pair headed towards safe ports in France.



war skilled artists, each aircraft is a tribute to the model makers art.

Wingspan: 14 1/4"

Wingspan: 18"

Scale: 1:32

EXTRAS: Wingswings, Tailpoles, Lewis gun and machinegun stand.



A sturdy, hand-carved wood and metal model (1:32 scale) of a Police Land Rover to match our Hong Kong Police figures.

In atrocious weather and against withering anti-aircraft fire the ancient warplanes scored several



kills on the BISMARCK.

Most importantly they holed her fuel tanks and damaged her rudder forcing the ship to stop down and go round in a circle. Tossing oil, the proud ship prepared to meet its end with all guns firing. After a fierce and prolonged fight the BISMARCK slid beneath the icy Atlantic waters.

## THE FAIREY SWORDFISH

Hand-carved from the best kiln-dried mahogany and expertly hand-painted by



NAPPI Six Precision "bandwidth" Infantry. Three in blue coats, three in green. An addition to our Napoleonic range.

## HOW TO ORDER

Ordering any item from us is easy. Simply write, fax or phone your credit card number and expiry date to us along with the items required (UK£50 minimum).

NO cheques or money orders

## POSTAL CHARGES

All items are sent by normal air mail (2-3 weeks delivery) and the surcharge is 20% of the total order amount. Clients who wish faster delivery may use UPS which will be charged C. O. D.



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# KING & COUNTRY'S SUMMER '95 COLLECTION

## STREETS OF OLD HONG KONG

Still a familiar sight in Hong Kong - the Shoe Shine man. Our latest addition to this popular range - HK20, features a colonial gent having his shoes polished by a sitting coolie. Expertly detailed, the set even includes tiny shoe polish tins!



HK20

**HK21 - The Fruit Seller.** A young Chinese girl with her cart of delicious exotic fruits. Again, examine the fine detail both of the sculpting and painting.



HK21

**HK22 - The Temple Guardians.** No Chinese Temple is complete without a pair of traditional Chinese Lions. Our pair is finished in antique bronze colouring and stand four-square on painted black marble plinths.



HK22



## ZULU WAR FARMHOUSE

The perfect model building to add to any Zulu War scene. Strong and sturdy and individually made and hand painted each piece makes a great centre piece for a display or diorama.

Dimensions: Length 15 in. Width 7 in and Height 6 1/2 in

## ZULU WARRIORS

9 different Zulu warriors are also available. All are armed with a variety of weapons - clubs, spears, rifles etc., and can be purchased individually.



7TH HUSSARS



OFFICERS



GRAYS



DRUM MAJOR

## NAPOLEONICS

New additions to add onto our ongoing series, the latest include ...

**NAP FH** Two French 7th Hussars  
**NAP HO** Two Gordon Highlanders Officers



ARTILLERYMAN



GUNNER

**NAP SG** Two Scots Grays Sergeants  
**NAP DM** Single French Drum Major  
**NAP FA** Single French Artillery man  
**NAP RHA** Single British Gunner

## HOW TO ORDER

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NO cheques or money orders.

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JUNE 1995

From time-to-time it's nice to take a look back and see what K&C was up to all those years ago...

Here are just two small pages from our dim and distant past.

# DESERT VICTORY

JANUARY 2011 sees another very interesting batch of releases that we hope will dispel at least a few of those "Post Christmas Blues"...



EA043

M3 Grant Cruiser Tank

Foremost among them are some exciting additions to King & Country's "Eighth Army" series... and at least six of them are not even British!

But first let's take a look at the new "armour" piece for Monty's boys... *The M3 Grant Cruiser Tank* (EA043).

The medium M3 tank was an American-designed and built armoured vehicle that began production in late 1940. For its time it was well-armed and armoured and mounted a single 37mm gun in the top turret and a heavier 75mm gun in a side sponson.

Following the Fall of France in 1940 where Britain had lost virtually all of its own tanks an order was placed in America for over 1250 tanks... *urgently!* At the same time the British redesigned the top turret to accommodate a radio. They would also eliminate one member of the 5-man crew. In addition they renamed the tank giving it the name of a famous general of the Union Army during

the Civil War... the "Grant". To avoid any confusion the original American M3 (complete with its own turret) was "christened" the "Lee".

Of the 6,258 M3's produced by the United States the British eventually received a total of 2,855. Another 1,368 went to the Soviet Union and the remainder stayed with the U.S. Army.

The British readily appreciated the M3 "Grant" for its mechanical reliability... thicker armour and... heavier firepower.

In all three areas, it easily out-classed the then available British tanks.

*One of the most popular tanks of the early K&C polystone production, 490 were manufactured.*



## ABOUT THE K&C "GRANT"

This is actually the second M3 tank King & Country has produced. Back in 2001 we released an M3 "Lee" American tank... This was one of our very earliest polystone

"fighting vehicles" and came with 3 crew figures and was very much inspired by the old, Warner Bros. film "SAHARA"

*In Steven Spielberg's movie "1941" another Lee tank was used in certain scenes.*

*Six of our new Free French Foreign Legion soldiers capture an enemy position somewhere in North Africa... 1942.*



starring Humphrey Bogart.

Our new "Grant" is camouflaged in sand and olive drab with black and white delineation lines separating the two colours. It is in the markings of the 7th Armoured Division, the famous "Desert Rats". It comes with two crewmen.

### THE BATTLE OF BIR HAKEIM

Bir Hakeim is a remote oasis in the Libyan desert and the former site of a Turkish fort.

In June 1942, for sixteen days, the 1st Free French Brigade under General Pierre Koenig defended the site against much heavier German and Italian forces directed by Field Marshal Erwin Rommel.

By delaying the Axis advance Koenig and his men provided the retreating Eighth Army with enough time to reorganize themselves and subsequently halt the Rommel's men at the First Battle of El Alamein.

Among the Free French Forces of just 3,700 men were two Legion Etrangère (French Foreign Legion) battalions of the 13th Demi Brigade.

It is these men that K&C has chosen to portray and honour with these first six infantry releases. All of the Legionnaires are dressed and equipped in an unusual mixture of British and French uniforms.

They wear typical British battle-dress tunics and the khaki desert shorts. The riflemen and machine gunner are equipped with their traditional French

leather "fighting order and pouches" and carry French weapons. The sergeant however is wearing British style "webbing" and clutching his Thompson Sub Machine Gun... better known as the "Tommy-Gun".

One item of apparel stands out... the legendary "kepi blanc" of the Legion. A symbol of pride and honour for all Legionnaires! The only exception are the Legion's own officers and NCO's who wear navy blue covered kepis with red tops.

All of K&C's "Bir Hakeim" Legionnaires are available as single figures.

### THE FULL "MONTY"

Field Marshal Bernard Law Montgomery often referred to as "Monty" was the most famous British general of the Second World War. A career officer he saw much

EA045

"Monty"



action during the First World War and was seriously wounded.

A successful, if often difficult, man he transformed the Eighth Army from a dispirited, often defeated force into a battle-winning one that

ultimately defeated Rommel and his much-vaunted Afrika Korps, first at El Alamein and then all the way across North Africa.

This new desert "Monty" is standing confidently, arms folded and wearing his "trademark" black beret with two cap badges!

For this figure he is seen in "Tropical Summer Dress Order" of Khaki shirt and shorts, typical of British officers in the desert.

*Using an abandoned panzer as cover these legionnaires prepare to attack...*



SNEAK PEEK

OUR WORLD IN MINIATURE

# *"Vive le général! Vive la légion!"*

## AND THAT'S NOT ALL

In February 2011 there will be a "second" release of Free French Foreign Legion figures... Plus another "fighting vehicle" and one more General, this time a very famous French one!



*In the shadow of a captured  
Italian monument these  
Free French Legionnaires  
parade for their general.*