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It's now well over five years since the first Roll Call figure hit the market. During that time we've achieved an enviable reputation for superb figures, quality castings and great customer service.

You don't have to take our word for it, here's just a small sample of the letters we've received recently.

Please find enclosed my order for your latest figure. I eagerly anticipate receiving your monthly 'Dispatches' newsletter. More often than not, I find you offer something interesting to assemble, paint and add to my collection...

In closing, I would like to thank you for the enjoyment your creations have given me over the years...

W.C. Devaux, Scarborough, Ontario

Faces are Mr Corry's strongpoint - always striking!

A.S. Turnbull, Victoria, Australia

Many thanks for your prompt service and for the quality of your figures, some of the best on the market.

A. Mackman, Hull.

Just a few lines to say a big thank you for your prompt attention in sending me a replacement part for my 17th Lancer. Even after many years modelling, I still have the odd set back, and it's service like you have just provided for me that makes these mini disasters less of a trauma. I look forward to future releases and your next newsletter.

P. Bush, Rickmansworth.

I feel like I have joined a figure of the month club. I have enjoyed building each of the Roll Call figures I have collected. Keep up the good work!

D.E. Refo, Baltimore.

Thanks for a great product and a lot of fun!

J. Lyne, Chicago.

On the 5th November 1854 a vast column of Russians left Sevastopol to outflank the British right wing and so end the siege of the city. Desperate hand to hand fighting took place during the taking and re-taking of the Sandbag Battery during which the Colours of the 3rd Battalion Grenadier Guards were passed from hand to hand irrespective of rank.

5409 Officer
Grenadier Guards
Inkerman, 1854
The charge of the Heavy Brigade was a remarkable feat of arms regarded by many military historians as one of the most daring and decisive cavalry against cavalry charges in history. The 600 strong brigade put to flight 3,000 Russian cavalrymen.

Despite the charge being a complete success, it is the ill-fated charge of the Light Brigade, little over an hour later that is better remembered.

The 17th Lancers led the most infamous action of the Crimean Campaign, the Charge of The Light Brigade at Balaclava. In twenty minutes they suffered fifty one percent casualties. A Russian officer marvelled at 'the desperate courage' of those 'valiant lunatics'.

Kit 5417 contains an alternative head wearing a busby.
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No Flakes!
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The Indian Army

The 2nd Punjab Cavalry was more usually referred to as Probyn's Horse during the Indian Mutiny, after its commander Captain Dighton Probyn. Captain Probyn's riders fought with great distinction at both Delhi and Lucknow.

The wearing of mail gauntlets and even complete mail sleeves as a protection against sabre cuts was, apparently, not at all unusual at that time.

The American War of Independence

In the summer of 1882 the 19th Hussars became part of an expeditionary force on their way to the Suez Canal following the seizure of control over Egypt by Colonel Ahmed Arabi ('Arabi Pasha').

Arabi's forces were a threat to the security of the Suez Canal and thereby a threat to India. On the night of the 27th/28th August a cavalry brigade caught the Egyptians completely by surprise in the glorious 'Moonlight Charge'.

Following this defeat and another at Tel-el-Kebir less than a month later Arabi Pasha surrendered allowing the British an unopposed advance on Cairo and the occupation of all Egypt.
The retreat was hampered by the large numbers of sick and wounded and no one in the column had eaten properly for some time. Many commanders initially refused to allow their men to wrap their legs and feet against the biting cold, which resulted in terrible frostbite and suffering, especially amongst the native troops.

It soon became obvious that Akbar Khan could not be trusted. During a horrendous withdrawal through high snow-choked passes of the Khyber Pass Road, Elphinstone's demoralised force steadily dwindled in numbers as they fell victim to snipers and the knives of Afghan raiders. Men collapsed with exhaustion and either froze to death or were murdered by the harassing tribesmen.

By 13th January just over fifty men of the 44th (East Essex) Regiment of Foot, with only twenty muskets and very little ammunition, together with the remnants of other regiments and some Bengal Horse Artillery reached a defile in the Jagdalak Pass near Gandamak, and prepared to make a last stand.

As things became even more hopeless, Captain Souter of the 44th wrapped the Regimental Colours around his waist for safe keeping. Soon only Captain Souter and three or four privates and two civilians remained and were taken into a captivity from which only Souter survived.

The Afghans, considering anybody with such a finely embroidered waistcoat to be of great importance, eventually ransomed him back to the British, complete with his 'waistcoat'.
During the last half of the 3rd century BC the Roman legion probably achieved its highest development and great competency. The legion was the equivalent of a modern division and comprised of some 4,500 to 5,000 men, including 300 cavalrymen. The hastati formed the first line of the legion heavy infantry.

The 2nd Punic wars (219 BC - 202 BC) were fought between the Carthaginians led by Hannibal and the Romans commanded by Publius Cornelius Scipio.
Although fighting with great distinction in a number of campaigns, the Chasseurs a Cheval of the Imperial Guard are probably best known as Napoleon's personal bodyguard, gaining them the nickname of 'cherished children'.

The commander of the escort troop was invariably at his Emperor's side, only King Murat or the Prince of Neuchatel (Berthier) had the right to come between them.

In June 1811, Napoleon created a lancer 'arm' amongst which were two Polish regiments. The lance in skilled hands was a lethal weapon in the first shock of a charge against other cavalry.

Lancers were particularly effective against infantry, as was demonstrated to the British at Albuera on the 16th May 1811 when the French 2nd Hussars and the 1st Vistula Lancers (later the Polish Lancers) caught Colborne's infantry brigade advancing in line, and decimated them!
The Union Brigade's charge at Waterloo '...was one of the finest charges ever seen,' decided Captain William Tomkinson as he watched from the ranks of the 16th Light Dragoons. (See 1547 opposite and 1533 page 14.) Sergeant Charles Ewart of the Greys carried off the eagle of the 45th Line Infantry after a desperate fight.

French Officer (Premier Port-Aigle) 45th Line Regiment Waterloo, 1815

Officer 10th Hussars 1805 or 1808 Uniform.

Originally raised in 1715, it was not until 1783 that the Regiment was given the title 10th or Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Light Dragoons. In 1796 their Colonel, the future King George IV, frequently used the Regiment for royal escort duties.

Following military trends of the time, their patron gradually dressed them as hussars, however, it was not until 1806 that the Regiment officially became the 10th or Prince of Wales's Own Hussars. The 10th distinguished themselves during the Peninsular Campaign.

This kit contains an additional head wearing a busby which enables it to be converted to the uniform of 1808.

Officer 12th Light Dragoons 1812-17

During the Napoleonic Wars the 12th Light Dragoons fought with great valour in Egypt and the Peninsular. At Waterloo the 4th British Cavalry Brigade, consisting of the 11th, 12th, 13th and 16th Light Dragoons, charged to the assistance of the beleaguered Union Brigade.

This kit can be converted to one of 16 other Light Dragoon regiments between 1812 & 1817, often by simply changing the facing colours. Details are enclosed with the kit.
It was the 95th (Rifle) Regiment, with their Baker Rifles, that fired the very first shots of the Peninsular War. The Regiment went on to fight in almost every major engagement from Relica to Toulouse. The men of the 95th were much feared by the French who nicknamed them the 'grasshoppers'. Elements of all three battalions were present at Waterloo, were they again distinguished themselves.

The Régiment des Dromedaires was formed on the 9th January 1799 to assist Napoleon with his desperate shortage of cavalry during the Egyptian Campaign. The unit's main role was one of mounted infantry, using their dromedaries for rapid deployment then fighting on foot to protect the French columns against the swiftly moving bands of Arab horsemen.
1543
Trumpeter or Grenadier
French Imperial Guard
1808 - 14

Following the disastrous Russian Campaign of 1812 the Grenadiers a Cheval could only muster 197 all ranks in February 1813. By Imperial decree the regiment was reduced from five to four squadrons.

This kit contains all the parts required to enable you to create either a Trumpeter or a Trooper of the Grenadiers a Cheval de la Garde Impériale.

1550
Bavarian Grenadier
4th Line Infantry
Sachsen-Hildburghausen
1812

The 4th Bavarian Line Regiment originated from the town of Hildburghausen in Saxony, hence the regiment’s alternative title ‘Sachsen - Hildburghausen.

Bavaria became allied with Imperial France in 1805. During the Russian Campaign her army formed Napoleon’s VI Corps under the command of Colonel-General Count Gouvion St Cyr. On the 13th December 1812 only 66 men of VI Corps remained to cross the river Niemen back into Poland.

1585
Ensign, (Regimental Colour)
3rd Btn. Royal Scots
Waterloo, 1815

During the battle, [of Waterloo] Ensign Kennedy, who was carrying the Colour in advance of the battalion, was shot but continued to advance until he was again wounded, this time mortally, but when a sergeant tried to retrieve the Colour Kennedy refused to let go. Such was the admiration of the French that they held their fire until the sergeant had returned safely to the battalion’s square.

Ian Fletcher ‘Wellington’s Regiments’
On June 15th 1815 the battalion left their dinners uneaten in order to march straight to Quatre Bras where, on June 16th, the battalion repulsed several French cavalry attacks and were in the thick of the fighting, ending the day with 26 dead and 192 wounded.

Ian Fletcher 'Wellington's Regiments'

1555
2 Privates
(Firing & Loading)
(Kits 1515 & 1535)

1515
Private (Firing)
3rd Btn. Royal Scots
Waterloo, 1815

1535
Private (Loading)
3rd Btn. Royal Scots
Waterloo, 1815

1540
Private
Battalion Company
3rd Btn. Royal Scots
Waterloo 1815

1541
Private
Flank Company
3rd Btn. Royal Scots
Waterloo 1815

1556
2 Privates Kneeling
Battalion & Flank Company
(Kits 1540 & 1541)
During the Waterloo Campaign, the 3rd Battalion 1st of Foot (Royal Scots) was brigaded with the 1/42nd (Black Watch), 2/44th (East Essex Regiment) and the 1/92nd (Gordon Highlanders) forming the 9th British Brigade under the command of Major General Sir Dennis Pack.

...on the 18th [June 1815] the 3rd battalion [Royal Scots] was exposed to enemy bombardment for hour after hour and again stood steady in the face of repeated French cavalry attacks...

Four officers and a sergeant major in turn fell carrying the King’s Colour. The 3rd Battalion Royal Scots marched on to Paris and returned to England in March 1817.

Ian Fletcher, 'Wellington’s Regiments'.
The landing zone selected for Major-General Roy Urquhart's 1st Airborne Division was too far to the west of Arnhem and it was only the 2nd Battalion of the Parachute Regiment that managed to reach the principal objective, the road bridge across the Neder Rijn. Lieutenant Colonel John Frost's 2nd Battalion held out for five days before lack of ammunition and manpower forced their surrender.