

Valiant Miniatures

CREATORS OF HISTORICAL
AND FICTIONAL FIGURES



47s

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Enterprises
Ltd.** Post Office Box 394
Skokie, Illinois 60076

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Welcome....

to the

world

of



**Valiant
Miniatures**



Where have we come... ...and where are we going?

The collectors' miniatures of today have their origins in the little lead soldiers which first became popular during the latter half of the Nineteenth Century. At that time, and for a considerable time to come, these figures were regarded by both their manufacturers and the majority of the buying public purely as toys, and the primary concern in their design was their ability to withstand the kind of wear and abuse which only a small boy could inflict upon them. Nevertheless, the wide variety of regiments available, each in its proper and distinctive uniform, soon attracted the attention of adult collectors, who prized them not only for their general accuracy but for their vivid colors and decorative appeal as well.

But the fact remained that these figures were manufactured as toys, and the quality of workmanship in the individual piece generally left much to be desired. It was not until the late 1940's that better quality figures specially designed for the collector began to appear. The pioneers in this effort came primarily from France, and they produced some exquisite, although very expensive, one-of-a-kind models. The collectors' miniature, as distinguished from the toy, had finally come of age. The 1950's brought many less wealthy collectors into the hobby, and the demand grew for unpainted castings which the collector could paint himself. Thousands soon found that this innovation allowed them to combine their historical interest with their natural artistic instinct to create something distinctly their own, and the collector-painted figure soon developed from a mere viable alternative into a respectable branch of the hobby in its own right.

Today, the paint-it-yourself kit is no longer just a branch of the hobby but practically the entire tree. And today's miniature is a far cry from the early tin soldier. Modern casting techniques, using rubber molds and controlled centrifugal machines, permit a degree of detail and realism long thought impossible, and the casting engineers are constantly looking for new methods and techniques. Each figure is the result of extensive research and painstaking effort by knowledgeable historians and talented sculptors. The level of artistry and craftsmanship involved in its creation makes each figure a work of art unto itself, a miniature piece of sculpture that completely transcends the diminutive term "toy soldier".

Although the emphasis remains on military subjects, the general scope has now enlarged to encompass a wide variety of historical and fictional fields. Valiant was a real pioneer in this area, and our selection of non-military pieces remains the widest and most diverse in the industry.

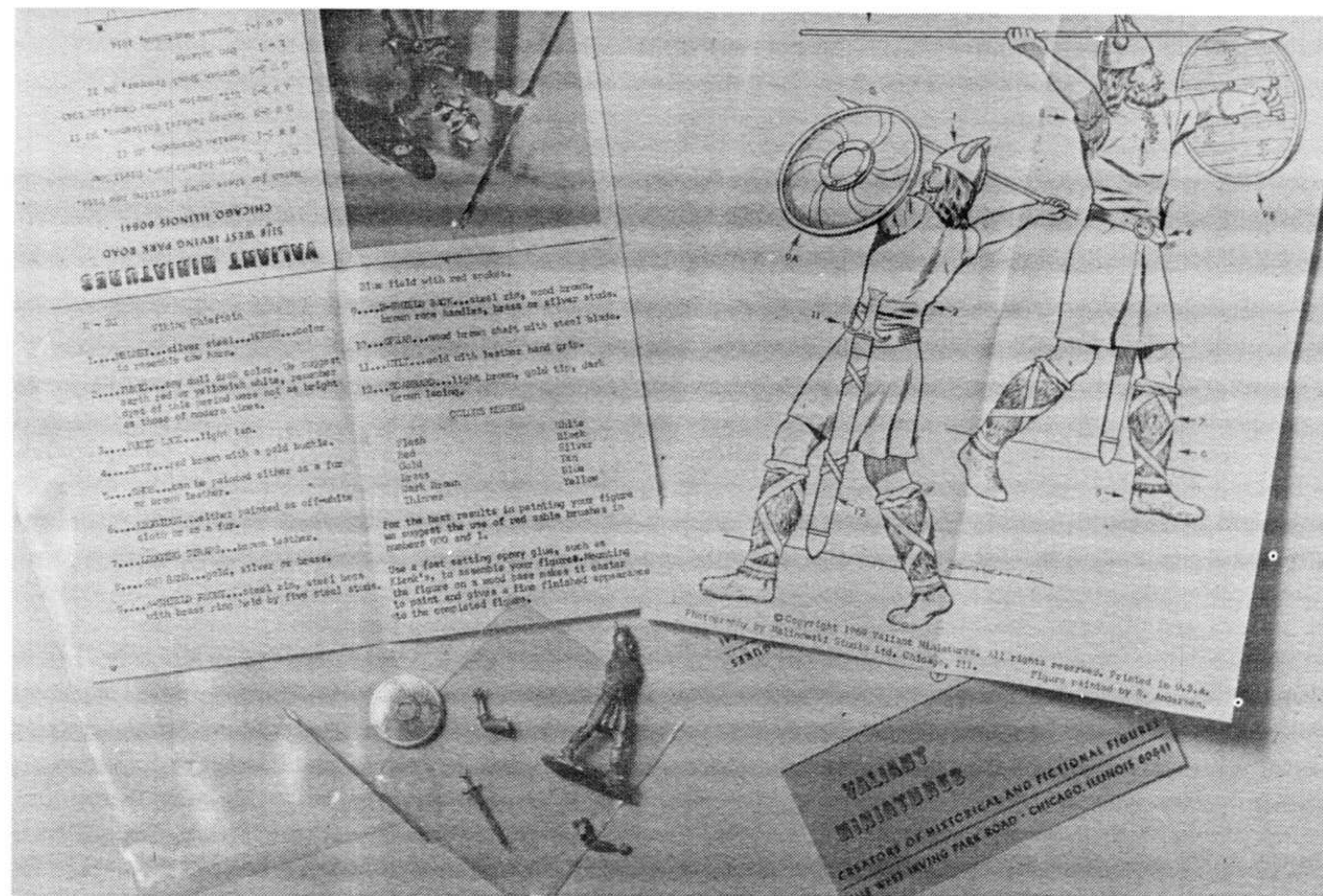
Just which direction the hobby will take from here is anybody's guess, but one thing is certain; we have come a long, long way already, and the possibilities for the future are limited only by our imagination - and *yours*.

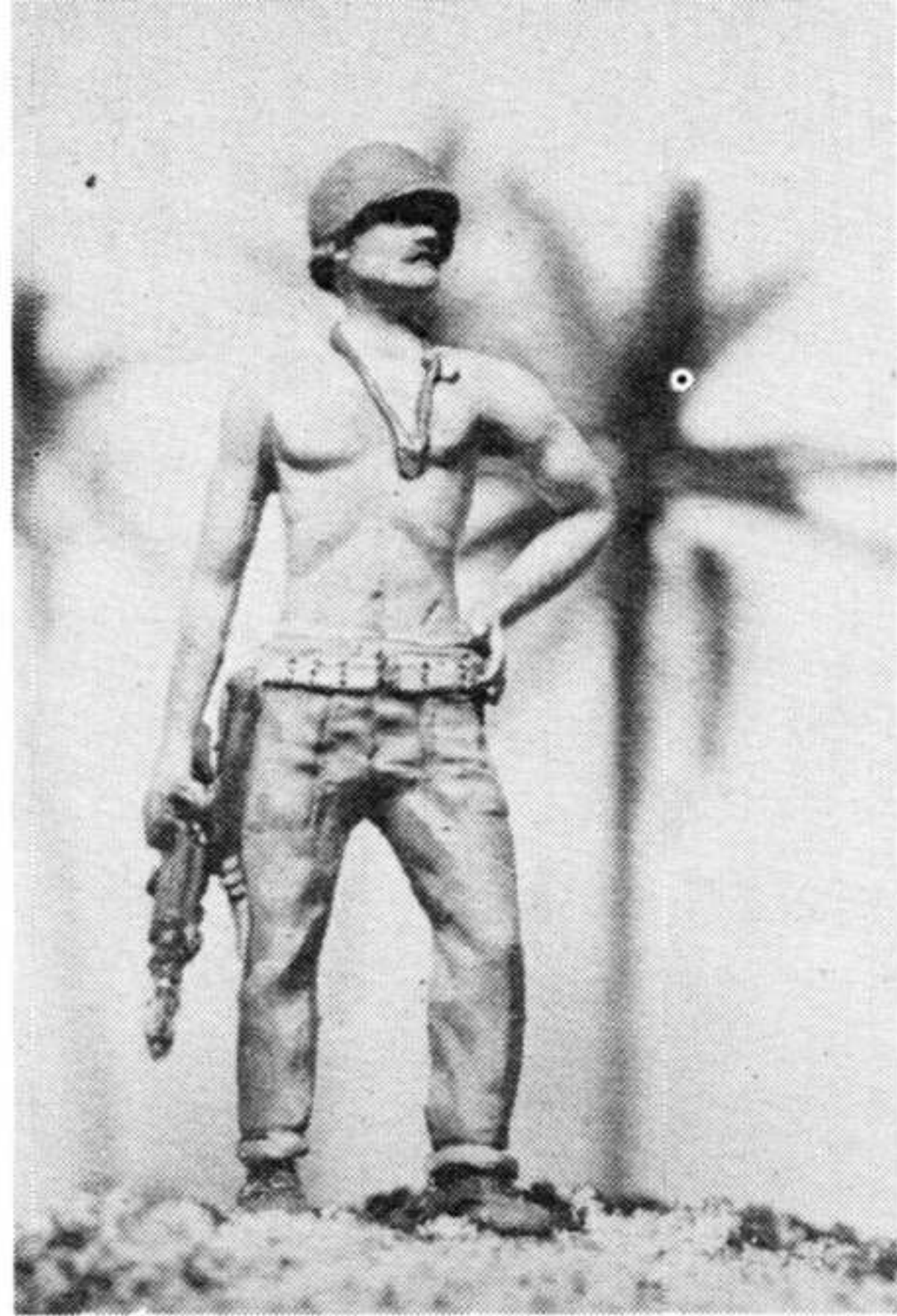
From the beginning, we at Valiant have tried to develop a line of products which would satisfy the requirements of individuals at all levels of collecting, from the rank beginner to the acknowledged expert. We think we have succeeded.

Our figures represent the styles and talents of more than ten of America's most prominent miniature sculptors, each with his own concept of just what a miniature should be. The figures themselves are crisply detailed and easy to paint, and are cast in a special non-corrosive alloy. The castings are completely ready to paint, and do not even require a primer, although a primer coat generally accentuates the detail and makes painting a little easier.

The instruction sheets are clear and easy to understand, with the painting instructions keyed to large front and back view drawings of the figure. In many kits the instructions are supplemented by a full-color photograph of the completed figure, to settle any questions about a specific color. Many collectors prize these pictures for their own value, since they show the work of many of the finest miniature painters in the country.

Finally, as you leaf through this catalog, we hope you will enjoy our figures as much as we have enjoyed bringing them to you.

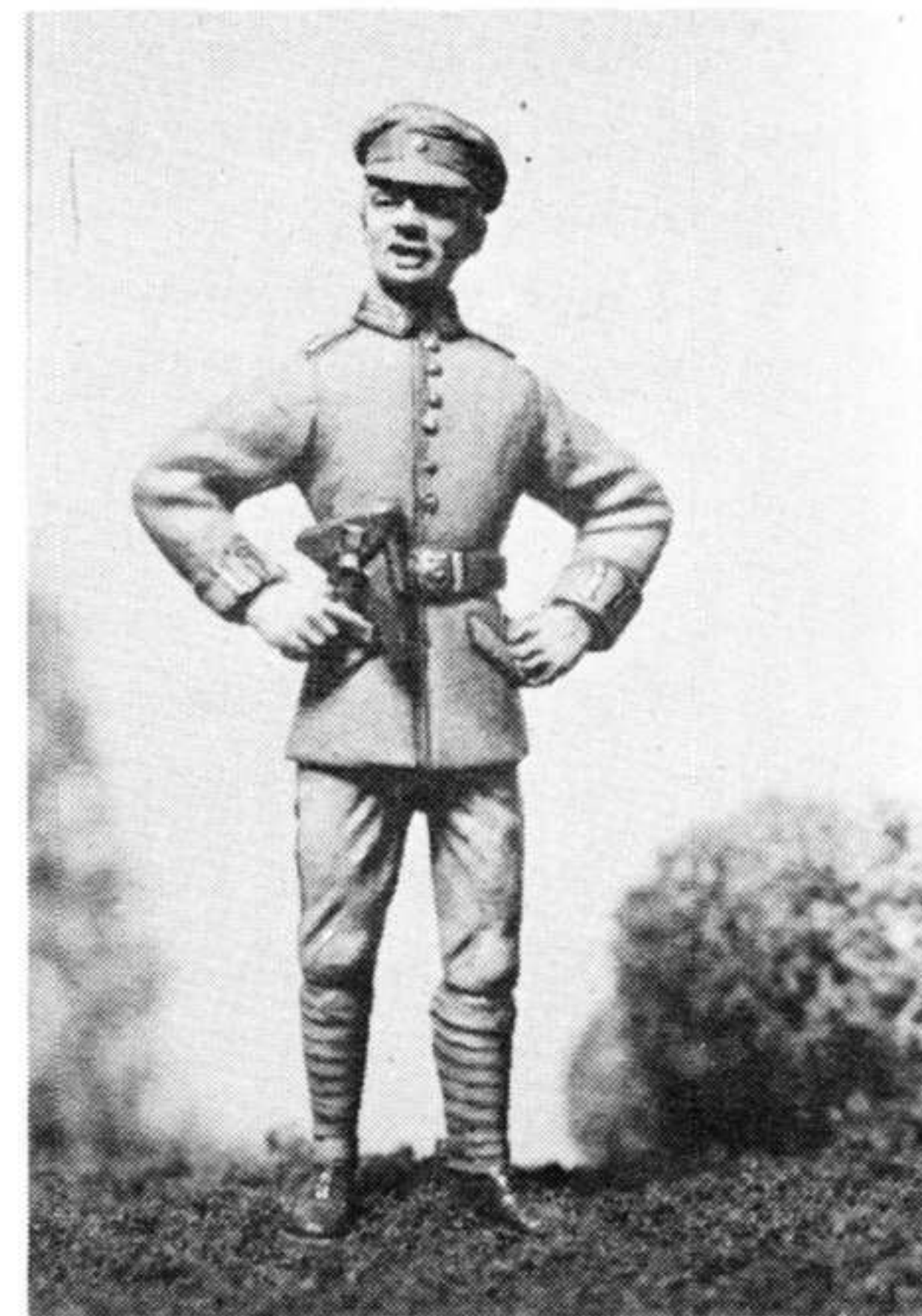




101★ U.S. MARINE, TARAWA.

"Last week some two to three thousand U.S. Marines, most of them now dead or wounded, gave the Nation a name to stand beside those of Concord Bridge, the *Bonhomme Richard*, the Alamo, Little Big Horn, and Belleau Wood. The name was Tarawa."

— TIME magazine, December, 1943.



102 GERMAN HAUPTMANN, 1914.

This is typical of the uniforms worn by German officers at the start of World War I. The coloring guide gives instructions for a Captain of the 1st Baden Leib-Grenadiers Regt. Nr. 109, but the figure can also be painted as any of hundreds of German units.



103 GERMAN OBERLEUTNANT, 1917.

This is the uniform worn by an officer of a similar unit, Pioneer Bn. Nr. 1, three years later. The Pioneers were similar to the combat engineers, and were frequently used as crack assault troops.

104 DON QUIXOTE.

Relive the charm of Cervantes' tragi-comic hero every time you exhibit this figure. Here he is . . . the tilter of windmills . . . the romantic paladin . . . in all his battered, bent and rusted glory — The Man of La Mancha.



★ indicates kit with color photograph



105 GERMAN PANZER SERGEANT, 1940.

The German *Panzertruppen* of the early part of the war completely outclassed their opponents. The swift hard-hitting units of the "Blitzkrieg" were able to move about on the battlefield almost at will, quickly encircling and overpowering their bewildered enemies.

106 GERMAN SHOCK TROOPER, 1943.

As portable and more powerful anti-tank weapons became more prevalent, the "Panzergrenadiers" began to play an increasingly important part in the life of the Panzer divisions. This figure wears the reversible camouflage jacket adopted for the cruel Russian winters.



107★ WW II RUSSIAN COMMANDO.

Like nearly all the equipment with which he fought, the Russian soldier was often coarse and unprofessional in appearance, but in battle his stamina and courage put him on par with the best in the world.

108 UNION INFANTRY CORPORAL, 1862.

Here, decked out in all the regulation finery of the well-equipped campaigner, is a soldier of McClellan's brand new Army of the Potomac. First tested in the unsuccessful Peninsular campaign and victim of a long series of teething troubles, "Little Mac's" brainchild eventually developed into one of the greatest armies in American history.



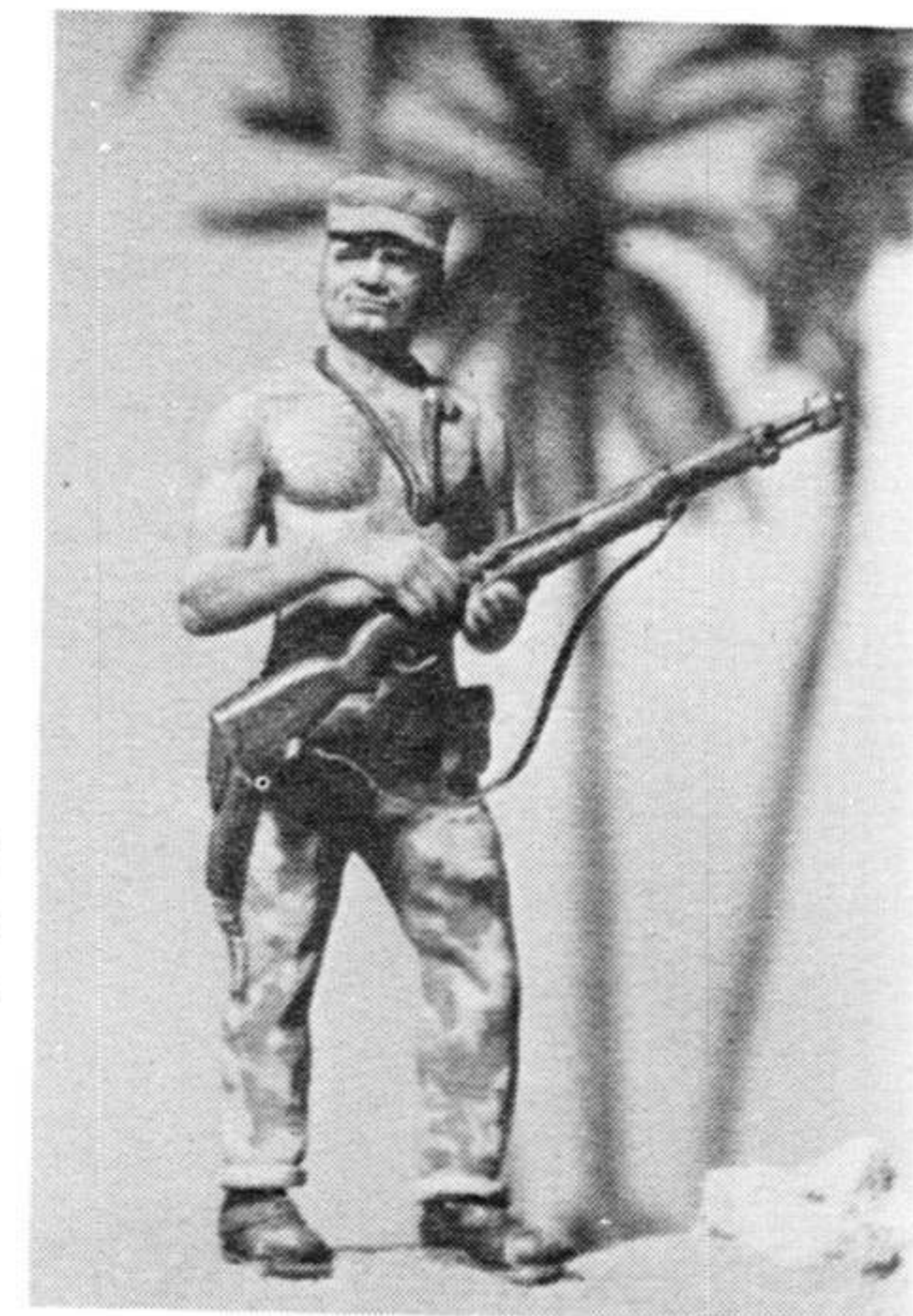


109 VIKING CHIEFTAIN.

"Lord, spare us from the fury of the Northmen!" So read an English prayer of the 6th Century A.D., and this figure of a Viking raider makes it easy to see what they were afraid of.

111★ U.S. MARINE, MARSHALL ISLANDS.

The "island-hopping" battles of the South Pacific were some of the fiercest of the Second World War. The Marshalls were but a few of the many tiny islands bought with the blood of thousands of soldiers and Marines.



110 GERMAN FEDERAL POLICEMAN (HAUPTWACHTMEISTER), 1943.

German Police units were frequently employed in anti-partisan campaigns in occupied countries, and police personnel formed the basis for several combat divisions, including the famous 4th SS *Polizei* Division.



112 JAPANESE INFANTRYMAN, 1939-45.

The diminutive Japanese soldier proved himself to be an extremely tough and resourceful opponent, particularly in a defensive position. Of a total Japanese garrison of 4,836 in the battle for Tarawa, 4,690 gave their lives for their Emperor.





113 EL CID, CAMPEADOR
(The Lord Victor of the Battlefield).

Rodrigo Diaz de Vivar, national hero of Spain, is depicted here wearing a combination of Moorish and European armor and carries at his side his sword, "Colada", and his dagger, "Tizona".

115 MR. MICAWBER.

The beloved Dickens character immortalized on the screen by the great W. C. Fields is now available for you to enjoy in your own personal display case.



114 SS ASSAULT VEHICLE OFFICER, 1944.

The heavily armored limited-traverse assault guns were originally intended for infantry support, but proved to be such effective tank destroyers that they were increasingly employed in this role as well. The crews wore the standard panzer uniform in field gray instead of black.

116 CAPTAIN MYLES STANDISH.

Myles Standish, who owed his nickname of "Captain Shrimp" to his small stature, was the only military man in the Pilgrim company, and assumed responsibility for the defense of the fledgling colony during the first difficult years in the New World.





117 GERMAN MOUNTAIN TROOPER, 1943.

Many of the German Mountain troops were recruited in the Tyrol and had spent their entire lives in the mountains. This trooper wears a reversible camouflage smock and Mountain cap and carries a Mauser rifle.



118 U.S. ARMY TANKER, WW II.

Lovingly executed and painstakingly detailed by an ex-tank Officer, this American figure typifies the indomitable spirit of the American Armored units who braved the superior fire-power of the 88's to sweep from the hedgerows of Normandy to the banks of the Rhine in less than five months.

119 SPANISH CONQUISTADOR.

The first European soldiers to fight in the New World, the Conquistadors were a brutal, rugged lot. If Cortez's men had had a rank of First Sergeant, this burly gentleman would undoubtedly have qualified hands-down.



120 GERMAN RIFLEMAN, 1942.

In World War II the rifleman was, as he will always be, the backbone of the fighting forces. This prone figure is ideal for dioramas, whether it is used alone or with other figures on the market.



121★ MOUNTED SS CAVALRYMAN, 1939-45.

Although the war in Western Europe was almost entirely mechanized, in the east both sides made extensive use of horse transportation, not only in support units but in combat formations as well. Horses were well adapted to warfare on the wide expanses of the Russian Steppes, since they did not require the spare parts and gasoline necessary to motor transport. There was plenty of grazing land in most areas and replacement mounts could often be found locally. Also, as the Germans discovered at Stalingrad, when the supply situation got tough, one could not eat a tank.

Of the German mounted units, none were as feared as those of the Waffen-SS. There were a number of these formations, the most famous of which was the 8th SS Cavalry Division "Florian Geyer", which had started the war as a regiment and still retained a proportion of its German personnel. The cavalry units were used primarily for anti-partisan campaigns, where their mobility and independence could be used to full advantage and their vulnerability to modern firepower would not hamper their effectiveness.





122 ESSEX TROOPER, 1920's.

During the period after World War I, when the gaudy uniforms of the 19th Century were being phased out, the Essex Troop of the New Jersey National Guard provides a delightful exception. Our Sergeant wears the uniform worn by this unit when it was selected to act as President Wilson's Inaugural Escort, and which is still worn on special occasions today.

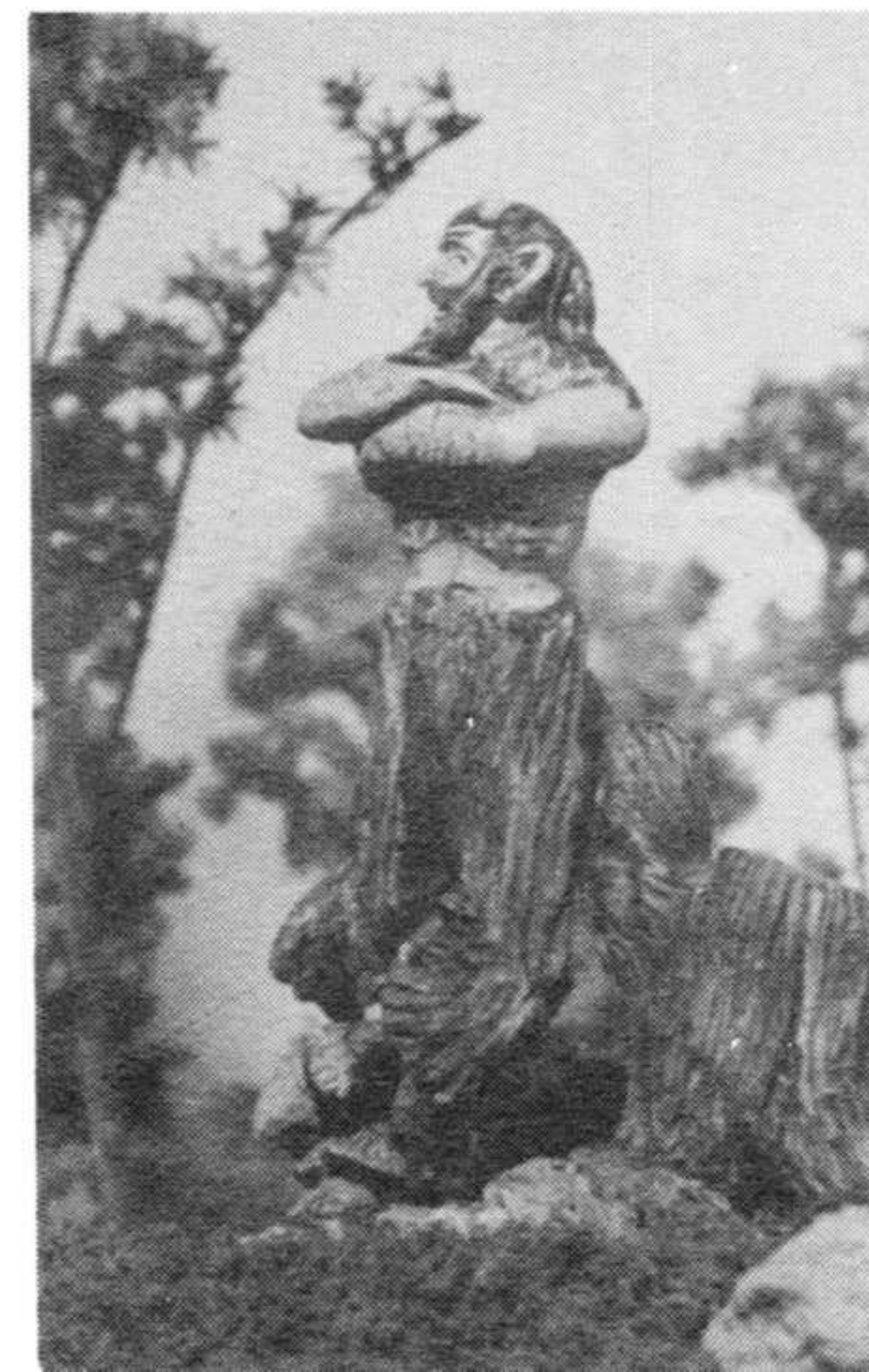
123 PAN.

Originally a shepherd God of Arcady (hence his pipes), Pan was associated in Ancient Greece with things pastoral and gave his name to panic (a reaction common among sheep). In later times he was often confused with the Satyrs, and came to be associated with Bacchus and debauchery.



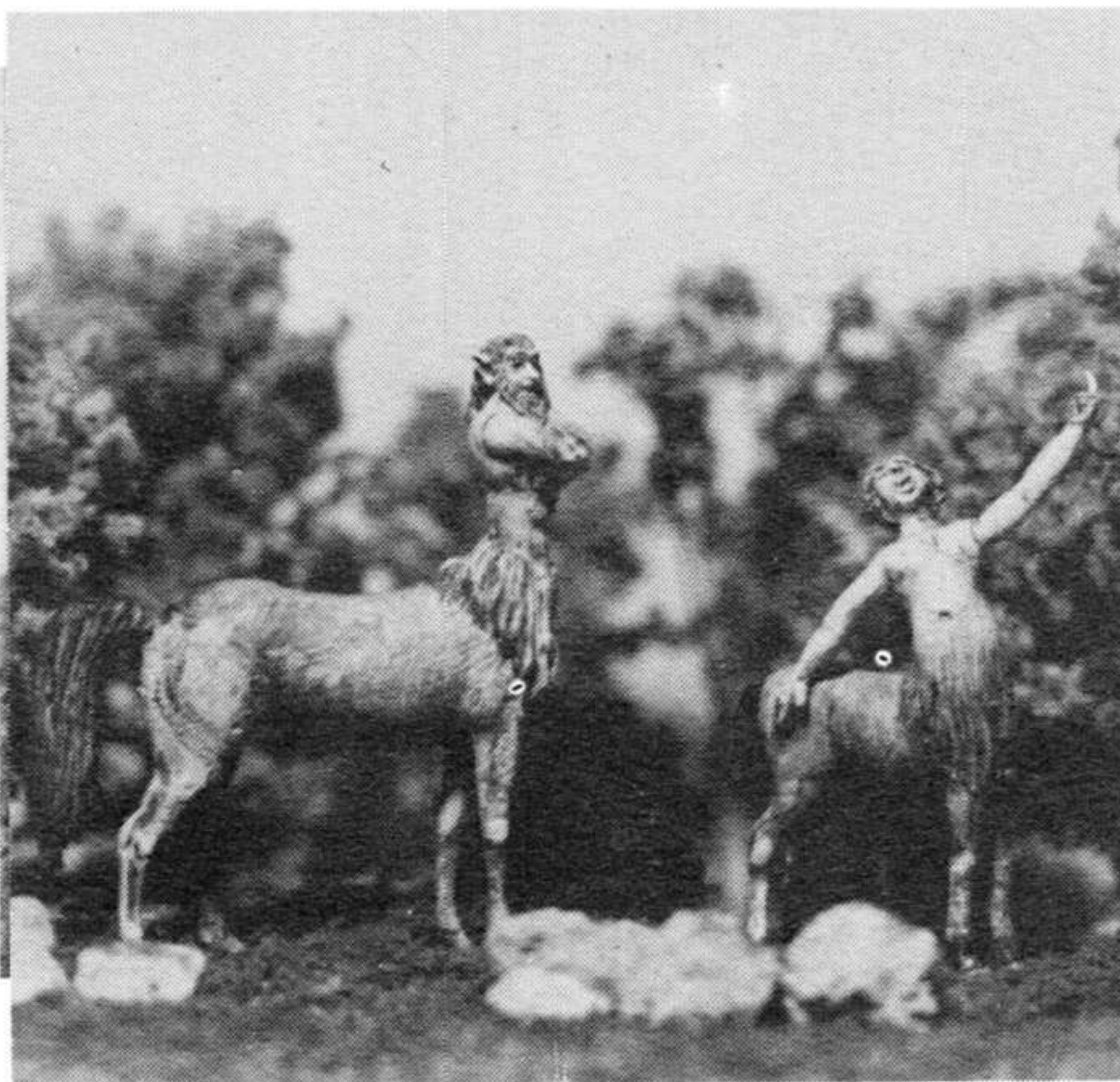
124 SATYR.

Playboy of the Hellenic world, inveterate pursuer of wood-land nymphs, disciple of Dionysos, and reveller extraordinaire, the Satyr was the first of the dirty old men. The Satyrs were an idle, carefree, and delightfully worthless race, whose name has become synonymous with drunkenness, debauchery and unbridled hedonism.



125 THE CENTAURS, CHIRON AND NESSUS.

The Centaurs, a savage and barbaric race of beings, half horse and half man, are perhaps the most famous and unusual creatures of Greek mythology. Nessus, the smaller of the two, played a disreputable part in the death of Hercules. Chiron, remarkably well-adjusted for a Centaur, was widely respected for his wisdom, and, as tradition has it, was transformed after his death into the constellation Sagittarius.



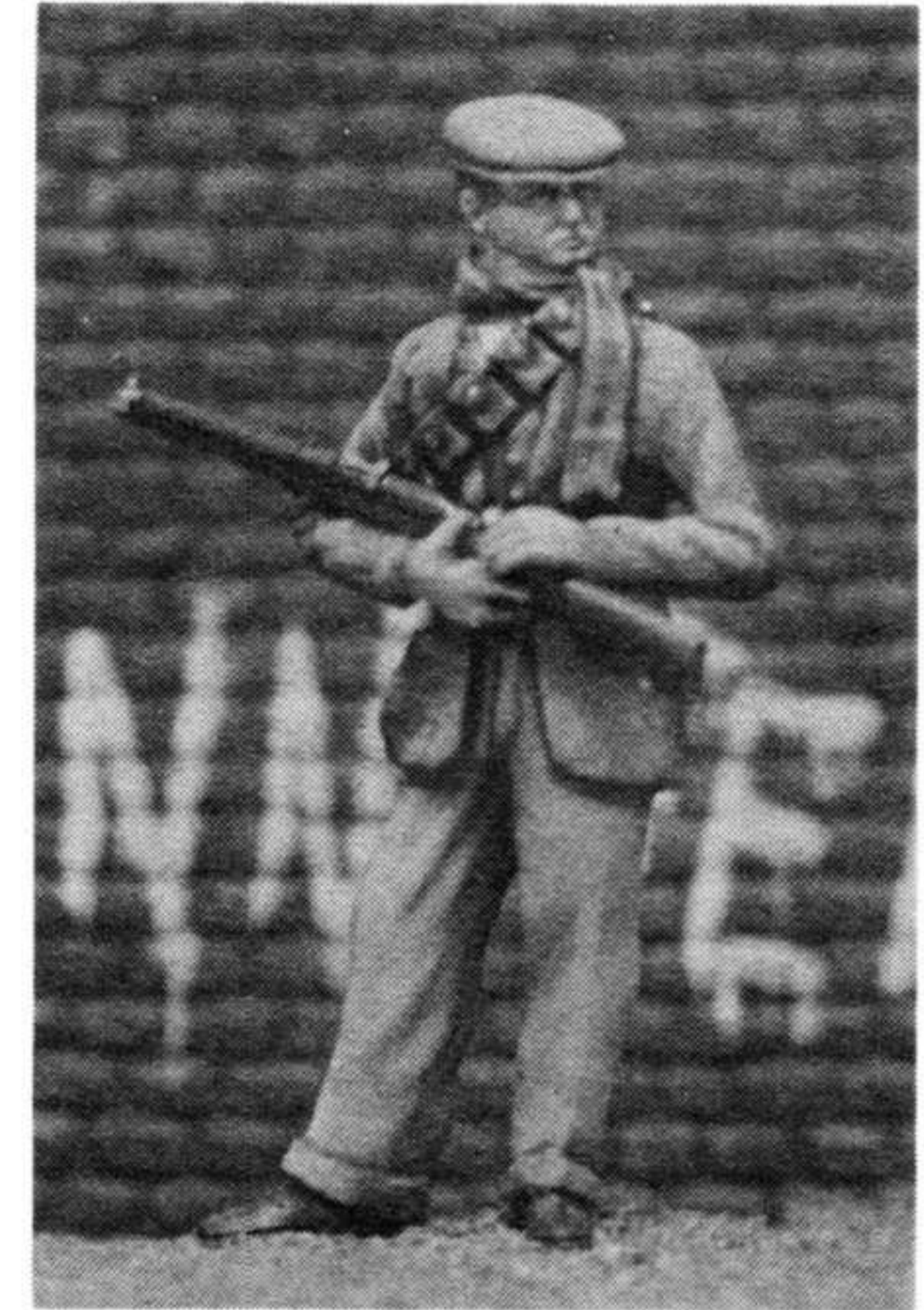


126 U.S. INFANTRY, VIETNAM.

Ready for action in the stifling heat of the Central Highlands and jungles of the Delta, this American G.I. is heavily laden with all the paraphernalia necessary for Vietnam combat, from the regulation M-60 on his shoulder to the not-so-regulation Peace Medallion around his neck.

127 IRISH REPUBLICAN ARMY, 1921.

The I.R.A. is probably the most famous guerrilla and terrorist organization in history. Their activities ranged from the notorious killings of "Bloody Sunday" to the frequent ambush of British patrols.



128 AUXILIARY CADET, ROYAL IRISH CONSTABULARY (THE "BLACK & TANS"), 1921.

The Auxiliaries were the shock troops of the British Forces in Ireland; they were all hand-picked ex-officers, and quickly established a reputation for brutal efficiency matched only by the Waffen SS in World War II.

129 GUNNER, NO. 31 MOUNTAIN BATTERY, INDIAN ARMY, 1910.

The mountain batteries were an important part of the Indian Frontier defense force. They were equipped with the famous "screw gun", which could be dismantled for transportation by mule and elephant across the mountains.



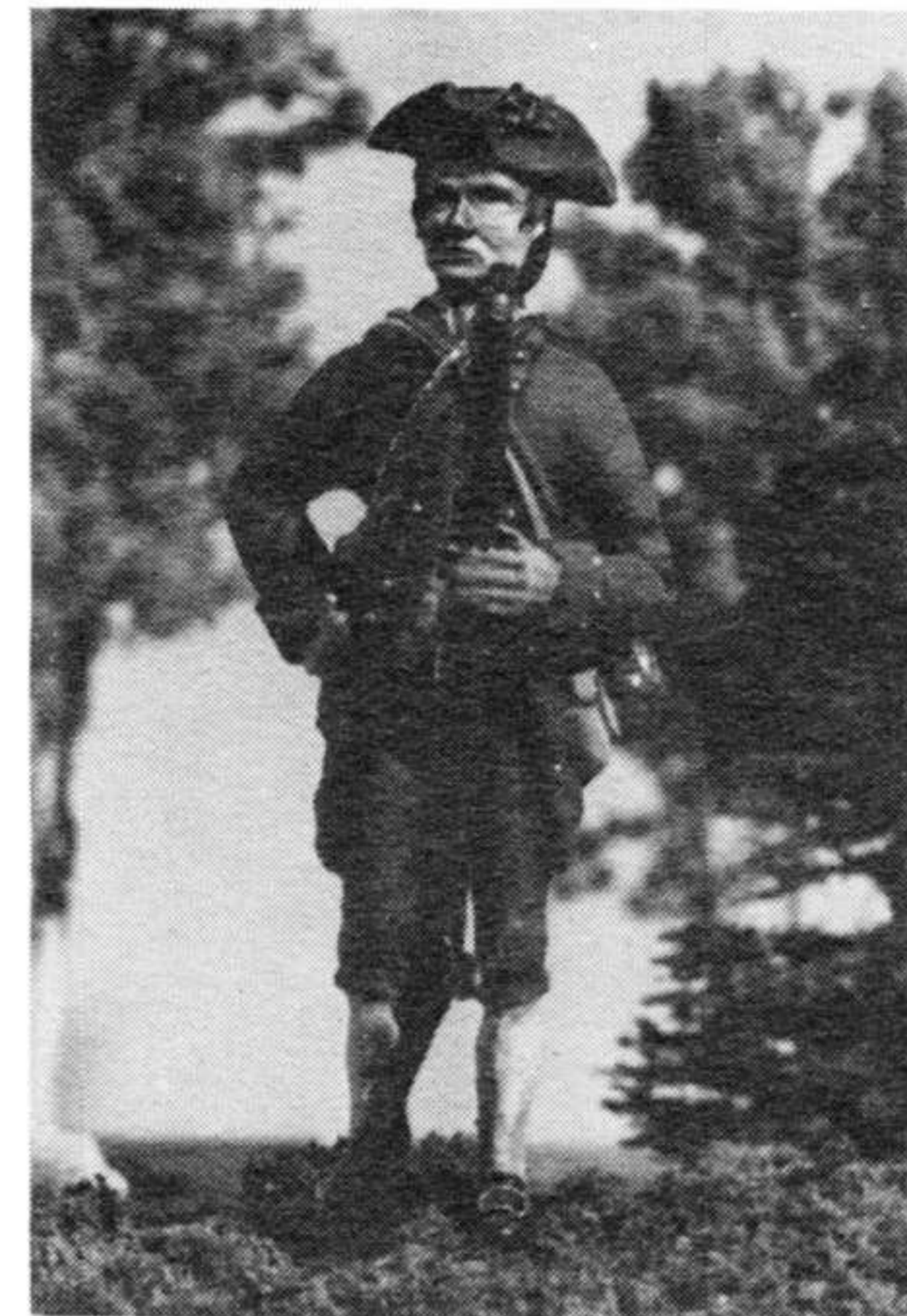


130 BRITISH OFFICER, 27th LIGHT CAVALRY, c.1910.

The European officers formed the nucleus of the officer contingent of the Indian regiments (although many native officers served at company level) and often wore European-style uniforms.

131 GREEN MOUNTAIN, 1776.

One of Ethan Allan's famed "Green Mountain Boys"! This typically granite-featured Vermonter wears the "official" uniform of this irregular outfit, best known for their surprise attack on Fort Ticonderoga.

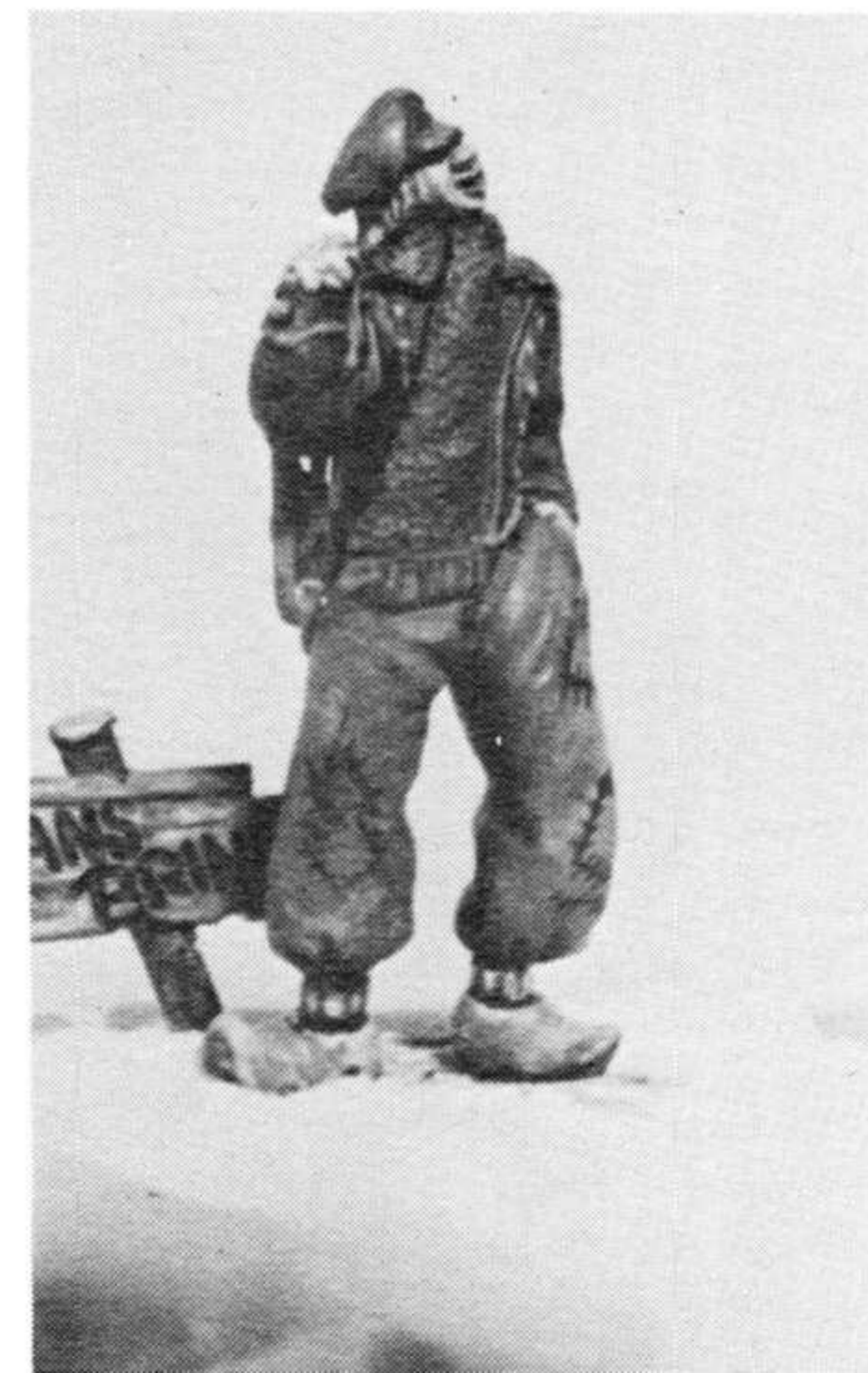


132★ NAIK, 101st GRENADIERS c.1910.

The 101st Grenadiers, one of the oldest regiments in the Indian Army, were raised in the 18th Century as the 1st Bombay Native Infantry; they received the title "Grenadiers" in 1824. This Naik (Corporal) wears a uniform typical of the Indian infantry at the turn of the century.

137 HANS BRINKER.

The dashing young hero of Mary Mapes Dodge's novel of old Holland makes a colorful addition to any collection. Or paint one for a friend who doesn't share your fascination with things military.



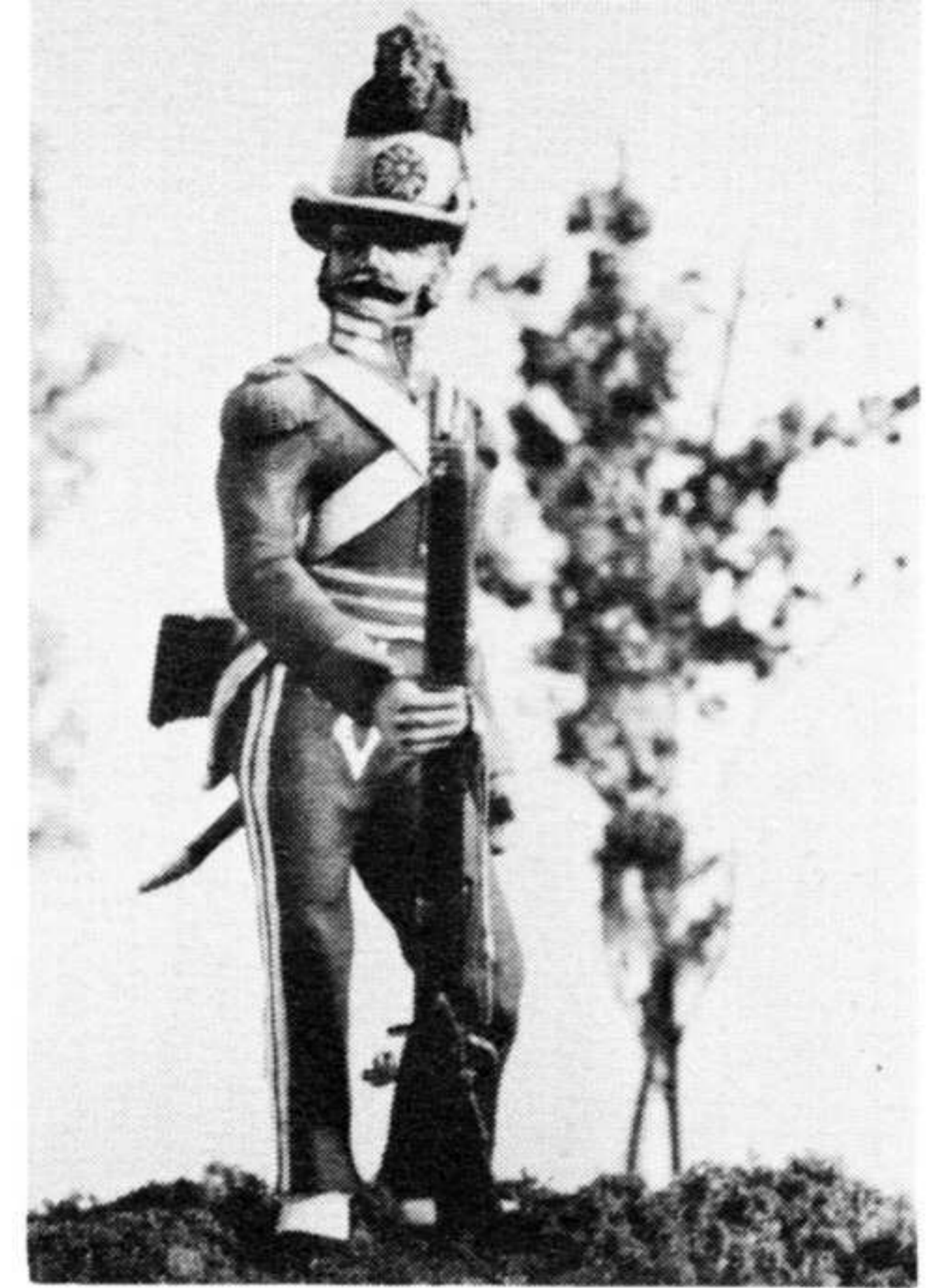


133★ FRENCH LINE INFANTRY, LEIPZIG.

This figure represents the French infantryman as he actually appeared during the closing years of the Empire. The splendid uniforms of the previous years had for the most part disappeared forever in the snows of Russia, and the bulk of the French army was clothed in a rather makeshift manner. The uniform was usually dominated by a flimsy, shapeless gray overcoat; any soldier so fortunate as to possess a regulation uniform coat usually carried it in his knapsack for special occasions.

134★ SWEDISH GUARD GRENADIER, LEIPZIG.

Sweden was the only combatant at Leipzig to field a professional standing army. Her only previous involvement in the Napoleonic Wars had been brief and undistinguished, with the result the Swedish army, now commanded by their new Crown Prince (a former Marshal of France), was well disciplined and equipped but painfully inexperienced. Leipzig was the only major battle in which they participated, but they did so with distinction.

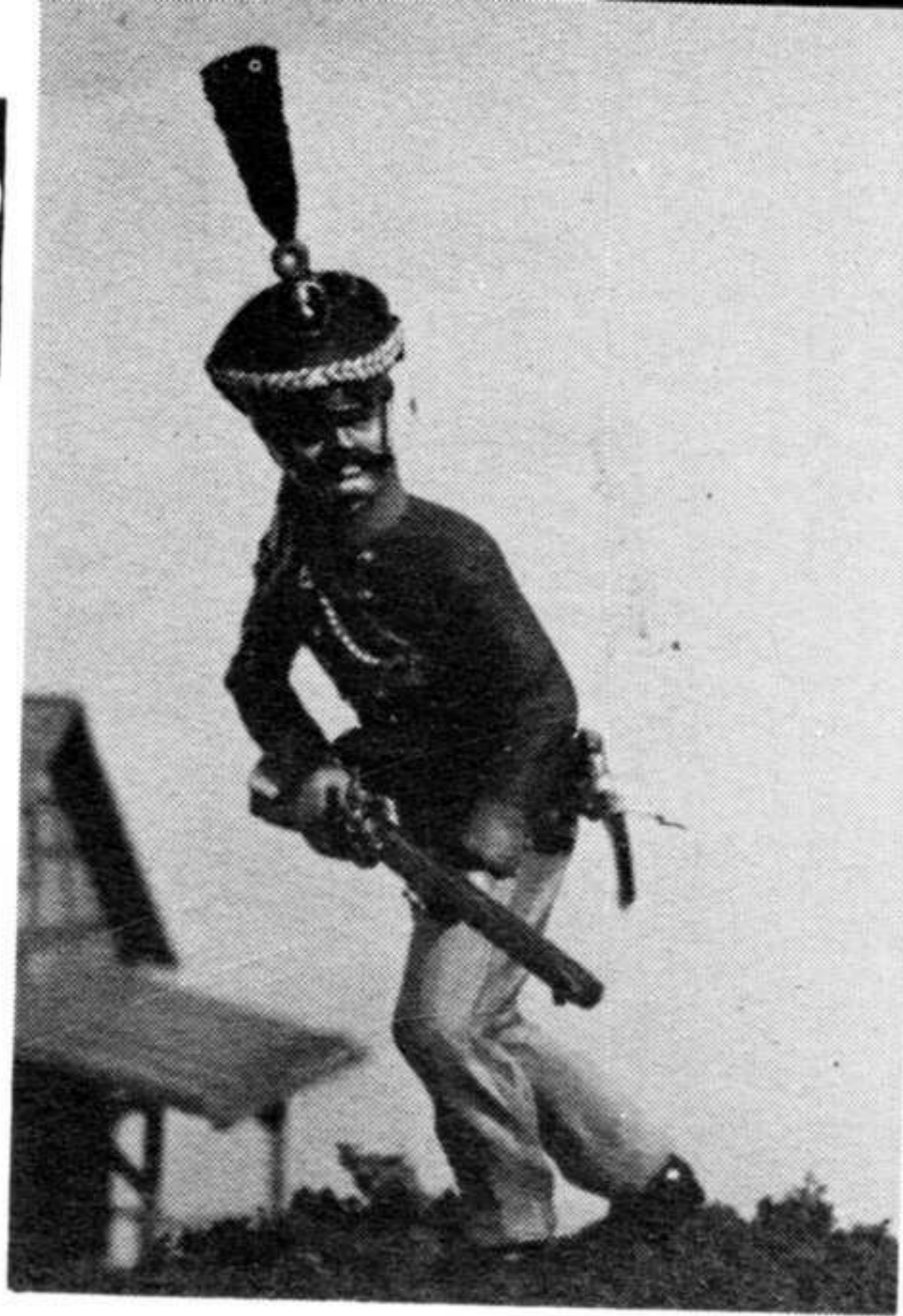


The Leipzig Series.

The Battle of Leipzig (16-19 October 1813), also called the "Battle of the Nations", was undoubtedly the greatest single battle of the Napoleonic Wars. More than 500,000 men representing every major country in Europe were involved in this colossal struggle which raged for four days around the German city of Leipzig. Its successful conclusion for the Allied Powers sealed the doom of the French Napoleonic Empire.

The soldiers who fought at Leipzig were a unique embodiment of the sweeping military and political changes brought about in Europe by the Napoleonic Wars. The tightly disciplined professional armies of the Eighteenth Century had perished forever in the flames of Austerlitz, Jena, and Friedland; from their ashes arose patriotic mass armies on the French model, often poorly trained and equipped, but highly motivated and capably led by experienced officers. Each of the figures in this "Leipzig Series", of which these are the first six, has been selected with this general concept in mind, and each represents a significant or unusual aspect of the armies involved.





135 JAEGER, RUSSO GERMAN LEGION, LEIPZIG.

The Russo-German Legion was raised and equipped by the Russians from German prisoners-of-war as a self-contained and supporting unit, comprising seven infantry battalions, two hussar regiments, two horse artillery batteries, and a jaeger battalion. The Legion fought with distinction in the campaigns of 1813-14 before being returned to the Prussian service. Some of their number later fought at Waterloo in their old Russian uniforms.

136 MOUNTED JAEGER, LUTZOW'S FREIKORPS, LEIPZIG.

Few units in the Prussian army were more symbolic of the rebirth of Prussian and German nationalism than Lutzow's "Vengeance Corps". Originally organized as a small band of terrorists during the French occupation, they grew with the resumption of hostilities into a bonafide military force of formidable reputation. Recruited primarily in the student centers of Germany, the unit contained an unusual proportion of artists, poets, philosophers, and was easily the most romanticized of the Prussian volunteer formations.

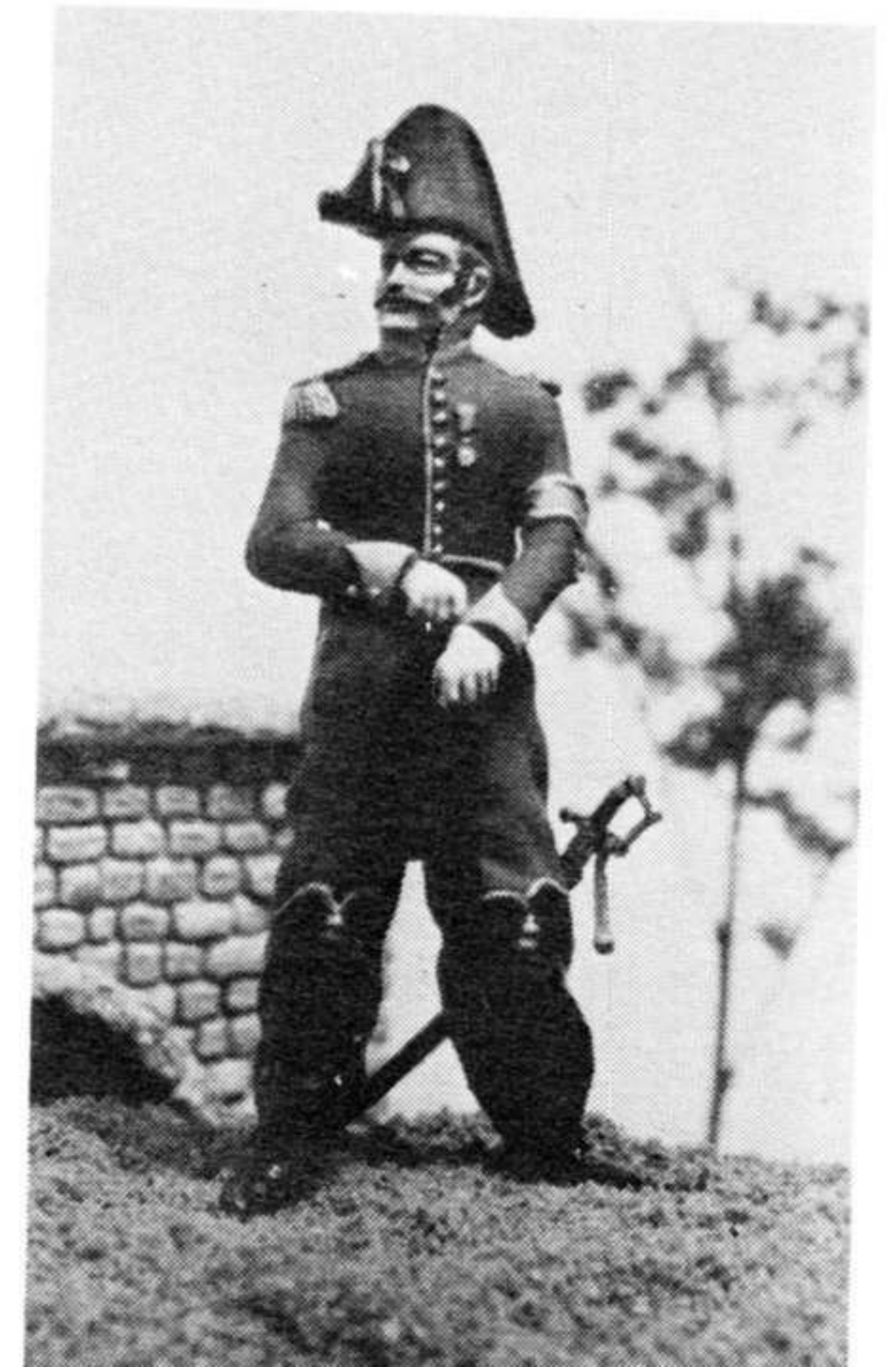


141 TARTAR COSSACK, LEIPZIG, 1813.

The ponderous army with which Czar Alexander crossed the Niemen in 1813 included men from all corners of the far-flung Russian Empire. Along with such curiosities as the Kalmucks and Bashkirs were to be found great hordes of cossacks, of every variety and description. Although they were occasionally used as battle cavalry, it was as foragers, scouts, and pursuit cavalry that they gained their reputation.

142 FRENCH AIDE DE CAMP, LEIPZIG, 1813.

Aides de camp were carefully selected junior staff officers, frequently on temporary assignment from their own units, chosen for their intelligence, daring, and horsemanship. The regulation uniform for aides was singularly dull, and the dashing young officers were usually allowed to wear pretty much what they pleased. The rigorous demands of long years of war had eliminated much of the fancy lace and plumage, and the uniform shown here was designed more for practicality than appearance.



140★ MOUNTED OFFICER, MAMELUKS OF THE CONSULAR AND IM- PERIAL GUARD, 1802-1808.

Few of Napoleon's cavalymen were as colorful or ferocious as the Mameluks, and none were so lavishly or expensively clothed. In the beginning, the unit, which varied in size between a squadron and a company, was composed almost entirely of bonafide Egyptian Mameluks, but as the Napoleonic Wars took their toll the ranks were increasingly filled with Europeans. The original Mameluks spoke little French and were aggressively independent; they were not so much a disciplined military organization as an eccentric and fearless band of individuals, bound together only by their loyalty to "him". The uniform regulations for the unit were loose to say the least, and the extravagance of an officer's costume was limited only by his imagination and his pocketbook.

The Valiant figure represents a Mameluk officer of this early period, when they were still Mameluks in every sense of the word. These were the men whose flashing scimitars routed the vaunted Russian Chevalier Guards at Austerlitz, an action which earned them their eagle and made them the smallest unit ever to be so honored.

(the kit includes an additional arm holding a trumpet, enabling the collector to assemble and paint the figure as a trumpeter if he desires)



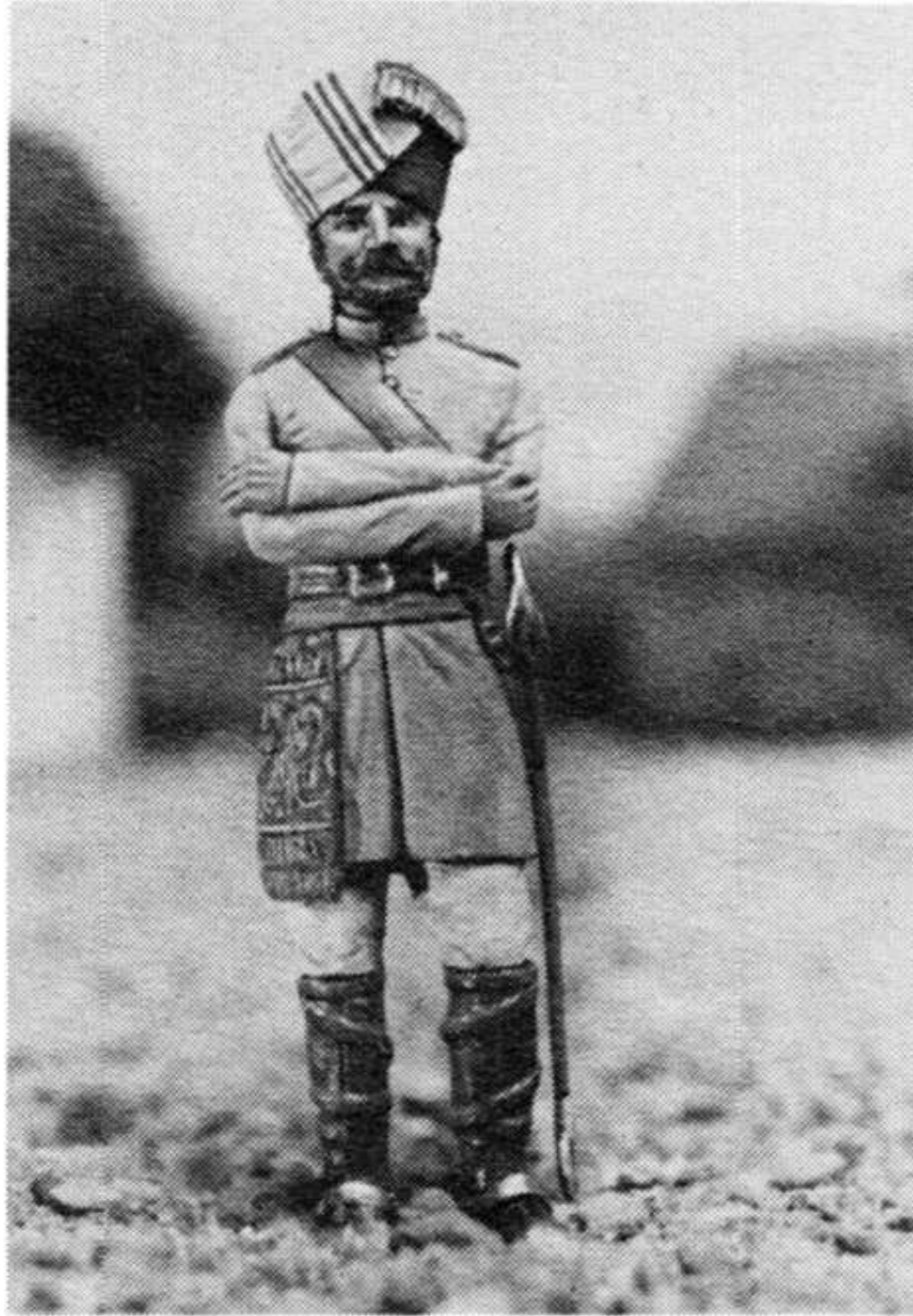


149 HELICOPTER PILOT, U.S. ARMY.

The most significant tactical development of the Vietnam war was the emergence of the helicopter as a combat aircraft. This pilot is unusual in that he is wearing his flak vest; most preferred to sit on it as protection from ground fire.

150 71st NEW YORK VOLUNTEERS, 1898 (SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR).

The 71st was typical of the militia units that served in the "splendid little war". The militia were not as well equipped as the regulars, a fact that cost the 71st heavy casualties at San Juan Hill, where the heavy smoke of their old springfields revealed their positions to the Spaniards.

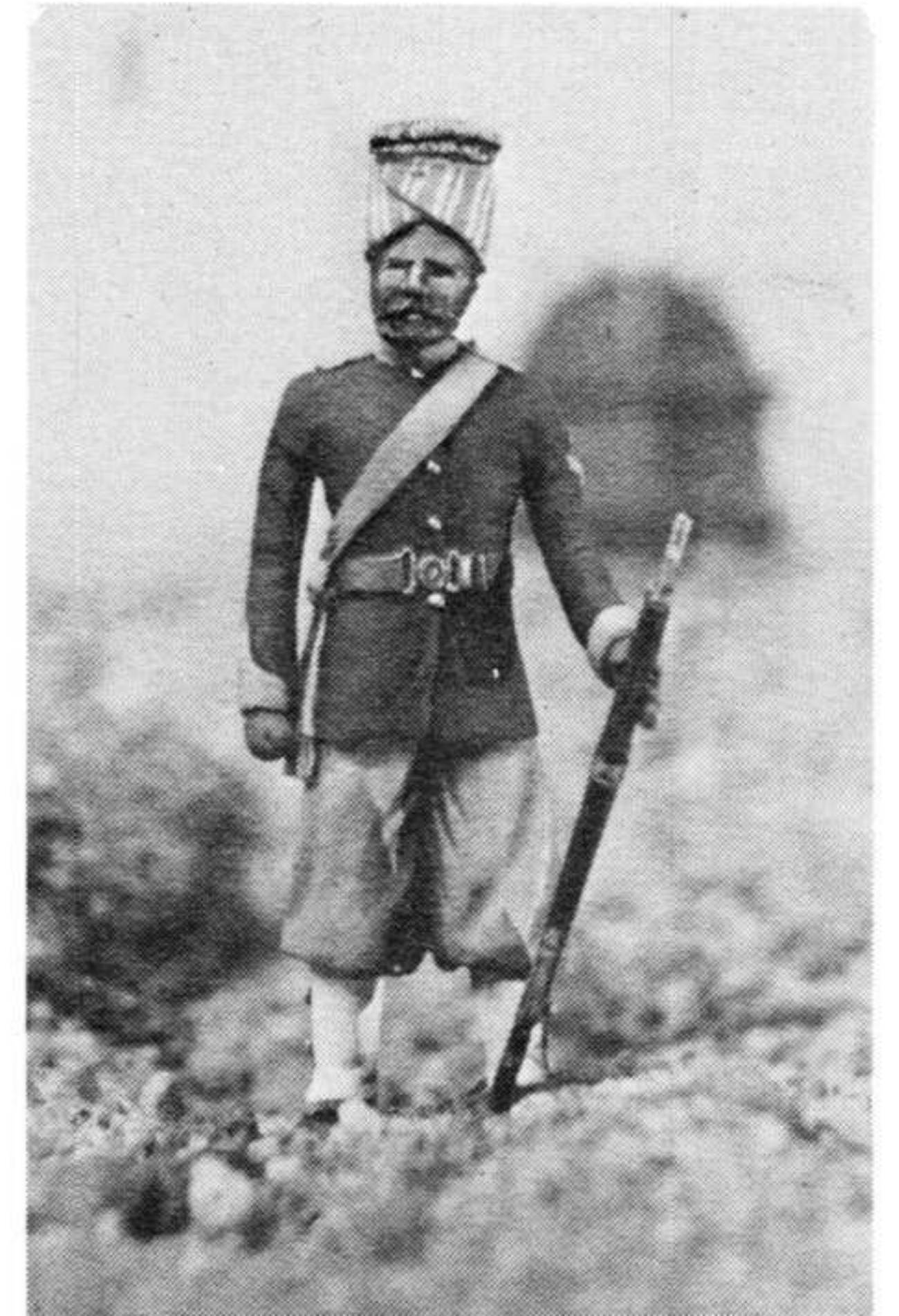


151 MYSORE TRANSPORT CORPS, c.1910.

Taken from a plate by A. C. Lovett, this figure provides a delightful exception to the general dictum that the supply troops are the least glamorous in any army. He can also be painted as an officer or private of any number of Indian cavalry regiments.

152 COLOUR HAVILDAR, 43rd ERINPURA REGIMENT, 1909.

This colorful unit, originally a Bengal native regiment, was one of the few regiments of the Indian army to include both foot and mounted troops.





138 AMERICAN MILITIAMAN, 1777.

The militia often formed the bulk, if not exactly the backbone, of the American forces in the early days of the Revolution. Some were indeed "Sunshine Soldiers", but enough stayed on and died to ensure them an honored place in American History.

139★ TEUTONIC CHIEFTAIN.

The Germanic tribes were among the very few the Romans were unable, or at least unwilling, to conquer. The chieftains were the toughest of all, and held their positions largely by the power of their swords.



143 39th GARHWAL RIFLES, c.1910.

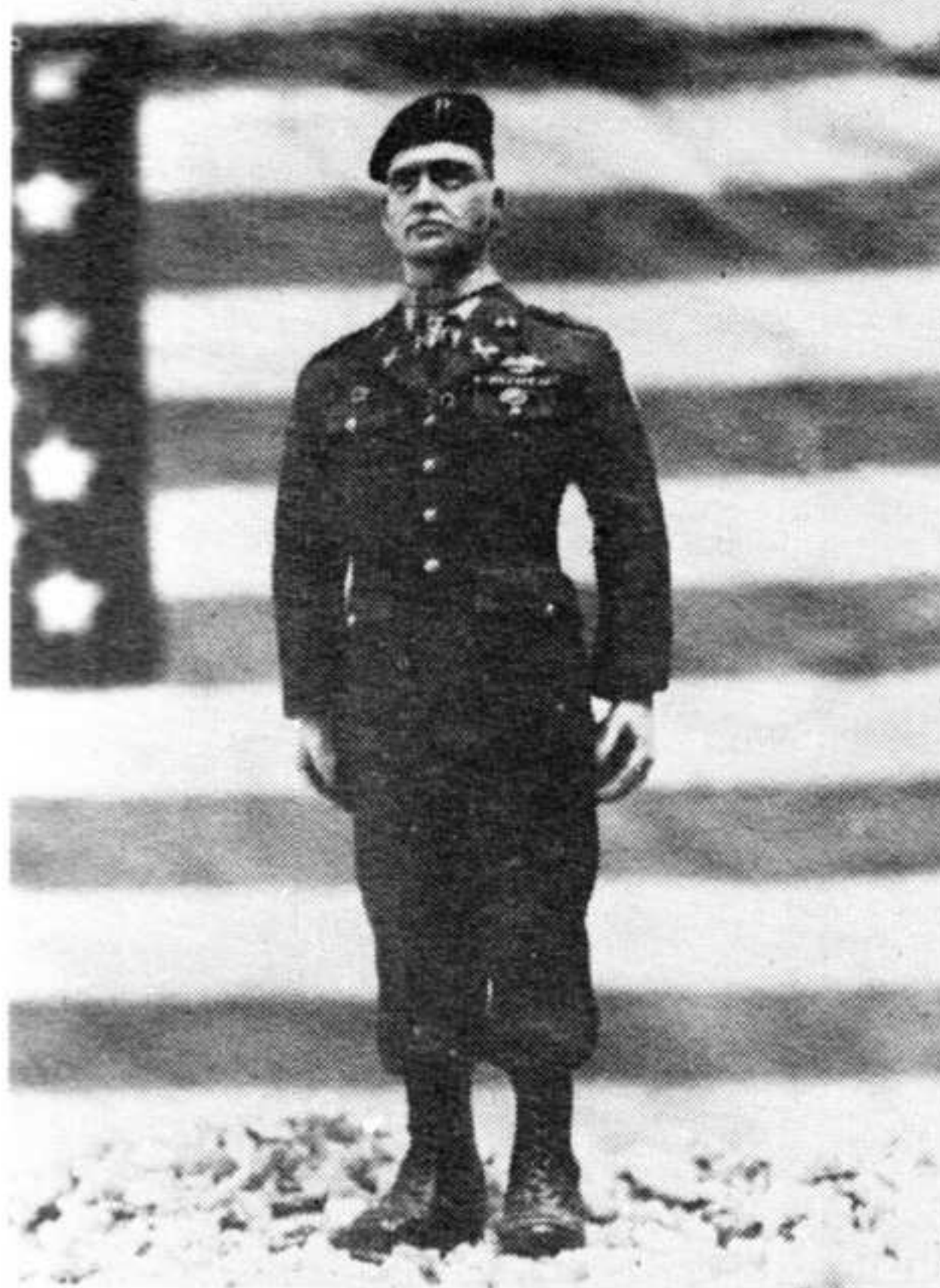
While not titled as a Gurkha regiment, this unit came from the same general area and wore the same characteristic uniform. They also carried the Gurkha trademark, the famous "kukri".

144 SPECIAL FORCES SERGEANT, 1965.

The backbone of an army is its non-commissioned officers, and at the beginning of the Vietnam war the Special Forces NCO's were the cream of the crop. They were equipped and trained for any contingency, and often commanded irregular units of company size or larger.



★ indicates kit with color photograph



145 SPECIAL FORCES CAPTAIN.

The Medal of Honor is the United States' highest award for military valor, and it is significant that the first awarded for action in Vietnam went to a Special Forces officer; since that time, Special Forces personnel have consistently garnered more than their share of decorations.



147 GENERAL OFFICER, U.S. ARMY.

Compared to the sartorial splendor of a Murat or Custer, the modern general cuts a rather plain figure. Elegance being secondary to practicality, the only thing that distinguishes him from a well-groomed private is the rank insignia on his collar.



146 MILITARY POLICEMAN, U.S. ARMY.

The unfortunate butt of countless serviceman's jokes, the MP has one of the most thankless jobs in the military. In the American Army they have always been chosen for their impressive size and appearance, although the once traditional spit-and-polish has been largely replaced by patent leather.



148 U.S. MARINE, VIETNAM, 1965

The Marines were, as might be expected, among the first U.S. combat troops sent to Vietnam. This Marine, lightly equipped for patrol, is clearly an old fashioned sort, having discarded his M-14 for the lighter and more familiar M-1 carbine.



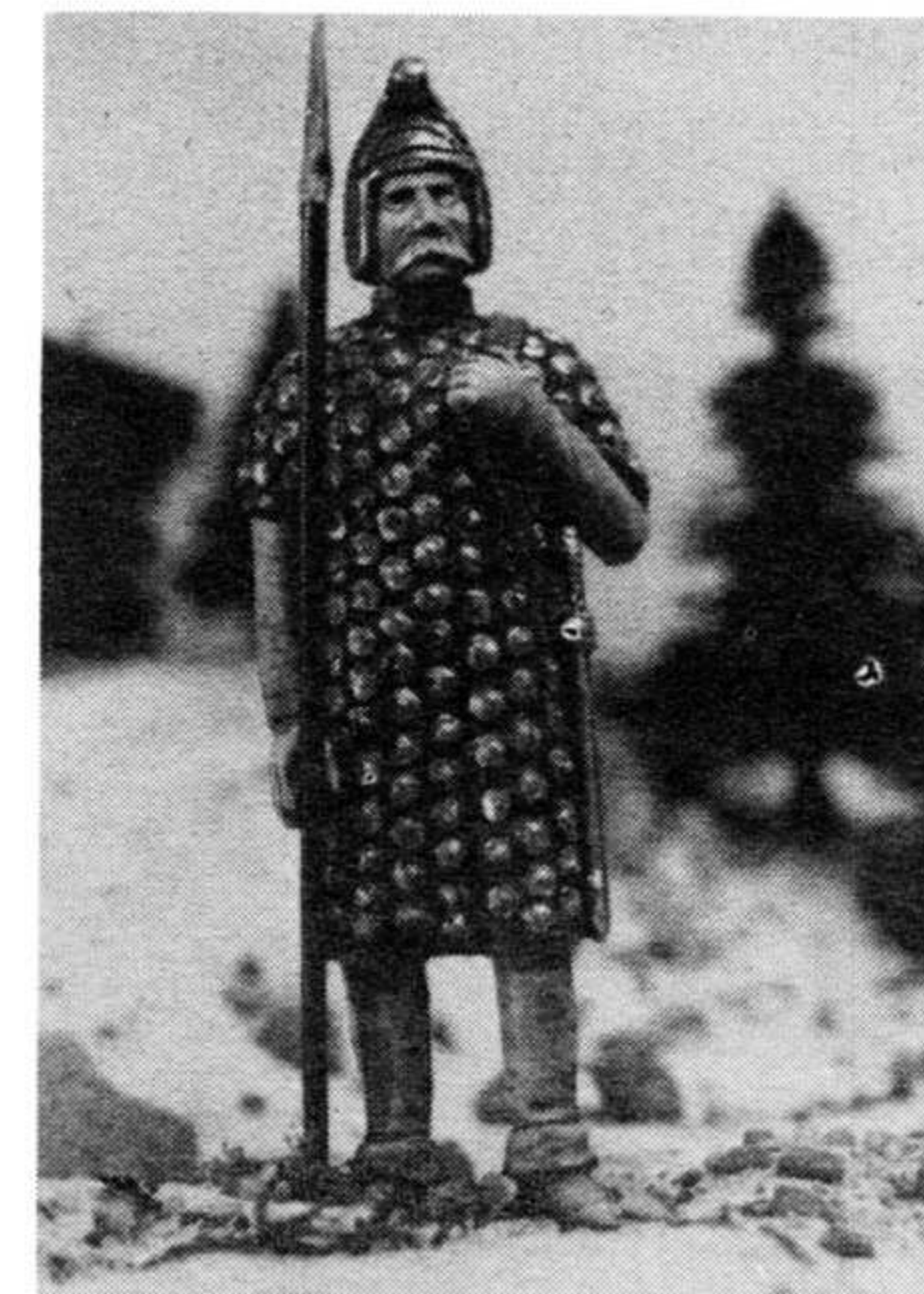


153 BRITISH OFFICER, 2nd KING EDWARD VII's OWN GURKHA RIFLES, c. 1910.

The 2nd Gurkha Rifles maintain close ties with their affiliated unit, The King's Royal Rifle Corps. The hussar-style tunic worn by this officer was quite common on Indian service, and gives rise to innumerable conversion possibilities.

154 NORDIC WARRIOR, c.500 A.D.

The natural toughness of the northern tribes was due not only to incessant internal strife but to their never-ending battle with the elements as well. Mere survival in such a climate required a physical and mental ruggedness that paid off handsomely in battle.



155 GERMAN PRONE BAZOOKAMAN, 1944.

Although the portable anti-tank rocket launcher was an American invention (as was its nickname, "bazooka"), the Germans immediately recognized its value and quickly developed one of their own, the "*panzerschreck*" (panzer terror), which soon matched the success of its American counterpart.



**156★ GERMAN PARATROOPERS, 1944.
MACHINE GUN TEAM.**

The Germans were the first nation to recognize the potential of a well-trained assault force of paratroops, and were the only nation at the beginning of World War II to have sizeable formations of them ready for combat. They soon proved their worth when at the beginning of the 1940 offensive their surprise aerial assault captured the supposedly impregnable fortress of Eben Emal in a matter of minutes and knocked Belgium out of the war in one day. Their landings on Crete the following year marked the first totally airborne invasion in history, and succeeded in driving the British from the island in less than a week. The casualties from this operation, however, were so severe that the Luftwaffe was reluctant to risk such losses again, and the German parachute divisions fought out the rest of the war as elite ground troops. Although Ramcke's paratroopers saw considerable action in North Africa, it was in Italy and Normandy that the parachute divisions made their mark. Luftwaffe ground forces played a major role in Italy, particularly at Monte Cassino, where the paratroops formed the backbone of the German forces. Their stubborn defense of the mountain abbey brought the war to a virtual standstill for six months, during which time the frustrated Allied soldiers could only look across the valley at that God-forsaken mountain and silently curse the "Green Devils" who infested it.





157 DRUM-MAJOR, THE KING'S AFRICAN RIFLES.

The King's African Rifles is undoubtedly the most famous of the British African regiments. The unusual highland-style dress of the band is still retained by the band of the 4th battalion, The Uganda Rifles.

158 LAWRENCE OF ARABIA.

Major T. E. Lawrence was one of the most fascinating and controversial figures of this century. Brilliant tactician, magnetic showman, noted scholar, and reluctant soldier, Lawrence was the leader and figurehead of the Arab revolt against the Turks during the First World War. The Valiant figure is based on a photograph taken at Akaba, scene of one of his greatest triumphs, in 1917.



159 PRESIDENT RICHARD NIXON, (Caricature)

This figure makes an unusual gift, and includes instructions for polishing and antiquing the bare metal casting.

160★ VISIGOTH, c.350 A.D.

The Visigoths, or "western" Goths, emerged from the so-called "heartland" of northern Europe to invade the Roman Empire in the 3rd century A.D. They finally settled in France and Spain, where they established a monarchy that lasted into the 8th century.

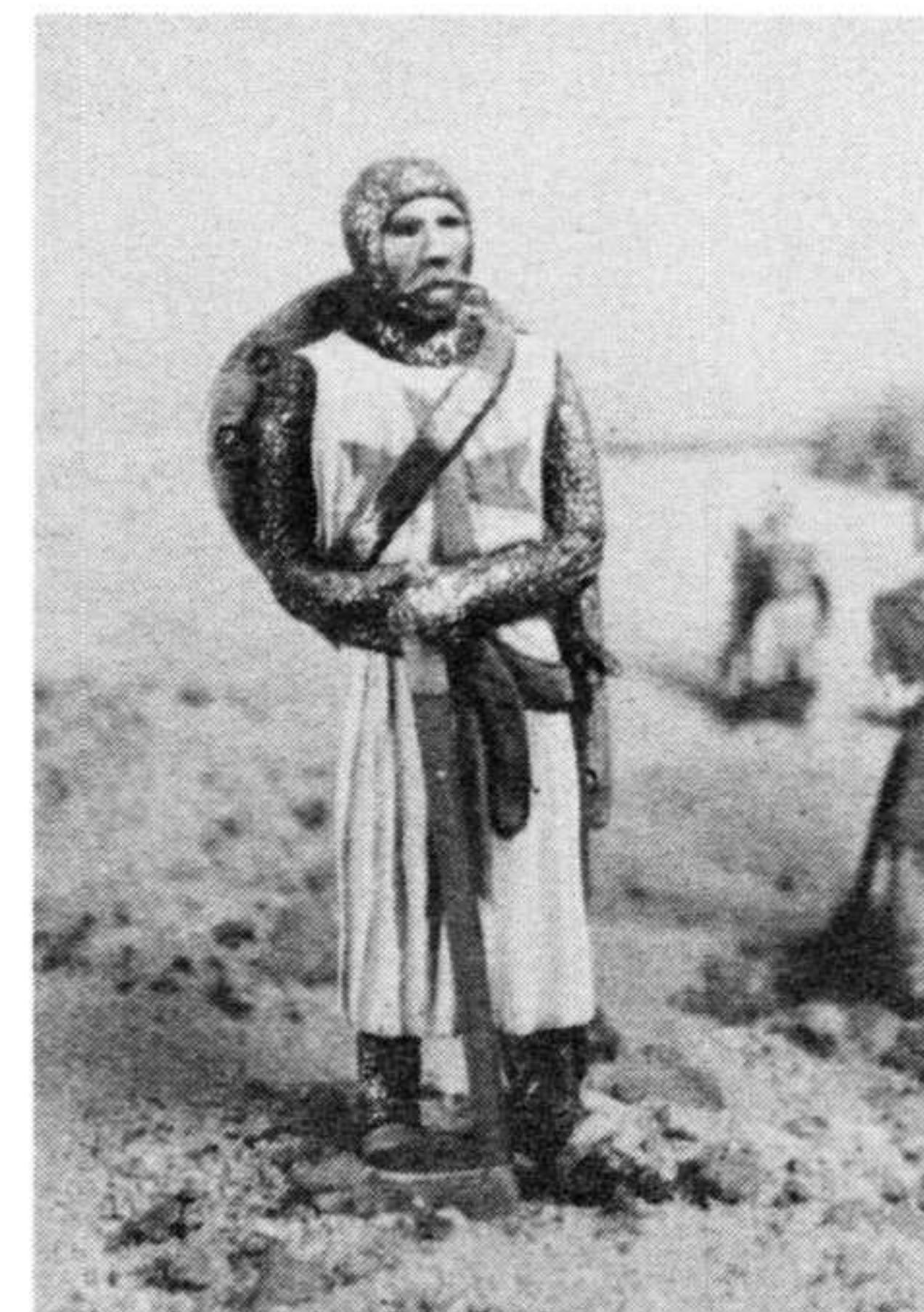
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161★ VANDAL, c.450 A.D.

The Vandals were a Teutonic race that pillaged Rome in 455 A.D. and unsparingly destroyed the monuments of art, architecture, and literature, thus giving their name to similar behavior in modern times.



162★ CRUSADER, c.1100 A.D.

The crusades were a remarkable phenomenon of the Dark Ages, being at the same time an earnest quest for Godliness and truth and a brazen excuse for rape and plunder. This figure is appropriate for either the first or second Crusade.



163★ BUGLE-MAJOR, THE HIGHLAND LIGHT INFANTRY, MALTA, 1898.

The famous highland regiments of the British Army are among the most colorful in history, and in this case the pith helmet for foreign service provides an additional touch of elegance to an already striking figure.



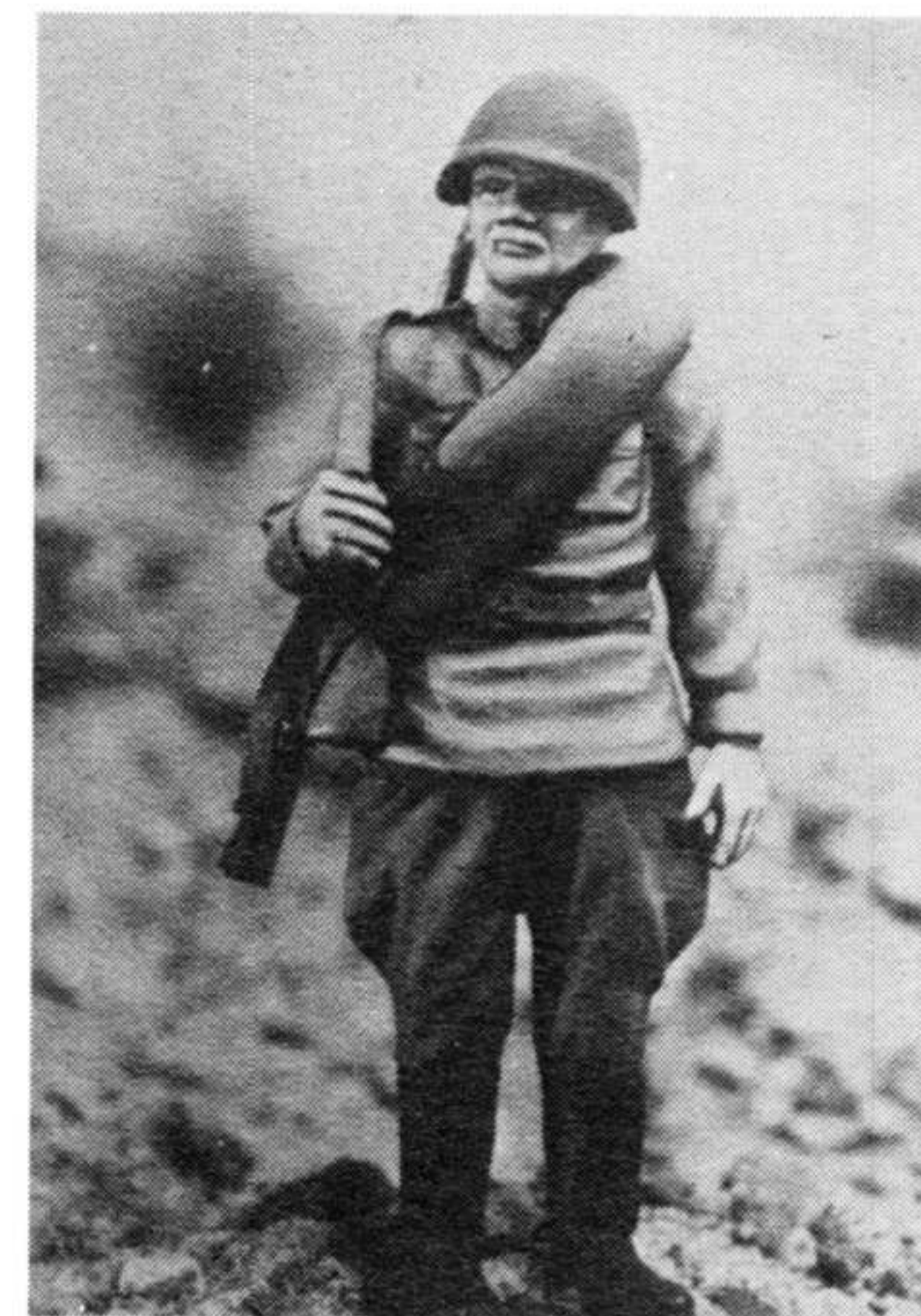


164★ SS VERFÜGUNGSTRUPPE, 1938.

The SS *Verfügungstruppe*, or "service troop", was the pre-war version of the *Waffen SS*. Its three *Standarten* - *Deutschland*, *Germania*, and *Der Führer* - were later to form the basis of the *Das Reich* and *Viking* divisions.

165★ RUSSIAN GUARDS INFANTRY, 1944

The title "Guards" was awarded to any Soviet unit distinguishing itself in battle. As the title was usually conferred in the field, there were seldom any uniform distinctions, but Guards units did receive priority in new equipment. In 1944, there were entire Guards armies.



170★ U.S. INFANTRY OFFICER, KOREA, 1951.

It is difficult to imagine a more inhospitable climate in which to fight a war than the Korean winter. The 1st Cavalry Division was one of the most distinguished American units engaged in the war, and was until recently most frequently identified with that conflict.

171★ U.S. MARINE, KOREA 1950.

The famous fighting retreat from Chosin after the massive Chinese intervention of November 1950 was one of the proudest feats in Marine Corps history, and gave added luster to the already formidable legend of the U.S. Marines.





166★ OFFICER



168★ RIFLEMAN

BRITISH INFANTRY 1939-45

Blenheim, Quebec, Waterloo, Inkerman, Omdurman, Mons, El Alamein – the Battle Honours of the British infantry regiments roll across the pages of history with a majesty unequalled by any army in the world. The tradition of unyielding determination under fire has continued unbroken from the days of Poitiers and Agincourt to the more recent battles of the Second World War.

For there is no doubt that the British soldier of the Second World War lived up to the finest traditions of his service. The tenacity and courage that held the field at Waterloo and mowed down the Kaiser's Guards at Mons were to be found in equal measure in the fox-holes and rubble of Caen. General Eisenhower once commented that while he preferred to use American troops for a quick breakthrough and pursuit, for the tough battles of attrition, fought from hole to hole and house to house, no one could match the British.

(this is the first of several series devoted to the British Army of World War II; each series is designed for maximum flexibility to meet the diorama and conversion needs of the World War II modeler)



167★ SERGEANT



169★ PRIVATE



172★ QUARTERBACK.

Wearing only light equipment to allow maximum freedom of movement, the modern quarterback is a David in a field of Goliaths. He is also the most glamorous player on the field; his ability to call plays and pass under pressure can reverse the course of an entire game with devastating swiftness.



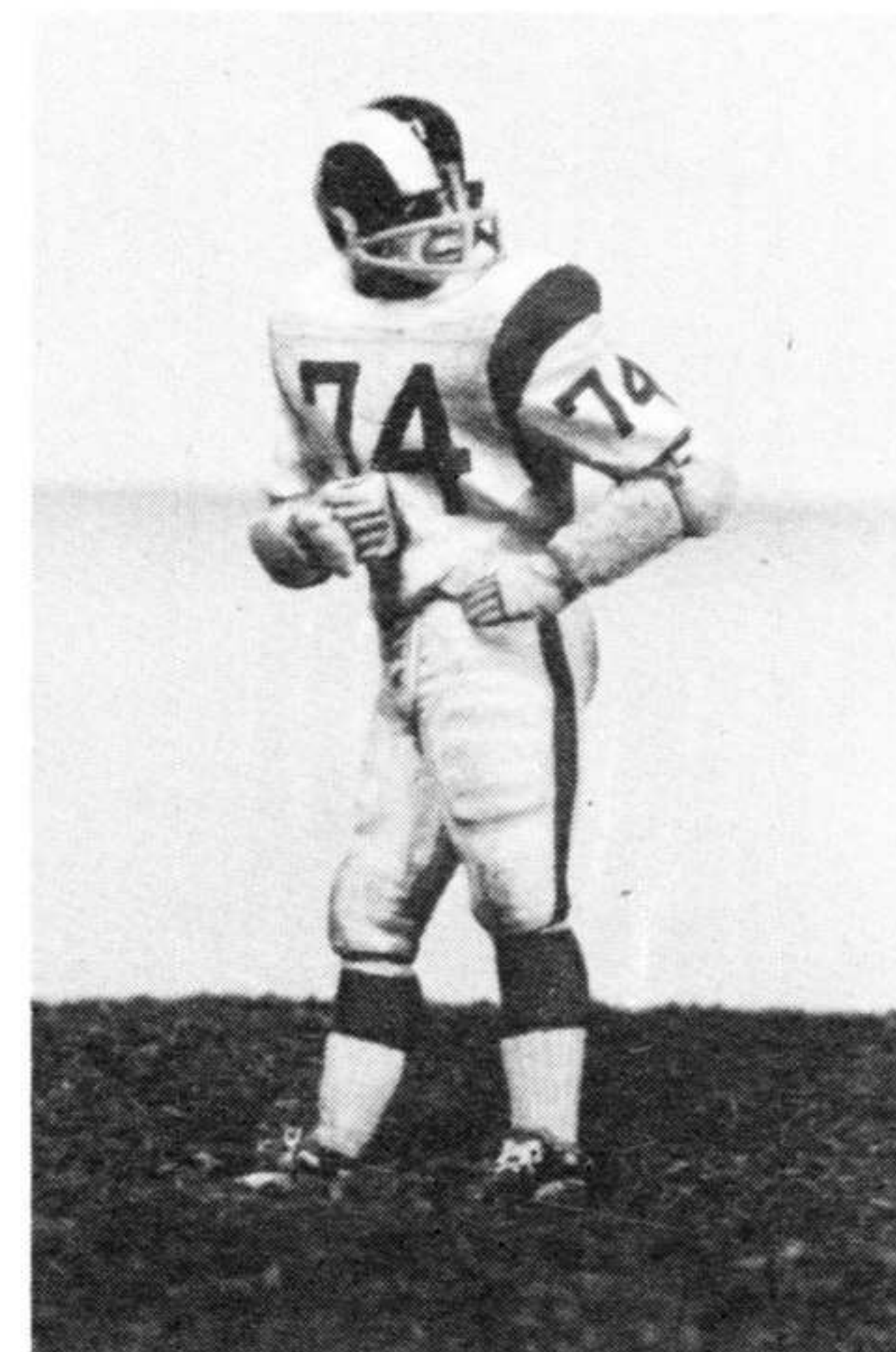
173★ RUNNING BACK.

The swift and sure-footed running backs are the "battle cavalry" of the football team. Sweeping around the ends or ploughing head first through the line, the running back plays a key role in the success or failure of an offense. "Four yards and a cloud of dust" may not be as glamorous as an 80 yard touchdown pass, but it has undoubtedly won more football games.

174★ LINEBACKER.

The linebacker is popularly considered the "villain" of football, the meanest and most brutal man on the field. But his is also an extremely difficult position to play; in order to defend against both the pass and the rush, the linebacker must combine the size and ferocity of the defensive lineman with the speed and agility of the cornerback.

Warriors of the Gridiron





175★ BERSERK.

The "Berserks" or "Berserkers", were legendary Scandinavian warriors who took their name from the crude bearskin clothing which they wore. Their primary attributes were their prodigious strength and formidable temper; their extreme violence and fury in battle is reflected in the modern meaning of their name.

176★ TURKISH JANISSARY, c.1685.

The colorful Janissary Corps were the super-elite of the Turkish infantry. Through an existence which spanned five centuries, the mere sight of their famous white headdresses and the ominous thunder of their drums was enough to strike fear into the hearts of the bravest of their enemies.

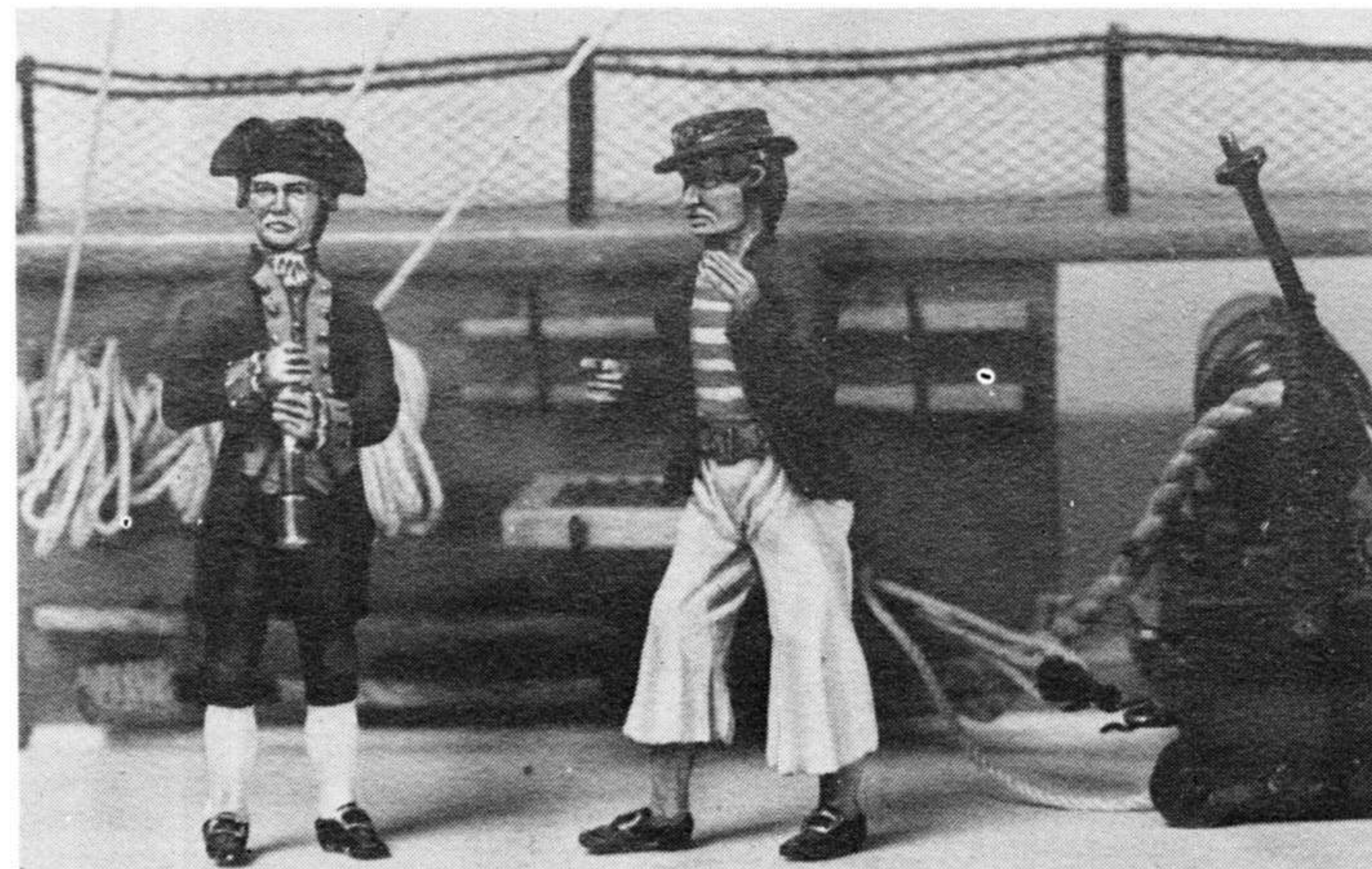


177★ JOHN PAUL JONES.

The father of American Naval tradition, John Paul Jones is best remembered for his classic retort, "I have not yet begun to fight!" during the battle between the *Bonhomme Richard* and the *Serapis*. With the shot-riddled *Richard* literally sinking out from under him, Jones gathered what was left of his crew and boarded and captured the burning English vessel, providing an immortal example of determination under fire for generations of American seamen to come.

178★ PETTY OFFICER, CONTINENTAL NAVY.

The tiny Continental Navy did not have to resort to the press gangs of her gargantuan British adversary, and her seamen were generally better motivated if not better trained. Petty Officers were promoted from the ranks to command the gun crews on the deck and the sailing parties aloft. Their dress differed little from that of the seamen, which in turn differed little from that of their civilian counterparts.



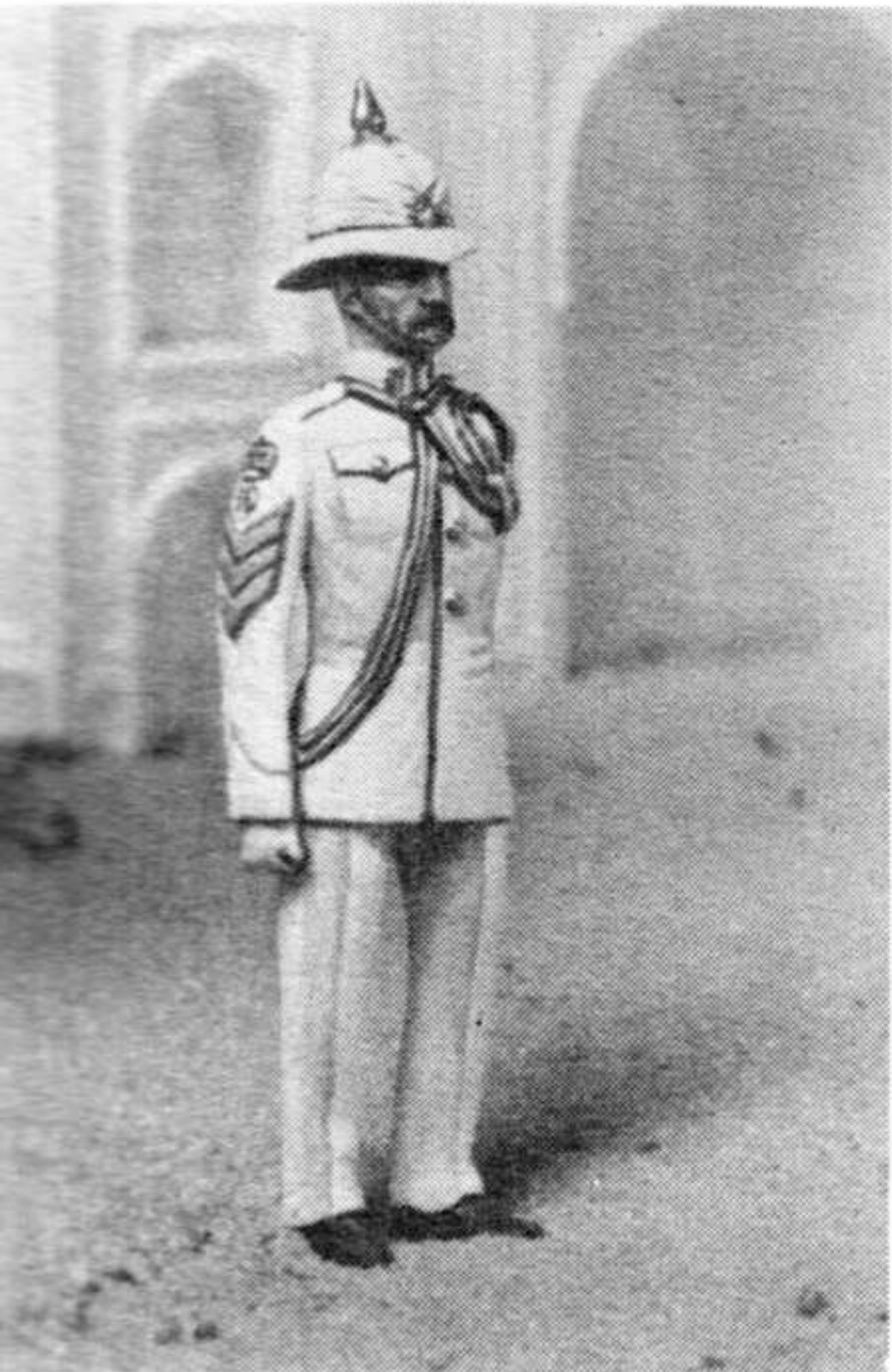


179★ CONTINENTAL ARTILLERY OFFICER.

From the very beginning the American artillery, under the brilliant leadership of Henry Knox, exhibited a determination and skill that went far to make up for the scarcity of guns and ammunition. In 1776 captured guns from Fort Ticonderoga were dragged up to Dorchester Heights to drive the British out of Boston, while the guns of Yorktown, five years later, finally brought the war to a close.

180★ THE ROYAL SCOTS, 1914.

The Royal Scots, founded in 1633 as Sir John Hepburn's Regiment, is the oldest infantry regiment in the British Army. For a long time the so-called "lowland" Scottish regiments had no distinctive uniform at all, but toward the end of the 19th Century they began to adopt the one shown here. The uniform is still worn today, but the doublet is dark blue instead of scarlet.



181★ REGIMENTAL SERGEANT-MAJOR OF THE 21st LANCERS, ALEXANDRIA, 1901.

The turn of the century, with the British Empire at its height, was the apex of glory for the British Army. Foreign service in a distinguished regiment like the 21st, famous for their charge at Omdurman only three years before, was an exalted experience even for an enlisted man, and the understated elegance of their tropical "whites" exemplified their way of life.

182★ THE HIGHLAND LIGHT INFANTRY, INDIA, 1935

The Highland regiments have always jealously guarded their Highland distinctions, and the Highland Light Infantry was certainly no exception. While stationed in India in 1935, it soon became apparent that their tartan trews were unsuitable for service in such a hot climate. Not being a kilted regiment, but determined not to abandon the tartan, the regimental staff came up with this startling innovation — the only tartan shorts ever worn by the British Army.



THE EIGHTH ARMY'S FAMOUS "DESERT RATS"

1941-43

The fluid warfare in the Western Desert in 1941-42 saw some of the fiercest fighting of the Second World War. The skill and daring of Rommel's famous Afrika Korps were set off against the courage and tenacity of the British "Tommy". In the beginning British tanks and tank tactics were no match for the crack panzers of the Afrika Korps, and they suffered a long string of frustrating defeats before they developed to a point where they could meet the Germans on equal terms. In the meantime, it was the "poor bloody infantry" who had to bear the brunt of the fighting. Against seemingly hopeless odds they dug in around the port of Tobruk, where, in the course of a bitterly contested siege, the legend of the "Desert Rats" was born. The Germans were eventually forced to retreat from Tobruk, but the desert war would continue in its see-saw fashion, favoring first one side and then the other, for ten long months before the Afrika Korps was finally broken at El Alamein.



185★ RIFLEMAN



184★ BREN GUNNER



186★ SOLDIER FIRING
TOMMY GUN



187★ SOLDIER THROWING
GRENADE

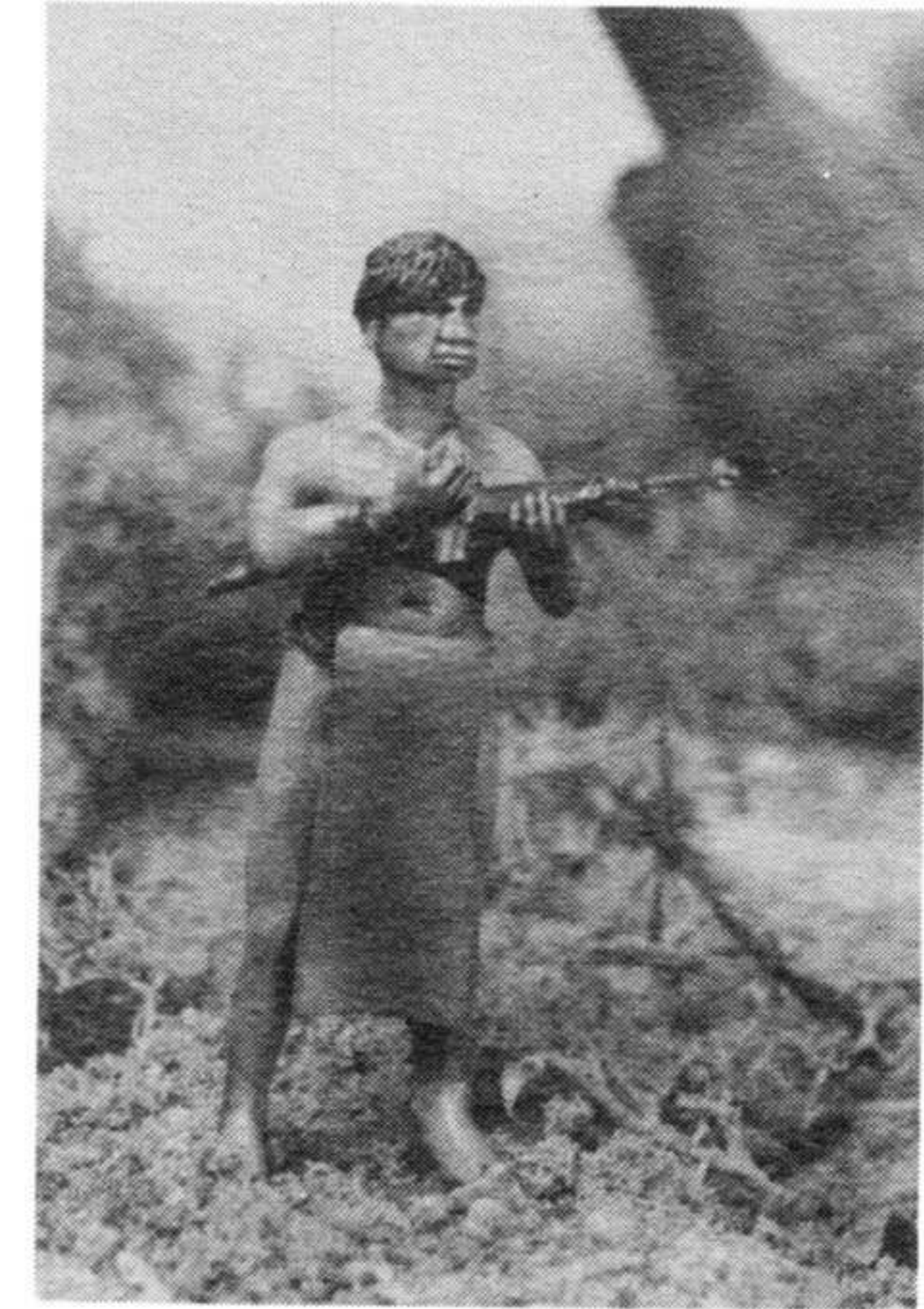


183★ AMERICAN RANGER, 1943.

Major Darby's Rangers were the American equivalent of the British commandos, and drew their name and traditions from Rogers' Rangers of the French and Indian Wars. The Rangers were crack troops, trained for swift stealthy raids behind enemy lines. Casualties were always heavy. Two of Darby's battalions were trapped at Anzio and wiped out; of 764 men who went into ravine at Cisterna only 7 returned to American lines.

188★ MONTAGNARD TRIBESMAN

The semi-primitive montagnards of the Vietnamese Highlands proved to be ideally suited to the ways and temperament of their free-wheeling Green Beret advisors. For a long time they were among the few South Vietnamese forces capable of meeting the VC on equal terms, and did much to stem the tide during the early years of the war.



190★ PIPER, 51st SIKHS, (FRONTIER FORCE), 1908.

Contrary to popular belief, the bagpipe is not strictly a Scottish instrument, but has been known in various forms for centuries throughout the world. It is therefore not really surprising that many Asian and even African regiments of the British Empire were allowed to adopt it. This crack regiment of Sikh infantry was one of them.



189★ PIPER, 6th GURKHA RIFLES

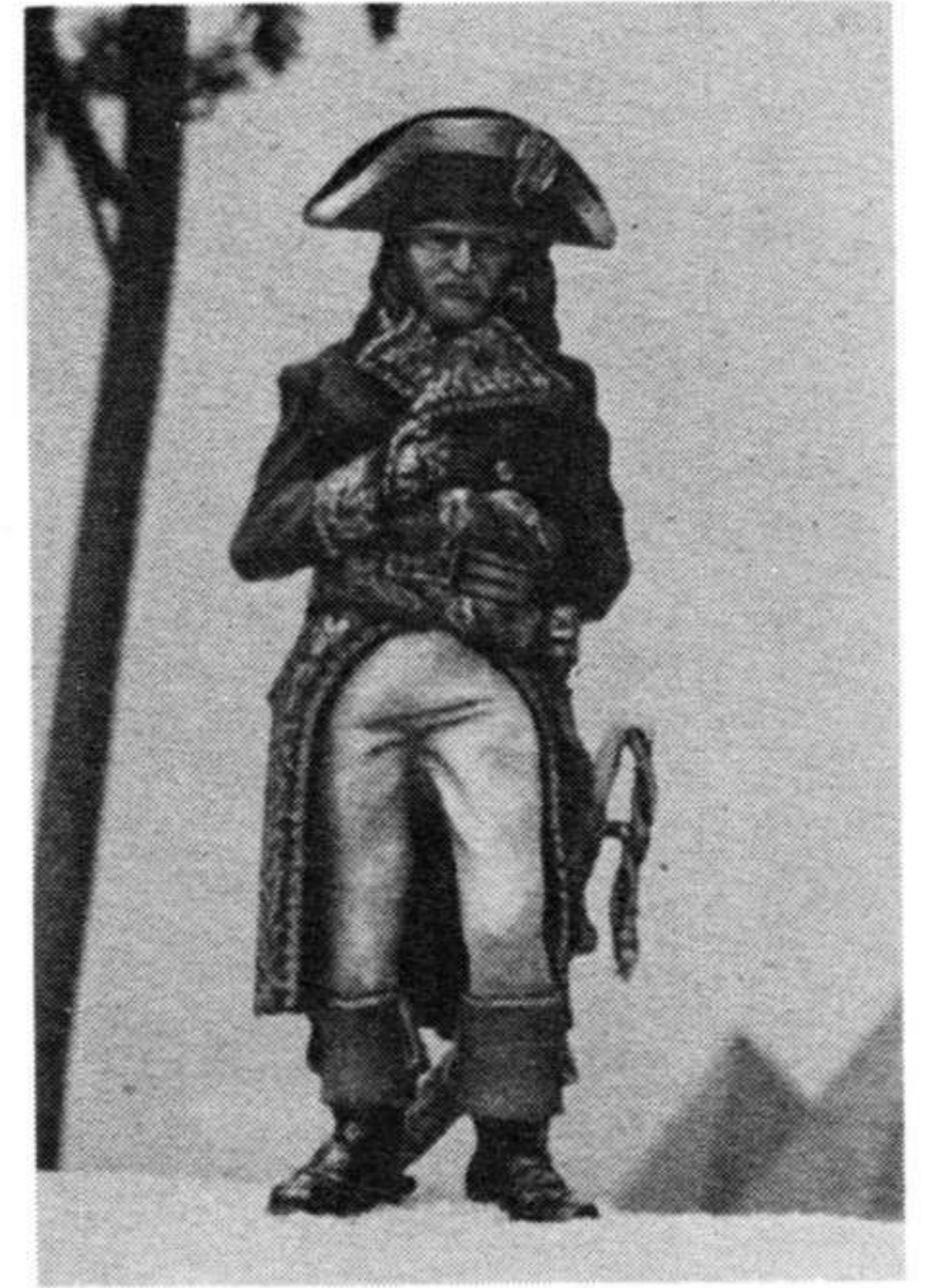
As the "Highlanders" of India, it was only natural for the hardy little mountain soldiers from Nepal to adopt the bagpipe for their regimental bands. Nearly all the regiments did so, and today the bagpipe is almost as closely associated with the Gurkha regiments as it is with their Scottish counterparts.





191★ YOUNG WINSTON CHURCHILL

By shamelessly exploiting his political and family connections, the ambitious young Churchill managed to participate in four wars in five years. In the Sudan in 1898 he was attached to the 21st Lancers and took part in the "last great charge of British cavalry" at the battle of Omdurman.



192★ NAPOLEON IN EGYPT.

Historians generally agree that Napoleon was at the height of his military powers in the years 1796-1805. His campaigns in Italy may not have had the spectacular results of his later campaigns in Central Europe, but from a strategic and tactical standpoint they were masterpieces of the first order. Its eventual failure notwithstanding, the Egyptian campaign was a daring adventure of the sort Europe had not experienced since the Crusades, an extravagant bid for empire that just barely fell short of success.



197★ CANADIAN INFANTRY, 1944.

In two World Wars, Canadians have bravely rallied to the home country in time of need, and sent their sons to fight and die on the blood-soaked battlefield of Europe. Canadian divisions served with distinction in North Africa, Italy, and France, where the Canadian 3rd Division stormed Juno Beach on D-Day.





193★ OFFICER



196★ "PIAT" GUNNER

BRITISH PARATROOPS ARNHEM, 1944

It is interesting to note that some of the most inspiring feats in military history are those in which the tactical or strategic objectives failed to be achieved. The Battle Honour ARNHEM, for example, ranks above all others in the Parachute Regiment, in spite of the fact that the operation was a failure.

The original plan was to drop a substantial airborne force behind the German lines to seize the vital Rhine delta bridges at Arnhem and Nijmegen, and then to effect a link-up with tank forces on the ground. The landings took place on September 17, 1944 and went according to plan, but the ensuing link-up did not. Two SS Panzer Divisions suddenly materialized in the area, and the paratroopers soon found themselves fighting for their lives. For ten days they held out under appalling conditions along an ever-shrinking perimeter, but by then it had become clear that bridgehead could no longer be held, and the embattled survivors were ordered to break out. Casualties were extremely heavy; of the 10,000 paratroopers and glider pilots who had landed, barely 2,000 finally managed to reach their own lines.



194★ BREN GUNNER



195★ STEN GUNNER

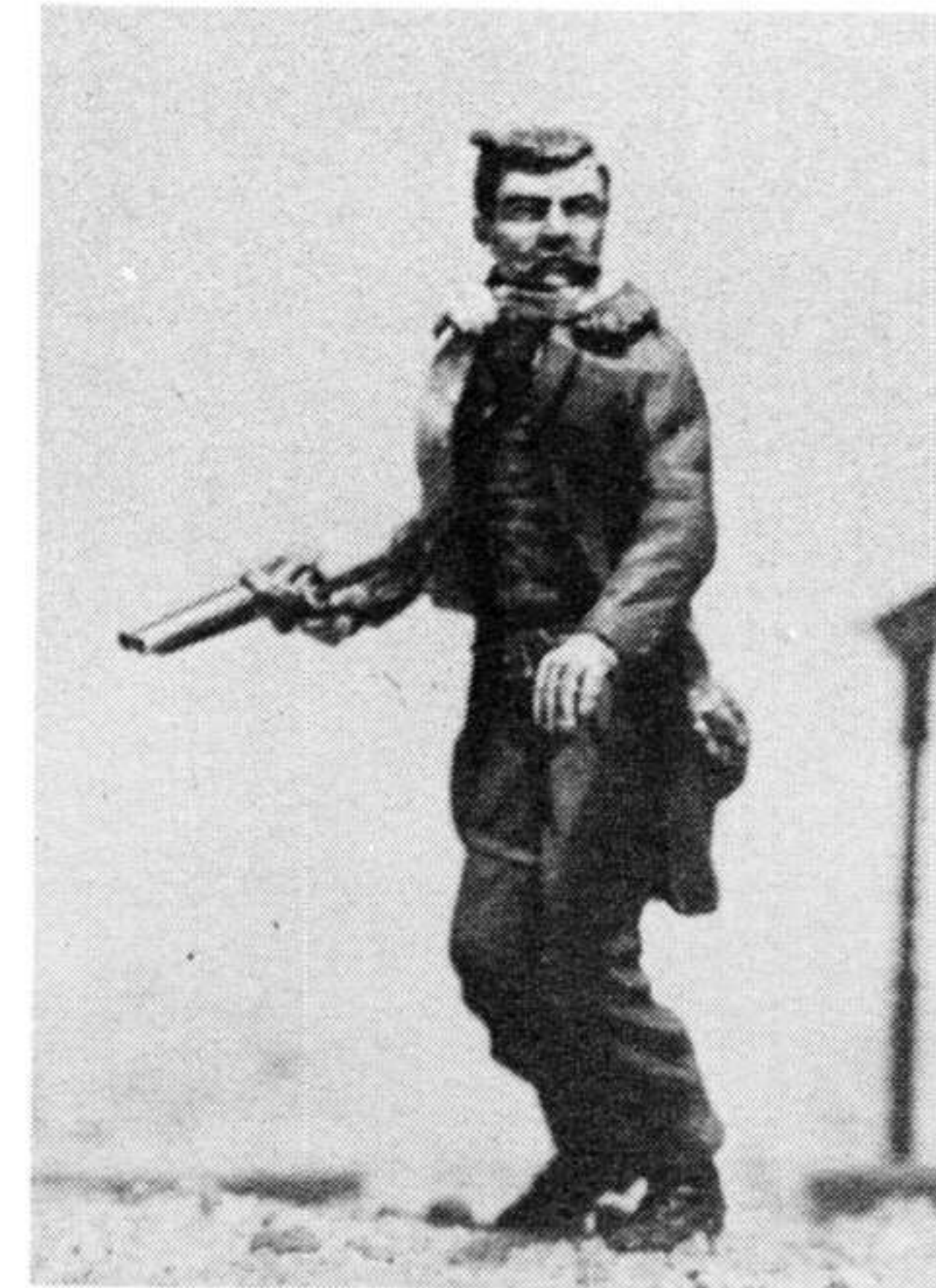


202★ WYATT EARP.

One of the great figures of American folklore, the real Wyatt Earp was somewhat less heroic than his legend. Gambler, drifter, gunfighter, and only occasionally U.S. Marshal, Earp's icy courage in difficult circumstances still made him one of the most formidable lawmen ever to wear a badge in the Old West.

203★ DOC HOLLIDAY.

Best remembered for his participation in the famous gunfight at the O.K. Corral, Doc is one of the great legendary figures of the American West. His favorite weapon, supposedly carried at the O.K. Corral, was a vicious looking sawed-off shotgun which he carried concealed under his coat and slung from a leather strap around his neck, ready for action at a moment's notice. His epitaph appropriately reads "He died in bed."



204★ HITLER YOUTH, 1945.

As the Allied Forces closed in for the final battle in the shattered ruins of the Third Reich, the Nazis called up their very last reserve — the Hitler Youth. Pathetically naive and enthusiastic boys of twelve and thirteen, armed only with a panzerfaust and a few grenades, were thrown into battle with little or no military training in a desperate and obviously hopeless attempt to delay the inevitable end.

205★ UNION CAVALRY GENERAL, 1864.

General Alfred T. A. Torbert was one of the Army of the Potomac's famous "boy generals". Barely thirty when he won his stars, Torbert commanded a series of infantry formations before achieving fame as Sheridan's Chief of Cavalry during the Shenandoah Valley campaign of 1864. His penchant for extravagant uniforms was matched only by his friend and subordinate George Armstrong Custer, and typified the flamboyant self-confidence of the Union Cavalry in the latter half of the war.





198★ U.S. AIR FORCE PILOT.

The increased sophistication of modern aircraft has brought on a corresponding increase in the complexity of the equipment worn by the men who fly them. The modern pilot wears not only the pressurized "G-suit" and other equipment necessary to fly the plane, but also a complicated life support system should he have to bail out, ranging from the complex parachute and ejection systems to the various flares, rations, radar beacons, and ammunition to sustain him on the ground until help arrives.

199★ U.S. AIR FORCE CREW CHIEF.

The maintenance and ground crews are the unsung heroes of the Air Force. Theirs is the responsibility for keeping the sophisticated modern jets reliable, safe, and operational, and the real burden of this responsibility falls, as always, on the "backbone of the service," the non-commissioned officer. His knowledge and efficiency are put to the supreme test every time one of his million-dollar charges leaves the ground.

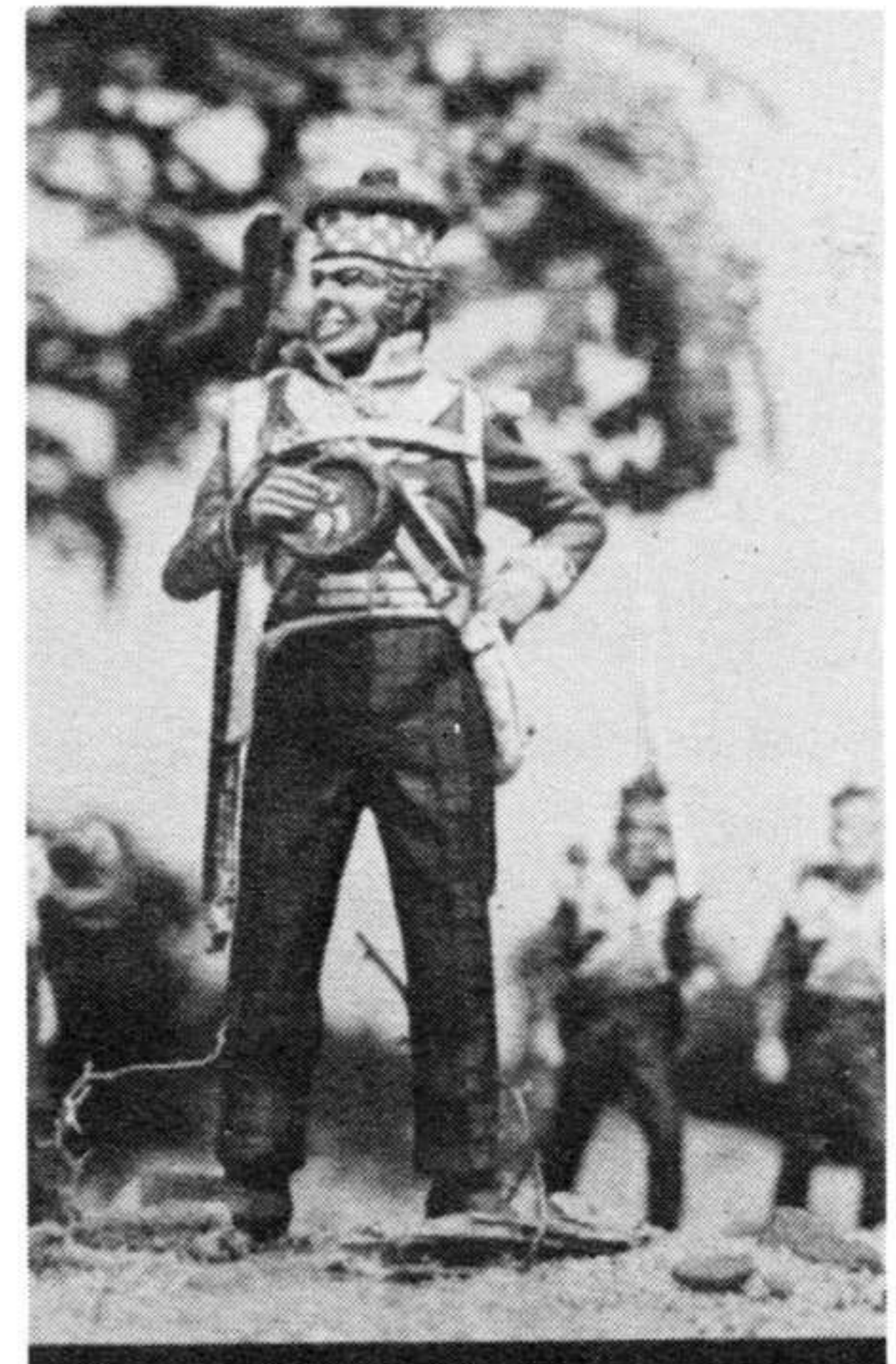


200★ GENERAL ANDREW JACKSON, NEW ORLEANS, 1815.

The stunningly lopsided victory at the battle of New Orleans, actually fought after the peace was concluded, was the Americans' only major success during the War of 1812, but it stood out so prominently against the long string of pyrrhic victories and dismal defeats which preceded it that it alone was enough to catapult Andrew Jackson, a hitherto unknown frontier general, into national prominence and eventually even the White House.

201★ 93rd SUTHERLAND HIGHLANDERS, NEW ORLEANS, 1815.

This regiment was hand-picked in 1800 from the estates of the Countess of Sutherland, and quickly established a reputation as one of the finest regiments in the British Army. Often described as a regiment of giants (the average height was 5'10"), this splendid unit was tragically squandered at New Orleans; ordered to halt only 150 yards from the American lines, the highlanders were mowed down in their ranks, suffering an appalling 75% casualties before they were finally allowed to withdraw.





206★ NORTH VIETNAMESE REGULAR.

The North Vietnamese regular army formed the backbone of the communist forces during the Vietnam war and had units fighting throughout Southeast Asia. They proved to be tough and resourceful jungle fighters, perhaps the best in the world, and their stoic ability to endure punishment that would have broken others did much to frustrate the American war effort.

209★ U.S. NAVY PILOT, 1941-45.

While the truth of the Navy assertion that their pilots were superior to the Army's is debatable, there is no doubt that the Navy's carrier-based pilots were a special breed unto themselves. Not only was the carrier pilot faced with the usual perils of air combat, but he was saddled with the additional difficulty of taking off and landing on a floating landing strip barely two hundred yards long, which might be tossing in a storm, under fire, on fire, badly damaged, or simply missing when he returned.



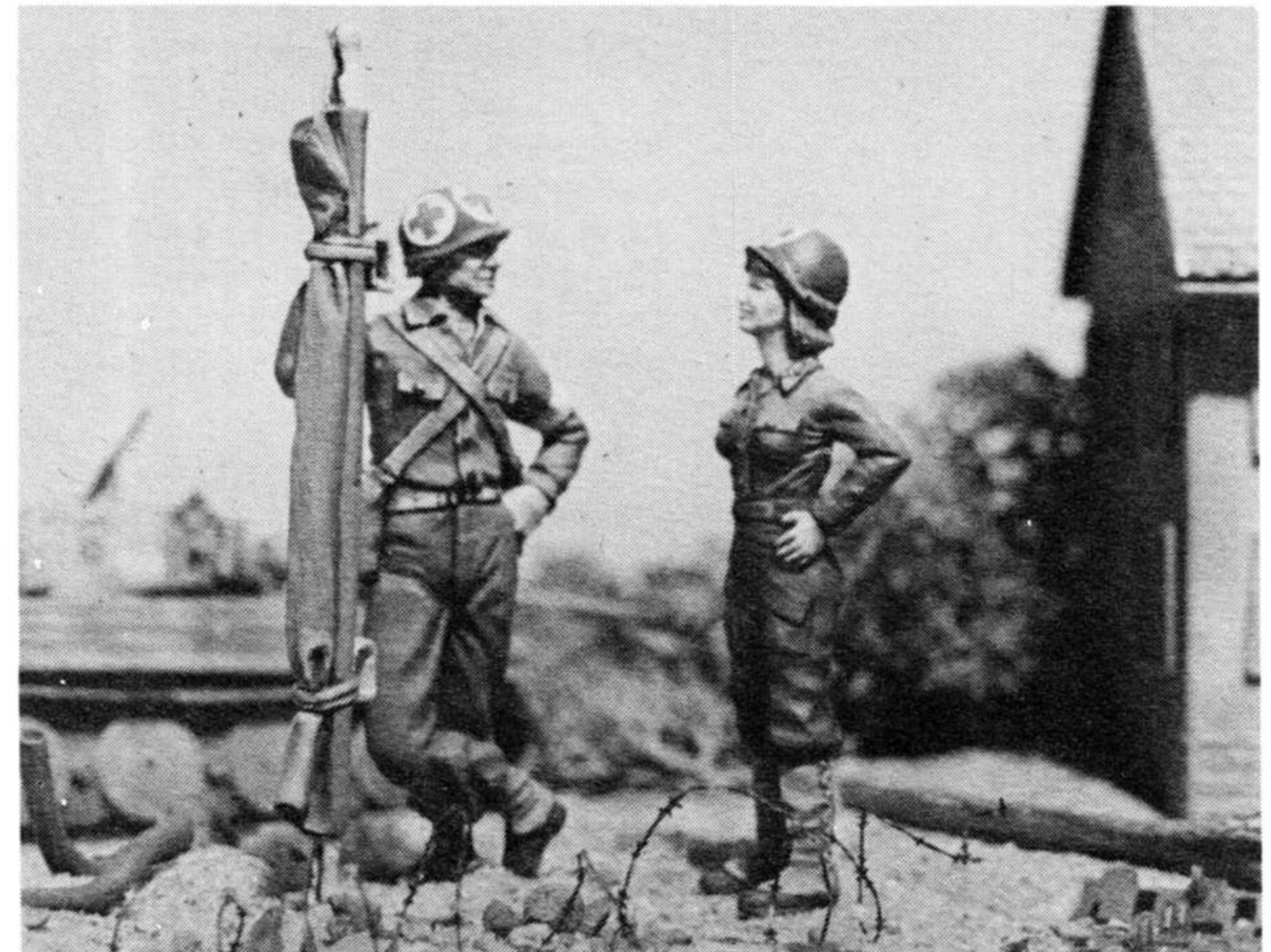
207★ U.S. ARMY MEDIC, 1943.

"... But the dogface's real hero is the litter bearer and aid man who goes into all combat situations right along with the infantryman, shares his hardships and dangers, and isn't able to fight back. When the infantryman is down, the medic must get up and help him. That's not pleasant when there's shooting. The aid men and litter bearers know their work is often far more important than that of the surgeon at the operating table; because if it were not for the aid man the casualty would not live to reach the surgeon's table."

— Bill Mauldin, *Up Front*

208★ U.S. ARMY NURSE, 1941-45.

When Clara Barton and her civilian volunteers first started tending the wounded during the Civil War, it was considered a shocking breach of propriety; medicine at that time was a grisly business, and a field hospital (or any hospital, for that matter) was considered no place for faint-hearted women. By World War II this had all changed and nurses were an essential part of the military establishment, serving in front-line hospitals all over the world.





210★ DUTCH HORSE ARTILLERY, WATERLOO, 1815.

While it is true that the best troops in Wellington's Waterloo army were his British regulars, a substantial part of his force was made up of Dutch, Belgians, and Germans. Some of the Dutch troops were inexperienced and of dubious value, but for every battalion that turned and ran there were several others who stood their ground well, in some cases taking heavy casualties to do so. The artillery batteries generally numbered among the latter, and several occupied critical positions in Wellington's line.



211★ NORTHWEST MOUNTED POLICE, 1874.

The Northwest Mounted Police were founded in late 1873 as a semi-military patrol force to police the newly-opened Northwest Territories. By the Spring of 1874 the unit was trained and equipped, and in June of that year embarked on the famous "March West" to Forts Edmonton and Macleod, where the legends of the force began.



212★ ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE.

From a small provincial police force, the "Mounties" have grown to become the most famous police organization in history and a virtual symbol of Canada to the rest of the world. Although they now perform their everyday duties in a more subdued uniform of dark brown, the famous scarlet tunics and Montana peak hats can frequently be seen on ceremonial occasions, and the dash and adventure of the old days can still be relived in watching the famous "musical ride".



1873-1973



213★ WILD BILL HICKOCK.

James Butler Hickock, better known as "Wild Bill", was probably the most famous gunfighter of them all. In the course of his short but flamboyant career he served as a scout for General Custer, as Marshal of Abilene, and generally gambled, prospected, and drifted his way across the American West. He was finally shot in the back while playing poker in 1876 in Deadwood, South Dakota, by an unknown drifter named Jack McCall; the cards he held showed two pair — Aces and Eights — known ever since as the "dead man's hand".

214★ FRENCH INFANTRYMAN, 1914.

The French success at the battle of the Marne in 1914 must be attributed almost entirely to the resilient spirit of their soldiers, for the "Poilu" at the beginning of the war was undoubtedly the poorest trained and most wretchedly equipped soldier in Europe. The genius which had developed the famous "75" for the artillery clearly did not extend to the infantry, for the French infantryman went to war in a uniform virtually unchanged since the Crimean War, burdened down with over sixty pounds of ill-fitting equipment which did not even provide for such basic necessities as a bar of soap.

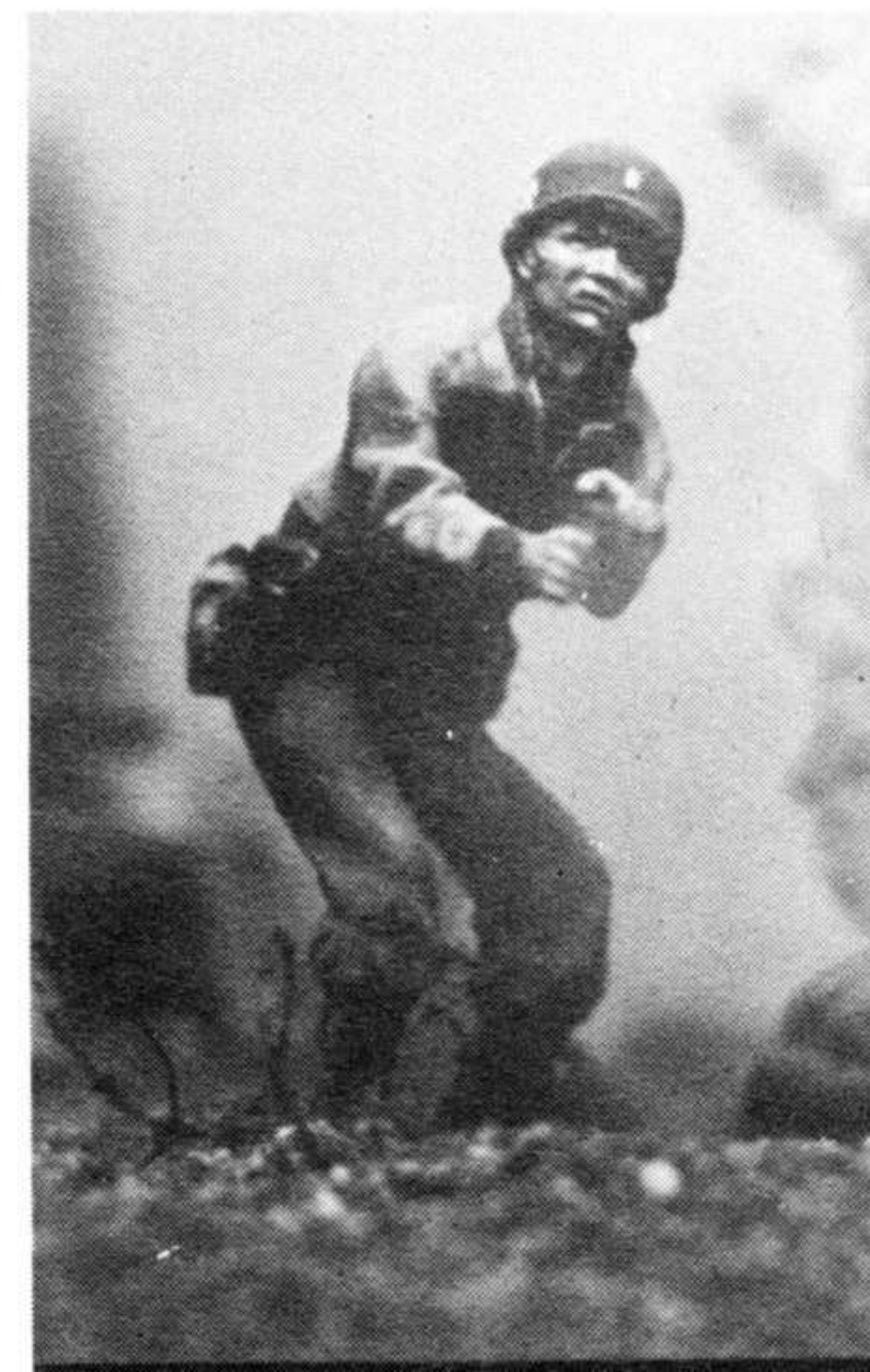


216★ CELTIC WARRIOR, 100-500 A.D.

The fierce Gaelic tribes of Northern Britain and Ireland were an ever-present thorn in the sides of both the Romans and the early Saxon Kings. The Roman answer to the problem was Hadrian's wall, a massive stone fortification extending from sea to sea along the Scottish frontier; by the time of the Saxons, this barrier had fallen into disrepair, and they were plagued with a seemingly endless series of costly wars and bloody border clashes.

217★ U.S. INFANTRY OFFICER, 1944.

Whatever may be said about the role of armor and aircraft in World War II, it remains indisputable that the real brunt of the fighting was borne by the infantryman. In the front line, there was little visible distinction between officers and men. Here officers were forced by circumstances to lead by example, not by command, and casualties were correspondingly heavy; it was calculated that the life expectancy of a second lieutenant under fire was just under two minutes.



215★ U.S. CAVALRY, INDIAN WARS, 1870-90.

Isolated on small desolate outposts, chasing an enemy rarely seen but ever present, the Indian-fighting cavalry of the American plains led an unglamorous life of exhaustion, boredom, physical misery and disease, occasionally punctuated by just enough glory to make it all seem worthwhile. Yet this is clearly the stuff legends are made of, for the legacy of the "pony soldiers" is one of the richest in American history.

The men were not particularly heroic, nor were their officers particularly brilliant. The troopers were generally drawn from the castaways, rejects, and drifters of society, who could find no other means of employment. The officers were of a higher caste, but had a great deal of "civilized" warfare to unlearn before they could lead troops effectively against the unorthodox tactics of their enemy. Nevertheless, these elements combined to overcome the parsimonious attitude of Congress and produced some of the finest fighting cavalry the world has ever seen. The troopers of Custer's 7th, the famous "Buffalo soldiers" of the Colored regiments — all have become part of the folklore and traditions of the American West.





218★ DRUMMER, AUSTRIAN LINE INFANTRY, LEIPZIG, 1813.

The Austrian army had the unfortunate distinction of being Napoleon's favorite victims, having been defeated by him in 1796, 1800, 1805, and 1809. The problem was not so much a lack of courage in the ranks as it was inefficiency and corruption at the top. This handicap could only be overcome by bitter experience, but by 1813 it had finally been brought within manageable limits. At Leipzig, bolstered by mass levees and a new national pride, the white-clad legions of the Hapsburg Empire were at last able to meet the *Grande Armée* on something approaching equal terms, and restore some of their lost dignity and self-esteem.

219★ GUNNER, BRITISH NAVAL BRIGADE, CRIMEAN WAR.

It had long been common practice in amphibious operations for the Royal Navy to provide a portion of the men and guns necessary to support the landing force. At Sebastopol the unfortunate naval gunners found themselves committed to a protracted siege on land, burrowing like moles in the Crimean mud and suffering from such unseamanlike discomforts and diseases as trenchfoot, cholera, and lice.



220★ BATTLE OF THE BULGE CAPTURE SCENE (reversible).

On December 16, 1944 the Germans launched their surprise offensive in the Ardennes and sent the weakened American units holding the area reeling back in confusion. Caught in an exposed position on the *Schnee Eifel*, the untried 106th division was quickly cut off and forced to surrender; some 14,000 American soldiers were marched off into captivity in the largest mass surrender of American troops since Bataan.

By the end of December, barely two weeks later, the situation had changed. The German offensive literally ran out of gas, and the tide began to turn. American planes once more took to the skies and Patton's Third Army suddenly arrived from the south. The poorly equipped *Volksgrenadier* divisions began to crumble, and it was soon the Germans who were surrendering in droves, throwing away their weapons and stumbling into the American lines with their hands held high.

(the unusual feature of this kit is that it is reversible. It is really two vignettes in one, in that it can be assembled to represent either the early or the late stages of the Battle of the Bulge)





221 LORD NELSON

Deceptively slight and frail (he was less than five feet tall and weighed a little over a hundred pounds), the victor of Trafalgar, Copenhagen and the Nile was undoubtedly the greatest fighting admiral of his age, and possibly of all time.

222 MIDSHIPMAN, ROYAL NAVY, 1805

The land-based naval academy for training naval cadets is a relatively recent innovation. In Nelson's time, future naval officers started their training at a much earlier age, going to sea at twelve or thirteen and learning their trade by hard experience, serving as Midshipmen on actual naval vessels.



223 GERONIMO

Geronimo was the best known and most elusive of the Apache leaders. It is no small tribute to his ability that it took five years and five thousand U.S. troops to finally bring him and his thirty-eight warriors to bay.

224 FIRST SPECIAL SERVICE FORCE, 1943-44

This was the only joint Canadian-American military unit in history, and the only amphibious-airborne-mountain-commando organization to serve in the Allied armies. Their legendary exploits at Anzio, where they regularly had raiding parties operating five miles behind German lines, earned them the name by which they are best known today - the "Devil's Brigade".





225 ADOLF HITLER

When the Second World War started, Hitler announced with great solemnity that as head of the German Armed Forces he would forswear the Brown party uniform and wear only the field gray of the Wehrmacht until the war was won. He was true to his word, and this was the only uniform he wore throughout the war.

226 COLONEL VON STAUFFENBERG

Von Stauffenberg was the key figure in the German officers' plot of July 20, a badly wounded veteran of the North African campaign who was selected in spite of his handicap for the dangerous job of smuggling the briefcase bomb into Hitler's Headquarters.



227 GERMAN FIGHTER PILOT, NORTH AFRICA, 1942

Hans Joachim Marseille was the greatest and most flamboyant German Ace of the North African War with 158 victories, all over British aircraft. His most noted accomplishment was shooting down 17 enemy aircraft in one day, a feat never equalled before or since.



229 INFANTRYMAN, FORT HENRY GUARD

Old Fort Henry in Kingston, Ontario is an authentic recreation of a British military post and garrison in 19th Century Canada. The infantry of the Guard perform the intricate drills and maneuvers of the period with remarkable precision, bringing back to life an era of military elegance that would otherwise be lost forever.



All kits are 54mm (1/32 scale) unless otherwise stated, and are priced as listed elsewhere in this catalog.

All photographs in this catalogue are completely un-retouched in any way, and show actual painted castings from the Valiant Collection.