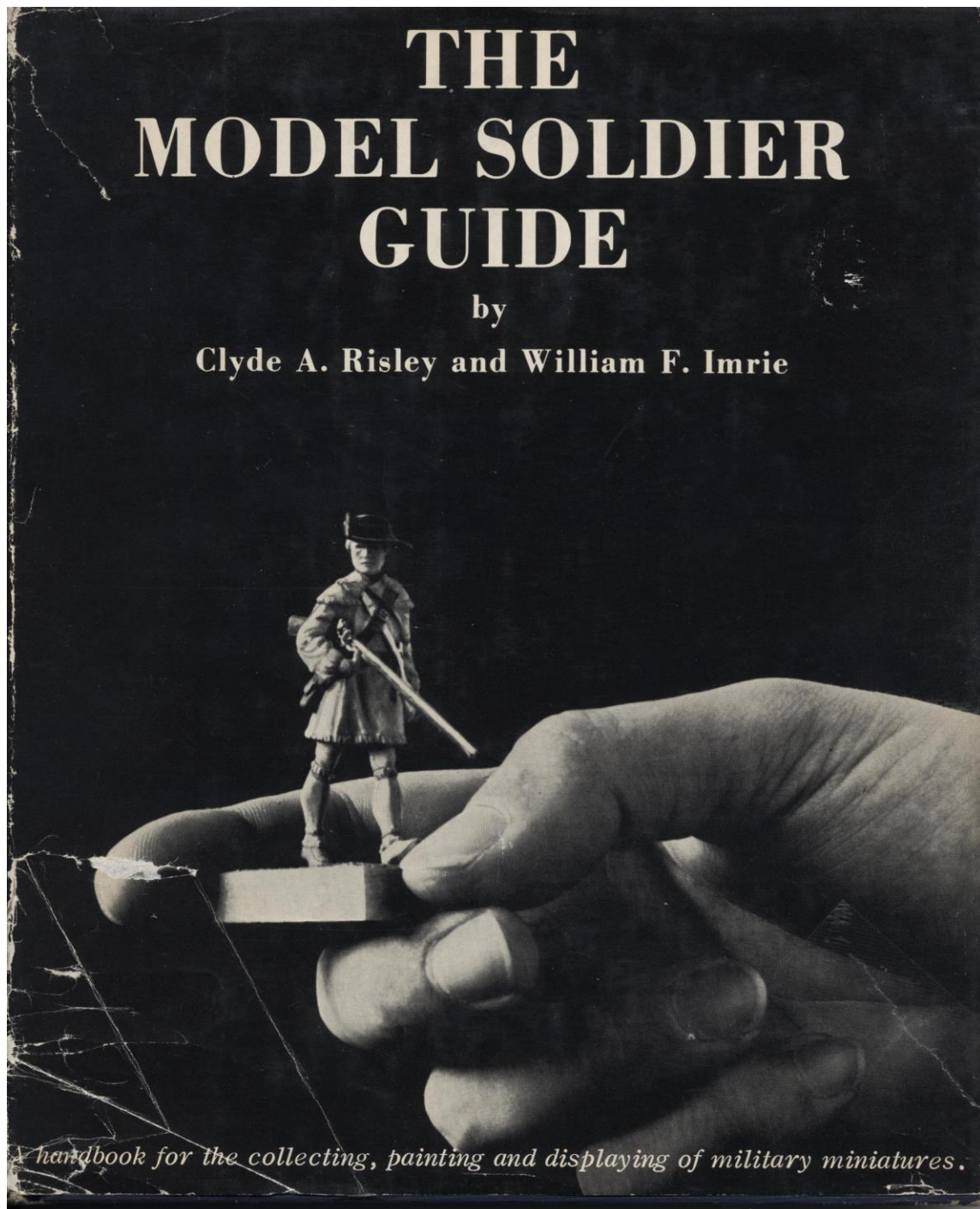


***The Model Soldier Guide*, by Clyde A. Risley and William F. Imrie**  
**Reviewed by Rich Barbuto**

“This is certainly not the first book ever to be written about military miniatures, but it is the first to present the subject in the form of a practical working manual. Our aims are to guide the novice collector, step by step, into the art of collecting these miniatures, and to furnish new ideas to the advanced collector.” ...the authors.



With these words, the authors open a well-illustrated 67-page 'how to' book written in 1965 that has inspired thousands of collectors and gamers. Clyde Risley was a military artist with a special interest in uniforms. William Imrie was a sculptor of military miniatures who marketed as Imrie Miniatures.

When these two talented individuals merged their creative passions, they formed Imrie / Risley Miniatures. Those of us advanced in years will certainly have seen these figures in select hobby stores and perhaps have acquired and painted a few. The figures were authentically uniformed, and for their time, wonderfully sculpted and molded. As one might expect, *The Model Soldier Guide* featured Imrie / Risley miniatures.

The chapters cover the topics in a straightforward, succinct manner.

Chapter I	The Variety of Model Soldiers
Chapter II	Assembling Model Soldiers
Chapter III	Painting Model Soldiers
Chapter IV	Painting and Markings of Horses
Chapter V	Figures on Display Bases
Chapter VI	Care and Display of Your Collection
Chapter VII	A Brief Survey of Military Uniforms, Their Origins and Influences
Appendix A	Research Sources
Appendix B	A Listing of Tools and Materials and Where to Buy Them
Photographs of Model Soldiers From Around the World	

As one might imagine, the information in the appendices is certainly dated fifty years later. However, much of the information in the chapters remains useful today, especially for the novice.

As a young wargamer, many years ago, I dabbled in modeling. However, the pocketbook could not support both wargame figures and collector figures. I chose wargame figures. But, the allure of models was powerful. As finances improved, I bought the odd figure, about a dozen were Imrie / Risley. I read a copy of *The Model Soldier Guide* back in the day, but did not purchase it until recently. So, preparing this review has been powerfully nostalgic. I still refer to the chapter on painting horses, a weak skill of mine. And I love the illustrations and photos. Risley and Imrie did a fine job of getting the novice modeler started.

What follows are a few illustrations and photos. If you are like me, you may recognize them.



Fig. 1

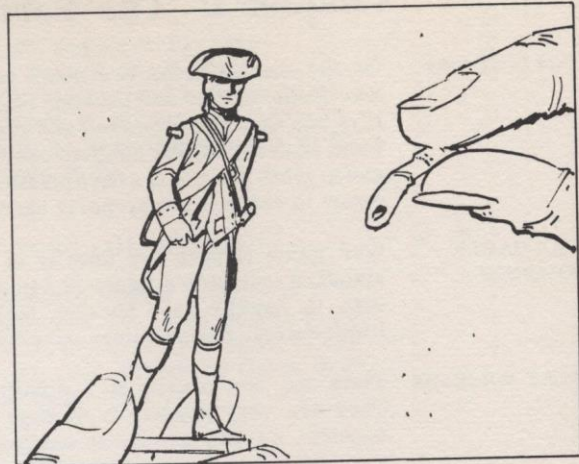


Fig. 2

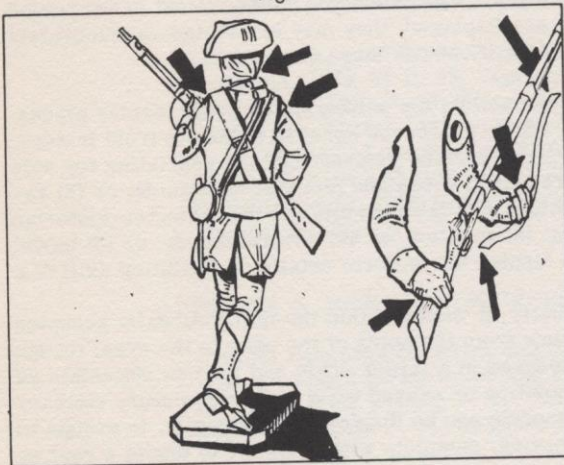


Fig. 3

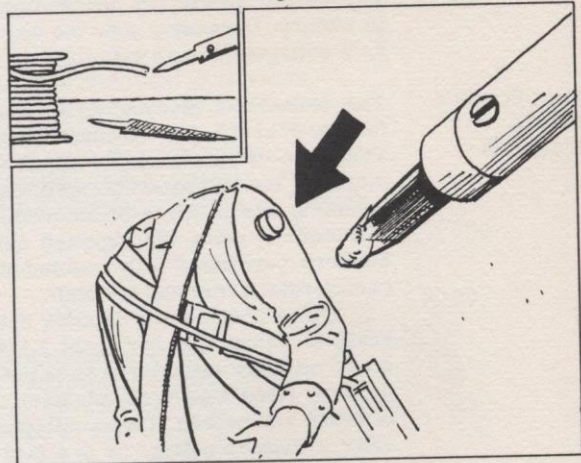


Fig. 4



Fig. 5



Fig. 6



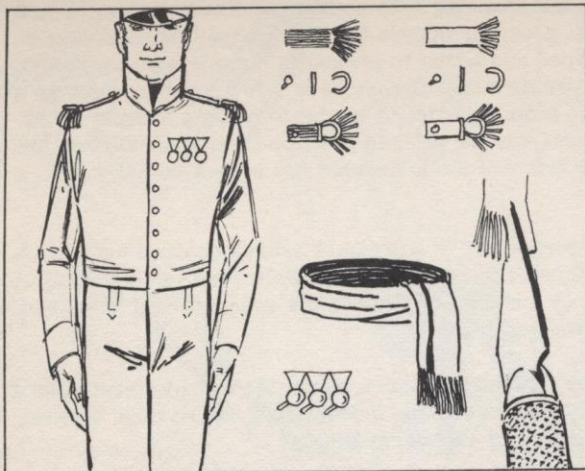


Fig. 17



Fig. 18

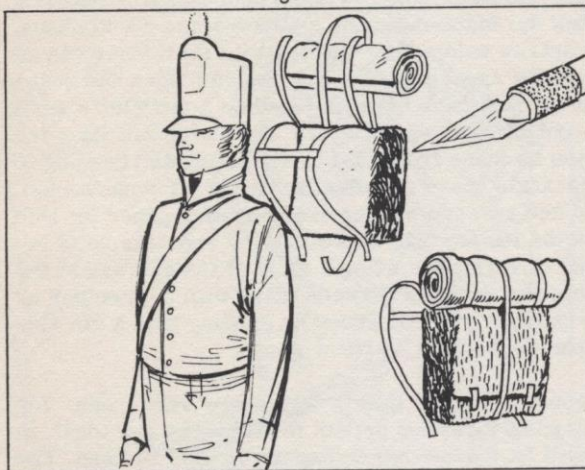


Fig. 19

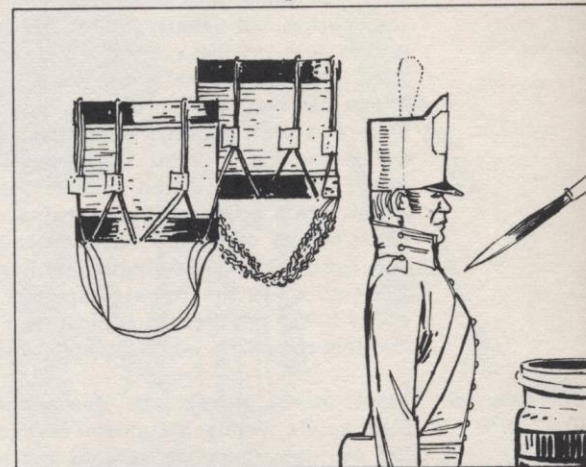


Fig. 20

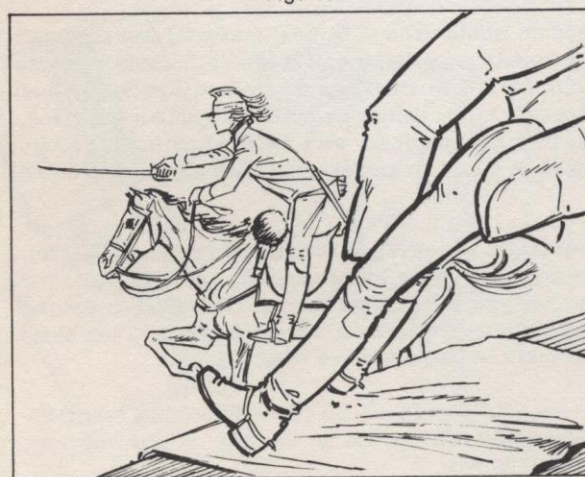


Fig. 21



Fig. 22



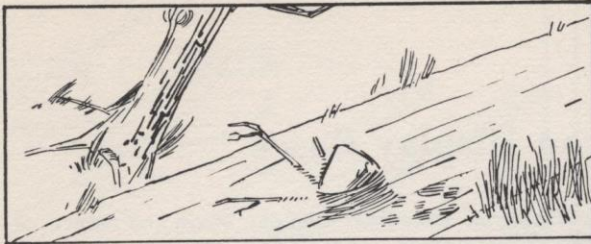


Fig. 60



Fig. 61



Fig. 62



Fig. 63



Fig. 64



Fig. 65



Fig. 66

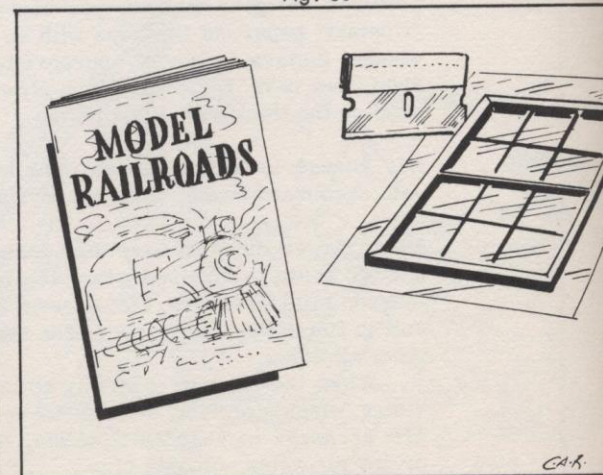


Fig. 67





TOP ROW: British Infantry, 1777, 40mm, metal, Scruby, U.S.A. Roman Legionary, 40mm plastic, by Elastolin, Germany. Mounted Officer, Polish Lancers of Napoleon's Guard, ca. 1810, 40mm scale, plastic, by SEGOM, France. Two German Infantrymen, World War II, 54 and 30mm, metal, S.A.E. (by H. Eriksson), South Africa.

MIDDLE ROW: Grenadier of Napoleon's Dutch Guard, ca. 1810, 54mm plastic, by SEGOM, France. English Grenadier Guards, modern, 54mm plastic, by Herald Ltd., England. Napoleon III, 56mm metal, N. Newton (Stadden) England. Whitcomb's Rangers, 1777, 54mm metal, by W. Greer, U.S.A. Massasauga Horse, ca. 1900, 54mm metal, by S. Jackson, Canada. Grenadier, 21st British Foot, 1777, 54mm metal, by E. Custer, U.S.A. Edward, The Black Prince, ca. 1346, 54mm metal by J. Niblett, England.

BOTTOM ROW: Confederate Officer, 54mm metal, Thomas Industries, U.S.A. Bertrand de la Tour, 1356, 50mm metal, R. Courteney, England. German Infantryman, World War II, 54mm metal, Imrie/Risley Miniatures, U.S.A. American Bomber Pilot, World War II, 54mm metal, Cockade Miniatures, U.S.A. English Archer, Medieval, 50mm plastic, Swopet by Britains, Ltd., England. Sapeur, Dutch Regiment of Napoleon's Guard, ca. 1810, 54mm metal, by Mme. F. Metayer, France.