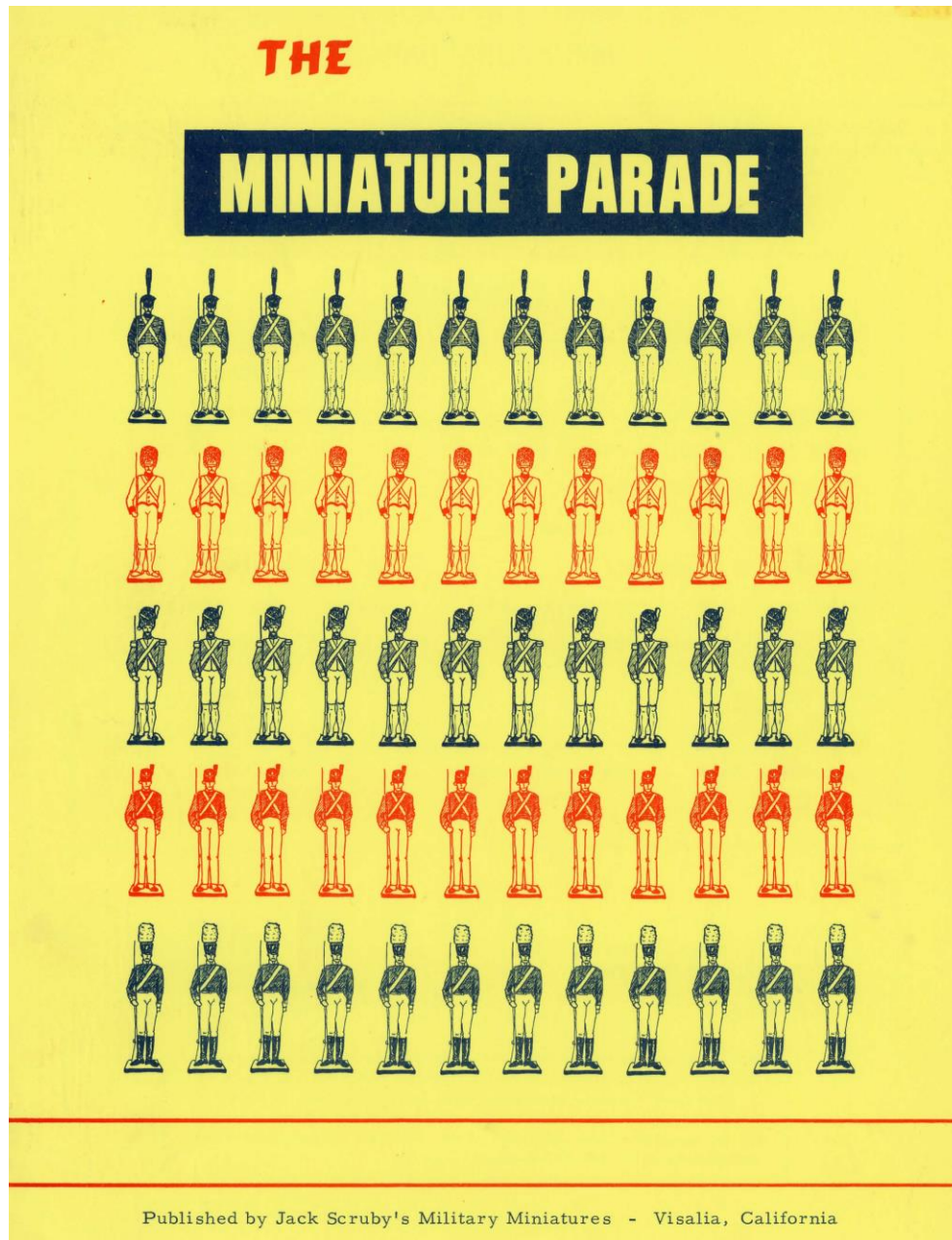


Review of Jack Scruby's Miniature Parade

By Rich Barbuto

For you old-timer wargamers, this will be a blast from the past. Often called the father of American wargaming, Jack Scruby not only wrote about wargaming, he also designed and sold figures, held conventions, and published a magazine. These are a few pages from the December 1968 issue of *Miniature Parade*.



I was 19 when this was published. I had already bought a lot of Scruby 25mm Napoleonic figures to augment my 22mm Airfix plastics. Over the years I acquired and painted well over a thousand Scruby figures. My sons enjoyed wargaming with these, preferring them to other figures. The Scruby figures were accurate enough for wargaming, but fell far short from the more authentic uniforms on figures sold afterwards. Nonetheless, they had a certain appeal and painted easily enough. The figures nested well and looked good *en masse*.

The table of contents gives a taste of the 23 pages of published material. Many of the articles were rudimentary, but for a teenager bereft of other sources, they were inspirational as well as informative.

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I particularly enjoyed the two color prints. There were too few sources of color prints of Napoleonic uniforms that I could access in 1968. However, this soon changed for me and I started buying uniform books as I could afford them.



FRENCH FOREIGN REGIMENTS

IN THE NAPOLEONIC WARS

by DAVID RUSK

One of the more enjoyable aspects of building war game armies is the adding of contingents of allied soldiers once your basic opposition forces have been completed. In almost any period of military warfare the major forces fighting each other somehow managed to lure troops of other countries into the war on their side. The addition of these soldiers into the war game army often adds color and interesting aspects of combat values.

These "auxiliary" troops did not often have their heart in the cause, but in fact they were there in these wars, and the wargamer can take advantage of this fact, and by adding them to his basic armies can make his miniature battles more interesting.

The best example of this is the Napoleonic Wars where the smaller countries changed sides many times. One can add to the British Army battalions of Hanoverians, Kings German Legion, Spanish and Portuguese soldiers to name a few. The French at various times had Saxons, Bavarians, Swedes and soldiers from the small German States.

These contingents usually wore a different uniform than did their major ally, and as a consequence often these become the war game player's favorite -- whether in historic fact they were good fighting men or not!

The French, in particular, seemed to attract foreign regiments--perhaps the pay was better! The addition of a Swiss Battalion in their red coats into your French army will be noticable in any war game action. And another nice group, which will add color - if not fighting ability, are the Foreign Regiments that were in French service. A brigade of these in their green uniforms will certainly stand out, and who knows, they may turn out to be good fighters.

In any case, these Foreign Regiments are intriguing and it has taken some time to gather together all the information that follows concerning them. Here's hoping you will find this useful in adding some of these troops into your armies.

The Foreign Regiments in Napoleon's army were used in less important war areas in order to free French regiments for use on major fronts. Four of these regiments were those which became the 1st through 4th Etranger (Foreign) in 1811.

The 1st Etranger was formed at Ysenburg on September 30, 1805 as the Regiment of La Tour D'Auvergne. It contained Germans, Hungarians, Belgians, Swiss, Poles, Swedes and Russians.

The Regiment had 3 battalions (organized in the French system) which were sent to Naples in 1806. A 4th battalion of Austrian prisoners was raised at Belfort in 1809. It served in Catalonia against the Spanish until 1811 when it joined the rest of the battalion in Naples. A 5th and 6th battalions of Spanish prisoners were formed in 1810 and sent to Naples. In 1812 and 1813 the regiment was garrisoned in Northern Italy.

In June, 1813 all the Grenadier and Voltigeur companies were combined into two elite battalions. They served with the 7th Italian Division against the Austrians. The Fusilier companies remained on garrison duty. In 1814 the remnant of the regiment retired into Southern France.

The 2nd Etranger or Regiment d'Ysenburg, was formed at Mainz on November 1, 1805. It also had a varied make up of troops. Its 3 battalions seem to have spent all their time in Naples.

The 3rd Etranger had been formed August 31, 1803 as the Irish Legion of one battalion (August, 1968, Miniature Parade). By 1810 it had gained 4 more battalions. The first 2 battalions were mainly Irish; the rest had many nationalities, even English deserters!

The Regiment fought in many battles in Spain from 1808-12. In 1813 the last two surviving battalions fought in Germany.

The 4th Etranger was organized at Leipzig on November 13, 1806, as the Regiment de Prusse. It had Prussians, Russians, Swedes and Danes in its ranks.

One battalion, the 1st, fought in Spain, the other two fought against the British invasion of Holland in 1809.

The Etranger regiments wore French Legere style uniforms with short tailed coat and gaiters reaching below the knee. (The source we made Color Plate 3 from showed the Fusilier in the long tailed coat). For full dress they wore gaiters styled like hussar boots, with the tops edged with colored cords.

The Grenadier companies wore black bearskins with plumes and cords. (In campaign dress, as in Plate 3 the Grenadiers removed the cords and plume). They also had red epaulettes. After 1808 they switched to black shakos with red cords and plumes.

The Voltigeurs had shakos with yellow cords, a green plume with the top third yellow, green epaulettes with yellow crescents on top, and yellow cords on their dress gaiters.

Fusiliers seemed to vary greatly in uniform. In the 1st Etranger (Tour d'Auvergne) they have white cord and green plume on the shako, and white epaulettes.

In the 2nd (d'Ysenburg) they have green cords and a black plume with sky blue shoulder boards, edged yellow, and red boot cords.

In the 3rd (Irish) they have a green tuft, white cords and green epaulettes with red crescents.

In the 4th (Regiment Prusse) they have white plume and cords, green shoulderstraps with red edges.

All companies had black gaiters, shakos or bearskins, cartridge boxes and infantry sword scabbard. Knapsacks were brown and coat rolls were gray. Crossbelts were white.

The uniform of the 1st Etranger was medium green coat, pants, cuff, turnbacks and lapels. Collar and cuff slash red, and facings trimmed white.

The 2nd Etranger had sky blue coat, pants, cuffs, lapels and turnbacks, with facings edged yellow. The collar and cuff slashes were yellow.

The 3rd Etranger uniform was medium green with light yellow collar, cuffs and turnbacks. The lapel and cuff slashes were medium green with yellow edge.

The coat and pants of the 4th Etranger were medium green with red collars and cuff slash. Cuffs, turnbacks and lapels were medium green with red edges.

Officers wore the regimental uniform with plumes in their company color, gold epaulettes, silver gorgets, and silver cords on shakos and hussar boots.

For your wargame regiments, you can use 20mm or 30mm Scruby French Voltigeur castings for all companies that have plumes or epaulettes (the 1st and 3rd). In 30mm the new French Legere Carabinier castings can be used for the Grenadiers in the bearskin. In 20mm any Grenadier casting will do as they are dressed in the short tailed jacket. For Fusiliers of the 2nd and 4th Etranger (with plumes and shoulderstraps) the 30mm Saxon castings can be used. In 20mm one could use Voltigeur castings and either paint over the epaulettes or file them off. If desired, one could fill the shako dip of the Russian castings with powdered iron, or could file down the hat level to represent the French shako.

One of my favorite units was the Third Foreign Regiment composed of Irish troops. I used Giant figures. The advancing and kneeling firing poses were good. The rest of the figures were too roughly designed to appeal to me. I still have about a hundred of these Napoleonic and about 200 Civil War figures by Giant.

DEN KONGELIGE LIVGARDE TIL HEST

DANISH HORSEGUARD

1801

Written by T. SNORRASON

Illustrated by Jack Scruby

The Danish Horseguard was raised in 1661. In 1801 it consisted of two squadrons and staff. One squadron had four officers, five NCO's, 3 trumpeters, 60 guardsmen and two artisans. The Staff had four officers, one doctor and one kettledrummer. The total strength was 153 men.

As the English navy lay anchored outside Copenhagen's harbor, the Horseguard was released from guard duties and was used to patrol along the coast hoping to catch some English. They did not succeed and soon the English went away after having forced Denmark out of the alliance with Sweden and Russia. The Horseguard was disbanded in 1861.

During the Napoleonic wars, the Danish army fought for Napoleon against Swedes, English, Russians and Prussians.

THE UNIFORM IN 1801

The helmet was of black leather with a sausage roll, and from the back of this fell a long black horsetail cascade. The band around the bottom was red with white or silver stripes. The plume was white with the top third being red. The coat was yellow, and down the front was broad silver lace with red stripes. The cuffs were red, and the collar was red with silver lace. Turnbacks on front of the square cut jacket was red with silver lace.

All belts were black leather. The cartridge belt had a silver emblem with crown above and "CR" initials (For Christian Rex). The troopers beltplate is white metal with brass emblem. The sword scabbard is white metal, and troopers had a black swordknot.

The sabertache was black leather with white metal "CR" emblem. The horse harness was black leather, and the saddle blanket was red with white edging.

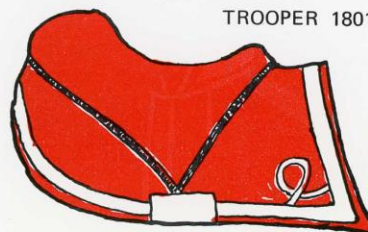
The Horseguard wore white pants, and white stockings showed over the top of the black leather riding boots.

COLOR PLATE NUMBER TWO

Jack Scruby's Military Miniatures



TROOPER 1801



THE SCRUBY MINIATURE PARADE

NAPOLEON'S INFANTRY

In any Napoleonic war game set-up, you can rest assured that the French Army will be one of the major forces involved.

Opposition may be British, Austrian, Russian, or any combination of these allies, but the French always will stand alone against all comers on the table top. And it nearly always is true that the French war game general seldom wants to command anything else and strangely enough, the war gamer who does not command the French forces seldom wants to command them!

Thus, as in actual Napoleonic era history, the French army in war games is the one basic force around which the entire game revolves. Around this French force one now and then adds "contingents," such as battalions of Bavarians or soldiers of the small German states, but these troops are secondary and never are "dependable" on the war game table!

And oddly enough, the opponent seems to recognize this and prefers to attack a regiment of all-French infantry only as a last resort. So even in the miniature world of miniature soldiers, the French Napoleonic army carries the prestige that the Grande Armée carried under Napoleon!



S-339 Light Voltigeur Skirmisher



S-338
Line Voltigeur
Skirmisher

From my experience, I feel better if I have the French army on my side of the table in a Napoleonic war game and this is not true if I am fighting, say, an African Colonial battle of 1880 and am commanding the French of that period.

There is little doubt that the "Sun of Austerlitz" shines upon my French Napoleonic army, while it does not shine on French I've had in other war games.

I think this feeling must be true with the Napoleonic war gamers, for at my shop, there are more French soldiers sold than any other. It seems that everyone has French troops (though they may have little opposition).

Most newcomers to Napoleonic wargaming start with orders for their French troops. I don't feel this is done because of the striking French uniforms. I think there were other armies of the period with more colorful uniforms, with the possible exception of some French cavalry units.

I prefer the British uniform; it seems more stirring to see the redcoated British move than the dark blue-clad French infantry, or indeed the white Austrians with their regimental trim. Of course, these soldiers are much easier to paint.

It might be true that the war game beginner prefers the French because of the history of successes under Napoleon. When I began designing military miniatures, French Napoleonic figures were some of my first efforts, and it was difficult at the time to get any real information regarding these figures.

A few illustrations were all I could refer to and I remember the thrill of meeting John Nolan, who had spent years of study about the French army. At the time he was one of few collectors who had competent information concerning French troops.

How things have changed in just a few years. Today war gamers have reams of material on French infantry and cavalry available for reference. Complete is information on history and organization.

A few months ago I was determined to rebuild some of the older French Napoleonic models, much as I already had done with the Russian and British Napoleonics. But circumstances for the reconstruction were different than building had been originally.

At hand now were literally thousands of pages of material, plus hundreds of plates and illustrations; beautiful books such as "Anatomy of Glory", and the fabulous Rousset plates. Reference material so the designer could copy almost any miniature in three-dimensional detail fit for the most articulate collector. What a difference in just 12 years!

For instance, my first figures of the group S-1, the French Voltigeur marching (the present design is the third from the original), was taken from a picture I had found. When I designed the original, I had no idea what a Voltigeur was. When I finally got some information concerning this, the notes were vague and indefinite. It was quite a time before I knew the function of the Voltigeurs.

Much the same was true for all the French Napoleonics I designed. As time went on and more reliable information was available, I often had to re-design soldiers, as errors were found, mistakes I had no way of avoiding when the original was built.

Recently I again have been on a French Napoleonic splurge, and have spent extensive periods reviewing this army prior to beginning the new designs. For the sake of simplicity, I decided to design all Line infantry with the long-tailed coat worn until 1812; all Light infantry (Legere) castings were to be fashioned in the short-tailed coat worn until the Spencer jacket was introduced for all troops in 1812. Thus, when you're studying the list included with this issue of Miniature Parade, the buyer will know the difference

between these two types of infantry. You also may note that we have added a variation in both types of troops; for example, Line infantry Fusiliers in the old bicorne chapeau and Light infantry troops in the Hussar-type busby many of the Voltigeurs fancied.

For readers desiring a "refresher" course concerning infantry in the French army of Napoleon, here is some information:

Infantry was divided into two types of battalions, Line and Light (Legere). Originally Light Infantry battalions were the skirmishers of the divisions, until 1805, when Napoleon converted one Fusilier company of each Line battalion into Voltigeurs ("skirmishers"). Then the Light regiments fought both as skirmishers and "line" troops. Before that, Line and Light battalions each numbered one grenadier company and eight fusilier companies. When the voltigeur company was established, each battalion consisted of one Grenadier, one Voltigeur and seven Fusilier companies. In 1808, a general reorganization for both Line and Light battalions was issued, specifying that each battalion would contain one grenadier, one voltigeur and four fusilier companies.

It was Napoleon's belief that a larger, moderately-trained army, backed by a strong force of experienced elite-type troops (grenadiers, voltigeur and leger infantry), was superior to an army of uniformly-trained troops.

Light infantry voltigeurs were introduced in 1804 and in 1808 Light battalions were established with one company of carbineers, one company of voltigeurs, and four companies of chasseurs, which were comparable to line fusiliers, only trained in skirmishing.



30mm Casting S-341

Legere Voltigeur, kneeling, firing

The line infantry's uniform copied that of the Revolutionary Army, and the shako did not appear until 1806. Before this, Fusiliers wore the famed bicorn chapeau. In 1801, Line grenadiers began wearing the bearskin which was replaced by the shako in 1808 in most cases.

Until all regiments were properly equipped sometime in 1811, French infantry wore an assortment of hats, shakos and bearskins. In designing our 30mm French Napoleonic, however, we stuck mainly with the shako for fusiliers and voltigeurs and the bearskin for grenadiers.

The line infantry coat for this period was long-tailed, with the voltigeurs and grenadiers wearing epaulettes with fringes. Fusiliers wore a shoulderboard without fringe. In 1807 an order went out to the infantry to change to an all-white uniform, with regimental facings on the collar, cuff, lapel and turnbacks. Only a few regiments made the change and before the end of the year, the regulation was abolished and the blue coat was reinstated.



30mm Casting S-332
Fusilier, charging

Almost from the beginning, Light Infantry wore a short jacket with short tails. Shakos were introduced in the Chasseur companies sometime in 1801. These were similar to the later shakos except the plume was above the left ear on the side, instead of in front.

In 1800 the Carbineers of the Light Infantry were wearing bearskins almost identical to the line grenadier. While most Voltigeurs wore the shako, some sported hussar busbys with bags hanging down the side.

In 1812 the entire French infantry was clothed in the Spencer jacket, a short-tailed coat cut square across the waist, and almost everyone one, including the grenadiers wore shakos.

Occasionally we hear of grenadiers still wearing bearskins even at this late date, due perhaps to lack of good supply on campaign where clothing issues were lacking. Since the Guard still wore the bearskin, these line grenadiers were often reported by enemy commanders to be the Guard, since there was little difference between the line grenadier's uniform and that of the Guards.

Wargamers can thank Napoleon in many ways, for his basic battalion organization and uniform remained constant, with only minor changes, throughout his rule. Thus the war gamer with French soldiers can use them for almost any year of the Napoleonic wars without fear of being historically inaccurate. Though changes might be made, many times no new uniforms were available so the troops had no choice but to continue to wear what was available.

This, however, was not true of other Napoleonic armies. Note changes in the headgear of the Austrian army from helmet to double-billed shako; the British army from stovepipe, breeches and leggings to "Waterloo" shako and pantaloons; all the small German states from the Frederick the Great style uniform to the French pattern.... just to name a few.

These reasons, perhaps, then are why so many customers prefer the French, and is the reason for their popularity. It is obvious they know that their French army is always "current" in the Napoleonic era, no matter who the enemy is on the table top, nor what year they are fighting in!

Miniature Parade was also a means of advertising Scruby figures.

NEWLY DESIGNED SCRUBY MINIATURES...Photographs by David Rusk



30MM NAPOLEONIC CAVLARY painted by Michael Frank

Left to Right:

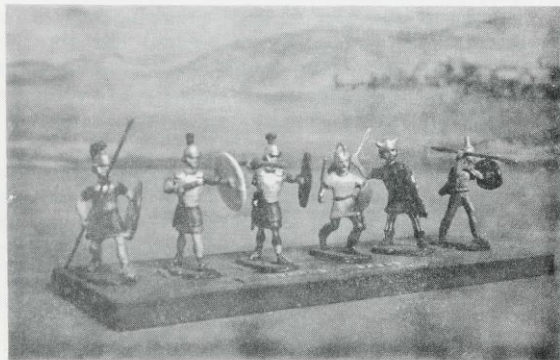
SC-56.....French Line Carabinier

SC-44.....British Heavy Dragoon

SC-46.....French Grenadier a Cheval

SC-41.....Austrian Cheval Legere painted as the 3rd Dragoons

SC-47.....French Hussar in shako



30MM ANCIENTS painted by Jack Scruby

Left to Right:

M-31.....Roman Triarii

M-32.....Roman Principes with sword

M-30.....Roman Principes with pilum

M-35.....Gaul Warrior

M-33.....Gaul Warrior

M-34.....Gaul Warrior



20MM NAPOLEONIC CAVALRY painted by Michael Frank

Left to Right:

FrC-41.....French Cuirassier

FrC-37.....French Hussar painted as 3rd Hussars.

FrC-43.....Mameluke

FrC-37.....French Hussar painted as 4th Hussars

FrC-40.....Polish Lancer

FrC-40.....Same casting painted as 2nd Guard Lancers, French.