



INTRODUCTION TO OUR PAINTING GUIDE No 6

This WWII painting guide has been produced for use with our early war 1939-40 British Expeditionary Force range of 20mm scale figures. It will enable you to paint your new battle for France/Operation Sea lion figures with a high degree of accuracy.

This guide describes a typical British Infantryman suitable for the early part of WWII. Dressed in the most modern military uniform of its time the serge battle dress pattern 37/40 with 1937 webbing our infantryman prepares to halt the 1940 German invasion of the Low Countries and France. He is equipped with the Mk VI respirator haversack on his chest and has rolled his Brown groundsheet under his rear haversack flap.

The comfortable Khaki field service cap is worn on the left-sided rifleman with the MK I or MK II Helmet slung on the webbing shoulder strap for convenience.

If you are interested in further information on this topic we recommend the Osprey Men at Arms book 112 'British Battledress 1937-61'.

UNIFORM DETAIL	HUMBROL	VALLAJO	COLOUR PARTY
Steel Helmet	102 Military Green	896 Green	MA51
Blouse/Trousers	26 Khaki	921 Br Khaki	MA63
Webbing	93 Desert yellow	819 Sand	MA621
Boots	H/L 145 Grey	H/L 994 Grey	MA50
Water bottle	98 Brown	822 Black Brown	MA41
Anklets	93 Desert Yellow	819 Sand	MA63
Buckles	54 Brass	801 Brass	MT1
Cap insignia	54 Brass	801 Brass	MT1
Ground sheet	66 Olive Drab	979 Dark Green	MA51
Wooden parts	186 Brown	879 Brown	MA14
Arms of service colour	60 Scarlet	957 Red	MA34

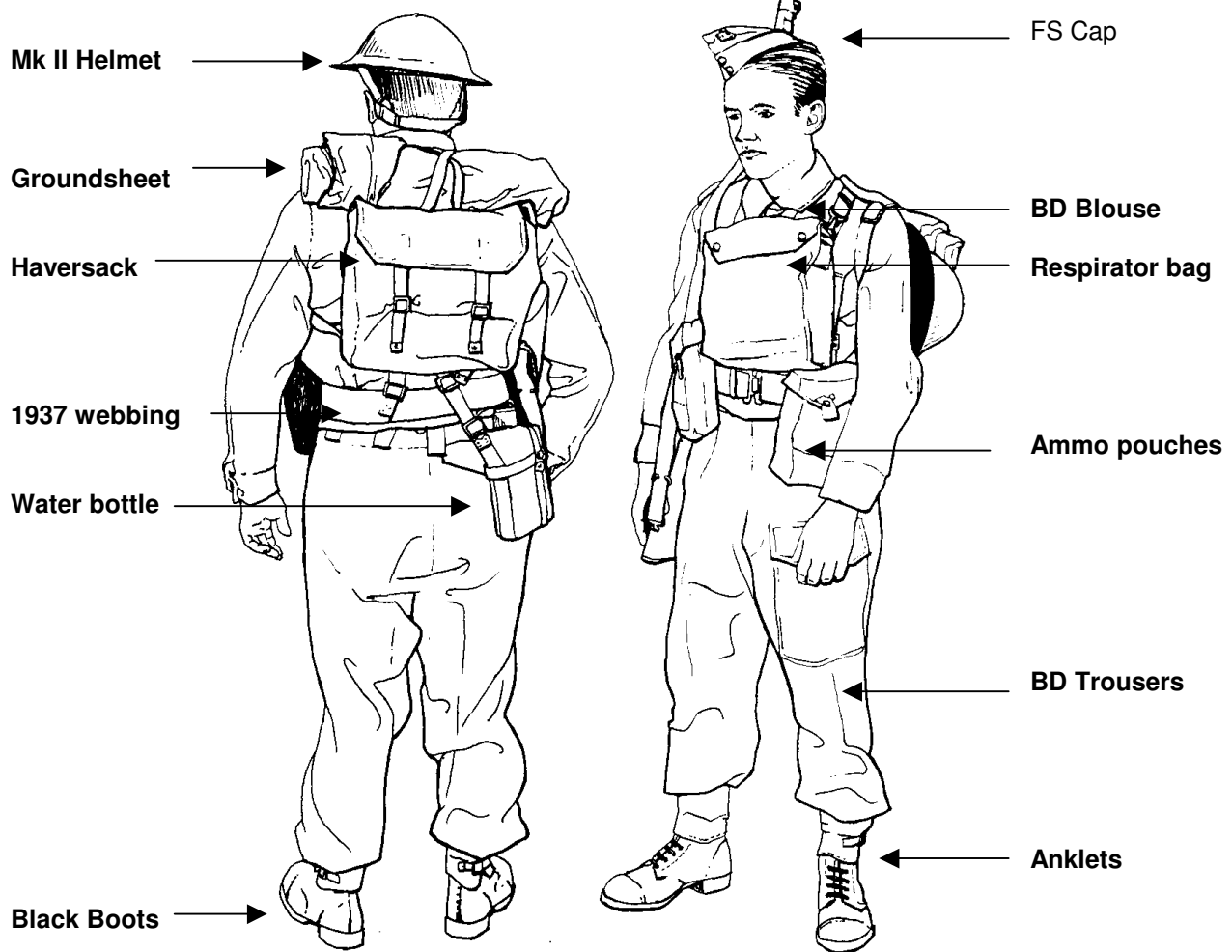
SOME USEFUL PAINTING TIPS!

To achieve the best results from your painting we recommend that you clean the figures with water and remove all flash/mould line before undercoating the figure. To achieve the best results from your painting always use a good quality paintbrush we suggest a high quality Kolinsky type paintbrush.

Any colour applied to the matt Black undercoat will appear brighter and provide added depth to the model. Once the base colour has dried it is a good idea to highlight your work/ Mix a little white to the original colours and then highlight the creases and raised parts of your work with this new lighter colour. If done carefully this will give the figure a nice finish. Remember to varnish all finished work to protect your hard work.

This guide was produced by S. Pearson and R. Rowell for SHQ Miniatures.

BEF Infantry 1939-40



Personal weapons included the SMLE No1 MK III Rifle and for squad support the superb FM Bren light machine gun. Also available in small numbers was the Boyes 5.5in AT Rifle.

UNIFORM NOTES

The BEF fought most of the battle for France without any unit insignia on their Battle dress blouses as a security measure. Some frontline and rear units ignored this order and wore unit cloth badges on the top of both BD blouse arms. More common was the retention of the arms of service colour worn above any unit badge, usually this was scarlet representing the infantry.

NCO's rank in the form of white tapes was worn on both arms up to the rank of sergeant, (three stripes). Warrant officers wore their badge of rank on the lower left sleeve of the blouse, Officers wore a series of badges or 'pips' on their BD blouse shoulder straps.

On the lower arm of the BD Blouse a soldier was entitled to display white good conduct chevrons similar to the US army overseas chevrons.

In the British Army the smallest unit in a Regiment, (equivalent of a German Battalion) was the 10-man squad commanded by a NCO. One soldier carried the Bren machine gun the rest rifles. Distributed amongst the rest was a variety of entrenching equipment, ammunition and smoke grenades.

Officer's equipment differed from the 37-type infantryman's webbing with the addition of a map case, binoculars pouch and a .38 Pistol on a lanyard with accompanying holster. Small ammunition pouches and a compass case was often worn on the belt finishing the equipment.