

INTRODUCTION TO OUR PAINTING GUIDE No 5

This WWII painting guide has been produced for use with our British Paratroops range of 20mm scale white metal figures. The guide will enable you to paint your new elite figures with a high degree of accuracy.

This guide describes a typical 1944-45 British Paratrooper suitable for the D-Day Landings, the Battle for Oosterbeek/Arnhem and the 1945 airborne assault across the Rhine. He wears the first, second and third type 'pull over' camouflaged Denison smock and the special 'jump' trousers with large cargo pockets.

Our paratrooper/glider infantryman wears a full set of 1937 pattern webbing that included a water bottle, ammunition pouches, entrenching spade and bayonet. Unlike the German Paratrooper the British paratrooper jumped with most of his personal equipment slung around his body or packed in the M43 jump bag. This was attached to him with a rope. Fully equipped he landed and was ready for the coming battle. Extra supplies and ammunition was of course landed in drop canisters or wicker baskets.

For more information on this exhaustive topic we recommend 'The British Soldier from D-Day to VE Day' by Jean Bouchery Volumes 1 and 2.

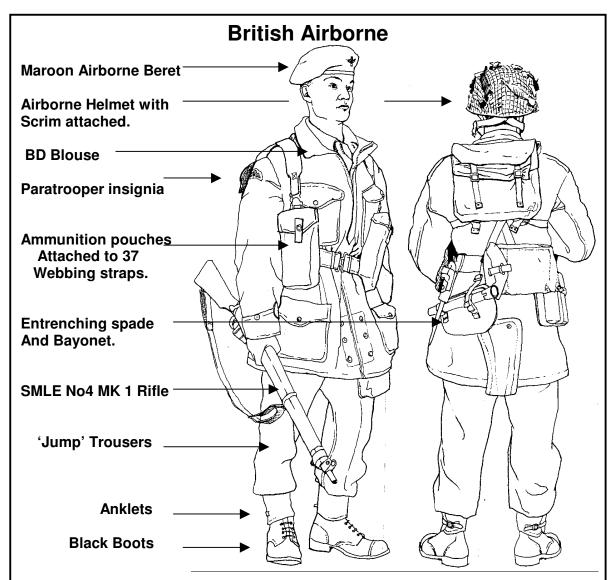
| UNIFORM DETAIL | HUMBROL | VALLAJO | COLOUR PARTY |
|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Steel Helmet | 102 Military green | 896 Dark Green | MA49 |
| Denison Smock | 102 Green | 896 Dark Green | MA49 |
| | H/L 93 Matt Yellow | 819 Sand | MA63 |
| | H/L 70 Brick Red | 846 Brown | MA14 |
| Webbing | 93 Desert Yellow | 819 Sand | MA63 |
| Trousers | 26 Matt Khaki | 921 Br. Uniform | MA63 |
| Metal parts | 54 Brass | 801 Brass | MT1 |
| Wooden parts | 186 Brown | 879 Brown | MA14 |
| Boots | H/L 145 Grey | H/L 994 Grey | MA50 |
| Ropes | 34 Matt White | 951 White | MA1 |
| Sten SMG | H/L Matt Grey | H/L 994 Grey | MA50 |
| Rank insignia | 34 Matt White | 951 White | MA1 |
| Anklets | 93 Matt Yellow | 819 Sand | MA63 |
| Beret | 73 Matt wine | 946 Dark Red | MA37 |
| Scarves | 102 Military Green | 896 Dark Green | MA49 |

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 lines before undercoating the figure with Matt Black paint. We also recommend that you use a good Kolinsky type paintbrush for all your work.

Any colour-applied top the Matt Black undercoat will appear brighter and provide added depth to the model. Once the base colours have dried it is a good idea to highlight your work. Add a little White to the original colours and highlight the creases and raised parts of your previous work with this lighter colour. If done carefully this will give the colour a nice finish. Remember to varnish all finished work.

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



Personal weapons also included the SMLE No4 Mk 1 Rifle, Sten SMG and for squad support the popular Bren M1 Light Machine Gun. Officer's carried a revolver and spare ammunition on their officer's webbing. Spare ammunition was carried in cloth Bandoleers worn across the chest.

UNIFORM NOTES

The paratrooper's trousers had an extra cargo pocket sewn on to the rear and a large pocket on the left upper thigh. The Maroon beret had small silver badge attached. It was in the form of a parachute with stylised wings. The parachute was surmounted with a crown device.

The Denison smock camouflage consists of a series of irregular Green, Beige and Brick Red shapes overlapping each other. This succeeds in blurring the outline of the wearer and was very successful as an item of camouflage.

The parachute cloth badge was worn on the upper right arm for paratroopers and on the upper left-hand side of the smock for Glider troops. It has a Blue parachute with White wings either side.

All webbing was constructed from a hard wearing canvas and was usually khaki green when new. As it aged the webbing took on a lighter Khaki colour with regular cleaning it faded to a pale beige.