



The Fusilier

23rd Regiment of Foot

The Royal Welch Fusiliers in America

www.rwfia.org

COLONEL OF THE AMERICAN BATTALION

Brigadier Anthony C. Vivian

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Personal Notes

The Major wishes to express his congratulations to Fusilier Peter Bond and his bride to be Jackie! May your union produce many more Fusiliers and Fusilettes! As they will be honeymooning nearby when we are doing the Battle of the Hook, I have extended an invitation for them to appear in our midst for a brief ceremony so that All Ranks may wish them well.

The Major and all ranks send best wishes for a full recovery to Fusilier John Pritchard who recently suffered a bad leg fracture. We're all pulling for you John!

Our thoughts and prayers also are focused on Ken Spaar Jr. and Cathy Urwin who are battling against cancer. We're with you!

Our sincerest sympathies and prayers go out to Fusilier Bobby Peterson of the Light Company on the loss of his mother who passed away at the age of 95.

Schedule of Events

14-15 September Mount Harmon Plantation, Earleville, Maryland

14-15 September Brown's Raid, Fort Ticonderoga, New York

21--22 September Saratoga national Historic Park, Stillwater, New York BAR

(speak to Ken Siegel for details, there is a small force of RWFA going)

5 October Chew House, Germantown, Pennsylvania

18-20 October Battle of the Hook - Gloucester Virginia BB/CL Event Contact *

19-20 October Victory Weekend, Yorktown, Virginia

2-3 November Hope Lodge, Fort Washington, Pennsylvania

9-10 November Siege of Fort Mifflin, Philadelphia, PA

2014

March St Kitts, Caribbean

TBD Gunston Hall

TBD Cherry Valley, New York

TBD Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York

July/August Fort Taber/Fort Rodman, New Bedford, Massachusetts

TBD City of Worcester, Massachusetts

2015

TBD Mount Harmon Plantation - Earleville MD

Battle of the Hook Oct 18 - 20 2013 Gloucester Point, VA

This one is shaping up to be one of the largest events we have seen in recent years. With an ideal location remote from modern anachronisms and a redoubt for us to defend, we will be using substantial amounts of ammunition so each man is hereby ordered to supply himself with at least 150 rounds. We will also need to supply our California comrades who will be arriving en masse. The official information available at www.battleofthehook.org as well as on the web pages of the British Brigade, Continental Line and Brigade of the American Revolution.

We will be eating together in camp Saturday night so you will also need to bring cutlery and plate ware for yourself. The regiment will supply the main course and libations but we will need help with bread, salad, butter, condiments etc. The Major wishes to bring the minimum of kitchen gear with him and help setting up our kitchen would be greatly appreciated as it is too much for the Major who will be on his own this time around.

Following dinner we may discuss regimental business and then have some time for music and frivolity. Uniform is to be late war.

Regimental Seamstresses

Heather Chaffee 201 450-6153 Heath51937@aol.com

Fran Wilcox 610 294-9812 267 8854022 wfrantastic@gmail.com

The Late War Kit OFFICIAL information

On August 22nd 2013 by a vote of 5 - 1, the company commanders confirmed the Major's decision to add the two items of late war kit (gaitered trousers and cocked hat with three white ostrich feathers) to the uniform items of the RWFA. This WILL be our uniform for the Battle of the Hook October 18 - 20, 2013.

The cost for this addition, (roughly 230.00) will be picked up by Pensioner Ken Siegel and anyone who has already purchased the kit during its voluntary period may also apply for reimbursement.

IF you have your full 1775 kit and require financial assistance in obtaining the late war trousers and cocked hat, Ken will pick up the tab.

For those who have already purchased the late war kit and feel aggrieved not to have been able to take advantage of this offer, you may make application to Ken for reimbursement.

Ken's phone number is (781) 444-2589

There has been a lot of misrepresentation on this item from various sources so I am including with this issue the sources so each of you may examine what this decision was based on.

What is important to remember is:

1. YOU will not be out of pocket.
2. YOU will have this in your kit in case YOU decide to attend events where it has been deemed appropriate.
3. The 1775 uniform remains our #1 uniform and there will be NO mixing of uniforms under ANY circumstances at any event that the RWFA takes part in. The decision as to which uniform is to be worn at any given event rests with the Major who has the final say. The Major is pleased to allow Fergusson's Company to make its decision based on the best judgment of West Coast Command.
4. Grenadiers and Light Infantry were present in the late war Southern campaign, Lights as cavalry (no need to buy horses!) (see documentation from Professor Gregory Urwin below)

The Late War Kit is this:

1. A pair of gaitered trousers with regimental buttons, the trousers to be made from Russian drill materials which the regiment has in stock.
2. A black cocked hat (Godwin's Officer's Cocked Hat, No Trim #OCH4)
3. Three white ostrich feathers for the above arranged in the formation of the Prince of Wales' Feathers behind the cockade.
4. NO wig if hair is at least an inch long in back or wig if head shaved or hair is cut obviously modern. (see below)
5. Waist belt worn over shoulder so that the bayonet rests close to the left arm.

Some general guidelines

Items of the late war kit are NEVER to be worn at ANY event at ANY time where the early war kit has been designated. Even after camp has closed. Off duty kit at early war events is still forage cap, britches and stockings. Off duty kit at late war events is gaitered trousers and either cocked hat or forage cap. (The Major recommends the forage cap as the condition of the ostrich plumes is to jealously guarded.)

As research may make itself available in the future, the Late War kit will be modified following discussion by the officers and based on the research provided, acuteness of financial cost, and needs of the regiment.

As pictured by renowned military artist Don Troiani, here it is in detail complete with explanations from our own Erik Goldstein and as originally presented to Ken and the officers when proposed to the regiment. We will not be wearing the knapsack pictured.

Late War Uniform of the RWFA

E. Goldstein 7-25-07



Private, 23rd Regt., 1781

Copyright; Don Troiani

Gentlemen, welcome to your comprehensive guide to the uniform requirements of the c.1780-1781 Southern Campaign impression. Since the bulk of the garments and accouterments will remain unchanged in how they are utilized, they shall not be addressed below; only those which are to be changed, altered or newly acquired will.

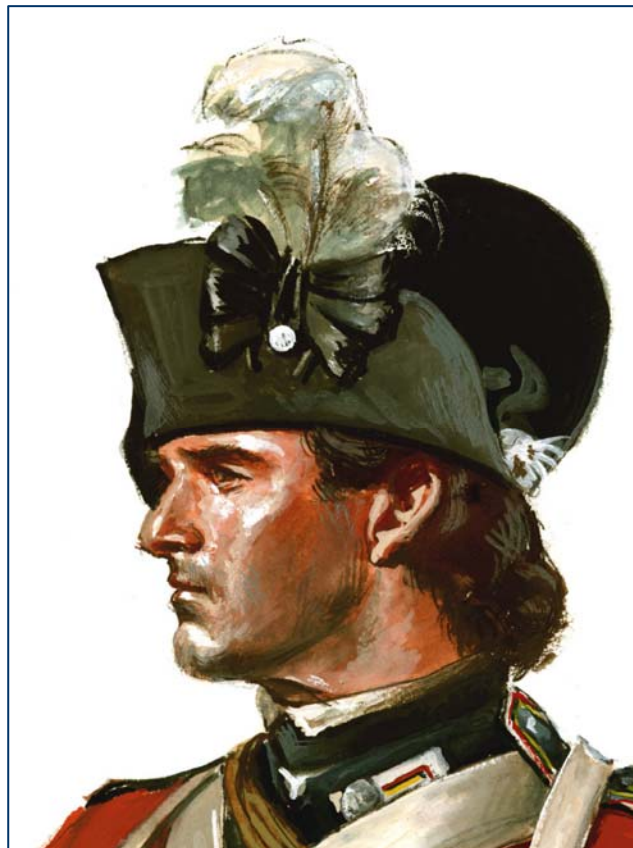
Head gear (see below image)

In place of the bearskin cap, we will be using a late-war styled cocked hat. This hat pattern is distinguished by large folds (cocks) on the sides, a small point over the left eye and a very high rear side.

In keeping with what was worn by other fusilier regiments, the hat is to have no white tape binding around the edges but is to have white looping (cords) holding up the brims. The crown of the hat is to be encircled by a white hatband with white tassels hanging down from the open sides of the cocks on each side.

The cockade is to be of black, silk secured by white cords and a large-size regimental button.

Over the cockade, three white ostrich plumes, representing those of the Prince of Wales, are to be placed in the cap.



Hair (see above

Some regiments
while others

image)

cut their hair short
didn't. Since we

have no documentation for what the 23rd did, and modern hairstyles are largely unauthentic, we will either continue to wear our normal wigs with the queue tucked up under the hat as worn with the bearskin caps, or if your hair is slightly longer you may get away with no wig. If you are wearing a wig, you will need to measure your hat size around your wig so the cocked hat will actually fit on your head.

Bayonet belts (see below image)

Our usual waist carriage is to be worn over the right shoulder so that the socket of the bayonet protrudes from under the left elbow. This is to be done simply by punching a hole in the center of the belt about 1 3/4" back from the pointed tip of the belt's loose end. This should give the necessary extra length to the belt so that it may ride in a comfortable & practical position.



** NOTE –
partaking in*

*Grenadiers
this*

*impression are to leave their hangers behind
the first frog position.*

and move their bayonets to

Coveralls

In place of the early war breeches worn with gaiters & garters we will wear coveralls, also known as “gaiter-trousers.” These garments are like common drop-front breeches above the knee, but have full length legs. Starting from a few inches above the knee down, the legs are fitted tight like gaiters, and have bottoms much like them, including flared ends to cover the tops of the shoes and buckles with a strap going under the instep to keep your shoe on while walking through mud & water. Furthermore, the outside of the ankles will be closed with four or five black horn buttons.



The coveralls are to be made of “**Russia drilling**” (*see below*) which is a heavy, off-white to cream-colored hemp (linen) cloth with a corded weave. Russia drilling is known to

have been shipped to America late in the war in huge quantities to be made into coveralls for the British Army.



Here is what we do know:

They did not take their bearskins on the southern campaign.

The entire British force under the Southern Command was issued with gaitered trousers with the exception of Loyalist militia and provincials who wore britches.

The regiment appeared in “hats” with the three feathers of the Prince of Wales at their first inspection upon their return to England.

Use of the waist belt of the shoulder became common practice as it allowed greater freedom of movement and easier access.

I submit the following in support of these statements.

AUGUST 15, 1780

Sir. (Gen. Clinton)

I have the honour to send you the enclosed List of Regiments belonging to the Army under your Command for which Clothing for the present year has been shipped on board the Prince George Transport. . . . (signed)

C. Jenkinson.

Return of Clothing etc, shipped on board the Prince George Transport for His Majesty's British Forces in North America, Commanded by Sir Henry Clinton and completed 10th August 1780. N.B. Hats only are sent for the 23d Reg't, the Commanding Officer having reported to their Agent from North America sufficient of other Articles in Store. . .

(War Office Dorchester (Carleton) Papers, PRO
30.55:25 No. 2967)

WO34/232

Page 365 Whitehall, 7th February 1780: Sir, Having laid before Lord Amherst the four papers containing lists of necessaries proposed to be sent to the different Bodies of troops serving in North America, which you put into my hands for that purpose, His Lordship directs me to acquaint you that he has considered the same and approves thereof, but I am directed to observe to you that his Lordship remarked the several quantities of necessaries to be very large. Lord Amherst wishes to see a pair of the Trousers which are intended to be made to a Patter, and one of the Tin Cartridge Boxes which are likewise to be made to a Pattern. I am Sir, etc, Leo Morse I return the lists of necessaries herewith; and the estimate of the Tonnage which you have in with those Papers. William Knox, Esq.

Page 366 For the Regulars under Sir Henry Clinton. 7,500 Pair of Blankets 15,000 Pair of Mittens 30,000 Pair of Shoes 30,000 Pair of Shoe Soles 5,000 Pair of Woolen Trousers (According to Capt. Shaw's Pattern) 5,000 Pair of Linen ditto (According to Capt. Shaw's Pattern) 10,000 Pair of Leggings in materials 20,000 Pair of Worsted Stockings 10,000 Shirts ready-made 20,000 ditto in Materials Drill for 10,000 Pair of Breeches.

Page 367 To be provided for the Provincials to be either sent to Georgia or New York as it shall appear the necessaries sent out by Admiral Arbuth not have been dispersed at those Places. 5,000 Pair of woolen Trousers (according to the pattern) 5,000 Pair of Linnen ditto (according to the pattern) 5,000 Pair of Leggings in materials 10,000 Shirts ready-made 10,000 ditto in materials 5,000 Pair of Blankets 20,000 Pair of Shoes 20,000 Pair of Soles 10,000 Mittens 7,500 Hatts Dril for 5000 Pair of Breeches 10,000 Pair of Worsted Stockings Epauletes, Serjeants Sashes, and Drummers Belts and Slings for 10,000 Men 10,000 Black Stocks of Leather or Manchester Velvet 10,000 Stock Buckles 10,000 Haversacks 2,000 Camp Kettles 5,000 Tin Cartridge Boxes, to contain 60 rounds of Powder & Ball as per Pattern. 5,000 Wooden Keggs 3 pints each to serve as Canteens 2,500 Hand Hatchets 1,000 Wood Axes 2,500 Cartridge Boxes 9 Rounds of Powder and Ball. Horse Furniture and Green Coat and Waistcoat and Buckskin Breeches for 500 Men

to be made up like the Cloathing for Light Infantry. 3,000 Stand of Arms for Provincials
500 for Militia and 100 Barrels of Gun Powder

Page 368 For 5,500 Regulars in Canada 2750 Pair of Blankets 5500 Pair of Mittens
11000 Pair of Shoes 11000 Pair of Soles 5500 Pair of Leggings in Materials 11000 Pair of
Worsted Stockings 11000 Shirts in Materials 5500 Drill for 5500 Pair of Breeches For
3000 Provincials in Canada 1500 Pair of Blankets 3000 Pair of Mittens 6000 Pair of
Shoes 6000 Pair of Soles 3000 Pair of Legging in Materials 6000 Pair of Worsted
Stockings 3000 Drill for 3000 Pair of Breeches 3000 Haversacks 750 Camp Kettles 750
Hand Hatchets 300 Wood Axes 1000 Iron Pots

Page 369 Estimate of Tonnage For Provincials in Georgia and New York. 10000 Pair of
Woolen and Linnen Trousers supposed equal to 10,000 Pair of Leggings at 20.8 per 120
pair. Feet 17235000 Pair of Leggings at ditto. Feet 86120000 Shirts and materials for
Shirts supposed equal to Haversacks at 9.9 per 500. Feet 3905000 Pair of Blankets at 23.9
per 40 pair Feet 296820,000 Pair of Shoes at 23.9 per 400 Pair Feet 146220000 Pair of
Soles at ditto per 1000 Pair Feet 58510000 Pair of Mittens at 15.2 per 1000 Pair Feet
1527500 Hats at 12.3 per 100 Feet 91810000 Pair of Worsted Stockings at 27.3 per 960.
Feet 2835000 Pair of Breeches in materials supposed equal to Haversacks at 9.9 per 500.
Feet 98 Epaulets, Serjeants Sashes and Belts and Slings. Feet 100.10000 Stocks / 10000
Stock Buckles .Feet 10010000 Haversacks at 9.9 per 500. Feet 1952000 Camp Kettles at
29.3 per 25. Feet 23405000 Tin Cartridge Boxes for 60 Rounds suppose about 2.3 of a
foot each. Feet 35005000 Wooden Kegs will mostly Pack in the Camp Kettles. 3500
Hatches at 9.2 per 150. 2500 Cartdige Boxes suppose 1/2 Foot each. Feet 1250 Horse
Furniture and Green Coat Waistcoat and Breeches for 500 Men. At 10 feet per 25 Suits
the Clothing is 200. The Horse Furniture including Saddle suppose 500. Feet 7003500
Stand of Arms/100 Barrels Gunpowder Ordnance.

40/17624= Tons 440

Page 370 Regulars under Sir H. Clinton 7,500 Pair of Blankets at 23.9 per 40 Pair. Feet
445315,000 Pair of Mittens at 15.2 per 1000 Pair Feet 22730,000 Pair of Shoes at 29.3
per 400 Pair Feet 219330,000 Pair of Soles ditto per 1000 Pair Feet 87720,000 Leggings
Trousers etc at 20.8 per 120 Pair. Feet 344420,000 Pair of Stockings at 27.3 per 960 Pair.
Feet 56840,000 Shirts, Breeches, etc at 9/9 per 500 Pair. Feet 780 Canadian Regulars 1,500
Pair of Blankets at 23.9 per 40 Pair. Feet 8403,000 Pair of Mittens at 15.2 per 1000 Pair
Feet 456,000 Pair of Shoes at 29.3 per 400 Pair Feet 4386,000 Pair of Soles ditto per
1000 Pair Feet 1743,000 Leggings at 20.8 per 120 Pair. Feet 5166,000 Pair of Stockings at
27.3 per 960 Pair. Feet 17012,000 Shirts, Drill and Haversacks at 9/9 per 500.

Feet 234750 Camp Kettles at 29.3 per 25. Feet 8771050 Hatchets at 9.2 per 150. Feet
601000 Iron Potts. Feet 100040/4404= 110 Tons For New York and Georgia 440313---
753 For Canada 110110---220

(The above are from North Carolina State Archives in Raleigh, NC and were submitted
by Southern Company members Joe Evans and Ben Beers)

In addition Erik Goldstein has submitted to HQ the following:

Guy Carleton Papers: #1842-3 London 20th March 1779

The Right Honorable Lord Comissioner of His Majesty Treasury

To Thomas Harley For Sundry Material for cloathing shipt or onboard the Juliana and Grande Duke Transports:

10,000 yards red coat cloth; 3075 White waistcoat cloth; 718 ½ Green Facing clothing; 639 ½ blue do; 14,525 Brown Scotch Linen for linings; 300 Srgt Coats and cloth weskits; 100 Drummers do; 2 Private Coat Patterns; 135 Gross coat buttons; 1063 Gross Breast do; 80 Gross Hooks and Eyes; 5,000 Best White chapel tailors needles; 50 dutch lined tailors thimbals; 70 Doz, fire sorted threads; 4200 Private Looping Lace; 12p Shears; 6p Country Made do; 2 cuts leather for buttoning coats; 300 Corperals Eppaulets;

To Portsmouth, VA

Guy Carleton Papers: #1759 London 18th Feb 1779

To Thomas Harley

1275 p Corners Blankets; 11225 Plain do; 12500 Pair Blankets; 1630 Pieces of Russia Drill (53750 ½ Arskeens which at the establishes estimate of 20 arskeens to a piece is 1919 pieces and 81 ½ pieces

Editors note: (This equals out to be about 41,000 yards of Russian Drill 28 Arskeens to 21.5 English yards !!!!!)

43,640 P of white yarn hose; 6320 Gray Yarn Hose; 50,000 P hose;

To NY

Sir Guy Carleton: #10261 For Use of his Majestys Forces

44367 Pairs of Shoes; 1000 p boots; 1000 spur leathers; 1347 Tents for Infantry with poles pins mallets and painting complete; 143 Belll Tents for infantry do; 888 Camp Kettles with Covers and Bags; 200 Do copper for Cavarly; 7054 Canteens for Infatry with Slings; 1000 for Horse w belts; 7606 Haversacks for Inft; 1000 do for horse; 7970 Knapsacks w buff leather straps and lining; 139 powder bags; 17 for cav; 12 packing cases for do; 20 drum cases with painted bottoms; 200 horsemens tents w poles pins mallets skirting and painted; 17 bell tents for the horse; 691 hand hachets; 6660 Ammunition Shirts; 5484 Bossumed shirts Marked; 8430; 20,564 Shirts; 1000 rollers;

8792 pairs of shoe buckles; 501 Eppulets and Srgt Sashes; 167 Drummers belts and slings; 130 drums with sticks painted and ornaments; 100 powder horns shot bags and slings; 300 hand saws w leather cases and slings; 170 axes with cases and belts; 1000 Cartouch boxes with brass buckles and waistbelts; 1000 saddles with horse furniture and accountermnts completed; 983 Holsters and holster straps; 17 faniers churns with chaps; 17 picket lines; 17 bugle horns; 17 trumpets; 1000 nose bags with leather heads; 1000 pairs of steal spurs; 1000 horse burshes, main combs and currys; 1000 setts of forage cords; 1000 caps with black bear helmets; 285 pieces of west country cloth brought hite and dyed finished for leggings; 5296 Pairs of Mittens; 9249 hatts laced;

Sir Guy Carleton: #9863

The following things to be provided fr the use of the Army in America

25th Feb 1780

465 Private Green Coats and Wasitcoats laced; 25 Srgt do; 10 Drums do with slings and betls; 500 Suits of Green Lt Infantry Cloathing; 5000 blankets; 416 Doz pairs of white yard stockings; 500 Complete setts of Horse Furniture consisting of Saddles, Bridles, Breastplates, cloak straps, saddle clothes, and waistbelts; 1200 pairs of best Town made buckskin Breeches, ONE seam; 500 doo

FOR SALE

3 Reproduction Brown Bess Muskets. Please contact Captain Tom Pieper for details

Ich Dien,
Major Morgan