



Toy Soldiers

Words and Photos: Paul Monaf

The one thing that has become clear in our trips to Skirmish sites and talking to you lot is that despite Airsoft being your primary hobby a lot of you are interest in the 1/6th scale military collectors scene.

Over the coming months AI will explore the modern 1/6th Military market and highlight the best of the bunch. For those of you out there that think its all about playing with plastic dollies, grab a knee and huddle in gentlemen because your going to be amazed at the level of detail on these 1/6th scale Toy Soldiers.

To kick this series of articles off we thought that we would take a look at some of the custom work (Kit Bashed) figures out there and use these little fella's as a point of reference to the real world.

So you want to play with dollies do you? Right lets kick off by taking a look at this iconic image of a Delta Sniper (circa 1980).

We told you these guys are simply awesome, this figure has been made up (kit Bashed) from the best possible accessories out there.

The figures Protec is manufactured by a small HK based company Known as the Toy Soldier Workshop, their kit is simply the best money can buy but here's the snag, produced in so small a quantities that their accessories are more often than not snapped up by Hong Kong based collectors making them very sort after collectables in the Western World.

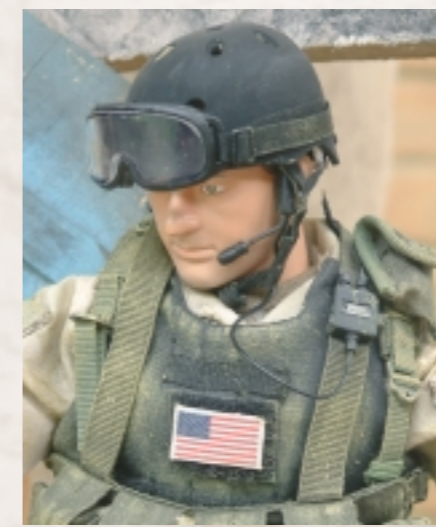
The 1/6th goggles are an exact replica of Bolle's X500 series you can't mistake that combination its got "D Boys" written all over it. The 1/6th scale version costs 20 quid. In the real world expect to pay between 80 to 100 quid.

This dude is wearing a Stinger head, not necessarily correct for the era, but a neat piece of real World kit that translates Perfectly to the 1/6th World, plus its an easy piece of real World kit to get your hands on.

The BDU's (Battle Dress Uniform) are SEAL style, note the shoulder pockets, not slanted nor is there any Velcro in site, you can modify BDU shirts yourself with



DELTA CLOSE PROTECTION



the aid of a sewing machine and a steady hand or find the local tailors, cost wise expect to pay between 10 -15 quid for the shirt and 10 quid for the pocket modifications, the whole 1/6th BDU set costs 7 quid.

Now here's where things start to get a bit more expensive in the real World. Your going to need a good set of Replica PT Body armour. They're still very pricey in the UK we've seen them for as much as £150, the smart money's on looking overseas, you can half the RRP and have change to invest in a set of Alice webbing.

This 1/6th set which including the chest rig (again from The Toy Soldier Workshop) will set you back 15 quid or so.

Make sure if you are going for this look in the real World your Alice webbing has got a butt pack 2 water bottles, 2 ammo pouches and a strobe pouch, that's what the usual load out was and as you can see here the 1/6th load out follows to the letter.

You may argue that the Delta operators wore enhanced Load bearing vests, which they cut away the chest ammo pouches and then wore a separate chest rig over the top.

You would be right some did, but why spoil a perfectly good vest simply use a Blackhawk chest rig as Toy Solider have issued this operator.

The side arm on this figure comes in the form of a 19 11 Colt which fits snugly into this 1/6th scale replica of an Eagle Industries thigh holster.

As in the real world you have a choice on how to house your 45 ammo clips, here we have issued a belt ammo pouch, the chest rig also has two 45-ammo pouches.

In our opinion you can't carry enough 45 clips so load up as many as you can.

The knee pads are pretty good examples of 1/6th Alta's, whilst the boots are alright, but have now been superseded by much

more realistic lace up cloth boots.

The M14 is a really cool piece of kit that's had a re-spray job it really does look as if this piece of plastic has seen some action

(Note the missing Aimpoint site cover) attention to detail like that makes this figure believable), your going to be pretty hard pushed to find an M14 AEG that actually works in the real World, but if you can hold off until June Mauri's M14 will be reviewed here first (we'll even show you how to do your very own custom spray job).

That's about it for this guy, what a great figure and point of reference for all of you budding Delta skirmishers out there.

Keeping with the Delta theme the next figure we want to show you this month is a bit more up to date, in actual fact this next figure would have been seen offering close protection in Afghanistan and yes your right its another Army Delta figure.

Now guys if your going to do the close protection thing, remember less is defiantly more.

Because of the nature of close protection, the operators have minimal load outs, pretty much like this badass 1/6th scale figure.

The all cap is a welcome introduction, a must have are a pair of Oakley half jackets or Juliet's, (which give you enough eye protection to skirmish in).

Again Toy Soldier Tri Colour BDU's have been used here. In the real world its not quite time to start thinking about Raid BDU's, so don't go spoiling your new 1/6th scale collection by dressing this figure incorrectly. Keep to the SEAL style of BDU's use the PT body armour again, but this time change over the chest rig for an Eagle industries version, just like this 1/6th scale dude.

Add a 6004 holster and an M4 rifle and you've copied this 1/6th load out to a "T".

Boots are really a matter of choice: here this operator is wearing a pretty neat 1/6th scale pair of Merrill's. Which to be honest are over kill as far as Skirmish kit goes, plus they are pretty damn hard to get hold of if not impossible in the UK, when you do find them in the states they're going to cost you an arm and a leg, so take our advise, its not the boot that makes the skirmisher, but the look does go a long way, use a pair of desert boots instead.

I hope that you have enjoyed our first look at the 1/6th scale market, whether you collect these little guys for the sakes of collecting them or not you've got to agree that they are a super detailed way of scoping out what to wear on the skirmish field. ☺

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