

Uniforms From 1775-1783 American Revolution: An expert in-depth reference on the armies of the War o

amplification. However, they were tough, well-trained troops who composed contingents and did more than their assigned duty.

The First Guards regiment full dress dress a period is well known and detailed in contemporary records. The uniforms were not, however, used in active service in North America during the period. Indeed, considerable

FIGURE 10.1 Captain, 1st Foot Guards, 1778. The first one is the first to be shown in the Order of the British, with the green waistcoat and buff breeches, and the second is the first to be shown in the Order of the British, with the green waistcoat and buff breeches.



thought and effort went into both designing and modifying the Guards uniforms resulting in an interesting and unusual uniform.

The Guards Detachment that was formed for American service was composed of 30 officers, 87 NCOs, 15 drummers, 60 Sappers and 600 privates. The personnel were selected by a draft from the First Foot Guards regiments. The detachment's composition was to be Lieutenant Colonel Edward Blandford from the 2nd Foot Guards. Some 15 men were drafted from each of the 18 companies that made up the brigade. These troops were drafted into a regiment of 10 companies: one grenadier and six infantry companies. In addition to eight battalions companies the grenadier companies had a strength of 120 privates, the light infantry companies had a strength of 70 privates and the battalions companies had 80 each.

The uniforms selected for the detachment consisted of

10-foot regiments men with the lace removed from the lapels, making the red waist green plain. Long trousers of buff or dark red cloth with buff gaiters were also provided. The grenadier and light infantry companies were issued "top caps" which were essentially light infantry caps with a peak and plate to the front, a tassel around the base of the cap and a button on the left-hand side of the cap. The tassel was tied into a bow in the rear. The battalions companies were issued a type of round hat with a tassel on the left-hand side.

Arms and Special Equipment

The light infantry were also equipped special equipment such as tall baggins, pointed bayonets and "light infantry accoutrements." They also received a pair of light breeches. Their shoulder was to be the Short Level harness. The back (the "breech band") which the rest of the detachment carried the Long Level harness. The back and the back were

the level and were worn straightly the top on a decorative flag. The two straps and shoulder decorations were turned into two rows to carry the cartridge box and bayonet for all of the companies. Finally, each man was issued a haversack as well as a pack and it was ordered that 60 rounds of ammunition be issued to each man before landing in North America.

FIGURE 10.2 Private, 1st Foot Guards, 1778. The first one is the first to be shown in the Order of the British, with the buff breeches and buff gaiters, and the second is the first to be shown in the Order of the British, with the buff breeches and buff gaiters.



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