

THE ROMANARMY

BY THE MIDDLE of the 1st CENTURY AD there were approximately 30 Legions in the Roman Army. These were made up of infantry and auxiliaries such as archers and cavalry. All of these soldiers, each with their own particular fighting skills, came together to form a Legion with its own unique name, number and symbol. The Legion KING & COUNTRY has chosen to represent in miniature is one of Rome's finest. The Legio XX Valeria Victrix The Twentieth

Rome's finest... The Legio XX Valeria Victrix The Twentieth Victorious Valeria Legion.

This Legion, first raised in **Hispania** (modern-day Spain) served there before moving to **Gaul** and then onto **Germania** before being one of the four Legions chosen to invade and pacify the distant island of **Britannia** in the year 43 AD.

As you will see our Roman soldiers are dressed in the 'classic' style of the *Imperial Era* complete with the *Lorica Segmentata* body armour and 'Gallic' type steel helmet.

Virtually every soldier carries the 'Pompeii' pattern infantry sword and the shorter fighting dagger. In addition, some others carry the 'Pilum' throwing spear.

LIFE IN THE LECION

Legions were posted throughout the Empire and were self-sufficient, each with their own commanders and ranking officers, ordinary soldiers and specialists such as doctors and engineers.

In peacetime the soldiers trained and were put to work building forts, such as the one shown here, and constructing roads and bridges throughout the Empire. The Legions also acted as the local government in the regions where they were stationed.

Section" x 1pc

Within the Legion itself it was divided into different units and ranks each with a specific set of tasks. This meant that troops could be efficiently organized and controlled with orders being executed quickly and efficiently.

Every soldier knew his place and his duties and, importantly, what was expected of him.



CHAIN OF COMMAND

In command of each Legion was the Legatus or Legate. Supporting him were six senior officers known as Tribunes, usually all of these men came from rich and aristocratic Roman families.

After these six came the **Praefectus Castorum** or 'Second-in-Command',
not always of noble birth but usually
a long-serving professional soldier
with many years of tough military
experience behind him.

Under him was the 'Primus Pilus' or 'First Spear', the Chief Centurion and the man who really ran the Legion... He knew everything and everyone – their strengths, their weaknesses and how to get the best out of all them!

Under his command and following his orders were the regular 'Centurions', normally men of humble birth who had risen through the ranks on account of their bravery, fighting skills and proven leadership qualities.

Each Centurion had a deputy called an 'Optio' who ensured that all instructions full Roman citizens under the age of **45**. They enlisted for a minimum of **25 years** of service many beginning in their late teens or early 20's. The final **5 years** of their enlistment were usually spent on veteran lighter duties as opposed to active campaigning.

Throughout his military career the Legionary was first and foremost a soldier although he would often be used to keep the peace and protect important civil facilities where Roman law prevailed.

In addition Legionaries were often utilized as a source of labour and expertise to build roads, canals and bridges some of which still exist to this day.

LEGION FORMATIONS

The size and strength of a typical Legion varied throughout the

were carried out and when necessary, punishment inflicted for infractions or dereliction of duty. Many Optios went on to become Centurions themselves later in their military careers.

Finally at the bottom of the 'Chain of Command' was the Legionary himself... Legionaries had, at this period, to be

1st Century AD which our soldiers depict.

It was as follows:

Total strength was approximately 5,000 men comprising 10 'Cohorts' made up of 6 'Centuries', each containing 80 men.

Every century was then subdivided into 10 'Conturbeniums' or 8-man squads. These 8 Legionaries would cook, eat, sleep and share a tent together while on campaign or a barrack room if garrisoning a fort.









ENEMIES OF ROME



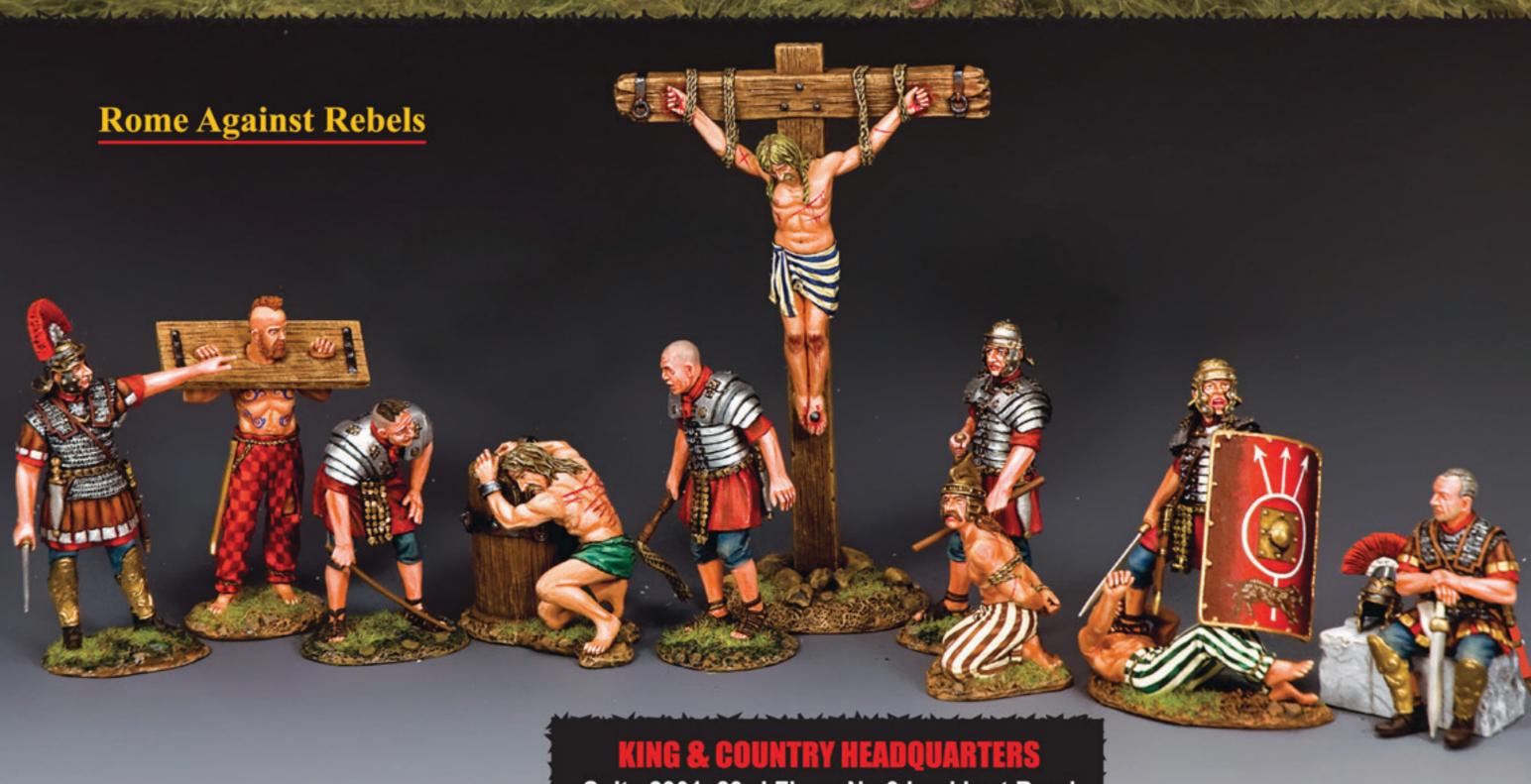












Suite 2301, 23rd Floor, No.3 Lockhart Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong Tel: (852) 2861 3450 Fax: (852) 2861 3806 E-mail: sales@kingandcountry.com