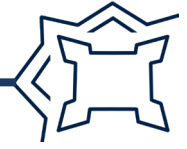


1759 SIEGE OF CARILLON BRITISH HIGHLANDER GUIDELINES



By 1759 as the British Army launched a three-prong attack towards the heart of French Canada, more Highlanders served with the army in North America than ever. New regiments, like the 77th Regiment were raised across Scotland in beginning in 1757. "A State of Clothing for a Highland Regiment at First Raising," in the papers of Major Archibald Montgomery, explained their annual cycles of clothing at that time.

	Coat	Vest-coat	Plaid	Bonnet	Shirts	Stocks	Pairs Shoes	Pairs Hose
For each man 1 st Year	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	4
Ditto 2 ^d Year	1			1	1	1	2	4

NB: The plaid to last two years, the shoes, & hose to be delivered half yearly, vis one pair of shoes & two pairs of hose in June, and one pair shoes w/ the other two pair hose in December. The old coat makes the vest coat after the first clothing.



The recycling of coats into waistcoats followed the regulation practice for the rest of the British Army, as did the annual timing necessities like shirts, neckwear, shoes & hose. As with other regiments, Highlanders also modified their attire for the 1758 campaign. In a letter to the Earl of Loudon on May 29th, 1758, Dr. Richard Huck described Lord Howe's modifications to the clothing of his brigade—including the 42nd Highlanders, soon to be Royal Highland Regiment, as they assembled in Albany.

"The Art of War is much changed and improved here. I suppose by the End of Sum-mer it will have undergone a total revolution. We are now literally an Army of round Heads. Our Hair is about an Inch Long; The Flaps of our Hats, which are wore slouched about two Inches and a half broad. Our Coats are docked rather shorter than the Highlanders, determined Napier says, that the French shall not stick in our Skirts. The High-landers have put on Breeches and Lord How's Filabegs."

Regimental Orders for the 42nd Royal Highland Regiment, recorded in the Orderly Book of Captain James Stewart's Company, from March 22, 1759, ordered men to carry linen breeches, as worn in the previous campaign.

"The Non Commissioned Officers and soldiers are to carry with them to the field the following things viz—Two white shirts one chack ditto one good spare pair of shoes two pairs of socks one pair of leggans and one pair of short canvas britches."

Quartered in New York City, Regimental Orders on April 9, 1759, informed officers that, "When the Regt is under arms the officers are always to be in boots & knee breeches," even as enlisted soldiers wore their full plaids, which the regiment had recently drawn from stores and washed. Regimental orders put officers into leggings on April 30, 1759, as they prepared to embark to Albany. After the 42nd Royal Highlanders reached camp at Albany, the entire regiment went back into campaign dress on May 18, 1759.

"The Non Commissioned Officers and men are at all times in Camp to wear their kilts except when ordered."

Kilts, along with their linen breeches and wool leggings would be their dress through the rest of the campaign. Captain Nicolas Renaud D'Avène de Méloizes of the French Colony troops, reported on a scout around Fort Edward on June 18, 1759.

"All the soldiers he saw at these two camps wore the red coat with yellow facings. The drummer told me they had little Scottish skirts..."

These French scouts noted both kilts and yellow facings, indicating that the 1st battalion of the 42nd still had yellowish buff facings, rather than blue facings their title as Royal Highland Regiment awarded them.

Captain John Knox of the 43rd Regiment of Foot described the construction of leggings in the British Army in detail in his journal, as he served under General James Wolfe on the Saint Lawrence, on December 12, 1758.

"Leggers, Leggings or Indian spatterdashers are usually made of frize, or other coarse wollen cloth; they should be at least three quarters of a yard in length: each legging about three quarters wide (which is three by three) then double it, and sew it together from end to end, within four, five, or six inches of the outside selvages. Fitting this long narrow bag to the shape of the leg, the flaps to be on the outside, which serve to wrap over the skin, or forepart of the legs, tied round under the knee and above the ankle, with garters of the same color by which the legs are preserved from many fatal accidents...The army have made an ingenious addition to them by putting a tongue or sloped piece before, as there



is in the lower part of the spatterdash, and a strap fixed to it under the heart of the foot, which fastens under the outside ankle with a button."

General Amherst made a concerted effort to equip all Highlanders and new light infantry companies with light arms as he took command of the British Army in North America at the end of 1758. 4000 carbines along with 4000 musket arrived in New York for the Army in December 1758. The Royal Highland regiment was supposed to be rearmed with 2080 carbines with bayonets on May 1, 1759, along with 2160 pistols with straps. However by May 29, 1759, the Board of Ordinance indicated that the supply of carbines was insufficient, so muskets were sent instead. The 77th did receive these lightened arms, as General Orders at camp in Stillwater, New York indicated on June 1, 1759.

"Ye Controlers of ye Ordnance to deliver 1000 carbines to Coll Montgomery."

Being issued without bayonets, these were likely the same horseman's carbines issued to the 78th Highlanders after their raising. Colonel Simon Fraser of the 78th wrote in route to Nova Scotia on April 28, 1757:

"...Our arms are the Carabines the Horse had before they were reduced to Dragoons, and are excellent Arms in every respect, but that they are rather slight for hard use."

Muskets issued to the 42nd Royal Highland Regiment prior to the 1758 were shortened. After ordering two companies of the 42nd Highlanders and 55th Regiment of Foot to march to Stillwater, General Orders on May 8, 1758 in the Orderly Book of Captain Alexander Moneyppenny, noted:

"The smiths & carpenters of those companys to be left with Capt. Ord, & all smiths & carpenters in the garrison, those employ'd in cutting the arms excepted, to be sent directly to Capt. Ord."

Two entries into the account ledgers of Army Agent Richard Cox confirm the cutting of muskets for the 42nd Royal Highland Regiment. On March 14, 1759, Cox & Co. accounted for, "To sundry blacksmiths, for cutting short the arms of the 42nd Regiment, by Gen. Abercrombie's order..." Another bill arrived on November 24, 1759 including, "cutting 24 firelocks, by Gen. Abercrombie's order, 9 June, 1758, at 1s. 9d. each."

General Jeffrey Amherst specifically included his two regiments of Highlanders as he explained simplifications for equipment for the coming campaign season at camp in Albany on May 5, 1759.



"The officers will be posted, as much as the service will permit, to the companies they belong to; they will take fusils, no sashes but gorgets, either swords or hangers, as Commanding Officers of battalions shall direct. The regiments to take their colours into the field; the Sergeants to carry firelocks, instead of halberts, with cartouche-box and bayonet instead of sword, the soldiers no sword, nor sword-belt, if they can carry their bayonet securely without them; one Drummer per company; the remaining Drummers to be put in the ranks. The grenadiers to take their swords and caps into the field. No woman to be permitted to go with the regiments, or to follow. The Royal Highland Regiment and the 77th Highlanders are excepted in the order of no swords. The Commanding Officer of each of those regiments may do as he thinks best."

While it is unclear if the 42nd set aside their swords, the Lieutenant Colonel Alexander Montgomery requested permission in April 1758, to put their swords and pistols into storage in Philadelphia from General John Forbes.

Highland officers were subject to the same orders as the rest of the army regarding keeping equipment to a minimum. The Orderly Book of Captain Alexander Money Penny of the 55th Regiment of Foot, noted on May 11, 1758 that officers were limited to, "A soldier's tent, a small portmanteau, blankets, & bearskin..." in the field. This order from Amherst's predecessor, General James Abercrombie, was still limited officers' equipment in 1759.

For the field General Amherst was inclined to have troops omit their coats altogether in hot weather or heavy fatigue. In his July 20, 1759 "Orders for the army passing the lake," General Amherst ordered, "...the men to land in their waistcoats, go as light as possible, carry only their Blanket & Provisions." This army wide order was in effect for highlanders too. Evening Orders in the 42nd Orderly Book on June 10, 1759 at the Fort Edward camp called on a fatigue party for road repairs, noting, "they may go in their vestcoats but must carry provisions for the day..." For travelling with a minimum of equipment, the 42nd Royal Highland Regiment used tumplines even prior to marching from Albany. Preparing to sail from New York City, Regimental Orders on April 30, 1759, order the men to pack for inspection.

"The Regim't to be under arms on Wednesday morning with their Linen britches and leggans and packs tied up properly with their toplines."

Long before embarking down Lake George to attack Ticonderoga, the Highlanders with General Amherst's army were well prepared to live on campaign in the American interior.

Hats and Caps

Best: Knit blue wool highland bonnets with a red band at the base, black horsehair cockade tacked onto the left face of the bonnet.

Acceptable: Plain knit blue wool highland bonnets.

Unacceptable: Fur caps, Voyageur caps, straw hats, slouch hats, glengarry caps, green scotch bonnets

Shirts

Best: Hand-stitched white or checked linen shirt with short collar (under two and a half inches) narrow band cuffs with thread Dorset buttons or made for sleeve buttons (cuff links).

Acceptable: Machine stitched checked, striped, or white linen shirts.

Unacceptable: Cotton calico or plaid shirts.

Neckwear

Best: Hand-stitched white linen neck stocks.

Acceptable: Machine-hemmed linen rollers, silk or cotton neckerchiefs.

Unacceptable: Military horsehair or leather neck stocks.

Breeches

Best: Hand-finished, well-fit 1750s linen canvas breeches, with buckled or buttoned knee bands.

Acceptable: Well-fit coarse linen breeches, with buckled, buttoned or tied knee bands with minor visible machine stitching.

Unacceptable: Fringed trousers, baggy breeches.



Kilts

Best: Hand-finished little kilts made of government-set tartan, with coarse sewn-in pleats.

Acceptable: Little kilts made of government-set tartan with minor visible machine stitching.

Discouraged: Great-kilts of government-set tartan.

Unacceptable: Modern kilts or other tartan patterns.

Waistcoats

Best: Hand-finished, well-fit 1750s British regimental waistcoats, laced or unlaced, in Highland length, without sleeves.

Acceptable: Well-fit, 1750s British regimental waistcoat, laced or unlaced, without sleeves with minor visible machine stitching. 1750s linen natural sheeting or ticking waistcoats.

Unacceptable: Cotton canvas, upholstery fabric waistcoats, extremely long or baggy waistcoats.

Coats

Best: Hand finished, well-fit 1750s British Highland regimental coats, either laced or unlaced, in Highland length.

Acceptable: Well-fit 1750s British Highland regimental coats, either laced or unlaced, in Highland length with little visible machine stitching.

Unacceptable: Anything else.

Legwear

Best: Well-fit British army Native American styled leggings of green, blue, red woolen cloth, tied up with garters of red woolen cloth or the same colored cloth.

Discouraged: Diced hose, worn without leggings.

Unacceptable: Modern knit hose, Buckskin leggings, or baggy wool leggings.

Footwear

Best: Common soldiers' shoes of black waxed leather, closed with brass shoe buckles.

Discouraged: Half-boots or mocca-sins.

Unacceptable: Officer's boots on non-officers; Dyer, Arrow, Min-netonka moccasins, Shoepacks



Cartridge Pouches

Best: 9, 12, or 18-Round Government accoutrement set worn around the waist.

Acceptable: Additional shot bag carried on a narrow leather shoulder strap.

Unacceptable: Possibles bags.

Arms

Best: British 1742 Long Land Pattern musket with a black leather sling, cut down to 42" barrel or left full-length. 1744 Pattern Horse Carbine, modified for a bayonet.

Acceptable: Other British Long Land Pattern muskets, or military fusils.

Discouraged: British Short Land Pattern muskets.

Unacceptable: Canoe gun, blunderbuss, long rifles.



Sidearms

Best: Highland broadsword in carried in a wide, black leather shoulder belt.

Acceptable: Bayonet with scabbard carried on a government set frog, sheathed dirk carried in same belt. Unloaded Scottish steel pistol with narrow leather belt with broadsword and belt.

Discouraged: Swords, hangers, or small axes carried in waistbelts.

Unacceptable: Other pistols, any unsheathed dirks, swords or bayonets without scabbards.

Knapsacks and Tumplines

Best: A leather or hemp tumpline only.

Acceptable: Hair-on calfskin drawstring knapsacks.

Unacceptable: Revolutionary war British painted or goatskin knapsacks, Benjamin Warner Knapsacks.

Haversack

Best: British Stamped GR osnaburg haversack.

Acceptable: Plain osnaburg haversack.

Canteens

Best: Kidney-shaped tinned-iron British army canteen on a hemp cord.

Acceptable: Similar tinned-iron canteens.

Unacceptable: Anything Else

Blankets

Best: British Army Blankets.

Acceptable: 2-Point or 3-Point blankets, checked, Dutch, pr Rose blankets, Plain white or Hud-son Bay blankets.

Unacceptable: Civil War grey blankets.

