

Uniform plates - Royal Lifeguard, 1915-1917

Introduction



First lieutenant in regular service dress with cape

In London, of all places, during the summer of 2004 I came across four reproductions of Seifert uniform placards, with the Lifeguard as a motif.

Unfortunately, the seller could not explain where they came from, but he had recently been in Copenhagen and had bought them here.

The renderings are very nice and as the price was absolutely affordable - GBP 10.00 - so I did not hesitate to buy.

The boards are packaged in a cardboard cover, with a picture-frame-like cut-out on the front.

About the Seifert boards

Uniformsskrådderiet CL Seifert published 121 colored plates in the years 1915-1918, of which 49 depicted the uniforms of the Navy and various civil servants, while the rest had land military motifs.

Source 1 mentions the following planks from Livgarden:



Staff sergeant in red gala

1. Captain Gala Dress
2. Captain Blue Gala 3.
- First Lieutenant Gala Dress 4.
- First Lieutenant Blue Gala 5.
- First Lieutenant Regular Service Dress 6. First
- Lieutenant Regular Service Dress with Cape 7. Second
- Lieutenant Regular Service Dress 8. Drum Major 9. Chief
- Sergeant Blue Gala 10. Chief Horn Blower Gray Green Field
- Uniform with Cape 11. Garder in Guard clothing 12. Garder in
- Dress Shirt 13. Garder in Field Uniform

Then there is the Staff Sergeant in Red Gala, which is shown here.

About the reproductions

The original planks measure approx. 20 x 45 cm, while the reproductions are in a more practical A4 format.

Who made the reproductions and/or where they might be traded is currently unknown, but I would definitely recommend a purchase should you come across them.

Other things

Source 2 shows renderings of plates 2, 11 and 13.

The reproduction of plate 11 shows that the original was provided with a small black-and-white reproduction of the guard seen from behind. This method was used on several of Seifert's plates; very practical from a study point of view, but perhaps less so from a purely decorative point of view, which may be the reason why it

is not included in the reproduction.



Guards in guard uniform



Garder in dress shirt

The aforementioned plates with the Life Guard's field uniform show the grey-green Uniform M.1903, which the Life Guard received for wear. Source 2 mentions that the stocks were so large that in 1939 the uniform was still used for practice.

Sources

1. *The Danish army's uniforming* of Hans Chr. Wolter, The Royal Garrison Library, Copenhagen 1985, ISBN 87-981850-0-4.
2. *Danish Uniforms 1900-1990 - The Army and the Air Force* by Bjørn A. Nielsen, Tøjhusmuseet, Copenhagen 1992, ISBN 87-89022-26-2.

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