

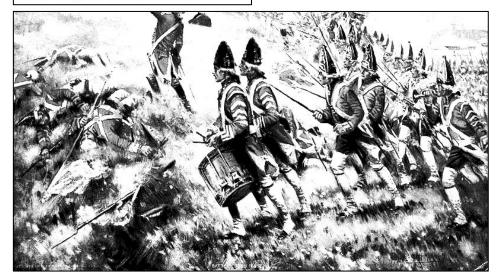
The Red Coats

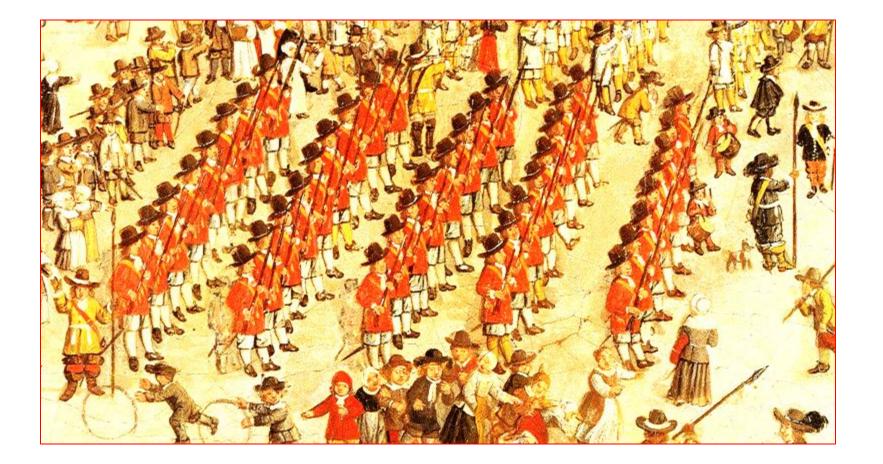
Red coats were first worn by British sea-going regiments when adopted by The Prince of Denmark's Regiment in 1686

From the modern perspective, the retention of a highly conspicuous colour such as red for active service appears inexplicable and foolhardy, regardless of how striking it may have looked on the parade ground. However, in the days of the musket (a weapon of limited range and accuracy) and black powder, battle field visibility was quickly obscured by clouds of smoke.



Whether scarlet or red, the uniform coat has historically been made of wool with a lining of a loosely woven wool known as bay to give shape to the garment. The modern scarlet wool is supplied by "Abimelech Hainsworth" and is much lighter than the traditional material, which was intended for hard wear on active service.





The Red Coat made its first appearance in the battle of dunes in 1658

The Red Coat has evolved from being the british infantryman's ordinary uniform to solely being used for ceremonial purposes



Soldiers of the King's Regiment (Liverpool), 1891

No historical basis can be found for the suggestion that the colour red was favoured because of the supposedly demoralising effect of blood stains on a uniform of a lighter colour.

