

Hillcat History Corner!

By Cyril - Grade 7

Community News, Events and More



Rorke's Drift!

What happened here in history?!

A Battle in the Making!

January 22nd, 1879. The men are waiting, 150 of them. The messenger came with bad news of recent events near Iswandla. The army is lost. Over the hills you and your comrades hear the drums beating. You prepare for a last stand defense.

Rorke's Drift is an outpost in South Africa on the Buffalo River. It was set up as a boundary between Natal and Zululand and was being used as a makeshift Hospital. Earlier that day the British were decisively defeated by Zulu forces at the battle of Isanwalda. The force of men at Rorke's drift prepares for an attack. The message they got from distraught survivors confirmed the worse. Their position was being marched on by the Zulu army. At 4:20 Pm they could see the Zulu mass marching to them. By 4:30 the battle had started.

featured stories



EXCITING NEWS HERE!

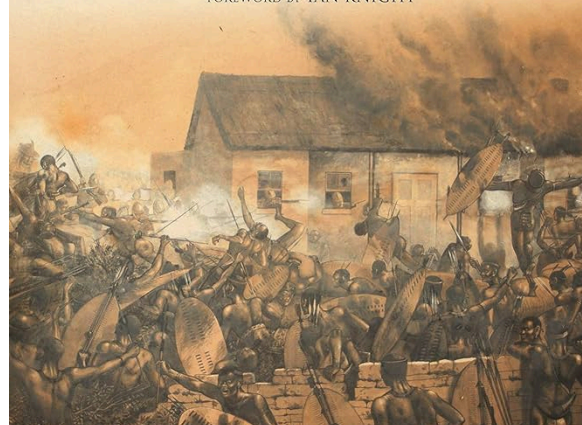
Find out what happened. It will be worth reading. You need to know!

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THE FALL OF
RORKE'S
DRIFT

AN
ALTERNATE HISTORY OF THE
ANGLO-ZULU WAR OF 1879

JOHN LABAND
FOREWORD BY IAN KNIGHT

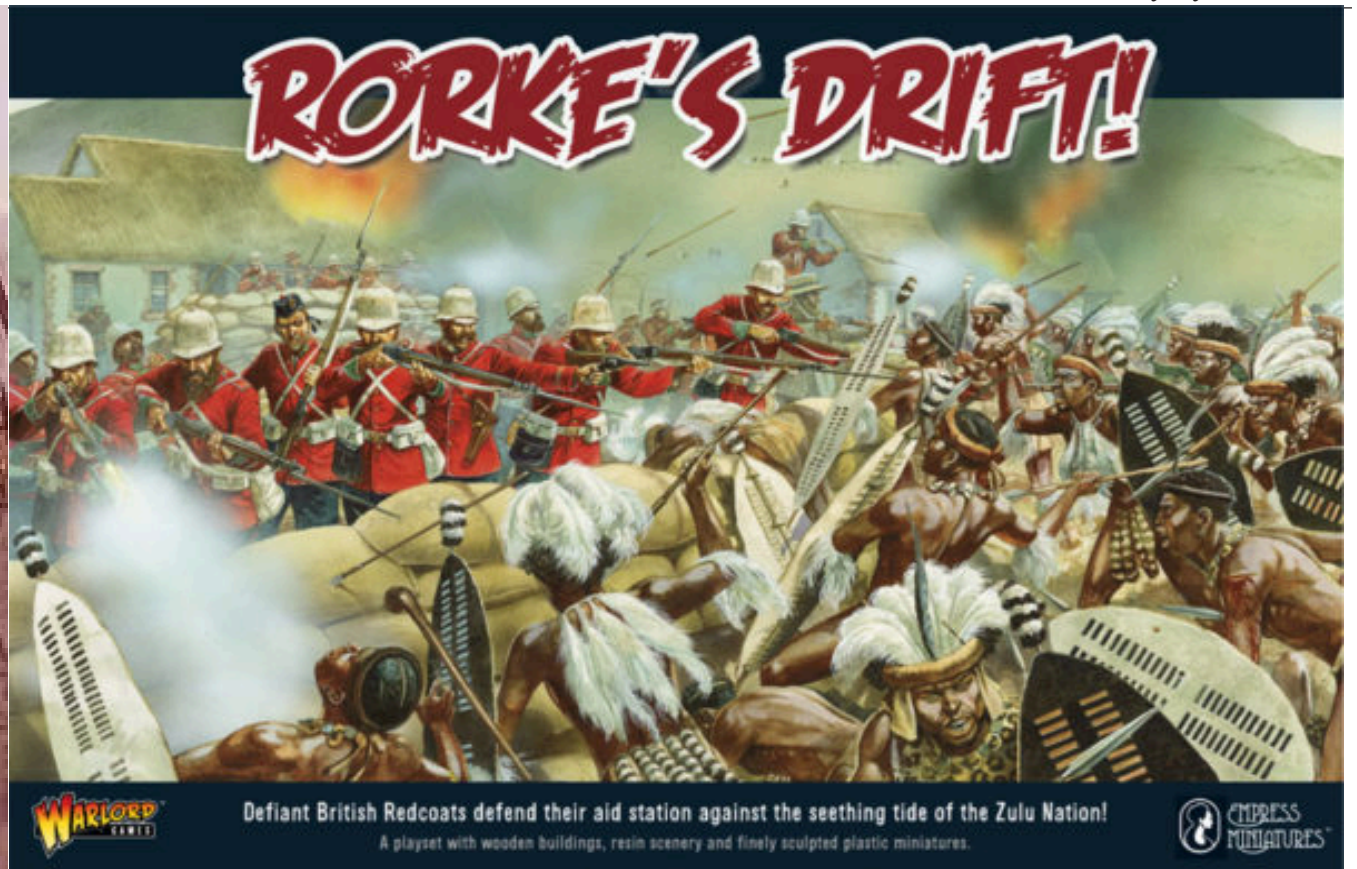
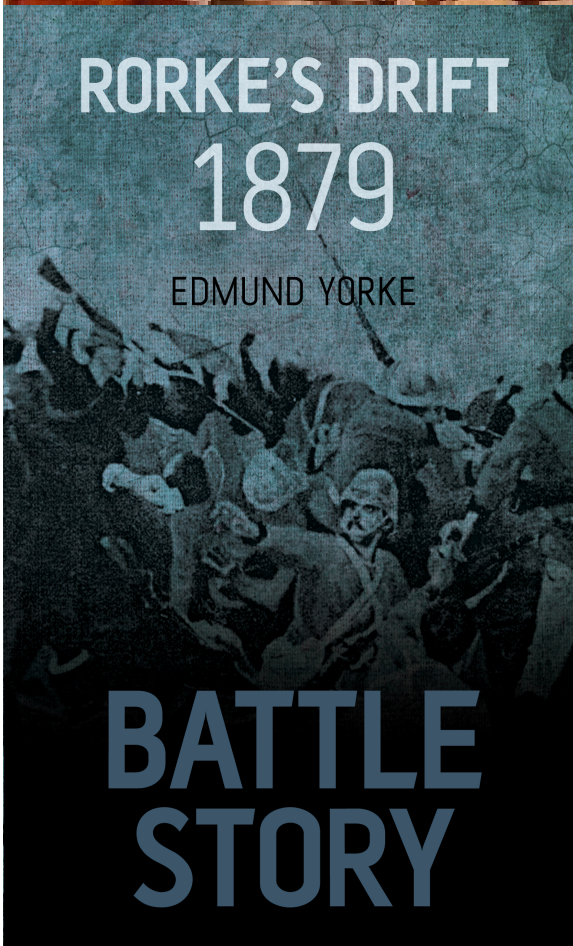
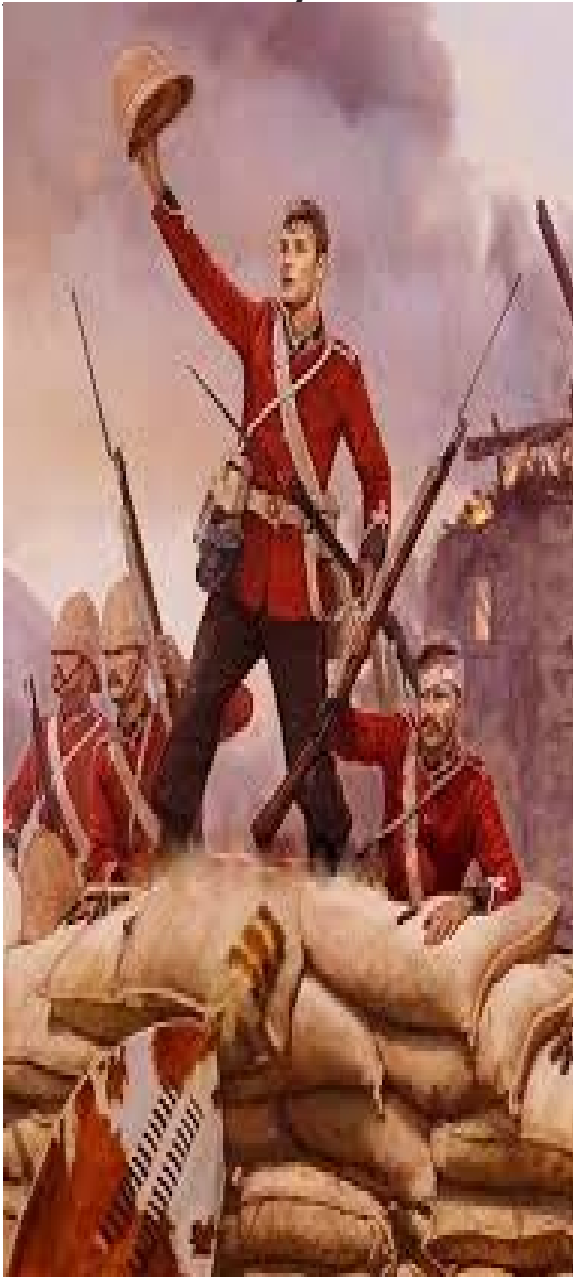


MORE HISTORY!

More interesting things have happened. Don't be left in the dark. Read now!

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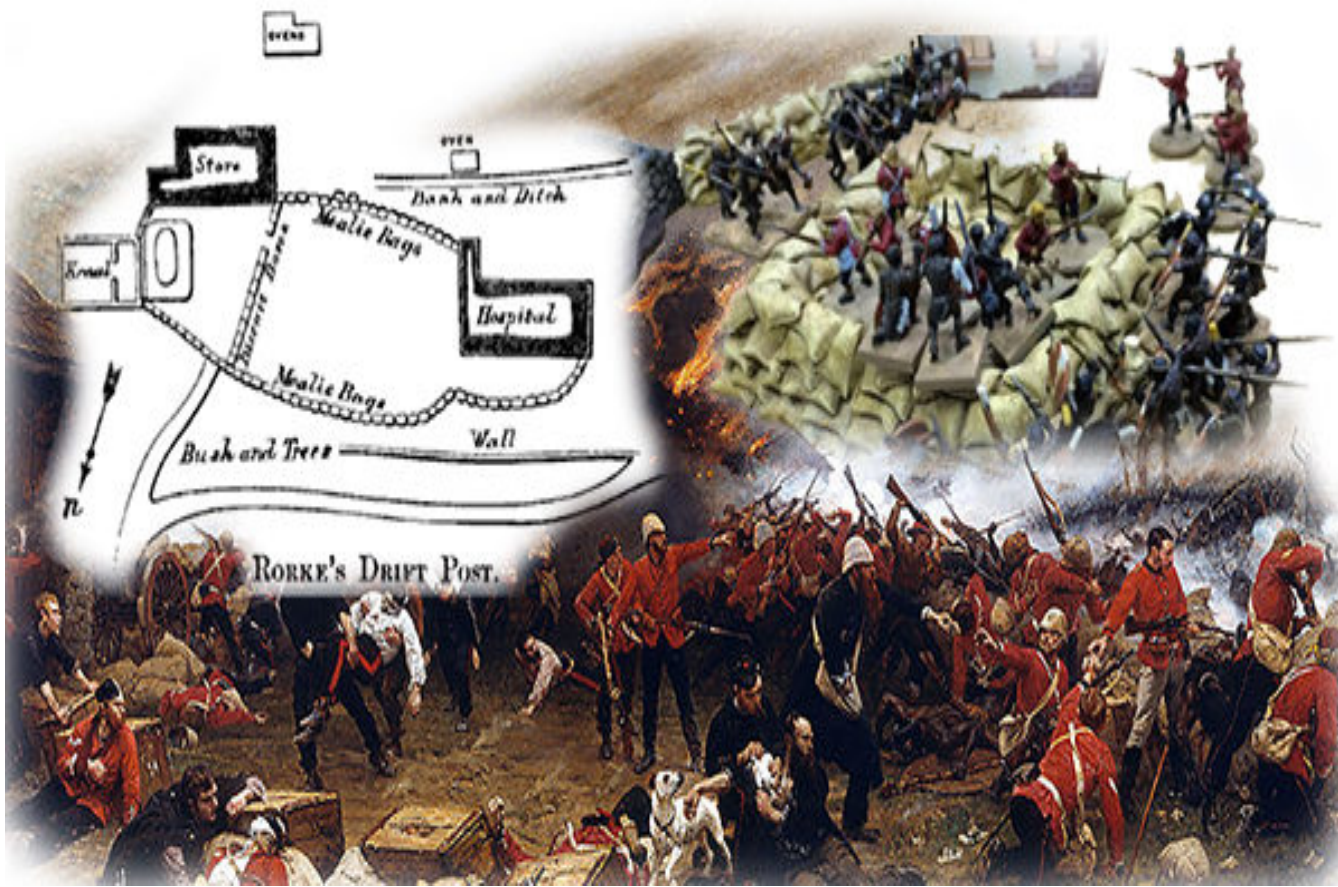
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The Battle of Rorke's Drift Begins!

Shots rang out from the outpost. The standard issue rifle of the British army, the Martini Henry, can shoot 22 shots a minute. The Zulu force were dropping like flies. They slowly moved onto the outpost and were quickly met back with gunfire by the garrison.

The Zulus had to get up close and personal due to their lack of firearms to use against the Brits. They started rushing into the frontal positions. The buildings roofs were made of thatch so the Zulu force started throwing spears that were on fire at the roofs. One hit the hospital and set it ablaze. The brave Britons had to rush the sick out, breaking through walls while being stabbed and smoked out.



A Victory is now Declared!

The first line was overrun. The British had to pull out and retreat further into the Drift. A smaller defensive perimeter is set up. By the time night falls, the hospital is aflame. It illuminates the faces of the men along with the flashes from their rifles. The Zulu force continues the attack. They attempt to overwhelm the British with their sheer numbers. Assault after assault, they meet the Zulus with the crack of their rifle fire. The Zulus fall one after another, dying in the night as they begin to be pushed back from the Drift.

By 4 in the morning the Zulu assault had ceased. The British get a 2 hour break until another assault at 6 arrives. This one doesn't last as long and the Zulus pull to the river. By 8, Lord Chelmsford's column had arrived at Rorke's Drift.

400 Zulus are dead on the ground. There are only 27 British. Almost everyone is wounded. Although, they have held it until morning. The British have won.



HERE LOOK!



CHECK US OUT



History! Read More!

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Keep Reading History!

