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Review of *The Glory of the Empires, 1880-1914: The Illustrated History of the Military Uniforms and Traditions of Britain, France, Germany, Russia, and the United States* by Wendell Schollander

Jennifer Daley

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and Derry, restricting investment in the area and providing the seeds for future conflict. Both unionists in Donegal and nationalists in Derry felt alienated and abandoned and it was therefore little surprise that Derry provided the eventual spark that ignited the Troubles in 1969. Like other books of this type, women are largely absent, except for some references to Cumann na mBan. Otherwise, Ozseker has provided a deep context to the border and shown its complexity in Irish history – those seeking to understand the current situation surrounding Brexit and its potential effects in the region would be well advised to add this to their reading list.

BERNARD KELLY
Historian in Residence
Dublin City Library and Archives, Ireland

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Wendell Schollander, *The Glory of the Empires, 1880-1914: The Illustrated History of the Military Uniforms and Traditions of Britain, France, Germany, Russia, and the United States*. Stroud: The History Press, 2018. Notes. Bibliography. Index. 896pp. ISBN 978-0752486345 (hardback). Price £50.00.

Wendell Schollander presents an ambitious body of research in his book, *The Glory of the Empires*, in which he tracks the development of military uniforms between 1880 and 1914 in Britain, France, Germany, Russia, and the United States. Schollander is not a traditionally trained military historian. He instead brings to his research an extremely organised and detailed methodology, which is especially suited to this kind of meticulous investigation. A seasoned American attorney, Schollander systematically builds research cases for each type of military uniform in the book, as if he was providing evidence in a court of law. This is exactly what is needed in a book like this: the topic dictates the best methodology, and Schollander delivers it. His writing and the book's structure ensure accessibility in an otherwise overwhelming area of research.

Section 1 of the book provides a brief overview, which includes data concerning land area of major empires prior to the First World War and their original size, a useful comparison of ranks across countries, and a diagram showing six different types of sleeve cuffs that are referenced throughout the book.

Section 2 covers military uniforms of the British Empire, with a country background, and information about the army and uniforms. The section then goes into detail

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concerning General Staff, Guard Cavalry, The Foot Guards Regiments, Line Cavalry, Line Infantry, West India Regiment, West African Regiment, King's African Rifles, West African Frontier Force, The Malay State Guides, Egypt and the Sudan, Hong Kong Regiment, and the Chinese Regiment.

Section 3 covers military uniforms of India, with a country background, and information about the army and uniforms. The section then goes into detail concerning General Staff, Cavalry, Infantry, and Gurkhas.

Section 4 covers military uniforms of the French Empire, with a country background, and information about the army and uniforms. The section then goes into detail concerning General Staff, Cavalry, Infantry, North African Army, North African Infantry, Colonial Infantry, Sahara Tirailleurs and Spahis and the Compagnies Sahariennes.

Section 5 covers military uniforms of Russia, with a country background, and information about the army and uniforms. The section then goes into detail concerning General Staff, Guard Cavalry, Guard Infantry, Line Cavalry, Steppes (or Plains) Cossacks, Caucasus (or Mountain) Cossacks, The Native Horse Regiments, The Line Infantry and Grenadiers, Line Rifles, and Cossack Infantry.

Section 6 covers military uniforms of the German Empire, with a country background, and information about the army and uniforms. The section then goes into detail concerning General Staff, Prussian Guard Infantry, Prussian Cavalry, Bavarian Cavalry, Saxon Cavalry, Line Infantry, Jägers and Schützen (Rifles), and Overseas Troops.

Section 7 covers military uniforms of the American Empire, with a country background, and information about the army and uniforms. The section then goes into detail concerning General Staff, Cavalry and Infantry, which includes Philippine Scouts and Porto Rico (as it was then spelled) Regiment of Infantry.

The book also includes 46 pages of historic colour illustrations and photographs (inserted between pp. 528-529), which are phenomenal in that they provide contemporary depictions of military uniforms and accoutrements, in full colour. A plethora of black-and-white images are riddled throughout the book. The more than 800 colour and black-and-white images are vital to the success of this book as they illustrate that which the author has described in the text. This book allows the reader to read holistically or simply dip in and out, as and when necessary.

There are some logical flaws with the book. The depth and breadth of this book is unlike other more traditional (and narrow) books about military uniforms. The wide scope of this book is both its strength and weakness. The sub-title of the book stated

that Britain, France, Germany, Russia, and the United States would be included, in this order. Yet, the order in which the nations are actually presented in the book are: British Empire (185 pages in length), India (190 pages in length), French Empire (76 pages in length), Russia (170 pages in length), German Empire (189 pages in length), and American Empire (25 pages in length). India, with its completely separate section, warranted inclusion in the title of this book as India represents the largest section at 190 pages. The American Empire section at 25 pages in length demanded more data and critical analyses, as does the French Empire section at 76 pages.

This book is a cursory survey of a vast amount of information, and for what it is, it succeeds. In a perfect world, though, it would have been ideal to split apart the research to create six separately published books that would have enabled more robust expansion into each geographical region. The author has delivered an excellent overview of military uniforms in these disparate regions, but the reader is left wanting more. As a reference book, the reader would have appreciated footnotes instead of endnotes, more reliance on primary sources instead of secondary sources, more colour images, and a comprehensive glossary. These minor criticisms aside, Schollander's *The Glory of the Empires, 1880-1914*, is an engaging book that demonstrates the importance of military uniforms as equipment that distinguishes geographical loyalty and national traditions. This book is essential to any library that values a unique perspective of military history and clothing design.

JENNIFER DALEY
King's College London, UK

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Oliver Wilkinson, *British Prisoners of War in First World War Germany*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2019. xiv + 308pp. ISBN 978-1316648872 (hardcover). Price £71.00.

The British prisoner of war (POW) in the Second World War is a prominent figure in the cultural history of Britain. Names like Colditz and Stalag Luft have been immortalised by the attempted breakouts of British prisoners and their subsequent portrayal in popular media, most famously with *The Great Escape* (1963). Yet despite more British POWs being captured in the First World War (185,329, compared to the Second World War, 172,592), they have no such prominence. Building on an expanding catalogue of works by Gerald H. Davis and Heather Jones among others, which have examined the POW experience in the First World War, this superlative work marks the first dedicated study on the British military POW camps under