

South American Wars of Liberation

Patriot Forces (Army of Gran Colombia) – Northern Campaigns 1817 – 1824

The wars of Liberation in South America lasted 20 years, from 1809 to 1829. Napoleonic in nature, the wars stretched over the whole continent, from Mexico to Chile. As Spain collapsed to internal strife and invasion, formerly loyal local colonial Juntas transformed themselves into Independence movements seeking to break away from the Spanish Empire. The Spanish response was to attempt reconquest, and thus the wars ensued.

The most famous, and key individual in these events in the north was Simon Bolivar ("The Liberator"), from Venezuela, who traversed much of the continent in several campaigns with a diverse and colourful army of Creoles, mestizos, freed black slaves, British and Irish Mercenaries, and Indians. Eventually defeating the Spanish, after 15 years of campaigning.

The Patriot Armies presented here are based on the period after Bolivar's return from exile in Jamaica, until the final defeat of the Spanish or Royalist forces in Venezuela and New Granada (Colombia) at the battles of Boyaca (1819) and Carabobo (1821).

There are three forces presented here, but the combinations are endless due to the variety of forces used in each small combat, from British veterans, to pike armed peasants and Guajiro Indians with bows.

The first force represents the standard Patriot Forces from the beginning of these campaigns in 1817.

Gran Colombian Army 1817
Leader Status II
Three Groups of 8 Infantry
Leader Status I
Three Groups of 10 Militia (or Peasants)
Leader Status II
One Group of 6 Cazadores Skirmishers
Points Value: Fusileros 43, Granaderos 46

The second force represents a mixture of Gran Colombian and British Legion Forces which were found in many key engagements from 1818 onwards.

Gran Colombian Army 1819 -1821
Leader Status II
Three Groups of 8 Gran Colombian Fusilero
Leader Status II
Three Groups of 8 British Legion Infantry
Leader Status I
One Group of 6 Cazadores Skirmishers
Points Value: 52

The last force represents the combinations of the British and Irish Legions during their many raids and small actions outside of the main battles.

British and Irish Legions
Leader status III
Leader Status I
Three groups of 8 British Legion Infantry
Leader Status II
Three Groups of 6 Venezuelan Rifles
Skirmishers
Points Value: 57

Special Characteristics:

Indian Tribes and Irregular Skirmishers - shoot as muskets with a 24" range. Similar hit rolls as musket fire, but must ignore the first kill to reflect weaker impact of arrows compared to muskets

Artillery – Only light and Medium guns available, No Heavy artillery

Venezuelan Rifles: You can choose to have 8 figure infantry groups rifle-armed as an option, but at 7 points. Historically after their first small battle at Gamarra in 1817, they had their Baker Rifles replaced with muskets

Gran Colombian Fusilero					Type	Conscripts & Volunteers
Points Value	4	Weapon	Musket		Size	8
Formation	First Fire	Controlled V.	Crashing V.	Step Out	Drill	Characteristics
Always	Yes	First Only	3	3	3	
Gran Colombian Granaderos					Type	Regulars
Points Value	5	Weapon	Musket		Size	8
Formation	First Fire	Controlled V.	Crashing V.	Step Out	Drill	Characteristics
Always	Yes	First Only	2	3	3	
Gran Colombian Cazadores / Tiradores					Type	Conscripts & Volunteers
Points Value	4	Weapon	Musket		Size	8
Formation	First Fire	Controlled V.	Crashing V.	Step Out	Drill	Characteristics
Always	Yes	First Only	3	2	2	
Gran Colombian Cazadores / Tiradores Skirmishers					Type	Skirmishers
Points Value	7	Weapon	Musket		Size	6
Formation	First Fire	Controlled V.	Crashing V.	Step Out	Drill	Characteristics
Always	Yes	No	-	2	-	Sharp Practice
British Legion (Albion Battalion, Cazadores Brittanicos etc.)					Type	Regulars
Points Value	6	Weapon	Musket		Size	8
Formation	First Fire	Controlled V.	Crashing V.	Step Out	Drill	Characteristics
Always	Yes	Yes	2	2	2	Aggressive, Sharp Practice, Stubborn
Venezuelan Rifles (British Rifles – part of British Legion)					Type	Regulars
Points Value	6	Weapon	Musket		Size	8
Formation	First Fire	Controlled V.	Crashing V.	Step Out	Drill	Characteristics
Always	Yes	Yes	2	2	2	Sharp Practice, Thin Red Line, Stubborn
Venezuelan Rifles (British Rifles – part of British Legion)					Type	Regulars
Points Value	7	Weapon	Rifle		Size	8
Formation	First Fire	Controlled V.	Crashing V.	Step Out	Drill	Characteristics
Always	Yes	Yes	2	2	2	Sharp Practice, Thin Red Line, Stubborn
Venezuelan Rifles (British Rifles) - Skirmishers					Type	Skirmishers
Points Value	7	Weapon	Rifle		Size	6
Formation	First Fire	Controlled V.	Crashing V.	Step Out	Drill	Characteristics
Always	Yes	No	-	2	-	Sharp Practice

Militia / Peasant Infantry					Type	Militia
Points Value	3	Weapon	Musket		Size	10
Formation	First Fire	Controlled V.	Crashing V.	Step Out	Drill	Characteristics
No Shock	No	No	-	-	-	No Bayonets, Poor Shots
Militia / Peasant Infantry – Pike armed					Type	Militia
Points Value	3	Weapon	Pike/Sword		Size	10
Formation	First Fire	Controlled V.	Crashing V.	Step Out	Drill	Characteristics
No Shock	No	No	-	-	-	Agressive
Indians					Type	Tribe
Points Value	4	Weapon	Bow		Size	12
Formation	First Fire	Controlled V.	Crashing V.	Step Out	Drill	Characteristics
No	No	-	-	-	-	Prominent Leader, Tactical, Moveable DP
Indian skirmishers					Type	Irregular Skirmishers
Points Value	5	Weapon	Bow		Size	6
Formation	First Fire	Controlled V.	Crashing V.	Step Out	Drill	Characteristics
Always	No	No	-	2	-	Tactical, Moveable DP
Gran Colombian Light Horse					Type	Scouting Cavalry
Points Value	5	Weapon	Sabre		Size	8
Formation	First Fire	Controlled V.	Crashing V.	Step Out	Drill	Characteristics
Always	No	No	-	-	-	-
Llaneros Cavalry					Type	Impact Cavalry
Points Value	6	Weapon	Lance		Size	8
Formation	First Fire	Controlled V.	Crashing V.	Step Out	Drill	Characteristics
Always	No	No	-	2	-	Tally Ho!, Prominent Leader
Gran Colombian Artillery					Type	Artillery
Points Value	5/6	Weapon	Gun		Size	5
Formation	First Fire	Controlled V.	Crashing V.	Step Out	Drill	Characteristics
No	No	First Only	-	-	-	

Royalist Forces (Army of Spain) – Northern Campaigns 1817 – 1824

The wars of Liberation in South America lasted 20 years, from 1809 to 1829. Napoleonic in nature, the wars stretched over the whole continent, from Mexico to Chile, as local colonial Juntas transformed themselves into Independence movements seeking to break away from the Spanish Empire.

The Spanish, or Royalist Armies presented here are based on the period starting from the end of the Spanish reconquest of its Colonies, until the final defeat of the Spanish forces in Venezuela and New Granada (Colombia) at the battles of Boyaca (1819) and Carabobo (1821). Like the Patriots, the Royalists relied heavily on local militias, Llanero cavalry and Guajiro Indians to fill their ranks.

There are three forces presented here, but the combinations are endless due to the variety of forces used in each small combat, from the Spanish Expeditionary forces (with many veterans of the Peninsular War), to Militia, armed peasants and Guajiro Indians.

The first force represents the standard Royalist Forces from the beginning of these campaigns.

Royalist Army - Regulars
Leader Status II Three Groups of 8 Fusileros, Muskets
Leader Status I Three Groups of 8 Fusileros, Muskets
Leader Status I One Group of 6 Cazadores Skirmishers, Muskets
Points Value: 43

The second force represents a representative mixture of Spanish Expeditionary troops and local Militia

Royalist Army – Mixed force
Leader Status II Three Groups of 8 Fusileros, Muskets
Leader Status II Three Groups of 10 Militia/Peasants, Muskets
Leader Status I One Group of 6 Cazadores Skirmishers
Points Value: 43

The last force represents a mixed force of Spanish Infantry, peasants and Indians

Royalist Army mixed/Irregular force
Leader status II Two groups of 8 Fusileros, Muskets
Leader Status I Three Groups of 10 Militia/Peasants, Muskets
Leader Status I 3 Groups of Indians, Bow
Leader Status I One Group of Indian Irregular Skirmishers
Points Value: 40

Special Characteristics:

Indian Tribes and Irregular Skirmishers - shoot as muskets with a 24" range. Similar hit rolls as musket fire, but must ignore the first kill to reflect weaker impact of arrows compared to muskets

Artillery – Only light and Medium guns available, No Heavy artillery

Spanish Fusileros					Type	Conscripts & Volunteers
Points Value	4	Weapon	Musket		Size	8
Formation	First Fire	Controlled V.	Crashing V.	Step Out	Drill	Characteristics
Always	Yes	First Only	3	3	3	
Spanish Granaderos					Type	Regulars
Points Value	5	Weapon	Musket		Size	8
Formation	First Fire	Controlled V.	Crashing V.	Step Out	Drill	Characteristics
Always	Yes	First Only	2	3	3	
Spanish Cazadores					Type	Conscripts & Volunteers
Points Value	4	Weapon	Musket		Size	8
Formation	First Fire	Controlled V.	Crashing V.	Step Out	Drill	Characteristics
Always	Yes	First Only	3	2	2	
Spanish Cazadores Skirmishers					Type	Skirmishers
Points Value	7	Weapon	Musket		Size	6
Formation	First Fire	Controlled V.	Crashing V.	Step Out	Drill	Characteristics
Always	Yes	No	-	2	-	Sharp Practice
Provincial Militia/peasants					Type	Militia
Points Value	3	Weapon	Musket		Size	10
Formation	First Fire	Controlled V.	Crashing V.	Step Out	Drill	Characteristics
No Shock	No	No	-	-	-	Poor Shots
Indians					Type	Tribe
Points Value	3	Weapon	Bow		Size	12
Formation	First Fire	Controlled V.	Crashing V.	Step Out	Drill	Characteristics
No	No	No	-	-	-	Prominent Leader, Tactical, Moveable DP
Indian Skirmishers					Type	Irregular Skirmishers
Points Value	5	Weapon	Bow		Size	6
Formation	First Fire	Controlled V.	Crashing V.	Step Out	Drill	Characteristics
No	No	No	-	2	-	Tactical, Moveable DP
Spanish Horse Grenadiers / Guard Cavalry					Type	Impact Cavalry
Points Value	6	Weapon	Sabre		Size	8
Formation	First Fire	Controlled V.	Crashing V.	Step Out	Drill	Characteristics
Always	No	No	-	2	-	Tally ho!
Spanish Dragoons/Hussars					Type	Scouting Cavalry
Points Value	5	Weapon	Sabre		Size	8
Formation	First Fire	Controlled V.	Crashing V.	Step Out	Drill	Characteristics
Always	No	No	-	-	-	

Provincial Militia Light Cavalry					Type	Scouting Cavalry
Points Value	4	Weapon	Lance		Size	8
Formation	First Fire	Controlled V.	Crashing V.	Step Out	Drill	Characteristics
No Shock	No	No	-	-	-	
Llaneros Peasant Light Cavalry					Type	Impact Cavalry
Points Value	6	Weapon	Lance		Size	8
Formation	First Fire	Controlled V.	Crashing V.	Step Out	Drill	Characteristics
Always	No	No	-	3	-	
Royalist Artillery					Type	Artillery
Points Value	5/6	Weapon	Gun		Size	5
Formation	First Fire	Controlled V.	Crashing V.	Step Out	Drill	Characteristics
Always	No	First Only	-	-	-	