

Maximilian's War in Mexico in 6mm

Last Updated: 29th March 2024

The following article originally appeared on the "Vendheume Fighters" website. It has been compiled by Jean-Marc Largeaud and Lekw and reproduced here with permission. Some editing has been completed by Keith McNelly.

This guide references the Heroics & Ros range of miniatures. Figures are generally from Franco-Prussian War (NCF), American Civil War (MACW) and British Napoleonic (MBN) ranges. Other ranges are referenced within the article.

FRENCH

Line Infantry: NCF 1 French Infantry Marching and NCF 2 French Infantry Attacking.

French Foreign Legion: NCF 1 French Infantry Marching, NCF 2 French Infantry Attacking. and MACW 6 Confederate Infantry Skirmishing (in hats).

French Sharpshooters: MBN 15 British Light Infantry Skirmishing and MBN 19 British Infantry Stovepipe Attacking.

Algerians: MC 24 Gurkas Skirmishing (Colonial range).

Zouaves: NCF 10 French Zouaves Attacking, MACW 8 Zouaves, MACW 17 Zouaves Skirmishing.

Counter Guerilla Cavalry: MACW 7 Confederate Cavalry or MACW 24 Confederate Cavalry Charging (in hats).

Chasseurs D' Afrique: NCF 4 Chasseurs a Cheval and/or MBN 11 British Light Dragoons . Note there is no real equivalent here.

Artillery: A mix of guns and figures from MBN 26 British Foot Artillery in Stovepipes – 6/9pdrs and NCF 7 French Artillery. The British artillery can be used to represent mountain guns. The British shako has to be trimmed a bit, and figs in kepi can be used to represent those wearing kepi.

Generals & Staff: Mounted officers from French infantry 1870 packs, plus some ACW generals in hats - these need some work to look Mexican.

AUSTRIAN LEGION

Infantry: MACW 2 Confederate Infantry, MACW 6 Confederate Infantry Skirmishing, MACW 19 Confederate Infantry Attacking, MACW 21 Confederate Infantry Firing.

Cavalry: MACW 7 Confederate Cavalry or MACW 24 Confederate Cavalry Charging (in hats).

BELGIAN LEGION

Infantry: NCF 8 French Guard Infantry, NCF 9 French Guard Infantry Attacking.

MAXIMILIAN'S MEXICANS

Mexican Regiments: MACW 2 Confederate Infantry, MACW 6 Confederate Infantry Skirmishing, MACW 19 Confederate Infantry Attacking, MACW 21 Confederate Infantry Firing.

Loyal Mexican Cavalry: MACW 7 Confederate Cavalry or MACW 24 Confederate Cavalry Charging (in hats).

Mexican Regular Army: A mix of the following. MBN 4 British Rifleman, MBN 19 British Infantry Stovepipe Attacking., MBN 21 Infantry Stovepipe Shako (all from the British Napoleonic range), MACW 1 Federal Infantry, MACW 3 Federal Infantry Skirmishing, MACW 18 Federal Infantry Attacking, MACW 20 Federal Infantry Firing (all American Civil War range), NCF 1 French Infantry Marching and NCF 2 French Infantry Attacking both Franco-Prussian War range.

Generals & Staff: Use Napoleonic officers in bicorn fore and aft from the Austrian and French Napoleonic packs. For ADC use ACW officers in kepi.

REPUBLICANS

Mexican Irregulars: Mix of Napoleonic British infantry and ACW Union and French infantry as above, add Confederate infantry

Mexican guerillas: Confederate infantry, and some French infantry (captured equipment).

Mexican artillery: MBN 26 Napoleonic British Artillery

Mexican Cavalry: MACW 4 Federal Cavalry, MACW 14 Cavalry in Kepi Charging, MACW 7 Confederate Cavalry (hats) or MACW 24 Confederate Cavalry Charging (hats).

Generals & Staff: Use ACW officers in kepis with some in hats from MACW 9 Generals.

US INTERVENTION FORCES

Mostly American Civil War Federals with some Confederates to represent infantry in broad hats. Several bases of Confederate infantry can be used to represent US volunteers.

NOTES

Lekw provides the following observations.

This conflict provides a range of uniforms with considerable variety. My French are both with kepis and broad hats. Some hats have been filed off for legionnaires without cover. The Mexicans are a mix and even the regulars have figures painted with white or brown shirts mixed in to represent lost equipment or lack of uniformity. The irregulars and guerillas are mixed figures and uniforms some very official most broad hats and white brown tan shirts often no shoes for guerillas. For the Austrian legion with careful painting the confederate broad hat can represent a decent, if not perfect, fedora.