



Goggles are shown as worn "Rommel-style" on this Wehrmacht Officer's Visor Hat.

GOGGLES ARE IN LIKE-NEW (EXCELLENT) CONDITION



Master Pack of 6 with original date and "Broad Arrow" stamp. Goggles are packaged and shipped flat. Two snaps, one on either side, at the top of the goggles, are used to form and hold the proper shape.

COLLECTORS! These goggles instantly authenticate and dress-up any Afrika Korps Pith Helmet, M-43 cap or steel helmet. They are of light plastic and are available with clear lenses or O.D. "sun shade" tinted lenses and come complete, in the original issue envelope. They are available individually (U-30-083), in a set of two, one clear and one shaded type (U-30-083A), or in a Master Pack of six, four clear and two tinted, (U-30-083B). The Master Pack consists of the original cardboard slip-case container complete with printed/stamped dates and markings. Each Master Pack contains six goggles.

MAIL NO RISK COUPON TODAY

UNIQUE IMPORTS, INC., DEPT. PK-158
800 SLATERS LANE, ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22314 USA

Please rush me the following "Rommel's Goggles:"

- U30-083B Master Pack of 6 @ \$29.95..... \$ _____
- U30-083A Set of Two @ \$8.95..... \$ _____
- U30-083 One Pair @ \$4.95..... \$ _____
- U12-016 Book "Afrika Korps" @ \$13.95..... \$ _____
- Add \$1.00 Postage/Handling..... \$ _____
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MONEY BACK IF NOT SATISFIED



The above photo shows that Rommel has obviously placed the goggles on his visor hat INSIDE OUT, probably by mistake.

Here Rommel is wearing his British-made "booty" correctly.



ROMMEL'S GOGGLES

• ORIGINAL •

RARE WORLD WAR II COLLECTOR'S ITEM AS WORN BY THE FAMOUS "DESERT FOX"



THE HISTORIC BACKGROUND

In January, 1942 Prime Minister Winston Churchill stood in the House of Commons and paid a singular tribute to one of Britains most determined foes: "We have a very daring and skillful opponent against us, and, may I say across the havoc of war, a great general."

That general was Erwin Rommel! As commander of the Afrika Korps he was respected by both friend and foe alike. His exploits in North Afrika earned him the nickname "Desert Fox" and made him a legend among his enemies. Best known and highly decorated for his brilliant blitzkrieg tactics during the hard-fought desert campaigns of World War II, he had also earned Germany's highest award, the "Pour le Mérite" (The Blue Max) medal during World War I. Most photographs show him wearing these decorations but the most striking, easily recognized symbol associated with Rommel during WWII was his goggles and the manner in which he wore them on his visor hat. However, his goggles were not produced in Germany.

ROMMEL'S GOGGLES . . .

Still in the original WWII issue packaging, dated and marked these are the same goggles as worn by German Marshall Erwin Rommel. These "Rommel Goggles" are guaranteed 100% ORIGINAL, pre-1945 manufacture. The manufacturers stamp and date is usually found imprinted on the inside of the head-strap or on the plastic band attached to the top of the goggles.

Contrary to popular belief, these goggles, worn and made famous by Rommel, were NOT, and never were, of German origin. They were of British/Canadian manufacture and were produced by several different firms. They were used as sun and sand goggles, but were originally manufactured as an in-expensive anti-gas goggle.

Rommel obtained his pair from captured British materiel as referenced by the following source:

"On April 8, after the capture of Mechili, Rommel spotted a pair of large British sun and sand goggles. He took a fancy to them. He grinned and said, 'Booty . . . permissible even for a General . . . I will take them.' These goggles forever after were to be the distinguishing mark of "The Desert Fox."
 ("With Rommel In The Desert," p. 34)

An additional reference is made by the noted historian Charles Douglas-Home in his book, "Rommel" on pg. 90:

"On the night of 6 April, Generals Neame and O'Connor got lost together in their staff car and were captured by a German recon group as they drove north from Mechili to Derna, hoping to make contact with the British units which were trapped in Derna. When Rommel drove into Mechili the next day, he found O'Connor's armoured command vehicle, the Mammoth, lying abandoned but otherwise intact, even to the provision of a pair of sun- and sand-goggles. He climbed into the vehicle and put on the goggles saying: 'Booty—permissible, I take it, even for a general.' The goggles and the Mammoth were to become an inseparable part of Rommel's image during the next two years.

These unique, protective "wrap-around goggles" became quite popular with Rommel's troops. As liberated "spoils of war" these goggles were used by many Afrika Korps personnel in place of the standard, less comfortable molded rubber types. WWII photographs show these exact goggles being worn by various German soldiers. Unfortunately, many collector/historians were misled by assuming these goggles were of German origin, but after diligent research it has been proven that such an assumption is false. **THESE GOGGLES ARE, WITHOUT DOUBT, THE SAME AS THOSE WORN BY ROMMEL!**



"AFRIKA KORPS" by Bender & Law. A definitive guide with many photos and illustrations detailing every aspect of the Afrika Korps including equipment, uniforms, vehicle marking, insignia, Knight's Cross recipients etc. Includes several references to Rommel's goggles. Hard cover, 256 pgs.
U12-016 \$13.95



Rommel wearing British goggles. Notice the different style goggles on other officer.

SUN AND SAND GOGGLES (SONNEN- UND STAUB-SCHUTZBRILLE)

Two sets of goggles, with either clear or amber lenses, were issued to all members of motorized and mechanized units in North-Africa. Vehicle drivers and motorcycleists, however, received a heavier model with smoke-colored lenses. Numerous varieties of goggles were issued to personnel in North Africa. Captured British variations were occasionally used by German troops when their own was not available.

ROMMEL WEARING CAPTURED BRITISH GOGGLES.

"Afrika Korps" pg. 218 showing various types of goggles worn by German troops.

"Afrika Korps" pgs. 204, 205 with reference to British goggles worn by Rommel.

ON APRIL 8, AFTER THE CAPTURE OF MECHILI, ROMMEL SPOTTED A PAIR OF LARGE BRITISH SUN AND SAND GOGGLES. HE TOOK A FANCY TO THEM. HE GRINNED AND SAID, "BOOTY . . . PERMISSIBLE EVEN FOR A GENERAL . . . I WILL TAKE THEM." THESE GOGGLES FOREVER AFTER WERE TO BE THE DISTINGUISHING MARK OF THE DESERT FOX.
 WITH ROMMEL IN THE DESERT, p. 34

CENTRAL PHOTOGRAPHY UNIT, INTERVIEWED BY LEEB BUCH ON JUNE 28, 1945. (SEE PHOTO BY ROMMEL). SOUTH WAS A WAR CORRESPONDENT WITH ROMMEL, 1942.

THE TORONTO PHOTO BRITISH GOGGLES.

Field Equipment used in North Africa