Depesche

Uniforms and Armies of bygone days

Year 2 – No. 8

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Unless otherwise noted, the drawings interspersed throughout the text are by G. Bauer and L. Sergent.

Editor
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2018 translation: Justin Howard

Introduction

At the close of the second year, I believe that *Depesche* has finally established itself in the field of military-themed magazines. At the same time, I still get great enjoyment from preparing and putting together each issue. I also post the latest copy with fresh excitement to the various subscribers each time and try to imagine their reaction. Therefore, I'm glad for every comment from the readers, which I will happily use where appropriate to improve our magazine.
On one hand, this issue continues longer studies, like the articles about the Württemberg and the Italian armies, however on the other hand introduces a new column, actually two.
In no particular order, therefore, in the series "First-hand Sources …", each time a contemporary pictorial manuscript, an interesting diary or an excellent work from a later date will be discussed. As far as possible, the author, the scope and the content of the work will be investigated. Besides a brief critical assessment, a plate which is prepared exactly after the relevant source materials shall always be used to demonstrate their appearance to the reader.
Furthermore, with this issue I have started to publish copies of original documents, as "padding", so to speak. This applies first of all to the well-known uniform regulation of 1812 for the French Army, named after Colonel Bardin. The reader can thereby make their own impressions on the significance of the object shown in each plate, so I would like to leave out any further description – this time the plate is dedicated exclusively to the generals and general staff. If any reader possesses similar documents or copies, also related to other nations, which they are interested in having published, I would be very glad to have them sent to me.
On that note, I wish a pleasant study of (primary) sources.

Markus Stein

Dragoon Hussar Chasseur à cheval Light Infantry Line Infantry
The French Army under the Consulate

The Württemberg Army 1812
Combat strengths of III Corps

Situation on 1st July

Regiment Number	Name of the Colonel	Number of Battalions and Companies	Present under arms		Present under arms, horses		
			Officers	Men	Officers	Troop	Pack
	10th Division						
24th Light	Belair (1)	1,2,3,4, art.	84	3020	24	-	66
1st Portuguese	Pego	1,2	51	500	31	-	6
46th Line	Baudinot	1,2,3,4, art.	82	2624	29	-	63
72nd Line	Lafitte	1,2,3,4, art.	88	2484	30	-	56
129th Line	Freytag	1,2, art.	45	984	17	-	58
			350	9612	131	-	249
	11th Division	(2)					
2nd Portuguese	Xavier	1,2	49	1432	12	-	-
4th Line	Massy	1,2,3,4, art.	94	2209	29	-	43
18th Line	Pelleport	1,2,3,4, art.	88	2657	30	-	58
93rd Line	Bauduin	1,2,3,4, art.	87	2748	31	-	67
			318	9046	102	-	168
	25th Division						
Regiment Number 1	Dernbach	1,2	27	1173	-	-	16
Regiment Number 4	De Röder	1,2	28	1235	-	-	16
Regiment Number 2	Bauer	1,2	29	1309	-	-	16
Regiment Number 6	Pollnitz	1,2	27	1220	-	-	16
Foot Chasseurs Number 1	Seeger	-	15	668	-	-	8
Foot Chasseurs Number 2	Scheidemantel	-	14	670	-	-	7
Light Infantry 1st Battalion	Cornotte	-	15	675	-	-	8
Light Infantry 2nd Battalion	Stockmaier	-	15	674	-	-	8
			170	7624	-	-	95
	Cavalry	(9th Brigade)					
11th Hussars	Collaert	1,2,3,4	29	607	72	602	4
6th Cheveau-Légers	Marboeuf	1,2,3	26	530	60	531	4
4th Württemberg Chasseurs	Salm	1,2,3,4	21	464	92	461	11
			76	1601	224	1594	19

(1) The history of the French army lists this name; however, the Muster Rolls give the name Dubelais.
(2) The 1st Illyrian Regiment under Colonel Schmitza also belonged to this division – on 24th July, it consisted of 65 officers, 2505 men and 21 horses.

Regiment Number	Name of the Colonel	Number of Battalions and Companies	Present under arms		Present under arms, horses		
			Officers	Men	Officers	Troop	Pack
	14th Brigade						
4th Chasseurs	Boulnois	1,2,3,4	32	708	73	656	4
28th Chasseurs	La Roche	2nd, det.	10	191	23	214	-
1st Württemberg Chevau-Légers	De Brockfeld	1,2,3,4	23	509	123	497	7
2nd Württemberg Chevau-Légers	De Norman	1,2,3,4	22	496	22	478	12
			87	1904	241	1845	23
	Artillery Train						
6th Battalion principal		1,2,3,4,5 company	5	567	10	96	683
14th Battalion principal		2,3,6 company	2	194	4	25	213
			7	761	14	121	896
Engineers' train		6th company	-	-	-	-	17
Military Equipment train, 2nd Battalion		1,2	3	220	6	29	256
Ambulance soldiers		10th company	2	99	2	-	4
	Artillery						
1st Foot Regiment		16,18,21 company	7	279	17	-	-
5th Foot Regiment		12,18 company	6	214	14	-	-
9th Foot Regiment		2,7, det.	4	182	10	-	-
1st Battalion Pontonniers		8th company	2	92	5	-	-
Labourers		5th company	3	36	7	-	-
6th Horse Regiment		5th and 6th company	6	121	14	118	-
Württemberg Foot Art.		1 and 2	4	160	12	4	90
Württemberg Horse Art.		1 and 2	6	250	22	102	143
		Battery of 12	2	171	4	1	86
		Reserve company	4	294	10	4	208
			44	1809 [1]	115	229	527
	Engineers						
1st Battalion		3rd company	3	104	-	-	5
3rd Battalion		7th and 9th company	5	248	-	-	12
			8	352	-	-	17
Gendarmerie			3	72	-	-	-
General Total			1066[2]	33109[3]	842[4]	3890[5]	2265 [6]

[1] Translator's Note: This column actually sums up to 1799.
[2] Translator's Note: This column actually sums up to 1068.
[3] Translator's Note: This column actually sums up to 33090.
[4] Translator's Note: This column actually sums up to 835.
[5] Translator's Note: This column actually sums up to 3818.
[6] Translator's Note: This column actually sums up to 2271.

Regiment Number	Present under arms		Present under arms, horses		
	Officers	Men	Officers	Troop	Pack
		Situation on 25th June			
10th Division	346	10431	130	-	233
11th Division	372	11605	118	-	256
25th Division	170	7821	-	-	95
9th Brigade	79	1644	222	1604	19
14th Brigade	89	2022	242	1963	23
Artillery	43	1811	113	227	582
Engineers	8	333	-	-	17
Artillery Train	7	749	14	112	1113
Engineers' Train	-	9	-	1	25
Equipment Train	3	221	6	30	327
Ambulances	2	99	2	-	4
Gendarmerie	3	72	7	72	-
	1022[1]	36817	854	4009	2694
		Situation on 5th July			
10th Division	350	9083	136	6	228
11th Division	320	8953	101	-	178
25th Division	170	7624	-	-	95
9th Brigade	77	1568	217	1512	8
14th Brigade	87	1899	221	1802	23
Artillery	44	1809	115	229	509
Engineers	8	352	-	-	17
Artillery Train	7	770	14	121	860
Equipment Train	1	242	-	-	285
Ambulances	2	99	2	-	4
Gendarmerie	3	40	4	-	-
	1069	32439	810	3670	2207
		Situation on 10th July			
10th Division	307	8381	119	-	172
11th Division	321	8414	109	-	157
25th Division	163	6814	-	-	89
9th Brigade	80	1681	223	1569	15
14th Brigade	83	1836	203	1742	19
Artillery	69	1797	210	223	496
Engineers	8	352	-	-	17
Artillery Train	6	755	12	120	849
Engineers' Train	-	9	-	-	17
Equipment Train	3	220	6	29	256
Ambulances	2	99	2	-	4
Gendarmerie	3	40	4	40	-
	1045	30398	888	3723	2091

[1] Translator's Note: This column actually sums up to 1122.

Regiment Number	Present under arms		Present under arms, horses		
	Officers	Men	Officers	Troop	Pack
		Situation on 15th July			
10th Division	306	8150	119	-	163
11th Division	319	8119	102	-	154
25th Division	158	6654	-	-	89
9th Brigade	79	1700	222	1547	15
14th Brigade	78	1712	198	1617	19
Artillery	42	1784	111	222	492
Engineers	9	333	-	-	16
Artillery Train	6	744	12	120	859
Engineers' Train	-	7	-	-	11
Equipment Train	3	213	6	29	223
Ambulances	2	99	2	-	4
Gendarmerie	3	40	7	40	-
	1005	29566[1]	779	3575	2045
		Situation on 1st August			
10th Division	303	7314	117	-	184
11th Division	317	6964	102	-	149
25th Division	147	4320	-	-	85
9th Brigade	79	1483	222	1326	15
14th Brigade	85	1689	220	1565	19
Artillery	41	1753	109	204	492
Engineers	10	286	16	-	-
Artillery Train	6	664	12	31	701
Engineers' Train	-	7	-	-	10
Equipment Train	3	156	6	22	149
Ambulances	2	89	2	-	4
Gendarmerie	3	39	7	39	-
	996	24764	813	3187	1808
		Situation on 15th August			
10th Division	299	7569	117	-	183
11th Division	317	7144	102	-	146
25th Division	146	3462	-	-	75
9th Brigade	74	1652	214	1321	6
14th Brigade	73	1619	196	1480	17
Artillery and train	47	2417	121	243	1193
Engineers and train	9	302	16	-	11
Military Equipment	3	170	6	19	137
Ambulances	2	88	2	-	4
Gendarmerie	3	40	7	40	-
	973	24463	781	3103	1772

[1] Translator's Note: This column actually sums up to 29555.

Description of Plates 1-2

To illustrate the Württemberg Army, Herr E. Wagner has sketched two plates, each with four figures, which have been drawn exactly after the contemporary “Weiland” manuscript from 1810 and 1812.

PLATE 1

A – Grenadier Guard

Black cap with silvered plate, white plume and white cords. Dark blue coat with black collar, lapels and cuffs, white skirt turnbacks, silvered buttons as well as white epaulettes, lace and piping. White trousers. Black gaiters with gilt buttons. Black cartridge box. White crossbelts. Black sabre scabbard with gilt fittings. The metal parts of the musket are silvered, apart from the gilt butt plate.

B – General Staff

Black bicorn with silvered loop, silvered tassels, white plume with dark blue base and cockade with red centre, blue middle- and white edge-strip. Dark blue coat with dark pink-coloured collar, lapels and cuffs as well as silver epaulettes, buttons and braids, yellow skirt lining. White trousers. Black boots. Sash with white, gold and red horizontal stripes. Sabre with silvered hilt, white hanger straps (uncoloured?), black scabbard with silvered fittings and silver sword knot with red stripes.

Translator’s Note: The rest of this page was taken up by an advert for Derdinger Figures, which is no longer relevant and has not been translated.

C – General
Black bicorn with white feathers, white plume with dark blue base, gilt loop, gilt tassels and cockade as for Figure B. Dark blue coat with scarlet collar, lapels, cuffs and skirt lining, wide gilt braid and gilt buttons. Sash with silvered, gilt and red horizontal stripes. White trousers. Black boots with white-metal spurs. Epee with gilt grip, black scabbard and silver sword knot with golden stripes.

D – Officer of the Horse Grenadiers
Black cap with white plume, silvered cords and silvered chin scales. Dark blue coat with yellow collar and skirt turnbacks, silvered collar braid and silvered epaulettes. Barrel sash with tassels as for Figure C. Silvered cuirass with gilt shoulder straps and yellow hem. White gloves and trousers. Black boots with silvered spurs.
Black cross-belt with silvered borders and decoration.
Sabre with silvered basket, silvered scabbard and silver sword knot with black stripes and silvered tassel.

PLATE 2
A – Mounted Jäger, Regiment “König”
Black helmet with gilt front part of the crest and peak rim, gilt chin scales and badge as well as green comb with pink-coloured upper part. Dark-green coat with pink-coloured collar and piping on the lapels and hems, silvered epaulettes, buttons and tresses. Black gloves. White trousers. Black boots with white piping and white tassel. Black crossbelts and black waistbelt with silvered buckle. Sabre with silvered basket and silvered scabbard.

B – Chevau-Léger
Black helmet with black horsehair, peak and plume, and with gilt peak rim, gilt badge as well as gilt fittings. Dark-blue coat with scarlet collar, lapels and gilt buttons as well as gilt epaulettes with red shoulder strap piping. Scarlet barrel sash. White gloves and trousers. Black boots. White crossbelts. Silvered sabre scabbard. White-metal medal on a yellow ribbon with black piping as well as a further yellow piping on the edge.

C – Officer of the Leibjäger
Black cap with white plume and gilt cords and chin scales. Dark-green coat with black collar, yellow skirt turnbacks, yellow piping on the placket, golden collar braid, gilt epaulettes and buttons. Barrel sash and tassels with silver, gold and red stripes. White gloves and trousers. Black boots with silvered spurs. Black crossbelt with gold braid and gilt decoration. Sabre with gilt basket, gilt scabbard, gilt hanger straps and black sword knot with silvered tassel.

D – Garde du Corps
Silvered helmet with golden decorations and black comb. Light-yellow, almost white coat with black collar and collar braid of white and black fields. Black cuirass with silvered sun and hem braid as on the collar. White gloves and trousers. Black boots with silvered spurs. White crossbelts. Sabre with white hanger straps, silvered basket, silvered scabbard and silver sword knot.

(to be continued)

Rolf Kögel, Bad Dürkheim
Edmund Wagner, Karlsruhe

Basics …

Introduction

These days, collectors have many ways to gain the requisite expertise. At the moment, there is an abundance of literature, and it's possible to borrow almost any specialist book through a library. In addition, with present-day tourism, one can view original pieces in many army museums at home and abroad. The standard of collectors should thus be fairly high. In reality, though, there are hosts of bad tin figures and superficial books, which even so find a taker. Above all, colour – often at the expense of quality – seems to be in demand.

I am also of the opinion that many of us have become plain consumers, who let merchandise or information be foisted upon us practically unchallenged. I was lucky enough to be mentored by a discerning collector during my early years, who taught me to keep my eyes open and use my common sense, However, I still pull myself up sometimes on how superficially I observe. There are also often stereotyped ideas, which have already become so fixed in one's head, that one no longer recognises the truth. Now, in an occasional series, I want to try to convey some "Basics", by means of which the collector can get an impression of the quality of uniform depictions or tin figures.

In addition, sadly, even in museums life-sized figures can be found, which are not particularly well arranged. For instance, I recently saw a Bavarian grenadier from 1810, on which the cross-belts are fastened over rather than under the shoulder straps; that, despite having a bayonet fixed, carries another one on the cross-belt; on which the cartridge box and sabre have slid too far forward; and whose knee-length gaiters only have 8 buttons. According to Müller-Braun, in 1806 the Bavarian infantry already wore gaiters which reached to below the back of the knee, i.e. short ones, with 12 buttons. As the reader can see, one can't always have blind faith in museums, because the necessary attention to detail is evidently sometimes lacking.

After the lengthy preamble, I will now focus on one basic item, namely the flintlock musket. In doing so, this article will deal only with the normal line infantry weapon.

The two interspersed drawings by G. Bauer should demonstrate the length of the French musket in comparison with normal infantrymen – here flankers of the Young Guard in barrack dress.

Musket Lengths

A common error of tin figures is that the muskets are modelled too short; for the ramrod it's usually even worse.

Let's assume the average height of a line

infantryman for our period (1789-1815) of 1.60 to 1.65m. As a comparison, I list the specified lengths for several muskets. However, these should only be taken as a guideline, because at the time, despite all attempts at standardisation, ranges of variations existed.

	Total Length (without bayonet)	Barrel Length
PRUSSIA		
M 1780/87	146.5 cm	105.3 cm
M 1801	144.7 cm	104.9 cm
M 1809/12	143.5 cm	104.9 cm
Fusilier weapon M 1787	133.0 cm	93.0 cm
FRANCE		
M 1777	152.0 cm	113.7 cm
M 1777, corrigé an IX	151.5 cm	113.7 cm
Dragoon weapon, an IX and XIII	141.7 cm	
AUSTRIA		
M 1798	150.1 cm	
ditto with fixed bayonet	194.8 cm	
ENGLAND (specified length here with fixed bayonet)		
Long land pattern	203.32 cm	116.9 cm
Short land pattern	193.14 cm	106.74 cm
East Indian land pattern	193.14 cm	99.12 cm
New land pattern	193.14 cm	106.74 cm
Light infantry pattern	185.54 cm	96.58 cm
RUSSIA		
M 1797	141.0 cm	103.5 cm
Stutzer M 1777	93.23 cm	66.2 cm
Dragoon weapon	141.0 cm	

For the British, I was unfortunately unable to find any details of the specified length without fixed bayonet. They mainly used the Short land, the East Indian and the New Land pattern. With a barrel length of 106.74 cm for Short land and New land pattern, a weapon length of 147 to 148 cm is likely. The East Indian pattern would have been around 138 to 140 cm in length.
The light infantry was generally equipped with slightly shorter models, for instance the Prussian fusiliers. The French voltigeurs were also supposed to be equipped with the dragoon firearm. As is well known, it was mostly shorter soldiers that served in the light infantry, however it’s unlikely that changes were made to the dimensions of the muskets.
With headgear, a normal infantryman would have been about 175 - 180 cm tall. With fixed bayonet, the musket, with a length of about 190 - 200 cm, would have been taller than the soldier, so that, for instance in the “Stand to attention” position, it towered over him. However, a soldier doesn’t always stand up straight as a poker, but rather somewhat slumped or hunched. A musket, though, is also usually held at an

angle. So, a 2m long musket with fixed bayonet still had a height of 1.96 cm when the butt was placed 40 cm away from the soldier's foot.
One further important criterium for judging tin soldiers is the length of the ramrod. Specifically, this was about 1 to 2 cm longer than the musket barrel. Now, compare the ramrod length of a good many tin soldiers. With their length, the soldier could scarcely ram his cartridge home in the barrel.

Sources

1) Demian "*Anleitung zum Selbst-Studium der militärischen Dienstwissenschaft. Für Officiere der k.k. österreichischen Armee* (Instructions on self-study of the science of military service. For officers of the imperial and royal Austrian army) Vienna 1807.
2) Fosten, Bryan "Wellington's Infantry (1)" London 1981.
3) Wirtgen, Rolf "Die Sammlungen des Wehrgeschichtlichen Museums im Schloss Rastatt, Handfeuerwaffen, Teil II Preußen (bis 1870) (The Collections of the Military History Museum in Schloss Rastatt, Small Arms, Part II Prussia (up to 1870)" Freiburg 1979.
4) Boudriot, Jean "La 'clarinette' de cinq pieds", published in "Gazette des armes" Number 46.
5) Pétard, Michel "L'homme de 1812, l'artillerie à pied", published in "Gazette des uniformes" Number 27.
6) Schiers, Ulrich "Die französischen Infanteriegewehre Modell 1777, Jahr IX und 1816 (The French Infantry Firearms Model 1777, Year IX and 1816)", published in the "Deutsches Waffen Journal (German Weapon Journal)".
7) Gorokov, M. "L'armée russe 1815", published in "Gazette des armes" Number 60.

Hans-Karl Weiß, Great Britain
Gerhard Bauer, Erlangen

Questions and Answers

French 14th Hussars

After its foundation at the start of 1813, the 14th Hussars recruited mainly from Italian conscripts, and hence had its depot at Turin.

The regimental staff was composed of French cadre officers, like Colonel Garavaque and Major Blot, who were nominated on 8th February 1813. On departure from Italy, the regiment comprised four complete squadrons, which reached the army camp at Dresden in June 1813. There, as a light cavalry unit, it was incorporated into the 1st Brigade under General Jacquet within General Pajol's 10th Cavalry Division in 14th Army Corps under Marshall Gouvion Saint-Cyr. Together with the 3rd Italian Chasseurs à Cheval, it formed the brigade mentioned above.

The regiment fought well, especially during the engagement at Dresden, where it then remained with the 14th Corps. It was then among the besieged troops in Dresden, and in the process particularly distinguished itself at Pirna and Rachwitz, only to be taken prisoner with the complete corps after its capitulation.

Meanwhile, a fresh section of recruits fought at Leipzig, where the history of the regiment was sealed by the defeat, because only 30 men reached the depot at Turin, so that the regiment was disbanded on 13th November 1813.

As Napoleon required a new hussar regiment, he decreed on 12th December 1813 the re-establishment of the 14th (bis) Hussars, with depot in Turin. A commander was even found, in Colonel Bureaux de Pussy.

This regiment was supposed to be formed from the remnants or new recruits of the old 12th, 13th and 14th Hussars. This may in fact have been implemented with men of the 13th, whose depot was in Florence, as well as the old 14th regiment, but unlikely with the 12th Hussars, who were still with Suchet in Catalonia. A section of the 12th regiment even rushed to Augerau's aid at Lyon, but never reached Turin.

The new 14th Hussar Regiment therefore led a phantom existence, and never even had squadron strength, which in addition was distributed among the locations of Turin, Mantua and Allesandria. It thus never participated in any real action and was finally disbanded on 16th July.

Sources: War Archives at Vincennes, Army Museum, Turin.

Pierre Dervaux (Le Briquet), France

Translator's Note: The rest of this page was taken up by an advert for Alexander Windisch-Sachs Figures, which is no longer relevant and has not been translated.

First-Hand Sources …
… Otto Manuscript

History

When, prior to the Second World War, the bookseller Hiersemann in Leipzig announced the sale of a series of contemporary plates from the estate of Major Otto of Baden-Baden, the French collector A. Despreaux managed to buy a section of this manuscript. This section covers the French and Italian units and was placed by the new owner at the disposal of a group of collectors led by E. Grangié. Amongst other things, this group produced facsimile versions of contemporary manuscripts – like the manuscripts of Zimmermann and Henschel – and therefore L. Rousselot also undertook the same for this section of the Otto Manuscript. This facsimile copy was then printed by Dorel and coloured by Pillas.
In a 1942 article for the "Carnet de la Sabretache", A. Despreaux himself then described the extent and quality of the section of the manuscript which he had procured. Nothing precise can be said about the rest of the manuscript (with other allies, even German units?) or about the illustrator, because the original pages aren't signed and no itemised overview of the manuscript exists. What is evident, though, is the staggering similarity of the figures in the original manuscript with the figures of the guard cavalry from a print by the contemporary artist Kolbe.
The section of the manuscript bought by A. Despreaux is today in the possession of the Anne S.K. Brown Collection of the University of Rhode Island, New York, and can likely be viewed there on request. Over time, the facsimile printer Dorel produced further copies, which can be easily identified by the omission of or very simply depicted bridles of the cavalry figures.

Description of the Manuscript

The original manuscript is not dated, however on further inspection the figures depicted can be narrowed down to the period 1807 – 1808 and were likely produced by an artist in the German region.
It impresses by its very precise description, also of minutiae, and thus provides a very good insight into the uniforms of the French army, which at that time had to endure several uniform and equipment reforms. For instance, several infantry units are quite extensively honoured, by the depiction of an officer, a sapper, a drum major as well as one or more soldiers, where these individual plates were likely to have originally belonged together but were unfortunately later cut apart.
In the following list, the reader will find all plates of the manuscript which are known to the author with their original labels, possibly a correction (as there are several misnomers by the manuscript's author) as well as the indication of being published in the magazines "Carnet de la Sabretache" and "Uniformes" (as accompanying pictures to the article by M. Pétard).

1. General – probably Marshal Soult in campaign uniform.
2. Officer of the Foot Grenadiers of the Guard – published in colour in "Uniformes" 38.
3. Sapper of the Foot Grenadiers of the Guard – ditto.
4. Drummer of the Foot Grenadiers of the Guard – ditto.
5. Foot Grenadier of the Guard – ditto.

6. Sapper of the Foot Chasseurs of the Guard.
7. Foot Chasseur of the Guard.
8. Guard Fusilier – Fusilier Grenadier of the Guard.
9. Marine soldiers of the Guard.
10. Trumpeter of the Horse Grenadiers of the Guard.
11. Horse Grenadier of the Guard – published in colour in "Uniformes" Number 52.
12. Horse Grenadier of the Guard – ditto.
13. Trumpeter of the Horse Chasseurs of the Guard.
14. Horse Chasseur of the Guard.
15. Trumpeter of the Dragoons of the Guard.
16. Dragoon of the Guard – published in colour in "Uniformes" Number 57.
17. Mameluke.
18. Gens-d'armes d'Elite – actually from the Guard unit Gendarmes d'Ordonnance.
19. Sapper of the 3rd Line Infantry – published in "Carnet de la Sabretache" 12/1972.
20. Officer and Grenadier of the 3rd Line Infantry.
21. Officer and Voltigeur of the 3rd Line Infantry – see Number 19.
22. Drum Major of the 8th Line Infantry.
23. Sapper of the 8th Line Infantry.
24. Officer and Grenadier of the 8th Line Infantry.
25. Officer of Voltigeurs of the 8th Line Infantry.
26. Officer and Fusilier of the 8th Line Infantry.
27. 8th Line Infantry – Fusilier and Voltigeur.
28. Sapper of the 21st Line Infantry.
29. Officer and Grenadier of the 21st Line Infantry.
30. Officer and Voltigeur of the 21st Line Infantry.
31. Officer and Fusilier of the 21st Line Infantry.
32. Sapper of the 22nd Line Infantry.
33. Officer and Grenadier of the 22nd Line Infantry.
34. Officer and Voltigeur of the 22nd Line Infantry.
35. Sapper of the 24th Line Infantry – published in "Carnet de la Sabretache" 11/1972.
36. Officer and Grenadier of the 24th Line Infantry – ditto.
37. Officer and Voltigeur of the 24th Line Infantry – ditto.
38. Sapper of the 25th Line Infantry.
39. Sapper of the 45th Line Infantry – published in "Carnet de la Sabretache" 11/1972.
40. Grenadier and Drum Major of the 45th Line Infantry – ditto.
41. Sapper of the 46th Line Infantry.
42. Officer and Voltigeur of the 46th Line Infantry.
43. Sapper of the 54th Line Infantry.
44. Sapper of the 63rd Line Infantry.
45. Officer and Grenadier of the 63rd Line Infantry.
46. Drum Major of the 75th Line Infantry.
47. Sapper of the 95th Line Infantry.
48. Sapper of the 85th Line Infantry.
49. Officer and Grenadier of the 85th Line Infantry.
50. Officer and Voltigeur of the 85th Line Infantry.
51. Sapper of the 94th Line Infantry.
52. Grenadier and Voltigeur of the 94th Line Infantry.

53. Officer and Grenadier of the 95th Line Infantry.
54. Drum Major of the 96th Line Infantry.
55. Sapper of the 96th Line Infantry.
56. Grenadier and Fusilier of the 96th Line Infantry.
57. Officer and Voltigeur of the 96th Line Infantry.
58. Grenadier officer of the 9th Foot Chasseurs – in my opinion a Carabinier officer of the 9th Light Infantry, published in colour in "Uniformes" 49 as well as "Carnet de la Sabretache" 22/1974.
59. Grenadier and Fusilier of the 9th Foot Chasseurs – ditto.
60. Sapper of the 10th Foot Chasseurs.
61. Drum Major of the 16th Foot Chasseurs, published in "Carnet de la Sabretache" 24/1975.
62. Sapper of the 16th Foot Chasseurs – ditto.
63. Grenadier and Chasseur of the 16th Foot Chasseurs – ditto.
64. Drum Major and Chasseur of the municipal guard of Paris – published in "Carnet de la Sabretache" 12/1972.
65. Officer and Grenadier of the municipal guard of Paris – ditto.
66. Gendarme.
67. Cuirassier of the 9th Cuirassiers – published in "Uniformes" 41.
68. Trumpeter of the 9th Cuirassiers.
69. Grenadier of cuirassiers – actually a trooper of Carabiniers.
70. Cuirassier – of the 4th or 6th Regiment – published in colour in "Uniformes" 41.
71. Horse Grenadier – elite company of the 1st Dragoons.
72. Officer of the 3rd Dragoons – published in colour in "Sabretache" 27/1975.
73. Dragoon of the 3rd Regiment.
74. Mounted sapper of the 11th Dragoons.
75. Dragoon of the 20th Regiment and Dragoon of the 6th Regiment – published in "Uniformes" 87.
76. Trumpeter of the 24th Chasseurs à Cheval.
77. Officer of the 24th Chasseurs à Cheval.
78. Grenadier of the 24th Chasseurs à Cheval – in my opinion a trooper of the elite company.
79. 24th Chasseurs à Cheval.
80. Grenadier of the 26th Chasseurs à Cheval – published in "Carnet de la Sabretache" 27/1975.
81. Grenadier of Hussars – Trooper of the elite company of the 7th Hussars.
82. Grenadier of Hussars – Trooper of the elite company of the 5th Hussars, published in colour in "Uniformes" 62.
83. Hussar of the 2nd Regiment – published in colour in "Uniformes" 62.
84. Hussar of the 5th Regiment.
85. Officer of Horse Artillery – in my opinion, of the Guard, published in colour in "Uniformes" 94.
86. Horse Artillery – ditto.
87. Horse Artillery – of the 3rd Line Regiment, published in colour in "Uniformes" 43.
88. Foot Artillery.
89. Driver and Officer of the Artillery Train – from the 1st bis Battalion.
90. Sapper of the 1st Italian Line Infantry.
91. 1st Italian Line Infantry – Officer and Grenadier.
92. Officer and Voltigeur of the 1st Italian Line Infantry.

93. Drum-Major of the 1st Italian Chasseurs – in my opinion the 1st Italian Light Infantry.
94. Sapper of the 1st Italian Chasseurs.
95. Chasseur and Grenadier of the 1st Italian Chasseurs.
96. Chasseur and Grenadier of the 1st Italian Chasseurs.
97. Chasseur of the 1st Italian Line Infantry and Grenadier of the 2nd Italian Chasseurs.
98. Italian Artillery and Grenadier of the 3rd Italian Chasseurs.

Description of Plate 3

In order to illustrate this description of the Otto Manuscript, E. Wagner reproduced Plate 93, i.e. the drum-major of the 1st Italian Light Infantry, after the facsimile print by H. Achard, as well as a colour reference from a further facsimile edition. The colours of the figure are as follows:
Black colpack with golden cords, scarlet plume (in the centre) and green feathers.
Dark green coat with dark green collar as well as yellow lapels, cuffs and skirt turnbacks; gold lace on the collar; white lace on the lapels and cuffs; white braids and tassels on the lapels; white metal buttons; golden epaulettes; golden diagonal tresses on red underground on the forearms.
Yellow waistcoat with white lace trimming and white metal buttons.
Yellow trousers with white decoration.
Black boots with fawn cuffs.
No gloves.
Black waist belt with brass buckle.
Sabre with silver hilt, silver scabbard and golden sword knot, drum major's mace with natural wood shaft, silver head, silver fittings and silver cord.

Sources

1) Facsimile print of the Otto Manuscript by Henri Achard.
2) Stiot, R.D. "Sur la suite dite du major Otto", published in "Carnet de la Sabretache" Number 27/1975.

Markus Stein, Mannheim
Edmund Wagner, Karlsruhe

Magazine Roundup

Zeitschrift für Heereskunde (Magazine of Army Studies)

Number 329

No articles on Napoleonic subjects.

Number 330

F. Herrmann: Prussian, Mecklenburg and Hanseatic Cavalry 1813 after Christopher Suhr and Ludwig Scharf.
Good representation with clear explanations of the figures from the Relatively unknown series by L. Scharf, as well as two very interesting Cossacks of the Hanseatic Legion after a painting by C. Suhr.

F. Plumhoff: Observations on the composition of the German Corps in the Battle of the Göhrde on 16th September 1813.
Following research in archives, the author completes an exact Order of Battle for this cobbled-together corps, down to battalion or squadron level.

MSM

De Tinnen Tafelronde

Magazine of the Dutch figure collectors.

Number 1/1987

No articles on Napoleonic subjects.

MSM

Military Modelling

Number 1/1987

Fosten, D. and B.: Loyal-Emigrant Regiment of Infantry 1793-1802:
Very good description of the uniforms, with two colour plates of this unit, which principally consisted of French émigrés.

Number 2/1987

D. Spoor: Military Band Instruments.
With the aid of precise descriptions and several photos, the author describes the appearance and style of playing the various military band instruments.

D. and B. Fosten: Stuart's Minorcan Regiment (the Queen's Germans) 1798 – 1818:
Here also the two experts on the British Army shed light on a relatively unknown unit of Swiss mercenaries, with the aid of precise uniform descriptions and two colour plates as well as one black-and-white plate (of the standard-bearer of the 21st French Demi-brigade of Light Infantry in Egypt).

Number 3/1987

D. and B. Fosten: De Meuron's Swiss Regiment of Infantry 1795–1816:
A further good treatment of a British émigré regiment, which however only saw service in the British colonies.

D. Spoor: Military Band Instruments.
Continuation of the article above about musical instruments.

MSM

Uniformes

Number 100
No articles on Napoleonic subjects.

Number 101
No articles on Napoleonic subjects.

HWG

Le Briquet

Number 1/1987
J.-C. Colrat, L. Fregier: A glance at … the Crested Helmet.
Good, detailed overview of the various helmet models in the French Army, with a very nice black-and-white plate.
U. Ehmke, R. Ehringer: National Cavalry of Pommern.
French translation of an old, capable K.A.W. study about Prussian Freikorps and National Cavalry regiments.
J. Sarramon: Notes on the route of the Coalition of the Rhine regiments in Spain, with the exception of those with the Army of Catalonia.
Good overview of the Leval Division, from the pen of one of the foremost experts on the Spanish campaign.

MSM

Tradition

A new publication from France, which should appeal to weapon collectors, uniform researchers and figure collectors. In doing so, the magazine has restricted itself to the time up to the Belle Epoque; so, world war subjects or modern weapons won't appear. Tradition will appear monthly, have 48 pages and consist mostly of colour illustrations. The list of contributors is very impressive, and names like Rigo, Pétard and Courcelle are a guarantee for quality. Subscription currently costs 325 French Francs, so roughly 100 DM, if purchased directly from the publisher.

Number 1
J.-L. Viau: Model An XIII Pistol.
Excellent article on the pistol of Napoleon's cavalry, with excerpts from the French cavalry regulations and good commentary on the usefulness of the pistol in cavalry service. All superbly illustrated with colour photos of original examples of the pistols, items of uniform and further weapons of the French cavalry.
Rigo: The Extraordinary Uniforms of the Army of the Orient – The Dragoons in Egypt 1798-1801.

In addition to the history of the dragoons in Egypt, Rigo naturally also describes here their uniforms, equipment and armament, illustrated with colour pictures of uniforms by Rigo and of original items. The article will be continued.

HWG

Napoleon's Allies …
The Royal Italian *Sapeur* Battalion 1808-1814

In the previous article from Issue 4 of "Depesche", we left the *Sapeur* battalion in 1807, when it consisted of 6 companies, including a miner company, and was clothed in dragoon-green uniforms with black facing and scarlet piping.
This time we'd like to continue with the evolution of the battalion's organisation and uniforms during the period from 1808 to 1814.

Organisation

I) 2 Miner and 7 *Sapeur* companies (1808-1810)
At the start of 1808, the Viceroy of Italy planned an increase in the size of the Sapeur battalion.
The decree of 10th January 1808 on the organisation of the various units of the Italian Army of 1808 therefore specified the *Sapeur* battalion as two Miner and seven *Sapeur* companies.
Henceforth, the strength should be as follows:

Battalion Staff	4 men
Junior Staff	5 men
2 Miner Companies	200 men
7 *Sapeur* Companies	700 men
Total strength	909 men

However, during the complete year 1808 this decree was not put into practice, as confirmed by several documents:
A communication from 29th December 1808 to the Minister of War still mentions the establishment of the new companies (*Archivio di Stato di Milano*), and also the muster reports of the Italian Army from the National Archive in Paris don't include any change for the *Sapeur* battalion, as demonstrated by the following two examples.

Status on 1st July 1808:
The theoretical strength, including the pioneer train, but excluding the attached pioneer officers, is stated as 31 officers and 886 NCOs and men, therefore a total of 917 men.
This could only apply for the new organisation of 9 companies.
However, the actual strength of the battalion consists of 747 men, distributed as follows:

	Officers	Men	Stationing
Battalion Staff	3	5	Mantua
1st Company	-	92	Medea
2nd Company	3	132	Corfu
3rd Company	3	90	Venice
4th Company	3	92	Mantua
5th Company	3	92	Ragusa
6th Company	2	94	Mantua

Train	-	17	Milan
Retinue	-	116	Mantua
TOTAL	17	730	

Status on 16th December 1808:
Though the theoretical strength remained the same, the battalion only consisted of 736 men, distributed as follows:

	Officers	Men	Stationing
Battalion Staff	3	5	Mantua
1st Company	-	93	Medea
2nd Company	3	130	Corfu
3rd Company	3	90	Venice
4th Company	3	94	Spain
5th Company	3	92	Zara
6th Company	2	94	Mantua
Train	-	17	
Retinue	-	104	
TOTAL	17	719	

Therefore, these documents all confirm that the *Sapeur* battalion retained its old organisation during 1808.

Thus, at the beginning of 1809, the enlargement to 9 companies was once again stipulated.
On 4th January 1809, Viceroy Eugène therefore decided on the immediate establishment of two *sapeur* companies, and a plan from 10th January specified the implementation of the instruction for one of the two new companies.
A letter of 14th February 1809 (*Archivio di Stato di Milano*) cites the "current establishment of the 7th and 8th *Sapeur* Companies".
However, also in this case only slight progress was made, as confirmed by the following muster report.

Status of 1st March 1809:
With a theoretical strength of 917 men, the battalion numbered only 793 men, distributed as follows:

	Officers	Men	Stationing
Battalion Staff	3	5	Mantua
1st Company	-	90	Medea
2nd Company	3	95	Corfu
3rd Company	3	88	Venice
4th Company	3	95	Spain
5th Company	3	93	Ragusa
6th Company	2	88	Mantua
Train	-	17	Mantua
Retinue	-	205	Mantua
TOTAL	17	776	

On 6th April 1809, General Bianchi d'Adda, the general responsible for the Italian pioneer arm, devised a plan for reorganisation of the battalion according to the decree of January 1808 and the dispatch of 23rd January 1808:
Battalion staff – Mantua
Chef de Battalion Bernardi Ottavio
Lieutenant en 1er Adj. Major Ronzelli
Lieutenant quartier-maître Bizzozero
Chirurgien aide major F. Tosi
Elève chirurgien (to be nominated)

1st Miner Company	–	Medea	2nd Miner Company		
Capitaine en 1er	=	Fe	Capitaine en 1er	=	Rodriguez
Capitaine en 2nd	=	Bassani	Capitaine en 2nd	=	Zupellai
Lieutenant en 1er	=	Tirelli	Lieutenant en 1er	=	Albani
Lieutenant en 2nd	=	Candini	Lieutenant en 2nd	=	Beleredi
3rd Company	–	Corfu	4th Company	–	Venice
Capitaine en 1er	=	Rollando	Capitaine en 1er	=	Tognoli
Capitaine en 2nd	=	Pampini	Capitaine en 2nd	=	Bellani
Lieutenant en 1er	=	Bizzorero	Lieutenant en 1er	=	Albertini
Lieutenant en 2nd	=	Solvran	Lieutenant en 2nd	=	Mercati
5th Company	–	Mantua	6th Company	–	Ragusa
Capitaine en 1er	=	Beltrani	Capitaine en 1er	=	B Adda C.
Capitaine en 2nd	=	Solari	Capitaine en 2nd	=	Ferrari
Lieutenant en 1er	=	Bagliori	Lieutenant en 1er	=	Villani
Lieutenant en 2nd	=	Traversari	Lieutenant en 2nd	=	Bonalune
7th Company	–	Mantua	8th Company		
Capitaine en 1er	=	Fe	Capitaine en 1er	=	Sacco
Capitaine en 2nd	=	B. Adda G.	Capitaine en 2nd	=	Schepellei
Lieutenant en 1er	=	Neyri	Lieutenant en 1er	=	Liberati
Lieutenant en 2nd	=	To Be Announced	Lieutenant en 2nd	=	TBA

9th Company
Capitaine en 1er = Ferrogio
Capitaine en 2nd = Rasson
Lieutenant en 1er = Alietto
Lieutenant en 2nd = TBA

Unfortunately, no further documents provide information about the rest of 1809, because the next muster report which is available to us is that from 16th March 1810.

Status of 16th March 1810:
For an unchanged theoretical strength of 917 men, the 793 men of the battalion were distributed as follows:

	Officers	Men	Stationing
Battalion Staff	3	5	Mantua
1st Company	-	79	Army of Italy
2nd Company	-	-	still to be formed

3rd Company	2	88	Corfu
4th Company	3	70	Venice
5th Company	3	115	Army of Spain
6th Company	2	76	Army of Dalmatia
7th Company	2	70	Army of Italy
8th Company	1	78	Germany
9th Company	1	81	Mantua
Train	-	23	Mantua
Depot	2	89	Mantua
TOTAL	19	774	

From this muster report, we can conclude that the Viceroy's stipulation of January 1809 was followed and the new *sapeur* companies (Numbers 8 and 9) were established. The second miner company was however still not formed and in all further muster reports from 1810, which go up to October 1810, the note "still to be formed" can be found.

II) 1 Miner and 8 *Sapeur* companies (1810-1814)

A second miner company was never formed, though, because by decree of 14th September 1810 the Viceroy stipulated the *sapeur* battalion as 9 companies, including a miner company, where the second miner company was to form a *sapeur* company. A letter of 23rd September 1810 confirms the conversion of the miner company mentioned above, as per the decree of 14th September.

This organisation would be retained by the battalion until the demise of the Kingdom of Italy in 1814, as confirmed by the following muster report.

Status of 1st November 1811:

	Officers	Men	Stationing
Battalion Staff	3	5	Mantua
1st Company	-	84	Medea, Peschiera
2nd Company	3	95	Mantua
3rd Company	3	87	Corfu
4th Company	3	70	Venice
5th Company	3	84	Palombini Division

6th Company	3	74		Palmanova
7th Company	3	103		Severoli Division
8th Company	3	78		Palmanova
9th Company	3	70		Mantua
Depot	-	23		
TOTAL	27	773	=	800 men

Status of 1st September 1812:

	Stationing	Men
Battalion Staff	Mantua	10
1st Company	Palmanova	97
2nd Company	Grande Armée	125
3rd Company	Corfu	108
4th Company	Grande Armée	90
5th Company	Spain	131
6th Company	Grande Armée	117
7th Company	Spain	86
8th Company	Palmanova	27
9th Company	Mantua	94
Train Company	Grande Armée	156
Dispersed	Grande Armée	39
Sapeur Depot	Mantua	30
Train Depot	Mantua	5
TOTAL		1115

Status of 1st February 1813:

	Stationing	Men	Commanding Officers
Battalion Staff	Mantua	9	Tognoli
1st Company	Palmanova	96	Ferrari
2nd Company	Grande Armée	126	Liberati
3rd Company	Corfu	126	Rasson
4th Company	Grande Armée	74	Belloni
5th Company	Spain	126	Ronzelli
6th Company	Grande Armée	125	Fruverzari
7th Company	Spain	79	Bagnoli
8th Company	Mantua	25	Villani
9th Company	Grande Armée	113	Allieto
Train Company	Grande Armée	157	Narbioni
Dispersed	Grande Armée	39	
Sapeur Depot	Mantua	213	
Train Depot	Mantua	9	
TOTAL		1307[1]	

[1] Translator's Note: The sum of this column is actually 1317.

Status of 1st July 1813:

	Stationing	Men
Battalion Staff	Mantua, Corfu	8
1st Company	Ancona	95
2nd Company	Mantua	115
3rd Company	Corfu	122
4th Company	Mantua	120
5th Company	Spain	79
6th Company	Mantua	3
7th Company	Spain	70
8th Company	Mantua	100
9th Company	Grande Armée	78
Sapeur Depot	Mantua	90
Train Depot	Mantua	5
TOTAL		884[1]

A letter of 30th July 1813 (*Archivio di Stato di Milano*) refers to an official text from 30th June, which allocates wagons and mules to the 2nd *Sapeur* company. The letter explains further: "… the drivers to be entrusted with this task shall not be recruited from the train, but drawn from the *sapeur* companies. They will continue to carry out the *sapeur's* duties, wear the uniform (however without high boots) and draw the pay of *Sapeurs* 2nd Class. In addition, they receive a linen sack and a valise."

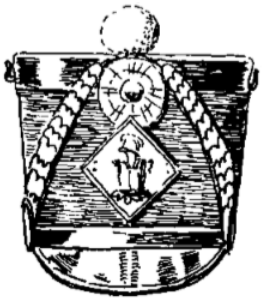
The last change to the battalion results from the dispatch of 24th December 1813, which increases the miner company's strength to 140 men.

Status of 1st January 1814:

	Stationing	Men	Commanding Officers
Battalion Staff	Mantua, Corfu	8	Tognoli
1st Company	Ancona	98	Ferrari
2nd Company	Corps of Observation	147	Negri
3rd Company	Corfu	119	Rasson
4th Company	Corps of Observation	102	Belloni
5th Company	Spain	70	Ronzelli
6th Company	Mantua	193	Fierio
7th Company	Spain	32	Baglioni
8th Company	Mantua	39	Delladoza
9th Company	Grande Armée	39	Allieto
TOTAL		847	

A letter of 3rd August 1814 decrees the disbandment of the Italian Pioneer Corps, and thus ends the history of our *Sapeur* Battalion.

UNIFORMS



I) Introduction of the Shako in 1810

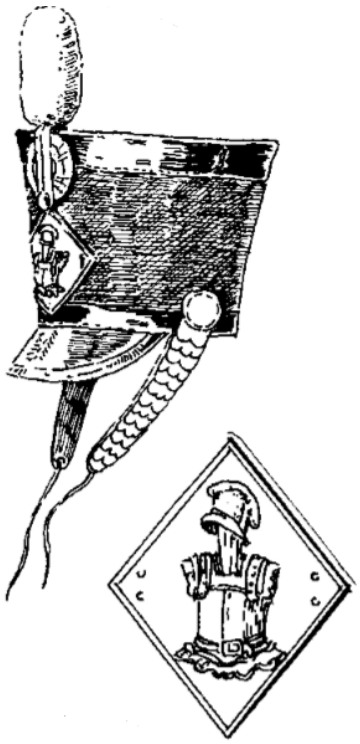
As with most Italian units, the shako found its way into the *Sapeur* Battalion. According to Cenni's notebooks (today to be

[1] Translator's Note: The sum of this column is actually 885.

found in Rome), the shako was introduced by a decree of 8th November 1810 (information from P. Crociani, Rome).

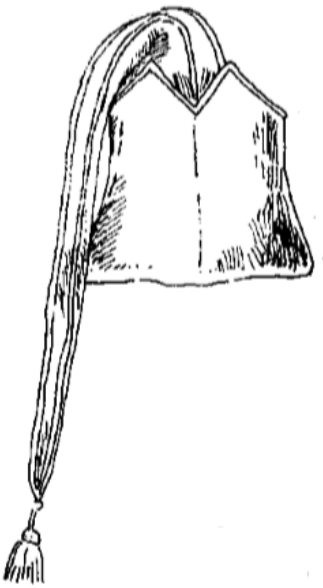
The pompom colour probably still followed the regulation of 1807, i.e. red "pine cone" pompom for the miners, round yellow flattened pompom for the *sapeurs*.
If a decoration of drawstrings and cords was worn on the shako, which however was officially unlikely, then this was in red or yellow respectively.
Reconstruction of the brass plate on the shako:
Following the tradition of the Royal Italian Army, the number or initials of the particular unit is to be found underneath the crown on the brass plate (after a description of items of uniform … according to paragraph 5, article 5 of the regulation of 1st July 1807). In our case, that would be:

Z.I for Zappatori Italiani or
Z.R for Zappatori Reali



However, having studied the sources on the pioneer train of 1812, we believe in a further possibility. On their shako plate, instead of the traditional crossed cannon barrels (as per the artillery train), the soldiers of the pioneer train have a cuirass under a helmet (the emblem of the pioneer corps). We assume, therefore, that the *sapeurs* also wore this plate on their shakos, because they were closely connected to the pioneer train, as the various muster reports have made clear.
Further official texts expand upon the above-mentioned order to introduce the shakos into the Italian Army:
- the circular of 11th February 1811 introduces a leather neck-cloth (*Raccolta di leggi*, Volume 7)
- The circular of 19th February 1811 specifies linen shako covers (*Raccolta di leggi*, Volume 7).

II) Evolution of the Uniform from 1811 onwards



In Volume 7 of the "*Raccolta di leggi*", we find a document of utmost importance, namely the circular of 21st November 1811, which specifies the new tariffs for the infantry troops. These tariffs were to come into force during the first days of 1812.

COAT:

Body, sleeves, etc.	dragoon-green cloth
Collar, lapels, cuffs and cuff-slashes	black cloth
Piping	scarlet cloth
Lining, skirt	red wool
turnbacks White	11 large, 22 small
metal buttons	

WAISTCOAT: Body,	dragoon-green cloth
sleeves, etc. Collar	black cloth
White metal buttons	14 small

TROUSERS:	dragoon-green jersey 8 small white metal buttons
GREATCOAT:	iron-grey cloth.

This circular of 1807 addresses all but two of the points of the regulation of 1807. These exceptions are:

- The waistcoat now has the black facing colour only on the collar
- The greatcoat is no longer blue, but instead is now iron-grey.

Two further circulars confirm the text of 21st November 1811.
The circular of 11th December 1811 (*Raccolta di leggi*, Volume 7) stipulates waistcoat cuffs in the basic colour and specifies the greatcoat colour iron-grey for the foot troops.
In addition, the circular of 8th June 1810 allocates for the troops on foot one pair of linen trousers as well as one pair of short linen gaiters with 18 buttons each. This standardisation was continued in 1812, also for economic reasons. The circular of 8th January 1812 stipulates forage caps in the basic coat colour, in fact without any sort of embellishment or headband in a different colour – for the *sapeurs* this means however no change, because since 1807 they have worn simple dragoon-green forage caps.
All of these developments since 1810 culminate in the regulation of 1812:

Regulation of 1812 according to the decree of 12th December 1811, superseding that of 16th March 1807, adopted on 20th December 1812, and applicable from 1st January 1813 (however the text refers only to the uniforms of the other ranks and NCOs)

COAT	: Body, cuffs, shoulder straps	dragoon-green cloth
	Collar, lapels, cuffs, cuff slashes	black cloth
	Piping	scarlet cloth
	Lining on front, collar and skirt turnbacks	red serge
	Lining	linen
	White metal buttons	11 large, 22 small
WAISTCOAT	: Body, cuffs, shoulder straps	dragoon-green cloth
	Collar	black cloth
	Lining	linen
	White metal buttons	15 small
TROUSERS	: Dragoon-green jersey Linen lining 8 small white metal buttons	

FORAGE CAP : Dragoon-green cloth
Linen lining
SHAKO : “con pelle”, i.e. with neckcloth and cockade for all
GREATCOAT : Iron-grey cloth
Linen lining
GAITERS : Long and black

The regulation also provides information on the rank insignia of the various men within the battalion:

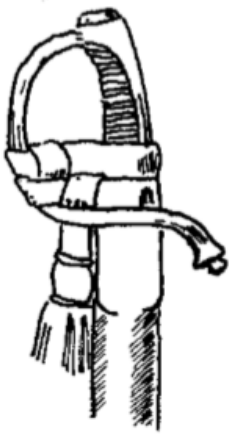
Rank	Number in the battalion	Epaulettes	Sword knot tassel and shako pompom	Lace
Adjutant-Ss-Off	1	Silver	Yellow	
Caporal-tambour	1	Yellow	Yellow	2 White
Artisan	3	Yellow	Yellow	
Sgt-Major Miner	1	Red	Red	2 Silver
Sgt-Major *Sapeur*	8	Yellow	Yellow	2 Silver
Sergeant Miner	4	Red	Red	1 Silver
Sergeant *Sapeur*	32	Yellow	Yellow	1 Silver
Quartermaster Miner	1	Red	Red	1 Silver / 2 White
Quartermaster *Sapeur*	8	Yellow	Yellow	1 Silver / 2 White
Corporal Miner	8	Red	Red	2 White
Corporal *Sapeur*	64	Yellow	Yellow	2 White
Miner	80	Red	Red	
Sapeur	576	Yellow	Yellow	
Drummer Miner	2	Red	Red	
Drummer *Sapeur*	16	Yellow	Yellow	
Labourer	64	Yellow	Yellow	
Enfant de troupe	18	None	None	

Rank	Apron	Cartridge box shoulder strap	Sabre shoulder strap	Remark
Adjutant-Ss-Off	No	Yes	Yes	
Caporal-tambour	No	Yes	Yes	Major's mace
Artisan	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Sgt-Major Miner	No	Yes	Yes	
Sgt-Major *Sapeur*	No	Yes	Yes	
Sergeant Miner	No	Yes	Yes	
Sergeant *Sapeur*	No	Yes	Yes	
Quartermaster Miner	No	Yes	Yes	
Quartermaster *Sapeur*	No	Yes	Yes	
Corporal Miner	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Corporal *Sapeur*	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Miner	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Sapeur	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Drummer Miner	No	No	Yes	Drum strap
Drummer *Sapeur*	No	No	Yes	Drum strap
Labourer	Yes	No	Yes	
Enfant de troupe	No	No	No	No shako

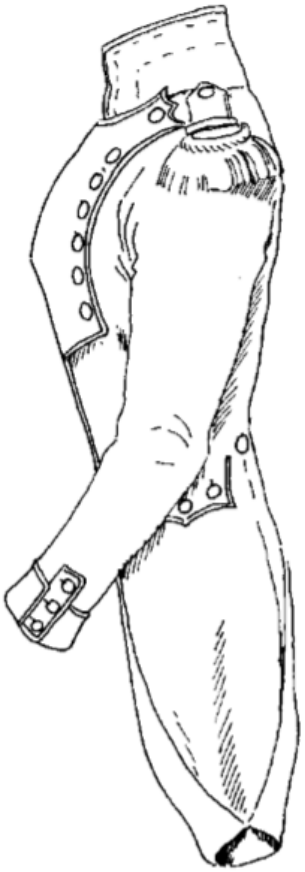
Note: The corresponding German rank designations are given here:

Adjutant-Sous-Officier	=	Stabsfeldwebel	(Warrant Officer)
Caporal-tambour	=	Stabstrommler	(Drum Major)
Sergent-Major	=	Feldwebel	(Sergeant Major)
Sergent	=	Unteroffizier	(Sergeant)
Fourrier	=	Furier	(Quartermaster)
Caporal	=	Korporal, Gefreiter	(Corporal, Lance corporal)
Enfant de Troupe	=	Soldatenkind (Army child)	

In addition, the regulation allocates one standard and two pennons to the *Sapeur* Battalion.



Description of Plate 4



In this plate, E. Wagner has drawn the three figures of the battalion for which we have pictorial evidence.

Figure A : *Sapeur* Officer 1812, after Italo Cenni (E. Wagner collection)
Black shako with silver pompom, cords, chin scales and silver lace along the upper edge of the shako, green/white/red cockade and silver loop, black peak with silver rim (note the absence of a shako plate).
Green coat with black collar, lapels and cuffs, red piping on these, red skirt turnbacks as well as silver epaulettes and buttons.
Green waistcoat with silver buttons.
Green trousers.
Yellow gloves.
Black boots.
Epée with gilt hilt, gold sword knot and black scabbard with gilt chape.

Figure B : *Sapeur* 1812, after Italo Cenni (E. Wagner collection)
Black shako with yellow pompom, red cords, tricolour cockade, yellow loop; brass chin scales and peak rim.
Green coat with black collar, lapels and cuffs, red piping and skirt turnbacks, yellow epaulettes and tin buttons.
Green waistcoat with tin buttons.
Green trousers.
Black gaiters.
Grey greatcoat on the knapsack.
White leather shoulder belts.
Sabre briquet with brass hilt and fittings.
For the elite company, Cenni shows red sword knots and epaulettes.

Figure C : Miner 1812, after a drawing by Fort (Ridder Collection in the National Library, Paris)
Black shako with red pompom and cords, tricolour cockade and tin shako plate.
Coat as for Figure B, except with pointed cuffs and red epaulettes.
Everything else as for Figure B.

To these drawings, the following must be noted, however:
The absence of cuff slashes on the Cenni figures is questionable, because various regulations specified black cuff slashes with red piping.
The pointed cuffs on Figure C are not confirmed by any official document in the archives in Milan.

Annex

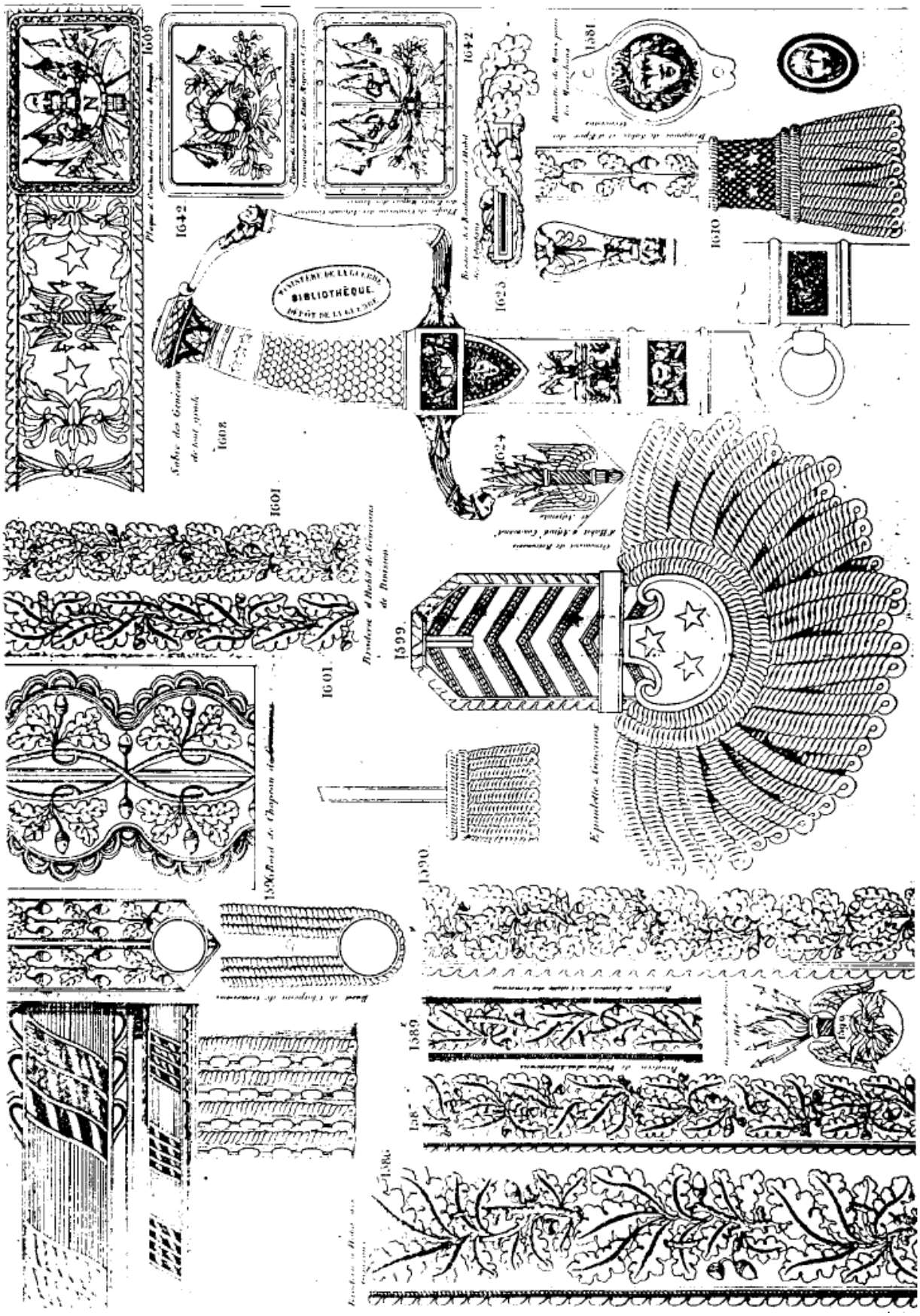
In the first part of the article, in Issue 4 of *Depesche*, there are two errors, which need to be corrected.

P. 15 B) 1806-1807 Organisation The Milan Decree is from 25th November and not from 25th October 1806.

Plate 3 all illustrated cuff slashes should have three points (as for Figures A and B in the plate).

Jean-Pierre Perconte, France
Edmund Wagner, Karlsruhe

Document “Bardin” Regulation 1812



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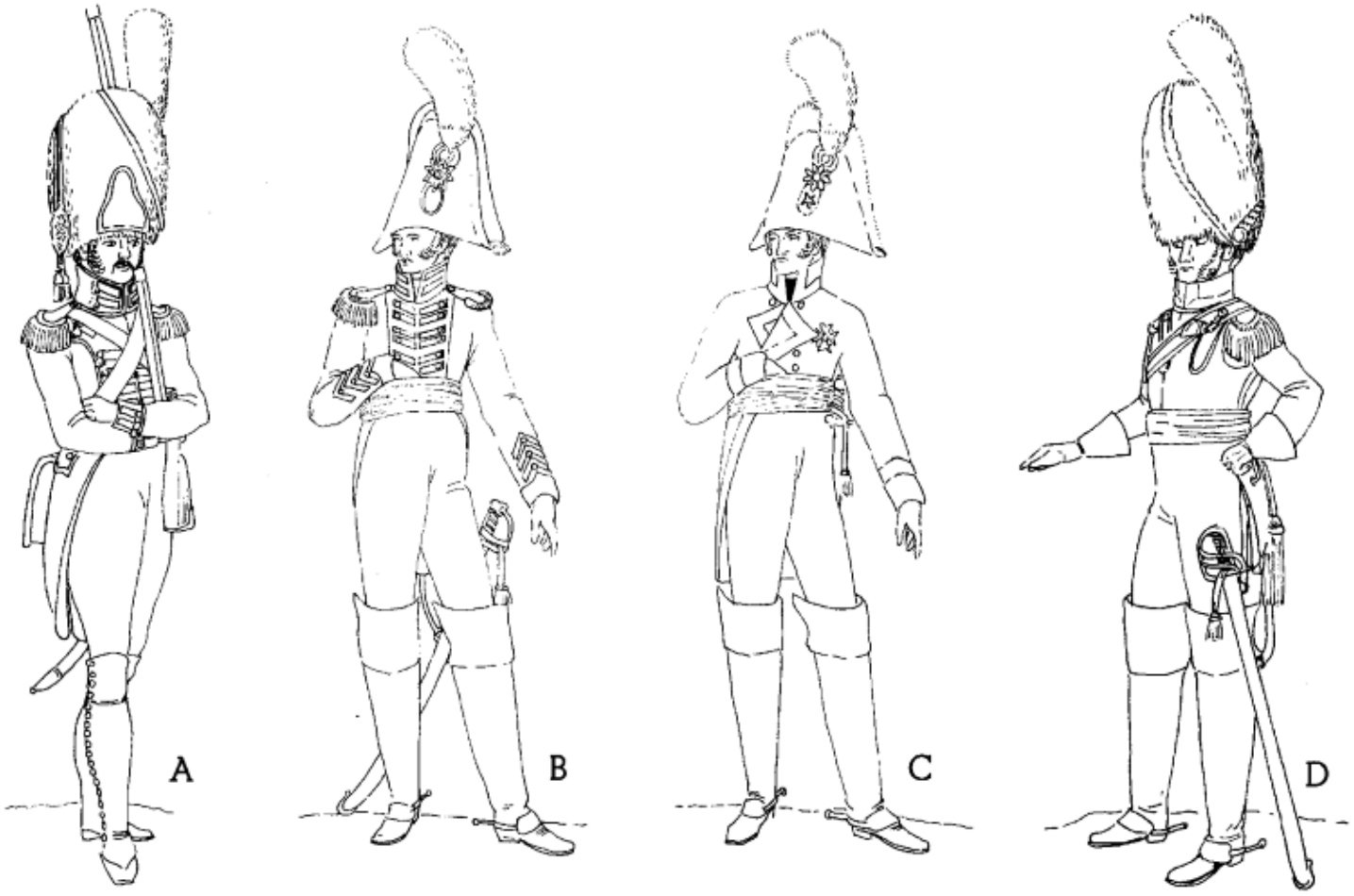
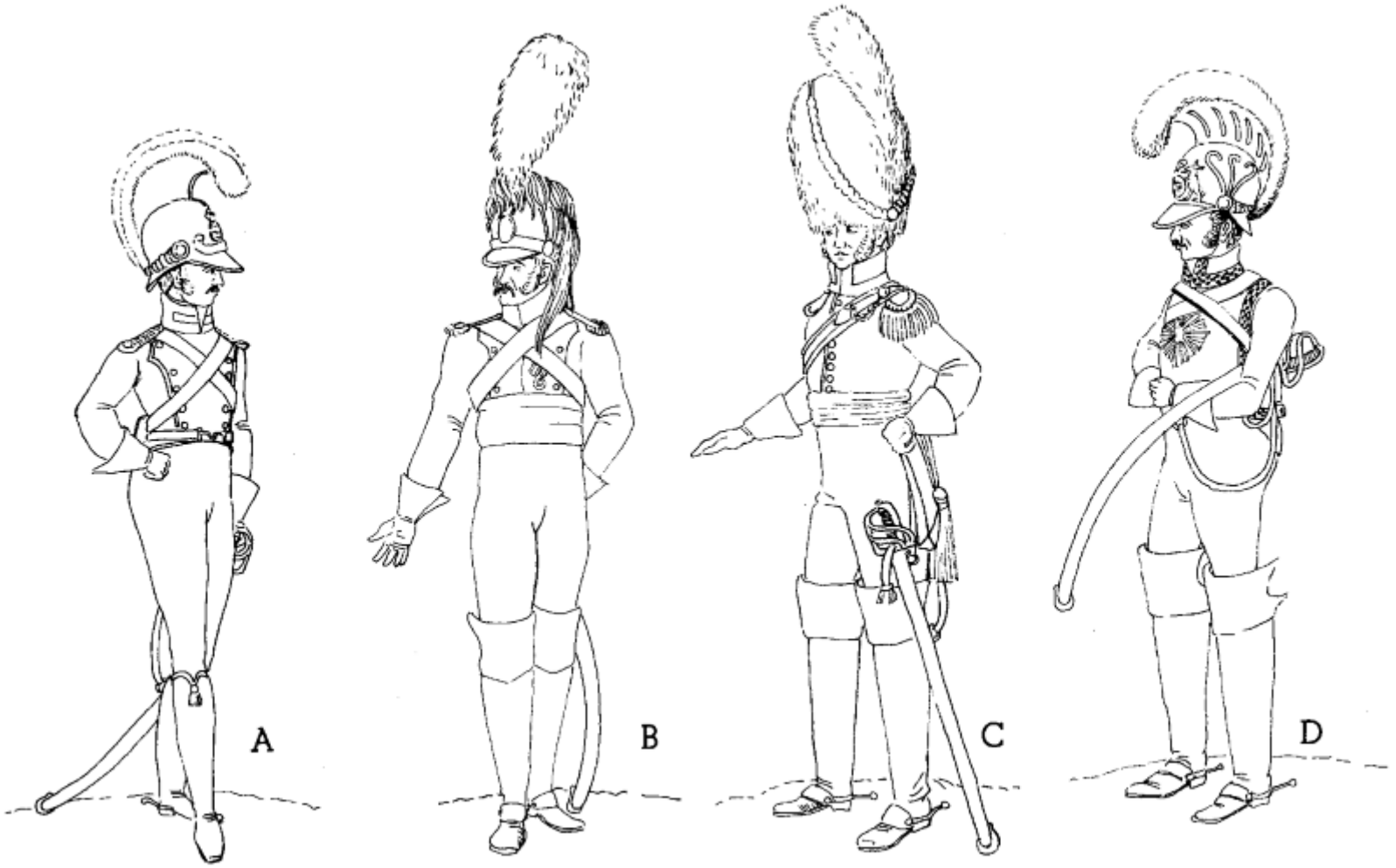


The Württemberg Army 1812

Depesche Issue 8, Plate 2



The Württemberg Army 1812

Depesche Issue 8, Plate 3

Otto Manuscript

Depesche Issue 8, Plate 4

Royal Italian *Sapeur* Battalion 1808-1814