

**A Century of The Russian Ministry of War
1802-1902
General Staff Historical Department
The Reign of Emperor Alexander I
1801 - 1805**

[translated into English from the original Russian by Peter G.A. Phillips]

28e. The Generation Of Armies And Corps In November 1805, Their Composition And Conclusions.¹

Meanwhile, the historical course of events brought the question of the active participation of the Russian army in the coalition war of 1805 to the fore. This war was the final bloody word on ad hoc higher formations and in the next war in 1806 we already had permanently established formations.

Moving on to a discussion of the organisation of 'the armies and corps' in 1805,² we will first determine which armies and corps were intended to be formed, and then we shall try to describe the progression in the assembly of these formations.

The first of the assigned tasks is to resolve the instructions given to General-of-Infantry Golenishchev-Kutuzov and Count Buxhoeveden, and General Mikhelson; the second task will be to resolve a whole series of orders issued for the formation of the armies and corps through examination. So, let us turn to the first task...

The instructions to General Golenishchev-Kutuzov state:³

'From the very beginning of the war that broke out between England and France, Emperor Alexander has paid attention to the situation in Europe. Its peace has been increasingly threatened from day to day by the progressive destruction of the balance between the powers.

The French government, disdaining the principles on which the rights of nations are based, has striven constantly to plunge all nations within reach of its influence into subjugation; neither the proposals, nor the flexibility of E.A.⁴ for various concessions to France, nor threats were able to restrain the First Consul of the Republic, Bonaparte, from attacks on the independence of weaker powers. This state of affairs has, at last, clearly revealed that it will only be possible to achieve the objectives desired by E. by force alone.

Austria remained undecided for a long time; finally, seeing the danger facing them from the expansion of the borders of France and the increase in Bonaparte's power, they earnestly pleaded with E.A. to hasten the introduction of Russian armies...⁵

Our armies must march to the borders of France, or to wherever is occupied by their forces, and to that end: one army, consisting of 50,000 men, is to march through Austrian territory immediately; another will go there a little later; the third is to enter Prussia and finally, a small corps, consisting of 16,000 men, is to launch a landing in Swedish Pomerania, while another, reaching 25,000 men, is to go from Corfu to Naples once hostilities have begun.

All this, however, does not make war inevitable, as the Vienna Cabinet has taken upon itself to

1 We shall also touch here on the importance of the 'Tsar's Adjutant General' through whom most of the orders regarding preparations for the campaign were issued, as well as the designated march destinations, and the reasons that make it difficult to trace the progression in the formation of armies and corps in 1805.

2 The corps of Russian troops in the Ionian Islands will be discussed separately, and is only mentioned here in passing (See Part 28i).

3 A.C.W.M. classified department bundle 39, No. 2, the instructions were forwarded to General Vyazmitinov in the presence of Prince Adam Czartoryski on 31 August [12 September] 1805. There are many corrections in pencil in the instructions, the text is given in accordance with these amendments.

4 Abbreviation in the original referring to Emperor Alexander I.

5 A.C.W.M. classified department bundle 39, No. 2, Britain, which was in the third year of bearing the entire burden of the war alone, entered equally into discussions with Our Court and concluded a convention related to this same subject.

make overtures of peace to the French Government, which if they are rejected out of hand, then the show of force that we are making in support of the peace proposals by the Vienna Court could turn into actual war.'

In the Instructions to General-of-Cavalry Mikhelson,⁶ we find more specific missions 'in a brief outline of the operational plan' for the Russian troops.

'On the 10th of this month,⁷ an army of 50,000 men entered Austrian territory under the command of General-of-Infantry Golenishchev-Kutuzov, which is to approach the French border.

16,000 men commanded by Lieutenant General Count Tolstoy, having boarded ships, are to sail to Stralsund, where, having carried out a landing, they will be deployed in Swedish Pomerania.

25,000 men, once hostilities have begun, are to sail from Corfu to Naples, where they are to operate under the command of General Lacy.

Herewith follows the outline of movements by the armies constituted under your direction.

The first of 50,000 men, under the command of General-of-Infantry Count Buxhoeveden, is to set off from Brest-Litovsk on 4 [16] September and, proceeding along the border dividing Austria from Prussia, will enter the latter via Pilica on the 16th of the same month [28 September] and continue their journey to Lentschitz [Łęczycy].

They will be followed by a second, commanded by General-of-Cavalry Bennigsen, of almost equal strength which will also go on 16 [28] September in three columns through Tauroggen, Olita and Grodno, from which it is planned that the first will be located near Insterburg, the second near Gumbinnen, and the third in Antersburg, until such time as we receive further permission from there, depending on the turn our operations take in Prussia, leaving it, however, to the best discretion of General Bennigsen.

Finally, the third army, of similar strength, will enter the Prussian regions in order to support the first...'

The instructions to General-of-Infantry Count Buxhoeveden⁸ provide for the formation of further armies:⁹ in order to 'persuade Prussia to climb down from neutrality, in which they firmly persist to this day, one of these armies, of 50,000 men, currently assembled in Brest,¹⁰ is to set off for Prussia on the 16th [28 September], via Pilica or another place, depending on the circumstances or the decision of the commander-in-chief; another, of similar strength, is to split into three corps and,¹¹ having crossed the Neman, will cross the Prussian borders on the same date; a third is to enter later in support of the first two... But it may be that, due to the turn of events, the presence of the army commanded by you in the Prussian regions becomes unnecessary, in which case you are to operate with it under the overall command of General-of-Infantry Golenishchev-Kutuzov...'

'Should His Majesty the King of Prussia join the Coalition, the army commanded by Baron Bennigsen is to march' under General-of-Cavalry Mikhelson 'into northern Germany';¹² once this army has passed 'through Prussian territory...' 'The commander of the independent corps in Swedish Pomerania' was to join General Mikhelson's command and was to 'follow his orders in every respect';¹³ 'while the third army will either remain in Prussia or return to our borders...'

Thus, four armies and two 'independent' corps were formed initially, and thereafter it was proposed to merge two armies 'under the overall command' of General-of-Infantry Kutuzov, while two

6 A.C.W.M. classified department bundle 39, No. 2.

7 10 [22] August.

8 In the copy held in the Military Scientific Archive of the General Staff [M.S.A.] (department II, No. 1549), there is a note, 'delivered by hand to Kamenny Island on 19 [31] August 1805.'

9 This is also mentioned in the seventh paragraph of the instructions to General-of-Cavalry Mikhelson

10 This was the army commanded by General-of-Infantry Count Buxhoeveden.

11 They were referred to as columns previously, yet now they are corps (under General-of-Cavalry Bennigsen).

12 Seventh paragraph of the instructions to General-of-Cavalry Mikhelson.

13 Seventh paragraph of the instructions to General-of-Cavalry Mikhelson.

armies and the corps in Swedish Pomerania would come ‘under the overall command’ of General-of-Cavalry Mikhelson.

It is also interesting to note that the instructions to General-of-Infantry Golenishchev-Kutuzov state directly: ‘the army made up of our regiments and units, which is entrusted to your overall command...’¹⁴

Details of the organisation of the future army under General-of-Infantry Golenishchev-Kutuzov may be found in ‘the Protocol of treaties and decisions adopted on the one side by the Imperial Corps *Feldmarshalleutnanten*, *Vizepräsident* of the *Hofkriegsrat*, Fürst zu Schwarzenberg and *Generalquartiermeister* Freiherr von Mack, together with the adviser on articles and the conference Freiherr von Kollenbach,¹⁵ and on the other side by the Adjutant General to the Russian Emperor Baron Wintzingerode, on the subject of the articles set forth in the instructions given to the said generals, by the Minister of War His Highness Erzherzog Karl’ (this protocol was signed in Vienna on 16 July 1805 [new style]).¹⁶

‘The General has no doubt that His Majesty the Russian Emperor would deign to compose this first army from the following troops’:¹⁷

Troop Types	Total		Combatants	
	Battalions	Squadrons	Men	Horses
18 Musketeer Regiments ¹⁸	54		39,888	
Two Jäger Regiments ¹⁹	6		2,770	
Four Dragoon Regiments ²⁰		20	3,300	3,300
Two Hussar Regiments ²¹		20	3,060	3,060
16 Artillery Companies ²²			3,840	
Three Don Cossack Regiments ²³			1,560	1,560
500 Pontoniers and Pioneers			500	
Total:	60	40	54,918	7,920

‘Information regarding front line²⁴ and reserve artillery with which this army is equipped, and quantities and natures of ammunition it is to have’ were presented as follows:²⁵

14 First paragraph of the instructions.

15 According to Mikhailovsky-Danilevsky, von Kulmbach (complete works, 1849, Vol. I, p. 52).

16 In this same minute, listings 50 to 70 (translated from French). The protocol was presented to General Vyazmitinov in a letter from Privy Councillor Weydemeyer dated 15 September 1805.

17 These numbers are based on page 1 of the Protocol of 16 July 1805. It should be noted that only the jäger regiments match the establishments, the other numbers do not correspond, for example, the Cossack regiments consisted of 578 men, not 520, and so on (see Parts 6, 16 and 26).

18 A musketeer company having four officers, ten non-commissioned officers, three drummers and 165 privates, for a total of 182 men, while grenadier companies have an additional two fifers, giving 184 men. An additional 24 men (field officers, adjutants, drummers and bandsmen) give a regimental total of 2,216 men.

19 A jäger company having three officers, nine non-commissioned officers, two hornists and 100 privates, for a total of 114 men, while the regimental total was 1,385 fighting men, including 17 field officers, adjutants, drummers and bandsmen.

20 A dragoon squadron having eight officers, 14 non-commissioned officers, three trumpeters and 140 privates, for a total of 165 men, the regimental total being 865 men.

21 An hussar squadron having seven officers, 12 non-commissioned officers, two trumpeters, 132 privates, for a total of 153 men, the regimental total being 1,530 men.

22 An artillery company had 240 men.

23 A Cossack regiment had 520 men.

24 Regimental artillery.

25 Article 2 of the protocol.

Each Russian brigade,²⁶ consisting of two infantry regiments, and has one battery,²⁷ which contains 12 six-pounders,²⁸ and therefore each battalion has two dedicated guns. Each of these batteries is formed from one artillery company.

And thus, there will be ten field batteries or ten artillery companies attached to 20 infantry regiments, or ten brigades.

The other six companies of artillery will consist of two horse and four reserve batteries,²⁹ and each of the former will have of 12 guns, that is, eight six-pounder cannon and four Licorns [gun-howitzers]; in contrast, each reserve battery will consist of 14 12-pounder cannon and four Licorns of twice the calibre of those with the horse batteries.

Therefore, the mix of artillery pieces in this army will consist of: eight three-pounder cannon, 136 six-pounder cannon, 32 12-pounder cannon and 24 Licorns, for a total of 200 guns.³⁰

At least 200 rounds (*cartouches*) will be delivered 'without fail' for each gun,³¹ while with regard to 'musket cartridges' it was agreed that 'in addition to the 60 cartridges that each soldier has in his pouch,³² at least 60 more cartridges per man will be available.'

'In consideration of the provisioning supply train' it was found necessary that 'half of the regimental carts are to be combined into a single convoy for the entire army, and therefore there would remain only one cart (with four horses) for every two companies with the regiments.³³ Regarding the remaining trains, the following information was given: 'in addition, each battalion has four three-horse carts for camp kettles and tents, and all officers of each company combined have one three-horse cart for personal equipment or baggage; every two field officers are to share one cart with three horses for baggage. Based on this, including an infirmary wagon of four horses and seven regimental carts for each battalion, as well as 12 two-horse carts per regiment for musket cartridges, each Russian musketeer regiment will have just 220 horses.'

An artillery company had 180 draught horses, while the 16 companies had some 3,000 horses...³⁴

The entire army 'is to cross the Austrian border in six columns, and each column will consist of 9,000 or 10,000 men and it is to be observed that the cavalry and artillery are divided according to fair ratios in each column.'

What measures were to be taken to further flesh out the army?

'To this the honourable General Wintzingerode replied³⁵ that there were garrison battalions both inside and along the borders of the Russian Empire, from which the field regiments were to receive the necessary personnel. But he hoped that, in respect of the distances involved, permission would be granted for the Sovereign Emperor to establish a casualty replacement pool commensurate with the strength of His armies in Germany, putting a certain number per hundred (for example, from

26 It has not been possible to find out why Adjutant General Baron Wintzingerode entered an organisation into the protocol that did not exist in reality. In 1805, as we shall see below, brigades were improvised on the personal initiative of the commanding generals, but generally the organisation of armies and corps was very diverse. Brigades as described by Baron Wintzingerode appeared in our country as permanent formations in 1806.

27 According to the artillery regulations of 1803 (see Part 15), there were no such batteries, while once guns had 'initially been requested' by the regiments, 'artillery batteries were immediately detached as an half company per regiment' (see Part 16).

28 This is also incorrect; a light gun company had four 12-pounder Licorns and eight six-pounder guns (see Part 16).

29 According to the regulations on artillery (see part 15), we had neither reserve nor field front line batteries (see Part 16), but we had artillery companies that is, battery companies (with heavy guns) and light companies to make up batteries, attaching half a company to each regiment...

30 The number of guns is correct, but the categorisation should be changed.

31 The guns would have 120 rounds each (see Part 16), 80 would have to be as resupply. Below we shall show in detail what major misunderstanding occurred with the artillery parks.

32 According to the establishments, soldiers' ammunition pouches only held 40 cartridges (see Part 6).

33 Article 4 of the protocol.

34 Article 6 of the protocol.

35 Article 12 of the protocol.

eight to ten per 100), which would be located at some distance behind the army, such that after significant losses it would be possible to reconstitute the army in a short time and such that these replacements would also receive proportionate reinforcement from time to time through convoys from Russian territory.'

Among 'other subjects proposed for consideration, especially of a financial nature, which, although not particularly important, nevertheless require prior and friendly consent' His Highness Erzherzog Karl promised one article according to which 'two or three regiments of light cavalry would be seconded to the Russian army, which would be very necessary to conduct outpost duties, more particularly at first, before the Russians had been able to get acquainted with the local language of the region' and 'in addition' where possible, some horse artillery would be added...³⁶

Let us also note that although the protocol mentions³⁷ that it was essential 'in recognition that an unexpected change or division of the overall command could have most disastrous consequences for the success of joint operations' nevertheless the instructions for General-of-Infantry Count Buxhoeveden stated:³⁸ 'you must demand and expect orders only from General-of-Infantry Golenishchev-Kutuzov,³⁹ who will only be subordinate to Erzherzog Karl, or to another prince of the blood of the House of Austria, appointed as commander-in-chief of the coalition armies by the Holy Roman Emperor, if His Majesty does not decide to take command in person...'

Thus, we have seen the planned grouping of armies, and the outline of the operational plan, and the anticipated considerations in the details of the improvisation of the army under General-of-Infantry Golenishchev-Kutuzov.

Turning to the second task, we will try to trace the composition of the listed armies and corps 'by regiment and unit.' We stress that we shall try because it is very difficult to actually trace the progression of the composition of the armies and corps for the reasons stated below.⁴⁰

First of all, let us touch on the procedure for 'communications regarding service matters.' From 1801 to 1808 it was not established who exactly should 'announce Supreme orders.' For military units, this was 'to be performed' by the Military Collegium and other persons, and therefore, although a significant number of Supreme orders passed through the hands of the Adjutant General Count Christopher Andreevich Lieven, yet it often happened that these were announced by 'other persons.'⁴¹

'Communications on service matters took place between the adjutants-general'⁴² and in view of this, it is imperative to discover their significance and impact on 'the service.' We believe that the best answer to this task is the whole series of discussions by Major General Baron Diebitsch 'regarding the nature and responsibilities of the Sovereign's adjutants-general' to whom an entire 'section'⁴³ has been dedicated in the work: 'Thoughts regarding the soldier in his various appointments, considered from a military moral point of view' published by Supreme Command in 1802.⁴⁴ In the preface, Baron Diebitsch states: 'My intention in printing this work in accordance with the command of the Most Gracious Emperor and Sovereign, consisted in presenting to the thinking person through matter and chance, through reasoning and research, to put into action that which is

36 Added to Article 7 of the protocol.

37 Not to Article 8 of the protocol.

38 Instructions on command and control in the Russian-Austrian army.

39 It should be remembered that Count Buxhoeveden came under his command due to a change of circumstances.

40 In view of this, only a schedule of armies and corps actually formed will be shown, and the sequence of their formation will be indicated.

41 A.C.W.M. classified department, 1808, minute No. 2, from the decree to the Military Collegium dated 17 [29] January 1808.

42 A.C.W.M. classified department, 1808, minute No. 2, Count Arakcheev's despatches No. 22 to No. 30, dated 17 [29] January 1808.

43 Part I, Section 25.

44 The work was written in German and translated into Russian by Major Carbonnier d'Arsite of His Majesty's Suite of the Quartermaster General's Department, published in St Petersburg, 1802 (a copy is held in Count Miloradovich's library).

proposed here, in accordance with whatever has been decreed in this realm, or to bring greater improvements through change...' From these lines one would be right to say that Baron Diebitsch's thoughts are expressed in accordance with what was decided at that time, that is, he talks about the existing order and expresses subjective views on various issues.

The following is stated regarding the Sovereign's adjutants-general:

'In the proper sense, the adjutant general is the primary assistant to the Sovereign in the military department, and through him the Supreme will is not only announced, but if necessary, then the announcements are also to be accompanied by explanations and instructions, such that Supreme orders are carried out according to their precise meaning. His selection presumes the Monarch's trust in his knowledge and judgement. Should the adjutant general not understand the precise meaning of the orders, or when they might be understood in two ways, he will not incur the displeasure of the Sovereign if he tries by direct enquiry to discover the exact intention with which the orders have been presented to him, such that he can announce them in a manner where there could not be the slightest misunderstanding; or when noticing that these orders are inconsistent with others previously issued, or with circumstances unknown to the Sovereign, or that have slipped his memory, he must dare to imagine everything that is worthy of reflection regarding these instructions, as thereafter he not only has to fulfil the accepted orders in their entirety, but also observe that everyone executes them precisely... He must carry out every Supreme mission with tireless diligence. In peacetime, he must always be ready to give the Sovereign an accurate and detailed report on the state of the army whenever He deigns to ask or at the scheduled times; he must have complete data: regarding quartering, provisioning, recruitment, uniforms, weapons, exercises, manoeuvres, about all matters concerning each regiment, in order to be able to answer every question from the Monarch in these regards; he acquires such information through the reports demanded from the regiments. He must not provide any answer, nor make any report to his sovereign in which he does not have complete confidence in its truth and reliability. He must acknowledge the attitude and diligence of the inspectors-general and regimental colonels-in-chief, and commanders, and if he discovers shortcomings in them that could be harmful to the good of the army and therefore to the benefit of the State, most particularly in the former, then should his admonitions prove ineffective, he must report this to the Sovereign without hesitation, but deliver this report in such a way that it incites justice from the Monarch, rather than anger. The benefit of the State and the welfare of the army must be sacred and inseparable in his eyes...'

In addition, 'in garrison, he must submit reports received from the army to the sovereign daily or as ordered, have lists of every field officer and subaltern, and accurately note in them all changes that occur, lists of all non-commissioned officers and privates for each regiment with an indication of the size and age of each, good-conduct lists for officers and use all means to ensure their justification and accuracy.'

These are 'the various duties and missions' that an adjutant general was required to perform in peacetime 'by appointment.'

In wartime, he must inform the Monarch about everything that has been learned regarding the enemy, both through spies, for the investigation and verification of which dedicated officers from the General Staff should be seconded to him, and through patrols and the forward outposts; circumstances may require that the Sovereign's sleep be disturbed, since there may be events that the Sovereign has not considered in advance, or to which the attention of his adjutant general was not drawn; as the adjutant general is obliged to report in conversations that the Sovereign often deigns to have with him regarding everything important that occurs, and for this reason, he must always have with him a notebook with paper and pencil in order to write down both everything worthy of attention and everything the Monarch orders, because it is not the Sovereign, but the adjutant general who must know the smallest details of his army and the enemy's, as much as possible; he must be in constant correspondence with the field War-Commissariat, discussing provisioning, the establishment and supply of both magazines and hospitals, and with all

independent corps; he must draft the plan of military operations, together with the commander-in-chief and generals; if the Sovereign Himself takes on this work, then the adjutant general must be perfectly informed regarding all relations and treaties with allies, and about political secrets, and he must retain all this so firmly in his memory that with every command issued by the Sovereign, he would know whether it was necessary to draw his attention to some extraneous circumstance of the predetermined plan... To carry out every Supreme order, he issues either written or verbal commands via the *Flügeladjutant* [equerry]; he may himself later inspect whether everything was done as ordered, but he himself should not waste time on minutiae... Consequently, the general picture should be the focus of all his business, regardless of the fact that he knows about the smallest details...'⁴⁵

Such, 'in total' was Adjutant General Lieven, 'assistant to the Sovereign in the military department' who has been mentioned above. A closer study of the files located in various archives⁴⁶ shows that Baron Diebitsch has faithfully described the tireless activity by Count Lieven.⁴⁷

Due to the exceptional importance of the adjutant general, there was some irregularity in official despatches; orders and 'instructions' often reached lower commanders, bypassing their superiors, who were often retroactively told 'for information only.' This abnormal state of affairs manifested itself especially sharply during 'preparations for campaigning' and when 'the regiments set off on the appointed march.'

In both cases, Adjutant General Count Lieven informed regimental colonels-in-chief of Supreme orders 'to prepare' or 'to move with the regiment to the rendezvous location' while then informing the relevant inspectors 'for their information.' It was also done the other way around, the colonels-in-chief were informed via the inspectors,⁴⁸ but in 1805, as we shall see below, the inspectors were notified that such and such a regiment had left 'their permanent quarters in accordance with previously issued instructions.'⁴⁹

When describing the Auxiliary Army, it was mentioned that on 4 [16] May 1804, Supreme orders were issued to some regimental colonels-in-chief to 'prepare for campaigning'; but according to the Log of Directed Orders regarding preparations by troops for campaigning'⁵⁰ it is clear that these

45 Note: let us also add that 'all military appointments in the presence of the Sovereign Person' (equeries and the like) were under his 'command and control.' Baron Diebitsch believed that the adjutant general, 'more than any ordinary general, should be replete with military knowledge and talent' and that with all the necessary qualities, 'such a person will be able to fulfil all the duties of this appointment and it would not be necessary for each department to have a dedicated adjutant general as well as a quartermaster general.' The adjutant general was intended to accompany the Emperor and 'be his representative to military officials.' Baron Diebitsch considered it necessary to distribute positions, entrusting one adjutant general to the infantry, another to the cavalry, and a third to the artillery and engineering departments...

46 A.C.W.M. mainly in the minutes of the classified department, 1802 to 1807; Archive of the Artillery Historical Museum (A.H.M.); M.S.A; Moscow Branch of the Overall Archive of the General Staff (M.B.).

47 The extensive continuous correspondence between Count Lieven and various individuals are monuments to this activity. Throughout this presentation, a number of references have already been made to the despatches by Count Lieven and more will be found below, representing a precious and unique source for reconstructing various issues relating to the story of our army for the period 1802 to 1807. The log of outgoing documents found for some despatches, show that on average, from 11 to 14 and up to 40 documents were 'distributed' per day; moreover, the correspondence in wartime - when 'preparing for campaigning' and so on - is sometimes accompanied by entire army schedules, regimental missions, etcetera, march routes to be followed for over 1,000 versts [667 miles], and so on.

48 Examples were given in Part 28a.

49 Note: As an aside, here are Baron Diebitsch's views on the office of the inspector: 'not only does the inspector have to carry out all the instructions he receives exactly as given; but also, once he has a complete understanding of their intent, he must supervise their exact implementation, and to add a detailed explanation to them whenever it is necessary, in order to facilitate their implementation (from the above mentioned work; 'Thoughts regarding the soldier in his various appointments' p. 197). The existing procedure for transmitting orders somehow excluded the inspectors and they learned that the regiments from their inspections had already departed only afterwards...

50 M.S.A. department I, No. 244; on the spine of the log it states: 'Log of Directed Decrees and announced orders, 1803, 1804 and 1805.' We consider it necessary to recall that this Log (see Part 26 - Don Forces), which has a connection with the Log of Count Lieven's despatches (M.S.A. department II, No. 1551) and is similar to it, is also

same orders had been sent earlier, namely on 20 March [1 April] 1804.⁵¹ Let us cite one of them, as an example, to the colonel-in-chief of the Tver Dragoon Regiment, Major General Voropaisky: 'Upon receipt of this, I order you to prepare the Tver Dragoon Regiment entrusted to you for campaigning, such that, in the event of going on campaign, it is able to leave its permanent quarters within 24 hours and immediately proceed on the intended march.'

The inspector, in this case His Highness Tsarevich Konstantin Pavlovich, received the following notice: 'I am notifying Your Highness that from the Ukraine,⁵² Dniester and Brest inspections entrusted to you, the colonels-in-chief of the regiments in the list attached herewith,⁵³ have been given orders by me on this date to be in perfect readiness to set out on campaign, such that, upon receipt of my orders to do so, these regiments are able to leave their permanent quarters within 24 hours and proceed immediately along the designated march route.'

Upon receipt of subsequent orders,⁵⁴ the regiment proceeded 'on the designated march' along 'the route attached (to the orders) to the rendezvous point.'

No sooner had the regiment set out, than the Adjutant General communicated with the colonel-in-chief of the regiment, who, having received a whole series of orders, approached the 'assembly area' moving from one set of quarters to another. On some occasions the departing regiments were ordered 'to divert and proceed along newly issued routes.'⁵⁵

Thereafter, the regiments were assigned to corps and armies and came under the command of the appointed generals. Under such conditions, as mentioned above, it is extremely difficult to trace the gradual assembly of improvised higher formations, since whenever it is possible to establish the initial orders, then the trace of subsequent orders does not always provide sufficient definitive data to be able to unravel any contradictions encountered. Finally, the regiments were assigned 'in small batches' orders were sometimes issued to the commander of the artillery company,⁵⁶ while there is a suggestion that orders 'to prepare for campaigning' were issued verbally...⁵⁷

Thus, the reasons that make it difficult to trace the progression in the assembly of the army and corps are:

1. The existing procedure for 'communications with the Adjutant General' who corresponded directly with the regimental colonels-in-chief, which thus lead to each regiment receiving several sets of orders just during the movement period to the 'assembly area' alone.
2. The regiments were assigned 'in small batches' and each had their own route, thus this does not make it possible to judge how the march was executed, that is, whether the regiments actually arrived on the set dates.
3. A vast majority of 'orders' have been scattered to a great extent.

In view of this, in the continuing explanation of the gradual assembly of the army and corps, it will be necessary in places to limit ourselves to some fragmentary evidence only, which serves as confirmation of the three conclusions just stated.

The earliest of all the ad hoc formations in the war of 1805, was the formation of a corps in 1802,

accepted as one of Count Lieven's Logs... With regard to the Auxiliary Army, see Part 28c.

51 M.S.A. department I, No. 244; although these orders have already been mentioned (see Part 28a), they are repeated here for a more detailed description of the progression of the orders for the assembly of the improvised formations.

52 The Tver Dragoons were in the Ukraine Inspection.

53 If there were one or two regiments, then they were named.

54 This was similar to those shown.

55 A.C.W.M. classified department, 1805, minute No. 2, for example, Count Lieven's despatch dated 6 [18] April 1805, in which three regiments and an artillery battalion were 'diverted.'

56 A.C.W.M. classified department, 1805, minute No. 2, Count Lieven's despatch dated 13 [25] July 1805.

57 M.S.A. department II, No. 1551, Count Lieven's despatch dated 5 [17] April 1805, addressed to the Lifeguard Artillery Battalion.

‘intended to go from Corfu to Naples once the war had begun...’⁵⁸ But we will turn firstly to the formation of armies of the main mass, and then trace the formation of this corps.

The instructions to General-of-Infantry Golenishchev-Kutuzov mentioned that political circumstances were such ‘that by sheer force alone would it be possible to restrain the first consul of the French Republic, Bonaparte,’⁵⁹ from attempts on the independence of the weaker powers’ and therefore it was proposed to form three armies and two corps.⁶⁰ While ‘the protocol of treaties and resolutions’ was being drawn up in Vienna,⁶¹ we began to assemble an army and corps ‘from regiments and units.’

The first orders ‘regarding departure from permanent quarters’ as far as can be judged from the ‘logs’⁶² were issued on 11 [23] June 1805.⁶³ It is interesting to note that 17 of the regiments that set out had been given orders to be at instant readiness as early as 20 March [1 April] and 4 [16] May 1804, that is, more than a year earlier.⁶⁴

On 13 [25] June 1805, Count Lieven conveyed the following secret message⁶⁵ to the War Minister for Land Forces, General-of-Infantry Vyazmitinov:

‘I have the honour to forward for the attention of Your Excellency two returns regarding the regiments, as follows: by way of Supreme orders dated 11 [23] June to the gentlemen inspectors and colonels-in-chief, who were consequently ordered that some were immediately to set out from their permanent quarters to the assembly areas, while others were to be at 24 hours readiness to depart on campaign upon receipt of orders and, moreover, copies of instructions were issued on the same date to engineer General van Sukhtelen, Lieutenant General Count Arakcheev and the Don Force Ataman Platov regarding preparations for campaigning, for the former - three companies from the pioneer regiments, the second - for artillery and pontoon companies, and for the latter - 16 Don Cossacks regiments.’⁶⁶

In the above-mentioned returns the following were assigned:

1. ‘To march immediately’ to the assembly areas, from the cavalry: one cuirassier regiment, seven of dragoons, three of hussars and ten of Don Cossacks. From the infantry: two grenadier regiments, 13 of musketeers and three of jägers. From the artillery: 14 foot companies, three of horse artillery; four pioneer companies and two of pontoniers.
2. ‘To prepare for campaigning’ from the cavalry: two cuirassier regiments, five of dragoons, three of hussars and four further regiments.⁶⁷ From the infantry: two grenadier regiments, 12 of musketeers and two of jägers. From the artillery: 30 foot companies and seven of horse artillery; two pontoon companies.

On 14 [26] July, Count Lieven forwarded to General-of-Infantry Vyazmitinov⁶⁸ ‘a return regarding the regiments, instructed by way of Supreme orders issued to the inspectors dated 12 [24] July, to move immediately to the locations shown herewith, either from newly assigned quarters by way of orders dated 11 [23] June,⁶⁹ or otherwise from permanent quarters.’ The return listed the following

58 This corps will be discussed separately (see Part 28i).

59 He had already adopted the title Emperor in 1804.

60 Subsequently, the total number of armies increased to four, of which three were subordinate to General Mikhelson.

61 This protocol was signed on 16 July 1805 [new style].

62 M.S.A. department I, No. 244; M.S.A. department II, No. 1551.

63 M.S.A. department I, No. 244, Log of Directed Orders.

64 A repeal of these orders, if there were any, could not be found. In addition, the very first orders state: ‘the colonels-in-chief of this or that regiment are to depart’ and this suggests that there was no cancellation, since otherwise the order would only have been ‘to prepare.’ Something similar happened with the Don Cossack regiments, which was discussed in Part 26.

65 M.S.A. department II, No. 1551, log of Count Lieven’s despatches, serial 1.

66 The original despatch with the returns is in the A.C.W.M. classified department, 1805, minute No. 2, serial 31.

67 Namely: Tsarevich’s Ulans, Tatar Horse, Lithuania Horse and Chuguev Cossacks.

68 A.C.W.M. classified department, 1805, minute No. 2, despatch dated 14 [26] July 1805.

69 Given above.

totals of regiments and companies: four regiments of cuirassiers, 12 of dragoons, eight of hussars, Poland Horse, Tatar Horse, Chuguev Cossacks, and 23 of Don Cossacks;⁷⁰ six grenadier regiments, 31 of musketeers and two of jägers; 26 foot artillery companies and eight of horse artillery; three pontoon companies and five of pioneers. A comparison of the returns dated 11 and 12 [23 and 24] July leads to the conclusion that some of the previous regiments had set off, and some had remained in place, but for this reason some regiments had now been ordered to set off in accordance with orders issued earlier on 11 [23] July.⁷¹ On 29 July [10 August], Count Lieven forwarded to General-of-Infantry Vyazmitinov yet another return⁷² ‘regarding the regiments ordered, by way of Supreme orders to the gentlemen colonels-in-chief issued on 28 July [9 August], some to move immediately from their permanent quarters, and others from the locations assigned by orders dated 12, 13, 17⁷³ and 20 July [24, 25, 29 July and 1 August]...’⁷⁴ The following were intended to depart from their permanent quarters: one cuirassier regiment, two of dragoons, one of hussars, Tsarevich’s Ulans,⁷⁵ Lithuania Horse; one grenadier regiment, six of musketeers and one of jägers.

Thus from the Supreme orders dated 11 [23] June, 12, 13, 17, 20 and 28 July [24, 25, 29 July, 1 and 9 August], the regiments had moved to the ‘assembly areas’ and were positioned more or less concentrated in a certain area, that is, troops from various inspections from widely separated quartering arrangements had gradually covered stages via closer quartering and, eventually, formed groupings near the rendezvous points.⁷⁶

Movements were carried out not only by whole regiments, but also by elements of them, for example, by way of orders dated 28 July [9 August], the 10th Jäger Regiment was instructed to move just one battalion, while the 4th Jäger Regiment was ordered to move two battalions; infantry regiments sometimes had to move to two ‘assembly areas’ at once, and cavalry regiments to four locations (Akhtyrka Hussars).⁷⁷

Following the planned grouping of regiments, they were allocated to armies and corps, which were assigned ‘under the command’ of generals determined by Supreme orders. It has not been possible to establish exactly when these appointments occurred, but some, for example, General-of-Infantry Rimsky-Korsakov was appointed as ‘commander of a corps formed on the Prussian border’ on 28 July [9 August];⁷⁸ at the same time, General-of-Cavalry Tormasov was appointed ‘commander of a corps formed on the border with Moldavia.’

Also on 28 July [9 August],⁷⁹ ‘column commanders’⁸⁰ for the army under General-of-Infantry Golenishchev-Kutuzov were appointed, namely: first column under Major General Prince Bagration, second column under Lieutenant General Essen 2nd, third column under Lieutenant General Dokhturov, fourth column under Lieutenant General Shepelev, fifth column under Lieutenant General Maltitz and sixth column Lieutenant General Baron Rosen. Lieutenant General Essen 2nd was appointed by way of the following Supreme orders:

70 Including one regiment that was due to be relieved.

71 One needs only to count the number of regiments according to the return dated 11 [23] July, for example the cuirassiers, hussars, grenadiers, musketeers and others, to confirm that on 12 [24] July some regiments that were not shown in the first return (of 11 [23] July) had been assigned to set off immediately.

72 A.C.W.M. classified department, 1805, minute No. 2, despatch dated 29 July [10 August] 1805.

73 Supreme orders dated 13 and 17 [25 and 29] July could not be found.

74 According to Supreme orders dated 20 July [1 August]: one cuirassier regiment, one of musketeers and one of dragoons, had to move from quarters allocated on 12 [24] July and march to a new location (A.C.W.M. classified department, 1805, minute No. 2, Count Lieven’s despatch dated 20 July [1 August]).

75 Let us recall that these two regiments were ordered to ‘prepare for campaigning’ on 11 [23] July.

76 It would be difficult to depict the zones of progressive quartering arrangements for regiments on a diagram, since the difficulties that hinder the ability to trace the gradual formation of armies and corps would still be encountered - as has already been discussed above.

77 A.C.W.M. classified department, 1805, minute No. 2, despatch dated 29 July [10 August] 1805.

78 A.C.W.M. classified department, 1805, minute No. 2, Supreme decree dated 28 July [9 August] 1805, there was no return or composition of the corps.

79 M.S.A. department I, No. 244, Log of directed decrees etcetera.

80 See Appendix 1 to Part 28e, Schedule of Armies.

‘Having assigned you to be commander of the second column of the corps commanded by General-of-Infantry Golenishchev-Kutuzov, composed of the troops indicated in the enclosed return, I order you to assume your command; and until such time as the aforementioned general arrives at his post, I have instructed my Adjutant General Baron Wintzingerode to announce my will to you in accordance with the instructions issued to him.’

Other commanders received similar orders. The appointment of some generals was only indicated, on 28 July [9 August], the allocation of regiments took place either on the same date or by 1 [13] August. Thus, in the Log of Supreme Decrees issued by the Adjutant General, 1805, the following designations of higher formations are found for this date: Second Army (Count Buxhoeveden), I Corps; Reserve Corps Facing Prussia; Reserve Corps Facing Moldavia; Third Army (Lieutenant General Essen), I Corps, II Corps; Army of the North (Baron Bennigsen), I Corps, First Column, Second Column; Army of the North, II Corps; Second Army, II Corps...⁸¹

Finally, in orders dated 3 [15] August 1805, General-of-Cavalry Baron Bennigsen was told the following:

‘Entrusting the troops of the Army of the North to your command, composed of three corps, as indicated in this return, I order you to be with them under the command of General-of-Cavalry Mikhelson, commander-in-chief of the three armies, who is stationed in Brest Litovsk. I have appointed Lieutenant General Baron Saken 1st as commander of II Corps of the army entrusted to you, who has already been ordered to go to Grodno and take command of his troops in that corps, with regard to the other commanders of the echelons and brigades I am attaching an exemplary order of battle.⁸² Moreover, I inform you that orders have already been issued to all the regiments of your army, both regarding their status under your command, and that all subsequent reports from them should be sent to you in Vilna.’

At around this time, the appointment of the remaining generals probably took place,⁸³ since on 4 [16] August, Count Lieven was already reporting the following to the Inspector of All Artillery, Count Arakcheev:⁸⁴

‘I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that those artillery and pontoon companies who have departed from their permanent quarters as a result of previously issued orders, in accordance with the Supreme permission of His Imperial Majesty, are instructed that those assigned to First Army are under the command of General-of-Infantry Golenishchev-Kutuzov, those assigned to Second Army are under General-of-Infantry Count Buxhoeveden, in Third Army are under the command of Lieutenant General Essen 1st, in the Army of the North are to come under the command of General-of-Cavalry Baron Bennigsen and, in addition, the latter army is under the overall command of General-of-Cavalry Mikhelson; while those assigned to the reserve corps: facing Prussia - commanded by General-of-Infantry Rimsky-Korsakov; facing Moldavia are to come under the command of General-of-Cavalry Tormasov.

Postscript: the locations for the residences of commanding generals are assigned as follows: General-of-Cavalry Mikhelson, General-of-Infantry Count Buxhoeveden and Lieutenant General Essen 1st are to be in Brest Litovsk; General-of-Cavalry Baron Bennigsen and General-of-Infantry Rimsky-Korsakov are to be in Vilna; General-of-Cavalry Tormasov is to be in Bratslav, while General-of-Infantry Golenishchev-Kutuzov is to be in Radziwiłłów,’

81 M.S.A. department I, No. 244.

82 The exemplary Order of Battle and return is not in the Log.

83 The directed decree, similar to the one addressed to General-of-Cavalry Baron Bennigsen, could not be found.

84 M.S.A. department II, No. 1551, Log of Count Lieven’s despatches, despatch dated 4 [16] August.

Return Of Regiments Assigned To Form Armies, In Accordance With Count Lieven's Despatches In 1805.⁸⁵

	Ukraine	Brest	Dniester	Petersburg	Moscow	Kiev	Livonia	Smolensk	Lithuania	Pioneers	Total
General-of-Infantry Golenishchev-Kutuzov	2 dragoon 1 hussar 2 grenadier 3 musketeer	1 cuirassier 1 hussar 3 musketeer 1 jäger	3 musketeer					1 dragoon	1 jäger	2 companies	1 cuirassier 3 dragoon 2 hussar 2 grenadier 9 musketeer 2 jäger 2 pioneer coy
General-of-Cavalry Baron Bennigsen					2 cuirassier	1 cuirassier 1 dragoon 1 hussar	1 grenadier 7 musketeer 1 jäger	1 dragoon 1 musketeer		2 companies	3 cuirassier 2 dragoon 1 hussar 1 grenadier 8 musketeer 1 jäger 2 pioneer coy
General-of-Infantry Buxhoeveden	Poland Horse	1 dragoon 3 musketeer	1 dragoon 1 hussar			2 dragoon 1 hussar		1 grenadier 3 musketeer	1 dragoon 1 hussar 4 musketeer 2 jäger	2 companies	5 dragoon 3 hussar Poland Horse 1 grenadier 10 musketeer 2 jäger 2 pioneer coy
Lieutenant General Essen 1 st	Tsarevich's Ulans	1 jäger	1 dragoon	2 musketeer	1 grenadier 4 musketeer	1 Chuguev 1 dragoon 1 hussar		1 grenadier	Tatar Horse 1 grenadier 1 musketeer	2 companies	2 dragoon 1 hussar 1 ulan Tatar Horse 1 Chuguev 3 grenadier 7 musketeer 1 jäger 2 pioneer coy
General-of-Cavalry Tormasov			1 cuirassier 2 hussar 1 musketeer		2 musketeer						1 cuirassier 2 hussar 3 musketeer

⁸⁵ Compiled only according to the despatches to the Inspectors dated 5 [17] August (M.S.A. department II, No. 1551), since they list all the regiments that had received orders in July and so on, which have been mentioned above.

	Ukraine	Brest	Dniester	Petersburg	Moscow	Kiev	Livonia	Smolensk	Lithuania	Pioneers	Total
			1 jäger								1 jäger
General-of-Infantry Rimsky-Korsakov				2 musketeer	1 dragoon 1 musketeer			1 musketeer			1 dragoon 4 musketeer
Total Regiments:	10	11	11	4	11	9	9	9	12	1 st , 3 Coys 2 nd , 5 Coys	86 Regts 8 Coys

The inspectors for those troops that had left the inspections for the ‘assembly areas’ were also notified of which regiments had been assigned to which general. As an example, we present Count Lieven’s despatch dated 5 [17] August to His Imperial Highness, Tsarevich Konstantin Pavlovich.⁸⁶ ‘I have the good fortune to forward this (return) to Your Imperial Highness regarding the regiments that have departed from permanent quarters, in accordance with previously issued orders, from the Ukraine, Dniester and Brest inspections, with their assignments to which armies and under whose command Supreme orders directed them to reside currently.’ Similar messages were sent to other inspectors.⁸⁷ Thus, ‘regiments and units’ became part of armies and corps... If we draw up a general table, we find that the following total of regiments were assigned from the Ukraine, Brest, Dniester, St Petersburg, Moscow, Kiev, Livonia, Smolensk and Lithuania inspections:⁸⁸

The corps under Lieutenant General Count Tolstoy, as we see from the table, had not yet been compiled by this time. The Supreme instructions to the colonels-in-chief, dated 8 and 9 [20 and 21] August⁸⁹ showed one cuirassier regiment, one of musketeers, one of jägers and one of grenadiers, ‘consisted of the indicated regiments under the command of Lieutenant General Count Tolstoy’ while one more battalion of artillery and two battalions of the 3rd Marine Regiment were later assigned, but these were the initial orders.⁹⁰

⁸⁶ M.S.A. department II, No. 1551, Log of Count Lieven’s despatches, despatch dated 5 [17] August.

⁸⁷ M.S.A. department II, No. 1551, in the log of Count Lieven’s despatches: to Count Tolstoy with regard to regiments of the St Petersburg Inspection; to General Bekleshov about regiments from the Moscow Inspection; to General Kologrivov about regiments from the Kiev Inspection; to General Count Buxhoeveden about regiments from the Livonia Inspection; to General Obrezkov about cavalry regiments from the Moscow Inspection; to General Apraksin about regiments from the Smolensk Inspection; to General Baron Bennigsen about regiments from the Lithuania Inspection; to General Rimsky-Korsakov about infantry regiments from the Moscow Inspection; to General van Sukhtelen about companies from the pioneer regiments.

⁸⁸ In total, regiments were assigned from nine of the 14 inspections. Note: see [Diagram1](#). These nine inspections were located along the western borders. However, it had been proposed that ‘the Orenburg Inspection also be fully manned and put on a campaign footing’ but then His Imperial Majesty ordered ‘this assignment to be repealed’ (A.C.W.M. classified department, 1805, minute No. 2, Count Lieven’s despatch No. 1784, dated 30 July [11 August] 1805); The Crimea Inspection also sent some troops to Corfu, see below in Part 28i.

⁸⁹ A.C.W.M. classified department, 1805, minute No. 2, Count Lieven’s despatches dated 8 and 9 [20 and 21] August.

⁹⁰ Note: further assignments to Lieutenant General Count Tolstoy’s corps could not be found.

Simultaneously with the allocation of regiments to generals, appointments of component commanders in the army and corps were also made,⁹¹ which has already been mentioned in part.⁹² In this case, the appointee was 'ordered to be the commander' of cavalry or infantry 'and have under command' the relevant regiments. For example, let us view Count Lieven's despatches to General-of-Infantry Rimsky-Korsakov⁹³ and His Highness Tsarevich Konstantin Pavlovich:⁹⁴

1. 'I have the honour of notifying Your Excellency that, in accordance with the Supreme decree issued this day, Lieutenant General Prince Golitsyn has been ordered to be the infantry component commander under your command and to receive the command of your Yelets, Navaginsk, Uglits and Lithuania musketeer regiments, to be sent immediately to Kovno.'
2. 'I have the honour to bring to the attention of Your Imperial Highness that by the decree of 27 July [8 August] last, General Bauer has been ordered to be the cavalry component commander in General-of-Cavalry Tormasov's corps and having taken command of the component troops, is to go to Kamenets-Podolsk.'

The following were assigned to the force marching⁹⁵ under the Tsarevich's command:⁹⁶ '... for the cavalry: Lieutenant General Kologrivov and major generals Depreradovich 2nd and Yenkovich. For the infantry: Lieutenant General Malyutin and major generals Depreradovich 1st and Lobanov, with Major General Kaspersky with the artillery.'

In one of the schedules,⁹⁷ the 'regiments and units' that came 'under the command' of the appointed generals mentioned above⁹⁸ were referred to as: Podolia in General-of-Infantry Golenishchev-Kutuzov's army; Volhynia in General-of-Infantry Count Buxhoeveden's army; the North⁹⁹ in General-of-Cavalry Baron Bennigsen's army; Lithuania in Lieutenant General Essen 1st's army and Moldavia in General-of-Cavalry Tormasov's army; Landing in Lieutenant General Count Tolstoy's corps and Reserve in General-of-Infantry Rimsky-Korsakov's corps.¹⁰⁰

Although this listing does not have an exact date,¹⁰¹ it refers to the period when some of the regiments had already completed their moves,¹⁰² and some were still making them.¹⁰³

Before moving on to a consideration of the composition of armies and corps, let us touch upon: the allocation of Cossack regiments to the army and corps; campaign assignments for the Lifeguard and some individual orders.

Once a certain number of regiments had been earmarked from the force, the Force Ataman issued orders for the regiments 'to prepare for campaigning' - 'that all horses and combat weapons are to be battle-worthy' and were ordered, 'not to go to the assembly areas, but to remain in their villages until they received orders to be

91 Note: it has only been possible to establish a few appointments; the most typical ones are given, namely: 'infantry and cavalry component commanders' and appointments in the cavalry, infantry and artillery.

92 Note: for appointments of 'commanders' in General-of-Infantry Kutuzov's corps, see the column commanders listed in the text above.

93 M.S.A. department II, No. 1551, Count Lieven's despatch dated 5 [17] August 1805.

94 M.S.A. department II, No. 1551, Count Lieven's despatch dated 6 [18] August 1805.

95 This will be discussed below.

96 A.C.W.M. classified department, 1805, minute No. 2, Count Lieven's despatch dated 8 [20] August 1805.

97 M.S.A. department III, No. 1066, see Appendix 1 to Part 28e.

98 See Count Lieven's despatches dated 4 and 5 [16 and 17] August 1805 and the return given above.

99 The designation Army of the North is found in Count Lieven's despatch of 4 [16] August.

100 In addition, there was also a corps in the Ionian Islands - described separately below in Part 28i.

101 Marked '1806' in pencil, but issued in 1805.

102 For example: General-of-Infantry Golenishchev-Kutuzov's army was formed according to the Log of Directed Decrees and announced orders (M.S.A. department I, No. 244) and according to orders dated 28 July [9 August] 1805, when it was divided into six columns.

103 For example: according to the decree dated 3 [15] August, mentioned above, the Army of the North was to consist of three corps, in the same listing it is shown as consisting of two corps, the Don regiments had also only just set off, and were only allocated 'to the general's commands' on 2 [14] August. Thereafter Count Tolstoy's corps began to be assembled on 8 [20] August, yet in the listing it is already shown in full; the composition of the corps of 'troops in the Ionian Islands' was not given in the schedule even by 8 [20] September. In view of this, the date has been determined approximately as the beginning of August or September 1805; but it is more correct to consider this listing as a partially realised projection.

instantly ready to leave.’¹⁰⁴ Whereupon, the regiments, having received orders, gathered in the assembly areas and were subjected to the Ataman’s ‘inspection’ and set off on campaign.¹⁰⁵ The regiments set off on campaign under the new manning establishment, namely: one field officer, 8-12 subalterns,¹⁰⁶ 14-18 non-commissioned officers,¹⁰⁷ one clerk and 550 Cossacks, the regiments having, for the most part, 578 men... Overall, 18,496 men set off in 32 Don regiments.¹⁰⁸ In addition, ‘two companies of horse artillery were despatched’¹⁰⁹ from the Don Army; one to Ak-Mechet under the command of Lieutenant General duc de Richelieu, and the other to the Moldavia Corps; these companies set off with the following composition: ¹¹⁰ one field officer,¹¹¹ six subalterns, 26 non-commissioned officers and 224 Cossacks, for a company total of 257 men, or 515 men for both companies.¹¹² The allocation of regiments to armies and corps is found in Count Lieven’s despatch to the Ataman of the Don Force, Platov, dated 2 [14] August:¹¹³

‘His Imperial Majesty has issued Supreme orders such that your Excellency is to order the Cossack regiments of the Don Force indicated in the enclosed return, that have marched from the Don, to come under the command of those generals who are indicated therein, and that they are to send the appropriate reports to those commanding generals in the locations listed against each in the return; moreover, the Sovereign Emperor wants these regiments to arrive at their destination as quickly as possible, but without forcing the pace or the unnecessary exhaustion of men and horses. Forward these same instructions to those regiments sent off specifically by you.’

The attached return mentioned that they ‘are directed to follow the orders of 12 and 28 July [24 July and 9 August]’ (no copies have survived). Three regiments were allocated to General-of-Infantry Rimsky-Korsakov’s command; three regiments to Lieutenant General Bauer, under the overall command of General-of-Cavalry Tormasov; three regiments to General-of-Cavalry Baron Bennigsen, 13 regiments to Lieutenant General Essen 1st and four regiments to General-of-Infantry Count Buxhoeveden. In all 20 regiments under the overall command of General-of-Cavalry Mikhelson. Thus, orders were sent to the Cossack regiments following these routes, and the regiments were subsumed into organised formations of regular troops.

In addition to the Don regiments, initially two and then three regiments from the Bug Cossack Force were assigned to the corps under General-of-Cavalry Tormasov, who set off on campaign ‘as quickly as possible, but without forcing the pace or the unnecessary exhaustion of men and horses.’¹¹⁴

A glance at the diagram of the disposition of troops according to inspections¹¹⁵ is enough to come to the conclusion¹¹⁶ that the Bug regiments made enormous marches of hundreds and even over a thousand *versts*; the Don Cossack regiments marched over 1,000 *versts* [667 miles] to their ‘assembly areas.’

Thus, the convenience of provisioning the troops in peacetime,¹¹⁷ which was the main principle used to guide the quartering of troops, resulted in wartime with marches of hundreds of *versts* that had to be covered ‘in all possible haste’ to ‘the assembly areas’ and also ‘without the slightest exhaustion of men and horses...’

The ‘Tsar’s troops’ - the Guard also took part in the campaign. The regiments that set out were assigned to

104 A.C.W.M. classified department, 1804, minute No. 4, from Lieutenant General Platov’s original report No. 1800, dated 20 May [1 June] 1804.

105 A.C.W.M. classified department, 1805, minute No. 2, from Lieutenant General Platov’s original report No. 5361, dated 16 [28] September 1805.

106 The majority of regiments had 11 subalterns.

107 Most had 15 non-commissioned officers.

108 A.C.W.M. classified department, 1805, minute No. 2, from Lieutenant General Platov’s original reports No. 3913, dated 26 July [7 August] and No. 5361, dated 16 [28] September 1805.

109 M.S.A. department II, No. 1551, log of Count Lieven’s despatches, despatch dated 30 August [11 September].

110 A.C.W.M. classified department, 1805, minute No. 2, from Lieutenant General Platov’s original report No. 5478, dated 22 September [4 October].

111 Two field officers in 1st Company.

112 One of the companies having 258 men.

113 M.S.A. department II, No. 1551, log of Count Lieven’s despatches, despatch dated 2 [14] August.

114 M.S.A. department II, No. 1551, log of Count Lieven’s despatches, despatch dated 26 August [7 September]; A.C.W.M. classified department, 1805, original despatch dated 2 [14] August and reports by the Bug Force Ataman, Major General Krasnov, No. 963, dated 21 September [3 October] and by General-of-Cavalry Meyendorff (commander of the corps on the border with Moldavia), No. 389, dated 15 [27] December.

115 See [Diagram1](#).

116 See table: Return Of Regiments Assigned To Form Armies, In Accordance With Count Lieven’s Despatches In 1805, above.

117 This conclusion applies to regular troops.

His Highness, Tsarevich Konstantin Pavlovich,¹¹⁸ in all, 17 squadrons (including two squadrons of Lifeguard Cossacks), ten infantry battalions (including three battalions of the Leib Grenadiers) and the Lifeguard Artillery Battalion.

‘The Lifeguard and Leib Grenadier regiments marching from St. Petersburg to Brest-Litovsk’ had Supreme orders to ‘all march in five columns along a single avenue of approach via Vitebsk.’¹¹⁹

Secret orders to the army Intendant General dated 7 [19] August¹²⁰ stipulated that ‘mobile and local provisioning of rations and fodder should be prepared’ and ‘that they (the marching regiments) must not suffer the slightest shortages anywhere...’

The order of march was issued as follows:¹²¹ Vanguard - Lifeguard Hussars and Lifeguard Jäger Battalion; First Column - Chevalier Garde and Lifeguard Horse regiments; Second Column - Lifeguard Preobrazhensky and Lifeguard Semenovskiy regiments, each of two battalions; Third Column - Lifeguard Izmailovskiy and Leib Grenadier regiments, each of two battalions; Rearguard - one battalion from the Leib Grenadiers and two squadrons of Lifeguard Cossacks.

Each regiment, in addition to the overall route for the columns, was issued a short regimental route, along which the regiment was to approach the rendezvous point, in the vicinity of Brest-Litovsk,¹²² that is, a dedicated route was issued for the final stages only.¹²³

In order to arrive in the assembly area, the regiments had to cover stages in accordance with the march routes, of 1,220 to 1,290 *versts* [813 to 860 miles].

With regard to some of the individual orders, we note that both during the period of getting ready for the march, and at the time when some of the troops had already set off on campaign, it was necessary to issue a number of minor orders that should have been foreseen in advance, namely:

1. Setting a ‘price for horses’ such that they could be bought without much difficulty. Back in 1803, as mentioned above,¹²⁴ difficulties had been experienced in purchasing the deficient number of horses for the artillery,¹²⁵ but this same thing was repeated in 1805.

For example, the colonel-in-chief of the 2nd Artillery Regiment, Colonel Löwenstern, and the commander of a horse artillery company from the 1st Horse Artillery Battalion, Lieutenant Colonel Merlin, were ordered ‘to prepare this regiment and company for campaign duty.’¹²⁶

For the regiment it was necessary to buy 588 artillery horses and 168 draught horses in order to fill wartime quotas,¹²⁷ while the horse artillery company needed to buy 54. And so Colonel Löwenstern reported that ‘the regiment cannot buy horses at the standard price, since the prices for them have risen so much that even for draught horses I would have to pay from 50 to 60 roubles (instead of 30 roubles)’ and therefore asked that he ‘not be limited in the purchase of horses’ and that he ‘use every opportunity to buy horses at the best price and only those that are completely fit for service.’ Thus, the standard price was utterly insufficient and as a result a whole correspondence arose about this.

2. The division of the regimental trains into essential and ‘excess.’ This is what Count Lieven reported

118 A.C.W.M. classified department, 1805, minute No. 2, copied with the Supreme decree to His Highness, dated 8 [20] August, with Count Lieven’s despatch No. 1914, dated 14 [28] August.

119 A.C.W.M. classified department, 1805, minute No. 2, Count Lieven’s despatch (un-numbered), dated 8 [20] August

120 A.C.W.M. classified department, 1805, minute No. 2, orders by General-of-Infantry Vyazmitinov to General-of-Infantry Prince Volkonsky (un-numbered).

121 A.C.W.M. classified department, 1805, minute No. 2, copied with the Supreme decree to His Highness, dated 8 [20] August, with Count Lieven’s despatch No. 1914, dated 14 [28] August.

122 Two battalions of the Lifeguard Preobrazhensky Regiment were directed to Brest-Litovsk.

123 A.C.W.M. classified department, 1805, minute No. 2, Count Lieven’s despatch No. 1914, dated 14 [26] April 1805, with a copy of the march routes.

124 See Part 28a.

125 Let us recall that in peacetime it was necessary to maintain only some of the horses.

126 A.C.W.M. classified department, 1805, minute No. 2, Count Lieven’s despatch dated 13 [25] July.

127 A.C.W.M. classified department, 1805, minute No. 2, report by the Artillery Department to the Minister for Land Forces No. 4, dated 14 [26] July 1805. There were 804 artillery horses and 96 draught horses in the regiment, while in wartime there were supposed to be 1,392 artillery horses and 264 draught horses, whereas in the horse artillery company there were 85 artillery horses and 12 draught horses, while in wartime they were supposed to have 127 artillery horses and 24 draught horses. The remaining information for this paragraph 1. is from the same report.

to General-of-Cavalry Mikhelson on 28 August [9 September]:¹²⁸

‘On the occasion of your despatch to the honourable War Minister for Land Forces dated 21 August [2 September], I hasten to inform you, Sir, that Supreme orders were issued for the regiments to take with them one infirmary wagon with each battalion, thereafter the remaining three wagons from each battalion, thus nine from the whole regiment, must remain with the excess baggage train.’¹²⁹

3. Instructions on dismounted privates in the cavalry regiments. On 17 [29] August, Count Lieven announced that Supreme orders¹³⁰ ‘to the generals commanding armies, require that the 12 dismounted privates on the establishment of each squadron in cavalry regiments not be taken with them for the duration of the campaign, rather, they are to be left with the replacement squadrons (if indeed there really were any in the manning of regiments). Those regiments which are remote from their replacement squadrons are to leave these privates co-located with the excess baggage echelon.’
4. Order regarding *Bereiter* [riding masters]. On 20 August [1 September], Count Lieven informed His Imperial Highness, the Tsarevich and Grand Duke Konstantin Pavlovich and General-of-Infantry Golenishchev-Kutuzov, and on 24 August [5 September] General-of-Cavalry Mikhelson the following:

‘His Majesty requires that all cavalry regiments assigned to form the army and corps are to leave their *Bereiter* with the replacement squadrons or half squadrons belonging to those regiments, and therefore the Sovereign Emperor has ordered that Your Imperial Highness instruct the cavalry regiments in the corps under your command, such that if they have already taken the *Bereiter* with them, they should return them to their replacement half squadron.’¹³¹

5. Determining the allocation of rations and so on. Issues regarding provisioning during the campaign.¹³²
6. Allocation of travel expenses and other items to the members of His Imperial Majesty’s Suite of the Quartermaster’s Department and to the engineering corps, attached to the army and corps.¹³³

In addition, one cannot fail to mention the following: the regiments, setting out on campaign from their permanent quarters, denuded certain areas of land of troops, while in the rear there remained only garrison troops, whose locations were extremely scattered,¹³⁴ and a handful of field troops. In view of this, it was necessary to re-allocate units to maintain guard forces; such orders, for example, were issued for St. Petersburg and Moscow. For the former, by Supreme command, five garrison battalions were appointed from five locations,¹³⁵ and had already arrived by 18 [30] August.¹³⁶ Furthermore, General-of-Cavalry Baron Meyendorff had been ordered ‘to send two *Sotnia* from the Don Cossack Regiment located in Finland’ who were ordered to present themselves to the St. Petersburg Military Governor.’¹³⁷

128 Let us recall that the initial orders for ‘preparations for campaigning’ had been issued on 11 [23] June 1805, that is, two and a half months previously.

129 M.S.A. department II, No. 1551, Count Lieven’s despatch dated 28 August [9 September] 1805.

130 A.C.W.M. classified department, 1805, minute No. 2, Count Lieven’s despatch No. 1982, dated 17 [29] August 1805.

131 M.S.A. department II, No. 1551, Count Lieven’s despatches dated 20 and 24 August [1 and 5 September], given in relation to His Highness, the others are similar.

132 M.S.A. department I, No. 244 and department II, No. 1551, logs of Count Lieven’s despatches

133 A.C.W.M. classified department, 1805, minute No. 2, original reports by the engineering department and Quartermaster General Sukhtelen, dated 3 [15] August (un-numbered), No. 827, dated 12 [24] August and No. 828, dated 19 [31] August. To the Quartermaster’s Department were assigned: five generals (with Sukhtelen), 19 field officers, and 37 subalterns (the minute has no distribution by army); to the engineering corps were commanded: to Podolia - one general, two field officers, four subalterns and an *Unterzeugwarter* [junior ordnance officer]; to the Army of the North - one general, one field officer, six subalterns and an *Unterzeugwarter*; to Volhynia and Lithuania - one Military Councillor, two field officers, 11 subalterns and an *Unterzeugwarter*; one field officer to Corfu. When mentioned in the reports of allocations to the list of appointments it is by their surnames.

134 See Diagram 2 - Distribution Of Garrison Troops.

135 A.C.W.M. classified department, 1805, minute No. 2, Count Lieven’s despatch No. 1993, dated 18 [30] August.

136 A.C.W.M. classified department, 1805, minute No. 2, report by Lieutenant General Count Tolstoy, Inspector of Infantry for the St Petersburg Inspection, No. 3017, dated 18 [30] August. The coincidence of the dates of 18 [30] August is explained by the fact that Count Lieven only informed General-of-Infantry Vyazmitinov about the Supreme command on this date, while these orders had reached the battalions much earlier.

137 A.C.W.M. classified department, 1805, minute No. 2, Count Lieven’s unnumbered despatch, dated 18 [30] August.

Two musketeer regiments¹³⁸ and three garrison battalions¹³⁹ - one each from the Arkhangelsk, Vologda and Velikie Luki garrisons - were assigned to Moscow, and were ordered to arrive via ‘the most direct route.’

These orders also led to the garrison forces receiving new commanders. For example, in Moscow they were ordered¹⁴⁰ ‘to come under the command of Lieutenant General Prince Gorchakov 2nd, under the overall command of General-of-Infantry Bekleshov.’¹⁴¹ There is also even the example that the commander of the corps assembling on the Moldavian border and was a reserve in name only (General-of-Cavalry Tormasov’s), was told that ‘those currently serving in your inspection (Kiev) shall remain as before in your remit.’¹⁴²

In conclusion, we repeat that all of the above orders, from ‘preparations for campaigning’ to these several listed minor orders, passed exclusively through the hands of Adjutant General Count Lieven.¹⁴³

Let us now move on to consider the composition of the army and corps.¹⁴⁴

The armies already mentioned were intended to be assigned the following composition:

		Under Mikhelson			
	Kutuzov	Buxhoeveden	Bennigsen	Essen 1 st	Tormasov
Cavalry squadrons	40	65	55	42	45
Cossack <i>Sotnia</i>	30	20	30	80	50
Infantry battalions	54	39	39	30	25 ¹⁴⁵
Foot artillery pieces ¹⁴⁶	144	120	120	120	96
Horse artillery pieces	24	24	24	36	24
Pioneer companies	2	2	2	2	1
Pontoon companies	1	1	1	1	1
Total combatants:	45,757	38,964	38,866	35,659	28,394
Total all ranks:	57,031	48,409	47,211	42,377	33,213

If we recall that armies in 1804 were designated: Army of the North - of 35 squadrons, 20 *Sotnia*, 60 battalions, 192 foot artillery pieces and 36 of horse artillery, two pioneer companies and two pontoon depots; Auxiliary Army - of 60 squadrons, 30 *Sotnia*, 69 battalions, 252 foot artillery pieces and 24 of horse artillery, two pioneer companies and two pontoon depots, then we must come to the conclusion that the armies formed in 1805 fluctuated in strength between the Northern and Auxiliary armies, but were significantly inferior in both infantry and artillery. The comparative conclusions made above about the armies of 1800 and 1804 is quite applicable in this case,¹⁴⁷ that is, the armies of 1805 are weaker in strength, but they are superior to the armies of 1800 in that they consist of all combat arms and are divided into corps.

138 A.C.W.M. classified department, 1805, minute No. 2, Count Lieven’s despatch No. 1914, dated 14 [26] August.

139 A.C.W.M. classified department, 1805, minute No. 2, Count Lieven’s despatches No. 1936 and No. 1937, dated 16 [28] August.

140 A.C.W.M. classified department, 1805, minute No. 2, Count Lieven’s despatches No. 1936 and No. 1937, dated 16 [28] August.

141 Inspector of the Moscow Inspection.

142 A.C.W.M. classified department, 1805, minute No. 2, Count Lieven’s despatch dated 28 July [9 August].

143 As is evident from any number of references to the despatches by Count Lieven.

144 For the detailed schedules, see appendices 1 and 2 to Part 28e (M.S.A. department III, No. 1066 and department II, No. 1556(A) and No. 1549), while the general composition is given in the following tables.

145 Only one battalion was assigned from one of the jäger regiments.

146 Calculated on the establishment of 12 guns per company and 48 per battalion.

147 See the table comparing the armies of 1800 and 1804 in Part 28c.

Composition Of The Corps In 1805.

	Kutuzov ¹⁴⁸			Buxhoeveden ¹⁴⁹		Essen 1 st ¹⁵⁰			Bennigsen ¹⁵¹					Tormasov ¹⁵²			
	Vanguard	1	2	1	2	1	2	3	1	2	I	II	III	1	2	Landing ¹⁵³	Reserve ¹⁵⁴
Squadrons	15	20	5	30	35	27	10	5	30	25	27 ¹⁵⁵	20	20	20	25	5	5
<i>Sotnia</i>	10	10	10	10	10	30	40	30	20	10	30	20	30	30	20	8	15
Battalions	11	23	20	21	18	22	8	-	22	17	22 ¹⁵⁶	14	10	13	11	23	12
Foot artillery pieces	24	72	48	72	48	84	12	-	72	48	84	24	48	48	48	48	36
Horse artillery pieces	6	6	12	12	12	18	12	6	12	12	12	12	6	6	6	4	12
Pioneer companies	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	1	1	1	1	-	½	½	-	-
Pontoon companies	-	½	½	½	½	½	½	-	½	½	½	½	-	½	½	-	-
Total manpower:	12879	24852	18982	25252	23157	26894	10234	5023	26700	20511	22755 ¹⁵⁷	16493	14960	14938	13196	17457	13348 ¹⁵⁸
Cavalry component:	3708	4633	1969	6416	7385	7166 ¹⁵⁹	3586 ¹⁶⁰	3993 ¹⁶¹	6531 ¹⁶²	4684 ¹⁶³	4739 ¹⁶⁴	5577	6577	5890	5568	1610	2469

148 See Appendix 2 to Part 28e.

149 See appendices 1 and 2 to Part 28e.

150 See Appendix 1 to Part 28e.

151 See appendices 1 and 2 to Part 28e.

152 See appendices 1 and 2 to Part 28e.

153 See Appendix 1 to Part 28e.

154 See appendices 1 and 2 to Part 28e.

155 Including 17 Lifeguard squadrons (see appendices 1 and 2 to Part 28e).

156 Including six battalions from three Lifeguard regiments, the Lifeguard Jäger Battalion and the Leib Grenadier Regiment (see appendices 1 and 2 to Part 28e).

157 Including around 8,000 from the Lifeguard (see Appendix 2 to Part 28e).

158 In addition, the replacement squadrons and half squadrons, which are not shown numerically in the schedule.

159 Combatants only (see Appendix 1 to Part 28e).

160 Combatants only (see Appendix 1 to Part 28e).

161 Combatants only (see Appendix 1 to Part 28e).

162 Combatants only (see Appendix 1 to Part 28e).

163 Combatants only (see Appendix 1 to Part 28e).

164 Not including the Lifeguard.

	Kutuzov			Buxhoeveden		Essen 1 st			Bennigsen					Tormasov			
	Vanguard	1	2	1	2	1	2	3	1	2	I	II	III	1	2	Landing	Reserve
Infantry component:	8409	17922	15180	16290	13839	13052 ¹⁶⁵	4498 ¹⁶⁶	-	13951 ¹⁶⁷	10392 ¹⁶⁸	8640 ¹⁶⁹	9696	7008	7530	6180	12909	9513

Without going into a consideration of the ratios of various troop types within the armies, which are shown in the preceding table, because those under the overall command of General Mikhelson would soon receive a new composition,¹⁷⁰ let us move on to considering the composition of the corps. For completeness of coverage of the issue of corps, the table here shows both those intended to be formed¹⁷¹ and those actually formed.¹⁷²

Almost all the conclusions drawn above about the corps of 1804 in the projected Army of the North and Auxiliary Army are again applicable to this table, namely:

1. There is no established norm for the number of military units that should make up a corps, and therefore the numerical strength of corps varies widely from 10,234 to 26,894 men.¹⁷³
2. Of the 17 corps, there are no engineering troops in six.
3. The number of squadrons fluctuates between five and 35, while that of *Sotnia* is between ten and 40, the latter figure differs sharply from the number of *Sotnia* in the corps of 1804 and serves as confirmation of the implementation of the view of the Military Commission¹⁷⁴ that ‘without unnecessary costs in peacetime for subsistence’ for regular cavalry,¹⁷⁵ they can ‘immediately be multiplied with Cossacks when the need arises.’
4. The total of battalions in the corps was intended to be between 15 and 27, while in fact from eight to 23 battalions were allocated.
5. The number of foot artillery pieces varied within wider limits, namely: in 1804 it was between 48 and 96 guns, while in 1805 it was from 12 to 84, but at the same time, the number of infantry battalions still played a related role, for example:

¹⁶⁵ Combatants only (see Appendix 1 to Part 28e).

¹⁶⁶ Combatants only (see Appendix 1 to Part 28e).

¹⁶⁷ Combatants only (see Appendix 1 to Part 28e).

¹⁶⁸ Combatants only (see Appendix 1 to Part 28e).

¹⁶⁹ Not including the Lifeguard.

¹⁷⁰ General-of-Infantry Golenishchev-Kutuzov’s army was reinforced by Count Buxhoeveden’s corps and the Guard, under the command of the Tsarevich.

¹⁷¹ For example, there were no corps in the army under General-of-Infantry Golenishchev-Kutuzov - they were divided into six columns.

¹⁷² Not including the ‘corps in the Ionian Islands’ which will be dealt with separately (see Part 28i).

¹⁷³ Not counting III Corps in Lieutenant General Essen’s army, which consisted only of cavalry (5,023 men).

¹⁷⁴ See Part 12, report by the Military Commission.

¹⁷⁵ This was a motivation, as mentioned above, as there was not ‘a need’ to multiply them.

- a. 12 guns were allocated to eight battalions, while 24 were allocated to 11 battalions (Kutuzov's and Essen 1st's armies), while ten battalions had 48 guns (Bennigsen's army).
 - b. 11 battalions were also allocated 24, and 48 guns respectively, while 12 battalions had 36 guns.
 - c. 22 battalions were allocated 84 guns, while 23 battalions had 72 guns (Kutuzov's and Essen 1st's armies).
6. Horse artillery was also assigned without regard to the number of squadrons and *Sotnia*, for example, for five squadrons and 15 *Sotnia* there were 12 guns, while 25 squadrons and 20 *Sotnia* had six guns (Rimsky-Korsakov's corps and Tormasov's army) and for 27 squadrons and 30 *Sotnia* there were 18 guns.

Thereafter we note that the composition of regiments were also split, for example:

- a. The Lifeguard regiments sent two battalions each on campaign.¹⁷⁶
- b. The Lifeguard Cossacks sent just two squadrons.¹⁷⁷
- c. In the Landing Corps, one Don Cossack regiment sent three *Sotnia*.¹⁷⁸
- d. Artillery companies were divided not only into half a companies, but that assigned to the Landing Corps was just four guns, that is, a third of a company.

The ratio of different troop types (see table above) is expressed as follows:

1. For each cavalryman there were from one to four infantrymen rising to seven infantrymen (General-of-Cavalry Bennigsen's III Corps, General-of-Infantry Golenishchev-Kutuzov's 1 and 2 corps).
2. For every 1,000 infantrymen there were two or three guns rising to ten guns (Lieutenant General Essen 1st's 2 Corps, General-of-Cavalry Baron Bennigsen's I and II corps).
3. For every 1,000 cavalrymen there were one to six guns (General-of-Cavalry Tormasov's 1 and 2 corps, and General-of-Infantry Golenishchev-Kutuzov's 2 Corps).
4. Cossacks made up a significant part of the cavalry within the corps, for example, in the cavalry corps (Lieutenant General Essen 1st's 3 Corps) $\frac{3}{4}$ were Cossacks, while in the remainder the Cossacks made up from a quarter (General-of-Cavalry Baron Bennigsen's 2 Corps) to half (General-of-Cavalry Baron Bennigsen's II and III corps).

Thus, the diverse composition of the corps, in their internal structure, suffered from a significant drawback; the constituent elements of the corps are in a mostly arbitrary ratio, with some elements sometimes either completely absent (engineer troops, for example), or their ratio is as much as half (cavalry to infantry in General-of-Cavalry Baron Bennigsen's III Corps, for example), and this had a serious impact on the freedom of action of the corps.

In general, of the above armies, only that of Podolia (General-of-Infantry Golenishchev-Kutuzov's) retained its composition more or less, the rest of the armies were reorganised.

On 10 [22] August 1805, General-of-Infantry Golenishchev-Kutuzov 'entered Austrian territory' and his army underwent a complete reorganisation; it was divided into columns, as has already been mentioned. The composition of the columns was as follows:¹⁷⁹

Columns	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	Total
Squadrons	10	5	10	5	5	5	40
<i>Sotnia</i>	5	5	5	5	5	5	30
Battalions	8 ¹⁸⁰	9	8 ¹⁸¹	9	11 ¹⁸²	9	54

176 A.C.W.M. classified department, 1805, minute No. 2, copied with the Supreme decree to His Highness, dated 8 [20] August.

177 A.C.W.M. classified department, 1805, minute No. 2, copied with the Supreme decree to His Highness, dated 8 [20] August.

178 See the table above.

179 See Appendix 1 to Part 28d.

180 Two battalions from 6th Jäger Regiment.

	Columns	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	Total
Foot artillery pieces		24	24	24	24	24	24	144
Horse artillery pieces		6	6	-	-	12	-	24
Pioneer companies		-	1	-	-	1	-	2
Pontoon companies		-	-	½	-	-	½	1

This table shows that each column consisted of all combat arms, yet the composition of the columns was allocated inconsistently, for example, in two columns (1st and 3rd) the number of infantry battalions was for some reason fewer and the complement of two Jaeger regiments was split, while in the 5th Column the number of battalions reached 11, whereas it was possible to assign three regiments of infantry or nine battalions to every column; horse artillery was missing from three columns (3rd, 4th and 6th), yet in the 5th Column there were 12 guns; pioneer companies and pontoon half companies are also attached to some columns, the distribution of which is also considered inconsistent.

The columns ranged in strength from 6,579 to 8,102 men¹⁸³ and essentially represented small detachments from all combat arms.

Controlling the column could not have been difficult, since the temporary commander had to deal with just four to five regiments and two to three companies.

Thus, the Army was divided into six small detachments, which consisted of individual regiments¹⁸⁴ and independent 'commands'¹⁸⁵ which is how the issue of the convenience of managing a mass of 50,000 men was only partially resolved. We draw particular attention to the fact that no orders were issued for the artillery parks and we shall see that this omission subsequently caused quite a few difficulties, especially after the report by General-of-Infantry Golenishchev-Kutuzov in September 1805, when His Majesty was informed that 'the number of available rounds was not enough and that in the event of a significant engagement with the enemy two-thirds of them would easily be expended...'¹⁸⁶

We have already mentioned that the armies under General-of-Cavalry Mikhelson's overall command, were soon reorganised; the initial orders in this regard were issued on 5 [17] October 1805.

By this point, General-of-Cavalry Mikhelson had been issued the following Supreme orders:¹⁸⁷

'I have proposed that from the three armies under your overall command: Volhynia, Lithuania and North, to form two corps and a reserve army, and in addition, to reinforce Count Tolstoy's corps (in Swedish Pomerania), and to detach some of the cavalry also. Which troop types and precisely where they are intended to go under these new formations, you will see from the special return attached herewith.¹⁸⁸ One of the above-mentioned corps is to be formed under the command of General-of-Infantry Buxhoeveden, the other under General-of-Cavalry Baron Bennigsen.

Meanwhile, entrusting to your sole care both the formation of the corps and the command of the cavalry shown in this return, in accordance with its objective, and at the same time, entrusting you with detaching from these regiments two of Cossacks to the army of General-of-Infantry Golenishchev-Kutuzov, I am utterly convinced from the experience of the outstanding work you are doing that all this will be carried out

181 One battalion each from 6th Jägers and 8th Jägers.

182 Two battalions from 8th Jäger Regiment.

183 M.S.A Department II, No. 1549. According to the report dated 26 August [7 September], the allocated strengths of the columns were as follows: 1st Column - 7,346 men; 2nd Column - 7,665; 3rd Column - 6,583; 4th Column - 6,579; 5th Column - 8,102; 6th Column - 7,738. While there were 49,657 men (according to the listings there were 52,249) in total in the corps, or General-of-Infantry Golenishchev-Kutuzov's army as it was referred to at the time.

184 The regiments were sometimes split (see notes on the table of column composition above).

185 This is how the instructions to General-of-Infantry Golenishchev-Kutuzov refer to the sub-units of a company or regiment.

186 In view of the particular importance of the issue of parks, we draw attention to it and will consider in detail below the progression in the formation of parks, but for now we shall state that Austerlitz helped General-of-Infantry Golenishchev-Kutuzov, in that it rendered all the hasty park preparations unnecessary.

187 A.C.W.M. classified department, 1805, minute No. 14, Count Lieven's despatch to the War Minister for Land Forces dated 8 [20] October, and listing 4.

188 The composition of the corps shown below is according to this return.

properly and with the desired success.’

With regard to the reserve army, over which General-of-Infantry Rimsky-Korsakov was appointed commander, Supreme orders stated that:¹⁸⁹ ‘This army will be deployed from Polangen [Połaga or Palanga] to Proskurow [Płoskirów or Khmelnytsky], in four corps, in the locations indicated in the attached schedule... Entrusting the formation of the reserve army to you (General-of-Infantry Rimsky-Korsakov), I command you to immediately begin its execution and issue the appropriate orders on your part. The troops allocated to form this reserve army, in addition to those who are currently under your command, have been given orders to proceed immediately to their new assignments and to come under your command. General-of-Cavalry Mikhelson will inform you of the march routes that the regiments located abroad must follow to their assigned locations, such that you will be able to meet them with instructions once they enter our borders.’

The composition of the corps was as follows:¹⁹⁰

1. General-of-Cavalry Baron Bennigsen’s Corps:

Cavalry: two cuirassier regiments (ten squadrons); three dragoon regiments (15 squadrons); two hussar regiments (20 squadrons), for a total of 45 squadrons.

Cossacks: six regiments (30 *Sotnia*).

Infantry: three grenadier regiments (six battalions); eight musketeer regiments (24 battalions); two jäger regiment (six battalions), for a total of 39 battalions.

Artillery: two battalions and three foot companies (11 companies); two horse companies.

Engineers: two pioneer companies; one pontoon company.

2. General-of-Infantry Count Buxhoeveden’s Corps:

Cavalry: Chevalier Garde Regiment (five squadrons); Lifeguard Horse (five squadrons); Kharkov Dragoons (five squadrons); Lifeguard Hussars and Yelisavetgrad Hussars (15 squadrons); His Highness’ Ulans (ten squadrons); Lifeguard Cossacks (two squadrons), for a total of 42 squadrons.

Cossacks: six regiments (30 *Sotnia*).

Infantry: three Lifeguard regiments (six battalions); two grenadier regiments (six battalions); seven musketeer regiments (21 battalions); two jäger regiments and the Lifeguard Jäger Battalion (seven battalions), for a total of 39 battalions.

Artillery: Lifeguard Artillery (three companies); from two regiments (eight companies); horse artillery (two companies, one from the Lifeguard).

Engineers: two pioneer companies; one pontoon company.

3. Reserve Army:

Cavalry: one cuirassier regiment (five squadrons); eight dragoon regiments (40 squadrons); Poland Horse, Lithuania Horse, Tatar Horse (20 squadrons); Chuguev Cossacks (five squadrons), for a total of 70 squadrons.

Cossacks: 15 regiments (75 *Sotnia*).

Infantry: 17 musketeer regiments (51 battalions); two jäger regiment (five battalions, one regiment having only two battalions), for a total of 56 battalions.

4. Reinforcements for Lieutenant General Count Tolstoy’s Corps:

Cavalry: one dragoon regiment (five squadrons); one hussar regiment (ten squadrons);¹⁹¹ two Cossack regiments (ten *Sotnia*); one horse artillery company.

5. To join General-of-Infantry Golenishchev-Kutuzov’s Army:

189 A.C.W.M. classified department, 1805, minute No. 14, dated 6 [18] October.

190 A.C.W.M. classified department, 1805, minute No. 14, compiled according to the schedules from Supreme orders to General-of-Cavalry Mikhelson dated 5 [17] October 1805 and No. 45 forwarded to the State Military Collegium on 17 [29] October 1805.

191 Proceeding to General Bennigsen’s Corps.

Two Cossack regiments (ten *Sotnia*).

The troops of the Reserve Army were to be subordinated into four corps, as outlined in the table below:¹⁹²

	Battalions	Squadrons	<i>Sotnia</i>	Foot companies	Horse companies
1 st Corps	15 ¹⁹³	20 ¹⁹⁴	20	3 ¹⁹⁵	-
2 nd Corps	15 ¹⁹⁶	15 ¹⁹⁷	15	4	1
3 rd Corps	12	15 ¹⁹⁸	20	3	1
4 th Corps ¹⁹⁹	14 ²⁰⁰	20 ²⁰¹	20	3	1
Total:	56	70	75	13	3

Nevertheless, this division of all the armies under General-of-Cavalry Mikhelson into corps was probably only a projection, since on 7 [19] October an order had just been issued to divide the corps into columns, and on 8 [20] November the composition of the reserve army was reduced by almost half, so we shall desist on the composition of these corps.

First of all, we note that the corps under General-of-Cavalry Baron Bennigsen and General-of-Infantry Count Buxhoeveden consisted of every combat arm and had almost the same composition, the former having just three more cavalry squadrons. Each of the corps was very close to the composition of the Army of the North (formerly General-of-Cavalry Baron Bennigsen's),²⁰² the difference being in the number of squadrons and artillery companies,²⁰³ therefore, in essence, the only change was the name. If we look at the composition of the corps in General-of-Infantry Rimsky-Korsakov's Reserve Army, we must come to the conclusion that the smallest corps constituted barely half of the corps under General-of-Infantry Count Buxhoeveden, that is, the concept of a corps continued to be conditional, and a corps, strictly speaking, referred to a certain number of regiments and companies assigned to the command of a designated general.

In addition, the actual composition of the corps within the Reserve Army did not represent anything new; we found similar corps, for example, in the army under General-of-Cavalry Baron Bennigsen, as mentioned above...²⁰⁴

If the administration of the Reserve Army divided into four corps was convenient, the same cannot be said of the corps under General-of-Cavalry Baron Bennigsen and General-of-Infantry Count Buxhoeveden, since they did not yet have smaller formations consisting of several regiments.

By way of Supreme orders dated 7 [19] October 1805, these corps were divided into columns.²⁰⁵

‘According to the measures taken, as stated in orders with regard to the passage of two corps, General-of-Cavalry Baron Bennigsen's and General-of-Infantry Count Buxhoeveden's, across Prussian and *Kaiserlichen* territory to their designated locations, I propose that the first of these corps marches in eight columns, five

192 A.C.W.M. classified department, 1805, minute No. 14, according to Supreme orders issued to General-of-Infantry Rimsky-Korsakov dated 6 [18] October 1805.

193 Including one jäger regiment of three battalions.

194 Including the Lithuania Horse Regiment of five squadrons.

195 One company was composed of half heavy guns and half regimental guns.

196 All musketeer regiments.

197 Five squadrons of cuirassiers, five of Chuguev Cossacks and five of dragoons.

198 Five squadrons of Tatar Horse and ten of dragoons.

199 There were no ‘newly formed regiments’ in this corps, but the first three corps had two such regiments each.

200 Including one jäger regiment of two battalions.

201 Ten squadrons of Poland Horse and ten of dragoons.

202 See the tables above.

203 There were ten more squadrons and an additional foot artillery company in the army.

204 See the conclusions about such corps mentioned above.

205 A.C.W.M. classified department, 1805, minute No. 14, Supreme orders for General-of-Cavalry Mikhelson sent with Count Lieven's despatch dated 7 [19] October 1805.

via Grodno, and three via Warsaw and Novomesto [Nowe Miasto nad Pilicą]; while the latter marches in five columns via Slavkovo [Sławków] and Beyten [Bytom] to Troppau [Opava]. Therefore, I instruct you to order General-of-Cavalry Baron Bennigsen as follows:

1. That he is to move all the regiments located in Samogitia [western Lithuania] to Grodno immediately and, having placed them in the order indicated in the description of the columns, is to direct them to Grodno himself...²⁰⁶
2. Having confirmed every necessity on this subject (despatches with the Prussian commissioners 'regarding the provision of rations for the troops en route and timings for their entry into Prussian territory'), the columns must set off abroad precisely one after the other in the order prescribed for them.
3. (With regard to provisioning).
4. He, Baron Bennigsen, is to leave all the cavalry earmarked to reinforce the corps under Lieutenant General Count Tolstoy in Samogitia in their current permanent quarters, except for the Sumy Hussar Regiment, which is to go with him from now on until commanded otherwise; entrust this cavalry to the command of Major General Löschern, in anticipation of orders to proceed.
5. Major General Ulanov's battalion from 2nd Artillery Regiment are to leave two half companies with the Reserve Army, one of heavy guns and one of regimental guns.'

The division of General-of-Infantry Buxhoeveden's army into five columns.²⁰⁷

	Squadrons	<i>Sotnia</i>	Battalions	Companies	Guns
1st Column					
One regiment each of Cossacks and dragoons, plus horse artillery	5	5	-	-	4
One jäger regiment	-	-	3	-	-
One grenadier regiment with artillery	-	-	3	-	6
A half-company of heavy artillery	-	-	-	-	6
One pioneer company	-	-	-	1	-
1st Column Total:	5	5	6	1	16
2nd Column					
Two Cossack regiments	-	10	-	-	-
Two musketeer regiments with artillery	-	-	6	-	12
One heavy artillery company	-	-	-	-	12
One pontoon company	-	-	-	1	-
2nd Column Total:	-	10	6	1	24
3rd Column					
One hussar regiment with horse artillery	10	-	-	-	4
One jäger regiment	-	-	3	-	-
One musketeer regiment with artillery	-	-	3	-	6
A half-company of heavy artillery	-	-	-	-	6
3rd Column Total:	10	-	6	-	16
4th Column					

²⁰⁶ This continued with regard to relations with the commissioners.

²⁰⁷ Each column was to march 'one after the other' to Troppau.

	Squadrons	<i>Sonia</i>	Battalions	Companies	Guns
Two Cossack regiments	-	10	-	-	-
Two musketeer regiments with artillery	-	-	6	-	12
One heavy artillery company	-	-	-	-	12
One pioneer company	-	-	-	1	-
4th Column Total:	-	10	6	1	24
5th Column					
One regiment each of Cossacks and ulans, plus horse artillery	10	5	-	-	4
Two musketeer regiments with artillery	-	-	6	-	12
One heavy artillery company	-	-	-	-	12
5th Column Total:	10	5	6	-	12
Grand Total:	25	30	30	2+1	108²⁰⁸

The division of General-of-Cavalry Baron Bennigsen's force into columns:

	Squadrons	<i>Sonia</i>	Battalions	Companies	Guns
1st Column					
Two hussar regiments with horse artillery	20	-	-	-	12
2nd Column					
Two dragoon regiments with horse artillery	10	-	-	-	4
Two grenadier regiments with artillery	-	-	6	-	12
One heavy artillery company	-	-	-	-	12
2nd Column Total:	10	-	6	-	28
3rd Column					
Two Cossack regiments with horse artillery	-	10	-	-	8
One musketeer regiment with artillery	-	-	3	-	6
One and a half heavy artillery companies	-	-	-	-	18
3rd Column Total:	-	10	3	-	32
One regiment each of Cossacks and cuirassiers	5	5	-	-	-
One jäger regiment	-	-	3	-	-
One musketeer regiment with artillery	-	-	3	-	6

208 In addition, the army also included the Guard, which was not included in the columns, since they formed an independent 'corps under the command of H.I.H. the Tsarevich': Chevalier Garde, Lifeguard Horse, Lifeguard Hussars, two squadrons of Lifeguard Cossacks - 17 squadrons; six battalions of Lifeguard infantry plus the Lifeguard Jäger Battalion and three battalions of Leib Grenadiers - ten battalions; three companies of Lifeguard foot artillery and one of Lifeguard horse artillery - 48 guns (A.C.W.M. classified department, 1805, minute No. 14, War Minister for Land Forces despatch No. 420 to General-of-Infantry Rimsky-Korsakov, dated 17 [29] October 1805; H.I.H. Tsarevich's despatch No. 180 to the War Minister for Land Forces, dated 8 [20] October 1805).

	Squadrons	<i>Sonia</i>	Battalions	Companies	Guns
A half-company of heavy artillery	-	-	-	-	6
One pioneer company	-	-	-	1	-
4th Column Total:	5	5	6	1	12
5th Column					
One regiment each of Cossacks and cuirassiers	5	5	-	-	-
Two musketeer regiments with artillery	-	-	6	-	12
One heavy artillery company	-	-	-	-	12
5th Column Total:	5	5	6	-	24
6th Column					
One hussar regiment	10	-	-	-	-
One musketeer regiment with artillery	-	-	3	-	6
One and a half heavy artillery companies	-	-	-	-	18
One pontoon company	-	-	-	1	-
6th Column Total:	10	-	3	1	24
7th Column					
Two Cossack regiments	-	10	-	-	-
One regiment each of grenadiers and musketeers, with artillery	-	-	6	-	12
One heavy artillery company	-	-	-	-	12
One pioneer company	-	-	-	1	-
7th Column Total:	-	10	6	1	24
8th Column					
One dragoon regiment	5	-	-	-	-
One jäger regiment	-	-	3	-	-
Two musketeer regiments with artillery	-	-	6	-	12
8th Column Total:	5	-	9	-	12
Grand Total:	55²⁰⁹	30	39	2+1	156

The lists just given show that the corps were divided into small detachments made up of every combat arm, and the detachments were again of arbitrary composition. Comparing these columns with those discussed above,²¹⁰ we note the following:

1. There was no splitting of regiments; entire regiments were allocated to columns.
2. Each column had artillery; with musketeer and grenadier regiments (six guns per regiment), and heavy artillery (except 8th Column) from half to one and a half companies.
3. In some columns, horse artillery was attached to the cavalry regiments, four guns between ten to 15 squadrons, or 12 guns for 20 squadrons, that is, the number of guns were allocated

²⁰⁹ The extra ten squadrons were because the Izyum Hussars followed the army, having been intended to join the corps under Lieutenant General Count Tolstoy.

²¹⁰ See the Army under General-of-Infantry Golenishchev-Kutuzov above.

arbitrarily.

4. One horse artillery company was split into three parts.
5. The 1st Column consisted of cavalry alone with the addition of a whole company of horse artillery.

Thus, the issue of the internal organisation of the corps was resolved by dividing them into small detachments (columns), but at the same time, the convenience for the administration of a mass of about 45,000 men was relative,²¹¹ since the formations were inconsistent and made up of individual regiments and individual sub-units.

²¹¹ See Appendix 1 to Part 28e. The reduced strength of the Army of the North, the composition of which was very close to the composition of these corps.