Year 3 – No. 9

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Unless otherwise noted, the drawings interspersed throughout the text are by G. Bauer and R. Knötel.

Editor
Markus Stein

2020 translation: Justin Howard
Introduction

First of all, I would like to convey my thanks for the kind letters, sent in reply to my circular, in which many readers expressed understanding for the delay to this issue. In fact, two issues – the result of a year’s work – are now being published simultaneously and, as announced, the focus in this issue as well as part of the next one will be on the Campaign of 1807, which is now 180 years ago.

This campaign, or rather its consequences, brought Napoleon I to the summit of his turbulent career, because France was then faced only by its arch-enemy England, and its sphere of power and influence had reached its greatest extent. But at what price! As early as the Winter Campaign of 1806/07, first major weak points had become apparent in Napoleon’s method of conducting warfare, for example the French army and corps commanders’ lack of strategic and tactical training. Significant flaws also manifested themselves in the French supply system, which was based almost exclusively on the requisition and purchasing of stocks and goods in the occupied enemy country – difficult to achieve in the impoverished and, moreover, wintry Poland.

Finally, Napoleon’s military genius was likewise shown its limits, because the Russian army repeatedly eluded Napoleon’s grasp, skilfully occupied positions and put up bitter resistance. This had to be compensated by the Grande Armée, which in my opinion literally found its end in the campaign of 1807 – the murderous butchery of Eylau and Golymin come to mind. Many experienced veterans fell on the battlefields of Poland or became invalids, so that from then on Napoleon increasingly had to draw on young, barely trained recruits – for instance for the Summer Campaign of 1807, recruits that were actually foreseen for the years 1808 and 1809, and therefore in some cases were aged 17 or even 16, were sometimes conscripted. This lack of experience could only be compensated by a fierce fighting spirit, which also of course couldn’t manifest itself in elaborate tactical manoeuvres but rather in standing their ground and wild charges – following the principle of quantity rather than quality, thus beginning the age of massed battles, which reached its height during the First World War.

One particularly typical sign of the inadequate level of training in the “new” Grande Armée of the summer of 1807, and indeed later, is apparent in the very poor reconnaissance work done by the French cavalry – once the pride of the French army. This is the only possible explanation for the French army marching “blindly” around in the summer of 1807, as well as the occurrence of the accidental battles – the expression is appropriate in this case – of Heilsberg and Friedland. Even on the morning of 14 June 1807, Napoleon didn’t believe the reports that the Russian army was at Friedland, where it had placed itself, under Bennigsen, in a deadly trap. After these critical thoughts, I would like to wish the reader pleasant reading of this “Depesche”, which – I believe – offers a good cross-section of the troops that took part in the Campaign of 1807.

Markus Stein
The Campaign of 1807

On 27 November 1806, Napoleon leaves Berlin and soon afterwards arrives at Posen. The reason for this was the approach of Russian forces. A new war begins in Poland. The news of the collapse of the Prussian army had awakened in the Poles hope of liberation and the restoration of their fatherland. The French, who were seen as the agents of this undertaking, were welcomed accordingly. At the end of December, several encounters between Russians and French took place. The most significant occurred on 26 September at Pultusk, where the Russian army, commanded by Bennigsen, was able to escape impending encirclement. Napoleon’s plan, to get behind the Russian army and destroy it with a single blow so that he could dictate peace, had failed. On 30 January 1807, the renewed French advance towards Eylau began. There, on 7 February, they encountered the Russians, who had decided to fight. After fierce fighting, the bloodiest and most costly battle so far in the Napoleonic Wars began on 8 February. The Russians had equipped their line with about 500 guns, some of which were large calibre, and awaited the enemy. L’Estocq, with his Prussian corps, hadn’t yet appeared on the battlefield. An assault by Augereau’s French corps was shattered by the fire of the Russian batteries. This bombardment was so intense that the corps was effectively wiped out, and ceased to exist. Supported by large masses of cavalry, the French gained ground. The Prussians appeared on the battlefield at the crucial moment. The French advance was stopped, and the Russian retreat was covered. Darkness spread over the exhausted hostile armies. Around 45,000 men, half of the combatants, lay dead or wounded on the frozen battlefield. The costly battle had been inconclusive. Instead of the decisive outcome Napoleon hoped for, the Russians had vacated the battlefield unnoticed. Napoleon decided against a pursuit, in order to allow his exhausted troops to rest and recuperate, and to refill the depleted ranks. Immediately after the Battle of Eylau, Napoleon offered the King of Prussia the conclusion of a separate peace, without any consideration for the Tsar. This offer, which was made again on 20 February, was declined by Friedrich Wilhelm III out of consideration for his ally. In response, a new treaty of alliance between Prussia and Russia came into being on 26 April in Bartenstein. Initially the city of Danzig became the focus of further events. At the end of February, close encirclement began under Lefebvre. An attempt to relieve the besieged garrison on 15 May failed. The Russians had to withdraw, with the loss of 1600 men. Despite this failure, the defenders of Danzig continued their resistance. However, the fortress’s gunpowder supply...
began to run out. Kalkreuth therefore decided to negotiate, as long as he could still put up resistance and stipulate terms. On 26 May, the capitulation was signed. The garrison was allowed to withdraw with standards flying and taking their weapons with them. They were accompanied by the French, amid military salutes, to the Prussian pickets at Pillau. With the fall of the fortress, a confidence boost for Napoleon, the besieging army was freed up for the impending clashes with the Prusso-Russian troops.

At the beginning of June 1807, field operations began. An enormously superior force was ready to grind the allies’ high hopes into the ground. Napoleon had deployed 250,000 men to destroy the barely 90,000-man strong allied army. The French army’s general advance began on 9 June. The next day, it encountered the Russians at Heilsberg. They had dug themselves in, and awaited the French assault. Only 43,000 men under Soult and Murat drew near. All the rest of the troops were still far behind. Their assault on the Russian entrenchments failed. The Russians, who were numerically superior, didn’t launch a counter attack. Bennigsen limited himself to simply keeping possession of the battlefield. The Russians escaped the menace of an assault by the approaching French units. During the night of 11 June, they vacated the battlefield.

The aim of the Russians was now to reach Königsberg. On the way there, they had to cross the river Alle. However, the only bridge was at Friedland. The crossing began on 14 June. The pursuing French took the offensive, which developed into the Battle of Friedland. At about one o’clock in the afternoon, the battle was opened along the complete line. The Russian left wing was smashed by Ney, and driven towards Friedland. Inside the city, a terrible bayonet fight ensued. The densely packed Russians suffered tremendous losses. The French victory was complete. In the headlong retreat, the defeated Russian army sought safety north of the Memel river. Königsberg and the Prussians were abandoned to their fate. On 21 June, hostilities ended. The armistice was followed on 9 July by the conclusion of the Treaty of Tilsit.
Its conditions, which for Prussia involved the greatest losses, can be summarised as follows: it was robbed of all of its territories west of the Elbe, including the important fortress of Magdeburg, from which the Kingdom of Westfalen was formed. It lost the district of Cottbus to the Saxons; the complete region which had been received in the partitions of Poland, from which the Duchy of Warsaw was created; Danzig was declared a free city; Saxe-Coburg, Oldenburg and Mecklenburg-Schwerin had to be returned to their monarchs, and the fortifications of Breslau, Brieg and Schweidnitz had to be razed. These are the main Prussian territorial losses as a result of the Treaty of Tilsit. The country, with a population of about 4,938,000 people and about 2,870 square miles, had thus been reduced to a third-rank power.

By outrageously exploiting the Prussian state, Napoleon endeavoured to render impossible that it could be rebuilt in the short term. On 12 July, the Königsberg ratification was completed. Due to General von Kalkreuth’s incompetence and ineptitude, Napoleon had achieved his goal by the conclusion of the ratification. This specified exactly the pull-out of the French troops from the individual Prussian territories. As stipulated, they were to be pulled back across the Elbe by 1 October. However, France was only bound to these terms if Prussia had paid its reparations by then, or if the Prussian government had furnished enough securities that they would be paid off. When this article was signed by the Prussian negotiator, Count von Kalkreuth, neither the amount of the contribution nor the timeframe for its payment were known. However, since by this time it had already been mentioned that the reparation would amount to at least 100 million francs, it is incomprehensible that von Kalkreuth signed the article. This treaty allowed Napoleon to remain in occupation of the majority of the Prussian state, and to support his troops at someone else’s expense. On 28 August in Berlin, Napoleon’s Intendant-General, Count Daru, handed over the infamous calculation of the sum levied on the Prussians. Included, amongst other things, was that the state’s complete revenue for the period from 1 November 1806 until the conclusion of peace was laid claim to by France, and the war debt was increased to the level of 154 million francs. After Knobelsdorff’s mission to
Napoleon, with the aim of negotiating reduction of the reparations, ended unsuccessfully, Friedrich Wilhelm III decided to call upon Tsar Alexander for mediation with Napoleon. On 26 September in Kamenoi Ostrow, von Schöler, the Prussian envoy, handed over a letter from Friedrich Wilhelm to the Tsar. However, he wasn’t convinced that Russia could exert any influence in Paris. In its current weakened state, Russia had to exercise restraint towards France, so for now Prussia had to reckon without the Tsar’s support.

**Overview of the Campaign**

26 December 1806:  
Battle of Pultusk.  
40,000 Russians versus 16,000 French under Lannes. French losses: 2,200 dead and wounded.

7 February 1807:  
Battle of Preussisch-Eylau  
Russians under Bennigsen versus Soult’s French corps. The Russians abandon the city during the night.

8 February:  
Battle of Preussisch-Eylau.  
60,000 Russians under Bennigsen and 6,000 Prussians under L'Estocq versus 60,000 French under Napoleon. The battle ends with the Allies’ withdrawal.  
Prussian losses: 450 dead and wounded (900 according to Jany). Russian losses: 25,000 dead and wounded (18,000 according to Jany).  
French losses: 18,000 dead and wounded (29,000 according to Jany).

26 April:  
Treaty of alliance between Russia and Prussia, concluded in Bartenstein.

24 May:  
Capitulation of the city of Danzig.

10 June: Battle of Heilsberg.  
70,000 Russians and Prussians under Bennigsen versus 43,000 French under Soult and Murat. The battle ends with a victory for the Allies.  
Allied losses: 6,000 dead and wounded.  
French losses: 10,000 dead and wounded.
14 June: Battle of Friedland.
70,000 Russians under Bennigsen versus 90,000 French under Napoleon.
The battle ends with a decisive victory for the French.
Russian losses: 18,000 dead and wounded, as well as 20,000 prisoners.
French losses: 10,700 dead and wounded.

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Manfred Göddert, Lohfelden
Death of General Dahlmann, Commander of the French Chasseurs à Cheval de la Garde, at Preussisch-Eylau.
Questions and Answers

British Pioneers
What did the uniforms, equipment and armament of the pioneers of the British highland and rifle regiments look like?

S. Wagener jr., Nuremberg

Pioneers of the Highland Regiments (ca. 1815):
Their equipment was consistent with that of the pioneers of the British line regiments. They wore the red coat of the British infantry, and probably long grey trousers, or ones in tartan pattern, instead of the kilt. In addition, amongst other things, they had a knee-length leather apron and wore a full beard.

Per battalion, 1 corporal and 10 pioneers (1 from each company) carried a billhook each and shared amongst themselves 3 saws, 5 axes, 8 spades, 3 pickaxes and 3 mattocks. Together with the knapsack and a short-barrelled musket, the pioneers had to carry a considerable amount of equipment, so likely weren’t of a frail physique.

Pioneers of the Rifle Regiments:
Due to their function as sharpshooters, fighting in an open formation, the rifle regiments didn’t have any pioneers. One billhook was allotted per group of four men, in which the soldiers took turns at carrying it. I believe also, that one in every ten men had been trained in pioneer duties, because, since the riflemen operated like the light infantry, reconnoitring the army’s route, pioneers or specially trained soldiers had to be capable of removing any obstacles.

A. Nettleship, Great Britain
Kingdom of Westphalia

In order to produce a comprehensive and in-depth study on the Kingdom of Westphalia, a group of *Depesche* authors is currently collecting material on the general and military history of the kingdom, as well as on organisation and uniforms of the Westphalian troops. The editor of *Depesche* thus requests any collectors that possess source material to contact him, with a view to exchanging documents or copies.

We would therefore be glad, if you are prepared to collaborate, if you would write to us at the editor’s address.

M. Stein, Mannheim
Russian Dragoons 1807

Introduction
I have chosen the dragoons as representative of the Russian Army for the Campaign of 1807, because for this early period of the Napoleonic Wars they have received little attention in the well-known studies on uniforms, and are also overshadowed by their more splendidly coloured comrades from the hussar and cuirassier regiments. What’s more, as in all large armies of the time, with 36 regiments they anyway formed the backbone of the Russian cavalry. Thus, during the entire campaign, and therefore also at Preussisch-Eylau, the Kargopol, Kourland, Pskov, Kiev, Riga, Kazan, Moscov, Ingermanland, St. Petersburg, Livland, Finland and Mitava regiments saw action, and were even joined in June 1807 by the New-Russia, Harkov and Chernihov regiments.

An exact order of battle will be omitted here, because it would be beyond the scope of this article. Interested readers are referred to the excellent standard work by O. v. Lettow-Vorbeck about the War of 1806 and 1807.

![The Russian Army 1807](image)
**Organisation**

As already mentioned, in 1807 the Russian dragoon branch encompassed 36 regiments, each of which included 5 field squadrons as well as a half-squadron at the depot.

The soldiers of a dragoon regiment of full regulation strength were distributed as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field Squadrons</th>
<th>Depot</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Inhaber</strong> (General)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colonel</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lieutenant-colonel</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Captain</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff Captain</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lieutenant</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Lieutenant</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensign</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wachtmeister</strong></td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cornet</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quartermaster</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCO</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dragoon</td>
<td>700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kettle-Drummer</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff Trumpeter</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trumpeter</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quartermaster (Lieutenant)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paymaster (Lieutenant)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjutant to the General</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military Judge</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greek orthodox priest</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Altar boy</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regimental surgeon</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surgeon’s assistant</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field surgeon</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bone worker</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barber</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infirmary supervisor</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infirmary worker</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horse trainer</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wagon master</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regimental clerk</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clerk</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramrod maker</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weaponsmith</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weaponsmith’s assistant</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saddler</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saddler’s assistant</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterinary</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterinary’s assistant</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In contrast with the practice in other armies of the time, the Russian dragoons fought in three ranks, which however were difficult to manoeuvre and therefore required a high standard of training of the troopers. It was difficult for poorly trained troopers to replace losses in the ranks of a regiment, and in addition to retain the order of march.

In the field, a dragoon regiment deployed as follows - here with 4 squadrons:

1 – Commanding Officer of the regiment, 2 – his Adjutant, 3 – Colonel, 4 – Major, 5 – Lieutenant-Colonel, 6 – Trumpeter, 7 – Staff Trumpeter, 8 – Regimental Adjutant

Each squadron was divided into two half squadrons, which in turn contained two platoons. The men of a squadron were positioned as shown in the following sketch:

1 – Squadron Commander, 2 – Platoon Commander, 3 – Deputy Platoon Commander, 4 – Trumpeter, 5 – NCO

In addition, specially selected troopers in every platoon were trained as skirmishers, and in the field fanned out from the body of the regiment for this purpose.
Troopers’ Uniforms
HEADGEAR
1) Helmet
As of 18 October 1803, the dragoons wear the cuirassier helmet, which achieves an impressive overall height of 48 cm. This helmet, made from polished black leather, has a black horsehair caterpillar on the crest as well as a brass plate at the front with an embossed Russian eagle. It is held in place by a black leather chinstrap, under which the cloth earflaps, which are usually folded inside, can be fixed in winter (see the sketch opposite). In addition, on each outer side of the helmet there is a brass boss to fasten the chinstrap, at the front a peak, which has a brass rim, and at the back a black leather rear peak.

2) Forage cap
This is in the classic style of the time, i.e. headband in the regiment’s facing colour (see below), light green cloth tip with piping in the facing colour. At the end of the tip, there is a tassel with tassel crown in the squadron colours and with fringes, half of which are light green and half the facing colour. The squadron colours are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Squadron</th>
<th>Headband</th>
<th>Piping</th>
<th>Tassel fringes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>white</td>
<td>white</td>
<td>red / white</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>sky blue</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>yellow</td>
<td>red</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>black</td>
<td>turquoise</td>
<td>light green / turquoise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th</td>
<td>green</td>
<td>light green</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In a drawing from the Knötel Estate in Rastatt, the forage cap for the Zhitomir regiment is depicted with white piping on the headband and tip and with red tassel fringes. This permits to venture a guess that the forage cap for the regiments formed last can be reconstructed as follows (light green tip for all):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regiment</th>
<th>Headband</th>
<th>Piping</th>
<th>Tassel fringes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Livland (formed 5 May 1805)</td>
<td>red</td>
<td>white</td>
<td>red / white</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zhitomir (formed 20 June 1806)</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>red</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland (formed 20 June 1806)</td>
<td>white</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitava (formed 16 October 1806)</td>
<td>light green</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>light green / red</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yamburg (formed 16 October 1806)</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>turquoise</td>
<td>light green / turquoise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nezhinsk (formed 16 October 1806)</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arzamass (formed 16 October 1806)</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>yellow</td>
<td>light green / yellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serpukhov (formed 16 October 1806)</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dorpat (formed 16 October 1806)</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
HAIRSTYLE
The queue has been officially abolished for the other ranks since 2 December 1806, and therefore only a short haircut is allowed. Some of the dragoons probably retained the queue, at least for the winter campaign of 1807, until the regulation was finally enforced.
Moustaches were neither specifically forbidden nor stipulated by the regulation, which meant that they could be worn if desired.

COAT
In 1803, the dragoons adopt the infantry coat, with several minor variations. It is cut from light green cloth and worn double breasted, with the two front parts overlapping by 8 cm. The front, from the collar down to the waist, measures 45 cm, has an open standing collar in the facing colour, 8 cm wide Swedish cuffs in the facing colour, a 14.5 cm long shoulder strap in the facing colour on the left shoulder as well as two light green belt loops at the rear, to hold the waist belt.

21 flat buttons in the regiment’s colour (see below) are distributed as follows:
   6 on the right placket
   6 on the left placket
   2 on each of the cuffs
   1 on the shoulder strap
   1 on each of the waist loops
   1 to fasten each of the skirt turnbacks
Zweguintzow indicates a further button, located below the two plackets, midway between them but hidden by the waist belt, which was buckled over it (see drawing on the previous page).
Red lining as well as skirt turnbacks.
The facing and button colours of the different regiments are assigned as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th><strong>Facing Colour</strong></th>
<th><strong>Buttons</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Riga</td>
<td>red</td>
<td>brass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Starodub</td>
<td></td>
<td>tin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kharkov</td>
<td>orange</td>
<td>brass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seversk</td>
<td></td>
<td>tin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tver</td>
<td>ultramarine blue</td>
<td>brass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chernikhov</td>
<td></td>
<td>tin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Petersburg</td>
<td>pink</td>
<td>brass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moscow</td>
<td></td>
<td>tin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smolensk</td>
<td>yellow</td>
<td>brass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Klinburn</td>
<td></td>
<td>tin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pskov</td>
<td>dark orange</td>
<td>brass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kargopol</td>
<td></td>
<td>tin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vladimir</td>
<td>unbleached (pale red)</td>
<td>brass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nizhnii-Novgorod</td>
<td></td>
<td>tin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taganrog</td>
<td>grey</td>
<td>brass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Narva</td>
<td></td>
<td>tin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orenburg</td>
<td>black</td>
<td>brass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ingermanland</td>
<td></td>
<td>tin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irkutzk</td>
<td>white</td>
<td>brass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Siberia</td>
<td></td>
<td>tin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kazan</td>
<td>light raspberry red</td>
<td>brass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kiev</td>
<td></td>
<td>tin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kurland</td>
<td>turquoise</td>
<td>brass</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Russia</td>
<td></td>
<td>tin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Borisoglebsk</td>
<td>violet</td>
<td>brass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jaroslav</td>
<td></td>
<td>tin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Livonia</td>
<td>red, white piping</td>
<td>brass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jitomir</td>
<td></td>
<td>tin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>white, red piping</td>
<td>brass</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mitava</td>
<td></td>
<td>tin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tiraspol</td>
<td>light green, red piping</td>
<td>brass</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yamburg</td>
<td></td>
<td>tin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nezhin</td>
<td>, turquoise piping</td>
<td>brass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arzamas</td>
<td></td>
<td>tin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serpukhov</td>
<td>, yellow piping</td>
<td>brass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dorpat</td>
<td></td>
<td>tin</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For the last ten regiments listed, piping in the colour indicated is to be found on the front and top of the collar, and for the Livonia, Jitomir, Finland and Mitava regiments also on the cuffs and shoulder straps. The cuffs and shoulder straps of the last 6 regiments are light green only, and don’t have piping.

**TROUSERS**

For parades and for the dress uniform white riding breeches.

For service uniform and field uniform overall trousers made from grey cloth with black leather reinforcement and on each of the outer seams 18 buttons made of bone, covered with grey cloth.
BOOTS
Black leather boots reaching to below the knee, with a notch at the back, are worn together with the white breeches, as well as with steel spurs. On 16 December 1806, a new model of boot was introduced, which exactly matched the old one, apart from the absence of a notch.
Simple black shoes are worn together with the over-trousers.

GREATCOAT
A very loosely cut greatcoat reaching to above the calf, made from unbleached cloth, i.e. from light- to dark-grey, with collar and shoulder strap on the left shoulder in the facing colour. At the rear, the cloth is gathered into several pleats, which makes it possible to wear it when on foot as well as when mounted. The greatcoat is fastened by a row of 7 buttons in the facing colour, though the lowest one is hidden by the waist belt which is buckled over it.
In addition, the dragoons have a white linen stable jacket, which they wear, together with the forage cap, as stable or barrack uniform. It is double-breasted, fastened by 6 buttons on each side, has a slender standing collar as well as a small cape over the shoulders.

FURTHER ITEMS OF UNIFORM
Black cloth neckstock.
White gauntlets.
Until 1 October 1806, wearing a sheepskin waistcoat under the coat is allowed in winter, which is probably sometimes put into practice during the winter campaign of 1807.

Equipment and Armament of the Other Ranks
Each dragoon is equipped with a sabre, a musket with bayonet, two pistols as well as a cartridge box.
In addition, each squadron carries with it 16 copper cauldrons, 15 axes, 8 shovels, 4 mattocks and 16 scythes.

CARTRIDGE BOX
A wooden box, covered in black shiny leather. On the black leather flap, a round brass crest with embossed Russian eagle (see drawing). The cartridge box has space for 30 cartridges. A 14.5 cm wide shoulder belt made from whitened leather, which is fixed to each side of the cartridge box by a slender black
leather strap and a brass buckle. Brass buckle and brass fittings on the shoulder belt.

WAISTBELT
Made from 10 cm wide white leather with sheaths for sabre and bayonet scabbards. According to Viskovatov, from 1806 to 1808 the bayonet is situated in front of the sabre (see plate), whereas other depictions show them attached in the reverse order.

SABRE
1796 Model with brass basket-hilt and leather scabbard with brass fittings (blade length: 0.819 m, overall length: 1.014 m).
The regiments of the Caucasus Inspection, to my mind the Vladimir, Nischni-Novgorod, Taganrog and Narva regiments, carry a curved sabre with steel basket-hilt and scabbard.
On 16 December 1806, a new model of sabre, which had a brass basket-hilt and a natural leather scabbard, was introduced for all regiments, so therefore also for the four of the Caucasus Inspection. For all regiments, a red leather sword knot with woollen tassel in the squadron colour (see above).

MUSKET
The old model from the reign of Paul I.
Overall length without bayonet: 1.41 m
Overall length with bayonet: 1.77 m
Calibre 19 mm
Walnut stock with brass fittings as well as red leather shoulder strap and lock cover. The musket is attached on the right-hand side of the saddle – Zweguintzow indicates in his text a method of hanging it from the shoulder belt used for the cartridge box, probably by means of a hook and chains, as reconstructed on the previous page.

PISTOL
46 to 60 cm in length, brass fittings.
From 5 March 1805, shorter pistols are preferred.
Each dragoon carries two pistols, which are attached to the saddle by means of straps and brass hooks.
HORSE TACK
Hungarian saddle 1786 Model with black leather pistol straps and musket cover (on the right-hand side). Black leather bridle with metal buckles and fittings in the regiment’s button colour (see above).
Shabraque in the facing colours with rounded corners; piping, wide lace edging and imperial monogram in the button colour, i.e. yellow for brass and white for tin. Between lace and piping, a small strip in the facing colour is visible.
Grey cloth valise, the left-hand end of which was covered by a brass bowl (see sketch above). In addition, each dragoon can carry on the shabraque a red linen oat sack as well as a wooden, leather-covered tankard.
The colour of the troopers’ horses wasn’t regulated, but they were supposed to cost no more than 50 rubles and should be about 1.66 m tall.

Description of Plate 1
Both of the figures in the plate are taken from the well-known work by Viskatov, and their colours correspond exactly with the details given in the text. Readers can therefore colour in the plate according to the text.

To be continued.

Markus Stein, Mannheim
Edmund Wagner, Karlsruhe

P.S. Up to the editorial deadline, the author unfortunately couldn’t find any exact details on the appearance of the shabraques of the “Smolensk” and “Siberia” regiments, which (according to the regulation) must have been in yellow and white respectively – however this seems to be very unlikely, so that I would like to ask the readers for help in solving this problem.
The Municipal Guard of Paris 1807

Introduction

By decree of 4 October 1802, Consul Bonaparte ordered the establishment of a municipal guard, which was to bear the name “Garde municipale de Paris”. The strength was prescribed as 2 infantry regiments, each of 2 battalions, with 5 companies each, as well as a staff, which came to a theoretical total strength of 2,154 men. In addition, a detachment of “Dragoons of Paris”, with 180 men, was formed. The original duty of this unit was to maintain the internal security of the city of Paris. In this function, the guard served as reinforcement for the city’s gendarmerie cohorts. The individual duties were distributed as follows: The 1st Battalion of the 1st Regiment policed the ports and jetties of Paris; the 2nd Battalion guarded the city’s customs gates. The entire 2nd Regiment was charged with securing, or rather guarding, both of the city’s prefectures, the mayor’s office and the prisons of Paris.

In 1806, several changes occurred, for instance the adoption of the designation “Guard of Paris”. Further, the decree of 16 May of that year prescribed implementing an organisation as in the Line Infantry. In concrete terms, this meant the establishment of a company of voltigeur-chasseurs, so that from now on, each regiment had 1 company of grenadiers, 4 of fusiliers and 1 of voltigeurs.

1807 Campaign

At the end of 1806, the Guard of Paris was ordered to the theatre of operations in Silesia and Poland. To this end, a so-called “Régiment de marche”, which the commander of the 1st Regiment, Colonel Rabbe, was nominated to lead, was to be formed from the first battalions of both regiments. At the start of the campaign, the strength of this marching regiment amounted to 72 officers and 1140 men.

The regiment left Paris on 15 December and reached Mainz on 1 January 1807, where it assumed its final shape, or rather organisation. It then marched onward to Kassel, where it was put into quarters in the surrounding area and operated for a short period securing the immediate vicinity against deserters and mobs.

After this interlude, the journey continued to Hamburg, which the Guard of Paris reached on 23 January. Here, the regiment was assigned to 10th Army Corps, which had been specifically established to besiege Danzig, and was entrusted to the command of Marshal Lefebvre. Together with the 19th and 44th Line and the 2nd Light Infantry regiments, the Guard of Paris formed the Division of General Boivin, incidentally the only “French” division in the entire corps.

The siege of Danzig, which was defended by 18,000 Prussians under Field Marshal von Kalkreuth, began on 1 April, with our Guard of Paris standing out in two engagements.

On 6 May, at the Kalk redoubt, an advanced outpost near the island of Ohlm¹, a skirmish between pickets developed, in the course of which a section of 40 grenadiers from our regiment succeeded in storming the redoubt.

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¹ Translator’s Note: Possibly meant to read “Holm”?
Several days later, on 15 May, the Guards fought a somewhat unusual action. On this day, the 24-gun British frigate *Dauntless* tried to break through the blockade ring, to supply the besieged city. To this end, the ship pushed up the Vistula in the direction of the city, but shortly thereafter came under fire from the French artillery which had taken up position on the bank. The attempt to penetrate further was unsuccessful, as the frigate ran aground on a sandbank directly in front of the position of the Guard of Paris. The grenadiers that could swim stripped to their underwear and boarded the ship, armed only with muskets and cartridge boxes. The entire crew of 120 sailors and officers as well as 40 Prussian soldiers and one of Field Marshal von Kalkreuth’s adjutants were taken prisoner. In addition, the Guards seized the complete cargo, as well as several confidential documents.

On 26 May, Danzig capitulated, so the Guard of Paris was assigned to the 8th Corps under Marshal Mortier, and together with him received on 10 June the order to march on Friedland. At the Battle of Friedland on 14 June, the Guard of Paris, together with Oudinot’s grenadier division held out over the space of 9 hours against the Russian troops’ onslaught on the village of Posthenen. The losses from this encounter amounted to 44 dead and over 100 wounded. After the signing of the peace treaty in Tilsit, the Guard of Paris returned via Stettin, Berlin and Hamburg to Paris, which they reached on 28 October. The total losses of the regiment for this campaign amounted to 6 officers and 343 men.
Organisation

According to the decree of 4 October 1802, each regiment comprised a staff and two battalions of 5 companies. The staff consisted of:

1. Chef de brigade
2. Chefs de bataillon
3. Adjutant-major
4. Quartier-maître trésorier
5. Tambour-major
6. Musicians
7. Artisans

A company included:

1. Capitaine
2. Lieutenant
3. Sous-lieutenant
4. Sergent-major
5. Corporals
6. Drummers
7. Soldiers

On 16 May 1806, the individual battalions consisted of 6 companies, the organisation of which hadn’t changed. Only the regimental staff had been expanded by the following ranks:

1. Major
2. Adjutant-major
3. Adjutant-sous-officier
4. Drum-corporal
5. Artisan
6. Surgeon 1st Class
7. Surgeon 2nd Class
8. Surgeon 3rd Class

Sapeurs, as well as the rank of quartermaster, are missing in the organisation, because these were only officially included from 1808.

Uniforms of the Other Ranks

Headgear

In August 1806, the new 1806 shako model was also introduced for the fusilier companies of the Guard of Paris. As crest, a diamond-shaped brass plate with embossed eagle and regimental number. Above this plate the cockade, which was held in place by a button or a loop.

Spherical pompom in the company colour, cords and flounder of white braided wool. Initially without chin scales, however these were often added later.

The elite companies had the black bearskin cap, at the side of which the cockade was affixed. Red cloth cap bag with white cross sewn on.

In the case of the grenadiers, there was a semi-circular plate with embossed grenade fixed to the front of the cap. In the case of the voltigeurs, there was no such plate. In addition, the grenadiers had a red plume.
and the voltigeurs a green one, or according to Martinet a yellow plume (2/3) with
green root (1/3). Cords and flunder of white (!) braided wool – the “OTTO”
Manuscript shows green cords for the chasseur-voltigeur.
A small white woollen tassel hung from the tip of the bearskin cap. Contrary to the
other sources, Martinet shows two tassels, which is perfectly possible for the
voltigeurs, but not for the grenadiers.
In the course of the campaign, the elite companies seem to have also adopted the
shako, which is confirmed by the sources Hahlo and Suhr.
The grenadiers wore the fusilier shako with red plume and cords – Suhr and
Hoffmann show white cords – the voltigeurs the same in green. In addition, for the
voltigeurs Suhr shows a green lace band on the upper edge of the shako.

COAT
As with the line infantry, the Guard also wore the Model 1804 infantry coat with long
skirts and pointed lapels. In the course of the campaign of 1807, parts of the Guard of
Paris probably adopted the new Model 1807 coat, if one can believe the sources
Hahlo and Weiland.
The coat colours of the two regiments were
prescribed by the decree of 14 October 1802 as
follows:
Green coat with red collar, lapels, cuffs and cuff
slashes for the 1st Regiment. All mentioned parts
of the coat are piped white.
However, the contemporary sources deviate
widely from one another here, because OTTO and
Suhr show green piping, while Martinet doesn’t
show any. In addition, instead of the prescribed
white skirt turnbacks, Suhr shows them in red.
The 2nd Regiment wore red coats with green
facing colour. Here also, there exist deviations for
the piping, because instead of the prescribed
white, Otto, Suhr and Martinet show them in red.
The fusiliers’ shoulder straps were in the coat
colour, and piped in the facing colour; one brass
button near the collar.
Grenadiers and voltigeurs had fringed epaulettes
made from red or green wool, as for the elites of
the line infantry. While all sources agree here for
the grenadiers, for the voltigeurs Martinet stands
out with a yellow crescent on the epaulettes, and
Otto with a red (!) one.
For the collar, there also exist various versions,
because for instance Martinet indicates a yellow
one, and for the 2nd Regiment a green collar with red piping.
As crests, for the grenadiers red grenades were sewn onto the skirt turnbacks – Suhr
shows green ones on red skirt turnbacks –, green hunting horns for the voltigeurs and
stars for the fusiliers. Since the skirt turnbacks were white, the stars, in contrast to the
line, must have been in the facing colour, i.e. red for the 1st Regiment and green for
the second.
The cuff slashes were cut straight, with 3 buttons and piped in the facing colour.
All coat buttons were flattened and had the regimental number in the centre as well as the motto “Garde soldée de Paris” embossed along the edge.

**WAISCOAT**
Under the coat, a white waistcoat was worn, which was visible at the front under the open lapels. It was fastened by a row of brass buttons, which could also be covered with white linen.

**TROUSERS**
The trousers, made of white linen, were close-fitting. Wide pantaloons for campaign use are not documented or confirmed in any source.
Together with the trousers, black gaiters that reached above the knee were worn, which were fastened at the side by a row of brass buttons or by ones covered in black cloth. Martinet shows – probably for parade use – white gaiters.
At the start of the campaign, the light companies probably also wore the long gaiters, but may later have adopted the short ones in the Hungarian style, as depicted by Suhr and Hahllo, though in differing styles (see Figures 2 and 3 of Plate 2).

**EQUIPMENT**
A calfskin knapsack was carried on the back by means of two white leather straps.
The coat, made from grey or brown (according to Otto) cloth was rolled up and strapped onto the knapsack by three small straps.
The whitened leather shoulder belts were worn crossed over both shoulders.
Black leather cartridge box. According to Rigo, on the flap of the cartridge box a grenade as crest for the grenadiers and a hunting horn for the voltigeurs – the fusiliers didn’t have any such crest.
Besides the musket, fusiliers were equipped only with a bayonet, which was affixed to the cartridge box cross-belt at waist level.
Only soldiers of the elite companies had a sabre-briquet in addition, the scabbard of which was carried together with the bayonet scabbard on a dedicated shoulder belt.
Grenadiers had red sword knots, voltigeurs green.
Black leather sabre-briquet scabbard with brass fittings.
For all companies, the bayonet scabbard was made from brown leather.
As was the case for the line infantry, the Guard of Paris was equipped with the standard musket Model An IX “Charleville” – without fixed bayonet it had a length of 1.51m. Brass fittings, iron flintlock mechanism. Whitened leather sling with brass buckles.

**Drummers**
Here, all sources are unanimous in their silence, so that I am forced to rely here only on speculation.
According to Dr. Hourtoulle, the drummers wore the same uniform as the other ranks, however with gold braid on collar, lapels and cuffs.
It’s also probable, though, that the Têtes de colonne wore reversed colours, consistent with the fashion at the time.
The Otto Manuscript, as sole source, shows a drum major, which is depicted in Plate 2.
Officers

The same model as for the other ranks served as headgear, except that it was usually better quality. Crest, chin scales, peak rim and the upper shako edge were gilt. Officers of the fusilier companies wore a white plume with red root or a pompom in the company colour. Grenadier officers were designated by a red plume or, according to Martinet, a red pompom, voltigeur officers by a green plume – often with a yellow tip.

The officers of the elite companies also wore – though probably only at the start of the campaign – the bearskin cap with gold cords and flounder, as well as gilt fittings for the grenadier officers.

Coat as for the other ranks, but with gold epaulettes and buttons. As a further distinction, Otto shows for the grenadier officers a gilded brass gorget with embossed silvered eagle.

White waistcoat, which could be tailored pointed or straight.

Black leather boots – either with naturally coloured leather cuffs or in Hungarian style. According to Rigo, the former version of the cuffs could be turned up, so that the boots reached above the knee.

According to Suhr and Weiland, fusilier officers carried an épée, which was carried on a shoulder belt worn over the right shoulder. However, officers of the elite companies were armed with a sabre, which according to Otto was worn on a black leather waist belt with gilt buckle.

Epée and sabre with gilt hilt or basket hilt respectively.

Gold silk sword knot, which was partly interwoven with red silk thread.

Black leather sabre scabbard with gilt fittings.

Description of Plates 2-3

The Guard of Paris is surprisingly well documented for the period 1806/07, i.e. for the campaign of 1807. Figures from this unit can be found in most contemporary picture manuscripts, as well as printed series of plates.

We are therefore in the - unfortunately rare - situation here, of being able to provide contemporary proof of certain uniform types and in addition to compare these with other works from that time.

Taking into account the known dates and locations where the various primary sources were created, we can even produce a small “evolutionary history” of the uniforms of our Guard of Paris.

For instance, the Otto Manuscript caught the Parisian Municipal Guard in Berlin, where it left an impression very reminiscent of a parade, during its march to Poland. Of interest here are the bearskins of the elite companies, which were still in existence at this time.

On the Guard of Paris’ return journey, the artist Zimmermann dedicates a plate of his series to the depiction of an officer.
At the beginning of September 1807, the two battalions wearing differing colours were noticed in Hamburg by Cornelius Suhr, who then put four Guard soldiers to paper. These differed from the figures of the Otto Manuscript in that the elites now wore the shako with the relevant distinctions.

A further work which documents our unit during its sojourn in France is the series of plates by Martinet.

Weiland’s work also shows two figures, which however he has incorrectly dated, because in 1812 the Guard of Paris wore the white uniform which had already been introduced in 1808.

As far as possible, the figures in both plates follow exactly the originals, whereby the colours of the individual figures were taken from the original or the facsimile without any correction or assessment. Naturally, there may therefore be deviations from the general details mentioned above.

**PLATE 2**

A – Grenadier of the 2nd Regiment 1806-08, after Otto.

- Black bearskin cap with yellow (!) cords, brass plate, red plume and blue/red/white – from inside to outside – cockade.
- Red coat with green collar, lapels and cuffs, all piped red; red epaulettes; green cuff slashes with red piping; white skirt turnbacks; brass buttons.
- White waistcoat and white trousers.
- Black gaiters with tin buttons.
- White leather cross-belts and straps.
- Sabre with brass hilt and red sword knot.

Note: The Otto Manuscript shows a chasseur-voltigeur in the same pose, with the deviations described in the text. In the case of this figure, the long gaiters as well as the absence of the three buttons below the right lapel – which are clearly visible in the case of the grenadier – is conspicuous.

B – Voltigeur of the 2nd Regiment 1806-07, after Suhr.

- Shako without chin scales; green cords, plume and lace at the upper edge; cockade as for figure A; brass plate.
- Red coat with green epaulettes, collar, lapels and cuffs, and red piping; brass buttons.
- White waistcoat with brass buttons. White trousers.
- Black gaiters in Hungarian style.
- White leather cross-belts. Green sword knot.

Note: Of interest in the case of this figure is the absence of cuff slashes as well as the short Hungarian gaiters without lace or tassels.

C – Voltigeur of the 2nd Regiment, after Hahlo.

- Shako with white (!) cords, cockade as above, white loop with fastening button, green pompom and brass plate, on which an eagle can be discerned; V-shaped black leather reinforcement at the sides.
- Red coat with green collar, lapels and cuffs; no piping on these; white skirt turnbacks; skirt pockets and turnbacks piped green; green stars on the skirt turnbacks; brass buttons; light green epaulettes with red crescent.
- White waistcoat and trousers.
- Short black gaiters with red lace and tassel as well as brass buttons.
- White leather cross-belts and straps.
Black sabre scabbard with brass fitting. White sword knot with red crown and green tassels.

Note: This description from the Hahlo Manuscript shows several interesting deviations in comparison to Suhr’s voltigeur (Figure B), which, considering that both figures were created at the same time, seems worth noting. Also, in the case of Hahlo’s figure, the absence of cuff slashes is noticeable – possibly this type of cuff was adopted based on the voltigeurs’ function as light infantry. A further indication of this is the short gaiters, which here are also cut straight rather than curved. The short gaiters seem to have made their first appearance during the campaign, because at the start of the war the previously mentioned chasseur-voltigeur from the Otto Manuscript still wears the long gaiters reaching above the knee. Hahlo, and also Weiland, show skirt pockets set vertically, and are therefore contrary to the generally usual horizontal skirt pockets in the coat model that was customary at the time. New coats were probably distributed to the Guard of Paris in 1807, because vertical skirt pockets also appeared in places in the line infantry, with the new white uniform of 1807. Finally, noticeable on collar, lapels and cuffs is the absence of piping, which strangely is shown on the skirt turnbacks. This is the complete opposite of the generally prescribed style!

D – Drum Major, after Otto.
Black bicorn with gold braids and gilt loop; red plume; red/white cockade.
Red coat with green collar, lapels and cuffs; red piping on lapels and cuffs; gold diagonal braiding as well as gold lace on the collar; gilt buttons and epaulettes.
White waistcoat and trousers.
White leather shoulder belt.
Black sabre scabbard with gilt fittings. Gilt sabre hilt with gold sword knot.
Black boots with light brown natural leather cuffs.
Natural wood drum major’s mace with silvered dome and fittings as well as silver cords.
Note: The regiment is difficult to determine here. Going by the coat colour, a drum major of the 2nd Regiment is shown here, which however is contrary to the widely used custom at the time, to dress the têtes de colonne, i.e. drum majors, drummers and musicians, in reversed colours.

PLATE 3

A – Officer of the 2nd Regiment 1806-07, after Otto.
Black bearskin cap with gilt plate and cords and red plume.
Red coat with white skirt turnbacks; green lapels, collar and cuffs with red piping; gold epaulettes and buttons.
Gilt gorget with silvered eagle.
White waistcoat with gilt buttons. White trousers.
Black boots with natural leather cuffs.
Black waistbelt with gilt clasp, the edge of which is silvered. Black scabbard with gilt fittings. Gilt sabre basket hilt; gold sword knot, which is interwoven with red silk threads.
Note: Grenadier officer clothed according to regulation.
B – Officer of the 2nd Regiment, after Suhr.
Shako with gold cords and gold braid along the upper edge; white plume (ca. 2/3) with red root (ca. 1/3), cockade with fastening button.
Red coat with green collar, lapels, cuffs and cuff slashes, all piped red; gold epaulettes and buttons.
White waistcoat and trousers.
Black Hungarian boots with golden tassels.
Gilt sabre basket hilt; black scabbard with gilt fittings; white shoulder belt.
Note: Judging by the plume, we are dealing here with a fusilier officer, however the short Hungarian boots also suggest a voltigeur officer.

C – Officer of the 2nd Regiment 1806-08, after Zimmermann.
Black shako with leather reinforcement at the sides; gilt chain along the upper edge; gold cords, plate and peak rim; red plume with white root; gilt holder.
Red coat with facing as for Figure A; white skirt turnbacks; gilt buttons and gold epaulettes with red central strips on the sliders. Medal of the Legion of Honour on a red ribbon.
White gloves. White waistcoat with gilt buttons. White trousers.
Black boots with natural leather cuffs.
White shoulder belt.
Black épée scabbard with gilt fittings. Gilt épée hilt and gold sword knot.
Note: Especially conspicuous here are the shako with leather reinforcement at the side, the chin scales already attached, as well as the strange “chain-trim” on the upper edge of the shako.

D – Officer of the 2nd Regiment, after Weiland.
Shako with black peak and gilt plate, cords, loop and button; cockade; red plume.
Red coat with white skirt turnbacks that display gold grenades; green lapels, collar and cuffs with white piping; red cuff slashes with four (!) buttons and white piping; green piping on the skirt pockets; gilt buttons and epaulettes.
White waistcoat with gilt buttons. White trousers.
Black boots with dun cuffs.
White shoulder belt.
Black sabre scabbard with gilt fittings. Gilt sabre hilt with gold sword knot.
Note: The figure shown is dated by Weiland as 1812, which can’t be accurate, though, because the Municipal Guard of Paris only wore green or red coats up to 1808, and then adopted the white uniform in the campaign in Spain.

On a final note, I would like to explain the three detailed drawings interspersed among the text.
Page 20 – Shako plate of the 1st Regiment, after Ch. Blondieau.
With the decree of 25 February 1806, the shako was introduced for all of the infantry. According to Article 10 of this decree, the shako plate should be a “diamond shape” and the colour should follow that of the button colour of the particular regiment, which for the Guard of Paris meant brass.
The size varied from regiment to regiment, however an average size of 120 x 105 mm can be stated.
The pictured shako plate can certainly be assumed for the fusilier companies. To which extent the elite companies added here their own crests after introduction of the shakos can’t be proven exactly. According to the regulation, below the eagle, the
voltigeurs had an embossed hunting horn which encompassed the regimental number. Nothing certain can be determined about the grenadiers, because officially the bearskin cap with semi-circular plate was still worn. Embossed on this was the obligatory grenade.

P. 21 – Grenadier coat.
Collar, lapels, cuffs, cuff slashes and skirt pocket piping in the facing colour. Piping in the coat colour (according to Otto) or in white (according to Weiland). White skirt turnbacks with red grenades.

P. 23 – Fusilier of the 1st Regiment 1806-08, after Martinet.
Shako with red pompom, white cords, brass plate, brass button and blue/white/red (from inside to outside) cockade.
Green coat with green shoulder straps; red lapels, collar, cuffs and cuff slashes, red (!) piping; brass buttons. White waistcoat and trousers. White gaiters. White leather shoulder belt.

Sources
1) “Otto” Manuscript, facsimile copy by Henri Achard.
2) Hahlo Manuscript, edited edition by Roger Forthoffer.
3) Zimmermann Manuscript, facsimile copy by Henri Achard.

Secondary sources:
8) G. d’Ambert “La Garde de Paris”, appeared in “Le Briquet”.

Markus Gärtner, Lampertheim
Army of the Kingdom of Württemberg 1806-1808

The army of the Kingdom of Württemberg has up to now barely received any attention, either in papers on uniforms or on military studies, even though it counts as one of the most interesting armies of the Confederation of the Rhine, from the point of view of military history as well as the study of uniforms.

The difficulty in finding sources, or even original objects, for the purpose of researching uniforms has probably prevented most researchers of military history from publishing anything about the Württemberg troops.

Now, Alexander Windisch-Sachs and I would together like to try to bring to light previously unknown information about the Württemberg troops.

In the following article, the uniforms for the period 1806-1808 will be illustrated, taking several units as examples.

Description of Plate 4


Black leather helmet with black wool “caterpillar”, brass fittings, black leather chin straps and a plume with red tip; unfortunately, the colour of the root couldn’t be determined.

Black wool neckstock.

Dark blue Kollett with dark yellow collar, cuffs, lapels and skirt turnbacks, all piped white; tin buttons on the breast, on the cuffs (2 each) and on the shoulder straps (1 each); dark yellow shoulder straps with white piping.

Tight-fitting white trousers.

Black gaiters with black buttons. Black shoes.

White leather shoulder belt with brass fittings.

Black leather cartridge pouch with brass crest – the crest shown is a reconstruction, but is likely to be correct.

Württemberg musket with light-coloured wooden shaft and beige coloured sling.

Sidearm with iron blade and brass hilt; no sword knot; light-brown leather scabbard with brass fittings; white waist belt.

Further equipment included a calfskin knapsack with two fastening straps, which was fixed to the waist belt at the left side of the back. Furthermore, a grey-white greatcoat, which is often described as dirty-white. In addition, for each tent group, a pan was carried on one of the knapsacks. Further items of personal equipment and booty were added, so that the soldiers often overfilled their knapsacks to such an extent that they had to strap their spare pair of shoes onto the flap of the knapsack.

B – Sharpshooter of a musketeer company of the garrison regiment “Hohenasperg” 1807.

Black leather helmet with black horsehair mane, brass fittings, black chin straps and yellow plume with dark blue tip.

Dark blue Kollett with ponceau-red collar and cuffs, each decorated with two narrow yellow lace patches; white skirt turnbacks; red shoulder straps; brass buttons – 8 on the breast, 1 each on the shoulder straps and 2 each on the cuffs.


Black neckstock.
Equipment and armament as for Figure A. Noticeable in the case of this figure is the – unusual for Württemberg troops – single-breasted *Kollett*, which was possibly introduced to save costs. Officers wore it until 1815.

C. Sharpshooter of Light Infantry 1807.
Cylindrical felt shako with black leather reinforcement and black peak, white lace along the upper edge, white cords and *ponceau*-red plume with black root – on the lower part of the felt body, a light green cloth band with ochre-coloured piping was attached, which could be turned down in cold weather.
Dark green *Kollett* with light blue collar, lapels, cuffs, skirt turnbacks and shoulder straps, all piped white; tin buttons.
White trousers. Black leather boots.
Black neckstock.
Ochre-coloured leather items. Equipment as for figure A.
Iron hilt and scabbard of the *sabre-briquet*, white sword knot.
Chasseurs and light infantry were also formed in Württemberg following the French model, and were distinguished by the “camouflage colours” dark green and ochre.

D – Officer of the Infantry Regiment “Herzog Wilhelm” 1807.
Black leather helmet with black bearskin “caterpillar”, gilt fittings and black chin straps.
Dark blue *Kollett* with dark blue lapels, piped *ponceau*-red; *ponceau*-red cuffs, skirt turnbacks and collar; gold embroidery on the collar and cuffs; gold epaulettes and buttons.
Sash made from silver cords with loops, which display a yellow and red square.
White trousers. Black leather boots.
Black shoulder belt with gilt, crowned monogram.
Sabre with gilt hilt, iron scabbard and silver porte-épée.
As first unit of the Württemberg army, the regiment wore the dark blue lapels. Black shoulder belts were favoured by almost all Württemberg officers.
E – Officer of the Infantry Regiment “Kronprinz” 1807.
Helmet as for Figure D, only with silvered reinforcement and white plume with black root.
Dark blue Kollett with white collar, lapels and cuffs, all piped ponceau-red; ponceau-red skirt turnbacks; gold epaulettes and buttons.
Sash, trousers and boots as for Figure D.
Epée with gilt hilt, brown leather scabbard and silver porte épée.
In the right hand, the officer’s cane made from light-coloured wood with white leather tassel. Almost every officer as well as NCO carried this status symbol well beyond the end of the Napoleonic epoch.
The cane often also served as a means of chastisement, as is conveyed to us in many soldiers’ letters, although the use of the cane as punishment was expressly forbidden in the regulations of 1811.

F – Officer of Foot Artillery of the Line.
Helmet as for figure E, but with gold reinforcement and without chin straps.
Cornflower-blue Kollett with collar, lapels, cuffs and skirt turnbacks made from black satin, which is also piped black; gold epaulettes and buttons.
Sash as for Figure D.
Cornflower-blue trousers. Black boots.
Black neckstock.
Black leather shoulder belt with gilt monogram.
Sabre in iron scabbard. Officer’s cane.

G – Artilleryman of Foot Artillery of the Line.
Helmet with black wool “caterpillar” and brass fittings. 
Kollett, trousers and neckstock as for Figure F – black shoulder straps.
Black cloth gaiters, each with 12 brass buttons.
Black shoes.
White shoulder belt and waistbelt.
Sabre-briquet with brass hilt and brown leather scabbard with brass fittings. The artilleryman wears a small powder flask on the waist belt – possibly he performs the task of loading the vent.

H – Officer (on the Staff?)
Black bicorn with white “busch” plume.
Dark blue coat with black collar, which is piped white; “dirty-yellow” skirt turnbacks; gold epaulettes and silvered buttons.
Sash with silver tassels as for Figure D.
Beige-coloured trousers. High black riding boots with steel spurs.
Sabre in iron scabbard.
Notable here are the bicorn as well as the skirt turnbacks that run to a point.

I – Officer of the Leibchevauleger Regiment.
Black helmet with white horse-hair mane, which was dyed black at the root – on campaign, a tall white plume was also often affixed.
Dark blue Kollett with dark green skirt turnbacks, which are piped ponceau-red, silvered buttons; gilt scale epaulettes.
Sash as for Figure H.
White trousers.
High black boots.
White gauntlets.
Black shoulder belt with silver buckle and fittings.
Black leather cartridge box with golden braid and gold star.
Pallasch sword with iron scabbard and black carrying straps.
Officer’s cane.

Sources
1) Watercolour by Callee, created around 1820-1830.
2) J.B. Seele “Das Gefecht bei Strehlen 1807 (The Engagement at Strzelin 1807)” (painting), Castle Museum Ludwigsburg.
3) J.B. Seele “Kgl. württembergisches Militär 1807 (Royal Württemberg Military 1807)” (watercolour), Picture archive of the Municipal Museum Ludwigsburg.
4) Various files from the Main Public Records Office Stuttgart.

Uwe Ehmke, Oberderdingen
Horse Grenadier  Hussar  Elite of Chasseurs à Cheval  Line Infantry Grenadier  Artilleryman Foot Dragoon

The French Army 1805
Depesche Issue 9, Plate 1

Russian Dragoons 1807
The Municipal Guard of Paris 1807
The Municipal Guard of Paris 1807
Royal Württemberg Military 1806-1808