

# *Napoleon's Line Infantry*

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MEN-AT-ARMS SERIES

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**Dedication**

To my mother



## Organisation

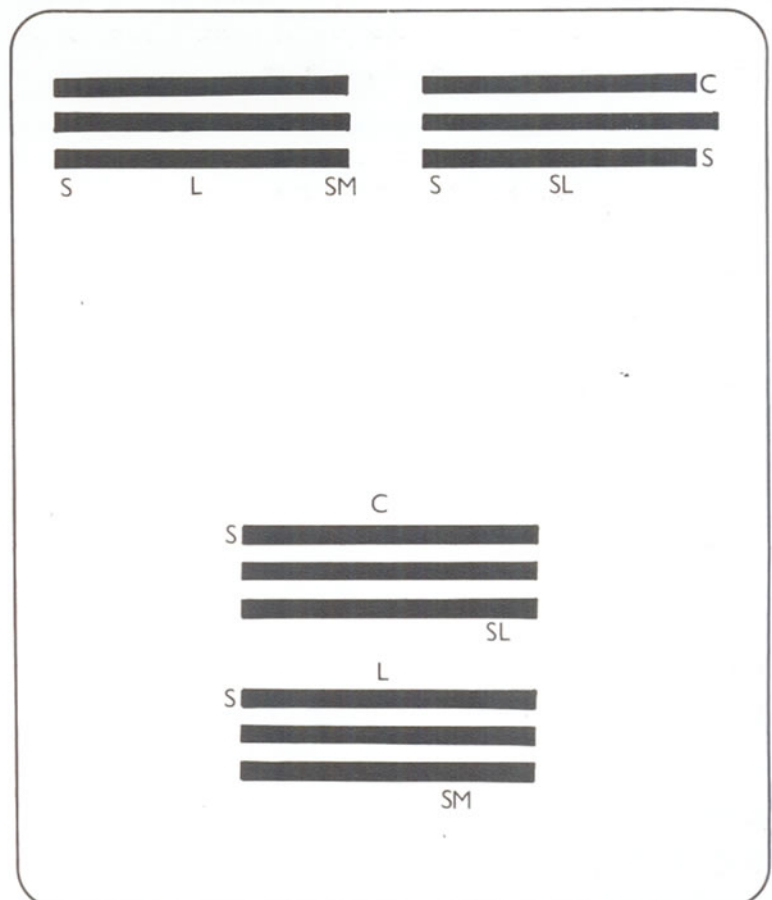
Napoleon's line infantry was founded upon that of the *Ancien Régime*, comprising (in 1789) 79 French and 23 foreign regiments, each of two battalions (the 28th had four), with the artillery ranking as the 64th line, and 22 provincial regiments and 78 garrison battalions as the 97th.

A total re-organisation began on 1 January 1791 with the abolition of the old regimental titles, and over the next two years an increasing number of conscript and volunteer battalions were formed, culminating with the *levée en masse* of 1793. Their quality varied from the proficiency of the early National Guard regiments to the untrained and ill-equipped rabble of the *levée*, whose main tactic was a headlong rush, even basic manoeuvre being quite beyond them. To combine the discipline and steadiness of the regular army with the revolutionary fervour of the new army, the *Amalgame* was decreed on 21 February 1793 and enacted on 8 January 1794; by this measure each regular battalion became the nucleus of a Demi-Brigade, a new term to replace 'regiment', which was eschewed for political reasons.

To every regular battalion (now the 2nd or centre battalion of a Demi-Brigade) was added a 1st and 3rd battalion from a newly-raised corps; for example, on 8 December 1794 the 2nd Demi-Brigade was created from the 1st Bn. of the old 1st Regt. (Rég. Picardie), with the 5th Paris and 4th Somme volunteer battalions. The tactical implication was obvious: the centre (regular) battalion could manoeuvre in line and concentrate its firepower, while the conscripts on either flank could make rapid advances in column. Born of necessity, this system developed into the classic Napoleonic tactic of *l'ordre mixte*, operating at all levels from battalion to division, by which alternate

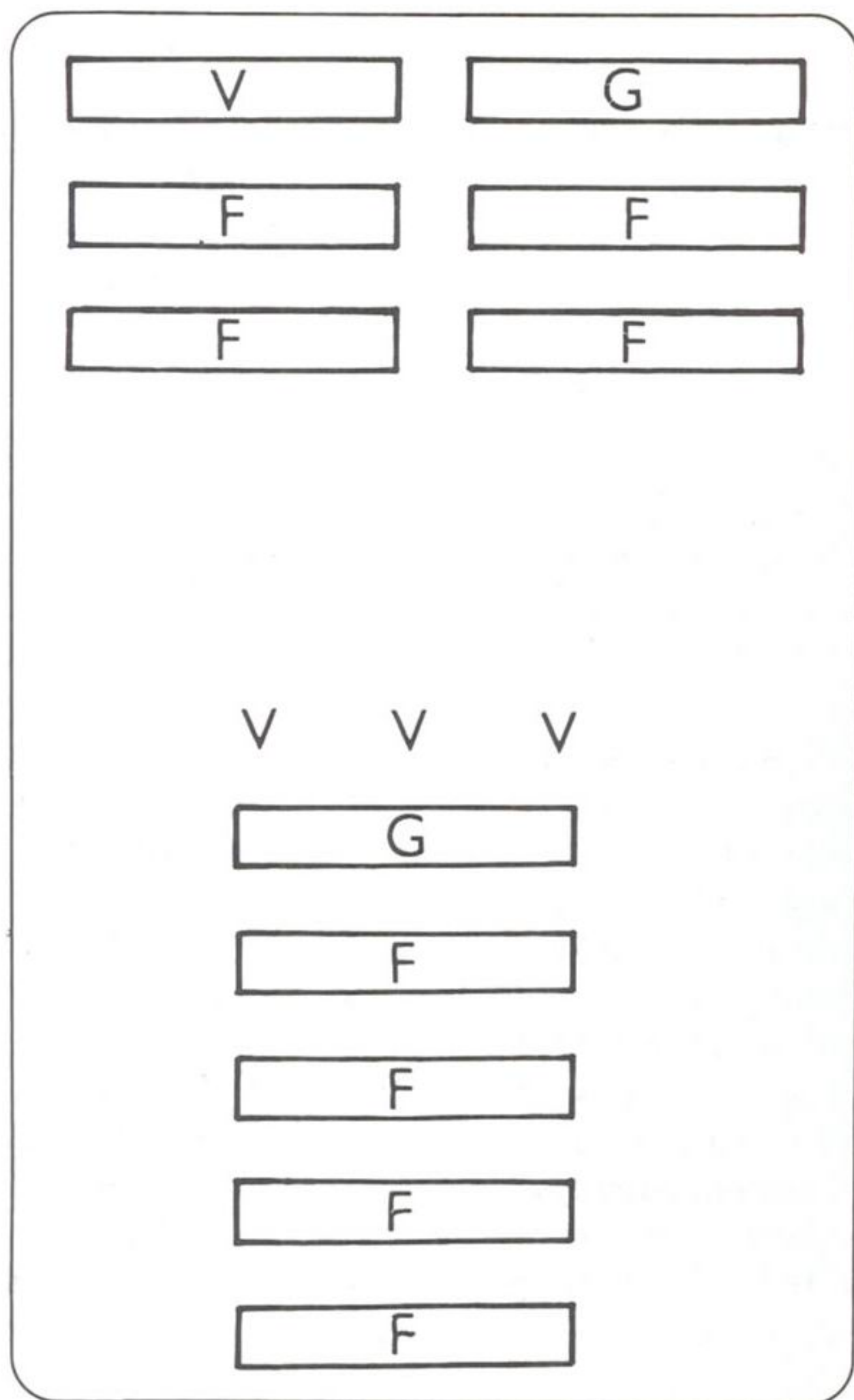
units provided fire-cover while others charged; the system was potentially invincible until the French encountered opponents equally innovative.

Demi-Brigade battalions (termed 'de Bataille' for line infantry and 'Légère' for light) each comprised eight fusilier companies and one of grenadiers, the latter (no longer armed with grenades) being in theory the battalion élite, the most steadfast and often largest men; there was in addition a regimental artillery company equipped with six 4-pdr. fieldpieces, reduced to three in 1795. The original 198 Demi-Brigades de Bataille increased to 211, but on 8 January 1796 a further re-



Above, a company in line: first section (right), second (left), each three ranks deep. Positions marked: C = captain; L = lieutenant; SL = sous-lieutenant; SM = sergent-major; S = sergent. Below, a company in column, each section three ranks deep, key as above.





Above, battalion column, six-company establishment, led by elite companies. Each company three ranks deep; frontage 75 yards, depth 15 yards. Key: V = *voltigeurs*; G = grenadiers; F = fusiliers. Below, alternative battalion column, six-company establishment. Five companies in column, each three ranks deep, preceded by screen of *voltigeurs* as skirmishers. Grenadiers could lead the column or bring up the rear if other companies were likely to waver.

organisation reduced the number to 100, with the weaker corps broken up and amalgamated; for example, on 18 February 1796 the 3rd, 91st and 127th Demi-Brigades de Bataille were together formed into a new 3rd Demi-Brigade de Ligne, the term 'de Bataille' being discontinued. On 30 March 1796 the number of Demi-Brigades de Ligne was increased to 110.

In a Demi-Brigade, each fusilier company officially comprised a captain, a lieutenant, a *sous-lieutenant* (2nd lieutenant), a sergeant-major, five sergeants, a *caporal-fourrier* (quartermaster-

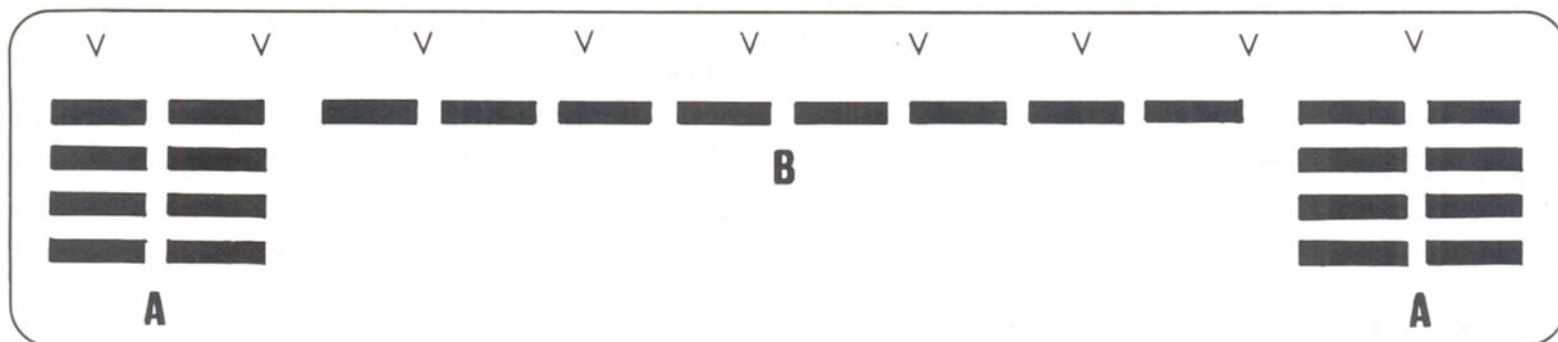
corporal), eight corporals, two drummers and 104 fusiliers, and each grenadier company likewise except that there were four sergeants and 64 grenadiers. Throughout the entire period, however, actual strengths often bore little relation to the official establishment; for example, instead of the regulation 96 officers and 3,300 men, in February 1795 the 109th Demi-Brigade numbered only 92 officers and 1,239 men.

The term 'regiment' was re-instated on 24 September 1803, 'demi-brigade' being applied henceforth only to provisional units; the regimental artillery was disbanded at this time, being resurrected in 1809 but generally dispersed again in 1812. Ninety infantry regiments existed in 1803, 19 with four battalions and the remainder with three. Although some regiments had possessed 'light companies' as early as 1800, on 20 September 1804 a company of *voltigeurs* (literally 'vaulters') was added to each battalion by the conversion of a fusilier company; theoretically these were the smallest and most nimble members of the battalion, most adept at scouting and skirmishing.

A decree of 18 February 1808 confirmed a change in establishment which seems to have been in motion already, by which each regiment was to comprise four *bataillons de guerre* and one *dépôt* battalion, the latter of four companies commanded by the senior captain, with a major in command of the *dépôt* itself. Each *bataillon de guerre* was commanded by a *chef de bataillon* and comprised four fusilier companies and one each of grenadiers and *voltigeurs*, each company composed of a captain, a lieutenant, a *sous-lieutenant*, a sergeant-major, four sergeants, a *caporal-fourrier*, eight corporals, two drummers and 121 privates. The regimental staff consisted of a colonel, a major, four *chefs de bataillon*, five adjutants and five assistants, ten sergeant-majors, an 'Eagle'-bearer and two escorts, a drum-major and drum-corporal (*caporal-tambour*), a bandmaster, seven musicians, four craftsmen, a quartermaster, paymaster, surgeon-major and four assistants, the regimental establishment being 108 officers and 3,862 other ranks. In each *bataillon de guerre* were four *sapeurs* (pioneers) as part of the grenadier company, with one *sapeur* corporal per regiment. The grenadiers occupied the right of the line, the *voltigeurs* the left.

In the later campaigns the Line infantry was





increased by the creation of 5th, 6th and even 7th battalions of existing regiments, and by the formation of new corps, including some from foreign personnel. As progressively younger conscripts were called, culminating with the teenaged 'Marie-Louises' of 1813–14, the standard of recruits declined markedly.

Formations for manoeuvre were flexible, and the accompanying diagrams show typical examples from company to brigade strength; the terms 'division', 'platoon' and 'section' referred not to sub-units but to formations, a 'division' being a tactical unit of two companies. The decree of February 1808 noted that when the élite companies (grenadiers and *voltigeurs*) were present, a battalion would act by divisions, and when they were detached, by 'platoon', each company constituting a 'platoon' and each half-company a 'section'. Such detachment of élites might be caused by the deployment as skirmishers of the *voltigeurs*, or by the consolidation of the élites of several regiments into composite battalions of selected personnel, as employed by Oudinot. (The screen of skirmishers which covered many manoeuvres was not necessarily composed exclusively of *voltigeurs*, as whole regiments could be employed thus; light infantry tactics will be covered in depth in the companion title, *Napoleon's Light Infantry*.)

### Têtes de Colonne

The *Têtes de Colonne* (literally 'heads of column') comprised the musicians, *sapeurs* and colour-escort. The varied flags of the Demi-Brigades (usually in the national colours of red, white and blue and bearing republican symbols such as lictors' fasces and the Phrygian cap or 'bonnet of liberty') were replaced in 1804 by 'Eagles': gilt-bronze sculpted Imperial eagles atop a standard-pole, serving not only as the conventional rallying-point, but symbolising the unit's honour and fidelity. As this

*'L'ordre mixte'*: three battalions (establishment of nine companies per battalion). Key: A = battalions in columns of divisions (two company frontage, each company occupying approximately 25 yards, each three ranks deep). Depth of battalion in column approximately 25 yards. B = battalion in line. V = *voltigeur* companies of all three battalions deployed as skirmishers.

subject has been covered by a previous Men-at-Arms title (MAA 77, *Flags and Standards of the Napoleonic Wars (1)*), the briefest note will suffice here. Though the sculpted eagle was each battalion's symbol, a flag was usually attached (though often removed on campaign). The 1804 pattern consisted of a white diamond with alternate corner triangles of red and blue bearing the regimental number within a laurel wreath, the diamond inscribed in gold lettering, on one side 'L'Empereur/des Français/au—<sup>me</sup> Régiment/d'Infanterie de Ligne', and on the other 'Valeur/et Discipline' and the battalion number. In 1808, due partly to the number lost in action, it was decreed that an 'Eagle' was to be carried by only one battalion per regiment, other battalions having simple marker-flags. In 1811 the design of flag for the 'Eagle' was changed to one based upon the 'tricolour', one side bearing the presentation-inscription as before but the other emblazoned with battle-honours, reverting to the practice used by the Demi-Brigades. A third tricolour pattern, issued hastily in 1815, lacked almost all the magnificent embroidery of the previous types.

In 1808 the 'Eagle'-escort was ordered to consist of a lieutenant or *sous-lieutenant* as *premier porte-aigle*, with two veterans whose illiteracy had prevented their promotion as *deuxième* and *troisième porte-aigles*, paid as sergeant-majors and ranking as sergeants. They were usually armed with pistols and a halberd bearing a coloured pennon (often red for the 2nd and white for the 3rd, with 'Napoleon' on one side and the regimental number on the other). Many were dressed as grenadiers, but from 1812 some



adopted versions of the carabinier helmet, a practice probably never widespread.

## Uniforms

In the following sections it should be noted that official dress regulations were frequently not obeyed. In the 1790s matériel was so deficient that French forces resembled a ragbag; and under the Empire regimental variations were legion, even between battalions of the same regiment and within each battalion, due to the practice of reinforcing

*Les Blancs et les Bleus: French infantry wearing both the new blue uniform and the white coat of the ex-Royal army. Detail after Hippolyte Lecomte's *Entrée de l'Armée Française à Mons.**

units with drafts of men sent from their dépôts. Together with uniforms made by local manufacturers and modifications made of necessity on campaign, this rendered the appearance of Napoleon's infantry very divergent from the regulations. Examples of regimental variations are recorded below, these often being only discernible from contemporary descriptions and illustrations unsupported by other evidence; it is not unusual for sources to conflict, non-regulation examples conceivably representing a single uniform worn out of necessity or executed on the whim of an individual, as some officers and NCOs enjoyed considerable freedom in their dress. Others may represent transient variations instigated by the regimental or battalion commander.





**Table A (1791)**

*Regts.*

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	Lapels	Collar, cuff flaps	Cuffs	Buttons
1, 7	13, 19	25, 31	37, 43	49, 56	67, 74	82, 102	x	x	x	yellow
2, 8	14, 20	26, 32	38, 44	50, 57	68, 75	83	x		x	yellow
3, 9	15, 21	27, 33	39, 45	51, 58	70, 78	84	x	x		yellow
4, 10	16, 22	28, 34	40, 46	52, 59	71, 79	90	x	x	x	white
5, 11	17, 23	29, 35	41, 47	54, 60	72, 80	91	x		x	white
6, 12	18, 24	30, 36	42, 48	55, 61	73, 81	93	x	x		white

*Colours:* (a) black, (b) violet, (c) pink, (d) sky blue, (e) crimson, (f) scarlet, (g) dark blue. First of each pair of regiments had horizontal pockets, second vertical.

### The 1791 Uniform

The white uniform which gave the regulars their nickname (*les blancs*, contrasting with *les bleus* of the volunteer and conscript battalions) was designed in 1779 and confirmed on 1 October 1786, with facing colours borne on the lapels, collar, cuffs and turnbacks of the long-tailed coat. Considerable laxity of style included high or low collars, and cuffs with three- or four-button flaps or with a piped opening instead of a flap; headdress was the bicorn hat, with the white Royal cockade replaced on 27 May 1790 by one of the national red, white and blue 'tricolour' in concentric rings of varying arrangements of colours. The fur grenadier cap was re-introduced in 1789.

In 1791 some regiments were renumbered and a new sequence of facing colours introduced, with a three-button cuff flap (though the other types still persisted); fusiliers had white shoulder straps piped in the facing colour, grenadiers wearing the red epaulettes which remained their distinction throughout the period. (For facings, see Table A.)

The 1791 headdress was a peaked leather helmet resembling the British 'Tarleton', with an imitation fur turban and a fur crest; this was often of shoddy manufacture, with the crest being sometimes only a straw-filled fabric 'sausage'. The skull had metal reinforcing-bands, a tricolour cockade and a white plume with facing-coloured tip, feathers for full dress and a woollen pompon on other occasions. The 'Tarleton' was apparently never received by some regiments (which retained the bicorn) and

was unpopular. The 9th Demi-Brigade kept their helmets at least until 1798; but the 46th, receiving them in 1793, found them so noisome by 1796 that in a mass demonstration the entire regiment pitched their helmets into the river at Strasbourg, replacing them with bicorns at five francs per man! Grenadier caps had a red rear patch bearing a white lace cross, a brass plate bearing a grenade or regimental insignia, a red plume and white cords, and in some cases a peak.

### The 1792 Uniform

New regiments were formed in 1792 and on 15 January new facing colours were specified for regiments numbered higher than 48 (see Table B); the short life of the 1791 facings for these regiments must cast doubts upon their use.

Other innovations in 1792 included sky-blue greatcoats with facing-coloured collars for officers, and the general replacement on campaign of grenadier caps and officers' helmets in favour of the bicorn, which had a white lace cockade-loop (silver for sergeants and sergeant-majors).

### The 1793 Uniform

To eradicate the difference between *les blancs* and *les bleus*, an egalitarian blue uniform was introduced universally in 1793, based upon that of the National Guard, created in 1789. But due partly to shortage of cloth and partly to reverence for the traditional colour, it was some years before the white uniform disappeared, it being not uncommon for regular officers and NCOs to retain their white uniform



**Table B (1792)**

Regts.					Lapels	Collar, cuff flaps	Cuffs	Buttons
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)				
49, 55	61, 72	79, 87	93, 102	108	x	x	x	yellow
50, 56	62, 73	80, 88	94, 103	109	x		x	yellow
51, 57	67, 74	81, 89	96, 104	110	x	x		yellow
52, 58	68, 75	82, 90	98, 105	111	x	x	x	white
53, 59	70, 77	83, 91	99, 106		x		x	white
54, 60	71, 78	84, 92	101, 107		x	x		white

Colours: (a) crimson, (b) scarlet, (c) dark blue, (d) dark green, (e) light green. First of each pair of regiments had horizontal pockets, second vertical.

even though their men were dressed in blue, a practice causing criticism from republicans.

Early National Guard uniform was varied; while blue coats with white lapels, cuffs and turnbacks and red collar was the eventual dress of the Paris National Guard (their original red lapels and cuffs seemingly never, or only briefly, adopted), provincial corps wore such varied styles as the scarlet with black facings of the Brest unit, the red faced with blue of Avignon and the white faced with red of Pont-St.-Esprit.

The National Guard uniform standardised in 1791 and copied as the dress of the Demi-Brigades in 1793 consisted of a long-tailed dark blue *habit* (coat) with scarlet collar and cuffs piped white; white lapels, turnbacks and cuff flaps piped red; red pocket-piping, and brass buttons (though old regulars often transferred their old buttons onto the new uniform). Blue shoulder straps piped red were specified, but red epaulettes were often worn indiscriminately, no longer restricted to grenadiers; and numerous cuff designs existed, including those with red or blue flaps, or the 1786 flapless version with piping on the opening. The bicorne bore the tricolour cockade, often with a yellow loop, and red or red-and-white pompon; but a drooping plume of red horsehair was popular, not just for grenadiers, and was used as late as 1800, when it was banned by Gen. Belliard when commandant of Cairo. Officers continued to wear gorgets and metallic lace epaulettes, as described later. Appalling shortages of everything throughout the 1790s led to almost

total disregard of uniform regulations; a soldier might consider himself lucky to receive a hat and coat, irrespective of style, and legwear and waistcoats were almost unknown as 'issue' items, the individual having to scavenge for civilian garments to supplement his wardrobe. In place of the regulation breeches and gaiters, loose trousers as worn by the *sans-culottes* of the Revolution were usual, white with red and/or blue stripes being

Typical colour of late 18th-century style: National Guard of the District de Saint-Magloire, Paris (9th Bn., 4th Division), 1790. White colour with gold scrolls and cypher, green leaves, red ribbon, silver sword with gold hilt, brown musket with silver metalwork.





popular. Footwear was so scarce that lucky men might aspire to wooden clogs stuffed with straw, while the majority of some French armies went barefoot. Uniformity of insignia was equally neglected; grenadiers might wear the regulation red grenade badges on the turnbacks, but other devices, including hearts, numbers or mottoes, were legion. Plumes occurred in all varieties of 'tricolour', both upright and drooping. Even such major variations as coats with red lapels or without turnbacks were not uncommon, the whole ensemble often in a state of total dilapidation.

### The 'Egyptian' Uniform

Ordinary uniform was worn at the outset of the Egyptian expedition, at least four Demi-Brigades (18th, 25th, 32nd and 75th) wearing red-and-white striped trousers. As the campaign is covered by MAA 79, *Napoleon's Egyptian Campaigns*, brief details will suffice here. In autumn 1798 Bonaparte introduced a short-tailed, single-breasted jacket dyed with local indigo, with scarlet collar and cuffs and white turnbacks, and blue shoulder straps (red epaulettes for grenadiers); the wooden buttons were covered in cloth, brass buttons being reserved for élite units, and so scarce as to serve as currency! A peaked leather cap, the *petit casquette* or *casquette à pouf*, was worn with a tricolour cockade on the left, a flap to be lowered as a neck-shade, and a *pouf* or

woollen pompon on top; grenadiers had brass grenade badges on each side of the cap and sometimes all-red *poufs* (e.g. the 25th Demi-Brigade). Legwear usually consisted of cotton trousers and short gaiters, or one-piece 'gaiter-trousers'.

Shortage of cloth in autumn 1799 occasioned the so-called 'Kléber Ordinance' by which infantry received uniforms of the 1798 pattern but in any colour of cloth available; numerous variations are recorded (descriptions of the same colour perhaps varying as the uniforms faded), and it is possible that lapels and madder-red trousers may have been contemplated, but there is no evidence that they ever existed. Among recorded variations are the pointed cuffs (instead of round) and white bastion-shaped collar-loop of the 88th Demi-Brigade, and the green breeches (or red trousers with green stripe) of the 9th's officers. Table C lists examples of the 'Egyptian' uniform.

### The pre-1806 Uniform

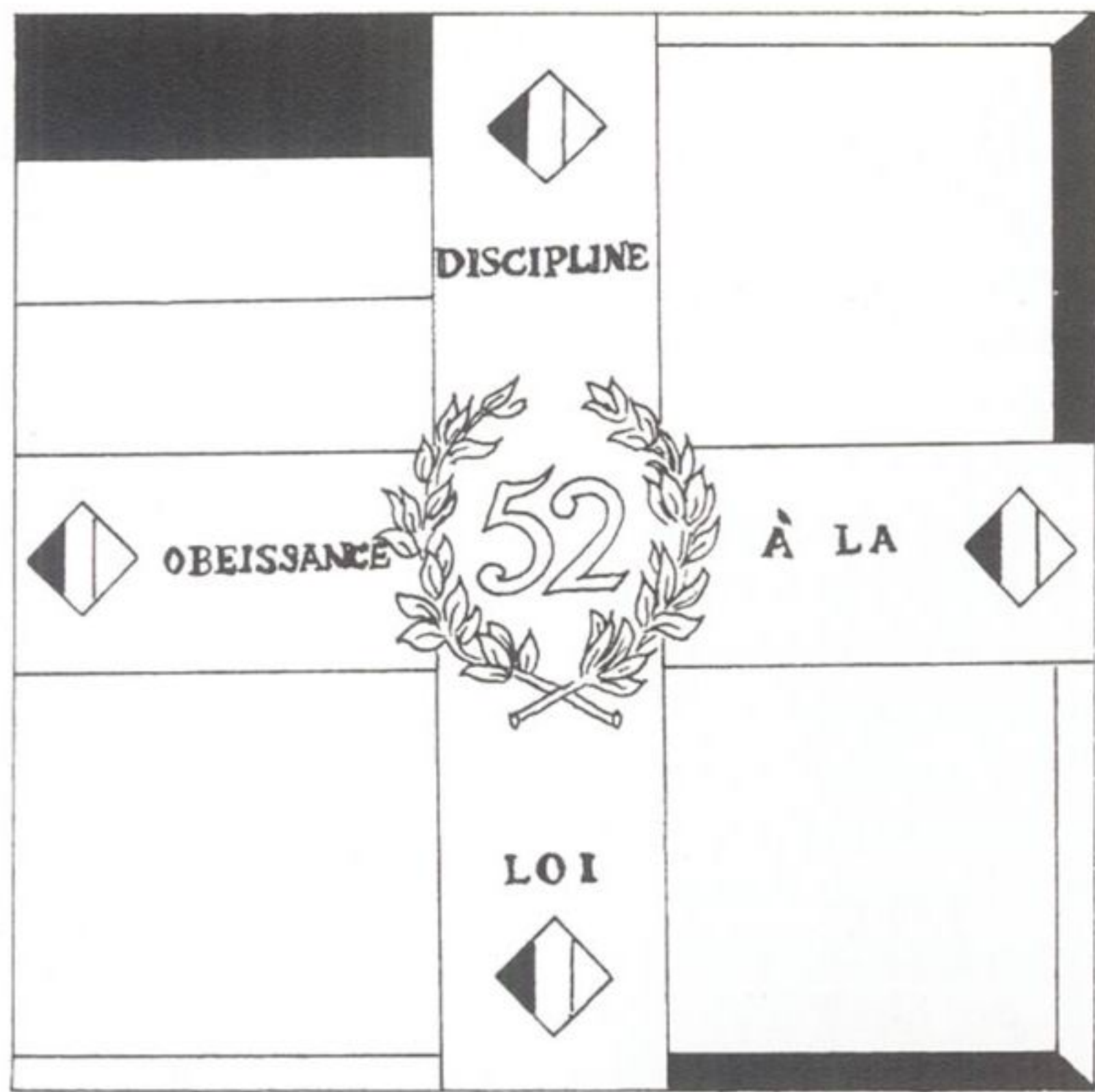
Confirmed by several regulations around 1800-01, the uniform evolved gradually from the 1793 pattern. The dark blue coat (*habit à la française*) was given shorter tails with false turnbacks, but which did not extend to the bottom edge of the tails until about 1810, and the lapels received an accentuated curve. The regulations specified red collar and cuffs

Table C ('Egyptian')

Regt.	Coat	Collar/Piping	Cuffs	Turnbacks	Piping	Pouf
9th	scarlet	blue/red	white	white	blue	red
13th	crimson	dark blue/white	puce	puce	white	blue
18th	scarlet	brown	yellow	yellow	blue	black
25th	crimson	sky-blue/white	sky-blue	sky-blue	white	white/red
32nd	brown	scarlet/blue	orange	orangè	white	white/blue
61st	crimson	dark blue/yellow	dark blue	dark blue	yellow	white/black
69th	brown	scarlet/blue	white	white	white	white/yellow
75th	scarlet	sky-blue/white	sky-blue	sky-blue	white	red/blue
85th	brown	scarlet/blue	yellow	yellow	white	red/yellow
88th	violet	blue/white	green	green	white	blue/yellow

*Recorded alternatives:* 9th, green facings piped white; 18th, yellow facings piped white, or blue facings and scarlet collar on brown jacket; 32nd, crimson faced blue; 61st, light green cuffs and turnbacks piped white, brown faced yellow, or brown with yellow collar and light green cuffs and turnbacks piped blue; 69th, scarlet facings piped white; 88th, crimson jackets; 13th, green piping; 18th, scarlet collar and cuffs, white turnbacks and piping; blue piping for 69th, 75th, 85th; violet jackets for 32nd and 61st.





Colour of the 52nd Regt., 1793. White throughout with tricolour border and canton; green wreath; gold numerals and lettering. Tricolour lozenges cover the original fleurs-de-lys in accordance with an instruction of 28 November 1792 which obliterated previous Royal insignia.

piped white, white turnbacks and lapels, and blue cuff flaps, fusiliers' shoulder straps and horizontal pockets piped red; but variations included red flaps or white flaps piped red, and the retention of the flapless cuff (perhaps as late as 1812 by elements of the 8th Line). An order of 13 July 1805 noted that: 'Many colonels have abolished the red piping on the lapels, others have made vertical pockets instead of the horizontal ones.' Turnback badges included stars, diamonds and hearts, eagles (after 1804), and regimental devices such as the 8th's red diamond bearing a white '8' and inner diamond, or the 48th's blue '4' on one turnback and '8' on the other.

The bicorne hat, worn across the head (*en bataille*) or fore-and-aft (*en colonne*) bore a tricolour cockade; 'ties' (laces to hold the sides erect) were usually black, sometimes coloured, and orange for the 4th Line, a distinction awarded for gallantry at Arcola. Short plumes or pompons began to appear to distinguish companies or battalions; on 21 June 1805 Gen. Vandamme ordered '... only round pompons and forbid the use of those as worn by the 57th, which place an undue strain on the hats and give generally a bad effect'—that regiment wearing carrot-shaped battalion plumes of sky-blue, orange or a violet shade known as *lie-de-vin* (literally, 'wine dregs').

An order of 26 October 1801 confirmed the use of the bicorne, but grenadiers were allowed to wear fur caps, usually for parade or combat, the bicorne with red plume serving at other times. Made of bearskin (hence its name *ourson*) or goatskin, the cap's cloth rear patch (nicknamed *cul de singe* or 'monkey's backside') was officially quartered in red and blue, but seems to have been almost invariably red with a white lace cross. The bonnet had a brass plate usually embossed with a grenade and sometimes a number (for example, the 45th had the number below a grenade, or 'No.' and '45' at either side); and officially a red plume and partially braided cords, though white cords were not uncommon (e.g. the 3rd, 18th, 21st and 57th), while the 8th wore peaks similar to the 1791-pattern cap. Red epaulettes and turnback grenades remained grenadier distinctions. The undress cap or *bonnet de police* was a pattern used since the 1780s, the *bonnet à la dragonne*, having a tasselled stocking-end folded up and tucked behind the right-hand side of a stiffened headband. The blue cap had red lace edging, piping and tassel and a company-badge for élites (red grenade, or yellow hunting-horn for *voltigeurs*), and when not in use was rolled and strapped under the cartridge box.

Officers' uniforms were of finer material, with gold lace headdress ornaments, and rank indicated by gold lace epaulettes in a scheme specified in 1786 and continuing through the Empire:

Colonel—epaulettes with bullion fringes on both shoulders; major (a rank created in 1803)—as colonel with silver straps; *chef de bataillon*—as colonel but fringe on left only; captain—gold lace fringe on left only; *capitaine adjutant-major*—lace fringe on right only; lieutenant—as captain but red stripe on straps; *sous-lieutenant*—two red stripes; *adjutant-sous-officier*—red straps with two gold stripes and mixed red-and-gold lace fringe on left. (A popular fashion was to have the red stripes on the straps in the form of interlocking diamonds).

The gorget was worn principally on 'dress' occasions, in gilt with silver devices incorporating the eagle (after 1804) and/or élite badges and regimental number. Officers' undress uniform, often worn on active service, included a single-breasted blue *surtout* without lapels, often with a red collar or (as worn by the 8th) a red cuff piping. NCOs' rank-distinctions were generally in the form

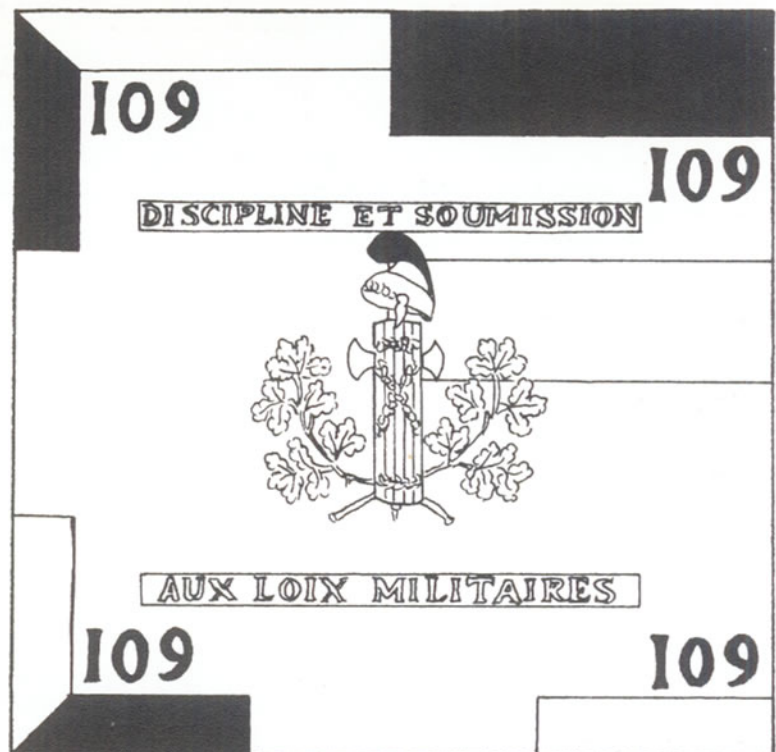


of diagonal lace bars on the lower sleeve: two orange bars for corporals, a gold bar on red for sergeants, and two for sergeant-majors, and often with gold intermixed in the epaulette fringes, shako cords and sword knots and gold lace epaulette-edging for sergeants and above. Service chevrons were worn point uppermost on the upper arm, usually of red lace (gold for senior NCOs).

Hairstyles originally ranged from the dressed and powdered queues of the Royal army to the unkempt styles of the *sans-culottes*, the queue declining in use around 1803. Variations were permitted, largely according to individual taste, though as late as February 1804 cutting the hair short was an imprisonment offence in the 64th Line! Side-whiskers became popular from the early 1800s (though prohibited by the eccentric 64th), and moustaches were obligatory for élite company personnel.

Waistcoats and legwear remained basically unchanged, with loose trousers restricted to active service. White breeches with black gaiters were universal, non-regulation white gaiters being worn by many regiments in summer and on parade; off-white or grey linen were often used for everyday wear. The sleeved, single-breasted waistcoat had red collar and cuffs for some regiments (yellow for *voltigeurs*), and doubled as a drill-jacket. Walking-out dress included white stockings and gloves and buckled shoes, gloves being prohibited for rank-and-file under arms. A black stock was worn for parade and service dress and a white one for ordinary dress, often replaced unofficially by a cravat which protruded above the collar. Smocks might be used for fatigues, but not until 1805 were greatcoats issued, and even then only to troops on active service and purchased by regimental funds; before this, civilian overcoats, cloaks or capes had been provided by the individual. In April 1806 the issue was formalised, all members of *bataillons de guerre* receiving a coat. There seems to have been little standardisation, coats being either single- or double-breasted, coloured from beige through grey to brownish-maroon, with epaulettes transferred from the *habit* by élite company men.

The creation of *voltigeurs* in 1804 introduced new distinctions, initially a *chamois* or yellow collar (often piped red), virtually universal until 1815, and soon afterwards green or green-and-yellow epaulettes,



Colour of the 2nd Bn., 109th Demi-Brigade, 1795. White ground with tricolour border; tricolour bonnet over brown fasces with silver axe-heads, green oak-leaves; tricolour canton (signifying 2nd Bn.); white labels, gilt letters and numerals. Successive patterns of colour will be illustrated in the companion MAA 146, *Napoleon's Light Infantry*.

plumes, sword knots and shako cords, with green or yellow bugle-horn turnback badges and similar devices on the shako plate. Originally *voltigeurs* wore the bicorn with yellow or green pompons, but in February 1806 the first Line infantry shako was authorised, replacing the bicorn generally by 1807. (The formation of light companies of 100 *carabiniers* per battalion around August 1800 in the 12th, 35th, 45th and 64th Demi-Brigades caused the issue of light infantry style shakos in that November to the 5th, 6th, 35th and 64th.)

The 1806 shako had a felt or board body, widening slightly towards the top; a waterproofed crown, leather peak and bands around the top and bottom; and usually a leather chevron stitched as strengthening to each side. On the front was borne a tricolour cockade above a lozenge-shaped brass plate bearing an embossed, crowned eagle above the regimental number, though many regimental patterns were also used. Brass chinscales were often worn even before their official sanction, with circular bosses bearing a five-pointed star or élite badges. Many regiments adopted coloured pompons, with plumes for élites, and braided cords for full dress in white (*fusiliers*), red (*grenadiers*) and yellow/green (*voltigeurs*). Officers' shakos had gold



lace and cords and gilded fittings.

### The 1806 Uniform

On 25 April 1806 it was decreed that uniforms would be styled as before but reverting to the white colour of the previous century, with coloured facings piped white and cuff flaps, turnbacks, pockets and shoulder straps piped in the facing colour, with company distinctions as before, though not all *voltigeurs* appear to have had *chamois* collars. Regimental differences were officially as in Table D.

It is believed that only the following received the white uniform: 3rd, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 21st, 32nd, 33rd, 46th and 53rd (not

necessarily the whole regiment), of which the 13th, 15th, 46th and 53rd were not officially designated to receive the white. The 4th, 8th, 12th, 19th, 22nd, 24th, 25th, 27th, 28th, 34th and 36th were scheduled to receive it, but may not have done so; the 4th had theirs manufactured but perhaps never issued them. Among recorded variations, such as cuffs without flaps and coloured turnbacks, are the following:

*3rd Line:* Green or white cuffs with green flaps, apparently without buttons for *voltigeurs*, whose *chamois* collars were piped white; white buttons; red turnback badges of '3' on one side and five-pointed star on the other.

*4th Line:* White uniform perhaps never issued to rank-and-file, but officer shown with green cuff flaps and turnbacks.

*13th Line:* Suhr shows a *voltigeur* without cuff flaps,

**'The raising of the siege of Thionville', 16 October 1792; after Hippolyte Lecomte. Illustrates the use of different uniforms within the same regiment; grenadiers in the foreground wear bicorn hats, the remainder the 'Tarleton' helmet.**





**Table D (1806)**

Regts.	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)	(k)	(l)	(m)	(n)	1	2	3
1	9	17	25	33	41	49	57	65	73	81	89	97	105		x	x	x
2	10	18	26	34	42	50	58	66	74	82	90	98	106		x		
3	11	19	27	35	43	51	59	67	75	83	91	99	107		x		x
4	12	20	28	36	44	52	60	68	76	84	92	100	108			x	x
(above with yellow buttons, horizontal pockets)																	
5	13	21	29	37	45	53	61	69	77	85	93	101	109		x	x	x
6	14	22	30	38	46	54	62	70	78	86	94	102	110		x	x	
7	15	23	31	39	47	55	63	71	79	87	95	103	111		x		x
8	16	24	32	40	48	56	64	72	80	88	96	104	112			x	x

(above with white buttons, vertical pockets)

Colours: (a) dark green, (b) black, (c) scarlet, (d) capucine, (e) violet, (f) sky-blue, (g) pink, (h) aurore (orange-pink), (i) dark blue, (j) jonquille yellow, (k) grass-green, (l) garance, (m) crimson, (n) iron-grey. (1) lapels, (2) cuffs, (3) collar.

and with yellow-tufted white shako pompon with black centre, white cords, green epaulettes.

14th Line: *Sapeur's* bearskin with black-tipped red plume, buff apron with red crossed axes over grenade in each bottom corner.

17th Line: Red cuff flaps and turnbacks; *voltigeurs*, yellow collar piped white, green epaulettes with yellow crescents, yellow-over-green plume, green cords.

18th Line: Red turnbacks; *voltigeur*, red collar piped green, yellow tufted shako pompon, yellow epaulettes with green crescents.

19th Line: Red turnbacks.

21st Line: Red turnbacks.

22nd Line: Brass buttons; grenadier officer shown without cuff flaps, with gold-laced shako including side chevrons, red plume with white base.

30th Line: Presumed extant uniform (attribution perhaps doubtful) has red collar and turnbacks and narrower, longer shoulder straps than usual.

33rd Line: Violet cuff flaps and turnbacks; *voltigeurs*, yellow plume, cords, epaulettes and upper shako band, grenadier red ditto; band wore gold-laced uniforms and shakos, drummers with red (or yellow) lace including bars on sleeves.

66th Line: Apparently wore white at least until 1808, as tropical dress in Guadeloupe.

It soon became apparent that the white uniform was unserviceable. Napoleon expressed his disap-

proval (traditionally after seeing horrifically blood-stained uniforms on the field of Eylau), and blue was restored in October 1807, the white being allowed to wear out before being replaced; not until November 1809 did Suchet report that 'the medley is over—there are no more hats, no more white coats'.

### The pre-1812 Uniform

The most significant alteration during the 1806–12 period was the introduction of a slightly taller and more robust shako on 9 November 1810, without side chevrons but with chinscales, as already adopted by many. Cords and plumes were abolished (but still continued to be worn). The plate was redesigned to show only the regimental number on a brass lozenge, though many non-regulation varieties existed, including an eagle-on-crescent plate (the 'crescent' representing the traditional 'Amazon shield' motif) adumbrating the 1812 pattern and worn by the 3rd, 5th, 11th, 14th, 21st, 26th, 40th, 42nd, 63rd, 75th, 81st, 94th and 121st, among others. On 21 February 1811 it was decreed that only senior officers were to wear plumes (white *aigrette* for colonel, red-over-white for major, red for *chef de bataillon*) with white pompons for other officers and staff NCOs, red for grenadiers, yellow for *voltigeurs*, and for the 1st to 4th fusilier companies of each battalion, dark green, sky-blue, *aurore*



(orange/pink), and violet respectively. Officially there was no battalion identification, but among observed variations were pompons or padded cloth discs with a white centre bearing the battalion number, or with a tuft above resembling the flames of a bursting grenade. Officers' shako lace varied in width according to rank. Regimental variations included:

*1st Line:* 1806 shako plate had a letter 'N' upon the eagle's breast; *voltigeurs'* plate consisted of an eagle atop a lightning-bolt.

*2nd Line:* 1806 shako plate believed retained until c. 1813.

*3rd Line:* Recorded shako plates included eagle-on-plinth design; shield bearing eagle over '3'; czapka-style 'sunburst' plate; brass grenade

Reconstruction by Job of a sergent porte-fanion of 5th Co., 2nd Bn., 105th Demi-Brigade in 1796. He wears basically regulation 1793 uniform, but note curious cuff patch details, with facing and piping extending to second button only.



Gen. Duhesme rallies a company of grenadiers at Charleroi; note the use of fur caps and bicorns within the same unit. After Bellangé.

badge for grenadiers; eagle-on-crescent. Initially red cords and carrot-shaped plumes for grenadiers, green for *voltigeurs*; fusiliers wore tufted 'company' pompons (e.g. red over sky-blue, with sword knots in same colours), and in full dress blue plume with red tip over yellow ball. Sergeants and above had gold upper shako bands; officers' *surtout* had red collar and flapless cuffs piped white, white turnbacks piped red with gold star on one side and '3' on the other.

*4th Line:* Grenadiers had red shako bands and white cords c. 1809.

*5th Line:* Fusilier shown c. 1809 with red-tipped blue plume, red collar without piping, red lozenge turnback badge.

*8th Line:* Shako plate of eagle upon plinth inscribed '8' or '8<sup>me</sup> Regt.', but c. 1810 *voltigeurs'* plate had '8' without a horn upon a lozenge; officers' shakos had gold lace interlocking rings instead of an upper band. Suhr shows a *voltigeur* with blue cuff flaps piped red, *chamois* collar, green epaulettes and plume, green-and-yellow cords with green *raquettes* and yellow sliders, yellow sword knot with green strap and fringe.

*10th Line:* 1806 shako plate shaped as elongated lozenge, *voltigeurs'* plate an eagle upon a lightning-bolt.

*18th Line:* Bicorn had red lace 'ties', yellow for *voltigeurs*, whose plumes were green with





**'Rampon and the 32nd Demi-Brigade at Montelegino', 10 April 1796; after Berthon. Note the large colour bearing the motto *Vaincre ou mourir* ('Victory or Death'), and the uniform of various members of the regiment, including a *sapeur*, right foreground.**

yellow tip; red-over-white-over-sky-blue plumes for senior officers and drummers. Lozenge shako plates c. 1807, but eagle-on-crescent c. 1809; red cuff flaps.

*21st Line: Voltigeurs* c. 1807, green epaulettes with yellow retaining strap, crescents piped red (outside) and yellow (inside), green cords, yellow-tipped green plume.

*22nd Line: Grenadiers'* epaulettes had white crescents.

*27th Line: Élités* had brass-scaled epaulettes with red crescent and fringe (grenadiers), yellow crescent and green fringe (*voltigeurs*); *voltigeur* shown with green upper shako band and cords, white lower band, green-over-yellow plume, later version (?) shows yellow shako bands and chevrons, yellow plume over green ball, yellow collar piped white.

*29th Line:* 1806 shako plate bore an eagle over a ball pierced with '29', upon a shield.

*30th Line:* In c. 1809, brass czapka-style shako plates of rays around an eagle over '30'. *Voltigeur* distinctions varied with battalion, plumes yellow-over-red, over green or yellow-over-red

ball, with yellow upper shako band, cords and epaulettes; or green cords, green epaulettes with yellow strap, and white or orange cockade loop; c. 1810, green upper band and cords, green-over-yellow plume, green epaulettes with yellow crescents, eagle-on-crescent shako plate; officer shown with busby, silver-laced yellow bag, silver cords, yellow-over-red plume over yellow ball. Grenadier caps without plates, red cords and plume; grenadier shakos with red upper band, cords and plume.

*34th Line:* Officers' shakos with tricolour rosette instead of plate; *chef de bataillon*, red-over-white-over-blue plume. Grenadiers' great-coats with red collar and red cuff piping.

*42nd Line:* Fusiliers, tufted pompons, e.g. red over sky-blue; grenadier caps without plates, red plume, white cords.

*54th Line:* Eagle-on-crescent shako plate bearing





Infantryman of c. 1796, after Bellangé. Although he wears grenadier distinctions (red epaulettes, drooping red horsehair plume on the bicorn, in this case turned to the rear) such distinctions were not always confined to élite companies in the early revolutionary wars.

bust of Napoleon and '54'.

56th Line: 1806 shako plate pentagonal bearing eagle over number; grenadiers' plate, 1810, bore grenade over '56' on lozenge.

57th Line: Fusiliers, tufted pompons, e.g. red over yellow.

62nd Line: 1806 shako plate oval, bearing eagle over disc pierced '62'.

63rd Line: 'Capucine' facings c. 1806–08, grenadiers with brass grenade-shaped shako plate, red plume with white base; c. 1808 red plume and upper shako band, white cords. NCO in Spain shown with blue cuffs with red piping and flaps, gold upper shako band, red tufted pompon and cockade loop, large brass (?) numbers '63' instead of shako plate. Portrait of *voltigeur* officer shows dark blue overcoat with yellow collar and red piping.

64th Line: *Voltigeur* c. 1806 shown with bicorn, red ties and tassels, green pompon with red tuft, red collar piped white, green epaulettes with red crescents, '64' on turnbacks.

65th Line: Officers with tricolour rosette instead of shako plate, 1810–12; blue cuffs with red flaps and piping; grenadiers as Plate F in this book.

67th Line: Shako cords worn diagonally; red cuffs and flaps piped white.

71st Line: Grenadiers' shako plate of grenade shape with '71' on ball.

88th Line: Grenadier caps with brass grenade badge, red plume and cords.

93rd Line: Grenadier cap plates bore grenade with '93' on ball.

95th Line: *Voltigeurs'* bicorn with yellow-tufted green pompon, 1806.

96th Line: *Voltigeurs* had *chamois* cuff flaps piped red; Suhr shows green epaulettes with yellow crescents, yellow shako bands and chevrons, green cords and carrot-shaped pompon.

100th Line: shako plate of eagle upon a plinth bearing '100'.

102nd Line: 1806 shako plate bore 'N' on eagle's breast.

108th Line: Grenadier caps with triangular plate, upper point occupied by bursting grenade, '108' cut out below.

117th Line: Grenadiers c. 1806–08 had grenade-shaped shako plates with number on ball.

125th Line: Formed from 4th and 7th Dutch Regts.; wore white Dutch uniform with pink and yellow facings respectively for at least a year (see Plate G); by June 1812 only élites of 1st–3rd Bns. had received blue uniforms. Initially 1st Bn. had yellow facings (élites pink), 2nd Bn. pink (grenadiers yellow), 3rd Bn. pink (*voltigeurs* and two fusilier companies yellow), 4th Bn. pink (two companies yellow).



Examples of regimental *voltigeur* distinctions are noted below:

<i>Regt.</i>	<i>Plume</i>	<i>Shako cords</i>	<i>Epaulettes</i>
3rd c. 1807	green-over-yellow	green	green, yellow crescents
4th c. 1809	green, red tip (yellow shako band and chevrons)	white	green, red crescents
18th c. 1809	red with yellow tip or vice versa, over yellow ball	green	green, or with yellow crescents
26th	yellow-over-green, over green ball	green	green, yellow crescents

<i>Regt.</i>	<i>Plume</i>	<i>Shako cords</i>	<i>Epaulettes</i>
42nd	yellow tipped green, over green ball	green	yellow, green fringe
57th	green tipped yellow, over yellow ball	green	green, yellow crescents
63rd c. 1807	green-over-yellow (green upper shako band)	green	yellow, green fringe

Members of the Army of Italy of the late 1790s in typically wretched clothing exhibiting a wide variety of styles, with headgear including the fur-crested 'Tarleton' helmet, bicorns, a grenadier cap, mirliton caps and *bonnets de police*.







French infantry, c. 1800, wearing a wide variety of non-regulation uniform, including cavalry overalls (left); the grenadier (centre) has a large plume of 'stand-and-fall' shape. Print by Bartsch after Kobell.

Regt.	Plume	Shako cords	Epauettes
65th 1810- 1812	red-over- green ball (green sword knot, red tassel)	green, red tassels	green, red crescents
67th	green-over- yellow	green	green, yellow crescents
94th	green tipped yellow, over yellow ball (green sword knots)	yellow	green, yellow crescents

## Musicians

Governed by the whim of the colonel, musicians' uniforms fell into two categories: those of the band, and those of drummers, fifers and *voltigeur* buglers (*cornets*). Bandsmen usually wore uniforms with laced facings and almost always matching trefoil epaulettes, white shako cords and plume, laced hussar boots or officers' boots with turned-over tops, and were armed with light-bladed *épees*, which details should be presumed in the following regimental details unless stated otherwise. Drummers, fifers and *cornets* usually wore ordinary uniform with lace on facings, pockets and turnbacks and often on the sleeves; with large 'swallows'-nest' wings; and with ordinary company distinctions, shako ornaments, turnback badges, epaulettes, etc., the latter worn over the wings. Tricolour lace of various red, white and blue designs was popular. Drum majors usually wore laced coats, a laced bicorne with plume and/or feather *panache*, usually in red, white and blue; Austrian knot decorations on the thighs, gauntlets, laced hussar boots, a laced baldric to support a sabre, and a corded mace; *caporals-tambour* often wore a less elaborate version of the same uniform, with busby and smaller mace. Drums were brass, often with blue hoops, but sometimes tricolour diagonal stripes were used, e.g. the 67th and 88th. Examples of recorded uniforms are noted below:

- 3rd Line: Musicians (1807), sky-blue coat faced red, laced gold, white-plumed bicorne; drummers etc., same, but shakos, red wings, orange or tricolour lace.
- 4th Line: Musicians (1809), blue coat, red collar, green lapels, cuffs and turnbacks laced gold; drummers same with gold-laced green wings.
- 5th Line: Drum major (1809), sky-blue single-breasted coat laced silver, seven tassel-ended silver loops on breast, silver-laced white (or sky-blue) breeches, white plume.
- 9th Line: Musicians (1809) as Plate E, drum major with bicorne bearing red-over-white-over-blue plume over tricolour *panache*; drummers had blue coats with green facings and wings, *caporal-tambour's* busby with green bag, red piping and plume.
- 18th Line: Musicians (1805), blue coat, red collar, sky-blue facings, gold trefoils, sky-blue wings or elite epaulettes for drummers. 1809, blue



faced crimson, gold lace; drummers with crimson wings, tricolour or yellow/green lace including seven inverted chevrons on sleeve; *caporal-tambour*, busby with red bag and plume, white cords.

26th Line: Musicians (1809), red coat faced blue, gold lace, blue breeches, blue-over-white plume; drummers, blue coat faced red, red wings, tricolour lace, shako with company distinctions (e.g. fusilier, green-tipped plume over green ball).

27th Line: Musicians, blue coat, pale orange lapels, other facings red, white piping, gold lace; drummers etc., same but seven inverted chevrons on sleeve; drum major's bicorn with orange-over-white plume; *caporal-tambour* with busby, red bag and plume, white cords. One source shows orange cuffs and turnbacks.

30th Line: Musicians (c. 1809), red coat faced blue, brass czapka-style shako plate; drummers etc., same but some with blue wings, tricolour lace; drum major with red epaulettes over blue wings, busby bearing brass grenade badge, red bag and plume, white piping and cords; *voltigeur cornet* same, yellow epaulettes, busby with yellow bag, white cords and piping, yellow-over-red plume over similarly coloured ball. c. 1810, yellow/gold lace, red cuff flaps, eagle-on-crescent shako plate shown, with white grenadier epaulettes.

42nd Line: Musicians, sky-blue coat faced yellow, laced gold; drummers similar with gold-laced yellow wings, tufted company shako pompons.

48th Line: Extant drummer's coat (1812) is dark blue, faced red, dark blue shoulder straps piped red, flapless cuffs, white lace with interwoven red diamond pattern on facings, including button loops on lapels and six inverted chevrons on sleeve; blue star on turnbacks.

57th Line: Musicians (c. 1803-05), blue coat faced yellow, white lace and trefoils, yellow-laced bicorn, red-over-white-over-sky-blue plume; drummers etc., same with white-laced yellow wings; c. 1809, band wore blue faced sky-blue, laced gold, drummers with sky-blue wings, orange lace.

63rd Line: Musicians (c. 1808), blue coat faced *aurore*, gold lace, *aurore* trefoils edged gold;

drummers blue faced red (including wings), white lace, red upper shako band, cords and plume (including fusiliers). Musicians c. 1811-12 as before but blue turnbacks piped white, blue cuff flaps and trousers, blue waistcoat with red hussar braid, shako with *aurore* cords, plume and 'wing' wrapped around, black upper band and no plate.

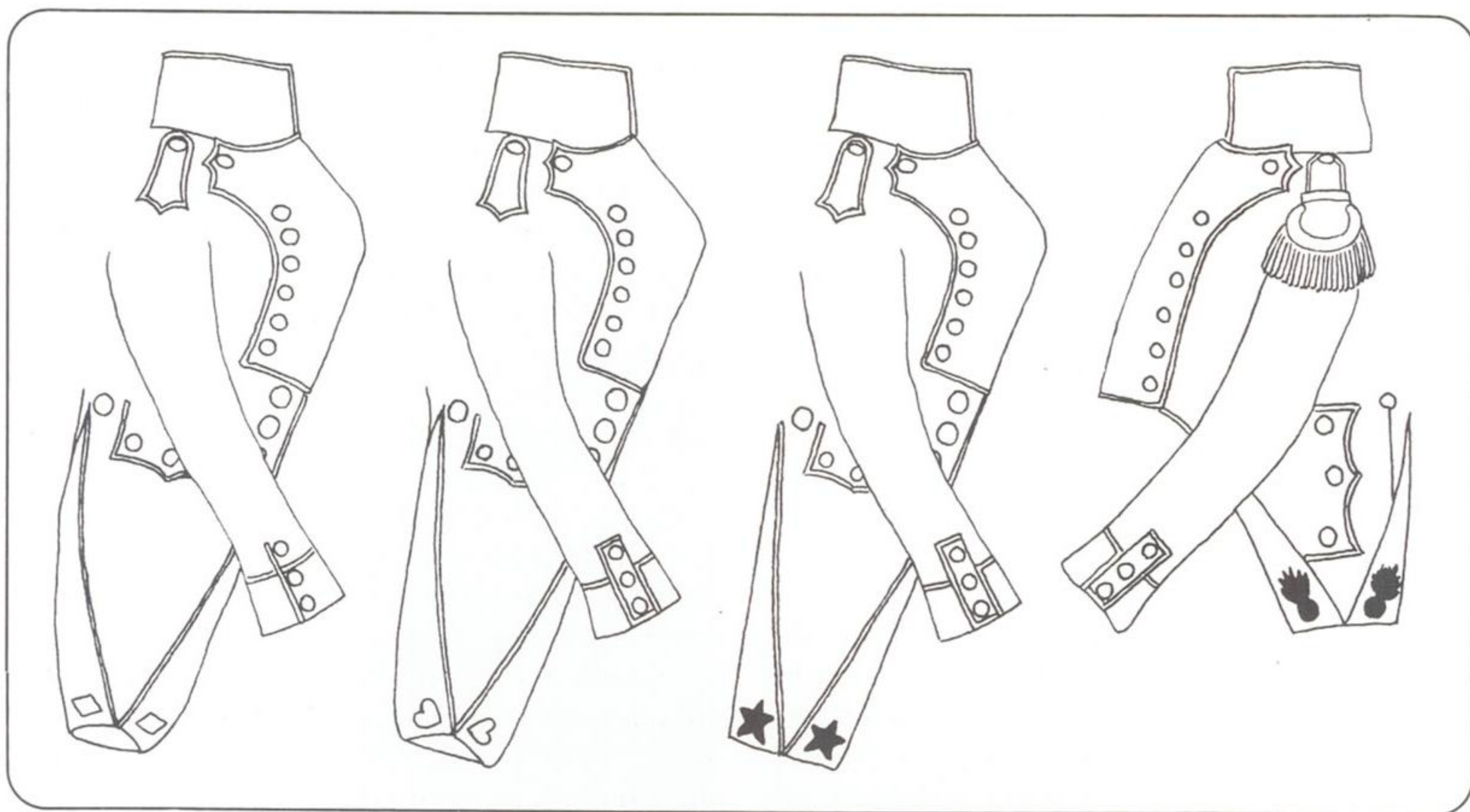
65th Line: Musicians (c. 1810-12), blue coat faced red, blue cuffs, white turnbacks, yellow lace, yellow shako with black leather bands, white plume and cords; drum major, gold epaulettes with gold or red fringe, busby with red bag, white plume, gold cords with red tassels.

67th Line: Musicians as Plate E, but white plume and cords, gold lace; drummers etc., blue wings.

**Line grenadiers, c. 1800; contemporary watercolour. Note the long coat-tails, with handkerchief protruding from the pocket; the trousers with slits for draw-strings around the bottom; and the civilian waistcoat of yellow-and-white stripes worn by the standing figure.**







Successive patterns of infantry coat; from left to right: (a) habit with flapless cuff, c. 1804 (b) habit with flapped cuff, c. 1804–10 (c) habit with reshaped turnbacks, c. 1810–13 (d) 1812 habit-veste, bearing company distinctions of a grenadier.

*88th Line:* Musicians (c. 1805), blue coat faced orange, gold lace, bicorn with white-over-orange plume; drummers same but red collar, gold-laced orange wings. Drummers attached to band had black gauntlets and aprons.

### Sapeurs

*Sapeurs* normally wore grenadier uniform, with crossed axes and/or grenade badges on the sleeves, usually white or red; plateless fur caps, leather gauntlets and apron, and an axe-case over the shoulder; beards were mandatory. Recorded variations include:

- 3rd Line:* In c. 1809–10, sky-blue faced red, red epaulettes with yellow crescents, red plume and badges, white cap cords; c. 1812, ordinary uniform with red epaulettes, white cords, red-over-sky-blue plume.
- 9th Line:* Green facings c. 1809, red piping and plume, white cords.
- 18th Line:* Sky-blue coat faced crimson, white epaulettes, badges and cords, red plume, adopted c. 1809; reverted to ordinary uniform

c. 1810, red epaulettes, cap with grenade-embossed brass plate.

- 26th Line:* In c. 1809, red lapels, white sleeve badges, red epaulettes with white crescents, busby with red bag and plume, white piping.
- 27th Line:* In c. 1808–12, pale orange lapels, red badges and epaulettes with brass-scaled straps, brass cap plate bearing grenade, red plume, white cords.
- 30th Line:* In c. 1809, red coat, blue facings and badges, white epaulettes and cords, red plume; c. 1810, blue coat with red facings, lapels, badges and epaulettes.
- 42nd Line:* In c. 1809, red-tipped green plume, white cords, red badges, red epaulettes with gold crescents, green fringe.
- 45th Line:* In c. 1806–08, sky-blue facings piped dark blue, red cuff flaps, turnbacks, epaulettes, plume and cords, blue breeches with black gaiters cut to resemble hussar boots with red edging and tassel; sleeve badge of blue-shafted axes with yellow ferrule, white blade, outlined red.
- 46th Line:* In c. 1806–08, sky-blue facings, red cuff flaps, badges, epaulettes, piping; white turnbacks and cords, red plume with dark blue tip.
- 57th Line:* In c. 1809, sky-blue facings, with or without orange lace, red badges and plume,



white cords.

*63rd Line:* In c. 1806–08, capucine facings, red badges and epaulettes, white turnbacks piped red, blue breeches with capucine scalloped-edged stripe, short gaiters as for 45th above, black fur shako with peak, red plume, white cords; c. 1808–09 same, but white piping, ordinary cap with same decorations.

*65th Line:* In c. 1810–12, red badges, cords and plume, white epaulettes with red crescents.

*67th Line:* In c. 1808, red plume and badges, white cords, red epaulettes with white straps edged red.

### The 1812 Uniform

The regulations of 19 January 1812, named after the Major Bardin responsible for their issue, introduced a double-breasted, short-tailed blue jacket or *habit-veste*, with red collar piped blue (or white; *chamois* piped blue for *voltigeurs*), white 'plastron'-style lapels piped red, red cuffs piped white, blue flaps and vertical pockets piped red, and brass buttons. The white turnbacks bore a blue crowned 'N' for fusiliers, red grenade for grenadiers, and yellow or *chamois* horn for *voltigeurs*; fusiliers had blue shoulder straps piped red, with red or *chamois* epaulettes edged blue for *élites*. Rank badges were unchanged, but officers' coats had longer tails. The white single-breasted waistcoat had a slightly lower collar, round cuffs and shoulder straps of dark blue (red for *élites* and sometimes *chamois* for *voltigeurs*). The black gaiters no longer extended over the knee. A new pattern of forage cap was introduced, the 'pokalem', a pie-shaped blue cap with a folding neck-flap which could fasten under the chin; piped red, it bore the regimental number or *élite* company badge on the front.

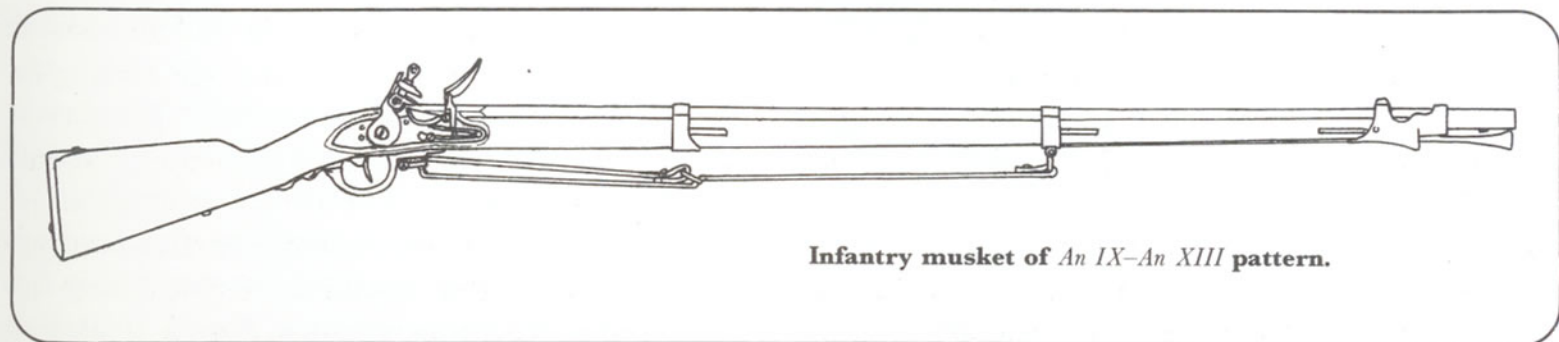
The 1812-pattern shako had a new plate comprising a crowned eagle atop a semi-circular plate

into which the regimental number was cut, with lion-head finials sometimes replaced by grenades or horns for *élites*, some *voltigeurs* having the number surrounded by a horn in addition. A tricolour cockade was partly covered by the eagle's head, and brass chinscales were used as before, but shako cords were discontinued (not always in practice). Grenadiers' shakos were slightly taller, with red upper and lower bands and side chevrons; these decorations were yellow for *voltigeurs*. Red and yellow plumes were re-introduced for *élites*, though tufted pompons seem to have been more popular. Grenadier caps were officially discontinued.

On 30 December 1811 an attempt was made to standardise musicians' uniform by introducing a single 'Imperial Livery', a green coat with 'Imperial' lace of alternate yellow and green segments, the yellow with an interwoven crowned green 'N', the next yellow with a green eagle; drum majors and bandmasters were to have double silver lace on the collar and musicians a single lace. Drummers received new 'Imperial Livery' by the 'Bardin regulations': a single-breasted green jacket with red collar piped green, green cuff flaps and shoulder straps piped red, and red cuffs piped white, with 'Imperial' lace on breast, back and sleeves. Company distinctions were retained, and regimental patterns continued in use.

Issue of the 1812 uniform was often delayed until 1813 or even 1814, and recorded variations include:

*1st Line: Voltigeur cornet c. 1814* shown in blue jacket, yellow collar edged white, blue cuffs with yellow flaps and piping, blue lapels piped yellow and laced with mixed white-and-sky-blue, of which seven inverted chevrons on sleeve; yellow epaulettes with green crescents; blue trousers with yellow stripe; red shako with yellow bands and chevrons, yellow plume,



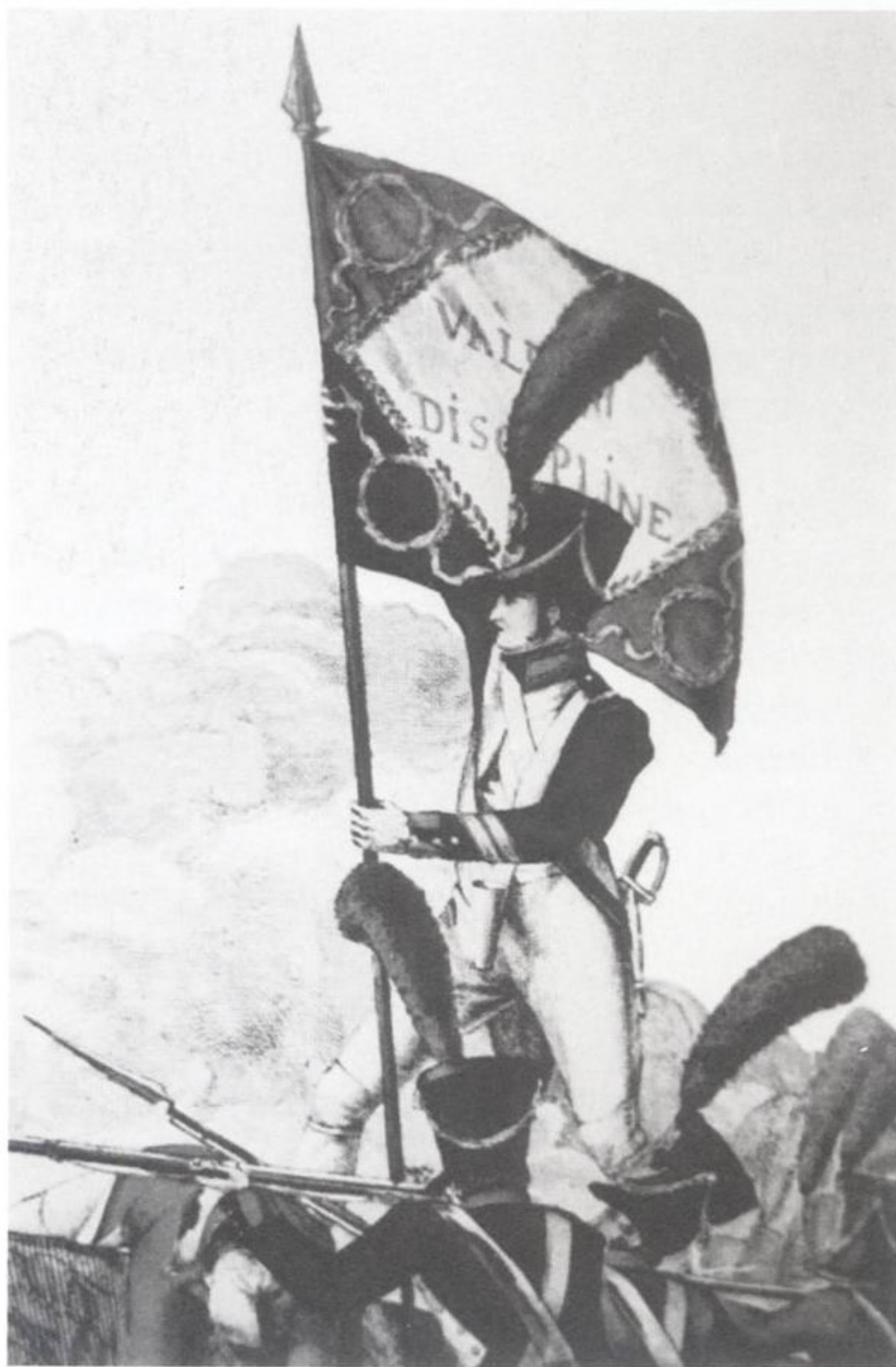
Infantry musket of An IX–An XIII pattern.





Shako plate, 16th Line, 1806 pattern.

NCO with a colour of 1804 pattern; print by Martinet.



white metal shako plate and chinscales and brass-edged peak.

*3rd Line:* Grenadiers as Plate H; *voltigeurs* same, except yellow instead of red, yellow collar piped red, green epaulettes with yellow crescents. Musicians wore ordinary jackets, red-over-sky-blue plume; fusilier drummers same, *élites* with company distinctions; drum major wore single-breasted blue coat faced sky-blue, laced gold (including seven bars on breast), busby with sky-blue bag laced gold, red plume over white and blue *panache*. *Voltigeur* (1814) shown with green tufted pompon, green epaulettes with red crescent, baggy brown Spanish trousers with yellow zigzag-edged stripe.

*5th Line:* Drummers wore ordinary jacket, seven inverted red-and-white chevrons on sleeve, fringeless red epaulettes for fusiliers.

*8th Line:* Apparent retention of old lozenge plates bearing eagle over '8'. *Élites'* shakos without side chevrons; red tufted pompon or plume, red cords for grenadiers; blue-tufted yellow pompon, yellow-over-red or sky-blue-tipped yellow plume for *voltigeurs*; tufted pompoms for fusiliers, e.g. red with blue or green tuft, blue with white tuft. Drummers wore single-breasted blue jacket faced red, tricolour lace; musicians sky-blue *habit-veste* and breeches, yellow facings, gold lace, yellow plume tipped sky-blue, drum major's busby with gold-laced yellow bag.

*18th Line:* Lozenge plates bearing '18' used as well as 1812 pattern. *Voltigeurs*, green pompon, yellow-tipped green plume over yellow ball, or red-tufted yellow pompon, green epaulettes with yellow crescents. Musicians, blue *surtout* faced crimson, gold lace, white plume; drummers etc., single-breasted blue jacket faced red, laced with mixed red-and-gold or white with interwoven red diamonds.

*45th Line:* 1810-pattern shako plate perhaps still in use.

*130th Line:* Czapka-style 'rayed' shako plates.

### The Restoration

Some changes were occasioned by the Bourbon restoration in 1814, some regiments being re-numbered, some being assigned 'Royal' titles, and



each being restricted to three battalions. The white Bourbon cockade was restored on 13 April 1814, which often meant simply covering the red and blue centre of the tricolour with a white disc, with as easy a reversion upon the return of Napoleon. Fusiliers' 'N' turnback badges were removed, and on 8 February a cartridge box badge of a crowned and interlaced double 'L' cypher was introduced, with a shako plate bearing Bourbon symbols; but it is unlikely that many alterations could have taken effect before the Hundred Days, except for a modification of the 1812-pattern shako plate by removing the eagle, leaving only the section with pierced number—e.g. Dighton shows its use by the 45th.

### Campaign Uniforms

Uniforms were modified on campaign for reasons of utility or due to the rigours of active service; uniforms might be made locally, from whatever cloth was available and often not conforming to regulations. Loose trousers or overalls were usual, grey, white or ochre in colour, with blue and (in Spain) brown not uncommon. Shako covers of black, waterproofed fabric, or of white or buff cotton, concealed most ornaments but sometimes left the pompon, or even plume, visible; such covers were often painted with a regimental device or number, as in Plate F. So were the white fabric cartridge box covers which recorded the identity of the owner, '—Régiment d'Infanterie/—Bataillon,—Compagnie', and sometimes painted élite company badges. The trousers might be turned up at the bottom or tied around the ankle with string; the greatcoat was often worn directly over the waistcoat, with the *habit* in the knapsack; and the *bonnet de police* was often worn for comfort instead of the shako. For action, however, a regiment would often endeavour to look its best, on the premise that (as one officer stated) 'One can never be too well dressed when the cannon roars!' Exigencies of campaign life resulted in all manner of non-regulation garments, from the Arab appearance of the troops in Egypt to the fur-swathed masses on the retreat from Moscow; while the 'Marie-Louises' or conscripts of 1813–14 were often so wretchedly equipped that they received nothing save a cap and greatcoat, to be worn over civilian clothes.



Sergeant-major with the 'Eagle' of the 12th Line, c. 1809; print after P. and H. Lecomte. The scarlet colour-belt bears gold-embroidered foliate designs, and the staff is painted sky-blue and studded with gilt nails.

## Equipment

Regulated by successive orders, basic infantry equipment remained reasonably standard throughout the period. The knapsack (*havresac*) was based upon the 1786 and 1791 specifications, slightly reduced in size by regulations of the Year X (*An X*) of the Republican calendar (1801–02). Made of calfskin tanned with the hair on, it was





Shako plate, 23rd Line, 1810 pattern.

carried on the back by means of buff leather shoulder straps attached by wooden toggles, with a flap fastened by three (or two) buff leather straps and buckles. In 1806 it was provided with three extra straps, one to pass vertically all round the middle, and two to secure the rolled greatcoat on top, this having been attached earlier by privately-acquired straps or string. When filled with two packs of cartridges, spare shoes, four days' biscuit, two spare shirts, spare trousers and gaiters, night cap, polishing brushes, pipeclay and personal impedimenta, it might weigh between 15 and 20kg, not including items fastened to the outside such as messtin, cooking pot, and spare headdress in linen cover.

The black leather cartridge box was initially constructed around a wooden block with holes drilled to accommodate cartridges; later types had box interiors. Sizes varied slightly, the 1786-pattern measuring 32.1 × 12.2 × 6.8cm (interior), with a flap 28.5 × 16.3cm; the *An X* pattern was similar, the 1812 type including an interior flap and removable container; later patterns had two straps underneath to accommodate the rolled forage cap.

The cartridge box was suspended at the rear of the right hip by a whitened buff leather belt over the left shoulder, with a strap at the left of the box fastened onto the sword belt or one of the skirt-buttons of the coat, to prevent the box from slipping; the flap carried grenade or hunting-horn badges for élites, and occasionally the regimental number.

The bayonet scabbard was carried at the front of the cartridge box belt by fusiliers, but a belt over the right shoulder was used by all those armed with sabres, when it was usual to carry sabre and bayonet in a combined frog. This practice led to uneven drill, grenadiers reaching to their left and fusiliers their right when preparing to fix bayonets. The combined frog was prohibited in 1791, all bayonets to be carried at the right thereafter; but it seems doubtful whether this system was ever adopted universally, and the combined frog was restored by the decree of 4 *Brumaire An X* (27 October 1801) which regulated equipment patterns.

Non-regulation items carried on campaign included canvas satchels slung over the shoulder, fabric 'sausages' to contain flour, and the ubiquitous canteen, which was always provided by the individual; there was no official issue, and canteens ranged from wooden barrels to bottles in wickerwork cases and metal flasks, usually slung over the shoulder by a coloured cord. Officers on campaign sometimes carried knapsacks, but often had their equipment rolled in a greatcoat slung over one shoulder, across the body, a rudimentary protection from sword cuts also adopted by other ranks.

### Weapons

The basic arm was the 1777-pattern musket, modified (in barrel bands and sling swivels) in Years IX and XIII. The *An IX/XIII* pattern was a smoothbore flintlock 151.5cm long, of 17.5mm calibre and 4.375kg weight; all fittings were iron. Other firearms in use included *fusils depareilles* made from spare parts of 1763, 1774 and 1777-patterns to remedy the shortage of matériel in the early Revolutionary Wars; and the *An IX/XIII* dragoon musket, 141.7cm long and 4.275kg in weight, usually carried by *voltigeurs*, selected numbers of whom carried rifled muskets until these were withdrawn in 1807. *Sapeurs* carried light musketoon of *An IX* pattern, 111cm long and with brass barrel bands.



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1: Fusilier, 43<sup>e</sup> de Ligne, 1792  
2: Infantryman in campaign dress, 1795  
3: Grenadier, Garde Nationale de Paris, 1792







1: Fusilier, 61<sup>er</sup> Demi-Brigade; Egypt, 1799  
2: Fusilier, 1800  
3: Officer, 15<sup>e</sup> Demi-Brigade, 1800  
4: Grenadier, 1800



1: Sergent-major with 'Aigle', 4<sup>e</sup> de Ligne, 1805  
2: '2<sup>e</sup> Porte-Aigle' 8<sup>e</sup> de Ligne, 1811  
3: Sapeur, 46<sup>e</sup> de Ligne, 1808





- 1: Grenadier, 15<sup>e</sup> de Ligne, 1807  
2: Voltigeur cornet, 18<sup>e</sup> de Ligne, 1809  
3: Voltigeur, 3<sup>e</sup> de Ligne, 1809







1: Caporal-tambour, 67<sup>e</sup> de Ligne, 1808  
2: Musician, 9<sup>e</sup> de Ligne, 1809  
3: Grenadier-tambour, 57<sup>e</sup> de Ligne, 1809





1: Voltigeur, 88<sup>e</sup> de Ligne; Spain, 1811  
2: Fusilier officer, 34<sup>e</sup> de Ligne; Spain, 1810  
3: Grenadier, 65<sup>e</sup> de Ligne; Spain, 1810



1: Major, 100<sup>e</sup> de Ligne, 1809  
2: Sergent de fusiliers, 30<sup>e</sup> Ligne, 1811  
3: Officer, 125<sup>e</sup> de Ligne, 1811  
4: Voltigeur, 14<sup>e</sup> de Ligne, 1811







1: Fusilier, 70<sup>e</sup> de Ligne, 1813  
 2: Grenadier, 3<sup>e</sup> de Ligne, 1813  
 3: 'Marie-Louise', 82<sup>e</sup> de Ligne, 1814  
 4: Tambour, 96<sup>e</sup> de Ligne, 1814

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The 1769-pattern sabre with angular brass guard and short, slightly curved blade remained in use with minor modifications until the issue of the *An IX* and *An XI* patterns of *sabre-briquet*, the former having a cast-brass hilt of 28 ribs and a curved guard ending in a pyramidal quillon, and the latter a 21-ribbed grip and a rounded quillon. Both had a slightly more curved blade and a black leather scabbard, the *An XI* with a larger chape. The 1786 practice whereby the sabre was carried by grenadiers, musicians and all NCOs remained largely constant throughout; *voltigeurs* were initially equipped with sabres, an instruction ordering their discontinuance from 7 October 1807 clearly having limited effect, as it had to be repeated as late as 16 January 1815. The sword knot, partly decorative but originally for securing the sabre to the wrist, was coloured red for grenadiers, green and/or yellow for *voltigeurs* and white for fusiliers, but regimental variations existed. Drum majors and *sapeurs* usually carried elaborately decorated sabres, those of *sapeurs* often shaped as an antique 'glaive' with an eagle-head pommel. The bayonet was 45.6cm long, triangular in section, and secured by a locking-ring, though in the 1790s it was common to tie the bayonet to the musket with string to prevent its being wrenched off the muzzle. The scabbard was usually of brown leather.

Officers carried a straight-bladed *épée* with single-bar guard and helmet-shaped pommel, suspended from a shoulder belt, or a waist belt passing beneath the coat and front flap of the breeches, of whitened buff leather—though unofficial black or coloured leather waist belts, some with gold lace decoration and/or rectangular gilt plates instead of the usual S-clasp, were popular. Officers of élite companies carried various types of curved sabre with single-bar guard, as (unofficially) did some fusilier officers. All metal fittings were gilded, and sword knots were of gold lace.

The variety of regimental weaponry is exemplified by a return of the 14th Line in 1808–09:

134 officers: 96 *épées*, 38 sabres (*élites*), 9 carbines (*voltigeurs*)

27 sergeant-majors: 24 muskets, 27 sabres, 3 carbines (*voltigeurs*)

108 sergeants: 96 muskets, 12 carbines (*voltigeurs*), 108 *sabres-briquet*

27 *fourriers*: 24 muskets, 3 carbines (*voltigeurs*), 27



Shako plate, 121st Line, of the common but non-regulation 'eagle-over-crescent' design, c. 1809–10.

*sabres-briquet*

216 corporals: 192 muskets, 24 dragoon muskets (*voltigeurs*), 216 *sabres-briquet*

13 *sapeurs*: 13 musketoons, 13 sabres

167 grenadiers: 167 muskets, 167 *sabres-briquet*

241 *voltigeurs*: 241 dragoon muskets (regt. must have abolished *voltigeur* sabres)

2,307 fusiliers: 2,295 muskets, 12 musketoons (perhaps for 12 unauthorised musicians appearing on the rolls as privates?)

54 drummers, musicians and *cornets*: 54 musketoons, 54 *sabres-briquet*

## The Regiments of the Line

For reasons of space, the following list cannot cover fully all the services of each regiment, especially as it was common for battalions to serve apart; thus elements of the same regiment might be engaged simultaneously as far apart as Spain and Russia.







Only major actions are listed below and abbreviated as follows:

A— Austerlitz	J— Jena
AA— Arcis-sur-Aube	L— Leipzig
Al— Albuera	Lu— Lützen
BA— Bar-sur-Aube	M— Montmirail
Bd— Badajos	N— Nivelles
Be— Berezina	P— Paris
Bo— Borodino	Sa— Salamanca
Br— Barrosa	Sb— Sabugal
Bt— Bautzen	SD— St. Dizier
Bu— Busaco	Sg— Saragossa
By— Bayonne	Sm— Smolensk
Ca— Castalla	Ta— Tarragona
Ch— Champaubert	Tf— Tarifa
Co— Corunna	To— Toulouse
D— Dresden	Tr— Trafalgar
Ec— Eckmühl	Tv— Talavera
Es— Essling	U— Ulm
Ey— Eylau	Va— Valencia
F— Friedland	Vi— Vittoria
FO— Fuentes de Onoro	Vm— Vimiero
G— Gerona	W— Wagram

'1812' and '1815' indicate to which Corps of the Grande Armée and Armée du Nord respectively a regiment was attached for the Russian and Waterloo campaigns; '1813' and '1814' refer to service in Germany and France respectively. 'NG' and numerals indicate from which cohorts of the National Guard a regiment was formed. Details are restricted to the corps formed in 1796 by the consolidation of the Demi-Brigades de Bataille into Demi-Brigades de Ligne. The complexity of this process may be demonstrated by the lineage of the 4th Demi-Brigade de Ligne, formed at Loano on 14 March 1796 from the former 39th, 130th, 145th and 147th Demi-Brigades de Bataille, and including among its personnel ex-members of the old regiments of Cambrésis (20th in 1786), de Médoc (73rd), de Boulonnois (82nd) and d'Angoumois (83rd), and the volunteer battalions of Hautes- and Basses-Pyrénées, Haute-Garonne and l'Aude.

**Shako of the 54th Line, c. 1810, of 1806 pattern plus chinscales, with the non-regulation 'eagle-over-crescent' plate bearing the apparently unique device of a portrait-bust of Napoleon above the number. (Wallis & Wallis)**



**'Infanterie de Ligne en Campagne: Sentinelle': print by Martinet, c. 1810, showing a grenadier wearing a single-breasted greatcoat and a shako which features a non-regulation 'eagle-over-crescent' plate and the plume within a waterproof cover.**

<i>1st Regt.</i>	W, Sa, Lu, Bt, D, L, M, P, 1815 II Corps.
<i>2nd Regt.</i>	Tr, Ec, Es, W, G, 1812 II Corps, D, L, 1815 II Corps.
<i>3rd Regt.</i>	U, A, J, F, Ec, Es, W, N, 1812 XI Corps, 1813, BA, AA, 1815 II Corps.
<i>4th Regt.</i>	U, A, J, Ey, Ec, Es, W, 1812 III Corps, Sm, Bo, D, L, 1814, 1815 II Corps.
<i>5th Regt.</i>	W, Va, 1815 VI Corps.





Infantry, c. 1812; print by Raffet. The shako 'pompons' are discs of padded cloth bearing the number of the battalion.

- 6th Regt. Bt, L.  
 7th Regt. 1801-04 San Domingo; G, Va, Ta, Ca, Bt, L.  
 8th Regt. A, J, F, Es, W, Tv, FO, Br, Bd 1811, Vi, N, BA, AA, 1815 I Corps.  
 9th Regt. A, W, 1812 IV Corps, Bo.  
 10th Regt. Capri 1808, Sicily 1810, Va, To, Lu, Bt, L, 1815 VI Corps.  
 11th Regt. U, W, D, L, 1814, 1815 III Corps.  
 12th Regt. A, J, Ey, Ec, W, 1812 I Corps, Sm, Bo, D, AA, SD, 1815 III Corps.  
 13th Regt. A, W, Tyrol 1810, Bt.

- 14th Regt. U, A, J, Ey, Sg, Ta, Ca, Lu, Bt, D, AA.  
 15th Regt. F, Co, FO, Sa, N.  
 16th Regt. Tr, Ec, Es, W, G, Ta, Va, Ca, Lu, Bt, D, L, 1814.  
 17th Regt. A, J, Ey, Ec, W, D, 1815 I Corps.  
 18th Regt. U, A, J, Ey, Ec, Es, W, 1812 III Corps, Sm, Bo, D, L, 1814.  
 19th Regt. W, 1812 II Corps, D, L, 1814, 1815 I Corps.  
 20th Regt. Va, 1814.  
 21st Regt. A, J, Ey, Ec, W, Sg, 1812 I Corps, Sm, Bo, D, 1815 I Corps.  
 22nd Regt. Sa, Lu, Bt, 1815 III Corps.  
 23rd Regt. W, Bt, D, 1815 III Corps.  
 24th Regt. J, Ey, F, Es, W, Tv, FO, Bd 1811, Vi, N, D, SD.  
 25th Regt. A, J, Ey, Ec, W, 1812 I Corps, Sm, Bo, D, P, 1815 I Corps.  
 26th Regt. Guadeloupe & Martinique, 1st & 2nd Bns., 1805-14; Bu, FO, Sa, N, Lu, D, L.  
 27th Regt. U, J, Ey, F, Es, W, Bu, FO, Sa, N, To, Lu, D, 1815 VI Corps.  
 28th Regt. U, A, J, Ey, Tv, Vi, N, Sg, 1814, 1815 I Corps.  
 29th Regt. W, 1812 XI Corps, 1813, 1815 I Corps.  
 30th Regt. A, J, Ey, Ec, W, 1812 I Corps, Sm, Bo, 1813, 1815 IV Corps.  
 31st Regt. San Domingo 1801-04; 1804 disbanded and transferred to 7th and 105th Regts.  
 32nd Regt. U, F, Vm, Tv, N, To.  
 33rd Regt. A, J, Ey, Ec, W, 1812 I Corps, Bo, 1815 III Corps.  
 34th Regt. U, A, F, Sg, Al, N, To, 1815 III Corps.  
 35th Regt. U, W, 1812 IV Corps, Sm, Bo.  
 36th Regt. U, A, J, Ey, Co, Bu, Sb, FO, Sa, Vi, N, To, 1812 IX Corps.  
 37th Regt. Ec, Es, W, 1812 II Corps, Bo, Lu, Bt, 1814, 1815 III Corps.  
 38th Regt. Number vacant.  
 39th Regt. U, J, Ey, F, Es, W, Bu, FO, Sa, N, To, D.  
 40th Regt. U, A, J, W, Sg, FO, Al, N, To, Lu, Bt, L, Ch, P, 1815 VI Corps.  
 41st Regt. Absorbed into 17th Regt. 1803.  
 42nd Regt. W, G, Ta, Bt.  
 43rd Regt. U, A, J, Ey, Tf, Vi, N, To, Ch, M.





Officer and Porte-Aigle in 1812-pattern uniform, including the red-crested carabinier helmet of the Porte-Aigle; extant examples have the crest directly upon the helmet, without a metal comb. The 1811-pattern flag, shown here without its customary fringe, bears honours suitable to the 27th, 39th, 59th or 76th Regiments. Print by Carle Vernet.



Sergent-major Vaguemestre (regimental postman) and Adjutant-Sous-Officier in 1812 regulation uniform; print by Carle Vernet. The Vaguemestre has a gold piping between his rank-bars (perhaps indicating his appointment); the Adjutant-Sous-Officier wears an officers'-pattern long-tailed coat with a fringe on the right epaulette, a non-regulation feature possibly imitating those worn by commissioned adjutants.

- |            |   |            |   |
|------------|---|------------|---|
| 44th Regt. | J, Ey, Sg, Va, Ca, 1812 IX Corps, 1815 IV Corps.                      | 56th Regt. | Ec, Es, W, G, 1812 II Corps, D, L, 1814, 1815 III Corps.            |
| 45th Regt. | A, J, F, Es, W, Tv, FO, Bd 1811, Vi, N, To, D, 1815 I Corps.          | 57th Regt. | U, A, J, Ey, Ec, Es, W, 1812 I Corps, Bo, D, 1814.                  |
| 46th Regt. | U, A, J, Ey, Ec, Es, W, 1812 III Corps, Sm, Bo, L, BA, 1815 I Corps.  | 58th Regt. | U, A, F, Vm, Tv, Al, Bd 1812, Vi, N, To, Lu, D, P.                  |
| 47th Regt. | Bu, Sb, FO, Co, Sa, N, To, Lu, Bt, L, 1815 VI Corps.                  | 59th Regt. | U, J, Ey, F, Es, W, Bu, FO, Sa, N, To, Lu, Bt, D, L, 1815 IV Corps. |
| 48th Regt. | A, J, Ey, Ec, W, 1812 I Corps, Bo, 1813, 1815 IV Corps.               | 60th Regt. | Illyria and Dalmatia 1806-09; W, Va.                                |
| 49th Regt. | Disbanded 1803.   | 61st Regt. | A, J, Ey, Ec, W, 1812 I Corps, Bo, 1813, 1815 II Corps.             |
| 50th Regt. | U, J, Ey, F, Bu, FO, Sa, N, To, Lu, Bt, D, Ch, M, 1815 IV Corps.      | 62nd Regt. | W, Sa, Lu, Bt, P.   |
| 51st Regt. | A, J, Ey, F, Tv, Al, Tf, Vi, N, To, 1812 IX Corps, D.                 | 63rd Regt. | J, Ey, F, Es, W, Tv, FO, Vi, N, L, 1815 IV Corps.                   |
| 52nd Regt. | W, Bt.  | 64th Regt. | U, A, J, Es, W, Sg, FO, Al, Bd 1812, N, By, D, 1815 III Corps.      |
| 53rd Regt. | W, 1812 IV Corps, Bo.   | 65th Regt. | Ec, W, FO, Sa, Vi, N, To, Lu, Bt, L, 1814, 1815 IV Corps.           |
| 54th Regt. | A, J, F, Es, W, Tv, FO, Bd 1811, Tf, Vi, N, 1813, 1814, 1815 I Corps. | 66th Regt. | Guadeloupe, Bu, FO, Sa, N, Lu, Bt, L, P.                            |
| 55th Regt. | U, A, J, Ey, Al, Vi, N, To, 1812 IX Corps, Bt, D, 1814, 1815 I Corps. | 67th Regt. | Tr, Ec, Es, W, G, Lu, Bt, 1814.                                     |





Grenadier in 1812-pattern uniform; note the retention of the shako cords and the large feather plume. Print by Martinet.

- 68th Regt. Disbanded and absorbed into 56th, 1803.  
 69th Regt. U, J, Ey, F, Es, W, Bu, FO, Sa, N, To.  
 70th Regt. Tr, Vm, Co, FO, Sb, Sa, N, Lu, Bt, L, 1814, 1815 III Corps.  
 71st Regt. Disbanded 1803, 1st & 2nd Bns. joining 35th, 3rd Bn., 86th.  
 72nd Regt. F, Ec, Es, W, 1812 III Corps, Bo, L, 1814, 1815 II Corps.

- 73rd Regt. Disbanded and absorbed into 23rd Regt., 1803.  
 74th Regt. Disbanded 1803.  
 75th Regt. U, A, J, Ey, Tv, Vi, N, To, 1814, 1815 VI Corps.  
 76th Regt. U, J, Ey, F, Es, W, Bu, FO, Sa, N, To, D, 1815 IV Corps.  
 77th Regt. Disbanded 1803.  
 78th Regt. Absorbed into 2nd Regt. 1803.  
 79th Regt. Tr, W.  
 80th Regt. Absorbed into 34th Regt. 1803.  
 81st Regt. A, Dalmatia 1806-09, W, Va, To.  
 82nd Regt. Guadeloupe & Martinique 1803-09, Vm, Bu, FO, Sa, N, Lu, Bt, L, SD, 1815 II Corps.  
 83rd Regt. Absorbed into 3rd Regt. 1803.  
 84th Regt. U, A, W, 1812 IV Corps, Bo, Be, 1815 I Corps.  
 85th Regt. A, J, Ey, Ec, W, 1812 I Corps, Bo, D, 1814, 1815 I Corps.  
 86th Regt. Vm, Co, FO, Sa, To, Lu, Bt, D, L, 1814, 1815 III Corps.  
 87th Regt. Absorbed into 5th Regt., 1803.  
 88th Regt. A, J, Ey, Ec, W, Sg, FO, Al, Bd 1812, Vi, N, P, 1815 III Corps.  
 89th Regt. Disbanded 1803.  
 90th Regt. Absorbed into 93rd Regt. 1803.  
 91st Regt. Absorbed into 20th Regt. 1803.  
 92nd Regt. U, W, 1812 IV Corps, Bo, 1815 II Corps.  
 93rd Regt. Tr, Ec, Es, W, G, 1812 III Corps, Sm, Bo, Be, D, L, 1814, 1815 II Corps.  
 94th Regt. A, J, F, Es, W, Tv, FO, Tf, Vi, N, 1813.  
 95th Regt. A, J, F, Es, W, Tv, FO, Al, Vi, N, 1813, 1815 IV Corps.  
 96th Regt. U, F, Es, W, Tv, FO, Bd 1811, N, To, 1813, 1814, 1815 IV Corps.  
 97th Regt. Absorbed into 60th Regt. 1803.  
 98th Regt. Absorbed into 92nd Regt. 1803.  
 99th Regt. Absorbed into 62nd Regt. 1803.  
 100th Regt. U, J, Ey, F, Es, W, Sg, FO, Al, Vi, N, 1815 II Corps.  
 101st Regt. Sa, N, To, Bt, L, BA, AA.  
 102nd Regt. W, Lu, L.  
 103rd Regt. U, J, Es, W, Sg, FO, Al, Bd 1812, Vi, N, To, Lu, Bt, L, 1814.  
 104th Regt. Absorbed into 11th Regt. 1803; reformed 1814 from bns. of 17th, 52nd and 101st Regts.



105th Regt. J, Ey, Ec, Es, W, N, 1812 XI Corps, 1813, BA, AA, SD, 1815 I Corps.  
 106th Regt. W, 1812 IV Corps, Bo.  
 107th Regt. Disbanded 1803; reformed 1814 from bns. of 6th, 10th, 20th and 102nd Regts.; 1814, 1815 VI Corps.  
 108th Regt. A, J, Ey, Ec, W, 1812 I Corps, Bo, Be, 1813, 1815 II Corps.  
 109th Regt. Absorbed into 21st Regt. 1803.  
 110th Regt. 1st Bn. absorbed into 55th Regt., 2nd and 3rd into 86th, 1803.  
 111th Regt. A, J, Ey, F, Ec, W, 1812 I Corps, Sm, Bo, 1813, 1815 IV Corps.  
 112th Regt. W, Bt, L.  
 113th Regt. Formed 1808; Ciudad Rodrigo, 1812 XI Corps, 1813, Ch, P; absorbed into 4th, 14th and 72nd Regts. 1814.  
 114th Regt. Formed 1808 from 1st and 2nd Provisional Regts.; Sg, Va, Ca, Ta.  
 115th Regt. Formed 1808 from 3rd and 4th Provisional Regts.; Sg, Ta, N, To, 1814.  
 116th Regt. Formed 1808 from 5th Provisional Regt.; Sg, Ta, Va, Ca, To.  
 117th Regt. Formed 1808 from 9th and 10th Provisional Regts.; Sg, Ta, Va, Ca, To.  
 118th Regt. Formed 1808; Sa, Vi, To, AA.  
 119th Regt. Formed 1808 from 13th and 14th Provisional Regts; Sa, Vi, To, 1814.  
 120th Regt. Formed 1808 from 17th and 18th Provisional Regts.; Sa, Vi, N, To, 1814.  
 121st Regt. Formed 1809 from 2nd *Légion de Reserve*; Sa, Ta, Va, Ca, Lu, Bt, D, L, AA, P.  
 122nd Regt. Formed 1809 from 1st and 2nd Supplementary Regts., *Légion de Reserve*; Sa, Vi, N, Lu, BA, AA, SD.  
 123rd Regt. Formed 1810 from Dutch troops; 1812 II Corps, Be, 1813.  
 124th Regt. Formed 1810 from Dutch troops; 1812 II Corps, Be, 1813; incorporated into 25th Regt. 1814.  
 125th Regt. Formed 1810 from Dutch troops; 1812 IX Corps, Be; disbanded 1813.  
 126th Regt. Formed 1810 from Dutch troops; 1812 IX Corps, Be; incorporated into 123rd Regt. 1813.  
 127th Regt. Formed 1811 from Hamburg Guard;



Grenadiers in undress waistcoats, a style which could be worn on active service in place of the *habit*, especially in hot climates. The blue facings are regulation, but the grenade-shaped sleeve badges are an unrecorded addition. Print by Carle Vernet.

1812 I Corps, Bo, Be.  
 128th Regt. Formed 1811 from Bremen Guard; 1812 II Corps, Be, 1813; incorporated into 40th and 53rd 1814.  
 129th Regt. Formed 1811 from Westphalian troops; 1812 III Corps, Bo, Be, 1813; incorporated into 127th and 128th 1813.  
 130th Regt. Formed 1811; N, M, BA, AA.  
 131st Regt. Regt. de Walcheren became 131st 1812; Lu, Bt, L, 1814.  
 132nd Regt. Regt. l'Île-de-Ré became 132nd 1812; Bt, L, Ch, P, SD.  
 133rd Regt. 2nd Mediterranean Regt. became 133rd 1812; Bt, L.  
 134th Regt. Formed 1813 from *Garde de Paris*; Lu, Bt.  
 135th Regt. Formed 1813 (NG 1, 8, 9, 11); Lu, BA; disbanded May 1814.  
 136th Regt. Formed 1813 (NG 12-14, 67); Lu, Bt, L, M, P; disbanded July 1814.  
 137th Regt. Formed 1813 (NG 2, 84-86); L; disbanded 1814.  
 138th Regt. Formed 1813 (NG 44-46, 64); Lu, L, Ch, M, P; disbanded August 1814.





Shako plate, 72nd Line, 1812 pattern. Compare with the next illustration, and note the many small but typical differences of detail.



Shako plate, 43rd Line, 1812 pattern. Regimental variation upon the 'standard' design—the number upon a raised oval surrounded by a wreath of laurel.

- |                    |  |                    |  |
|--------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| <i>139th Regt.</i> | Formed 1813 (NG 16, 17, 65, 66); Lu, Bt, L, AA, SD; disbanded June 1813. | <i>148th Regt.</i> | Formed 1813 (NG 72-75); 1813; disbanded 1813.                  |
| <i>140th Regt.</i> | Formed 1813 (NG 40-43); Lu, Bt, L, 1814; disbanded May 1814.             | <i>149th Regt.</i> | Formed 1813 (NG 47-49, 77); Bt, 1814; disbanded 1814.          |
| <i>141st Regt.</i> | Formed 1813 (NG 37, 39, 62, 63); Lu, Bt, L, P; disbanded 1814.           | <i>150th Regt.</i> | Formed 1813 (NG 68, 69, 80, 81); L; disbanded 1814.            |
| <i>142nd Regt.</i> | Formed 1813 (NG 5, 36, 38, 61); Lu, Bt, D, Ch, M; disbanded May 1814.    | <i>151st Regt.</i> | Formed 1813 (NG 7, 50-52); 1813, 1814; disbanded May 1814.     |
| <i>143rd Regt.</i> | Formed 1813 (NG 28-31); disbanded 1814.                                  | <i>152nd Regt.</i> | Formed 1813 (NG 18, 19, 53, 54); L, P; disbanded 1814.         |
| <i>144th Regt.</i> | Formed 1813 (NG 32-35); Lu, Bt, L, Ch, M, P; disbanded 1814.             | <i>153rd Regt.</i> | Formed 1813 (NG 55-58); L; disbanded 1814.                     |
| <i>145th Regt.</i> | Formed 1813 (NG 6, 23, 24, 25); Lu, L, Ch, M; disbanded June 1814.       | <i>154th Regt.</i> | Formed 1813 (NG 4, 20-22); L, 1814; disbanded 1814.            |
| <i>146th Regt.</i> | Formed 1813 (NG 3, 76-78); 1813; disbanded 1813.                         | <i>155th Regt.</i> | Formed 1813 (NG 10, 59, 60, 70); L, 1814; disbanded July 1814. |
| <i>147th Regt.</i> | Formed 1813 (NG 15, 71, 78, 87); 1813; absorbed into 154th 1813.         | <i>156th Regt.</i> | Formed 1813 (NG 26, 27, 82, 83); Bt, P; disbanded 1814.        |



# The Plates

## A1: Fusilier, 43rd Line, 1792

This representative of *les blancs* wears 1791 uniform with the 'Tarleton' helmet. The 43rd Regt. in 1786 bore the name 'du Limosin', but renumbering in 1791 caused this regiment to be ranked 42nd, the number 43 passing to the old Rég. Royal Vaisseaux, hitherto the 44th.

## A2: Infantryman in campaign dress, 1795

This *bleu* is based in part upon a drawing by Benjamin Zix, showing the dilapidation of uniforms on campaign, though Zix shows a coat with unflapped cuff, breeches, and neither gaiters nor shoes but bare legs below the knee.

## A3: Grenadier, Paris National Guard, 1792

Uniform distinction within the Paris National Guard consisted of plume colours (blue, red, white, blue/red, red/white/blue and blue/white respectively for the city's 1st to 6th 'divisions'), insignia and even facings; for example, grenadiers of the Versailles area are believed to have worn red cuffs and a red-tipped plume. The cap plate bore both monarchist and republican symbols, the King's Arms, Phrygian cap and motto '*Vivre libre ou mourir*', the former obliterated later. Moustaches were usual but apparently not universal.

## B1: Fusilier caporal, 61st Demi-Brigade, Egypt

This figure illustrates the 'coloured' uniform of the Kléber Ordinance.

The 61st Line's 1st to 4th and 6th Battalions formed part of Compans' Division of I Corps in the 1812 Russian campaign, and suffered appallingly in the assault on the Shevardino Redoubt two days before Borodino. On the following day Napoleon asked the colonel what had become of one of his battalions: 'Sire', was the reply, 'it is in the redoubt of Shevardino'; the Emperor said nothing, but passed on. Almost the entire corps of drums was annihilated by artillery fire while beating the charge; Bourgogne relates how Florencia, the regiment's young Spanish *cantinière* (sutleress), was wounded whilst searching for her father, the drum major, whom she found mortally injured, lying amid a heap of broken drums and slain drummers.

## B2: Fusilier, 1800

Taken from a contemporary painting, this figure wears regulation dress.

## B3: Officer, 15th Demi-Brigade, 1800

Taken from an extant costume; uniform variations include cuffs with both red and white vertical piping, and the common practice of having coat-tails without fixed turnbacks.

## B4: Grenadier, 1800

Though wearing regulation dress, this grenadier follows normal practice in having a cap with a red rear patch instead of the prescribed red-and-blue quarters.

**Senior officer of the 52nd Line, wearing 1812 regulation uniform including the waistbelt specified for mounted officers. Note the rank distinctions in the form of lace bands around the shako.**





C1: Sergeant-Major with 'Eagle', 4th Line, 1805

This figure wears the orange hat lace peculiar to the 4th.

Though losing only 18 dead, the regiment was routed by Russian cavalry at Austerlitz and lost an 'Eagle' despite a heroic defence by Sgt. Maj. St. Cyr, 'who relinquished this trophy only after he had received a dozen wounds on his head and arms'. As Joseph Bonaparte was the regimental colonel, Napoleon felt the loss deeply and harangued the regiment with such venom that he reduced even a spectator to tears. Despite pleas by its commander and the assertion that none of the survivors of the 1st Bn. had seen the 'Eagle' fall, it was only with reluctance that Napoleon granted a new one, in return for two Austrian colours captured by the regiment.

C2: 2<sup>e</sup> Porte-Aigle, 8th Line, 1811

The 'Eagle-guard' is distinguished by his pistol belt, four sleeve chevrons (in accordance with an instruction of 18 February 1808, altered to two on 18 March 1811), and wears the regimental peaked cap.

The 8th Line lost its 'Eagle' to Sgt. Patrick Masterson of the British 87th Foot at Barrosa, after *Premier Porte-Aigle* Edmé Guillemain was killed in its defence; the 2<sup>e</sup> *Porte-Aigle* at this time was Etienne Debette, who joined the 8th Demi-Brigade in 1793 and died in hospital in Spain in 1812. Incredibly, it seems that the 8th attempted to conceal the loss of their 'Eagle', replying to an official circular in April 1812 that it had been broken by a cannonball at Barrosa!

C3: *Sapeur*, 46th Line, 1808

This shows the usual *sapeur* uniform with grenadier distinctions and the 46th's sky-blue facings.

The 46th Line was always associated with '*le premier grenadier de France*', Théophile Malo Corret, known from 1777 as '*La Tour d'Auvergne*'. This famed and valiant officer always refused promotion so that he could stay with his grenadier company, and despite long and distinguished service and his appointment as a Deputy to the Senate, he continued in the army until slain at Oberhausen on 27 June 1800, aged 57. General Moreau ordered that his place should never be filled and his name kept upon the regimental establishment and an-



Drummers in 1812 regulation dress, from a print by Carle Vernet. The figure on the left wears the all-green undress uniform with *pokalem* forage-cap bearing the number of the 10th Line. The right-hand figure in full uniform has the pointed cuffs usually associated with light infantry.

nounced at roll-call, whereupon the senior grenadier *fourrier* was to reply: 'Dead upon the field of honour.' La Tour d'Auvergne's heart was preserved in a silver casket, strapped to a velvet pad worn upon the breast of the 1st Battalion's senior grenadier sergeant, until deposited at Les Invalides in 1904; his name was still called on the roll more than a century after his death.

D1: Grenadier, 15th Line, 1807

This figure wears the white uniform and 1806 shako as originally issued, minus chinscales.

The 15th Line bore upon its Colours a unique inscription, awarded for outstanding service: '*Le 15<sup>e</sup> est couvert de la Gloire*'.

D2: *Voltigeur Cornet*, 18th Line, 1809

This figure wears *voltigeur* distinctions, with the regimental crimson facings and tricolour lace.

The 18th was one of the most distinguished regiments in the army, bearing upon its colours a motto bestowed by Bonaparte for gallantry at Rivoli: '*Brave 18<sup>e</sup>, je vous connais. L'ennemi ne tiendra pas devant vous*' ('I know you, brave 18th; the enemy never stands before you'). This reputation was maintained at Fribourg on 2 March 1798 when Sgt.





Musicians in the green 'Imperial Livery' of the 1812 regulations; print by Carle Vernet.

Barbe, *Fourrier* Troch and 13 men scaled the wall, despatched the guard and let in the French army.

*D3: Voltigeur, 3rd Line, 1809*

The *voltigeur* illustrated wears the 'sunburst' shako plate shown by Martinet c. 1808–09, though the regiment is also believed to have worn other non-regulation plates of eagle-on-crescent form.

*E1: Caporal-Tambour, 67th Line, 1808*

The 'drum-corporal' illustrated wears a uniform not unlike that of the drum major, with a simpler mace. The diagonal shako cords were a regimental peculiarity, believed not to have continued beyond 1809.

*E2: Musician, 9th Line, 1809*

A similarly magnificent light cavalry-style uniform, including *czapka*, was also worn by the musicians of the 17th Light Infantry.

The 9th features in a number of heroic exploits, as at Vitebsk in 1812 when 300 *voltigeurs*, isolated from the army by the River Dvina, stood off a Russian cavalry attack until the dead were piled around their square; Napoleon said every one deserved the *Légion d'Honneur* for so amazing an exploit. One of the 9th's hard-bitten veterans was Charles

François, who wrote an entertaining memoir: at Acre he stood on top of the French earthworks firing at the enemy with muskets passed up by his comrades, expending 17 packs of cartridges in 75 minutes, during which time eight balls passed through his clothes, but escaping with no more than a bruise. Though wounded, François saved the regiment's 'Eagle', retrieving it from the body of its bearer and carrying it hidden throughout the retreat from Moscow, for which he received the *Légion d'Honneur*. Medals were not the only rewards obtainable on campaign; when the 9th's paymaster died in January 1813, he was found to have 182,000 francs hidden on his person, as perquisites of his office!

*E3: Grenadier drummer, 57th Line, 1809*

This figure wears company distinctions with musicians' sky-blue facings and orange lace.

The 57th was nicknamed *Le Terrible* from Bonaparte's remark inscribed on their colours after Rivoli: '*Le Terrible 57<sup>e</sup> qui rien n'arrête*' ('which sticks at nothing'). A unique award for gallantry at Borodino was the badge of the *Légion d'Honneur* affixed to the 'Eagle' and stamped on the regimental buttons. Heroism even extended to the female members of this superb corps: *cantinière* Madame Cazajus was cited in the order of the day following Guttstadt (1807) for braving heavy fire to distribute two barrels of brandy, gratis, to the regiment, while another lady, the widow Brulon, actually served in the ranks under the name of *Liberté* until wounded in Corsica; she lived until 1863, an honorary *sous-lieutenant* and member of the *Légion d'Honneur*.

*F1: Voltigeur, 88th Line, campaign dress; Spain, 1811*

This figure wears typical Peninsular campaign dress, including covered shako with painted insignia, the waistcoat worn as a jacket, and trousers made from local cloth.

*F2: Fusilier officer, 34th Line; Spain, 1810*

Another Peninsular uniform, showing typical officers' service dress including the *surtout*, which was commonly cut so high at the front to expose a considerable part of the waistcoat; note the regimental tricolour cockade worn instead of a shako-plate.







*F3: Grenadier, 65th Line; Spain, 1810*

A third Peninsular uniform, with regimental distinctions in the blue cuffs with red flaps, cap badge, and white trimming to epaulettes and sword knot.

The 65th's most celebrated exploit was the defence of the Danube bridge at Ratisbon in April 1809 against two Austrian Corps. It expended all its ammunition before Col. Coutard capitulated, saving the 'Eagle' by burying it with three captured Austrian flags; it was recovered when the prisoners were released a few days later by the recapture of Ratisbon. Marbot is critical of Coutard's defence, claiming that he was only charged with the task so that, as a relative of Davoût, he could cover himself with glory, and when surrendering arranged for the 65th's officers to return home immediately, abandoning their men; but the regiment's casualties (265 killed alone, out of 2,087 engaged between 16 and 22 April) testify to the stubbornness of their defence of a hopeless position.

*G1: Major, 100th Line, 1809*

This figure shows majors' rank distinctions, silver epaulette-straps and a silver band below the upper shako band, riding boots, and a white plume (red-over-white was specified for majors in November 1810), with the regimental shako plate.

The 100th won fame at Dürrenstein in the advance on Vienna after Ulm. Overwhelmed by Russians, the 100th's battalion 'Eagles' were rescued by Maj. Henriot, who tried to cut his way through the enemy and rejoin the main French army. Addressing his men, he is reported to have said: 'Comrades, we must break through. They are more than we, but you are Frenchmen: you don't count numbers!' The shout came back: 'We are all grenadiers! *Pas de charge!*' The 'Eagles' were later recovered from beneath the bodies of Henriot's party, where they had fallen in their hopeless attempt to reach safety. Napoleon's 22nd Bulletin reported that 'the action at Dürrenstein will forever be remembered', and the 100th '*se sont couverts de gloire*'.

**Shako of the 23rd Line, believed to be authentic; lacking chin scales, it shows the 1812-pattern plate, and a rare but believed genuine example of the 1812-pattern red horsehair plume for grenadiers. (Wallis & Wallis)**



**Infantry escorting Russian prisoners, 1812; print by Faber du Faur. Note the use of the 1812-pattern shako with the previous *habit*, a mixture of styles probably not uncommon; and the covered shako and plain *surtout* worn by the officer.**

*G2: Fusilier sergeant, 30th Line, 1811*

Though a fusilier, élite-style equipment is worn, to support the sabre.

In 1815 the 30th was cursed with a martinet in Col. Ramaud, who treated his veterans like recruits, making them drill for hours in deep snow. This caused much resentment, and there was delight when Ramaud pleaded ill-health to escape the 1815 campaign. More laudable members of the 30th were those like *Fourrier* Morin, who saved the 'Eagle' at Eylau by covering it with his body; with his last breath he indicated where it was hidden on the following morning.

*G3: Officer, 125th Line, 1811*

This figure wears the uniform of the old 4th Dutch Line, as noted in the main text, with a French shako plate replacing the white metal numeral worn in Dutch service.

*G4: Voltigeur, 14th Line, 1811*

This figure wears the *bonnet de police* and greatcoat; on campaign the shako plume was commonly carried in a waterproof cover, tied to the scabbard by the shako cords.

The 14th was known as an unlucky regiment; when Col. Savary was lanced by a cossack in December 1806, he was their fifth colonel killed in action. At Eylau the 14th defended a hillock assigned them by Napoleon, waving their 'Eagle' to







show they still held, though surrounded. By the time Marbot (Augereau's ADC) was able to reach them with orders to retire, the survivors were too few to attempt a breakout, so sent a message via Marbot bidding Napoleon 'farewell from the 14th of the Line, which has faithfully executed his orders'; they were submerged under a host of Russians. Thirty-six of the 14th's officers were buried in a mass grave, and about 590 other ranks.

*H1: Fusilier, 70th Line, 1813*

This illustrates 'Bardin' uniform of 1812.

Most renowned of the 70th was Lt. Poiret, alias 'the saviour of France', who shielded Bonaparte from attack during the coup d'état of 18 Brumaire. The 70th in the Waterloo campaign, mainly conscripts, hardly emulated him; they broke at Ligny and again at Wavre, whereupon Col. Maury snatched the 'Eagle' and shouted: 'What, you scoundrels? You disgraced me two days ago, and again today! Forward! Follow me!' Their brief rally ended and they fled when Maury fell, leaving the 22nd Line to recover the 'Eagle' from across poor Maury's body.

*H2: Grenadier, 3rd Line, 1813*

This figure wears regulation dress, plus shako cords, and a plume including the regimental sky-blue colour.

*H3: 'Marie-Louise', 82nd Line, 1814*

Based upon pictures by Johann Adam Klein, this figure shows the wretched clothing and equipment of the often unwilling teenaged conscripts of 1813-14. Both single- and double-breasted great-coats are recorded, some with red collar-patches of varying styles.

The 82nd had been the centre of a plot to overthrow Napoleon when First Consul, which failed when their Col. Pinoteau, preparing to lead a revolt at Rennes, delayed in order to make his *toilette*. While his regiment waited impatiently, Bonapartist gendarmes arrested Pinoteau in the act

of shaving; for such a trivial reason, perhaps, was the course of history changed!

*H4: Drummer, 96th Line, 1814*

This figure wears 'Imperial Livery' with the shorter, bushier plume introduced in 1812 but never adopted universally.

Best known of the 96th was Jean-Roch Coignet, author of an entertaining reminiscence. Enlisting in the 96th Demi-Brigade in 1798, he gained great distinction at Montebello by single-handedly capturing a fieldpiece in 'a bloody affair of bayonets' in which he slew all five of the crew. His reward for this exceptional gallantry was immediate: Berthier presented him with a piece of bread!

## Sources

Apart from contemporary illustrations and extant items of uniform, the work of several later artists has been studied and is recommended, including Lucien Rousselot (*L'Armée Française*), Albert Rigondaud ('Rigo'), J. Onfroy de Bréville ('Job') and the illustrators of the Bucquoy cards, some of which are reproduced in *Les Uniformes du Premier Empire: l'Infanterie* (Cdt. E.-L. Bucquoy, ed. Lt.Col. L.-Y. Bucquoy and G. Devatour, Paris 1979). Examples of 'dress regulations' are catalogued in *Guide à l'usage des Artistes et Costumiers . . . Uniformes de l'armée française* (H. Malibran, Paris 1904, reprinted Krefeld 1972), while examples of unofficial insignia are recorded in *Aigles et Shakos du Premier Empire* (C. Blondieau, Paris 1980). Details of weaponry and tactics may be found in *Weapons and Equipment of the Napoleonic Wars* (P. J. Haythornthwaite, Poole 1979), *The Art of Warfare in the Age of Napoleon* (G. E. Rothenberg, London 1977) and *The Campaigns of Napoleon* (D. G. Chandler, London 1967).

**'Tête de Colonne': the Premier Porte-Aigle flanked by the two 'Eagle-guards', c. 1813. The 'Eagle' is carried without the flag attached, as was common on campaign. The 1812-regulation uniform is worn. Illustration from a print by Job.**



## Notes sur les planches en couleurs

**A1** L'un des 'Blancs' portant l'uniforme réglementaire de 1791 avec le casque appelé 'Tarleton' dans l'armée anglaise. En 1791, ce numéro de régiment fut attribué à l'ancien *Régiment Royal Vaisseaux*. **A2** 'Un bleu' reproduit d'un dessin par Benjamin Zix mettant en évidence le détérioration de l'uniforme en campagne; en fait, Zix représente un habit à manchettes simples et jambes nues des genoux aux pieds. **A3** Les unités du cadre de la Garde Nationale de Paris se distinguaient par des panaches de différentes couleurs, et même dans certains cas par différentes couleurs de parements sur l'habit—par exemple: parements rouges pour Versailles.

**B1** Le style d'uniforme dit 'Ordonnance Kléber' dans différentes couleurs de régiments, tel que porté en Egypte. Plusieurs années plus tard, ce régiment se distingua admirablement à Borodino, à l'attaque de la redoute *Shevardino*. **B2** Uniforme entièrement réglementaire à l'époque, reproduit d'un tableau contemporain. **B3** D'un uniforme qui a survécu: des variantes types de la tenue réglementaire comportaient le passe-poil rouge et blanc sur le parement, et le port de basques sans pans fixés à l'arrière en permanence. **B4** Tenue presque réglementaire: mais noter que, comme la plupart des grenadiers, il porte un bonnet à pièce supérieure en toile rouge ordinaire au lieu des quartiers réglementaires rouges et bleus.

**C1** La dentelle orange sur la coiffure constituait un trait distinctif du 4<sup>ème</sup> Régiment de Ligne. L'aigle du 4<sup>ème</sup> a été perdu à Austerlitz malgré l'héroïsme du Sergent Major St. Cyr. **C2** Le 'garde-aigle' se distingue par son ceinturon portepistolet et ses quatre chevrons de manche (devenus deux depuis le règlement de mars 1811). **C3** Uniforme habituel de *sapeur* avec les distinctions de l'uniforme de grenadier et, pour ce régiment, des parements bleu ciel.

**D1** Uniforme blanc livré à certains régiments avec distinctions sous forme de couleurs de parements appropriées au groupe dans lequel le régiment est classé; et le shako de 1806. **D2** Les distinctions de *Voltigeur* sont portées et noter les revêtements pourpres du régiment et la dentelle tricolore. **D3** A part la plaque de shako à 'rayons de soleil' le régiment est censé également avoir porté des exemples du motif aigle-et-croissant.

**E1** Un uniforme analogue à celui du tambour major mais plus simple; les cordons de shako en diagonale sont un trait particulier du régiment de la période avant 1809. **E2** Noter le style 'cavalerie légère' de la tenue des musiciens y compris la coiffure *czapka*. **E3** Parements bleu ciel et dentelle orange identifiant les musiciens et les tambours de cette unité. Les distinctions du style grenadier identifient la compagnie.

**F1** Tenue de campagne typique comprenant un couvre-shako avec insigne peinte et le gilet porté comme une jaquette. **F2** Le *surtout* était un vêtement de campagne commun pour les officiers; noter également la cocarde tricolore régimentaire portée au lieu de la plaque de shako. **F3** Les particularités du régiment sont la patte de parement rouge sur la manchette bleue, la garniture blanche des épaulettes et la dragonne, ainsi que la forme de la plaque de bonnet.

**G1** Les distinctions de ce grade sont les pattes d'épaulettes argent et la bande de shako ainsi que le panache blanc d'un officier d'état-major de régiment. **G2** Bien qu'il soit un *fusilier*, il porte le style d'équipement personnel relatif aux compagnies d'élite de façon à pouvoir recevoir le sabre de son grade de sous-officier. **G3** Mis à part la plaque de shako, ceci est l'uniforme du quatrième régiment de ligne Hollandaise. **G4** Noter le bonnet de police et la capote. En campagne, le panache de shako était porté dans une enveloppe attachée au fourreau. Ce régiment s'est bien distingué à Eylau.

**H1** L'uniforme réglementaire 'Bardin' de 1812. **H2** Tenue réglementaire plus cordons, et panache de shako y compris les distinctions bleu ciel du régiment. **H3** D'après une image de Johann Adam Klein représentant l'aspect malheureux du conscrit de 1813-14. **H4** La 'livrée impériale' des tambours introduite en 1812.

## Farbtafeln

**A1** Einer der *Les Blancs* in regulärer Uniform aus dem Jahre 1791 mit einem Helm, der in der britischen Armee als *Tarleton* bekannt ist. 1791 wurde diese Regimentszahl dem alten *Régiment Royal Vaisseaux* zuteil. **A2** *Un Bleu* nach einer Zeichnung von Benjamin Zix; hier sieht man deutlich den schlechten Zustand der Uniform nach einem Feldzug: Oftmals, Mantel mit einfachem Ärmelaufschlag und nackte Beine bis hoch zum Knie. **A3** Eigentümlich für die Einheiten der Pariser Nationalgarde waren unterschiedliche Federfarben und manchmal auch Mantelbesätze in verschiedenen Farben, z.B. rote Ärmelaufschläge für Versailles.

**B1** Uniform im Stil der sogenannten *Kléber Ordinance* in verschiedenen Regimentsfarben; sie wurde in Ägypten getragen. Jahre später zeichnete dieses Regiment sich bei Borodino beim Angriff auf die *Shevardino-Redoute* aus. **B2** Die reguläre Uniform dieser Zeit nach einem zeitgenössischen Gemälde. **B3** Von einer späteren Uniform; zu den typischen Variationen der regulären Ausstattung zählten rote und weiße Ärmelumrandungen sowie Rockschöße ohne permanent befestigten Schoss. **B4** Fast die reguläre Uniform; beachten Sie, dass dieser wie die meisten Grenadiere eine Mütze mit Besatz aus rotem Stoff anstelle der roten und blauen Viertel trägt.

**C1** Eigentümlich für das 4. Linienregiment war die orangene Spitze auf der Mütze. Den Adler verlor das 4. Regiment bei Austerlitz trotz der heroischen Taten des Hauptfeldwebels S. Cyr. **C2** Die 'Adlerwache' zeichnete sich durch den Pistolengürtel und durch die vier Winkel auf dem Ärmel aus; durch eine Bestimmung im März 1811 wurden die Winkel auf zwei beschränkt. **C3** Eine übliche *Sapeur*-Uniform mit Kennzeichen einer Grenadieruniform und dem himmelblauen Besatz des Regiments.

**D1** Die weiße Uniform die an bestimmte Regimenter ausgegeben wurde mit farbigem Besatz entsprechend der Regimentsgruppe und mit dem Tschako aus dem Jahre 1806. **D2** Er trägt *Voltigeur*-Auszeichnungen; beachten Sie den hochroten Besatz des Regiments und die Trikolorspitze. **D3** Man vermutet, dass das Regiment ausser diesem 'Sonnenstrahlen'-Plättchen am Tschako auch Muster mit Adler und Halbmond trug.

**E1** Diese Uniform ist ähnlich der des Tambour-Majors nur etwas einfacher. Die diagonalen Bänder am Tschako sind charakteristisch für dieses Regiment vor 1809. **E2** Beachten Sie die leichte Kavallerieausführung der Musikeruniform mit der *Czapka*-Kopfbedeckung. **E3** Der himmelblaue Besatz und die orangefarbene Spitze kennzeichnen Musiker und Trommler dieser Einheit; die Kompanie erkennt man an den Grenadiermerkmalen.

**F1** Zur typischen Feldzugausrüstung gehören ein Tschako-Überzug mit aufgemalten Insignien sowie die als Jacke getragene Weste. **F2** Offiziere trugen in den Feldzügen häufig, einen *Surtout*. Beachten Sie die Trikolorkokarde anstelle des Tschakoplättchens. **F3** Eigentümlich für dieses Regiment waren bei blauen Ärmeln rote Ärmelaufschläge sowie weiße Epaulettenumrandung und Säbelquaste und die Form des Tschakoplättchens.

**G1** Kennzeichnend für diesen Rang sind silberne Epaulettenstreifen und ein silbernes Tschakoband sowie die weiße Feder beim Stabsoffizier des Regiments. **G2** Obgleich er ein *Fusilier* ist, ist seine Ausrüstung ähnlich der von Elitekompanien, damit er als Unteroffizier seinen Säbel unterbringen kann. **G3** Abgesehen vom Tschakoplättchen ist dies die Uniform des alten 4. holländischen Linienregiments. **G4** Beachten Sie den *Bonnet de Police* und den Mantel. Während des Feldzuges trug man die Tschakofeder eingewickelt an der Degenscheide. Diese Regiment zeichnete sich besonders bei Eylau aus.

**H1** Die reguläre 'Bardin'-Uniform im Jahre 1812. **H2** Reguläres Gewand mit Tschakobändern und Feder sowie den hellblauen Kennzeichen des Regiments. **H3** Von einem Bild von Johann Adam Klein: der dürftige Anblick eines Wehrpflichtigen im Jahre 1812-14. **H4** Die 'Kaiserliche Tracht' der Trommler sein 1812.



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