MEN-AT-ARMS SERIES
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Napoleon's Line Infantry

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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 (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 manœuvre 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 manœuvre 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 = sergeant-major; S = sergeant. Below, a company in column, each section three ranks deep, key as above.
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 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 Francais/au—me 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-flats. 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 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.

*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.*
Table A (1791)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regts.</th>
<th>Lapels</th>
<th>Collar, cuff flaps</th>
<th>Cuffs</th>
<th>Buttons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a) 1, 7</td>
<td>13, 19</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>yellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) 2, 8</td>
<td>14, 20</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>yellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(c) 3, 9</td>
<td>15, 21</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>yellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(d) 4, 10</td>
<td>16, 22</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>white</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(e) 5, 11</td>
<td>17, 23</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>white</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(f) 6, 12</td>
<td>18, 24</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>white</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(g) 74, 102</td>
<td>67, 74</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>white</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 reintroduced 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 woolen 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)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regts.</th>
<th>(a)</th>
<th>(b)</th>
<th>(c)</th>
<th>(d)</th>
<th>(e)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>49, 55</td>
<td>61, 72</td>
<td>79, 87</td>
<td>93, 102</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>50, 56</td>
<td>62, 73</td>
<td>80, 88</td>
<td>94, 103</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>51, 57</td>
<td>67, 74</td>
<td>81, 89</td>
<td>96, 104</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>52, 58</td>
<td>68, 75</td>
<td>82, 90</td>
<td>98, 105</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>53, 59</td>
<td>70, 77</td>
<td>83, 91</td>
<td>99, 106</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>54, 60</td>
<td>71, 78</td>
<td>84, 92</td>
<td>101, 107</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 bicorn 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>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regt.</th>
<th>Coat</th>
<th>Collar/Piping</th>
<th>Cuff</th>
<th>Turnbacks</th>
<th>Piping</th>
<th>Pouf</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9th</td>
<td>scarlet</td>
<td>blue/red</td>
<td>white</td>
<td>white</td>
<td>blue</td>
<td>red</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13th</td>
<td>crimson</td>
<td>dark blue/white</td>
<td>puce</td>
<td>pucc</td>
<td>white</td>
<td>blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18th</td>
<td>scarlet</td>
<td>brown</td>
<td>yellow</td>
<td>yellow</td>
<td>blue</td>
<td>black</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25th</td>
<td>crimson</td>
<td>sky-blue/white</td>
<td>sky-blue</td>
<td>sky-blue</td>
<td>white</td>
<td>white/red</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32nd</td>
<td>brown</td>
<td>scarlet/blue</td>
<td>orange</td>
<td>orangè</td>
<td>white</td>
<td>white/blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61st</td>
<td>crimson</td>
<td>dark blue/yellow</td>
<td>dark blue</td>
<td>dark blue</td>
<td>yellow</td>
<td>white/black</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69th</td>
<td>brown</td>
<td>scarlet/blue</td>
<td>white</td>
<td>white</td>
<td>white</td>
<td>red/blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75th</td>
<td>scarlet</td>
<td>sky-blue/white</td>
<td>sky-blue</td>
<td>sky-blue</td>
<td>white</td>
<td>red/yellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85th</td>
<td>brown</td>
<td>scarlet/blue</td>
<td>yellow</td>
<td>yellow</td>
<td>white</td>
<td>blue/yellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>88th</td>
<td>violet</td>
<td>blue/white</td>
<td>green</td>
<td>green</td>
<td>white</td>
<td>blue/yellow</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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; 75th, green piping; 18th, scarlet collar and cuffs, white turnbacks and piping; blue piping for 69th, 75th, 85th; violet jackets for 32nd and 61st.
An order of 26 October 1801 confirmed the use of the bicorn, but grenadiers were allowed to wear fur caps, usually for parade or combat, the bicorn 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 tasseled 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 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 surcoat 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, 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 cheek 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)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regts.</th>
<th>(a)</th>
<th>(b)</th>
<th>(c)</th>
<th>(d)</th>
<th>(e)</th>
<th>(f)</th>
<th>(g)</th>
<th>(h)</th>
<th>(i)</th>
<th>(j)</th>
<th>(k)</th>
<th>(l)</th>
<th>(m)</th>
<th>(n)</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>x</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(above with yellow buttons, horizontal pockets)

| 5     | 13  | 21  | 29  | 37  | 45  | 53  | 61  | 69  | 77  | 85  | 93  | 101 | 109 | x  | x  |   |
| 6     | 14  | 22  | 30  | 38  | 46  | 54  | 62  | 70  | 78  | 86  | 94  | 102 | 110 | x  |   |   |
| 7     | 15  | 23  | 31  | 39  | 47  | 55  | 63  | 71  | 79  | 87  | 95  | 103 | 111 |   |   | 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. (r) 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 disappoval (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 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 ‘8ème 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
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: Élites 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' greatcoats 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 elite companies in the early revolutionary wars.

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: Voltigeur’s 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:

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

Regt. 42nd
Plume yellow tipped green, over green ball
Shako cords green
Epaulettes yellow, green fringe

Regt. 57th
Plume green tipped yellow, over yellow ball
Shako cords green
Epaulettes green, yellow crescents

Regt. 63rd
Plume green-over-yellow (green upper shako band)
Shako cords green
Epaulettes 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.
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 épées, 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 bicorn 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 bicorn; 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 bicorn 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 élite 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. 1809; 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.

5th 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 elites. 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 elites 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 elite 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 elites, 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 elites, 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,
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’. Elites’ 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 pompons 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 renumbered, 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.

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**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
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 messin, 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 $32.1 \times 12.2 \times 6.8\text{cm}$ (interior), with a flap $28.5 \times 16.3\text{cm}$; 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 $An\ IX/\text{XIII}$ 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 dépareilles made from spare parts of 1763, 1774 and 1777-patterns to remedy the shortage of matériel in the early Revolutionary Wars; and the $An\ IX/\text{XIII}$ 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 musketoons of $An\ IX$ pattern, 111cm long and with brass barrel bands.
1: Fusilier, 61st Demi-Brigade; Egypt, 1799
2: Fusilier, 1800
3: Officer, 15th Demi-Brigade, 1800
4: Grenadier, 1800
1: Sergeant-major with 'Aigle', 4e de Ligne, 1805
2: 2e Porte-Aigle 8e de Ligne, 1811
3: Sapeur, 46e de Ligne, 1808
1: Grenadier, 15e de Ligne, 1807
2: Voltigeur cornet, 18e de Ligne, 1809
3: Voltigeur, 3e de Ligne, 1809
1: Caporal-tambour, 67e de Ligne, 1808
2: Musician, 9e de Ligne, 1809
3: Géneadier-tambour, 57e de Ligne, 1809
1: Voltigeur, 88° de Ligne; Spain, 1811
2: Fusilier officer, 34° de Ligne; Spain, 1810
3: Grenadier, 65° de Ligne; Spain, 1810
1: Major, 100° de Ligne, 1809
2: Sergent de fusiliers, 30° Ligne, 1811
3: Officer, 125° de Ligne, 1811
4: Voltigeur, 14° de Ligne, 1811
1: Fusilier, 70° de Ligne, 1813
2: Grenadier, 3° de Ligne, 1813
3: 'Marie-Louise', 82° de Ligne, 1814
4: Tambour, 96° de Ligne, 1814
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 eaglehead pomme. 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 *épee* with singlebar guard and helmet-shaped pomme, 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 elite 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 *épees*, 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  
AA—Arcis-sur-Aube  
Al—Albuera  
BA—Bar-sur-Aube  
Bd—Badajos  
Be—Berezina  
Bo—Borodino  
Br—Barrosa  
Bt—Bautzen  
Bu—Busaco  
By—Bayonne  
Ca—Castalla  
Ch—Champaubert  
Co—Corunna  
D—Dresden  
Ec—Eckmühl  
Es—Essling  
Ey—Eyland  
F—Friedland  
FO—Fuentes de Onoro  
G—Gerona  
J—Jena  
L—Leipzig  
Lu—Lützen  
M—Montmirail  
N—Nivelle  
P—Paris  
Sa—Salamanca  
Sb—Sabugal  
SD—St. Dizier  
Sg—Saragossa  
Sm—Smolensk  
Ta—Tarragona  
Tf—Tarifa  
To—Toulouse  
Tr—Trafalgar  
Tv—Talavera  
U—Ulm  
Va—Valencia  
Vi—Vittoria  
Vm—Vimiero  
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 Boulonnais (82nd) and d’Angoumois (83rd), and the volunteer battalions of Hautes- and Basses-Pyrénées, Haute-Garonne and l’Aude.

‘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.

1st Regt. W, Sa, Lu, Bt, D, L, M, P, 1815 II Corps.
2nd Regt. Tr, Ec, Es, W, G, 1812 II Corps, D, L, 1815 II Corps.
4th Regt. U, A, J, E, Ec, Es, W, 1812 III Corps, Sm, Bo, D, L, 1814, 1815 II Corps.
5th Regt. W, Va, 1815 VI Corps.

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

6th Regt.  
7th Regt. 1801–04 San Domingo; G, Va, Ta, Ca, Bt, L.
9th Regt. A, W, 1812 IV Corps, Bo.
10th Regt. Capri 1808, Sicily 1810, Va, To, Lu, Bt, L, 1815 VI Corps.
12th Regt. A, J, Ey, Ec, W, 1812 I Corps, Sm, Bo, D, AA, SD, 1815 III Corps.
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.
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 disband ed and transferred to 7th and 105th Regts.
32nd Regt. U, F, Vm, Tv, N, To.
34th Regt. U, A, F, Sg, Al, N, To, 1815 III Corps.
35th Regt. U, W, 1812 IV Corps, Sm, Bo.
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, 56th or 76th Regiments. Print by Carle Vernet.

44th Regt. J, Ey, Sg, Va, Ca, 1812 IX Corps, 1815 IV Corps.
45th Regt. A, J, F, Es, W, Tv, FO, Bd 1811, Vi, N, To, D, 1815 I Corps.
46th Regt. U, A, J, Ey, Ec, Es, W, 1812 III Corps, Sm, Bo, L, BA, 1815 I Corps.
47th Regt. Bu, Sb, FO, Co, Sa, N, To, Lu, Bt, L, 1815 VI Corps.
48th Regt. A, J, Ey, Ec, W, 1812 I Corps, Bo, 1813, 1815 IV Corps.
49th Regt. Disbanded 1803.
50th Regt. U, J, Ey, F, Bu, FO, Sa, N, To, Lu, Bt, D, Ch, M, 1815 IV Corps.
51st Regt. A, J, Ey, F, Tv, Al, Tf, Vi, N, To, 1812 IX Corps, D.
52nd Regt. W, Bt.
53rd Regt. W, 1812 IV Corps, Bo.
54th Regt. A, J, F, Es, W, Tv, FO, Bd 1811, Tf, Vi, N, 1813, 1814, 1815 I Corps.

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.

56th Regt. Ec, Es, W, G, 1812 II Corps, D, L, 1814, 1815 III Corps.
57th Regt. U, A, J, Ey, Ec, Es, W, 1812 I Corps, Bo, D, 1814.
58th Regt. U, A, F, Vm, Tv, Al, Bd 1812, Vi, N, To, Lu, D, P.
59th Regt. U, J, Ey, F, Es, W, Bu, FO, Sa, N, To, Lu, Bt, D, L, 1815 IV Corps.
60th Regt. Illyria and Dalmatia 1806–09; W, Va.
61st Regt. A, J, Ey, Ec, W, 1812 I Corps, Bo, 1813, 1815 II Corps.
62nd Regt. W, Sa, Lu, Bt, P.
63rd Regt. J, Ey, F, Es, W, Tv, FO, Vi, N, L, 1815 IV Corps.
64th Regt. U, A, J, Es, W, Sg, FO, Al, Bd 1812, N, By, D, 1815 III Corps.
65th Regt. Ec, W, FO, Sa, Vi, N, To, Lu, Bt, L, 1814, 1815 IV Corps.
66th Regt. Guadeloupe, Bu, FO, Sa, N, Lu, Bt, L, P.
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.
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.
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, W, G, 1812 III Corps, Sm, Bo, Be, D, L, 1814, 1815 II Corps.
94th Regt. A, J, F, Es, W, Tv, FO, Tt, 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.
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; 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, 34–36); L; disbanded 1814.
138th Regt. Formed 1813 (NG 44–46, 64); Lu, L, Ch, M, P; disbanded August 1814.

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

139th Regt.  
Formed 1813 (NG 16, 17, 65, 66); Lu, Bt, L, AA, SD; disbanded June 1813.

140th Regt.  
Formed 1813 (NG 40–43); Lu, Bt, L, 1814; disbanded May 1814.

141st Regt.  
Formed 1813 (NG 37, 39, 62, 63); Lu, Bt, L, P; disbanded 1814.

142nd Regt.  
Formed 1813 (NG 5, 36, 38, 61); Lu, Bt, D, Ch, M; disbanded May 1814.

143rd Regt.  
Formed 1813 (NG 28–31); disbanded 1814.

144th Regt.  
Formed 1813 (NG 32–35); Lu, Bt, L, Ch, M, P; disbanded 1814.

145th Regt.  
Formed 1813 (NG 6, 23, 24, 25); Lu, L, Ch, M; disbanded June 1814.

146th Regt.  
Formed 1813 (NG 3, 76–78); 1813; disbanded 1813.

147th Regt.  
Formed 1813 (NG 15, 71, 78, 87); 1813; absorbed into 154th 1813.

148th Regt.  
Formed 1813 (NG 72–75); 1813; disbanded 1813.

149th Regt.  
Formed 1813 (NG 47–49, 77); Bt, 1814; disbanded 1814.

150th Regt.  
Formed 1813 (NG 68, 69, 80, 81); L; disbanded 1814.

151st Regt.  
Formed 1813 (NG 7, 50–52); 1813, 1814; disbanded May 1814.

152nd Regt.  
Formed 1813 (NG 18, 19, 53, 54); L, P; disbanded 1814.

153rd Regt.  
Formed 1813 (NG 55–58); L; disbanded 1814.

154th Regt.  
Formed 1813 (NG 4, 20–22); L, 1814; disbanded 1814.

155th Regt.  
Formed 1813 (NG 10, 59, 60, 70); L, 1814; disbanded July 1814.

156th Regt.  
Formed 1813 (NG 26, 27, 82, 83); Bt, P; disbanded 1814.

Shako plate, 43rd Line, 1812 pattern. Regimental variation upon the 'standard' design—the number upon a raised oval surrounded by a wreath of laurel.
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 Régt. 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: 2e 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 8th Foot at Barrosa, after Premier Porte-Aigle Edmé Guillemain was killed in its defence; the 2e 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 announced 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 15e 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, 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.
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’ qui rien n’arrêté’ (‘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.
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.

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 chinscales, it shows the 1810-pattern plate, and a rare but believed genuine example of the 1812-pattern red horsehair plume for grenadiers. (Wallis & Wallis)
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, 1812
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 greatcoats 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 1790, 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 Bucquoi cards, some of which are reproduced in Les Uniformes du Premier Empire: l’Infanterie (Cdt. E.-L. Bucquoi, ed. Lt.Col. L.-Y. Bucquoi 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 Shaks 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).
Notes sur les planches en couleurs

Ar L'un des 'Blanc' 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'aide d'une déclaration par Benjamin Zix mettant en évidence le détournement de l'uniforme en campagne; en fait, Zix représente un habit à manchettes simples et jambes nues des genoux aux pieds. À cet endroit le cadre de la Garde Nationale de Paris se distinguait par des panaches de différentes couleurs, et même dans certains cas par des panaches de couleurs sur l'habit — par exemple: paremements rouges pour Versailles.

Br Le style d'uniforme dit 'Ordonnance Kléber' dans différentes couleurs de régiments, tel que porté en Égypte. Plusieurs années plus tard, ce régiment se distinguait admirablement à Borodino, à l'attaque de la redoute Stewardino. Bz Uniforme entièrement réglementaire à l'époque, reproduit d'un tableau contemporain. Bx 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. Bq 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.

Gt La dentelle orange sur la coiffure constituait un trait distinctif du 4ème Régiment de Ligne. L'âge du 4ème a été perdu à Austerlitz malgré l'héroïsme du Sergent Major St. Cyr. Gt Le 'garde-âge' se distingue par son crinolone porte-pistolet et ses quatre chevrons de manche (devenus deux depuis le règlement de mars 1813). Gf Uniforme habituel de supérieur avec les distinctions de l'uniforme de grenadier et, pour ce régiment, des parements bleu ciel.

Dr Uniforme blanc livré à certains régiments avec distinctions sous forme de parements appropriés au groupe dans lequel le régiment est classé; et le shako de 1806. Dc Les distinctions de Volontaires sont portées et noter les revêtements pourpre du régiment et la dentelle tricolore. Dk A part la plaque de shako à 'rayons de soleil', le régiment est censé également avoir porté des exemples du motif aigle-ecorçissant.

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

Ft Tenue de campagne typique comprenant un couvre-shako avec insignie peinte et le gilet porté comme une jaquette. Fs le sortir était un vêtement de campagne commun pour les officiers; noter également la coccinelle tricolore régimentaire portée au lieu de la plaque de shako. Fs Les particularités du régiment sont la patte de parement rouge sur la manchettes blanche, la garniture blanche des épaulettes et la dragonne, ainsi que la forme de la plaque de bonnet.

Gt Les distinctions de ce grade sont des panche d'épaulettes argent et la bande de shako ainsi que le panache blanc d'un officier d'État-major de régiment. Gb 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. Gs Mis à part la plaque de shako, ceci est l'uniforme du quatrième regiment de ligne Hollandais. Gt 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.


Farbtafeln


Ft Zur typischen Feldzugsausstattung gehören ein Tischako-Überzug auf aufgemalten Insignien sowie die als Jacke getragene Weste. Ft Offiziere trugen in den Feldzügen häufig einen Sakko. Beachten Sie die Trikolosorkappe anstelle des Tischakopflächens. Fg Eigentlich für dieses Regiment waren bei blauen Armeln rote Armeelaufschläge sowie weisse Epaulettenumrandung und Säbel- quaste und die Form des Tischakopflächens.


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