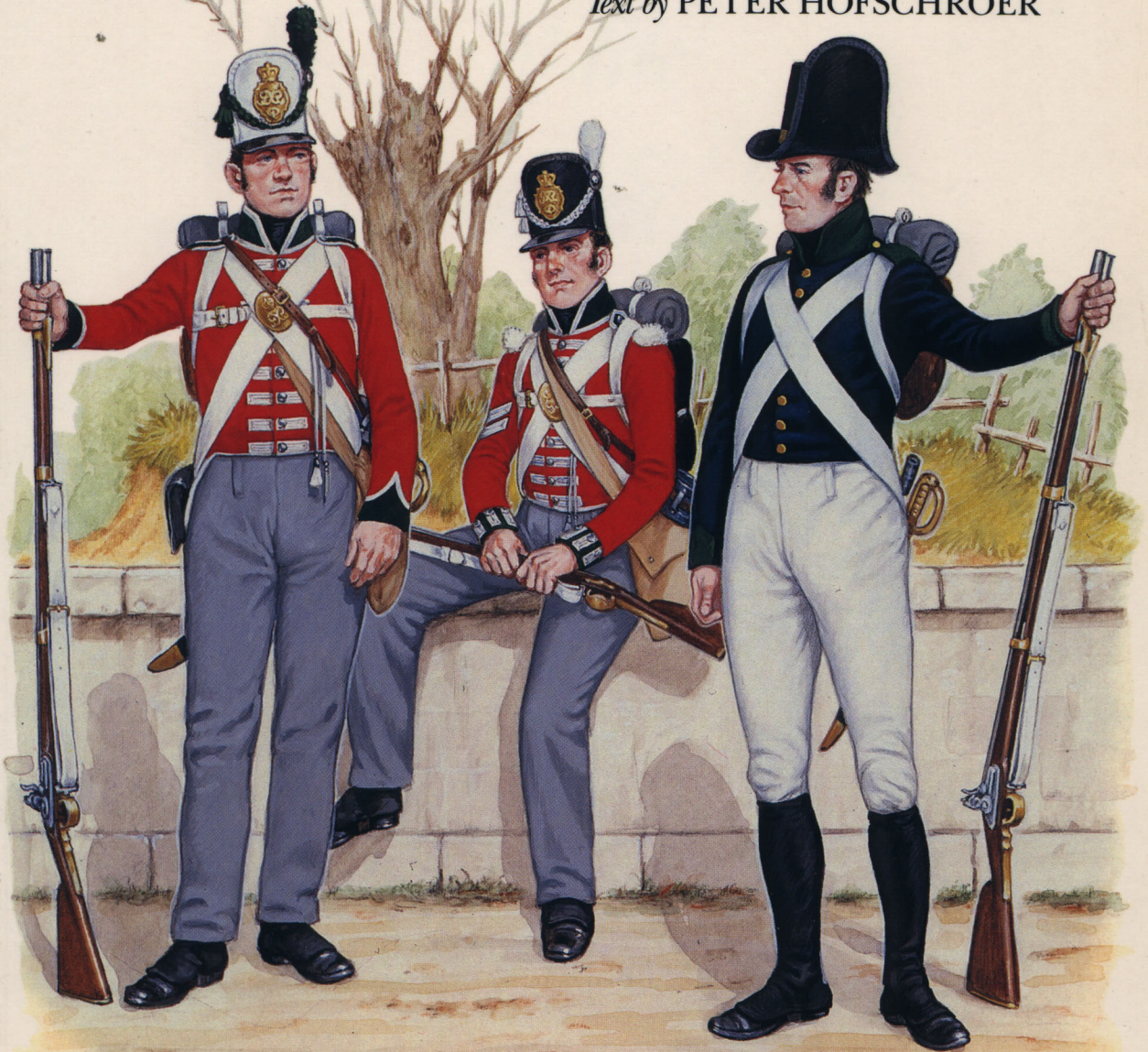


# *The Hanoverian Army of the Napoleonic Wars*

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# The Hanoverian Army of the Napoleonic Wars

## Introduction

Of all the armies of the German States, that of Hanover remains of greatest interest to the British reader due to the close links between the crowns of the two states. One of the great 'ifs' of recent history is the question of the succession to the British throne in 1837. Had the British crown, like that of Hanover, been exclusively the property of the males of the line, then the century-old link between these two crowns would have been maintained. Prussia could not then have seized Hanover in 1866 without risking war with Britain, and Germany could not have been united under Bismarck's Prussia. Where, then, would Britain have stood on the eve of the Great War? Hanover is the symbol of the close relationship of the British and German peoples. Hanoverian regiments went to war in 1914 with cuffbands and helmet badges bearing battle-honours won alongside their British comrades—Gibraltar, the Peninsula and Waterloo.

Hanover's geographical position made her vulnerable to conquest by her predatory neighbours. She had been occupied during the Seven Years' War (1759–1763), was annexed by Prussia in 1806, became part of the Napoleonic satellite 'Kingdom of Westphalia' in 1807, and parts even became absorbed by France in 1810. Refugees from Hanover remained loyal to their legitimate ruler and fled to Britain, participating in the formation of the famous King's German Legion. The state of Hanover was restored after the Battle of Leipzig (October 1813), and became a kingdom in 1814. Throughout this period, Britain and Hanover had the same head of state, George III. He was Prince Elector of Hanover and King of Great Britain until 1820, although his son, who succeeded him as George IV, ruled Britain as Prince Regent from 1810.

The Hanoverian army wore uniforms and

carried items of equipment largely similar to those used in the British Army. The King's German Legion, formed in 1803, was based more or less on an amalgam of Hanoverian and British military traditions. Not all redcoats armed with the Brown Bess could speak the 'King's English'—the king himself was perhaps not as proficient in the language as he should have been. Some of the most reliable troops Wellington had at Waterloo were red-coated Germans, veterans of the KGL.

**Contemporary watercolour, from the series by Ronnenberg, showing an officer (left) and private of the 8th Infantry Regiment in c.1791; this unit had garrisons at Celle, Gifhorn, Burgdorf and Hildesheim. The red coat was faced white, and buttons and lace were silver and white. For general characteristics, cf. Plates A1, B3.**



# *The Army of the Electorate of Hanover, 1792-1803*

At this time, Germany was a federation of states with an elected emperor; this system, a legacy of Charlemagne, finally collapsed under the pressure of the expanding Napoleonic French Empire. The rulers of a selected number of German states formed the electoral college which chose the emperor, the rulers of Hanover being granted this privilege in 1692. Since the 16th century members of the house of Habsburg, the rulers of Austria, had been elected as emperor\*

The Electorate of Hanover had met its obligations to the emperor and provided contingents for various wars in the 17th and 18th centuries. Once linked with the British crown, the Hanoverian army fought alongside Britain's armed forces in opposition to Austria and France in the Seven Years' War. After the Peace of Hubertusburg which ended the Seven Years' War, tension remained within Europe, particularly between Prussia and Austria, the rivals for hegemony in central Europe. The smaller German states attempted to form a third power bloc to protect their own interests, but this did not meet with success. The balance of power changed radically once the French Revolution broke out.

From the 1770s, the German states started to examine their administrative systems and some commenced a series of reforms. Karl August von Hardenberg, later a leading reformer in Prussia, attempted to reform the Hanoverian system, but his suggestions were rejected. The fact that George III never visited this part of his domain, leaving its administration to local appointees, did little to help the matter.

Without administrative reforms, there were insufficient moneys available to finance the army that Hanover needed to protect herself from her larger neighbours. Hanover had about 37,000 men in the field in 1762, but this was reduced to 14,000 at the end of the war. In 1785 the army had an establishment of 26,000 men, which continued to decline: in 1802, the Hanoverian army totalled a mere 17,000 men. The following year Hanover was occupied by the French, and the army disbanded.

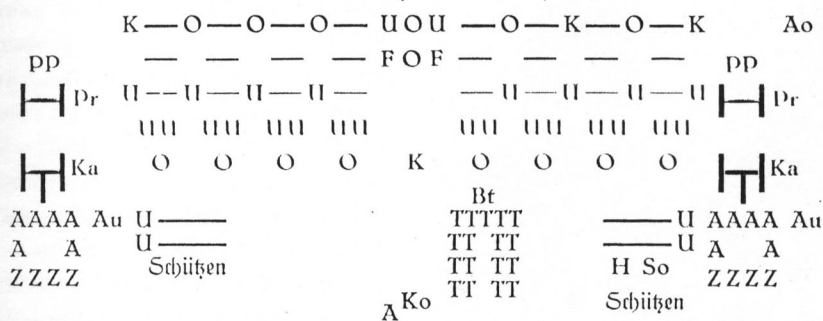
Her territories became a pawn in the power struggles between Britain, France and Prussia.

The army, however, was not slow to modernise. The experience gained in the Seven Years' War was set out in new drill regulations; the infantry got theirs in 1784, the cavalry in 1787. The cavalry regulations were particularly good. The distances at which attacks were to be launched were restricted so that the commanding officer could maintain better control of his men. Of particular note is the fact that the light dragoons had the same regulations as the rest of the cavalry; the Hanoverian horse was thus becoming more like the 'all-purpose' cavalry of the 19th century than the 'specialist' cavalry of the 18th.

**Officer and man of the 14th Infantry in c.1791, at about the time of its return from the Indies but before it (and the 15th) were disbanded and used to form the new 14th Light Infantry. The red coats are faced green; 'metal' and lace are silver and white. Unusually, the officer's lapels bear lace loops; both men seem to have lace-edged collars; and note the atypical lace trim around the tops of the cuffs—the right-hand man may represent an NCO? Plumes in this unit were yellow/white for officers and red/white/green for rankers. (Ronnenberg)**



## Bataillon zum Gefecht.



**Hanoverian infantry battalion in battle formation, up to 1803; the key is as follows:** *Ko* = commander, *M* = major, *A* = adjutant, *K* = captain, *O* = lieutenant or ensign, *Ao* = artillery officer, *So* = skirmishers' officer, *F* = colour, *U* = NCO, *Au* = artillery NCO, *H* = bugler, *T* = drummer or musician, *Z* = sapper, *A* = gunner, *Bt* = battalion drummer, *Ka* = cannon, *Pr* = limber, *P* = horse; long bars indicate ranks of men.

There was a great emphasis on proper training in the Hanoverian cavalry. In fact, the army command went as far as appointing regimental trainers (*Regimentsbereiter*) centrally, so that each regiment was trained to exactly the same standard. Furthermore, as the North German Plain is well-known for the quality of its horseflesh, the Hanoverian cavalry was particularly well mounted. Despite a lack of funding, Hanover's mounted arm was one of the best trained and mounted in Europe.

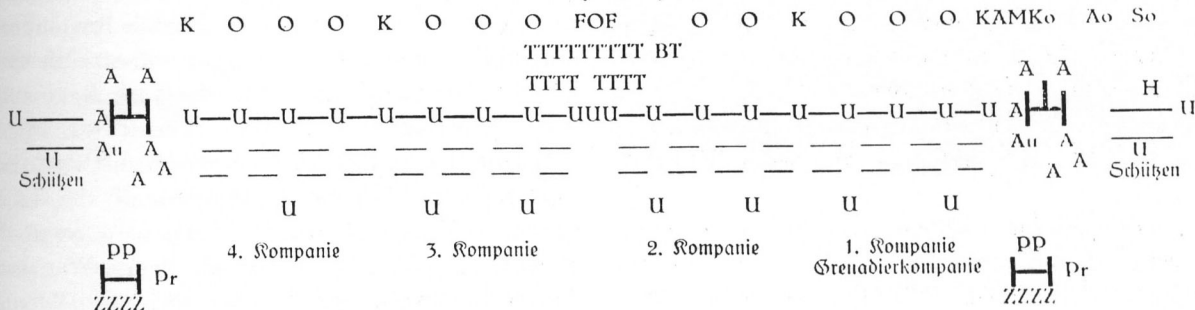
Decken, later an organiser of the King's German Legion. The regimental school of Estorff's cavalry was noted for the high standards of both practical and theoretical training. (In poor weather, Estorff took his officers indoors and had them practise manoeuvres with models on a sand table—one of the earliest recorded uses of a sand table in military training.)

At around the same time Artillery and Engineer Schools were founded, and a high level of professionalism was encouraged; artillery NCOs attended for one year, officers for three. Scharnhorst, the famous reformer of the Prussian Army, taught at this school; he had joined Estorff's cavalry regiment as a cornet (*Faehnrich*) in 1787 after receiving instruction from Count William of Schaumburg-Lippe, himself one of the great military thinkers of this era. Scharnhorst soon became one of a group of officers devoted to the reform and modernisation of the Hanoverian army, including the then-Captain Friedrich von der

The level of practical training in Hanover was equally advanced. From 1778, annual manoeuvres were held. These were not so much the 'grand parade' type of manoeuvre common in 18th century armies, but rather proper wargames with two opposing forces. However, despite the close cooperation of all three branches of the army—the infantry, cavalry and artillery—there was no

**An infantry battalion in parade formation, pre-1803; the key is as in the previous diagram.**

## Bataillon zur Parade.





**Ronnenberg's watercolour of an officer and man of the Militia regiments, c.1791. The red coats are faced white; note absence of lace loops on the ranker's uniform. Despite the generally advanced attitude to military training, the Electorate suffered from dwindling manpower, and these ten *Landregimenter* were incorporated into the Line in 1794—a most unpopular decree.**

unified command structure like that of the French divisions. This shortcoming became apparent during the Wars of the French Revolution, and Scharnhorst, as Quartermaster-General of the Hanoverian army complained bitterly about it. 'Nobody would ever believe', he remarked, 'that we campaigned for 18 months in the area around Moucron, Menin, Werwick and Courtrai without having a map of the area, and fought battles without precise knowledge of it, even though two engineer officers could have mapped it in a few days.'

From 1786, the regimental artillery was manned by selected men from each battalion of the infantry regiments, who received additional pay for their duties. Furthermore, a battery of horse artillery was

raised, with four 3 pdrs. and two 7 pounders. Two men were seated on the limber and two on the gun carriage; the NCO and four men were mounted. When firing, two men held the horses, so the actual gun crew consisted of an NCO and six men. The limbers of the 3 pdrs. held 76 rounds, those of the howitzers twenty. Each gun was pulled by six horses. During the 1794 campaign another horse battery was raised, and their size was increased to four 3 pdrs., three 6 pdrs. and two 7 pdr. howitzers.

There was a total of 16 regiments of infantry, the last two formed in 1781 for service in the East Indies. Each regiment consisted of one Light and eight Fusilier companies, a total of 1,035 men, including staff. The remnants of the East Indies regiments returned to Hanover in 1791/92 and were used, along with men selected from six other regiments, to form the new 14th Light Regiment: this was to consist of two battalions, each of four companies, and two companies of Jaeger, giving a total strength of 1,664 men. The rifle-armed Jaeger were paid the same rate as the artillery—more than the ordinary infantrymen—and were obliged to serve only two months a year in the army, the rest of their time being spent as gamekeepers. However, in 1801 the Jaeger Companies were disbanded as an economy measure.

The numbers of men in the infantry regiments continued to decline; so in 1794, in the face of considerable opposition and even mutiny, the ten *Landregimenter* or militia regiments were incorporated into the Line. The Electorate's financial plight did not improve. In 1798 the 9th and 12th Infantry Regiments were disbanded and their officers and men transferred to other regiments. In 1802 the regiments were renumbered: the former 10th became the 9th, the 11th the 10th, the 13th the 11th and the 14th the 12th.

It was apparent from experience gained in the campaigns of the Wars of the French Revolution that there was a lack of light infantry in the Hanoverian army. Although the 14th Regiment had performed well in that rôle, it was often outnumbered by the French *tirailleurs* and had to be supplemented by the Grenadiers of the Line regiments. Throughout Germany, as a result of experience gained in the Seven Years' War and American Revolutionary War, a theoretical debate was taking place over the rôle of light infantry and

skirmishers. Some Hanoverian officers played an important part in this debate, including Wissel and Emmerich; however, a lack of finances prevented theory being put into practice.

In common with other German states, Hanover started to introduce a light infantry element into the line formations. Du Plat, the Inspector of Infantry, issued a Regulation in 1800 instructing his regiments to train one officer, four NCOs and 60 men per battalion as Sharpshooters (*Scharfschuetzen*), armed with the light Grenadier musket. Moreover, the third rank of each company was to be used as a 'Reserve Platoon' for the skirmish fight (in fact the Hanoverian army was disbanded before this Regulation was put into practice).

## Organisation

### Infantry

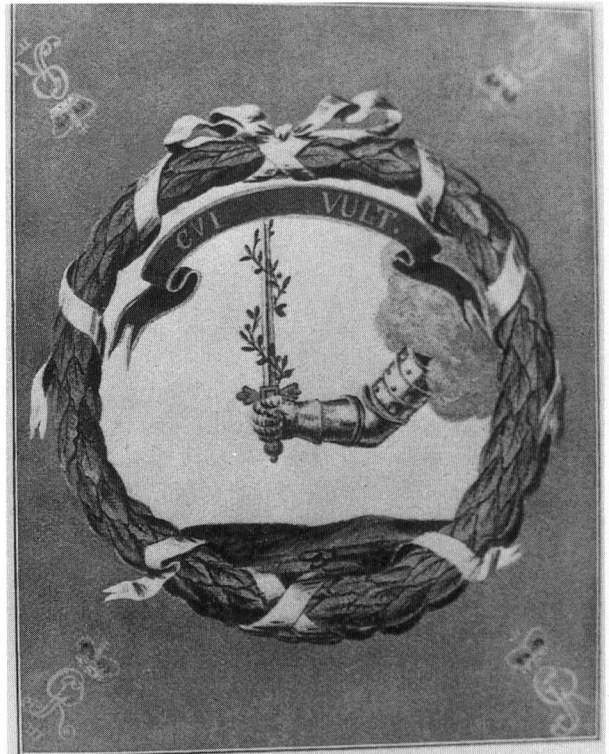
In 1789 the Infantry consisted of one Guard and 15 Line regiments, the last two of which were serving in the East Indies, returning in 1791/92. Each regiment consisted of two battalions each having one company of Grenadiers and five of Musketeers. The regimental staff consisted of one colonel, one lieutenant-colonel, two majors, one regimental surgeon, one regimental drummer, four oboists and the regimental driver.

The 12 companies contained a total of eight captains, two acting captains, 12 lieutenants, ten ensigns, 24 sergeants, 24 junior sergeants, 36 corporals, 28 musicians, 152 grenadiers and 480 musketeers.

Each infantry regiment had four 3 pdr. cannon served by six sergeants and 32 men. The regimental artillery was commanded by a trained artillery officer.

The regimental garrisons were as follows:

*Guard Regiment:* Hanover. *1st Inf.Regt.:* Muenden, Dransfeld, Hedemuenden, Uslar, Hardeggen. *2nd Inf.Regt.:* Einbeck, Moringen, Osnabrueck. *3rd Inf.Regt.:* Hamlin (Hameln). *4th Inf.Regt.:* Stade. *5th Inf.Regt.:* Verden, Hoya, Walsrode, Buecken, Rethem. *6th Inf.Regt.:* Nienburg, Neustadt, Stolzenau, Wunstorf. *7th Inf.Regt.:* Hamlin. *8th Inf.Regt.:* Celle, Gifhorn, Burgdorf, Hildesheim. *9th Inf.Regt.:* Northeim, Osterode, Goettingen. *10th Inf.Regt.:*



The second and fourth colours of the 10th Infantry Regiment; though not very clearly illustrated in these reproductions from Schirmer, they give an impression of the elaborate designs used in the pre-1803 army. Both were dark green, with a white central disc and blue scrolls, the motifs being painted in natural colours.



The second colour of the 12th Infantry Regiment; in this unit the colours, following the facings, were yellow. The Royal cyphers in the corners of these colours consisted of a crowned 'GR' over 'III'. (Schirmer)

Hanover. 11th Inf.Regt.: Lueneburg. 12th Inf.Regt.: Uelzen, Lueneburg, Harburg. 13th Inf.Regt.: Ratzeburg, Moelln, Lauenburg, Bleckede, Hitzaker, Dannenberg, Luechow, Wulstrow. 14th Inf.Regt.: East Indies (until 1791/2). 15th Inf.Regt.: East Indies (until 1791/2).

The Hanoverian army contributed a contingent to the Allied army opposing the French advance into Holland. This Auxiliary Corps consisted of 12–13,000 men and was organised as follows:

*General Staff:* one general commanding, one lieutenant-general of cavalry, one lieutenant-general of infantry, two major-generals of cavalry, four major-generals of infantry, one major-general of artillery. The general commanding's personal staff consisted of one senior cavalry adjutant, one senior infantry adjutant, one adjutant general and one aide-de-camp. Each of the lieutenant-generals had two senior adjutants, each of the major-generals had one. There were also two brigade

majors (cavalry and infantry), two brigade adjutants (cavalry and infantry), one quartermaster general, seven engineer officers, six guides, one staff secretary with one clerk, one auditor general with one clerk, one staff chaplain with one verger, one doctor, one surgeon, one waggon master general, one staff quartermaster. Finally, there were field post and medical personnel.

*Infantry:* The regiments used for this Corps were the Guard, 4th, 5th, 6th, 10th and 11th. Each regiment consisted of two battalions and was organised as follows:

*Senior Staff:* colonel, lieutenant-colonel, two majors.

*Intermediate and Junior Staff:* one regimental quartermaster, two adjutants, one field chaplain, one auditor, one regimental surgeon, one regimental drummer, eight oboists, two drivers, one armourer, one waggon master.

*Regimental Artillery:* one officer, two sergeants, four corporals, 32 gunners.

*Eight Musketeer companies* (formed into two battalions): each consisting of one captain, one first lieutenant, one second lieutenant, one ensign, one sergeant-major, four sergeants, five corporals, one company surgeon, three drummers, 14 junior corporals and 124 musketeers.

The Grenadier companies of the six regiments were combined into three Grenadier Battalions. The 1st Bn. consisted of the Grenadier companies of the Guard and 10th Infantry Regts., the 2nd from the 5th and 6th, the 3rd from the 4th and 11th. Each Grenadier battalion was organised as follows: *Staff:* one commander, one adjutant, one farrier, one driver.

*Company:* Each of the four companies consisted of one captain, two first lieutenants, one second lieutenant, one sergeant-major, four NCOs, six corporals, one company surgeon, two fifers, three drummers, 16 junior corporals and 138 grenadiers.

The three battalions were formed into a brigade but were usually used individually. The 1st Grenadier Bn. was employed mainly as light troops.

Right at the beginning of the war, the 14th Infantry Regt. was converted into a light infantry regiment. It was supplied with lighter equipment and weapons and was to have two battalions each of four companies and two companies of Jaeger. The *Staff* consisted of one colonel, one lieutenant-colonel, two majors, one regimental quartermaster,

two adjutants, one chaplain, one auditor, one regimental surgeon, one regimental drummer, two drivers, one armourer and one waggon master. Each company had one captain, two first lieutenants, two ensigns, one sergeant-major, four sergeants, six corporals, one company surgeon, two fifers, three drummers, 16 junior corporals and 138 privates. Each of the Jaeger companies consisted of one captain, one first lieutenant, two ensigns, two sergeants, one armourer, one farrier, four corporals, one company surgeon, two buglers and 85 jaeger. The *regimental artillery* consisted of six guns served by 43 men.

For the Campaign of 1794, each regiment received one acting captain, one lieutenant and two ensigns more than before. Furthermore, the Auxiliary Corps was joined by the 1st, 9th, and 14th (Light) Regt. and a 4th Grenadier Bn. formed from the Grenadiers of the 1st and 9th Regiments.

The regiments which remained in Hanover, the 2nd, 3rd, 7th, 8th, 12th and 13th were reinforced by men from the ten militia regiments. Instead of consisting of two battalions each of one Grenadier and five Musketeers companies, each regiment now consisted of two battalions each of one Grenadier and four Musketeer companies and one Depot company.

The Infantry Regiments, now 11 companies strong, were of the following establishment:

*Staff:* colonel, lieutenant-colonel, two majors, regimental chaplain, four company surgeons, regimental drummer, eight oboists, one driver.

*Grenadier company:* one captain, two lieutenants, two sergeants, two junior sergeants, three corporals, two drummers, two fifers, 16 junior corporals and 70 grenadiers. *Musketeer and Depot companies:* one captain, one lieutenant, one ensign, two sergeants, two junior sergeants, three corporals, two drummers, 10 junior corporals and 78 privates. The *regimental artillery* was served by two sergeants, four corporals and 32 men taken from the line.

In 1796 Hanover provided a corps of 15,000 men which formed part of the Combined Prusso-Hanoverian Army of Observation. It consisted of five battalions of Grenadiers, six of Musketeers, and the Light Infantry Regiment with its two battalions and two companies of Jaeger. This Army of Observation was positioned in Westphalia and on the Rivers Hunte and Weser.

Four of the Hanoverian Grenadier battalions consisted of four companies, each with one captain, one lieutenant, two ensigns, one sergeant-major, two sergeants, one senior corporal, one farrier, five corporals, one company surgeon, three drummers, two fifers, 14 junior corporals and 124 grenadiers. The staff consisted of one commander, one adjutant, one battalion surgeon, one staff farrier, one waggon master, one armourer and one driver. The battalion artillery consisted of one sergeant, two corporals and 16 gunners. The artillery train was commanded by a corporal who had seven drivers under him. The battalion train consisted of one driver for the medical waggon, four drivers with the bread waggons and 16 with the pack horses.

The 5th Grenadier Bn. had the same staff, artillery and train as the other companies but had six companies each consisting of one captain, one lieutenant, one ensign, one chaplain, one sergeant,

**Officer and man of the Cavalry Life Guard Regiment, c.1791: red coats faced with blue, lined white, with gold 'metal' and lace and white smallclothes; cf. Plate B1. (Ronnberg)**





one senior corporal, one farrier, two corporals, one company surgeon, two drummers, two fifers, 16 junior corporals and 74 grenadiers. All five battalions shared two artillery officers.

Each Musketeer battalion had four companies. The staff consisted of two staff officers, one regimental quartermaster, one adjutant, one regimental surgeon, one regimental drummer, one armourer, one waggon master and one driver. Each company consisted of one captain, one lieutenant, two ensigns, one sergeant-major, two sergeants, one senior corporal, one farrier, five corporals, one company surgeon, three drummers, 14 junior corporals and 124 privates. The battalion artillery consisted of one sergeant, two corporals and 16 gunners. The train consisted of one corporal and seven drivers. There were also 20 drivers with the baggage and bread waggons.

The Light Infantry Regiment was of the

**Officer and man of the 5th Cavalry (Dragoon) Regiment, c.1791, in blue uniforms faced white. Despite the dragoon designation, the uniform is hardly distinguishable from that of the heavy 'Reiter' regiments, as e.g. Plate A3. (Ronnenberg)**



following strength: *Staff*: four staff officers, two adjutants, one regimental quartermaster, one regimental surgeon, one battalion surgeon, one regimental drummer, one armourer, one waggon master, one driver. Each *company*: one captain, one lieutenant, two ensigns, one sergeant-major, two sergeants, one senior corporal, one farrier, four corporals, one company surgeon, two drummers, 10 junior corporals, 74 privates. Each *Jaeger company*: one captain, one lieutenant, two ensigns, one sergeant-major, two sergeants, one senior corporal, one farrier, four corporals, one company surgeon, two buglers, one armourer and 84 Jaeger. *Regimental artillery*: two 3 pdrs., two amusettes, one ensign (from the Artillery Regt.), two sergeants, four corporals and 28 gunners. *Artillery train*: two corporals, 15 drivers. *Baggage train*: two drivers with the pack waggon, eight drivers with the bread waggons, 20 drivers with the pack horses.

In 1798, as an economy measure, the 9th and 12th Infantry Regts. were disbanded and their officers and men transferred to the other regiments. Furthermore, every battalion was reduced in strength by one Musketeer company and the 14th Light lost both its Jaeger companies in 1801. From 1799 to 1801, the 9th and 12th Regts. did not exist; the other regiments were not renumbered until 1802.

The Guard Regiment was reorganised as follows: *Staff*: one colonel, one lieutenant-colonel, two majors, two adjutants, one regimental quartermaster, one artillery officer, one regimental surgeon, four company surgeons, one regimental drummer, eight oboists, one driver. *Regimental artillery*: one sergeant, three corporals, 24 gunners. *Grenadier company*: one captain, one first lieutenant, one second lieutenant, one ensign, one sergeant-major, one sergeant, one senior corporal, one farrier, four corporals, two drummers, two fifers, six junior corporals, 86 grenadiers. Three *Musketeer companies* were of the same strength as the Grenadiers except that they had no fifers.

The strength of an Infantry regiment was the same except that it only had one adjutant. The same applied to the Light regiment, except that each of the four companies had three musicians.

Recruits were normally volunteers, though occasionally, units were brought up to strength by forms of conscription, such as in 1793. Substitutes were not allowed. However, raising men in such a

way proved too time-consuming and volunteers were taken from the jails—which, of course, led to a decline in disciplinary standards.

The commanders of the Infantry regiments were as follows:

*Guard Regiment:* 1789—Prince Adolph Friedrich, Duke of Cambridge.

*1st Regiment:* 1781—von Stockhausen, 1794—von Scheither.

*2nd Regiment:* 1792—von Issendorff, 1802—von Dincklage.

*3rd Regiment:* 1792—von Scheither, 1794—von Stedling.

*4th Regiment:* 1788—von Mutio, 1793—von Bothmer.

*5th Regiment:* 1788—von der Beck, 1793—von Hohorst, 1797—von Hugo, 1800—von Geysso, 1802—von Hassell.

*6th Regiment:* 1789—von Bessel, 1792—von Hammerstein.

*7th Regiment:* 1781—von der Bussche, 1794—du Plat.

*8th Regiment:* 1762—Prince Ernst of Mecklenburg, 1802—Prince of Schwarzburg-Sondershausen.

*9th Regiment:* 1792—von Quernheim, 1793—von Wangenheim, 1794—von Duering, 1796—von Hugo, 1798—disbanded.

*10th Regiment:* 1792—von Diepenbroick, 1796—von Saffe, 1801—von der Wense, 1802—renumbered 9th.

*11th Regiment:* 1783—Count Taube, 1795—von Diepenbroick, 1802—renumbered 10th.

*12th Regiment:* 1783—von Linsingen, 1795—von Walhausen, 1798—disbanded.

*13th Regiment:* 1792—von Bessel, 1795—von Scheither, 1802—renumbered 11th.

*14th Regiment:* 1793—von Wangenheim, 1794—von Diepenbroick, 1802—renumbered 12th.

## Cavalry

In 1789 the Hanoverian Cavalry consisted of *Reiter* or 'Heavy' regiments and Dragoon regiments. Each regiment consisted of four squadrons, each of two companies.

The regimental staff consisted of one colonel, one lieutenant-colonel, one major, one regimental trainer, one surgeon, one regimental veterinary surgeon, one kettle-drummer, one staff trumpeter and one regimental driver.

The Life Guard regiment had five captains, three acting captains, five first lieutenants, eight second lieutenants, eight sergeants, eight quartermasters, eight trainers, 16 corporals, 8 trumpeters and 304 troopers. Each Heavy regiment was of a similar constitution except that it had only two acting captains, six first lieutenants and eight cornets.

The Dragoon regiments were also similar, but had five captains, two acting captains, six first lieutenants and eight ensigns. The staff of a Dragoon regiment consisted of three staff officers, one regimental trainer, one regimental surgeon, one regimental veterinary surgeon, one kettle-drummer, four oboists and one regimental driver. The Light Dragoon regiments had the same staff as the Dragoons and five captains, two acting captains, six first lieutenants and eight second lieutenants.

The headquarters of the regiments were as follows: *Life Guards:* Hanover *1st Cav. Regt.:*

**The officer and trooper of the 9th Cavalry (Queen's Light Dragoons) in c.1791 display considerable uniform differences from the heavy regiments. The exact design of the jacked cap or hat is hard to make out; cf. our attempted reconstruction in Plate Bz. (Ronnenberg)**





Unknown artist's impression of an officer of a light company of a Line battalion of the King's German Legion, c.1815. (Bomann Museum, Celle)

Lueneberg. *2nd Cav. Regt.*: Celle. *3rd Cav. Regt.*: Stade. *4th Cav. Regt.*: Harburg. *5th Cav. Regt.*: Verden. *6th Cav. Regt.*: Goettingen. *7th Cav. Regt.*: Nienburg. *8th Cav. Regt.*: Northeim. *9th Cav. Regt.*: Isernhagen. *10th Cav. Regt.*: Wunstorf.

The Auxiliary Corps which went to Holland in 1794 contained two squadrons from each of the following regiments: Life Guards, 1st, 2nd, 4th, 5th, 7th, 9th and 10th. These units were formed into Combined Regiments as follows: Life Guards and 2nd, 1st and 4th, 5th and 7th, 9th and 10th. Each of the Combined Regiments consisted of:

*Staff*: three staff officers, one regimental quartermaster, one adjutant, one regimental trainer, one chaplain, one auditor, one regimental surgeon, four squadron surgeons, one regimental veterinary surgeon, one staff trumpeter, four squadron trumpeters, one waggon master, one saddler, one driver. Each *Squadron* of two companies—two

captains, two first lieutenants, four second lieutenants or cornets, four sergeants, two quartermasters, two company trainers, eight corporals, one smith, three trumpeters, 123 troopers. (The Light Dragoon regiments had one additional armourer in their staffs.)

For the campaign of 1794, each of the Light Dragoon regiments was strengthened by two junior corporals and 52 troopers.

The Army of Observation of 1796 contained two squadrons of each of the following regiments: Life Guards, 4th, 5th, 8th, 9th and 10th. They were later joined by the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Regiments. Each of the regiments consisted of two squadrons as follows: *Staff*: two staff officers, one adjutant, one regimental quartermaster, one regimental surgeon, one regimental veterinary surgeon, two squadron surgeons, one smith, one staff trumpeter, one waggon master, one saddler, one driver. Each *Squadron*: two captains, two lieutenants, two cornets or ensigns, two sergeants, two quartermasters, six corporals, two company trainers, two trumpeters, 120 troopers. *Train*: one driver for the smithy, two drivers for the bread waggons, four drivers for the pack horses.

After the Revolutionary Wars, the 11 regiments were reduced to a strength of two squadrons or four companies. Each regiment was of the following strength:

*Staff*: two staff officers, one adjutant, one regimental quartermaster, one regimental trainer, one auditor (guard only), one regimental surgeon, one regimental veterinary surgeon, three squadron surgeons, one staff trumpeter, one kettle-drummer (guard only), two smiths. Each *Company*: one captain, one first lieutenant, two second lieutenants (the Heavy and Dragoon Regts. had one second lieutenant and one cornet or ensign), two sergeants, one quartermaster, one company trainer, four corporals, one trumpeter, 78 troopers (the Light Dragoons had six junior corporals and 72 troopers).

### Artillery & Train

In 1789 the Artillery Regiment consisted of two battalions each of five companies. The staff consisted of one colonel, one lieutenant-colonel, two majors, one regimental surgeon, one secretary, one regimental drummer and seven oboists. In the 10

companies, there was a total of six captains, three acting captains, seven lieutenants, ten ensigns, 32 sergeants, 52 corporals, 10 drummers, 64 bombardiers and 480 gunners. The regiment was garrisoned in Hanover, Hamlin, Ratzeburg, Stade and Harburg.

The Auxiliary Corps of 1793 was joined by three divisions of artillery, a total of 24 cannon and 14 howitzers. Two divisions each consisted of ten 6 pdrs., four 7 pdrs. and two 30 pdr. howitzers. Each division was divided into two batteries, each of the same constitution. The third division consisted of so-called 'Fast' or Horse Artillery, equipped with four 3 pdrs. and two 7 pdr. howitzers.

The manpower was allocated as follows: *Horse Artillery*: four officers, two sergeants, 12 corporals, one farrier, two assistant farriers, two drummers, 48 bombardiers and gunners, one armourer, one assistant, one company surgeon.

*1st and 2nd Division*: Each 12 (2nd 14) officers, seven sergeants, 24 corporals, three farriers, six assistant farriers, six drummers, 192 bombardiers and gunners, one armourer, one assistant, one surgeon (second division only), two company surgeons.

For each howitzer the Horse Artillery carried: 60 shells, 60 rounds of canister, 17 incendiaries; and for each cannon, 136 round and grapeshot. In reserve for each howitzer were 54 shells, 55 rounds of canister and three incendiaries; in reserve for each cannon were 128 roundshot and 192 rounds of grapeshot.

Each Division of heavy artillery carried, for each 30 pdr. howitzer, 90 shells, ten rounds of grapeshot, ten incendiaries; for each 7 pdr. howitzer—180 shells, 50 rounds of canister, 20 incendiaries; and for each cannon—210 round and grapeshot.

The Regimental Artillery had 136 roundshot and 84 grape for each gun; the Grenadier Battalions, however, carried 192 round and 128 grape.

The same amount of ammunition was carried in the Reserve Train as with the guns, as well as 192 rounds of ball and 128 of grape for each regimental cannon.

The Artillery had the following Train personnel: *Horse Artillery* one officer, 11 NCOs, one surgeon, one veterinary surgeon, 125 train soldiers, 309 horses. *Heavy Divisions* one captain, four officers, 46 NCOs, one surgeon, one veterinary surgeon, etc.,

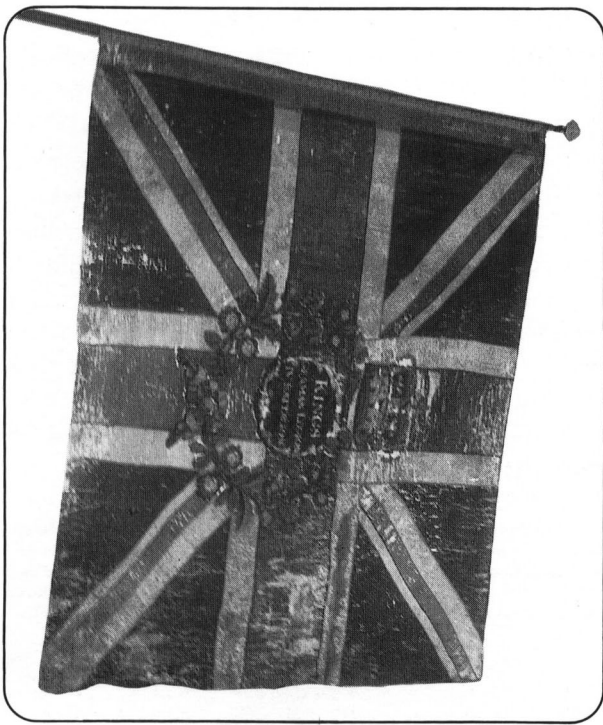
totalling 432 men and 1,005 horses. *Reserve Ammunition Train* of the Heavy Guns one officer, eight NCOs, etc., totalling 189 men and 468 horses.

The Artillery Staff consisted of one commander, two majors, two regimental adjutants, one regimental quartermaster, one chaplain, one secretary, one auditor, one regimental surgeon, one chief armourer (Artillery), four armourers (Artillery), four assistants, four company surgeons, one regimental drummer, one armourer (small arms) with two apprentices, one cooper with one apprentice, one driver.

A 2nd Division of Horse Artillery was raised for the 1794 Campaign.

**Surviving coatee of an officer of the 5th Line Battalion, KGL, c.1815. Of scarlet faced with dark blue, it is laced gold; the gilt buttons bear a crown over 'KGL' over '5'. On the white tail turnbacks are dark blue diamonds bearing a crown above 'KGL' above crossed branches. (Stadtmuseum Hannover)**





**King's Colour, 4th Line Bn., KGL, awarded by George III in 1806 and carried at Waterloo. Made of painted silk, the Union flag bears a crown and a wreath of mixed roses and thistles in natural colours, around a dark blue cartouche edged with gold stylised foliate bordering and bearing 'KING'S/GERMAN LEGION/IV BATTALION' in gold. (Stadtmuseum Hannover)**

The Corps of Observation of 1796 had one company (battery) of Horse Artillery at the following strength: one captain, one first lieutenant, one second lieutenant, one ensign, three sergeants, 12 corporals, one farrier, two guards for the farrier, one bugler, 55 gunners. Its two batteries of Heavy Artillery each consisted of: two captains, two first lieutenants, four second lieutenants or ensigns, six sergeants, 12 corporals, two farriers, four guards, four drummers and 108 gunners. The Horse Battery had two 7 pdr. howitzers and four 3 pdrs.; each Heavy Battery had three 7 pdr. howitzers and six 6 pounds.

The Staff consisted of one lieutenant-colonel, one adjutant, one battalion surgeon, five company surgeons, one armourer, one assistant, two apprentices and one driver. The Staff of the Artillery Train consisted of one lieutenant-colonel, one regimental quartermaster, one adjutant and one quartermaster.

The Horse Artillery had a Train Company which consisted of one captain, one lieutenant, one

ensign, one waggon master, four sergeants and quartermasters, seven corporals, one harnessmaker, one company surgeon, one veterinary surgeon, two apprentice smiths, two apprentice wheelwrights, two apprentice saddlers and 24 train soldiers. Each Heavy Battery had a Train Company at the following strength: one captain, one lieutenant, one ensign, one waggon master, five sergeants and quartermasters, nine corporals, one harnessmaker, one company surgeon, one veterinary surgeon, one master smith and three apprentices, one master wheelwright and two apprentices, one master saddler and two apprentices, 129 train soldiers.

The Staff consisted of one major, one adjutant, one regimental quartermaster, one secretary, one regimental surgeon, three company surgeons, one chief armourer, one assistant, four junior armourers, four assistants and the regimental drummer.

In 1795, the Horse Artillery was equipped with 6 pdrs. drawn by eight horses.

After the Revolutionary Wars were over, the artillery was reorganised as follows: two batteries of Horse Artillery attached to the Cavalry Divisions; three batteries of Line Artillery attached to the three Infantry Divisions; one battery of Heavy Artillery in the Reserve; and two batteries in the fortresses.

A Horse Battery consisted of two 7 pdr. howitzers, six 6 pdr. and four 3 pdr. cannon; a Line Battery consisted of two 7 pdr. howitzers and six 6 pdr. cannon; the Reserve Battery consisted of six 12 pounds.

### **Engineers**

From 1789 the Miner and Sapper Company had its depot in Hamlin, the Pontoon and Pioneer Company in Hanover. The Auxiliary Corps of 1793 had a detachment of pioneers consisting of one sergeant, one corporal, one drummer and 15 pioneers. They had two mobile bridges.

The Auxiliary Corps of 1794 had a Pontoon Train of 24 pontoons with the necessary men, that is six engineer officers including the two with the Pontoon Company, one master pontooneer, one sergeant, two corporals, one surgeon, one drummer, 50 pontooneers and a Pontoon Train Company of one officer, one master harnessmaker, one train surgeon, one veterinary surgeon, one assistant, two train sergeants, six train corporals, 80 train soldiers

and 242 horses.

After the Revolutionary Wars, the Engineer Corps consisted of one colonel, one lieutenant-colonel, one major, three captains, seven lieutenants, five ensigns and two conductors; a Miner Company of two sergeants, two corporals, two musicians and 30 miners; and a Pontoon Company of the same strength.

## *Uniforms to 1803*

### **Generals and Staff**

In 1791 generals wore a black felt tricorn hat decorated with gold lace, yellow silver tassels and a black rosette. The red frock coat had a dark blue collar, lapels and Swedish cuffs. The collar, lapels and cuffs were trimmed with gold lace; on the collar was a single bar of gold lace, on the lapels four pairs, and on the cuffs one pair. The tail turnbacks were white with a button. The waistcoat and jacket were white, the buttons gilt. The épée was carried in a black scabbard with silver fittings and a yellow silver sword knot.

General staff officers wore the same hat, a red frock coat without colouring on the collar, lapels and cuffs, a white waistcoat with gilt buttons and white trousers. The coat had 11 small bars of lace on each side and four chevrons on the lower part of the sleeves; the coat-tail turnbacks were white.

The epaulettes worn by generals and general staff officers were gold with fringes and two crossed marshal's batons. They also wore high black boots; and the sword carried by staff officers was similar to that of the generals.

### **Infantry**

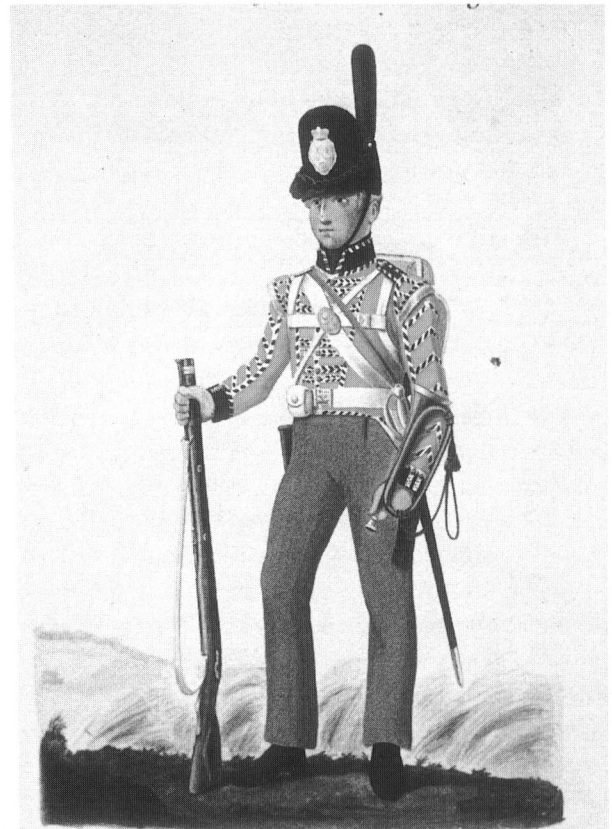
The black hats were trimmed with silver lace for Line officers and NCOs, with white for other ranks; tassels and cords were white for the rankers, silver for officers. The Guards Regiment had gold and yellow trim instead. Officers sported a black cockade, the men a white loop and button. The colours of the plumes distinguished the regiment (see chart below). The 14th and 15th Regts. had tall feather plumes, in red/white/green for rankers and yellow/white for officers. Grenadiers wore bearskin

caps with a silver plate bearing the leaping horse and crowned 'GR' cypher; some regiments, e.g. the 14th, also had their number on this plate. For the 1792 campaign the 1st Grenadier Bn. was issued with Corsican hats trimmed white, with white feather plumes; officers had yellow/white plumes.

The infantry coat was red, lined white; the Guard had gilt buttons, the Line silver. Cuffs, lapels, a single left shoulder strap, and a strap fastening the coat-tail turnbacks, were all coloured to distinguish the regiment (see chart below). NCOs had silver lace on their cuffs, and probably on the lapels and collars as well. Line officers had silver-fringed epaulettes, Guard officers gold. The men's lapels were decorated with bars of white lace and buttons (yellow in the Guard Regt.); officers' lapels bore silver (or gold) buttons only. There appear to have been two buttons beneath the tail pocket flap.

The waistcoat and trousers were white, the latter

**Bugler of the Sharpshooter section of a KGL Line battalion, in field service marching order, c.1815. The shako tuft and cords are green, as are the bugle cords; the lace trimming on the coatee is blue on white, apparently musician's pattern. Note Sharpshooter's white waist belt with small 'expense' pouch. (Unknown artist: Bomann Museum, Celle)**



in linen from 1 May to 1 November and in heavier cloth for the rest of the year. Boots and gaiters were black. The shirt collar showed over a black neckstock. Greatcoats were introduced for rankers in 1794, and were carried folded on top of the knapsack when not in use. Officers had always worn blue overcoats in foul weather, and boots instead of gaiters.

Grenadiers were armed with muskets, bayonets and infantry sabres; Line infantry (Fusiliers) with muskets and bayonets; light companies with rifles and bayonets; the slings were white. The rankers' sabre had a brass hilt and a brass-furnished brown scabbard. Officers' épées were silver-hilted, with yellow/silver knots, and brown leather scabbards. Grenadier officers wore sabres (they were also

### Uniforms of the Hanoverian Infantry 1791 (After Ronnenberg)

<i>Regt.</i>	<i>Lapels</i>	<i>Cuffs</i>	<i>Shoulder strap</i>	<i>Tail strap</i>	<i>Hat plume/pompon</i>	<i>Buttons</i>
Guard	dk. blue	dk. blue	red	yellow	yellow & blue	gold
1st	green	green	green	green	white & green	silver
2nd	dk. blue	dk. blue	red	blue	white & blue	silver
3rd	black	black	white	white	white & black	silver
4th	sky blue	sky blue	sky blue	sky blue	white, red, sky blue	silver
5th	yellow	yellow	red	yellow	white & yellow	silver
6th	green	green	green, white trim	green	white & green	silver
7th	dk. green	dk. green	yellow, white trim	green	white & dk. green	silver
8th	white	white	red	white	white & red	silver
9th	white	white	white	white	white & red	silver
10th	dk. green	dk. green	red	green	white & dk. green	silver
11th	black	black	red	black	white, black & red	silver
12th	yellow	yellow	yellow	yellow	white, red & yellow	silver
13th	sky blue	sky blue	red	sky blue	white, sky blue, red	silver
14th	green	green	red, white trim	green, white trim	red, white & green	silver
15th	green	green	red, white trim	green, white trim	red, white & green	silver

**NB:** All regiments had eight bars of lace on their lapels; and the 14th and 15th had green collars.

### Uniforms of the Hanoverian Cavalry (Schirmer, p. 183)

<i>Regt.</i>	<i>Collar</i>	<i>Lapels</i>	<i>Cuffs</i>	<i>Tails</i>	<i>Tail strap</i>	<i>Waistcoat</i>	<i>Buttons</i>
Life Gds.	dk. blue	dk. blue	dk. blue	white	blue & yellow	white	gold
1st	red	red	red	white	blue & yellow	white	gold
2nd	white	white	white	white	blue & yellow	white	gold
3rd	yellow	yellow	yellow	white	blue & white	white	silver
4th	white	white	white	white	blue & white	white	silver
5th Dr.	—	white	white	white	blue & white	white	silver
6th Dr.	—	yellow	yellow	white	blue & white	white	silver
7th Dr.	—	yellow	yellow	white	blue & white	white	silver
8th Dr.	—	white	white	white	blue & yellow	white	gold
9th Lt.Dr.	—	red	red	white	red & yellow	white	gold
10th Lt.Dr.	—	red	red	white	red & white	white	silver

permitted moustaches). Swords were carried from white baldrics; rankers' had oval brass plates, officers', silver plates with red enamel details.

In the 1792 campaign, the 1st Grenadier Bn., trained as light troops, fought in two ranks; regulations give them red musket slings, but contemporary illustrations show white. (They also had British wooden water bottles.)

The 14th Light Infantry had grey coats with grey lapels; brass buttons bearing the regimental number; green collars, cuffs and lining; and epaulettes for all ranks in yellow (?gold for officers). All rankers were armed with the light infantry musket; small cartridge boxes were carried and all belts were black. The regiment had no colours, and officers did not wear gorgets.

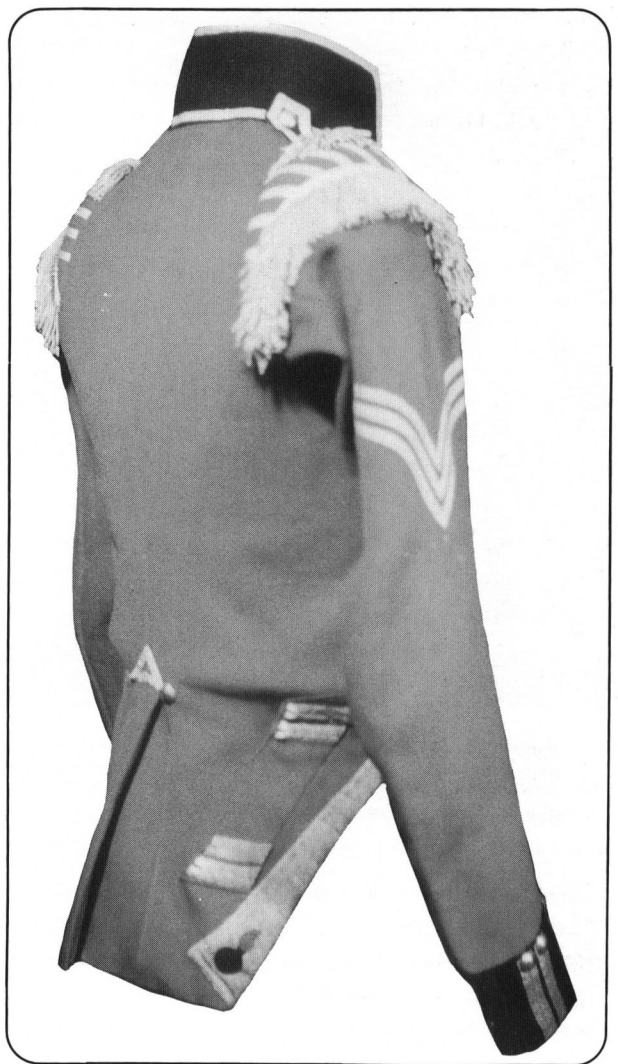
The Jaeger Companies had green coats with green lapels, and green jackets. Officers and NCOs had gold lace and epaulettes, rankers gold epaulettes but no lace. Buff leather trousers were worn with grey cloth gaiters. Headgear was the Corsican hat, folded up on the left side, with a green plume; officers and senior NCOs had a silver/yellow or white/yellow cord around the hat. Belts were black. NCOs and Jaegers (including buglers) were armed with rifles and *Hirschfaenger*—the traditional huntsman's sidearm. (Much of the above information comes from a contemporary source, the series of illustrations by Ronnenberg dated 1791.)

In 1800 a new type of infantry tunic was introduced, with high collars trimmed with white. The tunic was decorated with white lace 'loops' in much the same way as contemporary British infantry tunics. Shoulder straps were regimentally coloured, and piped white. The Grenadiers' fur cap had a white metal plate. The queue was now false, and pinned in place.

Like a number of other German states at this time, Hanover introduced sections of light *Scharfschuetzen* into its infantry battalions. When in the field each battalion was to have 60 of these Sharpshooters, led by one officer and four NCOs. They were armed with the light Grenadier musket and a short sidearm; NCOs had rifles, officers sabres. Their belts were black.

### Colours

Each battalion of each infantry regiment carried two Colours. The 1st Colour of the 1st Battalion was



**Coatee of a sergeant, grenadier company, Line battalion. The buttons are missing from the lace loops on the false pocket flaps; otherwise this important survival shows clearly the details of KGL coatees. The turnback ornament is interesting: a blue grenade with a red flame. (Bomann Museum, Celle)**

known as the *Leibfahne* and was the same in nearly every regiment. The reverse of the *Leibfahne* displayed either the royal cypher or the leaping horse. During the French Revolutionary Wars, the following Infantry Colours were carried:

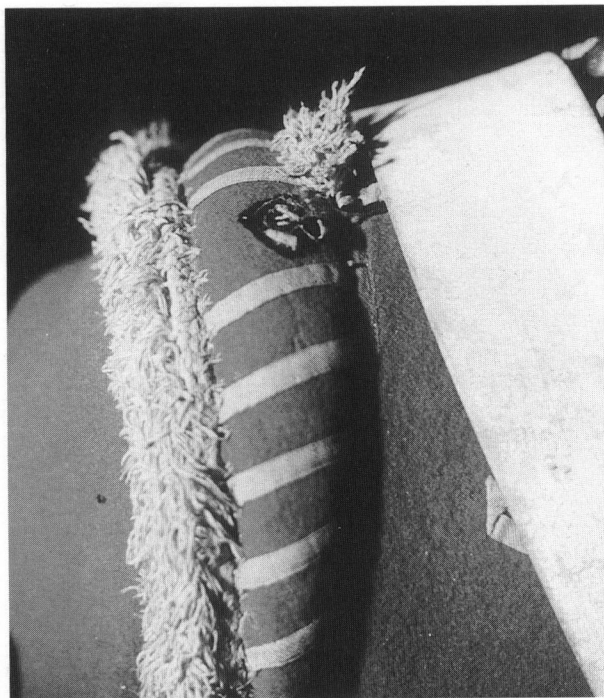
*Guard Regt., 1st & 2nd Bns.*

White field with the British Royal coat-of-arms, lion and unicorn. Underneath it, a blue scroll bearing the motto DIEU ET MON DROIT. Emblems of Royal Orders in each corner.

*1st Regt.*

*Leibfahne:* White field with the Royal coat-of-arms, lion and unicorn, garter of the Royal Order of the





**Detail of the shoulder wing of a private's coatee, light company of a KGL Line battalion, or possibly of a Sharpshooter section: the small applied badge, in white embroidery on dark blue, shows a buglehorn. (Bomann Museum, Celle)**

Garter with the motto HONI SOIT QUI MAL Y PENSE. Underneath that, a blue band bearing the motto DIEU ET MON DROIT. *2nd Colour*: Dark green field. A disc bearing a sword and wheel surrounded by a cloud and being approached by a lion. Above it, a scroll with the motto TU NE CEDE MALIS. *3rd Colour*: Prone, watchful lion under the inscription VIGILANTIA VINCIT. *4th Colour*: Unknown.

*2nd Regt.*

*Leibfahne*: As 1st Regt. *2nd Colour*: Dark blue field. Centre disc with a cloud coming down from it, an armoured hand holding a sword inscribed VICTORIA. Above this device, a scroll with the motto SI DEUS PRO NOBIS, QUIS CONTRA NOS. *3rd Colour*: Dark blue field with a lion. Motto: OFFENDO ET DEFENDO. *4th Colour*: Dark blue with a globe, the twelve signs of the Zodiac, sun, moon and stars. Motto: NON RETRORSUM.

*3rd Regt.*

*Leibfahne*: As 1st Regt. *2nd Colour*: Black 'Gibraltar' flag, blue band with the motto: MIT ELIOTT RUHM UND SIEG. Under the band, a grey rock inscribed GIBALTAR and ten floating batteries surrounded by a laurel wreath. Below that, a blue band with the

motto: DEN 14. SEPTEMBER IM JAHRE 1782. In the corners, the Royal cypher. *3rd Colour*: White field. A laurel wreath; inside it, a tower with the motto WACHSAMKEIT. In the corners, the Royal cypher. *4th Colour*: White field and centre. Laurel wreath. Two Germanic warriors shaking hands over a sacrificial altar. Over the top of this, a blue scroll with the motto DEUTSCHE FREYHEIT ODER TOT. In the corners, the Royal cypher.

*4th Regt.*

*Leibfahne*: As 1st Regt. *2nd Colour*: Light blue field. Device as 2nd Colour of 2nd Regt. Motto: DULCE ET DECORUM PRO PATRIA MORI. *3rd Colour*: Light blue. Mars sitting on trophies. Motto: PRO FIDE, REGE ET LEGE. *4th Colour*: Light blue. Man in armour with a lance pointing towards a pillar decorated with laurel wreaths. Motto: BELLICAE VIRTUTIS PRAEMIUM.

*5th Regt.*

*Leibfahne*: As 1st Regt. *2nd Colour*: Yellow 'Gibraltar' flag. *3rd Colour*: As the *Leibfahne*. *4th Colour*: Armoured Roman between two pillars joined together by a chain and decorated with three laurel wreaths which he is cutting with his sword. Motto: ANTIQUAE AVIDUS GLORIAE.

*6th Regt.*

*Leibfahne*: As 1st Regt. *2nd Colour*: Dark green 'Gibraltar' flag. *3rd Colour*: Possibly as the *Leibfahne*. *4th Colour*: Mars on trophies, a genius flying towards him. Motto: NULLI SINE MORTE TRIUMPHI.

*7th Regt.*

*Leibfahne*: As 1st Regt. *2nd Colour*: The Fama holding a sheet of paper bearing the words: EXTENDERE FACTIS. *3rd Colour*: Possibly as the *Leibfahne*. *4th Colour*: Light straw yellow. Pyramid with a snake winding its way up. Motto: PER ARDUA VIRTUS.

*8th Regt.*

*1st Colour*: Crimson field. White centre with lion. Over that, a blue scroll with the motto UT ALII DORMIANT. All surrounded by a laurel wreath. In the corners, the Royal cypher. *2nd Colour*: Crimson field. White centre surrounded by laurel wreath. In the centre, a Roman warrior drawing his sword. Above that, a blue scroll with the motto REGI ET PATRIAE. In the corners, the Royal cypher. *3rd Colour*: Crimson field. Armoured arm with a sword coming out of a grey cloud. The sword is wrapped in laurel leaves. Motto: RE NON VERBIS. *4th Colour*: As 1st.

9th Regt.

*Leibfahne:* As 1st Regt. *2nd Colour:* Green. A lion going to Wrath with a sword. Motto: PRO FIDE REGE ET LEGE. *3rd Colour:* As *Leibfahne*. *4th Colour:* Green. Armoured arm coming out of a cloud holding a sheet of paper; on it, the word JEHOVAH. Motto: QUIS CONTRA NOS.

10th Regt.

*Leibfahne:* As 1st Regt. *2nd Colour:* Dark green. Laurel wreath around white centre disc. Armoured arm coming out of cloud with sword. Above it, blue scroll with motto CUI VULT. In the corners, the Royal cypher. *3rd Colour:* Dark green. Red banner with Royal Monogram, surrounded by trophies. Motto: BEY DIESEN NAMEN ÜBERWINDEN ODER STERBEN. In the corners, the Royal cypher. *4th Colour:* Dark green. White centre disc surrounded by laurel wreath. Monument with trophies. Over

**Sergeant-major of a KGL Line battalion, c.1815. The double-breasted coatee bears all gold lace; the shako cords and rank badge are also shown gold, as is the overall stripe. (Unknown artist: Bomann Museum, Celle)**



that, a blue scroll with the motto DER TAPFERKEIT BELOHNUNG.

11th Regt.

*Leibfahne:* As 1st Regt. *2nd Colour:* Yellow. Lion with sword, leaning on tree stump. Motto: WER DARF ES MIR NEHMEN? *3rd Colour:* White. Ermine in front of a cavern surrounded by a laurel wreath. Motto: LIEBER STERBEN ALS BEFLECKT SEIN. *4th Colour:* White. As 3rd Colour except with trophies around the laurel wreath and two chained slaves under it.

12th Regt.

*Leibfahne:* As 1st Regt. *2nd Colour:* Yellow. Armoured warrior carrying sword. Motto: DECORI MISCETUR VIRTUS. *3rd Colour:* Yellow. Lion with sword. Motto: IN PACE AD BELLUM PARATUS. *4th Colour:* Yellow. Rocks in sea with winds, waves and lightning. Motto: TU NE CEDE MALIS.

13th Regt.

*Leibfahne:* As 1st Regt. *2nd Colour:* Dark blue. Four wreaths and crowns with the motto: PRAEMIA SPERATA. *3rd & 4th Colours:* Unknown.

14th Regt.

*Leibfahne:* Probably as 1st Regt. *2nd Colour:* White. Ermine surrounded by yellow scroll with the motto: MALO MORI QUAM FOEDARI. *3rd Colour:* White. Lion with sword in one paw, a death's head in the other. Motto: AUT MORI AUT VINCERE. *4th Colour:* Unknown.

15th Regt. Colours unknown.

## Cavalry

The Life Guard Regiment wore red coats, while all other cavalry regiments had blue coats with white coat-tail turnbacks fastened together by means of a button. The coat lapels had four buttons, the Swedish cuffs two. There was also one button on the collar. The Dragoons had an additional button in the top corners of the lapels, and fringed epaulettes. The hat was trimmed with lace of the button colour and had a black cockade. It had a yellow and white plume. For the regimental distinctions, see charts.

Belts, cartridge boxes and other leatherwork were white. The greatcoat bag was dark blue faced white. The saddle cloth and holster covers were dark blue trimmed with lace in the button colour. In the corner of the cloth was the white leaping horse emblem in a red field surrounded by a yellow wreath and crown. The Life Guards had a red shabraque with a yellow trim, the corner emblem

consisted of the cypher 'GR' surrounded by the garter with a crown above it. The holsters had only the letters and crown. This regiment's greatcoat bags were also red.

### Artillery

Gunners wore a blue-grey coat with red facings and light blue shoulder strap. Buttons were yellow. The hat had a gold trim and tassel, a black cockade and gold clasp. The waistcoat and trousers were white. Belts were natural leather.

## Tactics

### Infantry

Mention has already been made of the Regulations of 1784. A closer look at the Regulations of 1802 would perhaps show how the tactics of the Hanoverian army developed in the light of the experience of the Revolutionary Wars.

The central point of these Regulations was the necessity to co-ordinate the Line and Light infantry. Each battalion consisted of four companies, a section of *Schuetzen* (light infantry) and two cannon. The line companies were formed into three ranks, and the primary functions of the front two ranks were to deliver controlled volleys and bayonet charges. The rôle of the light troops was to fight in broken terrain; to cover the movements of the Line companies, especially from enemy skirmishers; to protect the cannon; and to form van, rear and flank guard when on the march. The third rank of each company was formed into a reserve which was to be used where necessary, particularly to support the *Schuetzen*. This use of skirmishers and the combination of Line and Light troops was similar to the practices of other German states at this time; readers are referred to MAA 149, *Prussian Light Infantry, 1792-1815* for a fuller account of how skirmishers functioned at this time.

The battalion deployed into battle order as follows: On the order '*Batallion, zum Gefechtrangiert!*', all officers and delegated NCOs took up their positions. The leading officer went to the front rank, the colour officer and two senior corporals stood in the second rank with the colour. The captain of the reserve stood behind the centre of the



Cap plate as worn on the 1812 Belgic shako by a soldier of the 7th Line Bn., KGL. (Bomann Museum, Celle)

battalion, his officers and NCOs behind their respective divisions. The cannon were placed on each flank, the gunners and sappers formed up with them. The light ammunition waggon was placed 100 paces behind the centre of the battalion. The *Schuetzen* stood in two ranks behind the flanks of the battalion. The musicians formed up behind the centre of the battalion.

There were two ways in which the Line infantry fired: by division or by battalion. Firing was by the front two ranks only, as the third rank was pulled out of the line and used as a reserve. Each company consisted of two divisions; firing by division was from right to left.

Bayonet charges were made as follows: a volley was fired, and the battalion advanced towards the enemy as quickly as possible. At ten paces from the enemy, the front rank would charge bayonets while the second would hold their muskets in one hand on the right side.

Square was formed as follows: the 3rd Coy. remained standing with the colour party behind it. The 2nd Coy. formed the right flank, the 4th the left

and the 1st Coy. closed the square. The reserve formed the third rank, one cannon was placed at the corner formed by the 3rd and 2nd Coys, the other at the corner between the 1st and 4th. The *Schuetzen* covered the gaps around the guns and between the companies. The limbers and ammunition waggon were placed inside the square wherever possible.

### Cavalry

The Regulations of 1787 remained in force throughout the Revolutionary Wars.

The squadron was formed as follows. The right flank company was formed from the right to left, the left flank company from the left to right. The biggest men on the best and fastest horses were

placed in the front rank. Every effort was made to have uniformity of size in the front rank. On parade, the captain rode two paces in front of the centre, the lieutenant one pace in front of the second section of the right flank, and the cornet or ensign one pace in front of the second section of the left. The sergeant-major rode behind the front, one pace to the rear of the second rank with the senior company officer; the quartermaster rode with the junior company officer. The company trainer and two corporals rode on both flanks of the first rank and on the right of the second. The trumpeter rode on the right flank of the first rank.

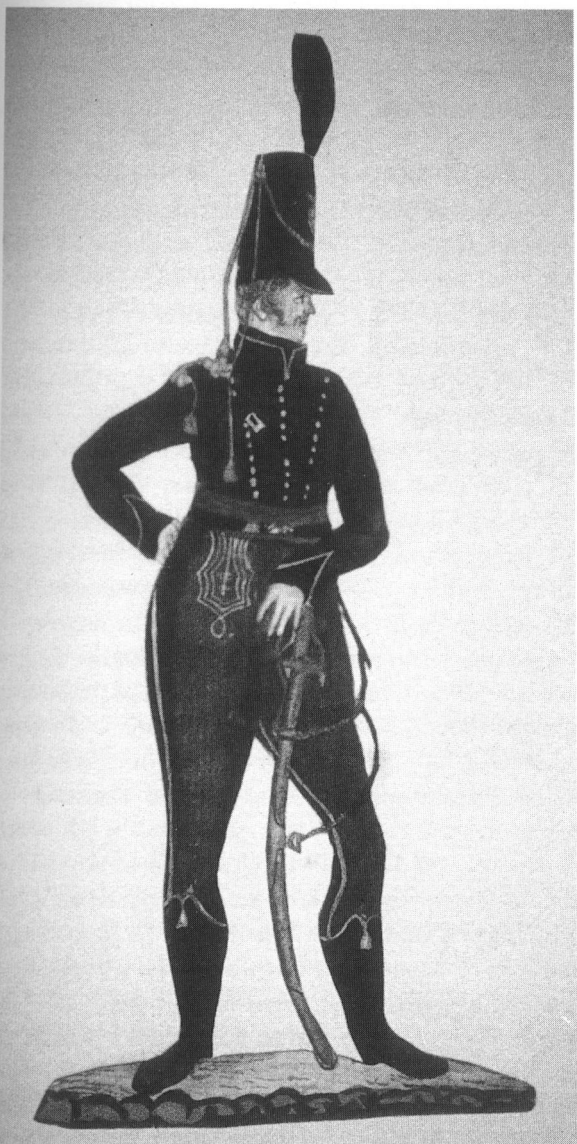
Cavalry attacks were made by regiment in line, echelon and column. The signal to attack was given by trumpet. The standards fell back into the second rank and their place in the front rank was taken by another trooper. The squadron commanders remained in front of their squadrons. The regiment advanced at a walk, the second squadron giving the direction. When closer to the enemy, the walk became a trot; 200 paces from the enemy the order to gallop was given; and the charge was made when 120 paces from the enemy. When charging, the second rank was to double its distance from the first.

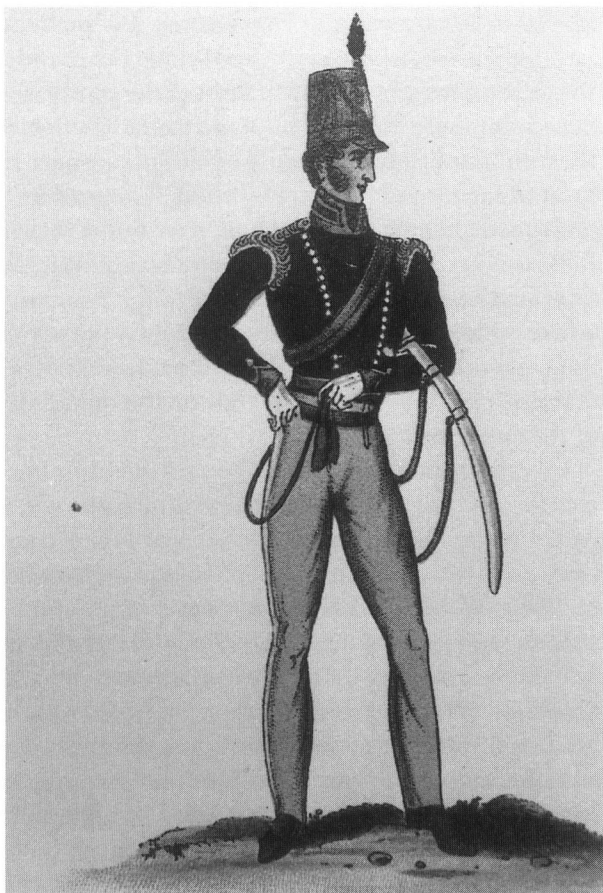
The object of an attack in echelon was to hit the enemy in the flank. The attack in column was made only when the terrain restricted deployment, otherwise the line was the preferred formation.

## *The King's German Legion*

Sandwiched between an expanding French Empire and a greedy Prussia, the state of Hanover soon became a pawn in the struggles of the Great Powers. When war broke out again between France and Britain in May 1803, the French invaded Hanover and forced her army to adopt neutrality. A group of patriotic officers sponsored by the Duke of Cambridge set about recruiting a force of volunteers

**Puzzling contemporary plate of an officer of the 1st Light Bn., KGL, 1812, by an unknown artist. It seems to incorporate known features of the uniforms of both Light battalions. The headgear could be either the shako of the 1st or the mirleton of the 2nd, but has the gold cords recorded for the 2nd. The jacket has the three rows of buttons recorded for the 2nd, but the pointed cuffs of the 1st, and white or silver piping rather than the black recorded for both. On balance, this looks closer to the 2nd Bn. than the 1st. (Bomann Museum, Celle)**





**Officer of the 1st Light Bn., KGL, by Schwertfeger. This follows the conventional versions of the uniform: green shako plume and cords; green jacket with two rows of silver buttons and silver shoulder-scales; black facings and braid trim.**

from Hanover to serve the British crown. After initial hesitation, recruits flooded to England. From 13 October, this corps was designated the 'King's German Regiment'; on 19 December, the designation became the 'King's German Legion', a force consisting of elements of all arms.

The Legion continued to grow. Two battalions of light infantry were formed, the favoured recruits coming from the Hanoverian Light Regiment. Hanoverian Guards were taken into the 1st Bn; and by February 1806 the Legion had a total of eight Line Battalions. Initially, one Heavy and one Light Dragoon Regiment were formed. A 2nd and then a 3rd Light Regt. were formed subsequently, along with a 2nd Heavy Regiment. The artillery grew in a similar fashion. Initially, one Horse and one Foot Battery was raised, followed by more as the manpower became available.

In February 1806, the Legion consisted of the following:

- 1st Horse Bty.: Capt. Julius Hartmann
- 2nd Horse Bty.: Capt. August Roettiger
- 1st Foot Bty.: Capt. Heinrich Brueckmann
- 2nd Foot Bty.: Capt. Heinrich Kuhlmann
- 3rd Foot Bty.: Capt. Ludwig Heise
- 4th Foot Bty.: Capt. Friedrich Ruperti
- 1st Heavy Dragoon Regt.: Col. Georg von Bock
- 2nd Heavy Dragoon Regt.: Maj.-Gen. Otto von Schulte
- 1st Light Dragoon Regt.: Maj.-Gen. Karl von Linsingen
- 2nd Light Dragoon Regt.: Maj.-Gen. Victor von Alten
- 3rd Light Dragoon Regt.: Col. Georg von Reden
- 1st Light Bn.: Col. Karl von Alten
- 2nd Light Bn.: Lt.Col. Colin Halkett
- 1st Line Bn.: Col. Christian von Ompteda
- 2nd Line Bn.: Col. Adolf von Barse
- 3rd Line Bn.: Col. Heinrich von Hinueber
- 4th Line Bn.: Col. Ernst von Langwerth
- 5th Line Bn.: Col. Georg von Driberg
- 6th Line Bn.: Col. August von Honstedt
- 7th Line Bn.: Col. Friedrich von Drechsel
- 8th Line Bn.: Col. Peter du Plat

## Organisation

As part of the British Forces, the KGL came under the command of the Duke of York. The Duke of Cambridge was Colonel-in-Chief of the Legion, and his Adjutant-General was Col. von der Decken. From 1806 the Legion's artillery was placed under the overall control of the Board of Ordnance.

There was no general staff as such in the Legion because its units tended to be used individually or in small groups. Brigades and divisions were temporary formations for use in the field only, and these larger formations tended to contain a mixture of troops from British, Portuguese and KGL units. Moreover, the Legion's generals often commanded such a formation rather than a purely KGL force. The Light Battalions and the Heavy Dragoons were never used separately, but the artillery was almost always attached to different formations.

The KGL's artillery was designated a 'regiment' after the formation of the 4th Foot Battery. This term, however, denoted only its administrative position and not its tactical use. The regimental staff

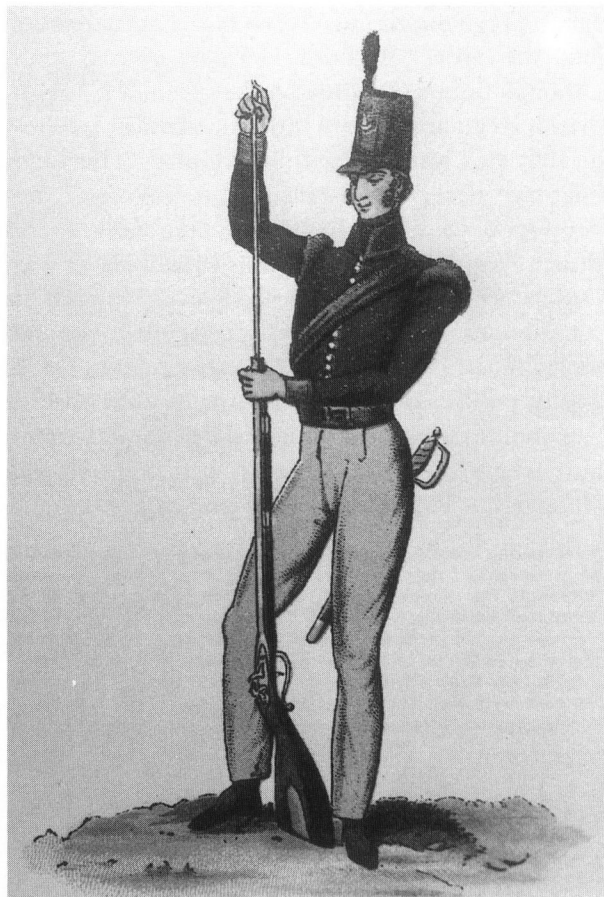
consisted of one colonel commander, one lieutenant-colonel, two majors, each with one adjutant, quartermaster and auditor, five surgeons, one veterinary surgeon, one sergeant-major, one quartermaster-sergeant and one auditor-sergeant.

Each horse battery consisted of one captain first class, one captain second class, two first, two second lieutenants, one sergeant-major, one quartermaster, three sergeants, four corporals, seven bombardiers, one trumpeter, 90 gunners, one farrier, two smiths, one collarmaker and two wheelers. The train consisted of one sergeant, two corporals, one trumpeter and 57 drivers. There were six guns in a battery, five 6 pdrs. and one 5½ in. howitzer, the former with six-horse limbers, the latter with an eight-horse limber.

The foot batteries, of which some had 6 pdrs. and some 9 pdrs., likewise had six officers, but only three sergeants. When mounted, the musicians were trumpeters, when dismounted, drummers. The 6 pdr. batteries tended to have four cannon and two howitzers; the 9 pdr. batteries always had four cannon and two 5½ in. howitzers. The latter were also three bombardiers, four gunners, 39 drivers and one smith stronger. Each battery had eight ammunition and two baggage waggons and one field smithy. These waggons were all drawn by six horses. The carriages were produced under the supervision of Capt. Roettiger and were lighter than those used by the British troops.

The staff of a cavalry regiment consisted of one colonel commander, two majors, one of which normally commanded the regiment with the rank of colonel or lieutenant-colonel, one adjutant, one auditor, three surgeons, one veterinary surgeon, one sergeant-major, one auditor-sergeant, one saddler, one armourer, one farrier. A troop consisted of one captain, one lieutenant, one cornet, one quartermaster, four sergeants, four corporals, one trumpeter and 76 privates. The troops were designated by letter, A, B, C, etc., and the squadrons were numbered.

The staff of an infantry battalion consisted of one colonel commander, one lieutenant-colonel, who, with the rank of colonel, normally commanded the battalion, two majors, one adjutant, one auditor, one quartermaster, three surgeons, one sergeant-major, one auditor-sergeant, one quartermaster-sergeant and one armourer. A company consisted of



**Schwertfeger shows this soldier of the 1st Light Bn. in the conventional black shako with green tuft, silver badge and green cord; green jacket with one row of silver buttons, and black facings at collar, cuff, shoulder strap, with large black tufts and black lace trim.**

one captain, two lieutenants, one ensign, five sergeants, five corporals, one musician (drummer in the Line battalions, bugler in the Light), 96 privates and one pioneer. The companies were distinguished by letter.

### **Drill and Training**

Initially, the Hanoverian Regulations were used and orders were given in German. In contrast to the British Army, where drill was the responsibility of the NCOs, KGL officers drilled their men personally, and a high standard was thus maintained. The KGL was regarded as the equivalent of the Guards and crack Line formations of the British Army.

When the Legion's artillery fell under the jurisdiction of the Board of Ordnance on 1 August 1806 the British Regulations were introduced. The

cavalry regulations introduced on 1 February 1807 had the orders in both German and English, although orders continued to be given in German. British Regulations were introduced to the infantry in 1807 but were never fully adopted. The Light infantry never used British Regulations but developed its own, based on Hanoverian and British Regulations as well as its experience of war. Orders were given in German even though its commander, Colin Halkett, was Scottish (he had served in the Dutch forces). These regulations were finally published in printed form in 1813. British Regulations were used for guard duty and parades, but when it came to real fighting the old Hanoverian Regulations were preferred.

The cavalry formed up in two ranks with a four foot gap between the ranks. Turns were made by threes. The senior captain of the two troops commanded the squadron, which was divided into four divisions. The two lieutenants each commanded a troop and rode on its outside flank, an NCO riding behind them, taking their place if necessary. The junior cornet rode in the centre of the squadron, an NCO behind him. The sergeants rode on the flanks of the centre divisions. The second captain and senior cornet rode behind the front, observing the second rank. All-out charges were made when 100 paces from the enemy: at this point, the sword was raised into the air. Flankers were sent out 300-400 paces to the front and spread

A recruiting handbill dated 1815; the use of the English phrase on a German-language document is interesting. It reads: 'Through the departure of those men who asked to be dismissed when peace came, there are vacancies in the King's German Legion [note old spelling 'Teutschen' for 'Deutschen'] which by order of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent of England are to be filled immediately by volunteers. Every free German man who has the inclination to serve in this corps is hereby requested to report without delay to make up the

numbers of this corps as soon as possible. Each man is to receive four guineas bounty, and, from the day of his acceptance, free board and lodging. English pay and board are so well known that it is not necessary to say anything about them. Any soldier who is wounded when in service or becomes disabled by any illness will receive an English pension for life. Hanoverian subjects who are not liable for service in the militia will be accepted.'

## G O D S A V E T H E K I N G .

Durch die Entlassung derjenigen Mannschaft, welche nach eingetretenerm Frieden um ihren Abschied nachgesucht haben, sind in der

# Königlich Teutschen Legion

Vacanzen entstanden, welche auf Befehl Sr. Königl. Hoheit des Prinz-Regenten von England sofort durch freiwillige Anwerbung ersetzt werden sollen. Es wird daher jeder freye teutsche Mann, welcher Neigung hat, in diesem so ausgezeichneten Corpß Dienste zu nehmen, hiermit aufgefordert, sich unverzüglich zu melden, um baldmöglichst die noch fehlende Zahl zur Completirung dieses Corpß ersetzt zu erhalten.

Jeder Mann erhält 4 Guinée Handgeld, und von dem Tage seiner Annahme an, freye Verpflegung und Quartier.

Die englische Bezahlung und Verpflegung ist zu gut bekannt, um nöthig zu haben, etwas darüber zu sagen. Der Soldat, der während seiner Dienstzeit durch Wunden, oder im Dienst ausgeogene Krankheit unfähig wird, erhält die englische Pension Zeit lebens.

Hannoversche Untertanen, die Nicht Landwehrcpflichtig sind, werden angenommen.

*Adressen*  
*an den General-Major von Husaren Officier Kolborth in Osterode*  
*oder dem Lieutenant-Colonnell von Brunnenmann in Rudolfshausen*

out 20–25 paces apart, the men of the second rank ten paces behind them.

Infantry companies were divided into two platoons of two sections each. They formed up from the right to the left flank according to their captain's seniority, although this system was not rigidly adhered to. In 1812 the number of companies in a battalion was increased from six to ten; the Grenadier Coy. stood on the right flank, the Light Coy. on the left. The Sharpshooters were responsible for the skirmish fight; a battalion of eight companies had four sergeants, 52 men and one bugler under a subaltern officer. They stood in two ranks behind the flanks. Sometimes the Sharpshooters of a brigade were amalgamated under a captain. Sometimes the Light companies were similarly brigaded, the grenadiers only rarely.

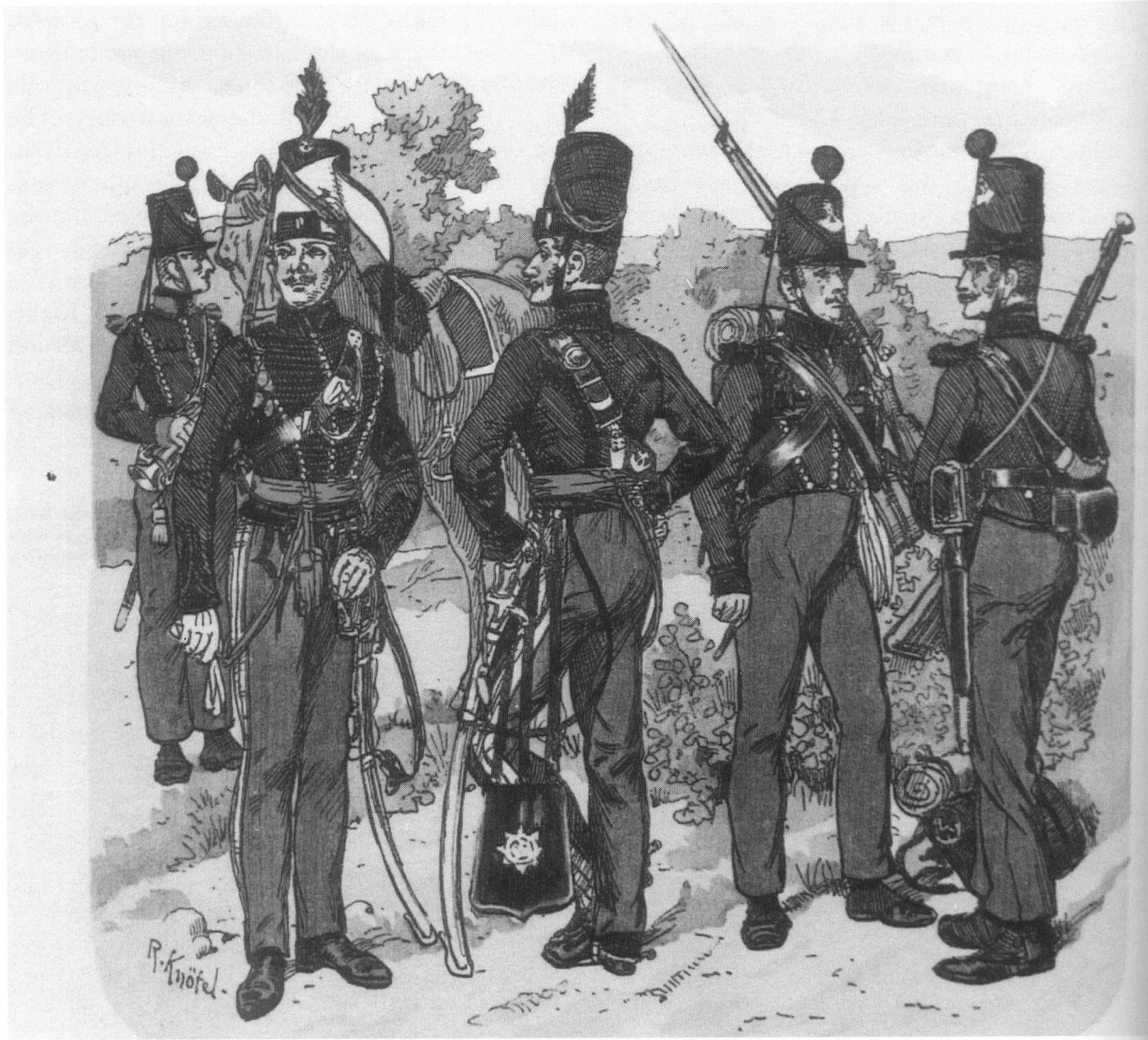
From 1804, the battalion was formed in two

ranks. The battalion commander and his adjutant were to the front of the battalion, the captains on the right flank of their divisions. All other officers stood three paces behind the second rank. The square was hollow and was three or four ranks deep. The first or first two ranks knelt, the other ranks stood firing. Bayonets were normally fixed, but the light troops fixed theirs only when ordered. Charges were normally made after firing a volley, the Line troops advancing at 75 paces per minute, the Lights at 108. The front rank charged bayonets, the second carried their muskets in the right hand. Manoeuvres were carried out in open columns of division.

**Richard Knoetel's plate showing different ranks of the KGL 1st Light Bn. in 1808 may be compared, with advantage, with the figures and angles shown in Plate G, *Wellington's Infantry* (2), MAA 119.**







**Knoetel's contrasting plate showing the 2nd Light Bn.'s uniforms: again, cf. Plate G and commentary in MAA 119.**

## Uniforms & Equipment

The uniforms of the KGL were largely similar to those of the British Army.<sup>1</sup> There were, however, certain distinctions. Coats and tunics were, of course, mostly scarlet; dark blue was worn by the Light cavalry and artillery, and dark green by the Light infantry.

Generals, engineer and Line infantry officers wore long-tailed frock coats. In 1812, the latter received short-tailed coatees. Facings were white for generals, blue (or possibly white) for Line officers, and violet or black for engineer officers.

<sup>1</sup>See also MAA 119, *Wellington's Infantry* (2), for further details and illustrations.

The Artillery wore dark blue coatees with red facings. Eventually, the Horse Artillery of the Legion received dolmans like those of the British horse gunners.

The Heavy Dragoons wore red long-tailed frock coats; the 1st Regt. had dark blue facings, the 2nd black. They were converted into Light Dragoons on 25 December 1813, and dark blue coatees with red facings were introduced. These were, however, not worn until the 1815 campaign.

The 1st Light Dragoons initially wore the uniform of the former Hanoverian 9th Cavalry Regt., that is blue coatees with red distinctions and yellow trim, but soon the British hussar uniform was introduced. That uniform was always worn by the other Light Dragoons. The 1st Regt. had scarlet

facings, the 2nd white and the 3rd yellow; the 1st and 2nd had yellow frogging, the 3rd white; the 1st and 3rd had black fur, the 2nd white.

The Light infantry wore a uniform of its own choosing. Moreover, the green tunics of the 1st Bn. were lighter in colour than those of the 2nd. Collars and cuffs were black. The 1st had a short-tailed jacket, the 2nd wore dolmans. The officers of the 2nd had black silk frogging; their men did not have any frogging, but had three rows of buttons.

Buttons were yellow for generals, staff officers, engineers, Artillery, the Heavy and 1st Light Dragoons, the 1st and 2nd Hussars and the Line infantry; and white for the 3rd Hussars, the 2nd Light Dragoons and the Light Battalions. Officers with yellow buttons had gold embroidery on their coats. The men's tunics had a white trim which had a blue worm.

Officers tended to wear a black tricorne with a white-over-red feather plume and black cockade. From 1811, Foot Artillery officers started to wear the shako, Horse Artillery the crested helmet. Officers of the Line Battalions started to wear the shako from 1812. The Light Dragoons also wore a shako, as did the Hussars at first; a black busby with red bag was introduced later. The 1st Light Bn. wore a black shako, the 2nd a cap.

Generals and staff officers wore white trousers and black Hessian boots. Engineer officers wore grey overalls with gold stripes, foot artillery officers with red stripes. Gunners had grey trousers, black leather gaiters and shoes. The Horse Artillery had white trousers and Hessian boots. The Heavy Dragoons had white trousers and long boots. The Light Dragoons, 2nd and 3rd Hussars and the infantry had grey overalls. The 1st Hussars had dark blue overalls. Officers had silver or gold trim. The infantry wore black leather gaiters and shoes. Mounted troops had blue greatcoats with a cloak collar, foot troops grey.

Generals had aiguillettes, chevrons and embroidery on their coats, staff officers, except the Light infantry and Hussars, fringed epaulettes. Captains had a single epaulette on the right shoulder, subalterns had metal 'wings'. The men of the Heavy Dragoons, Line and Light infantry had woollen 'wings'. NCOs' distinctions were gold or silver chevrons on the upper right sleeve. The sergeant-major had four with a crown above them,

the sergeant three, farrier and cadet two, corporal one.

Officers wore a sash: that of the generals was gold and red silk. All other officers wore red silk. Sergeant-majors had red silk sashes, sergeants red wool. Hussars and the 2nd Light Bn. had barrel sashes, the Light Dragoons waist sashes.

Officers of the Horse Artillery were armed with a sabre worn with a gold and red silk *portépée*, a sabretache on a white belt or gold strap when on parade, and a pistol carried in a holster. Foot Artillery officers carried a sword, gunners a short sword on a white belt. Six carbines were carried on each limber.

**This surviving coatee, supposedly of a corporal of the 2nd Heavy Dragoons, KGL, and with the black (rather than blue) facings of that regiment, differs from Knoetel in details of the yellow lace trim—only one chevron appears above the cuff edge; and the collar is unbordered, but bears two loops. (Stadtmuseum Hannover)**



Officers of the Heavy Dragoons carried a sword in a steel scabbard on a black belt. The troopers carried theirs on a white belt and were also armed with a carbine and pistol. The Light Dragoons and Hussars carried the curved sabre on a black belt. All cavalry troopers had black sabretaches and white belts. On parade, officers wore steel cartridge boxes on a gold or silver belt.

The infantry were armed partly with rifles, partly with muskets: one third of the Light infantry were

**Richard Knoetel's plate shows dragoons of (left) the 1st and (right) the 2nd Heavy Dragoon Regts., KGL, in 1806 field service marching order. The coatees are scarlet, faced blue and black, with yellow lace trim. Cf. Plate E, *Wellington's Heavy Cavalry*, MAA 130.**

armed with rifles, as were the Sharpshooters attached to the Line battalions. The remainder were armed with muskets. Officers of the Light Battalions were armed with hussar sabres worn with sabretaches. They had a whistle on their cross strap. Officers of the Line Battalions wore their épées on a white cross strap.

The 1st Heavy Dragoons had blue shabraques, the 2nd black trimmed red for men and gold for officers on parade. Harnesses were brown. Initially, the Hussars had shabraques but these were replaced by white sheepskins. All mounted troops, cavalry and artillery had blue greatcoat bags. Cleaning kit was carried in a leather bag on the left of the saddle,



the pistol in a holster on the right. Each cavalryman also had a white linen bread bag and blue wooden canteen. On the left, a bag of oats was carried; on the right, the cooking gear.

The infantry had a waterproofed canvas backpack. The greatcoat was worn rolled on top of it and the mess tins on the back of it. A bread bag and canteen were also carried. The sappers also carried a shovel along with a saw or axe, and wore a white or brown apron.

Initially, the Legion wore their hair in a queue, but this gradually disappeared. The 3rd Hussars wore sidelocks weighted with lead. Only the Hussars were allowed to wear moustaches; the 2nd Light Bn. saw themselves as hussars, however, and also sported moustaches.

The Artillery, Hussars and Light battalions did not have any flags. Each of the Heavy Dragoon regiments had a regimental or King's standard, each squadron a guidon. The standards were rectangular and had a red field. In the centre under a crown were the rose, thistle and clover with the inscription HONI SOIT QUI MAL Y PENSE. Along the edge next to the pole were the regimental designation and white horse. The guidons were like large lance pennants, dark blue in the 1st Regt. and black in the 2nd. They were decorated in a similar fashion to the regimental colours. All standards were carried by the junior cornet.

Each line battalion carried two colours, the King's and the Battalion: the former was the Union flag, the latter blue. They were decorated in a similar fashion to the cavalry standards. They were carried by the junior ensign.

### Conclusion

After the capture of Paris in 1814 and Napoleon's first abdication, the Legion was threatened with disbandment. However, the British government had enough foresight not to do away with such a good body of troops immediately. Reduced a little in strength, the Legion was given an extension. The Hundred Days came just in time to prolong its existence. In the meantime, around 200 officers and NCOs of the KGL had found their way back home, where they helped organise the Hanoverian militia, more of which is related below. With that, history had turned a full circle. After Waterloo, the Legion unit returned to their homeland and were

eventually absorbed into the reconstituted Hanoverian army, although not without difficulties and frictions.

## *The New Army 1813-16*

The destruction of the Grande Armée in Russia in 1812 left a power vacuum in Germany. The Russian Army was too weak to fill it immediately, and initially there was a degree of hesitation amongst Germany's rulers. In February 1813 the King of Prussia threw in his lot with the Czar, and other parts of northern Germany followed suit. Volunteer formations were raised in Hanover, part of which had been annexed by a voracious French Empire in 1810 and part of which was contained in the puppet Kingdom of Westphalia, ruled by a member of the Bonaparte dynasty.

Three battalions were formed in 1813: the Lauenburg, the Light Bremen-Verden and the Light Lueneburg. These were joined by a Feldjaegerkorps formed from gamekeepers and foresters, which was initially two, later four companies strong. These were joined later in that spring by two battalions earlier earmarked for the Russo-German Legion, namely Bennigsen and Roehl. In August 1813, the infantry was organised as follows:

1st Light Bn. Lueneburg: Lt.Col. von Klencke

2nd Light Bn. Bremen-Verden: Maj. de Vaux

3rd Bn. Lauenburg: Maj. von Bennoit

4th Bn. Bennigsen: Lt.Col. von Bennigsen

5th Bn. Roehl: Maj. von Langrehr

At the beginning of 1814, these were joined by:

Light Bn. Grubenhagen: Lt.Col. von Beaulieu

Light Bn. Osnabrueck: Col. von Anderten

Field Bn. Calenberg: Gen. von Hedemann

These battalions varied in strength. For instance, the establishment of Bremen-Verden was: Staff—four officers, one surgeon, three NCOs, 17 privates.

Each of the eight companies—four officers, one surgeon, 12 NCOs, two drummers, 120 privates. This strength was never achieved in practice. On 23 April 1813 there were 519 men on the roll.

Training was based on the Regulations of 1802.

Every twelfth man in the Line battalions was trained as a skirmisher—ten men per company. They stood on the right flank and had a bugler.

In January 1814 30 militia battalions were formed, based on the provinces and districts of Hanover. All fit NCOs and men of the former Hanoverian army were required for duty in the militia. From 1 February 1814, the Hanoverians were no longer regarded as being part of the British Army and started to carry their own emblems on their flags.

On 4 February 1815 all field and militia battalions were combined into regiments. Bremen-Verden was renamed Bremen; Bennigsen, Verden; and Langrehr, Hoya. One field and three militia battalions formed a regiment—see the table at the bottom of this page.

At first there was little uniformity of dress: volunteers brought their old uniforms, and deliveries of new equipment were sporadic.

In spring 1813, *Light Battalion Lueneburg* wore a green peaked cap with a light blue band; and a long, dark green coat with a light blue collar and Swedish cuffs. Trousers were light grey with a broad light blue stripe. Belts were tan. During the armistice of summer 1813, *Battalion Lueneburg* received the old stores of the 1st and 2nd *Light Battalions* of the KGL; all tunics issued had the three rows of buttons characteristic of that unit. Collar, cuffs, wings, shoulder straps and belts were black; trousers and greatcoat grey. Headgear was the 'stovepipe' shako. The shako badge consisted of the leaping horse above a yellow band with the inscription NUNQUAM RETRORSUM. The rosette and cords were black, the plume green. The officers' uniform was a little different: the pointed cuffs were

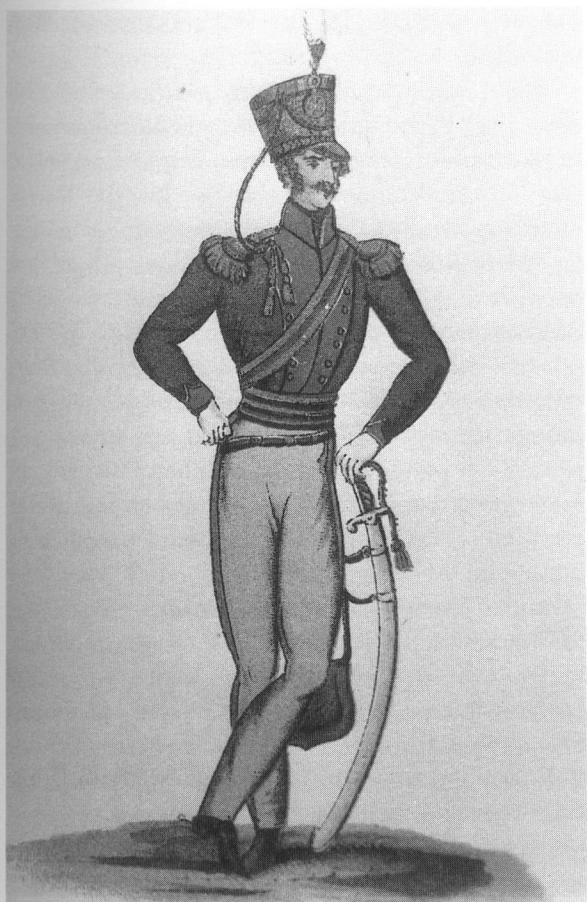
decorated with hussar lace, as was the back of the jacket, which also had black frogging. Trousers were grey with a green stripe. A red waist sash was worn. Another source shows the officers' trousers as being cornflower blue with a silver stripe, the waist sash of yellow silk.

The *Light Battalion Bremen-Verden* was also clothed in dark green at first. The coatee had black pointed cuffs, collars, shoulder straps and wings; it was double-breasted and the buttons were yellow. Trousers were a very dark blue. The black shako had a yellow badge with a crown and 'GR', a black cockade, a green plume and white cords. Belts were black. NCOs had chevrons on the upper right arm. The knapsacks were yellow-brown, bread bags and canteens as for the KGL. The black cartridge box did not have a badge on it.

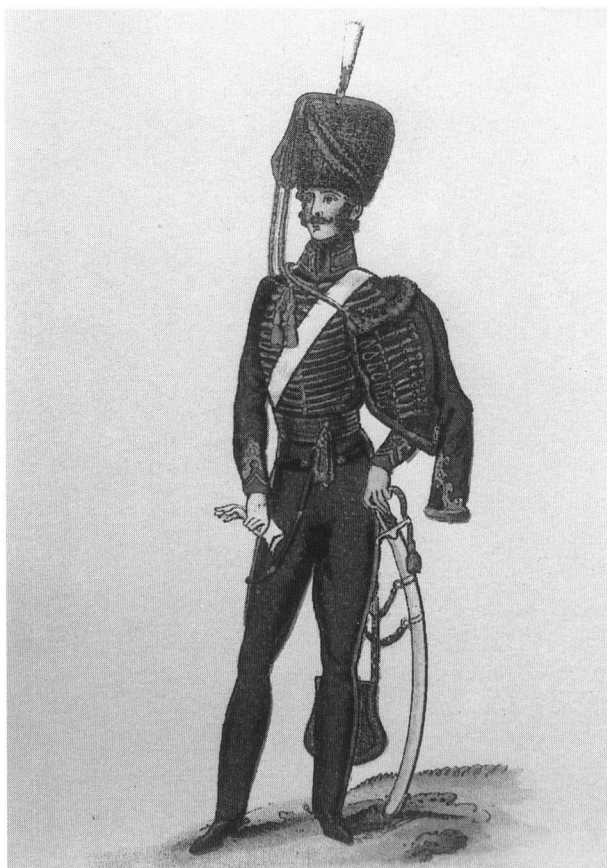
Officers of the *Field Battalion Bremen* had black shakos with a black cockade, green plume, black cords and a yellow hunting horn badge. The red tunic had two rows of yellow buttons, and black pointed cuffs with gold lace; the lining was white. Trousers were dark blue with a broad gold stripe. The waist sash was yellow and the sword belt white.

Formerly the Harz Sharpshooters, the *Battalion Grubenhagen* had dark green coatees with black facings. Officers had two rows of 11 yellow buttons. The coat-tails had two buttons and a hunting horn in each corner. The black stovepipe shakos had a yellow badge and crown, the badge bearing a hunting horn and two crossed hammers. Cords were black, epaulettes gold with fringes. Officers had a green cap with a yellow and white band. Later on, the battalion wore black shakos with a silver hunting horn, yellow band, black cockade and pompon; the black shako cords hung on the left.

<i>Regt.</i>	<i>Field Bn.</i>	<i>Militia Bns.</i>
1. Bremen	Bremen	Otterndorf, Stade, Bremervoerde
2. Verden	Verden	Verden, Bremerlehe, Harburg
3. Hoya	Hoya	Hoya, Nienburg, Diepholz
4. Osnabrueck	Osnabrueck	Osnabrueck, Quakenbrueck, Melle
5. Lueneburg	Lueneburg	Lueneburg, Celle, Gifhorn
6. Lauenburg	Lauenburg	Ratzeburg, Bentheim, Luechow
7. Calenberg	Calenberg	Hannover, Hamlem, Neustadt
8. Hildesheim	Hildesheim	Hildesheim, Uelzen, Peine
9. Grubenhagen	Grubenhagen	Alfeld, Salzgitter, Springe
10. Goettingen	Feldjaeger	Osterode, Muenden, Northeim



Staff officer, 1st Light Dragoons, KGL—dark blue coatee faced red, gold lace and 'metal': cf. Plate F1, *Wellington's Light Cavalry*, MAA 126. (Schwertfeger)



Officer, 1st Hussars, King's German Legion—dark blue dolman and overalls, dark blue pelisse, gold lace and frogging, red dolman collar and cuffs, red and gold barrel sash, brown busby with gold lines and cords and red bag. (Schwertfeger)

The dark green coatee had a black collar, pointed cuffs and one row of white buttons. Sergeants had silver epaulettes and a silver sash; their arms were a rifle and an officer's épée. Trousers were grey.

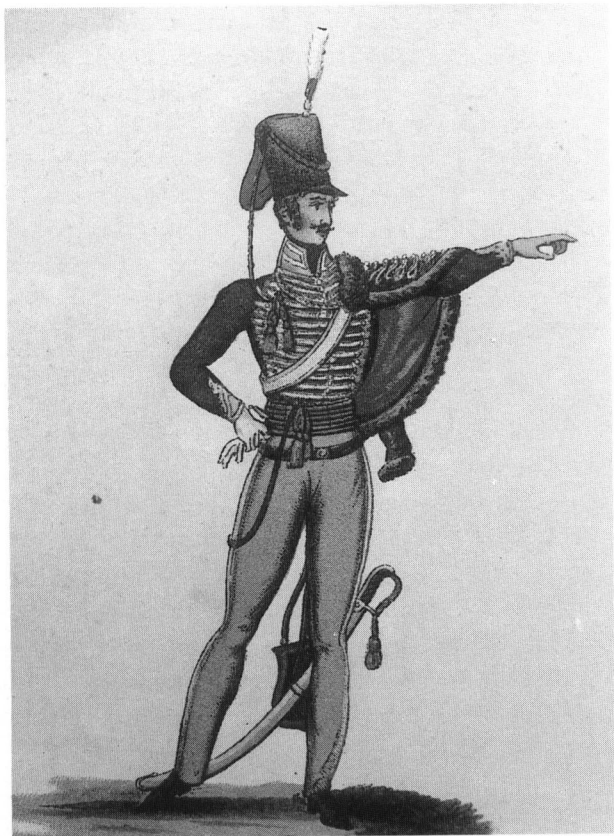
*Field Battalion Langrehr* had a black-covered shako. The black *Litewka* coat had two rows of yellow buttons, blue collar and Brandenburg cuffs; the unit had grey trousers, black belts and white bread bags. The later uniform consisted of a red coatee with white tail turnbacks, and light blue collar, Swedish cuffs and shoulder straps, all piped white, and small wings attached to the shoulder straps. The stovepipe shako had yellow fittings, white cords, a black rosette and white plume. Belts were black.

*Field Battalion Bennigsen* received white-covered shakos originally designated for use in India. It is not clear if these were stovepipes or Belgics, and later artists show both. However, they did have

white plumes and cords, yellow fittings and a black peak. The red coatees had apple green cuffs with three white buttons and white lace, green collars piped white, and similar shoulder straps with short white fringes. The coatees had a single row of eight white buttons and bars of white lace. Trousers and greatcoats were light grey, belts white. The yellow belt-plate was probably marked 'GR'.

*Field Battalion Verden*, which was formed from Bennigsen, had the same uniform but with black stovepipe shakos, white wings, and no belt-plate. Sergeants and officers had yellow sashes; NCOs had silver chevrons on a green background on the upper right arm.

*Kielmannsegge's Field Jaeger Corps* had dark green coatees with apple green collars and pointed cuffs. Officers had yellow metal epaulettes lined green, and two rows of yellow buttons. Tail turnbacks and shoulder straps were also apple green. NCOs had a



**Officer, 3rd Hussars, KGL—brown fur cap with peak, red bag, gold lines; blue dolman and pelisse with silver trim and frogging, yellow dolman collar and cuffs; black fur and red lining to pelisse; red and gold barrel sash; grey overalls, gold stripe. (Schwertfeger)**

green epaulette, piped white with yellow fringes on the right shoulder. Single-breasted coatees were also worn. Belts were black; brown powder horns were carried on green cords. Headgear was a dark green peaked cap piped in apple green with a yellow hunting horn badge. Trousers were light grey with an apple green stripe. Officers wore yellow sashes, and carried their sabres in a steel scabbard on a white belt. The men, being trained huntsmen, were armed with rifles and sword-bayonets. Other sources show dark green *Litewka* coats being worn. Brown hide knapsacks were carried.

In 1815, *Field Battalion Calenberg* wore a single-breasted red coatee with dark blue collar, cuffs and shoulder straps, the collar and cuffs piped white; buttons were white. As well as a pair of cross belts, a waist belt was also worn, all being white. Trousers were grey. The stovepipe shako had a yellow badge, a black cockade, white plume and white cords. The

knapsack was black, with a red greatcoat rolled on top of it.

The Light battalions were partly armed with rifles, partly with muskets; the Field battalions, with muskets and bayonets. Kielmannsegge's Jaeger had two 2 pdr. cannon served by Jaeger. Twelve members of this Corps were mounted.

The Militia wore stovepipe shakos with a black cockade and a yellow or white plume, and a white metal shako plate with the crown and 'GR'. The officers' coatees were red with a blue collar lined red, blue cuffs with three gilt buttons, and blue lining; there was a gilt button on the collar, and two rows of five on the front. The red coatee worn by the men had one row of five white buttons and bars of white lace; the collar, cuffs and shoulder straps were dark blue trimmed white; the cuffs had three buttons. The wings and tail turnbacks were white for both officers and men; the officers' tails had vertical pockets with four gilt buttons, as well as two buttons on the tail itself. Officers had a yellow sash, and a white cross belt with a yellow plate bearing 'GR'. Officers also had a yellow epaulette on the right shoulder. Belts were white, trousers were mid-grey. Militiamen were armed with a musket and bayonet and did not have a short sword.

There were variations on the above. For instance, the *Verden Militia Bn.* at Waterloo had dark blue lapels with five pairs of gilt buttons. The *Osterode Bn.* in Paris in 1815 wore a shako with green cords and plume. Their coatee had green cuffs with four gilt buttons and white lace; green collar and shoulder straps, both piped white; and green wings. The greatcoat was grey, pack straps brown, other belts white; grey gaiters were worn under the trousers. Sergeants wore the red British waist sash instead of the more common yellow. Officers wore a red peaked cap with a yellow band, and wore their greatcoats rolled over the shoulder.

In March 1813 two hussar regiments were raised in Hanover, the *Bremen-Verden* and the *Lueneburg*; and at the end of the year a third, the Duke of Cumberland's Regiment. Each regiment was initially three and later four squadrons strong; each squadron had 150 troopers divided into two companies.

The uniform of *Regt. Bremen-Verden* consisted of a green dolman with a red collar and cuffs and black trim and cords; there were three rows of 15 to 18

white buttons. The red pelisse had a black trim and cords. Trousers were light grey with a silver stripe and red piping for officers, and probably a red stripe for troopers. The waist sash was yellow and white for men, silver and gold for officers. Headgear was a brown colpack with a red bag, white plume and yellow and white cord for the 2nd and 3rd squadrons; the 1st had shakos with a red-white plume. Officers had a silver crossbelt with red piping. The black sabretache hung on three black belts. The pointed saddlecloth was green with red corners, silver piped red for officers. The greatcoat bag was also green, piped red. Horse furniture was tan.

This regiment also had a detachment of volunteers who were clothed in black. The shako had black cords, black plume, yellow fittings and a white cockade with the red cross of Bremen. Buttons, sashes, cords, belts and gauntlets were black.

The first uniform worn by the *Regt. Lueneburg* was a blue dolman and pelisse, white buttons and cords, blue trousers with a broad yellow stripe and white piping. Collar and cuffs were yellow, as was the wolf-tooth edging on the blue saddlecloth. Everything was piped white. Belts were white, sashes were red, sabretaches black on white belts. The pelisse was trimmed white. Headgear was a felt hussar cap with a white band at top and bottom, a white-over-red plume and white cords. Horse furniture was black.

Their later uniform was a blue dolman with red collar and cuffs, red pelisse, white cords for the men and silver for officers. Officers had silver piping on their collars and cuffs, men two thin lines of white. Officers' sashes were red and yellow, as were the cords on the grey colpacks. The troopers had brown colpacks with a blue bag. Officers had a white-over-red plume. Trousers were grey with red piping. Belts were white. Officers had a silver crossbelt trimmed yellow. Sabretaches were probably black. Men had yellow and white sashes, trumpeters yellow and red. Trumpeters wore reversed colours, that is red dolmans and blue pelisses.

The *Duke of Cumberland's Regt.* wore black shakos with a yellow rosette, trim, cords, cockade, clasps and chinscales, and black plume. The dolman was green with yellow frogging and three rows of yellow buttons; officers had five rows. The green pelisse



Identified as the dolman of the sergeant-major of the 3rd Hussars, KGL, 1812-16, this dark blue jacket has yellow facings and chevrons with silver lace trim and frogging. (Bomann Museum, Celle)

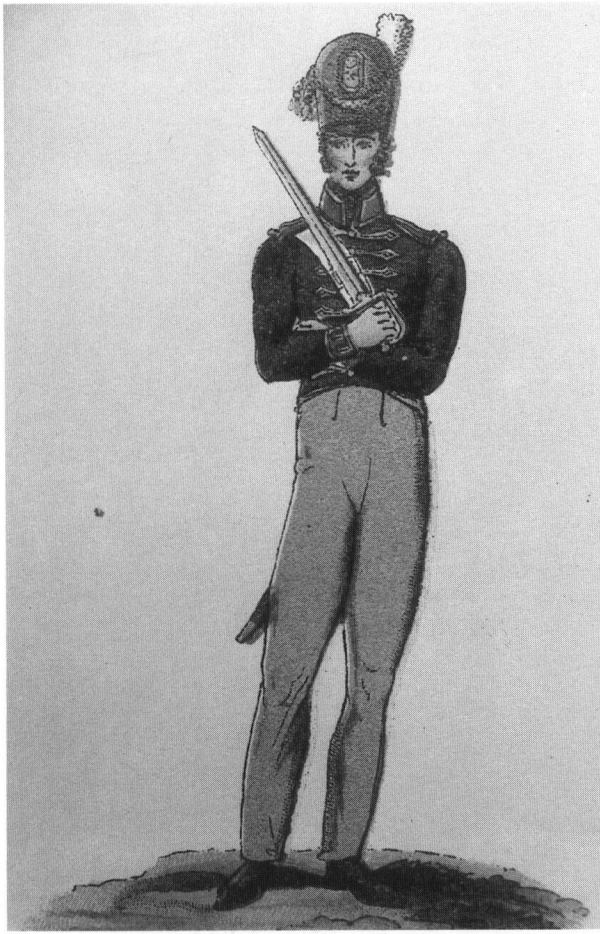
was lined red and also had yellow frogging; the fur was black. Collars and cuffs were either red or green. Trousers were grey with a yellow stripe, and officers also had green piping. Sashes were yellow and white. Officers had either green and yellow or red and yellow. Officers wore a yellow crossbelt piped green. The men had white belts. The saddlecloth was green with a yellow trim as was the greatcoat roll. Horse furniture was tan.

A cadre of 40 KGL gunners was sent to Hanover where it trained a battery ready for the campaign of autumn 1813; two more batteries were raised in December 1813. Uniforms were as the KGL. Battery von Wiering had four light 6 pdrs. and two 5½ in. howitzers; von Rettberg, 9 pdrs. and howitzers; Braun, light 6 pounders.

\* \* \*

About 25,000 Hanoverian soldiers participated in the Battle of Waterloo, the Hanoverians and KGL



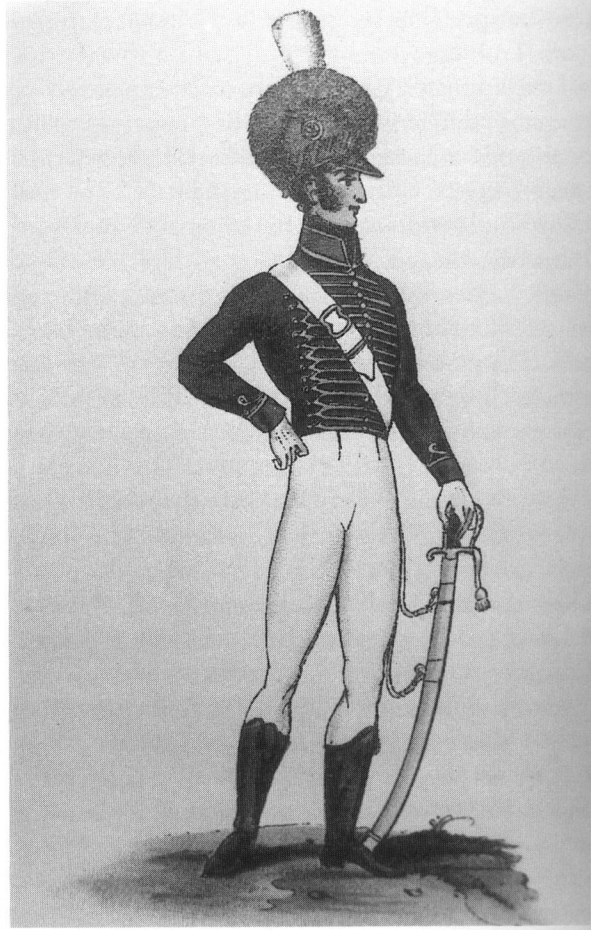


suffering about 3,250 casualties. A new Hanoverian army was organised during 1816 from the KGL and Hanoverian formations raised after liberation from the French. The Army of Occupation of France included a contingent of 5,000 Hanoverians under Gen. von Alten, which returned home in November 1818. The post-Napoleonic reorganisation of the Hanoverian Army was completed then.

## The Plates

### A: Hanoverian Army, c.1790

This plate is based on a series of contemporary watercolours; the first part, known as the *Gmundener Prachtwerk*, covers the Seven Years' War period. The second part consists of 19 plates dated between 1781 and 1791, showing the army close to the turn of the century.



**Gunners of Foot and Horse Artillery, KGL, in uniforms almost identical to their British Army contemporaries of equivalent corps: dark blue faced red, with yellow lace. (Schwertfeger)**

### A1: Private, 1st Infantry Regiment, c.1790

A typically British, late 18th century style of uniform. The cartridge box is carried on a broad crossbelt, the hanger on a waistbelt. The regiment's green distinguishing colour is shown here on the hat details, the lapels and the cuffs. Note eight white tape loops on the former, pairs on the latter.

### A2: Gunner, Artillery, c.1790

Note the different cut of the lapels of this coat, which is a fairly bright blue with red facings. Lace and metal are gold. Note the pickers on the crossbelt, which supports a white or white-covered pouch. Waistcoats changed from buff to white in 1769.

### A3: Trooper, 2nd Cavalry Regiment, c.1790

The dark blue coat is faced white, with brass buttons bearing the regimental number, and blue-

and-gold heart-shaped patches on the turnbacks. The gold lace and metal colour is seen in the hat details. The breeches are whitened leather. Note double crossbelt, the upper and narrower one with a spring-clip for the carbine, the lower one supporting a pouch with a white-covered flap. This regiment took part in the 1794 campaign in Holland.

*B: Hanoverian Army, 1792*

This plate is based on the contemporary series of watercolours by Ronnenberg.

*B1: Trooper, Life Guards, 1792*

The uniform of the Leibgarde of the Prince Elector is basically similar to that shown as A3, but in scarlet with royal blue facings. The valise, cloak-bag or simple rolled cloak behind the saddle is hard to interpret—it may be meant to show the appearance of a white-lined red cloak. Gold and red details are visible on the hat, sword-knot, etc.

*B2: Trooper, 9th Dragoons, 1792*

A typical light dragoon style of uniform of the period, with an ornately styled helmet or jacked cap. Its shape is hard to interpret from Ronnenberg's naïf plates, but it appears to be of felt or leather with brass trim, and a silver leaping horse badge on the fancy front flap; the large red feather plume seems to be trained sideways over the skull. Note the flat, gold-on-red epaulettes; and the gold loop on a red patch at the front corner of the collar. The rectangular silver plate of the swordbelt seems to have a gold applied cypher. The carbine and pouch belts appear to follow the pattern of A3 and B1.

*B3: Officer, 12th Infantry Regiment, 1792*

The officer's coat had buttons, but not lace loops, on the lapels. The lemon facings of this regiment are repeated in the form of a collar patch. The silver metal and lace of this regiment show in the hat trim and epaulettes. Note the officer's swordbelt plate, a silver wreathed cypher on red backing.

*C1: Private, 14th Light Infantry Regiment, 1794*

The black 'Corsican' hat had a green plume and yellow loop. The pale grey coatee has a dark green collar, possibly piped white; and dark green cuffs

with yellow worsted lace loops; these also appear on the pocket flaps. The turnbacks are green. The buff leather breeches are worn with stockings and black half-gaiters. The Hanoverians, like so many other German states, appreciated the value of light troops early on, and the uniform of this unit reflects the élite status of such soldiers, while making at least a nod in the direction of low visibility in the field. (After Herbert Knoetel)

**A crude drawing in the *Landwehren u. Freiwilligen* series shows this hastily-equipped volunteer of the Lueneburg Light Battalion in spring 1813—cf. Plate E2 for colours. This drawing seems to show the bayonet and pouch belts reversed from the usual arrangement.**





**A shako, supposedly identified to the Landwehr Battalion Osterode, 1814: black felt, leather peak, conventional British brass plate of type worn on Belgic shako, green tuft and cords. Cf. Plate F1. (Stadtmuseum Hannover)**

*C2: Officer, 14th Light Infantry Regiment, 1794*

The distinctions of an officer appear to include a feather plume and gold hat trim; the sabre; black full-length boots; and the sash. Knoetel makes no obvious distinction between the shades of epaulette worn by officer and man: gold and yellow respectively would be normal, but conceivably all ranks wore one or other. (After Herbert Knoetel)

*C3: Trooper, 10th Light Dragoons, 1800*

Another figure taken from Herbert Knoetel, whose rather free style of drawing leaves some questions unanswered. The shape of the lace loops is unclear, as Knoetel seems to suggest something approaching a 'bastion' rather than a straight doubled loop with a pointed end.

*D: The King's German Legion, 1806–16*

These figures are taken from various plates by Richard Knoetel, and from surviving items, mostly in the Bomann Museum at Celle.

*D1: Grenadier, Line Infantry, c.1812*

Knoetel made a number of minor errors, particularly in showing shoulder wings as blue rather than the correct red, and turnbacks as blue rather than the correct white – though his accompanying notes acknowledge that Beamish and Von Brandis show white. We have corrected these points. The uniform was of British design and manufacture, and virtually identical to that of the British infantry with whom the KGL was brigaded and alongside whom they fought with such distinction. See also MAA 119, *Wellington's Infantry (2)*, Plates G and H.

*D2: Officer, 1st Hussars, c.1813*

This regiment converted from the light dragoon to the hussar rôle—and uniform style—in 1805. Knoetel based his study on information from Beamish, who served in the Legion. See also MAA 126, *Wellington's Light Cavalry*, Plate F, for hussar and light dragoon uniforms in 1815.

*D3: Officer, 2nd Light Dragoons, c.1814*

From Knoetel, again based on Beamish. Grey overalls were worn in the field, white breeches with full dress. See MAA 130, *Wellington's Heavy Cavalry*, Plate E, for the uniform worn by this regiment before its conversion from the heavy dragoon rôle in 1813.

*E1: Jaeger, Feldjaegerkorps von Kielmannsegge, 1814*

Raised from foresters and huntsmen in spring 1813, this unit wore a costume reflecting that origin. The cap is 'semi-civilian', of the shape already worn by Prussian and other German state armies for undress and in volunteer and second-line units. (After Knoetel and Elberfeld)

*E2: Private, Light Battalion Lueneburg, spring 1813*

A mixture of national features: a British shako with green tuft and cords, a German *Litewka* coat in green with pale blue details, perhaps British trousers with an added stripe, and untreated leather equipment; the musket is British. (After a plate in the '*Landwehren und Freiwilligen*' series, and Knoetel)

*E3: Bugler, Light Battalion Lueneberg, 1815*

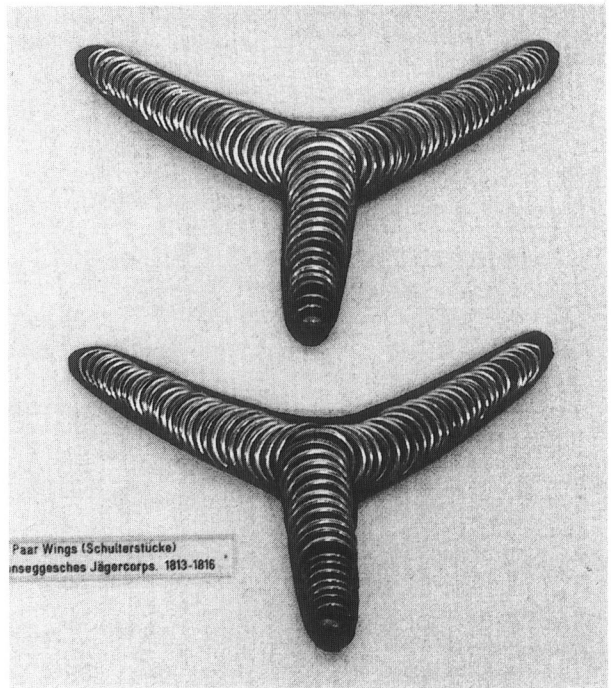
A much more conventional uniform, based on a British 1812 pattern shako dressed with red tuft and cords, a British Rifles coatee with added red-tufted wings, and black Rifles equipment—though note the interesting pair of small pouches on the belt. The horn is of local pattern. Assembled on the Lower Elbe in spring 1813, this unit was originally equipped as rapidly as possible in the expectation of immediate action. Cloth caps were worn alongside British ‘stovepipe’ shakos (see E2). During summer 1813 the uniform of the 1st Light Bn., KGL was gradually introduced, though with the Belgic shako. (After Herbert Knoetel)

*F1: Private, Landwehr Battalion Osterode, 1814*

The Landwehr battalions formed in 1814, each with a small headquarters and four companies and averaging 500 or so men, were uniformed by local Hanoverian authorities, who could draw upon British stocks. The proposed headgear was the Belgic shako with a yellow metal plate, black cockade, white (later, white-over-yellow) tuft, and white cords. A shortage of the 1812 pattern led to issue of the 1806 ‘stovepipe’ shako in many cases. A supply of white shakos, made for British troops serving on tropical stations but infrequently issued, was also made available. Jackets were to be red, faced blue, with white lace with a blue stripe or worm (e.g. the same as worn by the KGL). In practice, however, there were numerous exceptions, which also extended to the Field Battalions.

Landwehr Battalion Osterode (illustrated here after Knoetel, Siborne, and surviving items) wore light green facings; note the shako decorations, including a plate which Knoetel shows as distinctly different from the standard British issue. (Knoetel illustrated a sergeant, with gold chevrons, a sash, sword, and musket.) The knapsack appears to be untreated hide, of a tan-yellow shade.

Other discrepancies included the Field Battalion Grubenhagen, who wore dark green faced black; Landwehr Battalions Hildesheim and Peine had pale yellow facings. A surviving jacket of a senior NCO of Field Battalion Bremen-Verden has black facings; Siborne indicates black for the ‘Verden’ Battalion, but light green for the ‘Bremen’; other sources indicate blue facings for the ‘Verden’; and Richard Knoetel shows blue for the ‘Bremen-



**Metal-ring ‘wing’ worn by a member—presumably an officer—of Kielmansege’s Feldjaegerkorps, 1813–15. (Stadtmuseum Hannover)**

Verden’ unit. Other discrepancies which appear in Siborne’s schema are black equipment and 1812 shakos for the Quakenbruck Battalion; dark blue trousers, black equipment and 1812 shakos for the Bremen Battalion.

*F2: Officer, Hanoverian militia, winter walking-out dress, 1814–16*

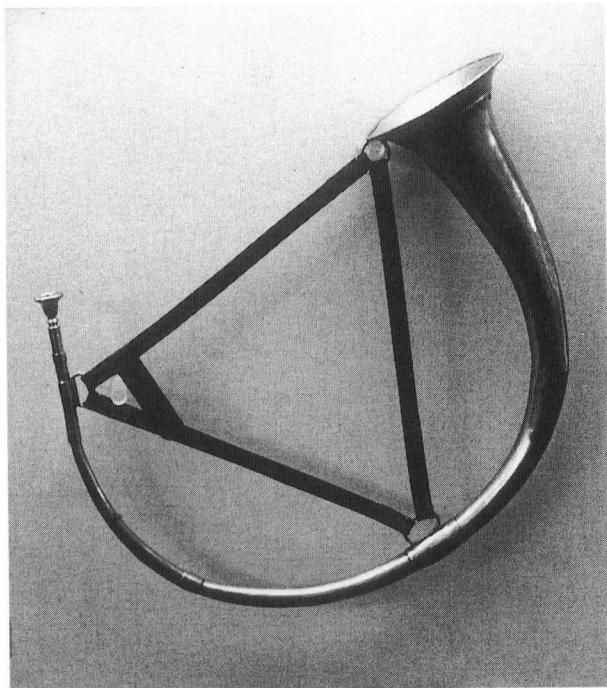
Richard Knoetel shows this strikingly ‘modern’ costume.

*F3: Gunner, Hanoverian Artillery, 1814*

An interpretation from various sources; the overall British style of the uniform is obvious. One of the more eccentric Elberfeld studies shows a supposed uniform of dark blue with what appear to be broad red lace loops, trimmed yellow, across the chest; red collar, shoulder straps and pointed cuffs trimmed with yellow; yellow-trimmed white turnbacks; and dark grey trousers with a yellow stripe. A covered Belgic shako is worn.

*G: Estorff’s Hussars, 1813–14*

Sources give varying versions of the uniforms of the three new hussar regiments raised in 1813; see



**Traditional buglehorn, typical of those carried by buglers of Hanoverian light formations. (Stadtmuseum Hannover)**

descriptions in the body text for some examples. The regiment raised in the Lueneburg area, also known as the Estorff Hussar Regiment after the brigade commander, had two distinct uniforms. The 2nd Regt., raised in Bremen and Verden, wore green jackets with red facings and pelisses; one source gives white lace and trim, another black. Squadrons were supposedly identified by headgear: 1st and 4th Sqns., black shakos, black and red trim respectively; 2nd and 3rd Sqns., grey colpacks with red bags. The volunteer hussar regiment 'Herzog von Cumberland' was dressed in green, the jackets having red facings, yellow braid and buttons, and the black shakos having yellow ornaments. This is the unit which behaved badly at Waterloo, marching off the field when ordered to engage.

*G1: Trumpeter, Estorff's Hussars, 1814*

Also known as the Lueneburg or Prince Regent Hussars. This trumpeter is reconstructed from a primitive drawing in the Elberfeld Collection; he appears to wear reversed uniform colours, as would be conventional for trumpeters.

*G2: Hussar, Estorff's Hussars, 1813?*

Suhr's drawing, on which this figure is based, seems

to be the only source for the original uniform with the mirleton cap.

*G3: Hussar, Estorff's Hussars, 1814?*

Based on the 'Landwehren und Freiwilligen' series, this shows the more conventional version of the unit's uniform.

*H: Battalion von Bennigsen*

The object of this plate is to show the development of uniforms within one unit. Freikorps Czernischeff was absorbed by the Battalion von Bennigsen, which later became Field Battalion Verden.

*H1: Freikorps Czernischeff, spring 1813*

(After George Schaefer) Note the simple 'stable jacket', the now rather outdated 'Corsican' hat, and the French equipment.

*H2: Skirmisher, Field Battalion von Bennigsen, 1813-14*

An interesting uniform, taken here from a rather crude early drawing, which does however make a point of showing a green, rather than the more usual white/red tuft, indicating light or skirmisher status. The white or white-covered shako, from British stocks intended for tropical use, is clearly the Belgic type, rather than the 'stovepipe' shown in Roehling's well-known painting of the Goehrde unit.

*H3: Corporal, Field Battalion Verden, 1814-15*

The Waterloo infantryman, completely British in appearance, uniformed from British stocks as an official unit of the Royal Hanoverian Army. Schaefer shows green facings, other sources blue or black—see under F1.

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- 1: Private, 1st Infantry Regt., c.1790
- 2: Gunner, Artillery, c.1790
- 3: Trooper, 2nd Cavalry Regt., c.1790



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- 1: Trooper, Life Guards, 1792  
2: Trooper, 9th Dragoons, 1792  
3: Officer, 12th Infantry Regt., 1792

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- 1: Private, 14th Light Inf. Regt., 1794  
2: Officer, 14th Light Inf. Regt., 1794  
3: Trooper, 10th Light Dragoons, 1800



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- 1: Grenadier, Line Bn. KGL, c.1812
- 2: Officer, 1st Hussars KGL, c.1813
- 3: Officer, 2nd Light Dragoons KGL, c.1814



- 1: Jaeger, Feldjaegerkorps von Kielmannsegge, 1814  
2: Private, Light Bn. Lueneburg, spring 1813  
3: Bugler, Light Bn. Lueneburg, 1815



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- 1: Private, Landwehr Bn. Osterode, 1814
- 2: Militia officer, winter walking-out dress, 1814
- 3: Gunner, Artillery, 1814



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- 1: Trumpeter, Estorff's Hussars, 1814
- 2: Hussar, Estorff's Hussars, 1813?
- 3: Hussar, Estorff's Hussars, 1814?



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- 1: Freikorps Czernischeff, spring 1813
- 2: Skirmisher, Field Bn. von Bennigsen, 1813-14
- 3: Corporal, Field Bn. Verden, 1814-15



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