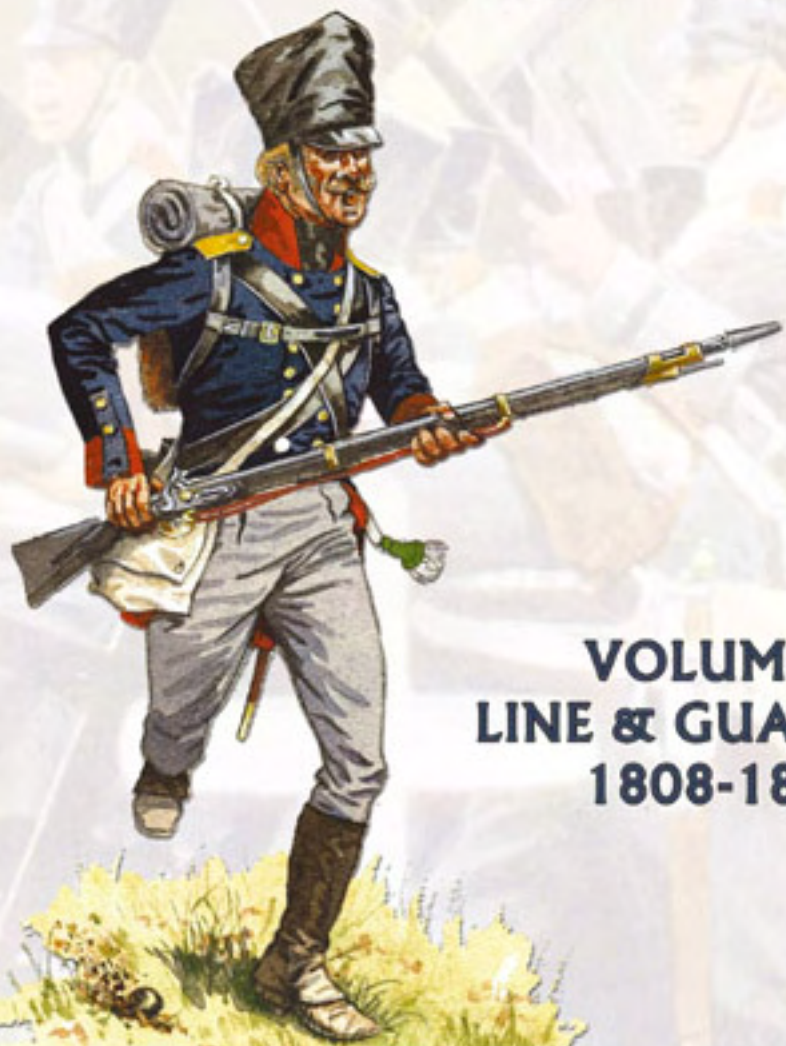


PRUSSIAN INFANTRY

1808 - 1840



VOLUME 1
LINE & GUARD
1808-1814

**Dr. Stephen
Summerfield**



Dr Stephen Summerfield born in 1967 within cannon shot of The Royal Arsenal in Woolwich, inherited his father's fascination in history and technology. His interest in the colourful Napoleonic period was kindled during his first degree with winning a number of national wargames competitions before turning his hand to umpiring. His involvement in the co-ordination of LARPing battles for over a decade and as a member of an artillery re-enactment group in recent years has given him an insight into the motivation, logistics, command and control of an army.

After obtaining his PhD in Chemistry in 1993, he turned his attention to writing, illustrating and researching in the diverse areas of colour chemistry, dyslexia, chemical education, military history and technology. These diverse disciplines has shaped his original insight into the period. He is currently a visiting lecturer at Loughborough University and Technical Director/Consultant. Currently, he is writing a series of books on the Prussian Army.

Publishing History:

- Dr Stephen Summerfield (2005), *Cossack Hunah, Partizan Press*
- Anthony & Paul Dawson, Dr Stephen Summerfield (2007) *Napoleonic Artillery*, Crowood Press.
- Dr Stephen Summerfield (2007), *The Brazen Cross of Courage*, Partizan Press.
- Paul Dawson and Dr Stephen Summerfield (2008) *French Artillery of 1824: Volume 1 Gribeauval, AnXI System and Drill Manual*, The NARG Library, DP&G Publishing



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The Prussian Army was disastrously defeated at Jena-Auerstädt in 1806. In 1808, the remnants of the 227 infantry battalions formed eleven infantry regiments (IR), a Guard infantry regiment and six grenadier battalions. The regimental history, organisation, colours (Fahne) and uniforms are explored and lavishly illustrated in this first volume on the Prussian Army during the late Napoleonic Wars (1808-14).

The shattered Prussian state halved in size, bankrupted and occupied by the French was able to transform its army under the guidance the Reorganisation Committee lead by von Scharnhorst. Its first test was as a reluctant ally of France in 1812. The Prussian Army quickly in the War of Liberation (1813-14) became the cutting edge of the coalition that defeated Napoleon. The General Staff was central to the improvement and resilience of the Prussian Army.

The 180 plates include 44 colours (Fahne), 160 uniform depictions and 80 uniform/equipment details in colour. The 19th Century plates from the Bauer Plates, Herbert & Richard Knötel, Eckert & Montan, Krefeld, Neumann, Pietsch, Röchling and Wolf are supplemented by specially commissioned illustrations by Bob Marriot and the author. In addition, there are 16 OOBs and 18 Tables.

Front Cover:

Fuzilier of the 1 company FusIR4 (3. East Prussian) in 1813 by Bob Marriot (© Bob Marriot)

Back Page:

Musiketeer NCO of IR9 (Calberg) in parade dress leading a Schutzregewehr by Bob Marriot (© Bob Marriot)

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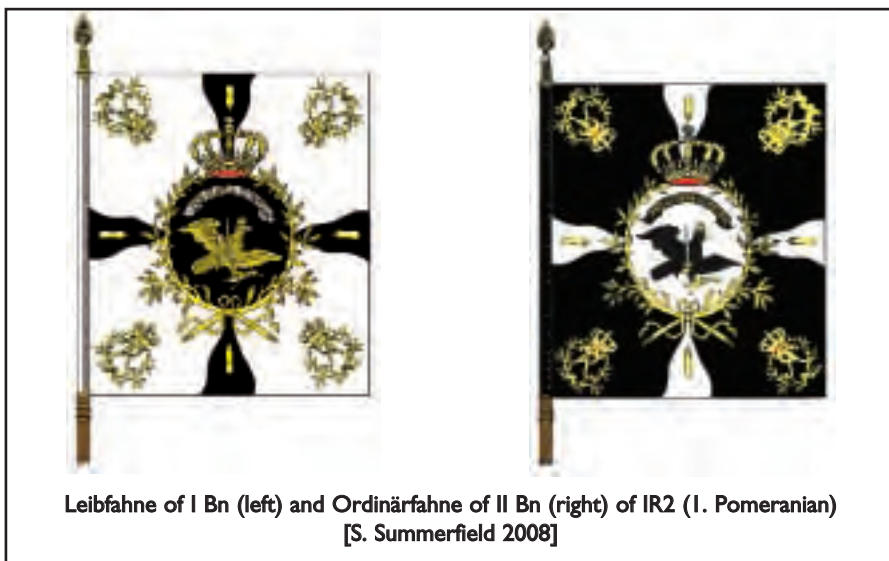
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IR2 (1. Pomeranian)

IR8 (von Rütz) survived the war with L'Estocq Armeekorps and on 27 November 1807, a battalion was formed using the remnants of I-III battalions and the 1. Neumark Reserve Battalion. A second battalion was organised from the cantonists of the IR17 (von Treskow), IR19 (Prinz Oranien), IR22 (von Pirch), and IR36 (vacant Puttkammer) infantry regiments. The grenadiers were formed from the Grenadier Battalion von Massow [IR8 (von Rütz) and IR42 (von Plötz)] and Grenadier Battalion von Jung Braun [IR31 (von Kropff) and IR46 (von Thile)]. On 7 September 1808, these two units were used to form the IR2 (1. Pomeranian) as part of the Pomeranian Brigade.



In 1812, the regiment provided the II and Füsiliere battalions for the 3. Combined Infantry Regiment. In 1813, the Füs/IR2 as part of Wittgenstein's Avant-garde fought at Werben (24 Mar), Lüneberg (2 Apr) with 350 Berlin volunteers captured six guns and two colours of the Saxon IR Prinz Maximilien. Then fought at Göhrde (12 May), Ochsenwerder and Nettelburger Schleuse (30 May).

In 1813, the I-II/IR2 was part of III (Bülow) Armeekorps, Army of the North being engaged at Vehlitz (Möckern) (5 Apr), Hoyerswerder (28 May), Ochsenwerder and Nettelburger Schleuse (30 May). The reunited IR2 fought at Luckau (4 June), Baruth, Mückendorf and Zesch (17 Aug), Mellin (21 Aug), and Gross Beeren (23 Aug), Schmielkendorf (26 Aug), Hohenschlennen (27 Aug) and Thiesen (3 Sept). At Dennewitz (6 Sept 1813), I/IR2 attacked a 12-pdr battery and was halted at 45m by canister and a volley fire from the Saxon Anton IR



**Officer and Musketeer of I/IR2
(I. Pomeranian)
[After Richard Knötel]**

and lost ninety men killed or wounded before retiring. Later in the battle the regiment took twelve guns and the colour of the Bavarian IR9 (Ysenburg). The regiment participated in the battle of Wartenburg (24 Sept), the blockade of Wittenberg (15 Sept-11 Oct) and at the clash at Elster (2 Oct). At Leipzig (16-19 Oct), the IR2 captured sixty-three guns (including eleven guns at Ranstädter Tor), sixty-six munition wagons, twelve generals, eighteen colonels and 8,000 men.

In 1814, in 5. (von Borstell) Brigade of III (von Bülow) Armeekorps fought at Hoogstraaten (11 Jan), Lier (25 Feb), Swegeghem (2-7 Mar) plus the investing of Maubeuge (19-29 Mar) and Soissons (28 March-24 Apr).

In 1815, as part of 5. Brigade of II Armeekorps was involved in the prolonged and bitter fighting at Ligny (16 June) where each 800 strong battalion was reduced to less than 500 men commanded only by captains. IR2 arrived at Waterloo (18 June) just in time to spearhead the final attack on Plancenoit. Most of its losses occurred around the church and cemetery. Lost First Lieutenant von Mirbach, two NCOs, and two other ranks killed, 2. Lt von Stempel, four NCOs, one drummer and forty other ranks wounded. A further



Johanna Stegen from nearby Lüneberg distributing ammunition to fusiliers of FüS/IR2 (1. Pomeranian) during the skirmish at Lüneberg (2 April 1813) [After Richard Knötel]

drummer and seventeen privates were missing. Then it participated in the immediate pursuit of the broken French army. IR2 was Present at the investment of Maubeuge (20 June-12 July) and Philippeville (27 June-8 Aug). IR2 (1. Pomeranian) Grenadier Regiment König Wilhelm IV of the Imperial Army of 1914 traced its ancestry to IR8 and IR17 of the 18th century.

Stationed (1809-50)

- 1809-16 Stargart, Köslin, Kolberg, Landsberg, Demmin, Soldin, Pyritz,
- 1816-50 Stettin with I Bn in Anklam (1820-2) and Füs Bn in Stargart (1816) then Stralsund (1817-9)

Chef (1810-61)

- 1810-61 Kronprinz Friedrich Wilhelm von Preussen [later King Frederick William IV]

Commander (1799-1844)

- 1799 -1810 von Wulffen [Commander of IR8 (von Rüts) until 1807]
- 1810-12 von Ebra
- 1812-13 von Steinmetz
- 1813-15 OberstLt von Schon
- 1815-28 Major von Cardell (later Oberst)
- 1828-35 von Luckowitz
- 1835-38 Freiherr von Steinecker
- 1838-44 Graf von Herzberg

Freiwillige Jäger /IR2 (1. Pomeranian)

The Freiwillige detachment plus a company from the Füs/ IR2 lead the assault on Gross-Görschen during the battle of Lützen (2 May 1813). About 100 prisoners were taken. Then all three battalions of IR2 occupied the village. At Leipzig (18 Oct), General Reynier was captured by Freiwillige Jäger Gauer.

HEADWEAR: Wore a shako with cloth cockade & yellow lace, peak bound in brass, green cords and plume.

UNIFORM: Holly green Kollet with white piped red collar & cuffs and white shoulder straps. Brass buttons. Grey trousers.

EQUIPMENT: Blackened Jäger equipment with a brass bugle horn on the cartridge box worn on the waist-belt. Rifle had a black leather sling.



**Freiwillige Jäger of IR2 (1. Pomeranian)
[After Herbert Knötel]**



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