

PRUSSIAN INFANTRY

1808 - 1840



VOLUME 2
JÄGER, RESERVE,
FREIKORPS &
NEW REGIMENTS
1813-1840

**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 Hussar, 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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This second volume on Prussian Infantry 1808-40 looks at the evolution of infantry formations and tactics as consolidated into the 1812 Infantry Regulation, rifle armed light infantry battalions (Jäger and Schützen), Reserve Infantry Regiments, Freikorps and infantry until the death of Frederick William III. It was not until the 1820s that the reforms started during the late Napoleonic Wars were completed.

Upon mobilisation in March 1813, the Prussian Infantry doubled in size by forming the Krumper, discharged soldiers and new recruits around a cadre of regulars to form Reserve Battalion that became Reserve Infantry Regiments 1-12 (I-12RIR) in June and in 1815, renamed IR13-24. These were supplemented by Freikorps and Foreign units that were absorbed into the Prussian Army in 1815 to form IR25-34.

The regimental history, organisation, and uniforms from 1813 to 1840 are lavishly illustrated. The 102 plates include 175 separate uniforms in colour. In addition, there are 26 OOBs and 25 tables.

Front Cover:

Silesian Schützen Battalion Rifleman c.1810-1814
by Bob Marrion (© Bob Marrion)

Back Page:

(Left) 1st Battalion, 11th Reserve Infantry regiment c. 1813, (Right) 2nd Battalion, 10th Reserve Infantry regiment c. 1813 by Bob Marrion (© Bob Marrion)

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IR13 then IR15 (1. Westfälisches) in 1816

On 28 March 1815, the 1RIR was renamed IR13 (1. Westphalian). Granted by AKO of 3 June 1814 new colours that were only presented on 18 October 1815. During 1815, in I (von Ziethen) Armeekorps. The I & Füs battalions were at the siege of Landau. II battalion was at the siege of Mainz. Renamed on 5 November 1816 as IR13 (1. Westphalian). Known up to 1918 as the IR13 (Westphalian) 'Herwarth von Bittenfeld'

Stationed (1816-51)

1816-17 Königsberg with II Bn in Rastenburg and Rössel;
1817-51 Münster with II Bn at Soest and Füs Bn at Wesel;

Chef (1842-97)

1842-45 Gdl von Pfuel
1851-53 Grand Duke August von Oldenburg
1861-84 GFM Herwarth von Bittenfeld
1892-96 Herzog Wilhelm Nikolaus von Württemberg
1897 Gdl von Blume

Commander (1813-41)

1813-15 von Langen
1815 Freiherr von Hüchtenbruck
1815-30 von Ledebur
1830-36 von Natzmer
1836-41 von Björnstjerna

2RIR (IR14 in 1815)

On 6 July 1811, the III/IR2 (1. Pomeranian) was raised as the Depot battalion/IR2. Fought Damm (15 April 1813). On 20 December 1812, the 1 Reserve battalion/IR2 (1. Pomeranian) was formed as the 3. Pomeranian Reserve battalion and fought at Damm (15 April 1813). On 20 December 1812, the 4. Reserve battalion/IR2 (1. Pomeranian) was raised as the 6. Pomeranian Militia battalion. In March 1813, this battalion was renamed as the 1. Reserve Fusilier battalion/IR2 and fought at Hoyerswerda (26 Apr).

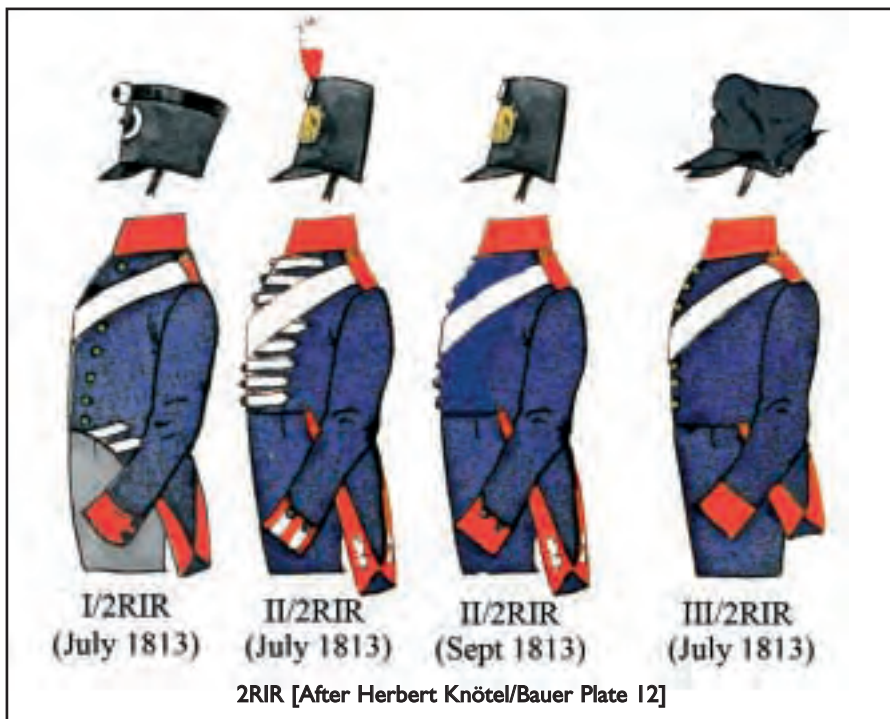
Uniform of 2RIR (March – June 1813)

Officers and the cadre wore regulation uniform of IR2 (1. Pomeranian) of white facings and shoulder straps.

UNIFORM: Grey regulation reservist uniform.



All battalions of the
2RIR (March to July
1813) [After Herbert
Knötel/Bauer Plate 12]



On 1 July 1813, I-III/2RIR was formed from III/IR2, 1. Reserve battalion/IR2 and 4. Reserve battalion/IR2 respectively. The regiment fought at Gross-Beeren and Schmielkendorf (23 Aug), Thiessen (3 Sept), Woltersdorf (5 Sept), Dennewitz (6 Sept) where the regiment captured a howitzer. At Leipzig (19 Oct), the Füs/2RIR stormed the outer Grimma gate and took 2 generals, 46 officers, 2,670 men and 28 guns. At Neuss (2-3 Dec), took the eagle of the 150e Ligne. In 1814, the 2RIR fought at Hoogstraaten (11 Jan), Oudenarde (5 Mar), and Soissons (6 Apr).

Uniform of I/2RIR (July 1813-14) and I/IR14 (1815)

HEADWEAR: Portuguese stovepipe shako. On 5 December 1813 at a parade in Düsseldorf wore red plumes that had been captured in the depot in Neuss. Some sources state that they wore the Prussian Füsiliere shako.

UNIFORM: Dark blue single-breasted jacket with two loops of lace both sides of the waist, white turnbacks & yellow metal buttons. Red collar, round cuffs and shoulder straps. [According to Knötel] Other sources suggest that it was the same as the II/2RIR.

EQUIPMENT: White belts. British knapsacks were issued.

Uniform of II/2RIR (July 1813-14) and II/IR14 (1815)

HEADWEAR: Stovepipe shako with Royal Arms & white over red wool plume. On 5 December 1813 at a parade in Düsseldorf, wore yellow plumes captured in the depot in Neuss.

UNIFORM: Portuguese blue coats with 8 bars of white lace and red turnbacks. Red collar, cuffs and shoulder straps. Blue or white pantaloons with black gaiters.

EQUIPMENT: Black cartridge box on white belts. British knapsacks.

Uniform of III/2RIR (July 1813-14) and III/IR14 (1815)

HEADWEAR: British stovepipe shakos. On 5 December 1813 at a parade in Düsseldorf wore red plumes that had been captured in the depot in Neuss. Some sources state that they wore the Prussian Füsiliere shako.

UNIFORM: Dark blue Kollet with scarlet collar, cuffs, shoulder straps and turnbacks. Brass buttons and dark blue trousers.

EQUIPMENT: Black cartridge box on white belts. British knapsacks.



IR14 then IR14 (3. Pommersches) in 1816

On 25 March 1815, the 2RIR was renamed IR14 and were awarded colours by AKO on 3 June 1814 that were only presented on 3 September 1815. In 1815, part of 7. Brigade of II (von Pirch) Armeekorps and fought at Ligny (16 June). The I/IR14 with the 7. Engineer Company of II Armeekorps was involved in fighting a fire in Wavre that had started at 6 am on 18 June supposedly by a careless baker lighting his oven. This delayed the Prussians by about two hours marching to Waterloo. It arrived too late to be engaged at Waterloo. However, IR14 participated at the clash at Namur (20 June), then sieges of Mauberg (20 June-12 July), Laudrecies (14-21 July), Rocroy (22 July-16 Aug), Givet and Charlmont (22 August-24 Sept). Between 1813-15, the regiment lost 53 officers. On 5 November 1816, given a regional title of IR14 (3. Pommersches). In 1860, renamed IR 'Graf Schwerin' (3. Pommersches) Nr. 14.

Stationed (1815-47)

- 1815-18 Occupation of France;
1818-19 Glogau with II Bn in Schweidnitz, Füs in Glatz;
1819-21 Torgau with II Bn in Wittenberg and Füs in Weissenfels
1821-30 Königsberg (Neumark) and Stargard with II Bn in Soldin
and Füs in Stargard
1830-47 Stargard with II Bn in Soldin and Füs Bn in Königsberg
(Neumark)

Chef (1861-90)

- 1861-70 GdI von Wussow
1890 GdI von Verdy du Vernois

Commander (1813-40)

- 1813-14 von Knoblauch
1814-21 von Mirbach
1821-31 von Düring
1831-40 von Kaweczunski

Uniform of IR14 (1815)

HEADWEAR: Prussian fusilier shakos with black wax cover.

UNIFORM: Most wore wearing British pattern jacket with the lace removed and an extra row of buttons. Scarlet cuffs, collar and shoulder straps.

EQUIPMENT: Black cartridge box on white belts

3RIR (IR15 in 1815)

The 3. and 4. East Prussian Musketeer Reserve battalion and 2. Lithuanian Fusilier Reserve battalion served at the siege of Stettin, the relief of Pillau and the clash of Luckau (4 June).

Uniform (March-June 1813)

Officers and the cadre wore regulation Stamm Regiment uniform IR3 (2. East Prussian)] consisting of brick red facings and poppy red shoulder straps.

HEADWEAR: Grey Schirmütze.

UNIFORM: Grey tail-less jacket, breeches and black gaiters.

EQUIPMENT: White belts with III Bn had black belts.





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