

Previous to this article Danish infantry of the line and light infantry 1803-1814 have been dealt with in three issues of *Chakoten* – Magazine for the Danish Military Historical Society, 2016-2017. The present article serves the same general dual purpose: to convey precise information on organization, uniforms, armament and equipment and to welcome the Alan Perry achievement in designing and providing the metal figures and thus further extending the range of the Danish-Norwegian units of the army.

The Perry figures are increasing in numbers among painters and wargamers – in Denmark also applying stats for, *General de Brigade, Black Powder and Sharp Practice 2*. Thus the initiative to drafting and presenting this article has been taken by Mr. Ole Thureholm, who has leaned on available knowledge on organization, uniforms, armament and equipment from Mr. Jørgen Larsen and Mr. Hans Chr. Wolter.

### Organization of the Cavalry 1802-1814

Between 1791 and 1802 the Danish cavalry became exposed to extensive modernization and reorganization.

The Danish cavalry consisted of The Royal Horse Guard, the four heavy cavalry regiments (Rytter regimenter), the three light dragoon regiments (Lette dragonregimenter), The Dragoon Regiment, The Hussar Regiment, and the Bosniac Squadron (from 1808 the Uhlan Squadron). The Horse Guard mustered 2 squadrons each with 4 officers, 5 NCOs, 2 trumpeters and 60 men. The regiments of the heavy cavalry, the light dragoons and the Dragoon Regiment, had 4 squadrons, each with 5 officers, 12 NCOs, 2 trumpeters and 144 men. The Hussar Regiment presented herself with 6 squadrons each with 5 officers, 11 NCOs, 2 trumpeters and 168 men, and the Bosniac Squadron (named Uhlan Squadron from 1808) applying the same organization as each of the hussar squadrons.

The cavalry fought in two ranks. Each squadron included 12 sharpshooters (10 of those armed with rifles beside two NCOs) specially trained as skirmishers. But all cavalry troopers had basic training in skirmish tactics, being able to support those skirmishers.

In 1813 the Duchy of Warsaw Uhlan Regiment no. 17 (Lithuanian) with 3 squadrons totalling 43 officers and NCOs and 410 men fought together with the Danish Auxiliary Corps. Accordingly this unit is included in the stats below.

# Danish and Norwegian Cavalry and Artillery 1803-1814

Part 1

Alan Perry has enlarged his series of metal figures of Danish and Norwegian troops from the Napoleonic era

## Uniforms, Armament and Equipment of the Cavalry

### The Royal Horse Guard

The guardsmen wore a straw-coloured jacket (collet) with red collar, shoulder straps, cuffs, and turnbacks in the front – all braided with silver laces lined in red. For guard duties and parades straw-coloured trousers and high boots were applied. For other duties dark blue overalls with a red stripe and white metal buttons along the seam were used. The helmet – the casque – was black with white metal edgings, a raupe in black and a black horsehair tail. The white feathers distinguished between a red top for the 1<sup>st</sup> Squadron and a blue one for the 2<sup>nd</sup>. In 1810 a uniform of the new style of 1808 model was in-



**DAN 26 Danish Rytter/(heavy cavalry) 1802-1808/ Norwegian Dragoons 1804-1810 command in round hats, galloping.** During this period Officers carried epaulettes, in the button colour, Yellow and red waist sashes and often silver trimmed trefoil embroidery on the front of overalls, were displayed.



**DAN 28 Danish Rytter /(heavy cavalry) 1802-1808/Norwegian Dragoons 1804-1810 charging, round hats** Same note as for DAN 27 applies here.



Royal Horse Guards - "Livgarden til Hest" 1812 (JKL).

By Ole Thureholm, Jørgen K. Larsen and Hans Chr. Wolter



**DAN 27 Danish Rytter / (heavy cavalry) 1802-1808 / Norwegian Dragoons 1804-1810 galloping, swords shouldered, round hats. This set most correctly represents Danish "Ryttere". If representing Norwegian dragons, fully consistently, they should carry muskets instead of carbines and the sword scabbard painted dark brown, as they applied different arms in their function as "dragoons".**

roduced, furnishing the helmets with large shields at the front and new model crests.

The guardsmen were equipped with straight sword M 1785, which in 1808 was exchanged with "Garde Pallask M 1808"<sup>1</sup>, with (long) cavalry carbine M 1755 followed by long carbine M 1813, and in addition two pistols.

### Danish Heavy Cavalry Regiments 1808-1814

Tunics were red with straw-coloured lining and pads in front. They wore full brimmed hats M 1802, with metal rhombic shields. In 1808 the coats changed into a shorter more practical style with high collar, and with linings and pads unchanged straw-coloured. Also a high, more modern shako M 1808 was

taken into use. The yellow rhombic shields were transferred to and mounted on the shakos<sup>2</sup>. Overalls were dark blue with trimmings in leather on the inner side with a red lace and buttons on the outer side – alternatively straw-coloured trousers with hussar boots were applied. Due to increasing costs in 1810, the trousers changed into white and overalls into dark grey. All belts were white.

The heavy cavalry was equipped with straight sword M 1797<sup>3</sup>, carbine M 1750/55/98 and M 1795, supplemented later by M 1806 and M 1807<sup>4</sup>, and in addition two pistols. "Sjællandske Rytter Regiment" was until 1808 - as a consequence of its role of guarding the Zealand coast - armed as a dragon ▶



**DAN 29 Danish Rytter / (heavy cavalry) 1808-1812 / Norwegian Dragoons 1810-1812 command galloping This command set can also be used for "Prins Frederik Ferdinands Dragon regiment" 1808-1812**



**DAN 30 Danish Rytter / (heavy cavalry) / Norwegian Dragoons 1812-1814 command galloping From 1812 officers were not allowed to wear epaulettes or waist sashes anymore because of the high cost in materials. Further the standards were now carried by NCOs. From 1813 the feathers were also to be worn only on parades, but as the sources are conflicting, you may leave them on if you want to.**

# Danish and Norwegian Cavalry and Artillery 1803-1814

regiment with straight dragoon sword M 1785 and long dragoon musket M 1767 with bayonet. From 1808-1810 the unit possessed the same armament as all other heavy cavalry units.

Of the 48 so-called "flankører" (skirmishers) of each of the regiments, 40 used cavalry rifle M 1798, and this was later supplemented with cavalry rifles M 1806 and M 1807.

## Danish Heavy Cavalry 1808 - 1814

Unit	Facing	Lace	Shako Plate	Buttons
Livregiment Ryttere	Straw-coloured	None	White Metal	White
Sjællandske Rytter Regiment	Dark Blue	Straw-coloured	Yellow Metal	White
Slesvigske Rytter Regiment	Light Blue	None	Yellow Metal	White
Holstenske Rytter Regiment	Light Green	Straw-coloured	Yellow Metal	White

## Danish Light Dragoon Regiments 1801-1814

Uniforms were similar to those of the heavy cavalry. The M 1794 helmet – the casque – was black with white metal edgings, and mounted with a raupe in black and a white feather with a red top. In 1812 it was regulated that in the future, the expensive imported Tamis cloth, should be changed to a Danish produced cloth called "Chalon" and used instead. This cloth would be supplied exclusively in dark red, to the result that all regiments would apply dark red "Thamis"/"Chalon". The horsehair crest was to be changed into a more voluminous model too, but without the horsehair tail from the neck to the shoulders. In 1813 the use of the feather ceased.

The light dragoons were equipped with sabre M 1791, supplemented by sabre M 1808, carbines M 1750/55/98 and M 1795, later supplemented by M 1806 and M 1807<sup>5</sup>, and in addition two pistols.

Of the 48 so-called "flankører" (skirmishers) of each of the regiments 40 used cavalry rifle M 1798, and this was later supplemented with cavalry rifles M 1806 and M 1807. "Prins Frederik Ferdinands Dragon Regiment" (Prince Frede-

rik Ferdinand's Dragoon Regiment) was formed on 22 October 1807 as "Sjællandske Dragon Regiment" and received the name of the prince on 20 December 1807. Initially it was formed as a "Dragoon Regiment", but further to stepwise changes the regiment ended in 1812 with the same organization and look as a "Light Dragoon Regiment". But not until the army reform of 1816, was it officially granted the title "Light Dragoon Regiment".

## Danish Light Dragoons 1801-1814

Unit	Facing	Lace	Tamis on Casque	Buttons
Livregiment lette Dragoner	Black	Straw-coloured	Red	White
Jyske Regiment lette Dragoner	Dark Green	Straw-coloured	Dark Green	White
Fynske Regiment lette Dragoner	Light Blue	Straw-coloured	Light Blue	White
Pr. Fr. Ferd. Dragon Regiment	Black	White	- <sup>6</sup>	White

## Danish Hussar Regiment

Dolmans were blue with white cords and red collar laced in white, as were the cuffs. Also the sash was red with cords in white. The trousers were similar to those of heavy cavalry. The pelisse was red with white cords and buttons and black fur. The headdress – the Mirlinton – was black with trimmings in silver and red cords. In 1810 the silver trimmings were exchanged for white ones, and in 1813 the white feather and the cockade should be moved to the front.

The hussars were equipped with sabre M 1791 followed by both models of sabre M 1808 and carbine M 1776/98, M 1795/98 and later supplemented by M 1806 and M 1807, and in addition two pistols.

The "Bosniack Squadron" wore a light blue tunic (collet) with a collar lined white and with a white lining in front of the tunic. Cuffs were red with a white lining. Also the trousers were light blue with white linings along the outer seams. The sash was red with white linings. During winter the long red greatcoat (called a "chupan") was applied. In 1808 the squadron received a new uniform and changed its name to "Uhlands". As the look of the actual uniform worn after 1808



**DAN 31 Danish Rytter/(heavy cavalry) 1808-1814/Norwegian Dragoons 1812-1814, swords shouldered, galloping.** From 1808-1810 cavalry began wearing new grey overalls, replacing the older dark blue ones (those in stock were allowed "to be worn out first, before new ones were distributed"). Gradually the red "valises" were replaced by new grey ones also.



**DAN 32 Danish Rytter 1808-1814/Norwegian Dragoons 1812-1814 charging.** This set and DAN 31 can also be used for "Prins Frederik Ferdinands Dragon regiment" 1808-1812. Fully consistently, they should carry muskets instead of carbines. Sword and scabbard should also be slightly bent to represent a sabre instead of a straight sword and scabbard and handle be painted steel.



**DAN 24 Light Dragoons galloping, shouldered swords 1802-1812**  
 Until 1810-1812, light dragons had a slightly different helmet, with a short crest, a short horsehair "tail" and "Tamis"/(Turban) in regimental colour.

remains very uncertain it is left without description.

The "Bosniac/Uhlan" Squadron was equipped with lance M 1791, sabre M 1791 and a pair of pistols.

### Norwegian Cavalry 1802-1814

In theory from 1801 to 1811 the Norwegian cavalry had four regiments of dragoons, but only a small part of these participated in the campaign of 1808-1809. Nearly all were dismounted due to a lack of forage for the horses. In 1811-1814 the strength of the cavalry was heavily reduced, two full regiments being disbanded and used as "mounted artillerymen" instead. The newly reorganized cavalry consisted of Akershus Mounted Jaeger Corps and the two reorganized dragoon regiments. The mounted jaegers had one recruited company of 50 men,

and three companies of conscripted nationals, each with 125 men (of which 30 were militia (landeværn) and 20 reservists). Søndenfjeldske Dragoons numbered 12 companies formed as 6 squadrons, each company with 125 men (as the jaegers). Nordenfjeldske Dragoons had only 4 companies.

Only very small Norwegian cavalry units participated in the campaigns 1808-1809. Most of the dragoons were deployed dismounted and garrisoned in fortresses etc. In 1814 during the battle of Lier on August 2<sup>nd</sup> the 70 engaged mounted jaegers (*Eidsvold-Nessiske Company*) attacked and pursued the retreating Swedes with effect – actually constituting the sole "real" cavalry action during this war. ▶



**DAN 23 Light Dragoon command galloping 1802-1812**  
 During this period Officers carried epaulettes, in the button colour, Yellow and red waist sashes and often silver trimmed trefoil embroidery on the front of overalls, were displayed. Until 1809 the standards were carried by junior officers but from then and on, by senior NCOs.



**DAN 25 Light Dragoons charging 1802-1812**  
 From 1802 until 1810-1812 all cavalry units regardless of type, used dark blue overalls with red lining, white buttons and had red "valises" behind the saddle .

# Danish and Norwegian Cavalry and Artillery 1803-1814



**DAN 20 Light Dragoon command galloping 1812-1814.** From 1812 officers were not allowed to wear epaulettes or waist sashes anymore because of the high cost in materials. Further the standards were now carried by NCOs. From 1813 the feathers were also to be worn only on parades, but as the sources are conflicting, you may leave them on if you want to.

## Norwegian Dragoon Regiments 1802-1811

Unit	Facing	Lace	Hat plate	Buttons
Akershusiske Dragon Regmt.	White	None	Yellow Metal	White
Smaalenske Dragon Regmt.	Blue	Straw coloured	Yellow Metal	White
Oplandske Dragon Regmt.	Yellow	None	Yellow Metal	White
Trondhjemske Dragon Regmt.	Green	Straw coloured	Yellow Metal	White

Until 1811 Norwegian dragoons were basically dressed as Danish heavy cavalry in M 1802 uniform style with hats. Older model uniforms and older types of equipment belts in light brown may also have been used.

They were armed as an "old style dragoon regiment" with straight dragoon swords M 1740, 1750 and 1778 and long dragoon muskets, primarily M 1767 (or older) with bayonets. They also carried pairs of older long pistols, and were trained to operate predominately on foot. The dragoons mustered no "flankører" skirmishers.

## Norwegian Cavalry Regiments 1811-1814

Unit	Facing	Lace	Shako Plate	Buttons
Søndenfeldske dragon regmt.	Dark Blue	Straw-coloured	Yellow Metal	White
Nordenfeldske Dragon Corps	Green	None	Yellow Metal	White
Akershusiske Ridende Jæger Corps	Green	White	None	White

As a consequence of the major reform linked with reductions in 1811 the units applied the new 1808 style of uniforms of the Danish heavy cavalry.

They also started a re-arming process and were issued the straight dragoon sword M 1785 and shortened the long dragoon

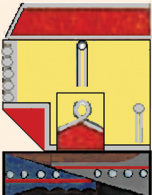
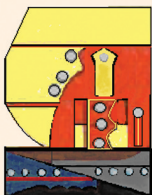





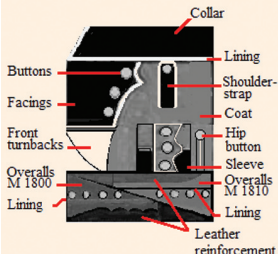







**Light Dragoon regiment of Funen - "Fynske Regiment lette Dragoner 1813 (JKL).**



DAN 21 Light Dragoons galloping, shouldered swords 1812-1814. Please note that the turban cloth was red for all Light Dragoon regiments from 1812. This was because the cloth used before (usually of regimental colour) was made of Dutch cloth called "Tamis", but was too expensive, so instead Danish cloth called "Chalon" was ordered to be used, but this was only made in a dark red colour.

## Danish Cavalry and Artillery 1802-1814

Horse guard and Hussars	"Ryttere"/ Heavy Cavalry	"Lette dragoner"/ Light Dragoons	"Dragoner"/ Dragoons
 <p>Livgarden til hest</p>	 <p>Livregiment Ryttere</p>	 <p>Livregiment lette Dragoner</p>	 <p>Pr. Fr. Ferd. Dragon Regiment</p>
 <p>Husar regimentet</p>	 <p>Sjællandske Rytter Regiment</p>	 <p>Jyske Regiment lette Dragoner</p>	<p>"Kongelige Artilleri Corps"/ Royal Artillery</p>
<p>Description of figures:</p> 	 <p>Slesvigske Rytter Regiment</p>	 <p>Fynske Regiment lette Dragoner</p>	 <p>Foot and Mounted artillery</p>
	 <p>Holstenske Rytter Regiment</p>		 <p>Horse Artillery</p>

## Danish and Norwegian Cavalry and Artillery 1803-1814



**DAN 22 Light Dragoons charging 1812-1814. From 1808-1810 cavalry began wearing new grey overalls, replacing the older dark blue ones (those in stock were allowed "to be worn out first, before new ones were distributed"). Gradually the red "valises" were replaced by new grey ones also. This set, DAN 21 and DAN 20 can also be used for "Prins Frederik Ferdinands Dragon regiment" 1812-1814.**

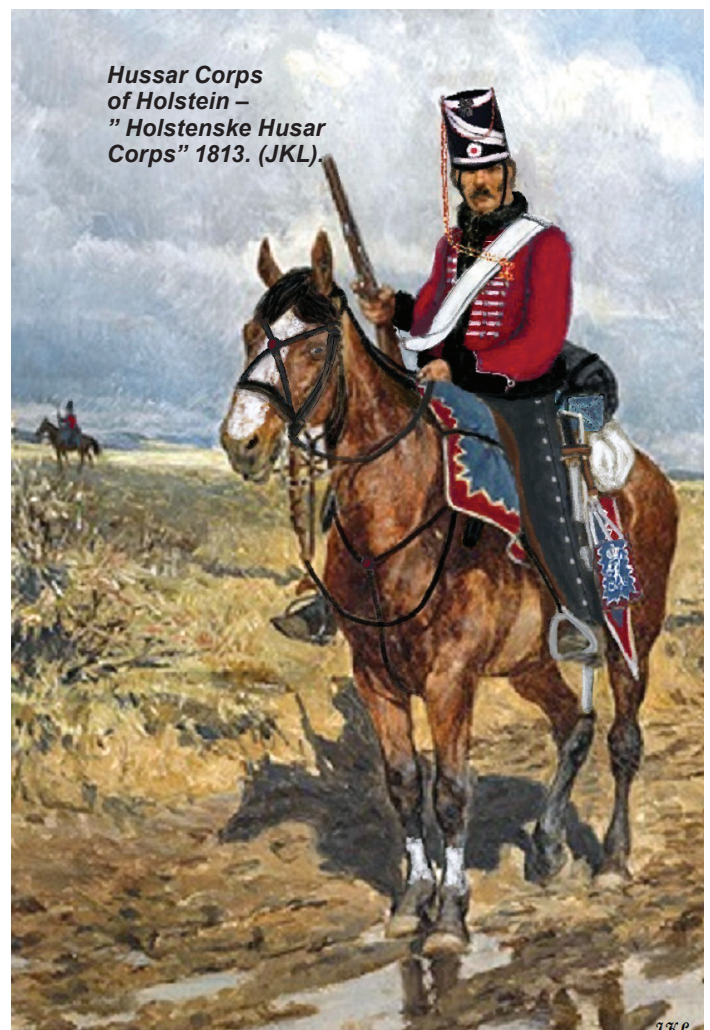
muskets together with the long pistols to the length preferred in Denmark, but it remains unknown how far this process had progressed in 1814. Further an unknown number of new carbines were shipped from Denmark to Norway.

The Akershusiske Ridende Jæger Corps wore the grey uniform M1810 with green facings and front lining, with white passepoil/linings at front and below the collar, above cuffs and shoulder straps and white buttons. Belts were black. Shako M 1808 was worn, with green cords and feather. According to plans Akershusiske Ridende Jæger Corps was presumed to possess some of the most modern weapons in Norway. They were to receive 600 dragoon sabres M 1808, infantry rifles M 1803 or M 1807 and 600 pairs of the new pistol M 1807 with inside lock. By 1814 the regiment had not fully finalised its process for re-armament, thus entering into war displaying a mixture of M 1808 dragoon sabres, M 1791 sabres and straight swords M 1740. Rifles were mainly M 1791 and M 1803, and pistols were also of several types. ■

*To be continued.*

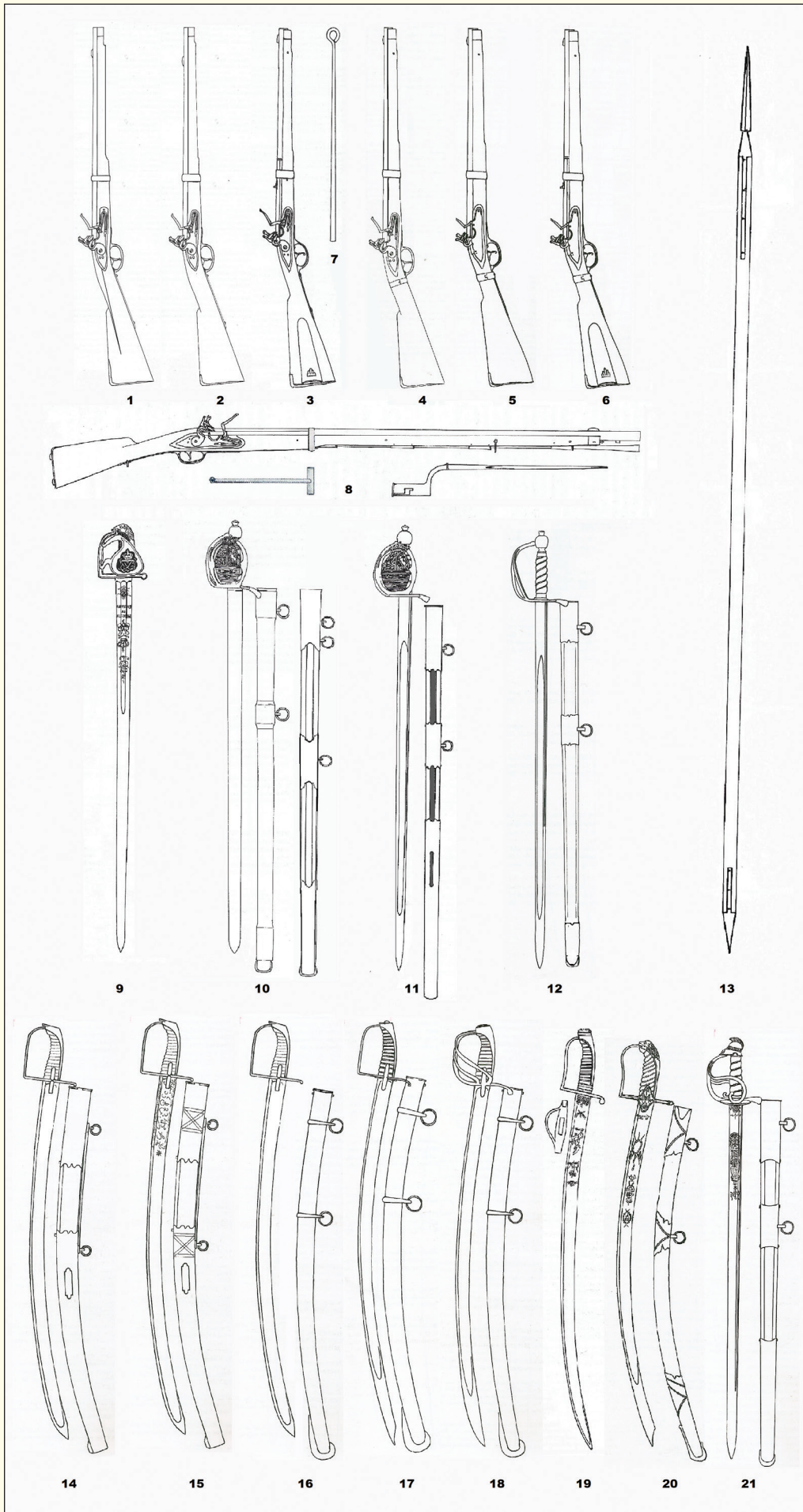
### Noter

1. This was accomplished using the hilt from their previous straight sword M 1785 and inserting the blade from the straight sword M 1789.
2. As an acknowledgement of "Being the first Cavalry Regiment of the Army" - "Livregiment Ryttere", was granted new silver-plated rhombic shields, to display their status, and they were also granted some finer details of shako, uniform and saddlecloth.
3. This was accomplished by removing the large and heavy shield mounted on the hilt and some side bars - part of the hilt from straight sword M 1785 - and inserting the blades from straight sword M 1789 into this now lighter and roomier hilt, forming a lighter and more useful straight sword.
4. From 1798 all carbines and pistols were converted into the same calibre and basic "look". Further, all carbines had the same length. In order to ease supply and production the carbine models were therefore "mixed" in the squadrons.
5. From 1798 carbines and pistols were converted into same calibre and basic "look". Further all carbines had one common length. In order to ease supply and production the carbine models were therefore "mixed" in the squadrons.
6. Until 1812 the regiment wore shakoes with white feathers and cords and yellow rhombic shields with the letters PFD. In 1812 the troops received a totally new model casque (M 1812) with a smaller shield, a different crest, and the imported "Tamis" cloth was changed to dark red Danish produced "Chalon" cloth.



**Hussar Corps of Holstein – "Holstenske Husar Corps" 1813. (JKL)**

## “Fire Arms and side Arms of the Cavalry”



1. Hussar Carbine M 1755/98 and M1776/98 with very small difference between the two.

2. Carbine M 1795.

3. Rifled carbine M 1798

4. Carbine M 1806 with the new type hinged carbine bar bracket.

5. Carbine M 1807 with the new type “inside lock”.

6. Rifled carbine M 1807.

7. The common model ramrod for all model carbines and pistols.

8. Dragoon musket M 1767 depicted with detail of carbine bar bracket and bayonet.

9. Straight sword M 1750 of the Norwegian cavalry.

10. Straight dragoon sword M 1785. With (left) scabbard M 1789 and (right) scabbard M 1778 (last model used by the Royal Horse Guard).

11. Straight sword for the Royal Horse Guard M 1808 with new Horse Guard scabbard M 1808.

12. Straight sword M 1797 of the Danish heavy cavalry.

13. Bosniac lance M 1791.

14. Sabre M 1776/1792 with sabre scabbard M 1805.

15. Sabre M 1776/1792. Variant of the preceding one with specially decorated blade known as a “Bosniac sabre” shown with sabre scabbard M 1805.

16. Sabre M 1792/1808 another variant of the 1792 sabre, with a new and thinner blade with new metal sabre scabbard M 1808.

17. So-called “Hussar sabre” M 1808 with new type metal hilt, slightly different point on the same thin blade as above and metal sabre scabbard M 1808.

18. So-called “Dragoon sabre” M 1808, with new type brass hilt and metal sabre scabbard M1808.

19. Cavalry officers’ sabres, here a variant of the standard officers sabre M 1789.

20. Cavalry officers’ sabres (numerous private acquired variants were applied).

21. Officer’s straight sword M 1798 mainly used for full dress and parades.

The majority of the small arms employed are also available in colour photos on [www.arna-dania.dk](http://www.arna-dania.dk). Open “Home”, and at the bottom of the page activate “Blankvåben” (Side Arms) and “Geværer” (Fire Arms) respectively.