

Austrian uniforms 1864

by H. Scheunchen
(*Chakoten 1964/1*)

The article was originally accompanied by a series of black and white drawings by Højberg. These drawings are linked at the end of the article on this page.

I have chosen to supplement with a strip of illustrations from <http://www.grosser-generalstab.de>, which, among other things, brings a series of cigarette cards in which the Austrians from that period are depicted.

Kaare Myltoft

The line infantry

During the campaign, privates as well as officers wore chakot with black shade and chinstrap without cockade - in a black wax cloth cover. The privates' camp cap was a light blue slanted cap in an almost contemporary cut. It was edged with white in the hem of the pool and along the top edge of the notice. The officer's camp cap looked pretty much like a Danish officer's cap in 1864. It was black, had a black brim and chinstrap, gold edge at the bottom and black and yellow cockade (black with gold edge). A little below the cockade was a gilded button. These two were linked by a gold rush.



The crew's coat was grey, double-breasted with five buttons on each side and was fitted with a turn-down collar, shoulder flaps, high cuffs and a single-button placket. The entire cloak was gray with the exception of the distinctive Austrian "Paroli" collar mirror, which resembled a spearhead with the point pointing backwards.

The paroli had the special color of the department. To facilitate the march, the two front edges of the cloak were often turned up - inside.

The officers' coat was darker than the men's and edged everywhere in the regimental colour: down the front edge of the coat, all the way around the bottom, along the entire edge of the collar, along the edge of the sleeve flap, pocket flap, shoulder flap and buckle tab.

The officers' paroli was also in the regimental color and provided with a small button. There were no distinctions on the cloak. The officers' field insignia was a yellow silk scarf with four broken black stripes hanging from the right shoulder to the left hip and ending in two yellow tassels with black filling. Actually, it was supposed to be worn on the outside of the cloak, but already in the first month of the war it was found that it was wisest to wear it under the cloak. The "German" (Austrian - as opposed to the Hungarian) infantry had long light blue trousers with a narrow white "stripe" (trimming). The Hungarian infantry had light blue Hungarian trousers (very narrow - almost leotard-like). Instead of the narrow white "stripe", a yellow-black cord was sewn on. On the upper half of the thigh was a Hungarian knot (hussar's bow), which was sewn on with the same kind of cord. Both "German" and Hungarian officers wore long light blue trousers against a thin white stripe, regardless of whether they were on foot or mounted.

The "German" infantry had black shoes and black gaiters. The Hungarians did not use gaiters. They had black lace-up boots that went a little above the bottom edge of the trousers. Although the regulations did not prescribe long-shafted boots for the officers, these were very often worn in 1864. In many cases the trousers were tucked into the black boots. All line infantry had white coats of arms. There were two types, an old two-row with eight buttons in each row and a new single-row with six buttons in the front and two in the back. The collar, shoulder flaps, sleeve cuffs, the slit at the back and the edging down the front and along the entire lower edge were in the regimental color of the old model. The new model had a drop collar and edging. On both models, the "German" had straight cuffs without laces and the Hungarian pointed sleeve cuffs with white laces on the cuff itself, the so-called "Bärenklau" (bear claw).

When the coat of arms has been mentioned last, it is because, for the privates, it was usually rolled up in the tunic when they moved into the field. All the officers wore the new single-breasted uniform without shoulder pads. The officer's model had a turn-down collar, cuffs, edging down the front and all around the bottom in the regimental colour. The pocket flaps at the back also had edging and six buttons.



The insignia were both on the collar of the coat of arms and on the chacot under the wax cloth covering. The non-commissioned officers had one, two or three stars of white cloth on each end of the collar and the corresponding number of stripes along the upper edge of the chacot. In addition, they had a black saber tassel of yellow wool or silk with two black stripes in the band. Lieutenants and captains had up to three silver or gold embroidered stars on the collar in button colour. Staff officers had a silver or gold ribbon (depending on button color) around the collar and insignia and 1-3 stars on the ribbon in the opposite button color. The lid on the notice was of silver or gold on the Hungarian regiments.

The officers also had up to three gold bars along the upper edge of the chakot. All the crew's harness was white. Cross bands were used, and in the cross was a small white half-round bag for prison caps. The cartridge case and bayonet scabbard were black. The thornyster was of brown calfskin with white straps. There was a small tinned cooking vessel on top of the turret and for every other man a larger one was also on the back of the turret. The field bottle was round and flat, either tin or turned wood. Bread bag made of white thread.

The officers had a black bag with yellow metal trim slung over their left shoulder. It looked like the money bag our tram conductors used to carry. The officers' saber was in a shiny iron scabbard. The saber had a black hilt and the "saber tassel" was gold with two black stripes. It was suspended under the coat of arms by two straps of red saffian with gold braid on the outside.

The grenadiers also carried a saber in addition to the bayonet and had a yellow saber tassel with two black stripes. However, this should not lead anyone to believe that the Austrians had grenadier companies, for these were disbanded in 1860, and after that time the title "grenadier" was only borne by those who had been, or who had been given it as a kind of distinction. In addition, the grenadiers had a brass grenade on the saber bandolet, cartridge bandolet and on the cartridge bag, as well as a white cloth grenade on the collar of the coat of arms.

Borderlands

The border infantry originated from the time of the Turkish wars, when the border area was divided into generalates. Here, the residents had freedom of religion and tax against committing to defend the border. The uniform of these troops largely corresponded to that of the Hungarian line infantry. The only difference was that the Grenzers' leather clothing was black and their coat of arms was dark brown. In 1864, only one lieutenant Badovinac from the National-Grenz Infanterie-Regiment, Nr. 4. Karlstadter Szluiner.



He was assigned to infantry regiment no. 30 (Martini) and fell on 3 February 1864 during the battle at Øvre Selk and Jagel. The regimental color of the Szluins was orange-yellow and they had white buttons.

Tabs

The banner of the 1st battalion (life battalion) was white with the image of the Madonna on both sides. The others were yellow with double eagles on both sides. Both tabs had a jagged or flamed pattern on the edge in the colors red, white, yellow and black. This was the most common form of Austrian flags.

Musical instruments

The drums were of yellow brass, and the reifs had wide yellow and black diagonal stripes. The bugles hung from yellow cords that had tassels with black filling.

"Feldjäger" - the battalions

All these battalions had the same uniform. The only thing that separated them was the battalion number on the yellow buttons.



This Arabic numeral was also set in white metal in the center of a brass huntsman's horn that sat as an emblem on the left side of the headgear, which was made of felt and resembled a tall bowler hat. Around the bottom edge of the pool was a green cord that was gathered at the back and ended in two small "acorns". The feather bush on the left side of the pool consisted of black cock feathers. The officers wore the same kind of hat. However, they had a cramp of gold braid, and the string around the hat was of gold. Both crew and officers used black wax cloth covers and feather bush in the field. The felt hat was in the same cut as the infantry, but "hechtgrau" and without brim. In addition to this type in the slanted hat shape, they also used another type in the "officer's shape". It was also hechtgrau, but with an inch-wide, grass-green stripe along the bottom edge. Where the officers' field cap was decorated with gold cord, this "crew edition" had green cords. In addition, a small feather bush was placed - quite irregularly - on the left side. The non-commissioned officers used yellow cord with black lace instead of the green. The officers' field hat was the ordinary black camp hat, but among the hunters it was provided with a small feather tassel. The uniform was like that of the infantry. The cloak was the same with grass green mirrors on the collar.

The hunters wore long, light, blue-grey trousers with a narrow grass-green stripe at the outer seams. The officers' trousers were also light blue-grey, but also had a wide stripe on both sides of the thin one. Both officers and crew wore black shoes and black leggings. The field hunters' uniform was like that of the line infantry, just in different colors. Their coat of arms was "hechtgrau", i.e. it was light blue-grey with a grass-green collar, turnout, shoulder flaps and edging. (The single-breasted coat of arms had no borders). With the hunters, there was a grass-green bead in the sleeve seam at the end of the shoulder flap. It held the rifle in place when it was hung on the right shoulder with the barrel upwards on hunters. That's what it said in the regulations of 30/8 1849. In 1859 it was said that the coat of arms had to be rolled up in the turret when you were in the field. The officers' coat of arms, rank and non-commissioned officers' insignia followed the rules of the line infantry. In contrast, the hunters' leather clothing was black. The equipment, like that of the line infantry (the bread bag was therefore white).

The artillery



The headdress consisted of a chakot covered with black wax cloth. On the chakot sat a black horsehair fringe, the lower part of which was attached to a strap on the left side. The trumpeter's swing was red.

The chakot itself had a brass chain that hung from the cockade in arches down either side, where they were attached to a lion's head. The felt hat was light blue with red edges. The cloak was the usual gray with yellow brass buttons and bright red paroli. The officers' was edged with bright red. The trousers were light blue with a wide red stripe. The riders' trousers were reinforced at the bottom against black leather. The officers' trousers had three stripes (broad, narrow, wide) and, for those on horseback, were reinforced at the bottom with black leather all the way around. For the most part, they used gray mottled coveralls with leather reinforcement. The footwear was black. The coat of arms was dark brown with a bright red collar, turndown collar, turnout, shoulder bead and the like.

The officers coat of arms had no shoulder flaps or frills, only a double gold cord on the left shoulder. Insignia and insignia were like those of the infantry. However, the artillery officers did not have sashes, but instead a cartridge case in a shoulder strap. The cartridge case had a silver lid with a gilt double eagle on the lid and gilt edge. The shoulder strap consisted of two gold buckles with a black stripe in the middle. The substrate was red.

Above was a lion's head with two chains terminating in two purlins attached to a double eagle lower down. All these parts were of silver.

The thong was white. The foot artillery thus had a white shoulder strap for the saber. The riders had white shoulder straps with black cartridge pouches. The foot artillery also had a white bread bag, on the outside of which was a round tin kettle with the bottom out. The field bottle was covered with black leather and hung on a string over the right shoulder. The horsemen had no bread bag - only field bottle slung over the shoulder - and the saber, which was in an iron scabbard, hung by two maroon straps under the coat of arms.

The horses wore black harness throughout. The riding horses had black valrap and the non-commissioned officers' and crew's riding horses had a white oat sack behind the saddle. In addition, they had the red mantle sack with a cooking pot attached. The gun itself was painted ocher yellow and had black fittings.

The Austrian artillery left home with old equipment. However, new material of artillery model 1863 was sent after and with this they moved into Denmark.

4 pds. batteries were biased with 4 horses.

4 pds. riding batteries had 6 horses per cannon.

The cavalry



The cavalry that was in Denmark in 1864 consisted of only two regiments, namely: Dragoon-Regiment Alfred Fürst zu Windischgrätz no. 2 and Husar-Regiment Franz Fürst Liechtenstein no. 9.

The dragoons had a headdress that looked a lot like the Danish one. The helmet was black and had a black crest. The Austrian double eagle was placed in front in brass. The rim of the helmet crest and the brim as well as the scales on the chinstrap were also made of brass. For the officers, the brass parts of the helmet were gilded, in addition to having gilded ornaments on both sides of the crest. The field hat was in the shape of an officer's hat. It was of dark green cloth with a dark red stripe along the lower edge. The cape was a large white sleeve cape with two rows of yellow buttons. On the collar was a dark red mirror (paroli). The officer's cloak was also white, but had a full dark red collar and an extra lap over the shoulders. The trousers were dark green with a wide dark red stripe and a black leather trim at the bottom. This applied to both privates and officers. The latter used gray mottled cover-up trousers (without stripes) with black leather trim at the bottom when they were in the field. The dragoons in 1864 had only two-breasted coats of arms. It was dark green with yellow buttons. The collar, cuffs and shoulder pads were dark red. The non-commissioned officers' insignia and the officers' insignia followed the pattern of the infantry. There were no shoulder patches on the officers' coats of arms. The yellow-black sash was folded once so that only two black stripes were visible. In the field, the scarf was worn around the waist under the cloak. The officers wore white collared gloves.

The leather clothing was like that of the mounted artillerymen, but with the addition of a carabiner belt with a hook (placed on top of the cartridge belt). The field bottle hung in a white strap over the right shoulder. The sabres of the officers were like those of the infantry officers. It is not impossible that some of the dragoon officers carried the same cartridge case in a strap as the artillery officers.

In 1864 there was apparently no fur blanket over the saddle, a white horse blanket (Woilach) folded under the saddle. Ear roll on the front left above the parcel bag. Red mantel bag at the back.



The hussars had a white chacot. It was of the same type as that worn by the infantry officers. Along the top edge sat a yellow one. In front of the middle of this and down towards the sides hung a brass chain, besides it was adorned with yellow cords and tassels. In front sat a yellow shield with the double eagle. The pompon, called "The Rose", was yellow with a black center and on top of this sat a small black feather tuft, the lower part of which was covered with yellow feathers. The feather tassel was not worn in the field, but the "Rose" was still there when the white (regimental colour) wax cloth cover came on in 1864. When the hussar was on horseback, the cord of the chacot was looped twice around his neck to prevent the chacot from coming off lost during the match. The tassels hung down on the left shoulder. The non-commissioned officers' aprons were of ispahan wool. The officers' chakot had gilded fittings and gold sixties as insignia, similar to the infantry. The non-commissioned officers' insignia also followed the rules of this type of weapon. The field hat was dark blue and of an officer's style.

The bottom edge had a yellow cord with black trim. At the center front, the cord formed a Hungarian knot with the longest loop upwards. The Liechtenstein Hussars wore a large wide white wheel cape with a dark blue collar and a small white flap over the shoulders" The trousers were dark blue with yellow cord trim. The officers' trousers had gold cords, but they probably used gray mottled overcoats against black leather trim below. The boots were black hussar boots that were edged with yellow cord and with yellow rosette in front.

In 1864 the hussars wore a winter attila (hussar coat). It was dark blue with yellow string trim (with black trim). The collar, cuffs and edges were of black lambskin. This coat was worn with yellow mantekets. The attila of the officers was of course richly decorated with gold cords and embroidery.

The lining was red and buttons and rosettes silver plated. The yellow sashes were not worn in Denmark. The leather clothing corresponded closely to the mounted artillery. The officers' suspenders were like those of the infantry officers and were also equipped with three sixty-studded straps for the sabre-bag. This was red with gold embroidery, but was worn in the field in a black wax cloth cover. The officers had a cartridge bag (as with the artillery officers), it was worn on the outside of the coat. Horse blanket and mantle sack, see the dragoons.



The engineer troops

Chakot and cloak as the infantry. The felt hat was light blue with cherry red edging. The trousers were light blue with a narrow cherry red stripe in the outer seams. The coat of arms was of the same cut as that of the infantry and followed its rules with regard to collar, shoulder pads and the like. It was light blue and fitted with the engineers' signature cherry red color. The buttons were yellow and the strap was black. Distinctions and sashes followed infantry regulations.

The pioneers

The pioneers had the chakot of the infantry and the uniform of the field hunters, but with dark green (stahlgrün) trim and white buttons. The pioneers also had the hunters' shoulder bead and the pioneer officers also had the hunter officer's stripes (broad, narrow, wide) on their trousers, both parts mentioned were of course in the dark green color of the pioneers. Distinctions and sashes were as with the infantry.

Equalization colors

Name	No.	Department color	Buttons
Graf Coronini-Cronberg (Hungary)	6	rosy red	white
Grossherzog Ludwig III v. Hesse (Upper Austria)	14	black	yellow
King of Belgium (Styria)	27	imperial yellow	yellow
Freiherr Martini von Rosedo (East Galicia)	30	light grey	yellow
König Wilhelm I of Prussia (Hungary)	34	crimson	white

Feldzeugmeister Graf Khevenhüller-Metsch (Bohemia)	35	crab red	yellow
Feldmarschall-Lieutenant Freiherr Ramming v. Riedkirchen (Hungary)	72	light blue	yellow
Prinz Wilhelm zu Schleswig-Holstein-Glücksburg (Italy)	80	scarlet white	
Feld-Jäger-Battalion (Styria)	9	grass green	yellow
Feld-Jäger-Battalion (Styria)	11	grass green	yellow
Feld-Jäger-Battalion (Bohemia)	18	grass green	yellow
Feld-Jäger-Battalion (Poland)	22	grass green	yellow
Artillery (all artillery)		scarlet red	yellow
The pioneers		steel green	white
Engineers		cherry red	yellow
Sanitary troops		crimson	yellow

Austrian fencing in 1864

03/02 06/02 08/03 19/03 20-21/03

KK Austrian troops

x - -

Coronini No. 6

- x x

Ludwig III von Hesse No. 14

- x x

König der Belgier No. 27

x - -

Martini No. 30

x - -

Wilhelm I of Prussia No. 34

- - -

Khevenhüller-Metsch No. 35

- - -

Framing No. 70

x - - x

Prinz Wilhelm No. 80

- x -

Feldjäger bat. No. 9

- - - x x

Feldjäger bat. No. 11

x - x

Feldjäger bat. No. 18

- - -

Feldjäger bat. No. 22

- x -

Liechtenstein Hussars

x

Windischgrätz Dragons

x x x

Field Artillery Regiment No. I

Explanation for the above dates:

03/02 1864 Upper Selk and Jagel (fencing)

06/02 1864 Oversø (fencing)

08/03 1864 Vejle (fencing)

19/03 1864 Fredericia (clearance fencing)

20-21/03 1864 Fredericia (outpost fencing)

Højberg's drawings

Austrian field hunter

Austrian infantry

Austrian Hussar