

GUARD HUSSAR REGIMENT

Part 1

This paper is a description of the regiment's full dress uniform (rød galla). The uniform has been worn by the Danish Guard Hussar Regiment during more than 150 years. In this period of time, only minor changes have taken place, for example the kepi is presently lower than in 1885, and a pouch belt with pouch was worn until after WWI when abolished.

The regiment is founded the 10th of February 1762; the regimental history can be consulted in a number of publications. Due to this the paper only describes the main changes in regimental history, which took place in 1999- 2000.



A postcard from 1957, drawn by the well-known uniform artist, Preben Kannik.

The card shows the modern dual task for the regiment, firstly as an armoured regiment and secondly as supplying mounted escort for HM the Queen or King (at that time a king).

The armoured vehicles at that time were the Centurions, which were upgraded several times and were in service until the 1990ies.

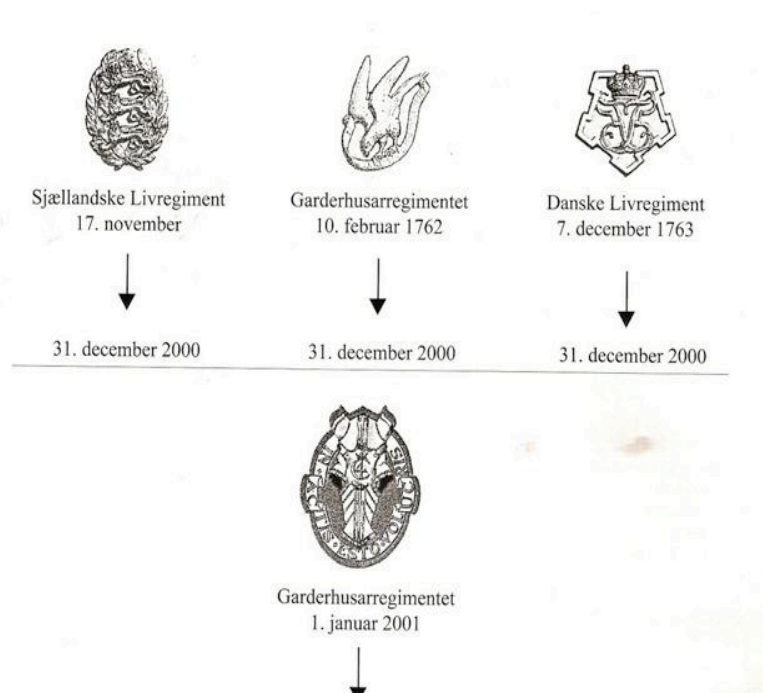
The card also depicts the regimental badge used until the year 2001 when a new one was introduced.

The figures are both privates.



The old regimental badge

With a political decision of reducing the army in 1999 and the amalgamation of three old regiments - all of them with a very long history - the state of play came to an end. The name of the regiment continued to be GARDEHUSARREGIMENTET.



It was decided that, the regiment should maintain its duties at the Royal Court as a Guard Regiment, but primarily be a modern mechanised infantry regiment.

Since then the regiment has participated with units in the conflicts and war in:

Ex-Yugoslavia - Albania – Iraq – Afghanistan.

This regiment has seen more war and losses than the old regiment ever saw.

But in an effort to make everybody satisfied, it was decided that the "new" regiment had to obtain a new badge.



The new regimental badge

Full dress uniform officer (rød galla)



Headdress : Kepi silver laced at the top, golden cap line, Front shield silver. Plume (svejf) white horse-hair, for officers slightly taller than for NCOs and privates.

Pelisse : Pelisse (pels) is carmoisine red , ornamented with black astrakhan fur, and with 5 loops , Austrian knots on the sleeves, and ornamentation on the rear side in silver lace.

Shoulder-Straps : Silver with rank stars in gold. Same type is used on the hussar tunic.

Hussar Tunic : Light blue with loops and braiding as on pelisse.

Trousers : Light blue riding breeches, with a silver lacing following the outer seam.

Boots : Black riding boots edged in the top with silver lace.

Gloves : White soft leather.

Sword belt : One strap for the sword and three for the sabertache,. The belt is carried under the tunic, only the straps are hanging under the edge of the tunic, the belt and straps are silver laced on the front side, on the rear red felt.

Sword : All white metal, with only one ring for the carrying strap. Sword knot gold.



Close up for details of:

- The kepi, which have silver laces around the top.
- Plume (svejf) and mounting of the plume.
- Front shield of kepi, the same shield is used for all ranks.
- Shoulder-straps.
- Loops on pelisse and tunic.
- Method for carrying medals.
- Acorns for closing the tunic.



Rear side and front of the hussar tunic and riding breeches.

In this way the uniform is worn, for gala dinners, or at civilian occasions where the dress code for the invitation is "white tie".

The sabretache is worn, and medals are moved from the pelisse to the tunic.

Notice the braiding on the rear side of the hussar tunic.



Rear side of the pelisse, and clearly shown the sabretache.



Sword belt and sabretache. The base is the same light blue colour as the tunic and breeches, the braiding and monogram is embroidered in silver lace. In the crown some rhinestones are incorporated.

The monogram is, always the monogram of the ruling queen or king, and is changed when a new monarch is acceding the throne.

This monogram is of the ruling queen

Her Majesty Queen Margrethe II.



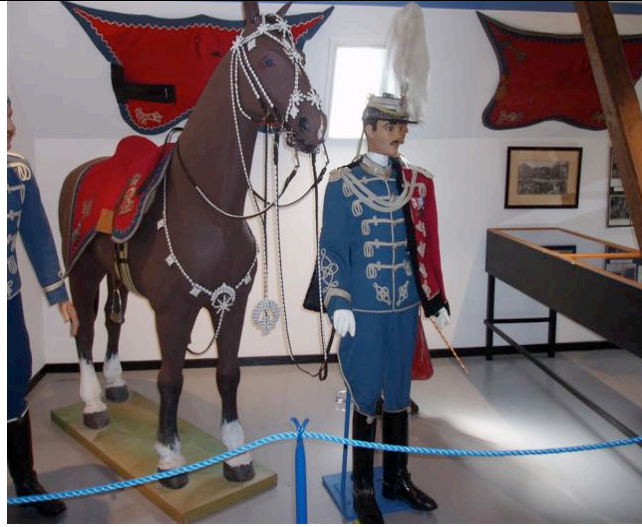
Officer's sabretache between two for NCOs and privates respectively.



Officer's shabraque (valdrap) with all ornamentation in silver lace.



The officer's parade headstall (snekketøj); it consists in snail shells fastened to the leather reins.



Officer with his charger.
Notice the tall plume (svejf).



Mounted officer. Notice how the pelisse looks too scarlet.
Notice how the sabre is fastened at the saddle, when mounted.