

# About English timpani tabs

## Introduction

Where other cavalry regiments carried battle *honors* on their standards, hussar regiments and lancer regiments, which were not standardised, used the timpani flags for this purpose.

Just as with tabs, timpani tabs are also an extensive topic, so I will limit myself to a single example.

## 10th (Prince of Wales's Own) Royal Hussars, november 1927



*Paukeslageren fra 10th (Prince of Wales's Own) Royal Hussars, ved paraden The Lord Mayor's Show*

in London, 9 November 1927.

At a parade in Aldershot in June 1927 the band of the *10th Hussars* totaled 40 men! Whether the band was as large at the parade in London is not known 1).

The image is a slightly edited reproduction of a drawing in Source 1; the artist is RJ Marrion.

The timpani fanes, from 1923, are of dull red silk, with golden edging and fringes. Between the crown and the coat of arms of the Prince of Wales, the banner "Warburg" is carried. The coat of arms is encircled by the ribbon of the Order of the Garter, in blue; on the ribbon is the name of the regiment. The ribbons were blue, with golden edging and lettering.

Under the coat of arms (seen from the left) a golden rising sun, a golden Roman numeral X (= the regiment's number) and a red dragon on a blue background. Below is the tab "South Africa, 1899-1902".

On the inner wreath of oak leaves are the banners: "Peninsula", "Waterloo", "Sevastopol", "Ali Masjid", "Afghanistan, 1878-79", "Egypt, 1884", "Relief of Kimberley" and "Paardeberg".

On the outermost wreath, which was added in 1927, are the First World War banners: "Ypres 1914 '15", "Frezenberg", "Loos", "Arras 1917 '18", "Somme 1918", "Avre", "Amiens", "Drocourt-Quéant", "Pursuit to Mons", "France and Flanders 1914-18".

The creak, which can just be seen below the timpani tab on the left, is blue with a golden border.

The timpani is wearing Uniform Model 1902/24.

## Closing

An almost contemporaneous picture of another mounted band - from *the 11th (Prince Albert's Own) Hussars*, with which *the 10th Hussars* was amalgamated on 25 October 1969 - may aptly illustrate how a mounted band performed.

The picture is taken from this regiment's last mounted parade on 10 April 1928, just before it - in parallel with the *12th (Prince of Wales's Royal) Lancers* - was converted into an armored car regiment.



Although there may not be quite as many musicians as in the band from *the 10th Hussars*, it is still a beautiful sight.

## Sources

1. *Cavalry Mounted Bands, Drum Horses and Drum Banners* af R.G. Harris, Military Modelling, september 1983.
  2. *The British Army of 1914* af R. Money Barnes, Seeley Service & Co. Ltd., London 1968.
  3. *Land Forces of Britain, the Empire and Commonwealth* <http://www.regiments.org/milhist/uk/cav/D10h.htm>.
  4. *The Cherrypickers - 11th Hussars (Prince of Albert's Own) 1715-1969* af Peter Upton, privat publication 1997, ISBN 0-953000-0-3.
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### To note:

1) *The article briefly mentions the regiment's last parade on horseback. It took place in 1936, in the city of Lucknow in India, where the regiment was garrisoned from 1932. The author has had the opportunity to see a photograph from the event and mentions that the entire band rode on sleighs, and that the timpani horse was equipped just like in London. It is not known whether the band was also in London. At that time it was unusual for a regiment sent to India to bring its own horses with it. Instead, the regiment took over the horses of the regiment it replaced. I am currently not aware of any sources that can shed further light on the question.*