

Prussian and Austrian hussar regiments that took part in the 1864 war.

After seeing the DR edition of the 1864 war, I would like to make some comments that are of interest to those interested in uniforms and military history.

I do not intend to enter into a discussion about artistic freedom. However, this freedom cannot change the facts surrounding the participating units, or the unit's uniforming, not least if a certain semblance of historical correctness is to be present.

I deal with the cavalry regiments that took part, with the emphasis on the hussar regiments. Command relationships will also be discussed briefly.

The historically completely wrong:

In the section about the retreat from Dannevirke, we see that the Danes are being pursued and attacked by Prussian hussars, and that these are shooting down prisoners of war.

IT IS WRONG!

The hussars shown in the film are dressed in uniforms that represent the 1st Leib-Husaren-Regiment or possibly the 2nd Leib-Husaren-Regiment

The uniform is incorrect, the husarpel hat is the lower 1870 model, but with the correct death's head. The hussar cords on the jacket (the attila) are something you only see in the circus. Breeches with boots were introduced in 1870. The sling cape worn by these figures was not used by Prussian hussars, but by the Austrian ones. The Prussian hussars used plain gray cloaks with sleeves. These errors could possibly have been lived with if the scenery in which the hussars were placed was not so sonically foolish. You see the trumpeter take the horn to his mouth and expect to hear a rider's signal, but then comes the sound of foghorns, that soundscape follows the riders during the ride, and now comes the director's thought, the creepy death's heads! And the shooting of prisoners of war, here they have grasped the general misunderstanding about the death's head as a mark. At the same time, it is a clear reference to SS war crimes during WWII.

The death's head symbolizes the unit's allegiance to the regent, not that the unit is a pleasure killer. Here it should be mentioned that virtually all the Prussian hussar officers were noble and had a very high morale, the shooting of prisoners of war did not occur.

For the record, it should be mentioned that none of the two mentioned regiments have EVER been near Denmark. When we retreated from Dannevirke, the 1st LHR fought Polish insurgents on the border between East Prussia and Poland.



1. Leib-Husaren-Regiment 1864

The historically correct:

I have been fortunate enough to be able to scan a small writing on the subject. This writing is from approx. 1964, at that time the association magazine CHAKOTEN was also typewritten and stenciled. The format is also larger than an unfolded A4 sheet.

The authors of the writing are W. Kambro and H. Scheunchen, both well known for their great knowledge in the field of uniform history. Unfortunately, they have both passed away, so much knowledge has disappeared.

I have chosen to reproduce the script, as its content is of very high quality, and at the same time give the present an impression of how simple it was 50 years ago.

However, a small error has crept in, as Scheunchen has drawn the hussar with breeches and boots, which, as mentioned, was only introduced in 1870.

It is lucky that with modern technology you can see things in colour, so before the writing is read, the three regiments can be seen, here reproduced on cigarette cards.



From Left: Leib-Garde-Husaren-Regiment.

Husaren-Regiment Von Zieten (Brandenburgisches) Nr.3 in 1870 uniform where
the fur hat becomes lower, and breeches and riding boots are introduced.

Husaren-Regiment Kaiser Nikolaus II. von Rusland (1.Westfälisches) Nr.8.

1864

PRØJSISK KAVALLERI, I.

Prøjsiske Husarer mod Danmark.

af W. Kambro.

Da det måske ikke er almindeligt kendt, at de prøjsiske husarers udseende i 1864 faktisk adskilte sig en del fra deres udseende i krigen 1870-71 mod Frankrig, skal jeg i det efterfølgende søge at give en beskrivelse af deres i 1864 bårne feltuniform.

I felttoget mod Danmark i 1864 deltog følgende 3 prøjsiske husarregimenter, nemlig Gardehusarerne, 3. og 8. Regiment. Af disse 3 regimenter var 2 af dem gamle kendinge i Jylland, idet 3. Regiment havde deltaget i felttoget i 1848, og 8. Husarer i 1849.

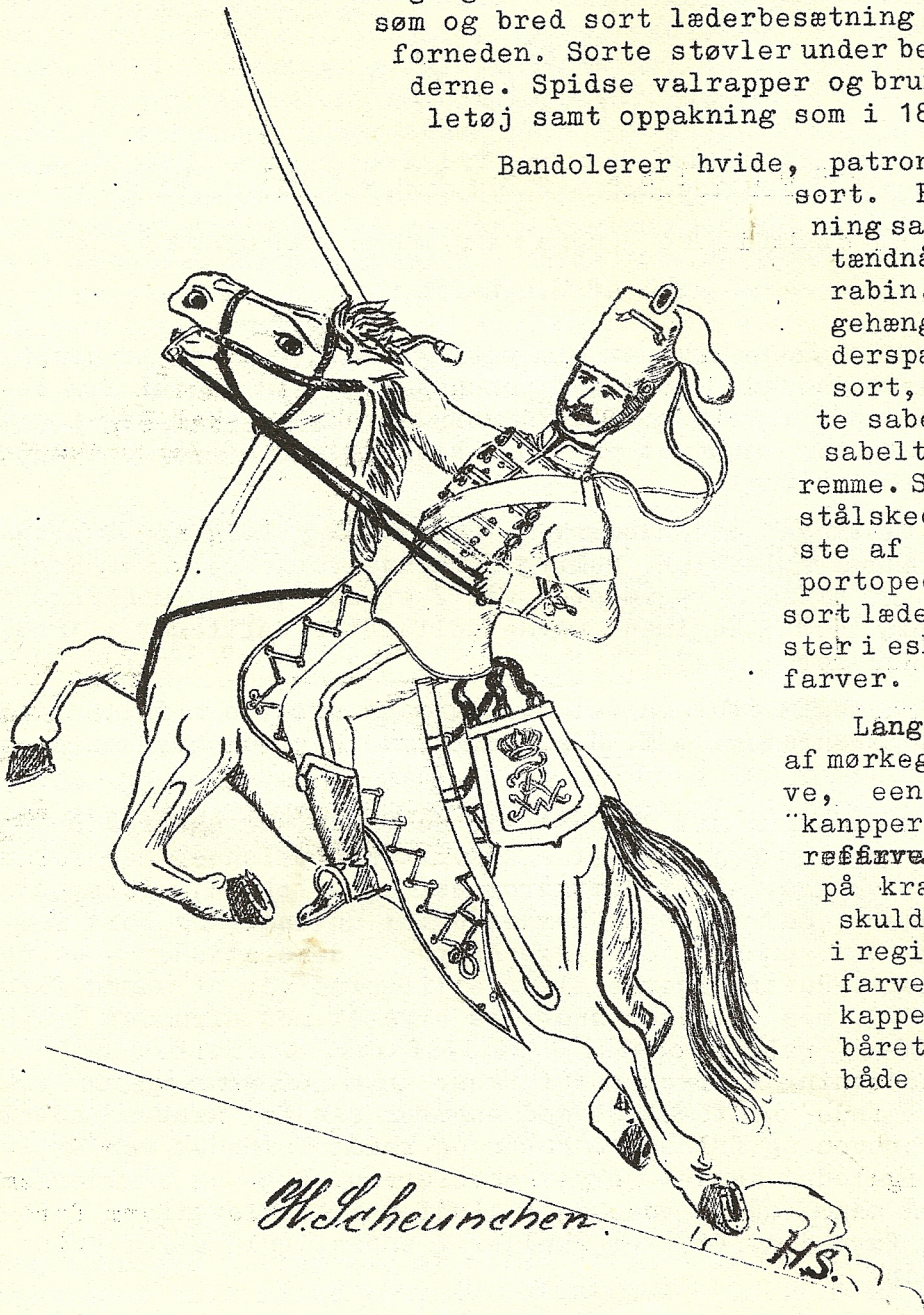
Garderegimentet og det 3. Regiment rykkede i felten med hver 4 eskadroner, - 8. Regiment havde derimod 5 eskadroner med.

I modsætning til 1870-71 bar de prøjsiske husarer endnu i 1864 en ret høj og ret slankvirkende pelshue, med foran opslået skygge, alt i korthåret skind (sælskind), forsynet, som senere, med aflang kokarde i hvidt udvendig og sort indvendig, kolpakpose, messingschupper - dekorationer - hvide fangsnore. Husartrøjerne eller attilaerne var af samme form som i 1870, med 5 rækker snore på brystet med afrundet krave og spidse, polske opslag i attilafarve, indfattet med en snorebesætning i brystsnorefarven. Opslagskantningerne var let svejfede og forsynet med ungarsk sløjfe. Kraven kantet både foroven og forneden. Foran og rundt forneden var attilaen ligeledes kantet i brystsnorefarven. Ryg- og skuldersonene på samme måde, endende i sløjfer i trekløverform foroven og forneden. På hver skulder 2 snore, gule eller hvide, med knap.

Lange grå ridebenklæder med røde sidesøm og bred sort læderbesætning rundt forneden. Sorte støvler under benklæderne. Spidse valrapper og brunt selletøj samt oppakning som i 1870.

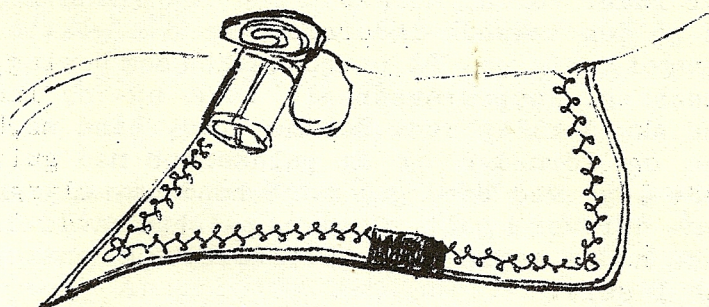
Bandolerer hvide, patrontaske sort. Bevæbning sabel og tandnålskabin. Livgehang under spændt sort, m. sorte sabel- og sabeltaske-remme. Sabel i stålskede, fæste af stål, portopeeremme sort læder, kvaster i eskadronfarver.

Lang kappe af mørkegrå farve, eenradet, kanpper i snoreffarve. Spejl på krave og skulderklap i regimentsfarve. - Når kappen blev båret, blev både bando-



lerer og livgehæng spændt over kappen.

Underofficerer af højere rang var kun bevæbnet med sabel og pistol og bar de normale prøjsiske underofficersdistinktioner på krave og opslag. Skærf som menige.



Valrap for Menige
Prøjsiske Husarer 1864.

Officerer bar uniform i samme snit som mandskabet, dog af finere klæde, pelshuen ligeledes af mere langhåret skind, gerne i brun farve. Kokarde sølv/sort, fangsnore hvide. Snorebesætning i metal efter regimenternes snorefarve, dog vel i felten, for at skåne de dyre uniformer, snorebesætning som mandskabet, men knapper og knebler i ædelt metal. På skuldrene skulderstykke af sølv som den øvrige hær.

Bandoler for officerer besat med sølvtræsse. Patrontaske gerne forsynet med forgyldt beslag. Husarskærf sølv m. sort-randede felter og pisk og kvaster i sølv. Sabeltasker i attilafarve, med bort og kronede, slyngede initialer i metal af snorefarve, dog i felten vel af uld. Portépee sølv. Valrapper som menige. Ved flere af de prøjsiske husarregimenter havde officererne konkyliebeslag på hestenes fortoøj. Nogle husarofficerer brugte under felttoget 1864 de nye prøjsiske bløde kyradser-kravestøvler. Brugen af disse støvler for husarer begrænsedes dog til dette felttog, og brugtes ikke i 1866 eller 1870-71 for husarer.

GARDE-HUSAR-REGIMENTET: Pelshue brun, kolpakpose rød. Lige under kokarden fortil en gardestjerne med bånd om spidserne, begge dele i messing. Attila rød med gul snorebesætning. På krave og opslag under kantningen bred, gul bort. Knapper og knebler messing. Husar-skærf rødt med gule felter, pisk og kvaster røde. Valrap mørkeblå med rød indadvendt takkebort, kantet på den takkede inderside og den glatte yderside med gul slyngetkantning. På patrontasken som beslag, gardestjerne i messing. Kappekravespejl, både ud- og indvendig, rød. Kappens skulderklap rød. Felthue rød, bånd mørkeblå, kantet foroven og forneden og om puldkanten med gult. Sabeltaske med rødt låg, med bred gul bort rundtom, slyngede initialer og krone derover i gult. Gardens pelshue havde 2 hvide kvaste hængende ned i højre side. Officerer på patrontaske gardestjerne i sølv.

BRANDENBURGSKE HUSAR-REGIMENT NR. 3, (Zieten): Sort pelshue med rød kolpakpose; med flyvende bånd i hvidtmetal foroven, fortil. Attila rød, snorebesætning samt knapper og knebler hvide. Husar-skærf rødt med hvide felter samt hvid pisk og kvaste. Valrap mørkeblå med rød takkebort, kantet som garden, både ud- og indvendig, i hvidt. Patrontaske uden beslag for menige, for officerer kronet navnetræk forgyldt. Sabeltaske af læder med kronede forgyldte initialer i hvidtmetal. Kappekravespejl rødt. Kappens skulderklap mørkeblå. Felthue rød med mørkeblåt bånd, kantet foroven og forneden og omkring puldkanten med hvidt.

I. WESTFAHLSKE HUSAR-REGIMENT NR. 8: Sort pelshue med lyseblå kolpakpose og dekoration som 3.Rgt. Attila mørkeblå med hvid snorebesætning og do. knapper og knebler. Valrap mørkeblå med lyseblå takkebort, kantet med hvidt som de andre regimente. Sabeltaske og patrontaske som 3.Regiment. Officerer, på patrontaske forgyldte navnetræk med krone. Kappekravespejl lyseblåt, kappens skulderklap mørkeblå. Felthue mørkeblå, med lyseblåt bånd, kantet med hvidt som de andre regimente.

Fælles for alle prøjsiske og østrigske tropper, der deltog i krigen i 1864 var et hvidt armbind om venstre overarm. Armbindet blev båret både på våbenfrakken og på kappen.

The Austrian hussar regiment "Husaren-Regiment Graf Ngdasdy Nr.9" called the Liechtenstein hussars also participated.



They were the ones who persecuted the Danes from Dannevirke. The regiment was in Schleswig with 3 ³/₄ squadron, so it is likely that the entire regiment was deployed with a total of 4-5 squadrons.

The regiment's war history mentions the following places for skirmishes, Isted Kro and Sankelmark, while the regiment continued up into Jutland.

It should be mentioned that all the officers were from the Hungarian nobility, which is an expression of high morale in the unit.



Painting depicting the Regimental Commander (RC) in 1864. Colonel Graf Pejacsevich.

His successor, Oberst Wilhelm Baron von Süßenburg, is mentioned in several sources as commander in 1864, he only took office in 1859.

The picture clearly shows that it is the boss from 1864, in addition to the very handsome horse. Note the Danish half-timbered houses in the background, as well as the white armband. It was worn by all confederation troops on the left upper arm.

Additional Prussian cavalry units that participated in 1864:



Westfälisches Dragoner-Regiment Nr.7

Participated at Mysunde and the storm at Dybbøl. The picture shows the wrong border color on the waist lapel and shoulder flaps, the border color should be red.



Westfälisches Kürassier-Regiment Nr.4

Participated with 1 squadron 4 ESK acting as staff guard for GFM v. Wrangel.



Kürassier-Regiment Kaiser Nikolaus I. von Rusland (Brandenburg) Nr.6

Deployed in patrol and surveillance service.



Ulanen-Regiment Graf Haeseler (2. Brandenburgisches) Nr.11

Participated in the storm on Dybbøl and the transition to Als.

Command relationship with units deployed against Denmark.

The supreme commander of the confederation that fought against Denmark was King Wilhelm of Prussia, later Kaiser Wilhelm I.



The "jug caster" for the campaign was the politician Otto von Bismarck. This is most often depicted in a cuirassier uniform, he was a reserve officer which can be seen on the Maltese cross in the helmet badge. The campaign against Denmark was part of his plan to unite the German states into a confederation.



In this document, only the units deployed against Denmark are mentioned, in corps and division size. The army deployed by Prussia and Austria against Denmark consisted of two thirds of Prussians and one third of Austrians.

The supreme command of the combined corps was Generalfeldmarschall Freiherr von Wrangel, he was at this time about 80 years old. He was in command until May 1864, and was not, as shown in the series, deprived of command before the storm at Dybbøl, although he was blamed for the many losses that the storm at Dybbøl entailed. Yes he waged war as during the Napoleonic era, but he had all his experience from the field and not from the military academy. He was also active during the Franco-German war in 1870.



The chief of Wrangel's general staff was Generallieutenant Freiherr Vogel von Falckenstein.



To carry out the operations, they had the following troop units available:

A combined Prussian army corps, whose commander was general der kavallerie Prinzen Friedrich Karl von Preussen. He was in the series wearing an almost correct uniform, but it was marred a lot by the shoulder pads, which were replaced by some silver glitter threads that looked like they came from last year's Christmas tree, ugh.



A combined Prussian Guards Division, whose commander was Generallieutenant von der Mülbe

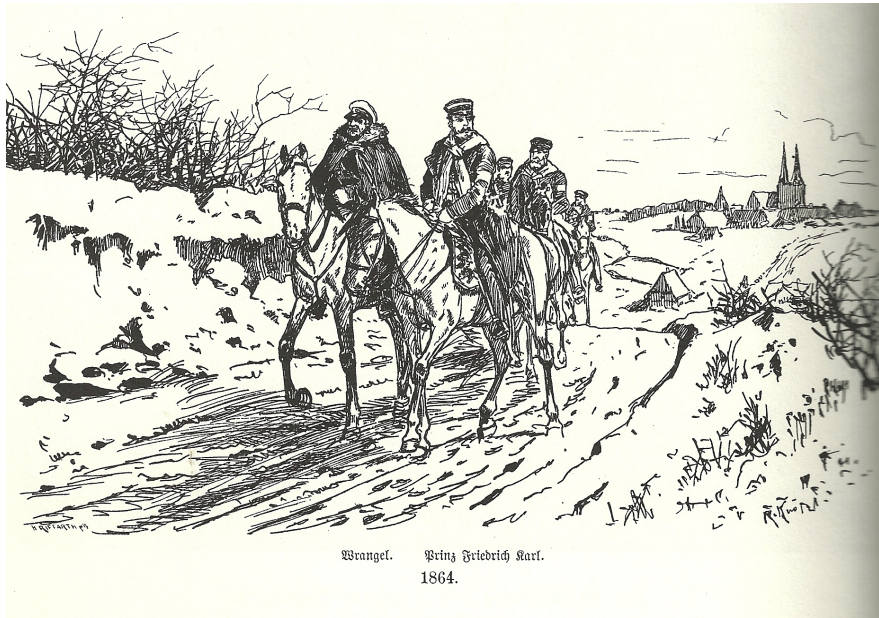


An Austrian army corps whose commander was Feldmarschallliutnant Freiherrn von Gablenz



Units and command conditions are now under control, so the following illustrations show a little about the contemporary perception of the war, a drawing by R. Knötel and a picture of the Zietenhussaren's transition to Als on 29 June 1864.

If you want to know more about equestrian encounters (Danish) in 1864, the book "Det danske rytteri 1848-1864" by Sune Wadskjær, Forlag Sohn ISBN-13:9 788 771 220 506 can be recommended.



Closing.

In this writing, I have delved into a topic that occupies a lot of space in Danish history and in our consciousness, my sources are primarily German, which very often gives a different angle on history.

I hope the readers get a bit of military history along the way.

Enjoy

Niels Blangsted-Jensen

Sources:

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