THE BAVARIAN ARMY OF THE WAR OF THE SPANISH SUCCESSION

Peter Berry

General

Bavaria was a middle ranking European power with an army at the outset of the war of approximately 20,000 men. Under the Elector Maximilian Emmanuel II the Bavarians has gained a good reputation in the Turkenkrieg and were seen as a valuable allies by the French.

Unfortunately for the Bavarians, the alliance was a disaster as the Allies under Marlborough effectively invaded Bavaria inflicting a defeat on the defenders at the Schellenberg heights. Worse was to follow as the Bavarians suffered badly at the battle of Blenheim. After that and until the end of the war, the Bavarian 'Army' was really a mounted contingent in the main French army.

These notes are based on the plates by Wagner. As such they are open to correction and amendment by any one who feels that they have better information. If you feel that you can contribute please email me at admin@baccus6mm.com.

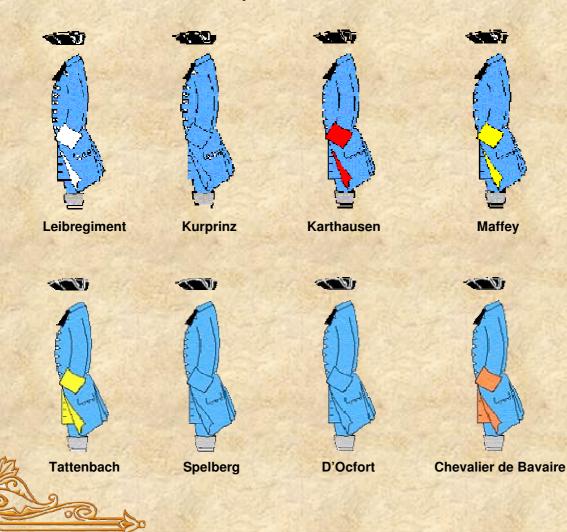
Infantry

We have details for eight infantry regiments, each consisting of two battalions. The two 'Royal' regiments (Leib and Kurprinz) are stated to have Grenadier companies, the latter in red coats.

Leather equipment was brown, and cartridge boxes black.

Officers and musicians seemed to have worn reversed colours, were appropriate. Officers also wore a blue and white striped sash. Bavarian drums were painted in a blue and white 'flame' pattern.

Grenadiers wore a fur bonnet with no front plate.



THE BAVARIAN ARMY OF THE WAR OF THE SPANISH SUCCESSION

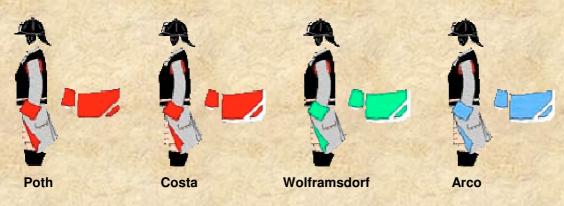
The Horse

There were four regiments of Horse, plus one of Carabiniers. In practical terms this probably equated to three squadrons of 150-200 men and officers per regiment.

The Bavarian Horse were initially equipped with Back and Breast, and spectacularly with a full helmet. The latter was a remnant of the Turkenkrieg and seems to have fallen out of favour in the Western campaign being replaced by a hat trimmed with yellow/gold lace. Wargamers however never seem to let history get in the way of a spectacular looking unit!

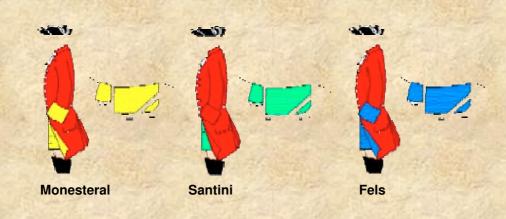
Leather equipment was brown or buff, and cartridge boxes black.

Officers and musicians seemed to have worn reversed colours, were appropriate. Officers also wore a light blue sash.



The Dragoons and Hussars

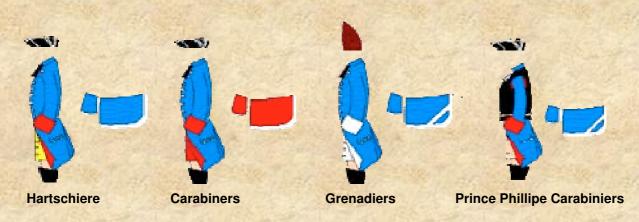
The Dragoons seemed to have a short lived existence and didn't survive the disastrous events of 1704. In the absence of further information, details as above. The Von Locatelli Hussars were also victims of the war, dwindling to squadron strength by 1706.



THE BAVARIAN ARMY OF THE WAR OF THE SPANISH SUCCESSION

The Guard Cavalry

There were three squadrons of Guard Cavalry - The Hartschiere, The Carabiniers and the Grenadiers



The Artillery

This is highly speculative so please take this cautiously and if you know better please let me know!



All text and images are copyright, Peter Berry and Baccus 6mm.

