

GREAT

WAR GERMAN CAVALRY

John French & Kevin Dallimore



Cavalry Organisation

Regiments comprised four active squadrons (total of 724 all ranks) and one reserve or depot squadron. Upon mobilisation much of the cavalry were formed into eleven divisions - numbered 1 to 9, Guards and Bavarian. A division comprised three brigades of two regiments each. Two or three divisions were sometimes formed into a corps. The remaining cavalry was attached to the infantry. Initially two or three squadrons, later reduced to one. Although that attached to the infantry remained mounted, most cavalry (around 80%) were dismounted as the war progressed, and became one of twelve rifle or one machine-gun squadrons. When cavalry were fighting in an infantry role they retained their own uniform but used infantry equipment. There were several reasons why so many were dismounted - the obvious ones were the lack of use in trench warfare and the number of fighting men who would have been kept out of the front line. Added to these reasons were shortages of horses and fodder in the later stages of the war. Each cavalry division had attached to it various

support units such as a jager battalion, machine-gun detachment, three horse batteries, pioneers, signals and train units.

Dragoon Cavalry

There were 28 regiments of dragoons, the 3rd was known as 'Grenadier zu Pferd' (Grenadiers on horseback). Drab linen cover on Pickelhaube. The tunic (Waffenrock) was field grey with regimental colour piping. Regimental colours: red - 1st & 2nd Guard, 1st, 5th, 13th, 17th, 20th, 23rd; black - 2nd, 6th, 14th, 18th, 19th, 22nd; pink - 3rd, 7th, 15th; yellow - 4th, 8th, 16th, 21st, 26th; white - 9th, 10th, 24th, 25th; crimson -



Uhlan

cyphers (except 3rd, 7th, 15th pink). Trousers were plain grey (no piping). Brown boots & leather equipment.

Uhlan (Lancer) Cavalry

There were 26 lancer regiments, including two Bavarian. The lancer cap was worn with a grey cover with or without red regimental number. The tunic ('Ulanka') was field grey with piping in the regimental colour around edges of plastron, tunic bottom edge, collar, cuffs, rear seams and pockets, shoulder straps. From 1915 they were changed to red with similar piping and yellow numbers. Regimental colours for piping: white - 1st Guard, 1st, 5th, 9th, 13th, 17th, 1st & 2nd Bavarian; red - 2nd Guard, 2nd, 6th, 18th, 19th; yellow - 3rd Guard, 3rd, 7th, 11th, 15th, 20th, 21st; light blue - 4th, 8th, 12th, 16th; carmine - 10th, 14th.



11th, 12th. Shoulder straps were also piped in regimental colours except 22nd had red piping although the shoulder strap was edged in regimental black. Collars & cuffs for regiments 13 to 16 were piped white. When the 1915 uniform was introduced the shoulder straps were changed to light blue, piped in regimental colours with red numerals /

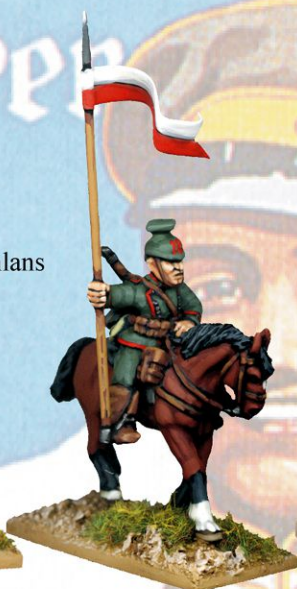


Dragoons





Uhlans



Hussars



Hussar Cavalry

The fur busby was worn with a grey service cover. Jacket ('Attila') and breeches field grey with similar colour used for braiding and piping, although the lace often appeared as a darker shade of grey. Brown leather equipment, and boots. The boots had lace stitched around the upper edges. Shoulder straps of plaited braid used the full dress regimental colour woven with a thread of white or yellow according to button colour. There were 21 Hussar Regiments, numbered 1 to 20 plus the Life Guard ('Lieb Garde'). Regiments 1 & 2 were styled 'Liebhussars'. Colours of straps were as follows: red - 'Lieb Garde', 3rd 5th; black - 1st, 2nd (the two 'Liebhussars'), 17th; green - 6th, 10th; blue - 7th to 9th, 12th to 16th, 18th to 20th; dark blue - 11th. Buttons (and therefore second thread colour) were yellow for Guard, 3rd to 7th, 9th to 11th, 17th, 18th. Remainder were white. An alternative to the busby was the field cap (grey). This had a band or 'Mutze' of the regimental colour (that of 11th was green) which was piped in button colour except 3rd, 5th, 11th piped white.

Lance Pennons

All German cavalry were armed with lance. Pennons were used in the early stages of the war each state had its own colours - Baden yellow over red; Bavaria white over light blue; Hesse & Mecklenburg both white over red; Prussia white over black; Oldenburg red over blue; Saxony white over light green; Wurttemberg black over red. Lance pennons were discarded after 1914. Horse furniture generally brown.

Painting

The models are painted using Foundry's paint system.

Paints

Flesh: FLESH 5

Field Grey Uniform:

STORM GREEN 27A & 27B

Numbers: SCARLET 38

Piping: SCARLET 38, WHITE 33, VIVID BLUE 22, BLACK 34, SHADOW PINK 18, DEEP BLUE 20, BRIGHT GREEN 25

Knapsack: RAW LINEN 30

Helmet Covers: BUFF LEATHER 7

Leather: DUSKY FLESH 6

Saddle cloth: GRANITE 31

Woodwork: SPEARSHAFT 13

Pennants: SCARLET 38, YELLOW 2, WHITE 33, BLACK 34, CANVAS 8, VIVID BLUE 22, DEEP BLUE 20, BRIGHT GREEN 25

Metalwork: ARMOUR 35

Horses: QUAGMIRE 63, PEATY BROWN 61, STONE 57, PALOMINO 56, BUTTER FUDGE 55, CONKER BROWN 54, CHESTNUT 53, DEEP BROWN LEATHER 45, STORM BLUE 39

Bases: BASE SAND 10

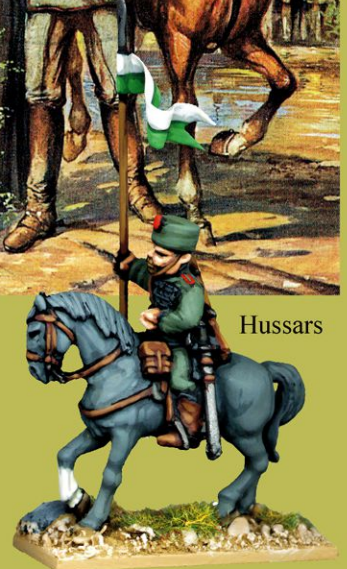
Grass: DRY-BRUSHED OCHRE LIGHT 4A

Models

All from FOUNDRY's Great War range.



Uhlans



Hussars