

Organization, Terminology and Structure of the Russian Army in 1849*

TATIANA ONILOV

The general context

THE YEAR 1848 turned to be one of radical changes, revolutionary movements, and crashing of empires, when tumultuous battles and continuous wars affected almost the whole Europe, leading to a different arrangement of state powers on the political arena. The French revolution, with the *freedom concept* as the main standard, served as the most desired and partially implemented pattern for the existence and becoming of the European nations.

Nevertheless, according to historical data,¹ Russia was not seriously affected by the disturbances which occurred in several European countries. Standing apart, one of the biggest political players, Russia, assumed the role of observer and of arbitrator ready to intervene where its political interests would have been a priority. In fact, tsar Nicholas I, Russia's emperor, had the purpose to counter the spread of revolutionary ideas from abroad and, in a very specific manner, he manifested his readiness to restrain the nationalist desire for freedom in the neighbouring countries, in order "to prevent" their downfall. Russia's real purpose was to "foster an alliance with the absolutist monarchies of Austria and Prussia, prevent the re-establishment of an independent Poland and maintain Russia's preponderance over Great Britain in the struggle for influence in the Ottoman Empire".²

In this international context, when young intelligentsia brought the revolutionary spirit in the Romanian Principalities of Wallachia and Moldavia, which would have led to the accomplishment of the unification of the Romanian Principalities, Russia did not hesitate to demonstrate its "protective" care. Researchers, as I.W. Roberts and Aleksandr Voronov,³ synthesize the intervention of the Russian army in the Romanian Principalities. The military actions began on 6 June 1848, when the commander of the 5th infantry corps, general-adjutant Alexander Nikolaevich Lüders (Александр Николаевич

* This study was supported by a grant of the Romanian National Authority for Scientific Research, CNCS-UEFISCDI, project number PN-II-ID-PCE-2011-3-0064, project title: "The Imperial Armies and the Romanians. Secret Military Testimonies from the Russian and Austrian Archives (1848–1849)", project leader: Ela Cosma.

Лидерс),⁴ with the emperor's approval, entered the Principality of Moldavia, where he had to put an end to disturbances. "In early July 1848 the tsar acquiesced in an occupation of Moldavia by a small Russian intervention force assembled in Bessarabia which had been initiated by his special envoy, General Alexander Osipovich Duhamel (Александр Осипович Дюгамель)."⁵ Then, in October-November the same year, Russian forces partly occupied Wallachia, routing the remnants of the Romanian June 1848 revolution. Tsar Nicholas I assured the Great Powers that Russia's intervention in the Romanian Principalities would be temporary. In reality, the occupation of Moldavia and Wallachia was the beginning of a longer staying of the tsarist troops in the Principalities, in order to be closer to interfere in Transylvania, that was another conflict region.

After the revolutionary problem in Moldavia and Wallachia was "solved" by military occupation, Russia focused on the Habsburg Monarchy, which seemed to be outrun by inner revolutions and wars. Loosing control, the Austrian emperor had to request Russia's military help.

The authorized voice of the Russian historians old and new, Revekka Abramovna Averbukh,⁶ affirms that, at the beginning of the "disturbances" in the Habsburg Empire, tsar Nicholas I "refused" a military intervention. Moreover, initially the tsar would have expressed "no intention to interfere" in Austria's or the Romanian Principalities' political affairs. And yet, Russia changed its mind regarding Moldavia and Wallachia and it decided to intervene not just "to stop the spreading of the revolutionary movements and ideas", but also in order "to protect a Christian population". At the same time, the Habsburg Monarchy, trying to face the Hungarian rebellion, was in a very bad position, especially when the Polish emigré general Józef Bem became commander-in-chief of the Hungarian forces in Transylvania, gaining victories over the Austrians. The Austrian monarch, Franz Joseph, requested assistance from Nicholas I.⁷ The conjuncture turned to be favorable for a Russian military intervention in Transylvania, and after that in Hungary.

The Russian intervention forces in the Austrian Empire in summer 1849

WITHOUT NEGLECTING the historical amplitude of the events, the goals of the following essay are to describe the structure and organization of Russian military force in 1848–1849. From the general frame of the entire Russian military army involved in these events, the focus will turn to a narrower perspective, referring specifically to the 5th tsarist infantry corps during its summer 1849 intervention in Transylvania against the Hungarian troops.

First of all, it is important to review the general Russian military movements before and during their Transylvanian intervention. According to I. W. Roberts, author of the historical article *Russia in 1848 and 1849*,⁸ on 17 June 1849 the entire Russian intervention force of 190,000 men became operative. The main army, under command of marshal Ivan Fyodorovich Paskevich (Иван Феодорович Паскевич),⁹ entered northern

Hungary, in nowadays Slovakia, through the Dukla pass in the Carpathians. Two further big operative units led by general Mihail Mihailovich Grotenhjelm (М. М. Гротенхельм) and general Alexander Nikolaevich Lüders entered northern and southern Transylvania. At the same time, an Austrian army under general Julius von Haynau, reinforced by a Russian division of general Feodor Sergejevich Panyutin (Панютин Феодор Сергеевич), entered western Hungary, while a small force under general P.Kh. Grabbe (Грабэ) “defended” western Galicia. All the mentioned territories, that belonged in fact to the Austrian Empire, became the manoeuvring area of the Russian Empire’s military.

More detailed data about the intervention of the Russian troops are offered by Aleksandr Voronov, in his article entitled *A Battle Between Russian and Hungarian Hussars, 8/20 July 1849*.¹⁰ The author considers that an army formed of 4 corps was mobilized and deployed along the borders of the Habsburg Monarchy, namely in the following order:

1. the 2nd Russian army corps led by lieutenant general P. Ya. Kupriyanov (Куприянов), including the 4th, 5th, and 6th infantry divisions; the 2nd light cavalry division, and the 2nd artillery division—with total headcounts of 48,987 men;
2. the 3rd army corps of general-adjutant count Fedor Vasilevich Rüdiger (Ридигер Фёдор Васильевич), including the 7th, 8th, and 9th infantry divisions; the 3rd light cavalry division, and the 3rd artillery division—44,928 men in all;
3. the 4th army corps of lieutenant general Mihail Ivanovich Cheodaev (Чеодаев Михаил Иванович), made up of the 10th, 11th, and 12th infantry divisions; the 4th light cavalry division, and the 4th artillery division—that is 52,274 men; and finally,
4. general adjutant A.N. Lüders’s 5th army corps, including the 14th and 15th infantry divisions, the 5th light cavalry division, the 5th artillery division, and the 3rd Don Cossack regiment—a manpower of 28,676 soldiers.

As already mentioned, the commander of all tsarist forces was marshal and prince of Warsaw, count I.F. Paskevich. According to Pavel Markovich Andrianov’s critical remarks, Paskevich didn’t manage to demonstrate a courageous and strategic military leadership over all the Russian armies, being afraid that the Hungarian forces could have been more numerous than his own. Due to his craven attitude, some of the military actions failed under his command.¹¹

Of course, the manoeuvres that involved each of the Russian corps were ample, offering lots of interesting details. But it is not the aim of our article to present the description of the battles and movements involving the 4 Russian army corps on the territory of the Austrian Empire in summer 1849.

That is why, to remain in our field of interest, we go on by presenting the supreme military leadership, as well as the general structure and organization of the Russian army.

Main headquarters and general staff of the operative Russian army in 1849

IMPORTANT DATA about the *main headquarters* and the *general staff* (Генеральный Штаб) of the Russian operative army deployed in 1849 on the Transylvanian and Hungarian territory can be found in a military diary edited in 1851 in Sankt-Petersburg,¹² which indicated the following high rank officers in charge with the supreme military functions:

- General commander of all Russian armed forces: marshal prince of Warsaw, count I.F. Paskevich d'Erivan.
- Commander of the general staff: artillery general, general-adjutant prince *Gorceakov* the 3rd;
- General quartermaster: lieutenant general *Freitag*;
- Artillery commander: artillery general *Gilenschmidt*;
- Chief of the military engineers: lieutenant general *Sorokin*;
- General on duty: general major *Zabolotsky*;
- Manager of the supplying department: lieutenant general *Renne*;
- General quartermaster responsible for the supplying department: general *Zatler*;
- Staff chief of the artillery headquarters: general major *Deitrich*;
- March *ataman* of the Cossack regiments (supreme military commander of the Cossack units): lieutenant general *Kuznetzov*;
- Chief of the army's police: lieutenant general count *Simonich*;
- Field physician of the main headquarters: state councilor doctor *Chetyrkin*.

The tactical units of the operative Russian army in 1849

ARUSSIAN PARTICIPANT at the events' development in Transylvania in 1849, Ivan Oreus, offered very detailed information about Russian forces' organization and structure. Oreus wrote his war memoirs¹³ not long after the end of his country's intervention in Transylvania and Hungary. Taking into account the above quoted source, a descriptive structure of the tsarist army will be briefly presented, but first of all, let us start with a few aspects regarding the military units.

It is important to highlight that the basic unit of the Russian army was the *regiment* (полк). A Russian *infantry regiment* (пехотный полк), for example, had 2–3 *battalions* (батальон), each with up to 4 *companies* (рота). *Cavalry regiments* (кавалерийские полки) consisted of *squadrons* (эскадрон). 2 or 3 regiments formed a *brigade* (бригада). Further on, 2 or 3 brigades formed a *division* (дивизия). "At the beginning of the 19th century, a division could have been a mix of infantry, cavalry, artillery and engineers. But, in the mid of the 19th century, separate infantry and cavalry divisions were formed."¹⁴ 2 or 3 divisions composed a *corps* (корпус). Finally, several corps made up an *army*.

According to the data presented by Ivan Oreus,¹⁵ in 1849 the *regular Russian forces* or the *standing army* (Регулярные русские войска) were divided in *active forces* (действующие войска), that existed in peacetime and increased their number before the war, and *military reserve forces* (резервные войска), which were scarce in peacetime, but increased considerably if a war was imminent.

The mentioned author, Ivan Oreus, reveals that the Russian standing army was composed of the following *corps* (корпуса):

a *guard infantry corps* (гвардейские пехотные корпуса) and
 a *guard cavalry reserve corps* (гвардейские резервные кавалерийские корпуса),
 a *grenadier corps* (гренадёрские корпуса),
 6 *infantry corps* (6 пехотные корпуса), and
 2 *cavalry reserve corps* (2 резервные кавалерийские корпуса).

Besides these, there were some separate corps: the *Caucasian corps* (кавказский корпус), the *Orenburg corps* (оренбургский корпус), the *Siberian corps* (сибирский корпус) and a few *training troops* (учебные войска).

The guard infantry corps consisted of 3 divisions with 4 regiments each and 3 battalions per regiment, namely a *riflemen battalion* (стрелковый батальон), a *sapper battalion* (сапёрный батальон), and a *guard equipage battalion* (батальон гвардейского экипажа).

The grenadier corps was composed of 3 divisions with 4 regiments each and 3 battalions per regiment, i.e. a rifle battalion, a sapper battalion and a *light cavalry division* (легкая кавалерийская дивизия).

Each infantry corps had 3 infantry divisions, each division consisting of 4 regiments with 4 battalions per each regiment, as follows: a light cavalry division, a rifle battalion and a sapper battalion. An infantry corps totaled up to 50,000 men.

The guards and the grenadiers, as elite troops, rarely served under the command of line infantry. They existed as separate corps, forming the already mentioned Caucasian troops.

The guard cavalry reserve corps included a *cuirassier division* (кирасирская дивизия), 2 cavalry divisions and a *horsemen pioneer division* (конно-пионерский дивизион). The 1st cavalry reserve corps consisted of 2 cuirassier divisions and an *ulan reserve division* (резервная уланская дивизия). The 2nd cavalry reserve corps was made up of 2 *dragon divisions* (драгунские дивизии) and a horsemen pioneer division.

The guard and grenadier corps were under the command of a special *commander in chief* (главнокомандующий). In fact, the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th infantry corps formed the so called *active army* (действующая армия), led by marshal prince Paskevich; the 5th and the 6th corps were under the command of the minister of War (военного министра) and were considered to be separate corps; the 1st and 2nd cavalry reserve corps were under the command of a special inspector of the reserve cavalry.

As already mentioned, each infantry division consisted of at least 2 brigades, t.i. 4 regiments, as each brigade had in its composition 2 infantry regiments. One of the 4 regiments of each division was a *light infantry* regiment of *Jägers* (Егерь), respectively

hunters. Regiments had 3 or 4 battalions with 4 or more *companies* (pora) strong. A battalion usually numbered 600–800 men, depending on its number of companies. While a usual complete company comprised 250 soldiers, a rifleman company was composed of 180 persons.

Each *cavalry division* consisted of 2 brigades: an *ulan brigade* and a *hussar brigade* (уланская бригада и гусарская бригада) with 2 regiments per brigade.

The structure of the cavalry regiments depended on the cavalry units, from case to case:

- the guard corps had cavalry regiments consisting each of 6 *squadrons* (эскадрон) with 150 men per squadron;
- a regiment of the 1st and the 2nd cuirassier division had 6 squadrons with 170 persons per squadron;
- the ulan reserve division and 7 light cavalry divisions were composed of regiments including 8 squadrons with 170 persons per squadron;
- the dragon regiments were made up of 10 squadrons with 170 persons per squadron;
- the life guard horsemen pioneer regiment of the 1st horsemen pioneer division comprised 2 squadrons with 250 persons per squadron.

The guard artillery consisted of *foot artillery brigades* (пешие артиллерийские бригады) and *horse artillery brigades* (конная артиллерия). While a foot guard artillery brigade was formed of 2 normal *batteries* (батарея) and a *light battery* (легкая батарея), each horse artillery brigade consisted of a normal battery and 4 light batteries. A *guard artillery division* comprised 3 foot artillery brigades, a horse artillery brigade and a *park brigade* (парковая бригада).

The *grenadier artillery brigade* (гренадерская артиллерийская бригада) consisted of 4 batteries: 2 usual batteries and 2 light batteries. The *field foot brigade* (полевая пешая бригада) also included of 4 batteries.

The horse artillery divisions, which were in the structure of the cavalry reserve corps, were not made up of brigades, but only of 2 usual batteries and 4 light batteries.

Each *sapper battalion* (саперный батальон) consisted of 4 companies with 250 persons per company.

In his book entitled *The Russian Army of the Crimea*,¹⁶ Albert Seaton argues that the Russian army had more cavalry than any other army in Europe. Thus, some of the light cavalry divisions were included in the infantry corps, but the main part of the horsemen formed 3 special cavalry corps, namely a guard cavalry corps and 2 line cavalry corps, each about 12,000 men strong. The artillery of the cavalry formations was always horse riding, that of the infantry corps was both horse artillery and foot artillery, whereas foot artillery was pulled by horses or by oxen, and the cannon detachments moved on foot.

For a better comparison and overview, we reproduce one of Ivan Oreus's tables,¹⁷ regarding the structure and manpower of the Russian *active forces* in 1849:

Infantry		
Guard corps		38 battalions 37,720 men
Grenadier corps		38 battalions 37,720 men
6 infantry corps		300 battalions 298,320 men
Sapper reserve battalions		2 battalions 2,000 men
TOTAL INFANTRY		378 battalions 375.760 men

Cavalry		
Guard cavalry		68 squadrons 9,000 men
7 light cavalry divisions		224 squadrons 38,080 men
1 st cavalry reserve corps	1 st cuirassier division	24 squadrons 4,080 men
	2 nd cuirassier division	24 squadrons 4,080 men
	ulan reserve division	32 squadrons 5,440 men
2 nd cavalry reserve corps (2 nd dragon division)		80 squadrons 13,600 men
2 horsemen pioneer divisions		4 squadrons 1,000 men
TOTAL CAVALRY		456 squadrons 75,280 men

Artillery				
Guard corps	on foot	9 batteries	72 cannons	1,650 men
	on horse	5 batteries	40 cannons	1,138 men
Grenadier corps	on foot	9 batteries	72 cannons	1,650 men
	on horse	5 batteries	40 cannons	1,138 men
Field artillery		72 batteries	864 cannons	17,084 men
	on horse	12 batteries	96 cannons	2,580 men
	Cossacks	9 batteries	72 cannons	2,000 men
2 horse artillery divisions included in the cavalry reserve corps		12 batteries	96 cannons	2,832 men
TOTAL ARTILLERY		133 batteries	1,352 cannons	29,914 men

All these informations refer to the organization of the *Russian regular forces*. Ivan Oreus, as a very attentive military observer, did not forget to describe the other important component of the tsarist army, the *irregular forces*. To this category of military troops belonged all the Cossack units.

The above mentioned author¹⁸ noted that, during the 1849 events in Transylvania, in the Romanian Principalities and in Hungary, the Russian active forces of the standing army were completed by the *Don Cossacks troops*. They consisted of:

- 2 Cossack guard regiments, composed of 6 *active squadrons* (действующие эскадроны) per regiment;
- 54 Cossack regiments including each a number of 6 *sotnias* (сотни), while a sotnia was a smaller unit of 100 soldiers;
- a guard battery;
- 9 active batteries;
- 4 horse reserve batteries.

The second component of the irregular forces was the *Danube Cossack brigade*, made up of 2 horsemen regiments.

The following table shows the Cossack regiments directly involved in the Transylvanian events, that were part of the Russian 5th infantry corps:

<i>Cossacks of the Russian 5th army corps</i>	
General commander	infantry general Lüders
Don Cossack regiments	1 st Don Cossack regiment
	43 rd Don Cossack regiment
	48 th Don Cossack regiment

In his book, entitled *Cossack Hurrah! Russian Irregular Cavalry Organization and Uniforms during the Napoleonic War*,¹⁹ Stephen Summerfield enumerates the Cossack troops existing in the Russian army of the 19th century, namely the Cossacks of the Black Sea, Bug, Danube, the Atman Cossacks, the Orenburg, Siberian, Don, Ukrainian, Ural Cossacks and a few minor Cossack troops, like the Ekaterinoslav Cossacks, the Terek Cossacks and the Volga Cossacks. Based on Russian documents, the British historian makes a description of the Cossacks. He uncovers their main features and emphasizes that they were constituted in irregular troops with no permanent organization, being a special military cast and coming from various areas of Russia and present Ukraine. “The *Cossacks* . . . descended from Tartar horsemen and runaway serfs, who formed hosts (hordes) of free fighting men on the steppes of southern Russia and Ukraine beginning with the late 14th century. Early hosts were founded: on the lower Don River in southern Russia; on the River Dnieper in present Ukraine, namely the Zaporozhian (their name meant literally “beyond the rapids (cataracts)”); and on the Yaik River, later called Ural, in East-European Russia. . . . The relationship between the Russian state and the Cossacks was complex. The Cossacks defended the borders, and provided excellent light cavalry, but they were also involved in all the rebellions against the tsars.”²⁰

General Lüders and the 5th infantry corps of the Russian army in Transylvania

AS ALREADY seen, marshal prince Paskevich assigned the command over the highly important and decisive military operations in Transylvania to general adjutant A.N. Lüders, commander in chief of the 5th infantry corps. Recent Russian historiography (Pavel Markovich Andrianov)²¹ portrayed especially commander Lüders’s military virtues, as a very skillful general, proving full ability to assess difficult situations on the battle field, eager to act in challenging circumstances with an exhaustive military strategy. To Andrianov it seems that, compared with marshal prince Paskevich, who coordinated the entire operative army of the Russians, general Lüders, although leading a much smaller military force, managed to play a crucial role in defeating the Hungarian troops.

According to the often quoted Ivan Oreus,²² general Lüdgers entered southern Transylvania through the defiles of Timiș and Bran (Темешское и Терцбургское ущелья), marching on the shortest way to meet the Hungarian enemy. If he managed to reach the Banat, Lüdgers could make junction of the other Russian troops for further battles against the Hungarians. The military forces under general Lüdgers's command consisted of 26 battalions, 16 squadrons and 18 *sotnias* (hundreds) of Cossacks, summing up a total of almost 25,000 soldiers and 56 cannons. General Lüdgers also coordinated an Austrian detachment led by general Clam Gallas, marching from Wallachia to Transylvania with 10,000 men and 32 cannons. The Russian and Austrian manpower under Lüdgers's general command counted approximately 35,000 men.

As soon as marshal prince Paskevich ordered the beginning of the military operations, on 6/18 June 1849 general Lüdgers directed his military columns to the Timiș and Bran defiles.

Lüdgers's *main column*, consisting of 21 battalions, 16 squadrons, 10 *sotnias* (hundreds) of Cossacks and 48 cannons, headed towards the city of Brașov.

The *left column*, confided to general major Engelhardt, the commander of the 2nd brigade of the 15th infantry division, had to pass through the Bran defile in order to get first to Râșnov, and then further to Brașov, too.

200 Cossacks were charged with the observation of the defiles *on the right side* of the road leading to Brașov.

One battalion of the Zhitomir regiment remained in the Wallachian city of Ploiești, in order to ensure the protection of the military hospital and of the Russian artillery park located there for a time.

The *vanguard*, lead by general major Dick, commander of the 1st brigade of the 15th infantry division, was ordered to move along the valley of the Prahova River from the monastery of Sinaia to that of Predeal. The vanguard consisted of 8 battalions, 8 squadrons and 8 Cossack *sotnias* and a total of 20 cannons, including troops of the Prague infantry regiment, the Lublin hunter regiment, the Odesa ulan regiment, 2 batteries of the 15th field artillery regiment, namely the light artillery battery no. 6 and no. 7, with 16 cannons, a division of the light cavalry battery no. 9 with 4 cannons, 6 *sotnias* of the 48th Don Cossack regiment and 2 *sotnias* of the 1st Don Cossack regiment.

The *main forces* were entrusted to lieutenant general Hasford, counting 13 battalions, 8 squadrons, 2 Cossack *sotnias*, and 28 cannons. They included soldiers from the Modlin infantry regiment, the Podolian hunter regiment and the Zhitomir hunter regiment, the 5th riflemen battalion and the 5th sapper battalion with the pontoon park, the Bug ulan regiment, the 14th artillery division, a division of the light cavalry battery, and 2 *sotnias* of the 48th Don Cossack regiment.

Worth to be mentioned is that the 5th Russian infantry corps barely modified its order of battle during the military operations in Transylvania in summer 1849. This is true for the columns, vanguard and main forces of the 5th infantry corps. But in different moments, circumstances and places, general Lüdgers changed the order and number of the vanguard, battalions, squadrons and Cossacks that intervened in the battles.

Organization and tactical commanders of the 5th Russian infantry corps

THE TACTICAL units of the 5th infantry corps of the Russian army, as well as their commanders, are indicated by tsarist officer Ivan Oreus, who participated himself at the Transylvanian war against Hungary and whose campaign memoirs were published in 1880.²³

According to Ivan Oreus, in June–July 1849 the general commander of the 5th infantry corps was, of course, infantry general *Lüders*. The respective Russian army corps included the following infantry, cavalry, and artillery units:

The 5th *light cavalry division*, formed of:

- a) the 1st brigade, led by general major *Komar* (Комар), including the – Bug ulan regiment of general major *Renenkampf* (Рененкампф);
- Herzog von Nassau ulan regiment of colonel *Shevich* (Шевич).

Attached to the 1st brigade there were the:

- b) 5th rifle battalion;
- c) 6th sapper battalion;
- d) 5th pontoon park.

The 14th *infantry division*, composed of:

- a) the 2nd brigade, under general major *Essauloff* (Есаулов);
- b) the Podolian hunter regiment of colonel *Lovcev* (Ловчев);
- c) the Zhitomir hunter regiment of general major *Adlerberg* (Адлерберг).

The 15th *infantry division*, under lieutenant general *Hasford's* (Гасфорд) command, including the:

- a) 1st brigade of general major *Dick* (Дик);
- b) Modlin infantry regiment of colonel *Jitkov* (Житков);
- c) Prague infantry regiment of colonel *Wranken* (Вранкен);
- d) 2nd brigade led by general major *Engelhardt* (Енгедьгардт);
- e) Lublin hunter regiment of colonel *Lipskij* (Липский);
- f) Zamosc hunter regiment of colonel *Golikov* (Голиков).

Attached were the:

- g) 5th riflemen battalion of colonel *Kr[e]uzenstern* (Крузенштерн);
- h) 5th sapper battalion of colonel *Ivanov* (Иванов).

The 5th *artillery division*, led by lieutenant general *Iwin* (Ивин), including:

- a) the cavalry battery no. 9 of colonel *Reisich* (Рейсих).

The 14th *field artillery brigade*, made up of:

- a) position battery no. 3, under command of colonel *Ostrogradskij* (Остроградский);
- b) light battery no. 3 of captain *Riumin* (Рюмин);

The 15th field artillery brigade, led by general major *Refeld* (Рефельд), including:

- a) position battery no. 4 of colonel *Nemov* (Немов);
- b) light battery no. 6 of lieutenant colonel *Terletskij* (Терлецкий);
- c) light battery no. 7 of captain *Samoilovici* (Самойлович);
- d) light battery no. 8 of lieutenant colonel *Lyshinskij* (Лишинский);
- e) light battery no. 14 of captain *Stankevich* (Станкевич);
- f) light battery no. 15 of captain *Vargasov* (Варгасов).

The following Don Cossack regiments belonged to general Lüdér's 5th army corps:

- a) the 1st Don Cossack regiment, led by colonel *Costin* (Костин);
- b) the 43rd Don Cossack regiment, led by colonel *Hoperskij* (Хоперский);
- c) the 48th Don Cossack regiment, led by lieutenant colonel *Grekov* (Греков).

Attached to the Don Cossack regiments were the:

- d) mobile reserve park no. 14 and the
- e) mobile reserve park no. 15.

Besides these units specified by Oreus, another Russian military diary published in 1866,²⁴ describing the Hungarian war in 1849, itemized further provisional branches and units that were temporarily included in the 5th tsarist army corps:

An infantry unit, under command of general major *Pavlov* (Павлов), made up of the:

- a) Volynskij infantry regiment (i.e from Volhunia), led by colonel *von Lein* (фон Лейн);
- b) light battery no. 5 of captain *Fomin* (Фомин); as well as the
- c) Tomsk hunter regiment of colonel *Ber* (Бер) and the
- d) Kolyvan hunter regiment of colonel *Zamarin* (Замарин).

Cavalry, under general major *Vladislavich's* (Владиславич) command, consisting of the:

- a) Novo-Mirgorod ulan regiment, led by colonel *Nirod* (Нирод) and the
- b) Elisavetgrad ulan regiment under command of colonel *Germeier* (Гермейер).

Of course, the Russian cavalry comprised also the Cossacks, namely the:

- c) 50th Don Cossack regiment of lieutenant colonel *Demidov* (Демидов).

The artillery included:

- a) the horsemen light battery no. 22 of the 2nd horsemen artillery division, under command of lieutenant colonel *Ellerts* (Эллерц);
- b) the light battery no. 1 of the 10th field artillery brigade of lieutenant colonel *Puzyrevskij* (Пузыревский);
- c) the light battery no. 2 of the 10th field-artillery brigade of lieutenant colonel *Klaver* (Клавер).

In the Military-Historical Archive in Moscow we found precious documents containing general Lüdér's own reports to the ministry of War Chernyshev, to the commander in chief of the entire Russian operative army Pakevich and to the tsar himself.²⁵ These written testimonies highlight the significant role played by the regiments of Cossacks,

ulans and hunters during the Russian intervention in Transylvania, Banat and Hungary. They were implied and distinguished themselves in all the military operations, especially in attack. The Zhitomir, Podolian, Zamosc and Lublin Jäger hunter regiments, followed by Cossacks and ulans, always formed the vanguard, but they were also part of the main military intervention force led by the commander of the 5th army corps.

Brief conclusions

DURING THE whole period of battles and military operations between the Russian and Hungarian troops on the territory of Transylvania, the Russian army, namely the 5th infantry corps under general Lüders's command, proved a better strategy and military training than its opponent. Nevertheless, there are historians who argue that the victory obtained by general Lüders was due to his superior manpower and to the circumstances more favourable to the Russians. Many researchers even doubt that the Tsarist Empire had really disposed over military forces of such proportions. Anyway, in August 1849, the Russian army corps reached their goal and they defeated the Hungarian troops. It is not easy to demonstrate whether the Russian military forces were so impressive by their experience and organization, or it was a matter of historical good-luck for the Russians and bad-luck on the side of the Hungarians.

One thing is certain, in 1849 once again the occupied Romanian Lands, including the Principalities of Moldavia and Wallachia, as well as Transylvania, became a military arena used for Russia's own political interests. All the damages, disorders, spoliation, and losses were endured by the population of these regions, who received in return mere political lies and deception.

The main aim of our study was to emphasize the military organization and structure of the tsarist army in the mid 19th century. Russia's interference in the historical events of the 1848–1849 revolutions and wars, with all their amplitude and consequences, are to be analyzed in a future study.



Notes

1. I.W. Roberts, Russia in 1848 and 1849, in *Encyclopedia of 1848 Revolutions*, editor James Chastain, Ohio University, 1999, 2005. Online edition: <http://www.ohio.edu/chastain/rz/russia.htm>. Andreij Kushko, Viktor Taki, Oleg Grom, *Вессарабия в Российской империи 1812–1917* (Moscow: *Новое Литературное Обозрение*, 2012), colection Historia Rossica.
2. I.W. Roberts, online.
3. Aleksandr Voronov, *A Battle Between Russian and Hungarian Hussars, 8 (20) July 1849*, online article: <http://marksrussianmilitaryhistory.info/OlgaHus.htm>.
4. Alexander Nikolaevitch Lüders, Russian general, born in 1790, of a German family settled in Russia long time before, died in St. Petersburg in February 1874. He entered the army in 1807. In 1837 he became the commander of the 5th infantry corps of the Russian army.

- In 1848 he commanded the Russian troops in Moldavia and Wallachia. In 1849 he led the 5th corps sent to help Austria against the Hungarian rebellion. George Ripley, Charles A. Dana, *The American Cyclopaedia*, (Publishers D. Appleton & Company, 1873). Online edition: <http://chestofbooks.com/reference/American-Cyclopaedia-1/Alexander-Nikolayevitch-Luders.html>. Ela Cosma, *Sași, austrieci, slavi în Transilvania și Banat* (București: Editura Academiei Române, 2009), 187–199 (A.N. Lüders).
5. I.W. Roberts, online.
 6. Revekka Abramovna Averbuch, *Царская интервенция в борьбе с венгерской революцией 1848–1849*, published by the History Institute of the Communist Academy (Moscow, 1935). Notes taken in the National Library “Maxim Gorky” in Odesa, during the documentation activity developed in July 2012.
 7. Oleg Anatoljevich Malashenko, *Военная кампания русской армии по спасению Австрии*, in *Военно-исторический Журнал*, February 2012, online: <http://history.milportal.ru/2012/02/spaseniyu-avstrii/>.
 8. I.W. Roberts, online.
 9. Ivan Fyodorovich Paskevich (*Иван Фёдорович Паскевич*) (1782–1856) was a Russian military leader, count of Erivan (1828) and *namestnik* (lieutenant) of the Kingdom of Poland (1831), marshal in the Russian army and prince of Warsaw, supreme commander of the Russian armies sent to Austria (1849). Ela Cosma, 242–245.
 10. Aleksandr Voronov, online.
 11. Pavel Markovich Andrianov, *Венгерский поход в 1849 г.*, online article: http://www.nnre.ru/voennaja_istorija/istorija_russkoi_armii_tom_vtoroi/p10.php.
 12. *Описание военных действий Российских войск против венгерских мятежников в 1849 г.* (Sankt Petersburg: Military Printinghouse, 1851). The military diary is to be found at the Historical Library in Moscow, visited in May-June 2012, during a documentation and research stay.
 13. Ivan Oreus, *Описание венгерской войны 1849 года* (Sankt-Petersburg: Typography and Chromolitography A. Transhelja, 1880).
 14. *Russian Army of the Napoleonic Wars 1805–1815*, portal of Russian military history in English: http://www.napolun.com/mirror/napoleonistyka.atspace.com/Russian_army.htm.
 15. Ivan Oreus, addendum, 10–11.
 16. Albert Seaton, *The Russian Army of the Crimea* (Oxford: Osprey Publishing, 1973), Men at Arms Series, 13.
 17. Ivan Oreus, addendum, 12–13.
 18. *Ibid.*, 15.
 19. Stephen Summerfield, *Cossack Hurrah! Russian Irregular Cavalry Organization and Uniforms during the Napoleonic War* (London: Partizan Press, 2005).
 20. *Ibid.*, 8.
 21. Pavel Markovich Andrianov, *Краткий очерк действий в Трансильвании* [Brief Essay about the Operations in Transylvania], in “Военная история” [Military History], Militera Project “Ad Fontes—Ad Literam—Ad Veritatem”, online http://militera.lib.ru/h/sb_istoria_russkoy_armii/95.html.
 22. Ivan Oreus, 205.
 23. Ivan Oreus, 52–59.
 24. *Описание войны в Трансильвании в 1849 году* (Sankt-Petersburg: Typography Julia And. Bokrama, 1866), addendum, 294–297.
 25. In *Armatele imperiale și românii la 1848–1849. Documente militare/The Imperial Austro-Russian Armies and the Romanians. Military Documents*, vol. 1, *Descrieri generale și militare/General*

and Military Descriptions, vol. 2, *Correspondență și rapoarte militare/Military Correspondance and Reports*, critical edition coordinated by Ela Cosma, editors Ela Cosma, Daniela Deteșan, Angela Sticalin-Colin, Tatiana Onilov (Cluj-Napoca/România: Editura Argonaut, Gatineau/Canada: Symphologic Publishing, 2012), we processed and edited about 60 unpublished 1848-1849 military Russian and Austrian documents, as well as about 40 vintage testimonies found in the tsarist military press. We reproduced the Russian and Austrian originals followed by the Romanian translation, with large *regesta* (documents' abstracts) in Romanian and English.

Abstract

Organization, Terminology and Structure of the Russian Army in 1849

The goals of our essay are to describe the structure and organization of the tsarist military forces in 1849, in connexion with the corresponding Russian military glossary. Our investigation is based on documents from Russian archives, on military writings and publications of the 19th and 20th centuries. From the general frame of the entire Russian army involved in the tarist campaign in the Austrian Empire, by presenting the supreme military leadership, as well as the general structure and organization of the Russian army, the focus turns to a narrower perspective, referring specifically to the 5th tsarist infantry corps during its summer 1849 intervention in Transylvania against the Hungarian troops. The command over the highly important and decisive military operations in Transylvania was assigned to general adjutant A.N. Lüders, commander in chief of the 5th infantry corps. Although leading a much smaller military force than marshal Paskevich and general Rüdiger, the skillful general Lüders managed to play a crucial role in defeating the Hungarian troops in Transylvania. We analyse the order of battle, the tactical commanders and manpower of the 5th tsarist corps. Not only the good strategy and superior manpower, but also the military training and experience ensured the victory of the Russian army.

Keywords

Tsarist army, 1848–1849, Russian military glossary