

Rec^d
at W. O.
Sep. 19
1811

Remarks respecting the State of
Affairs in Prussia.

The Emperor Napoleon will allow the King of Prussia to remain neutral in case of a war taking place between Prussia & France, provided he will deliver into the hands of the French the fortresses of Gaudentz & Colberg. This the King of Prussia has refused to do: and he has also declined belonging to the Rhine Confederation. Napoleon in consequence has refused to liquidate the R. of Prussia for the sums of money which have already been paid into the French Treasury as contributions, until he thinks proper to comply with his demand.

In the early part of Aug^r it was generally believed at Berlin that Prussia would become the Ally of France: but Opinions have changed materially since; & great military Preparations are making in the different parts of Prussia. They are placing Gaudentz & Colberg in a state of

Defence

Defence fit to repel any attacks that the French may suddenly attempt to make on them. All Prussian Officers & Soldiers on leave of absence have orders to join their respective Corps.

Prussia has from 150 to 200,000 Men ready exercised. They can be called into the Ranks at a short notice. The Prussian Officers & Soldiers, & all Ranks of People in Prussia, even the meanest Peasants, are anxious for a war with France.

The present King of Prussia is considered by the Army as a very able General; and should a war break out, He will command in Person. — Field Marshal Sautzheim, Genl. Blucher, & detach, are also looked upon as very able Men.

Prussia is acting very cautiously with respect to France, until they have their Forces organized & all in readiness. The King has even consented to send several respectable People away from Berlin at the request of the French Ambassador Count de St. Marzan: & several Prussian Officers have been sent to Spandau, because they expressed themselves rather freely about the political State of Affairs.

It is believed that Austria is favorably inclined towards Prussia. The Prussian

Minister for Foreign Relations, M. Goldschmidt, has been in Austria about 6 weeks. It is said in Berlin that He is gone for the Benefit of His Health, but I am well assured that He is gone with other views. M. Hardenberg, the Minister of the Interior, is known to be favourably inclined towards England.

The 9th of August (the day that I left Berlin for Danzig) the Prussian Force then organized was stationed as follows.

1. In Brandenburg, Berlin, & vicinity, under the orders of F. Marshal Sautzheim, & under Aim Prince von Krieger-Haumburg.

1 Regt. Inf. 4 Batt ⁿ strong, —	4000.
1 Batt ⁿ Prussian Grenadiers —	1000.
3 Batt ⁿ Guards —	2000.
1 Regt. Hussar Dragoon —	600.
1 Body Guard Cavalry —	600.
1 Regt. Juirassier, & 1 Comp ^y Uhlans.	750.

Total in Brandenburg } 7000 Foot
1950 Horse

2. Force stationed at the Pass of Sweid, commanded by Colonel Jannerott.

1 Batt ⁿ West Pruss. Light Inf. —	1000.
1 Regt. Brandenburg Hussar —	600.
1 — West Prussian Dragoon —	600.

Total — } 1000 Foot
1200 Horse

3. Force stationed between Jolburg & Stargardt &c, under the Order of General Blucher & Brigadier von Dölou.

1 Regt. Jolburg Infy	—	4000
1 — Pomeranian S.	—	4000.
1 — West Prussian Dragoons	—	600.
1 — Royal Dragoons	—	600.
1 — Pomeranian Hussars	—	600.
1 — Brandenburg Uhlans	—	600.
In all	—	10000 Foot - 2400 Horses
at Sweid	—	1000 " — 1200 " —
Brandenburg	—	7000 " — 1950 " —

Thus when I left, the whole force in Brandenburg & West Prussia amounted to 16000 Foot & 5550 Horses. To the above numbers have lately been a number added, and more join daily. In all, 22000 men are to join.

4. Force stationed in Silesia under the Order of Gen^l. Gravet, Klies, & Sienpitzky

3 Regts of Infy	each 4000 strong,	—	12000
6 Regts of Cav.	each 600 strong,	—	3600.
3 Batt. of Chapeurs	Infy,	—	1800.

Total Amount	{	13800 Foot
	{	3600 Horses

The above force is augmenting to 30000 men in all.

5. Force

5. Force stationed in East Prussia
between Memel & Graudenz, under
the orders of Lieut. Stutterheim, &
Genl. Lossow & von Zoth.

4 Regts of East Prussian Inf.	—	16'000.
1 Batt. D.	—	Chapurs — 800.
1 Regt. Lithuanian Dragoons	—	600.
1 — East Prussian D.	—	600.
1 — D.	—	Cuirassiers — 600.
1 — West Prussian Uhlans	—	600.
2 Regts. Black Hussars	—	1200.

Total - { 16'000 Foot
3'600 Horse

The said force has been increased
to 30'000 men.

Previous to my leaving Colberg, Genl. Blucher
made it known to the Officers of His
Army that He would attack His Front
against Stettin, as they had now nothing
to apprehend from the English. The
Commandant of Colberg has also received
orders not to fire upon any English
Ship that may come near the Place.

The 20th of August the King of Prussia
was still at Berlin. The Troops had
orders to keep themselves in readiness
to march at a moment's notice. Should
Hostilities commence between Prussia
& France, it is thought the King of Prussia

will be able to make a formidable
 stand with his Army before Colberg
 against the French. — The Prussian
 Soldiers seem full of Confidence. They
 depend much however on the Assistance
 of Austria & Russia, & on a British Fleet.

— The 30th of August I left Colberg, and
 it was then expected that in a fortnight
 all the works about Colberg would be
 completed, & able to stand a long Siege.

Colberg is to have Stores & Supplies for an
 Army of 45,000 Men for a Twelve months.

It is supposed that should the King of
 Prussia be driven away from his Position
 near Colberg by the French, that he will
 embark with part of his Army for
 East Prussia. He depends much on the
 Assistance of an English Fleet.

Prussia is in want of Arms of every
 description, — Ammunition, — & Money.

The Prussian Officers that I have conversed
 with, think that Prussia alone will be
 able to hold out against France at
 least during the winter. No War will
 be declared on the part of Prussia unless
 the French attempt to take possession of
 Colberg & Graudentz, which they have
 threatened to do. French Spies have been
 discovered lately examining the works
 of Colberg, & have been sent away from

that Place. — Six thousand Men are
 considered sufficient to defend the
 above Place.

No. 1.

Mount Intelligence
from Sophia &
Solange.

Dec 19th Sept: 1811.
Van Dyke

7

Remarks respecting the french forces
stationed in Germany, Mecklenburg & Poland.

The Prince of Eckmühl commands the french
Army in Germany; His Head Quarters are at
Hamburg. They are stationed as follows.

Between Hamburg & Magdeburg	-	17000 Men.
In Magdeburg	_____	13000 —
In Mecklenburg under Gen. Friant	5000	- where H. Quarters are at Rostock.
In Stettin under Gen. Lubet & Desaix	15000	principally Westphalians.
In Kustrin	_____	8000 chiefly Poles.
In Dantzic under Gen. Rapp.	_____	18000 chiefly Poles.
In Glogau & Thorn	_____	6000 French.
Between Thorn & Stoltenka	_____	45000 fr. & Poles.
under Gen. Dombrowsky.		

Troops that have crossed the Rhine early in
August, where of 10000 Men have arrived in
Brawnsweig . . . in all 40000 Men; these
excepted, the others have been stationary for some
months.

Consequently their whole force in Germany &
Poland amounts to 160000 Men,
where of 20000 belong to the Rhine Confedera-
tion, & 40000 to Poland.

They calculate the troops of the Rhine
Confederation to amount in all to 100,000 Men.
20000 Men are included in the above state-
ment, & 15000 are in Spain: there will then
remain about 65000 Men to join the above
mentioned

mentioned force in case of a war between Russia & France: which will amount in all to 251000 Men.

Should the general Rumour be true that the French are going to take possession of Holstein, they must leave at least 35000 Men there. If war is declared against Russia & Prussia, they will be obliged to leave 10000 in Magdeburg, in Dantzic, 10000 in Stettin, Kustrin & Plojan at least 10000 Men. If the King of Prussia retreats to Colberg with his Army, they will want at least 35000 Men to check him, in Brandenburg 20000, in Silesia at least 10000 Men. They will then have an Army of 130,000 Men to operate against Russia & Prussia.

This statement is as moderate as possible; & there is every reason to believe that the present Governor of Poland, Prince Jomietowsky is much dissatisfied with the French, as well as Gen. Dombrowsky, who commands the Army: & that they wait but for a favorable opportunity to join Russia, or become Independent. The Troops of the Polish Confederation are also much dissatisfied, and desert daily.

It is supposed that all the reinforcements which the French can receive from France, must remain as Corps of observation on Austria. The French Troops in Germany are also dissatisfied.

The Emperor Napoleon has to leave Paris for Hamburg, about the 22. of August last.

Respecting Dantzic.

In Dantzic are 10000 Men, under command of Gen. Rapp, who is Governor - under him Gen. Grandjean; Gen. Bajely is Commandant. Gen. Bajoli commands the Cavalry. Gen. Chamberlaine the Engineers, & under him Col. Gold, who gives Directions, & superintends all the new works. Gen. Bergen commands the main battery, & the beigel fort. The following Regiments are in Dantzic.

The 10. & 11. of Poles each	3500	Stuy	—	7000.
1 st & 2 ^d of Westphalians	1500	—	—	3000.
1 Regt. of Saxons	1500	—	—	1500.
1 D. of Bararians	1200	—	—	1200.
1 D. of Westphalians	1200	—	—	1200.

Two Companies of French Artillery Men-foot.
Two D. of horse D.
Two D. of Dutch Artillery Men.

In all 15000.

One Comp. of Dantzic Foot guards — 120.
One Regt. of French Chapeurs (Horse) — 500.
One D. of Polish Artillery Whlans. — 500.

Sick in Hosp. 16520
1500

Total 18020

They have lost nearly 4000 Men since their first arrival thro' sickness, in consequence of their bad living, hard labour, & of climate. The foreign Troops desert daily: they are short of taken: The 20. August, the 10. & 11. Regts. of

of

of Dole received orders to leave Dantzig for
Kurland: but had not started, when I left Dantzig
the 24th August.

About 12 000 Men are daily at work on the
fortifications of Dantzig. The Emperor Napoleon intends
it for a place of refuge for a beaten Army, It will have
supplies for an Army of 60000 Men for one twelve month
It will take least from 50, to 60000 Men to defend it,
when every thing is compleat, which it will not be
this year. There are no Ships of war at Dantzig
except two Schooners, & a Cutter, Privateers; one of
the Schooners was lying ready for sea.

Genl Rapp is liked by the Inhabi-
tants: but he levies contributions occasionally,
& if they do not pay in 20 hours, he sends executions
into their houses.

It was said in Prussia that Marshal
Marescau arrived at Magdeburg in the early part
of August, with 150 french Officers, in order to
take the command of the Army in Polen, but
was recalled: It is therefore expected that no
immediate war will take place between Prussia
& France.

The french are continually sending
Reinforcements to Spain.

24th Aug. The french Genl Desaix in Hellen,
being in company a few days ago with
some friends, & drinking rather freely, shall
have said that between the 20th Aug. & 10th of
September, the fate of Prussia would be decided,
& that something would happen which he
would not easily get the better of.

102

No 3.

Respecting Russia.

The Emperor of Russia is willing to make great sacrifices in order to make Peace with the Porte, but the Turks, influenced by French Promises, have refused to listen to any accommodation.

The Russian Army in Courland, consists of 150,000 Men, under the command of Field Marshal Barklay de Toly. It is expected that the Russians will shortly declare their Ports open to British Ships, the time being now nearly expired for which they agreed to keep them shut at the Peace of Tilsit.

The Russian Ambassador in Berlin, Count Leoyin, is on very amicable terms with the King of Prussia - Nothing of consequence is expected on the part

f

of Russia this Winter. & the French having such ill Successes in Spain, are obliged to sink at a great deal that is going forwards.

Respecting Denmark.

The Army on the Island of Zealand, & in Copenhagen, amounted on the 1st of July to 45,000 ^{Men}, including the Landwehr or Militia. General Coold had the Chief Command. The whole Danish Army amounts in all to 100,000 Men. Great apprehensions were entertained for Holstein. There is no Cash to be seen on the whole Coast of Denmark, except Paper Money. It was feared that a National Bankruptcy would take place. The Naval force on the Island & in Copenhagen, consisted of 2 line of Battle Ships, one lately launched, three Frigates on the Stocks: 4 Brigs 5 Barks mounting each 20 Guns, & 5 floating Batteries were laying in the Bason.

Bason. In every inlet or creek on the Island are from 8 to 12 Gun Boats, manned with 65 Men each, & com-
manded by a Lieutenant. A great deal of discontent reigns among the lower orders of People in Denmark.

The French Fleet at Antwerp & in the Scheldt, consisted the 24th of July last of 17 Sail of the Line, whereof 15 had been built at Antwerp, and two had come down from Holland in Cradles. Several Dutch Frigates, and a vast number of Gun Boats. It is not expected that they will stir from the Scheldt this Winter. The Emperor says the Fleet is still too small. 9 Ships of the line are upon the Stocks at Antwerp, and in Rotterdam & Amsterdam there are several building.

Antwerp, as well as both sides of the Scheldt, is strongly fortified. The new Bason has been finished a few Months, fit to contain 25 Sail of the line, they are working on another which is to contain 50 Sail, - it is to be finished
near

next year. On all the ~~the~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~
New Works near Antwerp & in the Scheldt,
Traps Guns are mounted which have
been taken out of Holland. Flushing is
also rebuilt & strongly fortified. The Beasme
is repaired.

4 of the Line of Battle Ships are man-
ned with Danish Seamen; The rest with
Prussian & Dutch Sailors & French conscripts

More than two thirds of the said crews
are pressed Men, & will be happy to desert
whenever an opportunity offers: they
have already declared that they will
not fight under the French Flag. a strict
Watch is kept on them - The Danes are
are particularly suspected. -

The whole is under the command
of Vice Admiral Meppeniz & Rear
Admirals Courant & Soleil. It has
been rumoured in Antwerp that the
Fleet should to the Baltic, but
nothing certain is known, at all
events they cannot start for some time

The

The Names of the Line of Battle Ships
are as follows.

Duquesclin

Ville de Berlin

L'Amirauté de Lion

Arverrois

Cesar

Charlemagne

Dantzig

Pulstruck

Dalmate

Many

Friesland - Vice Admiral: Mepuruz

Silist

Auguste

Pacificateur

Overstadt

2 Dutch Line of Battle Ships
names unknown

More shortly expected from Holland

Viz: 50 Rifles: 500 Muskets & Bayonets.
500 Cartouch Boxes.
150 pair Pistols. 150 Sabres, Belts &
Cartouch Boxes. 150 Saddles
& Stirrups. 350 Infantry uniforms
complete. 10,000 Pounds of
Powder & Ball. & 1000 Guineas in
Cash.

If He receives the aforesaid Sup:
plies He will undertake to commence
His operations in Westphalen in four
Weeks from the day that War is
declared between Prussia & France:
He further asks for every 10,000 Men
which he shall gain over, a Supply
of 3,000 Stand of Arms & Uniforms
complete, and the Necessary Sup:
plies of Money.