

## Plan

for raising a British Free Corps, to serve in the  
Brasil

The Expediency of raising a British Free Corps to serve  
in the Brasil, will appear evident when it is  
consider'd, that the Portuguese have no light Troops  
of their own, and that an essential defect in their  
Army will thereby be supplied

It is propos'd the Corps shall receive British  
Pay, and to be in every respect consider'd as a  
British Corps, subject to the same regulations  
with the Regiments of the line

The Men to be engaged for Seven Years as is practis'd  
in the 60<sup>th</sup> Regiment - Officers appointed who  
are actually in the Army to retain their rank -  
New Commission'd Officers to be admitted to  
temporary rank only

Every possible information calculated to benefit and  
facilitate the Execution of this plan has been  
diligently and carefully collected among various  
intelligent natives of South America whose  
opinions have been found unanimous with regard  
to the expediency of the Measure

The Individual who respectfully tenders his services  
on this occasion to raise, and to be invested with,



the Command of such a Corps, is actuated by none but liberal Motives, and trusts on the plea of approved, military Knowledge and Experience, that he may not be deemed presumptuous in his views

It is proposed this Corps shall be divided into Cavalry, Chasseurs & Infantry and to serve only as Advanced Posts, rear Guards, Patrols, reconnoitring Parties &c in which Service the Officers and Men will be particularly instructed - The Corps may likewise be employed with Advantage (*en debandade*) or to occupy posts and Stations separately on such a particular Service different Arms and Weapons will be required,

The Corps inclusive of Officers and Staff to consist of 967 men, divided as follows viz<sup>t</sup>

4 Troops of Cavalry

2 Troops to form one Squadron

6 Companies of Chasseurs & Infantry

Each Troop of Cavalry to consist of

1 Captain 1 Lieutenant 1 Cornet

1 Quartermaster, 4 Sergeants, 4 Corporals

1 Trumpeter, 1 Farrier, 70 Privates 80 Horses

The total of Cavalry will thus consist of 12 Officers

4 Quartermasters 32 Non Commission'd Officers

4 Trumpeters 4 Farriers & 280 Privates



The total of Horses / those of the Officers & Quartermasters  
excepted / will be 320

A Company of Infantry to consist of  
1 Captain 1 Lieutenant 1 Ensign  
4 Sergeants, 4 Corporals, 2 Bugles and  
90 rank & file - total 100 men Officers excepted

Total of Infantry viz<sup>t</sup>

18 Officers, 1 Quartermaster, 40 Non Commissioned  
Officers, 12 Buglemen and 540 Privates

Light Corps being frequently employed in  
small detached parties, the Officers can never  
be too numerous - Experience has shewn that  
from a want of Officers, essential outposts  
have often been left to the care of Sergeants, to the  
great detriment of the Service; it is proposed  
therefore to appoint

1 Lieut<sup>t</sup> Colonel, 1 Major for the Cavalry and  
1 Major for the Infantry, but neither of them  
to have either Troop or Company -

The whole Strength of the Corps will thus  
consist of

1 Lieut<sup>t</sup> Colonel Commandant

1 Lieut<sup>t</sup> Colonel

2 Majors

10 Captains

10 Lieutenants

10 Cornets & Ensigns



5 Quartermasters

40 Serjeants

40 Corporals

16 Musicians

4 Farriers

820 Privates

The Staff to have

1 Adjutant

1 Paymaster

1 Surgeon

1 Assistant Ditto

4 Staff Serjeants

Total 967. Men

The Cavalry to be denominated Chasseurs a Cheval, dressed like the Infantry with the addition of the Bouch belt, Sabre tache, Boots & Spurs to be armed with Rifles, similar to those of the 10<sup>th</sup> Light Dragoons, One pair of Pistols, and the Hungarian Saddle. The facility of procuring Horses for this Corps in the Brasils, it is unnecessary to expatiate upon. The natives of that Country being very good Horsemen will be found proper for this Service. Saddles, Accoutrements &c. can be taken with more advantage from England. The first rank of Infantry to be provided,



with Muskets and Bayonets which in their common form will admit of considerable Improvement. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Rank to be composed of Chasseurs with Rifles & Particular Attention will be paid to instruct the Corps in the most dextrous and effectual use of their respective Arms, to avoid the frequent discomfitures occasioned by unexpected and irregular attacks, when opposed by injudicious manoeuvres and movements in the defence

Both Cavalry & Infantry will be instructed to act in the line, and to perform their Evolutions on Signals with promptitude and Order, and the Men will be judiciously distributed among the different Arms, according to their individual aptness and Capacities

Five Men out of the 1<sup>st</sup> Rank to be armed with Rifles, and to serve as lance Corporals - these may be called Sharpshooters, and will occasionally replace vacancies among the Corporals, this method will insure a constant supply of good Corporals and Sergeants to the Corps, and materially assist the Service in their respective Companies

Among the Prisoners of War now in England are



many Germans who (with permission) might be enlisted for this Corps, on the same terms of enrolment, granted to British Recruits - Each man when engaged and sworn to receive from £2.10. to £3 in advance of Bounty, and to be furnished with the usual necessaries, free of bounty deductions - Any objections with respect to the regular Service of a Corps composed of Individuals of different Nations, will be obviated, by a strict impartiality, in the enforcement of Discipline and Subordination on the part of the Commander -

It would be superfluous here to enter into all the minutiae of subordinate Regulations deemed necessary to be adopted in the formation, and progressive Improvement of such a Corps - The Experience of One & Twenty Years Service - partly in the British, but chiefly in various Armies of the Continent, and particularly during the last Campaign of 1807 in the North of Europe, it is presumed have sufficiently qualified the Officer who submits this Plan, to



accomplish its object with credit to himself  
and to the satisfaction of those who may be  
pleased, to honor him with their trust and  
confidence on the occasion

P.S. The proposed Uniform and Accoutrements of the  
Corps may be detailed in a separate Memoire  
whenever required



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