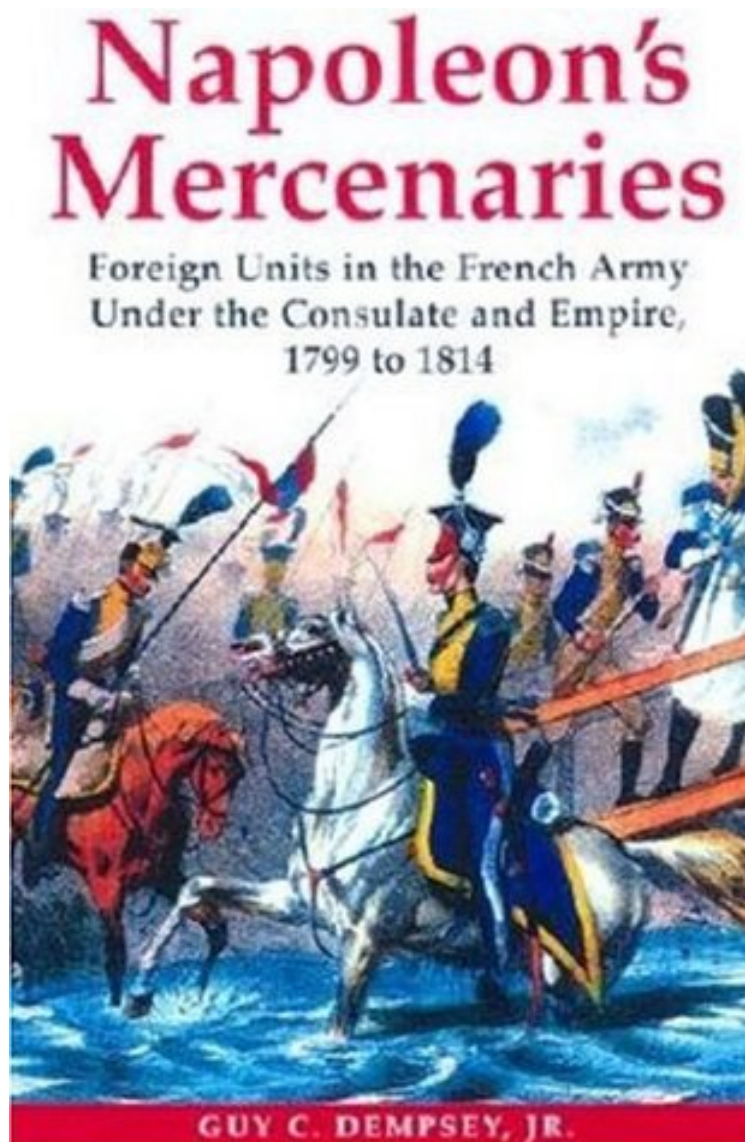


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Napoleon's Mercenaries: Foreign Units in the French Army Under the Consulate and Empire, 1799-1814

Guy C. Dempsey

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This superb and comprehensive book details the foreign units which formed such an important part of Napoleon's forces. It examines each non-French unit in turn, giving an overview of the unit's origins, its organizational and combat history, its uniforms and standards, and details of the unit's eventual fate. Colorful accounts, taken from contemporary reports and memoirs, emphasize the qualities of the unit and throw light on what life was like for many of the foreign soldiers recruited into the Grande Armée. Napoleon's foreign troops varied tremendously in quality, from the excellent Vistula Legion and Swiss regiments to the more dubious battalions of foreign deserters and Spanish prisoners of war. Some units fought and flourished throughout the Consulate and Empire, whilst others lasted for just a few months. Covers Polish, German, Swiss, Italian, Spanish, and other units in the French Army and presents a combat history and details uniforms for each regiment. *Napoleon's Mercenaries* is the best single-volume study of this aspect of Napoleon's army and a vital reference for every Napoleonic enthusiast.

About the Author Guy Dempsey is a respected scholar of this period and author on the uniforms and history of the Napoleonic Era. His other books include *Napoleon's Soldiers* and *Napoleon's Army*.