

THE IMPERIAL FRENCH ARMY

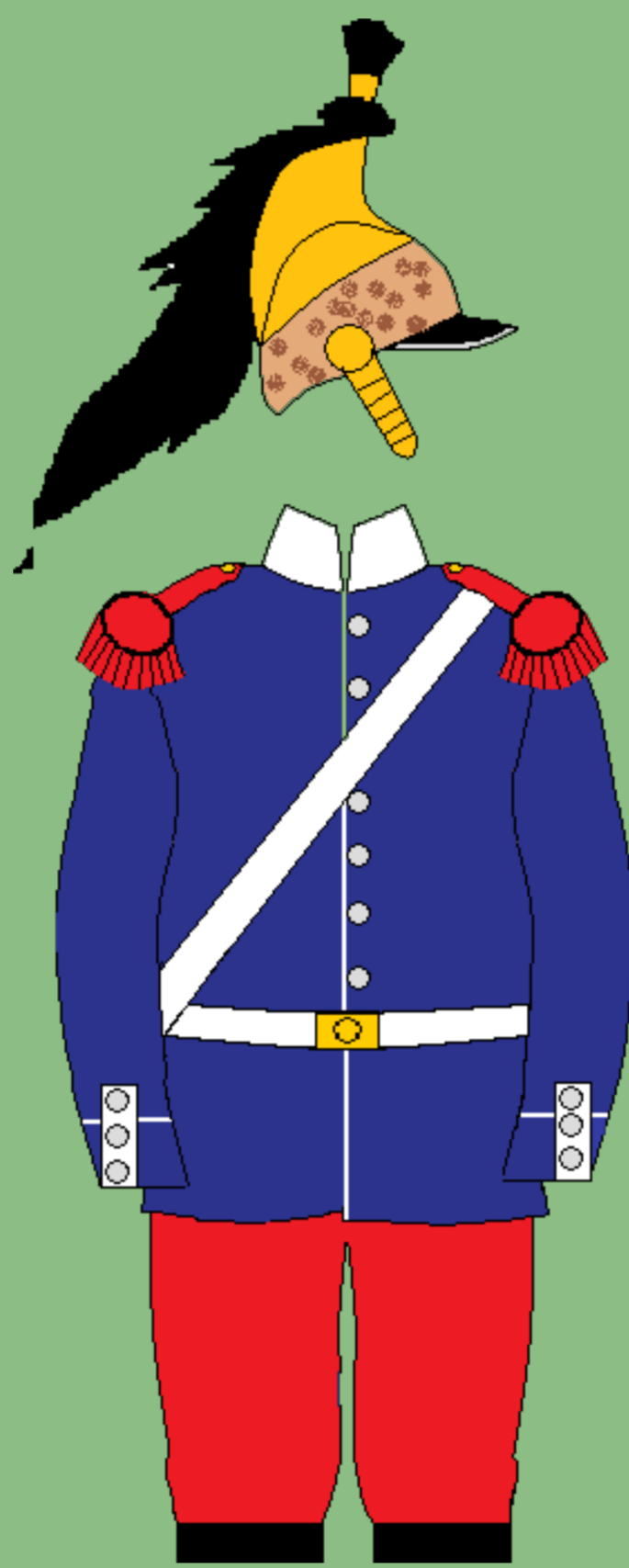
Curassiers

The single breasted tunic was dark blue with red collars, cuff flaps and scarlet fringed epaulettes. Baggy red trousers were tucked into black knee boots. Equipment belts were white leather. Scabbards were steel. Helmets and cuirasses were polished steel with brass fittings and a black horse hair plume. Shabraques were replaced by small blankets on campaign.



Dragoons

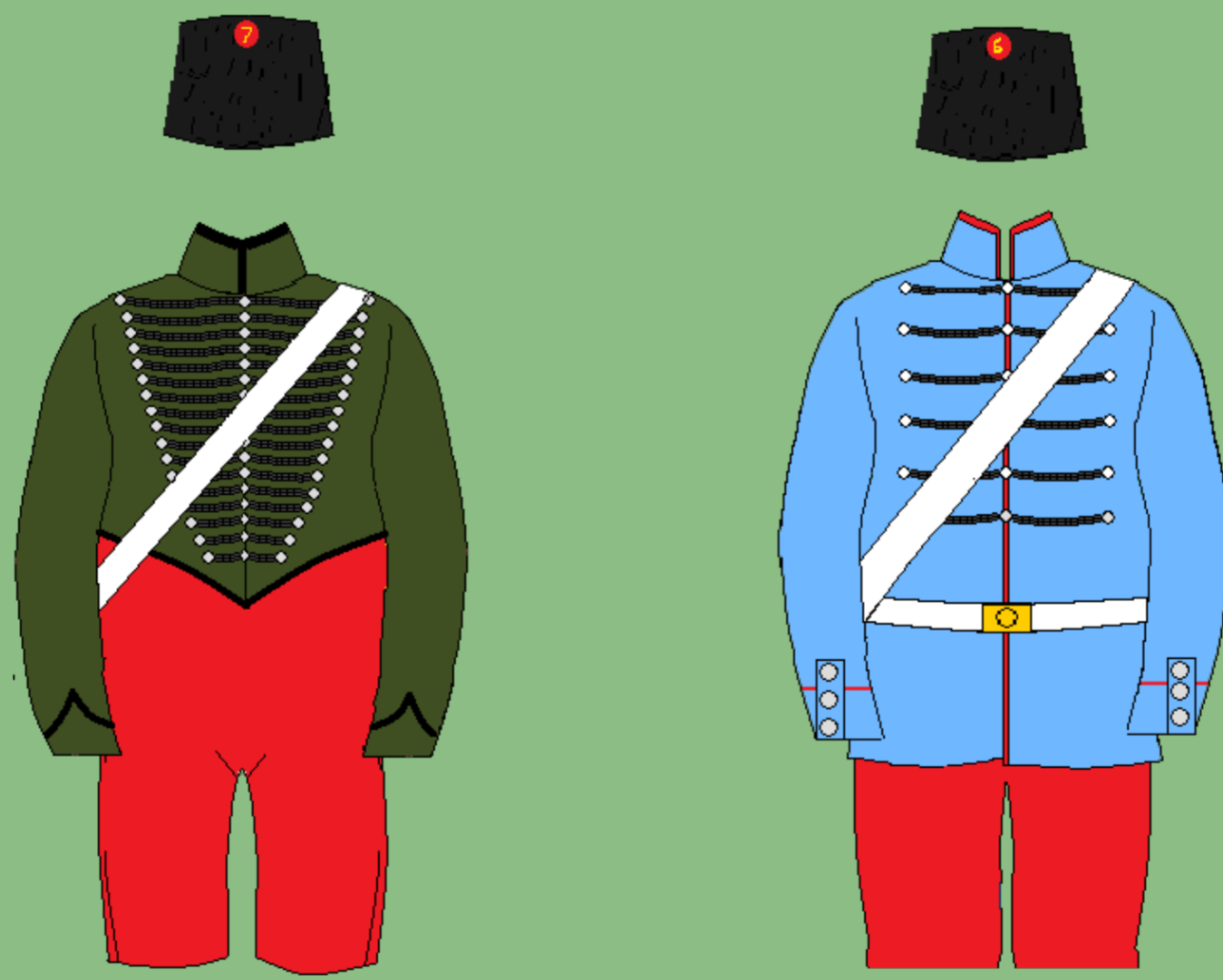
The single breasted tunic was dark blue with white collars and cuff flaps and scarlet fringed epaulettes. Baggy red trousers were tucked into black knee boots. Equipment belts were white leather. Scabbards were steel. Helmets were brass with a 'leopard skin' turban and a black horse hair plume. Shabraques were replaced by small blankets on campaign.



Chasseurs

Chasseurs wore a short dark green jacket with 18 rows of black braid across the front. The cuffs and collars were piped in black. All ranks wore red breeches and black knee boots. Equipment belts were white leather. Scabbards were steel. Sabretaches were black with a bronze eagle badge. Headgear was a black fur busby.

A new jacket of light blue was introduced in 1870, but only worn by the 1st, 6th and 9th regiments. This had six rows of black braid across the front with the cuffs and collar piped in red.



Hussars

Hussars wore a jacket in regimental colour with 18 rows of braid across the front - white for regiments 1 to 6, yellow for 7 and 8. The collars were red. All ranks wore red breeches and black knee boots. Equipment belts were white leather. Scabbards were steel. Sabretaches were black with a bronze eagle badge. Headgear was a black fur busby with a red bag.

The 2nd regiment wore a brown dolman, the 3rd and 4th silver grey, the 5th dark blue and the 6th and 7th light green.

A new jacket of light blue was introduced in 1870, but only worn by the 1st and 8th regiments. This had six rows of white braid across the front with the cuffs and collar piped in white. Headgear for the new uniform was light blue kepi with a red top and this was worn with the old uniform by some units.

