

# The Battle of Gorodeczna

Age of Eagles Scenario  
by GRW, 2010

## SETTING

**Date:** 12 August 1812, 11:00 AM

**Location:** 33 miles northeast of Brest-Litovsk

**Combatants:** Austrian Empire & Franco-Saxon allies vs. Imperial Russia

**History:** By late summer, Napoleon's *Grande Armee* stood poised to capture Smolensk, deep in central Russia. But to the south of Napoleon's advance, the Third Russian Army of West took to the offensive, and on July 27 General Tormassov defeated Reynier's Saxon corps at Kobrin. With the right wing of his advance now threatened, Napoleon had no choice but to order Prince Schwarzenberg's Austrian corps to unite with Reynier and counter the Russian advance. While Napoleon held Prince Schwarzenberg in high esteem, it was generally understood that Austrian involvement in the campaign was for political more than military support.

To date, Schwarzenberg had avoided any serious engagement with the Russian army, but in August Napoleon issued a direct order for Schwarzenberg to attack Tormassov without delay. Gradually retreating south, General Tormassov--a savvy veteran commander in his own right--deployed his 20,000 men across a defensible plateau, sheltered by rugged, marshy ground.



*Karl Schwarzenberg*

**Austrian Orders:** Drive Tormassov's Russian army from the field. Take care to minimize any losses to your *Austrian* corps....



*Petrovich Tormassov*

**Russian Orders:** Conduct an orderly rear-guard action. Inflict maximum casualties while trading space for time.

**Victory points:** Refer to the *Age of Eagles* 'Casualty Points Chart' to determine victory points. Austrians suffer an additional one point penalty for every "spent" or destroyed Austrian unit (Saxon units do not count toward this penalty). The Austrians gain two points for each unit exited at point "E."

**Game length:** Austrian 11:00 AM until 4:00 PM (10 turns)

## AFTERMATH

Upon Reynier's suggestion, Schwarzenberg detached much of his force to outflank the Russian left. General Tormassov shifted his defense appropriately, utilizing the rugged terrain to the best of his ability. As Schwarzenberg's line grew longer, Tormassov sensed an opportunity to counterattack in the center. A sharp contest ensued, until Austrian reinforcements stabilized the line and forced the Russians back. By the end of the day, Tormassov knew he was outnumbered and elected to retreat south. The Russians lost roughly 3,500 men out of 20,000 engaged, while the Austrian and Saxon forces lost slightly fewer men.

## SCENARIO RULES

1. LAMBERT and von FUNCK are Charismatic.
2. The marshy stream is not fordable by cavalry or artillery. Infantry may ford at a cost of half their movement and an automatic "disorder." Bridges must be crossed in column formation.
3. Any units in the marsh areas are always considered "disordered."
4. The Russians deploy first.
5. Schwarzenberg held out a large portion of his army until late in the battle. Beginning at 12:00pm (Turn 3), the Austrian commander should roll a D10 at the start of each turn. On a roll of "10," FRIMONT's corps is released at point "A" on the battle map in road column formation. Every turn the Austrian player should add an additional +1 to his roll. Over time, it will become more and more likely that these reserves will be released.
6. Kamensky, a Russian corps commander, was ill at the time of the battle, so Prince Tcherbatov functioned as temporary corps commander.
7. SCHWARZENBERG is -1 for initiative rolls, and TORMASSOV is +0. Austrians begin with initiative on the first turn.

## TERRAIN & WEATHER

The gaming table should be six feet long by four feet wide, laid out according to the accompanying map. The battlefield terrain was rugged, including marshes, streams, hills, and woods. Urban areas offer +2 advantages to defending units in melee and a -2 benefit when under fire. Movement along roads offers full movement benefits. The weather is warm and clear.

## DEPLOYMENT

Units set up according to the accompanying map in whichever formation the commander sees fit. Batteries may begin limbered or unlimbered, and commanders must be deployed within 12 inches of their commands. On the first turn of the game, REYNIER's corps enters at "C." ZECHMEISTER may elect to arrive with Reynier, or wait until 11:30pm (Turn 2) at enter at "D." At 12:00pm SEIGENTHAL arrives at point "B," active for combat. The remainder of FRIMONT'S corps adheres to Scenario Rule #5.

## SCALE

Each infantry stand represents 360 soldiers, each cavalry stand 180 troopers, and artillery stands a battery of 6-12 guns. Ground scale is one inch to 150 yards and one complete turn represents thirty minutes of historical time.

## Notes on Sources

The Battle of Gorodeczna is a very unique encounter for the Napoleonic era, representing one of the few times that the Austrians and Russians fought each other in pitched battle. "Victory" for the Russian player should really be defined as keeping the more powerful Austrian/Saxon force from cutting off the Russian line of retreat. Despite their theoretical OOBs, both sides shuffled commanders and units on the eve of battle. Schwarzenberg, for instance, shifted two Austrian brigades to Reynier's Saxon corps. In light of this confusion, several liberties have been taken with the OOBs to streamline and balance the forces--especially with the organization of Russian cavalry. For an excellent description of the battle, as well as a map, see Edward Foord, *Napoleon's Russian Campaign (1915)*. As always, George Nafziger's *Napoleon's Invasion of Russia (1988)* is invaluable.

## Austrian-Saxon Order of Battle

### SCHWARZENBERG Austrian Corps & Saxon VII Corps

#### SCHWARZENBERG army ldr

<u><b>Frimont</b></u> <span style="float: right;"><u>acting corps ldr</u></span>	<u><b>Reynier</b></u> <span style="float: right;"><u>VII Corps ldr</u></span>
<u><b>Trautenberg</b></u> <span style="float: right;"><u>3rd Division ldr</u></span>	<u><b>Le Cog</b></u> <span style="float: right;"><u>21st Division ldr</u></span>
Lichtenstein <span style="float: right;">R 9/7/5 line</span>	Steindel <span style="float: right;">R 9/7/5 line (Saxon)</span>
Pflacher <span style="float: right;">R 6/5/3 Sk light</span>	von Nostitz <span style="float: right;">R 8/8/5 line (Saxon)</span>
<u><b>Bianchi</b></u> <span style="float: right;"><u>1st Division ldr</u></span>	Lilienberg <span style="float: right;">R 9/7/5 line</span>
Hesse-Homberg <span style="float: right;">R 9/7/5 line</span>	Light Foot Artillery #5
Phillip <span style="float: right;">E 5/3/2 Sk grenadiers</span>	<u><b>von Funck</b></u> <span style="float: right;"><u>22nd Division ldr</u></span>
<u><b>Seigenthal</b></u> <span style="float: right;"><u>2nd Division ldr</u></span>	von Sahr <span style="float: right;">E 8/6/4 Sk light (Saxon)</span>
Mohr <span style="float: right;">R 9/7/5 line</span>	Light Foot Artillery #6
Bolza <span style="float: right;">R 10/8/5 line</span>	<u><b>Zechmeister</b></u> <span style="float: right;"><u>converged cav. div. ldr</u></span>
Wrede <span style="float: right;">R 9/7/5 LC hussars</span>	von Gablenz <span style="float: right;">E 9/6/4 LC Saxon hussars</span>
	Froelich <span style="float: right;">E 8/6/3 LC chevauleger</span>
Light Foot Artillery Reserve #1 & 2	
Heavy Foot Artillery Reserve #3 & 4	

## Russian Order of Battle

### TORMASSOV Third Army of the West

#### TORMASSOV army ldr

<u><b>Kamensky</b></u> <span style="float: right;"><u>IX Corps (not present)</u></span>	<u><b>Markov</b></u> <span style="float: right;"><u>X Corps ldr</u></span>
<u><b>Tcherbatov</b></u> <span style="float: right;"><u>18th Division ldr</u></span>	<u><b>Udom</b></u> <span style="float: right;"><u>9th Division ldr</u></span>
Khowanski <span style="float: right;">R 9/7/5 line</span>	Reichel <span style="float: right;">R 8/6/4 line</span>
Bernardos <span style="float: right;">R 8/6/4 line</span>	Madetof <span style="float: right;">E 6/4/3 LC hussars</span>
Berdiaief <span style="float: right;">E 6/4/3 LC hussars</span>	Light Foot Artillery #3
Light Foot Artillery #1 & 2	<u><b>Nasimov</b></u> <span style="float: right;"><u>15th Division ldr</u></span>
<u><b>Lambert</b></u> <span style="float: right;"><u>Cav. Corps ldr</u></span>	Oldecop <span style="float: right;">R 7/5/4 line</span>
Tschlapitz <span style="float: right;">E 8/3/2 HC dragoons</span>	Stepanov <span style="float: right;">R 7/5/4 line</span>
Knorring <span style="float: right;">R 6/6/4 LC uhlands</span>	Light Foot Artillery Reserve #4
Wiasemski <span style="float: right;">R 5/3/2 Sk jagers</span>	Heavy Foot Artillery Reserve #5 & 6

## MAP & DEPLOYMENT

