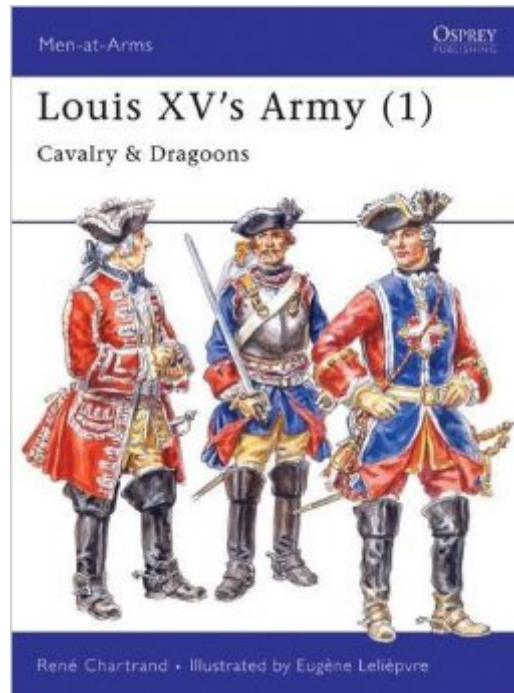


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Louis XV's Army (1) : Cavalry & Dragoons (Men-At-Arms Series, 296)



Synopsis

France had a population of between 22 and 25 million at this time, and maintained the largest standing army in Europe. In peacetime it might have amounted to about 200,000 men; in times of war, it could be anything up to half a million. A substantial part of Louis XV's army consisted of numerous regiments of guard cavalry, heavy cavalry and dragoon regiments, which were considered the best and noblest part. These many units form the subject matter in this first of five fascinating volumes [Men-at-Arms 296, 302, 304, 308 & 313] by René Chartrand covering the army of Louis XV's.

Book Information

Series: Men-at-Arms (Book 296)

Paperback: 50 pages

Publisher: Osprey Publishing; First Edition edition (July 15, 1996)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1855326027

ISBN-13: 978-1855326026

Product Dimensions: 7.2 x 0.1 x 9.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars See all reviews (3 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,352,332 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #185 in Books > History > Military > Uniforms #51471 in Books > Engineering & Transportation > Engineering

Customer Reviews

All five books in this series are magnificent. What makes them great is that they are not in the usual Osprey fashion. There is no chronology of dates at the beginning taking up space; Chartrand jumps right in with organization details, tactics, equipment, armament, and each regiment's uniform distinction as it changed through Louis XV reign. The plates are outstanding. Usually for Osprey there are only three figures per plate. Not here, 5 and more a plate. With that number it's not cluttered and doesn't detract from the detail. On a last note, I will never have to buy anything else to help me paint my Seven Year War French figures.

This mini series of 5 books within the huge Osprey MAA titles forms an excellent and comprehensive introduction to Louis XV's army. It is backed by meticulous research into French and Canadian archives and made intelligible to English readers, and accompanied by perfect

illustrations by Eugene Lelievre of the various troop types found in this army.

Rene Chartrand provides in this series an insightful look into the French army of this period, its formations and basic organization as well as the caliber of its troops, with great detail to its uniforms which are well illustrated by Eugene Lelievre. Truly on an organizational level the French army is quite impressive though its performance a shadow of what it had been under its previous monarch.

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