

Periodic Blog #8—New in 2019

Thank you to our many followers of our website....we recently went over the 25,000 hit mark since the revision of our website in late December of 2016. Whether you are entertained by the musings of Monte on the peculiarities of the Lutheran Mob; enjoy seeing Dennis' updating and improvements of our rules and orders of battles; or my periodic blogs covering a cornucopia of comments on *L'Age de Napoleon Premier*, there is no shortage of material to review with our readers. In fact, it is only a shortage of time which prevents a more frequent change in new material to our website...that may change soon. But in the meantime, we will present what we can, when we can.

Preparations of our next release have started. As usual, Dennis is working on the actual game design; Monte is working on the artistic elements of the game; and I am writing articles and will be participating in the playtesting. We hope to start that process in mid-February. We will not release our game title till probably during the Tempe *CONSIM* meeting in June. We hope to see you there.

Wagram Counters Available

We recently discovered about 25 sets of mint counters to La Bataille de Deutsch-Wagram 1809 and we will sell those to any domestic customer for \$75 per set. That \$75 will include postage. We regret we will be unable to sell any of these desirable sets to our many foreign customers. The postage would end up costing us way too much. But that is enough complaints about our postal costs. We believe buying a set of these counters is a good way to enhance the value of your game while allowing you to enjoy the play of this game to its full extent. Once these counters are sold out, they are gone. Monte did a very nice job of designing and producing the counters.

I have been working on an article to be published when our next game comes out. I have been impressed on how efficient the organization of the French army was and how it was able to continue to raise large armies, despite catastrophic losses. While our selection of Man of the Moment has been a military leader who has had some success in battle or has been a heroic inspiration, this month, our man of the moment is noteworthy for his participation in both the early days of the French Revolution and end of the Napoleonic Wars during the *Cent Jours*. He is Lazare Carnot, the *Organizer of Victory*.

Marshal Enterprises Man of the Moment

Carnot was one of those multi-talented individuals who seemed to shine at whatever he approached. He was a scientist; an engineer; a mathematician; a general; a politician;

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and a political and governmental theorist. Most importantly, he was an idealist and believer in the Revolution. His multi-faceted skill set was used in the entirety of his career.

Carnot was born in 1753 in the small town of Nolay, in what was then Burgundy (today Nolay is in the Côte d'Or department and is not any bigger then it was when Carnot was born). He was the son of a royal notary and judge. He was well educated in a variety of subjects including the sciences; philosophy and mathematics. At an early age, he started receiving his extensive military education and he graduated as a first lieutenant from an engineering school at age 18.



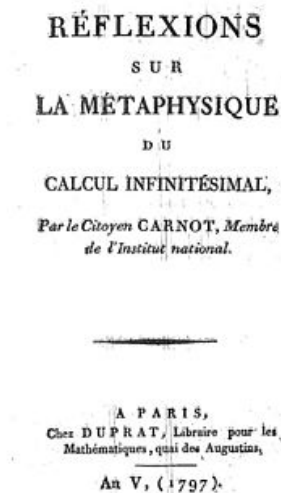
Lazare Carnot, Organizer of Victory

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He even studied with Benjamin Franklin during the famous American's sojourn in Paris. Carnot the wunderkind continued to study a wide range of subjects including engineering and fortifications. He was famous for his *Eulogy of Vauban*, a meditation on the great engineer of Louis XIV, who was responsible for building France's great ring of fortresses on its eastern frontier a century earlier.

He was an early supporter of the French Revolution; Carnot went back and forth from military assignments; to political positions; to the authorship of scientific or mathematical treatises all in a matter of a few years. Carnot had Jacobin sensibilities and was an early ally of Robespierre. His political proclivities would keep him in and out of favor throughout his career. His military responsibilities would continue to grow, till at last he would oversee France's 14 field armies and be a member of the Committee of Public Safety.

For the revolution, however, his greatest contribution would be his reorganization of the French army and French society by the introduction of *the levée en masse*. This revolutionary program of conscription, initiated by Carnot, would lead to the size of the French army increasing from 645,000 men in 1793 to 1.5 million in 1794. Carnot not only organized this large army, but he also provided strategic and tactical training which would lead to the Revolution becoming militarily successful. His scientific background would be used to resolve a variety of dilemmas for the Revolution. For example, the shortage of leather created by the formation of the huge French army would be solved by Carnot developing new tanning technique with French industry.



Carnot was a prolific author—above a piece written while part of the Directory

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In 1795, after the Thermadorian Reaction, Carnot became one of the five directors of the new Directory. He had become a patron of the fast rising Napoleon Bonaparte and appointed him as commander of the Army of Italy. Not unlike so much of his political career, his relationship with Napoleon would seemingly shift with every turn of events. He would serve for a short period as Minister of War in 1800, but Carnot became concerned about what he saw as Napoleon's increasingly autocratic rule. He would gradually fade out of the picture, serving Napoleon as Governor of Antwerp in 1813 before the Bourbon restoration. He did return for the *Cent Jours* as Minister of the Interior. After Waterloo, Carnot retired to Magdeburg, Prussia, where he would continue his scientific work till his death in 1823. The Revolution and Napoleon would not have been without the work of Carnot, Organizer of Victory.

Till our next blog...

Wagram counter set sale update

The counter sets will be placed for purchase in the "Games for Sale" section of the website. These should be posted Jan. 19, 2019

D.A. Spors

ME Household