

## ***Periodic Blog #10—Words On Our Latest Release***

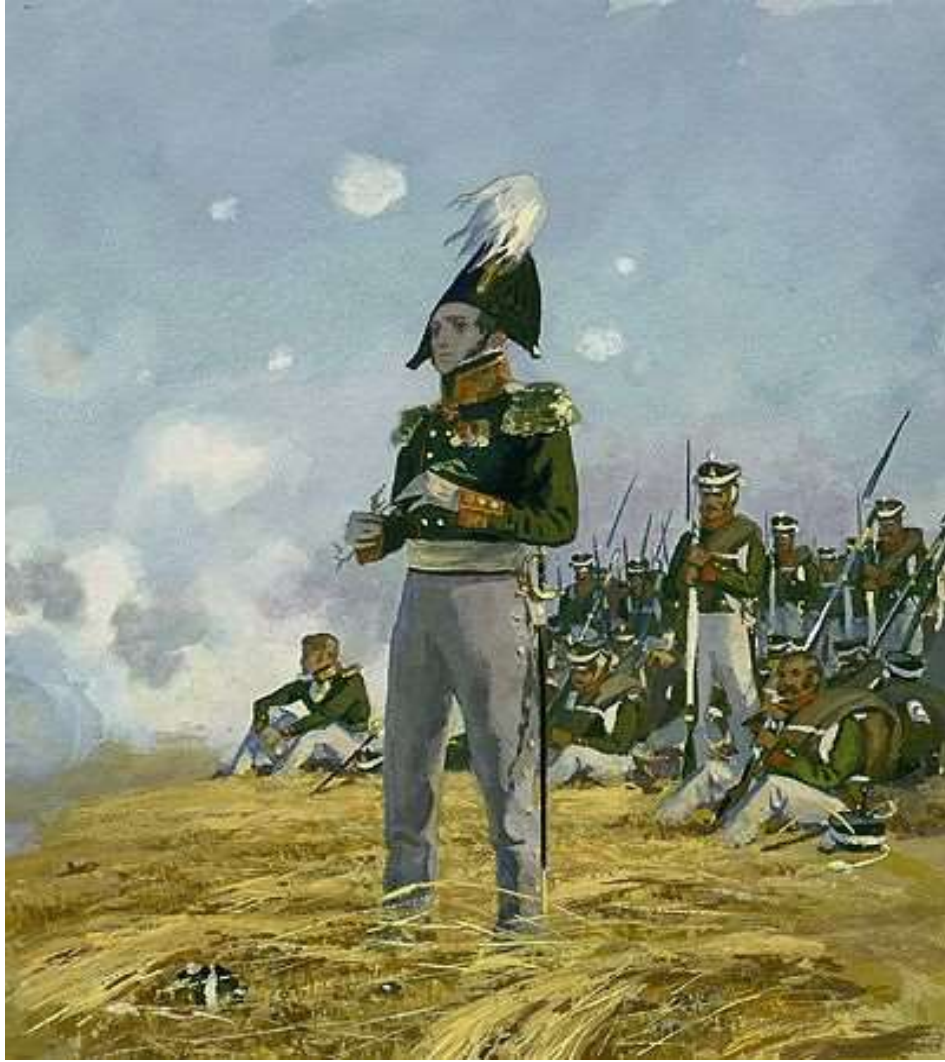
Seemingly, this has been a quiet time for Marshal Enterprises (ME) if one were to look for just the outward signs. No press releases; not a lot of chatter on the Consim site; and all quiet on the new release front. But our activity has been stimulated by our development of our upcoming latest release. This release which is now on track to be published on the first Thursday in October—October 3, 2019—not unlike how it has been since our first release, ***La Bataille de Leipzig 1813***, was released close to the bicentennial of the Battle of Nations in October of 2013. Since then, predictably like the ball descending in Times' Square on New Years Eve, every first Thursday in October we have come out with a new release: Friedland / Dresden in 2014; Aspern-Essling in 2015; Austerlitz in 2016; Battle for Prussia in 2017; Wagram in 2018; and now our latest as noted below.

Counting Vauchamps, published by *Against All Odds* magazine in 2014, and the various smaller games and free games we have done since 2012, we will have released 25 games since 2012 once the latest title appears. This includes the six free games in our Recession Series and the many secondary battles included as a bonus to our primary title of the year.

### ***New Release Is Announced at CONSIM in Tempe***

ME has been a several year sponsor of the CONSIM annual convention in Tempe. On Monday, June 24, ME announced our newest release at that event. The 2019 release will be ***La Bataille de Bautzen 1813***. The Battle of Bautzen was a grim contest during which Napoleon threw his newly reconstituted La Grande Armee, formed after the destruction of his Russian invasion army in the fall of 1812, against a newly born Prussian army and a tattered Russian army only barely surviving the previous years' Russian campaign itself. Napoleon was hoping to concentrate his cavalry deficient large army and deliver force a knockout blow to the Sixth Coalition of Russia and Prussia before the neutral Austrians could be enticed to join the Coalition. The French would eventually put more than 400,000 into the field in the final efforts to maintain control over Germany and subsequently retain the Empire. However, the French needed to keep the Austrians out of the war, thus the importance of achieving a major victory over the Russians and the Prussians. The Coalition, on the other hand, need to defeat the French before the Imperial war machine could overwhelm the Coalition's forces. This creates the perfect battle because both sides needed a major victory to put their strategic goals to the forefront.

This Bautzen will be one of our larger endeavors. There will be six maps and all the counters to represent close to the nearly 300,000 troops assembled by both sides for the May 21, 1813 battle near the Saxon town of Bautzen. We made a decision not to cover the action on May 20 that occurred because it would have required adding three additional maps, which would have made the game both cost prohibitive and much more difficult to play. In addition, ME has made as a part of the package, two separate



*Russian Grenadiers would play a prominent role in the Bautzen battles*

battles on May 19, 1813 at Königswartha between the Russians and the Italians and the combat of Weissig between Lauriston's French and Yorck's Prussians and Russians. There is a separate, seventh map for these two battles, which can also be played together as another scenario.

### ***ME's Man Of The Moment***

One of the key actors in the Bautzen drama is the ME Man of Moment, Count Lauriston. Jacques-Alexandre-Bernard Law Lauriston was born in French India (Pondicherry) in 1768. He was the son of the French governor (who was of Scottish descent) of French India and a Portuguese mother. Lauriston came to Paris as a youth and was enrolled at the Ecole Militaire -

Champs de Mars, where one of his classmates was Napoleon Bonaparte, beginning a relationship which would last between the two until Lauriston's capture shortly after the debacle at Leipzig in 1813.

Like Napoleon, the young Lauriston had a strong artillery background which he would utilize in many of his varied assignments. Lauriston had a wealth of military accomplishments beginning with the French Revolution (where by 1795 he was appointed *chef de brigade*); service as an aide de camp at Marengo; service in Austria in 1805; capture of Ragusa in 1806; commander of the

*ME's Man of the Moment, Count Lauriston*



Imperial Guard artillery in Spain; service again as an aide de camp in the Danube campaign; one of the principal participants at the Battle of Raab; and in probably his most prominent endeavor, commander of the Grand Battery at Wagram, where he commanded 112 guns that stopped the Austrian attack on the French center and made it possible for the great French victory.

More so than most other aides de camp, Lauriston had a number of non military assignments including: French envoy at the Peace of Amiens; inspector of coastal artillery; envoy to Copenhagen; special military representative to the French fleet; escort of the bride princess Maria-Louisa from Vienna to Paris; special military inspector of several European locations in

1810; and finally French Ambassador to Russia in 1811. He was a key part of the rear-guard in the Russian campaign in 1812 and became a Corp commander in January 1813. His service included several battles, including Lützen before serving with distinction at both Weissig and Bautzen. His capture on the last day of Leipzig on October 19, 1813 ended the war for Lauriston, and other than some administrative duties, his last military assignment of note was his appointment as a Marshal and service in Spain in 1823. He died in 1828.



Our next blog will come out before our publication of Bautzen, so stay tuned to our website. There have been over 31,000 hits on our website in less than 18 months. We expect to start loading more material on the website, now that I have officially retired from my previous profession and will be able to devote more time to our mutual projects. Hoping to see many of you at Tempe starting June 24 and looking forward to Duel in the Desert. The ME team will be playing the Coalition; and Albert Smith and his gang of stellar players will be playing the French.

We appreciate all of your support, not only to the website but to the 25 games we will have released.

James G. Soto

ME Household