

The Battle of Raszyn

19 April 1809

a *Grande Armée* scenario by Chuck Hamack

Austria's strategic design for the 1809 war versus France included an operation against the Grand Duchy of Warsaw. The goal of this offensive was to knock Poland out of the war. The Austrians would then turn west into Saxony and the Confederation of the Rhine to threaten Napoleon's communications with France. This task was entrusted to *General der Kavallerie* Archduke Ferdinand Karl d'Este, commanding VII Corps (30,200 men). Ferdinand ran into *Général de Division* Prince Joseph Poniatowski and his 14,000 man Polish-Saxon army ten kilometers south of Warsaw along the Utrata stream at Raszyn.

Historical Raszyn:

As the Austrians slowly advanced on Warsaw, General Major Johann Frieher von Mohr's advanced guard found several squadrons of Polish Lancers near Sur Bequemlichkeit Inn. Quickly penning a note to the Archduke, Mohr awaited further instructions. Archduke Ferdinand immediately set out for the Inn with all of the Austrian cavalry that was at hand.

Arriving south of the Inn, Ferdinand launched a coordinated attack with the cavalry reserve and Mohr's infantry. The attack compelled the Poles to retire behind the Utrata, thus revealing the entire Polish army. The Archduke decided to attack the scattered Polish forces without delay. Civillart's and Pflacher's brigades would lead the advance down the Jawarow-Warsaw road. Mohr's command would conduct the supporting attacks with Vukassovich, moving on Falenty while Siebenburger's Grenzers took Dawidy to protect the right flank. The Grenzers occupied Dawidy unopposed and remained for the rest of the day. Vukassovich, on the other hand, became hopelessly entangled in the vicious street fighting of Falenty.

Poniatowski had not expected such an energetic attack from the normally uninspired Austrians. He had allowed his subordinates to be left unsupported and now had to scramble to bring them aid.

The Austrians of Civillart's brigade struggled to reach the Utrata. After reaching the flooded stream around four o'clock, Civillart found that the bridge to Jawarow and all bridging material had been removed by the Poles. By this time, Vukassovich's veterans had taken the small wood near Falenty and repelled a counter-attack led by Poniatowski himself. Renewing the assault the Austrians finally threw the Poles out of Falenty in some disorder, capturing two guns in the process. The Austrians then pursued the Poles across the bridge and gained a toe-hold in Raszyn. A counter-attack by von Dyhern's Saxons stopped the Austrian advance and dislodged Vukassovich from Raszyn.

Ferdinand, unaware of Vukassovich's position, ordered a pursuit of the Poles which he presumed to have been evicted from the town. Captain Renner of Ferdinand's staff recognized his commander's error and, on his own initiative, ordered part of Pflacher's brigade to support Vukassovich.

The attack on Raszyn was again renewed around seven o'clock. After two hours of house to house fighting, the Austrians were completely in possession of the burning town. Poniatowski started his withdrawal to Warsaw after nightfall. Von Dyhern's force left for Saxony the next day, following previous orders from the Emperor. Poniatowski was forced to abandon Warsaw to the Austrians on the 21st. The Polish army eventually recovered and forced the Archduke out of Poland, seizing part of Galicia in return. Polish losses at Raszyn amounted to 2,000 dead, wounded, and missing. The Austrian losses came to only 600 (over 250 from Vukassovich).

Weather: Sunny no variation 24" visibility, Ground is Hard.

Special Rules:

I. Game Length: 1400-2000 5 turns or 2 plus 1D6 (roll of if no agreement)

One turn advances the clock one hour to determine reinforcements for the Austrians.

Austrians have the initiative on the first turn.

II. C/C: Roll one die. On a roll of 1-3 C/C arrives at 1500, 2-3, 4-6 at 1600. Arrive at south edge of

square 5-4. C/P: Roll one die. On a roll of 1-3 C/P arrives at 1500, 4-6 at 1600. Arrive at south edge of square 5-3. C/T: Roll one die. On a roll of 1-2 at 1600, 3-4 at 1600, 5-6 at 1700. Arrives at south edge of 5-1

Deployment:

The Polish forces are set up first. The Austrians forces are set up after the Polish forces are placed, and must be at least nine inches from the nearest Polish unit.

Optional rules:

I. Hidden ford may be located by the Austrians at Michalowice and Dawidy. These may be discovered by searching for one full turn directly across from the two villages in the Swamp-Mud.

II. Advanced warning-Poniatowski originally had little time to prepare for the Austrian offensive, so several battalions of infantry were still marching to enter the battle, use the extra brigades in the ()'s.

III. Artillery played a major role in this small battle and to show this on the table:

For the Austrians: Create Brigade Batteries of 2 SP (by subtracting 1 SP from each Infantry Brigade in (AG), (CC),(CP), and (CT). These would be four 6# foot Batteries. One battery per Division.*For the Polish:* Create Batteries of 2 SP (by subtracting 2 SP from Brigades in (P/F/1), (P/M/1), and (P/J/1).

These would be four 6# foot Batteries. Be sure to change Army Break points if this is done.

Optional Victory Conditions:

Falenty, Raszyn (2-Blocks), and Jawarow (30/45)

Michalowice, and Dawidy (15/20)

Janki and the Inn (30/15)

Wypendi and Podolszynie (15/5)

Polish/Austrian VP each.

Map notes:

Falenty, Raszyn, and Jawarow are Hard Cover, all other villages are Soft Cover.

The Utrata can only be crossed on the Causeway (Bridge at Raszyn) and fords.

Fords across the Utrata (2" Swamp-Mud, 2" Ford-Rough, and 2" Swamp-Mud).

The only non-swamp area within two inches of the Utrata are the roads/causeways at Raszyn

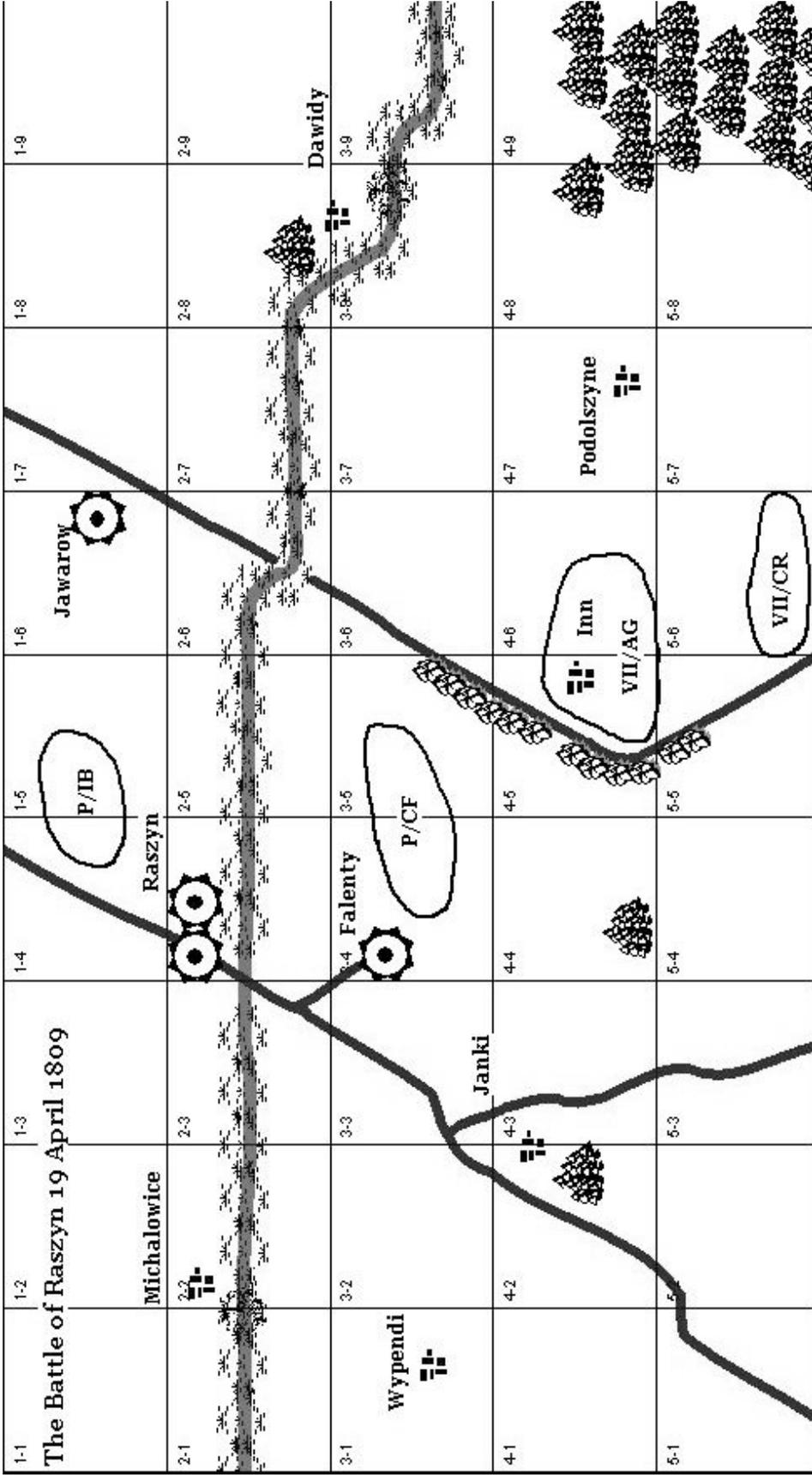
Ford are Rough terrain.

Swamps are Mud (Double cost: 2"=4 MP).

Forests are Rough terrain

Near the town of Inn is a Hedge (Obstacle) parallel to the road.

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Austrian VII Corps: Ferdinand d'Este-Average

Fair Napoleonic Army with 3 Forces; Break Point @ 4

Advanced Guard Division (VII/AG) Mohr-3/6"

VII/AG/1	Grenz #16 & #17 Trained-Sk2	5 SP	_____
VII/AG/2	IR 48 th Veteran-Sk1	9 SP	_____
VII/AG/3	Kaiser Hussars #1 Veteran-LC	4 SP	_____
VII/AG	3# Cavalry Battery	2 SP	_____

Center Column (VII/C) Mondet-3/6"

Division Civcillart VII/C/C

II/C/C/1	IR 30 th IR 37 th Trained-Sk1	7 SP	_____
VII/C/C/2	IR 41 st IR 37 th Trained-Sk1	7 SP	_____

Division Pflacher VII/C/P

VII/C/P/1	IR 37 th Trained-Sk1	7 SP	_____
VII/C/P/2	IR 34 th Conscript-Sk1	6 SP	_____

Divison Trauttenburg VII/C/T

VII/C/T/1	IR 63 rd Trained-Sk1	7 SP	_____
VII/C/T/2	IR 24 th Conscript-Sk1	6 SP	_____

Cavalry Reserve Division (VII/CR) Schaueroth-3/6"

VII/CR/1	Palatinal Hussars #12 Veteran-LC	4 SP	_____
VII/CR/2	Szekel Hussars #11 Elite-LC	5 SP	_____
VII/CR/3	5 th & 7 th Cuirassiers Elite-HC	7 SP	_____
VII/CR	3# Cavalry Battery	2 SP	_____

Infantry units 8, Cavalry units 4, Artillery units 2 Total: 14

Infantry 54 SP, Cavalry 20 SP, and Artillery 4 SP Total: 78

Polish-Saxon Force (P): Poniatowski-Average

Fair Napoleonic Army of 5 Forces and 1 Detachment; Break Point @ 4

(due to 2 saxon foot batteries else 3 if you add 4 SP's to the Saxon Grenadiers)

Covering Force (P/CF) Roznicki-2/6"

P/CF/1	Polish 2 nd & 3 rd Lanciers Elite-LC	8 SP	_____
P/CF/2	Polish 5 th Chasseurs & 6 th Lanciers Veteran-LC	5 SP	_____
P/CF	4# Polish Horse	2 SP	_____

Falenty (P/F) Sokolnicki-3/6"

P/F/1	1 st , 6 th , & 8 th Polish Line Infantry Veteran-Sk2	8 SP	_____
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(P/F/2 Polish Line Infantry Veterans-Sk2 4 SP Optional)

Michalowice (P/M) Bieganski-3/6"

P/M/1	3 rd Polish Line Infantry Veteran-Sk2	7 SP	_____
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(P/M/2 Polish Line Infantry Veterans-Sk2 4 SP Optional)

Raszyn (P/R) Polentz-3/6"

P/R/1	2 nd Polish Line Infantry Veterans-Sk2	5 SP	_____
P/R/2	Saxon Grenadiers Elite-Sk1	5 SP	_____
P/R/3	Saxon 6# Foot	2 SP	_____
P/R/4	Saxon 6# Foot	2 SP	_____

Jawarow (P/J) Kamiencki-3/6"

P/J/1	1 st & 8 th Polish Line Infantry Veterans-Sk2	6 SP	_____
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(P/J/2 Polish Line Infantry Veterans-Sk2 3 SP Optional)

Independent Brigade (P/IB) Detachment

P/IB/1	1 st Polish Chasseurs & Saxon Hussars Veterans-LC	4 SP	_____
P/IB	4# Polish Horse	2 SP	_____

Infantry units 5, Cavalry units 3, Artillery units 4 Total: 12

Infantry 31 SP, Cavalry 17 SP, and Artillery 8 SP Total: 58

Labels:**Ferdinand-Average****VII/AG Mohr-3/6''**

VII/AG/1 Grenz #16&17 Sk2

VII/AG/2 IR 48th Sk1

VII/AG/3 Kaiser Hussars #1

VII/AG 3# Cavalry Battery

VII/C Mondet-3/6''

Division Civcillart VII/C/C

VII/C/C/1 IR 30th IR 37th Sk1VII/C/C/2 IR 41st IR 37th Sk1

Division Pflacher VII/C/P

VII/C/P/1 IR 37th Sk1VII/C/P/2 IR 34th Sk1

Divison Trauttenburg VII/C/T

VII/C/T/1 IR 63rd Sk1VII/C/T/2 IR 24th Sk1**VII/CR Schauroth-3/6''**

VII/CR/1 Palatinal Hussars #12

VII/CR/2 Szekel Hussars #11

VII/CR/3 5th & 7th Cuirassiers

VII/CR 3# Cavalry Battery

Poniatowski-Average**P/CF Roznicki-2/6''**

P/CF/1 Lancers

P/CF/2 Chasseurs & Lancers

P/CF 4# Polish Horse

P/F Sokolnicki-3/6''P/F/1 1st, 6th & 8th Polish Ln Sk2*P/F/2 Polish Line Sk2***P/M Bieganski-3/6''**P/M/1 3rd Polish Line Sk2*P/M/2 Polish Line Sk2***P/R Polentz-3/6''**P/R/1 2nd Polish Line Sk2

P/R/2 Saxon Grenadiers Sk1

P/R/3 Saxon 6# Foot

P/R/4 Saxon 6# Foot

P/J Kamiencki-3/6''P/J/1 1st & 8th Polish Line Sk2*P/J/2 Polish Line Sk2***P/IB Detachment**P/IB/1 1st Pol Chass.&Sx Hussars

P/IB 4# Polish Horse

Note:

Much of this scenario is taken from Brian Robinette's Raszyn scenario for *Napoleon's Battles* with his kind permission. If you would like information about his scenarios please contact him at: herzogbrian@earthlink.net

All changes from the original scenario are my own based on various sources.

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