



WSS Know-Who & Painting Guide

111: Castile Infantry Regiment

“Regimiento de Castilla”



This is another senior Spanish infantry unit, raised in 1634 by Count-Duke of Olivares. In 1640 it was granted the status of elite unit under the name of *Regimiento de la Guardia Real*. Around 1668 it was renamed again as *Tercio de Sevilla*, although it started to be popularly known as *Tercio de Morados Viejos* (=Old Purples) due to its uniform colour. After the 1707 reorganization by Philip V it was renamed as *Regimiento de Castilla*, and definitely *Regimiento Inmemorial de Castilla* in 1710. Such name would be kept until 1766 when it was merged with others to create the *Regimiento del Rey*.

Uniform up to 1707

(«Tercio de Morados Viejos»)



As described by Picouet

1707 onwards uniform

(«Regimiento de Castilla»)



According to Sapherson



Grenadier cap
(speculative)

Colonels

1714: Marquis of Moya

Company flag until 1707



As generally accepted by Spanish media

Uniform element	Colour description	Painting suggestion *
Coat	White	70-918 Ivory
Facings	Purple	70-810 Royal Purple
Waistcoat	Purple	70-810 Royal Purple
Neckcloth	White	70-951 White
Trousers	Purple	70-810 Royal Purple
Musketeer stockings	White?	70-951 White
Grenadier stockings	Red	70-908 Carmine Red
Buttons	Gilt	70-996 Gold
Hat	Black	70-950 Black
Hat border	White	70-951 White
Hat lace	Red	70-908 Carmine Red
Gaiters (if worn)	-	70-918 Ivory
Officers' sash	Red	70-908 Carmine Red
Officers' hat plume	White?	70-951 White

* According to Vallejo's Model Color 70 Range chart

General information

The old Spanish «tercios» suffered a progressive series of reforms since 1703 onwards, when their uniform, equipment and organization started to change following French trends – a black felt tricorne replacing the old white «chambergos» hats, while coats were given longer sleeves with also larger cuffs, and belly cartridge boxes replaced the old-fashioned apostles. Old «tercios» uniform assorted colours changed around 1707 or 1708 too, to be given new white, or off-white, uniforms with distinctive facings. Only grenadier companies were now allowed to wear red stockings. Spanish infantry main weapon was now a musket with socket bayonet, supplemented with a sword; although pikes were still used on battlefield until as early as 1703 or as late as 1708, depending on when each particular «tercio» was reformed into a modern regiment.

Grenadiers wore a cap trimmed with sheepskin all around and a medium sized frontal plate in regimental colours, with yellow or white edging and device (often a royal coat of arms). Shoulder laces or «dragoneras» continued to be used.

As for drummers, they were at first expected to dress similarly to rank and file, but in 1707 colonels were allowed to dress musicians in their personal liveries – so a huge variety can be expected at this regard.

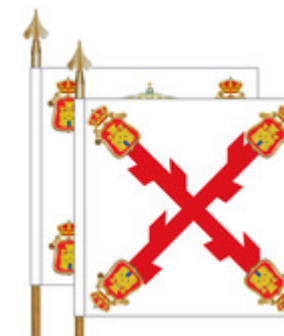
Officers wore a red sash around the waist, with their precise grade symbolized by various pipings and distinctive canes.

History

This was a thoroughly active unit, involved in the defence of Valencia de Alcántara (1705) close to the portuguese border, the battle of Almansa and subsequent sieges of Elx, Alzira and Xàtiva (1707), the siege of Dènia (1708).

Later, it fought at the failed siege of Balaguer followed by the battles of Monte Torrero (or Saragossa) and Brihuega (1710), the siege of Miravet (1711?) and the long lasting, final siege of Barcelona (1713-1714).

Battalion flag since 1728



New regulations issued in 1728 came to set a further design for either King's and Battalion's flags, that survived with only minor changes until the Napoleonic Wars.

Officer



Grenadier

