

# “Bristling with guns”. Unter Laichling, 21 April 1809

## A scenario for Soldiers of Napoleon by Warwick Kinrade

### Background

It is 21 April 1809 in the Danube valley, twelve days after Austria’s invasion of Bavaria. The Franco-Bavarian forces have recovered from their initial surprise and blunted the impetus of the Austrian assault. The campaign is now in the balance. Battlefield intelligence on both sides has suffered from the close terrain, the fast pace of events and wishful thinking. Today, Napoleon believes he is chasing the main Austrian army back towards Landshut, while he has ordered Davout and Lefebvre to mop up the remnants of enemy units stranded south of Regensburg. His lieutenants are about to discover that Napoleon has made a major miscalculation.

Davout and Lefebvre have been advancing East along the Laber Valley, pushing the Austrian III and IV Corps out of a succession of rearguard positions. As they approach the town of Eggmüll and the main North-South road from Regensburg to Munich, it becomes clear that the Austrians have done with running. They have occupied a hilltop astride the French line of advance, bristling with artillery and prepared for defence. Davout and Lefebvre deploy their troops for a set-piece attack.

### Description

This scenario covers the initial assault on the Austrian hill position by Saint Hilaire’s French division and Deroi’s Bavarians.

### Objectives and Victory

#### 1. Theatre

- This battle takes pace during the War of the Fifth Coalition. The Franco-Bavarians have a +1 Operational Advantage.

#### 2. Game size

- Large division.

#### 3. Armies

Units	Strength	Bases	MV	Type	Quality	Discipline	Firing	Melee	Special
<b>Austrians</b>									
<b>On table</b>									
<b>IV Armee Korps</b>									
<b>R</b> Reserve artillery		2	2	Heavy artillery	Seasoned	4+	Shot 5+ Canister 4+	Var. 5+	
<b>Brigade Riese</b>									
I.R. 44 (Bellegarde)									
<b>R</b> 1/44	860	7	1	Infantry	Trained	4+	Musket 4+	Bayonet 4+	Sk 1
<b>R</b> 2/44	860	6	1	Infantry	Trained	4+	Musket 4+	Bayonet 4+	Sk 1
<b>Brigade Stutterheim</b>									
Deutsch-Banater Grenz									
<b>St</b> 1/DB	880	7	1	Infantry	Trained	4+	Musket 4+	Bayonet 4+	Sk 2, Light
<b>St</b> 2/DB	880	6	1	Infantry	Trained	4+	Musket 4+	Bayonet 4+	Sk 2, Light



Units	Strength	Bases	MV	Type	Quality	Discipline	Firing	Melee	Special
<b>Si</b> 5th Bavarian Light Battalion	462	4	1	Infantry	Trained	4+	Musket 4+	Bayonet 4+	Sk 2, Light
9th Bavarian Line Regiment									
<b>Si</b> 1/9	709	6	1	Infantry	Trained	4	Musket 4+	Bayonet 4+	Sk 1
<b>Si</b> 2/9	709	5	1	Infantry	Trained	4	Musket 4+	Bayonet 4+	Sk 1
<b>Si</b> Taxis Dragoons	425	4	2	Heavy Cavalry	Seasoned	3+	Carbine 5+	Sabre 3+	Shock 2, One Shot
<b>Si</b> Light battery		2	2	Light artillery	Seasoned	4+	Shot 5+ Canister 4+	Var. 5+	
<b>Si</b> Foot battery		2	2	Heavy artillery	Seasoned	4+	Shot 5+ Canister 4+	Var. 5+	
<b>In Reserve</b>									
<b>105th Line</b>									
<b>105</b> 1/105	720	6	2	Infantry	Seasoned	4+	Musket 4+	Bayonet 3+	Sk 3
<b>105</b> 2/105	720	5	2	Infantry	Seasoned	4+	Musket 4+	Bayonet 3+	Sk 3
<b>105</b> 3/105	720	5	2	Infantry	Seasoned	4+	Musket 4+	Bayonet 3+	Sk 3

#### 4. Terrain



- Terrain notes (refer to page 41 of rulebook)
- Each square on the map represents 12 paces
- Water Features: the Große Laber is treated as a river. It cannot be forded. The streams are fordable along their length and count as linear obstacles. The marsh is difficult for Infantry and Cavalry and impassable to Artillery.
- The hills block line of sight. Artillery on a hill may fire over 1 other unit, provided it is over 5 paces from the target.
- Woods: the woods are treated as Open. They count as difficult terrain for infantry and cavalry and open terrain for light units and those in extended line. Units up to 5 paces into woods are obscured and over 5 paces are invisible.
- Buildings: all buildings on the map are brick-built. Place hedges, wall and building models from your collection within the grey shaded village areas.

#### **5. Special Circumstances**

- The Austrians are pre deployed.

#### **6. Command Points**

- The French have D3+1 (for tactical advantage) Command points.
- The Austrians have D3 Command points.

#### **7. Tactical Order**

- The Austrians have the Defence Order. In this scenario they have no possibility of receiving fieldworks. Other aspects of the order apply as written.
- The French have the Steady Advance order.

#### **8. Tactical Advantage**

- The French begin the game with the tactical advantage. This gives an extra command point (already noted in 6. above), obliges the French to deploy the first brigade and gives Prussia the first Initiative.

#### **9. Deployment Plans**

- Both armies deploy in line abreast. The Bavarian brigade should deploy in the right sector.

#### **10. Reserve Brigades**

- The 105th Line is the French Reserve brigade and will arrive in the central third of the French table edge. Brigade Neustadter is the Austrian Reserve brigade and will arrive in the centre or right of the Austrian table edge (player's choice).

#### **11. Deployment**

- The Austrians deploy all on-table units before the Franco-Bavarians.