

**ARMAMENTS OF THE TROOPS OF THE ROYAL HOSEHOLD 1788-1931
(22)**

**“TERCEROLA” USED BY THE BRIGADE OF “TIRADORES”
IN THE ROYAL CORP OF “GUARDIAS DE LA PERSONA DEL REY”**

(Translation by Hector J. Meruelo)



“Tercerola” of the model that equipped the Brigade of “Tiradores” (sharpshooters) of the Royal Corp of “Guardias de la Persona del Rey”; 503 mm long, 18 mm (“de a 17”) caliber, bearing the Royal Arms and the inscription “*Ri. Cuerpo de Guards. de la Persona del Rey*”; Individualized B^aT^sN^o34”(Brigade of “Tiradores” Number 34); French style lock inscribed “*J.Y./Astiazaran/En Ermua*” on the lock plate; Juan Garcés collection.

The models of “tercerola”, and pistol, of the Brigade of “Tiradores” are weapons made “in the English style”, differing only in size from each other, both having a swivel lock mechanism and an inscription on their lock plate placing their maker “En Ermua” (In Ermua); The barrels, bearing the Royal Arms and the inscription “*Ri. Cuerpo de Guards. de la Persona del Rey*” are individualized with a reference to the Brigade of “Tiradores” and the specific Number they equipped.

In contrast to the pistol, the “Tercerola” does have a brass nose cap protecting the front end of the stock; The ramrod has the same retaining system as the pistol to prevent its accidental release.



Specimen of the model of “tercerola” used by the Brigade of “Tiradores” of the Royal Corp of “Guardias de la Persona del Rey), converted to percussion (Mod.1849); In this conversion the maker’s inscription on the lock plate, the Royal Arms and any reference to the Brigade of “Tiradores” and any specific number, have been erased, and only the inscription “RI.Cuerpo de Guards. de la Persona del Rey” remains; Juan Garcés collection.

The conversion to percussion was performed according to the regulation conversion system of 1849, welding to the barrel the base of the chimney and the cap holder to the lock plate; This specimen bears a clip secured to the left side of the plate by the two plate screws, and two rings for sling attachment.

There is a possibility that the “Tercerolas” of the Brigade of “Tiradores” were converted to percussion in order to equip the Squadron of “Guardias de S.M la Reina” (Guards to Her Majesty the Queen) created in 1852, although even by transforming all of them there would not have been enough, which makes this possibility unlikely.

The Brigade of “Tiradores” had the same strength as the other Brigades: 66 soldiers, of which 56 were Guards, and in contrast, the Squadron of “Guardias de S.M la Reina” had 84 mounted Guards, plus 6 on foot and 4 buglers; It’s existence was also brief and was disbanded in August of 1854.

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Bibliography:

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