

**ARMAMENTS OF THE TROOPS OF THE ROYAL HOUSEHOLD, 1788-1931  
(31)  
SWORDS, SABERS, BREASTPLATES, AND LANCES,  
OF THE ROYAL GUARD'S CAVALRY DIVISION**

(Translation by Hector J. Meruelo)



Riding sword, model of 1825; 945x36 mm blade inscribed “Real Fabrica de Toledo, Año de 1831” on its obverse; Hilt and scabbard marked “YBARZABAL”.



Cavalry saber, model of 1825; 840x25 mm blade, inscribed “Real Fabrica de Toledo, Año de 1829” on its obverse; Hilt and scabbard marked “YBARZABAL”; Specimen number 1964-934 of the Collection of the Montjuïc Military Museum. (M.M.M.)

The two Regiments of Cavalry of the Line, the Grenadiers and the “Coraceros” (Cuirassiers) of the Royal Guard’s Cavalry Division were equipped with riding

swords, with the exception of the Company of “Tiradores”, added in 1828 to each Regiment, which were equipped with sabers as were, the Regiments of Lancers and “Cazadores” of the Light Brigade, and the Artillery Squadron.

In my opinion, the models of cavalry riding sword and saber denominated as of the year 1825, which, judging from their current existence, were made in a much smaller quantity than those of 1832, were made for the Royal Guard’s Cavalry Division, while those of 1832 were made for the Army Cavalry, just as those of 1815.



**Breastplate used by the Regiment of “Coraceros” (Cuirassiers) of the Royal Guard’s Cavalry Division; Of French origin, marked “ZUDERELL-PARIS”, reconditioned with new leather and accouterments and with the addition of a brass sunburst bearing the anagram “GR” (Guardia Real); Specimen number 1963-1015, of the Collection of the M.M.M.**

The Brigade of the Line’s Regiment of “Coraceros” was equipped with breastplates of French origin, used by the Napoleonic Cuirassiers during the War of Independence, which had been stored in the depots and were reconditioned for the Royal Guard’s “Coraceros” by adding a brass sunburst with the crowned anagram “GR” (Guardia Real) in its center; These were those breastplates mentioned by Prince Lichnowsky as having been taken by the Carlistas in the battle of Huesca (5-24-1837), and which had been previously issued to a proposed squadron of “coraceros” who absolutely refused to wear them.

Regarding the lances used by the Regiment of Lancers of the Light Brigade, Giménez Gonzalez describes them as “with blade and tang of iron, a beech wood shaft, a black leather lance holder, and a sling of white and scarlet wool”; The catalogues of the Museo de Artillería describe the lances, specimen numbers 1641, 1642 and 1643 of the Collection as, 1839 projects.

**Juan L. Calvo  
March, 2012**

**Bibliography:**

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