

**Russian 1st Special Infantry Brigade**  
**Russian Expeditionary Force**  
**1 May 1916**

Two special infantry brigades were formed by the Czar to support the French on the Western Front during World War I. The 1st Special Infantry Brigade was formed in 1915 and arrived in France on May 1916. It served until October 1917, when, as result of Bolshevist propaganda, the brigade mutinied. The brigade had to be assaulted militarily, the brigade taken prisoner and was broken-up. The other brigade was dispatched to Salonika and where it served until broken up.

Brigade Commander: Major General N.A. Lokhvitskiy  
Brigade Staff

1st Special Infantry regiment:

1st Infantry Battalion:  
1st Infantry Company (200 men)  
2nd Infantry Company (200 men)  
3rd Infantry Company (200 men)  
4th Infantry Company (200 men)  
1st machine-gun Company (12 machine-guns)

2nd Infantry Battalion:  
5th Infantry Company  
6th Infantry Company  
7th Infantry Company  
8th Infantry Company  
2nd Machine-gun Company

3rd Infantry Battalion:  
9th Infantry Company  
10th Infantry Company  
11th Infantry Company  
12th Infantry Company  
3rd machine-gun Company

Connection Platoon  
Supply Group  
1st Reserve Battalion  
1st Reserve Company  
2nd Reserve Company  
3rd Reserve Company  
4th Reserve Company  
5th Reserve Company  
6th Reserve Company

2nd Special Infantry regiment

same organization as 1st Regiment.

Total Strength: 180 officers, 8,762 enlisted & 72 machine-guns.

Source How the Russians Stood Up for France, Military-Historic Magazine (Moscow). - 1998. - ?3. - P. 32-41.

Cockfield, J.H., With Snow on their Boots: The Tragic Odyssey of the Russian Expeditionary Force in France During World War I, New York , St. Martins Press, 1998.

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