

Fellow Countrymen

As I sit to write you this report on the 14th June 1807, I am watching the Victorious Army of France drive the army of our enemy to destruction in Friedland.

This morning, the might of the Russian Army crossed the river Alle with the intention of destroying the Corp of our excellent Marshall Lannes. He did not waiver as the Russian General Bennigsen threw the might of the Russian Army against less than half of his Corp that defended the villages of Posthenen and Horichdorf to the west of Friedland.

Lannes stood his ground and fought of the Russian Army why the rest of his Corp moved to join him. Throughout the long morning and into the afternoon, he frustrated the efforts of the Russian Generals, continuing to hold these villages until the Russian hordes ceased their attacks from exhaustion. The defence of the ground that enabled the rest of the Army to take the field exceeds that of the Spartans at Thermopatie. They had the advantage of a narrow gap to defend whilst Lannes, with the support of Grouchy and Nansouty had wide open fields to hold against the advance of the barbarian army.

With the arrival of Ney's Corp and the Imperial Guard, the Army of France was able to move onto the offensive and the Russian troops began to fall back towards Friedland before the might of the superior French soldiers.

Mortier's Corp suffered badly when cossacks cowardly attacked wounded and stragglers as they took the field. These barbarians are of the worst type, unwilling to face a Frenchman in a fair fight.

The arrival of Victor's Corp sealed the Russian fate as he moved down the south bank of the Munlen Fluss towards Friedland, cutting off any chance of retreat for this poor example of an army.

I have every sympathy for the common Russian soldier who stoically, but unsuccessfully, attempted to stem the tide of our brave army. They are poorly led and suffer severely for the mistakes that their generals make. I will offer them a peace so these poor men may lick their wounds and recover from this terrible ordeal.

It is time that they recognised that France is strong, determined and capable of inflicting defeats on any army that opposes it. Perhaps we can now have a period of peace so that our fine soldiers can return home to see their own loved ones.

Vie La France

Signé **N A P O L É O N.**

Par L'Empereur,

Le Grand Marechal faisant de Major-Général de la Grande Armée,

Signé **Comte BRESSIERE**