

**International Commission of Military
History Newsletter
Issue 5, Spring 2005**

Welcome to this ICMH Newsletter

Piet Kamphuis, Secretary-General,

International Commission of Military History

I am very pleased to introduce this fifth issue of the ICMH Newsletter. It is also the last issue to be published under the current Executive Board. It is therefore a good time to thank everyone who has made a contribution to the Newsletter for their collegial efforts.

For most of us, planning the period from June to August is always an exciting process. Two congresses will already have found homes in many diaries. The International Committee of Historical Sciences/UNESCO will meet in Sydney, Australia, from 3-9 July (for more information, see www.cishsydney2005.org). I have the honour and the privilege to represent the ICMH during the General Assemblies of the ICHS. I shall follow the election of the country that will host the large ICHS congress in five years with great interest because, in principle, the military history community of that country will also act as host for our annual congress in 2010. Although it is something of a disappointment that the planned ICMH Round Table in Sydney will not take place, you can read below about the progress being made on a truly international edition of the International Review of Military History by Prof. Dr. Luc de Vos's team.

It goes without saying that all of our attention at the moment is focused on the XXXIst International Congress of Military History that will take place in Madrid from 21 to 27 August. The Spanish Commission, led by Lieutenant General Domingo Marcos Miralles, is working energetically on preparing a rich and diverse programme that you should not miss! The Executive Board met on 21 May in Madrid to make its preparations. We shall, of course, cross the last "t"s and dot the last "i"s on the Madrid Congress, in close collaboration with our Spanish hosts. Our primary attention, however, shall be on the developments within the ICMH and our main aim will be to ensure that the General Assembly runs smoothly. From an administrative perspective, we have a full programme ahead of us. A new management team must be elected in Madrid. Vice Chairman Dean Allard and Treasurer Hervé de Weck have announced their intentions to step down. Fortunately, sufficient candidates have presented themselves to ensure that we can look forward to an exciting election. The two board members who are leaving have both put a great deal of effort into the revision of the statutes. I hope that their work can be crowned in Madrid with the acceptance of the new statutes that are better able to anticipate future developments.

A number of countries have expressed a great deal of interest in the objectives and activities of the ICMH and several of them have submitted formal requests for membership. That is especially gratifying. In addition, there also appear to be sufficient national commissions interested in organising future international military history congresses. The ICMH Bibliography Committee and the ICMH Committee on Archives are making good progress in their activities.

Things are going well with the ICMH, which will also become apparent from the contents of this Newsletter.

I hope to see you many of you in Madrid.

.....

XXXI International Congress of Military History, Madrid, Spain, 21-27 August 2005

Lieutenant General Domingo Marcos Miralles, Chairman of the Spanish Commission on Military History (Comisión Española de Historia Militar - CEHISMI) invites the members of national commissions, military historians interested in the subject, and persons wishing to accompany them to take part in 31st International Congress on Military History. It will commemorate the 2nd centenary of the Battle of Trafalgar. The Congress will take place in Madrid from August 21-27, 2005.

An excellent website, www.cidhm.com contains information on the Madrid Congress, Scientific Program, Agenda, Registration, and Post-Congress Trip. This website is the best source for information. For those wishing to attend, there are hotel rooms and accommodations available. Please register, so that Congress officials can plan efficiently for the meetings and the day that the Congress delegates travel to the historic and cultural sites.

Dr. D. Enrique García Hernán, from The Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas, will co-direct the academic program, together with Mr. Hugo O'Donnell Duque de Estrada, who is also a member of the Spanish Royal Academy and Vice-Chairman of both the Spanish and the International Commissions on Military History.

Spanish Navy Captain, José Blanco Núñez, Secretary to the CEHISMI, will be in charge of the Technical Secretariat. Communications directed to him should be sent to the following address:
j.blanco@oc.mde.es.

Scientific Program

The Congress theme is: "TERRESTRIAL AND NAVAL POWER AT THE AGE OF TRAFALGAR". The naval battle that took place on 21st October 1805 will be the focal point for the study of the many political and military aspects of the historical age. The Congress theme will be subdivided into the following topics:

Part 1. Prior aspects that conditioned military action

- Politics and strategy in Europe. Alliances and conflicts.
- Military thought and theory of warfare, study of treaties and doctrinal aspects.
- Economies of the major powers, and financing of the wars. Budgets and military allocations. The military industry

Part 2. Land military practices

- Tactical experiences and innovations. Combat use of different military corps.
- Combat techniques and the training of forces
- Personal and collective weapons
- Poliorcetics. Land and naval blockades

Part 3. Naval world and the Battle of Trafalgar

- Naval technology. Naval arsenals and the naval organizations of the powers
- Military and auxiliary corps
- Naval tactics. Privateers, prizes and maritime tribunals
- The Trafalgar combat in its different aspects. Historiography and research sources

Part 4. Non-European world.

- All of the topics, recommended above, could be discussed as well as other subjects that examine other regions and their military experiences.

To date, the Spanish Commission has received 140 inscriptions, with more than 70 accompanying persons registered for the Congress. A full program has been planned for the Congress participants and the accompanying persons.

Cultural Programs for Delegates and Accompanying Persons

On Sunday, August 21st, the Congress will open with a reception at the Buenavista Palace in Madrid. Following the first day of the Scientific Program, all delegates and accompanying persons are invited to tour the Spanish Air Force Museum, followed by cocktails and dinner. On the evening of the second day, Tuesday, the delegates will participate in an evening reception at the Cecilio Rodriguez Gardens given by the Town Hall Members. Customarily the third day of the Congress is set aside for a day-long excursion to a historic city and cultural sites. On Wednesday, August 24th, all delegates and accompanying persons will travel by bus to the historic Spanish city of Segovia. Set in the Guadarrama Mountains at the convergence of two rivers, Segovia is a beautiful city, with Roman, Medieval, and early modern European historical significance. During the day, the group will visit the Royal Palace at La Granja. Built by Philip V, grandson of Louis XIV, La Granja was modeled after Versailles and it became the summer palace for the Bourbon kings.

The following day, Thursday, the Congress returns to a full day of sessions on the Scientific Program. The evening is free for enjoying Madrid's excellent restaurants and night life. For the delegates the final day, Friday, consists of scientific sessions and a most important General Assembly session of the International Commission of Military History. A closing banquet will follow at the Casino de Madrid Central.

The accompanying person's cultural program will be interesting and will include visits to the Spanish Royal Palace, the Prado Museum, and the Congress' trip to Segovia and La Granja. There will also be a city tour of Madrid, and a visit to the Reina Sofia Museum. On Friday, the accompanying persons will visit the Valle de los Caldos and the El Escorial Monastery. Everyone is invited to the final banquet at the Casino de Madrid Central.

Medical Issues

The Spanish Commission on Military History will assist and make special arrangements for handicapped persons, if requested. They ask that persons concerned notify the Spanish Commission in advance of their requirements. If delegates or accompanying persons have specific medical prescriptions, please notify the Spanish Commission officials in advance, in order that they might take appropriate precautionary measures. To communicate with the Technical Secretariat for the Madrid Congress, see next section.

Communications with the Spanish Commission on Military History

To communicate with the Spanish Commission of Military History, please contact:

Secretary General Captain, José María Blanco Núñez
Technical Secretariat, 31st Congress ICMH
Tele: 00 34 91 3482558
j.blanco@oc.mde.es

Postal address:

Comision Espanola de Historia Militar (CEHISMI)
CESEDEN
Paseo de la Castellana 61
28071 Madrid
Spain

International Commission of Military History Elections in Madrid

On Friday 26 August, the ICMH General Assembly of the national commissions will conduct elections for ICMH Board members. Those members elected to the ICMH Board will serve for five years, 2005-2010. During the meeting of the Presidents of the National Commissions in

International Review of Military History / Revue Internationale d'Histoire Militaire

At the turn of the year 2004/2005, the long-awaited issue no. 80 appeared, published by the Hungarian Commission for Military History. The theme of the issue was **Military Professionalisation 1900-1999: The quest for Excellence**. The issue is most definitely worth a look. If your national commission has not yet received a copy, please contact the Secretary-General of the Hungarian Commission for Military History, Attn: Major Dr. L. Veszprémy (veszpremy@militaria.hu).

The Turkish Commission has undertaken to be responsible for issue 87, which will appear at the end of 2006 or the beginning of 2007.

Special issue of the *International Review of Military History* dedicated to recruitment

A special issue of the *International Review of Military History* devoted to recruitment will be published thanks to the collaboration of the national commissions and the historians who contributed papers. We thank them all very much for their efforts.

The authors selected one of two possible approaches, or they combined them. One approach was to give a general overview of military recruitment over the course of the last two centuries. A second approach consisted of examining in detail a particular aspect of recruitment during the period; be it a category of personnel (officers and enlisted men were favoured by some authors) or a particular time frame (WWI & WWII). The first approach favoured a comparison between countries and therefore there were a number of similarities among the contributions. The texts within the second approach were more specialised and were often the result of PhD doctoral research. All papers were judged suitable for international distribution. Many thanks, once more, to the national commissions that trusted their new generation of military history researchers and made it possible for us to get to know the historians who have a bright future ahead of them. The following is a brief overview of the contents of this special issue which will be published in the summer 2005. Authors are cited in alphabetical order according to the name of the participating countries.

Luc De Vos et Éric Bastin (Belgium): ***Du tirage au sort avec faculté de remplacement au service personnel : le recrutement des conscrits en Belgique de 1830 à 1914, une question militaire et politique***

Daniel Byers (Canada): ***The Canadian manpower policy in WWII***

David Campbell (Canada): ***"The First 100,000 Came Easily": Recruiting the Canadian Expeditionary Force in the First World War***

Karsten Skjold Petersen (Denmark): ***Recruitment for the Danish Army, 1660-2004***

Bruno Thoß (Germany) : ***Conscription in Germany – a historical survey***

Hellenic Commission of Military History (HCMH) (Greece) : ***Recruitment in Greece during the 19th and 20th centuries***

Patrick Callan (Ireland) : ***Rags, Rag-Makers and Rag-Pickers: Anti-Enlistment Sentiment in Ireland, 1899 - 1918***

Flavio Carbone (Italy) : ***Le recrutement des officiers des Carabinieri Reali, de la constitution du Corps à l'Unité d'Italie (1814 – 1861)***

Jan Hoffenaar (The Netherlands) : ***The right man in the right place. Recruiting in the Dutch army 1814-1989***

Mihail E. Ionescu et Petre Otu (Rumania) : ***The recruitment in the Romania's military (1859-1939)***

Lars Ericson (Sweden) : ***Conscripts or professionals. Military recruitment in Sweden in a historical perspective***

Jérôme Guisolan (Switzerland) : ***Le recrutement des officiers d'état-major général suisses durant la guerre froide (1945-1966): sorte d'aristocratie militaire persistante ou démocratisation ?***

Emruhan Yalçın (Turkey) : ***Military service and the recruitments in the XIXth and XXth centuries***

.....

Changes in National Commissions:

Bulgarian Commission

Associate Professor Todor Petrov, Ph.D. is the new secretary-general.

Prof. Petrov can be contacted at:

Military History Research Section

G.S. Rakovski Defense and Staff College

82 Evlogi Georgiev Boulevard

1504 Sofia

Tel (+3592) 9758445

E-mail Todor_pe@abv.bg

Brazilian Commission

The Brazilian Commission has new leadership:

President, Lieutenant General Dr. Aureliano Pinto de Moura,

Secretary-general, Colonel Marco Antonio Cunha.

France Commission

President, Prof. J (Jean) Avenel

Secretary-general, Monsieur P.E. (Pierre-Emmanuel) Barral

Postadres:

Château de Vincennes

BP 109

F-00481 Armées

France

Italian Commission

The President of the Italian Commission for Military History, Captain (N) A. Valentin has been promoted, with our best wishes, to rear admiral. His successor is Colonel (Air Force) Euro Rossie
c/o Ufficio Storico dell'Aeronautica

Viale dell'Università 4

00185 Rome

Tel (+39) 6 49864501

Fax (+39) 6 49865545

E-mail rossieu@aeronautica.difesa.it

German Commission

Colonel Dr. H. Ehlert has assumed the position of President of the German Commission. His place as secretary-general has been taken over by Colonel Dr. Winfried Heinemann, who is responsible for the organisation of the ICMH Congress 2007. His e-mail address is:

winfriedheinemann@bundeswehr.org.

Greek Commission

The new president is Major General Nicholas Mastrandonis.

Slovak Commission

The new president is Colonel Dr. Jozef Bystrický C.Sc.

c/o Institute of Military History

Krajná 27
82104 Bratislava

Swedish Commission

The new Vice President is Dr. Ann Hörsell.

In Memoriam

In early April, the sad news reached us of the death of Dr. Richard von Doenhoff, who was Secretary-General of the US Commission of Military History for many years and who was a familiar face at our annual congresses.

Scope and Purpose of the ICMH Newsletter

Joseph P. Harahan, editor

The objective of this ICMH electronic newsletter is to provide a forum for scholars to read, learn, and communicate their activities in the field of international military history and to provide them with information about the activities of the International Commission of Military History. Please disseminate this entire newsletter, or any of the articles, to the members of the national commissions. We intend to publish it two times a year, once in the spring, and then in the fall.

In future issues, you may submit articles or announcements for publication in this newsletter. Periodically, officers of the national commissions may wish to communicate with the larger international community of military historians, military archivists, and museum specialists. If there are announcements of bilateral or regional conferences, sponsored by the national commissions, these conferences and themes can be published in this newsletter. Please send announcements to the Secretary-General electronically (ph.kamphuis@mindef.nl).
