

International Commission of Military History Newsletter Issue 4 (Fall 2004)



Welcome to the ICMH Newsletter

Piet Kamphuis, Secretary-general,
International Commission of Military History

I am very pleased to introduce this edition of the ICMH Newsletter. Whereas for the first three editions it was still in an experimental stage, since the 30th ICMH Congress in Rabat the Newsletter has become a permanent addition to the communications arsenal of the ICMH. Under the excellent editorial skills of Dr Pat Harahan, the Newsletter will be published twice yearly. The generous cooperation of the Royal Netherlands Army Translation Section has also made a French and a German edition possible. This edition takes an elaborate look at the 30th ICMH Congress, held in Morocco in August. And rightly so! The Moroccan Commission proved to be the perfect host, with an interesting and full programme. Observers from a number of Arab and African states also attended. Thus the ICMH was able to benefit from Morocco's talents as a bridge-builder between continents. The new contacts were found to be enriching by all involved. The Jordanian military history commission has since applied for membership of the ICMH, whilst consultations are ongoing with the military history community in the United Arab Emirates to look into the possibility of their doing the same. This edition will of course also address current developments, and look into the future. The Spanish Commission is preparing to welcome the 31st Congress to Madrid in August 2005. At the Congress in the Spanish capital we will need to approve the proposed changes to the Statutes, as well as elect a new Board for the 2005-2010 term. There is much to be done, therefore.

We were deeply saddened to learn of the death of Dr David Chandler. We have lost not only a great expert on the Napoleonic period, but also a devoted ambassador of the UK Commission of Military History within the ICMH who, as vice president from 1978 to 1995, served our world-wide organisation with great dedication.

There is good news to report in the form of certainty with regard to the Congresses after Madrid. The German Commission will be the host in 2006, the 2007 Congress will be hosted by South Africa, whilst very recently the UK Commission announced its candidature for 2008 with 'Military History, Past, Present and Future' as theme. The Bibliography Committee and the Military Archives Committee have been exceedingly productive, and editions of the *Revue Internationale d'Histoire Militaire* have been appearing on a regular basis. In other words, our ICMH is doing well, which bodes well for the future.



Scope and Purpose of this ICMH Newsletter

Joseph P. Harahan, editor

The objective of this 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 to the members of your national commissions. Select any of these articles, copy them, and then place them into your national newsletters or communications. We intend to publish the newsletter two times a year, once in the fall, and then in the spring.

In the 2004 ICMH Fall Newsletter there is a report on the 30th ICMH Congress, held in Rabat, Morocco in August 2004. This report is followed by a brief article announcing the publication of the 2003 ACTA, *War, Military and Media: From Gutenberg to Today* (Bucharest, 2004). Published and distributed by the Romanian Commission of Military History, this ACTA volume is available from the national commissions. Another article announces publication of the ICMH's *International Bibliography of Military History*, Volume 25 (Zurich, 2004). The ICMH Committee on Archives has established a website and publishes an electronic newsletter, *Mars and*

Janus. There is an article about the activities of this committee.

Madrid, Spain will be the site of the XXXI ICMH Congress from August 21-28, 2005. The final article in this newsletter highlights the Madrid Congress. Please copy and send this information to your members and colleagues who might be interested in attending the ICMH Congress in Madrid.

For the next issue, to be published in the Spring 2005, please submit announcements or articles for the newsletter. If your national commission has an announcement or information that would be of interest to scholars in other nations, then this ICMH Newsletter can be the forum. If there are announcements of bilateral or regional conferences, sponsored by the national military history commissions, then that information can be communicated through this newsletter. Send the articles and announcements electronically to the ICMH Secretary-general (ph.kamphuis@mindef.nl).



The XXXth ICMH Congress in Rabat, Morocco: A Report

Joseph P. Harahan

The 30th International Congress of Military History was held in Rabat, Morocco from 1-7 August 2004. For the opening session, King Mohammed VI, the Supreme Chief and Chief of the General Staff of the Moroccan Armed Forces, invited the entire Congress to the Academy of the Kingdom. The King sent a letter which was read to all participants. He praised the work of the International Commission of Military History and observed that “the choice of the Kingdom of Morocco as the venue for your conference, which convenes for the first time in an Arab or African country, clearly attests to our deep shared conviction of the need to strengthen international cooperation in all fields of knowledge...” The Congress theme was The Economic Aspects of Defense through Major World Conflicts. “We chose this topic”, King Mohammed VI wrote, “because it is closely connected with the present international situation and the major changes affecting the world today. These changes confirm the global nature of production, trade and finance systems, transcendent national economies and standardized management procedures, imposing openness and exchange, and setting new standards for competitiveness which apply both to the economy and defense.”

The Kingdom of Morocco is a country on the Northwest coast of Africa with a population of approximately 32 million people. Rabat, the modern capital city, has 1.6 million people, a mild climate and a refreshing evening breeze from the Atlantic Ocean. The Kingdom is an interesting country, with beautiful cities and mountains, ancient Roman archeological sites, and Arab history, culture, and hospitality everywhere. The Congress was well-organized, with excellent meeting facilities, good translators, and extraordinary hospitality.

General Bouchaib Arroub, President of the Moroccan Commission of Military History opened the Congress at the Academy of the Kingdom, welcoming the delegates and accompanying persons. In his remarks, General Arroub said that Morocco was a bridge to three great civilizations – African, European and Mediterranean and explained that the Congress’ theme, Economy and War, was a major concern for leaders of states, international alliances, and intellectual forums. The Rabat ICMH Congress, he announced had 280 registered participants, from 30 nations.

Professor Dr. Luc de Vos, President of the International Commission of Military History, also welcomed participants to the Congress and then explained that the international commission and the Moroccan Commission of Military History had invited Arab and African nations to send military historians to the Rabat Congress to participate as observers. Nine nations accepted, representing the countries of the United Arab Emirates, Jordan, Mauritania, Senegal, Tunisia, Botswana and Albania. Their participation was a major development for the ICMH, President de Vos said and he encouraged all participants to welcome the new scholars and to include them in our community of international military historians.

In the year leading up to the Rabat ICMH Congress, General Arroub and the officers of the Royal Armed Forces organized a special edition of the Moroccan Military History Commission’s magazine, *Revue Historique des Armées*. It had a special feature devoted to French-Moroccan military relations. For the *Royal Armed Forces Magazine*, General Arroub solicited contributions from senior military and academic professors on the theme of the interaction of defense and the economy. In July 2004, the *Royal Armed Forces Magazine* published eight articles and announced the forthcoming ICMH Congress. The Moroccan Royal Air Forces magazine, *L’espace*

Marocain, published a series of articles on the Congress theme in its 2004 edition. These pre-Congress military publications attracted many military officers from the Royal Armed Forces to attend the Congress. Approximately 80 Moroccan military officers and university professors participated in the meeting.

The Moroccan Commission of Military History organized the scientific programme into four days of sessions, panels, roundtables, and exhibitions. One day was given over to a long bus tour to the Moroccan city of Fez, the Roman archeological site at Volubilis, and an evening festival and entertainment. The Congress theme, "The Economic Aspects of Defense through Major World Conflicts," was subdivided into four parts: Conceptual; Economy at War; Army and the Economic Evolution, and The Economy and Military Alliances. The Scientific Program was organized by Professor Bahija Simou and Professor Mustapha El Kabbaj. Lt. Colonel Mohammed Achour and Lt. Colonel Youssef Aboubzou served as the Congress Secretariat.

The Congress theme was explored in 14 sessions, with 50 scholars presenting papers. In addition, the organizers included roundtables on new books, special exhibitions on military cartography, and administrative sessions for the ICMH Board and national commission presidents. Following a pattern established by the U.S. Military History Commission at the XXIX Congress in Norfolk, the organizers scheduled sessions with two panels meeting simultaneously in different rooms, with translators at each panel. This organisational scheme allowed more scholars to present their research and analytical papers, and it provided space on the program for the book roundtable and the commission's administrative and organisational meetings.

The following scholars presented papers and chaired sessions at the 30th ICMH Congress. Scientific Program organizers: General Bouchaib Arroub, Morocco, Professor Bahija Simou, Morocco, and Professor Mustapha El Kabbaj, Morocco. Presenters and chairmen: John A. Lynn, United States, Abdemounaim Dilami, Morocco, Adrien Tschumy, Switzerland, Richard Carrier, Canada, Hervé Coutau-Begarie, France, Yoshiaki Katada, Japan, Kelly DeVries, United States, Jean-Michel Sterkendries, Belgium, Joerg Duppler, Germany, Hans Rudolf Fuhrer, Switzerland, Francisco Jose Corpas Rojo, Spain, Victor Enthoven, The Netherlands, Matityahu Mayzel, Israel, Dimitre Minchev, Bulgaria, Mohammed Moussaid, Morocco, Pat Harahan, United States, Thean Potgieter, South Africa, Ionnis Loucas, Greece, Joseph Guilmartin, United States, Alexander de Sousa Pinto, Portugal, Omer Turan, Turkey, Tadeusz Panecki, Poland, Serge Bernier, Canada, Abdelouahid Agmir, Morocco, Manuel Garcia Rivas, Spain, Shahin Leka, Albania, Gjergi P. Titani, Albania, Tomoyuki Ishizu, Japan, Emruhan Yalcin, Turkey, Hervé de Weck, Switzerland, Frederic Guelton, France, C.V. Alessandro Valentini, Italy, Barton C. Hacker, United States, José Luis Picciuolo, Argentina, Peter Rigney, Ireland, Jean Martin, Canada, Jae Chang Kim, South Korea, Jae Jung Kwan, South Korea, Keishi Ono, Japan, Ioannis D. Kakoudakis, Greece, Gildas Lepetit, France, Rolf-Dieter Muller, Germany, Kenichi Arakawa, Japan, Eva-Maria Von Kemnitz, Portugal, Massomo de Leonardis, Italy, Cornelis Schulten, The Netherlands, Jan Hoffenaar, The Netherlands, Jean-David Avenel, France, Paule Arnaud-Ameller, France, Tom Kristiansen, Norway, Petre Otu, Romania, Rainer Pommerin, Germany, Timothy Saxon, United States, Patrick Lefevre, Belgium, Ciro Paoletti, Italy, Costa Rodrigues da Silva, Portugal, Qi Dexue, China, and Jean-Claude Allain, France.

All of the scientific program sessions were translated into Arabic, French, English, Spanish, and German. In the final session of the scientific program, Dr. Cornelis Schulten, Netherlands, and Professors John Lynn, United States, Jean-Claude Allain, France, and Mustapha El Kabbaj, Morocco, provided comments on the entire program, the theme, and they forged some conclusions concerning the relationship of war to the economy. Immediately following their remarks, President De Vos convened the ICMH Business Meeting. Under appreciative applause from all present, the German Commission of Military History, represented by its President, Captain (N) Dr J. Duppler, declared its willingness to organise the 2006 Congress. The Congress will be held in the historic city of Potsdam, a stone's throw from the German capital, Berlin. The theme will be 'Nation, Nationalism and War'.

After completing the formal business agenda, he introduced Dr. Hugo O'Donnell and Commander Dr. Jose Blanco Nunez of Spain. They invited all of the participants to attend the next ICMH Congress to be held August 21-28, 2005 in Madrid, Spain. (See article below for the theme and proposals for presenting papers)

The cultural and social events at these international meetings are often memorable. The Rabat Congress was exceptional in this regard. The entire Congress went to receptions, field trips to historic, cultural, and religious sites, and to special dinners with Moroccan folkloric entertainment. In Rabat, the delegates and their guests visited the Challah, Kasbah of Oudayas, King Mohammed V's Mausoleum and Museum, and King Mohammed

VI's Administrative Palace inside the Andalusian fortress walls. One evening the Congress delegates travelled to Sale, a major urban city located just across the Bouregreg River from Rabat. There the Association of Bouregreg, a regional civic, cultural, and economic development association hosted a banquet, complete with folkloric entertainment. Mr. Mohammed Aouad, founder of the association, explained that the delegates were dining at a site "filled with history." Twenty-five centuries ago, the Carthaginian Hannon sailed his small fleet of warships up the river past the cliffs where Congress participants were dining that evening. The Association of Bouregreg is an urban non-governmental citizen organization that sponsors cultural, educational, and economic programs. During the week, Congress delegates and their guests were hosted at dinners and special occasions by other civic associations, especially in Rabat, by the Ribat Al Fath Association, and in Fez by the Fes-Sais Association. There is a dynamic within these civic associations which is impressive and optimistic for the future of Morocco. We were fortunate to be invited by these associations into their cities and their cultural communities.

For the touring day, the entire Congress went by bus to Fez, an ancient capital and cultural centre of the Maghreb civilization. When the Muslims were expelled from Cordoba, Spain in the 15th century they settled in Fez and began building their capital. Fez became the cultural and religious centre of all Morocco. The architecture is stunning and much of the old city reflects its Muslim heritage. In 1976 the city was declared a World Heritage Site by the United Nations. Following a walking tour of the city, Congress participants traveled by bus to see and tour an ancient Roman city, Volubilis, dating from before the 3rd century B.C. It is a magnificent Roman archeological site. The Royal Moroccan Army hosted an evening feast, with entertainment, on a hill overlooking the Roman ruins. The next day, following the scientific sessions in the morning, the Congress travelled by bus to see a live demonstration by elite paratroopers of the Moroccan Royal Army. Then, the delegates went by bus to Casablanca for a tour of the modern Hassan II Mosque, one of the largest and most beautiful mosques in the Islamic world. A dinner hosted by the Moroccan Royal Navy concluded the evening.

It is customary for these international congresses to conclude with a formal banquet. General Arroub and the Moroccan Military History Commission hosted the Congress delegates, accompanying persons, and many foreign and government guests at a formal dinner held at the Officer's Mess in Rabat. In brief remarks, General Arroub explained that the ICMH leaders and Congress participants collectively had sent a message to King Mohammed VI thanking him for his moral and material patronage of the international Congress. Then, the General expressed his appreciation to the Ministries of Culture, Tourism, Communications, as well as the General Staff of the Royal Armed Forces, the Royal Gendarme, and the National Police Department for their assistance. General Arroub noted the extensive coverage given the Congress by the national television stations and press. Concluding, he asked the children of Morocco to distribute souvenirs to the guests. Then, as the music played and the table conversations began, the waiters brought out the first of many courses of a dinner that many described afterward as memorable.



2003 ACTA of the ICMH Congress in Bucharest, Romania Published

The 2003 ACTA *War, Military and Media: From Gutenberg to Today* (Military Publishing House, Bucharest, 2004), with illustrations, charts, appendices, 555 pages, has been published and distributed by the Romanian Commission on Military History. Major General (Retired) Mihail E. Ionescu, Director of the Institute of Political Studies of Defense and Military History, Romania, served as editor. The 2003 ICMH Congress was held in Bucharest, Romania from August 11-15, 2003. This volume is the publication of the scholarly papers presented during the scientific program. There are 50 papers, published in the author's language – Romanian, English, French, Spanish, or German. Following the conference, some author's chose to retitle and revise their papers. Other scholars did not submit their papers for publication. Nevertheless, the published volume contains important scholarship from international military historians on a major topic: War, Military and Media.

General Ionescu and his colleagues from the Romanian Commission of Military History distributed copies of the ACTA at the Congress in Rabat. The general announced during the ICMH Business Meeting that additional copies would be sent to all of the national commissions of military history. If you need additional copies for your members, please contact General Ionescu or Mrs. Corina Zavate at www.ispaim.ro



ICMH International Bibliography of Military History, Volume 25 (Zurich, 2004) published

In 2004 the ICMH Bibliography Committee published the *International Bibliography of Military History* (Zurich, Switzerland). The scope of this volume is comprehensive. Military historians from twenty-seven nations selected the books, confirmed the accuracy of author, titles, and publication data, and then wrote brief analytical commentaries on the books. This year's volume contains 305 book citations, each one annotated with short paragraph containing the reviewer's comments. The bibliography is indexed by author, chronological period, geographical area, key persons, and topics. The book reviews are published in English, French, and German. If you would like copies for your national commission members, please contact brigadier J. Langenberger, 2, Rue de l'Eglise, CH-1122 Romanel-sur-Morges (Schweiz, CH), j.langenberger@bluewin.ch.

The 2004 volume of the *International Bibliography of Military History* has a special feature. Professor Madame Bahija Simou, Morocco, wrote an essay entitled, "The Moroccan Army; Defense of a Country and its Contribution to its Civilization." It is a topical essay that analysed the history and contributions of the Royal Moroccan Army to the Kingdom of Morocco. Professor Simou's essay is published in French and English. Brigadier Jean Langenberger, Switzerland, is the president of the ICMH Bibliographic Committee. Captain Dimitry Queloz, Switzerland, serves as the secretary-general. Military historians from 24 nations serve on the committee. Mlle Sophie Emery, Mme. Corrine Owens, and Mme. Francine Kohler compile the bibliographic entries and, working with the president and secretary general, prepare the volume for publication. This annual bibliography is one of the ICMH's most effective programs in disseminating international military history.



ICMH Committee on Archives: Report and Newsletter

Professor Dr. Rudolph Jaun of Switzerland serves as president of the Committee of Archives of the International Commission of Military History. Dr. Christoph Tepperberg, Director of the Kriegsarchiv in Vienna, Austria, was elected in 2003 to be the secretary-general. The committee consists of military archivists and historians representing the national military commissions. The purpose of this committee is to facilitate opportunities for understanding amongst military archivists; to improve exchanges concerning professional archival experiences and procedures; and to foster the research of historians. At its annual meeting, held in conjunction with the ICMH Congresses, members of this committee present reports and papers, discuss national developments, and develop themes and materials for the committee's newsletter. That newsletter, Mars & Janus, the International Newsletter for Military Archives is published electronically on the Internet. Issue No.3 of Mars & Janus was issued in August 2004. To find this newsletter on the internet, please go to: www.cidhm.org

New Electronic *Guide to Military Archives* (<http://www.military-archives.org>)

The Military Archives Committee offers the international community of military history a new, useful guide to national military archives. The Committee recently launched the online *Guide to Military Archives* (<http://www.military-archives.org>) in order to have a central directory with the most important information on researching and contacting military archives that are available to the general public. The electronic portal will also provide data on several national military archives' websites that currently exist. For those military archives, the Guide to Military Archives will have updated information. At present, there are 53 military archives registered in the guide. Most entries contain information on the archives' holdings, location, address, and people to contact. The online directory has a search engine which is easy to use. For small military archives, this Guide to Military Archives provides a means to publicize their holdings to an international community of military historians, archivists, and the public. Please announce this new guide to the members of your national commissions. Sample pages are as follows:



At present, there are 53 military archives registered in the Guide to Military Archives. There are approximately 600'000 meters of military records referenced.



Every military archive is responsible for its published data. The military-archives.org database is open to the public. You are free to use it and see if it meets your needs. If you have any further questions or comments, please contact:

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- 1 **Prior context for the military action**
 - Politics and strategy in the European scenario, Alliances and Conflicts
 - Military thought and theory of warfare, treaties, and doctrine
 - The economy of the European Powers and the financing of wars. Budgets, assignments, and the military industry
 - Organization and recruitment systems of the military forces
- 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
 - Poliorcestics. Land and naval blockades
- 3 **Naval World and the Battle of Trafalgar**
 - Naval technology. Arsenalns and the naval organics of the Powers
 - Military and auxiliary corps
 - Naval tactics, privateers, prizes, and maritime tribunes
 - Combat in the Battle of Trafalgar in its different aspects, consequences, historiography, and sources
- 4 **Non-European World**
 - Land and naval wars, politics and strategy, military theory, and any of the topics listed above. Paper proposals in this aspect will be considered broadly, across oceans, seas, and continents.

Paper Proposals: Scholars wishing to propose papers for the Congress should contact the president or secretary-general of their national commission of military history. The national commissions will collect the paper proposals and, after evaluating them, submit the author's name, paper title, and a brief synopsis to the Congress' secretariat. In some cases, the national commissions may solicit individual scholars to put forth papers which will be sent from the president of national commission to Captain Jose Blanco Nunez, the Madrid Congress' secretariat.

Questions Concerning the Theme: The Spanish Commission of Military History encourages national commission officers and interested scholars with questions to contact Captain Blanco Nunez, Technical Secretariat. j.blanco@oc.mde.es – e-mail, or by telephone +34 91 3482558, or fax - +34 91 3482553.

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News from the ICMH Board

The Composition of the Executive Board is as follows:

President	:	Prof. Dr L. de Vos
Senior Vice President	:	Dr D.S. Allard
Second Vice President	:	Dr H. O'Donnell
Secretary-General	:	Drs. P.H. Kamphuis
Treasurer	:	Colonel H. de Weck

The other members of the ICMH Board are:

Colonel prof. Dr. T. Panecki
Dr. E. Norberg
Prof. dr. J.C Allain
Prof. dr. I. Loucas
Prof. dr. B.R. Kroener
Dr. M. Mayzel
Prof. dr. P del Negro

The chief of the Jordan Military History Committee, Major General Mohammed Al-Etan applied for formal membership.

National Commission Changes

The British Commission of Military History informed the ICMH of the death of David Chandler, President Emeritus.

Brig Gen L.S. Mollo is now Major General and he has changed Office. His new address is:

Maj Gen L.S. Mollo
Chief of Human Resources Support
Bank of Lisbon Building
Private Bag X976
Pretoria 0001
Tel : (+ 27) 12 339-5200
Fax : (+ 27) 12 339-5208

Lieutenant General I. Kakoudakis, the eminent host of the ICMH Athens Congress, handed over the leadership of the Hellenic Commission of Military History to Major General Nicholas Mastrandonis.

On 30 November Captain (N) Dr Duppler, the President of the German Commission of Military History, handed over the command of the MGFA to Colonel Dr H. Ehlert. The MGFA and the German Commission will host the 2006 ICMH Congress.

For further changes please find attached the address list of the ICMH.