

International Commission of Military History Newsletter



Issue 13, 2009 Welcome to the ICMH Newsletter

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Message from the Hague

I don't know how it is with you, but for me our annual ICMH congress marks the transition from a relatively quiet holiday period to the frantic activity of everyday life. Our wonderful hosts, the Portuguese Commission led by General Alexandre de Sousa Pinto, the absorbing lectures on Warfare in the Age of Napoleon, the richly varied and well-prepared social programme and, last but not least, the reunion with many friends and colleagues all made me rather sad to leave the beautiful city of Porto. I would like to once again thank our Portuguese colleagues for the fascinating XXXVth Congress. This Newsletter before you contains a great deal of information on the congress.

In the meantime, we once again look to the future. What will the XXXVIth Congress, which will take place between 29 August and 3 September 2010 in Amsterdam, bring us? The Netherlands Commission's presentation instilled the audience with great confidence. The main theme *Insurgency and Counterinsurgency. Irregular Warfare since 1800* is not only interesting from a military-historical point of view, but is also relevant for anyone interested in the current and future deployments of armed forces organisations. Professor Jan Hoffenaar, Chairman of the Netherlands Commission, will inform you in this edition of the Newsletter about what is planned for the congress. I also recommend you visit the congress website on www.cihm2010.nl. The first registrations are streaming in and I advise you - in view of the limited number of hotel rooms - not to delay too long before putting your name down for the congress.

The International Committee of Historical Sciences will hold its five-yearly congress between 22 August and 28 August, just before our ICMH congress. At the ICHS congress, approximately 3,000 historians will be examining a broad range of subjects. As an affiliated organisation, the ICMH will contribute to the ICHS congress by organising a Round Table with 'New Trends in Military Historiography' as its theme. Prof. Dr. L. de Vos, our President, will act as moderator, while Prof. Dr. A. Millett, Prof. Dr. J.N. Corvisier, Colonel W. Heinemann and Prof. Dr. M. de Leonardis will be the speakers. For more information, please visit: www.ichs2010.org

The life of a military historian can sometimes follow a path of disarming simplicity. Reading, thinking, writing and speaking are core activities. In Porto, it emerged that we need not worry about the trusted and familiar ICMH publications. The Italian Commission presented the Acta of the Trieste congress in a beautiful binding, and episode 30 of the *International Bibliography of Military History*, with an index included, was published thanks to the excellent efforts of Dr. D. Queloz and his colleagues. Furthermore, the French Commission published volume 85 of the *International Review of Military History* dedicated to '*Petite guerre et guerres asymétriques de l'antiquité au XXI^e siècle*'. Prof. Dr. Jean-Nicolas Corvisier acted as the editor-in-chief and should be complimented for his work.

Our ICMH is alive and kicking in other respects too. The reports included in this Newsletter on the activities of the Military Archives Committee and the Education Committee make this abundantly clear. This Newsletter is once again the result of the concerted efforts of Dr. Pat Harahan, Colonel Dr. Winfried Heinemann, Mr Eric Bastin and Ms Ilse Cuperus. I am most grateful to them for their support. Your contributions are always welcome, so if you have news on important conferences, meetings or developments within your own national commissions, do not hesitate to inform the editors.

And now, from The Hague, it only remains for me to wish you much enjoyment in reading this Newsletter!

Piet Kamphuis
Secretary General

News from the Executive Board

During the congress in Porto a special General Meeting in the form of a Presidents' meeting was held. The primary subject of this meeting was the position of the Senior Vice-President since 2005, Dr I. Loucas. The presidents attending the meeting were told of the growing doubts that had arisen over the past year within the Executive Board when it was discovered that Dr I. Loucas did not actually hold an academic post at the Helmut Schmidt University of the German Federal Armed Forces in Hamburg, but was employed at Thyssen Krupp and, moreover, had used his position at the ICMH for commercial activities.

The switch by Dr Loucas from the Greek Commission, which in 2005 had nominated him as a Board member, to the French Commission meant that the latter commission would have had, in addition to Prof. H. Coutau-Begarié, a second representative on the Board in the person of Dr Loucas. Under Article 18 of the Statutes, it is forbidden for a commission to have more than one representative on the Board. The conclusion of the Board therefore had to be that there was no longer any basis for Dr Loucas to remain as a Board member. The Board had then promoted Prof. Allan Millett to Senior Vice-President and appointed Prof. Lars Ericson Wolke as Second Vice-President. The Presidents' meeting unanimously approved the Board's course of action and endorsed the removal of Dr Loucas from the Board. In connection with the General Meeting in 2005, the Presidents' Meeting appointed the following as auditors: Mr. P. Mulready (President, Ireland), Ms Dr. C. Reichl-Ham (Austria) and Colonel A. Afonso (Portugal). These auditors will submit an audit report to the General Meeting in Amsterdam on the financial policy in the 2005 - 2010 period.

The elections to the Board for 2010 - 2015 will also take place in Amsterdam. These elections will be organised by an election committee. The following were appointed as members of this committee: Dr S. Bernier (President, Canada), Col J.Kronlund (Finland) and Ms Dr A. von Lutichau (United States). Dr Bernier went straight into action during the General Meeting on Friday 4 September. He drew the attention of those present to Article 26 of the Statutes that deals with the nomination of candidates: 1) The letter of application shall be sent to the Secretary-General of the ICMH, who will submit it to the secretary of the election committee. The letter bears three signatures: the applicant's, the chairman's and that of the Secretary-General of the relevant national commission. 2) The letter of application must reach the Secretary-General of the ICMH no later than the end of April of the year in which the five-year statutory elections are held.

In recent years the ICMH has seen a steady increase in the number of national commissions. The Executive Board has, over the past years, devoted a great deal of energy to maintaining contacts with our Russian colleagues with a view to eventually readmitting the Russian Commission to our ranks. We were therefore very disappointed when, just a few days before the Congress, we heard that the representatives of the Russian Institute for Military History could not come to Porto. Our efforts are now focused on a Russian presence in Amsterdam.

An important subject of every Board meeting is the planning of future congresses. So also in Porto, with the following result:

- 2010: Amsterdam (The Netherlands): 29 August to 3 September 2010. Theme: *Insurgency and Counterinsurgency. Irregular warfare since 1800*. For more info, see elsewhere in this edition.
- 2011: Rio de Janeiro (Brazil). Dates 26 to 31 August. Theme: *Military conflicts in the process of decolonisation during the XIX and XX Centuries*.
- 2012: Because the French Commission has requested postponement until 2014, Tunisia is looking into the possibilities for organising the congress in 2012.
- 2013: Japan. Theme: *Intelligence*. More information will be available by early 2010.
- 2014: France. Theme: *Technology and Defence*
- 2015: In principle, the congress takes place in the country that will also be hosting the five-yearly congress of International Committee of Historical Sciences (ICHS). The location will be decided in 2010.

"No money, no Swiss". This is a familiar expression for military historians. Our Swiss treasurer, Brigadier Prof. Fritz Stoeckli, has his money chest well organised. Even the crisis on the financial markets hardly affected our assets, thanks largely to the wise investment policy of his predecessor, Colonel H. de Weck, also Swiss. The year 2009 will most likely be closed with a modest positive balance of CHF 3,100. The treasurer has succeeded in getting almost all the national commissions to pay on time. However, he reminded the national commissions that international transactions are subject to bank charges and emphasised that the annual contribution was CHF 650 *net*. In 2010, i.e. the last year of the 2005 - 2010 cycle, he intends to settle any unpaid bank charges with the relevant parties.

In 2009, the Bibliography Committee published part 30, which included an index for the first 30 volumes. This was quite an achievement and deserving of congratulations for all those directly involved. There are still sufficient finances for a part 31 in 2010, but then the funds will run dry. The main reason for this is that the Swiss government has terminated its financial and personnel support.

In order to assure the future of the Bibliography, I found the renowned publisher Brill (Leiden/ Boston) willing, in principle, to take over the Bibliography. Discussions have been conducted with Brill since December 2008, during which the following has been agreed:

- Brill will digitise and launch online all 31 back volumes of the IBMH (IBMH ON Line)
- Brill will update IBMH ON Line twice a year
- Brill will publish - at our request - the IBMH in print twice a year (maximum of 125 pages per issue)
- Brill will own the publication rights
- The editor-in-chief will be nominated by the ICMH and this editor-in-chief will - working via the ICMH network - be responsible for the contents of the IBMH
- All national commissions will have free access to the online version of the IBMH
- The ICMH will receive a purchase price
- The editor-in-chief will be paid a fee for each issue
- The revenues from back sales of volumes 1 to 31 will go to the ICMH
- The ICMH will receive 30 complimentary copies of the printed version

Negotiations are still continuing with regard to the purchase price, the fee for the editor-in-chief and, in particular, the price to be paid for the 350 copies of the printed version that the ICMH will certainly still need in the first few years. I hope that we - Treasurer Stoeckli and myself - in full consultation with the management of the Bibliography, will be able to bring the discussions with Brill to a successful conclusion. The aim is to be able to submit a final proposal to the General Meeting in Amsterdam, so that in 2011 the 32nd edition of the Bibliography can be published by Brill.

Piet Kamphuis
Secretary-General

ICMH Elections, 2010

Serge Bernier, Canada
President, ICMH Election Committee

In 2010 the ICMH will hold elections for officers and board members. All offices are open in the election. At the congress in Oporto, Portugal, ICMH President De Vos appointed a three person election committee. The president of the election committee will be Dr. Serge Bernier, Canada, with Ann von Lutichau, United States, and Colonel (retired) Jan E. Kronlund, Finland serving as members.

Any national commission whose dues are up to date may propose a candidate for all of the officers and board positions on the ICMH bureau. A national commission can have only one representative on the ICMH bureau. To propose a candidate, the person should send a letter of application to the Secretary-general, ICMH. The letter must bear three signatures, the candidate's, the president's and the secretary general's of the national commission. The deadline for candidates' letters is the end of April, 2010.

The elections will be held during the 36th ICMH Congress in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Elections will be held in the following order:

- a) president
- b) Secretary general
- c) Treasurer/Assistant secretary general
- d) Members of the ICMH Board

Report on the 35th ICMH Congress, Oporto, Portugal

Pat Harahan, United States
David Martello, Portugal

From 31 August to 4 September 2009, the 35th ICMH Congress was held in Oporto at the Congress Center of Alfândega. Due to the historical theme, the excellent scholarship, and the ambiance of Portugal, , the congress attracted more than 350 people from 40 nations. Since the ICMH Bureau committed the organization of the congress to the Portuguese Commission of Military History, it had received significant support from the Ministry of Defense, University of Oporto and the City Council of Oporto.

As Portugal's second largest city, Oporto is located in the estuary of the Douro River in northern part of the nation. With 221,800 people, Oporto is the commercial, financial, and educational center for a metropolitan area of more than 1.7 million people. Rich in history, the city traces its lineage back to Roman times, with invasions from the Moorish Muslims, early Christians, and the medieval Portuguese nobility. Prince Henry the Navigator left Oporto to sail to Morocco and the coast of Africa. Perhaps the single historical event that is still remembered in Oporto is the invasion by Napoleonic troops in 1809. Street to street fighting led to the population fleeing across the bridge over the river, which collapsed suddenly. Later, British and Portuguese forces routed the French army from the city. This year, 2009, is the two hundred anniversary of the city's invasion.

With this context, the theme of the 35th ICMH Congress in Oporto was "Warfare in the Age of Napoleon: Precedents, military campaigns, and lasting impacts." The congress had papers from 86 military historians, archivists, and museum specialists, meetings of the permanent committees, special graduate student panels, a book roundtable, and opening and closing lectures. General Alexander de Sousa Pinto, president of the Portuguese Commission, opened the congress, and presented the Mayor of Oporto, the Rector of the University of Oporto, the President of the ICMH, and the Minister of National Defense. Professor Doctor Nuno Teixeira, Minister of National Defense, welcomed the delegates to region and spoke of a time in his earlier life when he was a member of the Portuguese Commission of Military History. Linking his work with the ICMH military history congresses to becoming an international scholar and national defense leader, Dr. Teixeira explained that it allowed him to understand the context for contemporary issues. At the opening session, Professor Luís António de Oliveira Ramos, professor emeritus at the University of Oporto and its former Dean, delivered a paper on the theme of "Contemporary Europe and the Napoleonic campaigns."

To make the congress more comprehensive, the Portuguese commission agreed that the theme would be: **Warfare in the age of Napoleon. Precedents, military campaigns and lasting impacts.** This exciting theme proved to be very attractive, with the Scientific Office of the conference selecting 86 papers from 30 countries. In all, counting the representatives of countries that did not have any paper presented, there were delegations from 40 countries of all continents. The Congress, in its main academic vectors, included 26 panel sessions with the presentation of the scientific papers. In addition, there were three supplementary initiatives: a workshop for young graduate students, entitled "The transfer of technical and military expertise to civil society," which including the exchange of cultures through the military. This workshop included the presentations of papers by 6 graduate students from Portugal, Brazil, Italy and the United States of America.

There was a special panel on the Portugal and the French invasions, with representatives of Portugal, Spain, France and the United Kingdom. The Congress had a "book panel" dedicated to new and significant books on the Age of Napoleon, and finally, there was an interesting workshop on Military Archives. On the last day of the congress, the participant listened to an address by Professor Charles Esdaile, Great Britain, on the theme: "The Napoleonic Wars in a Global Context."

As it is usual in all ICMH congresses, alongside the academic program there was a touristic program for the accompanying people, which, in addition to showing the city of Oporto, took this group to the Military Area of San Jacinto, the city of Aveiro, and a cruise on the Douro River. On Wednesday, as is traditional, all of the Congress participants and companions travelled by bus through the province of Minho, visiting the cities of Guimaraes and Ponte do Lima. Supplementing the scientific program were four evening receptions offered by the Portuguese Commission at the Serra do Pilar, the City Council of Oporto at city hall, the Portuguese Army at St. Ovidio barracks, and a dinner in one of the wine cellars of Oporto, in Vila Nova de Gaia. On the last evening, there was the traditional farewell dinner at the Archive Room of the Oporto Congress Center at Alfândega.

The excellent Congress concluded with fine wine, good food, and fado music. The Congress presentations will be published in the ACTA, which is scheduled to be completed and distributed in 2010.

Proceedings of the 2008 ICMH Congress in Trieste, Italy

The papers and lectures presented at the 2008 ICMH Congress in Trieste, Italy have been published. The published proceedings, co-edited by Professor Massimo de Leonardis, Catholic University of the Sacred Heart, Milan, and Professor Piero del Negro, University of Padua, are entitled "Military Conflicts and Civilian Populations: Total Wars, Limited Wars, and Asymmetrical Wars." There are two volumes which

include all papers, tables, maps, charts, illustrations, and notes. Like the published volumes of all recent congresses, this volume contains the papers presented at the conference by international historians from many nations. The articles are published in the language in which they were presented. If your commission would like copies, please contact Professor de Leonardis, Italian Commission of Military History..

Reflections on the ICMH Congress, 2009

Julia Osman, PhD candidate, University of North Carolina
United States

(Note: Julia Osman, PhD candidate, University of North Carolina, represented the U.S Commission at the Graduate Student Seminar at the ICMH Congress. She presented a research paper, "Patriotism as Power: The Old Regime Foundation for Napoleon's Army." before military historians from around the world. In choosing Ms. Osman, the U.S. Commission's selection committee was impressed by the excellence of her research, including work in sources in both French and English. The US Commission provided a travel grant to attend the conference and the Portuguese Commission provided lodging and waived the 300 euro conference fee.)

By Julia Osman
University of North Carolina

When I told my adviser that I would be going to Porto, Portugal to make a presentation at the International Congress of Military History, he asked pointedly if I was going because of the new perspectives I would gain, the feedback I would receive on my project, the meaningful dialogue, the networking opportunities . . . or if I was going because it was in Portugal. I admit the conference afforded me the chance to experience the country in a way that I wouldn't have been able to as a simple tourist, and gave me an immense appreciation for its culture and military traditions, especially under the duress of Napoleon's 1809 invasion. But the time I spent inside the conference building and reception halls proved to be immensely valuable to my research and approach to history, largely because of the international participation. I also appreciated the opportunity as a student who is approaching military history from a cultural perspective to discuss ideas with active military personnel and historians of operational military history.

Having the opportunity to talk with people that I haven't previously encountered was one of the most valuable things about the conference. A large number of the American historians worked for one of the military services, taught at military academies, or served at other government positions. Having spent most of my graduate career at UNC-Chapel Hill, I had never considered practicing military history while working for the U.S. military or serving in another government position. I learned a great deal from our many conversations over lunch, coffee, dinner, and port about non-university professions, which included everything from giving staff rides to writing official accounts of Marine Corps History. I think the conference provided the perfect venue for historians who study "pure" history to interact and exchange ideas with those who apply it and those who record it. Considering how many of the same topics we cover, it surprises me that there are not more opportunities to discuss our approaches, applications, and uses of what we study.

For my own research, I received many different ideas and interpretations from historians who specialize in a variety of different areas of military history, as well as archivists, publishers, and independent scholars. My paper discussed the effect of the American Revolution on the transforming French army during the Old Regime using cultural history methodology, and I was glad to find that most people at the conference were convinced by my interpretation. A number of people also shared information from their areas of expertise that would help me make my thesis even stronger, such as finding concrete statistics about the make up of the French officer corps.

From the panels, I learned a great deal about Napoleonic warfare, and how it affected places not usually discussed in American classrooms, such as Bulgaria, Greece, and Norway, as well as how it has been remembered in film and literature. By far the most valuable aspect of this conference, however, were the many fruitful conversations I enjoyed with the other scholars attending the conference, on my work, their work, or the state of the field.

ICMH Congress, Amsterdam in 2010

Jan Hoffenaar,
President, The Netherlands Commission of Military History

The 36th Congress of the International Commission of Military History will be held in Amsterdam from Sunday 29 August to Friday 3 September 2010. That is the week following the quintennial International Congress of Historical Sciences, which is also being held in Amsterdam in 2010. That makes it possible for you to attend both congresses. The venue for our ICMH congress is the former Naval Dockyards in the heart of the old centre of Amsterdam. Barring unforeseen circumstances, the Minister of Defence of the Netherlands will open the congress with a speech. The Commander of the Netherlands Armed Forces will also attend the congress.

The theme of the congress is: **“Insurgency and Counterinsurgency: Irregular Warfare from 1800 to the Present”**. This historically interesting theme is very topical today. The most important characteristic of this type of conflict is its asymmetry. Almost all states have had to contend with it at one time or other in their histories. The focus on the congress will be on the experience in the 19th and 20th centuries with so-called ‘insurgencies’, from the perspectives of the ‘insurgents’ and of the forces opposing them.

The overarching questions at this congress will be: “Which military and non-military methods and tactics have been used for conducting and combating insurgencies and what effects have those methods brought about?” The following subjects suggest themselves:

- The anatomy of insurgency: description and analysis of an insurgency;
- How to defeat an insurgency? Analysis of the methods that have been developed to suppress insurgencies, in areas such as intelligence, resettlement, use of Special Forces, and civil-military cooperation.
- The role of information and propaganda during the conflict.
- Critical analysis of doctrines that different countries have developed in fighting insurgencies.
- The biographical approach: leaders and commanders in insurgency and counter-insurgency.
- Sources and methodology: analysis of the sources that are available to the military historian in studying insurgency and counter-insurgency.

One keynote speaker has already committed to presenting a paper during the opening session: Professor Douglas Porch, an authority in the history of insurgency and counter-insurgency.

Everybody who wants to present a paper has to contact his/her national commission. The deadline for the paper proposals is **1 March 2010**. You can send your proposal by means of the special link on the congress website (www.cihm2010.nl). The maximum length of the presentation is 20 minutes.

In Amsterdam in 2010, the still-young tradition of workshops for doctoral candidates will continue. Six historians who are engaged in writing a thesis relevant to the theme of the congress will be given the opportunity to present their research. The working language of the workshop is English. The Dutch congress committee asks the national commissions to nominate suitable candidates before **1 January 2010**. The nominations should be accompanied by: a brief synopsis of the research to be presented, a curriculum vitae of the candidate and a letter of recommendation from the supervisory professor. A committee consisting of Dr Ciro Paoletti, Dr Erwin Schmidl, Prof. Dr Jean Avenel, Colonel Dr Winfried Heinemann and Prof. Dr Jan Hoffenaar will assess the submissions. This committee will also be responsible for the running of the workshop. The costs of congress participation and accommodation for the doctoral candidates will be borne by the Dutch congress committee. Their travelling expenses, however, should be paid for by the national commissions.

Amsterdam was the heart of the Dutch maritime empire. That made the choice of subject for the first round table rather obvious: the historiography of the Military Revolution at Sea in the 17th Century. Professor Nicholas Rodger, from All Souls College, Oxford University, and Professor Joe Guilmartin, from

Ohio State University, have already accepted our invitation to participate in the Round Table. Professor Jaap Bruijn, from Leiden University, will act as president of the round table.

There will be a second book round table on the congress theme. This panel will be organized by Dr. Pat Harahan, United States.

In addition to the congress, a social programme will be offered, including a boat tour of the canals of Amsterdam and a reception in the world-famous Rijksmuseum. On Wednesday, congress participants and their partners will have a combined trip during the 'Market Garden' battlefield tour, with the famous Battle of Arnhem in 1944 as the focal point. In the evening, we shall enjoy an Indonesian rice table at the Bronbeek Royal Home for Retired Military Personnel and Bronbeek Museum.

The partners of the congress participants will not find themselves with a lack of things to do in Amsterdam. In addition to being able to sight see on their own, a diverse partners programme will be ready for them.

Your accommodation is an important aspect of the congress week, of course. We have already blocked hotel rooms at a reduced rate in downtown Amsterdam. Warning: There is a major shortage of hotel rooms in Amsterdam! You should reserve your rooms as soon as possible, but certainly before 1 May 2010 or our option will lapse and the rooms will be given to other events. The registration fee for the whole congress is 325 euro's per person.

There is a special website for the ICMH congress in Amsterdam: www.cihm2010.nl. You can find all of the information about the congress on that website. You can also register for the congress and make your hotel reservations on the website.

ICMH Committee News

ICMH Bibliography Committee

Dimitry Queloz

Swiss Commission of Military History

The *International Bibliography of Military History's* thirtieth volume has been published this July. Being the last volume in the present format, it also contains a collection of indexes. This letter gives us the opportunity to thank all institutions and persons that have supported and worked for the *Bibliography* since its first publication in 1978. We would especially like to express our gratitude to Colonel Daniel Reichel and to Brigadier Jean Langenberger, who have been in charge before us, to the four scientific editors, Colonel Dominic Pedrazzini, Major Derck Engelberts, Major Dimitry Queloz, and Mr. Marco Wyss, to the adjunct scientific editors, to the secretaries, to the translators, to the hundreds of correspondents, who have written the 8'563 notices and various reports and, last but not least, to the members of the Bibliographical Committee.

Since three decades, the *Bibliography* has been supported by many institutions, notably the Swiss Ministry of Defence (through the Federal Military Library), the International Commission of Military History, the Swiss Commission of Military History and the Canadian Commission of Military History, which has been in charge of the notices' translation. The Saint-Cyr and Sandoz foundations have also given us their precious support during the last years. We would like to emphasise here our gratitude to all our generous supporters.

The *Bibliography's* future is being prepared. We hope to realise a transitional volume this year, which should prepare the ground for a modernised *Bibliography*, in accordance with the scientific exigencies of the 21st century!

ICMH Committee on Military Archives

Hans-Joachim Harder, President

This year the annual reunion of archivists was especially fruitful due to the comprehensive preparation of our Portuguese friend Aniceto Afonso. Actually, we didn't have one meeting only but two. Attendance was

high, 20 participants from 14 countries, even though we regretted the absence of the delegates from Belgium and France, who are normally very active in our committee. New members joined from Brazil, Cameroon, Germany, Italy, Romania, Sweden, Turkey, and the United States. We were proud to have Silvestre Lacerda, Director of the Portuguese National Archives in Lisbon, attending the reunion sessions as well as the workshop.

On Sunday, we discussed the topic “The national policy on military archives, myth and reality”. Four papers were presented:

- Flavio Carbone, Italy, on the role of the Carabinieri and the Defence General Staff,
- Warren Sinclair, Canada, touched on a problem which is crucial for all us, the digitalization of genealogical research,
- Efraxia Paschalidou, Greece, showed the Greek side of the problem, whereas
- Serdar Demirtas, Turkey, gave insight into the Turkish point of view.

For the first time we had an archives workshop during the scientific conference. Seven presenters from the Lusitanian world showed various aspects of their different archives. The presentations were given in Portuguese with simultaneous translations into English and French:

- Colonel Aniceto Afonso, Os Arquivos Militares Portugueses
- Lieutenant Colonel José Berger, O Arquivo da Egenharia Militar e o SIDCARTA*
- Marcelo Teixeira Rodriguez, The Brazilian Army Archive: from Portuguese Court to the Republic
- Director Silvestre Lacerda, A Política Portuguesa de Arquivos e o Arquivo Nacional da Torre do Tombo
- Maria João Pires de Lima and António Armando Sousa, O Arquivo Distrital do Porto
- Manuel Luís Real and Maria Paula Cunha, O Arquivo Municipal do Porto: gestão e difusão - os documentos de âmbito militar
- Carlos André Lopes da Silva, The Brazilian Navy Archive

Many participants of the CIHM congress took the opportunity to drop in and to listen to part or all of the workshop. At one point we counted more than fifty people in the session.

In the afternoon we visited the District’s Archive of Porto, situated in walking distance of the congress venue. Actually, it was climbing distance since we took the steep streets of the old city to reach the building of a former monastery, now wonderfully renovated, refurbished, and modified to suit a modern archive.

Next year we will meet in Amsterdam. The proposed topic will be “How to Improve our Website?” This will reflect the growing importance of the Internet for military archives.

The main task of the Archives Committee is to continue to serve as a platform for open and frank exchange of ideas for professionals.

Information on the National Commissions:

Tunisian Conference on Military History: Conference, December 2009

The Tunisian Commission of Military History is organizing an international symposium to be held in Tunis from 2-5 December 2009. The symposium will discuss military and naval history in a geostrategic context. Colonel Lofti Chelbi, Vice President, explains that “the symposium will be attended, in addition to university professors, by historians and researchers from Tunisia, and by eminent speakers from brotherly and friendly countries.” All national commissions have been invited to send scholars to this conference, with presenters to be provided with travel and hotel expenses by the Tunisian Ministry of Defense.

Final Announcement

Piet Kamphuis, Secretary-general
Pat Harahan, Newsletter editor

The objective of the ICMH Newsletter is to communicate information concerning the national commissions and the ICMH’s officers, board, committees, and congresses to all of the commissions. The

newsletter is a way of communicating information in three languages, English, French and German, across five continents to the officers and members of 41 national commissions.

We need your help. The national presidents and secretary-generals are encouraged to send the newsletter editor information regarding forthcoming international congresses and conferences. If your national commission is sponsoring a military history conference, museum exhibition, or planning a special exhibition of a military archive, please send the editor a brief communiqué. Your announcements and communiqués will be published in the ICMH Newsletter. Please send the information to Pat Harahan, ICMH Newsletter editor at the e-mail address, harahan@verizon.net