

NOTICIAS

THE INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON ARMS AND ARMOUR
(ŁÓDŹ 1972)

On November 28 and 29, 1972, the international seminar on arms and armour concerned with *The eastern and western elements in the Slav arms and armour in the Middle Ages* took place in Łódź. It was prepared by the local Centre for the Archaeology of Central Poland, Institute of the History of Material Culture of the Polish Academy of Sciences (leader Prof. Dr. Andrzej Nadolski) under a patronage of International Union of Slav Archaeology.

The aim of the seminar was to conduce to the exchange of the opinions and experiences in the circle of specialists being concerned with the history of the medieval arms and armour. Eight papers were delivered:¹ Dr. O. Gamber (Kunsthistorisches Museum, Wien), *Orientalische Einflüsse auf die mittelalterliche Bewaffnung Europas* (Eastern influence on the European arms and armour of the Middle Ages); Prof. Dr. V. Denkstejn (the retired director of National Museum, Praha), *Elementy wschodnie i zachodnie w czeskim uzbrojeniu XV wieku* (Eastern and western elements in the Bohemian arms and armour of the 15th century); Dr. A. N. Kirpičnikov (Institute of Archaeology of USSR, Leningrad), *O wremieni pojavlenija špory so zwiezdočkoj na teritorii drevnej Rusi* (The appearance of rowel spurs in the territory of old Russ); K. Kozák (Magyar Nemzeti Muzeum, Budapest), *Die Forschung über Entwicklungsgeschichte der ungarischen Hackenbüchsen* (Studies on the history of Hungarian harquebuses); Doc. Dr. Z. Zygulski (National Museum, Cracow), *Obraz «Bitwa pod Orszą». Pogranicze fikcji i prawdy* («The battle of Orsha». A border-line of fiction and reality); Prof. Dr. A. Nadolski (Centre for the Archaeology of Central Poland IHMC PAS, Łódź), *Uroczysty strój rycerski królów polskich w XIV-XV w.* (The ceremonial chivalrous dress of the Polish kings in the 14th-15th centuries); Dr. A. Nowakowski (Institute of Archaeology of University of Łódź), *Przyczynki do poznania tak zwanej zbroi mazowieckiej* (Contribution to the knowledge of the so called «Mazovian armour»); Dr. M. Głosek (Centre for Archaeology of Central Poland IHMC PAS, Łódź), *Próba analizy znaków na mieczach średniowiecznych ze zbiorów polskich pod kątem ich rodzimego pochodzenia* (Essay on marks on the Polish medieval

¹ All the seminar papers will be published in the 2nd or 3rd number of *Kwartalnik Historii Kultury Materialnej*, Warsaw 1973.

swords from the viewpoint of their native origin). Moreover, in the seminar there participated about twenty scientists including Prof. J. M. Pezez (École Pratique des Hautes Études, Paris) and Mrs. B. Ellis (Museum of Tower, London). At the ending of the seminar its participants constituted a delegacy which was to address an inference to the authorities of International Union of Slav Archaeology to consider the problems of arms and armour within the Union works as well as to give the more stabilized forms to the discussion devoted to these problems.

Marian Głosek

INSTITUTO DE ESTUDIOS SOBRE ARMAS ANTIGUAS
(Centre International d'Études Supérieures des Armes Anciennes)

The Institute was founded in Denmark in 1960 by *Ada Bruhn de Hoffmeyer* and *E. F. Hoffmeyer*. It was transferred to Spain in 1962. In 1965 the Institute had the honour to be associated to the *Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas* (The Spanish State Council for Scientific Research) through the Patronato «Marcelino Menéndez y Pelayo». Provisionally the Institute is placed in Jaraíz de la Vera (Cáceres), but we hope, as soon as possible, to find a more adequate place for a scientific institution.

The object of the Institute is scientific investigation of the ancient arms and warfare, in particular the archaeology and the history of the arms, their place in the civilizations of Orient and Occident, their relations to each other and their interdependences, their very important part as bearers of civilization in numerous branches of human life and sciences.

The Library of the Institute contains approximately 10.000 volumes and pamphlets (arms and armour, uniforms, warfare, military architecture, history, archaeology, fine arts etc., dictionaries of many languages and other manuals). The library is steadily increasing by purchase and exchange of publications, but many books of importance are out of print and very difficult, sometimes impossible, to acquire.

The Archive of Illustrative Material contains approximately 10.000 photos, designs, prints and clichés (arms and armour, military architecture, warriors and uniforms, war-ships, archaeological objects, objects of art etc.).

A Bibliographical Card-Index of Weapons and Warfare has been commenced.

Publications of the Institute. «Gladius. Études sur les Armes Anciennes, l'Armement, l'Art Militaire et la Vie Culturelle en Orient et

Occident», vol. I was published in Denmark (1961), the following volumes in Spain. Till now we have published 10 ordinary volumes of «Gladius», further a special volume being the first part of a three-volume work about Spanish arms and armour. We are happy to have



Instituto de Estudios sobre Armas Antiguas.

contributors to «Gladius» among well-reputed and even world-known scholars in Europe, Africa and Hispano-America, besides a progressive number of subscribers and readers in all the continents. The articles

af «Gladius» are issued in English, German, French or Spanish, according to the authors' wishes.

Contacts and Exchange of Publications have been established with universities, libraries, museums, learned societies, academies of science all over the world: Great Britain, Ireland, Germany, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary, France, Italy, Spain, Russia, Finland, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Netherlands, Belgium, Switzerland, Greece, Yugoslavia, Romania, Iran, Turkey, Syria, Egypt, Republic of South Africa, Canada, U.S.A., Argentine, etc.

During the past years the Institute, in all respects, has increased more than expected. The growth of the library, archive etc. needs more shelves, card-indexes and other furniture, that means more room. Little by little we have occupied the whole building. But our most serious problem is to fulfill the daily work. As a matter of fact the increasing activities of the Institute involves more work. And we are sorry to tell that we during the last three years have been troubled with unexpected, very often absurd obstacles, irrelevant to the normal function of a scientific research institution, problems of LOCAL character which have caused much waste of time. For that reason we beg for indulgence if sometimes the reply of a letter or the preparation of an *expertise* has taken rather long time. We hope that we shall succeed in finding better conditions for our work in future.

Jaraiz de la Vera (Cáceres), August 1973.