

CoESPU MAGAZINE



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***CENTER OF EXCELLENCE
FOR STABILITY POLICE UNITS***



FOREWORD



Peace and security are core values to ensuring the international stability.

The protection of these values represents the true challenge for the future and, at the same time, it requires a common effort towards achieving this ambitious goal, especially in the poorest and long-suffering regions of our planet, often affected by local wars and crises.

Significant results have been reached so far thanks to the daily effort of the Peacekeepers, called upon to serve in fast-changing and really complex environments. Not least the modern peace support operations require an increasingly multidimensional approach, which provides for a strong cooperation among military, police forces and civilians as fundamental pillars of every mission.

At the same time it is necessary to have high-qualified and professional operators. Therefore the training plays an absolutely relevant role, especially in the pre-deployment phases.

In this context the Center of Excellence for Stability Police Units, strengthened by a decade-solid experience of training, again this year confirms with a new impetus its commitment as doctrinal and training center well known at the international level.

In my function of CoESPU Director, I personally will give my contribution to upgrade and further enhance the range of the available training. Special attention will be given to the cooperation with the main international organization that are engaged in the sensitive area of the peace support operations, under the leadership of UN, UE or NATO.

Over the next few months, CoESPU will host the European Union Police Services Training II (EUPST II) exercise. This exercise is sponsored and budgeted by the European Committee with the goal of assisting the European and non-European countries in increasing the global capability of their Police Organizations with the skills required to conduct current and future Peace Support Operations.

In parallel, the project “Combating Human Trafficking along Migration Routes”, organized by OSCE – Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe – partnered with the Italian Carabinieri, will take place at CoESPU since November 2016. The project aims to enhance the ability of prosecutors, police officers, labour inspectors and civil society representatives to effectively investigate and counter the Trafficking in Human Beings (THB) along migration routes by promoting a multi-agency and human right-based approach.

In addition to the standard training courses, the above mentioned events as well as other future initiatives will require an increasing effort to CoESPU in performing its mission and institutional duties.

Really proud of my sensitive task and conscious of the great responsibility related to my mandate, I wish all the best to the attendees and the CoESPU staff, that by working hard, they will be able to achieve new and more ambitious targets.

CoESPU Director
Brigadier General Giovanni Pietro Barbano





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CoESPU DIRECTOR'S TRANSFERRING OF AUTHORITY CEREMONY

On June 20th, 2016, the new CoESPU Commander, Carabinieri Brigadier General Giovanni Pietro Barbano took office at the Center of Excellence for the Stability Police Units (CoESPU).

The ceremony, chaired by General Antonio Ricciardi, Carabinieri Deputy General Commander, was attended by the highest military and civil Authorities at the local and regional level.

General Barbano has a qualified and various professional and military experience, and he has recently concluded a course of High Qualification at the Institute of Defense High



Studies in Rome. Among his previous most relevant appointments, he was Director of the Carabinieri Institute for Professional and Military-Law Studies. General Barbano has taken over the prestigious and delicate assignment of CoESPU Director from Brigadier General Paolo Nardone, current Sardinia Carabinieri Legion Commander.

After having served in the Carabinieri Parachute Regiment with several appointments, General Barbano was afterward awarded with the prestigious “ISSMI” qualification at the Combined Forces Staff Institute. During his brilliant career General Barbano commanded numerous territorial detachments, as the Carabinieri Provincial Commands of Bergamo and Trapani, the Carabinieri Legion of the Molise and, last but not least, the Carabinieri National Administrative and Financial Centre.

On an international level General Barbano, who was one of the promoters of the CoESPU, is recognised as a professional expert in consequence of his intense participation in numerous international missions.

In particular, he was the Commanding Officer of the “Integrated Police Unit – IPU” Regiment in Bosnia Herzegovina, and chaired the Chief of Staff Office at the European Gendarmerie Force (EGF) Head Quarters. As master specialist in deployment of Police Forces in Peace Support Operations, General Barbano was selected as Italian Special Representative of the Carabinieri in the NATO, UN and OSCE workshops oriented to identify and define the best joint forces procedures



for the management of the international crises.

During the CoESPU Director’s Handover ceremony, and after the official introductory meeting with the highest Authorities, General Barbano, together with the CoESPU Deputy Director, Colonel Darius S. Gallegos, US Army, Military Police

Corps, and the CoESPU Chief of Staff, Carabinieri Colonel Roberto Campana, met the CoESPU Staff.

This ceremony celebrates a particularly relevant period for this Centre that, more than ever, is currently promoting and hosting several most important activities, always obtaining the utmost unqualified global acknowledgement from the main International Organizations as a doctrinal pole of excellence for the Stability Police Units.



UNITED NATIONS POLICE

UN THEMATIC MEETING ON POLICE ADMINISTRATION

From 19th to 21st July, 2016, the “UN Thematic Meeting on Police Administration”, organized by the UN Police Division (UNPOL), took place at the UN Logistic Base in Brindisi.

Ms. Maria Appelblom, Chief of Standing Police Capacity at the UN Police Division, opened the activities, addressing the goals of the meeting. Afterword, Brigadier General Giovanni Pietro Barbano, CoESPU Director and Representative of the Italian Government, co-chaired the opening remarks, together with Ms. Camille Curtis, OiC Director at the UN Global Service Centre, Mr. Atul Khare, Under Secretary General at

UN Department of Field Support, and Mr. Amod Gurung, Training Adviser at the UN Police Division.

The meeting was attended by the highest representative Authorities of the UN Department of Field Support (DFS/OUSG) and of the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO), operating in the current multiple peacekeeping missions and domains, and Carabinieri Officers, as Representatives of the Carabinieri General Head Quarters.

The purpose of the meeting was to solicit expert inputs in order to design strategic guidance for the UN Police Components, responsible for the police administration in the field.

Looking ahead, these guidance will feed into the development of the DPKO-DFS guidelines on Police Administration in Peacekeeping Operations and Special Political Missions, within the UN Police Strategic Guidance Framework.

The meeting was focused on the relevant role played by the UN Police Administration, as key factor to conduct any police activity in an efficient and effective way.

In fact, the Police Administration is a challenging and complex activity that provides support in the areas of finance, logistics, information, communication and technology (ICT), human resources and general administration, ensuring the due course of every mission. On the field, this activity becomes manifest through the following





specific actions such as police infrastructure administration, fiscal management, budget development, payroll system management, financial auditing, procurement, logistics, assets management, fleet management, tenders and contracts, human resources management, internal affairs, discipline management, audit and inspection of police units, legal support and legal drafting.

At the same time, high-qualified and professional operators, ruled by clear guidelines are required in performing the above mentioned activities.

Particularly, it has been stressed the crucial role of the Chief of Staff (CoS), i.e. his/her responsibilities and duties in facing any aspect of the logistic, as well as operational, administrative, financial and gender issues, in the frame of the field operations.

To achieve this goal, every contributing nation has to provide its best input in supporting the UN effort. The Italian government is completely committed in providing its contribution to the finalization of the logistic aspects as well as in the field of the peacekeeping training.

An example of this long term Italian commitment is represented by the Carabinieri Center of Excellence for Stability Police Units (CoESPU), that is internationally recognized as flexible and versatile doctrine hub, providing a full range of practical courses focused on staff and operational activities.

Particularly, within the UN doctrine about the Standing Police Capacity, the CoESPU training aims to support a coherent police and law enforcement start-up capability, providing the police attendees with the necessary skills in accomplishing their missions' police-related works and tasks, in order to assist UN operations through the provision of police and law enforcement advice and expertise.

At the end of the meeting, Brigadier General Giovanni Pietro Barbano, as Carabinieri Representative of the Italian Government, renewed the national commitment as well as the CoESPU effort in supporting UN missions either from a doctrinal perspective, but also by contributing in the field of the logistic and infrastructural support, highlighting the importance of the training activities performed by CoESPU on the site of the current and future Peacekeepers.





HONOURING OUR HEROES

In November 1947, the United Nations General Assembly endorsed a plan for the partition of Palestine, providing for the creation of an Arab State and a Jewish State, with Jerusalem to be



placed under international status. The plan was not accepted by Palestinian Arabs and Arab States. On 14 May 1948, the United Kingdom relinquished its mandate over Palestine and the State of Israel was proclaimed. On the following day, the Palestinian Arabs, assisted by Arab States, opened hostilities against Israel.

On 29 May 1948, the Security Council, in resolution 50 (1948), called for a cessation of hostilities in Palestine and decided that the truce should be supervised by the UN Mediator, with the assistance

of a group of military observers. The first group of military observers, which has become known as the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO), arrived in the region in June 1948. In 1949, UNTSO military observers remained to supervise the Armistice Agreements between Israel and its Arab neighbors, which were for many years the main basis of the uneasy truce in the whole area.

UNTSO was the first UN Peacekeeping mission and it is still in act.

Since its beginning in 1948, United Nations Peacekeeping has evolved into one of the main tools used by the international community to manage complex crises that threaten international peace and security. In this period a total of 71 Peacekeeping operations have been established. More than one million military, police and civilian personnel have served as UN Peacekeepers.



Today, more than 124,000 military, police and civilian personnel are deployed in 16 Peacekeeping operations in four continents.

Meanwhile the UN Peacekeeping efforts required a great tribute of lives: since 1948, 3,400 Peacekeepers have lost their lives in the service of peace under the UN flag, as a result of acts of violence, accidents and disease.



To honor the memory of all the men and women who have served in UN Peacekeeping operations, losing their lives in the cause of peace, the UN General Assembly, in its resolution 57/129, designated 29 May as the International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers.

This International Day, which is commemorated each year, is also the time to salute the Peacekeepers of today who serve in some of the world's most volatile and dangerous environments. The theme for the 2016 International Day of UN Peacekeepers is "Honouring our Heroes."

This year, the United Nations is marking the Day by highlighting the global partnerships that help sustain UN Peacekeeping and make it the success that it is, recognizing the work done by all uniformed and civilian Peacekeepers, especially women who are increasingly play an integral role in the Peacekeeping family, as Peacekeeping evolves to encompass a broader humanitarian



approach.

Since 1948, UN Peacekeeping has proven to be a legitimate, reliable and effective tool in facilitating the transition from conflict to peace. Fifteen years ago, the UN had fewer than 40,000 military and police personnel. Today, more than 105,000 uniformed personnel from 124



troop - and police - contributing countries serve under the UN flag, along with 18,000 international and national civilian staff and UN volunteers.

The size, complexity and accomplishments of Peacekeeping have grown quickly, as well as the need of Peacekeeping training. Now more than ever, we need high qualified and specialized troops, able to better perform the present and future peace support operations. These special skills can be ensured only through excellence in training.

Emerging from traditional training, today the future Peacekeepers need new training courses, specifically designed for police, military and civil operators in order to approach new items, as an essential part of the best mission's outcome, like the protection of the human rights, the women's



role, cooperation, mediation and negotiation in crisis situations.

The CoESPU, that has recently celebrated its 10th anniversary, is following the new trend in training with renewed energy, increasing its training courses in order to fulfil the various needs of a high profile audience, more and more professional,

qualified and selected for the deployment into the modern multidimensional peace support operations around the world. Meanwhile a common sharing of knowledge, expertise and practical skills represents a focal point in this specific scenario. Following this policy, in fact, the UN



workshop organized by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations at the beginning of May, and hosted by CoESPU, focused on the review of the Standard Operational Procedures for the selection of Formed Police Units: a major event that has highlighted the importance of a common strategy and cooperation worldwide.

In this frame also the CoESPU, as Training Center for Stability Police Units and partner of the UN community, remains firmly committed to the indispensable role of UN Peacekeeping, and salutes the service and the sacrifice of the men and women who served, still serve and will serve as UN Peacekeepers.

Thank you, UN Heroes, and Good Luck!





GENDER PROTECTION STRATEGY: A CASE FROM UGANDA

“Because man and woman are the complement of each other; we need woman’s thoughts in national affairs to make a safe and a stable government”.

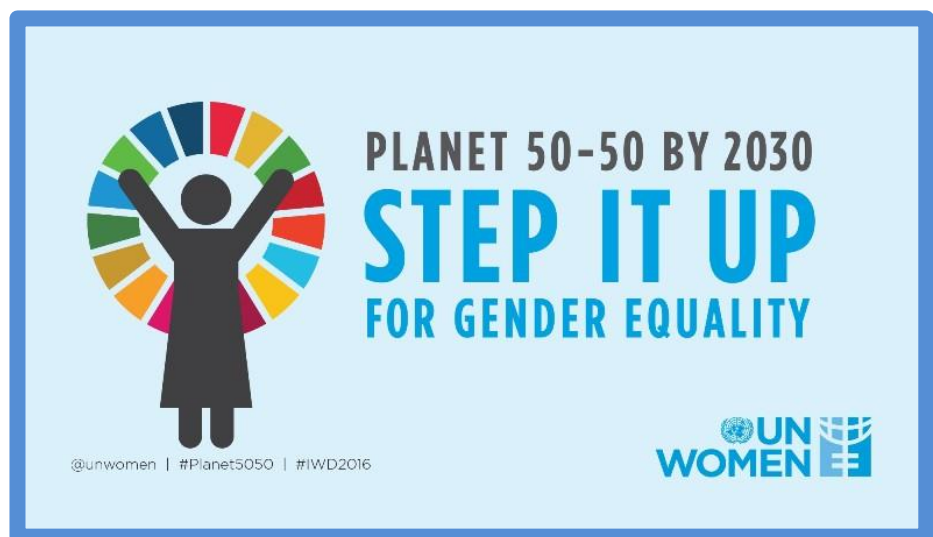
Elizabeth Cady Stanton



International Women’s Day (IWD) is a worldwide event that celebrates women’s achievements from the political to the social spheres of life while calling for gender equality. It has been practiced since the early 1900s, and is now celebrated each year on March 8. The day was

recognized by the United Nations only in 1975, but ever since it has created a theme such a celebration on an annual basis (UK Telegraph, 2016).

The original aim of this day – to achieve full gender equality for women in the world – has still not been achieved. For example, a gender pay gap persists across the globe, and women are still not present in equal numbers, in comparison with men, in business or politics. Globally, women’s education, health and violence towards women are still worse than that of men. On IWD, women across the world come together to force the world to recognize these inequalities, as well as celebrating the achievements of women who have overcome these barriers and suggest ways to overcome their challenges. The theme for 2016 is “Planet 50-50 by 2030: Step it up for Gender equality”. The UN observance on the day reflects on how to accelerate the 2030 agenda with such



targets as: having boys and girls receiving a completely free, equitable and quality secondary education; access to quality early childhood development, care and preprimary education; end all forms of violence against all women and girls everywhere; elimination of harmful practices; building a momentum for the effective implementation of the new sustainable development Goals (SDGs), and the other existing commitments on gender equality, empowerment and women's human rights (UN Women).

In Uganda, the celebration of March 8th is gazetted as a public holiday, and the country holds national celebrations on rotational basis regionally organized, and every district performs the same



A lady with disability performs at 2016 IWD celebration in Kololo independence grounds, Kampala, Uganda. Parade in the background. Photo Courtesy of URN.

at its levels with various themes and activities. To mark such a significant day events like national prayers, games, radio/TV talk shows, parades and exhibitions, among others celebrations devoted to women begin a week earlier. This year's national celebrations were held at Kololo Independence grounds Kampala with the President chairing over the celebrations under the national theme "women's economic empowerment: A vehicle for sustainable development". The celebration is usually organized by the central and local governments, alongside the civil society, NGOs and Community based organizations (CBOs), cultural and religious leaders, the business community, private sector and development partners. Gender policies (Uganda Gender Policy, 2007) that promote gender mainstreaming in all Government ministries and districts' local governments are making it mandatory to have women in positions of leadership and today women make up to 35% of the Ugandan Parliament, according to the world bank data base.

The country through the above acts has seen promotion of women rights across the board with women holding position in government, public services, participating in peace keeping /support operations in AU and UN missions as IPOs and FPU, in countries like Liberia, Somalia, Sudan,

and East Timor, among others. Women are involved in peace talks and negotiations to alleviate suffering of women and children in conflict areas nationally, regionally and internationally. A case in point was the recently concluded general elections 2016, where women were at the forefront to fight election violence, and were deployed throughout the country, and women were identified as outstanding in order to broker peace and negotiate with all candidates before during and after elections. Many women were awarded with medals for the exemplary work and contribution they performed towards national development, peace and Security.

National Strategy for Girls' Education (NSGE) in Uganda (2015 – 2019), together with provision of Universal primary, Secondary and post primary education had as its main focus the importance of keeping the female children at school as a vital factor in dealing with the root causes of poverty and underdevelopment.

In a nutshell, positive strides have been made towards gender equality and addressing violations of the rights of women and the female children towards gender parity at all decision making levels, throughout the protection and the enforcement of the respect of their rights, the participation and the conservation of a gender perspective in times of peace and war. A multi-dimensional and sectorial approach of awareness raising, empowerment, enforcement and local and international best approaches are adopted by the Uganda Government with the support of all the stakeholders to make gender equality a reality.

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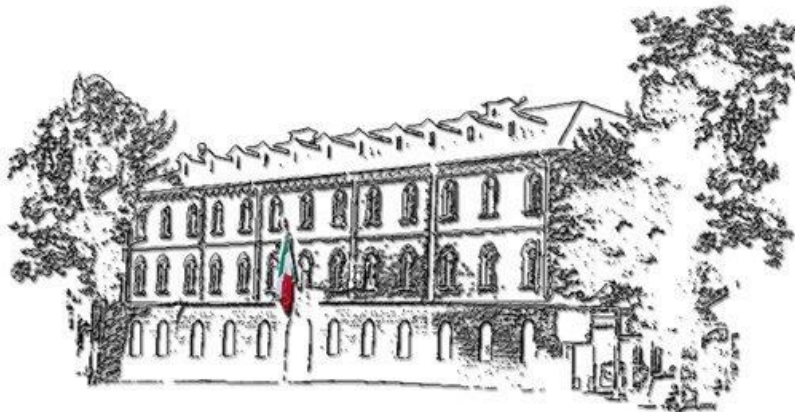
Human Trafficking

A Global Problem

Prostitution. Servitude. Forced Labor.



Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe



**"Combating Human Trafficking
along Migration Routes"
High Level Launch Event**

Vicenza, 17th June 2016

LAUNCH EVENT OF THE OSCE PROJECT “COMBATING HUMAN TRAFFICKING ALONG MIGRATION ROUTES”

On June 17th, 2016, the Center of Excellence for Stability Police Units - CoESPU hosted the launch event of the OSCE project “Combating Human Trafficking along Migration Routes”.

This event, organized by OSCE – Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe – partnered with the Italian Carabinieri, was oriented to define a practical training program, developed on three training sections taking place at the CoESPU since November 2016.

The project aims to enhance the ability of the attendees to effectively investigate the Trafficking in Human Beings (THB), and promptly identify the THB victims along migration routes by promoting a multi-agency and human right-based approach.

The training consists of innovative simulation-based exercises for

prosecutors, police officers, labour inspectors and civil society representatives. This approach is intended to promote “learning through reflection on doing”, by playing high effective simulations of the real life, emphasizing key elements of the anti-trafficking action in a fully interactive fashion, thereby promoting international co-operation and joint solutions to common challenges.

The training sections will have a particular focus on identification and criminal investigation of forced labour and sexual exploitation. In parallel, participants will be encouraged to make proactive use of special investigative techniques, including financial probes, to trace and size traffickers’ profits.

The ambitious project was officially presented by the OSCE Secretary General Lamberto Zannier, together with the President of the Chamber of Deputies of the Italian Parliament Laura Boldrini,





the Undersecretary of State for Defence, Government of the Italian Republic, Domenico Rossi, the General Commander of the Carabinieri Tullio Del Sette, the Deputy Minister of Internal



Affairs/National Anti-Trafficking Co-ordinator, Republic of Albania, Elona Gjebrea-Hoxha, the Special Representative of the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany for the Establishment of Refugee-Hotspots in Greece and Italy Detlef Karioth and the OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings Madina Jarbussynova.

During the event, attended by the Ambassadors of OSCE participating States, the UN and UE Representatives, the highest civil and military Authorities, the national and international partner Organizations, the participants discussed the current human trafficking threats along migration routes, analyzing the OSCE project actions and the expected

outcomes. The numerous CoESPU activities and the organizational and logistic structure of the Center were illustrated during the conference.

Concluding the visit, the participants expressed their personal appreciation for the multiple activities performed by CoESPU, highlighting the importance of the OSCE project along the cooperation with the Carabinieri, within the frame of the common objectives addressed by Italy, OSCE participating States and all the International Community.





COESPU

TRAINING

CoESPU: FROM THE LENSES OF A HRO-09 PARTICIPANT

Having nursed the ambition to improve my knowledge of the implementation of UN Mandates in Peacekeeping Operations, I was filled with great excitement when I received the information of my selection to take part in the 9th High Risk Operations Course at the prestigious Center



of Excellence for Stability of Police Units (CoESPU) in Italy. Even before leaving my home country, Ghana, I had stored phone numbers of CoESPU officials in order to make some calls for help upon my arrival at the Marco Polo Airport in Venice. I was however proven wrong. Even before arrival formalities were completed I was approached by a smart friendly looking Carabinieri officer who asked ‘Are you Mr. Bako from Ghana?’ and when I responded in the affirmative he directed me to a waiting point where other participants from other countries were waiting. Not long after, we were on board a Carabinieri bus for the journey from Venice to Vicenza which offered me the opportunity to have a great view of Italy for the first time. I felt at home when we arrived at the Centre and accommodated.



On the first day of the course we were warmly welcomed by the CoESPU authorities in a brief but impressive official opening ceremony and consequently issued with uniforms suits and all other items needed to make our four weeks stay an effective one. At the CoESPU gym, where the training started with physical

exercises and self-defence techniques, the professionalism of the highly trained instructors was amply demonstrated with the step-by-step approach used in preparing us for the difficult task we



will be called to perform. It was only a matter of days that I, as well as some of my colleagues, started feeling the impact of the exercises with pains in my bodies; feelings that set up my physiological system to the realities ahead.

Other modules of the training including fire arms training, combat life saver, FPU

Concepts, operational planning, IED threats, tactical progressions, room clearing etc. were also taught with apparent professionalism and dedication from the instructors and facilitators who supported and encouraged us throughout the training process.

It wasn't just working all throughout. We were privileged to have the unique opportunity to participate in the colorful and historic 202nd anniversary of the foundation of the Carabinieri Corps



in Rome. Aside taking part and enjoying the fantastic Italian parade, including the gallant and famous horse regiment displays, the five-day stay in Rome was also a great opportunity for me and other colleagues to relax from the hectic activities by visiting several historic sites in the city. It was a great pleasure to have visited the Vatican City and other places including the impressive Trevi Fountain where I threw a coin into the fountain in an anticipation of my return to Rome in the near future, as it is believed according to the local tradition. It was indeed a great opportunity to discover Rome.

Back to CoESPU from Rome and the training continued in earnest. Even as we wind down activities for the official closing ceremony I can sum up my experience with CoESPU as 'extremely great' on the basis that I have acquired: vital knowledge and skills that will help me not only in my quest to again serve with the UN Peacekeeping Operations but also in my day-to-day policing activities, more importantly as a training officer. The practical nature of the training indeed makes it stand out as one that effectively equips participants for high risk operations in real life situations and it's a timely one considering threats of terrorism and organized crimes the world currently faces.

It is worth mentioning the great facilities within CoESPU (gym, shooting range, firearms training room, IED room etc) and also outside (Alpha 22 and Longare) that made the learning process smooth and effective. The good food by the friendly and smiling mess staff, the barbering saloon and laundry all contributed greatly in making my stay in CoESPU a memorable one and hope to be a great alumnus of CoESPU.

Long live CoESPU

Long live the CoESPU family.

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SAVE MY HERITAGE



HOW THE LIBYAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE WAS SAVED DURING WORLD WAR II

The archaeologists and technicians of the Italian Superintendence remained in Libya even in the most desperate moments of World War II. The colonial government entrusted to the archaeological officers the task of preventing the precious heritage from falling into enemy hands or being damaged by the military operations.



Fig. 1

While in Tripolitania the superintendent Giacomo Caputo (Fig. 1) could operate with relative ease, moving to Sabratha (Fig. 2) the antiquities from the Tripoli Museum which were threatened by bombing, in Cyrenaica the timing of events was dramatic. On the eve of the first British occupation the inspector Gennaro Pesce (Fig. 3-4) organised the transfer to Benghazi and then to Leptis Magna of the artistic treasures and coins of Cyrene (Fig. 5). This was done on the direct orders of Marshal Rodolfo Graziani, governor and high commander of the Italian army in Libya, which provided trucks and troops for the operation. To the Italo-German troops, which in the spring of 1941 returned to Cyrenaica (Fig. 6), the towns and countryside appeared ravaged by war. On 5 and 8 May 1941 the Stefani Agency

denounced the destruction of part of the archaeological and epigraphic collection of Cyrene by the British and Australian troops. Although most of the statuary and objects of value had been transferred in haste in anticipation of the English occupation, some statues and numerous minor objects remained in place; these were the materials damaged or stolen in Cyrene and Ptolemais, but Stefani's exaggerated propaganda was contradicted by the reports, made by the Italian archaeologists soon after the Italo-German re-occupation. To avoid the repetition of similar problems, using trucks provided by the new governor General Italo Gariboldi, Pesce organised a further transfer to Tripolitania of the remaining sculptures of Cyrene, together with photos, the library and coins.

Between 24 December 1941 and 29 January 1942 Cyrenaica experienced the second British occupation and this time the staff of the Superintendence, together with all

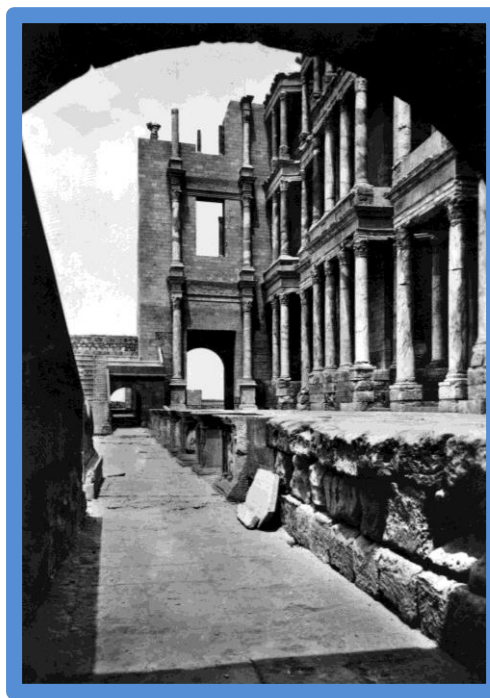


Fig. 2

civil administration, withdrew to Tripoli. In February 1942 the Axis forces were back in Cyrenaica, and the Soprintendenza followed them. Reflecting the widespread confidence in the fortunes of the Axis advance towards Alexandria, Pesce could reopen the excavations in the temple of Zeus at Cyrene (Fig. 7) and in the Palace of the Columns at Ptolemais. With the lorries supplied by the last governor of Libya, General Ettore Bastico, he could complete the transfer to Tripolitania of the relevant



Fig. 3

archaeological objects still in Cyrenaica, except for those of the museum of Ptolemais, inaccessible at the time to heavy vehicles. For his successful engagement in the salvage of the Cyrenaican treasure from the dangers of war, in September 1942 Pesce received from Giuseppe Bottai, the Minister of National Education, the silver medal for meritorious service to the arts (Benemeriti delle Arti).

But at al-Alamein the tide of war changed again. While Cyrenaica was once again evacuated, in Tripolitania the ordinary activities of studying and conserving the monuments continued without



Fig. 4

interruption between the new Italo-German retreat and the arrival of Allied troops, because all branches of the Italian administration remained in place. On the eve of the entry of the Eighth Army in Tripolitania, in October 1942, Caputo returned to Italy while Pesce was ordered by the moribund colonial government to assume the duties of deputy Superintendent, with the task of protecting the archaeological heritage during the Allied occupation. Warned that the fighting could reach the town of Khoms, he transferred to Sabratha the most valuable material previously conserved in the office of Leptis Magna and concealed the others in the Leptis site (Fig. 8). At the same time, the numismatic and artistic valuables from Cyrenaica (recovered from the Superintendence offices at Leptis Magna on 20 November) together with the coin cabinet and the jewellery of the museum in Tripoli (retrieved from the Banca d'Italia at Tripoli on 26 November), entrusted to a Carabinieri officer, were placed by Pesce on the last hospital ship to sail from Tripoli to Italy. Arrived in Rome, they were delivered into the hands of the Director General of Archaeological



Fig. 5

Tripolitania were adopted, including the employment of Italian Superintendence. The Italian staff, under the interim direction of Pesce, was placed under the control of an antiquities officer within the British Military Administration. The first to assume this post was the same Ward-Perkins, which acted as “adviser in archaeology” until August 1944. Allied soldiers used to spend the leisure time visiting sites and museums, archaeological guides were written for them, but it was impossible to

Services, Rodolfo Micacchi.

When, in January 1943, the Eighth Army finally arrived in Tripolitania, two British archaeologists, the Lieutenant Colonel Robert Eric Mortimer Wheeler (Fig. 9) and Major John Bryan Ward-Perkins (Fig. 10), were serving in it. Once in Leptis Magna, they found that a unit of the Royal Air Force was about to build a radio station among the ruins, which their prompt intervention could get moving elsewhere. On their initiative measures for the protection of the antiquities of



Fig. 6



Fig. 7

avoid some minor loss to happen. Ward Perkins meticulously records them in his reports, preserved to us in the National Archives.

In the meantime the ‘treasures’ of Tripolitania and Cyrenaica traveled throughout Italy. They were transferred in May 1944 by the administration of the Italian Social Republic from Rome, which was being lost to the Allies, to Cremona in northern Italy. At the end of the war they were brought back to Rome, where they still were in 1947. They should have



Fig. 8

been returned to Libya in 1961, but

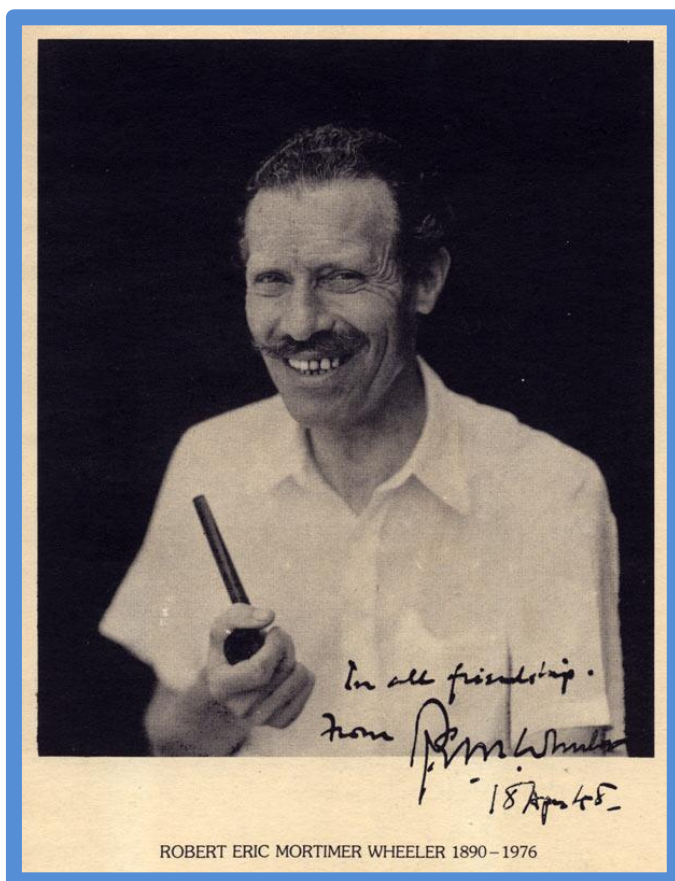


Fig. 9

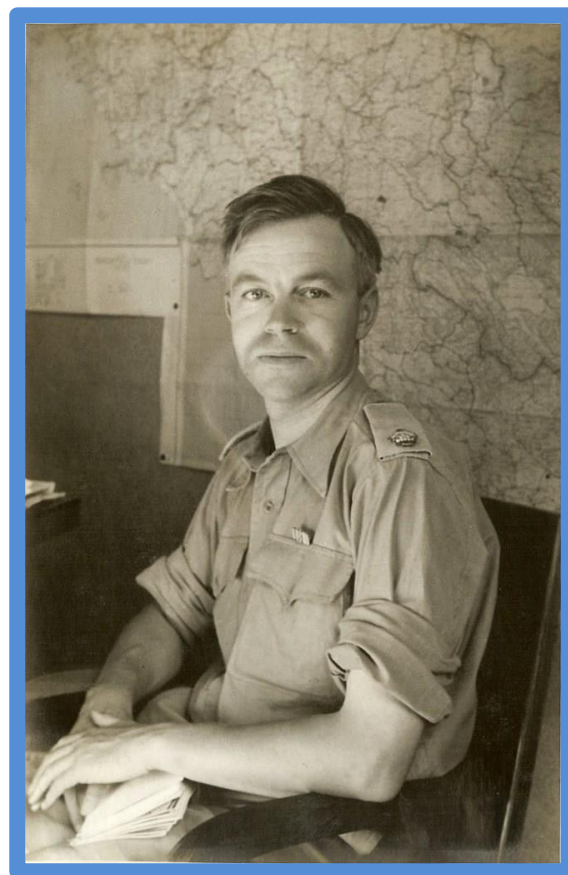


Fig. 10

this still awaits confirmation. These were presumably the valuables stolen from the National Commercial Bank of Benghazi on 25 May 2011, during the Libyan Revolution.

It seems appropriate to conclude this short account on the saving of Libyan cultural heritage during the World War Two with the words used after the war by the same Gennaro Pesce as epilogue of his paper In margin to the history of the last war in Libya. How the archaeological heritage of Cyrenaica was saved: «In the whirlwind of war, in the midst of a humanity brutalised by a lust for destruction, it is difficult to defend cultural values. The Italian Army in Libya promoted this defence and while in the tragic upheaval of defeat, concerned itself with these ideals. The British Military Administration, the successor of the Italian one, and now the autonomous state of Libya have continued and continue our work, in homage to that ‘religion of antiquity’ which is felt by every civilised people».

In intentional opposition to such a ‘religion of antiquity’, considered idolatric and of western origin, in recent times ISIS has destroyed archaeological sites and museums in Iraq (Mosul, Nimrud, Hatra) and Syria (Palmyra).



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