

"Intelligence Service Europe"



SCV Europe Camp #1612



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Camp Europe Intelligence Service Newsletter, No. 1, October, 2008

EDITORIAL

In this first issue of our reborn Europe Camp newsletter we proclaim full allegiance to the legacy of Jefferson Davis and the Confederate States of America. On April 4, 1865 President Davis issued his last proclamation to the Confederate Nation. He announced "*A struggle the memory of which is to endure for all ages*" and proposed the war to continue on a different basis and encouraged the people to make "*an exhibition of unquenchable resolve to render the final triumph certain. Let us but will it, and we are free.*"

It is true that at the moment of this proclamation the Confederacy was in the last days of existence and the President was thinking about a nationwide uprising of Guerrilla warfare. Every Confederate soldier, every citizen of the South, shall became a Bushwhacker. At first view, this idea seemed to be a realistic option: it was less than half a century ago in time that Spain had successfully expelled the Napoleonic Army from national territory by involving the entire people in Partisan warfare, so had done the Russians during the winter campaign of 1812. But the situation of the South in 1865 was very different and with great wisdom, based on his lifetime military experience and the last 4 years of bloody war, General Lee rejected the entire project.

Anyway, the Confederate Government never surrendered, and Congress never dissolved the Confederacy. And there is a Heritage to defend, a Culture, a Faith and the good name of all those who gave it all, sacrificed it all and died to preserve it.



Of course this is equally valid for a European son of a Confederate Veteran as for every follower of the great American Confederate ideal and this stream is what our new newsletter wants to join. To tell and to preserve.

Let us also keep in mind that President Davis said in a prophetic manner: "The principle for which we contend is bound to reassert its self, though it may be at another time and in another form."

Thus, today the struggle goes on. At both shores of the Atlantic. Of course there are no longer marching armies, no battles to fight with bayonets and muskets, no blockade-running vessels or ironclads to be launched in help of our Southern brothers, but we need day and night awareness about the menace coming over us: the cultural genocide of the entire Southland and Christian Culture in the Western World. The well-planned and executed extermination of Confederate Heritage within the next few decades is the aim of the enemy. And the "exhibition of unquenchable resolve to render our final triumph certain" as demanded by Jefferson Davis is still valid and committing in every matter concerning defense of Southern Heritage and the truth in History worldwide. It is committing to every man with a Confederate Veteran's blood in his veins and to every man who wants to give his heart to this great and sacred Cause.

Thus, President Davis pronounced in fact a moral charge to Southerners of his time and all their descendants long before The Charge of General Stephen Dill Lee was committed to the United of Confederate Veterans in the same spirit.

The devil is the king of the lie, and historical lies are the main weapons of

our enemies. Every of our Camp members shall get more and more involved in taking the pen like the bayonet to defend our Heritage threatened, looking to recruit more members into the ranks of the SCV, searching for Confederate-friendly allies and, at the same time, telling everybody in Europe and overseas the true story of the late Confederacy, those American Republic that once stood for Liberty and Constitution, as desired and intended by the Founding Fathers in 1776 and its titanic struggle against an overwhelming enemy. This kind of fight is what the last official proclamation of President Davis is inviting us to give in our modern days. It is a message to the men of good will in the world this is to be kept in our mind as European Confederates.

Looking forward to the day of vindication before God to come, dear comrades-in-arms, we must continue doing battle as the brave men in gray and butternut 140 years ago.

Gentlemen, forward march!

DEO VINDICE!



Editor: Raphael Waldhury Zeit



Commander Zehim Bärsch

**SCV Europe Camp #1612 Report
of the Heros von Borcke
meetings and gravesite
memorial marking, September
1-4, 2008.**

“Capt. Heros von Borcke, a Prussian cavalry officer, who lately ran the blockade, assigned to me by the honorable Secretary of War, joined in the charge of the First Squadron in gallant style, and subsequently, by his energy, skill, and activity, won the praise and admiration of all. [...] He has shown himself a thorough soldier and a splendid officer. I hope the Department will confer as high a commission as possible on this deserving man, who has cast his lot with us in the trying hour.”

(Official Records, Series 1, Vol. XI, Part 1, Report of General Stuart to General Lee, June 17, 1862, after the battle of Seven Pines, pp. 1040-1041)

The gravemarking and honor ceremonies performed by the SCV (especially Europe Camp#1612) and the von Borcke Family Association in memory of Colonel Heros von Borcke, Adjutant-General of Cavalry in the Army of Northern Virginia and General JEB Stuart’s great friend, have been a great success. Ms. Nancy Hitt, UDC Molly Moorehead Chapter from Kentucky, called, the event „historic“.



*(Family von Borcke, J.E.B. Stuart IV & J.E.B. Stuart V,
SCV members in front of the
church in Gisenbrügge)*

The entire program in Poland lasted three days and was intended to meet the family, learn about Old Europe and the region the von Borcke family came from and their origins.

On the first day Commander Achim Bänisch rose at 04:30 a.m. and arrived by train in Berlin at 08:00. All the invited guests from different parts of Europe gathered together at the Ibis Hotel Berlin. Some had arrived the evening before. There they spent some time meeting one another and having nice talks.

At 10:00 a.m. a bus took them to Poland. A brief stop to visit the Cloister Chorin, a Middle Ages construction, interested especially the American Compatriots.

After lunch the group proceeded to Külz in Poland and arrived in the early evening. They received a warm greeting by Mrs. Lisaweta von Zitzewitz, the managing director of the European Academy of Culture.



(SCV Europe Camp #1612 Commander Achim Bänsch)



(The von Borcke family colors and CS battleflag. In front SCV member Michael Bergeron & SCV Chief-of-Staff Chuck Rand III)



(Lisaweta von Titzewitz & Eckhard von Borcke)

People settled in and got some rest. Then dinner. After dinner there were several interesting speeches given by J.E.B. Stuart IV, Ms. Nancy Hitt and SCV Chief-of-Staff Chuck Rand III. At the end of his speech about the United Confederate Veterans and the SCV, compatriot Rand read the Stephen Dill Lee charge in German language to the audience with great effect! The conference room was adorned with both the CS battleflag and the von Borcke family colors.

After the speeches, some gifts and awards were exchanged. Mr. Stuart and Ms. Hitt received certificates of appreciation of the von Borcke Family Association in gratitude of remembering their famous ancestor. Chuck Rand gave a proclamation issued by CiC McMichael in person honoring the duty and services of Heros von Borcke to the Confederacy during the fight for Southern independence.

SCV Europe Camp #1612 Commander Bänsch was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal for outstanding performance of duty.

SCV Europe Camp #1612 Associate Raphael Waldburg-Zeil was awarded *in absentia* the Horace Lawson Hunley Award for long-term services to the SCV.

The first day ended in a most convivial way late in the night.

The second day started at 08:30 a.m. after breakfast. It was the day of the former von-Borcke Estates tours. It started with a visit to the old castle and church in Pansin, the Marienkirche (Church of St. Mary's) in Stargard and another castle and church in Marienfliess, then Stramehl Manor and a beautiful church in Stargard. Back at Külz, dinner was at 7:00 p.m. and again interesting talks followed, this time about the history of the family von Borcke and the former home of

Heros von Borcke, Giessenbrügge Manor.

The second day ended with a nice late-night social, too.

The third day was the great day! After a hearty breakfast SCV members dressed in historic uniform, causing great effect on the von Borcke family members.

Everyone wanted to get photographed with a true Confederate in uniform, as their ancestor had been!



(Ruin of the Borcke Family Crypt Chapel)



(Chris McLarren member SCV Europe Camp #1612, Nancy Hitt UDC Molly Moorehead Chapter, Achim Bänsch Commander SCV Europe Camp #1612)

Swiss Army Colonel Heinrich Wirz, descendant of Captain Henry Wirz, had a civilian suit but the MOS&B cross around his neck.

Then they took the bus to Giessenbrügge, the location called today Gizyn.

Heros' home was destroyed 1945 by the Soviets and the remaining ruins finally erased in early 1950. Only the chapel with the family crypt is still in existence, and there they went.



Swiss Army Colonel Heinrich Wirz

At the arrival the Confederate Battle Flag was flying in all its glory from a pole in the town! Other flags, like the ones of Germany, Poland, the CSA and USA (together in sovereign equality!) were at poles beneath the chapel.

The entire population of Gizyn crowded around the bus, eager to see „the expected Confederates“, many children and adults, also firefighters in parade dress, waved battleflags. Definitely Gizyn had become a bulwark of the South!

By the way, it was the first time since von Borcke's death 1895 that the Confederate battleflag was seen in the town.

Immediately after the first impression the beautiful pictures continued: just beyond the limit of the little town, on the road to the chapel, a full Confederate Army field camp had been established.

German reenactors (Hamptons Legion from Berlin and the 8th North Carolina Infantry) had arrived the day before and were treated by the population as Confederate soldiers in the South! They got friendship and food, interest and eagerness to learn from them (about muskets, equipment, etc.).



(Reenactors & SCV)



(Color guard)

After meeting altogether, the formations and color guards were organized while the other guests took their seats at the chapel. Meanwhile, some hard drill exercises had convinced Chief-of-Staff Chuck Rand III that the squad to give the salute firing after the ceremony was fit and ready to perform well. After that, the colors were brought forward to the chapel with Heros grave. Flags of North and South Carolina, the 1861 Louisiana flag, the Battle Flag and the 2nd CS National flag moved in dignity, followed close by the color guard.



(Color guard)

The old gravestones of Heros and his parents, all destroyed and thrown away in 1945 or later, had been carefully puzzled together and laid now among an arrangement of fresh oak leaves in front of the chapel. At the entrance, covered by the battleflag, the Cross of Honor and the new stone marker were waiting. The chapel itself is in a pitiful ruinous condition, but the feeling of history coming back was palpable in the air.



(Old Gravestone of Col. Heros von Borcke)

The ceremony started with speeches by J.E.B. Stuart IV and Eckhard von Borcke, the GGrandsons of Colonel von Borcke and General Stuart. Nancy Hitt, representing the ladies of the UDC gave a speech of the meaning of this ceremony, spreading Confederate legacy throughout Europe from this little place in Poland. Reverend Friedhelm Möller, pastor of the German Lutheran Church, the faith Heros belonged to, spoke deeply moving words. Pastor Möller had been one of the keys in organizing the details for this ceremony already one year ago. Also the mayor of the town of Gizyn made a speech about remembrance of the von Borcke past and Polish-German-American friendship for present and future times.

Eckhard and JEB IV then uncovered the cross of honor and the granite marker. In the following moment, the command for salute firing was given. Heros von

Borcke could have hardly imagined that 113 years after his death, the Sons of Confederate Veterans, wearing gray and butternut, would organize a firing salute and honor him with a cross and a stone marker in his resting place in a lost little Polish town!



(J.E.B. Stuart IV & Eckhard von Borcke)



(SCV Chief-of-Staff Chuck Rand III & Hamptons Legion)

Enthusiasm led the crowd to sing Bonnie Blue and of course Dixie, with the Polish children waving little battleflags.



Both the stone and the granite marker will be sealed to the inner wall of the chapel, at the same place were the old stone stood. This will require mason work and did not take place during the ceremonies.

After the ceremonies there was a field camp lunch supplied by the mayor of Gizyn. Then the population had a surprise for the American guests. A Polish youth folk-dance group performed dances and typical music with coffee and cake in the townhall, emblazoned with the omnipresent beautiful Bbattleflag.

In the late afternoon the first true Confederate international cometogether, having gathered members and associates of SCV, UDC and MOS&B, Confederate-friendly groups and reenactors; people from Germany, Poland, Italy, Belgium, Switzerland, Sweden and the USA, came to an end.



(SCV Chief-of-Staff Chuck Rand III, SCV Europe Camp #1612 Commander Achim Bäsch, SCV Europe Camp #1612 member Chris McLarren, SCV member Michael Bergeron)



(J.E.B. Stuart V, SCV Europe Camp #1612 member Chris McLarren, J.E.B. Stuart IV, SCV Chief-of-Staff Chuck Rand III, Nancy Hitt UDC Molly Moorehead Chapter, SCV Europe Camp #1612 Commander Achim Bäsch)

Jeb Stuart IV and V left for Berlin airport at 5:00 p.m. The rest returned to Kütz and had a final social evening with the members of the von Borcke family before departing the following day at 08:00 to Berlin and start the different voyages home.



(SCV member Michael Bergeron, J.E.B. Stuart V, SCV Europe Camp #1612 Commander Achim Bänsch, J.E.B. Stuart IV, SCV Chief-of-Staff Chuck Rand III)



(Col. Heros von Borcke –CSA–)

Colonel Heros von Borcke (CSA) is again resting in a solitary chapel in a lost place in Poland. But he now knows the SCV never permits a veteran who fought for the Southern Cause to be left alone and without honors. The marker stone and the Cross of Honor are with him. And the Compatriots of SCV Europe Camp #1612 will have an eye that this will remain so forever.

DEO VINDICE

Achim Bänsch

(Commander SCV Europe Camp #1612)

Participant Reenactor Units:
 Interessengemeinschaft Hamptons-
 Legion Berlin-Brandenburg
<http://www.hamptons-legion.de/>



(Compatriot Leroy, Swiss Army Colonel Heinrich Wirz, SCV Chief-of-Staff Chuck Rand III, SCV Europe Camp #1612 Commander Achim Bänsch)



Real action photograph: Charleston naval bombardment , 1863

Documental war photography was in the beginnings during the mid 19th century. From the Mexican War to the Crimean war up to several minor European conflicts few photographic pictures had been taken. And they didn't show real combat action. Even dead soldiers were seldom shown. It was not until the War between the American States of 1861-65 that war photography emerged with a sometimes scaring graphic power. Anyway, weight and size of the cameras, together with exposure times of the lenses of that time did not allow depiction of action scenes, like cavalry charges, soldiers fighting in trenches, etc.

The photograph shown, blurred and out of focus because it was taken in the most dramatic circumstances, is one of the very few graphic documents of the War that show a real combat scene: a floating battery of three Federal monitors engage targets on Sullivan's Island, Charleston Bay. From one of the Confederate fortifications (possibly Battery Marion, west of Fort Moultrie), an anonymous photographer took the picture while under fire: if you have a closer look, you may see the black cloud beneath the turret of the monitor on the right shows it has just fired its guns.

The U.S. Naval Historical Center has identified the three Yankee vessels as (from left to right): USS *Weehawken*, USS *Montauk* and USS *Passaic*. The date is given as 8 September 1863. Unfortunately no information exists about the heroic war photographer who made his stand and took the picture under heavy naval bombardment. The ship in the centre, the *Montauk*, was one of the most devastating

monitors in the bombardments of Charleston. From April to September 1863 it participated in constant attacks against Fort Sumter and the Charleston Harbour area. The terrible effects of the Federal naval artillery on the city are well known in History. This forgotten photograph is an important graphic document because it shows the day-by-day endured by the defenders of Charleston and let you imagine what the civilian population had to suffer.

In a letter of Lt. George E. Dixon to Capt. John Cothran, of his former company at 21st Alabama, written while he was training the *Hunley* crew in early 1864, Dixon tells what they had to endure:

“ . . . My headquarters are on Sullivan's Island and a more uncomfortable place cannot be found in the entire Confederacy. For the last six weeks I have not been out of the range of shells and often I am forced to go in close proximity of the Yankee battery. If you wish to see the war every day and night, this is the place to see it. Charleston and its defenders will occupy the most conspicuous place in the history of the war, and it shall be as much glory as I shall wish if I can inscribe myself as one of its defenders.”ⁱ

Dixon and the *Hunley* crew covered themselves with glory.

The population of Charleston, too. The last involvement of USS *Montauk* in the War was less glorious: while stationed off Washington D.C., in late April 1865, the vessel served as platform for the first exhibition of the body of John Wilkes Booth.

Original letter kept at the Mobile Public Library, Eustace Williams Collection. Quoted also in Brian Hicks and Schuyler Kropf, *Raising the Hunley, The Remarkable History and Recovery of the Lost Confederate Submarine*, Ballantine Books, pp. 63-64.

Photo # NH 60906 Bombarding monitors seen from Sullivan's Island, Sept. 1863



(Photograph must be credited as from US Naval Historical Center, USNHC)

THE PREACHER'S CORNER

Did the Pope paid discreet historical homage to Christian values in the South?

Pope Pius IX sympathies for the Confederate Cause are not forgotten among believing Christians in the South, including non-Catholics, who pay respect to a man hated by Yankee liberals till this day.

When Pope Benedict XVI proceeded to the altars to celebrate Mass during his pastoral visit April this year in Washington and New York, he was no longer carrying the pastoral staff that became world-wide known for its use by Pope John-Paul II. He took a previously unseen staff, with a big golden cross: it's the old staff of Blessed Pope Pius IX!

Why had the Pope chosen to do so, especially on this visit? It is not clear, but it may well have been a sign of reverence to the good old time, as the South stood for God, freedom and family. Pope Pius IX blessed the South and adressed Jefferson Davis in an official way as "His Excellency the President of the Confederate States of America", being the only European political and spiritual leader to do so during the war. His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI is now using this staff as his own every time.



(The Pope in Rome, with the old Pius IX staff)

More info:

<http://www.uspapalvisit.org/stories/piusstaff.htm>



**THE CAUSE FOR SOUTHERN
INDEPENDENCE
Sesquicentennial
2010 – 2015**



The SCV has formed the Sesquicentennial Commission to begin planning all the activities of the SCV's involvement in the 150th anniversary of The Cause for Southern Independence:

- To promote the observance of the activities leading up to, during, and following the War Between the States;
- To cooperate with and assist national, state, and local organizations with programs and activities suitable for the commemoration;
- To ensure that any observance of the sesquicentennial of the War Between the States appropriately recognizes the experiences and points of view of the citizens and soldiers of the Confederate States of America; and
- To develop and provide assistance for the development of programs, projects, and activities commemorating the 150th anniversary of the War Between the States that have lasting educational value.

Focus of the activities must not be simply the War, the battles and events. The focus will be placed on the men who fought and why they fought for.

The Cause for Southern Independence.

As we have stated in our first Editorial at the beginning of this newsletter, the legacy of Jefferson Davis last Proclamation and The Charge of Stephen Dill Lee states our mission clearly as the vindication of the Confederacy and the cause for which the Confederate soldier fought. It is not simply the War, but rather **“The Cause”** that binds one descendant of a Confederate soldier to another in brotherhood. And together we must work.

To make this easier, the Sesquicentennial Commission is charged with facilitating communication across the Camps and Divisions of the SCV, with Camp Europe in direct dependence of the Commander ANV. A website has been launched www.confederate150.com to serve as a platform for communication to the SCV membership and to the general public about events, resources and information about the Sesquicentennial. The website will include links to several key sites and the Commission will be creating a calendar of events, feedback, a blog containing up-to-date information about activities and ideas.

Check the site often for updates! For those brave men who wore the Gray!

Achim Bänsch

(Commander SCV Europe Camp #1612)



HELP TO MAKE THE
JEFFERSON DAVIS STATUE A
REALITY!

This year 2008 is an important milestone being the bicentennial of the birth of Confederate president Jefferson Davis.

Not long ago, the SCV General Executive Council authorized the commission of a brand new original statue of Jefferson Davis, and the work has already begun. Negotiations with the US National Park Service officials are going on to locate the Davis statue near the offensive Lincoln statue at Tredegar IronWorks in Richmond, Virginia. Since the NPS has proven to be unfavorable to Confederate Heritage in the past, these negotiations may not succeed. Nonetheless there are several other good options which will be explored at the appropriate time.

Anyway, in order to make this SCV campaign a success and see to it that President Davis is properly honored, we must all pull together, SCV full members, associates, friends and including every Confederate sympathiser in Europe.

By working together, we can cast and erect this statue to Jefferson Davis in a place and in a manner that will make respect and admiration for him undeniable. To achieve our goal, we need to raise \$100,000 (72.400 Euro). Many Camps, Divisions, and individuals have already contributed. Will you help us accomplish this honor for the memory of Jefferson Davis by making a donation and seeing yourself named in the Honor Roll of Donors?



Please make your donation by credit card on the SCV Website:

<http://www.scv.org/>

Scroll down to "Make a Donation" and state as purpose of the payment "Jefferson Davis Statue". It is as simple as this.

Every effort is appreciated!!!

Thank you very much in advance for supporting this project and for helping us to continue to promote and defend our precious Southern heritage.

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Submissions must be in Microsoft Word or text file and e-mailed to confederate-cavalry@gmx.de.

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