A beautiful and unseasonably warm autumn day on Friday, October 10, 1997, welcomed members and guests to Chicago and the Blackstone Hotel, site of the thirty-first annual meeting of the North American Vexillological Association. Shortly after a late-afternoon registration period, participants assembled in the hotel lobby for a parade with flags flying to nearby Grant Park, where a ceremonial presentation of the U.S., Canadian, Illinois, Chicago, NAVA, and the NAVA-31 meeting flags was conducted, together with a brief explanation of the history of each of the flags. Following the conclusion of the flag ceremony, members and guests returned to the hotel for a welcome reception hosted by Mary Ann Docktor-Smith and Randy Smith, the organizers of the conference. The evening following the reception was free, except for Executive Board members who met for the first of two meetings scheduled for the weekend.

The next morning, Saturday, October 11, began with a continental breakfast at 8:00 A.M. Promptly at 8:30 the annual business meeting was called to order by President Charles A. Spain, Jr. Important agenda items included various Bylaws revisions, which resulted in the combining of the Corresponding and Recording Secretaries offices into one position of Secretary, and the creation of the offices of First and Second Vice President, among other business. Board members re-elected were Charles as President, Peter Orenski as Treasurer, and David Breitenbach (formerly Corresponding Secretary) as First Vice President. Carita Culmer was elected as Second Vice President, and Barbara Herold as Secretary to round out the five Board members. (See the minutes of the Board meeting on p. 3 for details.)

After a short break at the conclusion of the business meeting, the presentation of papers got underway at 11 A.M. under the able direction of Gustav Tracchia, filling in for Vice-President William Trinkle, who was unable to be present. Kevin Harrington began the proceedings with "A New Flag for a University in Chicago," in which he described his attempts to discover what the flags of academic institutions in the Chicago area might be, and some suggestions for research generally into flags of institutions of higher learning not only in Chicago, but elsewhere as well. Harry Oswald followed Kevin with a reading of a key paper by Michael Faul, Honorary Secretary of the Flag Institute (United Kingdom), first presented at the International Congress of Vexillology XVII in Capetown this past August 14, in which Mr. Faul exhorted vexillologists everywhere to make provisions in their wills for the proper disposal of their research to individuals or institutions that can be relied upon to carry on their work. The conclusion of this paper brought the program to noon, and a tasty buffet luncheon.

The afternoon was devoted to a tour of the Advertising Flag Company’s flag factory, where participants viewed an impressive display of Illinois city flags mounted by Rich Kenny from his extensive collection. Randy Smith, one of the flag company owners, then led the group on a tour of the various techniques employed in the design and manufacture of all kinds of flags: commercial, religious, and political. A special treat was the opportunity for those present to open a huge box of unhemmed excess flags, and to choose one or more from among the supply to take along with them.

After returning to the hotel, the evening was devoted to the annual banquet, served elegantly in one of the hotel’s dining rooms. Attendees were treated to two noted vexillologists as banquet speakers: Kevin Harrington, who entertained his listeners with wry and amusing excerpts in “Who Said What About Flags: An Introduction...”
selected the six historical flags used in the traditional display, and the Star-Spangled Banner."

streamer from the top), and James Ferrigan (the restoration of the afternoon's session of papers with Oswald (the

Glenn Compton (the

During break periods in the morning, brief presentations by Woody Ridgway

the field, after which questions were entertained from

wards serious note, who speculated

the presentation of papers resumed. In the morning, speakers were Gustav Tracchia, who spoke on “Argentina’s Flag Monument,” which is located in the city of Rosario, Santa Fe Province, one of the very few monuments of its type in the world; James D. Webb, who presented a program about Victoria, British Columbia, site of the International Congress of Vexillology in July, 1999; and Robert Coykendall, whose “Flag Day Philadelphia Fashion - An Adventure” described a colorful Flag Day celebration, as well as the publication of his new book, June 14, 1777: A Story of Flag Day. These presentations were followed by a panel discussion moderated by Lee Herold on research techniques in vexillology, with panelists Charles A. Spain, Jr., Anne M. Platoff, and John M. Purcell, who spoke, respectively, about research in libraries, using oral histories in research, and research in the field, after which questions were entertained from the audience. During break periods in the morning, brief "vexibits" were presented by Woody Ridgway (some U.S. flags in the Kansas State Archives), Glenn Compton (the U.S. Air Force's 50th anniversary), Harry Oswald (the ICV-15 flag of Zurich, 1993, with a schwengel—a long streamer from the top), and James Ferrigan (the restoration of the Star-Spangled Banner).

Following another enjoyable luncheon, Charles Spain began the afternoon’s session of papers with “Six Flags Over Texas,” in which he described the process by which the Texas Historical Commission selected the six historical flags used in the traditional display, and the rationale for the selection. This talk was followed by James Liston, whose “Flags of the British Dependent Territories” also included a detailed history of the British Union flag; James Ferrigan, who used many large flags to illustrate “Applied Vexillology,” a curriculum for virtually any subject in schools or colleges; and Anne M. Platoff, who gave a lively account of “The Pike-Pawnee Flag Incident: Re-examining a Vexillological Legend,” in which she demonstrated that a legend of a “first” flag-raising of a U.S. flag in Kansas probably actually took place in Nebraska, in spite of a monument commemorating the incident in Kansas. Vexibits were presented at times during the afternoon by Gustav Tracchia (a new Argentine flag association: Asociación Latinoamericana de Vexilología y Heráldica), and James Ferrigan (“blueprints” for the U.S. presidential flag). After a short break, President Spain presented the Driver Award, sponsored by the United States Flag Foundation, to Gustav Tracchia for his paper on the Argentine flag monument. A big round of applause was then offered to our hosts, Mary Ann and Randy, for the outstanding job they did as organizers of a very entertaining conference, and President Spain thanked many others who helped to make the functioning of NAVA and the conference a success. Finally, in a short ceremony, the flags of office were transferred from the members of the current Executive Board to those who will guide the organization in the coming year. The new Board got to work that very evening, while other attendees dispersed for home. Among the many items discussed at that meeting was the decision to assign the Vice President’s flag to the new First Vice President, the Corresponding Secretary’s flag to the Second Vice President, and the Recording Secretary’s flag to the Secretary.

Another great NAVA convention—now on to Québec City /la Ville de Québec in 1998!

NAVA XXXI (31) FLAG

The flag is based on the Chicago city flag. On a white field are two sky blue stripes forming a “V” for vexillology. The four red six-pointed stars are arranged 3 and 1 to signify this is the 31st NAVA convention.

Proportions: 2:3

Designer: John M. Purcell, Ph.D.

NORTH AMERICAN VEXILLOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Annual Meeting

Saturday, 11th October, 1997

The Annual Meeting of the North American Vexillological Association (NAVA) was called to order at 8h35 in the Hubbard Room of the Blackstone Hotel, Chicago, Illinois by President Charles Spain. 48 members and 7 guests being in attendance.

Rich Kenney and John Purcell were appointed Election Inspectors.

MOVED: Charles Spain
SECONDED: Michael Halleran

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That the Minutes of the NAVA 30 Annual Meeting held in Sacramento, California on October 12, 1996, circulated in NAVA News be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

Officers reports were presented:
- Peter Orenski presented the Treasurer's report.
- Michael Halleran presented the Recording Secretary's report.
- David Breitenbach presented the Corresponding Secretary's report.
- Charles Spain presented the Vice President's report in lieu of William Trinke, who was unable to attend the meeting.
- Charles Spain presented the President's report, including a report on the congress of the International Federation of Vexillological Associations (FIAV) held in Cape Town, South Africa from August 10th to 15th, 1997.

Appointed Officers reports were presented:
- Vanessa Van de Putte presented the Historian's report.
- Ernest Aitchison presented the Registered Agent's report.
- Jim Ferrigan presented the Protocol Officer's report.
- Charles Spain presented the NAVA Shopkeeper's report in lieu of Nicholas Artimovich, who was unable to attend the meeting. A question was asked by Don Wheeler as to the availability of the NAVA 30 flag, and a question was asked by Truman Pope as to the availability of full size NAVA flags.

Committee Officers reports were presented:
- Lee Herold presented the Audit Committee's report.
- Peter Orenski presented the Budget Committee's report in lieu of Nicholas Artimovich, who was unable to attend the meeting.
- Mary Ann Doctor-Smith presented the Convention Committee's report with additional information regarding NAVA 32 in Québec.
- There was a question by Kevin Harrington as to the political use of NAVA 32 by the Pequottes.
- Peter Orenski presented the Membership Committee's report in lieu of Jack Lowe, who was unable to attend the meeting.
- Gustavo Tracchia presented the Program Committee's report in lieu of William Trinke, who was unable to attend the meeting.
- John Purcell presented the Publications Committee's report. There was a question by Harry Oswald as to the budget for RAVEN 1998.
- A round of applause followed for the Publications Committee.
- Jon Radel presented the Publicity Committee's report.

There was no old business.

Special report was presented by Peter Orenski on the "Native American Flag Project." The U.S. National Endowment for the Arts, Pequot Nation and Mohawk Nation have been approached to provide some funding. Question by Don Wheeler as to whether duplicate Native American flags would be available to members. Discussion regarding the Native American flags followed.

Charles Spain vacated the chair to David Breitenbach so as to be able to speak on the proposed amendments to the bylaws.

MOVED: Charles Spain
SECONDED: Sam Wilson

That the proposed amendments to bylaws of the North American Vexillological Association circulated with the annual meeting notice be adopted.

CARRIED with one negative vote.

Peter Orenski spoke to the 1997-1998 budget. Question asked by Harry Oswald

MOVED: Peter Orenski
SECONDED: Charles Spain

That the proposed budget be adopted.

CARRIED

Kevin Harrington, Chair, and Whitney Smith and Pete Van de Putte, Members, were elected as the 1998 Nominating Committee by acclamation.

The 1997 Nominating Committee made their report. The President called for nominations from the floor. There were no nominations from the floor.

MOVED: Rich Kenney
SECONDED: Martin Francis

That the nominated slate be declared elected by acclamation.

CARRIED

The 1997-1998 Executive
- President: Charles A. Spain, Jr.
- First Vice-President: David Breitenbach
- Second Vice-President: Carita Culmer
- Secretary: Barbara Herold
- Treasurer: Peter Orenski

MOVED: Gary Randall

That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 11h00.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael F.H. Halleran
Recording Secretary

1997 NEW NAVA MEMBERS

1. All Nations Flag Co.
2. Robin Ashburner
3. Luc Baronian
4. Theodis Borders
5. Walter Braunschweig
6. Roberto Breno
7. K.J.M. Capstick-Dale
8. Justin Clearwater
9. Mel Delzer
10. Ann Dutson
11. (The Flag Store, Sonoma, CA)
12. Patricia Filey
13. The Flag Lady's Flag Store (Mar Eckert)
14. The Flag Shop, Victoria
15. Frank Gallagher
16. Jay Gineburg
17. Robert Greene
18. Peter Hildyard
19. Jalal Khamis
20. John Kowalski
21. Jeffrey Kohn
22. John Kowalski
23. Alfons Kunerle
24. Günter Mattern
25. Russell Martin
26. Robert McKee
27. Pascal Monney
28. Linda Moore
29. Phillip Nelson
30. Jaume Olle i Casals
31. Paolo Paddeu
32. H. Patterson
33. Piedmont Flag Company (Tom Martin)
34. Jerome Russell
35. Jason Sanders
36. Richard Sheakley
37. Cristoforo Sidoli
38. Sasra Simpraga
39. Douglas Stewart
40. Grady VerPlanck
41. Gerd Vehres
42. Jaco Ian Walters
43. Wang Wen-jier
44. Steven Wheatley
45. Don Wheeler
46. Benjamin White
47. Samuel Wilson
48. Albert Yerks

NAVA's Notes
In Memoriam - James R. Aber


BOSNIA

A new flag for Bosnia was introduced on February 5, 1998, in time for the Nagano Winter Olympics (Figure 1). It was imposed by the International High Representative in Bosnia Herzegovina, Mr. Carlos Westendorp, after the country's parliament failed to agree on a design. Its proportions are 1:2 and the stars are cut to show the stars are infinite and a continuation rather than a finite number. The yellow (continued on page 7)
**VEXI-BITS**

by John H. Gámez

_Houston Chronicle._ March 23, 1997. A public work of art featuring American flags, a rifle, and stacked human hands entitled _Wounded Knee Decomposition I_, was removed from an Albuquerque, NM wall. City officials felt that the public would be offended by this particular use of American flags. (submitted by Charles A. Spain)

_Houston Chronicle._ March 28, 1997. Maryland’s Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) will not challenge the court ruling which will allow the Sons of Confederate Veterans display the Confederate flag on state issued license plates. The MVA is now considering changes in their license plate program. (submitted by Charles A. Spain)

_Florida Today._ March 9, 1997. Attempts to remove the Confederate flag from the statehouse dome in Columbia, SC failed in the House of Representatives. The issue will be sent to the voters in a special statewide election in November. (submitted by Bernard J. Couture)

_Florida Today._ April 4, 1997. After refusing to remove the Confederate flag from the statehouse dome, the Republican-led South Carolina House voted to add the Confederate flag to the license plates of Confederate descendants. The measure is expected to fail in the mostly Democratic Senate. (submitted by Bernard J. Couture)

_Gannett Newspapers._ June 18, 1997. After a news report revealed that 18 of 23 flags in Westchester County, NY courtrooms were displayed according to etiquette, county workers were ordered to properly position each flag. An illumination system costing the county just under $1,000 was installed to properly illuminate outdoor U.S., state, and county flags. (submitted by Ana K. Weisz)

_The Mail Tribune_ (Medford, OR). July 4, 1997. Dorris, CA is home to the U.S.’s tallest free standing flagpole. The pole is 200’ (60.96 m) tall and weighs 17'/2 tons (15.8 m.t). The pole extends 20 feet (6.1m) underground and is anchored by 104 cu. yds. (79.56 m³) of cement. It was erected last year at the cost of about $80,000. It flies a 30’x60’ (9.14mx18.29) U.S. flag which weighs 67 lbs. (25 kg) dry. The world’s tallest free standing flagpole is the 282’ (85.95 m) high pole in Vancouver, BC. (submitted by Carita Culmer)

_Associated Press._ Aug. 27, 1997. “Thanks for the poncho!” That was President Bill Clinton’s response as Romanian Senator Petre Roman handed the visiting President a Romanian flag with the Communist emblem cut out. A White House spokesman said the President was only joking. (submitted by Jan Oskar Engene, Bergen-Sandviken, Norway)

_Austin American-Statesman._ Aug. 22, 1997. Because of opposition to the displaying of the Confederate battle flag, it is no longer part of the display of seven flags flown at Laredo, TX Community College. The battle flag was replaced with the national flag of the Confederacy. The article did not specify if the 1st, 2nd, or 3rd national flag is now being used. (The “7th” flag over Laredo is the flag of the Republic of the Rio Grande - Vexi-Bits Ed.) (submitted by Jan Oskar Engene)

_Los Angeles Times._ Aug 5, 1997. Australian track star Cathy Freeman stirred both pride and controversy when she waved both the Australian national flag and the Aboriginal flag after winning the gold medal in the women’s 400 meter run at the World Championships in Athens, Greece. At the 1994 Commonwealth Games she ran a victory lap with both of her flags. Many in Australia saw this as a form of protest. She was then forbidden to carry the Aboriginal flag at the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta. More controversy erupted when she was nominated to carry Australia’s flag at the 2000 Olympic Games. (submitted by Joseph Staub)

_The Singapore Straits Times._ Sep. 1, 1997. Malaysia’s national flag now has a nickname. It has been dubbed “Jalur Gemilang” (Stripes of Glory) by Prime Minister Datuk Ser Dr. Mahathir Mohamad. (submitted by Jan Oskar Engene)

_Nacional-GLOBALNI jednik_ (Zagreb, Croatia). Croatian artist Boris Ljubicic thinks that the Croatian flag is too old fashioned. Instead of a flag with a shield or a tricolor, he suggests a flag of red, white, and blue squares. (submitted by Sasa Simpraga)

_Globus-Nacionalni jednik._ Aug 29, 1997. The U.N. has reportedly threatened to lower the flag of Bosnia-Herzegovina and leave its pole bare unless that country adopts a flag with symbols representing Bosnians, Croats, and Serbs. (submitted by Sasa Simpraga)

_International Herald Tribune._ (Frankfurt, Ger.). Thousands of citizens of Anjouan, one of the islands that make up the nation of Federal Islamic Republic of the Comoros, have taken to the streets and have demanded recolonization by France. The French flag flew above the crowds massed in Matsamudu, Anjouan’s largest city. (submitted by Sasa Simpraga)

_Turkish Daily News._ July 11, 1997. Rioting broke out in the west Macedonian town of Gustivar after police removed the Albanian national flag from the town hall. Ethnic Albanians regularly fly their flag in 20 western Macedonian municipalities that they control. (submitted by Sasa Simpraga)

_Turkish Daily News._ July 28, 1997. Greek and Turkish communities on the island of Cyprus have agreed to form a new federal government composed equally of both communities. The agreement calls for a flag for the federal republic and one for each of the two proposed federated states. (submitted by Sasa Simpraga)

_The Kingston (ON) Whig-Standard._ Sept. 4, 1997. Québec sovereigntists in the Montreal suburb of Pointe Claire are up in arms because about 440 loyalists have stapled Canadian flags to the roofs of their homes. Marc Dufrense argues that this is in violation of a city ordinance prohibiting the flying of flags above your home. City officials say that this rule applies only to flags on poles and does not specifically ban the flying of the national or provincial flags. (submitted by Jan Oskar Engene)

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Please note: These illustrations were accidently omitted from the Vexi-Bits column of NAVA News #4, July-August, 1997

*NAVA News* November/December 1997
Vexilliana

by Kevin Harrington

Germany

In issue. No. 4 of the DerFlaggenkenner Thilo Biegier of Hamburg-Altona writes on the use of flag signals. Léon Nysen informs us of some Belgian naval flags. Three color plates are given. Other articles are on Elbe River house flags and funnels, East German city flags, East German car pennants; the history and flag of the Czech vexillological club and its national conference, and the coats of arms on the stamps of Liechtenstein. (All text in German)

Italy

Vexilla Italica (2, XXIV) celebrates the thirtieth anniversary of FIAV. Twelve more flags from Italy’s history appear on a color plate (work of Mario Fabretto who also covers the XVI IGV Congress). The statutes regarding the border and proportions of the flag of Piedmont Region are given along with the arms of the new provinces of Rimini, Grotone, and Prato. Giovanni Sala gives an account of the flag of Padania. (Italian language)

Netherlands

Vexilla Nostra is a fine bimonthly flag journal: it contains the work of such flag scholars as Klaas Sierksma, Joe Poels, Wim Schuurman, Willem A. van Ham, Thijs van Loewen, and others. Its illustrations are superbly crafted. Issue 210 has a great presentation on Andorra’s flags and arms and the new emblems of the Flemish provinces of Belgium. No. 209 has a story on the flag of the Independent Nation of Hawaii.

Each issue provides flag habits from the world’s media and gives an overview of vexillological newsletters and journals it receives.

The editors have chosen to write in Dutch only which limits the value of the journal to those outside of the Low Countries/Suid Afrika. I ask them to please give the foreign reader at least a brief summary in English and French or German of the major articles. Email poels@edunl org

Spain

Bandera of September reports on the Spanish Vexillological Society’s national conference; the flag of Fuencarral (Tomás Rodriguez Peñas), flags of the football clubs (José L. Bruges); the protecting deities of the Roman legions; the Ceremony of Raising the Flag (Maria José Sastre y Arribas); religious confraternity banners; and more words for a Spanish dictionary of vexillology (Spanish language only).

Gaceta de Banderas, edited by Michel Lupant. In its July and August issues shows the civic and provincial flags of Buenos Aires and Santiago de Chile: various flags of regions and cities In the Russian Federation; flags of Somaliland, the Communist Party and other parties of Iran and of the Tanzam Railway. A number of battalion colors of Irish UN peacekeeping missions, e.g. in Lebanon, are shown. Short text in Spanish. and sometimes in English and French.

Switzerland

The Swiss Society of Vexillology has sent us a page sheet to accompany a charming color reproduction of an 18th century poster. It shows the cantonal flags and arms with costumed flag-bearers amid local settings (village scenes. animals. churches. thrones) related to the cantons. The text is in German.

I have not seen for some time the flag information sheets consisting of photocopies of news articles on flags and arms. The compiler was Dr. G. Mattern of Liestal, Switzerland. Is Flaggemittteilung still being distributed or did it terminate at the end of 1996?

Ukraine

Znak no 13 provides the details on a new government flag, that of the Ukrainian Customs Service, and the flags of entities in the Russian federation - Kabardino-Balkaria and the Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous Region. There are also articles on the emblems of the football clubs of the Republic of San Marino, the competition for the design of the Great Arms of the Ukraine, and on military and civic seals, emblems, flags, and arms. The illustrations are perhaps the finest in the world’s vexillological journals. (Ukrainian with a terse English summary)

U. S. A. - New England


Australia *

Crux Australis has produced its 46th number, successfully battling a scheduling backlog. It has a new textured cover and two key essays on Australia’s flags and symbols. A. C. Burton and astronomer John Devitt provide a beautiful account of the Southern Cross, ‘the premier symbol of the southern hemisphere’, quoting Dante to the effect that we in the north are “widowed… deprived forever of the vision of their light.”

Ralph Kelly is responsible for the attractive color plate ‘Flags of Australian Loyalty’ and a reproduction of the Bowman flag. Natalie Young deals with the development of a sense of identity through flags in Australia, and touches on little known events such as the Red Flag Riots of 1919 and the Lamming Flat goldfields riots which produced an anti-Chinese banner. Two magical Aboriginal accounts of the Southern Cross also appear in this issue.

* Reprinted from NAVA News issue Vol. XXX, No 4. I would like to apologize to Kevin Harrington for the typographical errors due to a computer program which originally appeared when this review of Crux Australia was first run. (Editor)

FOR SALE

Approximately 65 Canadian civic flags in mint condition for sale through bids. Available individually or as a whole set. For more information send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: James Croft, P. O. Box 365, Northampton, MA 01061
A NEW CANADIAN FLAG?
by Gus Tracchia

A new Canadian flag? Perhaps, ... after reading an article in the New York Times of December 15th, 1996. The article deals with the troubles and solutions implemented by North American governments on Indian affairs, lands, and rights. For instance, the troubles in the Mexican State of Chiapas, are in many respects about land and self determination. The three nations of North America were founded by conquering Indian land and by the subjugation and displacement of its inhabitants. However, in recent years these governments are approaching the situation created earlier in more rational and less paternalistic ways. The real key seems to be self-government, since the more power a tribe or nation has to make its own decisions, the better are the chances of it flourishing.

The article notes that "one big change is already underway in Canada. In 1999, the vast Northwest Territory will be split in two, and the eastern half will become a new territory called Nunavut." Since most people living in this area are Inuit, they will have a de facto control of the new territory. In fact, Nunavut will become the first region of a North American government run by American aboriginals. If this new territory enjoys the same status that other Canadian territories in existence already have, it will be logical to presume that a flag for Nunavut will be granted as well.

Does anybody have any information about the Nunavut flag to be? Perhaps this is an opportunity for NAVA members to suggest to the proper government agencies on how a flag should look, by presenting guidelines, prototypes, and other aspects worth considering.

The article, written by Anthony De Palma, concludes by saying: "This experiment, watched with great interest by Indians all over, may be the ultimate test of self-government." I would like to add that if this experiment proves successful, resentment between aboriginal and non-aboriginal peoples will temper. We may be at the dawn of redrawning boundaries and admitting the recognized indigenous nations as truly sovereign states, with their flags flying equally with other state and provincial flags.

In conclusion, I would like to paraphrase Don Healy at the end of one of his lectures on tribal flags: "It is my fondest wish that in the future people recognize that North America consists of hundreds of sovereign nations to be found and acknowledged."

(Editor's note: In the latest issue of FLAGSCAN, no. 48, Christmas 1997, the Chief Herald of Canada, Mr. Robert Watt, reports the following: "Regarding the Nunavut coat of arms and flag, the process to develop these is being administered by a sub-committee of the federally-chartered Nunavut Implementation Commission. The chair of the sub-committee is one of the Commissioners, Meeka Kilabuk. I am a member of the Committee, the others being elders, an Inuit artist and youth representative.

Initially, public submissions are being sought for the flag and coat of arms. The flag submissions were asked for first and have now been received, the coat of arms submissions (were) being received to 31 October.

Regarding the design, while nothing has been chosen, I do expect the final result to be simple, dramatic and have the strongest possible relationships to the landscape and the artistic traditions of the Inuit...

There has been no decision yet about when the flag and coat of arms will be announced. That decision rests with the Commission. I hope this will be of some help, even though it is of necessity, an interim report."

An article on a proposal for a new flag of Nunavut by the editor appeared in FLAGSCAN, Spring 1992, issue 25, p.10.11.

Gus's article is timely, as on January 8, 1998, the Canadian government gave a public apology to its aboriginal people for its past treatment of them. As Phil Fontaine, grand chief of the Assembly of First Nations states: "For the first time, the government has accepted us as full partners." (Daily Hampshire Gazette, Northampton, MA, 1/9/98).

FEDERATION OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

NAVA member Sasa Simpraga of Zagreb, Croatia, has sent some information on a new regional flag for the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (Figure 2). Sasa states: "On 25 October 1996 in Sarajevo, an agreement about a new flag and emblem was signed by Croatian and Muslim highest representatives. According to the "Dayton Peace Agreement" Bosnia and Herzegovina (the country no longer has "Republic" in its name) consists of two parts: The Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (the joined Croat and Muslim part) and the Republic of Srpska (the Serbian section). The Federal Assembly has approved new symbols on 6 November 1996."

The new symbols are a flag and a coat of arms, which is also displayed on the flag. The flag appears to be in the design of a Canadian pale (note that the dimensions of the width of the stripes could not be confirmed at the time of this publication), with three vertical stripes of red, white, and green. In the center is a shield divided horizontally in half, with the top half further divided vertically in two. The lower half of the shield is blue with ten white six-pointed stars in a circle. The stars represent the cantons. In the upper left quarter of the shield (the observer's viewpoint) is white with a green shield bearing a yellow fleur-de-lis, representing the Muslim Bosniaks. In the white quarter to the right is a shield of 25 red and white checkerboard squares for the Croats. The whole shield has its outer edge framed in dark yellow, as well as a bar between the two shields. (Source: Vecernji List, 26 October 1996. For further information see Flag Bulletin 172.)

Sasa has also sent information on two other flags that have been flown in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The first flag is "IFOR," (Figure 3) NATO's implementation force, and the second "SFOR," (Figure 4) the NATO stabilization force which replaced "IFOR." Both of these flags are similar in having blue fields with a shield in the center between two symbols of NATO, one centered in the hoist and the other in the fly. The "IFOR" flag's shield is divided vertically white and blue. On the white section are the Cyrillic letters for "IFOR" arranged vertically, while on the right section are the Latin letters in white placed vertically. On the "SFOR" flag's shield, the blue Latin letters for "SFOR" are arranged vertically on the observer's left, while the white Cyrillic letters for "SFOR" are placed vertically on the right. (Source: Vecernji List, 21 December 1996) (Illustrations provided by David Martucci.)

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(continued from page 4)
THE KOREAN ENSIGN NAVAL MYSTERY
by John H. Gámez

To a young man facing an uncertain future, the slogan "Join the Navy and See the World" can have a great attraction. If this particular young man happens to be a budding vexillologist, he will see flags that he might never imagine seeing if he stayed deep in the heart of Texas.

One of the best examples of this is the visual identification of the jack of the Republic of Korea (ROK). This occurred during joint operations with the military forces of the ROK during an exercise called “Team Spirit '82".

I was aboard the assault ship USS MOUNT VERNON, which was anchored about 1,000 yards from the assault beach designated “Blue Beach II”, just up the coast from the port city of Pohang. During the frenzied landing phase of the assault I had the opportunity to witness the hoisting of an ROK Navy tank landing ship. It had passed less than 50 yards from our position, so I was able to see clearly the flags that it was flying.

At the gaff (Fig. 1) it flew the ROK naval ensign (Fig. 2). When it reached a point roughly 1,000 yards from the beach, the ROK ship dropped its stern anchor (which is used in the retraction phase of the landing). Almost at once I heard one prolonged blast from the ship’s whistle and could clearly see some of the crewmen "shifting the colors". The ensign came down from the gaff, and was raised at the stern while the jack1 (Fig. 3) was hoisted at the bow. While I was fascinated by the "discovery" of the ROK jack, I thought I was the only person in the world that would be interested in this. It wasn’t until some years later that I found that there were flag books in the library! I forget which book I was reading, but I read with great interest until I got to the article on Korea. Although it correctly identified the ROK national flag, it erred on what it called the ensign. Much to my surprise, I also found an address to a place called the Flag Research Center.

With great enthusiasm I wrote to Dr. Whitney Smith and reported my findings to him. While he did not doubt my sighting, he said his sources identified the flag in question (Fig. 3) as "the Navy Ship's Flag".

Years passed without any new development in the Korean jack mystery. Then one day at the San Antonio Public Library, I was thumbing through the latest issue of Jane’s Fighting Ships2 (which at the time was the 1992-93 issue) and found, to my delight, that Jane’s had reinstituted their practice of illustrating the naval flags of the world. This time the illustrations were in color but limited to the signs or national flags. Much to my dismay I found that Jane’s, that perennial provider of accurate technical intelligence, had in my opinion, erroneously labeled the ROK jack as the ensign. This error is perpetuated in subsequent issues as well.

More time passed. I later had the opportunity to serve on the Nominating Committee for the North American Vexillological Association with Dr. Smith. During the course of one of our conversations I brought up the subject of the Korean jack. He promptly mailed the information that he had on Korean flags. Along with his letter he sent photocopies of a flag sheet provided by the Korean government.3 It shows both the national flag and the jack, but the terms "ensign" and "jack" are not used to describe any flag on the sheet. The jack is labeled as “NAVY or NAVYSHIP'S FLAG”. The jack is used on land as a ceremonial flag for the Navy.

As usual, I always seem to be working on something else. So more time passed. Finally, I wrote to the ambassador of the Republic of Korea and to the ROK Naval Attaché. I explained in detail the information that I was looking for. I never received an response from either person.

I then wrote to U.S. Naval Intelligence. Again, I asked if they had the information that I was looking for. I also asked if they had any photographs of ROK naval vessels moored or at anchor showing the flags in use both fore and aft. No response was ever received from Naval Intelligence.

I then wrote to Capt. Richard Sharpe, OBE, RN, editor of Jane’s Fighting Ships. He promptly explained that their flag illustrations are done by the Flag Institute.4 I made the assumption that if I wrote to Dr. William Crampton at the Institute he might quote the same source as used by Dr. Smith. Clearly this was a mistake on my part. I never wrote to Dr. Crampton, however, I did see him at NAVA XXX in Sacramento, CA. I told him about my sighting of the ROK jack. He appeared genuinely interested and seemed to be convinced that the report that I gave him was in indeed factual.

Looking through my copy of Jane’s I found a good photo of an ROK warship underway which clearly shows the national flag as the ensign flying from the gaff.5 Unfortunately, there are no photos in that publication of any ROK vessels moored or at anchor which would show the jack at the jackstaff. Clearly more research was needed in this matter.

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Finally, the missing evidence was found in a copy of Combat Fleets of the World.6 The ROK frigate KYONG JU and the guided missile patrol boat PAEK KU 58 were both photographed at anchor flying both the jack and ensign. Although the long distance photos show a slight lack of detail they do confirm my observations. What is widely believed to be the ROK ensign is now positively identified as the ROK jack. Case closed.

(continued on page 9)
NOTES

1The following definitions are provided for those unfamiliar with maritime and naval etiquette:

Prolonged blast - Sixth second sounding of the ship’s whistle to announce the changes in a vessel’s status. In this case from underway to anchored. This is required by the International Rules of the Road.

Ensign - National flag at sea.

Jack - Secondary national flag flown at the jackstaff while moored, anchored, grounded, or drylocked.

Shifting of the colors - Brief naval ceremony that occurs when a ship changes its status from underway to moored, anchored, grounded, or drylocked and vice versa. When a ship is underway the ensign is flown from the gaff. When a ship is moored, anchored, grounded, or drylocked the ensign is flown from the flagstaff at the stern and the jack is flown from the jackstaff at the bow.


5Letter from Dr. Smith to the author, 16 November 1993.


Note: It is standard Navy procedure to capitalize the entire ship’s name.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I write in follow up to Glenn Nolan’s letter in issue XXIX.4, William Crampton’s letter in issue XXX.1, and Whitney Smith’s letter in issue XXX.2. Mr. Nolan raised a question about a flag bearing the Cross of St. George with a deer in the first quarter, which he thought might be the flag of Raleigh, North Carolina. Dr. Crampton suggested that this flag was the flag of the Roanoke "colony" in Virginia, although the editor’s note accompanying Dr. Smith’s letter stated that Dr. Crampton intended his "revelation" as a joke. History as taught in North Carolina, however, supports Dr. Crampton’s theory.

As Dr. Smith notes, Roanoke was not a colony, but rather was the location of a settlement in the colony of Virginia. Sir Walter Raleigh was granted a patent for the exploration and colonization of Virginia in 1584. On January 7, 1587, a charter was signed creating a "Bodye polliquiue & Corporate" which was named "The Gouernour and Assistants of the Cittie of Raleigh in Virginia." (David Stick, Roanoke Island, UNC Press 1983, p. 159; William S. Powell, North Carolina Through Four Centuries, UNC Press 1989, p. 44.) John White — grandfather of Virginia Dare, the first English child born in the New World — was appointed governor under this charter. The "Cittie of Raleigh" was to have been established along the Chesapeake Bay, but for various reasons White was forced to locate on Roanoke Island, now part of North Carolina’s Outer Banks, near the site of an earlier abandoned colonization effort. (Stick, pp. 166-71.) It was this group of settlers, which included women and children, that disappeared during White’s return to England for supplies and that is known as "the Lost Colony."

According to David Stick, one surviving document concerning the chartering of the "Cittie of Raleigh" is a grant of arms by the "chief officer of Arms of the moste noble order of the Garter." (Stick, pp. 159-60). He describes the arms granted to the governor and assistants of the City consisted of St. George’s Cross with a roebuck in the first quarter. I have seen similar information in the souvenir program for the outdoor drama "The Lost Colony." Indeed, reference to this grant is actually made on the homepage of the College of Arms, where the following is stated under the heading "The College Overseas": "The College of Arms and its work in relation to this continent [North America] has been evident since at least 1586, when arms were granted to the colony lost at Roanoke Island, now in North Carolina." (http://www.kwtelecom.com/heraldry/collarms/index.html. Presumably, the roe-buck is taken from the crest of Sir Walter Raleigh’s own coat of arms, which even today appears on the reverse of the flag of Raleigh, North Carolina. (Raleigh comes from Old English words meaning "deer (roe) field."). The flag that has appeared in the NAVA News, then, would be a banner of the arms granted to the "Cittie of Raleigh." This coat of arms and banner can be seen rather frequently around Roanoke Island. 4x4 table flags are available at gift shops — I am looking at one in my office as I type. The survival of this flag in North Carolina must be due in large degree to the seriousness with which this state has studied English colonization efforts prior to Jamestown and particularly to the mystery and folklore that have surrounded the Lost Colony and Virginia Dare. (I have heard anecdotally that one prominent North Carolina historian has actually advocated — how seriously, I do not know — replacing the present state flag with the Cittie of Raleigh flag.) In any event, this flag is recognized as an historic flag in North Carolina. It’s nice for this Tar Heel to see it getting wider exposure in the NAVA News.

Alexander McClure Peters

Clarification to Glenn Nolan’s inquiry (NAVA News XXXIX.4) is in order here. Mr. Alexander McClure Peters correctly identifies and elaborates on this historical flag which flies on Roanoke Island today (thank you for your input Mr. Peters). Mr. Nolan thought this flag was of Raleigh, North Carolina, but according to Ms. Brenda Culbreth, Administrative Assistant to the City Council of Raleigh, that flag has three vertical stripes of red-white-red, with the city seal in the center of the white stripe on the obverse of the flag, and Sir Walter Raleigh’s coat of arms on the white stripe on the reverse. A deer "stautant" in the crest, the area above the shield appears on this coat of arms.

Finally, the late Dr. William Crampton correctly pointed out the flag flown on Roanoke Island (NAVA News XXX.1), but his flag of New Albion, a grizzly bear in the canton of a St. George’s cross is completely fictitious. (ed.)

EDITORIAL

The late Dr. Crampton’s reply to Mr. Nolan’s inquiry created unnecessary confusion and distortion. Unfortunately, this is not an isolated incident. The vexillological newsletter edited by Clay Moss, Hot Coffee, reported in its April 1995 issue about supposed symbols of a new "British Arctic Territory" in northern Canada. This April Fool’s joke perpetrated on the vexillological community was spotted as a hoax by Flagscan, but the newsletter of the Southern African vexillological Association in good faith reprinted the information as fact.

Vexillologists around the world are eager for new information about obscure flags. Every piece of information appearing in any journal or newsletter quickly gets reprinted, put on the Internet, or otherwise disseminated. (NAVA News, for example, goes out on an exchange or complimentary basis to at least 30 vexillological or heraldic associations around the world.) While they will always be honest mistakes on the part of authors, in the opinion of this editor there should be no room in our publications for imaginary flags - particularly ones presented in a way that lead readers to believe they are real.

The editor further hopes that other voices in the vexillological community will join him in the saying "stop the foolishness-keep our vexillological periodicals scholarly!"

NAVA News November/December 1997
Editor's Note

The publication of this issue concludes my time as editor of NAVA News. I want to thank Charles Spain Jr., President of NAVA, and his predecessor, Nicholas Artimovich III, for their confidence in appointing me as editor these past two years. I also want to give special kudos to Kevin Harrington for his work on the Vexilliana column and to John Gámez for VexiBits; together they have contributed greatly to NAVA News. To all the members who have sent in articles or newspaper clippings, your contributions are appreciated. Three members who deserve a special note of gratitude are Bernard Couture, Jan Oskar Engene, and Sasa Simpraga, who have sent in a tremendous amount of clippings for VexiBits.

Contributors should be aware that any material which they have sent in and which was not published, has been sent onto the new editor for his consideration. In addition, a new advertising policy has been developed which should be unrolled in 1998. The masthead still hasn't a new design but hopefully this will be done in the not too distant future. For the first time in nearly 30 years, and for two years consecutively, color has graced the pages of NAVA News. Although quite costly, color brings "to life" illustrated flags, as color is an integral aspect of vexillology. Hopefully this tradition will continue in the ensuing years, with at least one issue containing color. I urge individuals and institutions to support this effort with contributions, as some have done in the past. Finally, I wish my successor, James Liston, the very best as the new editor.

Sincerely

James Croft