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Abbreviations:

CP-Cultural Property

CPP-Cultural Property Protection

CPPO-Cultural Property Protection Officer

MD-Monument Department (=Federal Office of Historic Monuments)

Picture 1: Opening Picture / BUENOS AIRES 2005

Picture 2: Title

**CAPACITY-BUILDING AND AWARENESS-RAISING ON THE
PROTECTION OF CULTURAL PROPERTY IN THE EVENT OF
ARMED CONFLICT: THE PERSPECTIVE OF MILITARY AND
SECURITY FORCES/ TRAINING AND PREPARATORY MEASURES
IN THE ARMED FORCES¹
(Example Austria)**

The topic: “Capacity –Building and Awareness – Raising” brings the problems of the application of the Hague Convention (HC) into focus. We are grateful to the organizers to bring even that subject or that question up for discussion.

It is the old/historic dilemma between theory and practice.

Thirty five years ago we (that means the Austrian armed forces) started an education and training-programme concerning CPP. And for many years we felt that we were well doing.

The civilian authorities (Ministry of Culture) prepared the register (of objects under protection) – too many as we know today – and after -lets say- a time out which was taken by the soldiers like a reaction time finally they started their work.

As always and everywhere the success mainly depends on the characters in the game.

So the intention was to find experienced and specialized persons/officers who could be trained and educated as CPPOs who on the other hand should be good and serious transmitters of the ideas of the HC within the armed forces as well as into the public.

¹) The basic content of this paper was already the subject of a lecture given at different ICRC/UNESCO-Regional Seminars in Africa, Asia and Europe.

So let me give you an idea of that system.

1. In correspondence with Article 7 of The Hague Convention (Military Measures) the Army is selecting the appropriate personnel and organizing a programme for the training of Kulturgüterschutzoffiziere (Cultural Property Protection Officers or CPPO). .

This means:

Picture 3: Selection of personnel

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- Selection of high level personnel with experience in education and teaching, with knowledge of history, law/especially international law, art and cultural affairs but also structural engineers are helpful and - very important – they should have a sense of delicacy in contact with other people especially with other ministries and organizations.
- Provision for experts and services (referring to article 7/Military Measures and article 25/Dissemination of the Convention) in the Ministry
- Appointment of a Commissioner to UNESCO (1954 Convention) / Members of the National Delegation to UNESCO (2nd Protocol)

1.1 Training and career of a CPPO

Picture 4: Training and career of a CPPO

After basic education and advancement to an officer:

- Command and Control Course 1 (general part)
- Staff Course 1
- Basic Course / Comprehensive National Defence (CND)/1 week
- Basic Course / Cultural Property Protection(CPP)/1 week
- First Lieutenant/Captain – Academic-career
(Scientific Homework) /Training seminar
- Continuing education system (2-5 days yearly, more is possible)
- Special training for special functions (languages /AUTINT)

1981 the MOD issued for the first time Special Instructions concerning the 1954 Hague Convention for the army (Called: “Richtlinien für den Kulturgüterschutz“).

Referring to Article 7 and 25 of the Hague Convention they focused on three main functions/tasks of a CPPO:

Picture 5: Functions of a CPPO:

- Securing and keeping respect for cultural property as assistants/advisors and specialists of their command and commanders (e.g. to give information about property in the area, distance of troops and weapons to cultural property etc.)
- Providing for and realizing of training and instruction programmes for

) Last issue 1993 (revised edition) A revision is just going on (2004)

- troops and their commanders
- Keeping contact with civilian authorities (such as the Department for Monuments, churches, monasteries, province and district authorities etc.) and with various individual persons.

1.2. Organization

According to these above-mentioned functions the Ministry assigned two CPPOs (reserve officers) to each territorial/provincial command (one of them on academic level) and one special consultant in the Ministry.

After recent reorganization we increased the number of CPPO and concentrated more on international activities.

The new plan (not official):

**Number
of persons:**

1-2	at each provincial/territorial command
4	Austrian International Operations Command (AUTINT)
2	Air Force Command
5	MOD (Defence Staff Bureau/expert pool and Joint Command and Control Staff)

Caused by the implementation of the 2nd Protocol a lot of things are still in motion. At present we would prefer to move back the managing unit from the Command and Control Staff to the National Defence Academy or to the Planning Staff where it had been situated before.

In the following years and especially during the last ten years under the responsibility of *Major General N. Sinn* (now Commander of the Theresian Military Academy) and some other young officers of general staff a number of special instructions and a manual for CPPOs have been developed and compiled.

The following shall provide you with a short summary of that work:

2. Manual for the CPPO (content)

Picture 6: Manual for the CPPO (content)

- Responsibilities and tasks of a CPPO
- Situation report (content)
- Basic material for a CPPO

2.1. Responsibilities of a CPPO

Picture 7: Responsibilities of a CPPO/text-1

Picture 8: Responsibilities of a CPPO/text-2

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- The CPPO is a member of the staff on the level of a territorial command (Federal Province), division and higher
- The CPPO is advisor to his commander in matters relating to the respect for cultural property within a commander's responsibilities in training, preparing for and executing military actions as well as in cases of military assistance in times of natural disasters or cataclysms (in correspondence with the law and constitution of the country).
- The CPPO prepares lists and information material about the number and priority of cultural property in the operational area. He provides contributions to the estimate of the situation. He gives information to his commander, the liaison officers and to the district/province authorities. He works out parts of the order guaranteeing the respect for cultural property considering the tactical decisions of the commander. By order of his commander he controls in critical areas the tactical measures concerning the respect for protection of cultural property.
- The CPPO keeps contact with the Head of the Department of Monuments of the Federal Province and with his military colleagues on the superior level.
- The CPPO is advisor and consultant for civil authorities concerning the effects and results of military operations on cultural property and he gives instructions about the possibility of safeguarding cultural property as far as civil authorities do not do this.
- As a member of the staff one of the main and most important functions of the CPPO is to give a situation report.

2.2. Situation report of the CPPO (content)

Picture 9: Situation Report/text

- Presentation of cultural property in the operational area
- Short presentation of the essence of the 1954 Hague Convention
- Short presentation of the content of the Instructions of the Ministry of Defence concerning the Hague Convention
- Consequences of military actions for cultural property in the operational area
- Suggestions and provisions for excluding cultural property from military operational planning.

If some of these activities seem a little bit overdrawn, please bear in mind that at the beginning we had a number of controversial discussions about the necessity also in the armed forces. Today we know that we did well. We convinced the tactical commanders that we create new/free capacity for them and that we help to increase his competence and qualification in the public opinion and in the medias. And it is not unexpected that just the higher

commands and commanders (with political responsibility) immediately realized the importance and the dimension of that task. Finally it was and is also the question why we make national defence. And one of the answers is: to preserve and protect our cultural heritage and identity

All what you have seen up to now is the tactical tool developed for the task the CPPO has to do as a member of staff

To do this (in practice/exercise and training and preparing for the case of cases) the CPPO has to collect special material and equipment over the years and these materials form his basic documents (basic material).

All these materials like Mobile Office Box, Maps, Instructions and Documents together with the situation to be located at the Command Post where in the centre of decision and decision-making everybody had to pass by developed over the Years to a very good marketing instrument. So that we can say: together with the SUBJECT CPP in the officer's education and soldier's training system the implementation and application in the internal national system is step by step working.

2.3. Basic material for the CPPO

Picture 10: Mobile Office Box

- Mobile office box

Picture 11: Mobile Office Box (content)

- **Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (UNESCO/1954 HAGUE CONVENTION) and Second Protocol (1999)**
- **Convention for the Protection of the Cultural and Natural Heritage of the World (UNESCO/Paris 1972)**
- **GENEVA CONVENTIONS (Additional Protocols)/ International Red Cross Handbook**
- **Guide to libraries and documentation archives, museums, private and public collections**

- **Workbook with a collection of papers, documents and information material concerning the protection of cultural property**

Picture 12: Maps

- **Set of special maps of cultural property (Cultural Property Maps) of the area**
- **General map of the country**
- **Records (address books and telephone numbers, offices and authorities name of contact persons) to secure the contact with**
 - **The superior command**
 - **The territorial organization and authorities (provincial government etc)**
 - **Head of cultural departments (monument section etc.) in the ministry**
 - **Fire brigade, private aid organizations**

(Contact them and introduce yourself after approval from your commander as soon as possible - but already in times of peace!!!)
- **Office material (typewriter/computer, paper, writing and drawing utensils)**
- **Last but not least: the CPPO should have his own transport!!!**

Concluding these main functions and tasks of the CPPO, namely to be

- **Advisor and consultant for his commander**
- **Teacher and trainer for officers and troops and**
- **Contact person and liaison officer to civil authorities and civilians**

and under the condition of flexibility and the necessity to provide the military command with the necessary information in shortest time available we developed in the late 80-ies (in the Military Command of Lower Austria/ Federal Province of Austria) an EDP-supported CP-databank in accordance with the 1954 Hague Convention.

This model has been based on the regional code system of the Austrian Office for Statistics in conjunction with a special object code.

Due to the fact that a regional or local-national system will be not very efficient at future international activities we decided to look for international cooperation and to change to a more international system.

Concerning the implementation of the 2nd Protocol at the moment a colleagues of the Monument Department/Ministry of culture, military geographers and CPPOs/Ministry of Defence and NGO-people try to find a solution either by the GPS (global-positioning-system / satellite) or other positioning systems (depends on the requirements of the civil national authorities and of international partners

In that field we are and we try to stay in good contact with our neighbours, like SWITZELAND and SLOVENIA but also with UNESCO, RED CROSS and other Europeans (D, SL, SLK, SUO, N) and we hope to be successful in a wider international range.

Let me end with repeating our aforementioned statement:

We have a number of single national solutions –but –

We need coordinated international cooperation

Thank You for Your attention

Picture 13: Final/Closing Picture