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A Word from the President

For once, I would like to start this traditional introduction to the Annual Report on a more personal note. I wish to share with you, now proud of the efforts you decided to invest and for another term as President of CISM at the General Assembly in Cotopaxi. This show of confidence was an honour for me, and it demonstrates that despite CISM's natural evolution, you still fully endorse the guidelines we set for ourselves more than four years ago.

I feel equally inspired by the prospect of leading our organisation through further changes—and even though many good results have already been achieved, there are clearly many important projects yet to develop, implement and complete. I do not think that claiming that 2002 was at least as successful as previous years, and that there is ample reason to be optimistic can constitute an embellishment of the truth. I even feel that the term remarkable is somewhat short of an exaggeration.

Although it is impossible for me to rank in order of significance the many improvements attained in 2002, I should still brand the implementation of our new regulations—adopted in 2001 and reported successfully—as a major breakthrough. These new rules have made our structures more efficient; our decentralisation drive has been successful; discussions within the Board of Directors have become more effective—as shown by the many decisions it took in 2002—and the General Secretary operates more smoothly and efficiently. I should also mention the clear success of our first new style "General Assembly" in Cotopaxi, and the organisation of our first Congress, whose undeniable standing was further enhanced by the presence of IOC President Dr. Jacques Rogge, who delivered the keynote address and by the remarkable speech delivered by 'Mr. Aodhya Bajracharya, Secretary General for the promotion of sport as an instrument of development and peace. Both confirmed, in a tribute to CISM, that pervaded their presentations, that the International Military Sports Council has come to enjoy the consideration of top international authorities.

Also last year, we held multiple working meetings with the IOC, the United Nations, the Council of Europe as well as the Olympic Aid. These contacts should soon materialise into practical partnership projects. Furthermore, I am convinced that my appointment to the IOC's Sport for All Commission—added to our existing membership of the International Olympic Truce Foundation—will further advance CISM's efforts in this area. The United Nations, which could become official in 2003.

We also intend, as part of a project currently under development, to mark the presence of military sport at the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens by installing a CISM village where our members can gather during the Games. As for the promotion of military sport, our athletes look to the Games at Salt Lake City by successfully raising the place for medals. Indeed, CISM is defined by its athletes, first and foremost. We have every reason to be proud of their performances in civilian and military competitions alike. By the way, the level achieved in military championships is sometimes world-class and underpins our ideals of friendship, fair play and tolerance.

On the international scene, 2002 has been a year of tension, terror, and turbulence, an impending major conflict that could deteriorate in 2003. All the more reason for CISM to repeat the message of its World Games scheduled to take place in Catania, Sicily. Despite the unhappy events that struck Sicily recently—the explosion of Mount Etna and severe social problems—the city of Catania has formally confirmed that it would host the World Games. Thanks are due to the Italian Armed Forces which, having organised the First World Military Games in Rome in 1996, have done everything in their power to save the 2003 edition in the nick of time. I ask all CISM members to extend the Italian delegation as much support as possible and thereby contribute to the success of an attraction which we should never forget is our best showcase event.

Like any self-respecting Italian, I know the saying "Rome was not built in a day." This stage applies to our organisation too. Our objective in 2003 is to develop communication and marketing plans, to grow our budget resources and to renew the impetus of our concerted effort. To this end, CISM now has an annual business plan and a long-term strategic plan whose contents were carefully examined, discussed and finalised during our fruitful strategic Symposium held in Rio de Janeiro.

Our organisation also welcomed its 125th member, Columbia, and will soon grow further with the announced—and eagerly awaited—membership of Jamaica and other nations. In the course of its 54 years of existence, CISM has become a major international organisation of which we can be proud and that is far from having outstripped its development potential. It certainly owes part of its progress to your constant contribution, dear Members of CISM. But it owes a possible even more valuable share of its success to the vision and dedicated work of its founding fathers, including Chevalier René Mallet, whose disappearance in 2002 made international sports news. A founding member of CISM, and its Secretary General and King-pin for 32 consecutive years between 1964 and 1996, he ranks up there with major figures who left an indelible mark on the development and growth of our organisation. He leaves a wonderful heritage. Let us pay tribute to his memory by being enterprising, by adhering to the values of humanity and sport, and by mirroring the dedication he displayed day in and day out throughout his life. Like him, let us hold to our steadfast belief and confidence in the wonderful adventure that CISM has become. It is by following his example that you can best contribute to CISM's certain successes in 2003.
The Secretary General

Reports

The Secretary General reports...

Last year, only seven months after being elected to my post, I submitted to you my first report as CISM Secretary General. In this, I reviewed progress in delivering the five objectives set out in the programme I had submitted along with my application to the post and which the General Assembly endorsed when it honoured me with its vote. Needless to say, these objectives are still very much alive and guide my daily management of the General Secretariat. I will spare you another overview of these objectives in the present report and since our President addresses the conduct of CISM’s general business in another section, I would simply like to report on the General Secretariat’s main activities, the efforts that have been undertaken to improve its efficiency and their inevitable impact on CISM’s activities.

The first eight months of my term were dedicated to a detailed inventory of the General Secretariat’s requirements and of the policies needed to improve its operation. This proved an arduous task, and one that quickly shed light on the need not only to thoroughly review its operational structure and methods as well as the techniques used to empower its staff in their respective roles and tasks, but also to increase its human resources in order to optimise the products and services it provides.

While the latter part of 2001 was dedicated to a definition of the General Secretariat’s needs, last year was spent designing, developing and implementing new projects. Some of them are already completed, others are going well and others still will be implemented shortly.

"Reconstruction" is a term that applies to CISM not only in figurative but also in concrete terms. Indeed, for almost a full year, the headquarters of CISM were a construction site with workers busy renovating a house that clearly failed to comply with legal and safety requirements and even more painfully fell short of the standing that visitors rightfully expect upon entering the main office of an international organisation. The works are now completed. The members of the Commission for Sport, who inaugurated the renovated House of CISM on the occasion of their plenary meeting last October, not only appreciated its functional and convivial character but also the slightly prestigious atmosphere that is admittedly more in keep with the status of an international organisation that has reached the respectable age of 54. We are now able to accommodate large working meetings with CISM members in the best conditions and to welcome in fitting manner the VIPs that our status as an international organisation brings our way. CISM now truly feels at home in its house.
Obviously, it was equally important to offer our staff a pleasant working environment in which to develop and grow, which is all the more motivating since they spend a substantial part of their daily lives at the workplace. The complete upgrading of our IT infrastructure, as part of the same modernisation drive is also complete and allows us to operate under next-to-perfect technical conditions. This evolution means that our management of routine occupational stress is improved, which also contributes to increased productivity.

As indicated in my introduction—and as I already mentioned in last year’s Annual Report—one of my main concerns has been the growth of our existing staff. In 2002, the implementation of a dynamic plan was initiated, which should soon—in fact, this may already have happened by the time you read this report—lead to a substantial increase in the Secretariat's human resources. Delivery of this plan has been effective since March and the short-term outlook is very encouraging indeed, thanks to the contribution of a number of national delegations to CISM. No need therefore to insist on the reasons why I can be reasonably enthusiastic and optimistic about the future.

I have also been lucky enough to enjoy the efficient and equally professional cooperation of the staff of the General Secretariat who in addition performed with selflessness, loyalty and professionalism despite heavy workloads compared to available human resources. As all CISM members noticed, whether in the Board of Directors or General Assembly, minutes of meetings and other working documents are produced quickly and are drafted with an on-going concern for improved quality. I would like to use the opportunity of this report to congratulate them personally on behalf of CISM.

If there is one field in which we have made substantial progress, it is communication with the entire CISM community. Personally, I am delighted with the bilateral collaboration developed with my President, Colonel Gola. In the course of last year, we had multiple working meetings, exchanges of views and information as well as telephone conversations through which we have come to share the same views, thereby allowing us to prepare major CISM meetings most efficiently despite large geographical distances—more than 1,500 km—between our offices.

This strong collaborative effort is also reflected in the emergence of efficient communication channels between the General Secretariat and the Members of the Board of Directors and various Commissions. The enforcement of our new regulations has also lead to improved collaboration with the Presidents of the various Technical Committees. A joint meeting between the latter and the General Secretariat took place in Brussels early in 2002 and the general opinion is that it was very fruitful. This initiative will obviously be repeated annually.

In cooperation with the President of CISM and with his full support, the General Secretariat multi-plied contacts with international organisations. It attended major international conferences, took part in working groups aimed at launching joint projects with various major institutions and contributed to the emergence of partnerships with a number of these institutions and sports federations. This is how CISM was for example represented at the World Sports Forum in Lausanne, SportC 2002 in Monaco and the 36th GAFSF General Assembly in Colorado Springs. There are a number of reasons why the involvement of members of the General Secretariat in such events is instrumental to the development of CISM’s activities: first because it publicises CISM, second because it provides an occasion to put out feelers toward other international federations and associations and third because it helps us monitor the evolution of the international sporting world. The most important issues addressed at these international events included trends in sports marketing, sport communication methods and TV broadcasting rights. These events proved invaluable sources of information for the development of our communication and marketing plan, which is addressed in more detail below.

The General Secretariat was closely associated to the development and implementation of joint projects with other international institutions. For example, we signed with NGO Olympic Aid a collaborative agreement called "Olympic Aid and CISM—Partners in Sport". With the President, we pursued contacts with IOC President Dr Jacques Rogge and many other members of the International Olympic Committee. We attended three Council of Europe meetings on the "Red Balloons" project initiated by its Committee for the Development of Sport. The General Secretariat also actively contributed to CISM’s official recognition by the United Nations in general and more specifically by UNESCO; this project has now reached final approval stage. And I cannot conclude this overview of CISM activities in the international arena (which are covered in greater detail in the section entitled "International as Can Be", pages 18 and 19) without at least mentioning our involvement in the events organised by the International Committee for Fair Play.

I would like to conclude this report with a copious section on communication & marketing, a double issue that received a lot of attention in 2002. I promised that the long- and eagerly-awaited CISM website would be online by the end of the year. Because of a lack of sufficient financial and human resources, we had to find a solution that would be both efficient and affordable to deliver the top-quality tool that would both showcase and brand our organisation on the web. Specialised website developers soon proved too expensive in view of our limited financial resources. We then turned to a number of member delegations to design the site but, unfortunately, we received no assurances as to the long-term availability of human resources within the latter. Therefore, we eventually opted for a mixed solution that met our requirements within budget limits. After defining site structure and providing our webmaster...
with basic training, we developed the product in-house and put it online on 01 January 2003. The site was developed with an ongoing concern for dynamism, simplicity and rigor. Its development required considerable work from the General Secretariat's staff. According to the very favourable initial reactions we have received, the result is up to both the huge effort required and the members’ expectations. However, we do not consider the work done so far as a definitive achievement but rather as the superstructure of a site which we are committed to improving and reshaping constantly. The aim is to offer you a professional communication tool that allows you to interact daily with CISM and contribute to its smooth operation.

At its Tallinn meeting, the Board of Directors entrusted the General Secretariat with the task of presenting a communication & marketing plan, which it did at its December meeting in Simon's Town. Both plans were approved in principle, but their practical implementation will depend on the availability of budget resources that have not been identified yet.

For the purpose of drawing up our communication plan for the next few years, we drew the lessons from a number of projects launched successfully a few years back and since abandoned because of the need to focus on other strategic priorities. We also learned the lessons from a number of failed projects. This is how we were able to identify the main avenues of a plan that reckons with both our organisation's specific features and the realities of a communications world that is anything but quiet. Thanks to the support of consultants with an established reputation in this field, we also developed a logical marketing plan taking into account the expertise we have acquired in recent years as well as the very specific context in which our activities are organised, and the current difficulties faced by the world of sport marketing.

We are convinced that, at a time when many major players on the international sport scene are in a severe marketing and communication crisis, the development and implementation of a carefully designed marketing & communication plan could deliver greater notoriety for CISM. Indeed, we are positive that the time is perfectly right: a synthesis of analyses produced by top international sports marketing players and of contacts with holders of rights and broadcasters of sports programmes have convinced us that there is a market for the type of events we organise. The television community is for example looking for programmes that are at the same time technically elaborate, affordable, original, and popularise disciplines and activities that wane off often excessively beaten media tracks. Many TV channels—and even continental broadcasting companies—are prevented from covering major sport events because they cannot afford the increasingly expensive fees charged by right owners and are keen to offer their viewers the kind of TV sport time that they have all too often been deprived of lately. This is a situation—indeed, a boom—that is by now one that is boosted by globalisation, competition and free market values. Therefore, it is also one that we must tackle with care, clear-sightedness and congruence, but also with a lot of confidence because it is capable of delivering the kind of media attention that we have been aspiring to for several years while allowing us to grow our marketing revenue by a sizeable margin.

Reading this report, you will have understood that the General Secretariat has embarked upon a dynamic process of initiatives, creativeness and constant search for improved service quality. There is a lot to be done yet and our increased human resources will definitely help us deliver our objectives while keeping in mind that the General Secretariat is primarily there to serve CISM and its members. Rest assured that you will always receive the warmest of welcomes and that your requests will continue to be handled as carefully and speedily as available resources allow.

I cannot possibly conclude this report without a heartfelt thought for Chevalier Raoul Molfet, who left us last year. As all the Secretaries General who followed him and preceded me to this post, I had the opportunity to meet with him and benefit from the priceless expertise he accumulated in his 32 years at the top of the General Secretariat. We lost a great man when he passed away and he certainly played a pivotal role in making CISM the major international organisation we know today. We will never forget him.

Colonel Robert Eggemont
Secretary General

The S.G. with the Guinean Prime Minister, Maitre Zamar Sidime, who was decorated with the order of merit of CISM. Great Commandor, during the Opening Ceremony of the 29th GA of WING in Conakry.

Friendship through Sport
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57th General Assembly and Congress in Opatija, Croatia

CISM On the Right Track

CISM On the Right Track

Our International Military Sports Council seems to feel a genuine attraction for the Mediterranean, after enjoying the wonderful Greek city of Kallithea and the superb Algerian capital Algiers, it held its 57th General Assembly in the Croatian seaside town of Opatija, near the more widely known city of Rijeka.

Before entering into the detail of official CISM proceedings, it is our duty and pleasure to praise the organizing committee.

Indeed, the Croatian delegation again went out of its way to mastermind this General Assembly. Hosting such a high level international event as the General Assembly of CISM is in itself a challenge. But it becomes a totally different test when, a bare few weeks before the rendezvous, a major incident dramatically disrupts your careful planning.

Only true champions stand firm in the face of adversity. If this saying is true, then Croatia is truly the champion when it comes to prevailing over difficult circumstances. The Croatian delegation already produced the feat of organizing the Second Military World Games in just 18 months. It worked even faster this time: despite the fire that severely damaged the hotel that should have accommodated most of CISM, it managed to work out a plan B that turned out to be perfectly practical.

Under the impetus of General Ranko Rakić and Major Myril Antić, the Croatian delegation again showed themselves to be masters of initiative, organisation and improvisation. A world of thanks to them! The authorities of CISM also had the opportunity to meet with Croatia’s Minister of Defence as well as its Chief of Staff and the President of its Olympic Committee. They were also treated, as usual, to cultural visits that gave them a taste of the multiple attractions of this little paradise on the Adriatic.

CISM will also remember Opatija as the venue of its First Congress and its success. As underlined both by IOC President Dr Jacques Rogge and Special Advisor to the UN Secretary General Mr Adolph Ogi, CISM is now recognised as a natural partner of two major international organisations that have furthermore offered avenues of practical co-operation with our organisation in long-term projects. It is now up to CISM to seize these exceptional opportunities! Our organisation has made remarkable progress in recent years in terms of its international visibility. Now it needs to leverage this visibility to improve its exposure to the media.

The members of CISM who were present in Opatija also heard very good news indeed from Italy, and more precisely from Sicily: the City of Catania with host the Third edition of the Military World Games in 2003. Which does not prevent CISM for preparing the Fourth edition already. It has asked all delegations to consider organizing them in 2007.

One point on the programme of this 57th General Assembly was the election of our President. There was arguably little suspense as the outgoing President, Colonel Giarni Gois (Italy), was the only candidate: the possibility that marked his re-election was an opportunity to measure his popularity. The same applied to Nevz Captain Bergt Nylander (Sweden), who was re-elected to the Board of Directors with the same display of enthusiasm. Brigadier General M. Salem Al Khateeb (Kuwait), who was co-opted last year, was confirmed for four years in his position as Vice-President for Asia, and General Souval Khoury (Lebanon) was also elected to the Board to represent the continent. The Board of Directors also co-opted for one year Brigadier General Itzy Popowycz (Canada) as Vice-President for the Americas while Colonel E. Rodriguez (Venezuela) and Colonel Christian Kramp (Germany) were co-opted as members of the Board.

This 57th General Assembly has shown that CISM is facing enormous tasks. In addition to the organization of the Military World Games, our organisation has ambitious and demanding objectives. We need to complete our annual strategic and business plans. We need to boost our solidarity work. We have to enhance our communication and marketing. We have decided to study initiatives with the IOC, the UN, the Council of Europe and the Olympic Aid. So CISM is on the right track: the future is ours. See you all in Dubai, in the United Arab Emirates in 2003 to take stock of progress.
Board of Directors Meeting in Tallinn

CISM on the Baltic Sea Shore

Three meetings a year allow CISM and the members of its Board to travel the world and advertise our organisation with both the local political and military authorities and the media. From this point of view, the Board’s stay in the Estonian capital Tallinn was a success. Indeed, the Opening Ceremony of the Board Meeting was attended by H.E. Arnold Rüütel, President of the Republic, Rear Admiral Tarmo Kuts, Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces, Lieutenant General Johannes Kert, Commander of the land forces, Lieutenant Colonel Aarne Ernus, Chief of Staff, and Mr Indrek Kanik, Chancellor of the Minister of Defence. They were awarded a medal during the Ceremony.

Ever since Estonia became a member of CISM in 1992—a hardly a year into its existence as a sovereign State—it has been a remarkably dynamic delegation and will continue to be in 2002 with the organisation of the world military wrestling and arm wrestling championships, in disciplines including orienteering, shooting and the triathlon. Estonian athletes are now regular features on CISM podiums and young 2Lt Helio Markis, a former world-class wrestler and already Head of his national delegation, has become a familiar figure at military world championships. He certainly provided the 13 members of the Board with ideal working conditions and put together a cultural programme that was much appreciated. In addition to a visit to a Vodka distillery—Estonian know-how in this trade is a source of national pride, second only to the export income that the industry generates—and a tour of the magnificent late-13th century old town, the Board Members were treated to a night at the Opera for a masterful performance of Bizet’s Carmen and, last but not least, to a wonderful evening at the City Hall where our authorities were the distinguished guests of the Mayor of Tallinn.

Of course, our account of these celebrations should not be allowed to overshadow the daily sessions of hard work that the Board meeting imposed on its members. Detailed Board proceedings and actions have been drafted so there is no need to report about the detailed contents of the discussions. Worth highlighting however are the initiatives of our President, Colonel Gola, to infuse new enthusiasm for the organisation of the 2003 Military World Games—for which five Italian cities have declared an interest—, the outline of CISM’s future Strategic Plan presented by Brigadier General Janssen, as well as the remarkable exposition by Brigadier General Poppowan, Vice-President for the Americas, of his strategic initiatives—which should be emulated on other continents—to boost CISM’s activities in the Americas, including efforts to mobilise inactive delegations and attract new members. Also of the centre of Board discussions was the need to boost CISM’s solidarity and clinics programmes. The Board also decided to entrust the General Secretariat with CISM’s communication and marketing policy and to terminate the corresponding Commission. One thing is clear from the impressive number of decisions taken in Tallinn: the Board has found its bearings in our organisation’s new working methods and has taken them on board.
Board Meeting in Simons' Town, South Africa

Heading for 2003

Colonel Gela congratulates Brig Gen A. Jansen

Capes and headings kept returning in many discussions during this year's last Board Meeting, held in South Africa. Chieftly because Simons' Town, which hosted this meeting, accommodated our Board Members in the country's largest and most famous naval base, a few miles only from the Cape of Good Hope and a few leagues from the equally famous city of Cape Town. And of course because CISM's policy had to be adopted, as well as the means to hold to the heading in 2003.

Having organised an International Symposium in Pretoria a few years back-and more recently a meeting of the Commission for Sport in the idyllic setting of the Kruger Park-South Africa was once more called upon to organise a major gathering, this time a Board Meeting. In this respect, we cannot fail to praise the South African delegation on the wonderful work it has done on behalf of our organisation since it joined CISM in 1994. Indeed, it has made a fundamental contribution to CISM's influence and development in the region. By means of numerous contacts with neighbouring countries and unreserved investment in solidarity as well as by accepting responsibility for the Liaison Office for East and South Africa, the South African delegation has emerged as a genuine driver whose dynamism has been emulated in the region and should serve as an example at continental level.

To be sure, regional and continental events, meetings and contacts play a key role in strengthening CISM's visibility worldwide. Their organisation is also justified in view of economic circumstances that sometimes make intercontinental travel a costly proposition. However, CISM remains a global organisation, first and foremost South Africa's policy within our organisation, which is also based on visible participation in global activities while sharing means of transport with its neighbours whenever possible, shows the whole continent that it is possible for all delegations to enjoy the full benefit of membership. The way in which South Africa has contributed, both at national and regional level, to the development of military sports including parachuting and the military and naval pentathlons, can also be described as exemplary. South Africa has fully embraced the essence of CISM's values and has therefore become a key contributor to our organisation's development. Proof of this is also in the important role that is played, in a number of our decision-making bodies and technical committees, by the Head and members of the South African delegation, whose reputation for precision and know-how are well established.

Back to the Board Meeting proper. The Members had the opportunity to meet the South African Deputy Minister of Defence, as well as Surgeon General Von Rentburg, who is namely in charge of all sporting activities within the South African Defence Force. These meetings were an ideal opportunity to discuss with them the 2007 Military World Games which CISM would like to ask a non-European delegation to organise-and more generally the prospect of entrusting the organisation of a major international multi-sport event to an African country for the first time in history. A superb opportunity, and also a highly symbolic prospect, whose feasibility South Africa has promised to examine.

Apart from that, the 2003 MWG were also the subject of the Board's attention, and especially the City of Catania, which is still waiting for the regional finance bill to be passed, a vote that has been postponed because of the natural and social disasters that have recently hit Sicily. Other burning issues were addressed at length during the Board's many busy and lively sessions, including our organisation's marketing and communication plans, the search for new financial resources, as well as the strategic planning and yearly business plan discussed at the recent International Symposium held in Rio de Janeiro. Congratulations are also in order for Major General Khoury (Lebanon), who was co-opted as Vice-President for Asia.

In a nutshell, the Board covered considerable ground, which did not prevent its members from enjoying the beautiful and discovering the social realities of a region that is as superb as it is fascinating. On the menu of a most-appreciated cultural day: a helicopter tour, namely a spectacular flyover of the Cape of Good Hope, a visit and lunch at a social inclusion project in a township and a short visit to an internationally-acclaimed wine-producing region.

This Board Meeting was a clear success, in great part due to the efforts of the South African delegation, whose immense merits deserve, once again, universal acclaim.
International As Can Be

As mentioned in the President's section and the Secretary General's report, last year, CISM established or furthered contacts with various international sports associations and federations as well as with a number of major institutions. With the addition of others taken with representatives of the governments of the 123 CISM Member Nations at events including military world championships, General Assemblies and Board meetings, these contacts are key to the development of CISM's visibility. Progress in this field has been both understandable and significant in recent years. It is therefore only justifiable to report in more detail on some of these contacts, while clarifying that the overview below addresses only a small cross-section in a list that could have covered several pages!

International Olympic Committee (IOC)

The President and Secretary General attended meetings in Lausanne with IOC President Dr Jacques Rogge, as well as with Mr Gilbert Fell, Director in charge of the Department for Coordination with International Sports Federations, and Mr Pierre Mene, Director in charge of the Department for Coordination with the National Olympic Committees.

A policy was developed to organise collaboration between CISM and the IOC. An action plan was defined, listing immediate steps including the following:

- The IOC will officially inform International Sports Federations of the agreement reached with CISM and of the practical initiatives it encompasses. This information sent to International Sports Federations enhances CISM as a very serious partner for future relations;
- The IOC also circulated this information to the National Olympic Committees, requesting them to intensify contacts with CISM Member delegations and to improve coordination with them when it comes to local initiatives;
- CISM will officially apply for IOC financial support for the purpose of ferrying athletes from less-favoured countries to Catania for the MVG;
- CISM will take further practical initiatives to be submitted to the IOC in due time;
- CISM will take into account the fundamental changes effected within the IOC's Solidarity Programme, namely when it comes to the decentralisation of financial support.

Also worth noting with respect to the development of closer ties between CISM and the IOC is the appointment of CISM President Colonel Gofa to the IOC's Sport for All Commission, as well as the continuation of his existing representation as a member of the International Olympic Truce Foundation.

Council of Europe

CISM attended three meetings of the group set up under the aegis of the Council of Europe's Committee for the Development of Sport for the purpose of implementing the "Red Balloons" project. At its last meeting, the group approved a draft Recommendation of the Committee of Ministers to Member States on the setting up of a network composed of humanitarian agencies and sports federations and associations to provide sporting activities and games for refugees and displaced persons in crisis and post-emergency situations.

United Nations

The possibility of CISM being officially recognised by the United Nations was examined as part of contacts and meetings with Mr Aouda Ogi, Special Advisor to the United Nations Secretary General for the promotion of sport as an instrument of development and peace. Direct channels were also opened with UNESCO in Paris, which should soon lead to official recognition.

In addition, Mr Ogi attended CISM's Congress in Opatija at which he officially pointed out in a much-appreciated address the need for increased cooperation between CISM and the United Nations.

Olympic Aid

Following contacts early last year, CISM and Olympic Aid met for a meeting in October 2002. On this occasion, Olympic Aid listed areas for possible CISM support. These include the transport of equipment and personnel, logistical support (through CISM's offices), and the recruitment of voluntary workers. A collaborative agreement entitles "Olympic Aid and CISM—Partners in Sport", approved by the Board of Directors, will frame the development and implementation of projects.

As indicated by the Secretary General in his Report, CISM also attended the World Sports Forum in Lausanne, Sport 2002 in Monaco and the 36th GAISF General Assembly in Colorado Springs, as well as various events organised by the International Committee for Fair Play.
Catania To Host the 3rd Military World Games
from the 13th to the 20th September 2003

The Sicilian city of Catania, Italy will organise the Third Edition of the Military World Games in September 2003. More than a year ago, we were told that the Spanish delegation had decided not to organise the next MWG, a decision confirmed in its official announcement at the Algiers General Assembly. This obviously put CISM in an awkward position. But once again, the solution has come from the Italian delegation, Armed Forces and Ministry of Defence who had already organised the First edition of the Military World Games in Rome in 1995.

We thought it would be interesting to give you a forecast of Sicily. In the hope that this island does deliver fiery volcanic, MWG... maybe as a tribute to the famous local volcano, the Etna, whose eruptions regularly make headlines worldwide. Not that CISM hopes for an eruption during the Games, of course. What we do hope however is that these Games will take place in a warm atmosphere where sport, friendship and solidarity go hand in hand under the Mediterranean sun.

When it chose this city of 700,000 inhabitants on the east coast of Sicily, the Italian delegation made sure that it had all the assets needed to deliver in just a few months. Indeed, not only does Catania already have all the sport infra-

structure required, it also has longstanding expertise as an orchestrator of major international sport events with the organisation of the Universiads and of a cycling world championship. It also has an international airport that connects the island with all major Italian airports and many international destinations; and it is easily accessible by train and car from Rome, 800 kilometres away. Finally, Catania has all the required hotel accommodation and reception capacity. As for the weather this time of year, temperatures are between 18 and 29°C and 67% relative humidity. What more can you ask for?

The opening ceremony of the Third Military World Games will take place on 13 September 2003, while the date of the closing ceremony has been set for 20 September.

The programme of these Military World Games includes 11 disciplines:
- Track and field (including the marathons), football (8 teams qualified), cycling (road and time trial races), judo, swimming (including diving, water-polo and lifesaving), basketball (12 teams qualified), volleyball (12 teams qualified), fencing, sailing, boxing and parachuting.
1st African Military Games in Nairobi, Kenya

Sport, Peace and Friendship Safari

The opening ceremony of the First African Military Games, held in Nairobi on 18-27 April 2003, was chaired by the Kenyan President, Daniel Arap T. Moi and attended by the Kenyan Chief of Staff, J.R.E. Kikwana. Also present were the President of CISM, Colonel G. Gols, and its Secretary General, Colonel R. Eggemont, as well as Major General Tumeei, Chief of the Liaison Office for Central and East Africa (in charge of the organisation of these Games), Colonel Maboabu Kikakabata, CISM Vice-President for Africa, and many more political, diplomatic and sport figures. Thirty-two nations marched past in the National Stadium to the cheers of a large enthusiastic audience. Four countries were present as observers, as CISM's Board of Directors had decided to allow all African nations to participate regardless of their membership status in order to reactivate idle countries and attract new members.

So it is without the slightest hesitation that we bow our hats to the Organising Committee and to the thousands of soldiers, officers and civilian volunteers who spared no efforts to ensure success. The organisation improved by the day and requests for transportation were handled more efficiently by the hour. Naturally, improvisation played a significant part here and there, but it was all managed with humour, good mood, hospitality and a genuine desire to be of service. And the grumpyfew who would criticise the organisation for being anything less than textbook perfect should simply be told that they do not—and very likely never will—understand Africa.

Anyway, the large audiences were delighted. All competition sites were literally stormed by spectators and many halls proved too anguish. The happy few who got to watch the volleyball final—in a sport hall designed to accommodate 6,000 and packed to the rafters with 7,800—were treated to a display of the term "African mood": exotic, colourful, noisy, musical, enthusiastic. In a word: extraordinary.

Eleven sports were practiced over ten day and performances were unequal in terms both of quality and participation. Obviously, it would have been excessive to ask for the same proficiency in all sports as was achieved in athletics—many Kenyan stars had an appointment on the Tartan of the National Stadium.

While entries were many in some sports, only a bilateral confrontation was on offer in others. Just one example: the swimming events were dominated by South Africa, whose team won all titles... against an all-Kenyan opposition, some of whose swimmers had only started training seriously a few months before. And the same was true in both men and women's hockey: the Kenyan and South African teams were alone on the pitch and the locals prevailed.

Talking about team sports, the Kenyan women volleyball team won a crushing victory while the men's event attracted huge crowds. In the eagerly awaited final of the football tournament, the Guinea favourites were opposed to unexpected Eritreans who won the final in the penalty session. In arenas overflowing with enthusiastic supporters entirely devoted to the cause of the local team, the Cameroonian handball and volleyball teams were impressive and spectacular winners. But if there was one title that Kenya desperately wanted, it was basketball gold.

Facing the continental kings, the Angolans were finally crushed by the locals but they made sure to offer both talented play and spectacular action, much to the satisfaction of ecstatic and sometimes even hysterical crowds.

It is not very often that high-ranking officers are to be seen on the business end of CISM competitions. One of those rare occasions is yet to be the African Military Games. The tournament was played on a hilly links and
Chevalier Raoul Mollet, Former Secretary General of CISM (1954-1986) Passed Away at Age 89

His many admirers, as well as some of the outstanding sport leaders whom he mentored in the course of a long career dedicated exclusively to sport, fully expected to celebrate his ninetieth birthday with great pomp and ceremony a few months later. But fate would have it otherwise. Chevalier Raoul Mollet passed away on 14 August 2002, at age 89. His death was a major loss felt throughout our organisation. Indeed, Chevalier Mollet was unquestionably, both objectively and subjectively, the true driving force behind CISM’s international development.

The holder of a degree in physical education, Raoul Mollet was an officer in the Belgian Cavalry and later in the Air Force. He took part in the Berlin Olympics in 1936 and in the London Olympics in 1948, both times entering the modern pentathlon. He was world military fencing champion in 1948. On 6 May 1940, with his inseparable friend, Colonel Debras of France, he founded the short-lived Allied Forces Sports Council, which was disbanded for political reasons. But the man certainly knew what he wanted: on 18 February 1940, in Nice, he became one of the founding members of the International Military Sports Council. Right from the beginning, Raoul Mollet was also one of its most active members. So it is almost naturally that in 1964, he was appointed Secretary General, a post he would hold uninterruptedly for thirty-two years.

In parallel with his activities in CISM, Raoul Mollet also became the most prominent Belgian sport leader of the second half of the twentieth century. President of the Belgian Badminton Federation, he then became presidente of the Belgian Olympic and Interfederal Committees (1965-1989). A member of numerous commissions within the International Olympic Committee, he belonged to Juan Antonio Samaranch’s entourage and was one of his most trusted advisors.

Raoul Mollet had a true vision for sport. He was the one who, amongst other things, initiated CISM’s solidarity programme—a programme that was eventually endorsed by the International Olympic Committee. He wrote several books, which became and still are reference, on physical training and the organisation of world sport. He trained many sport leaders, including recently elected IOC President Jacques Rogge.

CISM paid tribute to him at its 1995 General Assembly meeting in Beijing when he was awarded the very first Mauve Ennep Trophy in the history of our organisation for his role in the development of international sport in general and in particular for his contribution to the promotion of CISM’s ideals. His last official visit to CISM dates back to 18 February 1996, for the celebration of CISM’s fiftieth anniversary, but we know that he still willingly received the Secretaries General who succeeded him and were keen to share their concerns with him and listen to his shrewd counsel.

On 14 August 2002, CISM lost its true spiritual father but his memory will live on forever in our hearts.
The "CISM 2010" Strategic Symposium, Rio de Janeiro, 09-15 November 2002

A Major Success

Copacabana Beach, "futebol" practiced to artistic and technical perfection on burning sand—magnifically cooled by the waves of the Atlantic Ocean—, the mythical Maracana Stadium, the statue of Christ on top of Mount Corcovado and the Sugarloaf Mountain dominating the Bay, the Rio Carnival with its cai- pyrjan dancers. These are but a selection of countless sublime images drawn from travel catalogues the world over, which attract myriad of tourists to Rio de Janeiro from the four corners of the globe. They are the gritty reflection of a Brazilian reality that also includes images of poverty from countless shanty-towns and of the daily drama faced by street children, a tragedy which Brazil's newly elected President, Luisa da Silva, has promised to tackle as a matter of priority throughout his term.

So encapsulated with a few set-piece images, the City of Rio de Janeiro, along with the Brazilian delegation, welcomed the 31 participants to CISM's Strategic Symposium held in November 2002. CISM's delegation included representatives from sixteen different countries led by the organisation's President, Colonel Gola, and its Secretary General, Colonel Robert Eggmont, as well as members of the Board of Directors, of the organisation's various Commissions and Technical Committees, and of the General Secretariat. Under the guidance of General Albert Jansen, President of the Planning Commission, they spent a week developing CISM's Strategic and Annual Business Plans. Considered a vital tool for the enhancement of CISM's activities, this project was launched pursuant of the new regulations adopted by the General Assembly in 2001, which introduced profound changes to the structure, responsibility and authority of each of CISM's respective statutory bodies.

The Symposium was masterfully organised by the Brazilian delegation and its Head, Admiral Guimaraes. Once more, they displayed extraordinary know-how and hospitality, a taste that some of the CISM members had already had an opportunity to acquire during previous stays in Brazil as part of other events.

Several independent speakers of high repute delivered thought-provoking speeches before a captivated audience:

- Mr Manuel Tubino, President of the Fédération Internationale d'éducation physique (FIEP "International Federation for Physical Education"), addressed the military's contribution to the development of sport throughout the world;
- Mr João Havelange, IOC Member and former President of FIFA ("International Football Federation Association"), presented an overview of the development of sport around the world;
- Mr Carlos Nuzman, President of the Brazilian Olympic Committee, presented a paper on "Sport in Brazil: a Proposed Strategy"; and
- Mr Lars Græn, Brazilian Secretary of Sport, compared the projects tabled by the Ministries of Defence and Sport.

Despite the participants' genuine appreciation of these speeches by outsiders, some of them also wished to express their own views on a variety of issues in connection with the Symposium's main topic:

- Lt-Colonel Finn Lockberg, Member of the Commission for Sport, outlined his Commission's views;
- Lt-Colonel Don Keus, Secretary of the Commission for Sport, presented a paper entitled "Dream or Reality" based on statistics concerning CISM's activities;
- Brigadier General Jansen, Director of the Symposium, presented a Strategic Plan template and discussed the drafting of the plan itself; and
- Colonel André Thiery, CISM Treasurer, dealt with "Budget and Financial Resources".

The day after these presentations, the participants were split into four workshops, each of which addressed two of the eight topics identified as strategic priorities for CISM. All groups used the same detailed working method.

The last day of the Symposium was dedicated to the presentation of workshop reports and to the drafting of a questionnaire.

At the end of this last day, the President of CISM, Colonel Gola, drew conclusions in a closing address that won unanimous acclaim.

Following this work, the President of the Planning Commission and Symposium Director, General Albert Jansen, drew up the Strategic and Annual Business Plans, which he submitted to the Board of Directors in Simons's town in December 2002.

The quality of the various speakers' presentations, the commitment of the four workshops, as well as the high level topics and issues they addressed, have turned this Strategic Symposium into a major success and, most certainly, a decisive step in the development of CISM's activities.

From left to right: the Secretary General, the President of CISM, the Chief of the Brazilian delegation, Admiral Guimaraes, and the Vice-President for America.
Latin America is Powering Up

The 14th World Military Equestrian Championship was held early this year in Chile. Sixteen teams took the trip to Quillota, a town to the north of the Chilean capital Santiago. Of course, there will inevitably be those who argue that out of the sixteen teams present, some are considered inactive while others are not even current members of our organisation. To which we reply that they were allowed to enter pursuant of CISM’s strategic plan and practical efforts to reactivate some Latin American countries and attract new members in the region.

Another source of genuine satisfaction was the organisation of all events traditionally on the equestrian programme for the first time since the Rome Military World Games in 1995. On top of that, new records were set for the number of delegations, riders and women. The three-day event, showjumping and dressage were all organised in a magnificent equestrian centre for a world championship that also provided the Chilean military horsemanship school with a golden opportunity to celebrate its centennial with pomp and circumstance. Of course, in order for the party to be a complete success, the Chilean team had to rise to the occasion. They showed the way last year when they won the two obstacle courses on the programme of the previous edition in Turkey. In Quillota, the locals bagged three gold medals: individual dressage (M. Pirrone) and team showjumping and dressage.

The three-day event went to Lieutenant Carlos Alfonso, whose name is probably familiar to you. Indeed, our gold medallist is the son of the head of the Argentine delegation, Brigadier General Carlos Alfonso! And the head of the Argentine delegation was even prouder of his son when it turned out that he had led his teammates to team gold. The Uruguayan team also went home with its share of gold: Lieutenant L. Arancho won the showjumping event. So, the Latin American accent was audible on all steps of every single rostrum in the three disciplines, except the second step of the Cup of Nations, where the Irish played a dissonant note under the leadership of G. Mullins, whose reputation has reached even the remotest stodkrams and whose young teammates won unanimous acclaim from very large audiences (40,000 in total during the week).

Participating countries (16): Argentina, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, France, Ireland, Italy (*), Mexico, the Netherlands (**), Paraguay, Peru, Salvador, Uruguay, Venezuela

Observing country (1): Qatar

Official CISM Representative: Colonel Ernesto Rodriguez (Venezuela)

President TC: Lt Colonel Giulio Serafini (Italy)

127 participants, 63 athletes: 2 women, 61 men.

Results

Dressage:
1. Tst M. Pirrone (QAR) with Jaque: 50.35 pts
2. Tst M. Morupi (URU) with Capelina: 71.78 pts
3. Lt A. Bertolé (FRA) with Aladino: 88.85 pts

5 days event Individual:
1. Tst L. Arancho (ARG) with Remonts Verano: 2. Tst G. Grassi (ITA) with Natacco
2. Cap. J. Fernández (URU) with Nicobardo
3. Tst C. C. Alfonso (ARG) with Delaselle:

5 days event Team:
1. Argentina (Tst C. C. Alfonso, Tst A. Grassi, Sgt D. Esposito, Tst J. A. Correia)
2. Chile (Cap. G. Guim, Cap. J. Villarreal, Cap J. Chang, Cap R. Stange)

Jumping:
1. Tst L. Aranco with Escuerra: 35 pts (9 A-brake: 4 pts)
2. Tst R. Abetaia (URU): 5 pts, 9-brake: 12 pts
3. Tst D. Riff Dél: 4 pts, 9.45 (tie-break for the 3rd place: 2 pts, 41.38)

Nations Cup:
1. Chile (Tst G. Mullins, Tst G. Cop, Tst A. Angulo, Tst B. Man: 4 pts
2. Ireland (Lt G. Mullins, Tst G, Cop, Tst L. Murphy, Tst D. O'Brien): 55 pts
3. Argentina (Tst E. Zona, Maj M. Bedoya, Tst G. Calo, Tst M. Torres): 21 pts
The Winners More than Made Up for the Absent

In the wake of remarkable overall military achievement in Salt Lake City, the Slovenian delegation was looking forward to entertaining the audiences and media with an impressive list of Olympic medalists who were going to perform on the now famous slopes of Kranjska Gora (for the Giant Slalom) and Pokljuka (for cross-country skiing and biathlon). Unfortunately, in the week before the opening ceremony of the military championship, a flood of withdrawals were announced, due to the incredible dawesness of the international programme. All the more reason to praise the four Olympic medalists who were present in Slovenia: France's Gilles Marguet and Vincent Defrasne and Austria's Wolfgang Fismer and Christian Hoffmann. Despite understandable exhaustion, they did more than simply participate.

Praise is also in order for the winners of this week's races, whose names will feature on a par with their illustrious predecessors in the list of world military ski champions, the younger ones having clinched major international titles in the absence of their famous elders, thereby inaugurating what we can only hope will become impressive personal records. Among them, Italy's Michael Gufler and Denise Karbon, winners of the Giant Slalom, deserve a special mention. Finding Austria's Wolfgang Fismer and Slovenia's Andrea Grasic on the top steps of the biathlon rostrums serves to verify the high level of performance achieved in these competitions, as they both confirmed the titles they won last year and are well-established stars on the global scene. As for France's Isabelle Philippot and Austria's Gethard Uhrin, they are not far from regular presence on World Cup podiums. Norway and France won the Patrol Races, thereby confirming their excellent performances in the relay events. Austria and Italy (as last year), Italy and Norway in that order on the podium of the Cup of Nations is after all a perfectly logical occurrence on the winter scene.

Participating countries (23): Germany (*), Argentina (*), Austria (*), Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada (*), Croatia, Spain, Estonia (*), United States (*), Finland (*), France (*), Hungary, Italy (*), Latvia (*), Norway (*), Romania (*), Slovakia, Slovenia (*), Sweden (*), Switzerland, Czech Republic (*), Ukraine (*)

Official CISM Representative: Brigadier General Inzide Poceow (Canada)
President TC: Lt Colonel Georg Di Paolo von Treuehm (Italy)
475 participants, 327 athletes: 97 women, 230 men

Results

Women

Giant Slalom:
1. D. Karbon (ITA) - 1:49'16,2 2. N. Gus (ITA) - 1:50'13 3. M. Piestzocher (SUI) - 1:52'44
Team:
1. Italy, 3. Germany, 5. Slovenia
Cross-country (15km):
1. K. Philippot (FRA) - 26'38.6 2. P. Madric (SLO) - 26'46.5 3. J. Olson (SWE) - 27'01.5
Team:
1. France, 2. Germany, 3. Norway
Birket (spring):
1. A. Grass (SLO) - 29'40.4 (2) 2. J. Berger (NOR) - 30'47.2 (4) 3. E. hansjo (SWE) - 34'20.8 (1)
Team:
1. Slovenia, 2. Norway, 3. Germany
Patrol:
1. France (A. Phil, F. Barrie-Robert, C. Gros, S. Balley) - 47'37.7 (6)
2. Slovenia (M. Madi, A. Grasic, L. Luris, J. Barcikd) - 47'37.9 (6)
3. Germany (K. Kass, D. Schmider, J. Kohn, P. Wagner) - 49'54.1 (1)

Men

Giant Slalom:
1. W. Gugler (ITA) - 1:49'10.3 2. R. Schmukler (AUT) - 1:49'70.9 3. M. Lenzinger (AUT) - 1:50'72
Team:
1. Austria, 2. Italy, 3. Switzerland
Cross-country (15km):
1. G. Union (AUT) - 34'19.7 2. J. Merle (SUI) - 34'32.3 3. T. Bjornson (NOR) - 34'50.9
Team:
1. Austria, 2. Norway, 3. Italy
Birket (spring):
1. W. Fismer (AUT) - 26'20.7 (1) 2. M. Poklukar (SLO) - 26'34.3 (2) 3. H. Anderon (AUT) - 26'38.9 (1)
Team:
1. Slovenia, 2. Norway, 3. Germany
Patrol:
1. Norway (M. Bros, T. Bjornson, S. Eggert, T. Berger) - 20'32.4 (4)
2. Switzerland (O. Stadler, M. Birrer, R. Zwillen, C. Eckmiller) - 21'51.4 (5)
3. Finland (P. Povier, P. Kallberg, J. Tyska, A. Pohaski) - 21'15.7 (5)

Nation Cup:
1. Austria, 2. Italy, 3. Norway
Moroccan Grand Slam

While we readily agree that, in the eyes of most Europeans, Antalya is essentially a mythical holiday destination, we can also safely claim that the 23 countries present for the 49th World Military Cross-Country Championship held in the Turkish resort did not take the trip to enjoy the sun. On the Antalya course—a difficult run because of the ubiquitous sand and the many curves needed to keep the action near the audience and allow them to follow the races without missing a single second of the action—the Moroccan team finally bagged the grand slam they have been after for years—even though they will never admit to it. But, whereas until the mid-90s only the long cross was a Moroccan speciality, for the last six years, following the arrival of a generation of Moroccan women led by Zhor El Kharsh, the Moroccan stamp on military cross-country has become indelible. And with the advent in the short cross of Abdelkader Hachhal—a good middle-distance specialist who is worth 33'33'00 on 1500m—Morocco has found the link it missed to complete a sublime grand slam.

Ladies first! With Zhor El Kharsh’s fourth consecutive title. She is a talented runner with no real military rival these days—a fact that she proved on the track during the last world military athletics championship in Beirut. The men’s long cross was an all-Moroccan business: “one, two and three-nil!”, as the French like to sing who finished second, far behind the Moroccan trio composed of Mouch, Bouchlouch and Zenati, the latter proving to be more than an adequate substitute for Mouatadfa Bammouh, four times world champion but absent in Antalya. As indicated above, the short cross title went to Abdelkader Hachhal, but the real hero of this race wasaudi Arabia’s Saadi Al Ammar, who managed to beat Moubid, another Moroccan, to the podium. This slight upset bore no impact on the team title: like the rest of the titles, it went to Morocco, of course. Their opponents can but bow to the supremacy of a very convincing Moroccan team indeed.

Results

Women

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cross (Men)</th>
<th>Team</th>
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<td>1. Z. El Korch (MAR)</td>
<td>Morocco</td>
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<td>2. J. Prokopczuk (LIT)</td>
<td>Germany</td>
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<td>3. A. Zelt (GER)</td>
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<th>Long Cross (Men)</th>
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<td>2. S. Al Ammar (KSA)</td>
<td>Portugal</td>
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<td>3. M. Moubide (MAR)</td>
<td>Germany</td>
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Belarus Again

At the Second Military World Games in Zagreb in 1999, the Belarusian team already made a strong impression not only by conquering the world military title but also by defeating in the process a Croatian team that looked all the more unbeatable on the home turf for a crowd that supported them as one. Apparently, the Belarusian team, built around players of Dynamo Minsk, the famous national champion team, is especially motivated when facing the organizer of the global military tournament in the final. Indeed, the last obstacle between the 2002 world military champions and another trip to the top of the podium were different organizers and opponents this time: Lithuanians supported in Kaunas by thunderous crowds in a sports hall that was packed to the rafters.

Unfortunately for the audience, the Belarusians made short work of their favourites and defeated them 30-17. Also built around the national champions of Kaunas, and despite the presence among them of the best player of the tournament—the very gifted and versatile Augustas Strazdas—the Lithuanian team was completely inadequate and was outperformed by Belarus throughout the final. Reason for this severe defeat is probably to be found partly in the Lithuanians' bad form on the day but also in the merits of the winners, whose team play worked wonders.

The triumph of the Baltic States was complete since in the final for third place, Latvia prevailed against the ever-spectacular Korean team, featuring tournament best scorer Hyeon Chul Kim. Unfortunately for the Koreans, they were facing Marekis Skobidas, best goalkeeper of this global military tournament, which probably goes a long way toward explaining their defeat.

Worthy noting among the eleven teams is the participation of Syria, winner of the world military tournament in 2001 but whose team did not enjoy the support of the home crowd this time and finished seventh. One final word to pay tribute to the referees coached by a member of the Commission for Rules and Refereeing of the International Handball Federation, whose work won unanimous acclaim.

Results

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Score</th>
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<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Belarus-Lithuania</td>
<td>30-17</td>
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<tr>
<td>5th</td>
<td>Germany-Greece</td>
<td>25-22</td>
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Final classification:
1. Belarus
2. Lithuania
3. Latvia
4. Rep. Korea
5. Germany
6. Greece
7. Syria
8. China
9. Saudi Arabia
10. Cyprus

Best Scorer: Hyeon Chul Kim (Rep. Korea)
Best player: Augustas Strazdas (Lithuania)
Best goalkeeper: Marekis Skobidas (Lithuania)
Fair-play: Germany
13-17 June 2002
Blumenau, Switzerland

Too Fast to be True!

The Swiss delegation's idea was simply splendid: running the world military marathon championship as part of the Biennale Races, a huge civilian event organized by the Bern Canton's association of non-commissioned officers. The "Courses de Blumenau" include a 100km race, a marathon, semi-marathon, quarter-marathon and many more athletic events that have attracted countless national and international athletes since time immemorial.

So, 58 men and six women from 15 different countries decided to take part in this sporting feast. In the men's, Morocco's Karim Saaidou—the winner of the 2001 edition in Beinouk—prevailed again, this time beating Belgium's Gino Van Geyte and Brazil's Alex Mendoco, while Switzerland's Philip Rist finished fourth and Jorg Hafner fifth, thereby bagging the team title for their country, with the Qatar and Spanish teams finishing second and third respectively. In the women's race, victory went to France's Nathalie Guillon, with Canada's Tammy Hosco and Suzanne Cote clinching silver and bronze. Now about the men's race and the winner's astounding 2:06'00". At 39, Karim Saaidou set a new CISM record and kept the promise he had made in Beinouk—"give me a chance to run a marathon in Europe, and I will cut my personal best to around 2:06'00". Behind him, Gino Van Geyte smashed his own PB too (2:07'00"), just as Alex Mendoco, Rist (thereby qualifying for the civilian European championship), Jorg Hafner, etc.

This plethora of personal bests caused the Swiss delegation to raise an eyebrow. It had outsourced the organisation of the championship to the very experienced Organising committee of the Biennale Races and promptly demanded that the course—which the organizers had recomputed several times—be measured again. Much to the athletes' dismay and the Swiss delegation's fury, this new measurement came 1197 meters short! Colonel Joss and his delegation were not in the least responsible for this mistake of course, but the Engineering School and the Organising Committee were home in utter shame!

Participating Countries (15) : Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada (*), Croatia, Spain, United States (*), France (*), Hungary, Morocco, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Slovenia, Switzerland

Official CISM Representative : Lt Colonel Don Krous (The Netherlands)
President TC : Colonel Joz Lenersers (Belgium)
94 participants, 64 athletes, 6 women, 58 men

Results

Women
1. N. Guillon (FRA) 2. T. Hosco (CAN) 3. S. Cote (CAN)

Men
1. K. Saaidou (MAR) 2. G. Van Geyte (BEL) 3. A.J. Mendoca (BRA)
Fencing

38th World Military Fencing Championship

Thorny Russia

Eighteen countries took the trip to Avanches, a few kilometres from the Swiss capital Bern, for what constitutes, from a qualitative point of view, one of the main attractions in our international military schedule, all sports included.

Ladies first, then, to note first of all that the highly reputable Russian school, whose tradition is beyond praise, was almost exclusive in its domination, leaving only the award team title to the Belarusian opposition. Let us start our overview of performances with the women’s foil tournament, in which Svetlana Bobko won the individual title against the Netherlands' excellent Ingrid Angad-Gaard, 8th in the IFF world rankings, while fellow countrywoman Ekaterina Youtcheva finished third, with the Russian team prevailing overall. Slightly more than a month later, at the civilian world championships in Lisbon, Bobko prevailed again in the individual tournament, this time against Ekaterina Youcheva, and went on to bag team gold with the latter. The Russian pair temporarily interrupted Vezzali and Trillini’s incredible domination of both civilian and military foil worlds on behalf of Italy. The Russian sabre team is in rather good shape too, judging from Elena Netchava's individual title in the CISM championship following an individual bronze medal in Lisbon and a second team title in succession. Bilateral meets in the team event Russia seemed unapproachable. As for very young Anna Savkova, as Russian as the rest of them, she conquered her first major military title in Avanches, two years after winning the civilian junior world title.

Just a few words about the men’s tournaments to mention the second consecutive foil title conquered by Gianluca Pierucci, a junior world champion in 1999 who apparently finds it difficult to confirm his huge talents with his senior peers on strips outside the military arena. Italy’s F. Di Lauro prevailed in the men’s sabre tournament, and he had more to be happy about since his country—record holder for the number of team titles—won the team event too. Let us add Belarus’s Zhalihar and Russia in the team foil and sabre events to complete this—decidedly Russian-accented—overview of the final results.

Participating Countries (18): Germany (*), Argentina (*), Austria, Belarus (*), Belgium (*), Brazil, United States, France (*), Hungary (*), Italy, Lebanon, Norway, The Netherlands (*), Romania (*), Russia (*), Sweden (*), Switzerland, Thailand (*), female participation

Official CISM Representative: Lt Colonel Don Keus (The Netherlands)
President TC (ad interim): Lt Colonel Joao Quadros (Portugal)

203 participants, 134 athletes: 97 men, 37 women

Results

Women

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Foil</th>
<th>1. S. Boyko (RUS)</th>
<th>2. I. Andzi Gar (MOL)</th>
<th>3. E. Yakleva (RUS)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Team</td>
<td>1. Russia</td>
<td>2. Belarus</td>
<td>3. Romania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saber</td>
<td>1. Netchava (RUS)</td>
<td>2. Bernat (GER)</td>
<td>3. Netchava (RUS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team</td>
<td>1. Russia</td>
<td>2. Russia</td>
<td>3. Switzerland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sword</td>
<td>1. Sivkova (RUS)</td>
<td>2. Lisitskaya (RUS)</td>
<td>3. Gori (BLR)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team</td>
<td>1. Belarus</td>
<td>2. Russia</td>
<td>3. Hungary</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Men

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Foil</th>
<th>1. G. Pierucci (ITA)</th>
<th>2. V. Poszony (RUS)</th>
<th>3. A. Nasif (MOL)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Team</td>
<td>1. Russia</td>
<td>2. Italy</td>
<td>3. Romania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saber</td>
<td>1. F. Lauro (ITA)</td>
<td>2. Szasz (HUN)</td>
<td>3. Switzerland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team</td>
<td>1. Russia</td>
<td>2. Switzerland</td>
<td>3. Belarus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sword</td>
<td>1. Zhalihar (BLR)</td>
<td>2. Schindler (GER)</td>
<td>3. Poland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team</td>
<td>1. Belarus</td>
<td>2. Russia</td>
<td>3. Germany</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Russians Found Their Way

"Russian Grand Slam" was the title of our piece on the 34th World Military Orienteering Championship in Beja, Portugal, last year. We could have simply pasted it to encapsulate our report on the 35th World Military Orienteering Championship held in the Austrian town of Altenau.

Our top-notch military orienteering specialists had an appointment with a very demanding course this year and 25 of the 26 nations that had sent representatives had to reconcile themselves with the prospect of going for silver since, at last year, the Russian grip on the discipline was simply too strong. Of course, in theory at least, the Russian entries were the best: their athletes rank highest in the individual world rankings and in the default World Cup standings. Ranked world number two and second in the final standings of the 2002 World Cup, Mikhail Matveev led the opposition in the individual event of the military world championship by finishing more than three minutes ahead of his closest pursuer, Poland's Penczyk. This meant a second consecutive gold medal for him. As last year, Matveev was supported in the relay and team events by Valentin Novikov, currently world number 10, as well as E. Fodeev and M. Davkov, who were not exactly born to orienteering yesterday either. Russia won both the relay and team titles, beating Poland and Norway—whose value is known worldwide—only by the smallest of margins.

The women's events were dominated by Tatiana Ryabkina, who enjoyed the best world ranking (14th) and the best World Cup performance (17th) of all the entries. It was therefore only natural that she should outperform the opposition, starting with fellow countryperson Julia Siedina, who failed to repeat last year's victory. With the valuable support of Olga Belozorova, the Russian team-mates left nothing to chance or thrill in the relay and team events, in which they also bagged gold, with Sweden and Lithuania finishing second in the respective events.

The Russian orienteering specialists were simply too strong in the early Austrian summer and there is every reason to believe that the same will apply next year in Vihuri, Lithuania.

Participating countries (26): Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria (1), Croatia, Denmark, Spain, Estonia (1), Finland, France (1), Hungary (1), Italy (1), Latvia (1), Lithuania (1), Norway (1), the Netherlands (1), Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia (1), Slovenia (1), Sweden (1), Switzerland, Czech Republic, Turkey, Ukraine (1).

Observing countries (2): Greece, New Zealand.

Official CISM Representative: Colonel Robert Eggermont (Belgium).

President TC: Lt Col Harald Destbye (Norway).

216 athletes: 172 men, 44 women.

Results

**Men**

Individual:
1. N. Maleiner (RUS) : 2:30:39
2. J. Penczyk (POL) : 2:31:38
3. S. Antonsson (LTU) : 2:32:29

Team:
1. Russia (N. Maleiner, V. Novikov, E. Fodeev, M. Matveev) : 5:24:44
3. Czech Republic (M. Jablona, K. Novotny, L. Zidars, A. Rejsek) : 5:30:20
4. Poland (S. Kozlowski, S. Baranowski, J. Penczyk) : 5:30:40

Relay:
1. Russia (N. Maleiner, V. Novikov, M. Matveev) : 1:37:54
2. Poland (S. Kozlowski, R. Baranowski, J. Penczyk) : 1:37:43

**Women**

Individual:
1. T. Ryabkina (RUS) : 1:57:33
2. J. Siedina (RUS) : 1:59:37
3. J. Bergdahl (SWE) : 1:59:39

Team:
1. Russia (T. Ryabkina, J. Siedina, O. Belozorova) : 3:31:42
2. Lithuania (N. Rutkoniene, J. Bergdahl, D. Voskulis) : 3:32:45

Relay:
1. Russia (T. Ryabkina, O. Belozorova, T. Ryabkina) : 1:56:24
2. Sweden (H. Fridlund, L. Nordr, A. Ekblad) : 2:03:18
3. Ukraine (O. Voskulis, N. Rutkoniene, J. Bergdahl) : 2:05:19
Inaccessible Swedes

Nine of the ten countries entering the 46th World Military Aeronautical Pentathlon Championship organised in the French city of Dijon—a region that is famous for its good food and tasty wines—were once again driven to witness powerfully the bull-like behaviour of the tenth, i.e. Sweden, which in the last few editions has further tightened its grip on the discipline. Statistics speak for themselves: in 46 World Military Championships, the Swedes have won 30 individual and 29 team titles.

On the home turf last year in Ronneby, Sweden finished one, two, three and four. It was only slightly less impressive this year in Dijon, as the Swedes had to tolerate the presence of an intruder on the podium: Spain's Cuencas bagged bronze. Still, a brief look at the gap between the Yellow and Blue and the opposition is enough to wonder how long this stranglehold will last yet. Again, statistics are eloquent: Sweden beat Spain to the top step of the team podium by a staggering 1020 points!

Individually, Sweden's Niklas Isaksson, who is 30, won a second title in succession, but this time he totalled a remarkable 4743 points to best near-veteran and 2000 Champion Peter Carlson describes the latter's impressive total of 4649 points. It is during the last event—the so-called "evasion run"—that Isaksson put an end to the thriller and brought team-mate Carlson into line, despite the latter's good-as-ever performances in the shooting range and on the fencing strip.

Spain finished second overall and Finland completed a podium that for a number of years now, has looked very much unchanged—except for a few swaps between second and third. In short, there was very little novelty to report from the aeronautical pentathlon world in Dijon.

Participating countries (11): Belgium, Brazil, Spain, Finland, France, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Czech Republic, Turkey, Sweden (*)

(*) female participation

Official CISM Representative: Navy Captain Gian-Antonio Invernizzi (Italy)

President TC: Captain Goran Larsson (Sweden)

93 participants, 54 athletes: 83 men, 1 woman

Finland

21-23 June 2002

Dijon, France

Results


2. Spain (E. Cuencas, B. Ato, B. Cuencas): 12,811 pts.

modern pentathlon

34th World Military Modern Pentathlon Championship

Masters at Home

Fourteen delegations took the trip to the charming university town of Hradec Kralove, 100km from Prague and a mere stone's throw from the German and Polish borders. The Czech delegation could not have picked a better year to organise this particular military world championship. Indeed, 2002 has been quite remarkable so far for its pentathlons. A few months after the military world championship, here is a short summary of the achievements of the country's top three competitors this year: Libor Capalin, 2nd in the CISM championship, won the civilian European championship and is currently world number one. Michal Soledicky became civilian world champion in San Francisco and is currently ranked fifth in the world. As for Michal Michalik, he bagged team gold at the world military championship, in association with Capalin and Sedlicky, as well as team silver at the civilian world championship. So, with one team title, two individual second places and a bonus silver medal in the relay—with a completely different team, by the way—the Czech Republic very much confirmed in CISM competitions its indisputable status as the world's—provisional—number one modern pentathlon nation, by both military and civilian standards.

This long enumeration of proud achievements by local athletes this year should not overshadow the individual titles conquered in Hradec Kralove by Ukraine's Vadim Tiatrashuk in the men's event and Latvia's Jelena Rubleva in the women's. Ukraine is a regular feature on CISM team podiums. Indeed, its name appears almost every year among CISM medallists. Still, except for a win in the final event of the 2001 World Cup and a fifth place in Sydney, this is Tiatrashuk's first major individual title. And how about Latvia's Jelena Rubleva then, who won her first major international title in the Czech Republic. Ranked seventh in the world, Jelena made the difference by crushing the opposition on the fencing strip following a very good shooting round. Having passed a rather handsome lead, she then nursed her advantage to stay ahead of Hungary's Rita Pal. As mentioned at the beginning of this article, the unrepeatable Czech trio bagged team gold, but the relay went to Belarus's Mikhail Prokopenko, Andrei Shimanovskov and Oleg Dzhecherov.

Participating countries (14): Bahrain, Belarus (*), Brazil, Estonia, United States (*), Hungary (*), Italy (*), Latvia (*), Russia (*), Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland, Czech Republic (*), Ukraine (*). Female participation.

Official CISM Representative: Lt-Colonel Johann Aventis (Germany)
President TC: Colonel Jürg Waeffer (Switzerland)
119 participants, 69 athletes: 53 men, 16 women

Results

Women

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Individually</th>
<th>1. L. Rubleva (LAT)</th>
<th>5,428 pts</th>
<th>2. R. Pal (HUN)</th>
<th>5,312 pts</th>
<th>3. H. Uruskova (BLR)</th>
<th>5,118 pts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Men

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Individually</th>
<th>1. V. Tiatrashuk (UKR)</th>
<th>5,614 pts</th>
<th>2. L. Capalin (Czech Rep)</th>
<th>5,548 pts</th>
<th>3. A. Koukharov (ITA)</th>
<th>5,500 pts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Team:

1. Czech Republic (L. Capalin, M. Horvat, O. Kricka) | 16,116 pts
2. Russia (A. Kozhovoi, A. Tipponov, A. Gavrikov) | 16,060 pts
3. Italy (A. Valentin, E. Deligiorgi) | 15,300 pts

Relay:

1. Belarus (M. Prokopenko, A. Shimanovskov, O. Dzhecherov) | 5,300 pts
2. Czech Republic (O. Kricka, P. Ludek, M. Horvat) | 5,244 pts
3. Hungary (V. Horvat, A. Horvat, M. Yamin) | 5,228 pts
All Big Names in Attendance!

Once again, CISM has to sing the praise of the Estonian delegation and its Chief, 2nd Lieutenant Heino Maks, in recognition of their magnificent work before and during the 9th World Military Triathlon Championship held in June in Otepää, a peaceful town 150 km from the Estonian capital, Tallinn. What a small country of barely 2 million inhabitants has managed to do on behalf of our organisation in 2002 is simply extraordinary. A few months after hosting a Board meeting and just some months before accommodating the World Military Wrestling Championship, the Estonian delegation rose to the challenge of transforming into a full-fledged World Military Championship what was scheduled to be a regional triathlon championship only!

On the championship itself, the first temptation is to conclude that, once again, a Frenchman makes room for another. Indeed, since 1997—and with the exception of the title bagged by Germany's Unger in 2000—the French team has imposed a comprehensive domination in the military triathlon. Following the advent of Jeanneau in (1997) and Codet (1998, 1999 and 2001), this year was marked by that of Desiraz. The race unfolded as has been customary since pack racing has been allowed in the biking leg: the winner during the final 10km emerged from the leading group formed during the bicycle race. In this configuration, Desiraz built a substantial lead over teammate Chabaud—a long-distance specialist who ranked sixth in the last ironman and finished second of the World Military Championship in 1999—and Germany's Goelzer.

The story in the women's event was usual. The Chinese ladies built a substantial lead in the swimming leg before the pack caught up with them during the biking leg. The decision was made during the final leg but comparisons stop here. Indeed, Austria provided this year in the person of Brannock, who won silver in last year's world championship, thereby perpetuating her country's tradition and following in the tracks of Hasenmiller who won the military world championship in 1999. As for China's Meng and Lin, they found solace in individual silver and bronze and, of course, team gold, besieging Italy and the USA. Is it worth specifying that the French won the men's team gold, with Germany and Slovenia finishing second and third respectively? As always since the emergence of the triathlon within CISM, Germany did not leave the award ceremony empty-handed: the German triathletes won the mixed team title, with France and China bagging the other medals in that order.
military pentathlon
50th World Military Pentathlon Championship

The Military Pentathlon Celebrates its 50th Anniversary With Great Pomp and Ceremony!

It was accordingly the most eagerly awaited world military championship in 2002. Indeed, in the middle of a Dutch summer that had the good taste of sparing us for a week, the 50th World Military Pentathlon Championship was held—and celebrated—in Schagenbergen, a Dutch town that had already hosted the World Military Fencing Championship in 1997. The choice was judicious, as was the decision to hand over to the Dutch delegation the keys to the organization of the JASYA celebrations that will undoubtedly live on in the hearts and memories of all present, spectators and competitors alike! The success of such an undertaking rests first and foremost on close synergies between all players and their respective competitors. The successful alchemy of superbly organized Dutch Armed Forces, a national delegation that is renowned for its competence and a Technical Committee for the Military Pentathlon that is wonderfully structured and masterminded by a most dynamic President supported by staff who know CISM and their discipline like the back of their hand, all led to a universally-praised display of fireworks.

The military pentathlon is the sport that probably best embodies CISM's body and soul. First because it has evolved away from our organization since its foundation, second because it personifies its motto (Friendship Through Sport), third because it is spectacular and the athletes who enter military pentathlon competitions are magnificently trained, fourth because it adheres to regulations specific to military forces.

Schagenbergen was also the occasion to celebrate former world military pentathlon champions. Indeed eleven of them had taken the trip to The Netherlands, among whom Harmut Niemeyer, Mr Military Pentathlon—ten individual titles—whose remarkable achievements were the subject of an exhibition put together thanks to the priceless contribution of Marcus Pucher, the son of You-Know-Who and a former military pentathlete himself. The exhibition, which told the history of the discipline, welcomed many visitors and was a success. A number of former Presidents of the Technical Committee for Military Pentathlon were also present, including General Artur Zobec—who, needless to recall, also served as President of CISM—Colonel Hervé Geis and Colonel Pluit—also a former CISM Secretary General. The current President, Colonel Gots, and his Secretary General, Colonel Robert Eggemmer, were in attendance too.

So, top brass only, for a magnificent event whose sporting aspects are reported opposite, and the celebration of an anniversary that will certainly go down in our organization's history as a momentous occasion. A round of applause is in order for all contributors, as well as a special word of thanks to the Dutch delegation who built a new obstacle track and course in record time and ensured that all the infrastructure required for the organization of the jubilee was available on time.

Participating countries (26) : South Africa, Germany, Austria, Belgium (*), Brazil, China (*), Croatia, Denmark (*), Spain (*), Estonia (*), Finland (*), Latvia (*), Norway (*), Uzbekistan, The Netherlands (*), Romania, Russia (*), Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, Czech Republic (*), Turkey (*), Ukraine, Venezuela.

Official CISM Representative: Maj Gen You-yan Chen (China)

President TC: Brigadier General Johann Pucher (Austria)

176 athletes: 35 women, 141 men

Results

Women

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shooting</th>
<th>1. A. Tomasz (FRA) - 195 pts</th>
<th>2. L. Yee (CHN) - 197 pts</th>
<th>3. L. Xu (CHN) - 195 pts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Obstacle run</td>
<td>1. L. Tien (CHN) - 211 pts</td>
<td>2. L. Ki (KOR) - 210 pts</td>
<td>3. T. Hsu (HUN) - 209 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swimming</td>
<td>1. Y. Wang (CHN) - 198 pts</td>
<td>2. H. Park (KOR) - 201 pts</td>
<td>3. Y. Wang (CHN) - 200 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Throwing</td>
<td>1. L. Xu (CHN) - 188 pts</td>
<td>2. L. Kołodziej (LAT) - 176 pts</td>
<td>3. L. Tien (CHN) - 174 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross-country</td>
<td>1. L. Xi (CHN) - 120 pts</td>
<td>2. L. Tien (CHN) - 144 pts</td>
<td>3. L. Xue (CHN) - 140 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual</td>
<td>1. Y. Wang (CHN) - 540 pts</td>
<td>2. L. Tien (CHN) - 541 pts</td>
<td>3. L. Xu (CHN) - 543 pts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Team:

1. China (Y. Wang, L. Tien, L. Xu) - 1831 pts
2. Norway (Bertelsen, Nydal, Jakobsen) - 1543 pts
3. Russia (Petrov, Brusov, Romanov) - 1525 pts

Relay:

1. China
2. Russia
3. Latvia
**Fifteen Years Later!**

Fifteen years later, the world military pentathlon title went back to Europe. Between those fifteen years, China and Brazil won the event. Fifteen years during which Chinese and Brazilian pentathletes alternatively won the championship. Austrian marvellous Stefan Palma put an end to a period of European hardship that was all the more difficult to swallow because it followed the Nienaber period, a period of real pentathlon legend, but also the German pentathlon legend who won an incredible ten individual titles.

Twenty-two-year-old Corporal Palma from Emdenport bei Weeze bagged his win after a breathtaking suspense. A very high standard was set during the first event: two pentathletes—Germany's Marco Kalmeier and Turkey's Yassin Tais—shot to perfection (200/200), thereby equalling the world record. In his best event, the obstacle race, Austria's Stefan Palma finished second—behind military pentathlon's other revelation, Norway's Øystein Sylla—and took the lead overall, never to relinquish it again. This he did in the face of unrelenting opposition by China's Shugan He (already second in last year's world military pentathlon championship in Antwerp, Belgium). Following the obstacle swimming and grenade throwing rounds, the Chinese was only trailing by 5.4 points, which translated into Palma's 540 least at the start of the final event, the cross-country race. The Chinese closed the gap quite rapidly but overreached himself in the process and could not resist the new military world champion's final rush. With a total of 5545 points, Palma is quite far from Nienaber's world record (5862.1 points), which he set back in 1980. Shugan He and fellow countryman Liu took second and third respectively, beating Norway's Øystein Sylla to the podium by a hair! As for defending military world champion Carlos Alberto (Brazil), he finished a modest 10th.

China found solace with team gold, while Austria and Brazil bagged silver and bronze and the obstacle race relay went to Turkey ahead of Austria and Belarus. Quite a wake-up call for Europe in Schaarsbergen!

The women's military pentathlon was the same story as usual, with a Chinese-only individual podium: Ying Wang, Li Na and defending champion Li Xu. Of course, the same Chinese ladies bagged the team title. They also won the obstacle race relay. In the absence of its most serious rival, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, China outperformed the opposition by a vast margin, despite the efforts of the Norwegian team led by Gunhild Bertelsen (fourth individually and clearly back to top condition) and the Russians who, despite climbing down one step of the team podium compared to last year in Arlon, are making progress in terms of point performance. One final world to underscore the new women's world record set by China's Li Na Tian in the obstacle race (2:13.6), improving her own record by fully three tenths of a second.
2002: A Great Vintage!

No fewer than 12 new CISM records were set in Warendorf, most of them by champions surfing the wave of good performances that had originated in Berlin a few days earlier. This is how Germany's multiple European Champion Stev. Ticherek bested the records of the 50m and 100m backstroke (25'97 and 55'76). Even though these performances are still quite far from the ones that have already earned him four continental titles, an Olympic medal and a bronze medal at the World Championship, the man from Chemnitz confirmed that he belongs up there with the very best. Slightly behind top world-class international swimmers, Rumania's long-distance specialist Dragos Coman remains one of Europe's top performers. A regular feature on 400m and 1500m podiums at European championships since 1999, he had just again bagged bronze in the 400m in Berlin when he confirmed his current shape by setting two new CISM records in Warendorf. A silver medalist in Berlin's 50m freestyle, Lorenzo Masera, a relative "old-timer" in CISM—only 27—, did not improve his own CISM records but won both the 50m and 100m with more-than-honourable performances (22'30 and 48'70). The Russian 4x100m medley and Italian 4x200m teams also added new records to CISM's list.

In the warhorse competitions, credit should feel of all go to China's 17-year-old Hu Qi, 200m breaststroke world record holder (22'759), who did not have to overtax herself to set new CISM records in the 100m and 200m breaststroke with performances (1:09'22 and 2:29'56) that are not quite up to her personal best. The same is true of Rumania's Cornelia Poteu, a silver medalist in the European championship's 200m freestyle, who won both this event—setting a new CISM record in the process—and the 100m freestyle in Warendorf but performed far below her personal best. Germany's Jan Heke, whose 29 years are evidence that talent is not age-related, set a new CISM record in the 400m freestyle while her Chinese and Russian counterparts did likewise, respectively, in the 4x100m freestyle and 4x50m medley.

In the absence of Sautin, Louckash and Pahalainen, to mention but a few of our regular diving medalists, Dmitri Babakov (RUS, 1m), Andreas Wers (GER, 3m), Natalya Onyknyukova (RUS, 1m) and Yang Yong (CHN, 3m) took over. Lifesaving too delivered some high level results. In the men's, it was a face-off between Germany's Lutz Hohmann and Italy's Mauro Locchi while Kajsa Pjöke of Germany prevailed in the women's.

Women

Breaststroke

100m backstroke: 1. N. Sitagado (RUS) / 52'07, 2. L. Li (CHN) / 52'07, 3. A. Kappelingen (BEL) / 53'51
50m backstroke: 1. L. Yang (CHN) / 29'00, 2. L. Li (CHN) / 29'01, 3. Y. Brat (ROM) / 29'04
100m breaststroke: 1. L. Li (CHN) / 1'09'22 (CISM rec), 2. Y. Bogdanova (RUS) / 1'10'22, 3. S. Fakih (ITA) / 1'11'50
200m breaststroke: 1. Hu Qi (CHN) / 2'29'56 (CISM rec), 2. E. Kaitaniemi (FIN), 3. Y. Bogdanova (RUS) / 2'33'16
50m freestyle: 1. L. Yang (CHN) / 26'34, 2. L. Li (CHN) / 26'35, 3. L. Lange (GER) / 26'36
100m freestyle: 1. C. Poteu (ROM) / 56'59, 2. L. Chang (CHN) / 57'30, 3. J. Rados (RUS) / 57'54
200m freestyle: 1. C. Poteu (ROM) / 2'01'18 (CISM rec), 2. Zhang Ling (CHN) / 2'01'37, 3. L. Heke (GER) / 2'03'37
4x10m medley: 1. Heke (GER) / 1'31'13, 2. Li (CHN) / 1'31'36, 3. S. Fakih (ITA) / 1'32'21
4x50m medley: 1. China / 4'41'43 (CISM rec), 2. Russia / 4'52'30, 3. Germany / 4'56'16
4x50m medley: 1. Russia / 4'52'18 (CISM rec), 2. Germany / 4'56'16, 3. The Netherlands / 5'39'34

Diving

1m: 1. N. Omykynkova (RUS) / 2. Yang Yong (CHN) / 3. S. Kowar (GER)
3m: 1. Yang Yong (CHN) / 2. N. Omykynkova (RUS) / 3. A. Grinn (GER)

Lifesaving

1. K. Pjöke (GER) / 50 pts, 2. A. Bevil (GER) / 3. I. Bonnen (BEL)
swimming

Results

Men

Swimming:

50m butterfly: 1. I. Marchenko (RUS) - 24.91, 2. L. Conrad (GER) - 24.94, 3. G. Holec (CZE) - 25.01
100m butterfly: 1. I. Marchenko (RUS) - 53.97, 2. A. Polakow (RUS) - 54.04, 3. A. Dutta (LAT) - 55.20
200m butterfly: 1. A. Polakow (RUS) - 2:02.11, 2. C. Keller (GER) - 2:03.54, 3. M. Phelps (USA) - 2:04.45
50m back: 1. S. Theile (GER) - 25.77 (SBM rec), 2. L. Kronbli (SWE) - 26.05, 3. D. Eisener (GER) - 26.35
100m back: 1. S. Theile (GER) - 55.73 (SBM rec), 2. D. Eisener (GER) - 56.44, 3. L. Kronbli (SWE) - 58.42
200m back: 1. E. Koch (GER) - 2:03.26, 2. S. Oslathom (RUS) - 201.55, 3. S. Theile (GER) - 2:03.47
50m breast: 1. R. Hananov (RUS) - 28.72, 2. J. Stjau (ROU) - 29.11, 3. S. Klangmann (GER) - 39.21
100m breast: 1. R. Hananov (RUS) - 1:10.03, 2. M. Podgorevska (AUT) - 1:10.21, 3. D. Cassio (ITA) - 1:10.75
80m free: 1. L. Vovk (ITA) - 1:28.16, 2. L. Kainlin (RUS) - 1:28.70, 3. L. Conrad (GER) - 1:29.19
100m free: 1. L. Vovk (ITA) - 49.58, 2. L. Kainlin (RUS) - 50.70, 3. M. Zinn (GER) - 51.36
200m free: 1. P. Capuoglio (ITA) - 1:49.32 (SBM rec), 2. M. Kurelatov (RUS) - 1:50.18, 3. D. Cant (ROM) - 1:50.52
400m free: 1. D. Contra (ROM) - 3:54.11, 2. A. Kononou (RUS) - 3:55.75, 3. S. Right (ITA) - 3:59.53
1500m free: 1. D. Contra (ROM) - 15:24.27 (SBM rec), 2. H. Keh (AUS) - 15:27.74, 3. A. Right (ITA) - 15:41.69
200m medley: 1. O. Keller (GER) - 2:02.46, 2. D. Bartol (ROM) - 2:02.67, 3. M. Pallim (ITA) - 2:03.22
400m medley: 1. G. Barfud (ROM) - 4:57.52, 2. C. Keller (GER) - 4:58.30, 3. P. Russo (ITA) - 4:58.52
4x100m free: 1. Russia - 3:32.24, 2. Germany - 3:32.98, 3. Greece - 3:34.49
4x200m free: 1. Italy - 7:24.23 (SBM rec), 2. Russia - 7:32.95, 3. Germany - 7:33.10
4x100m medley: 1. Russia - 3:41.14 (SBM rec), 2. Italy - 3:42.43, 3. Germany - 3:42.44

Diving:

1st: 1. Balabanov (RUS) 2. A. Weil (GER) 3. N. Manzi (ITA)
3rd: 1. A. Weil (GER) 2. J. Hwang (KOR) 3. N. Manzi (ITA)

Waterpolo:

Individual: 1. L. Heimann (GER) - 76 pts, 2. M. Uechi (ITA) - 68 pts, 3. T. Riccardi (ITA) - 61 pts
Nations: 1. Germany - 144 pts, 2. Italy - 115 pts, 3. Belgium - 85 pts
Victory at a Stately Pace

As usual, the athletics season was both long and busy. The succession of important events overstressed our athletes' physical condition. Therefore, predictably—and despite four new CISM records—the Tivoli championship did not deliver exceptional chronometric performances. This late in the season, some of the great names in attendance were present to win and decided not to beat the clock.

In the men's events, two nations prevailed over the opposition: Italy and Kenya. Visitors first: the Kenyans predictably performed head and shoulders above all other nations in middle-distance—and more—races. Whether in the 400m, 1000m, 3000m steeplechase or 4x400m relay, the kings of the High Lands bagged all the gold on offer. It is true that David Kirui, Joseph Mutua, Robert Ronoh, Sammy Kipketer, John Korir, and Abraham Cherono are exceptionally gifted ambassadors of their country, Kenya, other

The Italians were not far behind either. With Francesco Scuderi, Marco Torrieri and their 4x400m relay team, they stormed through sprint races, Fabio Marti—military king of the 400m hurdles—consolidated his reputation while, in the field events, Nicola Crotti (high jump), Fabio Donato (triple jump), Giuseppe Ghiblini (pole vault) and Nicola Vizzoni (hammer) defended Italy's honour with panache. With three titles conquered respectively by Mike Fenner (1500m hurdles), Ralph Barthels (shot put) and Mark Frank (javelin throw), Germany also managed to wriggle out of it. Latvia's Agars Fadjevs (10km walk), the Czech Republic's Lampart Petr (long jump) and Slovenia's Igor Princ (discus) collected the few medals left on offer.

Fewer events were on the women's programme. Italy and Germany bagged two titles each, respectively with Manuela Grilli (100m) and Monika Niederstatter (400m hurdles) on the one hand and Birgit Rockmeier (200m) and Sabrina Mocchenza (5000m) on the other hand, Awastel Ben Hassine of Tunisia in the 400m, Brigitte Rengers of Slovenia in the 800m, Elena Luger of Rumania in the 1500m and Elena Nischecheva of Russia in the 3km walk completed the list of gold medals distributed in women's events that did not attract as many competitors as hoped, but this lack of participation is definitely the only negative note in a very successful display of athletics.

Participating countries (29) - Germany (*), Austria (*), Belgium (*), Brazil, United Arab Emirates, Finland, France, Greece (*), Italy (*), Kenya (*), Kuwait, Latvia (*), Lebanon, Libya, Lithuania (*), Morocco (*), The Netherlands, Poland, Qatar, Romania (*), Russia (*), Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia (*), Sudan, Switzerland, Czech Republic, Tunisia (*), Turkey (*); (*) female participation

Official CISM Representative: Colonel Leopold Mothialatho (Botswana)

President TC: Colonel Jos Leenars (Belgium)

464 participants, 353 athletes, 61 women, 252 men
## Men

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>A. Faddiga (ITA)</td>
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## Results

[Image of track and field events]
Only the Very Best...

Boxing is a sport that enjoys unanimous appreciation in Ireland. Indeed, the country has produced many great boxing champions over the years. No great wonder then that it hosted the 46th World Military Boxing Championship held in Dublin early in September.

The fact that the President of the Technical Committee for Boxing is Irish is widely known. Commandant James Hunt was the happiest man on Earth at the end of this championship. Part of his elation was due to the fact that an Irishman, M. Kelly, became world champion in the -63.5 kilos. He owed the result—actually the larger share—of his jubilation to the fact that this championship—the first held since the Second World War—drew a very substantial participation (166 athletes from 22 different countries) and set a standard of quality that was remarkably high.

Entries included junior world champions, reigning Champions of Europe and countless civilian and continental champions and medalists. i.e. enough to please the most demanding boxing fan.

Twelve titles were up for grabs at this World Military Championship and it came as no big surprise to see the Russian athletes make themselves conspicuous once again. Judge for yourself: four titles and six other medals for a team that learned with first-class leaders including Zandhrybey, Stepanets, Korobov and Alexseyev. With the titles bagged by Propp and Koeber, Germany demonstrated that its boxing school is still up there with the very best, while Ukraine, Kazakhstan and Azerbaijan (all three former Soviet republics) each won a title and featured prominently on other steps of various rostrums.

With Morocco’s Boutchouk and Egypt’s Abdul, North Africa left its mark on the two lightweights categories while, as indicated above, Ireland’s Kelly won his final to the cheers of the local crowds. Only the very best in Dublin then, an elite who will meet again next year in the Sicilian city of Catania for the Third Military World Games. Judging from the first two editions, boxing will undoubtedly draw a remarkably large number of participants.

Participating countries (22): South Africa, Algeria, Germany, Azerbaijan, Barbados, Belgium, Rep. Korea, Egypt, United States, India, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Morocco, Namibia, Uganda, Uzbekistan, Pakistan, Russia, Turkey, Turkey, Ukraine.

Official CISM Representative: Colonel Mohammed O. M'Hidi (Algeria)
President TC: Commandant James Hunt (Ireland)
260 participants, 166 athletes

Results

-63.5 kg
1. B. Boutchouk (MAR)
2. A. Montelev (RUS)
3. B. Mestel (RSA) and A. Naumen (UKR)

-69 kg
1. M. Abdul (EGY)
2. K. Aloi (RUS)
3. B. Mestel (RSA) and A. Naumen (UKR)

-76 kg
1. Z. Zhandrybey (UKR)
2. S. Shakhnov (RUS)
3. B. Mestel (RSA) and A. Naumen (UKR)

+81 kg
1. A. Propp (GER)
2. S. Khoil (UKR) and S. Imamov (KOR)
3. M. Moustafa (EGY) and J. Borgarino (LIB)

-91 kg
1. M. Korobov (UKR)
2. A. Biktarov (RUS)
3. M. Moustafa (EGY) and J. Borgarino (LIB)

+102 kg
1. A. Ilkhamov (AZE)
2. A. Shymhov (KAZ)
3. J. Biembo (TUN) and H. Khan (TUR)

-126 kg
1. A. Alekseyev (RUS)
2. D. Rathi (GER)
3. B. Domashov (KAZ)

** Medals not awarded
Great German Surprise

Fourteen men’s and four women’s teams met in Constanza, on the Black Sea, for the 24th World Military Volleyball Championship with the ambition of succeeding to Greece and the US, who won the previous edition in Roma in 2001.

The men’s tournament ended with the German team’s surprise win in the final against South Korea whose ever-spectacular and fast game systematically earns them a place up there with the very best volleyball nations.

Before the final, most of the audience believed that the Republic of Korea would win, as they alone had defeated the Germans in the qualifiers. It seems however, that German coach Misikowwski’s tactical analysis of that setback was pretty efficient, as the German team drew all the necessary lessons. The turning point in the final was the conclusion of the third set, each of the teams having previously won one set. When they clinched it 28-26 after a fierce battle, the young German team also gained the psychological upper hand and freewheeled to bag the fourth set most convincingly, thereby winning the match three sets to one. As for the outgoing champions, they were eliminated by the Republic of Korea in the semi but found solace in a bronze medal conquered against Bulgaria.

Four teams only entered the women’s tournament. Each faced the others twice in a single group. Despite superb Italian resistance, the Dutch ladies deservedly won a championship that they dominated, losing only one match against Italy, and then again only in a final match without any statistics—except honour—since the Dutch were already mathematically sure of going away with gold.

Participating countries (18): Germany, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada (*), China, Cyprus, Congo, Rep. Korea, United States (*), Greece, Italy (*), Pakistan, The Netherlands (*), Romania, Turkey

Official CISM Representative: Colonel Léon De Wulf (Belgium)

President TC: Lt-Colonel Pietro Di Carlo (Italy)

334 participants, 218 athletes: 44 women, 174 men

Results

Women
USA Canada: 3-0, The Netherlands-Italy: 3-2, The Netherlands-Canada: 3-0, Italy-USA: 3-1, The Netherlands-USA: 3-1, Italy-Canada: 3-0, The Netherlands-Canada: 3-1, Italy-USA: 3-1, The Netherlands-USA: 3-1, Italy-Canada: 3-0, USA-Canada: 3-0, Italy-The Netherlands: 3-1
Final Classification: 1. The Netherlands 11 pts, 2. Italy 10 pts, 3. USA 6 pts, 4. Canada 6 pts

Men
3rd place: Greece-Bulgaria: 3-0 (20-22, 25-21, 17-25, 25-21)
5th place: China-Brasil: 3-1 (25-19, 25-20, 25-12, 19-25)
7th place: Paraguay-Belgium: 3-0 (24-21, 25-20, 25-17, 25-10)

Mark Huizinga Failed to Bag Number Six!

The 28th World Military Judo Championship held in Beijing, China, enjoyed high participation indeed with athletes from 23 different countries. The 184 judokas who took the trip to the Chinese capital did little to alter the military hierarchy, as podiums were largely identical—in the same order or a different one—to those in Den Helder last year. The main upset came in the -60kg with the defeat of Dutch Olympic Champion Mark Huizinga who had accumulated an enviable five consecutive military world titles before the fateful Beijing rendezvous. Unfortunately, all winning streaks are doomed to be interrupted some day, even though, despite the merits of the winner—the excellent S. H. Choi of the Republic of Korea—it must be said that the Dutch champion is going through hard times following an injury and difficulties to concentrate and motivate himself.

This may have come as a nasty—and conspicuous—surprise to the Dutch team in Beijing, but it did not alter the confidence of its other international class leaders, including D. Vlcekova, a young lady who seems destined for great things in the -63 kg, and Claudia Zwiers, who won in the -78 kg.

With three titles each, Italy, China and Russia were most successfully greedy. Italy assuredly owed its ability to manage as well as in Den Helder to such noble judokas as Scapin, Monzo, Tuzzi, Monzi and Meloni, who also helped in the conquest of two team medals. China won one title fewer compared to the previous edition in The Netherlands, which is rather surprising since it had the advantage of fighting on its own tatami. As for Russia, which dominates so outrageously last year, it disappointed with only one individual title—bagged by super-heavyweight Mikhrai, world number one in his category—and two team titles. Austria took advantage of this situation and found with Fitzmeyer and Mittelfelder successors worthy of illustrious fellow countrymen Saisenbacher and Reiter.

Participating countries (23): Germany (*) , Austria (*), Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, China (*), Republic Korea, Greece, Hungary (*), Italy (*), Lithuania, Uzbekistan, The Netherlands (*), Poland, Russia (*), Slovakia, Slovenia (*), Sri Lanka (*), Thailand, Turkey (*), Vietnam

CISM Official Representative: Colonel Michel Saint-Bonnet (France)
President TC: Colonel Roman Kalina (Poland)
184 athletes: 47 women, 137 men

Results

Women:
-78 kg: 1. T. Fitzmeyer (AUT) 2. J. Wang (CHN) 3. C. Hui (HKG)
-76 kg: 1. Y. Yosami (JPN) 2. B. Saito (RUS) 3. L. Moroz (RUS)
-74 kg: 1. T. Taya (JPN) 2. T. Kung,saechon (RUS) 3. C. Yan (CHN)

Men:
-83 kg: 1. A. Mittelfelder (AUT) 2. G. Georgiou (GRL) 3. A. Tru schedule (ITA)
-79 kg: 1. A. Costas (RUS) 2. J. Meloni (BLR) 3. A. Mikhalin (RUS)
-77 kg: 1. E. Choe (KOR) 2. M. Hwang (KOR) 3. G. Tomiwa (JPN)

Team:
1. Russia
2. China
3. Italy and Hungary

13-21 October 2002
Beijing, China

Yearbook 2002

International Military Sports Council
Praise In Order for Algeria!

Competitors, World Champions and their performances can wait! Let us open this account with a few lines of praise for the Head of the Algerian Delegation—and head of the Organisation Committee—Colonel Metref, as well as his team. They did a wonderful job! Especially in consideration of the fact that putting together an event that attracts 34 nations requires sizeable efforts in terms of infrastructure and logistics. When it comes to major international events, Algeria had admirably demonstrated its organisational know-how on many occasions already, but it had no genuine expertise with the organisation of such a sizeable and specific happening. Well, this particular event too was taken up in masterful fashion. Indeed, huge assets were mobilised: a squadron of Mi-17 helicopters, two top-of-the-line Pilatus-Porter B2-H4 aircraft and a public refereeing room equipped with a video projector.

Back to sport now for a look at podiums, which are not that different from last year’s. The struggle for medals was much fiercer however, and in many titles were decided by minute margins and sometimes at the end of breathtaking tiebreaks. It was for example a fierce battle in which France’s Jacques Bauli eventually prevailed over Germany’s Jurgen Wimmer for the individual overall title. An equally ferocious fight successfully opposed the latter to Slovenia’s Roman Karum and Hungary’s Istvan Asdfals in precision landing. Still in the men’s, the French have every reason to celebrate the team precision landing title, again at the end of an epic struggle and a breathtaking tiebreak against Italy. The French team also bagged the much-coveted overall team title. Let us concede this list of male achievements with two titles that inevitably end up in the same hands: individual style in Marco Plugger’s and the free-fall formation in the Belgian team’s.

In the women’s competitions, Russia took the lead with two individual titles—Svetlana Klimina bagged gold in the style event and prevailed overall—and the overall team title. The Russian ladies were also present on every single run at this championships. Precision landing was an all-Chinese story with Chen Li, Cheng and Wu Pai finishing one and two, thereby clinching team gold as well. As for the USA, its team won the ladies’ free-fall formation.

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Participating countries (34): South Africa, Algeria, Germany, Austria, Saudi Arabia, Belgium (*), Brazil, Cuba, China (*), Denmark, United Arab Emirates, Spain (*), United States (*), Finland, France (*), Hungary, Italy, Jordan, Lithuania, Morocco (*), Oman, The Netherlands, Poland, Russia (*), Slovakia, Slovenia (*), Sri Lanka, Sweden (*), Switzerland (*), Syria, Czech Republic, Turkey, Ukraine (*), Yemen.

Official CISIM Representative: Colonel Major Y. Y. Al Lahden (Bahrain).

President TC: Lieutenant-Colonel Jean Demmine (France)

330 participants, 196 athletes: 33 women, 165 men.

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Results

Women

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<th>Style</th>
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<td>2. A. Yarmoiljk (BLR)</td>
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<td>3. P. Li (CHN)</td>
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Men

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<td>2. J. Bartczak (POL)</td>
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<td>3. I. Aslakstad (NOR)</td>
<td>22.67</td>
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1.4-25 October 2002

Agues, Algeria
Korea by a Dwindling Margin

Held in Fort Hood, Texas (USA), the 14th World Military Taekwondo Championship was not exactly a huge success in terms of participation as sixteen nations only sent martial artists to contend for the sixteen individual titles that were up for grabs. Following an incredible harvest of medals at the Zagreb Military World Games in 1999—with seven out of eight possible titles—a handsome demonstration in 2000—with five gold medals on the home tatami in Seoul—and a slightly wrinkled supremacy in Woorasheche in 2001—with four titles—the Korean inventors and masters of taekwondo won "only" three individual gold medals in the different men's weight categories in Fort Hood.

While still rather impressive, the Korean's somewhat mixed results overall in Fort Hood can hardly be called a simple glitch but rather the reflection of a definite erosion in the Land of Morning Calm's so far unshakable domination of this sport. Of course, the republic of Korea once again bagged the title of best military taekwondo nation in the men's categories in Fort Hood, but the practice of this martial art is definitely internationalising—due in part to its inclusion in the list of Olympic sports—promoting the budding of new talent throughout the world. This is how this year's winners' list includes, alongside the inevitable Gom Soon and Moon, gold medallists from Austria (Gomyuk), Azerbaijan (Boyrazov), Russia (Pryvakov), Germany (Achard) and the United States (Barletti). Adding to those the silver medallists conquered by athletes from Lesotho, this very simply means that this time around, all four continents represented in CISM featured more or less prominently on podiums.

Now for a short overview of the women's competitions, which unfortunately failed—yet again—to attract the kind of participation that is expected at this level: with four gold medals, China beat Russia and its two titles to the top of the medals table. Korea's diminutive Choi again saved face on behalf of her country, which—again, and ever so strangely—entered precious few competitors in the women's draw. As for Greece's Athanasopoulos, she is living proof that Greek sport is fully mobilised in advance of the Athens Olympics.

Participating countries (16) : Germany (*), Saudi Arabia, Austria (*), Azerbaijan (*), Belarus (*), Belgium, Canada (*), China (*), Cyprus, Rep. Korea (*), United States (*), Greece (*), Italy (*), Lesotho (*), The Netherlands (*), Russia (*)

Official CISM Representative : Navy Captain Beng Nylander (Sweden)
President TC : Brigadier General Robert Martinneau (Canada)
134 participants, 130 athletes : 41 women, 79 men
wrestling
21st World Military Wrestling Championship

Russia Time and Again

Take Greco-Roman wrestling and its seven weight categories: three gold and two silver medals. Add all-in wrestling and its seven weight categories: four gold and two silver medals. Add the team title in both styles and the Cup of Nations as cherry on the cake. There goes the impressive record of the Russian armada at the 21st World Military Wrestling Championship held in the Estonian capital city of Tallinn. Logical is the operative word. Indeed, the results reflect perfectly the Russian team’s enduring superiority on display in 2002 at the civilian world Greco-Roman wrestling championship in Moscow and at its all-in equivalent in Tehran.

These results conform perfectly to those achieved by the Russian team at the 2001 world military wrestling championship in Split and confirm the latter’s inexhaustible supply of talented wrestlers. So inexhaustible in fact, that they could even afford to leave behind—for a well-deserved rest—several superstars including Adam Saliev, Zaur Botasyev and Varlenes Samourgasheva. Indeed, the substitutes are almost as good as their principals, which probably goes a long way toward explaining their crushing superiority.

Another significant thing happened at this military world championship: the winners in Tallinn were all new military world champions; none of the gold medalists in Split managed to repeat their performances. This, along with the fact that 21 nations took the trip to Estonia, also demonstrates the vitality of a favourite among CISM disciplines. Twenty of said nations had to make do with what little was left over after Kuntarov, Ivtanisenco, Mchkin, Nariiev, Glinov, Tokajev and Telgini took the place for medals. Azerbaijan with Isafiev and Novruzov and Ukraine thanks to its all-in wrestling school (Kvasyukov and Dulchin) followed with two titles while Turkey’s Ozgur, Poland’s Dzitk and Greece’s Koutsicampetra each bagged one of the three remaining titles.

Istanbul will be the place next year. In Turkey, wrestling is a national sport and the local wrestlers will definitely put in their best effort to shake the Russian stronghold on the discipline.

Results

Greco Roman

65kg: 1. U. Ozgur (TUR) 2. P. Koznetzov (POL) 3. K. Kozlov (UKR)
69kg: 1. T. Ivtanisenco (AZE) 2. A. Rojkin (UKR) 3. D. Ivtanisenco (UKR)
74kg: 1. S. Kuntarov (RUS) 2. E. Koz (GER) 3. K. Kozlov (UKR)
74kg: 1. V. Kustaforni (RUS) 2. K. Slavka (CZE) 3. U. Kozlov (UKR)
84kg: 1. S. Mchkin (RUS) 2. T. Kozas (RUS) 3. R. Tutunov (SRB)
 пол: 1. S. Shirvashov (GER) 2. S. Shvarts (RUS) 3. A. Charkhadi (IRI)
Team: 1. Russia 2. Ukraine 3. Poland

Freestyle

65kg: 1. Novruzov (UZB) 2. V. Kozlowski (POL) 3. W.根田 (JPN)
69kg: 1. E. Baisakov (UKR) 2. M. Preslouzki (RUS) 3. W. White (GER)
74kg: 1. Y. Kozlov (RUS) 2. S. Spodarski (UKR) 3. W. Shgura (USA)
74kg: 1. S. Vinogradov (UZB) 2. S. Sokolov (RUS) 3. O. Stashenko (UKR)
84kg: 1. V. Kozlov (RUS) 2. M. Breitler (GER) 3. M. Meschuria (BLR)
96kg: 1. E. Dulchin (UKR) 2. F. Larhki (USA) 3. I. Krol (UKR)
125kg: 1. V. Preis (RUS) 2. S. Prince (UKR) 3. S. Dots (GDR)
Team: 1. Russia 2. Ukraine 3. Germany

cyclo-cross

18th World Military Cyclo-Cross Championship

Kris Wouters, by Jove! ...

Luxembourg—which, needless to repeat, was one of the five founding members of CISM—organised the 18th World Military Cyclo-Cross Championship on 22–25 November 2002. It was the second time in its history that Luxembourg hosted a military world championship—the 16th World Military Cross-Country Championship was held in Diekirch on 25 February 1966.

On 24 November, 29 cross-country, muscle-powered, two-wheeler specialists from eight different countries met in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg to conquer the individual and team military world titles. The championship was held on the circuit that bears the name of Josy Miersch, the only cyclist from Luxembourg ever to have won a cyclo-cross world title. This was back in 1936 and so it was with great emotion that the hero himself, aged 91, accepted to act as honorary president of the organising committee of this championship and, in this capacity, presented the military world champion with his jersey.

Played on a 3.65km track that proved quick and technical for the athletes and highly spectacular for the large audience, the race kept all its promises. Nearly from the get-go, a group of six left the pack, including super-favourite Kris Wouters of Belgium and team-mate Tom De Kort, Luxembourg's Christian Wyeld, Germany's Leo Kaiser, the Czech Republic's Tomas Kelba and Italy's Alessandro Fontana. Halfway through, Kris Wouters—and nobody else!—struggled in the leading group—exhusted virtually and ran up his internal pace. He neverless built a substantial lead and crossed the finish line 20 seconds ahead, thereby bagging his sixth world military cyclo-cross title. Behind him, the race for the remaining two slots on the rostrum and for team medals was passionate and fascinating until the very end. Tom De Kort eventually placed the cherry on the Belgian cake by prevailing over Italy's Alessando Fontana, whose bronze medal is fair compensation for a bold race.

Much to the audience's surprise, the Belgian team failed to make it to the podium, due to the disqualification of its third member on a technicality. So it was the very young Czech team who prevailed, with Luxembourg and France finishing second and third respectively.

The winner's emotion upon crossing the finish line, the happiness of the young Czech, Luxembourg and French cyclists on the podium, the quality of the race and the popular success of this championship should be enough to ensure that cyclo-cross continues to rank among annual world military championships.

Following the arrival of a stage of the Italian Giro in May and the start of Tour de France stage in July, the organisation of the 18th World Military Cyclo-Cross Championship provided a nice conclusion to this year of major international cycling events in Luxembourg.

Results

Individual:
1. K. Wouters (BEL)
2. T. De Kort (NED)
3. A. Fontana (ITA)

Team:
1. Czech Republic
2. Luxembourg
3. Italy

Participating countries (8): Germany, Belgium, France, Italy, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Poland, Czech Republic

Official CISM Representative: Colonel Christian Kramp (Germany)

President TC (acting): Lt-Colonel Jaco Oussoren (The Netherlands)

80 participants, 29 athletes
## STATISTICS - WORLD EVENTS 2002

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<tr>
<th>SPORT</th>
<th>VENUE</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES</th>
<th>OBSERVING COUNTRIES</th>
<th>ATTENDES TOTAL</th>
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<th>Women</th>
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<td>Volleyball</td>
<td>Constanza, Romania</td>
<td>26 Sep-02 Oct</td>
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## PRESIDENTS TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

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<th>TRACK AND FIELD &amp; CROSS COUNTRY</th>
<th>Comité J. LEMAIRE (BEL)</th>
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<tr>
<td>BASKETBALL</td>
<td>Comité S. EUSEBIO (BRA)</td>
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<td>BOXING</td>
<td>Comité J. LEMAIRE (BEL)</td>
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<td>EQUESTRIAN</td>
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<td>FENCING</td>
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<td>Judo</td>
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<tr>
<td>SWIMMING</td>
<td>Comité J. LEMAIRE (BEL)</td>
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</table>

## List of the elected athletes

**Track and Field & Cross-country**
- Lieutenant Mehmet KARA (TUR)
- Sergeant Major Kris WOUTERS (BEL)
- Sergeant Major LEBON (NED)
- 1st Lieutenant Murat ALTUN (TUR)
- Lieutenant Deborah GRAVENSTJUN (NED)
- Sergeant Luc VERSTREGEN (BEL)
- Sergeant Luc CROUZE (BEL)
- Lieutenant Cristal OLARU (ROM)
- Senior Chief Petry Officer Erik MADSEN (DEN)**

**Military Pentathlon**
- Lieutenant CROUZE (BEL)
- Captain Cristal OLARU (ROM)
- Senior Chief Petry Officer Erik MADSEN (DEN)**
Our Military Raid the Winter Olympics

Ole Einar Bjorndalen, King of Salt Lake City

He made the headlines of every newspaper with the slightest knowledge of sport: our military champion. Ole Einar Bjorndalen, produced out-of-this-world performances to win all four gold medals in the biathlon, which is admittedly considered the private hunting ground of CISM's athletes.

It is definitely the achievement of the Olympic Games that took place in Salt Lake City early this year. The least we can write about these Winter Olympics is that they were a fantasticforgott for the entire military community as, in addition to the Norwegian prodigy's wonders—and despite their over-shadowing nature—there was a wealth of other wonderful military performances that we cannot possibly overlook. However, there is little space available in these pages—other than in our usual list of medalists—to dwell on the feats of each of the many military sportsmen and women who outclassed the opposition and distinguished themselves in the invigorating atmosphere of the State of Utah.

Talking about biathlon, how could we possibly not say a few words about the two gold medals Germany's Andreas Herkel and Kati Willem bagged? Olga Ployova of Russia only proved an insurmountable obstacle between her and a historical German grand slam. Another essential conclusion to this all-biathlon gold medals: both individual and team, went to our military, a statement that applies to most medals of other colours too, for that matter.

A small detour to the sledge course to underscore the military-only podium of the men's individual event (Ziegler, Hackl and Prockl) and to mention Lehner's and Reichl's victory in the men's double and Sergeant Silke Otto's gold and Silke Kraushaar's bronze medals in the women's individual sledge.

Bobsleigh is a military discipline too: the German military foursome went for gold while Christophe Langen prevailed in the two-seater. Other medal-winning teams were composed of—or at least included—soldiers of both genders.

The cross-country skiing (Stefania Belmondo and Gabriella Pramfitt, as well as the German women's and the Norwegian men's foursomes), northern combined (Jasenko Tallus), alpine skiing (Jean-Pierre Coccarelli), figure skating (the pair composed of Sikhorulidze and Berezhnaya and prodigy Alexei Yagudin) and freestyle (Ali Valenta) competitions delivered military Olympic champions plus countless more medalists on the speed skating and ice hockey rostrums. The tables below speak for themselves.

Vicd and Daniela Coccarelli, figure skating the pair composed of Sikhorulidze and Berezhnaya and prodigy Alexei Yagudin) and freestyle (Ali Valenta) competitions delivered military Olympic champions plus countless more medalists on the speed skating and ice hockey rostrums. The tables below speak for themselves.

Just one final line to underscore Germany's first place in the country list of medalists with a total of 35 plaques, of which 25 (i.e. 71%) went to military athletes. Is that all?
Military Medallists at Salt Lake City

GOLD

Woman

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sergeant Andrea HENZEL</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Bobsled 16 km</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sergeant Sylvia OTTO</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Bobsled 4 x 7.5 km Relay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sergeant Katja APITZ</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Bobsled 4 x 7.5 km Relay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sergeant Katharina WILHELM</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Bobsled 7.5 km Sprint, Bobsled 4 x 7.5 km Relay</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sergeant Manuela HENZEL</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Bobsled 4 x 5 km Relay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sergeant Claudia KÜNZEL</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Bobsled 4 x 5 km Relay</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sergeant Sylvia BAUMER</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Bobsled 4 x 5 km Relay</td>
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<tr>
<td>Larisa Caluca De BADENHAUSER</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Bobsled 4 x 5 km Relay</td>
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<tr>
<td>Agnese Daniele DE CARPARELLI</td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Alpine Ski Slalom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Agnese Sofia MURACCHIONI</td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Cross-country 15 km</td>
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<tr>
<td>Agnese Sofia Gabriella PARIS</td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Cross-country 30 km</td>
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<td>WO Elena BERMUDEZ</td>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>Figure Skating, Women</td>
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<tr>
<td>WO Olya PISKUNOVA</td>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>Bobsled 16 km</td>
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<td>WO Alejandra DE LA VEGA</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>Bobsled 2</td>
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Men

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<tr>
<td>Corporal Jean-Pierre VIDAL</td>
<td>France</td>
<td>Alpine Ski, Slalom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporal Joakim TRULLUS</td>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>Nordic Combined</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sergeant Patrik LEILUNER</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Sledge</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sergeant Alexander RASCH</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Sledge</td>
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<tr>
<td>Staff Sergeant Christian LAUSEN</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Biathlon, Four</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sergeant Andri LANDE</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Biathlon, Four</td>
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<tr>
<td>Staff Sergeant Casimir EMACH</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Biathlon, Four</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sergeant Enrico KÜHN</td>
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<td>Biathlon, Four</td>
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<td>Larisa Coursin Enrico KÜHN</td>
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<td>Biathlon, Four</td>
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<td>Corporal Carlo Armel DE CARPARELLI</td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Sledge Single</td>
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<tr>
<td>Private Ola Emilia BJARNESEN</td>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>Bobsled 16 km, Bobsled 12.5 km Pursuit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Private Thomas AGAARD</td>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>Cross-country Relay 4 x 10 km</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corp Fredrik ESTL</td>
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<td>Cross-country Relay 4 x 10 km</td>
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<td>Corp Kristian SKJELDAL</td>
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<td>WO Anton SHKURULICE</td>
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<td>WO Alcide VALJANTA</td>
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### Military Medallists at Salt Lake City

#### SILVER

**Women**

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<td>Lance Corporal Sabine VÖLKER</td>
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<td>Lance Corporal Ekke SACBENHOFER</td>
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<td>Alfio Policicci (Italy)</td>
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<td>Alpine Skiing Downhill</td>
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<tr>
<td>Agnese Scillo (Italy)</td>
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<td>Cap. Le Gres SKJELBREID POIREE</td>
<td>Norway</td>
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<td>Capt Lucius LAJUTINA</td>
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<td>Cross-country 15 km, Cross-country Pursuit</td>
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**Men**

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<tr>
<td>Zif Christian HOFFMANN</td>
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<td>30 km Cross-country</td>
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<td>Chief Corporal Raphart PORRIE</td>
<td>France</td>
<td>Biathlon (12 km Pursuit)</td>
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<td>Corporal Jacko TALLUS</td>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>Nordic Combined, Individual</td>
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<td>Eleanor Roby ACHOWANNA</td>
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<td>Lance Corporal Bjørn KIRCHLEBEN</td>
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<td>Staff Sergeant Peter SCHULZSTEDER</td>
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<td>Staff Sergeant Frank LUCK</td>
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<td>Biathlon 4 x 7.5 km Relay</td>
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**Additional Notes**

- **Liv Genie SKJELBREID POIREE** (NOR)
Military Medallists at Salt Lake City

**BRONZE**

### Women

- Staff Sergeant Silke KAULSHAAR (Germany) for Sledge
- Lance Corporal Sabine YOLKER (Germany) for Speed Skating 500 m
- Capt Allen JOHNSON (USA) for Biathlon
- Capt Gudrun HEINZ (Germany) for Biathlon Relay

### Men

- Staff Sergeant Wolfgang FRISCH (Germany) for 10 km Biathlon
- Sergeant George LEHMANN (USA) for Nordic Combined Sprint
- Staff Sergeant John WHEELER (USA) for Nordic Combined Relay
- Sergeant Thomas SHIRLEY (USA) for Nordic Combined Relay

**Bronze Medalists**

- Gabriel PARUZZI and Stefano BELMONDO (ITA)
- Alexei YAGIDIN (RUS)
- Felix GOTTLÄND (AUT)
- Jure BODEN (SLO)
- The German Cross-country 4x5km relay team

**Additional Notes**

- The German Cross-country 4x5km relay team
- The list includes various military medallists from different countries, highlighting their achievements in various sports disciplines.
## World events 2003

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<td>31-3-03/4</td>
<td>Ski (45)</td>
<td>Rovaniemi/Finland</td>
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<td>Naval Pentathlon (41)</td>
<td>Marin/Spain</td>
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<td>Aeronautical Pentathlon (47)</td>
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<td>Wrestling (22)</td>
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<td>12-8-20/8</td>
<td>Taekwondo (15)</td>
<td>Zagreb/Croatia</td>
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<td>Orienteering (36)</td>
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<tr>
<td>13-09-20/09</td>
<td>3rd Military World Games</td>
<td>Catania/Italy</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Track and Field (41)</td>
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<td>Basketball (45)</td>
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<td>Boxing (47)</td>
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<td>Cycling (17)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Fencing (38)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Football (40) final round</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Judo (29)</td>
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<td>Swimming (40)</td>
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<td>Parachuting (31)</td>
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<td>Sailing (37)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Volleyball (25)</td>
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</table>

### Meetings

- **10-3-17/0**: 1st Board of Directors' meeting in New Delhi/India
- **10-5-19/5**: General Assembly & Congress in Dubai/United Arab Emirates
- **22-7-20/7**: 2nd Board of Directors' meeting

- **November**: 3rd Board of Directors' meeting in Santiago/Chile
At its 55th birthday, CISM counts 123 member nations. We publish hereby a computer graphic which illustrates the geographical spreading of its nations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AFRICA (44)</th>
<th>AMERICA (18)</th>
<th>ASIA (27)</th>
<th>EUROPE (34)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>South Africa, R.P.D.</td>
<td>Argentina, R.</td>
<td>Saudi Arabia, Kingdom</td>
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<td>Bishkek</td>
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<td>Canada</td>
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<td>D.P.R. Korea</td>
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<td>Haiti, R.</td>
<td>Iraq, R. (*)</td>
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(*) Suspended nation