

THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY
FOR PHOTOGRAMMETRY
AND REMOTE SENSING

100 Years of the Society



information from imagery

by Gottfried Konecny

4th July 2010

Vienna / Austria

ISPRS

100 YEARS OLD ON JULY 4, 2010

INTRODUCTION

This book is a picture story of the International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing over the 100 years of its existence.

It is composed of four parts:

1. the past developers of photogrammetry and remote sensing
2. a reflection on Eduard Dolezal, the founder of the Society
3. a review of the International Congresses from 1913 to 2008. The author has only been able to add his personal comments about Congresses since 1964, which was the first he attended.
4. events of the life of the Society
 - Council meetings
 - Symposia
 - White Elephant Club events by seniors of the Society
 - Meetings of the regional member societies
 - Meetings of some national members
 - UN meetings at which ISPRS participated as an NGO
 - Congresses of the Sister Societies with which ISPRS has close links
 - ISPRS involvement in technical cooperation
 - Academic events in which ISPRS played a role
 - Meetings of an industrial nature.

This pictorial account can by no means be objective:

- we have no images of all events
- the available images are based on a personal collection

The numbers shown in square brackets, e.g. [1], refer to the relevant photo numbers in this book.

May the book be an inspiration to all to compile a more complete collection which hopefully can be available via the Internet.

Gottfried Konecny

PREFACE

The history of ISPRS as presented by Gottfried Konecny, a former President and honorary member of ISPRS, is primarily a personal view of developments in ISPRS featuring photographs from many events. While books and papers have been written on various aspects of the history of photogrammetry and ISPRS, this booklet gives many of Gottfried's personal experiences in ISPRS since his first ISPRS Congress in 1964. Any review of history is coloured by the author's personal experiences and the views expressed in this booklet are no exception. However, there are few people other than Gottfried Konecny who have travelled so widely and can thus give such a comprehensive and colourful review of past events held under the name of ISPRS.

The booklet includes some background history on the developments of photogrammetry, and the political and social climate at the time of the founding of ISP (now ISPRS) by Eduard Doležal in Vienna in 1910. The booklet also includes some rarely seen classic photos of the developers of early instruments in photogrammetry. It includes a historical review of ISP/ISPRS Congresses, commencing with the first in 1913 to the present, though there are more details for the Congresses that Gottfried Konecny has attended since 1964. The booklet also gives a snapshot of many other activities and associated events under the banner of ISPRS, such as the life of the Society, ISPRS Council meetings, ISPRS Symposia, the White Elephant Club, ISPRS Regional Members, National Members, UN meetings and many more.

Gottfried Konecny usually has a camera ready to capture significant events in the life of the Society as well as for his own personal interest. This was even the case when he had to use film cameras, but digital cameras make such scenes even more readily available. Hence this booklet is an excellent display of images captured during many events that Gottfried has attended over the past approximately 46 years. The booklet is a fascinating presentation of the life of ISPRS, its leaders, officers, developers and participants. I commend you to this pictorial account of the first 100 years of ISPRS.

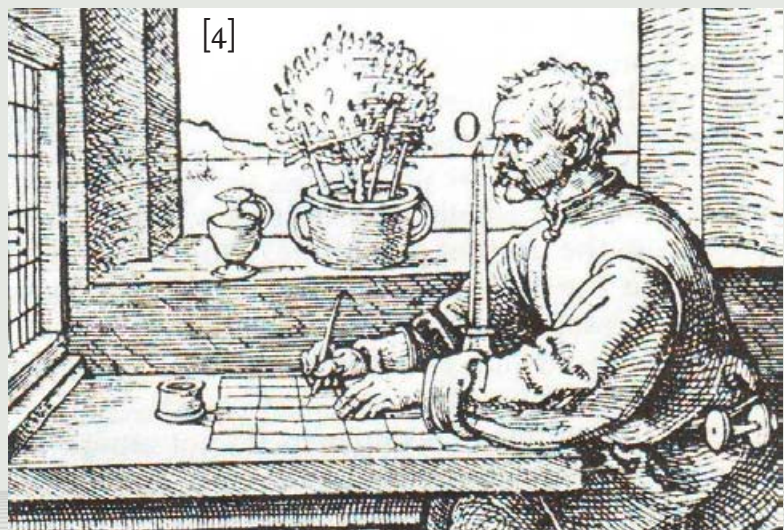
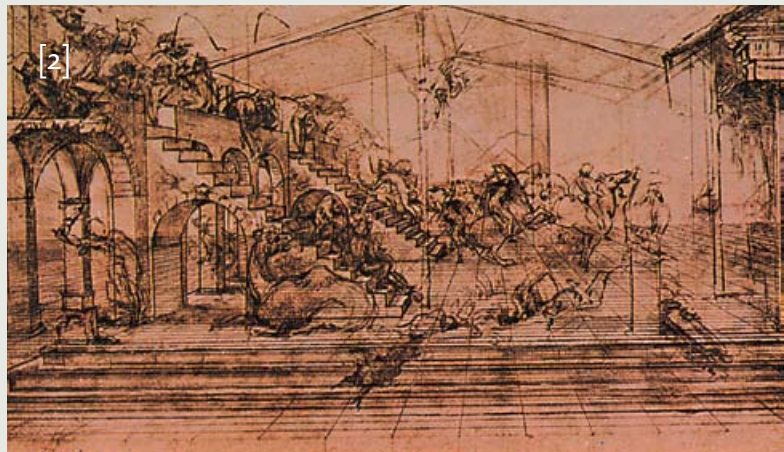
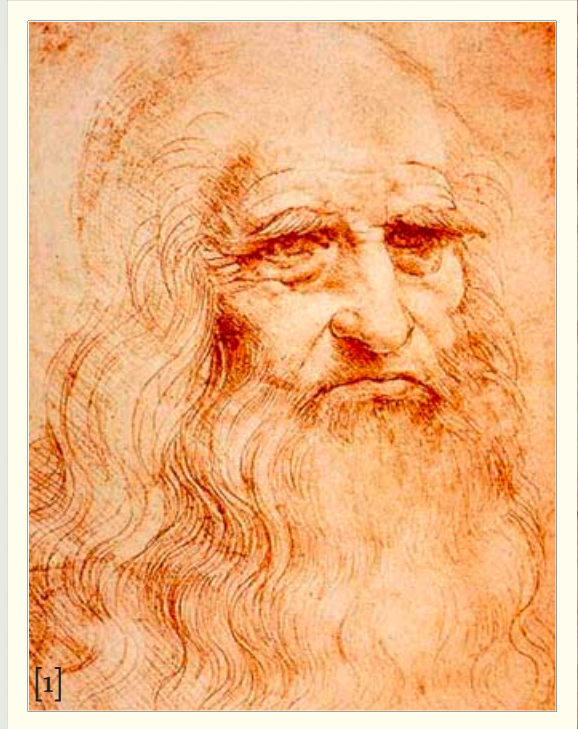
Orhan Altan

President ISPRS 2008-2012

1. THE PAST DEVELOPERS OF PHOTOGRAMMETRY AND REMOTE SENSING

Photogrammetry, the discipline of measuring objects from images is based on the physical principles of remote sensing. The principles of geometric restitution were studied long ago during the Italian Renaissance. Leonardo da Vinci (self portrait of 1512, [1]) mastered the perspective in his paintings (adoration of the magi [2]). The German painter Albrecht Dürer (self portrait [3]), who travelled to Italy, gave instructions for the study of the perspective (book 1525 [4]).

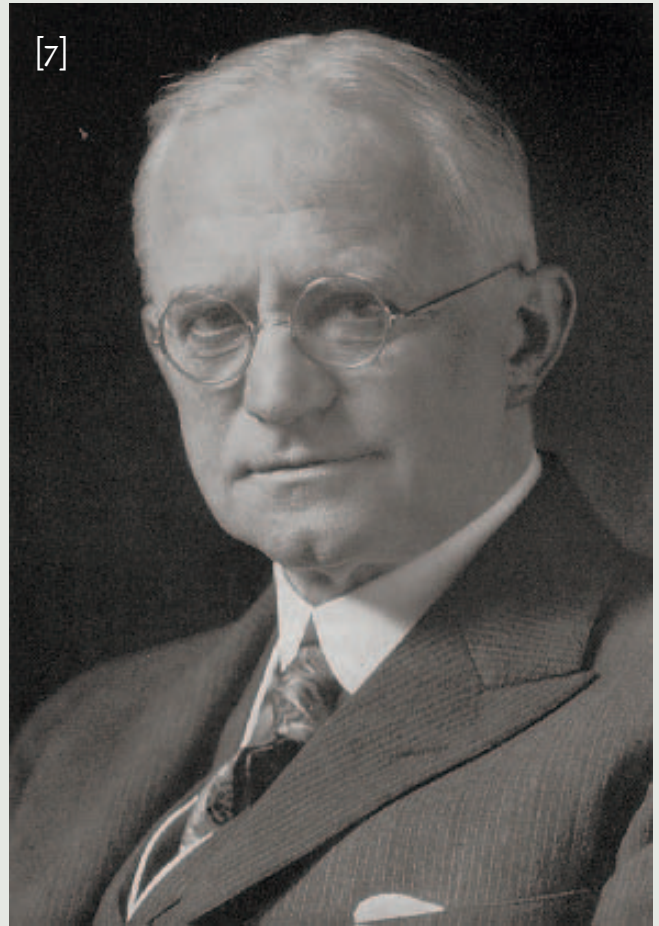
But the possibility to fix an image on glass plates for making it measurable was created by Niepce [5] and Daguerre [6] in 1829 in Paris. Later George Eastman [7] permitted the replacement of glass plates by Kodak film in 1884. In 1858 Gaspard-Felix Tournachon, named *Nadar* popularized photography taken from balloons [8].



[5]



[7]



[6]

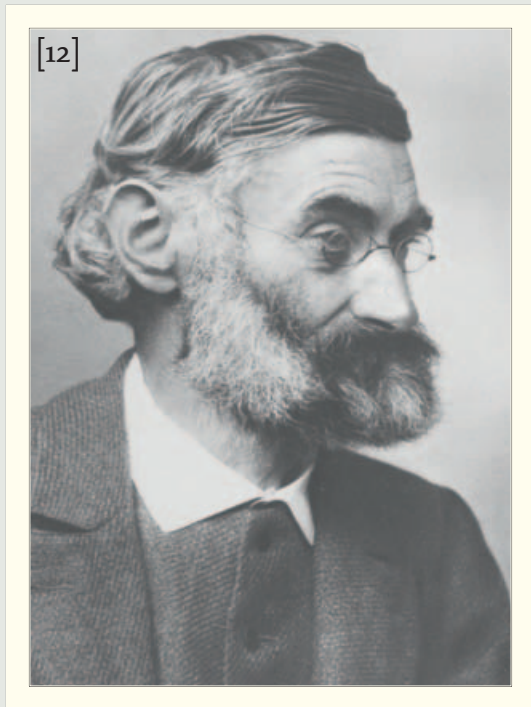


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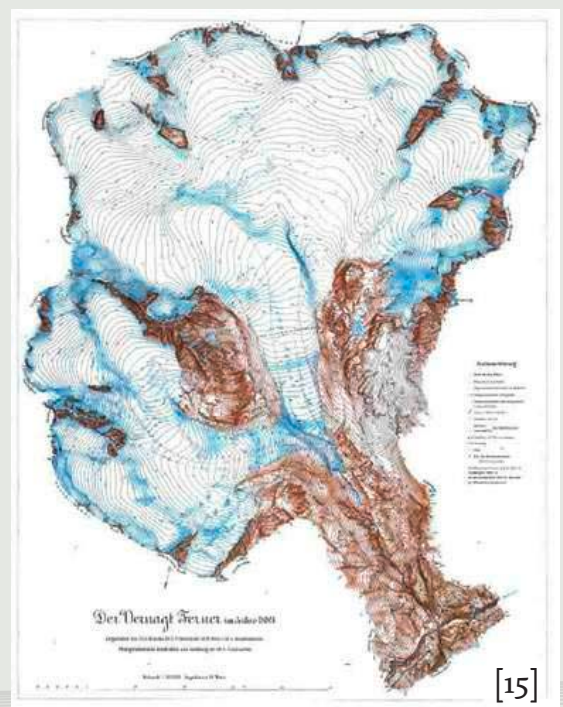
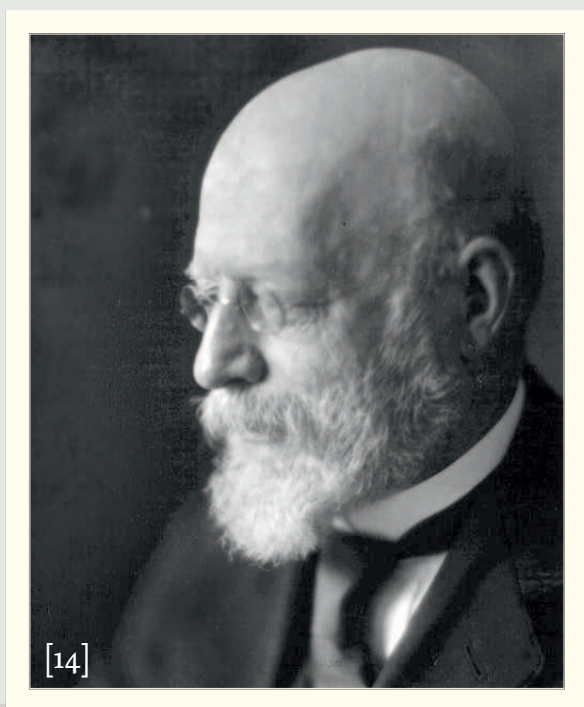
Aimé Laussedat, a French military officer engaged in mapping, suggested the use of photography with the *camera lucida* in 1851, he later constructed a camera in 1859, which laid the foundation to what he called “Iconometry”. He applied it for mapping parts of Paris from images made on rooftops [9]. Albrecht Meydenbauer in Germany was occupied with the survey of architectural monuments. He suggested the use of terrestrial cameras in 1858 and realized their use in 1865. He called photographic reconstruction of architectural plans “photogrammetry” [10] & [11].

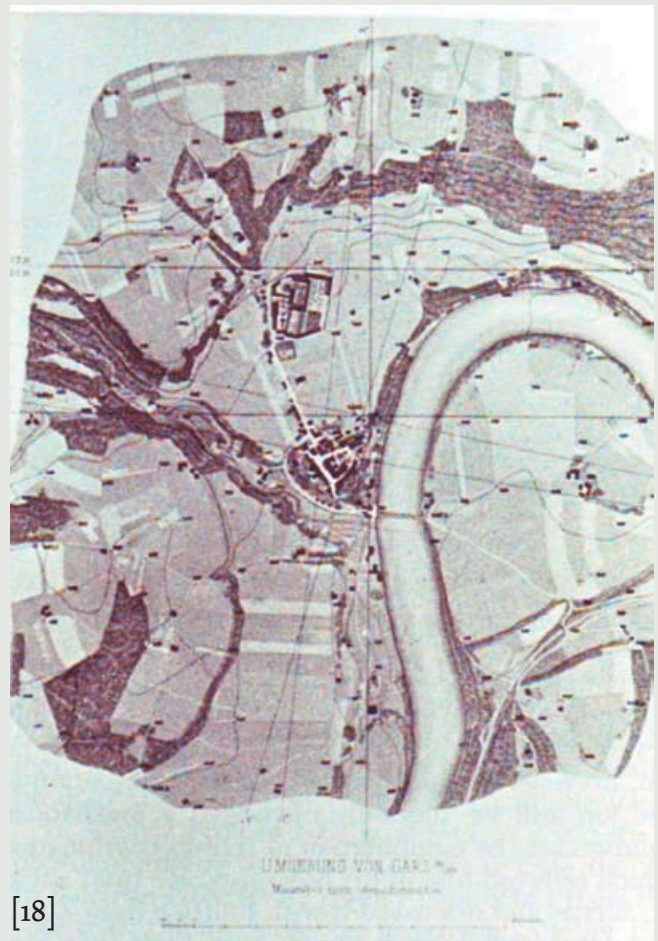


The quality of the photogrammetric restitution was henceforth improved by the development of optics. In 1866 Ernst Abbe joined the laboratory of Carl Zeiss in Jena and laid the foundation for the development of mapping cameras [12]. With Heinrich Wild in Heerbrugg, Ludwig Bertele [13] later fulfilled a similar function for the Swiss company.



The mathematics of photogrammetry were first studied by Sebastian Finsterwalder [14]. As a mathematics professor in Munich in Germany he surveyed the rapidly advancing and retreating Vernagt Glacier in the Alps in 1889 [15]. About 10 years later he made an analytical reconstruction of two balloon photographs over Gars on the river Inn [16] & [17] and compiled a map of the area by calculating the positions of thousands of points [18].

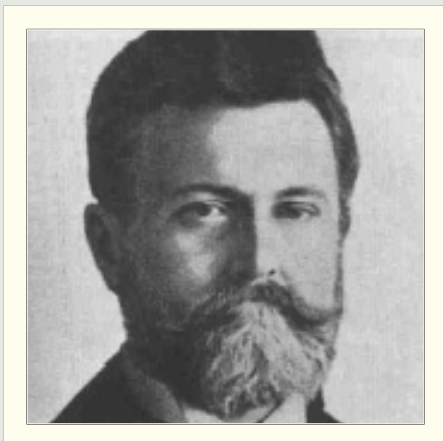




[17]

[18]

Other visionaries associated with applications of photogrammetry for mapping were Theodor Scheimpflug in Vienna [19]. In 1897 he constructed a multi-lens camera system [20] for use in balloons. Another pioneer was Edouard Gaston Deville [21], who in Canada developed the “Canadian grid” for rectification of images and the introduced stereo measurements in 1896.



[19]



[20]



[21]



[22]



[23]



[24]

Carl Pulfrich [22] developed with Carl Zeiss in Jena the first stereocomparator [23], even though Henry Fourcade of South Africa is also known as inventor of a stereoscopic method of surveying [24]. Eduard von Orel [25] developed the Zeiss Orel stereoautograph on the basis of the Pulfrich stereocomparator in 1907 [26], which permitted drawing of contours from terrestrial photographic stereo images. A similar design was published by Vivian Thompson in London in 1908 [27].



[25]

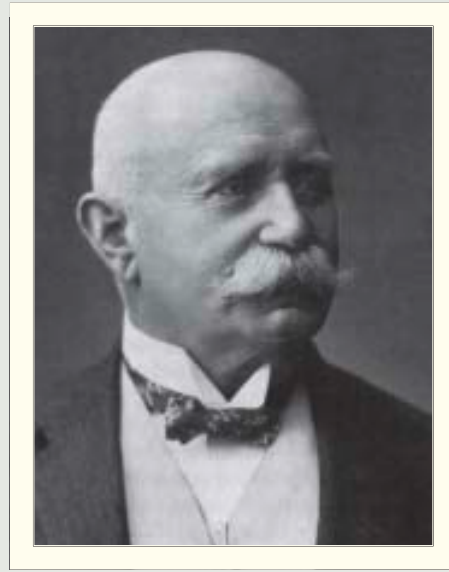


[26]

In 1907 Count Zeppelin of Germany succeeded to launch the “Zeppelin” as an aerial platform [28]. It was later used in the Arctic for mapping. Nevertheless the motorized airplane invented by the Wright Brothers in the USA in 1903 was a more flexible platform for aerial photography. As a result, aerial mapping from aircraft platforms became possible with the design of the first aerial mapping camera by Oskar Messter in Germany in 1915 (shown here with his son Eduard Messter [29]).



[27]



[28]



[29]

To evaluate overlapping stereoisimages taken by near vertical aerial survey cameras Max Gasser [30] developed the first stereoplotter for aerial photogrammetry in 1915, the “Gasser Projector” [31]. It permitted the spatial orientation of images based on ground control. V.P. Nenonen [32] in Finland tried to orient the images later in 1936 by use of a horizon camera.



[30]



[31]



[32]

Other designers of stereoplotters were:

Reinhard Hugerhoff, at the company Hugerhoff-Heyde (1921) [33] & [34]

Walter Bauersfeld, at Zeiss Germany (1923) [35] & [36]

Umberto Nistri, at Ottico Meccanica Italiana, Rome, Italy (1925) [37]

Heinrich Wild, at his company in Heerbrugg, Switzerland (1925) [38]

George Poivilliers, in Paris, France (1922) [39]

Ermengildo Santoni, in Florence, Italy (1921) [40]

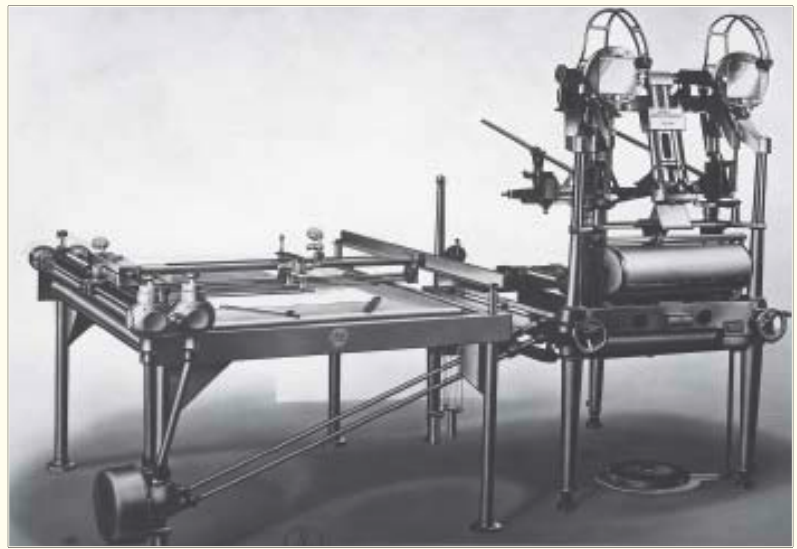
Edgar H. Thompson, London, in England. [41].

But Thompson later also became known as an analytical photogrammetrist.

In the USA Earl Church at the University of Syracuse became a promoter of analytical photogrammetry as early as 1934 [42].



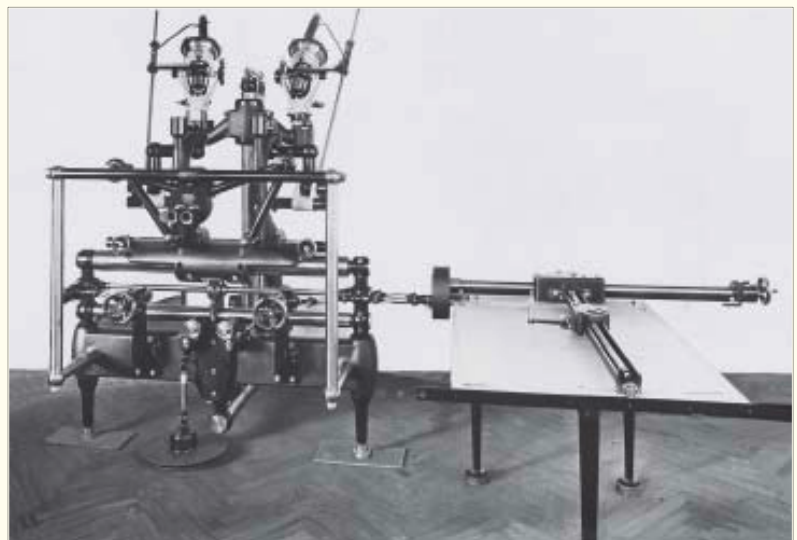
[33]



[34]



[35]



[36]



[37]



[38]



[39]



[40]



[41]



[42]

Photographic reconnaissance became rather important in World War II [43].
Even General Dwight D. Eisenhower engaged in photographic interpretation [44].



[43]



[44]

Helmut Schmid [45], a former assistant to Hugerhoff and a collaborator of Wernher von Braun at the rocket laboratories in Peenemünde in wartime Germany and later in the USA, (after Von Braun's team was evacuated to the USA by the U.S.Army), reformulated the problem of analytical photogrammetric restitution in terms of collinearity equations and least squares adjustment. His collaborator at Ballistic Research Laboratories, Duane Brown, [46] added the touch of statistics to the solutions. In Austria, Karl Rinner [47] expanded the solution in terms of projective geometry.



[45]



[46]



[47]

In the former Soviet Union, in the Russian Federation [48] an independent path of photogrammetry was pursued as shown in the literature published by Drobyshev, Romanovsky, Lobanov, and later by Tjuflin, Antipov and Savinych documents.



[48]

The automation of photogrammetry was brought forward by Uki Helava [49] with the analytical plotter and with the first developments of image matching by Gilbert Hobrough [50].



[49]

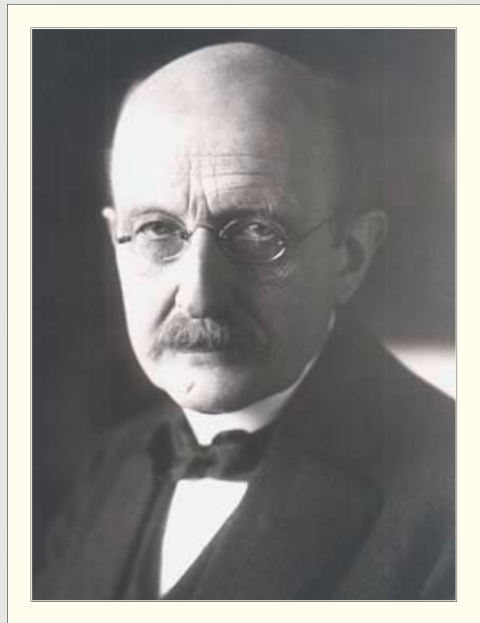


[50]

Aerial photographic interpretation started in Germany as early as 1886 (image over Schönwalde 1886) as a forerunner of remote sensing [51]. The basic remote sensing theory had been laid down by Max Planck in 1900, a physics professor and Nobel Prize winner in Berlin [52]. His scholars included many other Nobel Prize winners, who gathered at the Solvay Conference [53]. One of Planck's colleagues in Berlin was Albert Einstein [54], who soon had to leave Germany.



[51]



[52]



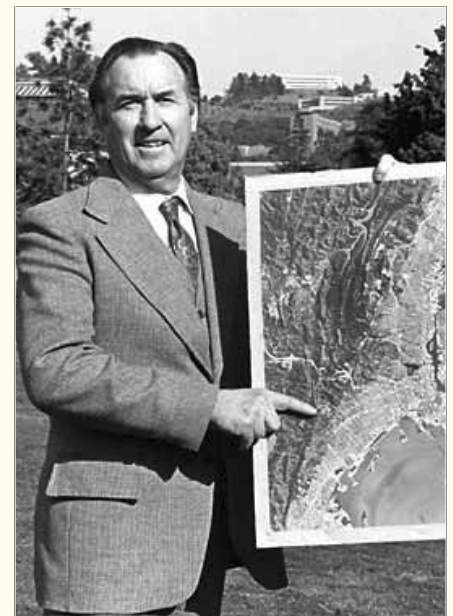
[53]



[54]

Illustrations [53] & [54]: Credit to Ernst Peter Fischer “Der Physiker – Max Planck und das Zerfallen der Welt”, Siedler Verlag München, ISBN 978-3-88680-837-3

What made remote sensing practicable was the sensor development in the United States after World War II. One of the promoters in the American Society for Photogrammetry was Robert Colwell, a University of California Professor at Berkeley [55].



[55]

2. A REFLECTION OF EDWARD DOLEŽAL, THE FOUNDER OF THE SOCIETY

The founder of the International Society for Photogrammetry Eduard Doležal was born on March 2, 1862 in Mährisch Budwitz (Moravské Budějovice) in Southern Moravia. He was a child of the Austro-Hungarian Empire [1].

A few historical remarks may help to understand this scenario. The Habsburg Emperor Franz Joseph I had ruled the monarchy from 1848. During this time many revolutions had taken place in Central Europe, but the emperor strengthened his hold on the empire by marrying Elizabeth from Bavaria in 1854 [2]. The Habsburg monarchy had traditional interests in Upper-Italy, which were contested by other powers of Europe. In Venice an uprising took place in 1849, which the Emperor countered by attacking from balloons in what was the first air battle [3].



[1]



[2]



[3]

But a more significant event was the support of Napoleon III of France to establish Victor Emanuel's Kingdom of Italy in 1859 against Habsburg interests [4]. The battle of Solferino ended with a victory for Napoleon III and a loss for Franz Joseph I [5].¹ Napoleon III used military photographic reconnaissance from balloons to gain ascendancy in the battle. For Franz Joseph I this required a political reorientation of interests to maintain his empire, which was a multinational conglomerate in which only 20 % of the population spoke German and another 20 % spoke Hungarian [6].



[4]

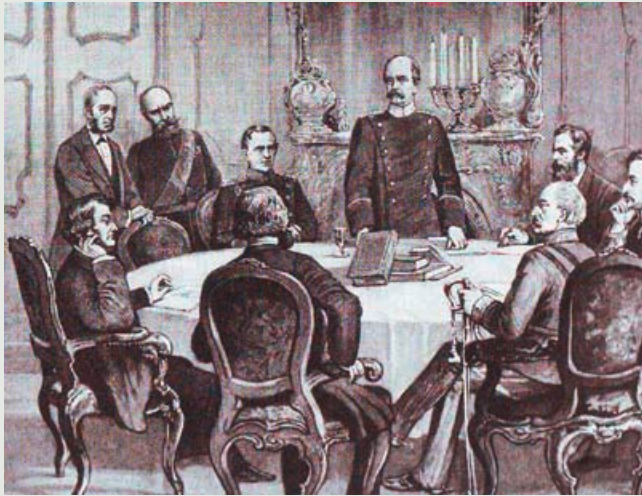


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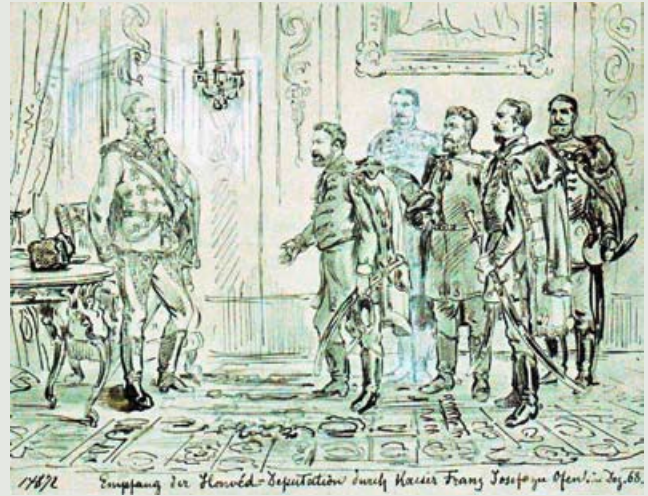


[6]

Franz Joseph's neighbours to the North, the Prussian Hohenzollern dynasty, pursued their own interests against Napoleon III. Wilhelm I of Prussia and his chancellor Bismarck fought Austria and his allies, such as the Kingdom of Hannover over the Danish Schleswig issue. The battle of Königgrätz (Hradec Kralové) in 1866 was a loss for Austria and it led to the acquisition of Hannover by Prussia. The peace of Nikolsburg (Mikulov) in 1866 made certain that Austria approved the annexation [7].



[7]



[8]

At that time Doležal's birthplace was occupied by Prussian troops. The events were a clear signal for Franz Joseph I to make peace with the Hungarian revolutionaries of 1848, the Honved's in 1868 [8]. This permitted Wilhelm I of Prussia without interference from Austria to invade France in 1871 and to become German Emperor at Versailles [9].



[9]

While Franz Joseph I tried to rule his multinational empire by “well tempered dissatisfaction” among his nations, the German emperor Wilhelm I and his successor Wilhelm II emerged as his ally [10]. It is a mystery of history how three cousins and descendants of Queen Victoria of England could become engaged in launching World War I against each other, Edward VII of England, Wilhelm II of Germany and Nicolas II of Russia [11].



[10]



[11]

Emperor Franz Joseph's law and order permitted the citizens of his empire to pursue their interests rather undisturbed by the political events. Doležal's parents Franz and Eleonore had different mother languages [12]. His father spoke Czech and his mother German, which was typical for the Moravian region between Znaim (Znojmo) and Iglau (Jihlava). They met in Vienna in 1848, where his father worked as a weaver. After their marriage they settled in Mährisch Budwitz buying a house on credit [13], which is where Edward Doležal grew up. He encountered Prussian occupation at the age of four and went to a German school in Mährisch Budwitz until he was 14 [14]. In 1876 there was a stock market crash, which forced Eduard Doležal's father to give up his home and to move to Vienna again working as a weaver [15].



[12]



[13]



[14]



[15]

This was the time of innovation, marked in Vienna by the World Exhibition and the construction of the monumental “Ringstrasse” [16]. Eduard Doležal had the opportunity to complete his school matriculation in Vienna in 1884 [17]. Thereafter he became a student at the Technical University and assisted Professor Schell in the surveying laboratories in practical geometry [18].



[16]



[17], [18]

When in 1889 a Technical College was established in Sarajevo, Prof. Schell’s recommendation permitted him to become a professor there in practical and descriptive geometry [19]. He became interested in the upcoming capabilities of photogrammetry for surveying mountainous terrain in Austria and gave a public lecture in Sarajevo on this topic in 1884.



[19]



[20]

Professor Schell opened up a possibility for him to return as a collaborator to the Technical University in Vienna in 1895, where he became engaged in lectures on photogrammetry. He visited Germany and met Meydenbauer [20]. This was followed by another visit in 1897 together with his colleague Scheimpflug when he met Koppe, Jordan and Sebastian Finsterwalder [21].



[21]

In 1899 he was appointed as Professor of Practical and Descriptive Geometry at the Mining Academy in Leoben [22]. During his travels to the World Exhibition in Paris in 1900 he established further contacts in France, Germany and Switzerland. When Professor Schell retired at the Technical University Vienna in 1905, Eduard Doležal became his successor [23]. Due to his ability to settle conflicts in a diplomatic manner Doležal soon became Rector of the Technical University in 1908/1909 [24].



[22]



[23]



[24]

As Professor in Vienna he frequently organised seminars. In February 1907 this led to the creation of the Austrian Society of Photogrammetry, with Doležal elected as chairman. As early as 1908 he established the “International Archive for Photogrammetry” as a medium for scientific exchange. During the Zeiss Photogrammetric Week in Jena in 1909 he encouraged the creation of the German Society for Photogrammetry [25].



[25]

On July 4, 1910 the Austrian Society held its Annual Meeting at the Technical University of Vienna. It was then that the International Society for Photogrammetry was created, with the Austrian Society becoming its first section. The German Society followed.

The first Congress was held September 24 to 26, 1913 in Vienna with over 300 international participants.

World War I delayed the holding of the second Congress. Initial discussions took place in Jena in 1922 with the German photogrammetrists Otto von Gruber and Max Gasser [26]. Thus the Second Congress could take place in Berlin in 1926, at which Doležal was elected as Honorary President of the Society [27].



[26]



[27]

Doležal followed the international growth of the Society during the congresses in Zurich (1930), Paris (1934) and Rome (1938), but could do little to prevent the catastrophic events of World War II. As a multi-culturally oriented individual formed under the Austro-Hungarian monarchy he could at least see a rebirth of the Society at the Congresses in Scheveningen (1948) and Washington (1952). He received an invitation by O.S. Reading to attend the Washington Congress but at the age of 90 he apologized for no longer being able to travel.

A few images of his closest friends in photogrammetry are shown:

- Prof. Schell, his predecessor at the Technical University in Vienna (+1909) [28]
- Theodor Scheimpflug (+ 1911) [29]
- Gustav Kemmerer, Scheimpflug's co-worker (+1914) [30]
- Karl Fuchs, Professor of Pressburg (Bratislava) (+1916) [31]
- Pio Paganini, Florence (+1916) [32]
- Schuffner, Böhmisch Leipa (+1920) [33]
- Thiele, Moscow (+1911) [34]



[28]



[29]



[30]



[31]



[32]

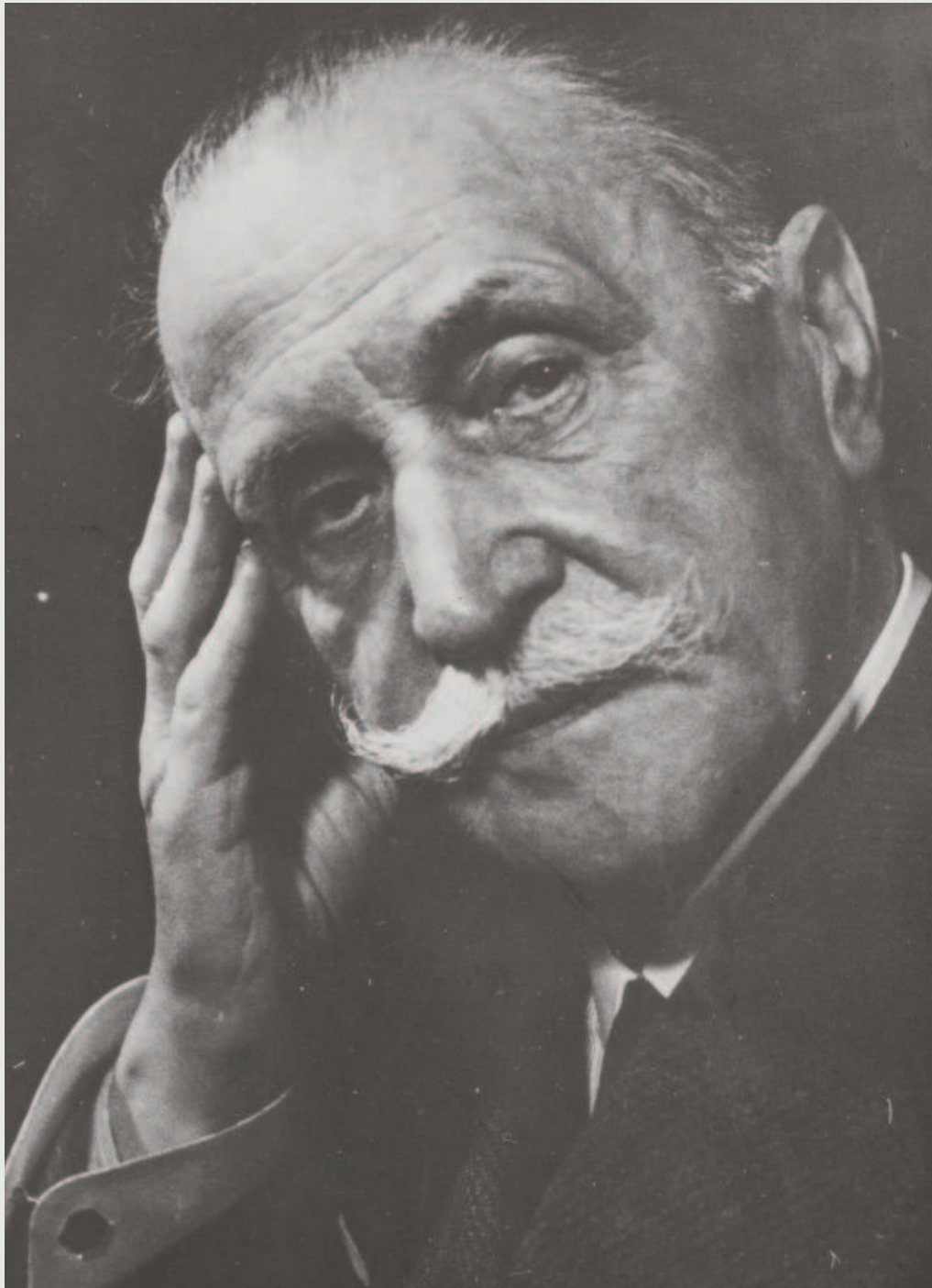


[33]



[34]

Doležal died at the age of 93 in Baden near Vienna, where he is buried [35].



Illustrations in this Chapter 2:

Illustrations [2], [3], [5], [6], [8], [15] and [16]: credit to Lothar Höbelt, „Die Habsburger – Aufstieg und Glanz einer europäischen Dynastie“, Konrad Theiss Verlag, Stuttgart, ISBN 978-3-8062-2196-1

Illustrations [4], [7], [9], [10] and [11]: Credit to Guido Knopp, Stefan Brauburger, Peter Arens „Die Deutschen – Vom Mittelalter bis zum 20. Jahrhundert“, C. Bertelsmann Verlag, München, ISBN 978-3-570-00942-0

3. THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESSES FROM 1913 TO 2008

The **first** ISP Congress took place in Vienna in 1913. Eduard Doležal was able to welcome the 300 participants at the Technical University [1], but he and Baron Hübl were able to hold lectures on photogrammetry in the Parliament on the occasion of a Natural Scientist Conference [2]. At the Congress the creation of ISP Sections were in preparation for France, Italy, Russia and Spain, but they did not materialize because of the sudden outbreak of World War I. As had been agreed in 1913, the **second** Congress would be organized in Berlin. But it was not until 1926 that it could take place at the Technical University Berlin under the organization of Prof. Otto Eggert [3]. The exhibit took place in the main hall of the Technical University [4]. Carl Pulfrich and Zeiss displayed their optical stereoplanigraph [5]. But also mechanical stereoplotters of other European manufacturers were on display [6].

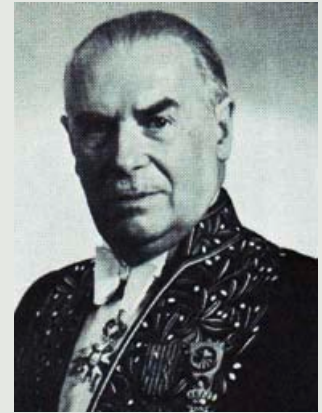


The **third** Congress of 1930 took place at the Technical University of Zurich, only two years after the Swiss Society for Photogrammetry was founded. The host was Prof. Fridolin Baeschlin, a well known geodesist [7]. His co-worker was the photogrammetrist Max Zeller [8]. Obviously,



the Congress was supported by Heinrich Wild [9] who had established his company in Heerbrugg in 1923. This Congress in Zurich was a complete success for ISP, since few international photogrammetrists had wanted to travel to Postwar Germany in 1926.

The **fourth** Congress was organised by L. Hurault [9A] in 1934 in Paris with G. Perrier as President . Among the known French photogrammetrists was Georges Poivilliers, a designer of opto-mechanical photogrammetric instruments [10].



The **fifth** Congress took place in Rome in 1938 under the leadership of Prof. Gino Cassinis of the Politecnico di Milano, who was principally a geodesist defining normal gravity [11]. Due to the political events of Munich, where Mussolini, Hitler, Daladier and Chamberlain met at the same time and decided on the fate of Czechoslovakia, few international photogrammetrists went to Rome. But Italy was represented by two photogrammetric instrument designers:

- Umberto Nistri [12] of Rome, and
- Ermengildo Santoni [13] of Florence

Von Orel became Honorary Member of the Society. It was decided in Rome to host the next Congress in the Netherlands, but when World War II broke out in 1939 it became clear that the date for the next Congress would be delayed.



After six long war years, the designated next Congress Director Willem Schermerhorn organised the **sixth** Congress in Scheveningen in 1948. [14] Schermerhorn, who had been a professor at the University of Technology in Delft since 1926 collaborated in the 1930's with the German scientist Otto von Gruber in the Dutch colonies, which later became Indonesia, on aerial triangulation. In the war years he became involved in the Dutch resistance and was sent to a German concentration camp in 1944. In 1946 he became the Netherland's first post-war Prime Minister. In 1951 he founded the ITC as a Dutch contribution to the developing world.



At the 1948 Congress Poivillier became Honorary Member of the Society. While at that time Germany was not allowed to officially participate in the Congress, it nevertheless had one representative, Eduard Messter (son of Oskar Messter) who at the same time was a citizen of Liechtenstein.

But Schermerhorn suggested, that Germany should be readmitted as an ISP member at the **seventh** Congress in 1952 at the Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D.C. [15]. That was the first time that the Congress was held outside of Europe, in a country, which in the meantime with companies such as Bausch and Lomb and Kelsh, institutions such as the US Geological Survey, the US Coast and Geodetic Survey and the military agencies, had established a new photogrammetric tradition. The Congress Director was O.S. Reading. Among the American participants was Russell Bean of the USGS [16], who later established orthophotography as a practical tool. In Washington, four photogrammetrists became honorary members: Baeschlin, Nistri, Reading and Santoni.



The **eighth** Congress was entrusted to Sweden in 1956 with Mogensen as Congress Director and O. Fagerholm as Secretary. Prof. Bertil Hallert of KTH Stockholm, who had spent a year at the newly established Mapping and Charting Laboratory at Ohio State University in the USA, had a strong influence on the program [17]. In Stockholm four honorary members were elected: Cassinis, Härry, Hurault and Mogensen. ISP in conjunction with the American Society awarded the first Brock Gold Medal to Bertele.



The **ninth** Congress took place in London in 1960. Schermerhorn received the Brock Gold Medal and Major General R. Ll. Brown was elected as Honorary Member. The main players at the Congress were Martin Hotine [18] and E.H. Thompson [19].

The **tenth** Congress was organised 1964 in Lisbon by Paes Clemente [20] in the Exposition Center of the City [21]. The organisers of the 1960 Congress in London had donated a golden chain of office to ISP, which was presented at the Lisbon Congress for the first time [22]. It added status to Paes Clemente [23]. At the Congress the FIG President Prof. Karl Neumaier from Austria who had just organised a successful FIG Congress in Vienna in 1962 [24] addressed the audience.



The Lisbon Congress had a big social component. The participants will remember the excursion to Sintra, when all buses stopped for one hour in front of a hotel to utilize the one and only toilet. It was also a Congress in which sponsors from industry began to compete with social events. Zeiss Oberkochen had organised a dinner in a remote village. When the buses to transport the passengers did not arrive, Zeiss decided to hire 50 taxis to solve the transport problem. In Lisbon, the first Otto von Gruber Award, donated by the ITC was awarded to Fritz Ackermann.

The **eleventh** Congress took place in Lausanne in Switzerland in 1968, the home town of the Ecole Polytechnique Fédéral de Lausanne (EPFL), and was organised by Prof. Bachmann [25]. The exhibition was accommodated in the large exhibition hall [26]. At the Congress President Härry presided over the meetings [27] wearing his chain of office [28]. The organisation was in the hands of a powerful team: Bachmann, Härry [29], Prof. Kasper from ETH [30], Prof. Matthias from ETH and Schmidheini from Wild [32]. Solaini from Milano became the new president [33]. The Brock Gold Medal was awarded to Helmut Schmid [34].





In the social program arranged by the exhibitors the open air party by Wild suffered from a heavy rainfall and as a result Max Kreis of Wild contracted a heavy cold and a hoarse voice. He stated that they would sing several nights later on at the Zeiss party. Zeiss organised a concert in a barn, which commenced with music by Ravel. Then followed a one hour champagne party. The second part of the concert offered music by a very modern and unmelodic Swiss composer, but due to the champagne it became a very beautiful music.

The **twelfth** Congress of 1972 took place in the exhibition grounds [36] in Ottawa Canada organised by Sam Gamble [35], who became ISP President at the Congress [36]. Canada was proud to host the Congress for the second time outside of Europe [37]. Schermerhorn, Thompson and Schwidefsky [39] became Honorary Members and Helava received the Brock Gold Medal. The Von Gruber Award went to Ebner and Höhle of Germany.





A very special event during the Congress was the launch of the ERTS-remote sensing satellite, later renamed Landsat. William A. Fischer [40] of the USGS demonstrated the first images to Sam Gamble. A special pride of the Canadian hosts was the Wild West party with a Buffalo Barbecue [41],[42],[43].



The **thirteenth** Congress of 1976 was entrusted to Prof. Halonen of Helsinki Technical University in Finland [44]. Unfortunately, Halonen died before the Congress, and hence the organisation was left to his collaborator and later successor Einari Kilpelä [45]. The official function of Congress Director went to retired General Karl Löfström [46], who opened the Congress [47]. The Otto Von Gruber Prize was awarded to Franz Leberl [47A], and Fritz Ackermann received the Gold Brock Medal.



The outdoor open air festival was arranged by Aino Savolainen [48], who became the first female ISP Council member. This outdoor party on the island of Seurasaari was a most memorable event for interaction between participants [49], [50].



At the Congress Ivan Antipov of the Soviet Union was elected as Commission III President [51] and the Finish Society donated the ISP flag to the Society [52]. Gottfried Konecny won the bid for the next Congress in Hamburg [53].



The **fourteenth** Congress of 1980 took place at the Hamburg Congress Center in Germany. Gottfried Konecny opened the Congress [54]. Jean Cruset followed as President and Fred Doyle as Secretary General of the Society [55],[56],[57]. The Council had co-opted Erik Dahle of Norway as the 6th member after Sam Gamble had passed away [58].



For the first time the number of participants reached 2000 [59]. The Congress arranged for a Ladies Program was entrusted to Ms Brigitte Bähr [60].

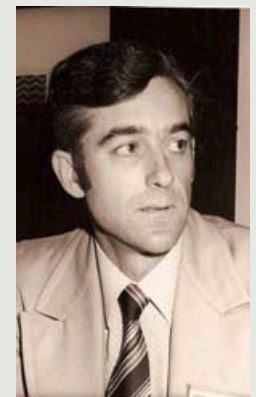


One of the hot topics of the Congress was the admission of the People's Republic of China as a new member of ISP. Taiwan had already been a member, but our statutes reserved the right of representation of a country to only one organisation. Thus we changed our statutes to state that members could be countries and "regions thereof which had an independent budget". Thus China Beijing and China Taipei could both be admitted or remain as members [61],[62]. The President of the German Society Fritz Ackermann was able to welcome both delegations [63] (Prof. Shih from Tainan in Taiwan and Prof. Wang Zhi Zhuo from Wuhan and Mr. Li from Beijing from Mainland China).



At the Congress Solaini and Cruset became Honorary Members. Gilbert Hobrough received the Brock Award and Armin Grün the Von Gruber Award [64]. Fred Doyle became the new President [65] and Brazil won the bid for the next Congress [66]. Many old friends came to Hamburg, such as Dave Hocking from Australia [67] and Louis Laidet from France [68], but also new faces became visible, who would become prominent members of the Society, such as Shunji Murai from Japan [69], Giovanna Togliatti from Italy [70], Larry Fritz [71] from the USA and John Trinder [72] from Australia.





Another important event was the renaming of the Society to “International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing”, ISPRS, a move which the German Society had itself made a year earlier, but which the American Society had not yet made. A memorable event was the night at the “Fabrik”, the place where the Beatles had become famous. As fewer people came to the party than expected we had to distribute free consumption vouchers to those present. This was most welcomed by the participants from the Western currency restricted Socialist countries, and for a few hours we turned the economies of the world upside down. The Hamburg days were marked by about 10 days of rain. The committee ordered 2000 umbrellas for the open air event in Castle Herrenhausen in Hannover. As the weather turned for the better the umbrellas were given as a souvenir to the departing participants. There was no time to relax after the farewell party. When Fritz Ackermann and Ms. Maurmeier, the organizers of the technical program, came to collect the completed commission reports the next morning, the efficient Congress Center had already dismantled their offices and had destroyed the reports.

Host to the **fifteenth** Congress 1984 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil was Placidino Fagundes, who opened the Congress at the Rio Congress Center [74]. He succeeded to bring the President of Brazil to the opening ceremony with a one hour delay to address us, during which time we listened to the music of the Military Band. At the Congress Fagundes and Fred Doyle became Honorary Members. In addition, Fred Doyle received the Brock Gold Medal [75]. Gottfried Konecny was elected President of ISPRS [76] and Shunji Murai received the flag from Placidino Fagundes as the next Congress Director [77]. One of the memorable events was the party at Sugar Loaf Mountain in Rio de Janeiro, which Placidino reserved for exclusive use by ISPRS.



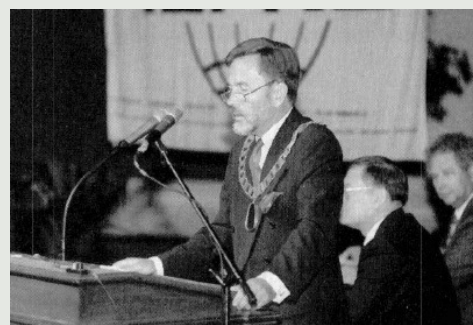
The **sixteenth** Congress of 1988 was held at the Kyoto Congress Center in Japan [78]. Aino Savolainen and Wang Zhizhuo received Honorary membership, the Brock Gold Medal went to Duane Brown and the Von Gruber Award to Paul Curran. The old Council with Giovanna Togliatti as Treasurer, Kennert Torlegård as Secretary General, Shunji Murai as Congress Director, Gottfried Konecny as President and George Zarzycki and John Trinder as Vice Presidents [79] was replaced by the new Council with Kennert Torlegård as President, Shunji Murai as Secretary General, Larry Fritz as Congress Director, Keith Atkinson as Treasurer and Ivan Katzarsky and Gottfried Konecny as Vice Presidents [80].



The cultured environment of Kyoto did much to enable the participants to appreciate the Asian style, especially the accompanying persons [81] (Ms. Jadwiga Zarzycki, Ms Taeko Murai, Ms Lieselotte Konecny, Ms Evelyn Fritz). A group photo shows many past officers of ISPRS participating at the Congress [81A]. Also Giovanna Togliatti, the past Treasurer was there, not knowing that it would be her last Congress [81B].



The **seventeenth** Congress of 1992 took place at the Congress Center in Washington, D.C. Larry Fritz opened the Congress as Congress Director [82] together with Kennert Torlegård as President [83]. Gerard Brachet received the Brock Gold Medal and Gottfried Konecny became Honorary Member [84]. Christian Heipke received the Von Gruber Award. Shunji Murai was elected as President. Karl Kraus won the bid as the next Congress Director, Larry Fritz became Secretary General, John Trinder Treasurer, and Kennert Torlegard and Armin Grün Vice Presidents [85].



One of the very special events arranged by Larry Fritz was the visit to the historical State Department. There were a number of discussions on space activities at the Congress (with Rupert Haydn, Johann Bodechtel, Fritz Ackermann, Larry Fritz, Alain Baudoin, and Franz Lanzl) [86], as well as with John MacDonald from MDA [87]. The outing at Annapolis Beach Park with dancing activities [88] at which Otto Kölbl participated was a memorable event.



Gottfried Konecny, having left Kuwait on August 1, 1990 three hours before Saddam Hussain's invasion was still hooked on Cigar smoking to calm his nerves [90].



The Commission Presidents from 1988 to 1992 were [91]: Hirai (Japan), Barbosa (Brazil), Gruen (Switzerland), Szangolies (GDR-Germany), Badekas (Greece), Li Deren (China) and Hegyi (Canada). From 1992 to 1996 a new group took over [92]: (top left to right: Fryer (Australia), Li Deren (China), Da Cunha (Brazil), bottom left to right: Allam (Canada), Ebner (Germany), Welch (USA)).



After 83 years the **eighteenth** Congress was again organised in Vienna. This was the reward for Karl Kraus, who convinced the voting General Assembly in Washington, that there were 10 reasons why the Congress should be held in Vienna, one of them was Karl Kraus [93].



Prior to the opening of the Congress Council paid tribute to Eduard Doležal at his grave in Baden [94].



The opening of the Congress [95] took place at the Hofburg in very distinguished surroundings with music by Johann Strauss [96]. The nearly 100 years old retired director of the Austrian Surveying and Mapping Organization, Hofrat Neumaier sat beside Ms Kraus, the wife of the Congress Director [97] and Ms Taeko Murai, the wife of the ISPRS President attended wearing her Kimono [98] The Brock Gold Medal was awarded to Tjuflin from the Russian Federation for his extraterrestrial work [99], and Fritz Ackermann was elected as Honorary Member [100]. Hans-Gerd Maas received the Von Gruber Award.





A very special event which took place at the University was the Doležal Award ceremony, at which distinguished photogrammetrists and remote sensing specialists from developing countries and from reform countries were honoured [101], such as Prof. Deekshatulu from India [102] or Prof. Adeniyi from Nigeria [103]. But it was also a pleasure to meet well known guests from developed countries, such as Dave Hocking from Australia [104] and Marguerite Remillard-Madden from the USA [105]. The next Congress bid was won by the Netherlands [106].





The team of Congress Organisers from Vienna [107] prepared a varied technical and social program for all participants consisting of bicycling along the Danube [108], a Heurigen wine party in the vineyards [109], an outdoor festival at the Castle Grafenegg [110] and a gala event in the Vienna City Hall [111],[112],[113]. At the gala dinner President Murai commented on the Congress Director's strict organization rules during the Congress: "there has been a lot of K.&K in Vienna, remembering the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy's imperial and royal (K&K) status, but also referring to Karl Krauss's initials (K.K.).

He added: " I am Shunji Murai, S.M., which means: strong man".



The **nineteenth** Congress 2000 in Amsterdam was organised by Klaas Jan Beek [114] and a large ITC team headed by Rector Martin Molenaar [115]. The 1996-2000 Council [116] with (left to right) Murai (Japan), Barbosa (Brazil), Fritz (USA), Trinder (Australia), R  ther (South Africa) and Beek (Netherlands) ran the ISPRS administrative affairs during the Congress. A new Council was elected for the 2000-2004 period [117] (left to right): Gerard Begni (France), Larry Fritz (USA), Ian Dowman (UK), John Trinder (Australia), Amatzia Peled (Israel) and Orhan Altan (Turkey). The Brock Gold Medal was awarded to Jack Dangermond [118]. Shunji Murai was elected Honorary Member and H. Mayer as well as M.G. Vosselmann shared the Otto Von Gruber prize. The Congress was condensed into one week period. The highlight of the week was the professional gala performance in the Hilversum Film Studios.



The **twentieth** Congress 2004 took place in Istanbul. It was opened by Congress Director Orhan Altan [119] and ISPRS President John Trinder [120] in the Istanbul Congress Hall [121]. The opening ceremony was accompanied by an impressive dancing group performance [122]. The bid for the next Congress (2008) was won by Chen Jun for China [123]. A new Council was elected [124] with Stan Morain (USA), Manos Baltasvias (Switzerland), John Trinder (Australia) Chen Jun (China), Orhan Altan (Turkey) and Ian Dowman (UK). Larry Fritz became Honorary Member and the Brock Award went to Kasturirangan.



The newly elected commission presidents were (left to right): Kohei Cho (Japan), Alain Baudoin (France), Wolfgang Kainz (Austria), Wolfgang Förstner (Germany), Shailesh Nayak (India), Hans-Gerd Maas (Germany), John Van Genderen (Netherlands) and Ammatzia Peled (Israel) as President of the newly formed Commission VIII on Remote Sensing Applications. [125].



The Congress took place in a relaxed atmosphere making interchanges between photogrammetrists and remote sensing specialists easily possible [126]. The Congress location on the border of Europe and the Middle East facilitated interchanges between Turkish, Arab and Western (American) photogrammetrists [127] (Tosun, Al Zaffin, Passini) or between Turkish and Saudi professionals [128] (Eren, Al Rajhi). But also European visitors were well integrated [129], e.g. by Rector Alkis of Yildiz University and his wife [129A] (Kraus, Ackermann). Even a bridge to Australia was established [130] (Clive Fraser) and the Balkan countries (Bulgaria, Ivan Katzarsky) were included [131] as well as young and old industrial partners from Germany and the USA [132] (Hans Wehrli, Markus Guretzki). The Chinese delegation made a special effort to win the next Congress [133].





The gala event took place in the Dolmabahçe Palace for the Sultan's former Harem. It was a spectacular fashion show up on a par with Hilversum's film city event in 2000 [134]. The participants did not believe their eyes when they saw genuine Turkish models [135], and not just a few [136], as can be seen in the eyes of the participants [137]. At the end of the show the stage was shared by old and new Council and Commission Presidents [138], [139]. This was also a good opportunity to present awards, including the Sam Gamble Award to the Rector of MIIGAIK, Kosmonaut Victor Petriv Savinyich [140], and some academic awards to University of Hannover staff (Heipke, Jacobsen, Sester).



The **twentyfirst** Congress 2008 took place at the Congress Center of Beijing opposite the Olympic Stadium which was to open a few weeks later [143]. The Congress entrance was decorated in modern Chinese style [144]. Chen Jun and Yang Kai opened the Congress [145] as well as ISPRS President Dowman [146]. John Trinder [147] and Armin Gruen were elected as Honorary Members.



The 2004-2008 Commission Presidents had prepared the scientific Congress Program [148]. During the Congress the new Council was elected (left to right): Orhan Altan (President), Chen Jun (Secretary General), Cliff Ogelby (Congress Director), Ian Dowman (First Vice President), Amatzia Peled (Second Vice President), Mike Rensslo (Treasurer). With some of the new Commission Presidents to follow (Naser El Sheimy (Canada), Wenzhoung Shi (Hongkong), Nicolas Paparoditis (France), Marguerite Madden (USA), John Mills (USA); Martin Molenaar (Netherlands). Wolfgang Wagner (Austria) and Haruhisa Shimoda (Japan) are missed from the picture) [149]. Armin Gruen received the Brock Gold Medal and Butenuth the Von Gruber prize.

The General Assembly was responsible for the elections [150],[151],[152],[153].



The Congress Center offered good meeting facilities for individual interchanges (Japan-Australia), (Russia-Bulgaria-Germany) [155] or Council strategy [156]. Even wives were included [157]. There were plenty of parties with appropriate speeches [158],[159] and of course the target oriented plenary sessions [160], with special meetings for the ISPRS Foundation [161] or the White Elephant Club [162]. The British Embassy gave a special reception [163] (Thomas Luhmann, President of German Society) and the Chinese Bureau for Surveying and Mapping a special dinner [164]. Orhan Altan was elected President accompanied by the former ISPRS presidents [165], and there were many interesting scientific sessions. Cliff Ogleby was given the final word to invite the participants to Melbourne in 2012 [167] and he received the ISPRS flag from the Chinese delegation in old tradition [168].





4. EVENTS OF THE LIFE OF THE SOCIETY

The life of a networked Society takes place in many facets, which can only be exemplified by glimpses reflected in the pictures shown.

4.1 ISPRS COUNCIL MEETINGS

In 1988, at the first Council meeting after the Kyoto Congress in Zurich, the Carnival events started on November 11 and later the eating of Fondue was mastered by Japanese and German participants. China was a good host to many Council meetings, e.g. in 1994, in 2007. Other Council meetings took place in Vienna in 1995, and in Baltimore in 2009. At a Council Meeting in 2009 the Headquarters of ISPRS were inaugurated in Beijing.



A Council Meeting in Vienna in 2009 served to prepare for the ISPRS Centenary Celebrations.



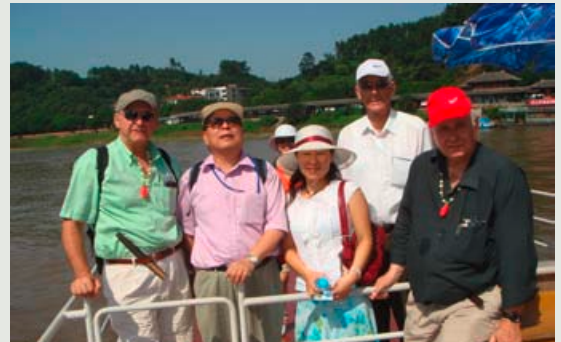
4.2 ISPRS SYMPOSIA

The midterm Symposia of a four year inter-Congress period are a prime activity for scientific work. In 1986 the Commission III Symposium was held north of the Arctic circle in Rovaniemi in Finland. Another important symposium was the one of Leipzig in 1987, when GDR Commission II President invited the USSR colleagues to internationally open access to Russian high resolution satellite imagery from the KFA 1000 camera to the Western World. This happened in Leipzig two years before Germany was reunited and Klaus Szangolies became a German Federal Republic Commission President in 1989. In 1998 a Commission II symposium took place in Cambridge. In 2005 a radar symposium was organised in the beautiful surroundings of Banff by Brian Mercer. In 2006 the Commission VI Symposium was held at Tokai University in Tokyo with an outing to historic Asakusa.



4.3 WHITE ELEPHANT CLUB EVENTS

The White Elephant Club of senior but professionally and socially interested photogrammetrists originated at the celebrations of Armin Gruen's 60th birthday in Istanbul in 2004. At Yildiz University a Colloquium took place, where we were to deliver our papers. My view was that such papers should not perpetuate the concept of dissertations, which we wrote when we were 30. At 60 we should look across the fence and express a concern on what society needs. In analogy to the Club of Rome (my University President was a founding member) I suggested the establishment of a club. Shunji Murai immediately suggested to call it "White Elephant Club". Later in 2004 the Club met in Chiang Mai, and in 2006 in Chengdu. In 2007 we met in Urumqi to celebrate Sherman Wu's 80th birthday to. In 2008 the White Elephants' Club met in Beijing to celebrate John Trinder's 70th birthday. In 2009 the occasion of Wang Zhizhuo's 100th birthday led us to Wuhan, where the Club celebrated Fritz Ackermann's 80th birthday and Shunji Murai's 70th birthday.

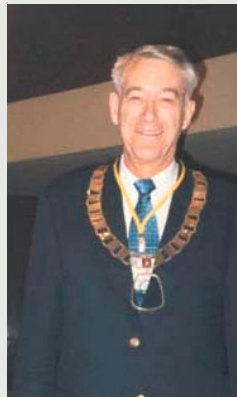


4.4 ISPRS REGIONAL MEMBERS

Regional Remote Sensing Associations play an important interdisciplinary role, which can only be realized at their annual meetings.

The Asian Association of Remote Sensing (AARS) has realized this at the initiative of Shunji Murai over the past 30 years. The Asian Remote Sensing Conference in 2004 in Chiang Mai, which was opened by Princess Sirintong of Thailand was an event attended by many ISPRS officers. Also the 2006 conference in Kathmandu and the 2008 conference in Colombo had a strong ISPRS involvement.

The 2009 Beijing conference, which was the AARS 30 year Anniversary event was very colourful. Shunji Murai, who had led the organization for this period passed the leadership into the hands of Kohei Cho. The Secretariat was and still is being managed by Chiwako Fujino.

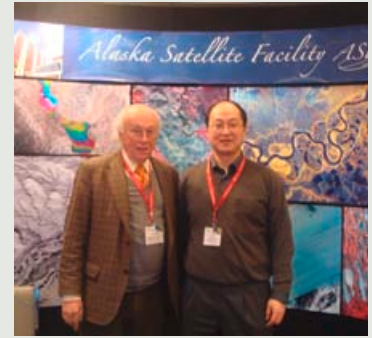


In Europe the European Association of Remote Sensing Laboratories EARSeL, which is about a year older than AARS, has a record of annual mid-year Council meetings, as for example the ones in Frascati in 2006, Paris in 2007, Toulouse in 2008 and again Paris in 2009. Each year a symposium is held such as in 2009 in Chania in Greece. The Honorary President Preben Gudmandssen from Denmark, created the association. In 2009 the chairmanship was passed on from Rudi Goossens (Belgium) to Rainer Reuter (Germany). Gesine Boettcher (Germany) manages the Secretariat.

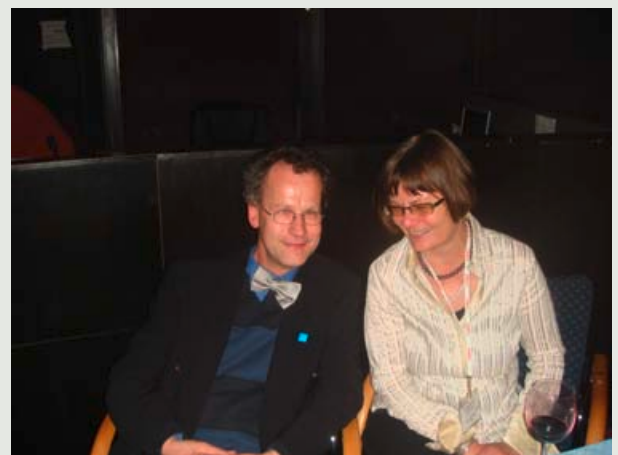


4.5 NATIONAL PHOTOGRAMMETRY AND REMOTE SENSING SOCIETIES

The American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS) has held its annual events of continental dimension for 75 years. In 2009 the Society celebrated its 75th Anniversary in Baltimore.



Likewise the German Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (DGPF) has held its annual meetings for many years. The 1990 meeting in Dresden was significant, with Egon Dorrer (President) and Jörg Albertz (now Honorary President), as it was after German unification and the societies from the GDR and the Federal Republic were merged [5-7]. Thereafter joint meetings such as the one in Hannover in 1995 have been held [5-8] to [5-10]. In 2009 in Jena DGPF celebrated its 100th Anniversary with Cornelia Glässer as President from East Germany [5-11] to [5-13].

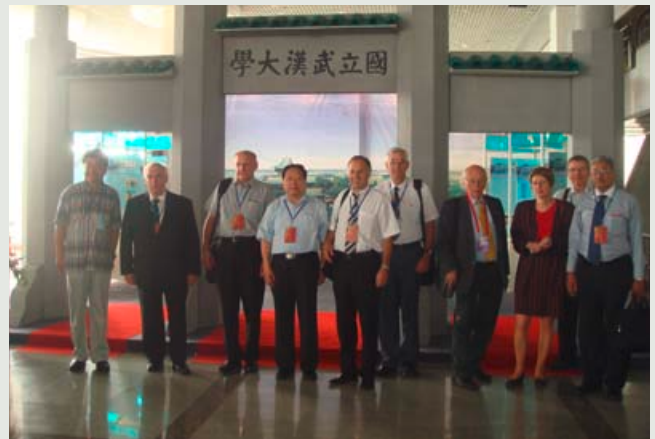


Sometimes interdisciplinary meetings between photogrammetry and the GIS community are held, such as Christian Heipke's and Monika Sester's AGILE conference in Hannover in 2009 and sometimes foreign visitors participate, such as Li Deren from China. Of course, the birthdays of

prominent persons are also celebrated, for example that of Fritz Ackermann's 80th birthday in Stuttgart.



Special national events in China for photogrammetry have always been internationally attended such as in Wuhan in 2009.



A very special international event was the retirement of Armin Gruen at ETH Zurich in 2009.



4.6 UNITED NATIONS MEETINGS

ISPRS has served as Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) to the United Nations. It attended the UN Regional Cartographic Conferences, for example, the one in Bangkok in 2006, the one in New York in 2009 and again in Bangkok in 2009. ISPRS has also had close contact with UN-OOSA (Office of Outer Space Affairs in Vienna).



4.7 SISTER SOCIETIES

One of the tasks of ISPRS is to keep contact with the geoinformatics sister societies, such as FIG and others. The FIG Congress in Munich in 2006 established good contacts with FIG President 2002-2006 Holger Magel (Germany) and FIG President 2006-2010 Stig Enemark (Denmark). This included contacts with other professional colleagues from Germany, the USA, Russia and Canada.



4.8 TECHNICAL COOPERATION

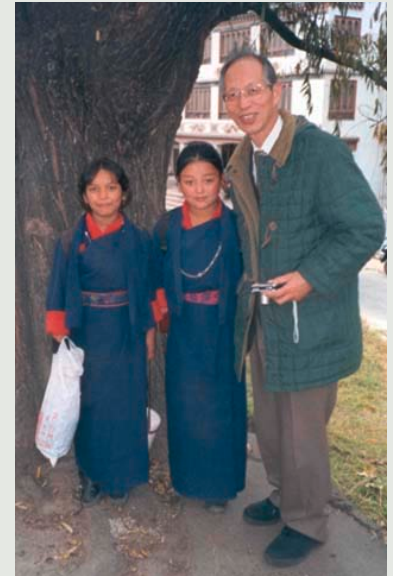
Members and officers of ISPRS from developed countries were frequently involved in technical cooperation activities with developing countries. Even though donor institutions from the UN, Asia and Europe shared the costs of these activities, it was the network of ISPRS which enabled the participation of experts in photogrammetry and remote sensing. As examples are shown: the network for Environment Information Systems in Subsaharan Africa (Uganda, Madagascar; AARSE and Space Conferences in Nigeria; my tasks were as External Examiner for the University of Nairobi.





With China governmental cooperative agreements were signed, and there were cooperative ventures in Cambodia with Japan and Germany. A very special joint venture was the hosting of a workshop in Bhutan.





There were other European sponsored ventures in Georgia and Uzbekistan, and there were University based exchanges with Turkey in close cooperation with the World Bank.



4.9 ACADEMIC EXCHANGES

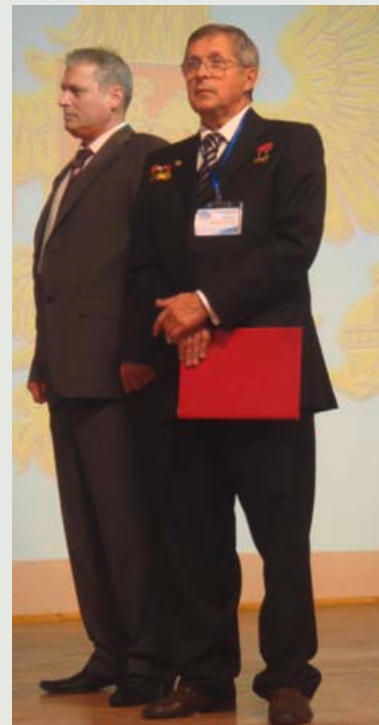
Starting with the opening of China to the West in 1979, close cooperation with Wuhan Technical University for Survey and Mapping (now Wuhan University) was established in 1980. This permitted us to join the 30 year celebrations at WTUSM in 1986. The relations continued in 1998, in 2006 and 2007. In 2009 the big event was the late Wang Zhizhuo's 100th birthday celebrations in Wuhan.



Academic exchanges between international professors of photogrammetry and remote sensing also took place in the German Geodetic Commission of the Bavarian Academy of Sciences and with the International Academy of Astronautics at one of their biannual events on small satellites in Berlin.

There has been strong academic involvement in the geomatics disciplines with the Russian Federation, e.g. at the GeoSibir Conferences in Novosibirsk from 2005. Moscow State University for Geodesy and Cartography MIIGAİK conferred honorary degrees on German photogrammetrists in 2004 and in 2009. There is a strong ISPRS link to President Savinyich and Rector Malinnikov of MIIGAİK.

At the old European academic institutions, which used to award University certificates by mail, the Presidents and Alumni organizations discovered how to remember graduations by awarding Golden Diplomas or Golden doctorates 50 years after the event. This happened at the Technical University of Munich, and the European Academy of Sciences began to award new memberships.



4.10 COMMERCIALY ORGANISED MEETINGS

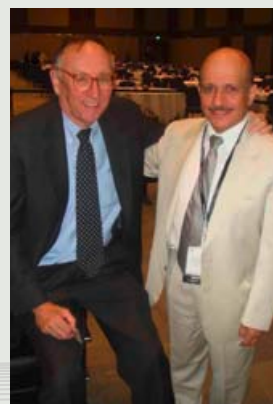
The ISPRS community also participated in major commercially organised events. One of these was the “Intergeo”, which not only brought some 18 000 participants together in Germany, but has also sponsored international events since 2004, for example as “Intergeo East” in Belgrade.



Map Middle East has been sponsored by “GIS Development” from India since 2005. In 2005 in Dubai there was a strong student involvement. In 2006 in Dubai international speakers, such as Vanessa Lawrence from the Ordnance Survey and ISPRS officers including Ian Dowman and Christian Heipke participated. In 2010 the conference was held in Abu Dhabi.



In India GIS-Development organised “Map World Forum” in 2007 (with Stig Enemark, Martien Molenaar, Sjaak Beerends and Ian Dowman) participating. Also attending were Dr. Kasturirangan from India, Jack Dangermond from USA and Muhammad Alrajhi from Saudi Arabia, as well as Ralf Schroth and Christian Heipke from Germany.



Another, more private style of meetings was organised by the Racurs Company of Russia in 2007 in Bulgaria, 2008 in Croatia and 2009 in Greece with ISPRS speakers and mainly Eastern European participants.

The continued support of ISPRS by Jack Dangermond and ESRI from Redlands in California should be specially mentioned.



This sketchy pictorial story of the creation and the evolution of ISPRS and its networked actions demonstrates perhaps better than a long list of achievements, that ISPRS is a vibrant group of committed and dedicated people, who are eager to make a contribution to a sustainable human society.

May 19, 2010

Gottfried Konecny

ISPRS Headquarters:

The Headquarters of ISPRS are at the address of the Secretary General:

Professor Chen Jun
National Geomatics Centre of China
28 Lianhuachixi Road, Haidian District
Beijing 100830
PR CHINA

Tel: +86-10-63881102 Fax: +86-10-63881026 No. 1

email: chenjun@nsdi.gov.cn / chenjun_isprs@263.net / isprs@nsdi.gov.cn

For more information on ISPRS go to the
ISPRS website: <http://www.isprs.org>



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President:	ORHAN ALTAN (TURKEY) email: oaltan@itu.edu.tr
Secretary General:	CHEN JUN (CHINA) email: chenjun@nsdi.gov.cn; chenjun_isprs@263.net
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Treasurer:	MIKE RENSLOW (USA) email: renslow76@hotmail.com

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