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## CALL FOR PAPERS AND BOOKS IN MILITARY HISTORY TO BE PUBLISHED IN 2021 AND 2022

The Italian Society of Military History launches an international Call for new Papers and Books of Ancient, Medieval, Modern or Contemporary Military History in Italian, English, French or Spanish to be published in 2021 and 2022 in *Nuova Antologia Militare* (the open access and peer reviewed journal of Sism) and in the Sism Series (*Fucina di Marte*, *Collana Sism*, *Quaderni Sism*). Articles, from 5 to 10,000 words, must be of academic quality, and contain abstracts and keywords in English and a final bibliography. The articles will be indexed with ISBN and DOI by Tab Edizioni. Submissions must be addressed to

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## NAM Autumn 2020 Report to Scientific Council, Advisory Board and Special Consultants

Dear friends,

As of 30 September, our journal completed the publications of its first year of life. Getting to 4 issues plus a supplement of book reviews was not in our forecasts. Nor was the very rapid internationalization of a journal "manufactured" in Italy in a completely artisanal way. Yet this has happened, imposing on me and on the two people who practically supported me (our graphic designer Antonio "Tippy" Nacca and our webmaster Massimiliano "Max" Italiano) a very "breathtaking" pace of work. TAB Edizioni – a junior but already established publishing house two months-senior than NAM – promptly provided the international indexing task.

But the editorial work was far less demanding than the academic work, consisting not only of informing a wide international audience of hundreds of potential authors of the existence of NAM, but above all of finding two or even three referees for each article: and referees so cooperative and kind to provide their evaluation in weeks or even days. To them, in particular, my warm gratitude goes.

The relative success of our "Garibaldian" initiative needs to be analyzed without emphasis and without illusions. I therefore urge you to reflect on the considerations I am about to make and to respond collectively with criticisms and suggestions.

First, the relatively large response seems to indicate that a scientific journal of military history but not academically framed was needed not only in Italy. Secondly, I must note that the contributions came largely from non-Italian scholars or from Italians who emigrated to foreign universities, while the contribution of Italian academics has been quantitatively lower than might have been expected.

It is understandable that junior scholars aspiring to a career in Italian universities wait for NAM to have the necessary seniority to be formally recognized as a scientific journal (which gives points in the competitions). It would therefore be very important if NAM could also publish articles by Italian senior scholars, in addition to those by Yann LeBohec, Jeremy Black, Stathis Birtachas, Gérald Arboit, Andrea Polegato, Michel Pretalli and many other foreign or emigré senior scholars whom I particularly thank not only for their scientific commitment but also for the affectionate moral support that they have given me in these eight months of hard work.

NAM was not founded by me, but by the Italian Society of Military History. Mine are only the proposal and the responsibility to fulfill the mandate received by the assembly of 2 December 2020 to build up the journal.

I am convinced that so far I have only fulfilled the first and easiest part of the task, namely the manufacture of the hardware. We already have a hundred published or pre-booked authors and, like John Paul Jones, "I haven't started fighting yet." We have demonstrated our technical skills. Our financial needs are commensurate with the availability ensured by the self-financing of the Sism without having to depend on anyone.

But now comes the harder and decisive task; that of convincing as many senior scholars as possible to "get on with it", to see NAM as "ours" and not "mine". It is on this soft factor that the future of NAM depends, not on anything else.

NAM needs your articles first, dear colleagues. Then your fully commitment in sharing the burden.

Virgilio

### **Activity carried out from February to September**

From 3 February to 30 September we published 6 NAM issues online on our website, on the TAB Edizioni website as well as on academia.edu and archive.org for a total of 38 original articles, 3 reprints and 37 reviews for a total of 1,792 pages:

- N. 0 Birth of a magazine pp. 146
- N. 1 Military cartography pp. 212
- N. 2 Ancient Military History pp. 322
- N. 3 Modern Military History p. 452
- N. 4 Contemporary Military History pp. 388
- Supplement Reviews pp. 272.

### **Promotion and dissemination on social networks**

Many SISM members, various other partners and SISM press officer, Vincenzo Grienti, have advertised the magazine on all social networks (twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn and facebook) with thousands of links.

[http://www.ventiquattromagazine.it/2020/10/05/la-nuova-antologia-militare/?fbclid=IwAR1mpFukSHY2iy7yJUILsYIqIKt5MzkhmzhSYK\\_5T\\_xAKV2SGhc-XP9HcEI](http://www.ventiquattromagazine.it/2020/10/05/la-nuova-antologia-militare/?fbclid=IwAR1mpFukSHY2iy7yJUILsYIqIKt5MzkhmzhSYK_5T_xAKV2SGhc-XP9HcEI).

An interview of mine in English at the Philosophical School of the SISM Member Giangiuseppe Pili was also released

<https://www.scuolafilosofica.com/9017/virgilio-ilari-on-the-italian-society-of-military-history-intelligence-interview-12-dr-giangiuseppe-pili>

### **Print of a limited edition of the NAM magazine**

According to the opinion of our legal advisor, avv. Enrico Silverio, it would be permissible, while maintaining the character of an online journal, to print a limited print edition of the NAM journal as long as not in the same year as the online publication. Since our finances do not allow us to bear the costs, we could resort to the reservation system, subject to proceeding with digital printing only on the condition that a minimum is reached, or possibly transfer the right to a publisher interested in marketing.

*Please comment on this.*

### **Commitments for Autumn 2020**

Just Monday our graphic designer has prepared the PDF of the third volume of the Fvcina di Marte series, a beautiful doctoral thesis on "**The Pope's Army 1690-1740**" by Luca Giangolini, which will be released in early December.

And in November the **Quaderno Sism 2020** (Military history of geography) will also

be released, edited by prof. Simonetta Conti.

In December, my illustrated **bio-bibliographic dictionary of Italian military writers of the modern age** (2 vols.) will also be published in the Sism Series (Nadir Media).

### **Commitments for 2021**

For 2021 we have 4 more issues planned:

1/21 ancient military history (5 articles already arrived and referenced),

2/21 medieval military history (edited by Aldo Settia, Antonio Musarra and Marco Merlo, with 10 articles scheduled for the end of October),

3/21 modern military history

4/21 contemporary military history,

plus the usual review supplement.

Two special issues are also in the works on the history of intelligence (edited by Gérald Arboit) and the history of the law of war (edited by Elisabetta Fiocchi Malaspina and Frederick Dhondt of the universities of Zurich and Ghent). If the latter two are ready by the end of the year, they will have priority over issues 3 and 4/21 which will move to 2022.

There are also **3 other volumes of the Fvcina di Marte series** (which will be published in the order in which the definitive texts will be delivered):

a) Maurizio Colombo, *Auxilia Vexillationes Legions*;

b) Andrea Tanganelli, *The Tuscan, Milanese and Mantuan Regiments in the Seven Years' War*;

c) Francesco Ferrando, *The Ansaldo cruisers at the battle of Tsushima*.

Another 3 volumes are reserved.

Rome, October 8th, 2020

Virgilio Ilari