Award of the SBH Medal of Honour to Aldo Ziggioto

This citation was read by Klaes Sierksma.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen, dear friends. The Board of the Stichting voor Banistiek en Heraldiek (Foundation for Banneristics and Heraldry) has, for the fourth time, been considering to whom the honour of the bi-annual award should be given on the occasion of this international congress.

The first to be awarded *the cross of honour* is no longer in our midst. The Board would like to express its great satisfaction that our late friend KARL FACHINGER was able to receive this decoration in 1967 whilst he was still in good health. We know how much he valued the decoration which was awarded, even more so than he valued the medal awarded to him by the government of his own country.

GEORGES PASCH, our charming psychologist from Paris, was chosen in Boston in 1969 to be the second recipient of the medal of honour. He would not be a good representative of his native country and of his second homeland if he did not regard this token of international recognition as a splendid gem and a valuable possession.

In 1971 HANS HORSTMANN was certainly overwhelmed by appreciation expressed by his circle of friends. Although modesty and quiet devotion to duty are the characteristics of this great expert he had difficulty in concealing his emotions at the ceremony in Torino when he was presented with the medal of honour.

Now, on the advice of those competent to judge, from no less than fifteen different countries, the Board of the Foundation has had little difficulty in seconding the expected choice.

The enormous amount of hard work which he carried out behind the scenes at our 1971 congress resulted in its successes. At the same time he managed alongside his daily work which was sometimes very difficult for him – to publish a splendid investigation report on Italian flags, the like of which cannot be found in any other country. It is a very great honour and a pleasure for me, on behalf of the Board of the Foundation for Banneristics and supported by the expression of approval from all his friends, to give here the decision of this Board, that Signor ALDO ZIGGIOTO from Torino will receive the Medal of Honour 1973.

Now I will read to you the citation of the Board which is written in French:

Le Bureau de la FONDATION DE LA BANNISTIQUE ET HÉRALDIQUE à *Muiderberg, Pays-Bas, en considération de la distribution biennale de la Médaille d'Honneur en argent sur présentation de quinze spécialistes de bannistique impartiaux a pris à l'unanimité la décision suivante:*

LA MEDAILLE D'HONNEUR EN ARGENT POUR L'ANNÉE 1973 *sera offerte à* MONSIEUR ALDO ZIGGIOTO à TORINO *(Italie) pour ses recherches et communications très élaborés concernant les drapeaux des anciens états*

italiens, et son travail, à l'organisation du congrès à *Torino en 1971 malgré une santé faible.*

La proclamation de cette décoration aura lieu lors du cinquième congrès international de vexillologie à Londres (Royaume Uni) le 12 au 18 Septembre 1973.

Le Bureau de La Fondation, Muiderberg, 13.15 Juin 1973.