

2000

DIPLOMATIC REPORT



THE SOVEREIGN MILITARY HOSPITALLER ORDER
OF ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM, OF RHODES AND OF MALTA



FOREWORD

The Order of Malta has devoted itself over the centuries to developing its hospitaller, medical and humanitarian works, all of which it continues to carry out today. In this publication, the Order's activities are presented in the chapters:

Humanitarian and Diplomatic Activities; Spiritual Commitment; and History and Culture.

The Report provides a brief summary of the Order's humanitarian works, published in detail in the Activity Report, which covers its medical, social, hospitaller and emergency humanitarian aid programmes. This publication is available from the Order's Information Bureau in Rome or from the Order of Malta in each country.

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At the dawn of the third millennium, the Sovereign Order of Malta still actively demonstrates the humanitarian and medical commitments that inspired its founding in Jerusalem in the eleventh century.

The first rule of the Order exhorts its members to 'protect the Faith, assist those in need, shelter the homeless, care for the sick and work for peace and good in the world'.

The Order of Malta has faithfully kept these commitments at the heart of its vocation throughout nine centuries, and they remain today stronger than ever.

The Order is active wherever men, women or children suffer and cry out for help, regardless of origin, race or creed. It seeks to be always involved in and concerned with the changing requirements in medical and health sectors and in adapting its hospitaller, charitable and humanitarian works to these developments.

The end of the second millennium marked a significant renewal of the Order's humanitarian commitment, with its awareness of its role in the world and the need to take on new responsibilities in the face of change. In our developed international society, most nations aspire to preserve peace and work for justice, but other regions still live on the edges of poverty and misery and where human dignity is often cast aside.

As well as good works, now more than ever, we need hope. For all those working with the Order of Malta in the service of their fellow man: religious, diplomats, volunteers, doctors, professionals, artists, members of the Order, friends and faithful donors, hope means seeing events through the eyes of 'our Lords, the Sick', rather than through the lens of a television camera.

We have compelling reasons to act to fulfil our duty as citizens, each in our own way, sharing hope in the Lord.

The tragic events of September 11th 2001 in the United States underline the imperative need for us to continue our mission of succour to the wounded, to refugees and their families and to all those in danger from conflicts and natural disasters.

I trust that this Annual Report will shed more light on the actions, role and work of the Order throughout the world and that it will inspire men and women of good will, who share our unflinching commitment to the service of suffering humanity, according to the principles of humanitarian aid, neutrality and impartiality, which we have professed for over nine centuries.

Frà Andrew BERTIE

Grand Master of the Sovereign Order of Malta



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The flag of the Sovereign Order of Malta flies over the Villa Malta on the Aventine Hill in Rome.
The white cross has been the Order's emblem since it was founded in the 11th century.

The Villa Malta: one of the Order's two seats having the right of extra-territoriality, held since it became the Order's headquarters in 1834.

MEDICAL AND HUMANITARIAN ACTIVITIES

AN OVERVIEW

Two characteristics distinguish the Order from other charitable or humanitarian organisations in practical work on the ground.

The first is that it is active in most countries around the world, both developed and developing, as a universal presence established over nine centuries of humanitarian work. The Order has participated in the great movements of exchange between Europe, the Mediterranean and the rest of the world. The second is that, as it has gradually extended its reach to most of the areas in need of its charitable mission, it has not restricted itself to specific forms of distress in the areas of health or humanitarian aid only. With its historic rule of service to the needy and the sick, the Order has always been attentive to the most pressing needs for aid, whatever forms this might take. Its policy of close interaction, combined with its secular experience and the active involvement of its members in the large social movements of our time, enable the Order to remain in touch with current concerns.

Today, the Order offers a high level of professionalism and specialisation in the traditional sectors of humanitarian aid, such as the management of hospitals, hospices and

socio-medical care centres, medical care and emergency medicine, collection and transportation of medicines, and training of emergency relief workers and ambulance staff. The Order's activities reflect its increasingly global nature, both in its geographical reach and its humanitarian goals.

Humanitarian Organisation and Human Resources

The Order is active in more than 110 countries. It provides medical and social aid, specialist aid in the case of armed conflicts or natural disasters, assistance to youth, and training in first aid.

In carrying out these works, it depends on the involvement of its 10,000 members, as well as approximately 80,000 trained permanent volunteers and 11,000 staff, the majority of them medical personnel.

More than 60 organisations (Grand Priors, Sub-Priors, National Associations and Foundations) are responsible for carrying out the Order's activities.

In particular, they run permanent institutions, such as hospitals, hospices, retirement homes and aid services, either directly or by delegation.



HUMANITARIAN AND DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITIES

Relief Services and Ambulance Corps

Since the foundation of the ambulance corps in Ireland in 1938, relief services have developed into one of the Order's most important activities. The majority of the volunteers work in relief services or as part of the Order's ambulance corps. They provide first aid, disaster relief and social services. In addition, our relief agencies carry out extensive work with and for youth, with similar organisations set up in more than 30 countries.

This work has been particularly successful in Central and Eastern Europe since the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989.

Hospitals, Medical Centres and Medical Programmes

For the most part, the Order's hospitals are located in Europe - Germany, France, the UK and Italy, with the majority being general hospitals. There are also specialist hospitals or hospitals with specialist units, for example, the Order's hospital in Rome, which specialises in the treatment of neurological disorders and rehabilitation. The hospitals in the UK and in Belgium, as well as some in Germany, have specialist units for the treatment of the terminally ill with palliative care specialists. The Order also runs palliative care centres in Argentina, Australia, Italy, South Africa and the United States, and care of the terminally ill, in hospitals or in the home, has developed

into one of the Order's fundamental programmes, carried out with the support of many volunteers. In addition to its work in France, the French Association runs hospitals and clinics in Benin, Togo and Senegal and the Maternity Hospital in Bethlehem, Palestine, which is a joint venture involving the whole Order. Since 1990, this hospital has brought more than 25,000 babies into the world. In Senegal and Cambodia, the Order runs special hospitals for the treatment of leprosy.

CIOMAL: Leprosy relief work has long been one of the Order's main missions and CIOMAL (the International Committee of the Order of Malta), based in Geneva, was founded specifically for this purpose. This Committee runs programmes to fight leprosy in Cambodia and assists in leprosy relief in other countries, Brazil in particular. Recently, CIOMAL diversified and expanded its programmes to include providing special care and treatment for HIV-positive pregnant women, in an effort to prevent the transmission of the virus from mother to child. The first projects are already underway in Mexico and Senegal. The Order runs many medical centres around the world, with establishments in Poland, Hungary, the United States, the Dominican Republic, Brazil, Peru and South Africa. Some of these are specialist centres, such as the diabetes treatment centre in Italy or the children's unit in the Czech Republic.

< **Loading equipment: ECOM workers (Order of Malta Emergency Corps)**
leaving to provide relief in the area of Chiputo in Mozambique (March 2000).

The majority of the Order's clinics in the Lebanon and El Salvador were created during their times of civil war. They are now part of those countries' national health systems. In developing countries, the Order has frequently played a role in the creation, temporary management and rehabilitation of patients in hospitals and clinics, for example, in regions of Africa affected by armed conflicts.

In the Great Lakes district in Africa, and Kerala, in India, the Order supports the setting up of basic public health services.

The French Association also supports medical institutions in Madagascar and other countries in West Africa, organising a system for the collection and sorting of medicines, according to a method established by the Order in France and approved by the World Health Organization (WHO).

On many occasions, the German Association's relief service has provided medical care for UN peace missions (in Central America, Kuwait, East Timor).

Institutions for the Disabled and Disabled Relief Services

The Order maintains five specialised medical centres in France for the seriously disabled. There are also centres for the disabled in Hungary, Ecuador and the Lebanon.

The services provided for the disabled include annual pilgrimages, holiday camps for disabled youth, and, especially in Germany and Scotland, transport services.

Institutions and Support for the Elderly

There has been a significant increase in relief services for the elderly. The Order runs specialist centres for the care of the elderly in the UK, Germany, Austria, Spain, the United States, Chile and Mexico.

The Order also provides a diverse range of services designed to make life at home easier for older people, including meals-on-wheels, transport services, home visits, help with shopping and the operation of an emergency call system.

Support for Children and Adolescents

In Brazil, Mexico and Chile, the Order has a range of care programmes for children who live in *favelas* (slum dwellings). There are also training and outreach programmes for single mothers and for young girls in need in Brazil, Mexico and Portugal.

An important sector of the Order's activity is the involvement of young people in its relief work, with special youth groups where children and adolescents are taught first aid and receive social responsibility training (divided by age group). In addition to running kindergartens in South Africa, the German Association has set up special programmes to help adolescents in difficult social circumstances.

The Homeless and Drug Addicts

The Order runs institutions for the homeless in Belgium, France, Switzerland, Hungary, Germany, Italy and the US. Assistance for drug addicts forms part of the Order's activities in Germany and Portugal.

Humanitarian Emergency Relief

Dating from the first half of the 19th century, humanitarian aid to the victims of natural disasters or armed conflicts has been one of the Order's special missions. It was particularly active during World Wars I and II.

The commitment to this work increased significantly during the second half of the last century, when principal relief activities included: relief for refugees during the Hungarian crisis in 1956; setting up and running a hospital during the Vietnam war; a relief service in Thailand; medical assistance during civil war in the Lebanon and El Salvador; aid to Kurdish refugees; refugee relief in the Great Lakes district of Africa; various wide-ranging actions during the Balkan crisis (1999); earthquake relief in the afflicted areas of Friuli, Italy (late 1970s); Armenia (1989), Italy (1997), Columbia and Turkey (1999), El Salvador and India (2000); and repeated flood and hurricane catastrophe relief in the Ukraine, Hungary, Romania and Honduras (1998), Poland (1999) and Mozambique (2000- 2001).

ECOM: To extend the Order's availability in the event of conflict or natural disasters, several National Associations and European Pories combined to establish ECOM (the Emergency Corps of the Order of Malta). Each entity operates according to its special area of expertise, while management and coordination are centralised.

The Order's neutrality and its impartial and non-political nature make relief actions possible in situations that are difficult for other organisations to access, as the Order can call on the help of its diplomatic representatives in the countries concerned.

Where possible, the Order undertakes the reconstruction and rehabilitation work that follows after the acute emergency relief stage, and has organised such works in the Balkans (in cooperation with the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR)), in the Great Lakes district of Africa, Mozambique, Honduras, El Salvador and India.

Refugee Aid

Aid to refugees and asylum seekers also falls within the scope of the Order's traditional tasks and is carried out in close collaboration with the UNHCR.

The Order has set up long-term programmes and institutions in Germany and Thailand and consistently offers its support for many short-term activities, as the need arises.

DIPLOMACY AT THE SERVICE OF HUMANITARIAN AID

Although the Order of Malta is first and foremost a secular religious Order with a mission to defend the Faith and serve the sick and the poor, it is also subject to international law, maintaining diplomatic relations with over 90 countries and with permanent missions to the United Nations in New York, Geneva, Paris and Vienna, as well as to the European Commission and other international organisations.

In humanitarian activity, the Sovereign Order has the advantage of having its own diplomatic corps. The role of the Order's ambassadors is a special one, as they must combine traditional diplomacy and negotiation skills with the ability to develop humanitarian activities.

Ambassadors for the Order are frequently recruited from the ranks of professional diplomats who are leaving active service but wish to offer further years of service in a voluntary capacity. Ambassadors are appointed by the Grand Master and assume their responsibilities as soon as their credentials are presented to the Head of State of the country to which they are to be accredited.

Ambassadors' missions are strictly humanitarian. However, in countries without a National Association, the ambassador is also responsible for coordinating hospitalier activities.



Dili Airport, East Timor: Emergency food supplies arrive for the 300,000 refugees fleeing the civil war, under the surveillance of an Order of Malta ECOM emergency relief work volunteer.

In such cases, in addition to his diplomatic brief, the ambassador works with other National Associations active in the country of the diplomatic mission.

As well as the network of bilateral relations with sovereign states, in 1987 the Order was officially accredited by the European Commission, and its representative to the EC has the rank of ambassador. The Order has observer status at the United Nations and has established permanent missions in New York, Geneva, Vienna, Rome and Paris.

The development of its relations with international organisations, an acknowledgement of the Order's position and role in the world, enables it to strengthen its special contribution to reflection and action in the humanitarian arena and to work in the defence of the dignity of the human being.

In Geneva, Ambassador Pierre-Yves Simonin (former Swiss Ambassador to Israel, Belgium and NATO) works in an environment which includes the main United Nations agencies concerned with human rights and international humanitarian law, in particular the International Committee of the Red Cross and the United Nations High Commission for Refugees.

In Vienna, Ambassador Helmut Liedermann (former Austrian Ambassador to Belgrade and Moscow) actively participated in the campaign that culminated in the prohibition of the use of antipersonnel mines.

In Brussels, seat of the European Commission, Ambassador Philippe de Schoutheete (former Belgian Ambassador to Madrid and former Belgian Permanent Representative to the European Union) is accredited to the European Commission, which is the world's principal humanitarian aid donor. He monitors the programmes and services offered by EuropeAide and the European Community Humanitarian Office (ECHO). ECHO has maintained particularly active partnership relations with the Order, most notably during the Balkan crisis.

A most important and discreet task falls to the diplomats of the Order when they are asked to participate in efforts to prevent conflicts or civil wars or to mediate or intervene.

In the case of hostage-taking, for example, or in other serious crises, such as the events in Cambodia and the Lebanon, the Order's representatives were in a position to act successfully.

The Order has also acted to protect humanitarian relief workers in areas of conflict and natural disasters, as it has done, and does, for those working in leprosy programmes.

Count Carlo Marullo di Condojanni, Grand Chancellor of the Order (Minister for Foreign Affairs), expressed the Order's position on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the United Nations: "...the Order is politically neutral and transcends the nation state. It is therefore qualified, capable and willing to conduct peace-making, mediation and cooperative activities, in cooperation with the United Nations, respecting the principle of mutual dialogue and understanding between peoples."

UNITED NATIONS MILLENNIUM SUMMIT OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT LEADERS



NEW YORK September 8, 2000

The Sovereign Order of Malta was invited to attend the Millennium Summit at the United Nations, where the Grand Chancellor, Count Marullo di Condojanni, addressed the General Assembly:

Mr. President,

The Sovereign Military Order of Malta congratulates the Secretary General on the high moral content of his programme. With humility, we wish to remind this gathering that, although we look with considerable hope to the projects devoted to alleviating hunger in the world and improving the quality of life by providing food aid and medicines in sufficient quantities, we also cannot neglect the spiritual development of man, taking as our starting point the rights to education and to justice in the broadest sense of the term.

The Sovereign Order of Malta therefore affirms its full commitment to the Secretary General's invitation to all nations to 'sign and ratify the Rome statutes of the International Criminal Court to consolidate and extend the success achieved in delivering to justice those guilty of crimes against humanity'.

THE ORDER'S DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WORLDWIDE

The Order has diplomatic missions at ambassador level with over 90 countries, as well as delegations to governments of other countries and permanent missions to the main inter-governmental and international organisations.

STATES WITH WHICH THE ORDER HAS DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

EUROPE Albania, Austria, Belarus, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Holy See, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Macedonia, Malta, Moldavia, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation*, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Yugoslavia.

THE AMERICAS Argentina, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent-Grenadines, Suriname, Uruguay, Venezuela.

ASIA Afghanistan, Armenia, Cambodia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Philippines, Tajikistan, Thailand

AFRICA Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cap Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Democratic Republic of Congo, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Niger, Republic of Congo, Sao Tomé and Príncipe, Senegal, Seychelles, Somalia, Sudan, Togo.

OCEANIA Micronesia

* Relations with the Russian Federation are maintained through a diplomatic special mission.

THE ORDER IS ACCREDITED BY DELEGATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING COUNTRIES

Belgium	France	Germany
Luxembourg	Principality of Monaco	Switzerland

THE ORDER HAS PERMANENT MISSIONS TO THE FOLLOWING INTER-GOVERNMENTAL AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

United Nations - New York, Geneva, Vienna
European Commission - Brussels
FAO - UN Food and Agricultural Organization - Rome
UNHCR - United Nations High Commission for Refugees - Geneva
ICRC - International Committee of the Red Cross - Geneva
WHO - World Health Organization - Geneva
UNESCO - Paris
Council of Europe - Strasbourg
International Committee for Migration - Geneva
International Committee of Military Medicine and Pharmacology - Brussels
Organization of Central American States - Washington
UNIDROIT - International Institute for the Unification of Private Law - Rome

THE ORDER'S DIPLOMATIC LIFE

Extracts from the address given by the Grand Master, Fra' Andrew Bertie, to the Sovereign Order of Malta's accredited diplomatic corps, Rome, January 2000.

In pursuit of our goal to expand our humanitarian activities on a continuous basis, the Order has consistently sought to modernise its structures, through reform of its Code and Constitutional Charter and by reorganising its administrative and operating bodies.

The Extraordinary Chapter General of 1997 saw the most recent stage of these reforms. The five-yearly meeting of the Sovereign Council took place in 1999, with elections to the Sovereign Council, the Government Council and the Board of Auditors. The restructuring also included changing several heads of diplomatic missions.

My trips to Lithuania, Austria, Portugal, Liechtenstein and Peru have give me the opportunity to review at first hand the ever-growing presence of the Order in the world.

I have also had contacts in Rome with Heads of State and Government, at the Grand Magistracy. Among these, highlights included the visit of H.M. the King of Spain, the first visit of a Spanish sovereign to the Grand Magistracy, and the visits of the President of the Dominican Republic and the President of Slovakia.

Amongst the official meetings, that with the President of Italy, preceded by the visit of the Mayor of Rome to the Grand Magistracy, had a very special significance.

In the diplomatic arena in 1999, the Order signed protocols with Suriname, Guyana and Saint Lucia, as well as two cooperation agreements with Colombia and Peru. In addition, several postal accords were ratified, including the Republic of Slovakia, the Republic of Mali, Bolivia and Lithuania.

2000 was a significant year for the Order's participation in world events

In 2000, the Church's Jubilee Year was held in Rome. It provided the opportunity for meetings with Heads of State and Governments of friendly countries, who visited the Grand Magistracy. I particularly extend my thanks to the Presidents of Malta, Costa Rica, Poland, Macedonia, Bolivia, the Dominican Republic, Panama and Ecuador. Also in 2000, the Order developed its foreign policy, increasing the number of countries with which it maintains diplomatic relations, and organised a colloquium with Heads of diplomatic missions to European and African countries. Within the Order, the meeting of Chancellors and General Secretaries of the Pories and National Associations proved to be very useful.



His Majesty, King Juan Carlos of Spain,
with the Grand Master of the Order, Fra' Andrew Bertie.

The Sovereign Order of Malta was represented by the Grand Chancellor, Count Carlo Marullo di Condojanni, at the Summit of Heads of State and Government held at the United Nations headquarters in New York in September 2000. He noted to the international community that the spiritual dimension in the development of man cannot be neglected, nor man's right to justice. I also highlight the cooperation agreement signed with Spain, as well as the humanitarian agreement concluded with the Republic of Italy.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Ambassadors,
All of this serves to confirm, once again, the value of this cooperation between countries, where you act as principal intermediaries, in the service of peace and fraternity between peoples.

RETROSPECTIVE OF THE 1999 AND 2000 DIPLOMATIC CALENDARS

APPOINTMENT OF NEW AMBASSADORS FOR THE ORDER OF MALTA

2000 marked the appointment of new ambassadors of the Sovereign Order of Malta to seventeen states, as well as the appointment of new representatives to three major international organisations during 1999 and 2000.

STATES	
ARGENTINA	Mr. Antonio Caselli, replacing Ambassador Pedro de Ocampo
BOLIVIA	Mr. William Walsh, replacing Ambassador Alessandro Marcucci-Pinoli
BULGARIA	Mr. Rodolfo Rinaldi, replacing Ambassador Gerhard Treutlein
CAP VERDE	Mr. Miguel Igrejas, replacing Ambassador Antonio de Albuquerque
CUBA	Mr. Enrico Tuccillo, replacing Ambassador Miguel Angel Salaverria
EGYPT	Mr. Oliviero Rossi, replacing Ambassador Carlo Massimo Lancellotti
EL SALVADOR	Mr. José M. Bracete, replacing Ambassador Louis Chiurato
GUYANA	Mr. Silvano Pedrollo
HOLY SEE	Mr. Alberto Leoncini Bartoli, replacing Ambassador Stefan Falez
KAZAKHSTAN	Mr. Peter Canisius von Canisius
MALTA	Mr. Giampietro Nattino, replacing Ambassador Sforza Ruspoli
MOZAMBIQUE	Mr. Enrico Tuccillo, replacing Ambassador Miguel Angel Salaverria
NICARAGUA	Mr. Ernesto Kelly Morice, replacing Ambassador Giampietro Nattino
POLAND	Mr. Roger de Giorgio, replacing Ambassador de Waresquiel
RUSSIA	Mr. André Gutzwiller, replacing Ambassador Max Turnauer
SAINT LUCIA	Mr. Carlo Amato
SURINAME	Mr. Gustavo de Hostos

EUROPEAN COMMISSION / UNITED NATIONS	
BRUSSELS	European Commission Mr. Philippe de Schoutheete, replacing Ambassador Ottino Caracciolo
GENEVA	Office of the United Nations and International Organisations Mr. Pierre-Yves Simonin, replacing Ambassador Edouard Decazes
PARIS	UNESCO - United Nations Organization for Education, Science and Culture Mr. François de Waresquiel, replacing Ambassador Emmanuele Emanuele.

EMBASSY LIFE

Like other foreign Embassies, the Order's permanent missions throughout the world follow the diplomatic calendar of the countries to which they are accredited. In addition, they have their own work schedule, in the main linked to the Order's humanitarian mission. In many countries, this work includes close cooperation with the local National Associations or Priors.

In countries where the Order does not yet have structured national organisations, the Embassies coordinate the humanitarian activities performed by other international bodies within the Order.

The schedule of the Order's Embassy in Spain is an example of our diplomatic life.

SPAIN - Extracts from the Calendar 2000

13 JANUARY	Solemn funeral of the Countess of Barcelona, mother of H.M.King Juan Carlos I.
24 JANUARY	King's New Year Reception for the Diplomatic Corps.
5 FEBRUARY	Meeting of the Chapter of the Spanish Assembly and investiture of new members of the Order.
29 MARCH	Grand Chancellor of the Order of Malta visits Madrid.
2 MAY	Commemoration of the foundation of the Autonomous Government of the Municipality of Madrid.
11 MAY	San Isidro celebration organised by the Mayor of Madrid.
30 MAY	International meeting of the Ambassadors of the Order of Malta, Milan.
21 JUNE	Ambassador's Reception marking the Order of Malta international day.
1 SEPTEMBER	Inauguration by H.M.King Juan Carlos I of the exhibition of the 'Order of Malta, Majorca and the Mediterranean'.
4-5 OCTOBER	Commemorations ceremonies to mark the Fifth Centenary of the birth of Emperor Charles V.
12 OCTOBER	Spanish national holiday; reception for the Diplomatic Corps hosted by H.M. King Juan Carlos and H.M. Queen Sophia.
19 DECEMBER	Annual Christmas reception hosted by the Mayor of Madrid.



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DIPLOMATIC LIFE IN ROME AT THE ORDER'S SEAT OF GOVERNMENT

OFFICIAL VISITS

During the year 2000, the Grand Master, Fra' Andrew Bertie, and the Grand Chancellor, Count Carlo Marullo di Condojanni, received official visits from:

- 1 BOLIVIA - Hugo Banzer Suarez, President of the Republic of Bolivia, accompanied by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Javier Murillo de la Rocha.

Talks during the meeting, also attended by the respective Ambassadors, stressed the Order's long-standing hospitaller and social work in Bolivia as well as the excellent relationships that prevail for these activities.

- 2 COSTA RICA - President of the Republic, Miguel Angel Rodriguez, accompanied by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Roberto Rojas and the Costa Rican Ambassador to the Order of Malta, Javier Guerra Laspinz.

The Secretary General for Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Francesco Guariglia, and the Order's Ambassador to Costa Rica, Countess Fanelli, also attended the meeting.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC - President-elect, Hipólito Melia. The Secretary General for Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Francesco Guariglia, and the respective Ambassadors also took part in the talks.

The Order of Malta jointly manages health and social assistance structures in the Dominican Republic, with the Dominican Association and the Embassy. It recently opened a Relief Centre for abandoned mothers and children with HIV.

ECUADOR - President of the Republic, Gustavo Noboa Bejrano, accompanied by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Don Heinz Moeller Freile.

The Order has a presence throughout Ecuador, running hospitals and medical and social assistance centres. The conversations centred on improving humanitarian actions on the Latin American continent, with the support of the Order's national and international bodies.



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MACEDONIA - President of the Republic, Boris Trajkovski, accompanied by the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

The meeting, attended by the respective Ambassadors, dealt with the Order's humanitarian intervention during the Balkan crisis and its current efforts to assist the people, the reconstruction effort, and the rebuilding of the economy.

- 3 MALTA - The President of Malta, Professor Guido de Marco, accompanied by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Joe Borg, the Maltese Ambassador to the Order, Jimmy Farrugia and the Cabinet Secretary, Alfred Fiorini Lowell. The Grand Master was accompanied by the Grand Chancellor, the Secretary General for Foreign Affairs and the Order's Ambassador to Malta, Prince Sforza Mariscotto Ruspoli.

NICARAGUA - Minister for Foreign Affairs, Eduardo Montalegre Rivas, accompanied by the Nicaraguan Ambassador to the Order, Luvy Salerni Navas.

The agenda included the activities of the Order's international bodies in Nicaragua and on the continent, as well as discussions on future agreements for the assistance of children and the blind.

- 4 PANAMA - President of the Republic, Madame Mireya Moscoso, accompanied by the Panamanian Minister for Foreign Affairs, José Miguel Aleman.

The meeting reviewed hospitaller and social activities in Panama and noted the excellent diplomatic relations and friendship prevailing between the Order and the Republic.

- 5 POLAND - President of the Republic, Alexander Kwaniewski. The respective Ambassadors, members of the Sovereign Council and the Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Francesco Guariglia, also attended.

During the visit, the President recalled the links which unite the Polish nation and the Sovereign Order of Malta: the presence of the Polish Association, the Ambulance Corps and other Order of Malta organisations.

It is hoped that bilateral negotiations for cooperation in the health sector will follow from the conversations.

- 6 ROMANIA - Minister for Foreign Affairs, Petre Roman. *Discussions focussed on the Order's hospitaller and social relief work in Romania, through the agency of its Embassy and the country's medical services.*

CREDENTIALS



H. E. Atis Sjanits



H. E. Edda Victoria
Martinelli de Dutari



H. E.
Teodor Baconsky



H. E. Isidro
Gomez Santos



H. E. Elvio Gonçalves
Napoleão Fernandes



H. E.
Aziz Mekouar



H. E. Blanca Zuccolillo
Rodriguez Alcalá



H. E. Pedro
Rivera Saavedra



H. E. Vicente
Espeche Gil



H. E. Acisclo
Valladares Molina



H. E. Farouk
Hussein Raafat



H. E. Julio Cesar
Lupinacci



H. E. Fouad Aoun

In 2000, the Grand Master, Fra' Andrew Bertie, received the Extraordinary Ambassadors and Plenipotentiaries at a solemn audience held at the Grand Magistry to present their credentials.

TREATIES AND CONVENTIONS

Cooperation Agreement between the Spanish International Agency for Cooperation and the Order of Malta

Introduced as a project during the visit in 1999 by H.M. the King of Spain, Juan Carlos I, to the Grand Magistry, this agreement was signed in Rome on November 25, 2000 by the Grand Chancellor, Count Marullo di Condojanni, the Spanish Secretary of State for Latin American Cooperation and President of the Spanish International Agency for Cooperation (AECI), Miguel Angel Cortès Martin.

The agreement ratifies the humanitarian aid programmes run by the Order in Spain, organised jointly with AECI. The Spanish International Agency for Cooperation (AECI) includes 66 volunteer corps, amounting to 70,000 volunteers across 27 countries.

Initially founded to provide first aid, the Agency has expanded its mission to include social services and assistance to the elderly and the disabled.

Health Agreement between Italy and the Order of Malta

The agreement was signed on December 21, 2000 by the Minister for Health, Professor Umberto Veronesi, for the Republic of Italy, and the Grand Chancellor, Count Carlo Marullo di Condojanni, for the Order of Malta.

It establishes the official status of relations between the Italian Health Service and the Order's health and hospital structures, managed in Italy by the Order's Association of Italian Knights (ACISMOM).

These facilities include the Hospital of St. John the Baptist in Rome as well as numerous diabetes centres and general surgeries operating in Italian cities.



SPIRITUAL COMMITMENT

The Jubilee Year and the Church

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SPIRITUAL COMMITMENT

THE CHURCH'S JUBILEE YEAR

In our daily actions, our hospitaller, charitable and humanitarian works constitute the concrete and visible part of the spiritual and personal commitment each knight and dame makes on entering the Order of Malta.

The ceremonies, when members solemnly celebrate together their affirmation of faith and commitment to the Church, are moments with special significance for the members of the Order. On the occasion of the Holy Year, more than 2,000 members and volunteers of the Order participated in an international pilgrimage, October 16-19, 2000 in Rome, organised by the Grand Magistry to coincide with the celebrations.

Following the magnificent ceremonies, presided over by the Secretary of State, H.E. Cardinal Sodano, H.E. Pio Laghi, Cardinalis Patronus of the Order of Malta and H.E. Cardinal Szoka, President of the Pontifical Commission for the Vatican, the Holy Father granted a special audience to the members of the Order and received them in Saint Peter's basilica, led by the Grand Master, Fra' Andrew Bertie.

The Holy Father and the Cardinals addressed the Order's knights, dames and volunteers, offering strong encouragement and affirming the Order's multi-secular mission in contemporary society, at the service of those who suffer.

H.E. Cardinal Edmund SZOKA

President of the Pontifical Commission for the Vatican

Address, Pilgrimage of the Sovereign Order of Malta to the Basilica of St. Paul's Outside the Walls

October 18, 2000

EXTRACTS [...] We are present in this great basilica consecrated to St. Paul, to mark the feast day of St. Luke, sole companion to St. Paul during his martyrdom in Rome.

As President of the Pontifical Commission for the Vatican, whose responsibility it is to provide emergency medical services at all Pontifical functions and events in the basilica of St. Peter and in St. Peter's Square, both throughout this Jubilee Year and every year, I wish to express a personal word of gratitude to the Order for its exceptional service in providing medical assistance here in Rome. During this Jubilee Year, on a daily basis we are providing first aid – not only at St. Peter's basilica, but also at the three other main basilicas, including this one. This organisation necessitates the presence of ambulances, doctors, nurses and paramedical personnel. But we do not have sufficient numbers of medical personnel to provide all of these first aid and emergency medical services.

Since 1975, the knights of the Order of Malta, with their own volunteer corps, have provided emergency medical services on an ongoing basis at St. Peter's and also at

the other basilicas, St. Mary Major, St. John Lateran and St. Paul's Outside the Walls. To meet our needs during this Year of Grace, the knights have mobilised 240 doctors, 240 nurses and 600 paramedics from far and wide: from Germany, Austria, Italy, France, Belgium, Holland, the UK, Lithuania, Hungary, Poland, Spain, the United States, Canada, Argentina, South Africa, Lebanon and Cuba, as well as many other countries.

By the end of September, 7,600 people from 145 countries had been helped by these emergency medical services.

I cannot adequately express my gratitude to the knights of Malta for these exceptional voluntary services during our Jubilee Year.

As spokesman for the Vatican, I can but say thank you, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. [...]

H.E. Cardinal Angelo SODANO

Secretary of State for the Vatican

Address, Pilgrimage of the Sovereign Order of Malta,

October 19, 2000 - St. Peter's Basilica, Rome

EXTRACTS [...] Charity, above all else, is a virtue that must distinguish each knight and dame of the Order of Malta. There are so many examples of remarkable charity to be found in the history of your Order and there are so many testimonies to your ongoing efforts to keep ever present what St. John, in his first Letter, refers to when he affirms that God is Love (4.8.16). How many of you, brothers and sisters, alleviating the material and spiritual sufferings of your neighbours in need, have shown God's love when he turns his merciful eyes on the poor and suffering. You are asked to ensure that the Lord's goodness shine throughout the world. As you continue the secular tradition of your esteemed Order, you are called upon to become knights of charity, like Good Samaritans, stopping to heal the wounds of the most miserable, spreading the oil of compassion and the balm of charity.

This pilgrimage, a special Jubilee celebration, is an invitation to you not to stray from the spirit of your origins when the first knights, at the dawn of the first millennium, gathered at the Hospital of Jerusalem to aid pilgrims to the Holy Land. This same mission, grown and intensified with the passage of time, is extending itself to all corners of the globe. We have seen chapels, hospices, hospitals and infirmaries spring up all over Europe for pilgrims, travellers, exiles and the persecuted.

Finally, I would like to highlight a point about your identity, your faith and defence of the Church. Over the course of history, this loyalty exacted a heavy price in blood, and still today it continues to be a part of the image of your deeply appreciated Order of Malta. [...]



Pope John-Paul II

Address, St. Peter's Basilica, Rome

on the occasion of the Sovereign Order of Malta Pilgrimage

October 19, 2000 – St. Peter's Basilica, Rome

EXTRACTS [...] I wish to refer to your Order's praiseworthy initiatives in various areas of moral and spiritual poverty. They are inspired by a great sympathy for the needy, expressing to them in a visible and concrete way the love of the Lord and of the Church.

At times, these initiatives provide effective encouragement and a model for those who wish to contribute their efforts to establishing a new world where dignity and hope are restored to the oppressed under modern forms of slavery, wounded in body and spirit.

I am referring especially to the service for the marginalised and excluded, which you carry out with the zeal of an authentic battle for the integral advancement of human beings. Thanks to this noble battle for the defence and development of the human person, a mission to which your Order has been dedicated for many centuries, you have been able to raise the banner of love

in many regions of the five continents, where sickness and poverty degrade people and threaten their future.

Lastly, may an even more intense enthusiasm flow from this Jubilee celebration for each of you, to bear witness to the Gospel of charity in a world dominated by selfishness and sin. **May your humanitarian organisations be shining outposts of civilisation, of charity and an effective expression of the Church's social teaching.**[...]



HISTORY AND CULTURE

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Fort Sant Angelo, Vittoriosa Peninsula, Valletta, Malta

The Republic of Malta has graciously made this ancient fortress of the Order available to it once again. It will serve as a training and study centre.

KEY DATES IN THE ORDER'S HISTORY



1048: JERUSALEM

The birth of the Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem as a monastic community dates back to around 1048, from which time the knights of the Order cared for pilgrims, the sick and the needy.

Founded by the Blessed Gerard, and by virtue of the Papal Bull of 1133 issued by Pope Paschal II, the hospital of St. John was placed under the aegis of the Church and granted exemptions.

With the responsibilities of military defence of the sick and the Christian territories, the Order evolved into both a religious and military chivalric Order.

1310: RHODES

In 1291, with the fall of St. John of Acre, the last bastion of Christianity in the Holy Land, the Order was forced to leave the island, and settled in Cyprus.

It acquired territorial sovereignty on taking possession of the island of Rhodes in 1310. To defend the Christian world, the Order assembled a powerful military fleet, patrolling the eastern seas and engaging in several celebrated battles.

Governed by a Grand Master as Sovereign Prince of Rhodes, together with a Sovereign Council, it came to mint its own currency and established diplomatic relations with other States.

The Order's knights were victorious over numerous Ottoman attacks, until, overrun by Sultan Suliman the Magnificent with his powerful fleet and large army, they were forced to surrender on January 1st, 1523, and, due to the Sultan's recognition of their bravery, left the island with full military honours.

1530: MALTA

The next seven years saw the Order without territory, but retaining its sovereignty, a situation which prevailed until Emperor Charles V granted the knights the islands of Malta, Gozo and Comino, and the city of Tripoli, as a sovereign fiefdom. On October 26, 1530, the Order took possession of Malta, with the approval of Pope Clement VII.

During the Great Siege, May to September 1565, the knights routed the Ottomans under the leadership of Grand Master Fra' Jean de la Vallette (who gave his name to the capital of Malta). The fleet of the Order of St. John (or of Malta, as they are now known) was one of the mightiest in the Mediterranean and played its part in the final destruction of the Ottomans at the battle of Lepanto in 1571.



< Palma de Majorca

1798: EXILE

In 1798, Napoleon Bonaparte occupied Malta en route to his campaign in Egypt. He met with no resistance from the knights, as their Regulations forbade them to fight other Christians, and thus the Order was forced to leave the island.

By 1801, Malta was occupied by the English, and, despite the recognition of the Order of Malta's rights of sovereignty as enshrined in the Treaty of Amiens (1802), it was unable to retake possession of the island.

1834: ROME

Having temporarily resided in Messina, Catania and then Ferrara, the Order settled in Rome in 1834, in properties with extraterritoriality status: the Grand Magistry in via Condotti and the Villa Malta on the Aventine Hill. From this time, the Order's original mission of service to the poor and the sick again became its main activity. The Order carried out hospitaller and charitable activities during World War I, and again during World War II. These activities were further developed and intensified under the stewardship of Grand Master Fra' Angelo de Mojana (1962-1988) and continue today under his successor, the 78th Grand Master, Fra' Andrew Bertie.

XXIth CENTURY

Spanning a history of almost nine centuries, the Sovereign Order of Malta can proudly claim to be the sole successor of the Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, recognised by the Catholic Church in 1113. The Order has the unique characteristic of being both a religious and a chivalric Order of the Catholic Church. It is the sole organisation with an uninterrupted sovereignty to have professed knights, the direct successors of its founders. The Grand Master is chosen from their ranks, as are most of the members of the Sovereign Council.

Note - *Over the course of history, we have seen a proliferation of organisations and associations around the world.*

By using symbols and titles resembling those of the Order, these associations strive for official recognition or legitimisation whereas they have no link whatsoever with the Sovereign Order of Malta.

If you are in doubt as to the authenticity of an organisation, we recommend that you seek information from the Order's seat in Rome or from one of its Embassies throughout the world.



THE ARTISTIC WORK OF THE ORDER OF MALTA

A rich architectural past

Since its foundation in the 11th century, the Order's patronage of the arts can be seen in three main areas: church architecture and decoration, construction and maintenance of hospitals and the construction of buildings to accommodate the knights. The Order's first hospital, dating from before 1099, was located in Jerusalem. It comprised three churches and three magnificent medieval halls. It had a capacity of 2000 beds.

In 1142, the defence of the Kingdom of Jerusalem was entrusted to the Order, amongst others. The fortresses that encircled the Kingdom were monumental in scale. The Krak des Chevaliers, Felice, Château Boquée and Belvoir are amongst the most impressive monuments of the Middle East.

At the same time, a vast network of command posts and churches was created across Europe to minister to the sick and to send aid to the knights in the Holy Land. These more modest buildings also include some of the finest examples of Gothic architecture, sumptuously embellished with sculptures and stained glass. Although many of these buildings were destroyed or altered, there are still several examples extant today. A superb speci-

men of medieval stained glasswork can be found in the church of the Swiss Command at Munchenbueche. It represents a Commander in the choir habit with the cross of the Order on his left arm.

After the fall of the Kingdom of Jerusalem, the knights moved to Rhodes. This city remains an almost perfect example of a fortified medieval city with churches, hospitals, and inns for knights of all nationalities and a splendid Grand Master's Palace.

After their departure from Rhodes in 1522 and the period of wandering around the Mediterranean that followed, Emperor Charles V offered the Order the island of Malta. The true artistic flowering of the Order can be seen from this point onwards.

After the great siege of 1565, Francesco Laporelli, a student of Michelangelo, drew up plans for a new capital, Valletta. Laporelli was the designer of the breathtaking fortifications, counted as one of the wonders of the world. His successor, Girolamo Cassar, built the city based on a square grid pattern, in the manner of a Renaissance city. Valletta still counts as one of the most beautiful cities in the world today: 'a city built by gentlemen for gentlemen' in the words of Sir Walter Scott.



'The Infirmary' is one of the largest-scale buildings, built on the edges of the port. Still standing, its reception hall measures more than 200 metres long. The Cathedral of St. John was also designed by Cassar.

At the dawn of the 17th century, Caravaggio arrived in Valletta. Amongst the important works he created in Malta is St. Jerome for the Italian Chapel and his chef d'œuvre, the Decapitation of St. John, painted for the Oratory of the Covent Chapel.

In 1660, Mattia Preti, 'il cavaliere calabrese', embarked on his daring work of embellishing the cathedral, covering every inch of the semi-circular vault with astonishing trompe l'œil frescoes. This same period saw a spectacular

marble sculpture of the Baptism of Our Lord by Giuseppe Mazzuoli added to the sanctuary, while the floor of the church was transformed into a multi-coloured carpet of marble, formed by the tombs of fallen knights. Grand Master Ramos Perelos ordered Gobelins tapestries in 1697 for both the church and the Magistral Grand Palace.

The Palace and the various 'inns' for the different 'Languages' were the concrete manifestation of the power of the knights in the 18th century.

The French Revolution and Napoleon's invasion of Malta brought an end to the Order's artistic endeavours. Its great cultural heritage remains in Europe and the Middle East.

CONFERENCES / EXHIBITIONS / MUSEUMS



Fifth Centenary of Emperor Charles V

International Conference - Fort Sant Angelo,
Malta - 9-11 June 2000

The centenary was marked by a programme of commemorative works, historical studies and exhibitions, and inaugurated on June 9 at Fort Sant'Angelo in the presence of many distinguished members of the Order, as well as dignitaries representing the Government of Malta, diplomatic representatives from countries with historical links to Charles V and representatives from religious, civic and cultural organisations.

The event was organised by the Order to commemorate the donation of the islands of Malta, Gozo and Comino and Tripoli by the Emperor Charles V, which initiated the process of the creation of a separate people and nation for Malta, distinct from the Kingdom of Sicily, a process which will culminate in its joining the European Union in the near future.

The Order of Malta, Majorca and the Mediterranean

Historical Exhibition,
Palma de Majorca, August-October 2000

Organised by the Spanish Association at the ancient seat of the Knights at Palma de Majorca, the exhibition was inaugurated by H.M. the King of Spain, Juan Carlos I, accompanied by H.M. Queen Sofia and the Grand Chancellor, Count Marullo di Condojanni, in the presence of many dignitaries from political, administrative, diplomatic, religious and cultural sectors.

The Grand Chancellor marked the occasion by recalling the historical links uniting the Order and the Kingdom of Majorca in the defence of Christianity in the Mediterranean and in providing assistance to the sick and needy. The exhibition featured extensive documentation, and a number of fine canvases, including portraits by Goya and works by Ribeira.



Jubilee 2000 Exhibition

Venice, May 2000

The exhibition, 'Lungo il tragitto crociato delle vita,' was displayed in the Church of St. John the Baptist to mark the ninth centenary of the founding of the Order and the Jubilee Year celebrations.

It covered the main stages in Hierosolymite portraiture in Italy, outlining the history of the Order's patronage of the arts, and featuring portraits from the 17th to the 20th century, including works by Caravaggio and Bernardo Strozzi.



Christian Knights and Gentlemen - Nine centuries of the Order in Piedmont

Turin, November 2000

Designed as the starting point for future research, the exhibition was divided into six sections.

'Faces and Works' contained portraits of Grand Masters; 'Hospitaller Activities' illustrated the Sainte Infirmary; 'Spirituality of the Order' displayed liturgical vestments and ceremonial texts; 'Knights in Arms' featured uniforms, flags, models of ships and fortifications; 'Cabrei' contained miniatures representing the Order's hospice in Piedmont.

The Order's Museum in Rhodes

As a result of an agreement with the Greek government, the Grand Magistry has published an illustrated guide to the Museum of the Order, which is located in the Grand Magistry.

The museum was inaugurated in 1999 by Grand Master Fra' Andrew Bertie, to honour the memory of those who fell during the siege of Rhodes.

The Guide is available in Italian, English and Greek.

NUMISMATICS

> 1



A LITTLE HISTORY

The **Order of Malta** started to mint its own money immediately after the conquest of the island of Rhodes in 1318. The first known coins were silver grossi weighing about 4 grams. A half century later saw the appearance of the first gold coin, known as the zecchino. These pieces were not original creations but imitations of the coins of other states, such as France and Venice. It was not until 1500 that the Order's money adopted its own distinctive characteristics, with an illustration of St. John the Baptist on one side and the Order's coat of arms, cross and the Grand Master's insignia on the other.

Over the centuries, the Order continued to produce innovative designs for its coins, and also included the date and the value of each coin. The quality of execution and the decorative beauty consistently improved and achieved a level of great elegance with the reform introduced by Grand Master Manoel de Villena (1722-1736). The loss of Malta in 1798 interrupted the issuing of the Order's coin.

Minting of its coins was not resumed until 1961, since which time the Order has regularly issued new coins as part of its monetary system: 1 Scudo = 12 Tari = 240 Grani. The rate of conversion with the Euro is:
1 Scudo = 0.24 € and 1 Tari = 0.02 €.

The Order's coin was minted in Rome (1961), Paris (1962) and Arezzo (1963), and was transferred to the Order's own Mint in 1964.

MONEY ISSUED 2000

- 1 Silver coin (2 scudi) - minted for the Holy Year 2000
- 2 Silver coin (1 scudi)
- 3 Gold coin (5 Scudi)
- 4 Gold coin (10 Scudi)
- 5 Bronze coin (10 Grani).
- 6 Silver coin (9 Tari)



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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Via Bocca di Leone, 68

I-00187 Rome

T + 39 06 / 675 81 211 (9 am - 1 pm, Mon. to Sat., except holidays)

F + 39 06 / 678 39 34

✉ postmagistrali@orderofmalta.org

PHILATELY



A



B

The first stamp issued by the Grand Magistry Post Office is dated November 15, 1966. Stamps were issued in the Order's monetary units, ie, in scudos and fractions of tari and grani (for example: 1 scudo = 12 tari = 240 grani = 480 Italian Lira).

This first series consisted of nine stamps of varying values, illustrated with the Order's symbols and images. Since this first set, stamps have featured the Order's history and its charitable and humanitarian works.

To date, the Order has issued 278 series of approximately 20 stamps each. Each year, a stamp issue is

devoted to St. John the Baptist, the Order's Patron Saint, and to the celebration of Christmas. Of particular interest to philatelists are the three sheets of stamps, also issued annually, which feature works of art representing the Order's aesthetic and cultural message.

The stamps were first printed by Thomas De La Rue in London, but are now produced at the Italian Istituto Poligrafico e Zecca.

Mail stamped with Sovereign Order of Malta stamps can be sent to the countries listed below, provided it is posted at the Magistral Post Office, Via Bocca di Leone 68, Rome.

THE ORDER'S POSTAL SERVICE HAS POSTAL AGREEMENTS WITH 48 COUNTRIES

Argentina / Austria / Benin / Bolivia / Burkina Faso / Cameroon / Canada / Cap Verde / Central African Republic / Chad / Chile / Comoros / Congo / Costa Rica / Croatia / Cuba / Czech Republic / Democratic Republic of the Congo / Dominican Republic / Ecuador / El Salvador / Gabon / Guinea / Guinea Bissau / Honduras / Hungary / Ivory Coast / Lebanon / Liberia / Lithuania / Madagascar / Nicaragua / Niger / Panama / Paraguay / Philippines / Poland / Portugal / Republic of Mali / San Marino / Sao Tomé and Príncipe / Senegal / Sierra Leone / Slovak Republic / Slovenia / Somalia / Togo / Uruguay.



C



D



E



F



G



H

STAMPS ISSUED IN 2000

FEBRUARY 21

Holy Year 2000

- A Gino Severini (1883 - 1966):
Benediction of Christ, mosaic,
Cortona Cathedral

Postal Agreement with Lithuania

- B Coat of arms of Lithuania

APRIL 26

**Donations from contemporary artists
for the Order's Jubilee Year**

- C Reproduction of acrylic paintings offered
to the Order by the artist Maurilio Catalano:
Historical scenes

- D Giovanni Battista Busiri (1698 - 1757):
Views of Rome. Tempera on paper.
Collection of the Order of Malta.

**Postal agreement
with the Slovak Republic**

- E Coat of arms of the Slovak Republic

JUNE 5

**Fifth Centenary of the birth
of Emperor Charles V**

- F Portrait of Emperor Charles V

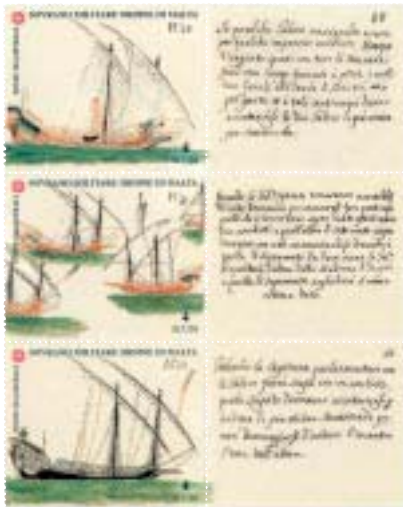
JUNE 12

**Former commander
of the Sovereign Order of Malta
from the ecclesiastical archives**

- G The Archives of the Commenda di Pontecorvo,
Fondi e Gaeta, 1739
(Magistral Archives of the Order of Malta)

**St. John the Baptist, Patron Saint of the Order
- Issue 2000**

- H Anton Angelo Bonifazi (17th century):
"Decapitation of John the Baptist",
Detail, Church of St Faustino and Giovita.



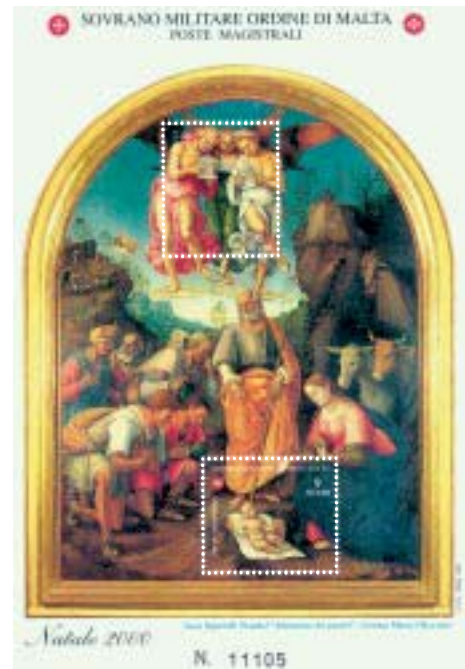
I



J



K



M



L

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Poste Magistrali del Sovrano Militare Ordine di Malta
 Via Bocca di Leone, 68
 Casella Postale 738
 I-00187 Rome
 T 06 / 675 81 211 (9 am - 1 pm, Mon. to Sat., except holidays)
 F 06 / 678 39 34
 ✉ postemagistrali@orderofmalta.org

OCTOBER 2

Naval history of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta

I Signal flags used during the 18th century. To the right of each flag is a description of the signal. Electronic processing of an 18th century manuscript, Order of Malta Magistral Library

Donations from contemporary artists for the Order's Jubilee Year - Series 2

J Reproduction of artistic works donated to the Order to mark its Jubilee Year by the artists:
 - **Martha Alegria de Valladares** - Orchids;
 - **Pilar de Aristegui de Abella** - American workers;
 - **Hacedores de America** - Emigration;
 - **Sofia Maria Pinto da França** - Entrance to the Villa Magistrale on the Aventine Hill

DECEMBER 4

Siena Palio, July 2, 2000 - 40th victory of the Contrada Sovrena dell'Istrice

K Emblem of the Contrada dell'Istrice, appointed Sovereign by concession of the Grand Magistray of the Sovereign Order of Malta

Ancient tapestries

L "Around the World" - Flemish tapestries of the Van Schoor School, Grand Magistray

Christmas 2000

M Luca Signorelli (school) - "Adoration of the Shepherds", Cortona, Diocesan Museum

GOVERNMENT



COMPOSITION AND OPERATION



Governance of the Sovereign Order of Malta is similar to the structures for state governments. However, it also includes specific features associated with its nature as both a lay and religious order, as well as particular terminology evolved from nine centuries of history.

The Order's system of governance is divided into three powers: legislative power, which resides with the Chapter General, the representative body for the knights, and the Grand Master with the Sovereign Council; executive power, which also resides with the Sovereign Council; and judicial power, which is in the hands of the Courts of the Order. The Grand Master is the Order's Supreme Leader and is elected for life by the full Council of State. Members of the Chapter General and the full Council of State are drawn from representatives of the Grand Priors, the Sub-Priors, the National Associations and the Order's bodies established around the world.

The Grand Master governs the Order, assisted by the Sovereign Council, which he chairs. It is made up of the four High Offices of: Grand Commander, the religious superior of the Order's religious members, who stands

in for the Grand Master in his absence; Grand Chancellor (Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister of the Interior); Grand Hospitaller (Minister for Health and Social Affairs, Humanitarian Action and International Co-operation); Receiver of the Common Treasure (Minister for Finance and Budget); together with six other members, all elected by the Chapter General from among the Professed Knights or Knights in Obedience.

The Constitutional Charter and Code governs the life and activities of the Order.

The Chapter General of 1999 instituted an Advisory Board to the Order's government – the Government Council. The Board of Auditors is responsible for economic and financial control. Every five years, the members of these two bodies are elected by the Chapter General. The Order's Courts are Courts of First Instance and of Appeal, with the President, Judges, Judicial Auditors and Auxiliaries appointed by the Grand Master with the voting rights for the Chapter General. Legal questions of extraordinary importance are submitted for advice to a technical body, the Juridical Advisory Council.

GOVERNMENT OF THE SOVEREIGN ORDER OF SAINT JOHN OF JERUSALEM, OF RHODES AND OF MALTA

SOVEREIGN COUNCIL

Prince and Grand Master His Most Eminent Highness Fra' Andrew Bertie

HIGH OFFICES

Grand Commander

The Venerable Bailiff Fra' Ludwig Hoffmann von Rumerstein

Grand Chancellor

H.E.Ambassador Count Don Carlo Marullo di Condojanni,
Prince of Casalnuovo (to 31.12.2001)

Count Jacques de Liedekerke (from 01.01.2002)

Grand Hospitaller

Bailiff Albrecht Freiherr von Boeselager

Receiver of the Common Treasure

Bailiff Marchese Gian Luca Chiavari

MEMBERS

The Venerable Bailiff Fra' Carl E. Paar

Fra' Carlo Arditì di Castelvetere

Fra' John A. McPherson

Fra' Giacomo Dalla Torre del Tempio di Sanguinetto

Grand Cross Richard J. Dunn

Grand Cross Jean-Pierre Mazery

SOVEREIGN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT

Ambassador Comm. Fra' José Antonio Linati-Bosch

Fra' Elie de Comminges

Winfried Graf Henckel von Donnersmarck

Count Jacques de Liedekerke

Ambassador M. Thomas Francis Carney, Jr

Dr. Antonio Carlos da Silva Coelho

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Fra' Giacomo Dalla Torre del Tempio di Sanguinetto

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Members

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Prof. Av. Leonardo Perrone

Prof. Av. Arturo Maresca

JUDICIAL STRUCTURE

MAGISTRAL COURT OF FIRST INSTANCE

President

Prof. Av. Paolo Papanti Pelletier de Berminy

Judges

Prof. Av. Arturo Maresca

Prof. Av. Giovanni Giacobbe

Prof. Av. Gianpiero Milano

Chancellor of the Magistral Courts

Colonel Alessandro Bianchi

MAGISTRAL COURT OF APPEAL

President

Prof. Av. Cesare Maria Moschetti

Judges

Prof. Av. Giancarlo Perone

Prof. Av. Mattia Persiani

Prof. Av. Leonardo Perrone

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