

International Society for Photogrammetry VII Congress, Washington, D.C., 1952

L. RAY SMART, DIRECTOR

THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR PHOTOGRAMMETRY moved its Headquarters to the Western Hemisphere for the first time in 1948, and held its 7th quadrennial Congress in Washington, D.C., 4-16 September 1952.

The VII Congress marked the 100th anniversary of the science of Photogrammetry. On 5 May 1907 Professor Eduard Dolezal, an internationally minded Austrian photogrammetrist and geodesist, founded the first National Society of Photogrammetry. Professor Dolezal sought the cooperation of the leading photogrammetrists in other countries and started publication of the *Internationales Archiv für Photogrammetrie* in March 1908. The International Society was formally founded on the 4th of July 1910, and its first Congress was held in Vienna, Austria in 1913. Professor Dolezal also edited and published the first six volumes of the International Archives. Each National Society thereafter is responsible for the publication of the proceedings and reports for the Congress it sponsors.

The First World War interrupted international activities, but accelerated the development of the airplane and aerial photography. The resulting more comprehensive usefulness of photogrammetry and improved international relations led to the second International Congress in Berlin in 1926, the third in Zurich in 1930, the fourth in Paris in 1934, the fifth in Rome in 1938, and the sixth in The Hague in 1948. All the Congresses have been notable for their very free and cordial exchange of scientific information as well as the accelerated efficiency and use of photogrammetry they demonstrate.

Hosted by the eighteen-year-old American Society of Photogrammetry, the International Society for Photogrammetry had four U.S. officers: Captain O. S. Reading, President; E. S. Massie, Secretary-General; W. E. Cude, Treasurer; and L. Ray Smart, Congress Director. The four Council members were Professor F. Baeschlin, Switzerland; Professor G. Cassinis, Italy; Ing. R. Janicot, France; and Professor W. Schermerhorn, Netherlands.

The Directorate devised a simultaneous translation system which enabled delegates to hear addresses, papers, and reports in English, Spanish, French, and German.

The Hon. E. Reeseman Fryer, U.S. State Department, and Lt. Gen. Lewis A. Pick, Chief of Engineers, U.S. Army, gave the opening addresses, followed by more than 90 technical papers throughout the Congress.

The first eleven days of the Congress were held at the Shoreham Hotel and the last two days at Bolling Air Force Base, Washington, D.C.

The seven Technical Commissions which comprise the I.S.P. were headed by:

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| Comm. I | (Canada) "Photography and Navigation".
President: Dr. L. E. Howlett, Canada; 13 members. |
| Comm. II | (France) "Plotting Machines and Instruments".
President: Dr. G. Poivilliers, France; 12 members. |
| Comm. III | (Benelux) "Geodetic or Control Operations".
President: Dr. P. Wiser, Belgium; 12 members. |
| Comm. IV | (Italy) "Mapping from Photographs".
President: Professor G. Cassinis, Italy; 12 members. |
| Comm. V | (Sweden) "Special Applications and Measurements".
President: Professor Bertil Halbert, Sweden; 11 members. |
| Comm. VI | (Austria) "Education, Terminology, Bibliography".
(History, Polyglot Dictionary)
President: Dozent Ing. K. Lego, Austria; 11 members. |
| Comm. VII | (U.S.A.) "Photo Interpretation".
President: Lt. Commander Robert N. Colwell, U.S.A.; 17 members. |

Each Commission held three sessions and one resolutions meeting. There were no concurrent sessions.

More than 1,200 delegates, plus 300 registered ladies, from 5 continents and 37 countries attended. Twenty-one National Societies and Authorities from Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, England, Finland, France, Germany, Israel, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, and the U.S.A. were represented. Russia was invited, but declined.

Twenty-two leading photogrammetric concerns from the U.S., England, Canada, Switzerland, Germany, France, and Italy used all space available at the Shoreham Hotel to exhibit their latest developments. Floor space for exhibits was \$2.00 per square foot.

Technical tours were held at the U.S. Geological Survey, U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, U.S. Air Force, U.S. Army Map Service, U.S. Engineer Research and Development Laboratories, U.S. Naval Photographic Center, and the National Geographic Society. Several sightseeing tours were also held.

Technical movies were shown evenings, free, by Hunting Aerosurveys, Ltd., Eastman Kodak, Aero Service Corp., Canadian Dept. of Lands and Forests, Italian Institut Geographic Militaire, French National Geographic Institute, U.S. Navy Hydrographic Office, and U.S. Geological Survey. The U.S. Air Force Concert Orchestra held a concert for all attendees.

The Staff on Organization for the VII Congress made every effort to make it financially possible for anyone to attend—both technical and social. Registration for the 13 day Congress was \$3.00, ladies free. A total package which included registration, ladies' reception, concert, cocktail party, White House reception, hosted by Mrs. Harry Truman,

tours, boat cruise to Mount Vernon, dance and final farewell banquet was \$15.00 for gentlemen and \$10.00 for ladies. There were no committee gratuities, except the dance. All functions were well attended.

As the total budget for the Congress was only \$26,400.00, which also had to cover the publication of the Archives, they were printed in Holland because of the prohibitive U.S. costs.

Ninety-nine officers and committee members served the VII Congress. They (and spouses) held a dinner-dance reunion in 1956.

There were many acknowledgments sent to private individuals, organizations, companies, State and Federal Government Agencies, Embassies, Universities, Library of Congresses, United Nations Honor Flag Committee, and the Washington, D.C. Federation of Churches.

Sweden was selected to hold the VIII Congress in Stockholm in 1956.



Morris M. Thompson and his wife Sophia, on the day they met, in the Summer of 1934.



Sidney E. Tischler at Syracuse University during the year 1934-35, a member of the Civil Engineering class of 1936.



Harry Tubis compiling controlled mosaic at George Whitmore's Maps and Surveys Division, TVA, Knoxville, TN in October, 1934.