

A speech of Mr. Klaas Sierksma, president of the Foundation for Banneristics and Heraldry, at Medesblik-castle, April 19, 1975

It has been five times now that on the occasion of a congress for vexillology the Board of the Foundation for BANNERISTICS AND HERALDRY had the pleasure of presenting the honorary award for merits in the field of vexillology.

Today I will have the honour to invite, in the splendid entourage of this castle, and under the modern flags of Mr. Andres Holmquist, one of our oldest and most devoted amateur vexillologists in front of the troops.

So far the recipients of the medal of honour have been successively:

Mrs. Sierksma

the late Mr. Karl Fachinger

Mr. Pasch

Mr. Horstmann

and Mr. Zigglioto.

It gave us much satisfaction to find that the award, as a way of expressing great appreciation by an international body of friends for the performance of one among its number is being highly valued. When requesting some 25 vexillologists from some 25 different nations to recommend a candidate, this year one person in particular was mentioned by a large majority, that is

Captain E.M.C. BARRACLOUGH C.B.E., R.N.

Dear Captain Barraclough, would you be so kind as to step forward and let us pay tribute to you?

I don't imagine there to be any library of some importance left in the world that doesn't have your name registered in its catalogue, noting you as the revisor of many an edition of the well-known book: **FLAGS OF THE WORLD.**

Only few realize the amount of painstaking and patient research that goes into creating a standard work like this.

Those who know you as a person and are acquainted with your amiable and witty personality are even less in number.

In the course of your long naval career however, your eyes must have met practically all the flags, the thousands of flags, you documented in your books.

Speaking of your eyes... Allow me to quote you and make public on what you said to us about your visual field some years ago, when giving us your own description of it.

You typified it as follows: "During World War I, on Her Majesty's Service, I helped securing the seas of piracy. During the last war however, on account of my age, and diminished eyesight, Her Majesty was forced to put me in a commission of a sea with more limited horizon, that is, the Northsea"

At present you are for the 6th time among your flag-loving friends, sailing with them - although not as a commander of the fleet - the historic waters of a yet smaller sea: the Zuyder Zee; which has become a lake even - since my countrymen have embarked it.

We don't know what the future all still has in store for you, but before the time may have come in which you decided to move into the home for the aged and maybe resort to toy-ships in a tub, we want to pay homage to you right here and now.

I will now proceed to read out the statement of the Foundation for

Banneristics and Heraldry's Board, whereby the bi-annual honorary award for the year 1975 is presented to you:

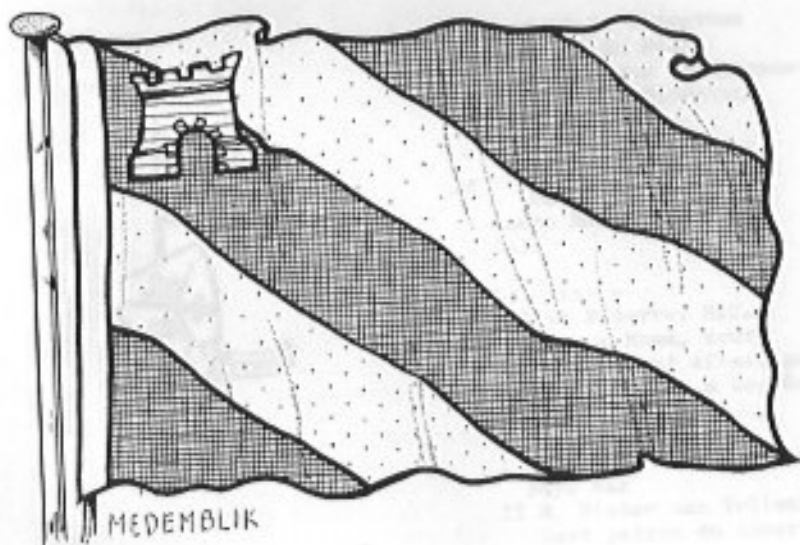
Le Bureau de la Fondation de la Bannistique et de l'Héraldique à Muiderberg aux Pays-Bas, en considération de la distribution biennale de la Médaille d'Honneur en argent sur la présentation de quinze spécialistes de bannistique a pris à l'unanimité la décision suivante:

La médaille d'honneur en argent pour l'année 1975 sera offerte au Capitaine EDWARD M.C. BARRACLOUGH à Lymington in England pour ses travaux réalisés à la revision et réédition du livre d'intérêt mondial et connu dans le monde entier "Flags of the World" et pour son énergie admirable ayant participé déjà pendant 10 ans aux congrès, à l'âge de quatre-vingt-deux ans !

La proclamation de cette décoration aura lieu lors du sixième congrès international de vexillologie à Medemblik, le 18 avril 1975.

Le Bureau de la Fondation
Muiderberg, 15 janvier 1975

While my wife is giving you the mark of honour, I am pleased to be the first one to congratulate you on the admitted award.





VI^e Congrès mondial de Vestfâldepe

BANQUET
du 14 avril 1973
à bord de "Proces Christina"

Ôter grâtiousement offert par le
Vestfâldepe Bureau en Belgique
Fédération de la Bannistrique et de l'Échiffel
Société des Végétales - Fiches - und Wapperbank
Fondation for Bannistric and Bannist

Carte offerte par la Maison Louis de Fontenay
Éditions de la Société Générale - 1973

MENU

Coctail de Crevettes
Consommé de Boeuf
Tournedos aux Champignons
Haricots Princesse
Petits Pois
Pommes Nature
Pommes Parisienne
Salade mêlée
Bombe Bannistique
Café

Les vins -
Calvet Réserve, M.C.
Champagne Mumm, brut
(gracieusement offert par la
Maison G.N.Mumm & Co., Reims)

Les toasts portés -
I Sa Majesté la Reine des
Pays Bas
II M. Pieter van Vollenhoven
Haut patron du congrès

