

COLD ARMS

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PREFACE



“Regional Centre for the Heritage of Banat — Concordia” is set up with funds provided by the EU and the Municipality of Vršac, as a cross-border cooperation project between the City Museum of Vršac (CMV) and Banat Museum in Timisoara (MBT). In implementation of this project, the reconstruction of the building of Concordia has a fundamental role. It will house the Regional Centre and also be a place for the permanent museum exhibition.

The main objective of establishing the Regional Centre in Concordia is cross-border cooperation between all institutions of culture and science in the task of production of a strategic plan and creation of best conditions for the preservation and presentation of cultural heritage, as well as ongoing training of new staff. The Centre will be an integral part of the City Museum of Vršac, but will also have an international character, because through its work partnership between our and Romanian experts will develop, as well as between other individuals and institutions engaged in research of Banat.

As a part of the project implementation, a Regional Conference (17–19 November 2011) was organized under the title „*Research, Conservation and Presentation of the Banat Heritage-Current Situation and Long-term Strategy*“. The main goal of the Conference was to discuss and define issues related to the cultural heritage of Banat, from the aspects of archaeology, ethnology, history, history of art and conservation. In the concluding discussion, the Conference

adopted a draft strategy for long-term research, protection and promotion of the cultural heritage of Banat, where Banat means a geographical region, which politically belongs to Romania, Hungary and Serbia.

All the parts of the Banat region have been inextricably linked by cultural relations since the earliest prehistoric times. Owing to its specific geographical position, distinctive features and the criss-crossing rivers Tisza, Tamis and Karas, as the ways used for spreading influence by a number of different cultures, identified in archaeological research, the area of Banat represents today an inexhaustible source of information about cultural and historic ties.

An integral part of the Regional Centre, in addition to the already mentioned are workshops, which are substantially related to the development of cultural tourism strategy, linking of cultural institutions in the town in order to provide quality programs on cultural heritage, as well as registration, protection, and preservation strategy and presentation of movable and immovable cultural monuments.

The final part of the project is organization of the exhibition *Cold Weapons of the Balkans from the Collections of the City Museum of Vršac and the Museum in Timisoara*. The exhibition is organized in partnership of the Vršac and Timisoara museums and shows the pieces of cold weapons in the period from the 10th to the mid-twentieth century.

Anica Medaković, Dan Leopold Ciobotaru



THE HISTORY OF THE COLLECTION



The beginnings of the collection of arms of the Banat Museum in Timisoara are closely related to the first year of existence of the Timisoara Historical and Archaeological Society, a scientific association founded back in 1872 at the initiative of the cultural and scientific elite of Banat, led by Zsigmond Ormos (Ormós Zsigmond)¹. An important figure in the culture at the time, Ormos was during this period one of the main political factors in the Timis County.

The historical collection of weapons of the Timisoara Museum includes today several hundreds of objects, the majority of which dates from pre-war period when the weapons often arrived as donations, but also through acquisition, trusteeship, archaeological excavations, as well as by exchange of museum pieces which was a common practice in the early years of the museum activities.

The historical collection of cold weapons, much larger and spectacular from the collection of firearms, covers the chronological period starting from the Middle Ages until the Second World War, and includes a complete range of such weapons as: military, civilian, parade, hunting, sports, decorative, etc.

As regards the geographic-historical origin of the Timisoara objects, major part of the military weapons are of Central European workmanship (Austrian, Hungarian, Prussian / German), followed by East European (Russian / Soviet) and weapons from Western Europe (French, Italian).

A special category is formed by the great number and variety of the Balkans and Turkish cold arms, represented by numerous

yataghans (around 30 pieces) and Persian Shamshir sabres. A large part of the Balkan arms originates from Bosnia². In 1878 the Austro-Hungarian authorities suppressed the initial armed resistance after the takeover of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and this is when a large amount of the Bosnian side arms, was brought to the Banat region, the part of which make up the museum's collection today.

The parade sabres are of the Austrian and Hungarian origin, while the hunting weapons are mostly of Austrian / German production. Among the exotic objects of the Timisoara collection, there are Asian (Indo-Persian, Afgan, Syrian, Japanese, Chinese, etc.) and the African side arms.

The history of the collection starts in 1873 at the moment of acquisition of the first known piece in the collection- a hunting knife of the type *Hirschfänger* (cat. No. 37) bought from Gyula Halavacs³ (Halavács Gyulá) for a few old museum coins. Taking into consideration that the major part of the collection consists of donations, we will dedicate a few sentences to the most important donors, people who made a great contribution to the establishment of the collection. Among the main donors, who donated a great number of arms specimens, including very valuable pieces, we would like to mention Karoly Rosenthal (Rosenthal Károly), Jozsef Hertelendy (Hertelendy József), Imre Horvath (Horváth Imre), Zsigmond Ormos (Ormós Zsigmond), Mrs. Ernestin, descendant of Baron Hiller, Istvan Berkeszi (Berkeszi István), Imre Vargics (Vargics Imre), etc.

¹ Florin Medeleț, Nicoleta Toma, *Muzeul Banatului. File de cronică 1872-1918*, vol. I, Timisoara (1997), 13-15.

² Zoran Markov, *Flintlock Balkan Pistols from the Collection of Banat Museum in Timisoara*, *AnB S.N.*, XIX (2011), 319-320.

³ The First Record of the Banat Museum in Timisoara, 4, old inv. No. 40.

Karoly Rosenthal⁴ (Rosenthal Károly), the imperial Lieutenant of the 13th Hussar regiment, in 1878 donated, among other things, the Turkish sword (cat. no. 104) seized in the military expedition of the Austro-Hungarian Army in Bosnia in 1878 and an Austrian hussar pallasch sword of *panzerstecher* type (cat. no. 14) from the second half of the 17th century, today a relatively rare specimen in this area.

Another significant donor of the Timisoara museum, a Torontal District Prefect Jozsef Hertelendy (Hertelendy József) has been entered into the records of the institution as a donor of a mace (cat. no.168), a French officer's sword from the period of the French Consulate (cat. no. 80), a hunting knife, several pieces of guns, etc.⁵ The most important gift received from the Prefect Hertelendy is certainly a mediaeval knight sword with a Gothic inscription (cat. no. 2), found in the waters of the Tisza, in the nineteenth century.

Among the early donors, in the period before World War I, a significant place is taken by Dr. Imre Horvath⁶ (Horváth Imre), who together with Zsigmond Ormos (Ormós Zsigmond), takes the credit for such a large number of military items in the collection of weapons. From his donations we would like to mention a few pieces from the period of Austrian Revolution in Vienna in 1848 when some French and Bosnian weapons were seized. During 1886 Horvath gives to the museum a Saxon tessa sword (cat. no. 43), two Viennese guard officer's swords from 1848, the Vienna Academy of Legionnaires sword (cat. no. 23), also from the time of the Austrian Revolution, Bosnian yataghan seized during the military expedition in Bosnia in 1878, etc.

The most prominent donor of the museum in the pre-war period, not only in regard to the collection of weapons, is the founder and first president of the Historical and Archaeological Society in Timisoara, the District Prefect Zsigmond Ormos⁷. When talking about the weapons collection, we remember Ormos for his significant donation in April 1889, when the museum inventory accepted, among other valuable objects, a yataghan (cat. no. 128) which was for a short time owned by the leader of the First Serbian Uprising Djordje Petrovic *Karadjordje*⁸. From his letter enclosed to the donation, we learn that Ormos brought the yataghan from Orsova (Orşova), in 1876. The donation includes three medieval helmets

4 *Ibidem*, 19-20, old inv. No. 259-261.

5 *Ibidem*, 50-51, old inv. No. 619-623.

6 *Ibidem*, 53-54, old inv. No. 643-649.

7 *Ibidem*, 62-63, old inv. No. 773-784, 786.

8 *Ibidem*, 63, old inv. No. 779.

(cat. no. 175), found near the town's fortress, a few daggers, a mace, a Turkish yataghan, a few pieces of firearms, etc.

The year 1896 finishes with the donation of Mrs. Ernestin⁹, the wife of Kalman Tamassy (Tamássy Kálmán) and a descendant of Baron Hiller. This significant donation enriched the collection with several valuable items which belonged to Baron Hiller (Johann von Hiller), the Austrian military commander in the battles against the French Emperor Napoleon I, in 1809.

In the following year, 1897, Dr. Istvan Berkeszi (Berkeszi István), the future curator of the museum, donates two objects¹⁰-a mediaeval fragmented sword, found near Timisoara and a sabre from the period of the Hungarian Revolution in 1848. Berkesi also gave a Hungarian officer's sword to the Timisoara institution in 1903.

A former Member of the Hungarian Parliament and the first lawyer of the museum, Imre Vargics (Vargics Imre), is remembered after his donation of pistols of the last Timisoara pasha and also supplemented the collection of cold arms in February 1903.¹¹

A considerable number of pieces were in 1904 given to the museum by Bela Mesko¹² (Meskó Béla), of which a great value carry three halberds found during the reconstruction of the Hunjadi Castle (Huniade) in Timisoara, an Austrian officer's helmet (cat. no. 178), a clerical Hungarian sword, and other items.

Also in 1904, by mediation of the rabbi of the Timisoara quarter Fabric, Dr. Jacob Singer (Singer Jakab), the museum collection receives three late period halberds (cat. No. 152) from the end of the 17th/the beginning of 18th century¹³.

Among the donors from the pre-war period we must not forget students of the Timisoara schools, who also played an important role in the formation of the collection: Arpad Roy (Roy Árpád) donated in 1881 a Turkish sabre¹⁴, Gusztav Vitalszki (Vitalszki Gusztáv) donated in 1883 several integral parts of firearms¹⁵, David Lang (Láng Dávid) donated a Turkish sabre in 1884¹⁶, and Arthur Malcz donated in 1891 a mediaeval sword¹⁷.

In the pre-war period, depending on the budget, the museum purchased a considerable number of items, for example in 1901 it

9 *Ibidem*, 107, old inv. No. 1562-1564.

10 *Ibidem*, 112 old inv. No. 1607, 1609.

11 *Ibidem*, 135-136, old inv. No. 1859-1860.

12 *Ibidem*, 160-161, old inv. No. 2109-2116, 2119.

13 *Ibidem*, 161, old inv. No. 2117.

14 *Ibidem*, 37, old inv. No. 424.

15 *Ibidem*, 41, old inv. No. 499, 507-508.

16 *Ibidem*, 44, old inv. No. 551.

17 *Ibidem*, 74, old inv. No. 1030.

bought a mace from the widow Maly¹⁸ (Mály), in 1903 a Turkish yataghan was bought from the funds of the museum, while a year later, in 1904, the museum bought a yataghan with a metal hilt (cat. no. 138) brought from Bosnia in 1878 and a hunting knife from the Timisoara trader Emmer¹⁹.

In the first decades of the twentieth century the museum continues with acquisitions and amongst the most important collaborators of the institution we find an antique dealer from Timisoara, Maximilian Steiner²⁰, who sold or mediated in sales of a great number of items to the museum. As regards the arms collection, Steiner takes credit for one interesting purchase in 1839- the magnate's ceremonial sword of Imre Soos from Timisoara (cat. no. 95).

In the pre-war period, the arms collection is supplemented by donations or trusteeships from different local or regional institutions. So, in 1903, the Municipality of Lipova gives to the museum into trusteeship several items of the Hungarian Honved lieutenant Imre Possuth, whom those items had been given by the commander of the Hungarian Transylvanian revolutionary army Jozef Bem. The arms arrived to the museum through Gergely Kabdebo²¹. In May 1902 the City Council gives into the trusteeship of the museum-two Timisoara night-guard halberds used in a town in Banat at the end of the 18th/the beginning of the 19th century.

On a number of occasions, during the pre-war period local authorities in Banat donated to the museum different historical & archaeological items found in areas under their jurisdiction. The collection today includes objects from the territories of the municipalities Orsova (Orşova / Romania), Kovin (Serbia), Hodoni (Romania), Ciacova (Romania), etc.

Between the wars, the Museum in Timisoara underwent numerous changes, starting with a new state administration, relocation of the museum collection to the new premises and culminating with evacuation of the museum objects during the difficult times of the World War II.

The arms collection continues to grow after the World War I despite the restricted budget. The credit for this fact goes to the director of the museum at the time, Dr. Ioachim Miloia (1928–1940). Thus, in 1928, the collection of the weapons increased for 7 more items²², and a year later the museum purchased three more. In 1929

18 *Ibidem*, 121, old inv. No. 1711.

19 *Ibidem*, 163, old inv. No.2148.

20 *Ibidem*, 363, old inv. No. 4394.

21 *Ibidem*, 116, old inv. No. 1675-1676.

22 Florin Medeleț, Vasile Rămneanțu, *Muzeul Banatului. File de cronică 1918-1948*, vol. II, Timișoara (2003), 53.

a lawyer Aurel Bugariu from Comloșul Mare donates a mediaeval spear²³ to the museum. The acquisitions continue in 1930, on a smaller scale, though. That year Miloia bought a Turkish yataghan and several prints of the Romanian army in Budapest.²⁴ All the items were duly entered into the register of the museum's military department. Five years later, in 1935, the museum buys from William Neidenbach²⁵ two Turkish yataghans and several pieces of firearms. In spring of 1936, Miloia succeeds in purchasing a very valuable and spectacular object for the museum-a knight's armour²⁶ (cat. no. 179). The museum archives keep the decision of the City Council of Timisoara from 1936, referring to the acquisition of the armour. For that, the municipality raised the museum's budget for 4,500 lei, therefore enabling the purchase of the armour from Francisc Safran²⁷ (Francisc Săfrán).

In 1944, in the context of military conflicts during the World War II, the museum pieces had to be evacuated and on this occasion, on 10 July 1944 two trunks of arms were transferred into the City Fortress-the Bastion Theresia²⁸.

During the post-war years, the collection continues to grow through donations, acquisitions and transfers from different local institutions. One of the most important transfers was performed in 1959 when the Ministry of Foreign Affairs²⁹, through mediation of the Timisoara Unit 232, enriched the collection with several yataghans (cat. no. 140), an Afghan knife (cat. no. 51), a beautiful Turkish sabre (cat. no. 103) and a Russian artillery kinjal (cat. no. 56). In 1975, an unknown donor donates a Romanian officer's sabre M 1909 (cat. no. 116)³⁰. Among the last items recorded, we should mention an Italian tessa sword (cat. no. 41) which was given to the museum by the Timis County Police in 2000. The last two objects, bought for the collection in 2009 are of African origin-a dagger and a Central-African sabre³¹.

Today, the collection of cold/side arms of the Banat Museum belongs to the most numerous and most interesting arms collections of the Romanian museums, distinguished by a large number of items of Balkan origin, from Bosnia and Herzegovina.

23 *Ibidem*, 77.

24 *Ibidem*, 92.

25 *Ibidem*, 128.

26 *Ibidem*, 140.

27 Archive of the Banat Museum, Decision No. 55.556 of the Municipality of Timisoara, 23 Dec. 1936.

28 Florin Medeleț, Vasile Rămneanțu, *op. cit.*, 222.

29 4th Record of the Banat Museum in Timisoara, 543-544, cat. No. 5505-5512.

30 *Ibidem*, 708, cat. No. 7349.

31 *Ibidem*, XII history, cat. No. 30796-30797.

Arms collection of the City Museum in Vršac (further on: CMV) is one of the oldest collections. The beginning of its formation dates back to the 1800s of the 19th century.

The Conclusion of the Town's representative office of the Vršac Municipality on the need of establishment of a museum in Vršac, brought in 1882³² laid down the foundations for the museum. At that moment the painstaking work of collecting, preserving and systematization of items began, that formed the basis of initial collections, among which was the historical one from which emerged the collection of weapons-the subject of our interest.

At the very beginning of the collection of material for the museum, a few very valuable private collections were overtaken.³³ At the same time numerous items were donated not only by the individuals, but also by various institutions and associations in the city. Archaeological excavations obtained a large number of objects and among them, of course, specimens of weapons- swords, arrows, spears, daggers, axes, helmets and more. In addition to gifts that came to the Museum, owing mainly to engagement of Felix Milleker³⁴, the items were also purchased. However, there is little record of that, especially for the period up to the World War II. Mainly because of that, for the vast majority of items from the collection of weapons there is no data on the time and method of procurement.

In 1946, a teacher Palić from Vršac donated to the Museum an interesting and very unusual collection of weapons from Indonesia and Oceania, which has been kept with great care in the Ethnology Department of the Museum, since then.

During the after-war period, very diverse examples of weapons arrived to the Historical Department of the Museum. They were obtained in different ways-a number of them were acquired in field research, a lot of the objects were bought and the majority donated. Besides the individuals that enriched this collection with their kind donations, we should definitely mention Military Department in Vršac, which in the fifties of the twentieth century, gave a considerable number of antique firearms from the First and Second World War. Similarly, the Secretariat of Internal Affairs-Office in Vršac donated 37 pieces of various cold and firearms.³⁵ In

the afore mentioned ways, for the arms collection of the Historical Department of the Museum, 308 objects have been collected, of which 132 belong to the collection of cold/side and protection weapons and the appropriate equipment, dating from the period from the mid-fourteenth to mid-twentieth century.



DEVELOPMENT OF COLD WEAPONS AND MILITARY TECHNIQUES FROM THE EARLY MIDDLE AGES TO THE APPEARANCE OF HAND FIREARMS



Means of warfare, military techniques, armament and organization of military units, are directly dependent on the economic development of countries in a given time in history. In this sense, the military and "military art", are firmly linked to the development of productive forces, the new social standards, which are largely reflected in the evolution of armorer trade and military techniques³⁶. Army and army equipment have a historical character, continuously developing and constantly improving and in time becoming more and more complex³⁷.

Period of the Great Migration is remembered in the history of armourer trade and military historiography of the early Middle Ages as an epoch of great changes as regards the organization of military units, the period of transition from the heavily armed Roman infantry - Legions - to mixed Germanic military units including infantry and cavalry troops, less disciplined, but much more mobile than the classical ancient armies³⁸.

The Germanic peoples used as an offensive weapon for hitting a long two-edged sword called *spatha*, and single-edged straight and relatively short weapon called *sax*. The Byzantine army units were also equipped with two offensive weapons for striking: a massive gladius, called *spatha*, and a somewhat shorter sword known as *semispatha*³⁹.

However, the primary weapon of that time was still *spatha*, while the other two types of cold weapons were used only in the case of loss or breaking of *spatha*. The long blade-*spatha*, even though excellently manufactured for that period, was quite delicate –often breaking in direct hits against some other offensive weapon, especially in blocking the hit of the other sword. That is the reason why,

in the Middle Ages, the swords were not used to hit each other and the sword stroke was blocked by a shield⁴⁰.

The problem of considerable sensitivity of the long blade of the sword of the early medieval period has a relatively simple explanation, given that the weapons of that time were intended to hit, and only after the appearance of new types of weapons used for striking and stabbing, fencing as a combat technique has developed⁴¹.

The category of early mediaeval striking weapons contains a few initial characteristics: the centre of weight of these early swords was on the blade-in the upper part of it, from the middle towards the tip⁴². This was achieved by use of a short hilt, handguard of smaller dimensions and a light button at the top. Thus manufactured swords had an incredible force when hitting, the force starting from the shoulder of the warrior, without too much manoeuvrability of the wrist, given the blade weight⁴³. Fighting with such swords required great stability of warriors, not only because of the loss of balance in hitting, but also for avoiding the opponent's heavy blows. And that the swords had catastrophic consequences there are numerous archaeological artefacts to prove⁴⁴. For that reason this category of swords had the biggest development between the 5th and 8th century, with the Germanic tribes especially, in the north of the European continent where their use continued up to the 10th century-by the Vikings and to a lesser extent by the peoples who had cavalry as a central military force⁴⁵.

Eurasian steppe horsemen, who appear in European history in the 5th century, used side arms adapted to handling from a horse saddle. These weapons have the same weight centre on the blade, but in the lower part, from the middle towards handguard. These are

32 National Museum in Vršac 1882-1972, Vršac, 1972, page 7.

33 Mentioned monography of the Museum quotes the names of the donors of bigger antiquity collections from the end of 19th Century, but there is no list of objects.

34 Felix Milleker was the first and only curator of the Museum, since its foundation to his death in 1942.

35 Entry Book of the Historical Dept. for 1984.

36 Cristian Vlădescu, Carol König, Dan Popa, *Arme în muzeele din România*, București (1973), 7.

37 *Ibidem*.

38 Zeno – Karl Pinter, *Spada și sabia medievală în Transilvania și Banat (secolele IX-XIV)*, Reșița (1999), 81.

39 *Ibidem*.

40 *Ibidem*, 81-82.

41 *Ibidem*, 82.

42 *Ibidem*.

43 *Ibidem*.

44 *Ibidem*.

45 *Ibidem*.

relatively light weapons, both the two-edged swords with a slender blade and slightly longer hilt leg, and single-edged sabres, straight or moderately curved, the effectiveness of which is not diminished by the weight reduction of weapons, but are made up by the height of the beginning of the stroke and fast horses⁴⁶.

Some big changes appeared between the European military Powers starting from the 8th century. Those had significant consequences in the military domain and the arming of European nations. Arab, Viking and Avar dangers were removed by the Carolingian Frankish heavy cavalry, which will become, and remain until the end of the Middle Ages the basic form of organization of European armies. In this context, medieval sword is adapted to the new demands of the fight, when the cavalry played a central role instead of the infantry⁴⁷.

In the first stage, which covers the period between the 9th and 11th century, the barycentre of the arms moves from the middle of the blade to the handguard, after a few changes made on the parts of the hilt. In this sense, the cross-guard becomes bigger and the metal pommel is much heavier and more massive. This fact allows easier sword manoeuvring from the wrist. This change did not at all reduce the impact force; moreover, a new type of sword did not affect the balance of the rider, and was much more precise in hitting. These swords, known in historiography of sword-making as the “Roman swords” (Romanesque swords) by the artistic style of the time, still remain the type of weapon meant only for hitting, with parallel edged blade ending in semicircular top⁴⁸.

At the same time, but on the east side of the continent, with the emergence of the Hungarian tribes with military organization typical for all steppe nomads-light cavalry, there often appears a specific weapon of these people: a slightly curved single-bladed sabre with gently curved handle. This type of weapon is much lighter than the modern “Roman swords” (Romanesque swords), which makes it much easier in handling, but the impact force of the sword is only effective against lighter protective weapons. The effectiveness of this type of side arms is not based, as is the case with the sword, on the striking force, but due to the curved blade the sabre causes deep cuts while sliding on the impact surface⁴⁹.

Lesser efficiency of the sabre against a heavily armed cavalry was a reason why this type of weapon was neglected after the

first military combats of the Hungarians with the heavy European cavalry⁵⁰.

Returning to the knight’s sword, widespread in the western part of the continent, we can follow the development of this type of offensive arms, depending on the development of protective equipment, especially the amour.

At the beginning of the 13th century, an apparent change in the blade form can be noticed- “sharpening of the point” which produces a sharp tip at the upper part of the blade. The blade then became longer and narrowing towards the tip. To avoid breakage of these slender blades, they were reinforced by the grooves, deeper and broader than those made in previous types of sword blades. Handguards of these swords were much larger, and had a dual role: on one side preventing slipping out of the warrior’s hand toward the blade, and on the other hand, getting a new role in the form of the knight’s hand protection⁵¹.

The hilt length allowed gripping the sword with one and half hand (hand-and-a-half sword), metal pommel became heavier and the centre of weight moved towards the hand-guard. Fast spreading of this sword type used for hitting and stabbing (“Gothic type”) was connected with appearance of chainmail armour, especially the first metal cuirass⁵².

Under the influence of the Byzantine Empire, protective weapons appeared in the west in the first half of the thirteenth century when the Byzantine model of the helmet and the body armor, made of protective tiles, with a larger chest and the back plate, were taken over. Western craftsmen enlarged and turned these plates into shields of steel that covered larger area of the body⁵³.

Against this armour, hitting with only one hand became insufficient and the need for a sharpened point for stabbing and penetration through the weak parts of the armour arose. At this stage of sword development, the beginnings of fencing can be recognized, as well as fights without shields, where the blade was not used only for hitting, but also for stabbing. In that case the point becomes active and offensive part of the blade⁵⁴.

In turbulent times between the eleventh and fourteenth century with the great need for steel weapons, when the swords were in great demand, farriery was very much appreciated. There is evidence that

50 *Ibidem*, 84.

51 *Ibidem*.

52 *Ibidem*, 84-85.

53 Dora Bošković, *Mačevi viteškog doba u Hrvatskoj (Swords of Chivalrous Age in Croatia)*, Zagreb (2009), 16.

54 Zeno – Karl Pinter, *quote*., 85.

a blacksmith could make four swords, or ten smaller blades for knives a day⁵⁵.

Blacksmith and gunsmith centres were, due to the wealth of the mines and forests, concentrated in central Europe. German centres such as Cologne or Passau are considered European cradles of metallurgy in the Middle Ages, and places with important workshops in the 11th and 12th century⁵⁶.

Swords of differently ranked warriors and knights did not differ basically. However, the swords of the high nobility and rulers had artistic decorations on them, and sometimes decorations with precious metals and precious stones⁵⁷.

If until the 14th century the above mentioned changes had not brought a great difference in morphology and appearance of mediaeval swords, from 15th century development of the mediaeval sword went into two directions, which would cause more considerable morphological changes and lead to the disappearance of the classical sword⁵⁸. Spreading of heavy armour, consisting entirely of metal plates, resulted in appearance of heavy two-handed swords in mid-fifteenth century (*Zweihänder*, *Bidehänder*), and on the other hand the emergence of firearms which would slowly push out the cold weapons and open the way for some very light arms used for stabbing only, like a rapier, which would be widely used in the beginning of the modern age⁵⁹.

The sabre appears again as a part of military equipment of Central and South-eastern European nations in the fifteenth century, the period when the principal enemy of all became the Ottoman Empire. There was an interesting attempt of combining the two weapons-a sword and a sabre, which resulted in what the Germans call *säbelschwert*, or simply *pallasch* (paloš), a weapon with straight and heavy blade, characteristic for swords, but with a hilt typical for sabres. This type of weapon will be used until the end of the modern age⁶⁰.

In the Middle Ages, the period of formation of the centralized feudal states in Europe, as a natural consequence of development of productive forces and unremitting struggle for the emancipation of villages and towns, a significant change in technique and organization of military units arose⁶¹.

55 Dora Bošković, *quote*, 15.

56 *Ibidem*, 16.

57 *Ibidem*, 15.

58 Zeno – Karl Pinter, *quote*, 87.

59 *Ibidem*, 87-88.

60 *Ibidem*, 84.

61 Cristian Vlădescu, Carol König, Dan Popa, *op. cit.*, 7.

The central government, with the help of the nobility, and sometimes cities, managed to confront the great nobility. Mediaeval struggle for power resulted in the first place in a strengthened central government, and on the other hand, as far as disorganized, unequally armed fighters were concerned, these mercenaries were replaced by organized armies, which were formed at the end of the 14th and beginning of the 15th century⁶².

The first stage in military unit organization started with organization of military forces of the Swiss Confederation, which had a great impact on fighting techniques in the 15th century. Back in the late fourteenth century, the Swiss military units were armed with light impact weapons. Cities such as Bern, Lucerne and Zurich had well-equipped arsenals. At this historical moment, halberds and spears became the most widely used means of Swiss infantry fighting against cavalry. Knights in armour lost supremacy in battles against halberdiers with the result that halberds and long spears remained in use in Europe until the end of the seventeenth century, when firearms came into the forefront⁶³.

Mediaeval military units, with a mixed composition, with no military discipline and unequally armed, well known for looting and devastation, represented a great threat to the central authority, and because of that the French King Charles VII of France ordered dissolution of those military companies. In the same period, France reorganized its military units, forming cavalry subunits in 1445⁶⁴. Infantry remained less important.

On the territory of the German states, mercenary units paid by nobles and cities, formed a very strong and effective military force, known as *Landsknecht*, which became legendary in the sixteenth century. Emperor Maximilian I (1493-1519) gave great importance to these military units and a new organization- by arming them with chest armour, with no shield for arms and calves, for the better mobility of warriors in the field. Their chief weapon was a spear. In battles they used swords, daggers and halberds⁶⁵.

The need for more mobile and less armed cavalry, led to the formation of light cavalry after the model of the eastern military forces, much more mobile in the course of the battle. Armament of the new cavalry facilitated its mobility on the rough terrain, where heavy armoured warriors had lots of problems⁶⁶.

62 *Ibidem*.

63 *Ibidem*, 7-8.

64 *Ibidem*, 8.

65 *Ibidem*.

66 *Ibidem*, 9.

Military campaigns in the sixteenth century were carried out by heavy and light cavalry in cooperation with the units of halberdiers and arquebusiers. In this historical period, spear and halberd remained a priority for infantry⁶⁷.

Defeated at Ravenna, but victorious at Pavia (1525), the Spanish infantry proved superior in contrast to the Swiss. Instead of the traditional organization of Swiss halberdiers, with several thousand fighters in the compact formation, the Spanish formed lighter and more mobile units, known as tercios, which composed several lines, a system that was used in the war against the Netherlands. During the Spanish-Dutch War, in 1600, Maurice of Nassau, Prince of Orange, with the help of simplified infantry units in cooperation with the light cavalry, achieved a great and significant victory against the Spanish terciosa, the invincible infantry up to that moment⁶⁸.

At the tactical level, the first significant changes in the eighteenth century were made in Prussia in the time of Frederick II the Great (1740-1786), when the line composition of units was introduced⁶⁹.

In the east, a significant role played Janissary and landlord's units, which dominated in the period from the late fourteenth century to the last siege of Vienna (in 1683). Offensive weapons of the landlords consisted of spears, bows and arrows, curved swords, axes and maces. Protective weapons of the landlords were much lighter than the heavy Western armour. A Turkish landlord had a helmet with a chainmail addition-camail, a hand guard, chainmail armour instead of the Western cuirass, and metal plates that protected the vulnerable parts of the horsemen. Unlike landlords, janissaries used a spear, halberd and yataghan. Ottoman units did not change weapons and military tactics over time and therefore in the eighteenth century the Turkish military force falls behind the western nations⁷⁰.

Development of industrial production in late eighteenth and early nineteenth century and the great technical discoveries of that period, brought with them significant changes in the military domain. Cold weapons lost superiority over firearms, which became the central tools of all military powers in the modern age. The end of World War II practically represents exit of the cold military weapons from the historical scene. The cavalry lost its long-lasting role in wars and with it, cold weapons went into history.

67 *Ibidem*.

68 *Ibidem*, 9-10.

69 *Ibidem*, 10.

70 *Ibidem*, 10-11.



TYPES OF WEAPONS

According to their purpose, weapons are divided into weapons of assault and weapons for defence or protection, and according to their technical properties, into cold/side weapons and firearms. The attacking weapons include all kinds of weapons, regardless of the material of which they are made, which can attack the enemy. If necessary, these types of weapons can be also used in defence.

The protective or defensive weapons include all kinds of weapons that can be used for defence or protection. The most typical representatives of this group of arms include: helmet, shield, armour and chainmail shirt.

The group of cold/side arms includes any weapon which is used for attack and defence without the use of means of ignition. Cold weapons can be used for close combat but also for long distance combat. The ones used for cutting, stabbing and hitting are used for close combat. The most prominent representatives of melee weapons are axes, swords, spears, knives, daggers, maces, spiked clubs, halberds, swats, swords, yataghans, glaives, partisans, mallets, etc. Arms for distant fighting are used for target hitting by mechanical devices without the use of fire or explosion. The most interesting representatives of these weapons are: slingshot, bow and arrow, crossbow and catapult.

Weapons that require fire or explosion (combustion) are called firearms.⁷¹ As they are not the object of our interest at the moment, we are not going to elaborate on them further in the text.

71 М. Шерцер, Оружје у прошлости, Загреб, 1980, стр. 9 (M. Šerčer, Weapons in the Past, Zagreb, 1980, p. 9)



WEAPONS FOR CUTTING AND STABBING

Sword is a type of weapon which has been in use since the Bronze Age for stabbing, or cutting and hitting. The blade is usually double-edged, but can also be single-edged as with pallasch, or even three- or four-edged as in rapiers or parade swords. The hilt is usually made of wood, covered in leather or wire, to prevent slipping out from the hand. At the top end there is a metal head-pommel that can be of various shapes. Between the hilt and the blade there is a metal cross-guard which usually has straight or curved arms. On the cross-guard or below it there are often intertwined crossbars that make up the disc-guard/hand-guard.

According to the length, there are short and long swords.⁷² The group of long swords include two-hand, one-and-a half-hand, as well as certain types used for fencing and armour piercing. Short swords were much more widespread, carried in the late middle ages, even by civilians—for protection, and starting from 19th century, by soldiers of some military branches (artillery, engineers and Navy). In her studies of arms used in Dubrovnik in the late Middle Ages, Djurdjica Petrovic, says that in the fourteenth century Dubrovnik there was not a citizen who did not have a sword, “all walks of life owned it, sometimes even several pieces”⁷³. According to their purpose, the swords can be categorized into military, court/judicial, hunting, sports, decorative and ceremonial. The soldiers’/military swords include merchant fleet and navy swords, and among the army swords we can distinguish between infantry and cavalry swords.⁷⁴

The appearance, development, improvement and use of swords can be monitored, on the basis of collected swords kept by CMV, in the period from the Bronze Age to the twentieth century.

“**Rapier**” as a special kind of sword, distinguished by a specially shaped hand guard made of a number of protective bars, fixed on both sides of the cross-guard and merging into one at the pommel of a somewhat elongated hilt of this type. In this way the hilt gained in aesthetics and therefore these swords are considered the most beautiful examples of weapons of all. The rapier blade can be

double-edged, thee-edged or even four-edged. This type of weapon first appeared in Spain in the late fifteenth century, to spread in the sixteenth and seventeenth century all over Europe. From the rapier, a dress sword developed during the eighteenth century, with a decorative, but less functional hilt. It was mostly worn as a kind of jewelry to complement parade/dress clothes, less often as a weapon.

Smallsword is a special kind of one-handed small sword used for stabbing. It originated from the Renaissance rapier, from which it was smaller and lighter. Smallsword appears in France, wherefrom it quickly spread to the rest of Europe. It was quite popular on the continent since the mid-seventeenth to the late eighteenth century⁷⁵. **Smallsword** continued to be used as a secondary weapon of the infantry officers. In the modern period it has the ceremonial and decorative role, and is worn with dress clothes. This type of side arms is characteristic of its straight and slender blade and a guard, transversely mounted at the bottom of the blade, is designed as a stylized leaf, or consists of two elliptical plates. Cross-guard, head of the hilt and sometimes a central part of the handle with hand-guard/knucklebow are richly decorated with Baroque motifs.

Pallasch is a special type of cold weapon, used for stabbing, cutting and hitting. It is an interesting result of combination of two different types of weapons—the sabre and the sword. This combination gave birth to something that the Germans call *säbelschwer*, or simply *pallasch*, a weapon with straight and heavy blade, characteristic for swords, and a hilt characteristic for sabres. Early types of pallasch from the 17th and 18th century had a common double-edged blade with a hand-guard in the shape of a closed bowl for full protection of the hand. They were intended for the heavy cavalry⁷⁶, but in the 19th century pallasch was adapted for the light cavalry—resembling the sabre, but with straight blade. This type of weapon was used until the late modern age.

Panzerstecher is a type of side/cold arms, more precisely—a special sword that emerges in the late Middle Ages (14th c.), used only for stabbing and armour piercing. The blade of this type of weapon usually has a square cross section, with a pointed apex. In the second half of the seventeenth century, in central Europe, these swords

75 Ewart Oakeshott, *European weapons and armour: From the Renaissance to the industrial revolution*, Woodbridge (2000), 236-253.

76 Eduard Wagner, *Hieb und Stichwaffen*, Prag (1985), 19.

were used by the Austrian Hussars⁷⁷. The late Austrian panzerstecher had a hilt and hanguard similar to one of the sabre, with wooden grip covered in leather, an iron backpiece and a cap on the top. Panzerstecher was used until the first half of the 18th century.

The Archaeological and History Dept. of CMV keeps some very valuable specimens of swords, starting from the ones dating back to the Bronze Age, Celtic swords, and swords from the period of the “Great Migration”, Slavonic and many other types of swords from different periods. By its beauty, general appearance and decorations, a sword from the 14th/15th century (Cat. No. 7) stands out. Djurdjica Petrovic attributed its origins to the western Mediterranean.⁷⁸ Of the same importance is the Austrian cavalry sword Pallasch M-1679 (Cat. No. 8) for the technique of the craftsmanship, decorations and rarity.

Dagger is a kind of short weapon made for close defence or attack. In European countries it started to appear in the 13th century or even a little earlier. “It developed from single-bladed knife as a weapon intended solely for attack and stabbing.”⁷⁹ The blade can be double-edged, three-edged, or even four-edged, with a symmetrically positioned hilt. The hilts usually have a shape of a cross and consist of the grip, pommel and cross-guard.

The 17th century witnessed emergence of artillery daggers of simple and harmonic appearance, recognized by spindle handgrip, made of bone and sometimes decorated with abalone and bone chips, or brass nail heads. For warfare purposes, from the end of the seventeenth century, bayonets (there are quite a few different models from different times and places of production in the History Dept. of the CMV) tookover the role of daggers. The most representative piece of stabbing-cutting weapon in the CMV is a Turkish dagger-type “agfa” from the eighteenth century (Cat. No. 20) with rich filigree decorations. In the interwar period daggers were part of the armament of the Yugoslav Army officers.

Kinjal is a kind of traditional Cossack⁸⁰ dagger, with a straight double-edged blade and a narrow fuller, wooden or horn grip and wooden scabbard coated in metal sheets. Such type of daggers came into use at the end of the 17th century. At the beginning of the 20th century, the Russian Army armed artillery units with a military kinjal (M 1907), which had a curved double-edged blade, two parallel

77 *Ibidem*, 18-19.

78 Prof. Djurdjica Petrovic, PhD and Branko Bogdanovic, BSc. Eng. from Belgrade in 1982 made a typological and chronological determination and established use for almost entire arms collection of the Historical department.

79 Ђ. Петровић, исто, стр.31 (Dj. Petrovic, the same, page 31)

80 *Ibidem*, 22.

fullers on each side of the blade, a wooden grip and a wooden sheath coated in leather or brass plates. Military kinjal was used in the World War I.

Knife represents a weapon used from pre-historic times until today. At the beginning it was a tool, but if needed, it could also be used as a weapon. It consists of a single-edged blade and asymmetrical grip. It is very difficult to establish which knives were used as a weapon and which were used for domestic needs, for hunting or in a parade. As they were made, during history by the village blacksmiths, they were quite logically used for arming the peasantry, if necessary.⁸¹

Among hunting knives of the 18th century, the most famous ones are those under the name „*Hirschfanger*” (deer-catcher). There are a few pieces of the early types in the arms collection of the CMV (Cat. No. 26-29).

In the 19th century, the knife with a straight, less often with a curved blade, served as a weapon for engineering military units. Military knives lost their original role over time because they were changed with bayonets, which mostly kept their original shapes, but were a little shorter and thinner.

Sabre is a very interesting cold weapon originating from the East and favourite among the nomadic peoples from Central Asia. The Turks took it from the Persians through the Mongols and Mamelukes.⁸²

The sabre appeared in Europe with the penetration of steppe nomadic tribes from Central Asia during the “Great Migration”. They were the Huns, the Avars and among the last ones—the Hungarians. Medieval warfare in a way which was characterized by the dominating sword, pushed the sabre into the background. The Turkish conquests on the Balkans in the 14th century brought it back to the Europeans and at that moment it became an essential weapon of the light cavalry.

The sabre is a cutting weapon, appropriate for melee, especially for charges. It used to be spoken of with lots of attributes—“sharp”, “keen”, which exactly describe its quality. Battles were won owing to the sabre. Warriors swore allegiance on it to the lord or gang of brigands. It is also called “fiery”, probably because of the sparks flying when it hit steel.⁸³

81 М. Шерцер, Оружје у прошлости, Загреб, 1980, стр.17 (M. Šercer, Weapons in the Past, Zagreb, 1980, p. 17)

82 М. Шерцер, турско оружје, Загреб, 1983, стр.9 (M. Šercer, Turkish Weapons, Zagreb, 1983, p. 9)

83 А. Радовић, Занатско оружје Балкана XVII-XIX век, Београд, 2002, стр. 25 (A. Radović, Craft Weapons of the Balkans in 17th-19th century, Belgrade, 2002, p. 25)



The sabre was worn on woollen or silk intertwined red or green cords, over the shoulder. It later hung on the left side, along the thigh, or it was girded by straps around the waist.⁸⁴

During the Turkish invasions in Europe, many nations who were under constant attacks of the Turkish army, like Russians, Poles, Hungarians and Balkan nations, took over the **Turkish sabre**. Its main feature is more or less curved, single-edged blade that extends towards the top into the so-called “yalman”.⁸⁵ Turkish sabres are generally differentiated by the form of the hilt and blade. According to the hilt, there are two types: the first, where the handle is made in the form of stylized bird’s head, which is known as “*Carabelli*”⁸⁶ and the other, where the handle is in a curved shape of an onion head.

Oriental swords that were used and manufactured in the Balkans, according to the shape of the blade are divided into two groups. One is *kiliç* type with a slightly curved blade and yalman which may be more or less stressed. In “Mameluc” sabres, with blades of *kiliç* type which is of exceptional quality, we find a very pronounced yalman.⁸⁷

The second group includes blades of Persian origin, named “shamshir”. These blades are quite curved and toward the top thinned, therefore they were called the “lion’s tail”⁸⁸

The first sword-producing centres on the Balkans were: Sarajevo, Skopje, Konjic, Foca and the cities of the Boka Kotorska bay. In Sarajevo, immediately upon arrival of the Turks, a sabre bazaar was set up, which clearly indicates that this was one of the first centres for the production of these weapons. The family Sabljar, named after the trade which they dealt in, still exists today⁸⁹. Sabres were made also in Foca, but to a much lesser extent than yataghans. However, for one of the last sabre-makers in Foca, Tosun Letica, it was said “*that he knew to make such a sabre that is could bend*

into a ring”.⁹⁰ However, the most famous sword-making masters were in Damascus, after which the sabres forged there were called *Damascus swords*, and the skill of their forging was kept as a special secret. The cold weapons collection kept by CMV includes, beside a few specimens of Turkish sabres, Austrian, Hussar and Russian-Shashka sabres, some Serbian and Yugoslav sabres, exercise and parade ones. A lot of them were produced in the famous arms factory “Solingen” and also in the Russian factory “Zlatoust”.

Among Austrian sabres, which are most numerous in the collection, the most interesting are the infantry and cavalry sabres. Hussar cavalry sabres from the eighteenth century are particularly interesting because of the artistic decorations on the blade. They usually bear an engraved face of the Madonna in many different forms.

On this occasion, for us, of great interest is the sabre of Austrian Infantry Gendarmerie, which is a type of French infantry sword from the early years of the nineteenth century. This sabre was used by various European armies, i.e. by their infantry units. Serbian Army took over and used beside this, other types of Austrian sabres, like the military version of it, models from 1845, 1850 and 1869. Austrian Naval officer’s sword was worn by the officers of the Kingdom of SCS, from 1918 to 1924, when they got the new sword with the Yugoslav national markings.⁹¹

A special group is composed of sabres attributed to the Russian army in the nineteenth century. Among them are Caucasian swords called “*shashka*”, Cossack, and other military officers’ swords.⁹²

Shashka is a special type of a sabre that originates from North Caucasus. Initially, it was a national weapon of the Circassians, but over time its use spread to other regions and peoples of the Caucasus region. The Cossacks who belonged to the bodyguard of Russian emperors were armed with shashkas.

Yataghan: represents a special kind of a long curved knife, with a blade on the inner side of the curve edge, made of the best steel. The sharpness of the blade used to be tested when the yataghan was purchased by cutting the wet silk scarf⁹³ with a single swing of the yataghan. The blade is most often decorated on both sides, along its length using the technique of silver and gold inlaying. It is

84 В. Ђурчић, Старинско оружје у Босни и Херцеговини, Гласник историјског музеја у Сарајеву, LV, 1943, Сарајево, 1944, стр. 117 (V. Djuričić, Ancient Weapons in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Gazette of the Historical Museum in Sarajevo, LV, 1943, Sarajevo, 1944, page 117)

85 Widening of the sabre towards the double-edged tip

86 The Poles turned this sabre into their national weapon

87 Mameluc Sabre is a type of sword datig back to the end of 18th century, which spread in Europe at the beginning of the 19th century, after Napoleon’s capaigns on Egypt

88 А. Радовић, Занатско оружје Балкана XVII-XIX век, Београд, 2002, стр. 27 (A. Radović, Craft Weapons of the Balkans in 17th-19th century, Belgrade, 2002, page 27)

89 В. Ђурчић, Старинско оружје у Босни и Херцеговини, Гласник историјског музеја у Сарајеву, LV, 1943, Сарајево, 1944, стр. 110 (V. Djuričić, Ancient Weapons in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Gazette of the Historical Museum in Sarajevo, LV, 1943, Sarajevo, 1944, page 110)

90 А. Бејтић, Повјест и умјетност Фоче на Дрини, Наше старине, IV, Сарајево, 1957, стр. 5 (A. Bejtić, History and Art of Foča on the Drina, Our Antiquities, IV, Sarajevo, 1957, p. 56)

91 М. Шерцер, Сабље, Загреб, 1979, стр.17 (M. Šerčer, Sabres, Zagreb, 1979, page 17)

92 М. Шерцер, исто, стр.20 (M. Šerčer, ibidem, page 20)

93 В. Ђурчић, Старинско оружје у Босни и Херцеговини, Гласник историјског музеја у Сарајеву, LV, 1943, Сарајево, 1944, стр. 97 (V. Djuričić, Ancient Weapons in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Gazette of the Historical Museum in Sarajevo, LV, 1943, Sarajevo, 1944, page 97)

this technique which has been exploited for making the floral motifs framing the year of the yataghan's creation in accordance with Hijra, sometimes even the name of the owner or its creator, quotations from Quran or other messages. There is also the Solomon's seal appearing as an ornament: it is a six-pointed star which consists of two equilateral triangles. Solomon is considered a great wizard and a symbol of wisdom. Apart from this star there is also a five-pointed star appearing as a decoration on the blades whose magic power lies in the fact that it could be drawn with a single turn of the hand.

The grip of the yataghan contains, apart from other elements, two ears which are its main characteristic. The grip is set in such a way as to allow a skilful handling of yataghan. Its forked ears were suitable for leaning the barrel of the rifle when firing. The grip is made of solid materials whose colours and type divide the yataghans into the following categories: **belosapac**- made of ivory or other kinds of solid white bone, **crnosapac** – made of bull's black horn or wood and **metal**, usually made of silver with ornaments nailed out or moulded with subtle filigree technique, or made of brass. The grip plaques are joined with bolster, and the blade and the handle are joined by a metal strap which is extended along the blade in the shape of semi leaf. These are the metal parts decorated by different goldsmith's techniques with colourful stones and corals.

If we leave out Constantinople, other important cities for the creation of yataghans in the Balkans were: Foca, Sarajevo, Prizren, Uzice, Kotor, Herceg Novi, Risan, Kresevo, Travnik, Visoko, Skadar, Skoplje and other towns. According to everything known the cutlers from Foca were highly praised for their skilfulness in creation of the yataghans. This added to the fact that in the period from 16th to 19th century Foca was one of the most important centres for the creation of this weapon.⁹⁴

Yataghans originate in the East, even in the eastern India wherefrom it spread all over the Orient. On the basis of the comparison of the preserved samples of the knives from the region of the river Yenisei and other Turkish samples from 17th century with the yataghans from 12th to 19th century, Lj. Rajkovic concluded that *"the origin of yataghans is in Asia especially in the region where numerous Turkish people used to live."*⁹⁵

94 Ђ. Петровић, Прилог датирању јагагана према месту израде, весник Војног музеја св. 3, Београд, 1956, стр.172 (Dj. Petrović, Contribution to the Dating of Yataghans According to Place of Production, Gazette of the Military Museum, book 3, Belgrade, 1956, page 172)

95 Љ. Рајковић, Збирка јагагана Војног музеја, Весник Војног музеја ЈА, бр.1, Београд, 1954, стр. 107 (Lj. Rajković, Collection of Yataghans of the Military Museum JA, No. 1, Belgrade, 1954, page 107)

Yataghan is a weapon which has not changed its shape for centuries. Special characteristics of this weapon have certainly contributed to this as well as its power and applicability at cutting and stabbing. At cutting it is light because it is drawn from the grip towards the tip whereas it is completely the opposite with the sabre and vice versa. This is what gives the yataghan an advantage compared to other weapon. Because of its characteristic shape, the power of yataghan at stabbing lies in its tip.

It was very useful for the rush combat. Even when the firearms took predominance over the cold weapons, yataghan kept its place in the Janissaries' armament due to its favourable technical features. When the rifles failed, the yataghans would decide the outcome of the battle.⁹⁶

At the creation of yataghans there used to be a strict division of labour. The blades were made by the cutlers, and the decorators decorated it with gold or silver wires. The bone parts of the hilt were made by cutlers as well, whereas the decorative parts, bolster and the metal strap on the scabbard were made by goldsmiths.⁹⁷ Yataghan was most often worn stuck under the belt, the so called *besnilah*, together with the guns, flintlocks, which it accompanied very well.⁹⁸ Yataghan is attributed a significant role in medicine because it used to be put under the pillow of a woman in labour in order to make it easier for her to give birth and the water it had been washed in was drunk as a remedy against numerous diseases.

The collection of the weapons of CMV contains twelve yataghans some of which are well preserved and two which are fragmented. Belosapac and crnosapac yataghans can be seen there beside those with metal hilt which belong to the group of very luxurious yataghans.

At the end of the text about the yataghans it is necessary to make a distinction between the yataghan and scimitar because of the deeply rooted belief in our country that these two types of weapon are the same. Yataghan and scimitar represent two different types of weapon.

Yataghan is a long curved knife with reinforced scabbard, there is a blade on one side only and its length varies from 60 to 75 cm.

96 А. Радовић, Занатско оружје Балкана XVII-XIX века, Београд, 2002, стр. 20 (A. Radović, Craftsmanship Weapons in the Balkans 17th-19th century, Belgrade, 2002, p.20)

97 М. Шерцер, Јагагани, Загреб, 1975, стр.8 (M. Šerčer, Yataghans, Zagreb, 1975, page 8)

98 Besnilah is a decorative belt representing a piece of clothes in which there was stuck the arms and therefore some authors correctly consider it to be a piece of the weaponry.



Scimitar is much shorter and has a curved scabbard on which there are blades on both sides and the hilt is in the shape of letter T. Unlike yataghan which was stuck under the belt, scimitar used to be carried in the boot.⁹⁹ It was usually a piece of weaponry of Janissaries. It was exploited very rarely and therefore its production was not very developed. Its name comes from the Persian word *shafsher* which means double blade knife, or the Arabic word which means a huge knife with curved scabbard sharp on both sides.

Banat Museum in Timisoara possesses in its collections several extraordinary valuable exhibits which belonged to famous historical people from South-Eastern Europe, among which yataghan (cat. no.) which used to be in the possession of the leader of the first Serbian uprising, Djordje Petrovic Karadjordje, stands out. The only data about this yataghan comes from the donor Dr. Ormos Zsigmond, a lawyer, politician and founder of Timisoara Historical and Archaeological Society, who in the letter of donation¹⁰⁰ stated the fact that the blade of the yataghan was very valuable since it had belonged to Karadjordje. Further on Ormos claimed that Crni Djordje had taken this yataghan from a Turkish soldier after a battle but there were no other data as to the place or year of the stated event. Ormos bought this weapon on 23rd June 1876 in Orsova from a widow Schevits. In the letter it was also stated that Karadjordje's yataghan used to be a family heirloom of the above mentioned family. All we know about Schevits Istvan is that he was a well known person in Orsova in the second half of 19th century and as to the family connections with Karadjordje there were no more details. The curious thing about this yataghan is the fact that this is the only yataghan in the possession of Banat Museum which contains Arabic inscription on it and translated into Hungarian it reads: "the year 1227, (after Christ). Made by Hasan, owner Ahmed. I rely on my Creator, his slave". These same data were published in the pre-war time magazine of the museum¹⁰¹, and in the first record of the Timisoara institution it can be found labelled as "the Turkish scimitar".¹⁰² In the letter of donation Ormos gave no facts about its conservation (the hilt had been partially broken) or the existence of a scabbard. In the period after the World War II the yataghan had wooden scabbard coated with black leather and the hilt was partially broken.

99 Љ. Рајковић, Збирка јагагана војног музеја ЈНА, Београд, 1954. св. 1, стр. 107 (Lj. Rajković, Collection of Yataghans of the Military Museum JNA, No. 1, Belgrade, 1954, page 107)

100 Historical Archive of the Banat Museum in Timisoara, 1889, doc. no.20, p. 2

101 *Történelmi és Régészeti Értesítő*, Timisoara, New serial, V/2-3, 1889, 123.

102 The first record of Banat Museum in Timisoara, 63 old inv. No. 779

Whether this yataghan had ever even temporarily been in the possession of Karadjordje we might never find out due to the fact that it would be very difficult to prove Ormos's statements today. However we should bear in mind that the yataghan was bought and later on donated to the museum by Zsigmond Ormos, one of the most prominent personalities in Timisoara in 19th century who was also the founder of the Timisoara Museum. Since Ormos's statements have up to now been the only data related to this yataghan, until some new facts appear this yataghan is going to stay labelled in the collection of Timisoara Museum as *Karadjordje's yataghan*.

Axe: is a weapon with the blade of a very distinct shape and with massive butt. The blade was usually in the shape of a square, crescent or fan.

Just like the sword, the axes appeared in the Bronze Age for the first time. It is hard to distinguish which axe shape was used for tool and which for weapon. On the Trajan's column there is an axe depicted as the weapon in the hands of the barbarians.¹⁰³

It is not widely known that the national weapon of Francia during the reign of the Merovingians was exactly the axe called *Francisca*. The blade was thin, expanded into fan with symmetrical toe and heel, put on the short handle.

Later on, especially after the crusaders' wars, the axe started to be exploited by the horsemen. When the necessity for penetrating even harder protection equipment arose, the axe got its suitable shapes and accessories like spikes, hooks and various paunchy and extended leaves. On this ground one can conclude that the axe was a base, from which many new sorts of weapon evolved, for example the halberd, war scythe, scimitar and other weapons.

In the collection of the weapons of the Historical Department, there are two axes one of which is decorative, of the type "Esfahan" (cat. No. 86), while the other one is the parade, fire fighting, dating from the end of the 18th century, richly decorated (cat. no. 87).

Scimitar: impact-stabbing weapon for the melee, known since the ancient history. As the war weapon it appeared in the Western Europe in the 16th century and a special role was attributed to it in the time of the first heavy armours, when the sword and spear became inefficient. It was intended for melee, when due to the short distance between the opponents the spear could not be used. In the beginning it was solely used as the weapon of infantry, but since the 16th century the horsemen exploited it as well. The Ottoman beys possessed very precious scimitars which were carried as a sign of

103 М. Шерцер, Старо оружје на мотки, Загреб, 1972, стр. 20 (M. Šercer, Old Weapons on a Pole, Zagreb 1972, page 20)



wealth, dignity or power. It was also used in rituals and wedding ceremonies and carried by the guards of fields, vineyards and cattle as a sign of their profession, while shepherds used it for defence.

Halberd: type of the pole weapon, consisting of a spear, axe and hook. The word itself comes from the German word *halm* – shaft and *barte* – axe. Ljubinka Rajkovic did some research related to the origin and development of the halberd and concluded that it cannot be claimed for sure which country was the halberd's motherland as well as which weapon had been its archetype.¹⁰⁴

The halberd was created out of purely practical reasons at the time when certain parts of the armour became fastened with bigger plates. Since the stab and cut of the sword were no longer efficient in the combat against this kind of armours, a necessity appeared for the weapon which could confront such armours. The Swiss infantry proved it in the best possible way in the battle of Morgarten in 1315 when they defeated the Austrian army which consisted of heavy armoured soldiers.

Both the halberd and the armour reached their peak in the 16th century, but due to even more efficient action of the firearms they got repressed from usage in the 17th century, but only on the battlefield. The halberd kept its function but only as an escort weapon during the ceremonies.

Since the beginning of the 18th century the halberd has mostly been used for marking the ranks of the infantry officers.¹⁰⁵

104 Љ. Рајковић, Развој халебарде од XIV до XVII века, Весник Војног музеја ЈНА, Београд, 1955, св. 2 стр.120(Lj. Rajković, Halberd Development from 14th to 17th c., Gazette of the Military Museum YNA, Belgrade, 1955, book 2, page 120)

105

In the CMV weapon collection there is one sample of the massive halberd preserved, dating from the 19th century, made by a blacksmith, which represent a copy of the halberd from earlier centuries (cat. no.88).

Spear: weapon with double-edge pointed tip and a quiver put on the long or short wooden or iron shaft. It is a weapon whose exploitation could be traced back into the ancient times. So, when the spear is in question, the starting point would be the metal age, i.e. the time when it started to be produced first of bronze then of iron and afterwards of many other metals. It was fixed to the wooden shaft which at the time of Alexander the Great, then the Romans and Sarmatians was 5-6m long.¹⁰⁶

It is a well known fact that during the 16th century the light cavalry, the Hussars, were equipped with long spears and stood out with their skill of handling it. A Hussar's equipment, apart from the mentioned spear, included the armour, helmet, shield and sabre.

By formation of the standing army at the beginning of the 18th century and with further improvement of firearms, instead of the spear, the bayonet was widely used. Apart from that, there were some cavalry legions in the Prussian and Austrian army which still had spear as their weaponry. In the Austrian army some legions of Uhlans cavalry kept the spear throughout the 19th century.

Certain number of spears dating from the Bronze and Iron Age, period of the Great Migration and Middle Ages can be seen at the Archaeological CMV Department. At the Historical Department there are several spears of more recent date preserved, mostly from the 18th and 19th century.

106 M. Šercer, ibid, page 25

BLUNT WEAPONS



Maces and flails: during the long history of our peoples there were two names for this kind of weapon. The names of mace and flail described a weapon consisting of a wooden or iron shaft, 0.5 m to 0.8 m long, with a wooden, bronze, iron or brass head of various shapes. It could have been in the shape of a star with a sequence of small or somewhat bigger pyramidal or spiky bulges. It could be elongated or rounded, separated into flanges or knobs the number of which varied between 4 and 20 depending on their thick or scarce arrangement. They can be triangular in shape, then rounded and sometimes even narrow with rich profiling on the rim. It was not until recent through Curcic and Praunsperger that a distinction by the head of the weapon has been introduced. The term flail started to be attributed to the weapon with full head and the term mace to the weapon whose head was separated into flanges or knobs.¹⁰⁷

Both the mace and flail first appeared in prehistory. The prehistoric man fixed a piece of, at first, unprocessed stone and later on a piece of the processed stone, which he could use when hunting or fighting the enemy, on the shaft. It is also known that during the ancient history the mace was used as a weapon. The Persians, Greeks and Romans had weapon similar to the mace. In the Middle Ages the usage of mace conditioned, first of all, the improvement of the armour's thickness for the purpose of personal safety. Up to the 12th century the infantry was mainly equipped with them, but then the cavalry also included them into its weaponry. The infantry had maces with longer shafts and carried it stuck under the belt or leaned over the shoulder, and the cavalry had maces with shorter shafts which were stuck into the horse saddle.

The people in our region received both the weapon and its name from the Turks and the mace with flanges was called Pernach (the Turkish mace) most often with the addition of the number of

¹⁰⁷ M. Šerčer, *Staro oružje na motki*, Zagreb, 1972, str. 7 (M. Šerčer, *Old Weapons on a Pole*, Zagreb, 1972, page 7)

flanges, for example six-pernach, 12-pernach etc. In the 13th century the mace became favourite weapon of the knights. The English used it in combats against the Normans in the 14th century and in Russia it was used from the 13th to 14th century.

The fact that the mace and flail were the favourite weapon of the peasants can be proved by wood engravings dating from the time of the peasant war in Germany at the beginning of the 16th century as well as some material remnants of the uprising in the north of Europe. In the central Europe the flail and the mace were kept a bit longer. In Bohemia they were mentioned during the Hussite wars in the 15th century and in Hungary and Poland even in the 18th century.

Since the end of the 16th century the use of both the flail and the mace gradually decreased because they were finally replaced by firearms and the only role left for them was ceremonial-to serve as the symbol of power.¹⁰⁸

The flail and the mace, due to their decorative characteristics, started to be used very early for various ceremonial events. During the reign of the emperor Maximilian, in various ceremonial processions, the Hungarian magnates appeared with huge pernach in their hands. It is not rare to find the tomb stone with depicted military officials with mace in their hands. The graphic magazines displaying military commanders with mace in their hands are famous.¹⁰⁹

In the weapon collection of the Historical Department of CMV there are six flails made of bronze and brass, Turkish mostly, dated back to the period between the 13th and 15th century. There are 5 maces, cast of iron, bronze and copper, dating back to the 15th-17th century, of which two are Turkish, whereas the origin of the remaining ones is unknown.

¹⁰⁸ Војна енциклопедија, Београд, 1967, књ. 10, стр. 120 (Military Encyclopedia, Belgrade, 1967, book 10, page 120)

¹⁰⁹ M. Šerčer, *ibid*

PROTECTIVE COVERING AND EQUIPMENT

Since the ancient times the man has been struggling to protect his body from the enemy's attack or stabbing. Therefore he had worn leather clothes at first, and later on when the metal was discovered and the blacksmith craft began to develop, he started to produce metal shields for certain parts of the body.¹¹⁰ His aim, first of all, was to protect the most vulnerable parts, the head, then the chest, arms and legs. Thus gradual development of the protective covering such as: the shield, helmet and armour, which could be made of metal, wire or various plaques, started.

In the prehistoric era there practically was no difference between the protective covering and the everyday clothes. Animal leather, which the prehistoric man used for the protection against the elements at the same time, was used as protection from the blow of the enemy's weapon and animal attack.¹¹¹

Discovery of metal enabled further development of protective covering. **The Shield** is considered to be one of the oldest protective coverings. It first appeared in the prehistoric era, together with the spear, bow and arrow. In the beginning it was very primitive. Later on when the metal was discovered, the shield was made of bronze and iron. In the ancient times the shield was exploited by many people, first of all by the Egyptians, Assyrians, Babylonians, Greeks and Romans. In a word, almost all civilized people of the Ancient Near East. The shields had different shapes starting with the circular, oval, square and triangular and the size was also very different from case to case, from very little up to those which were of the size of a man.

¹¹⁰ M. Šerčer, *Oružje u prošlosti*, Zagreb, 1980, str. 18 (M. Šerčer, *Weapons in the Past*, Zagreb, 1980, page 18)

¹¹¹ И. Јаворник, *Кратак преглед развоја заштитног оружја*, весник Војног музеја ЈНА, Београд, 1954, св.1, стр. 18 (I. Javornik, *A Short Survey of Protective Weapon Development*, Gazette of Military Museum YNA, Belgrade, 1954, book 1, page 18)



The infantry was armed with these huge shields because they provided better protection and could be a shelter at the same time. The cavalry had smaller and lighter, usually circular shields.

Since the 16th century the shield started gradually losing its primary importance as far the army weaponry was concerned, and in small degree it was kept in ceremonies, tournaments or other military events. Development and improvement of the firearms brought about its complete casting out from the weaponry by the end of the 17th century. It was only kept in use in the divided Italy by some local armies.¹¹²

The helmet: It appeared very early as a means for head protection. As a response to the discovery of the Bronze Age swords, there arose the need to for head protection. In those ancient times the helmet made of bronze could efficiently protect the most vital part of the human body.¹¹³ They were made in such a way that their back part fitted closely to the scalp and the front part protected the forehead, cheeks and ears. This kind of helmet appeared during the middle of the 3rd millennium BC and the literature mentions the helmet of the Sumerian prince Mes-Kalam-Dug. The helmets of other people of the ancient Near East had the same purpose and were conical in shape with the nose and ear guards.

The helmet of the Ancient Greeks sometimes had a decorative comb or crest which reappeared on the helmets of the 17th and some helmets of the 19th century. The Roman legionary had helmet with guard for the backside of the head and ears on the tail so that it resembled the horse helmets of the 17th century which were in the shape of the duck's tail.

The migration period and in the first few centuries AD witnessed the appearance of the four- or six-part helmet of semi-globulous shape. It was made of crossed, narrow iron laces with filled interspaces and ear guards.

The conic helmet with nose guard reappeared with the Vikings and Normans in the 9th, 10th and 11th century. This helmet in the 14th century developed into the shape which was closely attached to the scalp and back of the head with significant openings for eyes

and some of them even had sliding parts for face protection also known as the *viziers*.

At the time of the Crusaders' wars in the 12th and 13th century the European knights wore helmets of unusual appearance, in the shape of a tall closed vessel with thin slots for air intake.¹¹⁴ In the late Middle Ages the helmets were in the shape of a hat, vessel or ball. The helmets in the shape of a hat had broad or narrow brim and first appeared at the end of the 15th and beginning of the 16th century, as a part of the knight's armour or in the weaponry of the infantry. The helmets from the period of World War I and II resemble these helmets. The helmets in the shape of a deep vessel, leaning on the shoulders, completely covered and protected the head. On the side and at the top there was a crest and some models had a vizier. The helmets in the shape of a globe first appeared in the 15th and the 16th century and most often represented the piece of the full armour. On the territory of the 16th century central Europe the helmet of conic shape with a spike overtaken from the Turks was quite widespread, equipped with forehead, nose, ears and back side of the head guards.

In the Historical Department of CMV three helmets represent the protective covering. One helmet comes from the times of the World War I and II, and the others are Hungarian Hussar's helmet from the beginning of the 17th century, of unusual beauty and luxury regardless of the fact that it was made of iron (cat. No.109).

The armour: a kind of the protective covering for the total body which had a base made of leather in the beginning, with fastened metal plaques in the shape of the shell. These shell armours were worn by the Romans and later on by the army of Charlemagne.

When talking about the body protection we have to mention the vest which was usually worn under the armour as its essential part. It was made of numerous crossed iron rings and it originates from the East. It was brought to Europe through Byzantium in the 6th century and was also used by the Vikings, Normans, and Saxons. It was in the shape of a knee-length shirt with long sleeves.

The armour is usually associated with the feudal way of warfare. Its price was very high so that a simple man could not afford it. It was reserved for the wealthy ones, royalty in the first place. Possession of an as good and expensive armour as possible was fashionable and prestigious among the noble families and royal houses.¹¹⁵

112 И. Јаворник, Развитаk штита као заштитног оружја, Весник Војног музеја ЈНА, Београд, 1957, book 4, p. 107 (I. Javornik, Development of Shield as a Protective Weapon, Gazette of Military Museum YNA, Belgrade, 1957, book 4, page 107)

113 In the collection of the Metal Age of the Archeological department CMV there is one Bronze Age helmet preserve din fragments, without the inventory number and non-conserved which requires the expert restoration and therefore could not included into the exhibition nor in the catalogue.

114 М. Шерцер, Оружје у прошлости, Загреб, 1980, с.19 (M. Šerčer, Weapons in the Past, Zagreb, 1980, page 19)

115 М. Šerčer, ibid





Basically the armour represented a stylishly created entity consisting of a helmet, a collar, shoulder pieces, upper and lower hand part guards, elbow plates and gloves. The breast and back plates had a belt on the waist made of sliding plaques which enabled better mobility. The front and back cover of the lower part of the body were fixed to this belt. The legs were also covered with knee, thigh and lower leg plates and shoes. There were several kinds of armours which were used for warfare and there were also tournament armours, as well as those of extraordinary beauty worn at special occasions.

The armourers had difficulty moving and if the horse was armoured as well, it was additional difficulty to the warriors. Since the appearance of the firearms requested greater mobility of the cavalry, the armourers started to dismiss, at the beginning of the

16th century, certain parts of the armour which posed the greatest obstruction to their movements. By the end of the 17th century there was only the helmet left, as well as the back and breast plates. The vest which had been worn under the armour was also dismissed due to its heaviness.¹¹⁶ In the 18th and 19th century the breast and back plates remained in the weaponry of the heavy cavalry, so called cuirassiers.

In the Weapon Collection of the Historical Department CMV there is one sample of the breast plate preserved, the cavalry cuirass from the 16th century. (Cat. No.112).

¹¹⁶ И. Јаворник, Заштитно оружје у збиркама Војног музеја ЈНА, Београд, 1955, св. 2, стр.116 (I. Javornik, Protective Weapons in Collections of the Military Museum YNA, Belgrade, 1955, book 2, page 116)

DECORATION OF WEAPONS AND HANDICRAFT TECHNIQUES



Ever since the man has begun to design and make objects that he would use not only to attack the enemy but also to defend himself, he had a desire to give those items aesthetic form, depending on the degree of development of a sense and perception of beauty. It is understood that the aesthetic taste has been improved over the centuries and special importance has been given to decoration of weapons. Starting from the first swords that had some decorated parts, especially the hilt, throughout history, the development of man's aesthetic aspirations to make weapons more beautiful can be followed.

The need for weapons in the Balkan nations has increased in particular since the Turkish conquest campaigns in these regions, especially from the fourteenth century. Except for combat purposes, weapons were used as an integral part of the costume of adult men in some parts of the Balkans. Therefore, such great importance was given to decoration of weapons.

On the weapons that originated from the Orient and later on those that were produced in gunsmith centres in the Balkans, a variety of motifs were used, usually of Ottoman applied art. Besides the need to have as beautiful weapon as possible, it was also decorated to keep track of time, the master or owner.¹¹⁷

¹¹⁷ A. Radović, Craftsmanship Weapons in the Balkans 17th-19th century, Belgrade, 2002, p.16

Unlike many European gunsmith centres that did not attach much importance to decoration, the Turks formed a specific style of decorating based on the Arabian and Seljuk heritage supplemented with the motifs of Byzantine art and the art of the conquered Balkan peoples. Skilled artists stylized the elements of these motifs and adapted them to their taste and religious meanings of certain symbols. Under the influence of Western Europe, at the end of the eighteenth century, the Turks began to abandon traditional symbols in decoration and take slightly modified motifs of the Renaissance, Rococo and Baroque. Baroque influence was especially felt on motifs such as the intricate tendrils with leaves, palms, and the like, where hammering technique was most commonly used.¹¹⁸ Brass trade in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Boka, developed under the influence of masters from Dubrovnik, has most contributed to this. Acanthus vine, as a decorative element known both in the East and in the West, was applied on the artistic artefacts in Bosnia especially in the XV and XVI century. Nevertheless, influenced by the Ottoman Turks, when decorating weapons in these workshops oriental patterns prevailed, without figuration.¹¹⁹

The so-called rumi style is characteristic of Islamic ornamentation. It combines multiple zoomorphic and floral motifs, whose

¹¹⁸ Ibid, p.16

¹¹⁹ M. Karamehmedović, Metal Artwork, Sarajevo, 1980, p. 61

combination creates a unique ornament. In this style of decorating, curves, spirals and circles in mesh with polygons and stars form a specific arabesque. In addition to the rumi motifs on the Balkan weapons, we can notice rosettes in combination with geometric motifs, vine scrolls and architectural motifs. In addition to simple motifs such as a circle, to decorate the edges of oriental weapons in the Balkans, six-pointed star formed by two equilateral triangles was used. Eye is also a common motif on Turkish weapons. In the beginning, it was in the shape of a triangle or an ellipse with a dot in the middle.

A particularly interesting motif on Turkish, as well as some examples of Central European weapons, is a five-pointed star. The prevailing belief was that it had magical powers because it could be drawn with a single stroke, starting from either side. As a motif for decorating the blade and scabbard, the Turks used the crescent. The sun for decorating blades was also used, which was often in the shape of different symbols, the double cross symbolized the sun god.

The sun and the crescent are motifs, though not often, on the blades of swords and knives not originating from the Balkans.

As far as handicraft techniques are concerned, when it comes to quality work, the weapon made by damascening technique was especially appreciated.

Damascening is the blacksmith's skill of connecting steel of different hardness by constantly repeating of one process – simultaneous welding and cooling of pieces of iron and steel until a single compact mass is achieved. So forged blades were buried in the garbage to let acid corrode the soft parts, after which they were sanded and polished, with the picturesque lines created on the surface – called damask. This technique comes from Damascus, and through the Turks, it was accepted in the Balkans. The masters of Foča were outstanding experts in this technique.¹²⁰

Casting is one of the oldest techniques for making objects. In our region, there were two ways of casting. One is when the molten metal is poured into the negative form of the object shaped in the sand, and the other is mould obtained in wax in such a way that the space between the layer and the core, determined to be filled with metal, is previously filled with wax, while the reinforcement is modelled with clay.¹²¹

In contrast to the forging of metals in the hot condition, cold-forging techniques, also called **embossing**, is also known. It has been used mainly in making plates of silver or other metal. Embossing, or, as this technique is otherwise called, **chasing**, was relief presentation of the desired pattern. First, on the shaped metal surface of the desired fittings (for weapons), on the inner side, 2 cm thick layer of lead was applied, then special tool was used to cut ornaments on the fittings, and then by melting the lead was removed, and the ornament was refined.¹²² Chasing can be done in another way, so that in a certain wooden moulds, thin metal plates are put and, using a tool for knocking, the preferred form is achieved. This technique was also used by knife smiths and gunsmiths when creating fittings for metal parts of scabbards for swords and yataghans.

One of the frequently applied techniques for decorating metal parts of weapons was **engraving**, which was characterized by simplicity and was used by Balkan masters even before the arrival of the Turks. To work in this technique, a steel cutting tool – burin was required, by which already drawn motifs were engraved, usually arabesques and stylized floral motifs in the form of a bundle of flowers.

There was a special way of engraving on metal, called “**Savat**” (**Niello**), known for centuries in the Balkans. This technique involved filling certain recesses formed in the process of engraving ornaments with a hot mixture of equal parts of copper and lead with four parts of sulphur. In this way, smooth black paste called niello was obtained. Combining this paste with enamel, a nice contrast was obtained and gunsmiths readily applied it to decorate weapons. The Turks applied Savat in three ways, the first one being most commonly used – a simple and flat, so-called plain Savat, the second way is the print with the reflected bottom-base, and the third is the print or Savat with ornaments in the cavities.¹²³

For decoration of weapons in certain gunsmith centres of Metohija and Shkodra, the technique of granulation was applied. Blowing through a tube, hot silver or gold droplets were thrown to the desired metal surface.

The most beautiful of all the techniques used to decorate weapons was **inlay**. This technique was especially appreciated, characterized by a remarkable decoration and very expensive because of the materials used in its application, as well as the time and effort required. It was most commonly used to decorate yataghan blades.

120 A. Radović, *Craftsmanship Weapons in the Balkans 17th-19th century*, Belgrade, 2002, p.12

121 M. Karamehmedović, *Metal Artwork*, Sarajevo, 1980, p.142

122 A. Radović, *Craftsmanship Weapons in the Balkans 17th-19th century*, Belgrade, p. 13

123 M. Karamehmedović, *Metal Artwork*, Sarajevo, 1980, p.157





The desired motif, text or number was carved into the fullers, the width of about 2 mm on the steel surface, which are slightly wider at depth. A silver or gold wire was inserted into these fullers, the blade, or a part of other weapon, was heated in the fire to melt the inserted wire and combine materials and then, after cooling the inlaid area was ground, coated with “Moskov toz” and finally polished. Another variant of this technique, which was rarely applied, involved inserting wire into the milled surface with the use of mallet, the result of which was protruding ornamentation.¹²⁴

Inlay technique is represented in the collection of cold weapons of the Historic Department, the City Museum of Vrsac, especially on the blades of yataghans, swords and axes.

Much simpler, and therefore less expensive technique than inlay is marquetry. The motifs were presented on a flat surface of metal parts of weapons by applying gold or silver.

¹²⁴ A. Bejtić, History and Art of Foča on the Drina, Our Antiquities, IV, Sarajevo, 1957, p. 56

Filigree is a highly decorative technique of decorating not only weapons but also jewellery. It is delicate metalwork made with twisted threads of precious metals, mainly silver. Masters of filigree were able to produce such wonderful effects that can be hardly seen in other techniques. Thinner or thicker threads were soldered to the already shaped metal form of object, and their intersecting and interweaving made effective contrast against the glossy surface of the object. The most common motifs made with this technique were twigs and leaves, and often spirals whose endings were differently shaped.¹²⁵

The masters from Livno were especially prominent in combining several techniques to decorate weapons (marquetry, inlay, filigree and others), so this way of decoration was called “Livno embroidery”.

¹²⁵ A. Radović, Craftsmanship Weapons in the Balkans 17th-19th century, Belgrade, 2002, p. 14

CATALOG UNITS

SWORDS

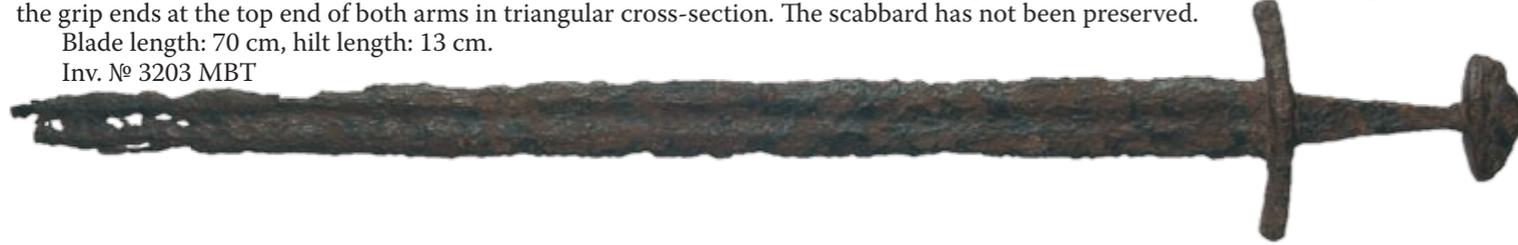


1. VIKING SWORD, Kovin site-Serbia, beginning of the 10th century.

The blade, made of steel, is double-edged, straight, with the upper part missing due to impact of the long-time corrosion. Along the middle of the blade, on both sides, there is one wide and shallow fuller. The steel hilt, of trapezoid shape, finishes at the top with a massive metal head (pommel) of enlarged, ellipsoid shape towards the end and slightly curved on the bottom side. The steel guard is arched, with both arms slightly curved towards the blade. Along the middle of the guard, the trapezoid cross-section with the wider part towards the grip ends at the top end of both arms in triangular cross-section. The scabbard has not been preserved.

Blade length: 70 cm, hilt length: 13 cm.

Inv. № 3203 MBT

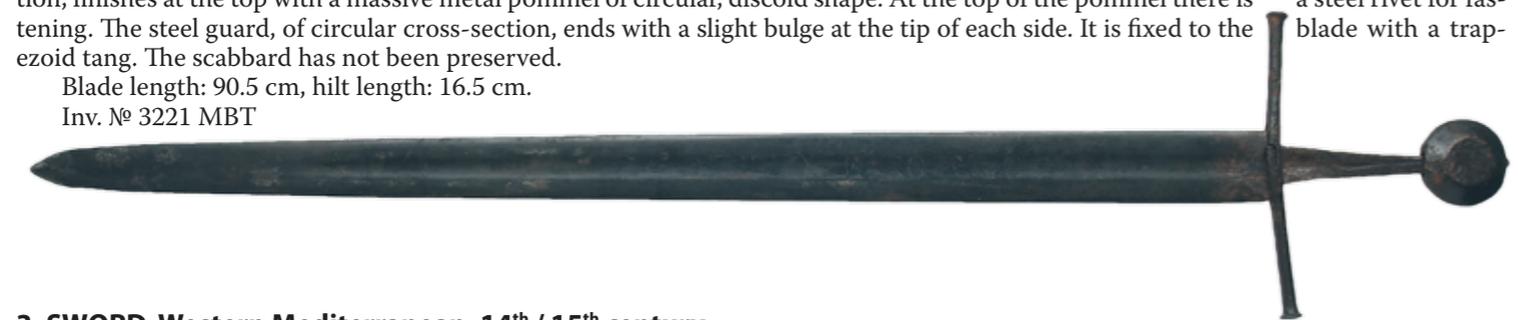


2. SINGLE-HANDED KNIGHT'S SWORD, site: the river Tisza – Hungary, end of the 13th/first half of the 14th century.

The blade, made of steel, is double-edged, straight, broad, ending in a sharp point. Along the middle of the blade, on both sides, there is one wide, shallow and oval fuller. Both fullers contain one inscription made in capital gothic letters, with only these letters still visible: "G U O R A G I S - I". The meaning of the inscription has remained unknown. The steel hilt, of trapezoid shape and square cross-section, finishes at the top with a massive metal pommel of circular, discoid shape. At the top of the pommel there is a steel rivet for fastening. The steel guard, of circular cross-section, ends with a slight bulge at the tip of each side. It is fixed to the blade with a trapezoid tang. The scabbard has not been preserved.

Blade length: 90.5 cm, hilt length: 16.5 cm.

Inv. № 3221 MBT



3. SWORD, Western Mediterranean, 14th / 15th century

Steel blade, double-edged, straight with four flutes on the lower part on both sides. On one side, above flutes, the undefined sign carved. Semicircle-shaped shield decorated with circular, transverse flutes. Rounded hilt, reinforced with three brass and two leather rings. Brass top hilt in the shape of an irregular octagon with one hemispherical knob on both sides. Brass rings and top hilt decorated on one side. Wooden scabbard covered in leather and reinforced with four broad and 48 narrow brass rings.

Blade length 87.5 cm, hilt length 11.5 cm

Inv. № I 2995 CMV



4. HAND-AND-A-HALF SLAVONIC SWORD „SCHIAVONESCA”, Hungary, the first half of the 15th century

The blade, made of steel, is double-edged, straight, broad, ending in a sharp point. On both sides of the blade, along the middle lower half there is one short fuller with an engraved mark at the end. The steel hilt, of trapezoid shape and square cross-section, finishes at the top with a massive metal head (pommel) of angular shape. The metal pommel has a hemispheric bulge on both sides with cut-in slices at the top. The steel guard of triangular cross-section, in the shape of the letter "S" is transversely mounted on the blade. There is a metallic expansion in the form of stylized triangle with its tip towards the blade and three short parallel flutes on both sides. Scabbard has not been preserved.

Blade length: 96.5 cm, hilt length: 14.5 cm.

Inv. № 3394 MBT

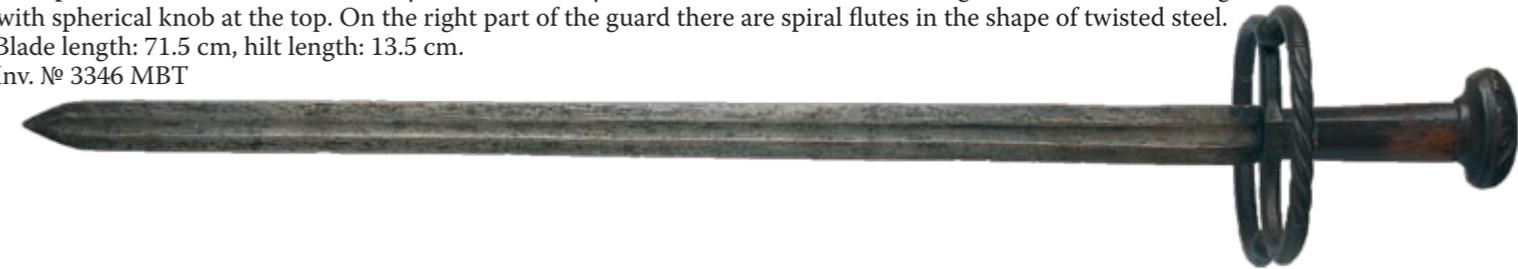


5. GERMAN LANDSKNECHT SWORD, KATZBALGER TYPE, a German sword, the first half of the 16th century

The blade, made of steel, is double-edged, straight and broad, ending in a sharp point. Along the middle of the blade, on both sides, there is one wide and shallow fuller. The wooden grip finishes at the top with a massive iron head (pommel) of ellipsoid shape. On the right side of the grip, the iron head is decorated with oblique flutes and ends with a metal rivet at the top. The massive steel guard, made in the shape of the letter "S", is transversely fixed to the very bottom of the blade. The metal guard branches, of octagonal cross-section, end with spherical knob at the top. On the right part of the guard there are spiral flutes in the shape of twisted steel.

Blade length: 71.5 cm, hilt length: 13.5 cm.

Inv. № 3346 MBT



6. TWO-HANDED LANDSKNECHT SWORD, (a copy), made after the model of German swords from the 16th century

The blade, made of steel, is double-edged, straight and broad, ending in a sharp point. On the right side of the blade, towards the bottom, there is mark in the shape of stylized coat of arms. The massive bulbous wooden grip is wrapped with twisted iron wire. There is a massive, extended pommel of conical shape at the top, ending in metal rivets. The steel crossguard, of square cross-section, is straight, with both arms widening towards the semi elliptical top. A metal guard, in the form of a massive elliptical ring, with an extended central area in the form of a stylized diamond is attached to the right side of the crossguard. Scabbard has not been preserved.

Blade length: 96.5 cm, hilt length: 23 cm.

Inv. № 3220 MBT



7. CAVALRY SCHIAVONA BROADSWORD, Italian type, first part of the 17th century

The blade, made of steel, is double-edged, straight and broad and ends in a sharp point. Along the middle of the blade, on both sides, there is one wide fuller.

On the right side of the blade, at the bottom of the fuller, there is a gold intarsia decoration. The steel hilt coated in black leather (contemporary improvisation) has brass fittings on the bottom.

At the top of the handle there is a brass pommel in shape of stylized cat's head (typical of swords *Schiavona*). Handguard (type I) is made of iron bars which form a closed basket for the protection of the hand. Between the handle and the blade there a straight metal crossguard with a circular cross-section and a stylized pyramid button on top of each arm. The ends of both arms are bent towards hand-guard. Metal bars that form a protection basket start from the crossguard. Scabbard has not been preserved.

Blade length: 87.5 cm, hilt length: 11.5 cm.

Inv. № 3392 MBT

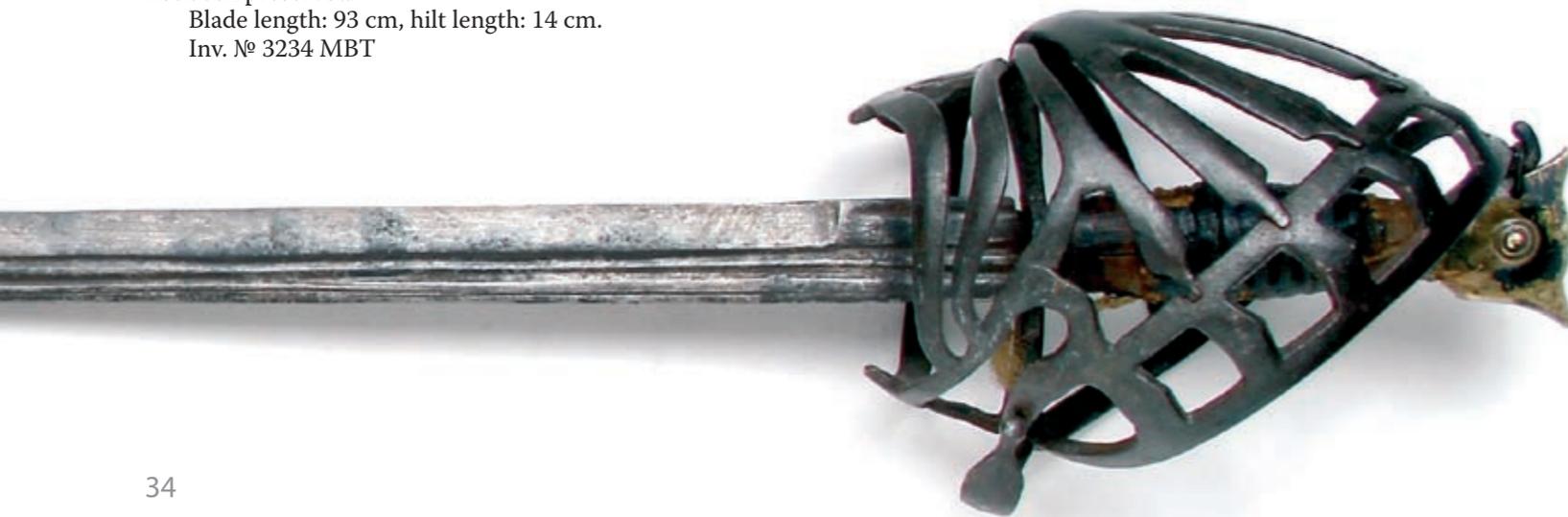


8. CAVALRY SCHIAVONA BROADSWORD, Italian type, second half of the 17th century

Steel, straight blade with an edge along one side and another edge towards the tip, ends in a sharp point. On each side of the blade, by the middle, there are two narrow fullers. Between the fullers and the upper edge of the blade there are parallel flutes which end at the top. Handle made of wood and covered with black leather is divided into spiral lobes. At the top of the handle there is a brass pommel in shape of cat's head (typical of swords *Schiavona*). The handguard (type II) is massive, made of iron rungs that form a closed basket for complete protection of the hand. Between the handle and the blade, a short, straight metal crossguard is fixed and from it metal bars continue, forming a protective basket. The hand protection is fitted to the brass pommel with a single metal ring. Scabbard has not been preserved.

Blade length: 93 cm, hilt length: 14 cm.

Inv. № 3234 MBT



9. AUSTRIAN CAVALRY SWORD PALLASCH M – 1679, Austria

Steel blade, double-edged, straight with one flute on the lower part on both sides. Shield consists of two elliptical, perforated plates (right slightly larger) placed in round chains. On the right and lower side, one oval hand guard with two cast iron rings in the middle. Hilt decorated with alternately spaced twisted and ordinary, probably silver wires, a spherical knob with the cap at the top with the hand-guards attached.

Blade length 84 cm, hilt length 14 cm

Inv. № I 2996 CMV



10. EXECUTIONER'S SWORD, German type, 17th century

The blade, made of steel, is double-edged, straight and broad and ends in a rounded point. The wooden grip slightly trapezoidal, of circular cross-section, is fastened by brass fittings on the top and bottom. The fittings are decorated with parallel, geometric flutes, and at the top end of the hilt there is massive brass pear-like head. The brass pommel ends with a hemispherical brass fastening button. The straight, brass crossguard, of square cross-section, is slightly broadened in the middle and on each side ends in a stylized pyramidal bulge and brass button. Scabbard has not been preserved.

Blade length: 81.5 cm, hilt length: 20 cm.

Inv. № 3196 MBT

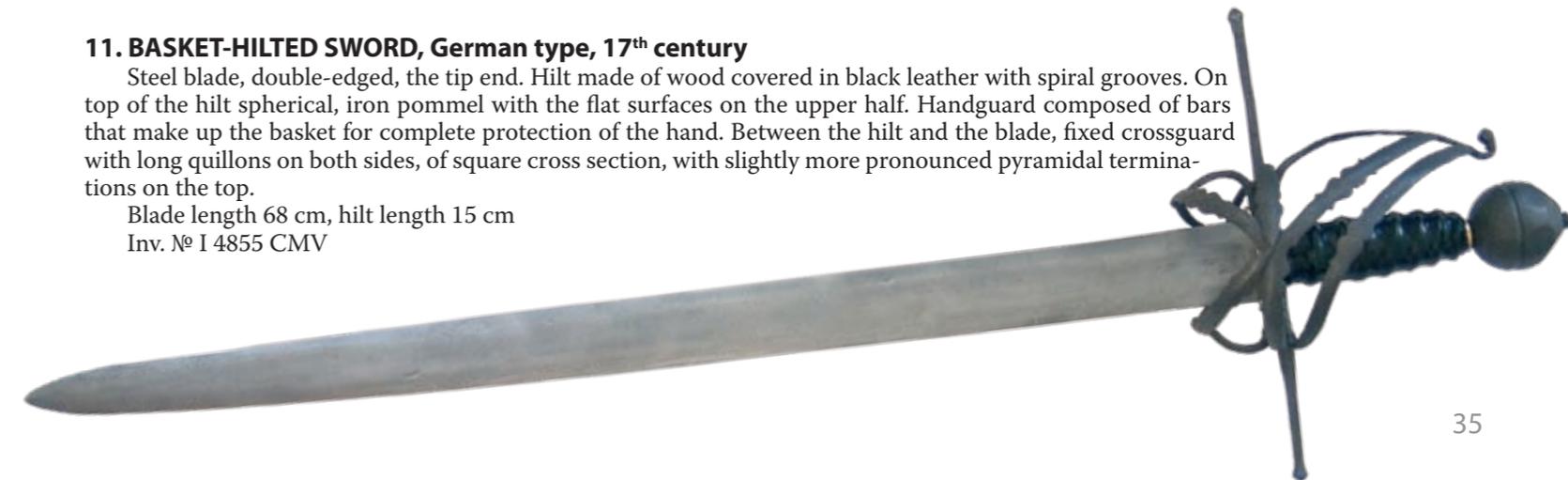


11. BASKET-HILTED SWORD, German type, 17th century

Steel blade, double-edged, the tip end. Hilt made of wood covered in black leather with spiral grooves. On top of the hilt spherical, iron pommel with the flat surfaces on the upper half. Handguard composed of bars that make up the basket for complete protection of the hand. Between the hilt and the blade, fixed crossguard with long quillons on both sides, of square cross section, with slightly more pronounced pyramidal terminations on the top.

Blade length 68 cm, hilt length 15 cm

Inv. № I 4855 CMV



12. CAVALRY PALLASCH Austro-Hungarian Empire, 17th century

Double-edged steel, straight blade ends in sharp point. The grip, made of wood in an oval shape has an iron elongated pommel at the end. Along the middle of the pommel there are parallel longitudinal grooves. On the bottom there is an iron ring and a metal rivet at the top. The steel, arched handguard transforms into crossguard ending in an arched quillon with circular expansion at the top. On the right side of crossguard, there is a slightly bulbous guard fitted by a metal rivet. The handguard and guard are richly decorated with engraved plant and floral ornaments. The scabbard made of steel (at the bottom fragmented due to the corrosion process) has at the top a metal semicircular fitting and a narrow, iron ring with a swivel for hanging in the lower part.

Blade length: 88 cm, hilt length: 14.5 cm.

Inv. № 3286 MBT

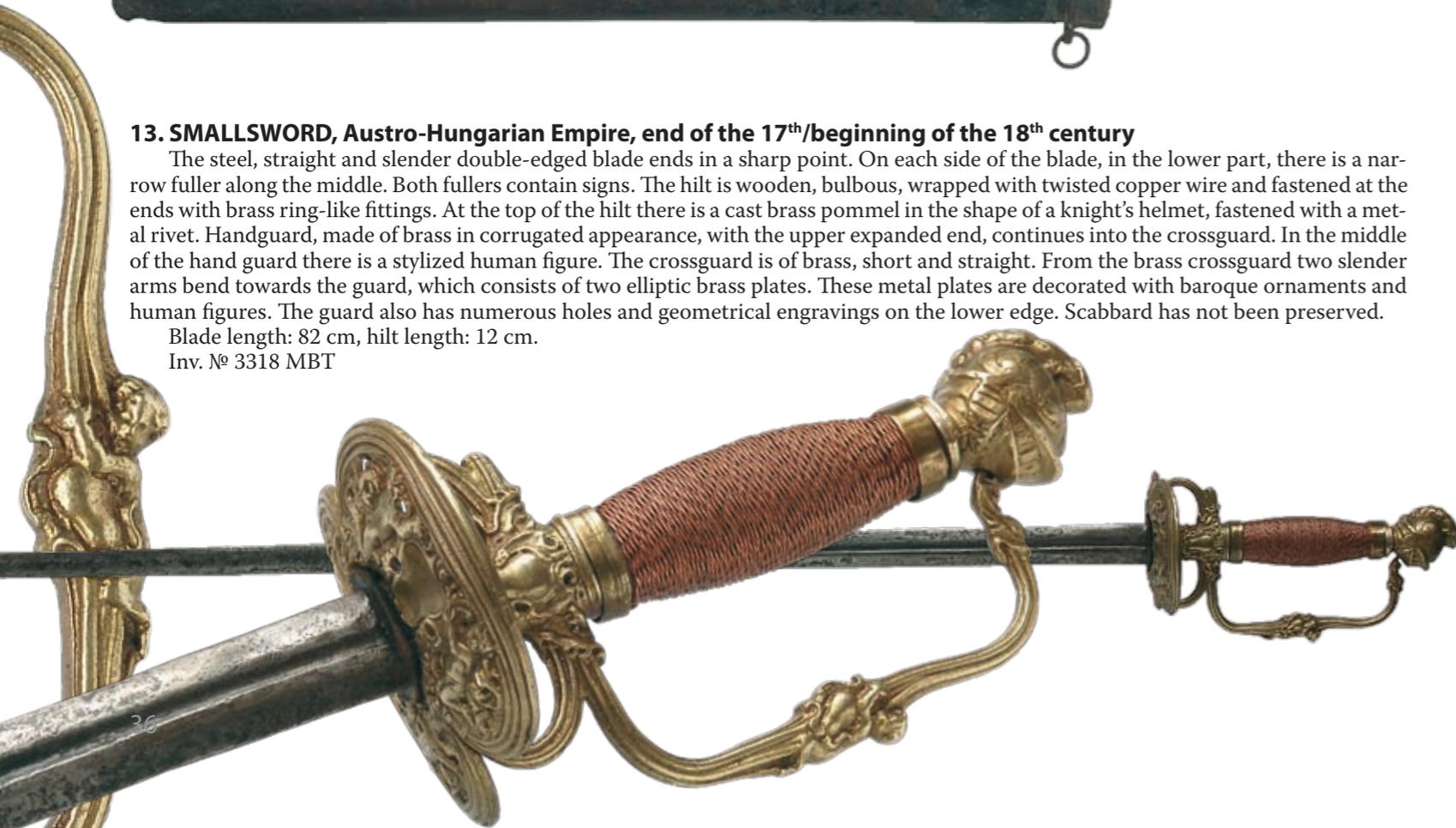


13. SMALLSWORD, Austro-Hungarian Empire, end of the 17th/beginning of the 18th century

The steel, straight and slender double-edged blade ends in a sharp point. On each side of the blade, in the lower part, there is a narrow fuller along the middle. Both fullers contain signs. The hilt is wooden, bulbous, wrapped with twisted copper wire and fastened at the ends with brass ring-like fittings. At the top of the hilt there is a cast brass pommel in the shape of a knight's helmet, fastened with a metal rivet. Handguard, made of brass in corrugated appearance, with the upper expanded end, continues into the crossguard. In the middle of the hand guard there is a stylized human figure. The crossguard is of brass, short and straight. From the brass crossguard two slender arms bend towards the guard, which consists of two elliptic brass plates. These metal plates are decorated with baroque ornaments and human figures. The guard also has numerous holes and geometrical engravings on the lower edge. Scabbard has not been preserved.

Blade length: 82 cm, hilt length: 12 cm.

Inv. № 3318 MBT



14. AUSTRIAN HUSSAR PALLASCH, PANZERSTECHER TYPE Austria, other half of the 17th century/the beginning of 18th century

Double-edged steel, straight blade ends in sharp point. At the bottom part, on each side, along the middle of the blade there is a short and narrow fuller and on both sides of it a parallel engraved flute. Both fullers contain an engraved inscription written in Latin. The grip is made of wood, coated in black leather, cut into spiral slices and with an iron rivet on the right side. The back fitting with the pommel has not been preserved. The iron hand guard continues under right angle into the crossguard with straight quillon. Along the middle of the crossguard there is a double, thin tongue. The scabbard is made of wood, coated in black leather, with iron rings-one in the middle and the other towards the bottom, each containing a round swivel for hanging. Towards the top there is a partially preserved iron fitting.

Blade length: 94 cm, Hilt length: 11 cm.

Inv. № 3272 MBT



15. AUSTRIAN PALLASCH, CAVALRY PALLASCH, „SAVOIA DRAGOON“, Austria, beginning of the 18th century

The blade, made of steel, is straight with sharp edge on one side, and towards the tip on the other side as well. On both sides of the blade there are two wide fullers. The upper fuller splits towards the middle of the blade into two narrower ones. On both sides, in the lower part, there are plant and floral ornaments with an engraved horseman towards the middle. On the lower right side there is an engraved inscription in Latin: "Vivat Carolus VI", while the left lower side bears the inscription "Vivat Printz Eugenius". The sheath, made of deer horn, with a slight expansion at the top is fastened to the hilt with three metal rivets. The handguard is made of iron in the shape of the letter "S" and a conical button at the end of each quillon. Scabbard has not been preserved.

Blade length: 80.5 cm, hilt length: 13.5 cm.

Inv. № 3349 MBT



16. PRUSSIAN DRAGOON PALLASCH M – 1732, Prussia

Double edged steel, straight blade ends in sharp point. On the right bottom side an illegible inscription has been engraved, while the left side bears a visible sign. The wooden hilt is bulbous, coated in black leather and divided into spiral slices. At the top of the hilt there is a brass pommel cast in the shape of a bird, fastened with a brass ball button and metal rivet at the top. The head has two round holes for handguard fastening. The brass handguard is broken, while the crossguard is straight with both brass quillons fragmented. On the right side of the crossguard the brass elliptical shield is laterally fixed to the blade. The scabbard has not been preserved.

Blade length: 93 cm, hilt length: 16 cm.

Inv. № 3306 MBT





17. SMALLSWORD, France, first half of the 18th century

The steel, straight and slender double-edged blade of hexagonal cross-section ends in a sharp point. On each side of the blade there are three quite narrow fullers, which are narrowing towards the tip. On both sides of the blade, towards the end, there are stylized floral motifs and one coat of arms engraved. On the right lower side, there is an engraved inscription in French: *"Ne me remette point sans honneur"*, while on the left side it says in French: *"Ne me tire pas sans raison"*. The hilt of cast brass, bulbous, richly engraved with baroque motifs ends with cast brass pommel of

circular shape, also richly decorated in the same style held by a metal rivet on the top. On the bottom of the brass pommel there are remains of a former handguard. The brass crossguard is slightly bent into "S" shape form and has a wide stylized button on the end of each arm. From the central crossguard other two thinner arms emerge and bend towards the guard. The guard is of brass cast into a leaf, with its edges slightly bending towards the grip. The brass guard represents rich ornaments-baroque floral and geometric motifs made in the same style as the hilt decoration. Scabbard has not been preserved.

Blade length: 74 cm, hilt length: 13 cm.
Inv. № 3313 MBT



18. SMALLSWORD, Austria, 18th century

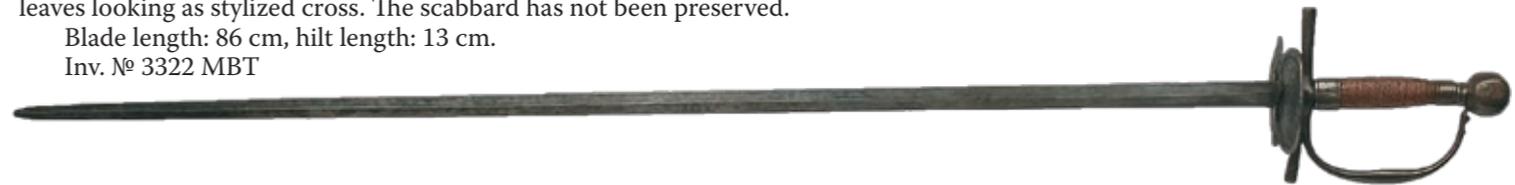
Steel blade, triple-edged, sharply pointed, tip broken off, stylized floral designs engraved on the lower part. Metal, bulbous style hilt, wrapped in twisted copper wire and edge braids. Pommel elongated, flatly brushed with a circular cap at the top. Hand guard broken off, crossguard slightly curved opposite with two small semicircular beaks facing the guard. Almond-shaped guard between the blade and the hilt. Scabbard is not preserved.

Dagger length 49.3 cm, hilt length 15 cm
Inv. № I 4829 CMV

19. SMALLSWORD, Austro-Hungarian Empire, 18th century

The steel, straight and slender double-edged blade of square cross-section ends in a sharp point. The grip is wooden, bulbous, wrapped with twisted copper wire and fastened at the ends with iron ring-like fittings. It ends in an iron ball-head. Hand guard of iron, is oval and mounted on the lower part of the crossguard. The metal crossguard is straight, of square cross-section and its both arms have slightly widened ends. The guard consists of two iron oval plates fitted into cylindrical fittings. The metal plates of the guard are engraved with plant ornaments in rudimentary style. Between the blade and the guard there is a metal ring in the shape of stylized flower, with four leaves looking as stylized cross. The scabbard has not been preserved.

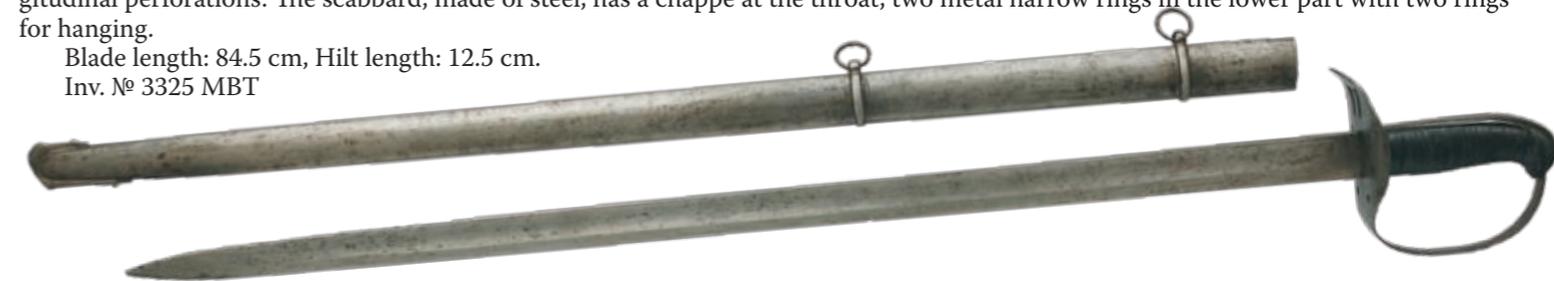
Blade length: 86 cm, hilt length: 13 cm.
Inv. № 3322 MBT



20. AUSTRIAN CAVALRY PALLASCH, Austria, 1813

The blade, made of steel, is straight with sharp edge on one side and, towards the tip on the other side as well. On each side of the blade there is a wide fuller narrowing towards the top. On the lower right side of the blade, there is an inscription in German: *"Leipzig / Den / 16 oktober 1813"*. Towards the bottom, also on the right side, it says: *"FISCHER"*. The wooden hilt, coated in black leather is divided in parallel slices and fastened at the bottom with an iron, engraved ring. The back fitting made of iron, ends with a shallow cap on the top. The steel handguard, oval in shape, turns into an extended crossguard with 6 little holes. A quillon, bent on the top, has two longitudinal perforations. The scabbard, made of steel, has a chappe at the throat, two metal narrow rings in the lower part with two rings for hanging.

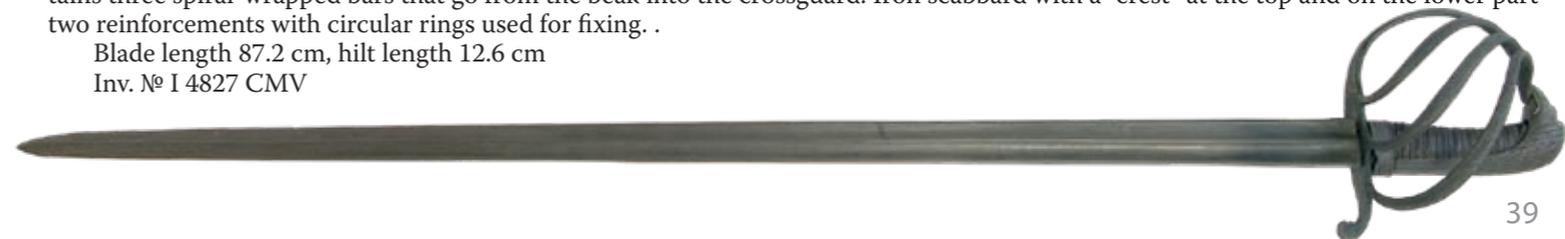
Blade length: 84.5 cm, Hilt length: 12.5 cm.
Inv. № 3325 MBT



21. CAVALRY SWORD PALLASCH M – 1819, Poland

Steel blade, straight, blade on one side and at the top on the other are connected into point. On both sides of the blade, two wide fullers that are slightly narrowed at the top. Hilt made of wood, covered in black leather, divided into slices that are separated by twisted brass wire. Hilt cap in the form of eagle head that goes into hilt back reinforcement and down to the front ring. Arc handguard coming from the beak of an eagle going into an extended cross guard that ends with a short quillon bent forward with circular end. Guard contains three spiral-wrapped bars that go from the beak into the crossguard. Iron scabbard with a "crest" at the top and on the lower part two reinforcements with circular rings used for fixing.

Blade length 87.2 cm, hilt length 12.6 cm
Inv. № I 4827 CMV



22. AUSTRIAN CLERICAL SWORD, HOFTRAUERDEGEN TYPE, M – 1835, Austria

The blade, made of steel, is double-edged, straight and slender and ends in a sharp point. The hilt is of cast brass, bulbous, of decagonal cross-section, ending in a convex head slightly curved downwards and with a round rivet on the top. Brass handguard, of corrugated appearance is attached to the crossguard with two brass arms going into the bottom of the handguard. The crossguard, made of brass has both arms slightly bent towards the blade. The top of the upper arm is in the form of an elongated ball button. On the right side of the crossguard there is a brass guard in semi oval stylized form. The ends of the guard are rounded and slightly bent towards the handle. The edge of the guard is decorated with geometrical motifs. Scabbard has not been preserved.

Blade length: 78.5 cm, hilt length: 11 cm.

Inv. № 3314. MBT



23. VIENNA ACADEMY LEGION SWORD, Austria, 1848

Austrian Revolution

The steel, straight double-edged blade ends in a sharp point. On each side of the blade, by the middle, there is a wide shallow fuller. At the bottom of the blade there are some engraved marks on the left side. The cast brass hilt of rectangular cross-section is bulbous and furrowed by slanted flutes. At the top of the hilt there is an expanded convex pommel with a metal rivet. The cast grip is mounted on a cast brass straight crossguard of square cross-section, ending in stylized tips of both arms. These tips contain engraved ornament in the shape of a cross and end in a ball-like button. Scabbard has not been preserved.

Blade length: 67 cm, hilt length: 12 cm.

Inv. № 3225 MBT



24. AUSTRIAN MILITARY OFFICIAL'S SWORD M – 1878, Solingen

Steel blade, straight, blunted on one side and at the top on the other. On both sides of the blade, wider fuller that does not go to the top. In the lower half of the blade on both sides, stylized floral patterns engraved. Wooden hilt with mother-of-pearl cover ends with brass lion's head. On the lower ring of the hilt, inscription *VIRIBUS* to the right and *UNITIS* to the left. Handguard in the form of a snake intertwined with oak leaves and acorns. Crossguard with oppositely curved quillons and semi-vertically mounted circular guard with the Austrian coat of arms. Only lower brass fittings preserved from the scabbard.

Blade length 78 cm, hilt length 12 cm

Inv. № I 4805 CMV

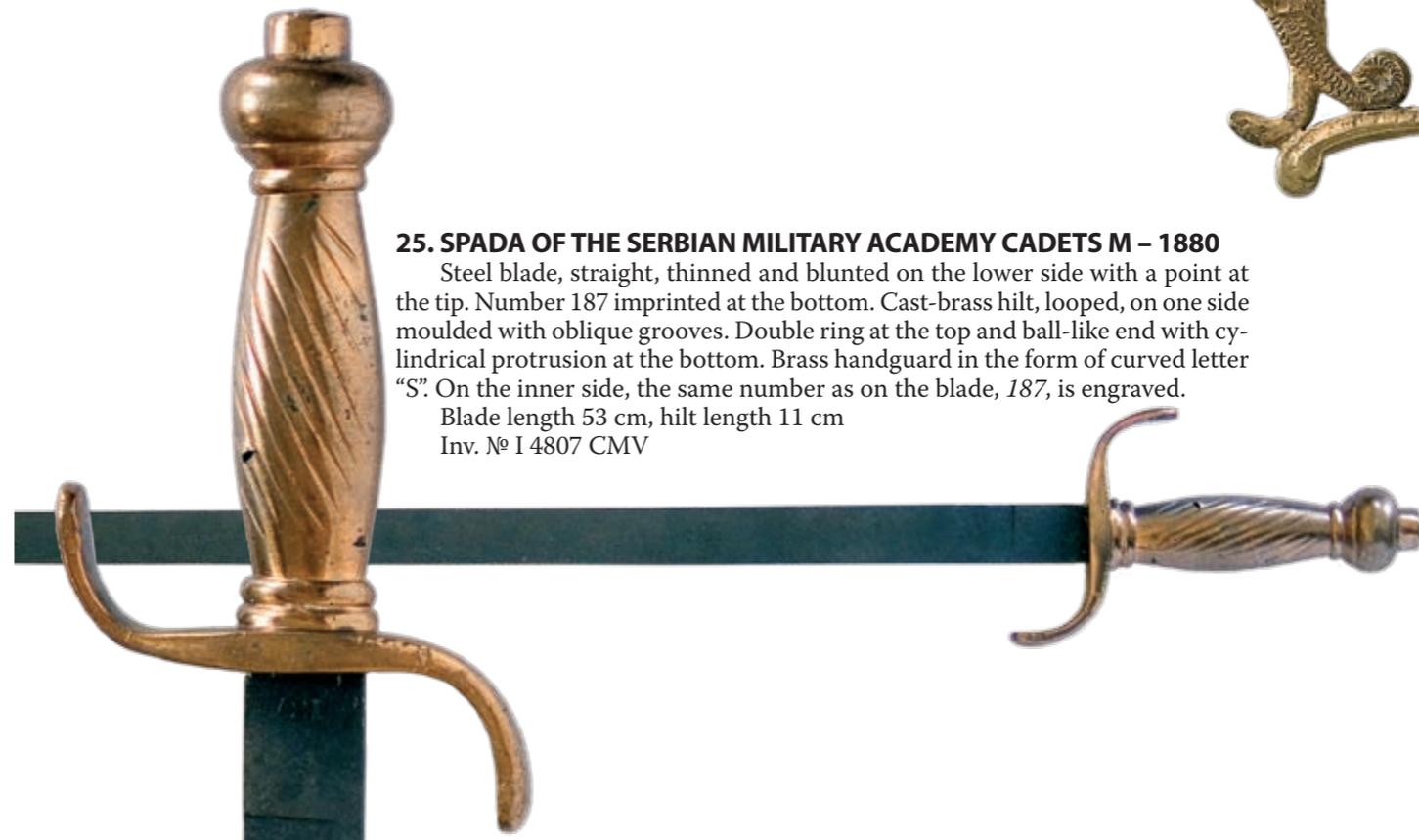


25. SPADA OF THE SERBIAN MILITARY ACADEMY CADETS M – 1880

Steel blade, straight, thinned and blunted on the lower side with a point at the tip. Number 187 imprinted at the bottom. Cast-brass hilt, looped, on one side moulded with oblique grooves. Double ring at the top and ball-like end with cylindrical protrusion at the bottom. Brass handguard in the form of curved letter "S". On the inner side, the same number as on the blade, 187, is engraved.

Blade length 53 cm, hilt length 11 cm

Inv. № I 4807 CMV



26. FIREMAN'S PARADE BAYONET, Budapest, 19th century

Steel blade, nickel, straight, with one wide fuller on both sides. The blade on one side and at the top on the other. Wooden handle covered in black leather, with fire symbols on one side (helmet, axe and trumpet), brass lower ring and cap at the other end. Brass cross guard, short, straight, in the form of branched flower at the top, with one small semi ball at each quillon end. Oval-shaped guard below the crossguard, various symbols in the middle, floral patterns around. Wooden scabbard covered in black leather and brass reinforcements on both ends.

Blade length 57.5 cm, handle length 15 cm

Inv. № I 4788 **CMV**

27. RAPIER BLADE, 19th century

Steel blade, narrow, double-edged., slightly rounded at the tip. In the lower third of the blade on each side there is a fuller carved in its middle part. In the extended part of the blade there is tipped tang for the handle which is not preserved.

Blade length 70 cm

Inv. № I 4795 **CMV**

28. DECORATIVE SWORD, ECLECTIC, 19th / 20th century

Steel blade, wide, bulbous, narrowing toward the sword hilt and turning into a point at the tip. Two double fullers along both sides of the middle part of the blade with two 4.5 cm diameter circle openings placed between the fullers. Three rows of stylized plant ornaments along the blade. Sun engraved at one side of the blade tip and stylized pentagon engraved on the other side. The hilt cast in bronze, relief with six five-pointed stars in the middle. The handguard tops in the shape of bird heads. The pommel massive with stylized lion head. The scabbard is missing.

Blade length 36.6 cm, hilt length 12.5 cm

Inv. № I 4782 **CMV**

29. DECORATIVE SWORD, 19th/20th century

The steel "flaming" blade is straight, conical and ends in a sharp point. On the right side of the blade there are richly made ornaments-towards the bottom there is a figure of an Ottoman dignitary with a turban on his head and beneath it there is an inscription in Arabic letters. Along the middle of the blade there are oriental decorations with stylized floral motifs and in the central part of the decorations there is a coat of arms / trophy. Ornaments continue to the summit. Also on the right, the rest of the blade is decorated with dotted decorations. On both sides, along the "flaming" blade the edges are thin and unadorned. The left side of the blade is simple and unadorned. The bulbous wooden hilt is wrapped in twisted copper wire and ends at the top with a circular iron pommel attached to a wooden cross part of the handle. The pommel is decorated with floral and geometric motifs. At the top of it there is a hemispherical protrusion with a metal rivet. The iron crossguard is straight of square cross-section, with one pyramidal ending on top of both arms. Scabbard has not been preserved

Blade length: 49 cm, hilt length: 12.5 cm.

Inv. № 3269 MBT



30. PARADE SWORD OF THE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT „OFFICERS“, Austria, 19th / 20th century

Steel blade, straight, nickel, cutting edge at one side and toward the top from the other side turns into a point. There is an oval fuller by the spine at both sides of the blade, and near the bottom on the left side there is a stamped inscription in the German language: *WEYERSBERG Sc STAMM SOLINGEN*. Hilt made of black bakelite, bulbous, divided into spiral slices divided by twisted brass wire. Handguard made of brass, arc-like with flower details, connects with the globular cap on the hilt tip and cross guard at the hilt end. Brass crossguard, slightly curved toward the blade contains floral ornaments as well as one bigger and one smaller decorated ball on top. There is ellipse guard under the cross guard with fire symbols in the central part, in the oval, and floral elements around. Wooden scabbard, covered in black leather and reinforced with three brass fittings decorated with fire and floral ornaments. The fitting has "crest" on its top and there is a fixed carrying ring in its middle part.

Blade length 77 cm, hilt length 14 cm

Inv. № I 4817 CMV

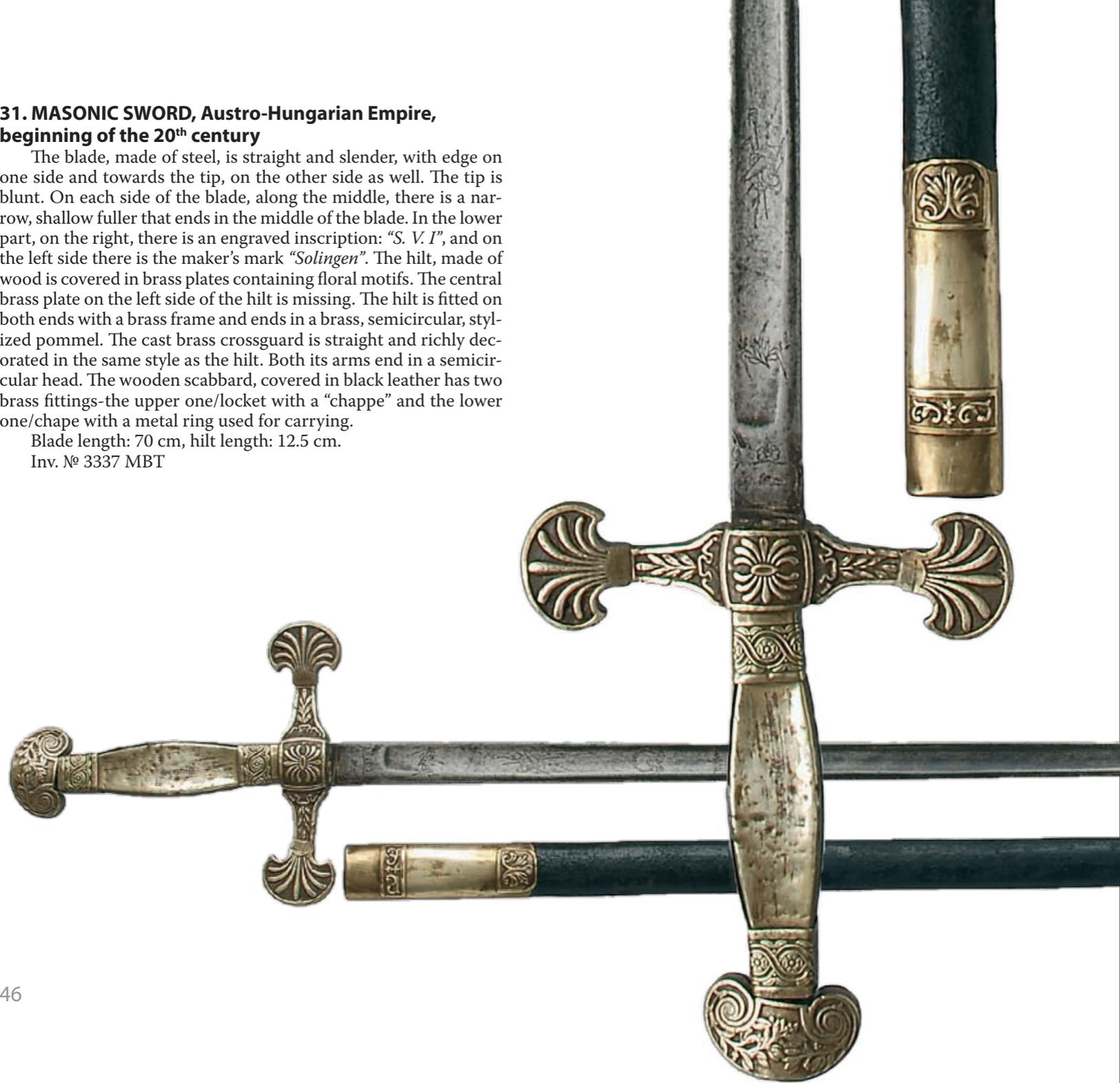


31. MASONIC SWORD, Austro-Hungarian Empire, beginning of the 20th century

The blade, made of steel, is straight and slender, with edge on one side and towards the tip, on the other side as well. The tip is blunt. On each side of the blade, along the middle, there is a narrow, shallow fuller that ends in the middle of the blade. In the lower part, on the right, there is an engraved inscription: "S. V. I", and on the left side there is the maker's mark "Solingen". The hilt, made of wood is covered in brass plates containing floral motifs. The central brass plate on the left side of the hilt is missing. The hilt is fitted on both ends with a brass frame and ends in a brass, semicircular, stylized pommel. The cast brass crossguard is straight and richly decorated in the same style as the hilt. Both its arms end in a semicircular head. The wooden scabbard, covered in black leather has two brass fittings-the upper one/locket with a "chappe" and the lower one/chape with a metal ring used for carrying.

Blade length: 70 cm, hilt length: 12.5 cm.

Inv. № 3337 MBT



DAGGERS



32. TURKISH DAGGER „AGFA” TYPE, 18th century

Steel blade, double-edged, cone turning into a point. Along each side by the edge there is a shallow fuller and in the middle part there is one line widening on each side. The handle decorated with various silver shapes of granulates as well as rectangular rivets on top. The sheath made of bone, light-brown, fixed to the handle by means of four wedges, each decorated with four six-leaf shaped silver rivets, partially damaged, three missing on one side. The scabbard made of wood encased in silver sheet decorated with stylized floral ornaments and stylized representation of an elephant on one side. Its upper and lower part decorated with filigree and its tip decorated with torch-shaped knob. A small silver carrying ring on one side.

Blade length 37.4 cm, handle length 11.6 cm
Inv. № I 4828 CMV



33. DAGGER OF THE KINGDOM OF YUGOSLAVIA POLICE OFFICERS M – 1931

White porcelain handle, covered in brass twisted wire. The pommel in shape of a braid. Cross guard made of brass, pyramid-shaped with one smaller and one bigger circular ending. Double-edged blade, steel, with floral ornaments on both sides. The Coat of Arms of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia in the middle of one side and near the bottom inscription in Cyrillic: *CBETO3AP C. CTAMEHKOBИT БEOГPAД*. Near the bottom on the other side inscription in German: *W. K.C. WAFFENFABRIK SOLINGEN*. The brass scabbard, sumptuously ornamented with two carrying rings connected to two braid-shaped reinforcements. Between the rings, on one side, the engraved nickel Coats of Arms of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia.

Length 37.5 cm
Inv. № I 4784 CMV



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34. DAGGER OF THE CHETNIK DETACHMENTS MEMBERS, Second World War

Steel blade, double-edged, pointed toward the tip on both sides, a ridge along the middle part from handle to the tip. Cast aluminium handle, bulbous in its central part, with protruding granulated and floral ornamentation. Elliptic knob on one side divided by a cross into four fields in which firesteels are barely noticeable. Guard is slightly protruding with transverse notches at the ends, slightly rounded on the inner side. The handle tip in the shape of a flattened ball, the sun with stylized rays on one side and death's head with crossed bones below it on the other side. The brass scabbard, made in a very simple way. On one side, starting from the bottom to the top the following pressed symbols can be seen: the Coats of Arms of the Kingdom of Serbia, cross with four firesteels, death's head with crossed bones below floral ornaments at the end. Near the bottom there is brass bracelet with a circular ring, massive diamond-like buckle for fixing to the strap is pulled through it.

Blade length 20.8 cm, total length 32 cm
Inv. № I 582 CMV



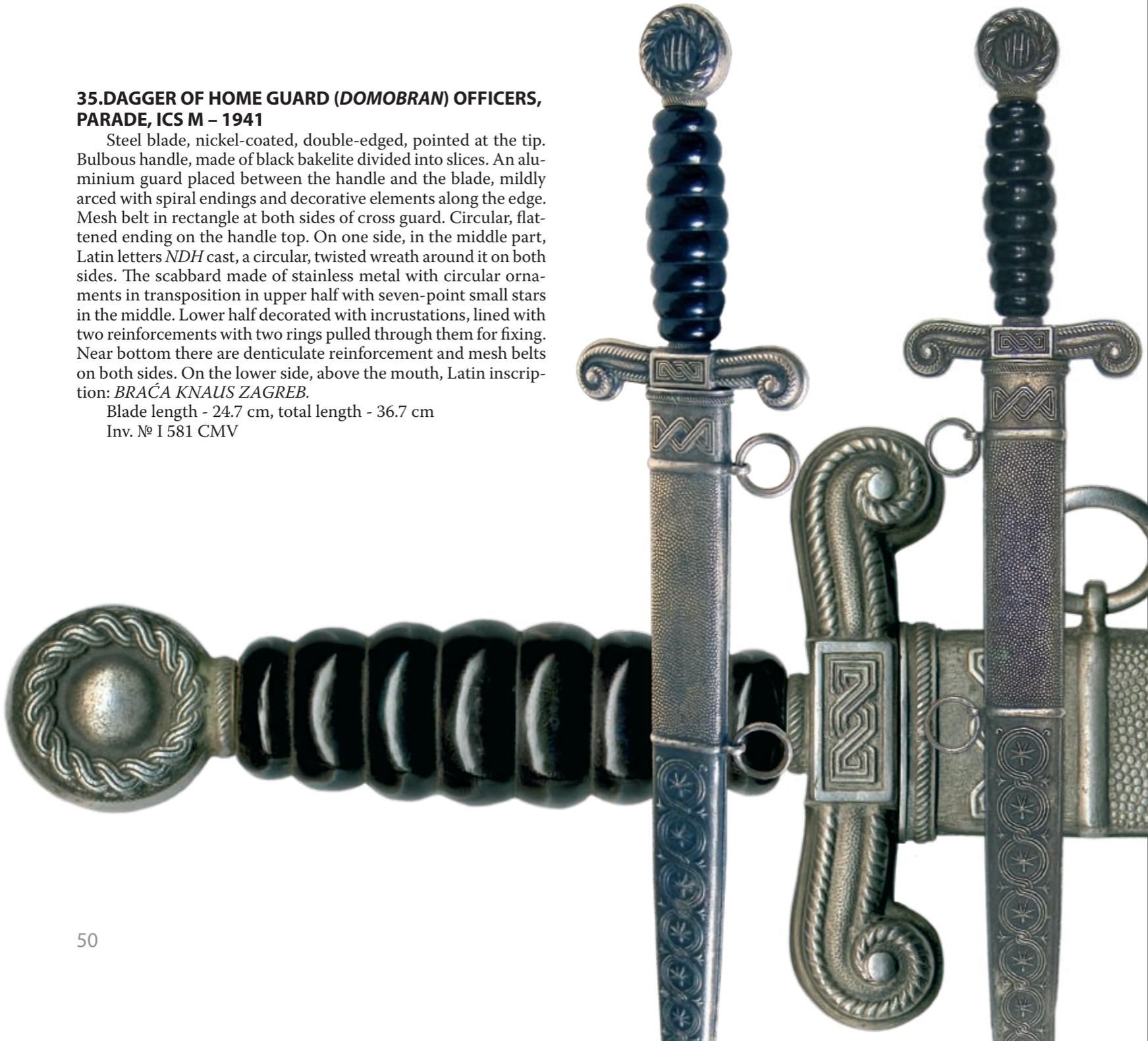
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35. DAGGER OF HOME GUARD (DOMOBRAN) OFFICERS, PARADE, ICS M – 1941

Steel blade, nickel-coated, double-edged, pointed at the tip. Bulbous handle, made of black bakelite divided into slices. An aluminium guard placed between the handle and the blade, mildly arced with spiral endings and decorative elements along the edge. Mesh belt in rectangle at both sides of cross guard. Circular, flattened ending on the handle top. On one side, in the middle part, Latin letters *NDH* cast, a circular, twisted wreath around it on both sides. The scabbard made of stainless metal with circular ornaments in transposition in upper half with seven-point small stars in the middle. Lower half decorated with incrustations, lined with two reinforcements with two rings pulled through them for fixing. Near bottom there are denticulate reinforcement and mesh belts on both sides. On the lower side, above the mouth, Latin inscription: *BRAĆA KNAUS ZAGREB*.

Blade length - 24.7 cm, total length - 36.7 cm

Inv. № I 581 CMV



KNIVES



36. HUNTING GALA/PARADE DAGGER

The Netherlands, 17th to 18th century

Dutch short rapier blade, made of steel, straight, double edged, hexagonal in cross section, ends with a point. On both side of the blade, at end, gilded engraved floral ornament, and an engraved dignitary figure with a crown on the head and sceptre in the right hand. Above this ornament, on both sides, a narrow decoration is engraved across the middle of the blade. The ivory handle, decorated with elaborate sculptured ornaments, ends in the shape of a dog-head, curved downwards. The rich sculptured ornament of the handle, from the end to the front, consists of stylized figures of birds; figures of men are portrayed in specific clothes of 18th century, with schematized human face, etc. The handle is fixed in the lower part with a brass ring and a globular brass rivet at the front. Such handles were made in Ceylon (17th to 18th century) for European hunting cold weapons. The cross guard is short, made of brass, straight, circular in cross section, with slightly extended end at the tip of both quillons. Below the cross guard, on the right, a brass stylized guard of relatively small dimensions. The scabbard is not preserved.

The length of the blade is 61 cm; the length of the handle is 16 cm.

Inv. № 3416 MBT



37. HUNTING HIRSCHFÄNGER DAGGER

Austria, 18th century

Steel blade, straight, double- edged, ends with a point. On both side of the blade, at the end, engraved stylized floral ornaments, number "1414" and a hound on each side. The wooden handle, fixed with a brass ring at the end and a brass pommel at the head. Handle brass fittings are elaborately decorated with engravings of stylized floral and flower ornaments. At the top of the brass pommel there is a metal rivet, circular in shape. The cross guard is short, made of brass, S shaped, decorated with stylized floral patterns. On the right, below the cross guard, there is a brass guard, decorated with a stylized floral engraving and geometric openings. The scabbard is not preserved.

The length of the blade is 53.5 cm; the length of the handle 13.5 cm.

Inv. № 3307 MBT



52

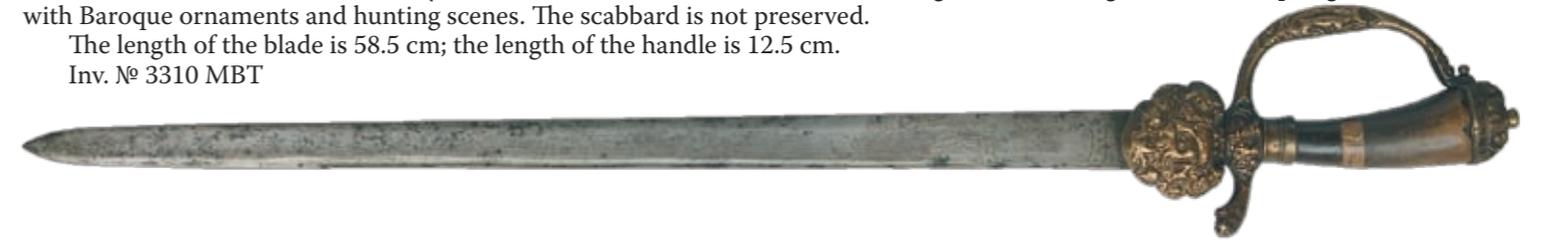
38. HUNTING HIRSCHFÄNGER DAGGER

Austria, 18th century

Steel blade, straight, single- edged, near the tip double- edged, ends with a point. On both sides of the blade, along the spine, a narrow fuller. At the blade end, on the right, engraved floral and geometric ornaments surround an engraved deer. On the left, a similar ornament, only instead of the deer, a wild boar is depicted. The handle of brown horn is fixed at the end with a brass ring and elaborately decorated brass pommel at the head. A brass arched hand guard, which extends into the cross guard ending with an arched quillon on the other side, is fixed to the brass head of the handle with a small screw. The arched hand guard and the tip of the cross guard represent a decoration executed in the same style as the handle decoration. Below the cross guard, on the right, a shell- shaped guard, decorated with Baroque ornaments and hunting scenes. The scabbard is not preserved.

The length of the blade is 58.5 cm; the length of the handle is 12.5 cm.

Inv. № 3310 MBT

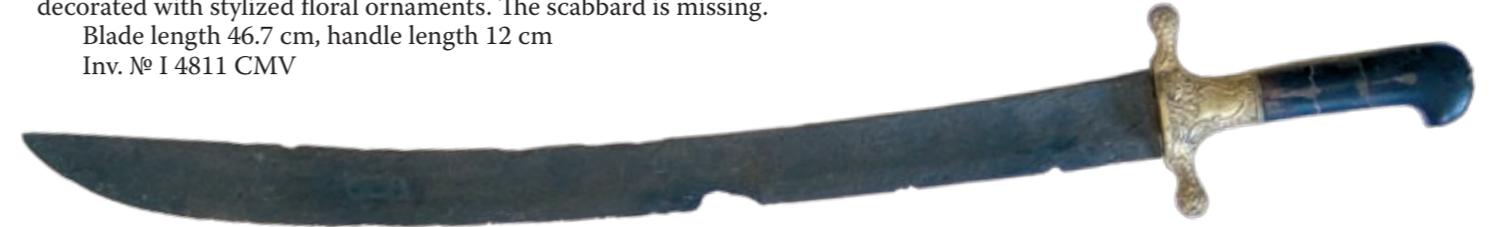


39. „HIRSCHVENGER“ HUNTING KNIFE, Austria, 18th century

Steel blade, curved upward, one-edged with one wider fuller on each side along the spine. Wooden sheath with a smaller widening near the tip. Brass handle extension turns into handguard with two shorter rounded branches and a semi-elliptical guard between them, decorated with stylized floral ornaments. The scabbard is missing.

Blade length 46.7 cm, handle length 12 cm

Inv. № I 4811 CMV



40. „HIRSCHVENGER“ KNIFE, Austria, 18th century

Steel blade, result of alteration from hussar sabre from the same period, slightly curved upward like a sabre. Cutting edge is on one side and toward the tip it is on the other side, too. The spine is reinforced and decorated with floral ornaments. By means of marquetry technique various motifs are presented and they were originally coated in gold patina which has been, as time passed, partially removed. The handle made of horn carved with tiny cubes, near the tip an iron ring as reinforcement. Between handle and blade there is a guard with branches bent in the opposite direction. The wooden scabbard covered in black leather.

Blade length 52 cm, handle length 11 cm

Inv. № I 4876 CMV



53

41. ITALIAN TESSAK Italy, the end of 18th/the beginning of 19th century

Double edged, steel, massive and straight blade ends in sharp point. All the way down the blade, on both sides, there are two wide fullers. On the right side, towards the bottom, there is an engraved inscription, written in Italian: *"PUOLO LANDI, Bcia"*. The hilt cast in brass, is bulbous and divided in spiral lobes. At the top of the hilt, there is a semicircular ending decorated with stylized plant ornaments. The cast brass grip continues into a cast brass massive crossguard of rectangular cross-section and decorated with stylized plant ornaments. The scabbard, made of black leather, is provided with a brass tip at the bottom (the upper fitting is missing). Towards the bottom, there is an elliptical brass button used for fastening a skin strap which is fastened to the sword belt.

Blade length: 43 cm, hilt length: 12.5 cm.

Inv. № 27529 MBT



42. ITALIAN INFANTRY TESSAK M – 1834, Italy

The blade, made of steel, is slightly curved upwards, with sharp edge on one side and, towards the tip, on the other side as well. The hilt, cast in brass, of square cross-section and slightly expanded on the top, is divided from the crossguard with two narrow flutes. The cast grip ends in a brass head of the beaky appearance, with a round metal rivet at the top. The metal grip continues into a short, cast brass crossguard, shaped as a slight "S". At the tip of each quillon, there is an oval ball button. The scabbard has not been preserved.

Blade length: 47 cm, Hilt length: 11 cm.

Inv. № 3300 MBT



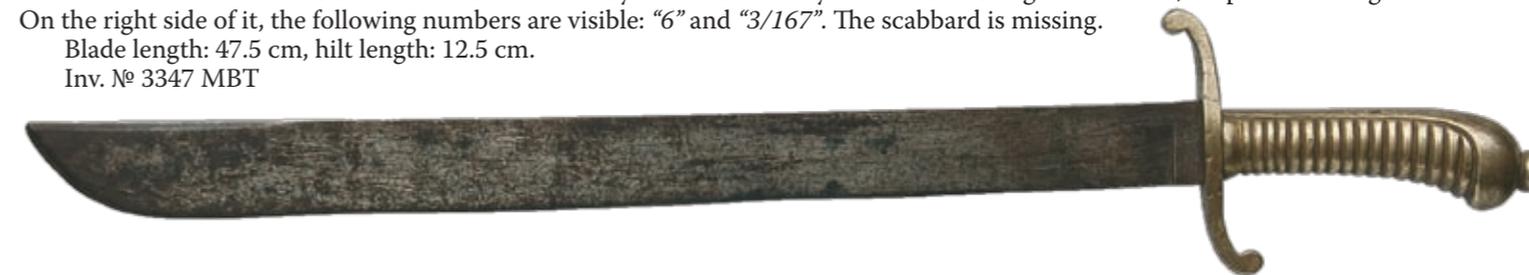
54

43. SAXONIAN INFANTRY TESSAK M – 1845, Saxony

The blade, made of steel, is straight, single-edged, with the edge extended and arched towards the blunt edge with which it forms a sharp tip. The cast brass hilt is divided in parallel lobes and fastened with hemispheric end and a brass button at the top. The brass hilt is cast in accordance with the model of the 19th century German Infantry sabres. The crossguard is short, shaped into a slight letter "S". On the right side of it, the following numbers are visible: "6" and "3/167". The scabbard is missing.

Blade length: 47.5 cm, hilt length: 12.5 cm.

Inv. № 3347 MBT



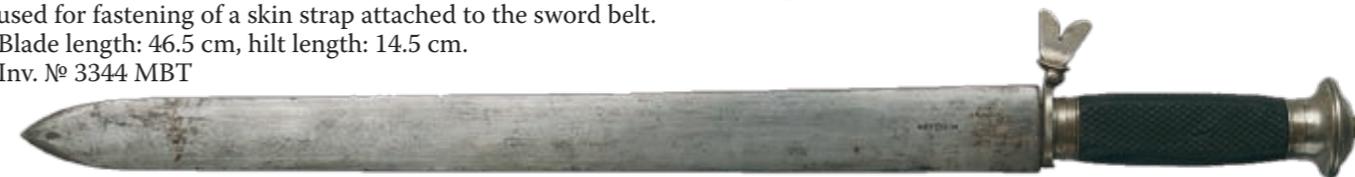
44. AUSTRIAN TESSAK Austria, 1848 Austrian Revolution

Double edged massive, steel, straight blade ends in sharp point. On both sides of the blade there are stylized plant ornaments and trophies engraved, together with the inscriptions written in German: *"ERINNERUNG AN DEN 13. 14. 15. MARZ 15. 26. MAI 1848"* on the right side, and *"MIT GOTT FUR RECHT"* on the left side of the blade.

On the left lower side, it says: *"WERTHEIM"*. The hilt, made of black ebonite, of square cross-section, has a lower ring and a brass cap at the top. The crossguard, made of brass is short and straight, with a tip of the preserved quillon shaped into the letter "V". The scabbard, made of wood, is coated in leather and has brass fittings both at the top and the bottom. Towards the bottom, there is a brass button used for fastening of a skin strap attached to the sword belt.

Blade length: 46.5 cm, hilt length: 14.5 cm.

Inv. № 3344 MBT



45. RUSSIAN ARTILLERY TESSAK M – 1848, Russia, French type variety

Double-edged massive, steel, straight blade ends in sharp point. On the right side, towards the bottom, the letter "S" and number "13" are engraved, while the left side, also towards the bottom, bears an engraved letter "M". The hilt, cast in brass, is bulbous and divided in parallel lobes. At the top of the hilt, there is a semicircular ending and a brass button. The cast brass grip continues into a cast brass straight crossguard of rectangular cross-section with cylindrical quillon ends. On the right side of the crossguard, there are some Cyrillic letters engraved: *"ТК"* and *"М"*. The scabbard, made of wood, is coated in black leather and has brass fittings both at the top and the bottom. There is a brass ball on the throat and towards the end a brass button used for hanging and a skin strap used for attaching to the belt.

Blade length: 47.5 cm, hilt length: 13 cm.

Inv. № 3495 MBT



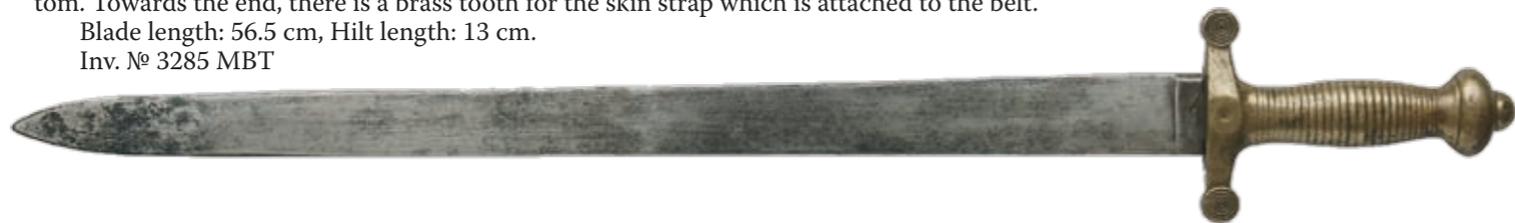
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46. DANISH INFANTRY TESSAK M – 1854, Denmark, French type variety

The blade, made of steel, is straight with sharp edge on one side and, towards the tip, on the other side as well. On the lower right side of the blade, there is an inscription in German: "LUNESCHLOSS", while the left side, also towards the end, bears the inscriptions: "SOLINGEN" and letters "P" and "D". The cast brass hilt is bulbous and divided in parallel lobes. It has circular end and a brass button at the top. The cast brass grip continues into a cast brass straight crossguard of rectangular cross-section with cylindrical quillon ends. On the right side of the crossguard, there is the letter "S" engraved, while the left side bears an inscription in Danish: "17.L.I.B. 4C. 125." (17. Linien-Infanterie-Bataillon, 4. Kompanie, Waffe Nr. 125.). The black leather scabbard has brass fittings both at the top and the bottom. Towards the end, there is a brass tooth for the skin strap which is attached to the belt.

Blade length: 56.5 cm, Hilt length: 13 cm.

Inv. № 3285 MBT



47. TESAK OF AUSTRIAN PIONEERS M – 1862

Steel blade, straight, one-side edge, near the tip turned toward spine with which it forms a point. Along back edge there is a wide groove on one side. Handle made of bone, significantly damaged. Massive crossguard, straight, rectangular cross-section, turning into balls at the ends. No scabbard is preserved.

Blade length 46.3 cm, handle length 15 cm

Inv. № I 4797 MBT



48. BOSNIAN BISHAQ KNIFE

Sarajevo, 1879

Steel blade, slightly recurved, single edged, ends with a point. On both sides of the blade, along the spine, silver inlaid stylized floral ornaments and inscriptions: on the right with Latin letters "SARAJEVO" and year "1879", and on the left an inlaid inscription in the Arabic alphabet. The fitting of the upper side of the blade end (*parazvana*) is made of brass and decorated with geometric patterns. The wooden handle of circular cross section, with beaked expansion at the head, is recent improvisation (the original ivory handle has not been preserved). The wooden scabbard, plated with thin brass sheet, decorated at the tip and the end with geometric ornaments.

The length of the blade is 18 cm; the length of the handle 11.5 cm.

Inv. № 3419 MBT



49. "HIRSCHVENGER" HUNTING KNIFE, Austria, 19th century

Steel blade, slightly curved outwards. There is a cutting edge on one side and near the tip on both sides. A wider fuller along the whole length. In the lower part, on both sides of the blade, undefined motifs is drawn. The handle made of yellow bone, most probably horn, decorated with three oval brass plates (one missing). Brass rivets on both sides of handle. A short crossguard, in the shape of slight letter S. A small carrying ring at the end of one quillon. The wooden scabbard covered in black leather and reinforced fittings on both sides.

Blade length 56.2 cm, handle length 14.5 cm

Inv. № 4785 CMV

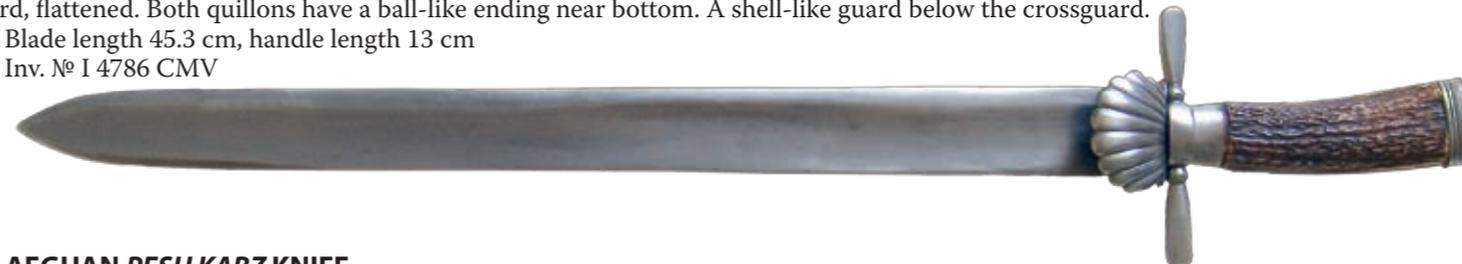


50. "HIRSCHVENGER" HUNTING KNIFE, Austria, 19th century

Straight blade, steel, cutting edge on one side and near the tip on the other side, too. A slightly concave, wide fuller along each side. Handle made of antler with a lower ring and cap made of iron on the other end fixed to the knife body by means of a nut. Simple crossguard, flattened. Both quillons have a ball-like ending near bottom. A shell-like guard below the crossguard.

Blade length 45.3 cm, handle length 13 cm

Inv. № I 4786 CMV



51. AFGHAN PESH KABZ KNIFE

Afghanistan, 19th century

Steel blade, slightly curved upwards, broad, single-edged, double-edged near the tip, ends with a point. On both sides of the blade, engraved geometric patterns in the shape of oblique fluting; below the decoration small triangles are stamped. The handle of black horn with cast *parazvana* (the fitting of the upper side of the blade end) of octagonal cross section end with, at the tip, slightly branched ears. The sheath is fixed on the handle with three metal rivets. The wood massive scabbard fixed at the tip, in the centre and at the end with iron wire (recent improvisation, metal fittings are missing). On the lower side of the scabbard, a semi-elliptical extension with a square cross section opening.

The length of the blade is 43 cm; the length of the handle is 14.5 cm.

Inv. № 5508 MBT



52. SYRIAN DAGGER

Syria, 19th century

Steel blade, curved upwards, double edged, ending with a point at the tip. On both sides of the blade, along the whole surface, oriental engraved ornaments. The ivory handle of square cross section, with carved upper and lower edge, both at the front and the end. At the front of the handle brass wire is wrapped; at the far end a pommel of dark bone is fixed with a metal rivet. The scabbard is not preserved.

The length of the blade 21.5 cm; the length of the handle is 11.5 cm

Inv. № 3492 MBT



53. SYRIAN DAGGER

Syria, 19th century

Steel blade, recurved, double – edged, ends with a point. On both sides of the blade, along the whole area, engraved oriental decorations. The ivory handle of square cross section, with carved upper and lower edge, both at the front and the end. In the middle of the handle twisted and single wire is wrapped. At the handle end a pommel of dark bone is fixed with a metal rivet. The scabbard is not preserved.

The length of the blade is 21.5 cm; the length of the handle is 10.5 cm.

Inv. № 3420 MBT



54. INDO-PERSIAN JAMBIYA DAGGER

South Asia, 19th century

Steel blade, curved upwards, double-edged, split apart from the middle to the tip, ends with pointed tips. In the central part of the blade, a circular opening from where the split blade stretches to the tip, in the shape of two narrow flexible tips. On both sides of the blade, geometric ornaments with silver inlay. The metal handle with widened front and end, decorated in the same style as the blade. At the handle end, a metal pommel executed in the same style. The metal scabbard, in the handle extension, with ellipsoid cross section, ends with a stylized metal button at the tip. The scabbard decoration is similar to the handle ornaments with floral and geometric patterns inlaid with silver.

The length of the blade is 18 cm; the length of the handle is 10.5 cm.

Inv. № 3494 MBT



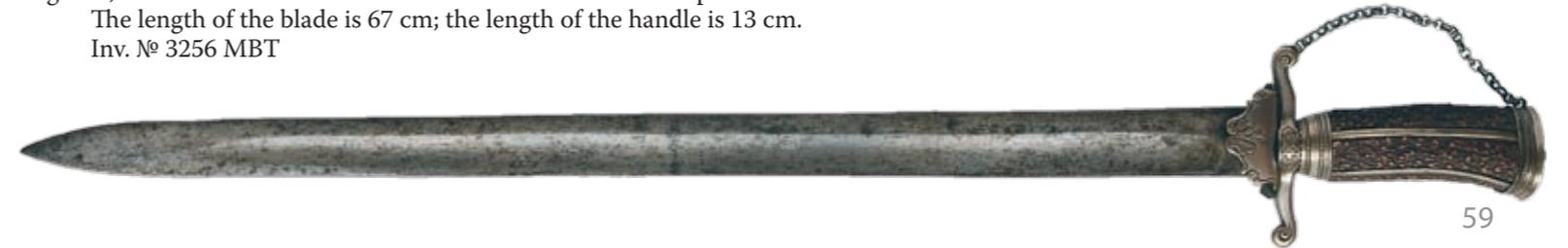
55. HUNTING HIRSCHFÄNGER DAGGER

Austria, first half of 19th century

Steel blade, straight, broad, single-edged, near the tip double-edged, ends with a point. On both sides of the blade, along the spine, a wide and shallow fuller, oval in shape, that slightly tapers toward the tip. A massive handle, made of antlers, with a metal ring at the end and a pommel of metal sheet at the head. Handle metal fittings are decorated with geometric patterns. The handle is fixed with six thin metal branches which connect the lower ring with the metal pommel. On the top of the metal pommel there is an iron rivet, circular in shape. The short, S shaped, metal cross guard, decorated with floral and flower ornaments. A metal decorating chain with circular rings between the lower quillon of the cross guard and the metal pommel of the handle. On the right, below the cross guard, a stylized metal guard, decorated with floral ornaments. The scabbard is not preserved.

The length of the blade is 67 cm; the length of the handle is 13 cm.

Inv. № 3256 MBT



56. RUSSIAN ARTILLERY KINJAL M – 1907

Russia

Steel blade, curved upwards, double-edged, pointed at the tip. Two narrow fullers in the middle on both sides of the blade. At the end, on the left side of the blade there is a stamped mark. Wooden sheath with a lower brass ring and metal rivets fixed on the hilt at two places; a stamped mark and Cyrillic letter “П” on the right of the ring, and a stamped inscription “2БКЗД № 50” on the left. On the right side of the grip the rivets end with semi-globular brass heads. A cross guard is not common with this type of cold weapon. Black leather covered scabbard has longer brass fitting on the upper side and shorter one on the lower side, where a circular leather covered loop for attaching it to the belt is placed. On the top of the upper fitting, there is a brass ball and on the left a stamped inscription “2БКЗД № 50”.

The length of the blade is 44 cm; the length of the hilt is 15.5 cm.

Inv. № 5510 MBT



57. RUSSIAN ARTILLERY KINJAL M – 1907

Russia, 1912

Steel blade, curved upwards, double edged, pointed at the tip. On both sides of the blade, two narrow fullers. At the end, on the left side of the blade the year of manufacturing “1912” stamped along with an inscription in Russian “3ЛАТΟΥСТЪ ОРУЖ ФАБР”. Wooden sheath with a lower brass ring and metal rivets fixed into the tang at two places; on the right side of the ring, the inscription “2ППК.№ 336” is stamped. On the right side of the grip the rivets end with semi-globular brass heads. No cross guards is common with this type of cold weapon. Black leather covered wooden scabbard has longer brass fitting on the upper side and shorter one on the lower side, where a circular attachment ring is placed. On the top of the upper fitting, a brass ball, and on the right side of the lower fitting a sealed inscription “2ППК.№ 252”.

The length of the blade 44 cm; the length of the hilt is 15.5 cm.

Inv. № 3470 MBT



58. RUSSIAN ARTILLERY KINJAL M – 1907

Russia, 1916

Steel blade, double edged, curved upwards, pointed at the tip. Two narrow fullers in the middle on both sides of the blade. On the left side of the blade, at the end, the year of production “1916” is stamped along with an inscription in Russian “3ЛАТΟΥСТЪ ОРУЖ ФАБР”. The wooden sheath with a lower brass ring and metal rivets fixed into the tang in two places. On the left side of the brass ring the inscription “2М № 90” is sealed. The metal rivets of the grip end with semi-globular brass heads on the right. A cross guard is not common with this type of cold weapon. The wooden scabbard, covered with black leather, has longer brass fitting on the upper side and shorter one on the lower side where a circular attachment ring is placed. On the top of the upper fitting there is a brass ball, while on the left side of the lower fitting the inscription “2Б2 Ф С.А.Д” and number “138” are sealed.

The length of the blade is 43.5 cm; the length of the hilt is 16 cm.

Inv. № 3348 MBT



59. TESAK OF AUSTRIAN PIONEERS, First World War

Steel blade, massive, cutting edge on one side and toward the tip on the other side, too. Wooden handle, at three places fixed to the blade tang by means of metal rivets. Iron handguard, massive, curved in shape of the letter S. No scabbard is preserved.

Blade length 38 cm, handle length 14.5 cm

Inv. № I 4798 CMV



RIFLE BAYONETS



60. AUSTRIAN BAYONET M – 1796, Austria

Steel blade, straight, broad, single-edged, near the tip double-edged, ends with a point. On both sides of the blade, along the spine, a wide fuller, oval in shape, that slightly tapers toward the tip. On the right side of the blade, near the end of the oval fuller, an engraved rudimentary inscription "1804 Csakow". At the end, it extends to a metal grip of cylindrical cross section, curved upwards for 90 degrees, and fixed to the barrel of cylindrical shape with a longitudinal slot and an iron movable ring for locking the gun barrel. At the end of the barrel, a ring-shaped reinforcement which prevents the movable ring from falling down. The scabbard is not preserved.

The length of the blade is 66 cm; the overall length is 78.5 cm.
Inv. № 3226 MBT



61. BAYONET FOR THE RIFLE "LORENZ" M – 1854, Austria

Four-fuller dagger made of stainless iron, horizontal cutting edges wider than the vertical ones, finishing into a sharp point. Near the bottom it is curved upward at 90 degrees. At the end of the curved part there is a cylindrical capsule with a spiral groove and a bracelet for locking to the rifle barrel. The wooden scabbard, covered in black leather, metal reinforcement at the ends.

Length 56.5 cm
Inv. № I 4789 CMV



62. BAYONET "WERNDL" M – 1870

Steel blade, slightly curved downward, a wider fuller on both sides by the spine. The cutting edge on one side and near the tip on the other side the edges are connecting to form a point. Near the bottom there are stamped marks *OE* and *WG*. Black sheath, spot-like, made of bakelite, a metal reinforcement with inner grooves, button and locking tooth. There is a circular opening on the upper side of handguard for rifle barrel and there is semi-circle hook on its lower part. No scabbard is preserved.

Blade length 47.3 cm, handle length 12.4 cm
Inv. № I 4825 CMV



63. BAYONET "MOSIN – NAGANT" M – 1891, Russia

Four-edged, steel dagger, cone-like tapered toward the tip ending in a point. Fixed to the metal barrel with slots lengthwise and with a movable ring in the middle part for fixing to the rifle barrel.

Dagger length 43 cm, total length 55 cm
Inv. № I 4879 CMV



64. BAYONET FOR THE RIFLE "MAUSER" M – 1898, Erfurt

Steel blade, narrow, one-edged and at the top widened into double-edged. There is an oval fuller on both sides and there are lateral reinforcements near the tip. Near bottom of the right side a crown is engraved and there is inscription *ERFURT*. The wooden handle is fixed into tang by means of two bolts and obliquely cut into slices. There is steel reinforcement on the top with a fuller and lead lines with a button for locking to the barrel. Simple handguard, short, slightly turned toward handle. A stamped mark on the left side: 6. R. 5. 69. Iron scabbard narrowing toward the tip and finishes in a small ball. Two narrow, parallel fullers on both sides. Metal teeth for carrying and a leather pack for hanging to belt.

Blade length 51.2 cm, handle length 12.5 cm
Inv. № I 4819 CMV



65. BAYONET FOR THE RIFLE "LEBEL" M – 1886 – 1916, France

Steel, four-edged dagger, conical toward the tip where it narrows into point. Aluminium handle, bulbous, rectangular fuller on the upper side and a ring for fixing to rifle near the tip. Metal reinforcement with tooth and lever for locking onto barrel between dagger and handle, and short, cut-in capsule for fixing to the rifle on the upper side. Iron scabbard, round, conical, narrowed toward the tip finishing in a small ball. At the bottom there is a square shaped loop at one side.

Blade length 52 cm, handle length 10 cm
Inv. № I 4818 CMV



SABRES



66.SABRE, 14th / 15th century

Steel blade, slightly curved inward, cutting edge on one side and near the tip on the other side, too. Handle is not preserved, there are two openings in the tang where the handle was fixed. Simple crossguard, flat with short quillons. A metal ring below cross guard, at the bottom of the cutting edge.

Blade length 68.3 cm, handle tang length 12 cm
Inv. № I 4794 CMV



67.SABRE FROM TURKISH PERIOD, The Balkans, 15th / 16th century

Steel blade, single-edged, slightly curved upward. A pointed extension at the bottom to which the missing handle was fixed.

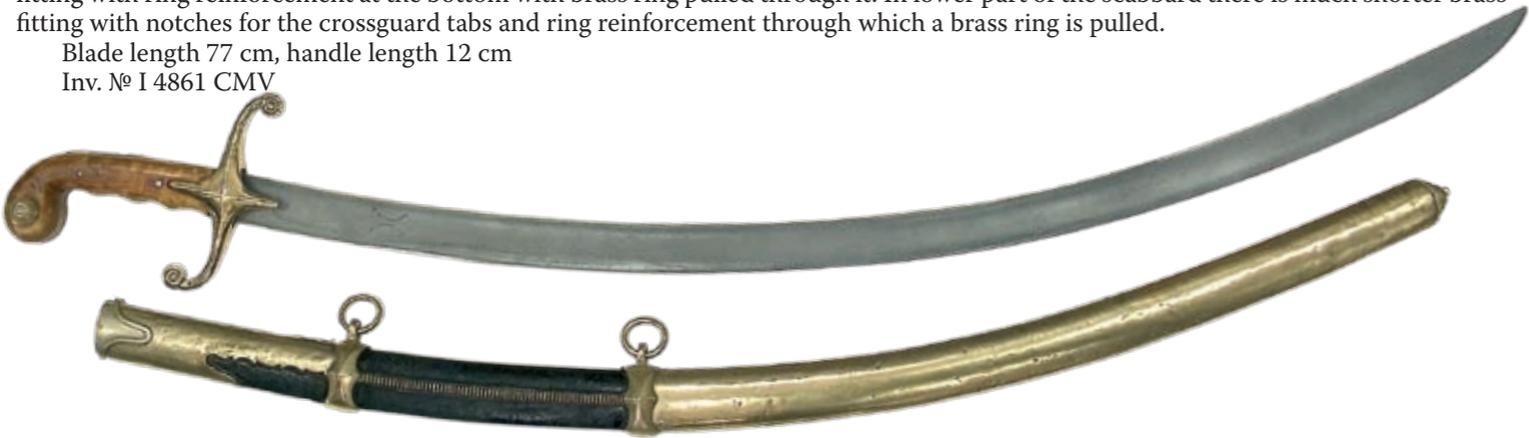
Blade length 57.5 cm
Inv. № I 4806 CMV



68.HUSSAR SABRE, Austria, beginning of the 18th century

Steel blade, recurved, cutting edge on one side. Reinforced spine, thinned at the top. On the right side, near bottom, a mark in the shape of stylized Cyrillic letter X engraved. The handle made of brownish-yellow bone in the shape of a curved bulb shaped head and there is a brass hemispherical button on each side. Brass crossguard with quillons bent in the opposite direction, a knob along the middle part and bifurcated tongue which mildly narrows toward the tip. The wooden scabbard, its lower part covered in black leather, brass fitting with ring reinforcement at the bottom with brass ring pulled through it. In lower part of the scabbard there is much shorter brass fitting with notches for the crossguard tabs and ring reinforcement through which a brass ring is pulled.

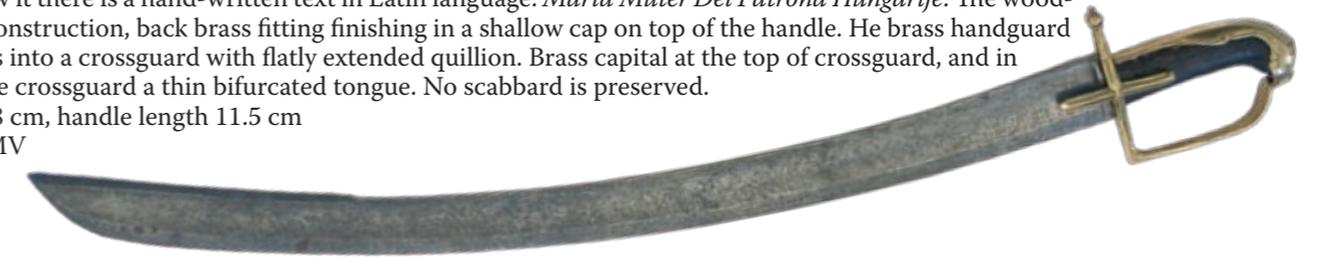
Blade length 77 cm, handle length 12 cm
Inv. № I 4861 CMV



69.HUSSAR SABRE, Austria, 18th century

Steel blade, massive, wide, slightly curved upward, cutting edge on one side, and near the tip on the other side, too. A shallow, wide fuller along each side of cutting edge with engraved undefined images. Near the end of the cutting edge on its left side a Hungarian cross is engraved and below it there is a hand-written text in Latin language: *Maria Muter Dei Patrona Hungarije*. The wooden handle, modern construction, back brass fitting finishing in a shallow cap on top of the handle. He brass handguard extends at 90 degrees into a crossguard with flatly extended quillion. Brass capital at the top of crossguard, and in the middle part of the crossguard a thin bifurcated tongue. No scabbard is preserved.

Blade length 77.8 cm, handle length 11.5 cm
Inv. № I 4837 CMV



70.HUNGARIAN SABRE, HUSSAR, Hungary, 18th century

Steel blade, slightly curved backward, cutting edge on one side and near the tip on the other side, too, where the cutting edge is flared. Two shallow fullers along each side of cutting edge, the fuller by the spine bifurcates into two smaller fullers, the outside fuller being shorter. Wage images and inscriptions in the lower part of cutting edge. The wooden handle covered in leather, with an opening in the upper part. Back fitting made of brass, turning into a shallow head with a rivet on the crown. A handguard starts from the head, slightly bent, then flat, joins the cross guard which is also made of brass, forming 90 degrees angle. The crossguard is straight, rounded end on the second quillon with two elongated tongues in the middle. No scabbard is preserved.

Blade length 87.5 cm, handle length 13.5 cm
Inv. № I 4854 CMV



71. KARABELA SABRE

The Balkans, 18th century

Steel blade, broad, curved upwards, single-edged, near the tip double-edged, with a slightly flared *yalman*. On both sides of the blade, along the spine, two narrow fullers. In the lower part of the blade, on both sides, fullers are engraved with marks and letters. The sabre hilt is made of black bone, in the shape of a stylized bird head with an opening at the top. The iron crossguard, straight, square in cross section, with one pyramidal end at the tips of both quillons. Across the cross guard, there is a bifurcated tongue that slightly tapers toward the tip, in the shape of a stylized diamond. The wooden scabbard covered with black leather, with massive fitting of iron sheet in the upper part, and with short iron fitting of iron sheet from the lower side. In the lower part of the scabbard, two iron rings, the upper ring is designed to have a movable carrying ring.

The length of the blade is 80 cm; the length of the hilt is 11.5 cm.
Inv. № 3273 MBT



72. TURKISH SABRE

The Balkans, 18th century

Steel blade, curved upwards, single-edged, near the tip double-edged. The spine is reinforced, at the tip slightly flared *yalman*. The hilt of brown bone ends with a slightly narrowed head, curved downwards. The bone sheath fixed to the hilt with four massive iron rivets. The brass crossguard, straight, with one globular-elongated button at the tip of both quillons. Across the cross guard, there is a knob and a diamond-shaped bifurcated tongue that tapers toward the tip. The wooden scabbard, plated with brass sheet, with reinforced brass button at the end, and with notches for tongued cross guard, in the lower part. The scabbard is designed to have seven narrow brass loops and two wide brass loops in the lower part. The wide loops have a movable circular metal carrying ring.

The length of the blade is 82 cm; the length of the hilt is 10.5 cm.

Inv. № 3395 MBT



73. AUSTRIAN SAPPER SABRE M – 1769

Austria

Steel blade, slightly curved upwards, single-edged, near the tip double-edged. Serrated upper edge of the blade. The ivory sheath with small extensions toward the tip. The extension of the hilt made of brass continues to the hand guard with two short rounded branches. Across the middle of the cross guard, on both sides, a brass plate in the shape of a stylized diamond. In the middle of the right plate, a semi-globular brass knob. The scabbard is not preserved.

The length of the blade is 60 cm; the length of the hilt is 11 cm.

Inv. № 3263 MBT



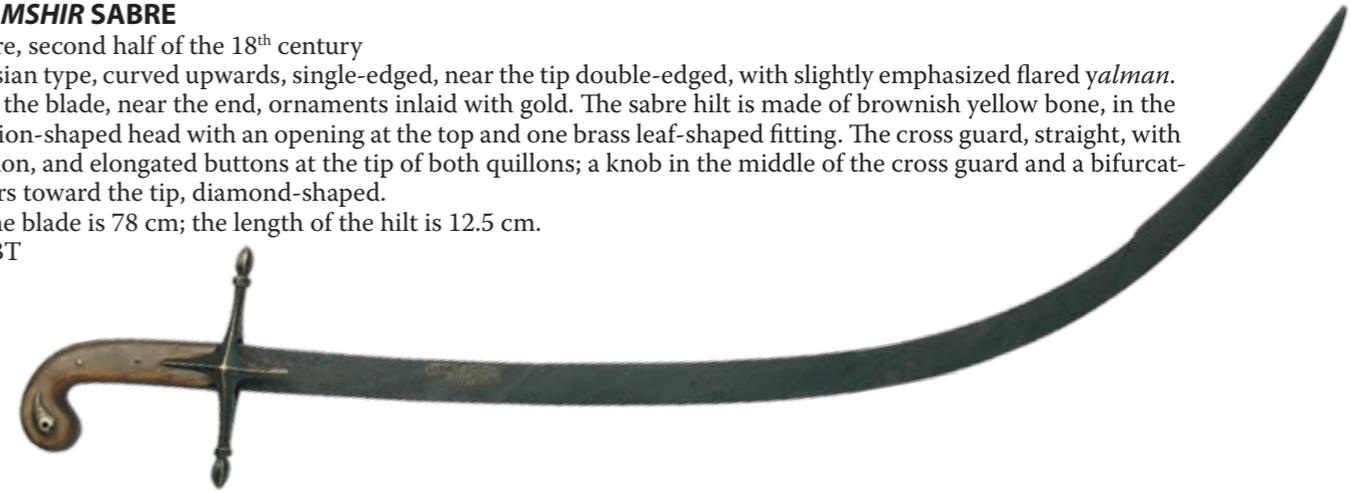
74. TURKISH SHAMSHIR SABRE

Ottoman Empire, second half of the 18th century

Steel blade, Persian type, curved upwards, single-edged, near the tip double-edged, with slightly emphasized flared *yalman*. On the right side of the blade, near the end, ornaments inlaid with gold. The sabre hilt is made of brownish yellow bone, in the form of a curved onion-shaped head with an opening at the top and one brass leaf-shaped fitting. The cross guard, straight, with diamond cross section, and elongated buttons at the tip of both quillons; a knob in the middle of the cross guard and a bifurcated tongue that tapers toward the tip, diamond-shaped.

The length of the blade is 78 cm; the length of the hilt is 12.5 cm.

Inv. № 3268 MBT



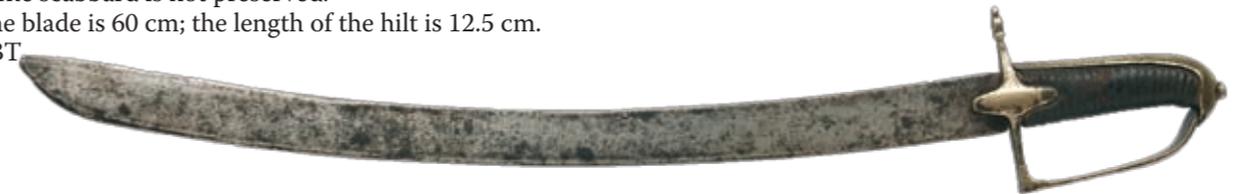
75. AUSTRIAN GRENADIER SABRE M – 1765

Austria

Steel blade, broad, slightly curved upwards, single-edged, near the tip double-edged. The wooden hilt covered with leather and divided into slices; brass back fittings with a shallow head cap and circular rivet at the tip. Brass hand guard extends at the right angle to the cross guard with a straight extended quillon. At the tip of the cross guard a brass capital; across the middle of the cross guard a broad bifurcated tongue. The scabbard is not preserved.

The length of the blade is 60 cm; the length of the hilt is 12.5 cm.

Inv. № 3396 MBT



76. AUSTRIAN GRENADIR SABRE M – 1765, Austria

Steel blade, broad, slightly bent upward, cutting edge on one side and near the tip on the other side, too. Along cutting edge there is a wide, shallow fuller. Wooden handle, transversely ridged, covered in leather. Back fitting made of brass with a shallow cap on theommel and ball-like rivet on top. The brass handguard connected to the quillon at 90 degrees. The brass cross guard with two flat, short tongues and one wider in the middle part. The wooden scabbard covered in leather, brass rivets at the ends, the lower one with a square ring for strap.

Blade length 68 cm, handle length 11 cm

Inv. № 4804 CMV



77. AUSTRIAN FUSILIER SABRE M – 1765

Austria

Steel blade, broad, slightly curved upwards, single-edged, near the tip double-edged. The wooden hilt, cross-ribbed, leather covered; brass back fitting with a shallow head cap and circular rivet at the tip. The brass cross guard with quillons slightly curved in the opposite directions. At the tip of the cross guard, two brass capitals; across the middle of the cross guard a broad bifurcated tongue. The wooden scabbard, covered with leather, at the lower end brass fitting and a button for attaching the leather cover. The upper brass fitting is missing.

The length of the blade is 53.5 cm; the length of the hilt is 12.5 cm.

Inv. № 3388 MBT



78. TURKISH SHAMSHIR SABRE

Ottoman Empire, late 18th century to early 19th century

Steel blade, Persian type, single-edged, curved upwards. The sabre hilt is of brown bone in the form of a curved onion-shaped massive head with an opening at the top. The brass crossguard, straight, with one rounded end at the tips of both quillons. A knob in the middle of the cross guard and a bifurcated tongue that tapers toward the tip, in the shape of a stylized diamond. The cross guard is decorated with engraved geometric patterns of the Balkan type. The wooden scabbard, covered with black leather, with massive brass fitting in the upper part; short brass fitting from the lower side has not been preserved. In the lower part of the scabbard, two brass loops, decorated with engraved geometric patterns, with one circular movable carrying ring each.

The length of the blade is 81 cm; the length of the hilt is 12.5 cm.

Inv. № 3276 MBT



79. INDO-PERSIAN SABRE

Middle East, 18th to 19th century

Steel blade, slightly curved upwards, single-edged, near the tip double-edged, with slightly flared *yalman*. On this side of the blade, along the spine, there are two fullers: the upper one is narrower and shorter, while the lower fuller is wider and longer (ends near the tip). At the end of the blade, on both sides, engraved oriental ornaments. The hilt of cast metal, with a small knob in the middle of the lower edge, ends with a stylized globular head, curved downwards. The hilt is decorated with sumptuous stylized floral and flower ornaments. The metal cross guard, extending from the hilt, is semi-circular in shape with both quillons curved toward the sabre blade; it finishes with a widened stylized ornament at the tips. A knob in the middle of the cross guard and a bifurcated tongue that tapers slightly toward the tip. The decoration of the cross guard is executed in the same style as the decoration of the hilt. The scabbard is not preserved.

The length of the blade is 70 cm; the length of the hilt is 11 cm.

Inv. № 3403 MBT



80. FRENCH CAVALRY OFFICER SABRE

France, French Consulate, 1799-1804

Steel blade, slightly curved upwards, single-edged, near the tip double-edged. On both sides of the blade, along the spine, wide and shallow fullers, oval in shape. At the end of the blade, on both sides, there are ornaments patterned as stylized floral motifs and military trophies. All ornaments are gilded. On the right side of the blade, the inscription "ISVr.C" is engraved. On the upper side of the blade, also near the end, a gilded ornament is made in the same style as other decorations on the blade. The leather covered wooden hilt is divided into parallel slices. The brass back fitting extends to an ellipsoid cap on the head, with a rivet on the crown. The brass hand guard, shaped as an arch with two bars and a curved reinforced branch that ends with a brass button at the tip. Across the cross guard, on both sides, there is a brass ellipsoid plate. The steel massive scabbard with a "crest" at the tip and two massive brass loops in the lower part with a carrying ring each.

The length of the blade is 86 cm; the length of the hilt is 13 cm.

Inv. № 3311 MBT



81. SABRE SHASHKA – DRAGOON M – 1842, Russia

Steel blade, slightly recurved, single edged. On both sides of the blade, with spine that tapers at the top, there is a shallow, oval fuller. At the end of the blade, there is an inscription in Cyrillic *Zlatoust 1876*, and letter *P* on the other side. Wooden grip is wrapped up in brown leather, twisted with brass wire divided into slices. At the top, there is a rounded head made of brass to which a curved hand-guard is attached extending further into a cross-guard ending in an arched quillon on the other side. The wooden scabbard upholstered in black leather reinforced with brass fittings at the top and bottom. In the lower part, there are two brass rings with pierced ribs for rings. At the top there is a circular ring, at the bottom there is none.

Blade length 72 cm, hilt length 14.5 cm.

Inv. № I 4859 CMV



82. SABRE OF HUNAGARIAN CAVALRY GENDARMERIE M – 1851, Solingen

Steel blade, with one fuller on each side, along the spine, slightly curved, single edged on one part and double edged near the tip. The hilt is covered with a thick metallic net, divided into slices between which a twisted brass wire is wrapped. Brass handguard has decorative moulded bars. Slightly curved ellipsoidal crossguard is merged into the handguard. The head of the hilt, front and rear reinforcement fittings are made of brass. Wooden scabbard sheathed in leather, at the ends reinforced by metal fitting, with a carrying ring on the fitting hole.

Blade length 82 cm, hilt length 13.7 cm

Inv. № I 4792 CMV



83. AUSTRIAN INFANTRY OFFICER SABRE M – 1861

Steel blade, curved, single edged, near the tip double edged. Along the spine a fuller on both sides of the blade. The wooden grip of recent make. The iron back fitting with a shallow cap on the pommel. The wavy hand guard with rounded corners extends to the cross guard with a bent cylindrical thickened end. Two slits for a wrist sling on the cross guard quillon. No scabbard is preserved.

The length of the blade is 71 cm; the length of the hilt is 13.7 cm.

Inv. № I 4796 CMV



84. AUSTRIAN CAVALRY SOLDIERS' SABRE M – 1861

Steel blade, slightly curved upward, a blunt edge on one part and near the tip, on the other part reduced into the tip.

On both sides of the blade, along the spine, there is one shallow, oval fuller. Wooden hilt covered with fish skin is divided into slices separated by twisted silver wire. Iron back fittings with "one ear" with the flat cap on the hilt head. Iron handguard, of oval appearance, decorated with geometric symmetric holes. On top of the handguard there are two rectangular openings for shaft belt. Metal scabbard with a "crest" at the top, at the bottom there are two rings, the upper mobile ring for gripping, whereas the lower ring is fixed and used for carrying.

Blade length of 85.2 cm, hilt length 14 cm

Inv. № I 4809 CMV



85. OFFICER'S SABRE, AUSTRIAN M – 1862

Steel blade, narrow, slightly curved back, single –edged near the tip. On both sides, along the spin, there is one small oval fuller. At the bottom, on the right side, there is an inscription: *SOLINGEN* and below *W* and *ST*. The hilt is made of wood, covered with fish skin, divided into slices separated by twisted and plain brass wire. At the bottom, there is an iron ring as reinforcement. Back iron fittings with a flat cap on the hilt head and rounded elliptical parietal rivet. Corrugated handguard with rounded corners extends into the crossguard whose upper quillon is broken. Iron scabbard with a "crest" at the tip and at the end, there are two rings. On the lower ring, there is a flattened loop and on the top ring there is broken off bracket with a loop.

Blade length of 84,5 cm, hilt length 13 cm

Inv. № I 4867 CMV



86.OFFICERS' SABRE, AUSTRIAN M – 1862

Steel blade, narrow, slightly recurved, single –edged near the tip. On both sides, along the spine, there is one shallow oval fuller. On the left side of the blade, at the lower part, in the fuller, there is an engraved text in German: *an Erinnerung an den Weltkrieg 1914-15*, and at the very bottom, there is the word *SOLINGEN*. On the right side of the blade, in the lower part of the fuller, there is the text in German: *K k Feldwebel MARTIN DONAUER*. The wooden hilt is covered with leather, twisted and plain brass wire divided into slices with an iron ring at the bottom. Back fitting of iron with a flat cap on the hilt head and elliptical rivet on the crown. Handguard made of iron, rolling, extending into an expanded crossguard whose upper quillon is bent forward, cut through with the two holes for a belt, and on top it has a cylindrical appendage. The scabbard is made of iron with a “crest” at the tip, the bottom ring with a flat loop by the side a little above; there is the ring with a fixed circular loop.

Blade length of 72.3 cm, hilt length 14 cm

Inv. № I 4865 CMV

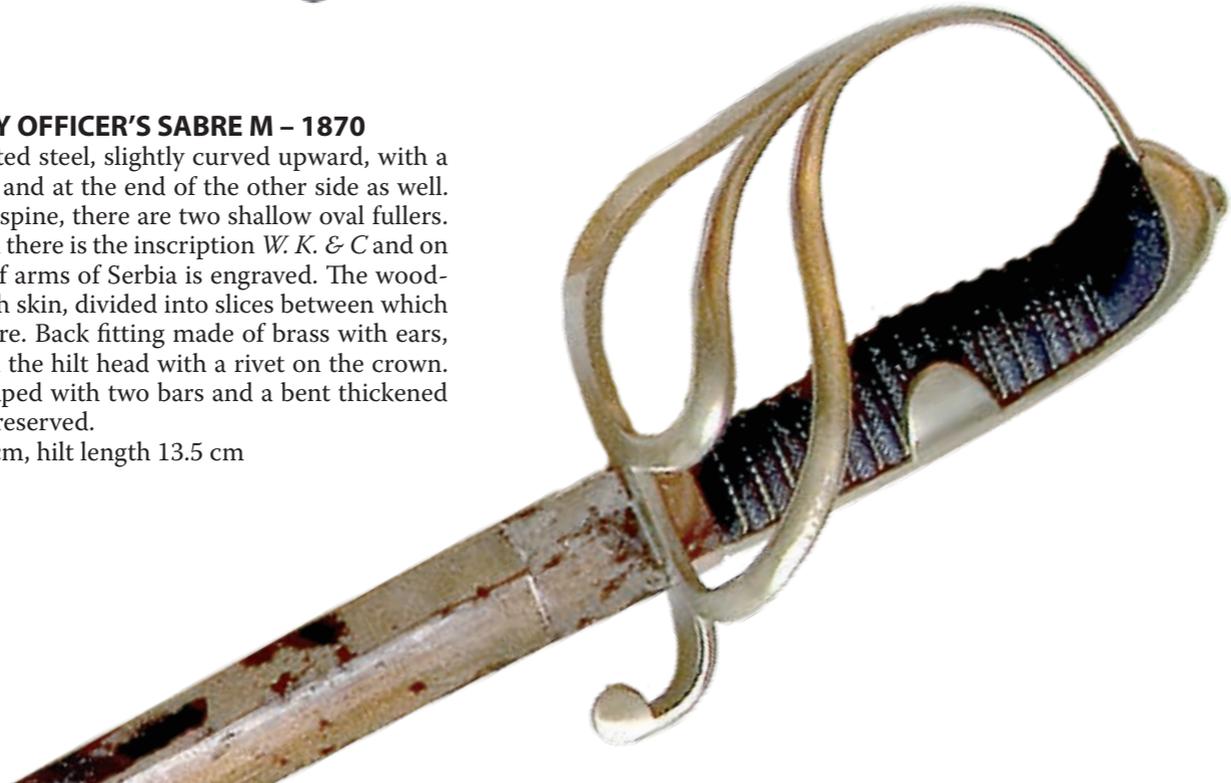


87.SERBIAN INFANTRY OFFICER'S SABRE M – 1870

The blade nickel coated steel, slightly curved upward, with a cutting edge on one side and at the end of the other side as well. On both sides, along the spine, there are two shallow oval fullers. On the left side at the end there is the inscription *W. K. & C* and on the other side, the coat of arms of Serbia is engraved. The wooden hilt is covered with fish skin, divided into slices between which there is twisted, brass wire. Back fitting made of brass with ears, extends into a flat cap on the hilt head with a rivet on the crown. Brass hanguard, arch-shaped with two bars and a bent thickened branch. No scabbard is preserved.

Blade length of 79.3 cm, hilt length 13.5 cm

Inv. № I 4839 CMV



88. CROATIAN-HUNAGARIAN GUARDSMEN SABRE M – 1881 TYPE III/3

Steel blade, slim, slender, nickel coated, slightly curved upward, on either side there is a shallow oval fuller. The wooden hilt, painted in black, slightly conical towards the tip ending in a brass lion head from whose mouth comes out a curved handguard extending into the crossguard ending in a curved quillon with two buttons on the crown. In the middle of the crossguard, on both sides, there is a semi-elliptical plate whose internal cross-section is in the form of Arabic number 3.

The scabbard is made of iron sheet with fittings at the locket and on the chape that has a flat cap with a small ball on the crown. On the lower half, there are two additional fittings of sheet metal bearing two movable loops.

Blade length of 78.7 cm, hilt length 13.5 cm

Inv. № I 4833 CMV



89.CROATIAN-HUNAGARIAN GUARDSMEN SABRE, GENERAL RANK M – 1881, TYPE II

The blade steel, nickel coated, slightly curved upward, single–edged near the tip. On each side of the blade there is an oval, shallow fuller, on the lower part of the blade on both sides various inlay decorations are presented, and on the right hand side letters *F* and *J* are inscribed, above which there is a crown with a cross. The wooden hilt is covered with mother-of-pearl plates ending in a brass lion head. Brass cross guard, with quillons bent in the opposite directions. On each side of the cross guard there is a brass plate. On the right plate, there is an emblem of Triune Kingdom. The wooden scabbard is covered with black glaze with ornamented fittings at the end, at the tip and in the middle. The central fitting carries a moveable loop which is fastened to a leather strap to be hung on the uniform.

Blade length 86 cm, hilt length 13 cm

Inv. № I 4856 CMV



90. HUSSAR SABRE, Austria, 19th century

The steel blade, chrome coated, slightly recurved, with one larger oval fuller on both sides, along the spine. There is an edge on one side and double edges at the tip. At the bottom of the left side of the blade number 1848 is engraved on the other side St: EGIDY is engraved.

Bakelite hilt is divided into tiny slices, reinforced by an iron ring at the end. The back iron fitting with a flat cap on the hilt head has a rivet on the crown. Iron handguard, with a cross guard connected at the right angle. The quillions of the crossboard are straight, the upper one has a slit for carrying, on top there is a cylindrical end. Iron scabbard, massive, with a small "crest" on the crown and two loops in the lower part supporting ring reinforcements.

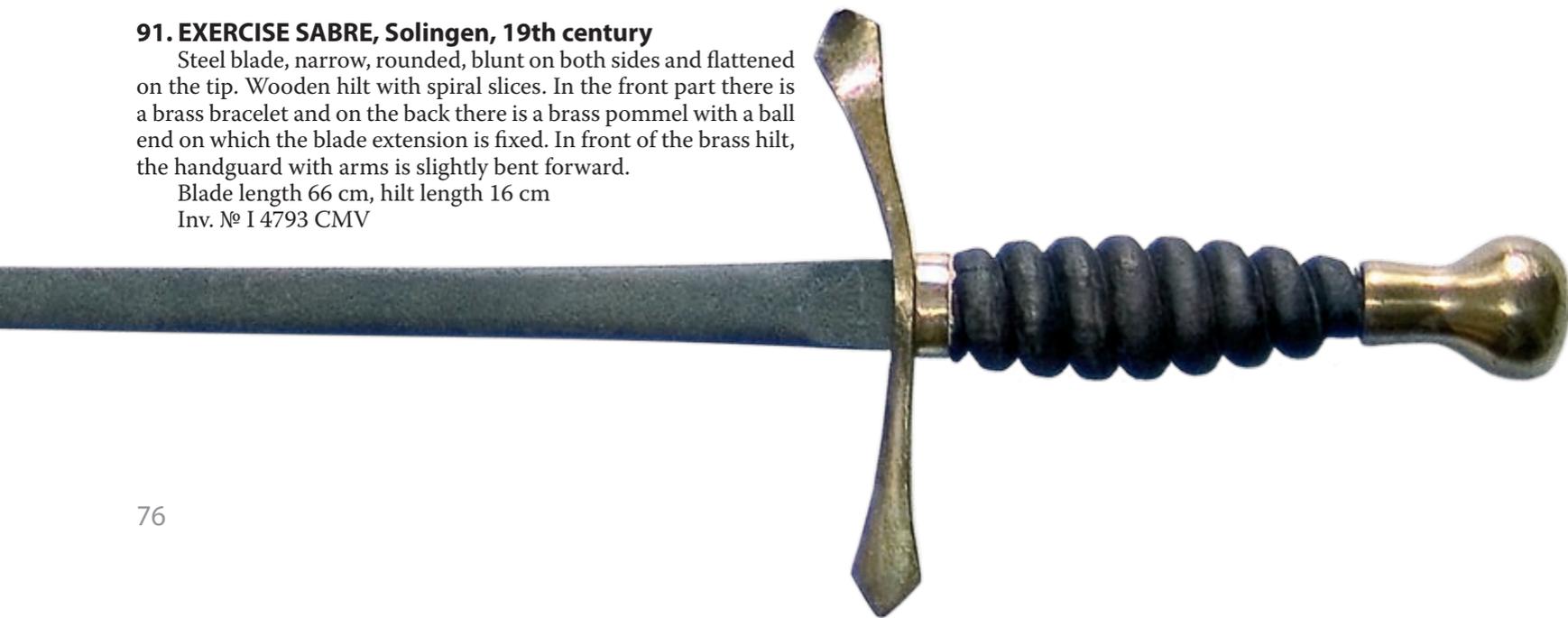
Blade length 85 cm, hilt handle 13.5 cm
Inv. № I 4863 CMV



91. EXERCISE SABRE, Solingen, 19th century

Steel blade, narrow, rounded, blunt on both sides and flattened on the tip. Wooden hilt with spiral slices. In the front part there is a brass bracelet and on the back there is a brass pommel with a ball end on which the blade extension is fixed. In front of the brass hilt, the handguard with arms is slightly bent forward.

Blade length 66 cm, hilt length 16 cm
Inv. № I 4793 CMV



92. AUSTRIAN SABRE CLERICAL, PARADE

Austria, first half of the 19th century

Steel blade, curved upwards, single-edged, near the tip double edged. On both sides of the blade, along the spine, a wide and shallow fuller that tapers toward the tip. In the lower part, on both sides of the blade, engraved stylized floral and flower ornaments. The wooden hilt, encased with mother-of-pearl plates, ends with a human head of cast brass, curved downwards. From the lower side of the handle, engraved brass fittings. The brass arched hand guard, stylized in the middle to a mythological figure, extends to the cross guard that ends with the arched quillon with a button at the tip. In the middle of the cross guard, on both sides, a brass plate in the shape of a semi-ellipse, decorated with geometric patterns. The scabbard is made of brass sheet, elaborately decorated with stylized floral and flower motifs, with a "crest" at the tip and two protruding loops in the lower part with circular and movable carrying rings, made of brass.

The length of the blade is 79 cm; the length of the hilt is 12.5 cm.
Inv. № 3230 MBT



93. HUNGARIAN SABRE MAGNATE, PARADE,

Hungary, first half of the 19th century

Belonged to the Ostojić family, Timisoara

Steel blade of kilij type, damascened, broad, curved upwards, single-edged, near the tip double-edged. The spine is reinforced, flared *yalman* at the tip. On both sides of the *jalman*, a nervure in the upper part. On both sides of the blade, engraved elaborated oriental ornaments; on the right across the middle of the blade, the coat of arms of the Hungarian Kingdom is engraved; traces of gilt on the ornaments. The sabre light brown bone hilt ends in the shape of a curved rounded head with an opening at the top and leaf-like gilded fitting. The metal cross guard is straight, gilded, with an elongated button at the tip of each quillon. In the middle of the cross guard is a knob and a bifurcated tongue that tapers toward the tip, in the shape of a stylized diamond. The wooden scabbard, covered with green velvet, with metal gilded fitting in the upper part and with short gilded fitting with notches for the cross guard tabs in the lower part. In the lower part of the scabbard, two gilded loops with circular and movable carrying rings.

The length of the blade is 76 cm; the length of the hilt is 13 cm.

Inv. № 3411 MBT



94. SABRE OF AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN INFANTRY OFFICERS, second half of the 19th century.

Steel blade, narrow, slightly curved upward, single-edged on one side and double edged near the tip. Along the spine, on both sides, there is an oval, shallow fuller. On the left side at the bottom, the following is engraved: WEYERSBERG & STAMM SOLINGEN. The wooden hilt is covered with fish skin, divided into slices separated by a twisted and plain brass wire. The back iron fitting, nickel plated, ends in a flat cap on the crown. The corrugated handguard with rounded corners extends further into the almond-shaped guard. A branch of the guard is bent and thickened on top and has two longitudinal perforations. The iron scabbard, nickel coated, with a "crest" at the tip, has two narrow rings at the end. The upper one has elliptical, fixed loop and the lower one has an extended flattened loop, by the side. Decorative leather strap used for carrying is attached to the upper loop.

Blade length 85.8 cm, hilt length 13.5 cm

Inv. № I 4838 CMV



95. HUNGARIAN SABRE MAGNATE, PARADE

Hungary, 1839

Belonged to Istvan Soos, Timisoara

Steel blade, curved upwards, single-edged, near the tip double-edged. On both sides of the blade, along the spine, a wide and shallow fuller, oval in shape that tapers toward the tip. At the end of the blade, on both sides, traces of engraved ornaments. The sabre hilt is made of brownish yellow bone, in the shape of a curved round head with an opening at the top and brass fitting in the form of a stylized flower. The cast brass crossguard is straight, sumptuously decorated with stylized floral and flower motifs, and with a spherical button at the tip of both quillons. In the middle of the cross guard there is a decorated protruding knot and a thin bifurcated tongue, decorated with entwined geometric motifs. The wooden scabbard, covered with red velvet, in the upper part with massive brass fitting which has stylized reinforcement at the end, and in the lower part with short brass fitting with notches for the cross guard tabs. In the lower part of the scabbard, there are two protruding loops with circular and movable carrying rings. Along the upper edge of the lower brass fitting there is an engraved inscription in Hungarian "Soos Imre Temesvár. 1839".

The length of the blade is 82 cm; the length of the hilt is 13 cm.

Inv. № 3292 MBT



96. HUNGARIAN SABRE M – 1849 CLERICAL, PARADE,

Hungary

Steel blade, recurved, single-edged, near the tip double-edged. On both sides of the blade, along the back edge, a wide and shallow fuller, oval in shape that tapers toward the tip. At the end of the blade, on both sides, engraved stylized floral and flower ornaments. The wooden hilt, covered with black leather (recent improvisation, the sheath of mother-of-pearl has not been preserved), ends with a cast brass lion head, curved downwards. On the right side of the hilt, there is an inscription in Latin "VIRIBUS", and on the left another inscription in Latin "UNITIS". The cast brass cross guard is sumptuously decorated with floral and geometric motifs, with quillons curved in the opposite directions, slightly S shaped. On both sides of the cross guard there is a brass plate. On both plates there is the coat of arms of the Habsburg Monarchy. The wooden scabbard, covered with black leather with sumptuously decorated brass fitting at the end, in the middle and at the tip. The upper fitting is designed intended to be with a "crest"; the other two have a movable circular brass carrying ring, each placed on the upper edge.

The length of the blade is 78 cm; the length of the hilt is 11 cm.

Inv. № 3336 MBT



97. FRENCH SABRE CLERICAL, PARADE

France, 19th century

Steel blade, curved upwards, single-edged, near the tip double-edged. On both sides of the blade, along the spine, a wide and shallow fuller, oval in shape, that tapers toward the tip. The cast brass hilt, sumptuously decorated with floral and flower ornaments, ends with a cast brass bird head, curved downwards. On the lower side of the hilt, on both sides, notches for the cross guard tabs. The cast brass cross guard is straight, sumptuously decorated, and ends with a bird head at the tip of both quillons. In the middle of the cross guard, on both sides, a brass plate of an ellipsoid shape, in the form of a medallion, decorated with a stylized human face. The wooden scabbard, covered with black leather, with sumptuously decorated brass fitting at the end, at the tip and in the middle. The upper fitting is intended to be with a cylindrical button at the end; the other two have a movable circular brass carrying ring, each placed on the upper edge.

The length of the blade is 73 cm; the length of the hilt is 12 cm.

Inv. № 3412 MBT





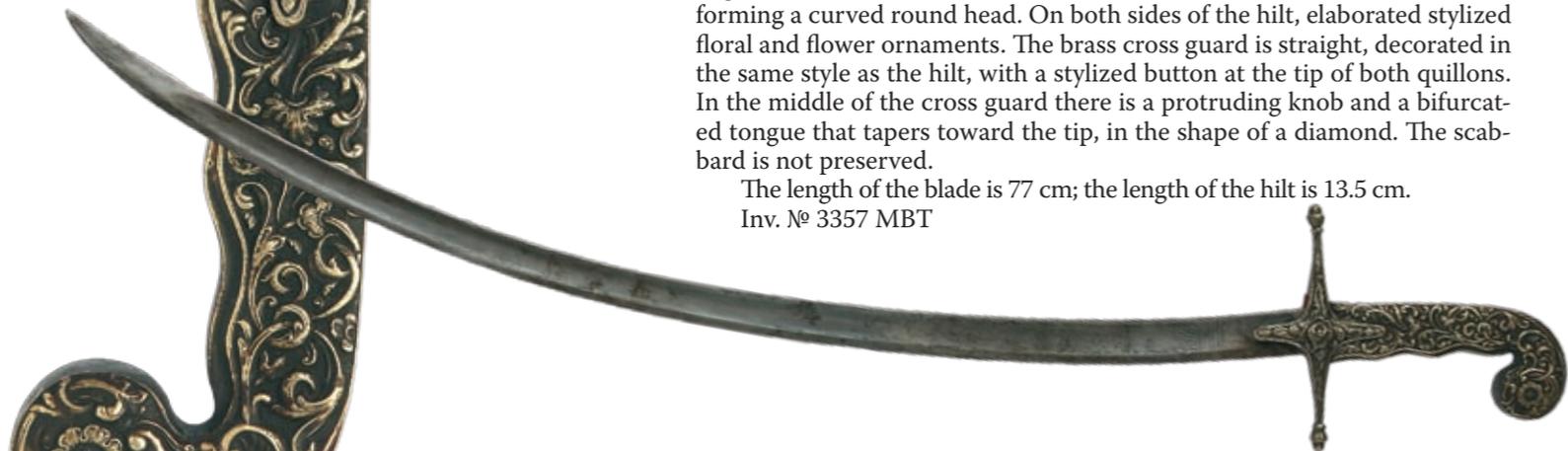
98. HUNGARIAN SABRE MAGNATE, PARADE

Austrian Empire, mid 19th century

Steel blade, recurved, single-edged, near the tip double-edged. On both sides of the blade, along the spine, a wide and shallow fuller, oval in shape, that tapers toward the tip. In the lower part, on both sides of the blade, engraved stylized floral and flower ornaments. On the right side of the blade, near the end, the maker's name in German is engraved "B. W. Ohligs / Haussman / k. k. Hof"; on the right side, also in German, the place of manufacturing is engraved "Waffen / Fabrikant / in Wien". The brass hilt of the sabre ends forming a curved round head. On both sides of the hilt, elaborated stylized floral and flower ornaments. The brass cross guard is straight, decorated in the same style as the hilt, with a stylized button at the tip of both quillons. In the middle of the cross guard there is a protruding knob and a bifurcated tongue that tapers toward the tip, in the shape of a diamond. The scabbard is not preserved.

The length of the blade is 77 cm; the length of the hilt is 13.5 cm.

Inv. № 3357 MBT



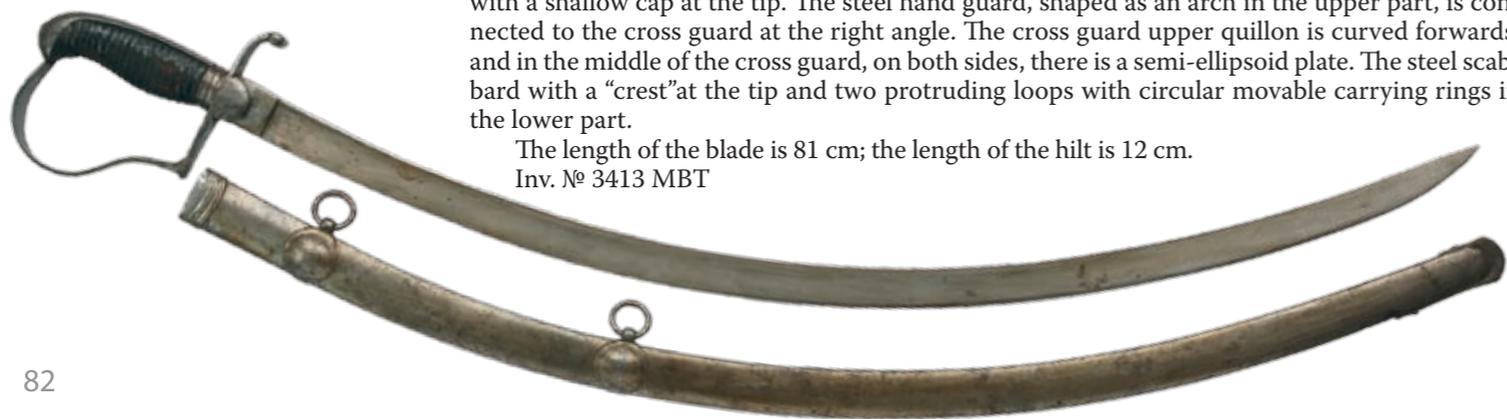
99. HUNGARIAN OFFICER SABRE M – 1837

1843

Steel blade, curved upwards, single-edged, near the tip double-edged. The reinforced spine, at the end of the upper edge there is an inscription in Hungarian "Nemeth 1843". On the right side of the blade, an engraved geometric ornament. The wooden hilt, covered with black leather, divided into parallel slices and fixed in the lower side with an iron ring. Steel back fitting ends with a shallow cap at the tip. The steel hand guard, shaped as an arch in the upper part, is connected to the cross guard at the right angle. The cross guard upper quillon is curved forwards, and in the middle of the cross guard, on both sides, there is a semi-ellipsoid plate. The steel scabbard with a "crest" at the tip and two protruding loops with circular movable carrying rings in the lower part.

The length of the blade is 81 cm; the length of the hilt is 12 cm.

Inv. № 3413 MBT



100. AUSTRIAN CAVALRY SABRE M – 1845

Austria, 1848

Steel blade, slightly curved upwards, single-edged, near the tip double-edged. Along the spine, on both sides of the blade, a wide oval fuller. Toward the middle of the blade, on both sides, the engraved coat of arms of the Hungarian Kingdom. On the left side, near the end, the maker's inscription in German "JURMANN" is stamped. The wooden grip, covered with black leather, divided into massive parallel slices. The steel back fitting with ears ends with a shallow cap on the hilt head with an oval rivet on the crown. The massive steel hand guard, arch-like rounded, with longitudinal perforation toward the upper part, with a protection flare in the front part and seven small holes on it. The upper part of the massive cross guard is designed to have a cylindrical appendage. On the upper part of the cross guard, the German inscription "JURMANN / 1848" is stamped. The massive steel scabbard with a "crest" at the tip and two metal loops in the lower part with a circular movable carrying ring each. On the left side of the scabbard, near the end, there is an engraved inscription in German "JURMANN / 1848".

The length of the blade is 92.5 cm; the length of the hilt is 15 cm.

Inv. № 3305 MBT



101. TURKISH SHAMSHIR SABRE

Ottoman Empire, mid 19th century

Steel blade, Persian type, single-edged, curved upwards. The sabre hilt is made of light brown bone in the form of a curved onion-shaped head with an opening at the top and one brass leaf-like fitting. The brass crossguard, with quillons curved in the opposite directions; in the middle a protruding knot and a bifurcated tongue that tapers slightly toward the tip. The wooden scabbard is covered with black leather over a very small section from the lower side. In the upper part of the scabbard, massive brass fitting with 0-shaped reinforcement at the end with a movable circular brass carrying ring. In the lower part, much shorter brass fitting with notches for the cross guard tabs and the 0-shaped reinforcement through which a movable circular brass carrying ring is pulled.

The length of the blade is 77 cm; the length of the hilt is 12 cm.

Inv. № 3271 MBT



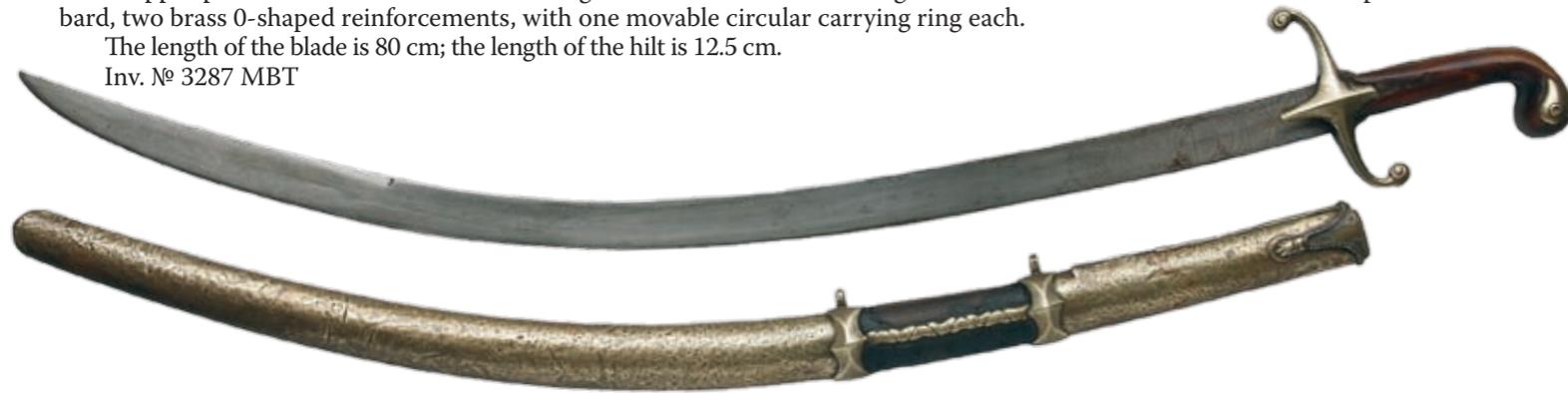
102. TURKISH SHAMSHIR SABRE

Bosnia, mid 19th century

Steel blade, Persian type, recurved, single-edged, near the tip double-edged. At the end of the blade, on both sides, engraved rudimentary ornaments and on the right side an engraved inscription in Latin "ANNO / 1631" in the same style. The sabre hilt is made of light brown bone in the form of a curved onion-shaped head with an opening at the top and one brass leaf-like fitting. The brass cross-guard, S-shaped with quillons curved in the opposite direction. In the middle of the cross guard there is a protruding knot and a bifurcated tongue that slightly tapers toward the tip. The wooden scabbard, covered with black leather in the lower part; massive brass fitting in the upper part and much shorter brass fitting with notches for the cross guard tabs on the lower side. In the lower part of the scabbard, two brass 0-shaped reinforcements, with one movable circular carrying ring each.

The length of the blade is 80 cm; the length of the hilt is 12.5 cm.

Inv. № 3287 MBT



103. TURKISH SHAMSHIR SABRE,

Ottoman Empire, 19th century

Steel blade, Persian type, curved upwards, single-edged, near the tip double-edged. On the left side of the blade, in the lower part, an oriental ornament inlaid with gold. The ivory hilt forms a curved onion-shaped head with an opening at the top. The silver cross guard, decorated with stylized floral and flower motifs, with S-shaped quillons curved in the opposite directions. At the end of one quillon there is a small attachment ring. In the middle of the cross guard a slight bulge and a bifurcated tongue that tapers toward the tip. The wooden scabbard, in the middle covered with black leather, with massive silver fitting in the upper part and somewhat shorter silver fitting with notches for the cross guard tabs from the lower side. Silver fittings are sumptuously decorated with stylized floral and flower motifs. In the lower part of the scabbard, two silver loops, with one movable circular carrying ring each.

The length of the blade is 76 cm; the length of the hilt is 12 cm.

Inv. № 5512 MBT



104. TURKISH KILIÇ SABRE

Bosnia, second half of the 19th century

Steel blade, *kiliç* type, massive, broad, recurved, single-edged, near the tip double-edged. The back is reinforced, flared *yalman* at the tip. On both sides of the blade, along the spine, two narrow fullers: the first ends near the *yalman*, the second is longer and stretches along the whole length of the blade. On the right side of the blade, in the lower part, an engraved crescent. The brass hilt, octagonal in cross section, with a nervure in the middle of both sides. It ends with slightly narrowed head, curved downwards. The cast brass cross guard, semi-circular in shape, with both quillons curved toward the sabre blade, ends at the tip with an extended stylized ornament. In the middle of the cross guard there is a knob and a bifurcated tongue that tapers slightly toward the tip, in the shape of a stylized diamond. The wooden scabbard; massive brass fitting in the upper part, from the lower side a brass loop decorated with geometric motifs, with a circular carrying ring.

The length of the blade is 69 cm; the length of the hilt is 11 cm.

Inv. № 3281 MBT



105. TURKISH KILIÇ SABRE

Ottoman Empire, 19th century

Steel blade, *kiliç* type, massive, broad, curved upwards, single-edged, near the tip double-edged. The spine is reinforced, flared *yalman* at the tip. On both sides of the blade, in the middle, engraved elaborated oriental ornaments. The hilt of dark wood ends with a slightly rounded head, curved downwards. The grip is fixed on the guard with a brass rivet and metal screws on the upper edge. The brass cross guard is straight, square in cross section, and ends with a globular button at the tip of both quillons. In the middle of the cross guard, there is a broad bifurcated brass tongue of an ellipsoid shape. The wooden scabbard, covered with black leather, with massive brass fitting in the upper part, is designed to be with a "crest" at the tip. In the lower part of the scabbard there is shorter brass fitting with a circular carrying ring.

The length of the blade is 74 cm; the length of the hilt is 12 cm.

Inv. № 3291 MBT



106. TURKISH SABRE

The Balkans, 19th century

Steel blade, curved upwards, single-edged, near the tip double-edged. On both sides of the blade, in the middle, a fuller. The right fuller, near the end of the blade, has five engraved marks. On both sides of the blade, along the spine, successive semi-circular ornaments are engraved. The hilt of dark wood forms a curved onion-shaped head with a small opening at the top and one iron leaf-like fitting. The iron crossguard, S shaped, with quillons curved in the opposite directions and one globular button at the tip of both quillons. In the middle of the cross guard a thin bifurcated tongue. The wooden scabbard, covered with black leather, with massive fitting of iron sheet in the upper part with a metal loop at the end. In the lower part of the scabbard there is short iron fitting with notches for the cross guard tabs.

The length of the blade is 77 cm; the length of the hilt is 12.5 cm.

Inv. № 3283 MBT



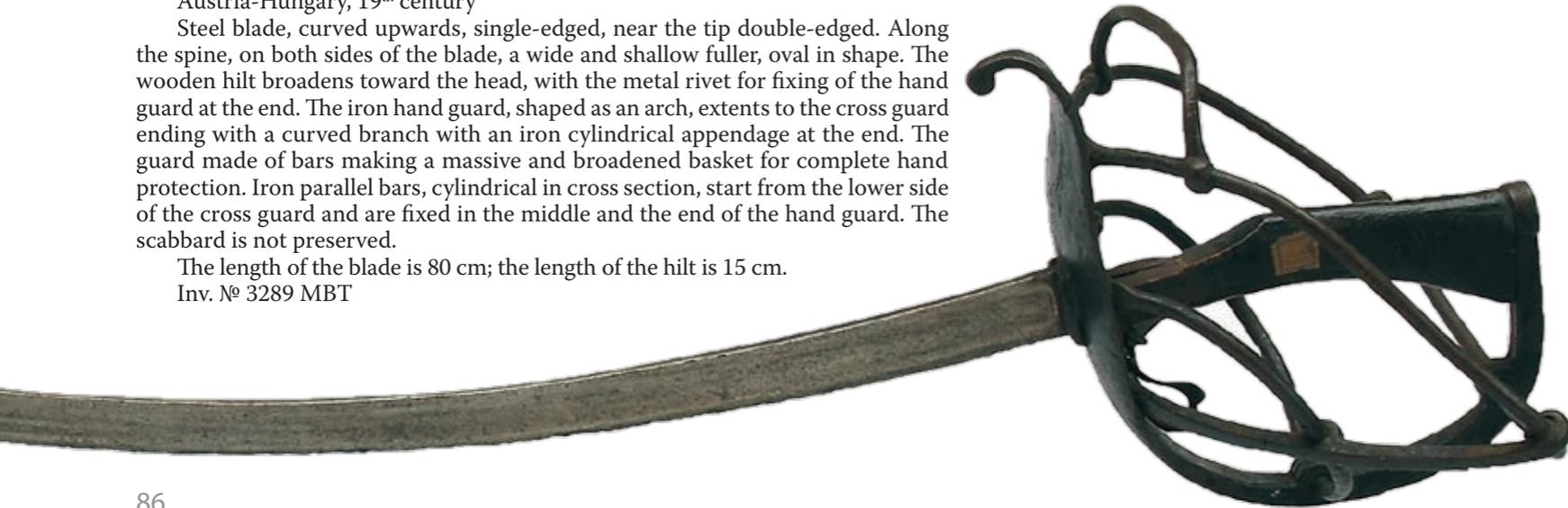
107. HUNGARIAN FENCING MENSUR SABRE

Austria-Hungary, 19th century

Steel blade, curved upwards, single-edged, near the tip double-edged. Along the spine, on both sides of the blade, a wide and shallow fuller, oval in shape. The wooden hilt broadens toward the head, with the metal rivet for fixing of the hand guard at the end. The iron hand guard, shaped as an arch, extends to the cross guard ending with a curved branch with an iron cylindrical appendage at the end. The guard made of bars making a massive and broadened basket for complete hand protection. Iron parallel bars, cylindrical in cross section, start from the lower side of the cross guard and are fixed in the middle and the end of the hand guard. The scabbard is not preserved.

The length of the blade is 80 cm; the length of the hilt is 15 cm.

Inv. № 3289 MBT



108. AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN CAVALRY SABRE M – 1869

Austria

Steel blade, slightly curved upwards, single-edged, near the tip double-edged. Along the spine, on the right side of the blade, a wide and oval fuller. The wooden hilt, covered in leather, divided into parallel slices separated with twisted wire. The steel back fitting with ears ends with a shallow cap on the hilt head with an ellipsoid rivet on the crown. The massive iron hand guard, rounded as an arch, with a protective flare in the front part and seven smaller holes on it. The upper part of the massive crossguard, is designed to have two longitudinal parallel openings. The massive steel scabbard with a "crest" at the tip and two metal loops in the lower part with one metal carrying ring each (the upper one: circular and movable; the lower one: elongated and fixed on the left side of the scabbard).

The length of the blade is 76.5 cm; the length of the hilt is 14.5 cm.

Inv. № 3340 MBT



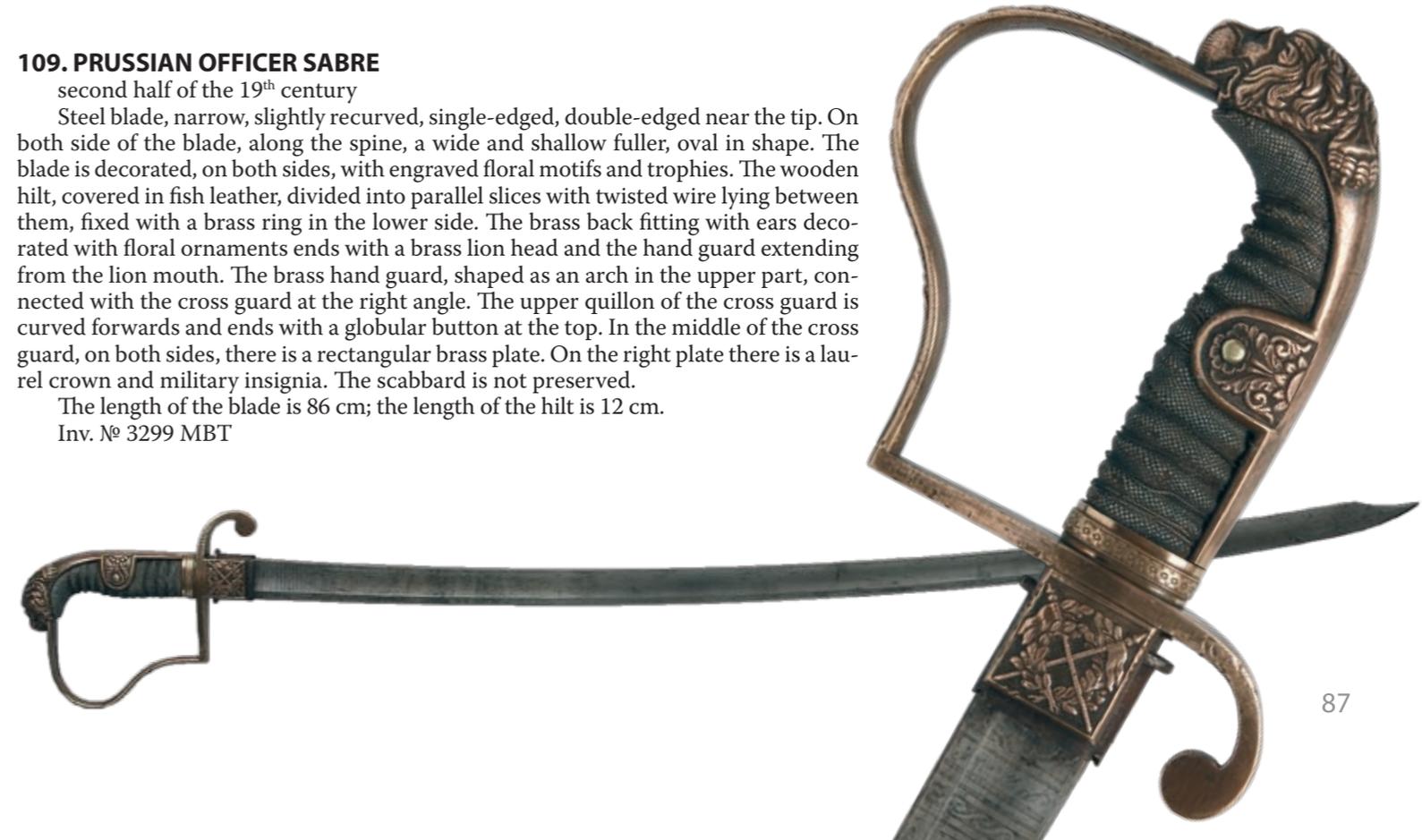
109. PRUSSIAN OFFICER SABRE

second half of the 19th century

Steel blade, narrow, slightly recurved, single-edged, double-edged near the tip. On both side of the blade, along the spine, a wide and shallow fuller, oval in shape. The blade is decorated, on both sides, with engraved floral motifs and trophies. The wooden hilt, covered in fish leather, divided into parallel slices with twisted wire lying between them, fixed with a brass ring in the lower side. The brass back fitting with ears decorated with floral ornaments ends with a brass lion head and the hand guard extending from the lion mouth. The brass hand guard, shaped as an arch in the upper part, connected with the cross guard at the right angle. The upper quillon of the cross guard is curved forwards and ends with a globular button at the top. In the middle of the cross guard, on both sides, there is a rectangular brass plate. On the right plate there is a laurel crown and military insignia. The scabbard is not preserved.

The length of the blade is 86 cm; the length of the hilt is 12 cm.

Inv. № 3299 MBT



110. RUSSIAN DRAGOON SHASHKA SABRE M – 1881

Russia, 1897

Steel blade, slightly curved upwards, single-edged, near the tip double-edged. On both sides of the blade, a broad and shallow fuller that tapers toward the tip. At the end, on the right side of the blade, number “55” is stamped. The year of manufacturing “1897” and the maker’s mark “ЗАТООУСТ” are stamped on the left side. The wooden grip with slanting grooves, brass fitting at the end and a rounded brass pommel at the tip. The brass pommel is fastened to the arched hand guard extending to the cross guard that ends with an arched quillon on the other side and a circular ring at the tip. On the right side of the cross guard, an inscription in Russian “182. П.ГРОХ.П. № 58” is stamped. The wooden scabbard, covered with black leather, has longer brass fitting on the upper and shorter fitting on the lower side, where a brass carrying ring is placed. At the end, there is a brass loop with a carrying ring. The decorative strap with an extension at the top is attached to the handle.

The length of the blade is 75.5 cm; the length of the handle is 12.5 cm.

Inv. № 3408 MBT



111. COSSACK SHASHKA SABRE

Russia, late 19th century/ early 20th century

Steel blade, slightly curved upwards, single-edged, near the tip double-edged. On both side of the blade, along the spine, two narrow fullers, and in the middle of the blade a fuller longer and wider than those two. In the lower part, on the right side, there is a stylized floral ornament in relief and the monogram of Tsar Nicholas II Romanov. On the left side of the blade, also in the lower part, the floral ornament is repeated. Below it, an inscription in Russian “АЛИСКАНДАР” appears in relief along with the city/ industrial landscape. The white bone sheath with the lower metal ring and iron rivets fixed at three places to the guard. The hilt ends with a beaked extension at the tip. A cross guard is not common with this type of cold weapon. The scabbard is not preserved.

The length of the blade is 78 cm; the length of the hilt is 14.5 cm.

Inv. № 3279 MBT

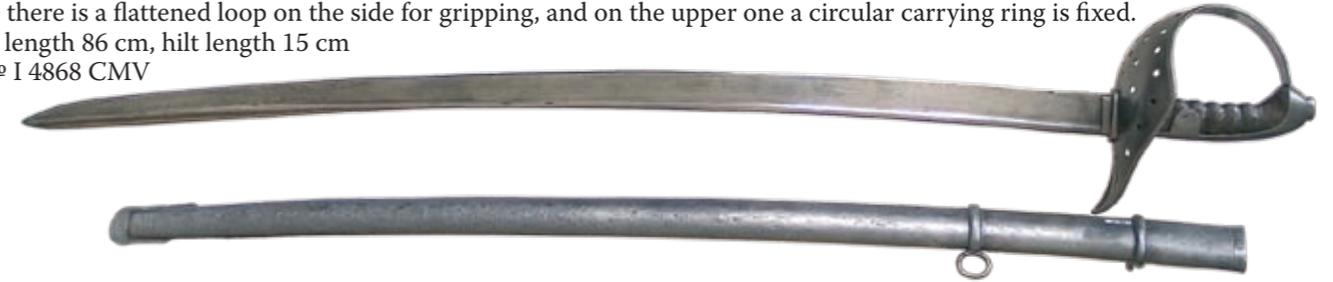


112. AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN CAVALRY SABRE M – 1904, Austria

Steel blade, narrow, slightly curved upward, single-edged on one side and double edged near the tip. Spine strengthened, in the upper part partly stretches further to the blade. At the bottom, on the right side, there is inscription: ED. JUNG. Wooden hilt covered in leather, divided into slices, in the lower part is reinforced by an iron ring. The iron back fitting with ears extends into a flat cap on the hilt head with a rivet on the crown. Iron handguard, with asymmetric protection extending in the front, where there are 27 small holes, and on top there are two longitudinal slits for the strap. Metal scabbard has a “crest” at the tip and two narrow rings at the end where on the lower one there is a flattened loop on the side for gripping, and on the upper one a circular carrying ring is fixed.

Blade length 86 cm, hilt length 15 cm

Inv. № I 4868 CMV



113. AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN CAVALRY SABRE M – 1904, Austria

The description is the same as for Inv. № I – 4868. The scabbard with a bigger “crest” and with no upper ring with fixed carrying loop.

Blade length 86.5 cm, hilt length 15 cm

Inv. № I 4869



114. YUGOSLAV OFFICERS' SABRE M – 1920

Steel blade, narrow, slightly curved upward, single edged, blunt, in the upper part on both sides there is a narrow extension all the way to the top, nickel-coated. The bakelite hilt is spirally recessed and has a thumbhole. The metal hilt head is in the shape of a lion head with a rivet on the crown. The asymmetric handguard has the cavities in various shapes, at the front the coat of arms of the Kingdom of SCS is applied. On one side of the handguard, a double short strap with a decorative, cylindrical pendant composed of jagged skin elements is attached, on the other side there is a shorter strap with a buckle for carrying. Metal scabbard is nickel coated with a “crest” at the tip and a narrow ring with a carrying ring in the lower part.

Blade length 82.3 cm, hilt length 13.5 cm

Inv. № I 4808 CMV



115. RUSSIAN SHASHKA SABRE M – 1881/1909

Russia, 1911.

Steel blade, slightly curved upwards, edged on the lower side, double-edged near the tip. On both sides of the blade, a wide fuller that tapers toward the tip. At the end of the blade, on the right side, number “45” is stamped, and on the left side the year of manufacturing “1911r” and the maker’s mark “ЗЛАТОУСТ” are stamped. The wooden grip with slanting grooves, brass fitting at the end and stamped inscriptions: on the right “4С...18”, and on the left “ЗЛАТ. О.В. ФАБР. / 1910r”. The beaked brass fitting on the hilt head has a circular opening. A cross guard is not common with this type of cold weapons. The wooden scabbard, covered with black leather, has longer brass fitting on the upper side and shorter fitting on the lower side. The lower fitting has a wide carrying ring and stamped number “435” on the right side. In the lower part two brass loops with a side cross-shaped opening and in the upper half there is the third loop with an elongated, hollow knob on the side. Those three loops were designed for the bayonet of the Mosin-Nagant M. 1891 rifle.

The length of the blade is 86.5 cm; the length of the hilt is 14 cm.

Inv. № 3270 MBT



116. ROMANIAN OFFICER SABRE M – 1909

Romania

Nickel coated steel blade, straight, single-edged, near the tip double-edged. Along the spine, on the both side of the blade there is an oval shallow fuller. On the right side of the blade, in the lower part, a stylized floral ornament, engraved inscription “TOLEDO” and the monogram of King Ferdinand I. On the left side, an identical floral ornament and an inscription (wiped out in the later period). The hilt of black ebonite with parallel grooves, the indentation for the thumb and engraved metal ring at the end. The nickel coated steel back fitting ends with a metal bird head having the beak from which the hand guard extends. The nickel coated steel hand guard, shaped as an arch with three bars and a curved quillon that ends with a metal extension at the tip. In the middle of the cross guard, on both sides, one rectangular metal plate. The plate decoration was wiped out in later times. The nickel coated steel scabbard, with a “crest” at the tip and the metal loop in the lower part with two movable circular carrying rings.

The length of the blade is 80.5 cm; the length of the hilt is 13 cm.

Inv. № 7349 MBT



90

117. SABRE OF OFFICERS OF KINGDOM OF YUGOSLAVIA, the 30s of 20th century

Steel blade, hardly noticeably recurved, single-edged on one side and double edged near the tip, slightly blunt. On both sides, along the spine, there is an oval fuller, which reaches the point where the spin turns into the blade. At the bottom of the blade, on the left side, the engraved circle is divided into six parts. The wooden hilt has a ring-furrowed groove with the thumbhole and the ring at the bottom. The brass hilt head is in the shape of a lion head with a rivet on the crown. The handguard is asymmetric with cavities of various shapes and the applied coat of arms of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia at the front, right side. Iron scabbard, simple, with a “crest” on the crown, and at the bottom there is reinforcement with the carrying ring.

Blade length 78.3 cm, hilt length 14 cm

Inv. № I 4858 CMV



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118. RUSSIAN INFANTRY SABRE M – 1817

Russia, 1935, a variant of French sabre “briquette”

Steel blade, curved upwards, single-edged, near the tip double-edged. On both sides of the blade, wide and shallow fullers, oval in shape. On the upper edge, at the end, an inscription in Russian “Златоустъ, августа 1835 года” is engraved. On the right side of the blade, at the end, letters “T”, “G.” and “BA” are stamped. The cast brass hilt, divided into parallel slices with a semi-globular pommel at the head. An arched hand guard is fixed to the hilt brass head; it extends to the cross guard that ends with an arched quillon with a globular head and a button at the tip. On the right side of the cross guard number “2” is stamped, on the left number “1”. The scabbard is not preserved.

The length of the blade is 67.5 cm; the length of the hilt is 12 cm.

Inv. № 3278 MBT



119. OFFICER'S SABRE, RUSSIAN M – 1909

Steel blade, slightly recurved, the lower half of each side is decorated with floral patterns, traces of nickel plating are partially preserved. There is a cutting edge on one side and it is double edged near the tip. On each side of the blade there are two fullers of which the one next to the spine is divided into two narrower fullers, the outer one is much shorter. The bakelite hilt is divided into slices with a brass ring in the lower part. At the front, there is a brass cap with elliptical lid and rosette on the crown. On the upper side, in the oval part there is a crown, beneath which there are stylized Cyrillic letter N and Roman II. The brass handguard is elegantly curved with rosettes on both sides, extending into a cross guard with a curved upper quillon and a circular ring on the crown. The wooden scabbard is covered with leather with brass fittings on top and bottom. Next to the bottom there is a brass ring with a circular carrying loop.

Blade length 78.5 cm, hilt length 14 cm

Inv. № I 4862 CMV



120. SABRE SHASHKA M – 1904, Russia

Steel blade, slightly recurved, single-edged on one side and double edged near the tip. On both sides of the blade, along the spine, there are two narrow fullers. In the lower part, on the left side, there are Cyrillic letters KKV, with floral ornaments around, on the right side, there are Cyrillic letters: ZOF and below there is number 1907, slightly beneath at the same level, there are two separated letters A. The wooden hilt, composed of two sheaths fastened to the guard with three iron pins, with a beaked extension on the crown.

Blade length 74.5 cm, hilt length 15 cm

Inv. № I 4864 CMV



121. SABRE SHASHKA, SOVIET M – 1927, Zlatoust

Steel blade, slightly curved upwards, single-edged on one side and double edged near the tip, forming the tip together. On both sides of the blade there is a wide fuller and at the bottom there are engraved marks: on the right, Cyrillic, G Nv 4F and on the left, also in Cyrillic, “ZLATOUST” inside the arch and in the middle, there is the hammer and sickle, next to the designation for the year of 1928. Wooden hilt obliquely corrugated with nickel fittings at the bottom with engraved numbers: 1, 5 and 6. Head brass fittings in a bottlenose shape, has a circular opening. On the upper side there is a sickle and hammer and a five-pointed star, on the left and right side, there are floral ornaments with ears of wheat and towards the tip on the right side there are Cyrillic letters S.S. and S. R. on the left side. The massive wooden scabbard, coated with impregnated cloth has a long brass fittings on the chape and shorter one on the locket where there is also a wide carrying ring. In the lower part of these two brass bracelets, one of which has a cross-hole on the side whereas the other one has a square hole. In the upper half is the third brass loop with an extended, hollow knob on the side.

Blade length of 80.5 cm, hilt length 13 cm

Inv. № I 4830 CMV



YATAGHANS



122. TURKISH YATAGHAN, Constantinople, 18th century

Steel, single-edged blade curved inward, to the left side of the blade there is a gold inlaid plant ornament and the inscription in Arabic. The grip is made of dark yellow bone with expressed wings. The bolster and the metal strap are of silver and decorated with relief ornaments. The scabbard is wooden with copper bracelet near the bottom. In the lower part there is preserved leather coating which is missing at the bottom.

The length is 66 cm.
Inv. № 4882 CMV



123. YATAGHAN, Herzegovina, 1788/9

Steel, single-edged blade, gently curved inward; on one side there are silver inlaid plant ornaments and inscription in Arabic. The wooden grip is modern improvisation and there is a metal strap at the bottom. The scabbard has not been preserved.

The length of the blade is 60.8 cm and the length of the hilt is 11 cm.
Inv. № I 4800 CMV



124. TURKISH YATAGHAN, Constantinople, 1798/9

Steel, single-edged blade, gently curved inward; on both sides of the back there is one narrow furrow. To the right side of the blade there is silver inlaid plant ornament and to the left side there is silver inlaid Arabic inscription and stylized plant ornaments. The grip is made of dark yellow bone with expressed wings. The bolster and the metal strap are made of silver and decorated with relief motifs. The scabbard has not been preserved.

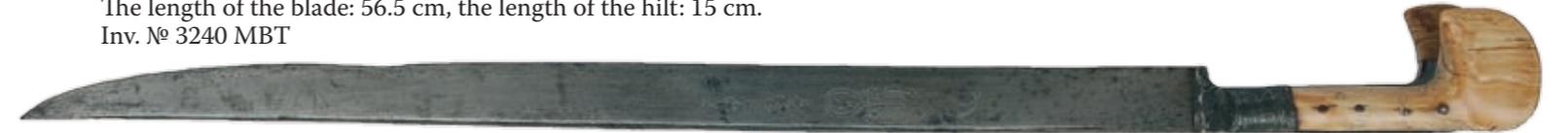
The length of the blade is 54.3 cm and the length of the hilt is 14 cm.
Inv. № I 4801 CMV



125. YATAGHAN BELOSAPAC, the Balkans, beginning of the 19th century

Steel, single-edged, straight blade, (yataghan "straighter") with a narrow furrow on both sides of the back. On the right hand side of the blade there is a silver inlaid stylized herbal and floral ornament whereas on the left hand side there are also inlaid three silver inscriptions in Arabic letters and a stylized floral ornament. The grip plaques are made of ivory with small ears which characterize the Balkans knives. The bolster and the strap are made of metal sheeting. The bolster is decorated with engraved, stylized herbal and floral ornaments. The strap is decorated with geometric motifs. The remnants of silver-plating could be seen on the strap and bolsters. The scabbard has not been preserved.

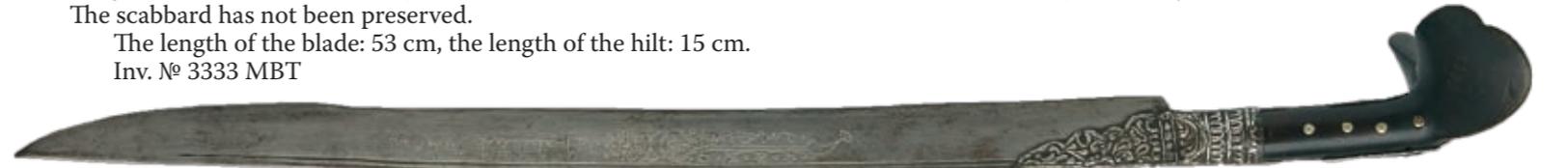
The length of the blade: 56.5 cm, the length of the hilt: 15 cm.
Inv. № 3240 MBT



126. YATAGHAN CRNOSAPAC, the Balkans, the first half of the 19th century

Steel, single-edged blade, gently curved downwards with two small furrows on both sides of the back. On the right hand side of the blade there is an inlaid stylized herbal and floral ornament whereas on the left hand side there are also three silver inlaid inscriptions in Arabic letters and a stylized floral ornament. The grip plaques are made of black horn with the ears shaped like widespread butterfly's wings. The bolster and the strap are made of silver and decorated with relief ornaments shaped like stylized herbal and floral motifs. The scabbard has not been preserved.

The length of the blade: 53 cm, the length of the hilt: 15 cm.
Inv. № 3333 MBT



127. YATAGHAN, Herzegovina, 1807/8

Steel, single-edged blade curved inward; to the right side there are silver inlaid arabesque motifs and to the left side there are floral and arabesque motifs as well as the Arabic inscription which is in the middle. The grip is made of white bone impregnated with brass brace which is decorated with tiny circles. The upper side of the bolster is decorated with three coral ornaments and on the bottom side with there are two coral ornaments. The metal strap is decorated with filigree ornaments, one hemispherical bulge and one coral decoration on both sides. The scabbard is made of wood and coated with black leather with metal impregnation at the top.

The length of the blade is 55 cm and the length of the hilt is 15 cm
Inv. № I 4787 CMV



128. YATAGHAN BELOSAPAC, the Balkans, 1812

Belonged to Djordje Petrovic Karadjordje

Steel, single-edged blade, curved downwards with a narrow furrow on both sides of the back. On the left hand side of the blade there are silver inlaid inscriptions in Arabic letters and stylized floral ornaments. The translated Turkish inscription says: "Year 1227 (AD). Made by Hasan, belongs to Ahmet. I rely on my Creator, his slave." The grip plaques are made of ivory with the ears shaped like widespread butterfly's wings. To the left side of the hilt there is missing a part (broken left part of the hilt). The bolster and the strap are made of silver and decorated with relief ornaments in the shape of stylized plant and geometric motifs. The scabbard is made of wood and coated in black leather.

The length of the blade: 58.5 cm, the length of the hilt: 14 cm

Inv. № 3335 MBT

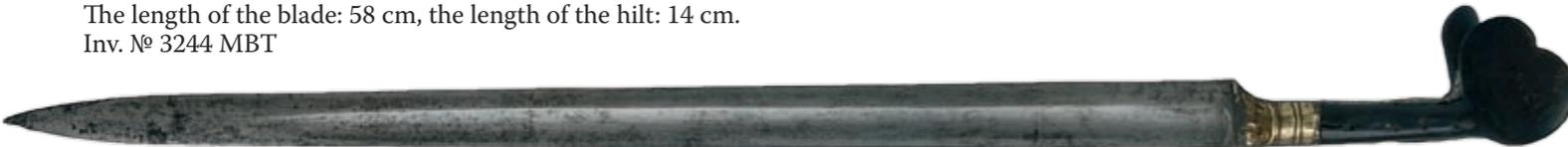


129. YATAGHAN CRNOSAPAC, the Balkans, mid-19th century

Steel, single-edged, straight blade, (yataghan "straighter") with a wide furrow on both sides of the back. Highly atypical blade of yataghan made of the sword bayonet of the Austrian military rifle Augustine M 1849. The grip plaques are made of black horn with the ears shaped like widespread butterfly's wings. The bolster and the strap are made of the metal sheeting. The bolster is decorated with herbal stylized ornaments whereas the strap is decorated with geometric motifs. The scabbard has not been preserved.

The length of the blade: 58 cm, the length of the hilt: 14 cm.

Inv. № 3244 MBT



130. TURKISH YATAGHAN, Constantinople, 1848/1849

Steel, single-edged blade gently curved downward with two small furrows on both sides of the back; gold inlaid inscription and the stylized ornaments done with intarsia in silver on both sides of the blade. The grip is made of wood, black, with branched ears. The bolster is decorated with gold inlaid elements and intarsia in silver. The extension of the grip which partly turns into the blade is decorated with an engraving consisting of tiny squares. The blade length is 56 cm; the hilt length is 15 cm

Inv. № I 4857 CMV



131. YATAGHAN CRNOSAPAC, the Balkans, second half of the 19th century

Steel, single-edged blade, gently curved downwards with two small furrows on both sides of the back; the upper furrow is somewhat broader and longer than the lower one. On the right hand side of the blade there is a gold inlaid stylized herbal ornament and on the left hand side there is also a gold inlaid inscription in Arabic letters and stylized herbal and floral ornaments. The grip plaques are made of the dark bone similar to the letter T in shape. The bolster and the strap are made of brass and decorated with richly cast ornaments in the shape of stylized herbal and floral motifs. The strap is also decorated with geometric ornaments. The scabbard has not been preserved.

The length of the blade: 58 cm, the length of the hilt: 16 cm.

Inv. № 3330 MBT

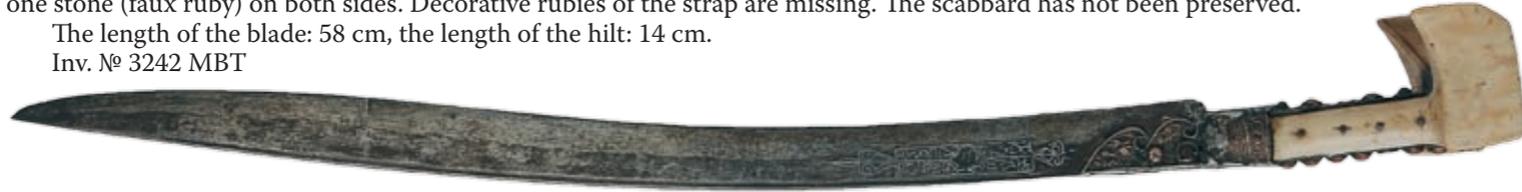


132. YATAGHAN BELOSAPAC , Herzegovina, second half of the 19th century

Steel, single-edged blade, curved downwards with a narrow furrow on both sides of the back. On the left hand side of the blade there are silver inlaid inscriptions in Arabic letters and stylized floral ornaments. On the right hand side of the blade there is a silver inlaid star with six rays, the so called *Star of David*, and on the left hand side there is also a silver inlaid inscription in Arabic letters and stylized herbal ornament. The grip plaques are made of ivory with massive quadrilateral ears. The bolster is decorated with ten circular decorative stones and stylized brass rosettes. The strap is decorated with tiny brass circles and one brass hemispherical rosette as well as with one stone (faux ruby) on both sides. Decorative rubies of the strap are missing. The scabbard has not been preserved.

The length of the blade: 58 cm, the length of the hilt: 14 cm.

Inv. № 3242 MBT



133. YATAGHAN CRNOSAPAC, the Balkans, 1861/1862

Steel, single-edged blade, curved downwards with a narrow furrow on both sides of the back. On the right hand side of the blade there is a silver inlaid medallion and on the left hand side there is an inscription in Arabic letters and the year of production. The grip plaques are made of dark bone similar to the letter T in shape. The bolster and the strap are made of brass and decorated with richly cast ornaments in the shape of stylized herbal, floral and geometric motifs. The scabbard has not been preserved.

The length of the blade: 59 cm, the length of the hilt: 15 cm.

Inv. № 3245 MBT



134. YATAGHAN BELOSAPAC, Herzegovina, 1863/1864

Steel, single-edged blade, gently curved downwards with two small furrows on both sides of the back; the upper furrow is somewhat broader and longer than the lower one. On the right hand side of the blade there is a silver inlaid star with six rays, the so called *Star of David*, and on the left hand side there is also a silver inlaid inscription in Arabic letters and stylized herbal ornament. The grip plaques are made of ivory with semi circular ears reinforced by brass brace. The bolster is decorated with three oblong corals and stylized floral brass rosettes. The strap is decorated with granulation with one hemispherical brass rosette as well as with one stone (faux ruby) on both sides. The stone to the right side of the strap is missing. The scabbard has not been preserved.

The length of the blade: 57 cm, the length of the hilt: 16 cm.

Inv. № 3332 MBT



135. YATAGHAN BELOSAPAC, the Balkans, 19th century

Steel, single-edged blade, gently curved downward and at the top curved towards the back side with which creates the spike. On both sides of the back there is one narrow furrow. On the left side, at the bottom of the blade, there is a silver inlaid medallion with Turkish inscription. The scabbard made of yellow leather ends in wings at the top. The extension of the grip is made of brass and as well as the metal strap decorated with the filigree technique. At the metal strap on both sides there is one bed and one red coral. The bolster is also made of brass with trace of gilt and decorated with six red corals and nine hemispherical bulges. The scabbard has not been preserved.

The blade length is 55.3 cm and the hilt length is 11 cm.

Inv. № 4820 CMV



136. YATAGHAN BELOSAPAC, Foca, 19th century

Steel, single-edged blade, gently curved downward and at the top curved toward the other side. To the right side of the back there is a shallow furrow and at the bottom part of the blade in the lower quarter there is a parallel furrow above which there is a notch in the shape of number 3. The grip is made of metal brace, massive metal implant at the front and the white bone casing with gently forward-ed wings at the top. The scabbard has not been preserved.

The length of blade is 52.8 cm and the length of hilt is 13 cm.

Inv. № I 4816 CMV

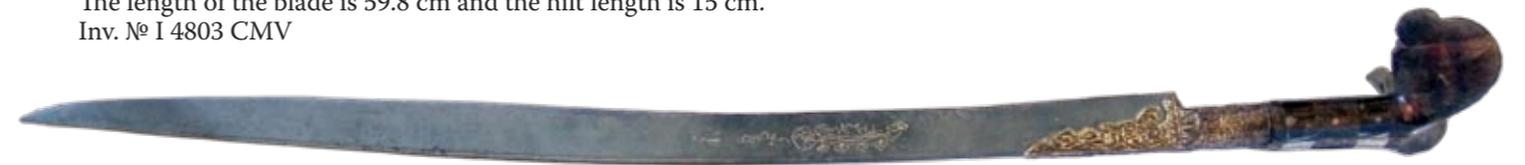


137. YATAGHAN, the Balkans, 19th century

Steel, single-edged blade, gently curved downward; on both sides of the back there is one narrow furrow. To the right side of the blade there is silver inlaid stylized plant ornament and to the left side there is an Arabic inscription and stylized plant ornaments as well. The grip is made of black wood with branched wings. The bolster and the metal strap are cast of copper alloy and decorated with granulated and relief motifs. The scabbard has not been preserved.

The length of the blade is 59.8 cm and the hilt length is 15 cm.

Inv. № I 4803 CMV



138. YATAGHAN WITH METAL HILT, the Balkans, 19th century

Steel, single-edged blade, gently curved downwards with two small furrows on both sides of two-thirds of the total area of the back of the blade. On the right hand side of the blade there is a gold inlaid stylized floral ornament. The silver cast hilt is decorated with stylized herbal ornaments and geometric motifs. On the upper part of the bolster, between the ears of the hilt, there is a blue decorative stone. The strap is made of silver and decorated with engraved ornaments in the shape of the stylized herbal and geometric motifs. The scabbard has not been preserved.

The length of the blade: 57.5 cm, the length of the hilt: 14 cm.

Inv. № 3331 MBT



139. YATAGHAN, the Balkans, 19th century

Steel, single-edged blade curved forward with one small furrow along both sides of the back and one bigger furrow along the middle of the blade. On one side between the two furrows there is a silver inlaid inscription in Arabic and further on, towards the grip there is circular floral element, silver inlaid as well. On the other side, also between the two furrows, there is an inlaid ornament made of wavy lines and towards the grip there is a circular star-like ornament also silver inlaid. The grip is made of dark yellow bone. The bolster and the metal strap are decorated with granulations and circular nacres. The scabbard has not been preserved.

The length of the blade is 54.3 cm and the length of the hilt is 14 cm.

Inv. № I 4799 CMV



140. YATAGHAN CRNOSAPAC, the Balkans, 19th century

Steel, single-edged blade, curved downwards with a narrow furrow on both sides of the back. On the right hand side of the blade there is a silver inlaid star with six rays, the so called *Star of David*, and on the left hand side there are also a silver inlaid inscription in Arabic letters and stylized herbal and floral ornaments. The grip plaques are made of bone with big set croup. The bolster and the strap are cast from the brass alloy and decorated with relief ornaments in the shape of the stylized herbal and floral and geometric motifs. The hilt was restored in 2010. The scabbard has not been preserved.

The length of the blade: 60 cm, the length of the hilt: 15 cm.

Inv. № 5511 MBT



141. YATAGHAN, the Balkans, 19th century

Steel, single-edged blade gently curved inward; along both sides of the blade there are inlaid arabesque floral ornaments and Arabic inscriptions. The grip is made of dark yellow bone with butterfly-like ending. The bolster and the metal strap are decorated with silver incrustation with dotty, radial and rhomboid ornaments. At the top of the bolster there is a circular coral ornament. The scabbard is made of wood and in the lower part it is impregnated with silver rings decorated with plaits, dotty and line ornaments. The rest of the metal strap is decorated with floral motifs.

The length is 69 cm

Inv. № 4883 CMV



AXES



142. INDO-PERSIAN AXE, Asia, 18th and 19th century

Single-head axe with the steel blade in the shape of a crescent ending in a pointed toe and heel; the blade is richly decorated with stylized herbal ornaments of oriental style. Decoration is the same on both cheeks. Along the blade, on both sides, there is a thin undecorated edge. Along the middle of the inner edge, the blade is fixed for the enlarged metal eye of square cross-section. On the butt there are two stylized metal rays ending in a cylindrical tip. In the upper part of the lower ray there is a circular opening. The metal lug ends in short steel spear of square cross-section pointed at the top. The haft, made of metal and cylindrical in shape, is completely engraved with oriental motifs ending in a metal hemispherical knob.

The length is 77 cm, and the width 21 cm.
Inv. № 3496 MBT



143. INDO-PERSIAN DOUBLE-HEADED AXE, Asia, 18th/19th century

Double-headed axe (with two oppositely fixed steel blades), in the shape of a crescent ending in a pointed toe and heel; the blade is richly decorated with herbal stylized ornaments of oriental style. The decoration is the same on both cheeks. Along the blade, on both sides, there is a thin undecorated edge. Along the middle of the inner edge, the blades are fixed for the enlarged metal eye of square cross-section. The metal lug ends in short steel spear of square cross-section pointed at the top. The haft, made of metal and cylindrical in shape, ends in a metal hemispherical knob.

The length is 77 cm, and the width 30 cm.
Inv. № 3488 MBT



144. PARADE AXE "ISFAHAN", 19th century

The blade is made of steel, crescent in shape with an eye which on the other side has two spikes curved upward forming semicircle. To the middle of the arch there is joined two-tooth fork. Both sides of the axe are inlaid with different tiny silver motifs.

The width is 20.3 cm and the length is 24.6 cm
Inv. № I 4783 CMV



145. PARADE FIRE-FIGHTING AXE, Vienna, end of 19th century

The blade is made of steel, in the form of an arch fixed to the eye with bulbous cap at the top; on the other side there is an extension of the blade in the shape of the hook. On all these elements there are engraved stylized plant ornaments coated with nickel. On the blade above the edge there are two circular openings cut through the edge. The handle is wooden in the upper part, paunchy with nickel tin reinforcement on both the upper and lower part to which there are fixed brass fittings with the rings. To the left side of the handle there is a decorative plaque with German inscription: AUS DANKBARKEIT FÜR MÜHEVOLLE DIENSTE UM DAS FEUER MANOVEREN (out of gratitude for the passionate service in the firefighting drills). To the right side there is the following text: GEVIDMET AM 17 / IV 1897 DEM EHREN – OBERKOMMANDANTEN RUDOLF MAZSARY VON SEINEN FEUERN MÄNERN (dedicated on 17/4/1897, to the honourable commander Rudolph Mazary from his fire fighting colleagues). The extension of the handle is made of spirally furrowed bone and the decoration is of the spirally gilt fluted columns of wire. On both sides there is one brass ring with blue bed and gilt plant ornaments. At the top of the handle there is a gilt brass pommel. The axe is placed in the luxurious leather box.

The length is 42 cm
Inv. № 4848 CMV



PICKAXES

146. PICKAXE, Vrsac, 18th century

The pickaxe is cast of bronze with circular eye and the head in the shape of little axe with short curved blade whose heel ends with a pellet. The opposite side is square. The total area is decorated with engraved crosses and zigzag lines. The outer area of the head is whipcord engraved. The eye is broken and damaged on one side, the handle is missing.

It was used by the swineherds in Vrsac as a sign of their profession.

There are no data about its acquisition.

The head is 14.5 cm long and the blade width is 3.1 cm.

Inv. № E 1502 CMV



147. PICKAXE, Vrsac, 19th century

The pickaxe is made of wrought iron in the shape of the halberd. The blade is semi-circular and curved downward on the bottom side ending with square thickening. . The eye is circular with four square extensions on the back side. It has long iron handle whose upper part ends with threads. The wooden handle is missing.

There are no data about its exploitation or acquisition.

The head of the pickaxe is 9.5 cm long and the handle is 14.5 cm long.

Inv. № E 1826 CMV



148. PICKAXE, Vrsac, 19th century

The pickaxe is made of wrought iron and has circular eye. The blade is extended and on the opposite side there is square rounded head. The handle is missing. It was donated to the museum in 1953 by Rastko Rasajki.

The length is 13.5 cm and the width is 4.5 cm.

Inv. № E 1065 CMV



149. PICKAXE, Vrsac, around 1800

The pickaxe is cast of brass and has a head in the shape of a little axe with short curved blunt blade. The eye is circular and the opposite side is square and profiled ending in a low pyramid. The handle is missing. It was used by the field or vineyard guards as a sign of the region. The pickaxe used to be in the possession of Aleksandar Gabris' grandfather from Vrsac. It was donated to the museum in 1948 by Aleksandar Gabris.

The length of the pickaxe head is 16.5 cm and the width of the cut is 8.2 cm.

Inv. № E 255 CMV

HALBERDS



150. HALBERD "BILL", South-Eastern Europe, 16th century

Iron spear of the halberd is short, thin, of square cross-section, ending in a spike. The iron hook is straight, oblong and resembles the triangle, blades on both sides. The axe is iron, massive and the blade is semi-ellipsis in shape ending in a forward spiky hook. On the lower part of the halberd there is an iron rim for fixing on the shaft with one horizontal spiky ray on both sides. The metal rim of the halberd, to the right, is fragmented due to corrosion. In the lower part it is fixed to the shaft with an iron nail. The wooden shaft, of square cross-section is a contemporary improvisation.

The length is 55 cm, and the width is 22 cm.

Inv. № 4949 MBT

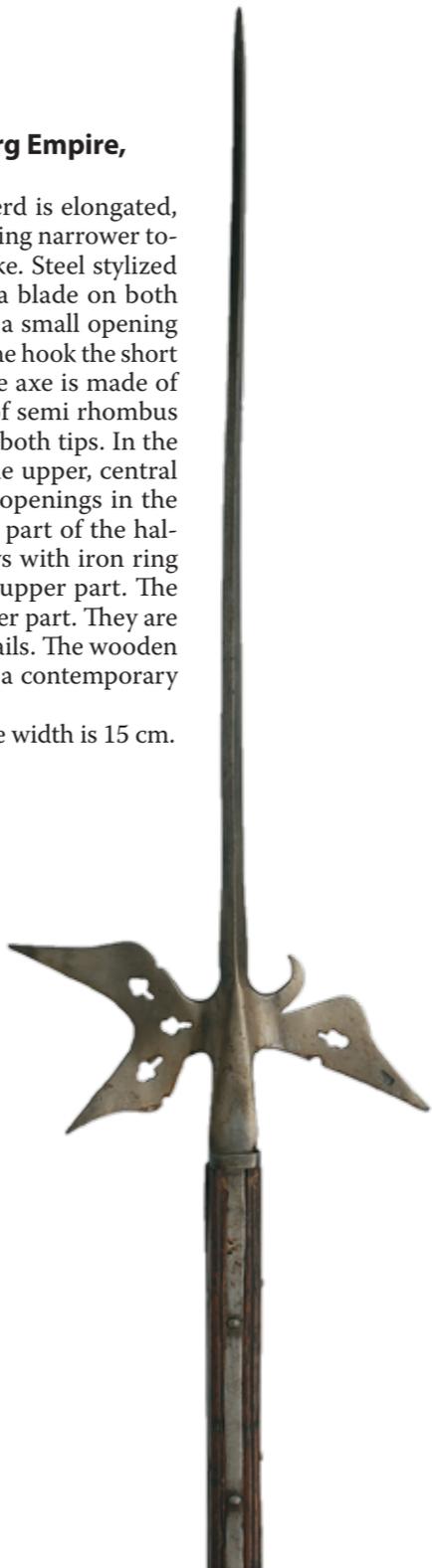


151. HALBERD, the Habsburg Empire, late 17th/early 18th century

The steel spear of the halberd is elongated, and of square cross-section, getting narrower towards the tip and ending in spike. Steel stylized hook curved downwards with a blade on both sides and in the middle there is a small opening in the shape of an acorn. Above the hook the short steel ray is curved upwards. The axe is made of steel and stylized; the blade is of semi rhombus shape ending with one spike on both tips. In the middle part of the axe, along the upper, central and lower part there are three openings in the shape of an acorn. In the lower part of the halberd there are steel massive rays with iron ring of a square cross-section in its upper part. The metal rays get narrow in the lower part. They are fastened to the shaft with iron nails. The wooden shaft, of square cross-section is a contemporary improvisation.

The length is 100 cm, and the width is 15 cm.

Inv. № 3438 MBT

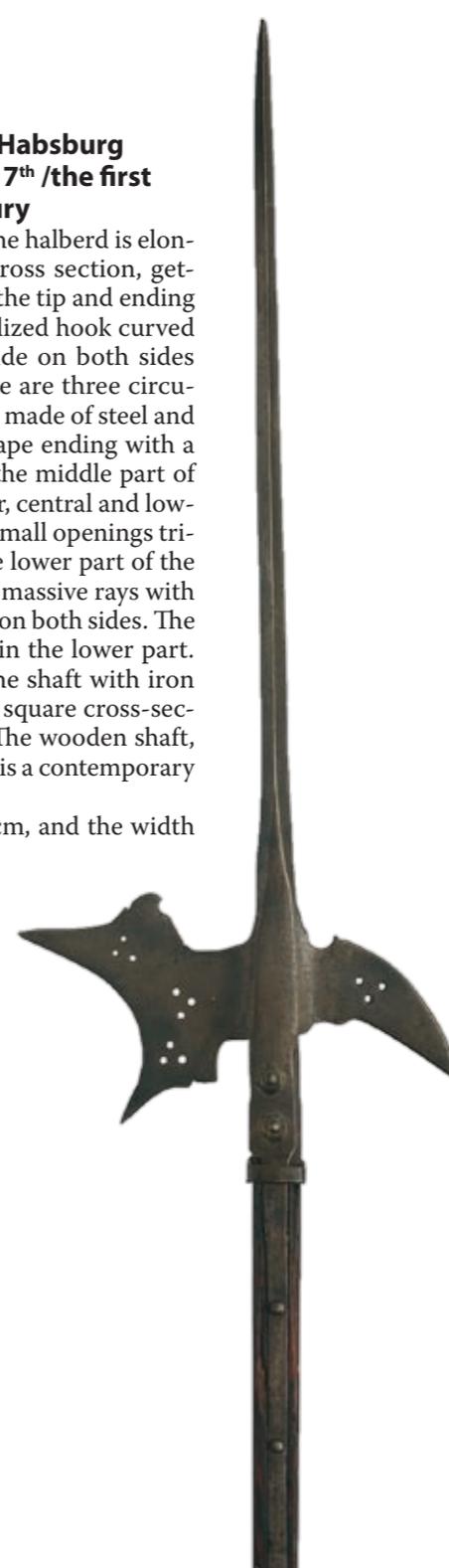


152. HALBERD, The Habsburg Empire, end of the 17th /the first half of the 18th century

The steel spear of the halberd is elongated, and of square cross section, getting narrower towards the tip and ending in a spike. The steel stylized hook curved downwards with a blade on both sides and in the middle there are three circular openings. The axe is made of steel and stylized, concave in shape ending with a spear on both tips. In the middle part of the axe, along the upper, central and lower part there are three small openings triangular in shape. In the lower part of the halberd, there are steel massive rays with two stylized floral nails on both sides. The metal rays get narrow in the lower part. They are fastened to the shaft with iron nails and iron ring of a square cross-section in its upper part. The wooden shaft, of square cross-section is a contemporary improvisation.

The length is 125 cm, and the width is 28.5 cm.

Inv. № 3433 MBT



153. AUSTRIAN INFANTRY KURZGEWEHR HALBERD, the Habsburg Empire, mid- 18th century

The steel spear of the halberd is wide with a blade on both sides and ending in a spike. On the bottom side of the spear there is an ellipsoid ending. On both sides there are stylized floral ornaments. The steel hook is wide, straight, ending in a spike. The decoration of the hook is made in the same style as the decoration of the spear. To the right there is a signed mark. The steel axe is stylized; the blade is straight and parallel to the shaft, decorated in the same style. On both sides of the blade there is one central ornament: to the right side there is a knight's helmet and to the left side there is coat of arms. In the lower part of the halberd there is a conical neck which continues into two thin metal rays fastened to the shaft. The wooden shaft of a square cross-section is fixed with three iron rivets. The shaft is a contemporary improvisation.

The length is 77 cm, and the width is 21.5 cm.

Inv. № 3437 MBT



154. HALBERD (copy), 19th century

The blade is iron, massive in the shape of the crescent, sharp on both sides. On the other side there is a hook pulled through the cleavage of four-sided dagger and fixed with two rivets. The dagger has conically been made thin toward the top and ends in a spike and on the bottom side there are joined two rails between which there was a wooden handle. The pole it used to be fixed to has not been preserved and nowadays there is a modern improvised pole.

The width is 24 cm, and the length is 80.5 cm.

Inv. № I 4831 CMV



SPEARS



155. SPEAR, 18/19th century

The blade (spike) is iron, double-edged, with comb along the middle of both sides. The tip is pointed and gently rounded. The blade near the bottom is gently expanded and on it there is joined cut two-part quiver which in the extension has two rails to the side for fixing the pole. The original pole has not been preserved and therefore recently there has been made a modern one, resembling the initial.

The blade length is 38 cm and the length of the quiver is 33 cm.
Inv. № I 4851 CMV



156. SPEAR, 18/19th century

The blade (spike) is iron, double-edged, with crests along the middle of both sides, pointed at the tip and rounded at the bottom. On the blade there is extended two-rail quiver which in the extension part has one rail on both sides for fixing on the pole. The original pole has not been preserved and therefore a new one has been made recently resembling the initial one.

The blade length is 45 cm and the length of the quiver with rails is 37 cm

Inv. № I 4850 CMV



MACES



157. MACE, 13/14th century

The head is made of bronze, star-like, with four big pyramidal knobs in the middle and another little four ones on both sides at the brim. The rings at the brim have been damaged, the shaft is missing.

The height is 4.9 cm and the diameter is 7 cm
Inv. № I 4777 CMV



158. MACE, 14th century

Bronze, star-like head with four pyramidal knobs in the middle and four little ones on both sides; the vertex ring is short, the rim and the shaft are missing.

The height is 3.4 cm and the diameter is 5.8 cm
Inv. № I 4781 CMV



159. TURKISH MACE, 14/15th century

The head is made of brass in the shape of a ball, with 15 hemmed pyramidal knobs arranged in three lines. The central knobs are somewhat bigger than the outer ones. The vortex ring and the rim are preserved whereas the shaft is not. Among the knobs there are engraved three decorative furrows.

The height is 5.4 cm and the diameter is 6.1 cm
Inv. № I 4780 CMV



160. TURKISH MACE, 14/15th century

The head is made of iron in the shape of a ball with 15 rhomboidal knobs which can be hardly discerned due to the corrosion damages. The vortex ring and the rim have not been preserved as well as the shaft.

The height is 5.7 cm and the diameter is 6.7 cm.
Inv. № 4779 CMV



161. TURKISH MACE, 14/15th century

The head is made of bronze in the shape of a ball with 18 pyramidal knobs and hardly noticeable vortex ring and rim. The shaft has not been preserved.

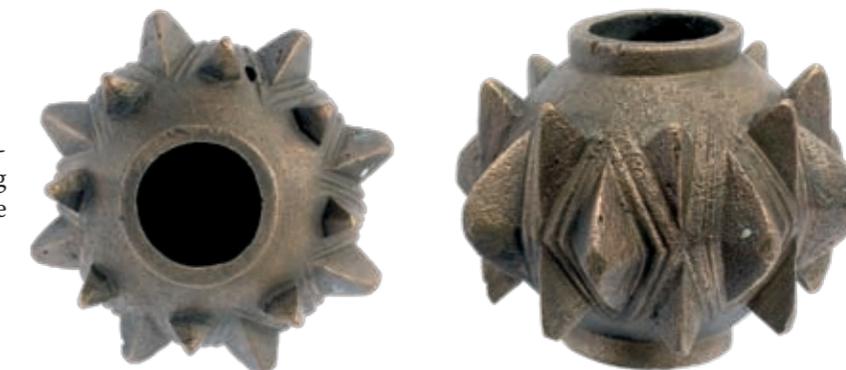
The height is 6 cm and the diameter is 6.7 cm.
Inv. № 4778 CMV



162. TURKISH MACE, 14/15th century

The head is made of brass in the shape of a ball with eight pyramidal knobs in the middle and another eight small knobs along the rim among which there are curved tree decorative furrows. The rims end in ring and the shaft is missing.

The height is 6.3 cm, and the diameter is 8.1 cm.
Inv. № I 4776 CMV



163. MACE, 15th century

The head is made of coppered iron, elongated, gothic, with eight triangular flanges. The vortex implant, neck and the shaft are missing. Two flanges have been distorted due to impact.

The length is 8.4 cm and diameter is 7.9 cm.
Inv. № 4774 CMV



164. TURKISH MACE, 15th century

The head is made of coppered iron with 15 rounded flanges. The rims of the flanges on the upper side end in teeth and at the bottom side, toward the shaft they turn into the ring. The neck is long, conic in shape with conic cavity for the shaft which is missing. Damaged through corrosion;

The length is 19.3 cm and diameter is 7.2 cm.

Inv. № I 4773 CMV



165. TURKISH FLANGED MACE, 15th century

The head of copper coated iron with 16 rounded flanges (one is missing). Due to wear and tear the flanges got slightly curved allowing for asymmetric distances between them. The flange edges are serrated. Below the flange toward the shaft, a double ring – one bigger and one smaller. The iron shaft of octagonal shape with a ring at the end.

The length is 56 cm

Inv. № I 4772 CMV



166. MACE, 15th century

The iron head, gothic, with 6 square flanges; one flange is fragmented, the upper part is missing, and gently curved forward. The iron rim of the shaft is conical in shape and fixed to the shaft with a metal rivet. At the top of the iron head there is a circular iron cap decorated with engraved radial flutings. The wooden shaft is contemporary improvisation.

The length is 10 cm, and the diameter is 7.5 cm.

Inv. № 3212 MBT



167. MACE, 16th century

The head made of copper plated iron is gothic and massive with six square flanges. At the bottom, among the iron flanges there are silver inlaid stylized ornaments. The iron rim of the shaft, conical in shape is fixed to the wooden shaft with metal rivets. At the top of the iron head there is a circular iron cap, decorated with engraved radial flutings. The wooden shaft, of conical shape, is contemporary improvisation. In the lower part of the shaft there is an opening of conical shape.

The length is 11 cm, and the diameter is 10 cm.

Inv. № 3197 MBT



168. THE TURKISH MACE, 17th century

The head made of copper plated iron has 18 rounded flanges. On both sides of the iron head the edges of the flanges turn into one gently expanded ring. At the bottom side, below the expanded ring there is another, slightly thinner ring for fixing of the shaft. The rim of the shaft, conical in shape, ends in the lower part with metal rivet for fixing. The wooden shaft, cylindrical in shape but conical towards the top is fixed with an iron nail at the top; it is of a square cross-section with expanded protruding cap. At the bottom of the shaft there is a gentle conical ending made of ivory with rich geometrical ornaments.

The length is 24.5 cm, and the diameter is 6 cm.

Inv. № 3354 MBT



169. MACE, 17th century

The head is made of brass, pear shaped with nine rounded flanges (three of them have been broken). The flanges are gently forwarded so that the space among them is asymmetrical. At the upper side the edges of the flanges turn into the ring whereas in the lower part the edges end in tusks. At the bottom part, below the brass edges there are two somewhat thinner rings, the lower ring being stylized with jagged bottom edge. The brass rim of the shaft, gently conical in shape, ends in the lower part with expanded ring. The wooden shaft is cylindrical in shape but conical at the top, and fixed at the top with brass engraved cap and iron nail with hemispherical head. In the lower part of the shaft there is a brass cylindrical chain with the upper and lower expanded ring.

The length is 21 cm, and the diameter is 7 cm.

Inv. № 3213 MBT



170. MACE, 17th century

The bronze head with seven flanges of rectangular shape cast in the conic cartridge; on the flanges there are tiny ball granulates irregularly arranged. The shaft has not been preserved.

The height is 4.5 cm and diameter is 5.5 cm.

Inv. № I 4810 CMV



171. MACE, 17th century

The head is cast of brass, in the shape of pear, with 11 flanges in the shape of a rounded triangle decorated with wavy rim. On the upper and bottom side the flanges end in teeth which are hardly visible on the upper side. On the bottom side just below the flanges, there is brass ring which represents a part of the neck which is missing. Seven flanges have been preserved and four are missing. The shaft is missing as well.

The length is 7.5 cm and the diameter is 7.3 cm.

Inv. № I 4775 CMV



PROTECTIVE COVERING



172. BREAST PLATE (CUIRASS), 16th century

The front part of the cuirass is cast of iron with hemispherical outlets for hands and neck. It is anatomically fitted to the upper part of the body. In the lower part it is gently curved forward in an arch. Along the rim there are perforated holes of uneven diameter and separated 3-4 cm from each other. In the upper part to the left and right side and in the lower part along the middle there is one metal rack. To the right and left side near the bottom there is one metal tooth turned downward. In the upper part to the left of the middle line there is a circular crater, probably made by some firearm.

The width is 34.5 cm and the height is 43 cm.

Inv. № I 4824 CMV



173. MORION HELMET, PARADE, Italian type, 16th century/17th century

It is made of iron and richly decorated, elongated and of ellipsoid cross-section, ending on the top with an iron crest for fixing. In the lower part there is a branched brim, richly decorated with floral stylized ornaments which on the front and back side turn into wide spike curved upward. To the right side of the helmet, in the central medallion there is Jupiter on the flying eagle whereas to the left side there is a mythological scene depicting Hercules slaying Nemean lion. The central medallions of the helmets are surrounded by rich ornaments: floral stylized ornaments, mythological creatures, stylized human face etc. upper faceplates are fixed to the edges of the helmet with metal rivets.

The width is 26 cm and the height is 26 cm

Inv. № 3463 MBT



174. HUNGARIAN HUSSAR'S HELMET, 17th century

It is made of iron, hemispherical in shape with radially arranged combs and dents which at the top end in a spike in the shape of a bud. To the front side there is an eye guard through which passes sliding guard of the face and nose. To the right and left side there are ear guards and guards for the part of the face. To the back there is a tail which consists of four disks which provide mobility by passing one across the other. To the left side there is a conic fitting decorated with radial dents. All parts have been joined with hemispherical rivets and partly with leather.

The width is 30 cm and the height is 37 cm.

Inv. № I 2994 CMV



175. ZISCHAGGE HELMET, German type, 17th century

The iron helmet, hemispherical in shape with six radially distributed bulges which end at the top in circular iron ring; faceplates at the front through which projects forwardly a sliding nasal bar (there is a screw missing for fixing the bar). At the top of the nasal bar there is a stylized leaf-like ending. To the right and left side there are ear plates, fixed with two rivets each, containing in the upper part six circular openings. To the back side, fixed with three rivets, there is a sliding tail, consisting of four discs. The ending plate of the sliding tail is fixed with eleven rivets. On the inner side of the helmet there are partially preserved leather belts for connection of the metal parts.

The width is 25 cm and the height is 25 cm
Inv. № 3457 MBT



176. TURKISH STIRRUP, 17-18th century

Massive stirrup, cast of bronze, the platform is gently curved downward in an arch. On both sides there is one plate supporting the triangle and around them and below the platform there is a reinforced vault, containing, on the upper side, strong ring for fixing to the belt.

The length is 14.5 cm and the height is 18.5 cm
Inv. № I 4834 CMV



177. HUNGARIAN STIRRUP, 18th century

The sole is in the shape of number eight with two crescent openings. Arch supporters to the side are of circular cross-section, narrowing toward the top and closing with two transverse plates between which there is rectangular space for fixing the belt.

The width is 14.8 cm and the height is 18.5 cm.
Inv. № I 4832 CMV



178. AUSTRIAN CAVALRY OFFICER HELMET, Austria, end of the 18th/beginning of the 19th century

The helmet is made of thin sheet metal, hemispherical in shape, with gently branched brim which turns into semicircular faceplate at the front. At the front side of the helmet there is a brass plate with huge Latin letters *F* and *I* (monograph of the Habsburg Emperor Frances I). To the left and right side there are broad sliding brass belts for fastening of the helmet to the head. The belts are fixed to the helmet with a circular brass ring which protrudes from the lion's mouth (the brass brace in the shape of the lion's head). At the top of the helmet there is a massive brass crest richly decorated. At the front part of the crest there is coat of arms of the Habsburg Empire and to the left and right side there is a figure of a lion slaying stylized snake. Inside the helmet there is preserved leather lining.

The width is 18 cm and the height is 27 cm
Inv. № 3462 MBT



179. KNIGHT'S ARMOUR (a copy), 19th century

The armour is made of the steel sheet metal resembling the model of the German type "Schott-Sonnenberg" of the end of 15th and in the beginning of 16th century. The helmet is of Armet type with sliding visor and metal comb along the middle of the upper part. The front side of the helmet has two rectangular openings for the eyes below which there are circular and ellipsoid openings for air intake. To the right side there is a cylindrical bar for lifting the visor. The central part of the armour, cuirass, consists of two plates: breast and back plate. Along the middle of the breast plate there is a vertical plastic rib without additional decoration. The steel shoulder plate consists of 5 semicircular disks with a simple conic arm guard which ends with a steel hand plate (the iron gloves have not been preserved). The elbow guard is simple with a leaf like plate gently curved inwards. At the bottom side of the cuirass, there are two massive steel plates with one vertical rib along the middle and one vertical bulge on the edge. Below these massive plates there is short chainmail armour. The leg plates are simple without any decoration but one vertical rib envisaged for the upper and lower part of the leg. The knee guard is hemispherical in shape with a leaf like plate on the outer part of the leg. Foot guard, in the shape of a steel shoe, is composed of 8 sliding disks. All parts are fixed with hemispherical rivets and partly with leather.

Height 175 cm

Inv. № 6025 MBT





CONCLUSION

The items of weapons collection of the Banat Museum in Timisoara are now present in two Museum Departments: Archaeological and Historical. In the exhibition catalogue only the objects of the Historical Department are present, starting from the Middle Ages until the First World War. The most representative objects of the historical weapons collection (94 pieces) of the Museum of Timisoara, included in the catalogue and exhibition, represent one third of the entire collection.

The oldest blade weapon of the Timisoara collection is the Viking sword from the early 10th century, discovered in the pre-war period by Kovin. Especially significant is the knight sword found in the Tisza river. The broadswords of *Schiavona* type are also interesting and the most attractive of the swords is definitely the court (executioner's) sword used in the region during the 18th century. The catalogue includes a number of interesting swords among which a special attention should be given to Turkish and parade sabres. In this regard, one of the most valuable examples is the sabre of the family Ostojic (Ostojić) from the first half of the 19th century. From the numerous yataghans of the Timisoara collection, ten most beautiful examples are presented in the catalogue, including the yataghan which, according to the donor, belonged to Djordje Petrović-Karadjordje. One should not forget blade hunting weapons, where besides the classic Austrian knives-*Hirschfänger*, a Dutch parade hunting knife with luxuriously decorated handle made of ivory really stands out. As regards the protective weapons, the most spectacular object is the knightly armour for which the municipality of Timisoara paid 4500 RON in 1936.

The items of Asian origin from a quite large collection should be specially mentioned. In this catalogue, most represented are the Indo-Persian objects: knives and axes.

In the end it should be mentioned that the biggest part of the Timisoara weapons collection is associated with the most important historical events of Banat and the European continent: the conquest of Timisoara by the Turks in 1552, the military campaign of Eugene of Savoy finished with Pozarevac Peace Treaty signed in 1718, the Hungarian Revolution 1848-1849 and the First World War. The weapons collection includes objects from all over Europe that were used in the wars against the French Emperor Napoleon, in the 1866 Austro-Prussian war, but the most interesting category consists of the Balkans and Turkish cold/blade weapons, originally from Bosnia, brought in 1878 when the Austro-Hungarian authorities suppressed the initial resistance after take-over of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The City Museum in Vršac, whose origins are associated with a conclusion of the Town's Representative of Vrsac municipality about the need for founding of a museum in 1882, has collected over 200,000 objects until today. The objects are arranged in compartments, sections and collections. Among the many collections of TMV, a special attention is drawn by the weapons collection from which, on this occasion we specially present cold weapons.

The weapons collection is present in three Museum Departments: Archaeological, Historical and Ethnological. This collection was set up at the same time as the first collections of the Museum-archaeological and numismatic, in the late 19th century, mostly from donations of individuals, institutions and research in the field. The exact number of weapons in the Archaeology Department is unknown, but it is known that the Ethnology Department has 24 pieces of blade weapons from Indonesia and Oceania and that the History Department has 120 pieces.

In the catalogue, as well as on the exhibition, the most valuable examples of blade arms from the Historical Department are presented, together with several axes from Ethnological Department. Various types of weapons for attack and defence, the protective arms and parts of rider equipment have been elaborated and presented.

Of special importance are the different types of swords dating from the period of the 15th to mid-20th century. Apart from them, sabres of different peoples, provenance and time of creation-between the 13th and 20th century, are very interesting. Among them especially are noteworthy the Turkish, Hussar, Shashka, officer's and parade/dress sabres. With their beauty and attractiveness stand out the yataghans which came mainly from the Balkan arm-production centres, especially the ones made in Constantinople. Not less esteemed for their beauty are the different types of daggers and knives as well as various examples of protective arms. Weapons for striking, which include different types of maces, also raise our curiosity.

Finally, it can be concluded that the variety of weapons from this collection and its presence in the southeast Banat area are understandable especially when we take into account the events that occurred during the history in this region. With arrival of the Turks to the Balkans and their conquest of Banat in 1552, new types of weapons arrive to this area, such as yataghans, some types of knives and daggers. Numerous uprisings and rebellions of the oppressed nations have resulted in the presence and diversity of blade weapons which are mostly subject of our exhibition.

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