

Swiss Vatican Guard

By Capt. A. J. Mundo
Region I Commander
Greater Boston, Massachusetts, Chapter

Led by Region I Commander, Captain Albert J. Mundo, six members of the Greater Boston Chapter of the MOWW participated in the historic 500th anniversary of the Swiss Vatican Guard at Vatican City, Italy. An estimated 300 to 400 thousand people attended the colorful ceremony which was marked by the swearing in of the newest members of the Guard.

The Swiss Guard is the oldest continuously serving military organization in the world, having been formed in 1506. Its complement of 110 men is comprised of 6 Officers, 27 NCOs and 77 "Halberdiers" or "Pikemen". All are volunteers and are veterans of, or must have been trained by, the Swiss Army in current security techniques as well as qualifying as experts in the use of modern weapons and unarmed combat. Initial assignment of service is 2 years but can be extended up to 25 years, with an average length of service of approximately 6 years.

Other participating members of the Greater



Members of Greater Boston Chapter in Rome, Italy: COL G. J. Hayes (left), Col Elmar Maeder, Commander of Swiss Guard (center), and Capt A. J. Mundo (right).

Boston Chapter were: former Region I Commander, COL Gerry Hayes; LTC Reynold Graunas; Capt Leo Lazo; LTC James Dolan; LTC John Howard and LTC James Littleton.

CHAPTER COMMANDERS

Has Your Treasurer Returned Your Chapter's IRS Postcard?

Your chapter must return the MOWW IRS certification postcard to MOWW National Headquarters in order to receive your semi-annual chapter dues rebate check, or your chapter's annual Perpetual Membership dividend check.

It should have been received at MOWW Headquarters by **SEPTEMBER 30, 2006** per MOWW Bylaws, Article I, Section 13.

If your IRS postcard has not been mailed in, **A PROMPT RESPONSE TO THIS REQUIREMENT IS CRITICAL.**

National Security Web Site

www.mowwnationalsecurity.com

Companions should check out this web site periodically for articles, information, and recommended books on National Security issues. The web site has a listings page called Speakers Bureau. Any MOWW Companion willing to be a guest speaker is invited to be added to the Speakers Bureau listing by contacting COL Philemon A. St. Amant II by email at pastamant@aol.com

If you need one of the speakers to address your Region, State, Department, or Chapter meetings—or any other occasion, please invite the speaker directly, using their contact information listed on the web site.