



## REAL IRMANDADE DE SÃO MIGUEL DA ALA

– TRANSLATED FROM THE ORIGINAL PORTUGUESE –

### PUBLIC CLARIFICATION REGARDING THE PORTUGUESE ROYAL HOUSE AND THE HONOUR GUARD OF THE PANTHEON OF ROME

It has recently come to the attention of the Council of the *Royal Brotherhood of Saint Michael of the Wing* that malicious rumours sparking from *blogs* posted and circulating on internet *chat boxes*, have put forth various erroneous and misleading interpretations of facts pertaining to the *Portuguese Royal House*, the *Royal Brotherhood of Saint Michael of the Wing* and the *Institute for the Honour Guard of the Royal Tombs of the Pantheon* which therefore must be clarified by the following public statement which **CONFIRMS** that:

1. The Portuguese *Royal Association of Honour Guard of the Castles, Pantheons and National Monuments - RAGHCPMN*, (under the patronage of the *Royal House of Portugal*), did celebrate, last **January 20<sup>th</sup>**, in Rome, Italy a basic *Collaboration Protocol* with the similar Italian *Institute for the Honour Guard of the Royal Tombs of the Pantheon - INGORTP* (under the Patronage of the *Royal House of Savoy*), for the sole purpose of establishing cooperation initiatives and legal reciprocal representation in each corresponding country in order to assist one another in the event of the translation of a long deceased Royal person from one of the countries to the other and also, to perpetually honour the memory of the deceased Royals of the various dynasties, (each of whom were members of the *Portuguese and Italian Royal Houses*) providing a ceremonial Honour Guard of volunteers at their tombs.
2. With this end Goal said Protocol was signed by **Rev. J. Guilbert Mariani, Antonio Agostinho, and Carlos Evaristo**, in representation of the Portuguese Association, and by **Ugo Maria D' Atri, Rev. Luigi Abid Sid, and Roberto Favero**, in representation of the Italian Institute which falls under the Ministry of Defence by Presidential Decree.
3. The above referred to individuals are confirmed members of the respective honour guards and long – time members of the *Royal Brotherhood of Saint Michael of the Wing*.
4. Through the said Protocol, there was also established a Portuguese Government recognized representation of the *Italian Institute* of Honour Guards in Portugal, and **Roberto Vittorio Favero** whose family has confirmed ties to Portugal was nominated representative of the *Portuguese Royal Association* of Honour Guards in Italy as well as Italian Adviser to the *Royal Brotherhood of Saint Michael of the Wing's Admission and Case Review Board*.
5. Documentation has been presented to the *Royal Brotherhood of Saint Michael of the Wing's Council* that **Capitan de Baixel, Nobile Ugo Maria d'Atri, President of the Institute for the Honour Guard of the Royal Tombs of the Pantheon of Rome** and **Nobile Roberto Vittorio Favero, Inspector of the Institute for the Honour Guard of the Royal Tombs of the Pantheon for Emilia Romagna** are both recognized by the *Royal House of Savoy* and the *Italian Associations of Nobles* as Italian Nobles, "**Nobile**", their charges in the *Institute for the Honour Guard of the Royal Tombs of the Pantheon* confirmed by the *Italian Ministry of Defence*, and members in good standing of the *Royal Brotherhood of Saint Michael of the Wing*, the same having been proposed by the *ICOC President* and the *Royal Brotherhood of Saint Michael of the Wing Delegation Commandry of Saint Anthony* in Italy, invested by *HRH the Duke of Coimbra, Vice-Chancellor of the Royal Brotherhood of Saint Michael of the Wing*, during ceremonies held in Casale Monferrato, Italy.

6. As previously stated in recent Public Clarifications of similar nature, *H.R.H. the Duke of Bragança*, Judge and Grand Master of the *Royal Brotherhood of Saint Michael of the Wing* **neither confirms nor grants nobility, titles or designations to the members of its Royal Orders** and so any such "*styles*" such as "*Nobile*" (used in Italy to identify Hereditary Nobles), "*Excellency*" (which in Portugal is reserved for Government Diplomats) or "*Don*" (which in Spanish or Italian simply means "*Mister*"), as presented or used by anyone associated with the *Royal Brotherhood of Saint Michael of the Wing* must be understood in the respective context of that country's culture described above and must never be associated with any activity or custom of Portugal or the Portuguese Royal House.
7. Although the idea for proposals to establish *Working Protocols* between the *Royal Brotherhood of Saint Michael of the Wing* and the *Order of Saints Maurice and Lazarus* were presented for consideration to the *Royal Brotherhood of Saint Michael of the Wing's Council* by the Delegates of the Commandries of the *Order of Saints Maurice and Lazarus*, in Austria and Russia, and, to date, **no protocol has been signed and nor has any agreement been reached on this matter** .
8. Any public or private statement made by anyone in reference to such a *Protocol* **can only be interpreted in the light of what has been stated in point 7.**
9. Likewise, any message attributed to or read on behalf of *HRH the Duke of Bragança* and referring to any *Protocol*, only explicitly refers to the *Collaboration Protocol* between the *Italian Institute for the Honour Guard of the Royal Tombs of the Pantheon* and the *Portuguese Royal Association of Honour Guards of the Castles, Pantheons and National Monuments*, signed in Rome, Italy, last January 20<sup>th</sup>.
10. As stated by the Council in previous Public Clarifications, the Head of the Portuguese Royal House, Judge and Grand Master of the *Royal Brotherhood of Saint Michael of the Wing* and its Council discourages public discussion on Internet *blog* chat box of matters pertaining or referring in any way to the *Royal House of Portugal* and its Orders, considering such actions to be nothing more than gossip intended to propagate rumours that unfortunately foment scandal. Those with any doubts or concerns should address such issues to the Secretariat.
11. All members of the *Orders of the Royal House of Portugal* are reminded that it is considered to be in very bad taste to publicly refer to, reproduce or exhibit any honours received outside events endorsed by the *Portuguese Royal House* or without having received previous permission of the *Royal Brotherhood of Saint Michael of the Wing's Council*. Such unauthorized actions may violate governing norms which could result in disciplinary action being taken against infractions.

*Authorized for Public Disclosure by the Council*

**THE SECRETARIAT OF THE VICE – CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE**

**Portugal, Good Friday, 2007**