



International Bodyguard & Security Services Association

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The IBSSA story

By George Popper

10 years ago the world changed by the collapsing of the Communist Empire. Many new countries with different level of democratization were founded in Europe and Asia. All of those faced many new problems from which privatization and security are common. As a result of natural development private security companies were founded. One of the leading countries of the changes is Hungary with its 10 million population and about 3000 security companies.

In 1990 some Hungarian Jiu-Jitsu and Karate sportsmen founded the "Testor Nemzetközi Biztonságügyi Kft" (Bodyguard International Security Service Ltd.co.)

The company was a Canadian-Hungarian Joint venture and the President of the company was H.R.H. Prince Adan Czartoryski Borbon.

The company was growing very dynamic and 4 years later already had over 1000 workers and became one of the leading security companies of Hungary. International relations were also more and more active. A delegation of the Romanian National Protguard Company visited Hungary and an agreement of cooperation was signed with "Testor". Many other contacts were established with German, Israeli and other companies.

During an international meeting on the cooperation at the spring 1994 the idea was born to join the Official International Federation of Private Security Field, but soon it was discovered that how ever there are numerous companies who organize international fairs, security exhibitions and conferences - an independent international federation for the security profession is not existing. Many questions were raised for which there was no answer that time, for instance some of them: which are the officially recognized professions and which level of the security workers. What are the requirements to become a security agent, security guards, an international bodyguard or a security director? How and where you can get that kind of education and where will it be accepted?

How a security guard or a bodyguard can prove abroad his education level? What kind an internationally recognized ID is existing for international bodyguards? Working abroad how a bodyguard can prove that he is working? How to get licenses to carry gun abroad?

Of course hundreds of questions were unanswered that time and it was clear that there are many different rules in the different countries which result very different situation but the necessity for cooperation, coordination and to elaborate general standards was the reality.

This was the moment where the decision was done to set up such an organization.

April 7th 1994 the founding Congress was held in Budapest, where 12 persons from 8 countries (Spain, France, Hungary, USA, Egypt, Germany, South Africa and Great Britain) decided to set up IBSSA the non-profit international federation for Security. H.R.H. Prince Adan Czartoryski Borbon was elected as president for a 5-year period.

June 15 1994 IBSSA was registered in France Nr. 1/08756

February 25 2000 IBSSA was registered in USA Nr. P00000019902

September 8-10 1995 2nd IBSSA Congress -Budapest/Hungary

Over 36 delegates representing over 100 members from 20 countries attended the congress. The Patrons of the event were his excellency Mr. Árpád Göncz the President of the Hungarian Republic and Mr. Gábor Kuncze –Minister of Home Affairs and Mr. Sándor Pintér- Chief of the Hungarian Police. Many delegates reported their work and their problems in the respective countries. The Hungarian IBSSA member companies hosted the event on a very high level; they organized many side-programs for the foreign delegates. The international Press and TV did show a very big interest.

October 25-27 1996 3rd IBSSA Congress Tel Aviv/ Israel

The Israeli Congress was a very high level event hold just 1 year after the "Rabin assassination". Mr. Avi Bleier and Dr. Rony Kluger and the Company AGAF 83 made a good work. High light of the event was the program hosted by IMI (Israeli Military Industry) they invited all Congress delegates for a special gun-show and demonstration.

As a result of the active work of many IBSSA representatives and the press in

April 1997 IBSSA had about 400 members from 70 countries and many of those were large companies or organizations as the Chinese Taipei Bodyguard Federation.

November 21-23 1997 4th IBSSA Congress Miami Beach-Florida/USA

The highlight of the event was the cooperation between IBSSA and DEA. (Drug Enforcement Agency) DEA invited the IBSSA leadership for a very special program to their Headquarters.

November 27-29 1998 5th IBSSA Congress Budapest/Hungary

The fifth congress was held in the new Hungarian Police Palace as the symbol of the necessity of the cooperation between police and private security companies and their organizations.

95 delegates and several guests were present from 5 continents and 42 countries.

The congress was a milestone in the history of IBSSA. The new guidelines and targets for the future were decided. It was stated that the time came, when IBSSA must turn into a very professional International Federation for the Security Profession. This will need professionalism on every field, new structure of the organization and new working methods of the leadership.

A new leadership was elected for the coming 5-year period:

Mr. George Popper	Executive President
Dr. Rony Kluger	General Secretary
Dr. G.S. Bertolotti	Vice President
Dr. Marko Nicovic	Vice President
Mr. Silvere Salvisberg	Vice president

H.R.H. Prince Adan Czartoryski Borbon was unanimously elected as lifetime Honorary Founding President and some very active founding members like Mr. Fritz Wendland from Germany, Mr. Josef Polyak from Hungary were also elected as lifetime Honorary Members.

The congress also agreed to establish an IBSSA International Sport Federation which organization will arrange IBSSA sport events. The President of this Federation is Mr. Luis Baguena (Spain).

IBSSA today has more than 1000 members from nearly 100 countries of the world.

70% of the members represent security companies or organizations.

There are many organizations as associated members and famous personalities as Honorary Members.

IBSSA representations and national organizations were established in many countries.

IBSSA has a very high-level education and training program worldwide. Special training seminars are held every year in Israel, Italy, Switzerland, France, Hungary, Romania, Czech Republic and many other countries. A leading institute, the Israeli College of Security and Investigation is full member of IBSSA.

IBSSA through the activities of its 40 departments has a leading pioneer role of many fields of security.

All IBSSA activities are open for everybody and information can be found on the INTERNET: www.ibssa.org

March 17-19 2000 The 6th IBSSA Congress will be held at Caorle (Venice)/Italy

It is foreseen that the most active IBSSA Congress will be held and the main subject of the Special Conference and Congress "The cooperation between police and private security on international and national level" is a common and very important question worldwide. High DEA and Interpol representatives are invited.

This was the short story of the first 6 years of IBSSA -history. The next pages of the book are blank. We, thousands of IBSSA members are writing it. We just started this work and 6 years in the history is not too long period.

20.January 2000 Budapest