



# WMF News

**WMF is a section of the Simon Stevinstichting**  
**Edition 1 of 2001**

**Composed by Frank PHILIPPART**

---

Dear All,

Welcome to the first edition of the WMF bulletin board! The intention is to keep you in touch with developments concerning bunkers and forts. You'll find here also some small items or announcements about bunkers or events.

Feel free to send me some questions or articles which I can post.

I hope you enjoy it.

Regards,

Frank

## **Light at the end of the tunnel for Stp Schliessen**

This Stp is a field battery which is situated at Adinkerke near the Belgian-French border. It consisted of four 611 gun casemates with crew and ammunition rooms, one 610 battery command post and six open emplacements. Today, the six emplacements remain together with the 610 and two 611's. The basement of the third 611 remains and of the fourth, only some lumps of the walls of the crew room. The Stp was classified as a historic monument in 1997. Inside the 610, one can see various technical texts. One of the 611's has remains of the filter installation and the name of the Stp painted on the wall. The problem is that this Stp is located in the water-win area Cabourg. For years this area has been not accessible. Even the city of De Panne wasn't interested. (Adinkerke is amalgamated with De Panne) Recently (Aug 2001), someone in the region came up with the idea to renovate the bunker to open them to the public. Finally, some light at the end of the tunnel!

## **No photograph's at Raversijde**

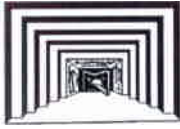
Bad, bad news from this site. I've heard and it has been confirmed by one of the representatives : NO MORE PHOTOGRAPHS at Raversijde! I understand one is forbidden to take flash photogaph's of the fresco's. Many of them do not support bright light. But in this case it's even forbidden to take a photo of a gun. What has led to these Draconian measures is unknown to me. Something to do with author rights or some such thing. If you extrapolate this, then it would mean you would have to write to the town hall of Paris to ask permission to take a photo of the Eiffel tower.....

I hope that this silly situation will stop soon.

## **669's as background for a play**

Bunkers remain a backdrop, whether a backdrop to war or to a play!. And this is what happened with the bunkers of Stp Stene near Oostende.

On this location you can see bunkers fulfilling two different functions. First you have the field battery covering the port of Oostende. Today it consists of two 669 gun casemates for a 10 cm gun, an open emplacement, an engine bunker and some Wellblechs. Secondly there are two nice 630's covering the PzStp Stene.



# WMF *News*

**WMF is a section of the Simon Stevinstichting**  
**Edition 1 of 2001**

**Composed by Frank PHILIPPART**

---

The city of Oostende plans to make of the area a site for culture with an open-air theatre, a field for various events, various paths and small water channels. The 669's will become the centre of the theatre to be the backdrop!!

Until late spring the site was a cattle field. Recently (mid Aug), I saw that they had already made the semi-circular earthen dike of the theatre.

At the moment we're busy looking for interested parties to renovate the interior of one 630. This means cleaning, removing rust and repainting walls and steel parts. Electricity has to be installed. At a second stage one can replace the armoured doors, tubes and filters.

We advised the city to place educational panels with the meaning and function of the bunkers.



View on both 669's with the "dike" around.

## **HQ of LXXXIX Army Corps becomes museum**

This bunker village was hidden in the "De Brandt" park in Antwerpen until we discovered them a few years ago. Actually I knew they were there, but I didn't know their function. However, we asked the town hall's permission to open them to visit. On a chilly November weekend we could proceed. Unfortunately all furniture and equipment had been sold at auction just after the war. What remains are some armoured and sliding doors (19P7, 434P01,...). As for technical texts : the bunker numbers are still on the walls of the SK1's, some "Tür zu!" remain and some of the sliding doors have still the indication of the rooms.

In fact the HQ of the LXXXIX AK consists of two parts. First the HQ itself consisting of two SK1's, one 57a dressing station and four 52a's. One of the houses in the nearby Accasialaan served as office for the Ia. Secondly, a bit further, you have the "Wilrijkse plein" which was the



# WMF News

**WMF** is a section of the Simon Stevinstichting  
Edition 1 of 2001

Composed by Frank PHILIPPART

---

communication site of the HQ, having a 618 and two 622's. What I'm telling is the actual situation.

A group of enthusiastic bunker freaks made a definite, new, start in December 2000 to renovate the SK1. A task which they proceed with success. It's their aim to bring the bunker back to its original function and to present an exhibition about the Atlantic wall and about the air raids and V1-2's on Antwerpen. Their general's room and the filter room are real masterpieces.

Following bunkers can be visited : one SK1 which is the museum, the second SK1, a 52a and the 57a. The latter are open on request.

To have more information contact :  
"Museum Bunkerarchoe Antwerpen"  
Mr Denis RYCKAERT  
Tel : 33 /3/828.24.26



View on the general's room.

## **Flak battery disappeared (again!!)**

During the summer of 2001 a farmer decided to break down the constructions of a FlaK battery in his cattle field. It consisted of four open emplacements forming together a square. In the middle was the fire control post. This site was located on outskirts of the cities of Zeebrugge (Brugge) and Blankenberge.

Luckily most of the sites in Belgium are already classified as a historic monuments.



## World-war I bunker-line almost preserved

As you know, The Netherlands was a neutral country during the first world war. From 1916 onwards the Germans were afraid that the allies would try to force a break-through via The Netherlands. Therefore they started building a defence line from the North-sea along the Belgian-Dutch border via Antwerpen to Turnhout. The first part to Antwerpen was called the Holland Stellung and the second part from Antwerpen on was called the Antwerpen-Turnhout Stellung. Above Antwerpen in Kapellen, in a wood, a part of the whole line remains as complete as it could be. Three lines of trenches with various models of bunkers; a real masterpiece to study the step-up of a WW-I frontline.

In the spring of 2001 WMF started to compile a dossier in order to classify the bunker line but we have since heard that there's no danger because the wood is described as a green belt area. It's forbidden to build anywhere on it.



The interior of a casemate for a 7.5 cm gun, type VIII.

## Maginot work don't like visitors

Our correspondent reported the strange behaviour of the association who opens the GO St Gobain in the region of Maurienne. He told us that they had been frisked when they left the fort. And they were not the only ones to have such an unpleasant experience. Moreover, the fort is neither cleaned nor renovated. He noticed this after various visits spread over a few years. Our correspondent has the feeling the fort has been used as a money-making machine.....