

**Background:**

Fairly or unfairly, US armed forces have been severely criticized for their part in damaging or failing to protect cultural properties during global military operations. The ability to read the cultural landscape can be critical for mission success. Archeologists working at the DoD installation level are in a unique position to recognize and teach stewardship where the ability to recognize sacred places, archaeological sites and valued historic structures are critical for successful stability operations. With ratification of *The Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict*, training of military personnel for cultural property protection is also a requirement of US treaty law. In 2010, this project chose to focus on continuing to build international relations in this subject matter area.

**Objective:**

The immediate objective of this project is to lend aid to establishing a US presence internationally on the subject of cultural property protection during global operations. The ultimate objective is to aid in establishment of a permanent office within the US DoD to handle cultural heritage issues.

**Summary of Approach:**

The specific approach for 2010 is for the US DoD to sponsor a symposium at the Archaeology in Conflict World Archaeology Congress Inter-Congress and to produce a summary document based on the papers presented that reflects the status of military cultural property protection education and planning worldwide. These funds also support efforts to build on US lessons learned.

**Time Line**

2010:

- WAC Inter-Congress Vienna, DoD Panel
- CHCAG Annual Meeting McDill AFB
- Completion and Presentation of Historical Cultural Lessons Learned Iraq and Afghanistan
- Preparation for and Initiation of Research on the Carabinieri TPC
- Participation in Jordan Preservation Conference
- UNESCO Conference Vienna
- International Institute of Humanitarian Law, Cultural Property Protection for the Military Instruction

2011:

- Completion of Field Research Carabinieri TPC
- Conference Participation, “Not on the List” Rome Presentation, Italian Army Staff College
- Completion of Summary from the WAC Inter-Congress Panel
- Speaking Tour of Turkey on these Issues
- Continued Curricula Development, Awareness Materials, Research, and International Initiatives

**Benefit:**

The long term benefit will be better education of US personnel for recognition and appropriate response to cultural property during global military operations. In addition to improved stewardship, this project is helping to rebuild international respect for the US DoD in terms of its commitment to improve its capabilities to identify and respond appropriately to cultural property during global operations. It is also offering opportunities for DoD to implement Hague Convention compliance by jump starting new educational and planning efforts based on successful models in practice in Italy and Austria.

**Accomplishments:**

To date, this project has produced:

- Cultural Heritage Expertise for Middle Eastern Military Exercises and Environmental Partnerships
- On-site Training Opportunities in the Middle East
- Guidelines for Identifying Cultural Property in Cross Cultural Environments and Reference Materials
- Professional Military Education Curricula
- Case Studies, Scenarios, and Lessons Learned
- Awareness Training Materials for Military Personnel
- Cultural Heritage Mapping Information for Global Operations Planning
- Field Training Assets for Cultural Property Encounters
- A Catalog of Project Products
- Partnership Meetings and Shared Initiatives with International Subject Matter Experts

**Contact Information:**

Dr. Laurie W. Rush  
Cultural Resources Program Manager, Ft. Drum  
[laurie.rush@us.army.mil](mailto:laurie.rush@us.army.mil)

