



AMERICAN FOUNDATION OF SAVOY ORDERS

Tenth Annual Savoy History Lecture – October 5, 2012

“Luigi Amedeo di Savoia Aosta, Duca degli Abruzzi An Explorer’s Life”



*Prince Luigi Amedeo di Savoia
Duke of the Abruzzi*



The Duke – the dandy

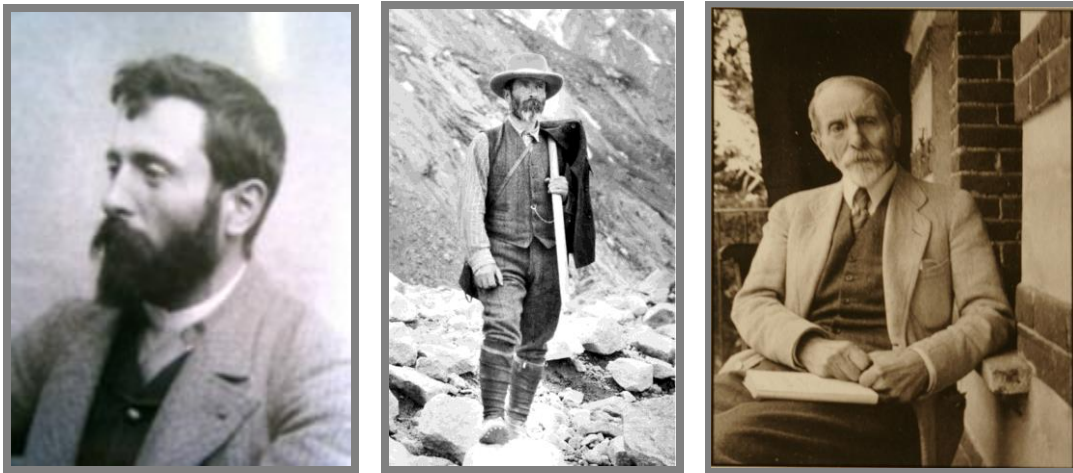


The Duke – the explorer

For the 10th anniversary of the Savoy History Lecture Series, Savoy Foundation President Comm. Marco Grassi chose the extraordinary life of Luigi Amedeo di Savoia Aosta, Duca degli Abruzzi for his topic, returning to the Knickerbocker Club, the venue where the program was initiated by our esteemed confrere, the late Uff. Avv. William B. Warren. On that occasion, Bill Warren deftly recounted the extraordinary life of one of the seventeenth century’s greatest military leaders, Prince Eugene of Savoy. Another remarkable, though more recent but no less valiant member of that dynasty was the adventurous Prince Luigi Amedeo di Savoia Aosta, Duke of the Abruzzi, known for his mountain climbing expeditions to the most inhospitable regions of the world. A standing-room only audience enjoyed the illustrated presentation.



The lecture also indirectly profiled expedition photographer and mountaineer Vittorio Sella, a friend of the Duke's and a pioneer of early mountain photography, whose striking visual documentation of the Duke's exploits witnessed and preserved his adventures for posterity. The legacy of the extraordinary expeditions of the Duke and his fellow explorers would have faded into history without the diary and astonishing body of images left by Vittorio Sella. The Duke of Abruzzi greatly admired Sella's work and invited him to be the official photographer for the expeditions in 1897 to Mount St Elias in Alaska, in 1909 to the Karakoram in India. The highest summit on *Mount Luigi di Savoia* in the *Ruwenzori* in Africa was named *Sella Peak* in his honor.



Vittorio Sella (1859-1943)



One of the striking photographs of the legendary mountaineer and expeditionary photographer Vittorio Sella

A highlight of the evening's program was a filmed interview with Dott. Fabio Ruberti, one of the world's most renowned divers, underwater explorers and researchers, on the discovery of the battleship *Regina Margherita*. Dr. Ruberti heads IANTD (*International Association Nitrox & Technical Divers*) based in Marina di Pisa, Italy. In 2005, an expedition under Dr. Ruberti's direction, located the wreck of the *Regina Margherita* off the coast of Albania. During World War I, the Duke was named Vice Admiral in command of the Adriatic Fleet of the *Regia Marina*. Although he served gallantly and was credited with saving the Serbian Army, the sinking of the *Regina Margherita* by the Austrians led to his recall and replacement.

***“Luigi Amedeo di Savoia Aosta, Duca degli Abruzzi
An Explorer’s Life”***

- An exceptional man, and not only because of his birth as a Savoy prince



Genealogy

Before he was 40 he had become one of the greatest modern mountaineers, and perhaps the greatest overall explorer of his time. When he died in an African village, *The New York Times* recalled that when he was a boy, he had met a Gypsy woman along a road in Italy, who told him "You will one day sit on the throne, and your papa will get you the most beautiful Queen in the world." But, said the paper, the boy named Luigi Amedeo replied "Rot! A lot you know! I shall be a sailor and I shall sail all over the world and marry whom I please."

Young Luigi Amedeo's vision was clearer than that of the old woman. He never sat on a throne, although he was a royal prince and his father was briefly a king. He did become a sailor, and commanded a major fleet in World War I. It was a life of many adventures. Before he died he had climbed higher, in the Karakoram, than any human before him. After climbing Europe's highest peaks, he was the first to reach the top of a great peak in Alaska, and the top of many unclimbed peaks in Africa's Ruwenzori range. Nor was he only a great mountaineer; this daring prince led an expedition that reached farther north than any previous attempt, and a final expedition up an African river whose headwaters he was first to find in the unmapped highlands of Ethiopia. He was also a dashing sportsman, competing with other European royalty in great yacht races and stalking big game in remote jungles. And while he could not have his American love, he found a love in Africa.



Center: *The three Sons of Amedeo, 1st Duke of Aosta*
Emanuele Filiberto, 2d Duke of Aosta (1869-1931)
Vittorio Emanuele, Count of Turin (1870-1946)
Luigi Amedeo, Duke of the Abruzzi (1873-1933)

His full name was Luigi Amedeo Giuseppe Maria Ferdinando Francesco. He belonged to the ancient dynasty that, in the late 19th century gave reunited Italy its first king: Victor Emmanuel II. When Luigi Amedeo was born in Madrid in 1873 his father Amedeo, was in the middle of his brief and unhappy reign as king of Spain. Soon after his son's birth, with a Spanish republic likely, Amedeo abdicated and took his family home to Turin. Amedeo's older brother Umberto was on the throne as Italy's second king – Umberto II....and since Luigi Amedeo – our hero – was the youngest of Amedeo's three sons, his slot in the succession was rather down the pole. In fact, when king Umberto was assassinated by an anarchist in 1900, Luigi Amedeo's first cousin, Victor Emanuel became Italy's third king, reigning as Victor Emanuel III until 1946.

YOUTH

Perhaps it was just as well that, as Luigi Amedeo told the Gypsy, he would become a sailor. At age 11, he entered the Italian naval academy at Livorno. The perpetual and overriding tradition for Savoy princes was military service and since their ancestral capital – Turin – was nestled at the foothills of the Alps, rugged outdoor life and climbing was also part of that tradition.

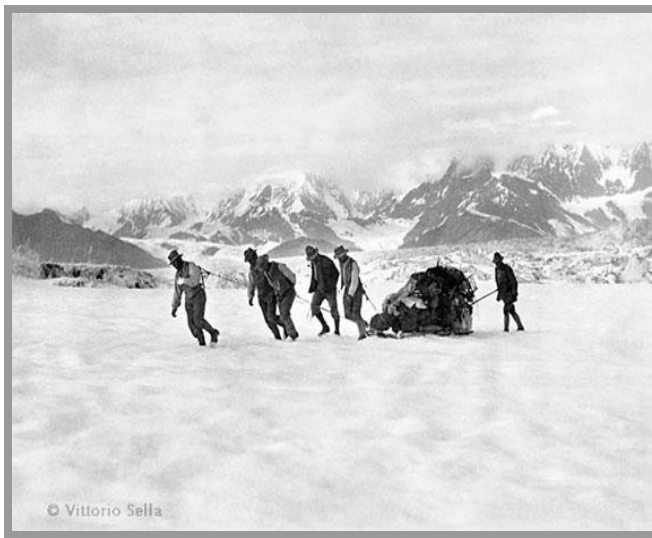
Luigi Amedeo started climbing as a boy in the Alps much encouraged by his aunt, the dowager queen Margherita who took a special shine to him, who also loved to climb. At 20, in 1893, Luigi Amedeo had his first view of Africa as a midshipman on the gunboat *Volturno*. However, before sailing on the cruise, he had a number of major Alpine summits to his credit including *Mont Blanc*, *Monte Rosa*, and the *Matterhorn*, which he had climbed via the Breuil route. In August 1894, after his return from Africa, the Duke climbed the Matterhorn at the age of 21 via the more difficult Zmutt ridge. The Zmutt route had been pioneered in 1879 by the great English mountaineer (and economist) Albert Frederick Mummery, and had been successfully climbed only once since then. The Duke was a friend of Mummery, and it was Mummery who led the Duke up the ridge to the summit.

Two months later, Luigi Amedeo left for a voyage around the world as a lieutenant on the cruiser *Cristoforo Colombo*, and for the first time he saw North America. He missed visiting Alaska, but he had been reading about it, and particularly about *Mount St. Elias*, an unclimbed peak which rose above the Gulf of Alaska to an altitude of 18,000 feet. It was, and is, the second-highest peak in U.S. territory.

FIRST MAJOR CLIMB – MT. ST. ELIAS

When the young Duke returned to Italy in 1896, he decided it was time to organize a major mountaineering expedition. His first plan was to go to the Himalayas and climb the 26,660-foot peak of Nanga Parbat, as a tribute to his friend Mummery who, at the age of 40, had recently attempted Nanga Parbat and had vanished forever on the mountain together with two Gurkha porters. However, the British Indian government refused the Duke permission, because of a cholera epidemic.

Luigi Amedeo now turned to Mount St. Elias. Four recent American expeditions had failed to conquer the peak. It was difficult even to reach the foot of the mountain; the only way inland led across trackless glaciers from an exposed, wave-swept shore.



*Mt. St. Elias Expedition
On the Newton Glacier*



*Mt. St. Elias Expedition
Crossing the Hitchcock Glacier*

Photographs by Vittorio Sella

The Duke set off for Alaska in the spring of 1897. He took with him a party composed of four Italian Alpine guides and several friends who would also accompany him on future adventures: Umberto Cagni, a naval ordnance officer and trusted comrade; Vittorio Sella, a fearless Alpinist whose uncle had founded the Club Alpino Italiano in 1863 and who was also the greatest of mountain photographers; a 30-year-old physician, Filippo de Filippi, who became the chronicler of this and later expeditions and several other experienced climbers. Sella brought with him an assistant photographer, making a total of ten Italians.

The Italians crossed the Atlantic on the Cunard Lines' *Lucania* and, on arrival in New York, they were besieged by reporters; how could they think to succeed on a mountain where Americans had failed four times? The party went on by train to the West Coast, from Seattle they sailed to Sitka and from there to Yakutat Bay, the nearest coastal point to Mount St. Elias. On June 23, 1897, the expedition landed on the beach at the mouth of Yakutat Bay. East, west, and north of them lay the huge Malaspina Glacier. The peak lay nearly 50 miles northwest in a straight line; the actual route would be longer.



*Mount Saint Elias from the Newton Glacier
(Vittorio Sella)*



At the Top!

By July 1, the Duke and his party were on the glacier and began their march inland. They would have no chance of resupply from the time they set out until their return to the coast, and so they carried equipment and food to last them seven weeks, most of which they pulled on four large sledges although the Duke, like the others, also carried a 50-pound pack. The tents, some designed by A.F. Mummery and others by Edward Whymper, conqueror of the Matterhorn, were relatively light, as were the down-filled sleeping bags. Nonetheless, altogether the four loaded sledges weighed more than a ton and a half—1400 kilograms—when the march began. The photographic equipment alone weighed more than 200 pounds. It took up to four men to pull each sledge.

The party was not encouraged by the news that the climber Henry Bryant of Philadelphia (later president of the American Alpine Club) had landed at Yakutat Bay and headed inland ten days ahead of them with a party of seven men. In three days, the Duke's party crossed the Malaspina. This was not the end of glaciers; they went on and on, across the Seward, Pinnacle, and Agassiz glaciers.

Good news came on the Agassiz glacier; they encountered four men from the Bryant party, who told them Bryant had turned back. But after two weeks the Italians were only 3,739 feet above sea level, leaving more than 14,000 feet to climb. From here on everything had to be carried on men's backs, with the American porters making several trips back to the sledges to pick up and bring on more supplies.

On July 29, after a four-week march from the coast, the ten Italians camped at 8,659 feet. The weather cleared and they could see ahead of them the great northeast ridge of Mount St. Elias, which they hoped to follow to the peak. At four o'clock on the morning of July 30, the party left most of their gear where they had camped and set off with two tents, food for two and a half days, and a minimum of other equipment including two cameras for Vittorio Sella's use. The party reached 12,293 feet and camped just below the long broad ridge which rose above them toward the summit. Far below them stretched the great Malaspina glacier, and beyond it they could see Yakutat Bay and a blue sea, 60 miles away.

At midnight the next day the ten men started off, in three parties. Soon the Italians were higher than Mont Blanc; higher than any of them had ever climbed before. Just after eleven a.m. on July 31, after the party had been climbing for ten and a half hours, still in the lead, the two Alpine guides stopped and stood aside. The Duke walked a few steps forward and was on the summit of Mount St. Elias, 18,008 feet above sea level. Within a half-hour he had been joined by all the others, and he planted the Italian flag, tied to an ice axe. The sky was clear except for clouds over the Malaspina glacier and the sea far southward. They had climbed 5,792 feet from their last camp, and 9,349 feet in the last two days. Great peaks which two days earlier had loomed above them were now at their feet.

The party descended without difficulty and reached the beach on August 11, the exact date they had estimated. They had not lost a man; in fact there had been no serious accidents. It was a triumph of physical endurance, good planning, and leadership, and the credit was due above all to Luigi Amedeo, aged 24. The *San Francisco Examiner* said flatly that "It was the most successful expedition ever undertaken." It would be another half-century before the next group of climbers, from the Harvard Mountaineering Club, reached the top of Mount St. Elias.

YACHT RACING

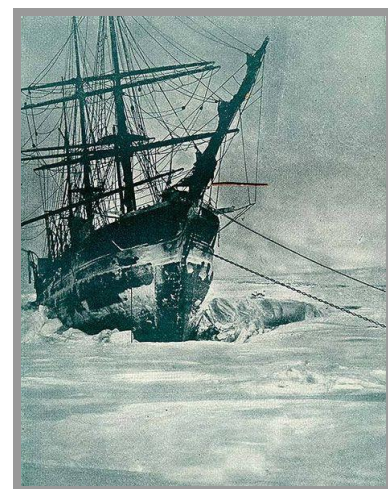
Fresh from his success in Alaska, the Duke found time to race his newly commissioned yacht, the 98 foot *Bona* in the Harwich and Cowes regattas. Although the Duke's yacht was considerably smaller than the Prince of Wales' *Brittania* or the Kaiser's *Meteor* and never competed directly against them, it finished the 1898 season winning thirty-nine prize flags.

NORTH POLE EXPEDITION

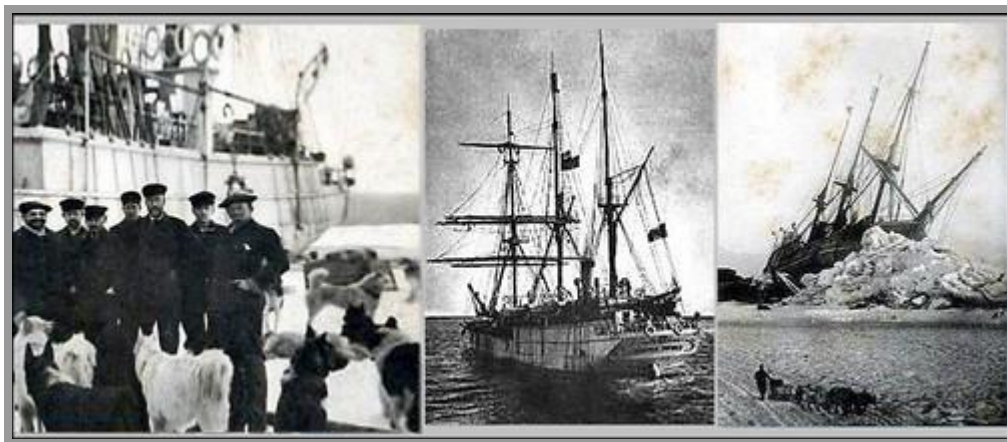
But the Duke's truest passion was climbing and exploration. In 1899, he set out for another goal no man had yet reached: the North Pole. Fridtjof Nansen, the intrepid Norwegian, had gone farther north than any other man in 1893, but had not reached the Pole. The Duke went to seek Nansen's advice in Norway, prepared his expedition, and sailed north in a specially fitted ship that he had purchased from Nansen and renamed *Stella Polare*.



Terpitz Bay by Vittorio Sella



*Stella Polare Strangled by Ice in Terpitz Bay
by Vittorio Sella*

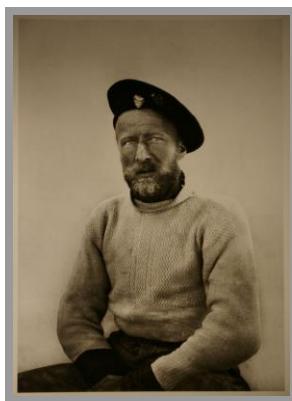


*Duke of Abruzzi North Pole Expedition 1899.
Polar expedition ship crew (left), Stella Polare ship (middle) and Stella Polare again, this time trapped
by the ice in Terpitz Bay(right)*

By the middle of August, the Italian team had reached winter anchorage in Terpitz Bay at latitude 80° 47' north. As winter approached, the brutal ice pack eventually took its toll on the ship, lifting and damaging it severely. Leading the first trip northward from his ship, the Duke's hands suffered severe frostbite. Parts of several fingers had to be amputated, and after his hands continued to give him trouble, the Duke gave over command of the Pole party to his friend Umberto Cagni.



Umberto Cagni



Cagni and his team return from North Pole attempt

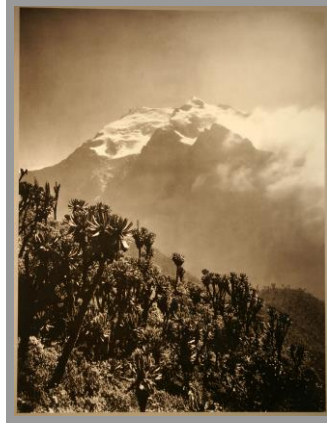
After the party had been gone three months the Duke gave them up for lost; but Cagni and his three men returned, 104 days after they had left. They had been reduced to killing their sled dogs one by one for food until only seven dogs were left; the weather had been awful; after freezing his hand Cagni had amputated his own index finger with a pair of scissors. But he had reached 86° 34', more than 20 miles farther north than Nansen had gone. Cagni turned back 237 miles short of the Pole, but it was a great feat.

It would be seven more years before the American Robert Peary returned from the Arctic claiming—and the claim has long been disputed—that he, Matthew Henson, and four Inuit had finally stood on the top of the world.

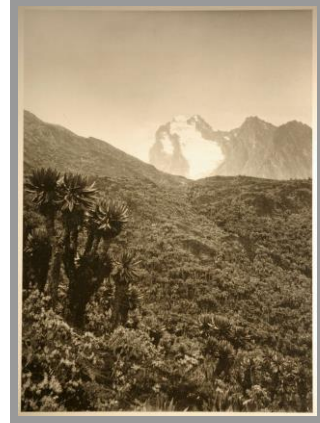
THE RUWENZORI



*Forest above Nakitawa In the Ruwenzori
The Duke (center) with guides
Joseph Petigax and César Ollier*



The Ruwenzori Range



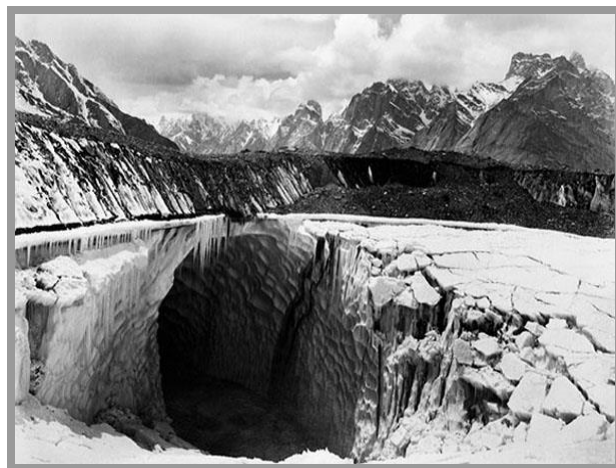
Approach to the Ruwenzori Range

Photographs by Vittorio Sella

As an explorer, the Duke was not only intrepid but, where most explorers of his time concentrated on one region, he was wide-ranging. Having done the Alps, Alaska, and the Arctic, he aimed at Africa. Southwest of the seas he had sailed as a young officer, and so far inland as to be still almost unknown to white men, lay the *Ruwenzori Range*. These were high mountains, almost always wrapped in clouds and mist. They were probably the *Mountains of the Moon* described by Ptolemy in his second-century Geography, but in modern times they had remained unknown until Sir Henry Stanley reported their existence in 1890. Several Englishmen had reached the Ruwenzori after Stanley, and had made some ascents. But it was Luigi Amedeo and his expedition of 1906—including Cagni, Sella, and Petigax the guide—who made the first ascent of 16 summits of more than 15,000 feet in the range, including 16,763-foot *Margherita Peak* which the Duke named for the queen mother of Italy.



Approach to the Ruwenzori Range



The Baltoro Glacier Ruwenzori Range

Photographs by Vittorio Sella

As in the case of his earlier expeditions, the Duke had not just gone adventuring. His party produced the first adequate maps of the Ruwenzori, as well as reports on the area's flora, geology, hydrology, and glaciology. Although the range was almost on the Equator, it turned out to have a dozen glaciers.

CATHERINE ELKINS

When the Duke returned from the Ruwenzori he was 33, world famous, and had been promoted to admiral. In 1907 the U.S. celebrated the 300th anniversary of English settlement in this country with a major Jamestown Exposition. The Duke of the Abruzzi sailed to represent Italy with the cruisers *Varese* and *Etruria*. At a dinner given in his honor in Washington by a former United States Ambassador to Italy, Luigi Amedeo met a beautiful young woman named Katherine Elkins.

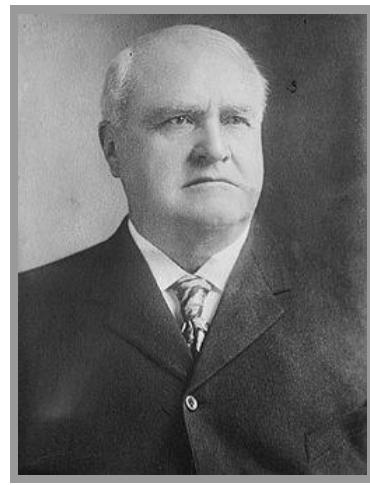
She was the daughter of a wealthy senator, Stephen B. Elkins, of West Virginia. A romance blossomed, and soon it appeared that the Duke intended to marry the young American. But the Royal House of Savoy was unwilling to see a royal prince, who might conceivably someday sit on the throne, marry an American commoner and a Protestant at that. For six years the affair continued.



Katherine Elkins



In the News



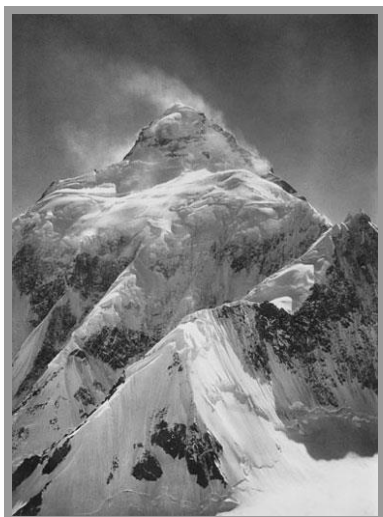
The Senator



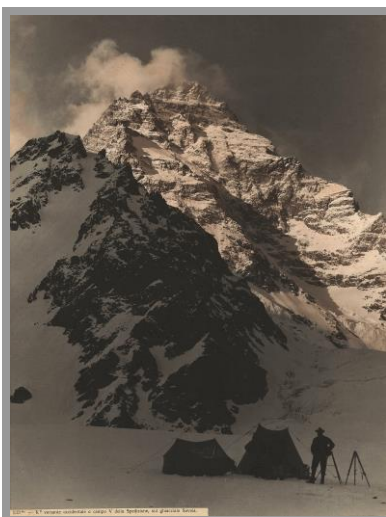
Halliehurst

There were reports that the Duke would renounce his right to royal succession; but he did not do so. There was a report that the impediment would be removed by the bride being named a princess and becoming a Catholic; but neither of these things happened. Katherine Elkins married the son of a wealthy congressman from Illinois.

THE KARAKORAM – K 2



K 2 (Karakoram 2)



K 2 (Karakoram 2) Base Camp

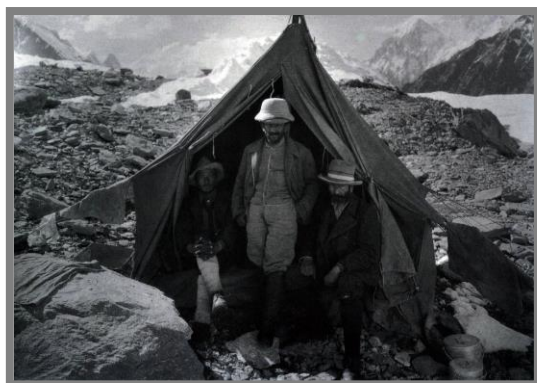


The Duke of Abruzzi and Guides Climbing Through the Chogolisa Icefall, 1909.

Photographs by Vittorio Sella

Meanwhile, the restless Duke had fixed his attention again on Asia, where he had yet to go climbing, his earlier plan to attempt at Nanga Parbat having been thwarted. And so, in 1909, Luigi Amedeo led an expedition into the mountains of the Karakoram, on the northern edge of India. The group included Filippo de Filippi, who was later to publish a full account of the expedition, and Vittorio Sella who again furnished the pictorial record. Luigi Amedeo's goal was to conquer K 2, which at 28,250 feet is the world's second highest peak and which was then still unclimbed. Despite their efforts, the Italians failed to make it to the top of K 2, slowed by awful weather and finding what seemed impassable walls ahead of them on both the southeast ridge—later called the Abruzzi Spur—and the west side of the mountain. The highest point they reached on K 2 was just short of 22,000 feet, more than six thousand feet below the summit.

The Duke now turned to another unclimbed mountain 25 miles south of K 2: Chogolisa. On Chogolisa, the Duke of the Abruzzi and three companions, climbing without oxygen supplies, reached 24,600 feet, higher than any man had gone before them. The Duke and his guides had moreover spent nine days above 21,000 feet, which no one had ever done before them. K 2 remained unconquered until an Italian expedition led by Ardito Desio reached the peak in 1954, a year after Edmund Hillary's first successful ascent of Mt. Everest.



K 2 Italian Attempt 1909 -Federico Negrotto, Filippo de Filippi and Vittorio Sella at Concordia



Main Baltoro Glacier, 1909 (Vittorio Sella)

"On the evening before veils of mist and cloud- curtains had so shrouded the landscape that we had not in the least realized the incredible spectacle of glaciers and mountains which now stood revealed in the pale light of morning. The air was perfectly still and just lightly dimmed, like a crystal breathed upon, yet clear enough to show every detail of the marvelous scene."

Filippo De Filippi, 1912

THE GREAT WAR - ADMIRAL OF THE ADRIATIC FLEET – SINKING OF *REGINA MARGHERITA*



When Italy entered the First World War in 1915 on the side of the Allies, the Duke became commander of Allied naval forces in the Adriatic Sea. His greatest wartime feat was to save the Serbian army, which in 1915 was crushed between the Austrian and Bulgarian armies. It had accomplished a grueling winter retreat over the mountains to the Adriatic. Luigi Amedeo's warships and transports, under fire of Austrian guns, took off the shore more than 150,000 Serbs, as well as 25,000 Austrian soldiers whom the Serbs had captured and forced to flee with them across the mountains – a feat rivaling Dunkirk in magnitude and heroism.

The Duke's flagship was a battleship, by coincidence, named in honor of his beloved aunt: *Regina Margherita*. Its sinking, off the coast of Albania in 1917, was one of the great tragedies of the Italian Navy during the war.

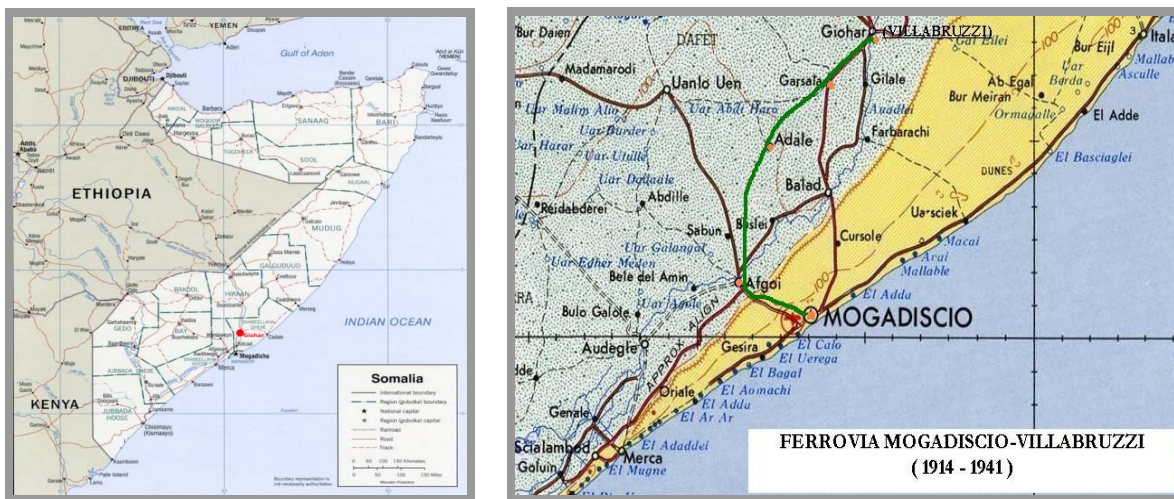


R N (Regia Nave) Regina Margherita

The circumstances of this terrible event and the recent finding of the sunken wreck are the subject of the filmed interview that was screened shortly during the lecture. Although Luigi Amedeo was not in command on the ship at that moment (he was at the Admiralty in Rome), it led to his replacement as chief of Allied naval forces in the Adriatic theater. It was a bitter blow. Although he remained in active service until the end of the war, he did not receive another command; soon after the armistice, he left Italy for Somalia, then an Italian colony, whose shores he had first seen as a young naval midshipman on the *Volturno*, a quarter-century earlier.

SOMALIA

The Italian colony of Somalia stretched along the east coast of Africa for a thousand miles, from the Kenyan border northeast to the Horn of Africa. But it was to inland and not coastal Somalia that the former admiral turned his attention. Inland, arid grasslands stretched west-ward for several hundred miles, to the borders of Ethiopia and beyond. But Somalia was not all arid grasslands. There were two rivers, the Shebeli and the Juba. In the area between the rivers, enough rain fell in most years to support agriculture, and there was a population of small farmers. The Duke arrived in Somalia late in 1918 looking for the best site to launch his new idea: a major agricultural project. He had long taken an interest in land-reclamation projects in Italy. It was time now to put Italian experience to work in the tropics. In the end the Duke decided to create a large complex of plantations along the Shebeli River, inland from Mogadishu. The Duke returned to Italy in 1919 to launch his plans.



Somalia

VILLAGGIO DUCA DEGLI ABRUZZI

In 1920, a new corporation was formed under the Duke's leadership - the *Società Agricola Italo-Somala* or SAIS. His personal fortune was not great, so SAIS would need extensive outside financing. He soon found it with the sale of share quotas to Italy's main banks and business interests. Even Katherine Elkins, with whom Luigi Amedeo had remained on friendly terms, was an investor.



The Duke at "Villaggio Duca degli Abruzzi"

The Italian government did its part, granting SAIS a concession of more than 60,000 acres along the Shebeli, providing surplus war materials and low-interest loans, and guaranteeing a protected Italian market for SAIS production. By 1923, a large earthen dam and reservoir had been built on the Shebeli and a network of irrigation channels was being dug. By 1928, more than 10,000 acres were producing bananas, cane sugar, and cotton almost all of which was shipped to Italy. There were 200 resident Italian managers and foremen, and 6,000 Somali laborers from the local farming tribes. By 1928, SAIS was one of the two largest income-producers in Italian Somalia.



The Shebeli River



On the Uebi-Shebali Expedition

The Duke of the Abruzzi decided it was time to go on one more expedition, to find the headwaters of the Shebeli. For four months Luigi Amedeo and a small group of Italians drawn mainly from SAIS staff—none of his old climbing companions—traveled almost the entire thousand-mile course of the Shebeli.

They passed through country largely unknown to the developed world, traversing 13,000-foot Ethiopian peaks and locating the river's source in a grassy mountain meadow nine thousand feet above sea level, near a village whose people had never seen a European.



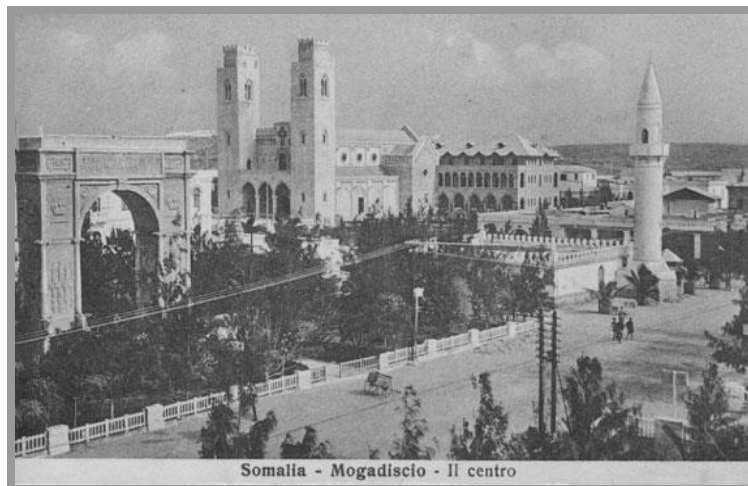
*The Duke after his return from
the Uebi-Shebali expedition
1928-1929*

Luigi Amedeo returned to his pleasant Italian-style villa on the Shebeli in February 1929, a sick man. It was prostate cancer. He underwent an operation the next year in Turin; it was not a cure. He kept on working in Somalia, with occasional visits to Italy where he had been named chairman of the new Italian Line. In early 1933, just after his 60th birthday, Luigi Amedeo made a final visit to Italy and then sailed for Mogadishu, knowing that his end was near and wanting to die in Somalia. On March 18 he died in his villa in the Shebeli settlement which had been named for him, *Villaggio Duca degli Abruzzi*. His death in an African village was world news; and then the modern world began to forget about him.



*The Duke of the Abruzzi relaxes
With A.F. Knowles at the feet of the Ruwenzori in 1906.*

In 1985, more than a half-century after the Duke's death, an American family paid a visit to the village, now called Johar. The Duke's former plantations continued to produce, although they were now state-owned and production had dropped, partly because of salination of the soil. The American visitors found the Duke's villa intact, unchanged since his death. Here were his furnishings, linens, pictures, even an ancient American-made air conditioner no longer functioning. On a table stood a bust of a lovely Somali woman. The Duke never married, in the eyes of the world; but as the Johar people still remembered, Luigi Amedeo had found in Somalia this lovely companion, Faduma Ali, who was with him when he died.



Mogadishu in the 1930s

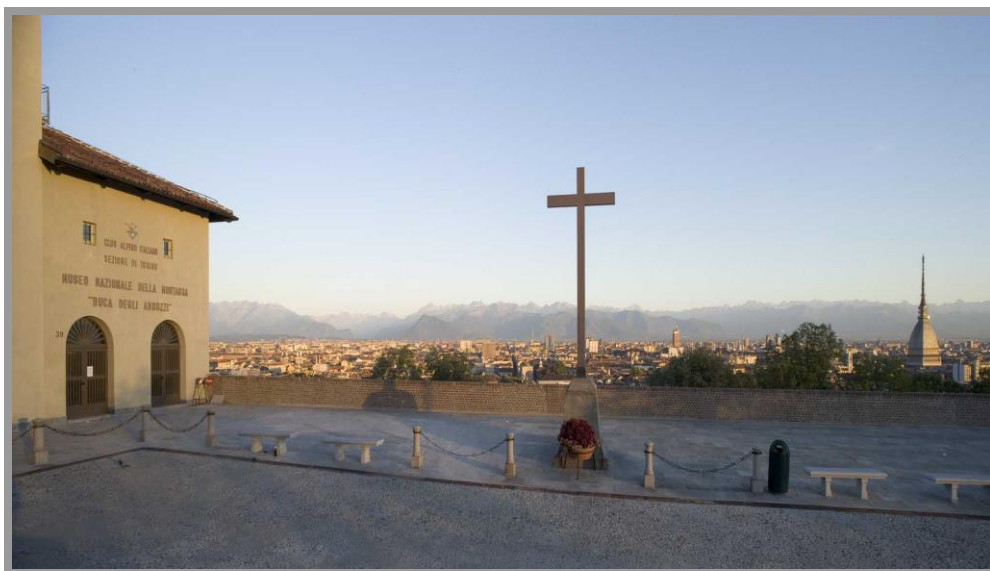
In the last twenty years Somalia has succumbed to violent civil war and radical Islamist misrule. Mogadishu is in ruins; the Villaggio has disappeared, together with the Duke's villa and even his grave which, while it existed, was a shrine revered by those natives who still remembered the productive fields, efficient public administration and the functioning schools and hospitals.

The Duke's accomplishments around the world transcended both his own princely birth and the overall records of other modern climbers and explorers. He showed time after time that, as he wrote after his Polar journey, "with will, courage, and perseverance, man can dare anything." In recent decades many people have climbed higher than the Duke of the Abruzzi ever did; and both Poles were conquered long ago. Yet it can still be hard to outdo him, a century after he was the first to stand atop Mount St. Elias.



The Duke of the Abruzzi in Later Years

The first winter ascent of the mountain was made in early 1997 by a team of three American climbers. It was an admirable feat—although the three stepped from an air taxi onto the Tyndall glacier to begin their climb. Later, as a kind of centennial celebration of the Duke's expedition, Jonathan Waterman and Jeff Hollenbaugh attempted the climb. Waterman subsequently wrote a book on "Re-creating the Duke of Abruzzi's Historic Expedition" but as one reviewer put it, the title was presumptuous; Waterman gave up 11,000 feet short of the summit.



Museo Nazionale della Montagna Duca degli Abruzzi in Turin, Italy was founded in 1874 by the first members of the Italian Alpine Club and houses a vast documentation on different aspects linked to mountains such as the climate, its nature, the traditions surrounding them and various alpine practices. In addition, the relics of the expeditions of Luigi Amedeo di Savoia, Duke of the Abruzzi can be seen here as well.

Acknowledgements:

To

**Dr. Fabio Ruberti, Director of *IANTD Expeditions*,
for kindly consenting to share his experiences of the significant
undersea discoveries achieved by his group of researchers,
particularly the identification of the wreck of
the Duke of the Abruzzi's flagship,
the battleship *Regina Margherita***

To

**The Museo Nazionale della Montagna “Duca degli Abruzzi”,
Turin, and its Director, Dr. Aldo Audisio and his staff
for kindly providing precious archival images of the Duke and
some of his exploits**

To

**Dama di Comm. Gaetana Enders for making available
this evening, from the library of her late husband
H.E. Ambassador Thomas Enders,
an original copy of *Ruwenzori*.
This account of the historic expedition was written
by Dr. Filippo de Filippi and, in this rare American edition,
translated by his wife Caroline Fitzgerald**

A convivial reception followed the lecture at the Knickerbocker Club., followed by a buffet dinner in the library attended by more than 70 persons. We are pleased that the following members and friends attended or contributed to the Savoy Foundation's 10th Annual Savoy Lecture:

Dr. Philip Affuso and guest
 Ms. Irene Aitkin
 Uff. Dott. Igor Alexandroff
 Dr. Olga Belostotsky-Alexandroff
 Gr. Uff. L'On. Ramón Baiget Viale de Montebello
 Ms. Leonora Ballinger
 Dama Joan Bartilucci
 Uff. Ing. Nicholas Bartilucci
 Mr. Thomas Barton
 Cav. Avv. Louis Benza
 Mr. William Bernhard
 Mr. Bjorn Bjornsson
 Ms. Marilyn Boll
 Cav. Dott. and Mrs. William Caccese
 Mrs. Catherine Cahill
 Mrs. Giosetta Capriati
 Dama Vivian Cardia
 H.E. Archbishop Francis Chullikatt
 Uff. Anthony Cipriano
 Paul Danello, Esq.
 Uff. Avv. Roy De Barbieri
 Ms. Sylvia DeCuevas
 Baroness Maya De Haynau
 Cav. Dott. Craig de Paulo
 Cav. Dott. Timothy De Zastro
 Dama di Comm. Gaetana Enders
 Ms. Louise Falcone
 Mrs. Christina Fiore
 Uff. Dott. Brandon Fradd
 Baronessa Flavia Frati-Spagnola
 Cav. Avv. John J. Gelati
 Uff. Avv. Joseph Giminaro
 Dama Rosalie Grecco-Golia
 Comm. L'On. Joseph Golia
 Dama di Comm. Cristina Grassi
 Comm. Marco Grassi
 Mr. Helyett Harris
 Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Hedberg
 Ms. Marife Hernandez
 Ms. Nancy Indelicato
 Comm. Prof. Eric Ierardi
 Gr. Uff. Prof. Theodore H. Jacobsen

Cav. William P. Johns
 Uff. Very Rev. Harry E. Krauss
 Mr. Daniel Ladner
 Cav. Gr. Cr. Dott. Robert La Rocca
 Rev. Msgr. P. Vincent McNamara
 Mr. Aldo Mancusi
 Mr. & Mrs. Alberto Mariaca
 Cav. Frank Marino
 Gr. Uff. L'On. Dominic Massaro
 Mrs. Frances Massaro
 Comm. Avv. L'On. Pasquale Menna
 Mrs. Janine Metz
 Uff. and Mrs. Louis M. Micolucci
 Ms. Joan Migliori
 Cav. Gr. Cr. Avv. Carl Morelli
 Dr. Teresa Mular
 Cav. Steven Mullan
 Uff. John D. O'Malley
 Mrs. Eleanor Natali Branca
 Mr. and Mrs. Steven Osborne
 Mr. David Owsley
 Cav. and Mrs. Thomas Pecora
 Dr. Bernardo Perez-Ramirez
 Mr. John Punnett
 Dr. Mary Rorro
 Dama Dott.ssa Joan Rosasco
 Ms. Patricia Allen Ross
 Mr. Jeffrey Ryan
 Uff. Richard Salerno
 Mr. Richard Salfas
 Comm. Joseph Sciamè
 Mr. Peter Skinner
 Lt. Vincent Solomeno
 Ms. Stephanie Stokes
 Cav. Avv. Nicola Tegoni
 Dama di Comm. Larissa Van Duser
 Mrs. Arete Warren
 Ms. Deborah Webster
 Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Wessley
 Mr. Mitchell Wolfson
 Cav. Michael Woolfolk
 Dama di Comm. Mira Zivkovich





