

EUROPEAN SIREs of SIGNIFICANCE

Hargos van Het Wantij (1986 to 1996) Part 4 - The Progeny of Hertog Alpha v. Le Dobry by Alison Kollenberg, Germany

After **Graaf Quirinus van Neerlands Stamm/1987** (Hertog Alpha v. Le Dobry x Dea Delores v. Franckenhorst) and **Graf Guido v. Franckenhorst/1985** (Hertog Alpha v. Le Dobry x Vivre Vivean v. Franckenhorst), **Hargos v.h. Wantij/1986** (Hertog Alpha v. Le Dobry x Esmir v. Hermansjomaik) is probably the next best known Alpha son to be covered in this series. He lived a full and productive life, often standing in show and stud competition with other successful Alpha sons of his era, and despite the heavy competition remained a popular breeder's choice throughout. He produced many champions and most importantly, established some important family groups. But unlike with Quirinus, there hasn't been the extraordinary sons able to match their sire's own popularity and consequent influence.



- almost feminine. Nicolai was one that threw all four colors, and also melanism in the tans. But people generally didn't use him for his conformation or color, it was the character they were interested in. DV Kör-Meister and Schutzhund judge Ottmar Vogel describes Nicolai as a work-happy dog with a highly pronounced prey drive. He had a medium level of hardness (or "Belästbarkeit" - the ability to take and recover from stress) and his slightly thin nerves became apparent in heavily stressed situations, where his grip would weaken. His protection instinct was medium. Nicolai passed Sch.H. 3 numerous times, the German Körung and he was 2nd and 3rd place at the DV Leistungssieger, also a Dutch and Belgium Working Champion and a European Championship competitor (all breeds).



Like father, like son. Hertog Alpha v. Le Dobry and his son Hargos v.H. Wantij.

Hargos was bred in Dordrecht, Holland by Jaap v. Gelder of the van Het Wantij Kennel and owned by Jaap Gelder and Rita Vissel. His sire, **Hertog Alpha v. Le Dobry/1979** (Don Dayan v. Franckenhorst x Tanja v.d. Kunnemaborough) needs no introduction to readers as the sire of significance that provides the cornerstone to this series. Hargos's mother was another famous Doberman in her own right. This was **Esmir v. Hermansjomaik/1982**, a black daughter of the German Working Champion **Nicolai v. Klosterkamp/1978** (Bingo v. Ellendonk x Boscha v. Klosterkamp) and **Bonita v. Rensloo/1976** (Alva v. Franckenhorst x Gräfin-Graziedotter). Which made her an unusual blend of some of the best show and working bloodlines of her era.

Hargos's black grandfather, Nicolai, was not much of a conformation dog; long backed and somewhat fine-boned

I believe his brilliant working record speaks for itself and were good enough grounds for my husband to agree to him as the mate for **Kastra v. Norden Stamm/1985** (Ebo v.d. Grootte Maat X Alida v. Flandrischen Löwen), whom we owned in partnership with Dieter Kraussling of the vom Falltor kennel. Kastra was 1990 Landesgruppe Leistungssieger, Sch.H. 3 and Angekört and the resultant litter produced a row of highly talented working animals of the likes of **Carla, Clemens** and **Chessy v. Falltor/1987** (Nicolai v. Kloster-Kamp X Kastra v. Norden Stamm.)

Nicolai was not as predictably prepotent as his famous sire, **Bingo v. Ellendonk/1975** (Jago v. Beelen x Palma v. Ellendonk). But no stud dog could compete effectively with Bingo in the character department. Bingo was in a class of his own, and he produced this too! He was an exceptional natural talent.



Hargos and his breeder Jaap Gelder.

Bingo passed all his trials with "V" (excellent). He became DV Leistungssieger (Working Champion) when only 2 years of age and took part every year possible thereafter. He was the only Dobermann to pass Sch.H. 3 with 100, 100, 100 "a". He simply exhibited an enormous will to work. His courage and hardness was outstanding and best of all, he threw his own high drives and robust character onto a large percentage of his progeny. Conformation wise he was sturdy and masculine, although far from being a promising show ring prospect.

I want to diversify to discuss Bingo a little here. He was a shadow sire of significance in the Eighties. He never won a Sieger title, or indeed any show title. This meant he was relegated to "back door" status amongst other more glamorous genetic giants in the breed. But it would do an injustice to breed history not to acknowledge what a fine sire this dog was. His contribution in enhancing the breed's competitive working spirit is unparalleled. Therefore I will outline some background to his emergence as a sire of significance.

It was agreed upon that the Bingo had an exceptionally good character, but breeders didn't want to use him because he was a typical SG (Very Good) quality dog and few breeders wanted a second rate sire marring their pedigrees. Ottmar Vogel and my husband (Jens Kollenberg) were the only two DV judges licensed to evaluate ZTP, conformation and Schutzhund trials. (There is only Ottmar Vogel remaining today.) Both men were of the opinion that the Bingo had a lot of offer. Namely that Bingo had the potential to influence the breed in a positive manner. They wanted to do something about developing this and so when Jens first judged Bingo in Bochum in 1977, he purposely upgraded his conformation status by giving him a "V", or Excellent rating. By removing the stigma attached to using a second rated ("SG") male made Bingo acceptable to the mainstream breeders and thus increased his wider usage the possibilities to influence the breed.

From the several encounters Jens had with him more than 20 years ago he remembers Bingo as follows:

"Masculine, substantial, medium-sized, stretched, of a very good type. A bit low set (short legged). The withers could have been more pronounced and the back firmer. A short neck, due to a far forward placed shoulder. The croup was well laid. Sufficient depth of chest and a well angulated front, but the elbows could have been "tighter" (loose shoulder blades.) The pasterns were sufficiently firm, but the feet were flat and turned outwards. Well angulated hindquarters. A powerful head, planes could have been more parallel, a strong muzzle. He moved with an effective, ground covering movement." (Especially when chasing the bad guy! Authors Note. J) "The dog was always kept in an excellent condition and had a high training standard, both provided by his young and highly talented owner, Mr. Scriba."

Both judges particularly admired Bingo's performance at the DV Working Championship (DV Leistungssieger) in Hamburg in 1978. Ottmar Vogel judged Part C at that Meisterschaft and describes Bingo as a very hard dog that could take extreme levels of stress and still show no problems in grip. Years down the track there's no regrets about upgrading Bingo to an Excellent. (There had been some criticism at the time.) Both judges put their collective clout behind Bingo because they had the foresight to recognize his genetic potential and believed he was the right dog to make a difference. This was born out when he became the key figure in lifting the general working ability. A heritage fast being dissipated by an overdose of arm chair "political geneticists" sitting in too many official positions today.



Two different views of Sieger and Ch. Hargos v.H. Wantij, SchH3, Angekört.

To continue with the story of Hargos. Esmir's dam, Bonita v. Rensloo, was also an animal praised for her fine character which she inherited from immediate ancestors on both sides of her pedigree. She also gave plenty of bone and substance and thus was able to upgrade the conformation standard. She passed her VH 2 (Dutch working test) and German Körung, and together with her equally talented siblings, managed to pass on these best qualities to their children - dogs and bitches that became significant factors in the breed's development during the Eighties.

Apart from her color, Bonita inherited more from her brown sire **Alva v. Franckenhorst/1971** (Chico v. Forell x Amarilda v.d. Wachenburg.) Alva came from the first litter bred by the Dutch Franckenhorst kennel of Sonja Franquemont, who sadly passed away in 1997. He was considered to be a very strong natured dog with none of the low fighting spirit typical of the Chico line. DV and DVG working judge and professional trainer, Willie Bork, was always loud in his praise of Alva's mental qualities. Alva became a champion and was the first Dutch Dobermann to pass the German Körung. Regrettably he was refused endorsement for life status (Angekört auf Lebenszeit) due to his unacceptable HD score.



Hargos shows his best profile.

picked by Sonja and Hugo Franquemont and taken with them back to Holland. In this Franquemonts had scored a coup over a rival, reaching Sweden just ahead of Vera Knjiff of the Dutch van Neerlands Stam kennel, who was also interested in puppy from this litter! Once in Holland, Granito (co-owned by Franquemonts and P. Verstappen), earned his Sch.H. 3 and was in 3rd place behind Don Dayan v. Franckenhorst and Baldo van't Baldere Hoogt as the most winning males in Holland at that time.

Granito's litter sister and Bonita's mother, Grävin-Graziedotter (owned by Peter Loo), could be said to have more to offer in the whelping box than in the show ring. Their mother, **Grävin Grazie/1970** (Bryan v. Forell x Assy v. Eichenhain), was a large, noble, top quality bitch in all respects, including an excellent character. Grävin-Grazie could be described as being highly father-typical.

This means the tail line of Bonita's pedigree is firmly secured by the superb working champion and sire, **Vello v. Fürstenfeld/1966** (Bordo v. Fürstenfeld x Citta v. Fürstenfeld), and the inherent dynamic this contained could only be enhanced by

topping it off with Alva's own dominate qualities.

The "B" litter v. Rensloo proved to be quiet achievers and a highly influential family group per se. Bonita was a



*Siegerin and Ch. Esmir v. Hermansjomaik
(Nicolai v. Kloster-Kamp x Bonita v. Rensloo) - mother of Hargos.*

Bonita's dam, **Bryanstamm's Grävin-Graziedotter/1973** (Kasmir Kandy X Grävin Grazie), was a well bred, firm character bitch coming from Lilith Edström's Bryanstam kennel in Sweden. She was a double **Bryan v. Forell/1968** (Vello v. Fürstenfeld x Kira v. Romberg) granddaughter, making her line bred on Bryan. Bryan was a key European sire of significance that Lilith Edström also owned. Grävin-Graziedotter, and her litter brother **Bryanstam's Granito-Grazieson**, were hand



*Sieger and Ch. Idomeneus v.d. Barlinge
(Hargos x Future's Unique Hellvan Angel).*

full sister to **Baroness Eva v. Rensloo/1976** (Alva v. Franckenhorst X Gräfin Graziedotter), best recognized as the mother of the Sieger and Champion male **Ebo v.d. Groote Maat/1982** (Egor v. Eland x Baroness Eva v. Rensloo). Ebo was not only a multi-Sieger in his own right, but from only a handful of matings produced a small yet

highly significant group of Siegers and champions whose influence encompasses many lands today.

Another highly productive sibling found in the "B" litter v. Rensloo was Dutch Working Champion and conformation champion **Baron Cekar v. Rensloo/1976** (Alva v. Franckenhorst x Gräfin Graziedotter). Details on Cekar can be found in the First Quarter 1998 issue of Focus, where he is covered as the sire of the multi-Champion and multi-Sieger male **Baron Bryan v. Harro's**

proportions. All, it seemed, except my husband. He judged her at the Bundessieger show and caused some upset by giving her a second grading (SG) for conformation. He'd penalized her poorly defined sexual characteristics, underlined by her overpowering masculine head and expression. Otherwise he agreed with the others praise of her attributes and ventured an opinion on paper that she had the strength and quality to make a good brood bitch in future.



Ch. Hilda Royal Bell (Hargos x Karmel-Kesia v. Diaspora).



Ch. Bambi The Best Line
(Larson Royal Bell x Hilda Royal Bell) - linebred on Hargos.

Berg/1985 (Baron Cekar v. Rensloo x Vitesse v. Franckenhorst). Baron Bryan is also a sire of significance, and can be referenced in the 1st Focus 1998 article. He produced numerous important Siegers, Champions and reproductive champions in his own right.

One peculiar conformation trait this family group often shares to one extent or the other is a tendency towards short leggedness. A trait we will see commonly reoccurring in relatives in subsequent generations. This trait was noticeable in Hargos and also in many of his relatives and descendants. It is a persistent legacy coming from his mother line over both his great grandsires, namely Bingo v. Ellendonk and Alva v. Franckenhorst.

Hargos's mother, Esmir, was praised for her own working attitude and made an impact in the show ring as well. I first noticed her in 1985 after her win at the World Sieger show in Amsterdam. A notable event all round, as I'd just handled our own **Alida v. Flandrischen Löwen/1984** (Ali v. Langenhorst x Alexa v. Heiderhof) to her Junior World Sieger win at the same show!

Esmir went on and won the DV Sieger title the same year, impressing all with her strong body and excellent

Esmir became Dutch, Luxembourg, German, VDH and International Champion. She was Junior Dutch Winner in 1983, Dutch Winner in 1985, DV Sieger in 1985 and many times Best In Show. She passed her ZTP with V1A and her Sch.H. 1 and IPO 1. But her greatest achievement was her many remarkable children and their many excellent descendants.

When a mate was picked for Esmir, Jaap Gelder didn't travel far. The lucky guy was the Dutch bred **Hertog Alpha v. Le Dobry/1979** (Don Dayan v. Franckenhorst x Tanja v.d. Kunnemaborgh), Sch.H. 3, VH 3, ZTP V1A, Angekört, Dutch Winner and DV Sieger. I won't give further details about Hertog Alpha v. Le Dobry here, as he has already been covered in the 2nd. Quarter 1998 issue of Focus.

The qualities of the resulting "H" litter v.H. Wantij were best represented by the success of the bitches Heidi and Haida and more immediately demonstrated by

the early emergence of brother Hargos as a show stealer. For example Haida became a brood bitch for the La Taniere D'Or kennel in France and the mother of the champion **Gini de la Taniere D'Or/1991** (Graaf Quinto v. Neerlands



Sieger and Ch. Hilda Royal Bell (Hargos x Karmel Kesia v. Diaspora).

Stamm X Haidi v.H. Wantij) and Haida de la Taniere D'Or. (This kennel also used Hargos directly.)

Hargos had started making a name for himself when he won the DV and IDC Junior Sieger titles in 1987. In 1988, at only 2 years of age, he became Bundessieger. He followed this major success by becoming Belgium Winner the same year and VDH-Europa Sieger in 1989. He rounded off 1989 by winning the DVIN (Dutch Dobermann Club) Dog of the Year award. Then in 1990 he won the French Dobermann Club Championship Show. Just to make a thorough pig of himself, he took out the 1990 IDC Sieger title too.

My husband gave Hargos's career another boost by awarding him the King Of Belgium title at their Dobermann Club Championship Show in 1990. This in itself was a remarkable event, as he had beaten his most effective competitor up till then, his cousin Baron Bryan v. Harros'berg. Jens admitted later he had surprised himself by putting Hargos over Bryan that day but thought Hargos had showed himself off to perfection. Interestingly enough, when these two great dogs met once again under my husband the same year, at the World Sieger show in Brunn, Czechoslovakia, it was Bryan who gave the best performance on the day and it was Bryan who came away as Sieger.

Hargos passed SchH. 3 and IPO 3 with good notes, followed this up with FH, and passed ZTP with the top grading of V1A. He also passed the German Körung with 1a. His health tests were satisfactory, eyes clear of PHTVL-PPHV (a form of hereditary blindness) and a hip score of HD2. Admittedly there are some HD problems coming from his sire Alpha, but HD2 is considered so slight it could be re-termed as "borderline clear".

Conformation wise Hargos did not share his sire and dam's more balanced overall proportions. But where he was good, he was VERY good. His most impressive feature, and one that gave him his distinctly classical Dobermann type, was his perfect front assembly (shoulder and upper arm). A correct front assembly is fundamental to establishing correct Dobermann Type, yet it is becoming an ever diminishing breed characteristic internationally. This rare asset was one also shared by Hargos's cousin, Ebo v.d Groote Maat, and his half brother Eick v.d. Rappenau.

It is of concern that short, straight upper arms seem to predominant more and more in winners circles and some



Ch. Eady Royal Bell (Hargos x Kammel-Kesia v. Diaspora).

top dogs have the most appallingly straight shoulders to match! The trend goes unchecked and the result is that one of the breed's most valuable hallmarks is being lost. And through this, also some of it's most appealing characteristics, namely the long neck line and short back line, a well formed forechest and a smooth neck into back flow-in. All features which give this breed an elegant, noble outline and all hinged on having a correct front assembly.

In this regard Hargos was a boon to Type fundamentalists. No Type, no breed.

Conformation wise Hargos was a medium sized (71cms), strong boned, masculine male. His shoulder and upper arm were well angulated and together with his cleanly pronounced withers, and muscular, long and well shaped neck, he presented the viewer with a truly noble impression. Due to his excellent shoulder and upper arm assembly he also had a well formed forechest in total harmony with a correct depth of chest. As with many Alva v. Franckenhorst descendants, his underline lacked sufficient tuckup. His body was decidedly compact, the back being short and firm enough, which although like his sire, tended to be soft when moving.

His excellent front assembly was not matched by the rear, which had some structural faults. Firstly his croup was too short and as a consequence, he was also too narrow through his upper thighs. A fault he shared with many of his descendants. The running bones in the hindquarters were also too short and lacked sufficient turn of stifle. Although broad and well sprung over the ribs when viewed from above, viewed directly from behind he was slightly bow legged. Another Alpha legacy. (One that Australian specialist judge Tony Stanley quite picturesquely described as having a "piggy rear".)

Hargos's head was, in profile, strong and masculine with excellent parallels, slightly short in muzzle and with a powerful underjaw. This lovely impression was not matched when viewing his head from the front. He had what some breeders called an "old type" Dobermann head. Namely the skull was too broad and heavy, the eyes were round not almond shaped and he lacked sufficient



Ch. Comtessa v. Brandenburg (Hargos x Athene v. Brandenburg).

fill under the eyes. The result was an off type, un-Dobermann like expression, lacking in nobility. But breeders, chiseled heads weren't his parent's greatest assets either. Like most European dogs his own colors were rich, clean and dark although tended to produce a bit of melanism, which was most likely coming via his mother from Nicolai, both whose face markings were smudgy.

Like many close relatives of Alpha and **Don Dayan v. Franckenhorst/1973** (Bryan v. Forell x Olive of Bamby's Pride) Hargos produced black and blue progeny. Also on the less publicized side, many German breed warden's reports show Hargos produced an above average amount of white.

White spots, belly patches and flecks, socks and toes was one of the more negative legacies of his famous grandsire, Don Dayan, and some descendants world wide still continue to reproduce this unwelcome characteristic generations down the track. Aptly demonstrated by descendants like **Berus v. Pagodenburg/1983** (Uri v. Franckenhorst x Quarta v. Eschenhof) in Germany or **Fosc di Los Valenties/1986** (Ebo v.d. Groote Maat x Odysee di Los Valenties) in Australia.

Character-wise Hargos always projected himself as an alert, calm and steadfast individual. One of his early trainers was Willie Bork, a professional German trainer and a working dog judge, who ambiguously described Hargos as "ein ganz normale Hund im Wesen." ("A normal dog in character.") I don't know if Willie Bork ever worked him because of all the Alpha sons I felt Hargos was one of the few that really had something positive to offer the breed in conformation AND character and working ability. In other words he didn't have to hide his light under a bush and making him a desirable propagator for his bloodline.

One person who knew Hargos very well, as both a judge and a helper, was the DV Kör-Meister, ZTP and conformation judge, as well as a DV, ADRK & SV Schutzhund judge Ottmar Vogel. He describes Hargos as a dog with above average working drives and very good nerves. That his "belästbarkeit" (hardness) was also above average. His general trainability was medium. All in all he found Hargos an uncomplicated dog that showed no aggression or other problematic behaviour when corrected. He was not gun shy nor handler sensitive.

The picture of Hargos The Sire needs some thoughtful comparison to his contemporaries before we can fully understand his legacy to the breed. His dominant-black half brother, the Bundessieger **Graf Guido v. Franckenhorst/1985** (Hertog Alpha v. Le Dobry x Vivre Vivien v. Franckenhorst), produced a reported 75 champions from an amazing 1,600 offspring. Hargos, who threw only black and blue, also produced an astounding 1,500 offspring, of which approximately 25 were reported champion titled.

How does this reflect on his ability as a sire when we statistically compare him to other top contemporary sires of the era? Firstly statistics do provide an overview but statistics can be arranged to fit a variety of theories. Dogs statistics are often hard to gauge in any relative perspective, as many records are incomplete and oft incomparable in identical areas anyway. Owners may not keep accurate records of offspring or for tax evading reasons don't even like to admit income from stud work. But we can say it's a fairly short list of stud dogs that have produced a thousand offspring or more.

For example, the black Bundessieger **Eick v.d. Rappenau/1987** (Hertog Alpha v. Le Dobry x Anuschka v. Haberhof) could have been considered a reasonably popular stud in the early Nineties, despite not being "politically correct" due to his owners dislike of DV. Eick's lifetime total was approximately 570 offspring from 100 matings and I would believe this to be expected as an average usage for a black Sieger with a number of winning offspring to his credit.

So members in the "One Thousand & Over Club" are not that common and brown dogs are non-existent to the best of my knowledge. The dominant-black Bundessieger **Guys Hilo v. Norden Stamm/1972** (Bryan v. Forell x Güntersforst Burga) had a life total of 1,000 offspring and had 97 champions (including 4 Bundessiegers) recorded. Hilo was put down at the end of 1984, so it can be safely assumed his life total of Champions passed the Century mark. Hilo's heir as the leading sire in Europe was the black Hertog Alpha v. Le Dobry, who like Hargos only threw black or blue. No statistics available here, but it is probable he belongs in the "One Thousand & Over Club" too. Alpha was used extensively at stud by most breeders in most countries. He is reported having 40 titled



Ch. Esmir Royal Bell (Hargos x Karmel-Kesia v. Diaspora).



*Siegerin and Ch. Jamaha Royal Bell
(Ninjo v. Norden Stamm x Esmir Royal Bell).*



*Ch. Machico v. Les Deux Peupliers
(Hargos x Arabella v. Harro's Berg) - the best producing Hargo's son.*



*Ch. Sirius Royal Bell (Lord Lobo v.H. Wantij x Jamaha Royal Bell) -
Linebred Esmir v. Hermansjomaik.*

champions to his credit, but I imagine it could well be more.

Also in the "One Thousand & Over Club" is another black Alpha son, the sieger **Graaf Quirinus v. Neerlands Stamm**/1987 (Hertog Alpha v. Le Dobry x Dea Delores v. Franckenhorst). Another dog in this family only producing black and blue. He had produced 1,280 progeny by 1994 and died in 1997. His popularity as a sire had only continued to grow after 1994 although I've no record of his life total. Nor of the number of champions he produced. But if appearances are anything to go by these are plentiful enough and certainly Quirinus's place in breed history is well secured irrespective.

Contrary to another member of the "One Thousand & Over Club" of this era, the black **Graaf Questor v. Neerlands Stam**/1972 (Vico v.d. Brünoburg x Gravin Faby v. Neerlands Stam). Despite an impressive life total of approximately 1,500 progeny Questor was not a success as a sire and produced only several champions. As a result he has practically vanished as a force from modern pedigrees.

Which just goes to a prove that to be a true Sire of Significance a dog must produce "the goods" and not just the numbers. Many successful stud dogs and breeders have depended heavily on playing the numbers game. But as we've experienced, numbers alone are no guarantee of a place in the history books. Then there are those dogs and breeders with relatively few contributions that albeit have left powerful legacies to the breed. Many of these dogs are browns, a couple which I will cover in later issues.

Certainly the impressive number of Hargos progeny world wide ensures his presence will not be overlooked. Nor would we want to. A general overview of his descendants indicates Hargos was your bread and butter type of sire. One that successfully blanketed the gene pool with solid, respectable "garden variety" animals in the absence of any especially outstanding offspring, which would have given his genetic influence an extra boost up the ladder. Yet I believe he is a sire whose blueprint is so well integrated into the more successful genetic pools he will continue to be a pervasive force in later generations and perhaps we'll find it's his female descendants prevailing as the best propagators.

Many dynasties have a key matriarch as a cornerstone. Like the family of the Croatian bred **Esmir Royal Bell**/1988 (Hargos X Karmel-Kesia v. Diaspora). A tall (oversize), almost masculine bitch, Esmir was an International and Yugoslavian Champion, DV Junior Sieger and World Junior Sieger 1889. Esmir also was a Reserve World Siegerin. The 1989 World Sieger, held in Copenhagen with 10,000 entries from around the world, had a number of items of general interest occurring. Like the first American-bred bitch to become a German champion **Rotkäppchen v.d. Cara**/1987 (Electra's The Windwalker X Alida v. Flandrischen Löwen) became Reserve Junior World Sieger. A good show for us personally as we co-owned Rotkäppchen and had bred and owned her half sister **Kalina v. Norden Stamm**/1985 (Ebo v.d. Groote Maat X Alida v. Flandrischen Löwen) who went Best Of Breed at this show. In the ring next to the Dobermanns the Boxers were being gun tested. Esmir showed herself as noticeably gun sensitive to the shots. Perhaps some "Alpha nerves" showing or perhaps something she simply outgrew, as she later passed her Sch.H. 1 and ZTP with V1A.

It was the "E" litter Royal Bell, with champions like **Egip, Erlando, Ester, Esmir** and **Eady Royal Bell**, that put Stjepan Belko on the map as a breeder of consequence, and Yugoslavia on the map as a nation worth watching. But it was Esmir that left the strongest legacy to breed, through her many Sieger and Champion progeny like Jagor, Jamaha, Jaron, Larson, Lora, Lana, Landor, Lord, Lobo, Ono and Onyx Royal Bell. A "royal" list of winners names indeed!

Esmir aptly demonstrated her genetic power by producing two outstanding champions in her very first litter. Namely the brown multi champions and Siegers **Jamaha** and **Jagor Royal Bell**/1990 (Ninjo v. Norden Stamm x Esmir Royal Bell). Jamaha was DV Siegerin, IDC Siegerin and Bundessiegerin and produced a number of champions, of which **Puma, Pandora** and **Paco Royal Bell**/1992 (Graf Guido v. Franckenhorst X Jamaha), **Sirius Royal Bell**/1993 (Lobo Royal Bell X Jamaha) and **Tara, Taito, Tigra** and **Titan Royal Bell**/1994 (Floijdt v.h. Savelsbos x Jamaha) and **Arizona Royal Bell**/1996

(Rambo Royal Bell X Jamaha) were just a few. Jagor also produced some beautiful progeny of which the elegant Hungarian bred champions **Gold Drachen Dirty Dancing/1993** (Jagor X Arany-Sárkány Regi) and **Amy Hella's Barony** (Jagor X Hella Royal Bell, by Hargos) come immediately to mind.

Esmir's second litter produced **Lobo, Lora, Lana, Lara, Landor, Lord** and **Larson Royal Bell/1991** (Graf Guido v. Franckenhorst X Esmir Royal Bell). A number were champions who themselves produced a group of champions between them. Lana became IDC Siegerin, Lobo was a Finnish Specialty Winner and World Sieger, and Larson won the Bundessieger title as well as siring another young Sieger, **Bea/1994** (Larson X Gea-Gitta of Jealousy) and champions like **Holy od Telepa** (Larson X Daylin Royal Bell) and **Bambi The Best Line** (Larson X Hilda Royal Bell).

The mating was repeated and out of the next combination came the dual champions **Ono** and **Onyx Royal Bell/1992** (Graf Guido v. Franckenhorst x Esmir Royal Bell). Onyx was Reserve Europasieger in 1997 and Ono was Best Of Breed at the Austrian Championship Show.

Once again a female proved the most prepotent. Ono produced highly successful progeny from various sires, of which **Ajoko** and **Acomo Quirone di Matario/1995** (Graaf Quirinus v. Neerlands Stamm X Ono Royal Bell) stand out. Ajoko became World and DV Junior Siegerin in 1996, Austrian and Hungarian Siegerin in 1996 and DV and IDC Siegerin in 1997. Most remarkable of all, she went Best Of Breed and then Best In Show at the Bundessieger show in 1997 (from 6,286 entries!) Apart from her first litter, all these Esmir descendants were line bred on Hertog Alpha v. Le Dobry. For Esmir the "O" litter Royal Bell was also her last, as she died in 1996.



Working Champion Xito v. Castell (Hargos x Biggy v. Treu), SchH3, Angekört. (Photo taken at 11 months.)

Gratified by the early success of his "E" litter, Mr. Belko returned Karmel-Kesia to Hargos again. This produced the "H" litter of **Hilda, Heidy, Hillo, Hesta** and **Hecktor Royal Bell/1989** (Hargos X Karmel-Kesia v. Diapsora). Hillo was the most successful show animal in the litter and

became a multi champion and IDC Sieger, producing local champions like **Xox Xuvier od Telepa/1991** (Hillo Royal Bell X Daylin Royal Bell) along the way. (The mother, Daylin Royal Bell, is by Arrow v. Harro's berg out of Tea v. Ferrolheim.)

But again the females established themselves in the reproductive forefront; Hesta producing the a number of champions including the Yugoslavian Specialty Winner and 1st. Open dog at the Europasieger, **Prinz Falco Vaic Stam/1992** (Graaf Quinto v. Neerlands Stamm X Hesta Royal Bell). Falco sired champion **Viktor Royal Stam** (Falco X Ita Royal Bell) whose mother is a daughter of Graf Guido v. Franckenhorst out of Divina Royal Bell - a full sister to Daylin Royal Bell. Viktor is another line breeding on Alpha.

Sister Heidy really strutted her stuff with several champions to her credit, including substantial champion producers like **Bronko** and **Borana Karmen Sawages/1993** (Graaf Festus v. Neerlands Stam X Heidy), **Ginga Sawages/1995** (Gamon di Campovalano X Heidy) and **Vanja** and **Vento Sawages/1993** (Graf Guido v. Franckehorst x Heidy). Vanja was also a Yugoslavian Club Sieger.



Ch. Hecktor Royal Bell (Hargos x Karmel-Kesia v. Diaspora). Exported to Thailand.

And the female line established itself as the family breed force when Borana Karmen Sawages became the mother of the IDC Sieger **Baron Nike Renewal/1995** (Prinz v. Norden Stamm X Borana Karmen Sawages), founding a Sieger line to watch in the future. Nike has been an impressive sire, underlined by his most outstanding daughter the DV Junior Siegerin and IDC Siegerin **Come As You Are Alamaba/1997** (Baron Nike Renewal X Galaxy Gwendy). Alabama represents the best features of her combined heritage and breeders world wide are lining up to get to her pups. The dogs in this family are all short-bodied, compact animals with well formed, harmonious chest and forechest proportions that are typical features of Hargos descendants.

Mr. Belko repeated the combination with Hargos one more time, resulting in the champions **Mambo, Macho** and **Magnum Royal Bell/1991** (Hargos X Karmel-Kesia v. Diapsora). Macho produced the champion **Vacer Orco/1992** (Macho X Vacev Diana).



*Ch. Heidy Royal Bell (Hargos x Karmel-Kesia v. Diaspora).
Founded a line of Siegers and Champions.*

Hargos's early litters out of Karmel-Kesia v. Diaspora established him as a sire to watch, and the progeny from his winning daughter Esmir Royal Bell cemented his reputation as an up-and-coming breed icon. On a critical note, with few exceptions the common failings found the vast majority of dogs from the "J", "L", "O", "H" and "M" litters Royal Bell was their lack of angulation in the front and rear. Most had these short, straight upper arms, some also with straight shoulders. The rears were very often too straight and narrow across the thighs - the latter a direct consequence of a short croup. Where applicable it is strongly recommended these structural weaknesses be addressed when breeding their descendants in future.

A successful German bred Hargos son was Idomeneus v.d. Barlinge/1993 (Hargos x Future's Unique Hellvan Angel). His female line is well decorated; his mother, **Future's Unique Hellvan Angel/** 1989 (Quinn dei Nobili Nati x Taiga Unique an Stevinhage) was DV Siegerin and Bundessiegerin and his champion grandmother **Taiga Unique v. Stevinhage/1986** (Hertog Alpha v. Le Dobry x Farina v. Nymphenburg) was a structurally superb animal.

Taiga was one of the best animals coming out of Eric van Dongen's "Stevinhage" stable in Holland. Sadly, Eric died in 1998 from a mysterious illness. He was only 43 years of age. A Dobermann breeder for more than 20 years he had many national and international champions to his credit and is also remembered as the long time handler and trusted kennel manager for Mrs. Vera Knjiff-Dermout's van Neerlands Stam kennel.

As Taiga was an Alpha daughter, this made Idomeneus line bred to Hertog Alpha v. Le Dobry. Idomeneus became a multi-champion, multi-Best In Show winner as well as the IDC Junior Sieger in 1993 and Europasiieger (VDH) in 1997. Conformation wise he was a fairly good balance of his parents, also managing to avoid his sire's straight rear end and his mother's over angulated one. Yet despite his wins and attractive pedigree he doesn't seem to have "it" and has failed to attract wider breeder interest.

Which wasn't something you could say about a Dutch bred multi-champion, **Machico v. Les Deux Peupliers/1988** (Hargos X Arabella v. Harro's Berg), bred by Piet Hendriks. This dog may well be Hargos's most popular son and one of his most look-alike offspring as

well. He shares his sires masculine type, strength and structure and well formed chest and forechest proportions, as well as more negative aspects like the short croup and straight hindquarters. Machico's loose shoulders are a legacy we can lay at the doorstep of his great-great-grandfather Bingo v. Ellendonk and his great-great-great grandfather Chico v. Forell. Both dogs are found in the female tail line of Hargos's pedigree. All in all Machico has a cosmopolitan pedigree, his mother **Arabella v. Harro's Berg/1983** (Salvador v. Franckenhorst X Vitesse v. Franckenhorst) also being a half sister to the multi-Sieger male Baron Bryan v. Harro's Berg.

Machico sired a number of promising children, such as the Dutch bred **Gandor v. Les Deux Peupliers/1995** (Machico X Quin v. Hof Ter Eeckhout) and **Danyo v.'t Nordse Veld/1993** (Machico X Aida v.'t Nordse Veld), **Csini Baba Goliath and Gitti/1997** (Machico X Metaxa Fanta). (The Dutch Nordse Veld kennel also used Hargos directly, represented by the Hargos son and Junior Winner Dog in 1990, **Valentine King Nordese v.'t Veld.**) Other Dutch bred Hargos grandchildren are **Uressa and Ureza v.**



*Ch. Graaf Norrland v.H. Wantij (Hargos x Gladys v. Hermansjomaik).
Another father-typical son.*

Les Deux Peupliers/1992 (Machico X Hischja v. Les Deux Peupliers). Their mother, Hischja, is an Arrow v. Harro's Berg daughter. Dutch breeding continues with **Vinchico v. Les Deux Peupliers/1992** (Machico X Future's Unique Aloutte), whose mother was a full sister to the Bundessiegerin Future's Unique Hellvan Angel, and the Russian Champion **Graaf Quinton v. Neerlands Stamm/1994** (Machico X Gravin Wanda v. Neerlands Stam). Quinton was exported to Russia from Holland where he did well at the shows and reportedly produced some nice progeny there, albeit also an above average level of HD. HD being a common legacy from Alpha and a number of his descendants.

In Germany are more Machico kids, like those in the "E" litter **v. Breisgauer Land/1997** (Machico X Wenus v. Breisgauer Land) and the "N" litter **v.d. Barlinge/1997** (Machico X Future's Unique Hellvan Angel). The latter are bred by the DV working judge Marno Berg and actually are full siblings in blood to the Dutch bred champion **Fausto v. Les Deux Peupliers/1995** (Titaan v. Les Deux Peupliers X Future's Unique Alouette).

Probably Machico's most significant son and the one that made him most interesting as a sire, is the Belgium bred **Randy v.'t Sabbatsveld/1993** (Machico X Peche v.'t Sabbatsveld). The multi-Champion Randy became Junior Dutch Winner, IDC Junior Sieger and Junior Bundessieger as early as 1994, and then exploded on the show scene in 1996 when he won the IDC Sieger, DV Sieger, Bundessieger, Dutch Winner and World Champion (FCI) titles in straight wins.

Randy is a tall, noble, masculine dog of excellent Type. A type more reminiscent of his great-great-grandfather Bryan v. Forell (who he is also line bred on) rather than that of a typical Hertog Alpha v. Le Dobry descendant. Randy outclasses his sire in scope and elegance, albeit, sharing the more immediate family failings of a short croup, weak thighs and not enough angulation in the rear. Randy's eye-catching style and important wins guaranteed he would be popular as a stud and he has been widely used, despite a negative undertow of complaints about poor character in many of his offspring. But it is early days yet and the jury is still out.



*Ch. Ginga Sawages (Gamon di Campovalo x Heidi Royal Bell).
A typical Hargos descendant.*



Ch. Toby v.H. Weillerland (Hargos x Olfa v. Myinkaba).

We will have to reserve judgment on his contribution as a sire in his own right for a future date, as more of his progeny mature.

Another DV judge using Hargos in Germany is the DV ZTP and conformation judge Kurt Richter. He was more interested in Hargos's working qualities and used him to produce the "**X**" litter **v. Castell/1991** (Hargos X Biggy v. Treu). A strong working litter coming as it was out of pure Körung and working lines. The litter was well represented in local and Landesgruppe trials by **Xantos**, SchH3/Angekört, Xito, Sch.H., 3/Angekört, Xira, Sch.H. 3 and **Xindy**, SchH3.

Other German bred Hargos kids out and about winning on the international stage are the Champions **Carsou** and **Comtesse v. Brandenburg/1988** (Hargos X Athene v. Brandenburg) and the Finnish Champion **Vernalis Sanit-Serena/1991** (Hargos X Nora v. Hasselhof). Both have equally well credentialed mothers supporting their blood. The Finns must have been highly satisfied with their Hargos litter as they used him twice, resulting in **Vernalis Remember-Rita** and **Vernalis Rough-Raven/1991** (Hargos X Vernalis Vivre-Veronica).

In Israel are the Dutch bred siblings **Gravin Karma** and **Graaf Konan v. Neerlands Stam/1992** (Hargos X Gravin Wanda v. Neerlands Stam). Their multi champion mother **Gravin Wanda v. Neerlands Stam/1988** (Graaf Quinto v. Neerlands Stam X Gravin Hera v. Neerlands Stam) was a tall, elegant bitch that won the Dutch and French Specialties and became World Siegerin in 1991. Particularly Karma was a good quality, compact and substantial animal. Both siblings could be faulted for their insufficient angulation, inheriting the mother's straight front (inherited from Wanda's own sire) and their sire (and dam's) straight hindquarters. Karma became an Israeli champion and Konan produced a local star in **Maestro Mozart del Aber** (Konan x Hainide Weena-Werena).

Another Hargos kid with well credentialed mother is **Angel v. Mystique** (Hargos X Haggai Hasjana v. Diapsora). Angel's dam is the multiple champion **Haggai Hasjana v. Diapsora/1983** (Björn v. Stokebrand X Candida v.d. Marwertersdijk). The multi champion Haggai, a Junior Bundessiegerin and later Reserve Bundessiegerin, is a typey, elegant bitch with a beautiful head. She was slightly short legged and could have been firmer in the back. Despite her quality and excellent pedigree she hasn't produced as well as her half sister **Thamara Tara v. Diapsora/1987** (Björn v. Stokebrand X Fabiana Fusciana v. Diaspora). The more compact Thamara produced many Champions and Siegers like the Reserve Europasiegerin **Ere Esther v. Diaspora/1992** (Zwotek Zephanja v. Diaspora X Thamara Tara v. Diaspora) and **Dina Delilah** and **Dibri Dilan v. Diaspora/1991** (Baron Bryan v. Harro's Berg X Thamar Tara v. Diapsora). Continuing the children's success are champions and Siegers like **Hasjan Hadlai** and **Hadar Hosea v. Diaspora/1994** (Paco v. Franckenhorst X Dina Delilah v. Diaspora).

Hargos kids on the wider international stage are **H'Ayrton-Hargos des Hauts de Ramatuelee** (Hargos X Eva du Domaine de L'Epine) and **Chila v. Markischenland** (Hargos X Jasmin v. Eifeltum). Yet another Dutch-bred Hargos daughter is **Assi v. Sagerhof/1990** (Hargos X Bionda v.d. Westmark). She was exported to Germany and became dam of the "**A**" litter **v. Salzstadt/1992** (by Eick v.d. Rappenu), also a line

breeding on Hertog Alpha v. Le Dobry. Another Dutch bred bitch is **Dora v. de 12e Provincie/1990** (Hargos X Niquella v. Stevinhage).

Jaap Gelder naturally used Hargos himself, depicted in a group of animals stamped with that typical v.H. Wantij "look". Like the Luxembourg Junior Champion **Xico v.H. Wantij/1991** (Hargos X Lara v.H. Wantij), **Maik v.H. Wantij** (Hargos X Esmir v. Hermansjomaik) - a mother son inbreeding, and the French and Greek champion **Graaf Norrland v.H. Wantij/1989** (Hargos X Gladys v. Hermansjomaik.) All these males have quality champion mothers lending genetic strength to the pedigree. Graaf Norrland is extremely father typical and his excellent parentage has enabled him to sire some very good animals, like the classy **Jorris de Furioso/1995** (Graaf Norrland X Caluna v. Toering).

Hargos grandchildren doing well in Yugoslavia are **Derbi The Best Line** (Lord Lobo v.H. Wantij X Hilda Royal Bell) - line bred to Esmir v. Hermansjomaik, **Eskort the Best Line** (Judifax Fanthomas X Hilda Royal Bell), and **Foxy, Faith, Farah and Bambi The Best Line** (Larson Royal Bell X Hilda Royal Bell) - all line bred on Hertog Alpha v. Le Dobry. In Holland is a grandson **Fascinated Farrow The Best Defense/1994** (Odi v.H. Wantij X Roxanne The Best Defense). Roxanne being a Hargos daughter. Farrow was a Reserve Junior Europasiieger and Reserve Junior Belgium Winner. In Austria is the Czech champion **Bo Rambono di Matario/1996** (Rambo Royal Bell X Ono Royal Bell) and her half brother **Como Jivono di Matario/1997** (Jivago v.H. Wantij X Ono Royal Bell). Both are half siblings to the fine show bitch **Ajoko Quirono di Marario/1995** (Graaf Quirinus v. Neerlands Stam X Ono Royal Bell).



Sieger and Ch. Randy v.t Sabbatsveld (Machico v. Les Deux Peupliers x Peche v.t Sabbatsveld). Most-winning Hargos descendant.

A German-bred grandson is the Excellent-rated **Danny v.d. Horinghauser Höh/1996** (Bryan v. Adanz X Piya v. Roveline). His mother is a Hargos daughter coming out of a "P" litter v. **Roveline** bred by the well known Belgium breeder Roland Beunekens from his premier brood bitch Lema v. Roveline.

Another Belgium-bred product of Hargos is the "T" litter van **Het Weillerland/1995** (Hargos X Olfa v. Myinkaba), of which the Belgium and German champion

Toby v.h. Weillerland is a good representative. Toby is IPO 3 and also rated "Select" in Belgium. The litter also has a strong working pedigree with many good working animals to recommend a closer look.

In fact Hargos was used extensively all over Europe, although the Italians never seemed to embrace him as heartily as elsewhere, with leading breeders like Margarita Buzzi even dismissing him out of hand.

Hargos's siblings also produced well. As previously mentioned Haida v.H. Wantij went to France and became a brood bitch for the de la Taniere D'Or kennel. Heidi stayed in Holland and is represented by sons like **Proud Ivan v.H. Wantij**. And in the right combinations there is some flash working stock like the German bred **Bogart v. Schwarzen Aliba** (Castor v. Fischbechi X Hydra Haika v.H. Wantij). Haika is another full sister to Hargos and her son Bogart was not only Sch.H. 3 and Angekört, but also a German champion. His sire line, coming over Castor, boasts some of the breed's icons when it comes to strong working animals. Namely a sire like **Bastian v. Goldschmieding/1982** (Bingo v. Ellendonk x Assi v. Langenhorst). Bastian was Angekört and SchH3 and is coming from a blue ribbon working line, his mother being a full sister to Ali v. Langenhorst, another top sire for producing outstanding working dogs. **Ali v. Langenhorst/1977** Angekört, SchH3 (Guys Hilo v. Norden Stamm X Biene v. Niederkassel) is also present in Bogart's pedigree. Like Bingo, I make special mention these "blue collar" sires here as most breed literature ignores recognition of it's extraordinary working individuals. (Unless they also happen to have a Sieger title behind their name, as in the case of Ali v. Langenhorst.)

Hargos died at 10 years of age and left us an enormous international legacy to consider. One which still remains to be fully unraveled and properly evaluated for posterity. Despite some structural restrictions he was a dog whose charismatic showmanship and masculine presence enabled him to maximize basic natural assets. His above average quality in conformation and character and his commendable working drives make him a welcome propagator for both his sire and dam lines. One whose influence I am sure we will be able to appreciate even more many years from now.

I especially wish to thank Danny van Roosbroeck for his enthusiastic assistance and in the next issue I will finalize this series on the family of Hertog Alpha v. Le Dobry.

Bryan v. Forell
Don Dayan v. Franckenhorst
Olive of Bamby's Pride
Hertog Alpha v. Le Dobry
Candy v. Smeulveen
(a Bryan v. Forell grandson)
Tanja v.d. Kunnemaborgh
Toba v. Haliwolwi

Hargos van Het Wantij (1986-1996)

Bingo v. Ellendonk
(a Chico v. Forell grandson)
Nicolai v. Kloster-Kamp
Boschka v. Kloster-Kamp
Esmir v. Hermansjomaik
Alva v. Franckenhorst
(a Chico v. Forell son)
Bonita v. Rensloo
Gräfin-Graziedotter
(a double Bryan v. Forell granddaughter)