

Historical Documentation About Cave Diving in Trieste Karst

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Abstract

During the last International Speleological Symposium BORA 2000, Trieste Italy, from the 1st to 5th of November a Cave Diving Historical Exhibition has took place.

The work proposes, by the analysis of documents and equipment, the exploring way in 50's to 70's years, in the big abysses and caves of the Karst region of Trieste. The 156 meters of penetration in Timavo Spring and -65 meters deep in Gorgazzo Spring were sufficient to fix limits that, in that period, were considered world record.

In the 60's and 70's we have an increase of the explorations from the groups of the Trieste's Speleological Society; they achieved big successes as the exploration of "Goriuda Spring" in Canin mountain, of "Rioneri Spring" in Resia valley and "Amelia" Cave in Reccolana valley . The analysis also cover the pioneeristic study about the equipment and physiology that allow to use breathing mix different from the traditional oxygen and air, supposing the use of that mix up to -120 meters deep. We have to remember the modification of an ARO (Oxygen close circuit), with the Nitrogen automatic injection, that allowed to reach, breathing in closed circuit, the deep of -39 meters .