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NEW FRAGMENTS OF MILITARY DIPLOMAS FROM VIMINACIUM

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NEW FRAGMENTS OF MILITARY DIPLOMAS FROM VIMINACIUM
(Pls. V–VII)

The six fragments of military diplomas that follow have been obtained from the Museum in Požarevac¹. All of them have been found in the area where the legionary fort of the VII Claudia and the city of Viminacium were situated. There is no precise information about the find-spots.

1. Fragment 4.2 x 3.8 x 0.1 cm. Letters 5–6 mm high. Part of table II is preserved. Date: AD 93.

extrinsecus:	intus :
L PV	ITEM D
	RVMNOM
	POSTERIS
	BIVMCVM
	CVMEST

Item d[imissis honesta missione emeritis stipendiis quo]rum nom[ina subscripta sunt ipsis liberis] posteris[que eorum civitatem dedit et conu]bium cum [uxoribus quas tunc habuissent] cum est [civitas iis data aut si qui caelibes essent ---].

From the witnesses' names only *L. Pul[i]* is preserved as the last in the list. *L. Pullius* is a frequent name among witnesses on military diplomas either attested in the same copy for different persons (for instance *L. Pullius Verecundus*, *L. Pullius Speratus*) or in documents from different epochs². As last in the list are attested *L. Pullius Verecundus* in the diploma from AD 88, *L. Pullius Ianuarius* in one from AD 90, *L. Pullius Speratus* in the diploma from AD 100 and *L. Pullius Antius?* in the text of the constitution from 114. The remains of the letters of the witness's name in the penultimate position on the new fragment could be of help in deciding between the four possible *L. Pullii*. However small and badly preserved, the remains of the first letter rule out C, the praenomen of the witness *C. Iulius Helenus* who signed the diploma's text before *L. Pullius Verecundus* in AD 88 (CIL XVI 35); neither could it be recognized as Q. from the name *Q. Vetti Octavi* certifying in the copy of diploma before *L. Pulli Ianuari* AD 90 (CIL XVI 36) nor as L from *L. Pulli Verecundi* AD 100 (CIL XVI 36). The only possibility is to read P in what remains of the letter, and to identify the name which precedes *L. Pulli* in the present copy as *P. Atini Amerimni*. The rest of the last letter on the upper edge could be recognized as part of N in *Atini*. He was followed by *L. Pullius Verecundus* in the diploma dated AD 93, CIL XVI 38. If so, the new fragment from Viminacium can also be dated to AD 93.

2. Fragment of the tabella II, 9.5 x 6.2 x 0.05 cm, letters 4–5 mm high. Found in the excavations at Viminacium 1992. Date: AD 146.

extrinsecus:	intus:
P. ATTI	ALAE CALL
L. PVLLI	TI.CLAVDIV
M. SERVII	

¹ I am grateful to Mr. Dragan Jacanović, archaeologist in the Museum of Požarevac, who informed me about the fragments and allowed me to publish them. I owe the photographs to M. N. Borić, Archaeological Institute, Beograd. I am thankful to Professor B. Dobson who kindly improved my English.

² For witnesses's names cf. J. Morris and M. Roxan, The witnesses to Roman military diplomata, *Arheološki vestnik* 28, 1977, the list on p. 317: *L. Pullius Anthus*, *Daphnus*, *Epaphroditus*, *Heracla*, *Ianuarius*, *Speratus*, *Trophimus*, *Verecundus*.

L. PVLLI	? TIDI or I eqi ?	I HI
M. SENTILI	ET MAMMA F POSS	
T. IVLI		
C. IVLI		

The date of this fragment is suggested by the witnesses' names. They appear in the same order as on this fragment in the copy from July 19, AD 146, CIL XVI 178, on the fleet (?) diploma RMD 44, dated Oct. 26, 145 and in the undated new fragment published in ZPE 117, 1997, 251, no. 12: The list runs as follows:

*P. Atti Severi, L. Pulli Daphni, M. Servili Getae, L. Pulli Chressimi, M. Sentili Iasi, Ti. Iuli Felicis, C. Iuli Silvani*³. The new fragment must be part of a document dated ca. AD 145 or more probably 146.

The recipient of the diploma was discharged from an *ala Gallica*, but it is not possible to determine which one. An *ala Gallorum et Thracum* is attested as part of the Roman army in Syria in 139⁴. There is no proof that this unit was in the Danubian provinces at the time of Antoninus Pius. Another Gallic *ala*, (*I*) *Gallorum Flaviana* is attested in Moesia Superior 159⁵, as part of Upper Moesia's army in probably AD 161 on the diploma found at Iconium, and on the diploma fragment from Margum (no. 19 on our table) dated 161⁶, probably also on the new fragment no. 3. The third possibility is to identify it with the *ala I Gallorum et Pannoniorum* attested in Moesia Inferior in a copy dated ca. 157⁷.

The praefectus of the *ala Gallica* in the new document from Viminacium was an unknown *Ti. Claudius* [---]. No *Ti. Claudius* attested until now could be identified as having been in charge of *ala Gallica* under Antoninus Pius⁸.

Mamma f(ilia) Poss[---] must be the wife of the auxiliary soldier. The name *Mamma* is common in Asia Minor⁹, but also in Thrace. The name occurs in Tomi, Verespatak in Dacia, etc.¹⁰ A Thracian name *Posseis, Posses, Possis* and similar is attested in Varna, Čitalovo, Scupi, on Thasos and Euboia and in Tauric Chersonese.¹¹ The recipient of this diploma or his wife could originate from Asia Minor, but also from Thrace.

3. Fragment of tabella II 6.5 x 4.8 x 0.01 cm inscribed only extrinsecus. Letters 5 mm. Date: AD 146–148.

Tabella II intus: without text	Tabella II extrinsecus: SEVERI DAPHNI RESIMI
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This order of three first witnesses is unknown; however fragmentarily preserved, it could help in dating the document, because it belongs to the time when the witnesses' list was fixed. The witnesses *P. Attius*

³ Morris and Roxan, op. cit. 312.

⁴ CIL XVI 87. For its history see W. Wagner, *Die Dislokation der römischen Auxiliarformationen in den Provinzen Noricum, Pannonien, Moesien und Dakien von Augustus bis Gallienus*, 1938, 36 ff.

⁵ CIL XVI 111 and RMD 55.

⁶ RMD 111, with a comment on p. 183: The identification of the governor as *Avidius Cassius*, proposed by K.-H. Diez, *Chiron* 11, 1981, 277 ff., would be hard to prove.

⁷ RMD 50.

⁸ Cf. H. Devijver, *Prosopographia militum equestrium quae fuerunt ab Augusto ad Gallienum*, 1976, 237 ff. G. Alföldy, *Die Truppenkommandeure in den Militärdiplomen, Die römischen Militärdiplome als historische Quelle, Heer und Integrationspolitik*, 1986, 385 ff.

⁹ L. Zgusta, *Kleinasiatische Personennamen*, 1964, 285.

¹⁰ D. Detschew, *Die thrakischen Sprachreste*, 1957, 283f.

¹¹ Detschew, op. cit. 375f.

Severus, L. Pullius Daphnus and L. Pullius Chresimus appear on many diplomas between AD 129 and AD 158, but never arranged as in this fragment. Attius Severus, known in the period 129–146, is attested in the first position only in 146, L. Pullius Daphnus appears as second in the same year; but L. Pullius Chresimus is subscribed as fourth, after Servilius Geta, at the same time. He comes in third place in 148, but then T. Flavius Laurus, known from the document dated 146, is missing from the list. After his disappearance all three first moved up one step. The new fragment might be dated before 148, when L. Pullius Chresimus came to third position, but with L. Pullius Daphnus as first and Servilius Geta as second on the list, and after 146, when the following order is attested: P. Attius Severus (1), L. Pullius Daphnus (2), M. Servilius Geta (3), L. Pullius Chresimus (4) etc. L. Pullius Chresimus appears in the second place in 153¹².

4. Fragment of tabella I, 5.5 x 4.2 x 0.05 cm from the private collection in Golubac. Letters 1.5; 2–4 mm high. Date: 158 or 159.

Intus I:

ITIBVS (?)
G?ALLOR . . PANN
V HISPA E . I MONT
CRET III CAM
III BRITTON VETER . .
ET SVNT SVB CVRT . IVSTO LEG
STIPENDIIS EMERITISDI
SSION QVORVM

Extrinsecus I:

II V VI
LEG XXV STI
OM SVBSC
M NON HABE
R QVAS TVNC H
CVM IS QVAS
NGVLIS

Tabella extrinsecus is with the text as in all diplomas after 145:

e]t [s]unt [in --- sub ---] leg(ato) XXV sti[pendiis emeritis dimissis honesta missione quorum n]om(ina) subs(ripta) [sunt civitatem Romanam qui eorum]m non habe[rent dedit et conubium cum uxo]r(ibus) quas tunc h[abuissent cum est civitas is data aut] cum is quas [postea duxissent dumtaxat si]ngulis.

Tabella intus is badly damaged and there are difficulties in reading the text. However, the name of the *legatus* seems to be certain and could be restored to *Curtio Iusto*, the initial C and final characters STO being clear and the remains of other characters visible. If the identification of the *legatus* as Curtius Iustus is correct, the diploma must have been issued in the period AD 158/159¹³. Curtius Iustus is known as the governor of Moesia Superior who discharged the soldiers of the VII Claudia legion in 158 or 159¹⁴.

The units' names are only partly recognizable; the reading *Gallorum* is based on an analogy of the Upper Moesian diploma from 161, RMD 55. Two *alae* and ten *cohortes* are attested in this copy: II *alae*, I Claudia nova miscellanea and Gallica Flaviana and X *cohortes*, (1) V Gallorum et Pannoniorum, (2) V Hispanorum, (3) I Montanorum, (4) I Antiochensium sagittariorum, (5) I Cretum, (6) III Campestris, (7) II Gallorum, (8) III Brittonum veterana, (9) I Augusta Lusitanorum, (10) I Pannoniorum veterana. The same order is to be suggested in the new text. It is possible to recognize the cohorts nos. 1, 2, 3, 6, 7 and probably nos. 5 and 8 and the text of the inner side could be restored to: *[Equ]itibus [et peditibus qui militaverunt in alis II --- et cohorti]bus [--- V] Gall(or)um (et) Pann(oniorum) e[t] I Mon(tanorum) [et I Antioch. sag(ittariorum) et I Cret(um) et] III Cam[p(estr)is] et II Pann(oniorum) et II Gall. et] III Britton(um) veterana) et [I Aug(usta) Lusitan(or)um] et] I Pann(oniorum) vet(erana) et [sunt in Moesia*

¹² Cf. Morris and Roxan, op. cit., Table 3 on p. 312. As far as I know the fixed order in which witnesses' names were arranged has not been changed with newly published diplomas.

¹³ B. Thomasson, *Laterculi praesidium I*, 1984, 129.

¹⁴ CIL III 8110 = M. Mirković, IMS II 51.

Superiore] sub Cur[tio] Iusto leg(ato) [XXV] stipendiis emeritis di[missis honesta mi]ssione quorum [nomina subscripta sunt].

5. Fragment of tabella I, 2.4 x 2.5 x 0.1 cm. Letters 3 mm. Found in the legionary camp at Viminacium in 1987. Date: 157/160.

Tabella I intus:
OR NOMIN
N QVI EORV
XORIB QV
DATA AVT
SIN

Tabella I extrinsecus:
II? I ili COR
ET VII BR
I CAMP
(X)? ET I T?
SV ?

Intus: --- equitibus et peditibus qu]or(um) nomin(a) [subscripta sunt civitatem Roma]n(am) qui eoru[m] non habet dedit et conubium cum u]xorib(us) qu[as tunc habuis(sent) cum est civit(as) is] dat(a) aut [cum is quas post(ea) duxis(ent) dumtaxat] sin[gulis].

Extrinsecus: --- e]t VII Br[euorum et III Lusit(anorum) et II Aug(usta) Thr(acum) et --- ---]m et I Camp(estr)is v[ol(untariorum) c.R. et I Thr(acum) Germ(anica) c.R. ---] (miliaria?) et I T[hrac(um) equitata ---] et su[nt in Pannonia Inf(eriore)? sub ---

The restitution of the unit's list, if correct, suggests that the diploma might have been issued for auxilia in Pannonia Inferior in the time between 151 and 160. Partly preserved cohorts' names, VII Breucorum, I Campanorum and the I Thracum civium Romanorum are attested as units in Pannonia Inferior, *sub Geminio Capelliano* in two military diplomas from 158, CIL XVI 112 and 113, and *sub Iallio Basso legato*, RMD 103 as part of the army in Pannonia Inferior in 157, consisting of five alae and thirteen cohorts. The order in which the units were listed could have been as it was in 158:

alae: (1) ---, (2) I Thracum veterana sagittaria, (3) I Augusta Ituraeorum sagittaria, (4) I c. R., (5) I Brittanica c. R. ; cohortes: (1) ---,
(2) **I Lusitanorum**, (3) II Asturum et Callaecorum,
(4) **VII Breucorum**, (5) III Lusitanorum, (6) II Augusta Thracum, (7) ----,
(8) **I Campestris** voluntariorum c. R., (9) I Thracum Germanica c. R., (10) III Batavorum,
(11) **I Thracum** equitata, (12) I Alpinorum equitata, (13) I Alpinorum peditata
et sunt in Pannonia Inferiore.

The units printed in bold are those attested in the new fragment and visually together show the same form as the preserved part of our diploma. The cohortes I Augusta Lusitanorum and VII Breucorum appear again in 161 as part of the army in Moesia Superior, RMD 55.

6. Fragment of tabella I, 3.8 x 3.4 x 0.11 cm. Letters about 3 mm. Found in the military camp in Viminacium or in its vicinity. Date: after 145.

Tabella I intus:
I I SIRMI
M? EX TABVLA
AE IN MVRO
MINERVAM

Tabella I extrinsecus:
V OR
ATEM
ERENT DE
TVNC HA
DATA AVT
ENT DVM

Intus: --- L. f. Sirmi [descriptum et recognitu]m ex tabula [aenea quae fixa est Rom]ae in muro [post templum divi Aug. ad] Minervam.

Extrinsecus: --- *q]uor(um) [nomina subscripta sunt civit]atem [Romanam qui eorum non hab]erent de[dit et conubium cum uxoribus quas] tunc ha[buissent cum est civitas is] data aut [cum is quas postea duxiss]ent dum[taxat singulis ---*

The only dating criterion is the formula *qui eorum non habent*, which was commonly used after 140¹⁵.

Auxiliary soldiers from Sirmium: RMD 21: Glavo Novati Sirmi, AD 123, the soldier of the ala Brittonum c. R. in the army of Dacia Inferior and Pannonia Inferior.

At the time of the publication of CIL XVI, no diploma had been found in Viminacium. Only two from the territory of Upper Moesia were known, one from Tricornium, one from Negovanovci¹⁶. Today, there are 22 new documents. The majority of them – 19 diplomas – were found in Viminacium and in the surrounding area, others in the forts on the Danube bank, not far from the camp of the legio VII Claudia at Viminacium¹⁷.

Year	Soldier	Army of the province	Publication
Viminacium:			
1. AD 85	?	?	Starinar 48
2. AD 93	?	?	No. 1
3. AD 96	ex ped. coh. VI Thracum	Moesia Sup.	RMD 6
4. (AD 101	ex ped. coh. I Fl. Hisp. m.	Moesia Sup.	RMD 143)
5. AD 100/102	?	Pann. Inf.	RMD 144
6. (AD 109	ex ped. coh. Mont.	Dacia	RMD 148)
7. AD 123	?	Dac. Por., Pann. Inf.	RMD 22
8. AD 130–140?	?	?	Starinar 48
9. AD 143–144	?	Pann. Inf.	ZPE forthc.
10. AD 146	ala Gallica?	Moesia Sup.?	No. 2
11. AD 146–148	?	?	No. 3
12. AD 158–159	?	Moesia Sup.	No. 4
13. AD 161	?	Moesia Sup.	RMD 114
14. AD 157–160	?	Pann. Inferior?	No. 5
15. Post AD 145	---- Sirmi	?	No. 6
16. Later II cent.?	?	?	Starinar 48
17. AD 202	(auxilia)	Pann. Inf. or Dacia	ZPE forthc.
18. (AD 203	coh. VII Breucor.	?	RMD 187)
19. (AD 218	class. pr. Mis.		RMD 192)
Forts on the Danube:			
Taliatae			
20. AD 75	Coh. I Raetorum	Moesia	RMD 2
Negovanovci			
21. AD 93	Coh. I Cisipadensium	Moesia Sup.	CIL XVI 39
Tricornium			
22. AD 120	Coh. I Flavia Bessorum	Macedonia	CIL XVI 67
Novae (Čezava)			

¹⁵ G. Alföldy, Zur Beurteilung der Militärdiplome der Auxiliarsoldaten, *Historia* 17, 1968, 227.

¹⁶ CIL XVI 63 and 39.

¹⁷ Professor S. Dušanić kindly informed me about another five new diploma fragments which have been or will be published by him, *Starinar* 48, 1997, 63 ff. and *ZPE* 122, 1998, 219ff. They are all included in the list. Numbers 1, 8 and 14 have been found in the legionary camp, no. 9 on the site of Korabe where the Roman cemetery was located.

23. AD 147/160 Margum	classis	?	RMD 106
24. AD 161	?	?	RMD 111

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No. 1 extrinsecus



No. 1 intus

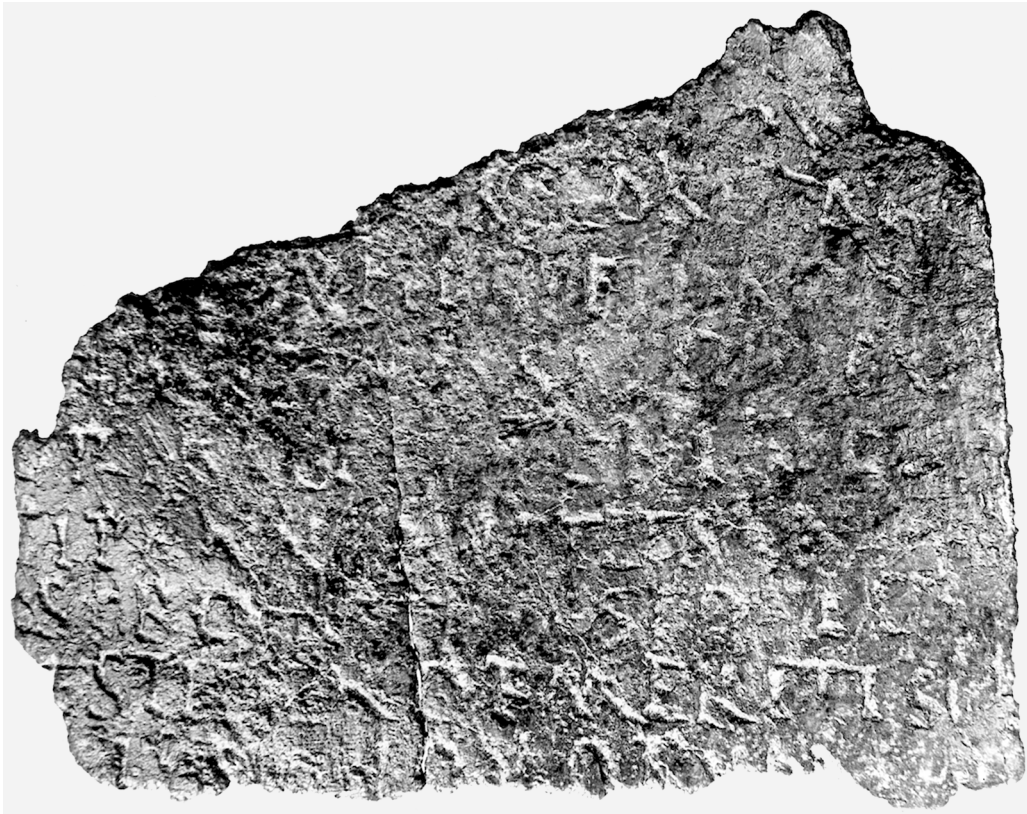


No. 2 extrinsecus

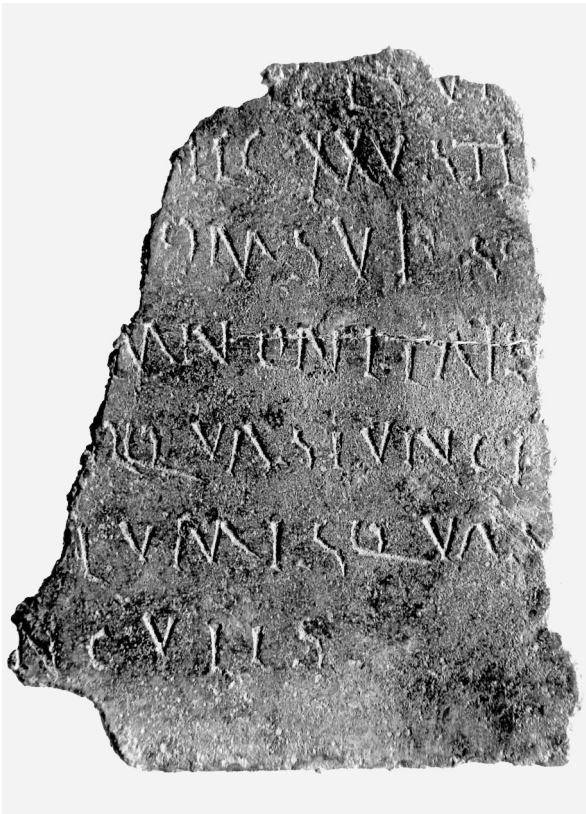


No. 2 intus

TAFEL VI



No. 4 intus



No. 4 extrinsecus



No. 3 extrinsecus



No. 5 extrinsecus



No. 5 intus



No. 6 extrinsecus



No. 6 intus

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