

rapalska meja

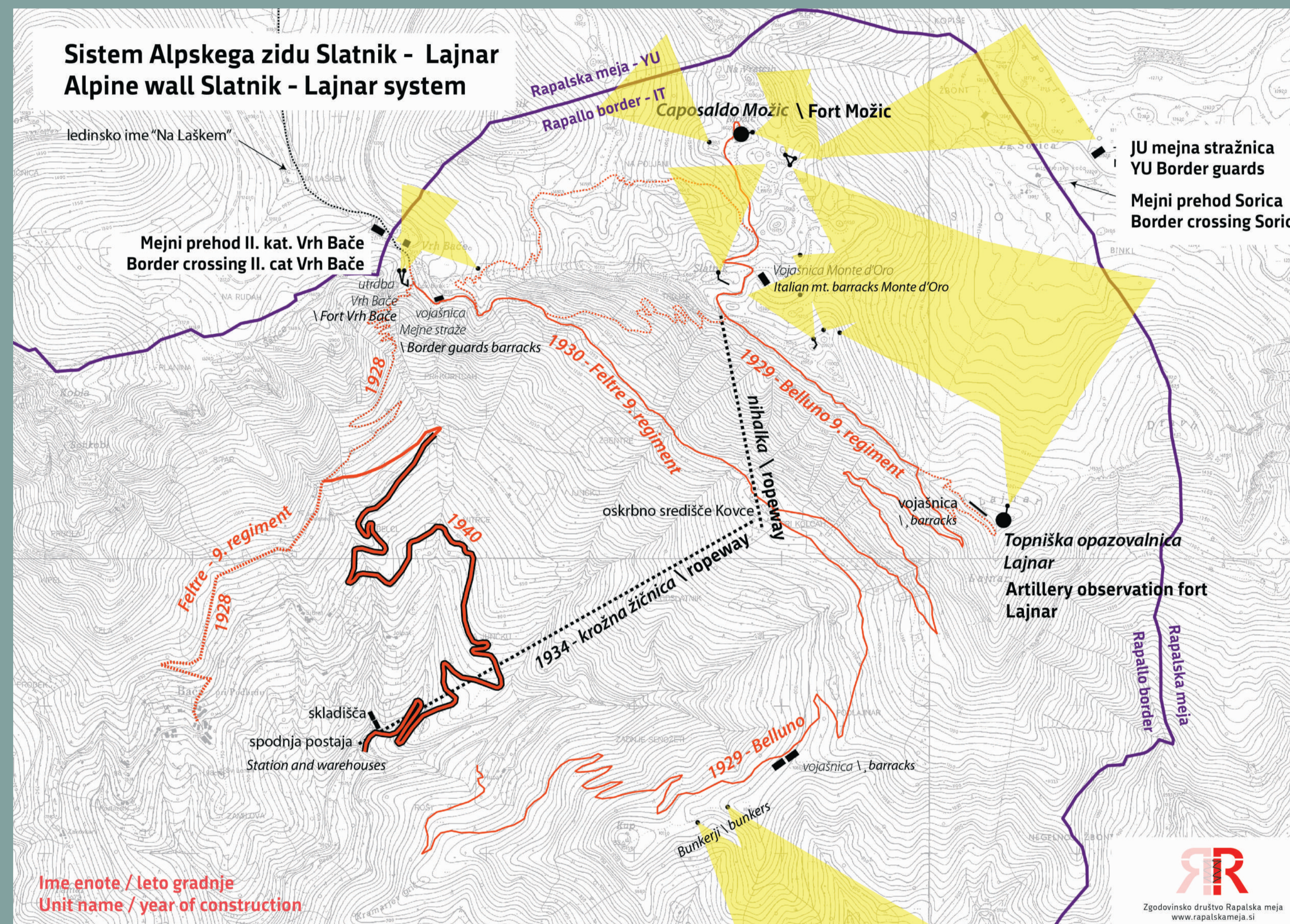
Utrdbe Alpskega zidu

Območje zahodne Slovenije je bilo s podpisom rapalske pogodbe leta 1920 razdeljeno med Kraljevino Italijo in Kraljevino SHS (kasneje Kraljevino Jugoslavijo). Skoraj tretjina slovenskega etničnega ozemlja je takrat pripadla Italiji in prihodnost slovenske identitete pod italijansko oblastjo je bila sprva negotova, še pred fašističnim prevzemom oblasti pa so se pokazali pravi nameni Italije, ki je z raznarodovalnimi ukrepi želela nova območja narediti povsem italijanska. Italiji so v celoti pripadli tudi pomembnejši vrhovi in prelazi – tudi v tem se vidi nemoč jugoslovanskega dela sicer mešane komisije obeh držav za določitev meje. Označena je bila z betonskimi mejnimi kamni, ki so marsikje še ohranjeni. Zelo poveden je zapis Franceta Planine, geografa, ki je z družino leta 1938 počitnikoval v Sorici. Povzpeli so se na Dravh, vrh nad Soriško planino. Šli so mimo graničarske stražarnice ter poklepetali z desetnikom, ki je o državni meji menil, da je "tako speljana, kakor bi nas pri mirovnih pogajanjih zastopal kak otrok" (Loški razgledi 26, 1979, str. 121).

Varovanje in nadziranje poti, prehodov prek dolin, gorskih prelazov in gorskih vrhov je bilo za Italijo strateškega pomena, zato so že z letom 1922 vzdolž cele meje zgradili sistem vojašnic Kraljeve finančne straže, leta 1924 pričeli z infrastrukturnimi deli, kot so gradnje dostopnih poti, leta 1928 z gradnjo obrambnega pasu imenovan Alpski zid. Del, ki je tekkel ob rapalski meji je bil del obsežnejšega 1850 km dolgega evropskega obrambnega sistema, ki je potekal od Genovskega zaliva po francoski, švicarski, avstrijski in jugoslovanski meji do Reškega zaliva. Kulturna krajina se je precej spremenila. Sistem obrambe so večinoma sestavljali strelski jarki, strojnična gnezda in utrjene vojašnice ter več kot 120 betonskih utrdb z razvejanim sistemom strelnih položajev, opazovalnic, hodnikov in prostorov, ki so bili namenjeni tudi bivanju vojakov.

Gradnjo so omogočale ceste, ki so jih načrtovali v sklopu priprave obrambnega sistema. Še danes pripeljejo do utrdb in jih povezujejo med seboj. Ceste in poti so pozitivni ostanki časa, ki je v življenja ljudi ob meji vnesel zmedo in težave. Zaradi razgibanosti gorskega terena si je težko predstavljati gradnjo infrastrukture in utrdb ali vztrajanja prebivalcev v višje ležečih krajih po opustitvi tradicionalnega kmetijstva. A oboje kljubuje času in ostanki Alpskega zidu na Poreznu, Petrovem Brdu in nad Soriško planino se vidijo od daleč, če se le približamo bivši rapalski meji po dolini reke Bače.

V ljudski domišljiji je prisotnost italijanske vojske ob celotni trasi Alpskega zidu na slovenskem ozemlju spletna najrazličnejše zgodbe. Najbolj razširjena in prisotna v vseh krajih je, da so nekje, v tem primeru v okolici Možica in Lajnarja, še vedno zakopane zaloge hrane in orožja za več let.



Fortifications of the Alpine wall

With the signing of the Treaty of Rapallo in 1920, the territory of the western Slovenia was divided between the Kingdom of Italy and the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes (later known as the Kingdom of Yugoslavia). Almost a third of the Slovenian ethnic territory at the time belonged to Italy and the future of the Slovenian identity under the Italian rule was at first uncertain, but even before the fascist seizure of power true intentions of Italy became evident, aiming at making the new territories fully Italian with assimilation measures. Important peaks and passes fully fell under Italy – this also reflects the ineptness of the Yugoslav part of the otherwise mixed border demarcation committee. The border was marked by concrete boundary stones, which are still preserved in many locations. The written record of France Planina, a geographer, who was vacationing in Sorica with his family in 1938, speaks for itself. They climbed up to Dravh, a peak overlooking Soriška planina. They passed a border guard post and chatted with a corporal, who said that the national border "runs as though a child represented us in peace negotiations". (Loški razgledi 26, 1979, p. 121).

Protection and supervision of routes, valley passageways, mountain passes and mountain peaks was strategically important for Italy, so already in 1922 a system of military posts of the Royal Finance Guard was built along the border, with infrastructural works, such as construction of access routes, beginning in 1924, while in 1928 the construction of military posts started in all major villages and on important locations, and then finally in 1931 the construction of the defensive belt called the Alpine wall also started. The section that ran along the Rapallo border was part of the large-scale, 1850 km long European defence system, which ran from the Gulf of Genoa, across the French, Swiss, Austrian and Yugoslav borders to the Gulf of Rijeka. The cultural landscape changed significantly. The defence system was mostly composed of trench warfare, machine-gun nests and fortified barracks, and more than 120 concrete fortifications with a branched system of shooting locations, observation posts, hallways and rooms, which were intended for dwelling of soldiers.

Construction was possible because of roads, which were planned within the preparation of the defence system. Still today, they lead to fortifications connecting them to one another. Roads and paths are positive remains of the time, which created confusion and troubles in the lives of people living at the border. Due to the diversity of the mountain terrain, it is hard to imagine the construction of infrastructure and fortifications or the persistence of people in higher-altitude villages after abandoning traditional farming. But both still stand the test of time and remains of the Alpine wall on Porezen, Petrovo Brdo and above Soriška planina can be seen from afar, if we only get closer to the former Rapallo border across the valley of the river Bača.

Numerous stories emerged in people's imagination relating to the presence of the Italian army along the Alpine wall on the territory of Slovenia. One of the most widespread and commonly present stories is that somewhere, in this case around the peaks Možic and Lajnar, food and weapon supplies that could last for years are still buried.

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