

Communiqué, 26 May, 2009

Correspondance générale de Napoléon Bonaparte Publication of volume VI: « Vers le grand Empire » (Towards the Grand Empire)

The sixth volume of the *Correspondance générale de Napoléon* published for the Fondation Napoléon by Editions Fayard will be on sale from 25 May, 2009.

This volume bears the subtitle «Vers le grand Empire» (Towards the Grand Empire) and covers the period from 1 January to 31 December, 1806. It contains 2,679 annotated letters, two essays, eight maps, six photographs of letters, a detailed timeline and three indices.

It follows volume 1: «Les apprentissages. 1784-1797», volume 2: «La campagne d'Egypte et l'avènement. 1798-1799», and volume 3: «Pacifications. 1800-1802», and volume 4: «Ruptures et fondation. 1803-1804», and volume 5: «Boulogne – Trafalgar – Austerlitz. 1805 », all published by Editions Fayard.

This project to publish Napoleon's correspondence has been spearheaded by the Fondation since 2001 and is supported by the Archives de France, the Service historique de la défense, the Fondation La Poste and the Centre national du Livre. The project committee is headed by Victor-André Masséna, President of the Fondation Napoléon, and the project itself has mobilised some of the best specialists in Napoleonic history (namely, Jean Tulard, Jean-Claude Casanova, Jacques-Olivier Boudon, Thierry Lentz, Jacques Jourquin, André Palluel, Michel Kerautret, etc.), many of the world's principal archival institutions, not to mention nearly two hundred volunteers, all keen connoisseurs of the history of the Revolution and the Empire.

Since 2004, six volumes have been published by Editions Fayard, representing 13,922 letters, dated from 1784 to 1806, more than 40% of which were not included in the Correspondence published during the Second Empire and 33% of which can be considered as never before published.

Thirteen volumes are planned by Editions Fayard, the last appearing in 2012. In total, 36,000 letters by Napoleon (more than a third of which never before seen) will be published.

Napoléon Bonaparte, *Correspondance générale. VI. Vers le Grand Empire (1806)*, preface by Jean-Claude Casanova, of the Institut. Volume edited by Michel Kérautret, assisted by François Houdecek, Elodie Lerner, Irène Delage, Fayard, 1,488 pages, 53.90 euros (RRP).

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