

Marcel Boisard | Classes of 1961 & 1977

A fervent humanist, unwavering defender of the Geneva Conventions, and participant in significant episodes of the conflicts in the Middle East, Marcel Boisard held roles ranging from diplomat and International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) delegate to Executive Director of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, before serving as Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations in 2001. His professional path was characterised by his emphasis on diplomatic solutions over military interventions, as well as his advocacy for internal conflict resolution.

In the above image: Marcel Boisard and his wife Claude at the Lifetime Professional Achievement Award reception of the Institute's Alumnae-i Association. Behind them, his great friend and fellow alumnus Jacques Moreillon, whose portrait is also part of the Hall of Inspiring Stories, accompanied by his wife Nanou.







The same

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As an ICRC delegate, Boisard arrived in Sana'a in 1964 to establish a field hospital and ensure the protection of prisoners of war during the Yemeni civil war. Boisard with General Moshe Dayan, Minister of Defense, at a diplomatic reception in Tel Aviv in summer 1967, a few months before contributing to the release of around 5,500 Egyptian prisoners of war captured by Israel. Marcel Boisard with Yasser Arafat, President of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), in the fall of 1970, following a mission by the ICRC in September in Amman, Jordan.

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