



News from the Organizing Committee VIIIth Winter Games 1960

(Communication)

The coming of the snows halted most of the actual physical construction at Squaw Valley, California, site of the 1960 Olympic Winter Games, but not before some \$4,000,000 worth of facilities were contracted.

Technical preparations for the competitions included a tour of international events in Europe by representatives of the Organizing Committee headed by President Prentis C. Hale. Others making the trip were :

Kenneth L. Brown, Chairman, Figure Skating Committee ; Andrieus A. Jones, Chairman, Ski Events Committee ; Alan E. Bartholemy, Technical Director ; John C. Macone, Assistant to Executive Director ; William Kerth, Ice Events Technical Advisor ; Willy Schaeffler, Alpine Ski Events Technical Advisor ; Earl Little, Jumping Events Technical Advisor ; Wendall Broomhall, Chief of Race and Cross-Country Events

Techn. Advis. ; Lamar Ottsen, Speed Skating Technical Advisor ; Birger Torrisen, Biathlon Technical Advisor ; Albert E. Sigal, Ski Events Committee ; Walter A. Brown, Ice Hockey Committee.

In addition to providing press conferences throughout Europe, members of the group witnessed the following events :

Luge Championships at Krynica, Poland ; FIS Alpine Ski Championships, Bad Gastein, Austria ; World's Ice Hockey Championships Oslo, Norway ; FIS Nordic Ski Championships Lahti, Finland ; World's Speed Skating, Championships, Helsinki, Finland ; World's Biathlon Championships, Salzburg, Austria ; Swedish Biathlon Championships, Solleftea, Sweden.

A bill requesting authorization for both military support and construction of an ice arena for the 1960 Olympic Winter Games was

introduced jointly in both Houses of Congress on February 10, 1958.

The legislation was accompanied by requests for favourable action addressed to the President of the Senate, Vice President Richard Nixon, and Speaker of the House — Sam Rayburn, from Secretary of Defense Neil McElroy.

The proposal authorizes the Secretary of Defense to cooperate and lend support to the Organization Committee in staging the Games.

The bill seeks up to \$4,000,000 to provide military personnel for avalanche control, communications, course preparations and similar winter training-type activities in addition to sponsorship of an 11,000 seat arena by the Federal Government in the name of the people of the United States.

The funds, requested by President Eisenhower in his message to Congress January 13, have been approved by the Bureau of the Budget.

Members of the Senate Armed Services Committee heard the proposal February 27 at Washington, D. C. and endorsed the idea of Federal aid.

The Organizing Committee, VIII Olympic Winter Games, moved into its new headquarters at 333 Market Street, San Francisco 5 California, late in January.

Snow compaction tests are currently being conducted on a 130 acre site at Squaw Valley by the United States Navy working in conjunction with California Olympic Commission engineers. The snow packing experiment will decide the practicability and possibility of providing an inexpensive parking area for 12,000 cars during the running of the Games.

Ticket applications for the Squaw Valley fete are expected to be available by July, 1958.