

CORRESPONDENCE

We have received the following interesting letter from Lieut. Colonel R.H. Russell, president of the 'Association Internationale de Boxe Amateur', which is, as everyone knows, recognized by the International Olympic Committee and whose sport figures on the Olympic programme.

London, April 27th 1962.

The Editor Bulletin of the International Olympic Committee

Lausanne

Dear Sir,

I was interested to read in your Bulletin No. 78 an article headed *Sports in Black Africa* which related particularly to the Abidjan Games held in the Ivory Coast in December 1961.

A.I.B.A. was not officially represented at these Games since we did not receive an application for permission to hold them and were not aware they were being held until afterwards.

We have however received a Report from a representative of one of our affiliated associations who was present with his national team, and according to this the arrangements for the Boxing competition were well carried out.

The article also referred to the hope that International Federations would devote their efforts to promote the development of sport in Africa.

Your readers may therefore be interested to learn that 15 national boxing associations in Africa are already affiliated to A.I.B.A., and a further 10 have made application, and the necessary formalities are in progress.

In this aspect therefore, A.I.B.A. seems to be rather ahead of the International Olympic Committee which has only recognized 13 African countries.

You will also be interested to know that A.I.B.A. are recommending to their Congress which will be held this September, in Switzerland, that the present Executive Committee shall be increased by 3 members who

will be elected by affiliated associations in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

In this way the nations in those Continents will be certain of having one representative in the Executive Committee who will be able to present their point of view and particular problems.

We believe similar steps have been taken by other International Federations and no doubt others will follow in due course.

Yours sincerely,

R.H. Russell

Lieut. Colonel.
President.