

Olympic awards

At an extraordinary meeting of the Executive Board of the International Olympic Committee held in Tokyo, on 16th October 1964, an unprecedented decision was taken unanimously. Never before had the Olympic Cup, the Olympic Diploma of Merit and the Count Bonacossa Trophy been awarded at the same time in connection with the organization of Olympic Games. However owing to the outstanding work accomplished in view of the Games of the 18th Olympiad

the *Olympic Cup* was awarded to the City of Tokyo in gratitude for the efforts made and the enthusiasm displayed by its officials and population over the preparation of the Games. Host of the first Olympic Games to be held in Asia, the City of Tokyo is highly worthy of this reward "for its merit, integrity, efficient service to amateur sport and contribution to the development of the Olympic Movement" as prescribed in 1906 by the founder of the Olympic Cup, Baron Pierre de Coubertin.

the *Olympic Diploma of Merit* was awarded to Mr. Kenzo Tange for having conceived the National Gymnasium in Tokyo. This masterpiece which is being acknowledged throughout the world as an outstanding specimen of the architect's imagination combined with the engineer's skill is a remarkable example of the close connection which exists between sport and the fine arts. It is not unrealistic to state that sport inspired Mr. Kenzo Tange's work and that, in turn, his work stimulated the athletes as was proved by the many world and olympic records broken therein. While the National Gymnasium will be an eloquent reminder of the Games of the 18th Olympiad for Tokyo citizens and visitors, it will remain engraved in the minds of all beauty-lovers who were fortunate enough to participate in or to view the events held in its precincts. The International Olympic Committee felt that Mr. Kenzo Tange had achieved Baron Pierre de Coubertin's aim to introduce new values in the Olympic Games for the benefit of both spectators and participants "thus contributing substantially to the development of the Olympic Movement".

the *Count Bonacossa Trophy* was awarded to the Japanese Olympic Committee founded in 1911 and presided by Mr. Tsuneyoshi Takeda, "for having done during the preceding year outstanding work in furthering the Olympic Movement". Its earnest and steadfast dedication to the fulfilment of its duties under I.O.C. requirements was displayed by its unlimited support of the candidature of the City of Tokyo to stage the Olympic Games and the valued assistance provided in their organization. Long before those Games were celebrated, Japan was to be ranked among the great Olympic nations and its athletes gave a living example of those qualities which are developed through the practice of amateur sport and of olympic principles. The Japanese Olympic Committee has now conquered another title of glory for having contributed with experienced advise and stimulating enthusiasm to the outstanding success of the Games of the 18th Olympiad.