

THE FUTURE GAMES

From the reports submitted to the IOC by the organizing committees for the future Games, several paragraphs have been extracted which our readers will undoubtedly find useful.

Mexico

The names of 2564 athletes and 905 accredited journalists have been registered.

In 1967, the canoe-kayak and rowing competitions took place at the new site constructed exclusively for this purpose, and which is the only canal in the world especially built for these events in the Olympic Games.

For athletics, besides the actual competition track with Tartan covering, participants at the Mexico Games will find five other tracks at their disposal, identical to the competition track and intended for training and warming-up; these tracks are located near to the Stadium of Honour, the Olympic Village, and the big sports complex next to the Sports Palace and the Mexican Olympic Centre.

The road network, which is designed to ensure rapid communications between the various competition sites, the Olympic Village and the tourist area, is almost finished.

The system of road signs will make for easy access to all competition sites. As a matter of fact, coloured and graphical signs will avoid problems arising from the presence of so many different languages.

Instead of originally planned, 200 buses, sports delegations will now find 400 motor coaches at their disposal; 200 mini-buses, i.e., twice the number foreseen, will be at the disposal of the press, as well as 100 extra mini-buses for journalists' families. 2.000 taxis will be reserved for visitors.

The necessary installations for radio-broadcasts and television-transmissions of the events are being constructed, and their equipment set up.

The number of accredited journalists is limited according to IOC regulations. The Organizing Committee is prepared, however, to grant additional accreditations in special justified cases.

The two press centres will dispose of equal facilities: one will be located near the Olympic Village, the other at the Maria Isabel Hotel right in the centre of the tourist area.

The journalists specially accredited by the Organizing Committee will benefit from the same services as those in the press centres. They will be housed in the Olympic cultural Village at 7 minutes' distance from the Olympic sports Village.

The cultural programme, organized parallel to the Olympic Games as such was immediately and unanimously approved by the countries affiliated to the IOC, 78 countries have to date confirmed their participation in the 20 manifestations on this programme. 31 countries have already fixed the dates of their representations. The Arts Festival thus had to be extended over the whole of 1968, in order to present the 80 shows foreseen.

The cultural Olympiad was inaugurated on 19th January, 1968 in the presence of the President, Mr. Diaz Ordaz and the President of the IOC. This splendid olympic "premiere" began with a Greek ballet (choreography by Miss Loukia), sent specially from Athens by the Hellenic Olympic Committee.

The cultural programme is one of the essential characteristics of these Games and meets a fundamental aspiration of the President of the Republic.

Sapporo

The various persons charged with the actual preparatory works for the Games are mainly the same who prepared the 1964 Olympic Games in Tokyo.

All installations for the Games will be located in Sapporo and close to the Olympic Village which will be their centre. The farthest site (the Mount Eniwa slopes), are only 28 kms from the town. The other distant site is only 17 kms away. Most of the sites are located at 500 metres to 10 kms distance.

Dispositions have been taken so that the sites be ready well in advance of the Games. The first of these sites will be completed this year, the last, two years before the Games towards the end of the year. All competition sites will be carefully examined and tested the year prior to the Games.

The Olympic Village will be set up only 500 metres from the skating rink where the Opening and Closing Ceremonies will be held.

After careful deliberation by all concerned, some changes were considered necessary. One of these changes concerns the two ice-hockey rinks which were to be installed on one of the three ice-stadiums, but which, in view of transport and other factors, will now be near the towns of Mikaho and Twukisamu respectively. Another modification concerns the 90 m and 70 m jumps, which were to be set up, parallel to each other, at Okurayama,

After careful examination of the question, the Special Technical Committee advised placing the 90 m jump at Okurayama and the 70 m jump at 1000 m altitude, on a site called Miyanomori.

The actual programme is planned to take place from 4th to 14th February indecisive.

As to transport conditions (the highway between Chitose Airport and Sapporo, the road network between the Olympic Village and the various sports sites, as well as the widening of existing roads), their organization will be undertaken jointly by the different authorities and the commissions concerned. Apart from these particular programmes, the Committee is searching for ways and means to keep the main roads free of ice and snow.

Munich

The German Secretary of State to the Home Office, Mr. Karl Gumbel, recently stated at a session of the Bundestag that expenses for the Munich Games would amount to 821 million Deutsch-Marks (e.g. 207 million Dollars).

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