

PREPARATION OF THE 68TH SESSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

The completion of the work of the Executive Board on the 23rd March marked the close of a week of intense activity and movement at the Vidy headquarters. The committee room no longer being sufficient, other rooms in the Château were fitted up to enable members of the Co-ordinating and Supervising Commission for IOC/NOC Relations, as well as its five sub-committees, and members of the Finance Commission and the Winter Games Commission of Inquiry to continue their work in preparation for the International Olympic Committee's 68th Session to be held in Warsaw from the 6th June to the 10th.

At the end of this busy week, the President of the International Olympic Committee, Mr. Avery BRUNDAGE, held a press conference on the afternoon of the 24th March for representatives of the international press agencies and Lausanne reporters.

The President opened his talk by pointing out that :
“The powers allotted to the EXECUTIVE BOARD do not allow it to make decisions, these remaining the exclusive prerogative of the PLENARY SESSION of the International Olympic Committee. ”

Saving the Winter Games

“I would like to thank you for the articles published concerning the stopping of the Winter Games. They give us fresh energy to save the Games, which no one wants to see abolished. All that we ask is for our rules to be respected and applied.” These words put an end to the speculation and wildest rumours that had been spread and amplified in the press concerning a possible disappearance of the Winter Games. The report drawn up by the Commission of Inquiry into the Winter Games was presented in the presence of Jonkheer Herman A. VAN KARNEBEEK, President of this special commission. The nine members of the Executive Board approved this administrative text which, let us stress, does not deal with the question of amateurism, since this is the object of a wider

inquiry relating to all Olympic Sports submitted to the Eligibility Commission of the International Olympic Committee. The eleven general recommendations made in the report and published below (page 197 et seq) will form the basis for subsequent inquiries.

To the question: *Will the recommendations concerning the Winter Games be applied to the Summer Games either wholly or in part?* Mr. Avery BRUNDAGE replied in the affirmative since in these recommendations certain questions of principle applying equally to the Winter and Summer Games are resolved.

The reorganization of the Vidy Headquarters

In addition to Lord KILLANIN, Vice-President of the International Olympic Committee and President of the Press and Public Relations Committee, and Jonkheer Herman A. VAN KARNEBEEK, Mr. Avery BRUNDAGE was accompanied by Mrs. Monique BERLIOUX, the chief editor of our *Newsletter*, and Mr. Artur TAKAC. The previous day, a press communique had announced their new appointments as follows :

"The Executive Board of the International Olympic Committee at their meeting in Lausanne on the 22nd and 23rd March, 1969, has not made an appointment of a director to replace the Secretary General who has resigned.

Mrs. Monique BERLIOUX, Director for Press and Public Relations, will be in charge of the administration of the office.

Mr. Artur TAKAC has been appointed Technical Director, with effect from the 1st May, 1969."

Monique Berlioux

Nationality : French
Diplomas : Baccalaureat
Arts Degree (M.A.)
Languages spoken : French, English, Spanish
Career : Journalist, television producer
and director (1947-1961)
Head of Press Department
- at the Ministry of Youth and
Sports (1961-1966)
- at the I.O.C. since 1967
Sports career : Swimming champion and record-
holder (40 titles) of France,
England and Yugoslavia, semi-
finalist in the Olympic Games
in London (1948)
*Administrative
sports career* : Founder and president of the
Nautical Club of France (*Nautic
Club de France*), holder of the
Fearnley Cup (1963) awarded by the
International Olympic Committee
Publications : *La Natation (Swimming)*
Olympica
Mon séjour chez Mao Tsé Toung

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Artur Takac

Nationality : *Yugoslavian*
Education : Secondary and economic
Took part in the French and Yugos-
lavian national liberation movements
and terminated his studies as a his-
torian at the Military Academy
Last military rank held : Colonel
Languages spoken : French, English, German, Italian,
Hungarian, Russian, Czechoslovakian,
Spanish

SPORTS PRACTISED

Athletics : Best Yugoslavian junior in the 400, 800 and 1.500 metre events. At the age of 17 he took part in the 1936 Olympic Games

Soccer : When he was 17 he became a member of the first senior National League

Tennis : Yugoslavian junior doubles champion (1935)

Ice Hockey : Founder of the first ice hockey club in Varazdin, the following year (1938), his team finished second in the national championships

30 YEARS IN SPORTS ORGANIZATION

* End of 1943 - beginning of 1944 : Honorary instructor and track and field events organizer with the Yverdon Sports Union (Switzerland)

* Assistant to Dr. Francis Messerli, Director of the Olympic Institute in Lausanne.

* Honorary Secretary for 16 years, then vice-president of the Yugoslavian Athletics Union

1956 : Permanent honorary treasurer of the Balkan Athletic Games, of which he was one of the restorers

1958 : Member of the European Committee of the International Amateur Athletics Federation (I.A.A.F.) Honorary Secretary since 1962

1962 : General Secretary of the Organizing Committee of the VIIth European Athletics Championships

1966 : Technical delegate of the I.A.A.F. for the European Athletics Championships

1968 : Elected a member of the I.A.A.F. Council. Advisor and collaborator with the Organizing Committee of the Games of the XIXth Olympiad

