

Lake Placid 1980

On 4th February the Lake Placid Organising Committee for the 1980 Winter Games issued a press release from which we have taken the following information:

In order to clarify conflicting rumours circulating within international winter sports circles, the Lake Placid Olympic Organising Committee had a meeting in Dublin with Lord Killanin, President of the International Olympic Committee on 25th January. The Lake Placid Committee presented a detailed progress report on all aspects of plans for the 1980 Winter Games.

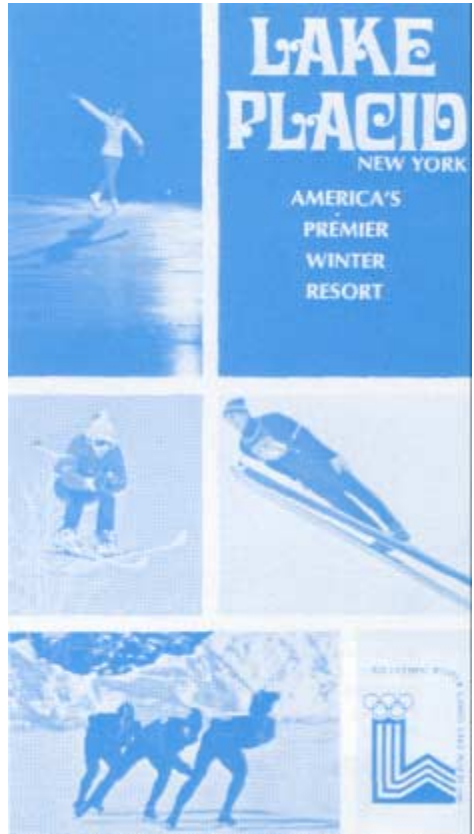
After the meeting, Lord Killanin said: *"I am not worried about the ability of Lake Placid to stage the 1980 Winter Games."*

The Lake Placid contingent, headed by Mr. Ronald M. MacKenzie, President of the Organising Committee, also discussed comments attributed to Mr. Gian-Franco Kasper, Director of the International Ski Federation (FIS).

Mr. Marc Hodler, the FIS President, was also at the meeting in Dublin, after which Lord Killanin stated: *"Marc Hodler assured me he was not worried about Lake Placid's capability of staging the Games."*

According to the Lake Placid construction schedule, work on the Alpine ski slopes is not due to commence until April of this year. The Alpine slopes at Whiteface Mountain have been approved by the FIS and very little construction is needed to comply with Olympic standards. *"Serious work on the ski slopes at Lake Placid is not due to start until April. The Organising Committee there is confident, and FIS is happy, and there is really no need for pessimism"* declared the IOC President.

Rev. Bernard Fell, Executive Director of the Organising Committee, reported: *"Our only obstacle has been environmental, and the major hurdle, the 90 meter ski jump at*



Intervale, has gained conceptual approval by the Adirondack Park Agency."

Lake Placid is scheduled to make a progress report to the IOC Executive Board at Abidjan in the Ivory Coast in March. *"We shall know more then,"* Lord Killanin said, *"but for the moment I am personally quite satisfied."*

- At a press conference on 1st March, Mr. Ronald MacKenzie announced the appointment of Mr. Charles E. Carlson, a Regional Director for the New York State Department, to the post of Executive Administrator for the 1980 Winter Games.