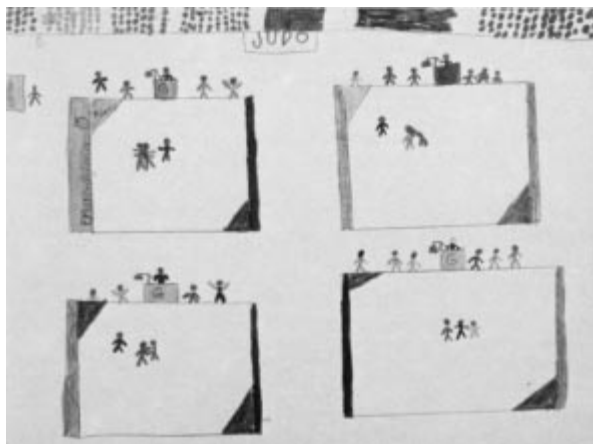


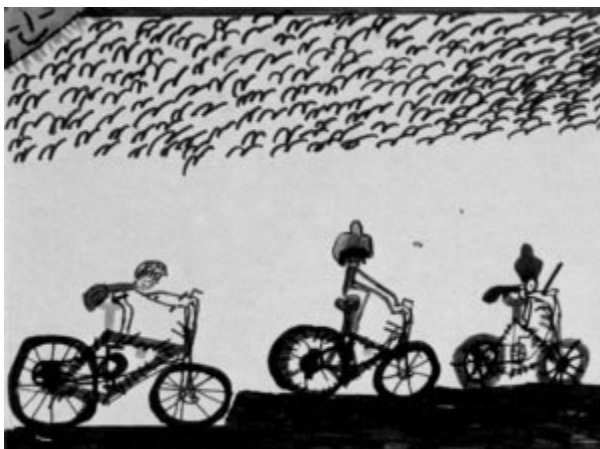
View from the School

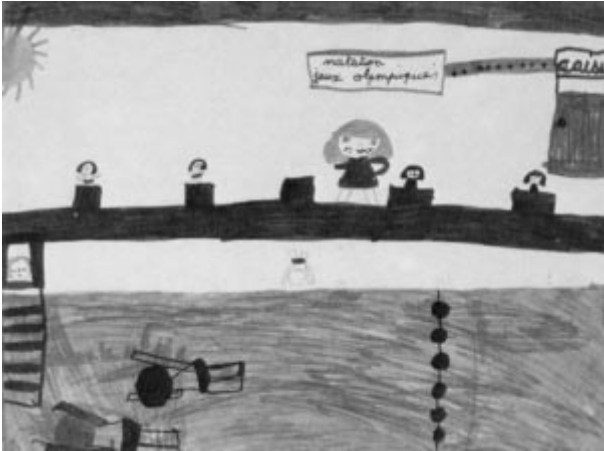
A number of schoolchildren aged 11 to 13, Pascale, Carine, Zohra, Frédéric, Marcel, Bashir and Rashida, all of whom attend Henri Wallon School in Perpignan, a city in southern France, sent the IOC their thoughts on Olympism with regard to current world developments. These developments, in their words, "disturb" them. Along with us, they hope that their example will be followed by many of their peers throughout the world,



Below, together with their drawings, are the six statements they submitted as well as the conclusions reached by the class.

1. The Olympic Games are the only form of competition between men of different nationalities involving friendship and not war.
2. Athletes taking part in the Olympic Games represent themselves and not their countries. The use of flags and national anthems should be discontinued in order that sport not be mixed with politics.
3. We are against war and believe that athletes are sportsmen rather than politicians. Americans, for example, do not have to obey Mr. Carter ; the decision must be made by you, the IOC.
4. Some of us play sports (Frederic cycles, Bashir plays football). Sport is not easy and we have in mind the athletes who have been preparing for so long with so many sacrifices. Cancelling the Games in Moscow would not be fair to them.





5. Therefore, even if certain countries do not take part, the Summer Olympic Games must take place. Perhaps they will change their minds at the last moment ?
6. If the Games in Moscow are cancelled, the Games in Los Angeles will probably be boycotted by the Russians. There may never again be any Olympic Games.

Here are the conclusions reached during the discussion in class. We know full well that we are only children and that you have problems that are difficult to solve. However, we felt that as we have an opinion to express, we could tell you about it.

We have all taken part in a class painting. Frédéric drew the equestrian event, Marcel the cycling race, Carine and Pascale the athletics competitions, Bashir did the football and Zohra the swimming.

These are the Summer Olympic Games. We hope that those to take place in Moscow will be even more beautiful than the ones we have painted.

