

Around the NOCs

Bulgaria



Declaration by the COB

Having examined at its general meeting the preparations of Bulgarian competitors for participation in the Games in Lake Placid and Moscow, the COB expressed its satisfaction with the consistent efforts deployed by the Organising Committees aimed at ensuring that the Games may take place in accordance with the provisions of the "Olympic Charter". It is with surprise and indignation that the members of the COB view the actions undertaken by the President of the United States on the eve of the XIIIth Winter Games, actions which can only create a negative atmosphere for the Games of the XXIInd Olympiad.

Over a period of six years, the champions of Olympism, with the President of the International Olympic Committee, Lord Killanin, at their head, have continuously expressed their approval of and satisfaction with preparations for the Games in Moscow, which have been carried out within the stated deadlines and in accordance with the Olympic Rules and moral traditions. The COB wishes to express its anger over the President of the United States; negligence with regard to the fundamental principles of Olympism and lack of respect towards the IOC in embarking on a campaign against the Games.

These actions, born of political considerations having no common ground with Olympic ideas or sport, are at variance with world public opinion among sportsmen. They are also at odds with the views of those who regard international sport as a powerful means of establishing an atmosphere of peace and co-operation throughout the world.

The COB fully understands these circumstances and shares the indignation of those athletes who, over a period of many years, have selflessly prepared themselves with a

view to taking part in this important sports event.

It is the COB's conviction that such a course of action is doomed to defeat, that the reason and spirit of Olympism will triumph and that athletes from all parts of the world will gather in Moscow, thus expressing their desire to live amid an atmosphere of peace, friendship and co-operation.

Bulgarian public opinion in the realm of sport wishes to extend its full support to the organisers of the Games of the XXIInd Olympiad and to their efforts directed at making these Games a triumph for Olympism, peace and progress.

Brazil



- *Major Sylvio de Magalhaes Padilha*. IOC member in Brazil, was brilliantly re-elected President of the COB for a new period of four years. Also elected for this period were Brigadier Jeronymo Baptista Bastos, Vice-President, General Ramiro Tavares Gonçalves, Secretary General, and General Anisio da Silva, Treasurer. Mr. Antonio dos Reis Carneiro and Admiral Paulo Martins Meira, both recipients of the Olympic Order, were elected life secretary and life treasurer respectively.

Chile



- *New Executive Board of the COC*

PT: Enrique Fontecilla Rojas ; *1st VPT:* Gustavo Benko Kapuvary ; *2nd VPT:* Jorge Espinoza Ulloa ; *SG :* Luis H. Villagra Reveco ; *T :* Victor Penso Lazznerini ; *Directors :* Hernan Berti Zentilli, Jose Betti Cotal ; *IOC M:* Alejandro Rivera Bascur.

People's Republic of China



- The editors of the magazine "China's Sports" (presented in the bibliography of

“Olympic Review”, No. 145) have advised us of a change in its title to “China Sports”. In addition, this publication will now appear monthly.

France



- *Under the presidency of Comte Jean de Beaumont, IOC member, the members of the Sports Academy selected their prize-winners for 1979. The Grand Prix, for the finest sporting feat accomplished in the world by an athlete, was awarded to Sebastian Coe (GBR), holder of the world records for the 800 m, the 1500 m and the mile. The Academy's prizes will be presented at a banquet at the Cercle Interallié, in Paris, on 4th June. Princess Anne of Great Britain will preside over the ceremony.*

- *Mr. Juan Antonio Samaranch, a member of the IOC Executive Board and Chief of Protocol, has been co-opted a foreign associate member of the Sports Academy.*

Hong Kong



- *The XXIIIrd Festival of Sport, an annual event begun in 1958 and held under the auspices of the NOC, took place as scheduled in early March. The full programme included not only the expected competitions in swimming, gymnastics, boxing and basketball, to name a few, but those particularly of national interest as with the Chinese martial arts and Chinese chess.*

Italy



- *“La Rivista di Diritto Sportiva” (The Review of Sports Law), published under the auspices of the CONI, has just celebrated its 30th anniversary. Our friend, Maitre Luc Silance (BEL), wishes to call attention to the pioneering role played in the field of sports law by this periodical.*

Lesotho

- *The LOC is embarking on a new year of Olympic activities with two new officers in the ranks : Dr. E. Mafi assumes the duties of president, while I. C. Khoafi will act as the NOC's secretary general.*

Liechtenstein



- *His Royal Highness Prince Franz Joseph II of Liechtenstein, IOC member, honoured the President and the Secretary General of the COL, Dr. Peter Ritter and Mr. Rudolph Schädler, by appointing them members of the Order of National Merit, the former receiving the Cross of Commander with star, the latter the Cross of Commander. Mr. Louis Oehry and Mr. Gebhard Hoch, both members of the COL, have asked us to pass on their congratulations to the recipients and to wish them great pleasure and creative strength in their work for national and international sport. We add our wishes to theirs.*

United States of America



World boxing and the international sport movement were plunged into grief on 14th March when a Polish airliner carrying 87 persons, among them 22 members of the United States boxing team and accompanying officials, crashed into an historic military fort near Warsaw leaving no survivors. The American team, which was on its way to the Polish capital in order to take part in a series of international matches, included most of the country's Olympic boxing contenders. Also among the victims was Tom “Sarge” Johnson, the American coach who led his charges to five Olympic gold medals in Montreal. The “Olympic Review” joins with all members of the international sports community in expressing its deepest sympathy to the family and friends of those who perished.