

IOC - OCOG - IFs: meet in Los Angeles

30th January - 7th February 1982



In the conference Hall...

Official delegates of the Los Angeles OCOG: Mr. Perelman and Miss Anita de Frantz (left) and Mr. Cruz (right) accompany Messrs. Ziffren, Ueberoth and Usher (in the center from left to right)

A series of meetings involving the Executive Board, the Los Angeles Olympic Organising Committee, the International Federations, the Press and Medical Commissions took place recently in Los Angeles.

Messrs. Paul Ziffren, Chairman, Peter Ueberoth, President, Harry Usher, Executive Vice-President, along with many other representatives of the Los Angeles OCOG wonderfully orchestrated the 8 busy days of meetings and visits of the facilities to be used for the next summer Games. Present for these meetings were all nine Executive Board members, delegates from each sport that will be on the programme for the 1984 summer Games, including for the first time those for tennis and table tennis which will appear as regular events for the Games in 1988, and representatives from the eight recognised International Federations. Also present were members of both the Press and Medical Commissions along with Mr. Pavle Lukac who gave a detailed report to the Press Commission on the preparations being made for the winter Games in Sarajevo. Several National Olympic Committee members came for the meetings, including Mr. Mario Vasquez Rana, President

of the ANOC, Sir Dennis Follows and Mr. Franco Carraro, Presidents respectively of the British and Italian Olympic Committees. A good number of international journalists also followed the meetings.

The most important subject under discussion at these sessions were the preparations for the Games to be held in Los Angeles the 28th July through 12th August 1984. Several visits to site installations were made and the general feeling arose that the facilities, except for some quirks to be worked out, were in progressive and excellent shape. The impressive Coliseum, first used at the 1932 Games, will be the site of the Opening and Closing Ceremonies and track and field events. Its clean architectural lines remain up-to-date and though reparations are in store before the summer of 1984, even at this time the Coliseum's beauty and function remain apparent. The two major Olympic villages at USC and UCLA are lovely garden campuses and though many details need to be clarified and refined, they too are impressive facilities. The convention center which will assume the main press centre is enormous and the general consensus is that it will be the most effective

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press centre in the history of the Olympic Games. The velodrome for the bicycling events was constructed in record-breaking time and should also prove to be a successful facility.

During the meetings several medals of the Olympic Order were awarded for distinguishing efforts and work towards the Olympic movement. Roone Arledge, President of "ABC Sports" and "ABC News", was presented a silver medal, as was Dr. Harold Henning, former President of the International Amateur Swimming Federation. Max Bangerter, Secretary General of the International Gymnastics Federation received a bronze medal.

Many important recommendations evolved from these meetings. The Press Commission has, as was done for Lake Placid and Moscow, nominated a sub-commission which will recommend all accreditation matters for 1984.

During the Medical Commission meetings, three significant points were fixed. A decision was made to add testosterone and caffeine to the IOC list of banned doping substances.



Members of the IOC Executive Board and journalists at the Velodrome.

Collaboration with the International Federations will be made in regards to creating recognised laboratories throughout the world, and organising doping control during training and in between competitions. The third decision made was that particular emphasis must be placed not only on the repression of medications and sanctions against athletes, but also on the education to prevent this form of abuse.

The international Federations met with the Executive Board and several recommendations of import came about during the discussions. The International Federations were generally satisfied with the facilities that they visited and studied. A few discrepancies were brought up in reference to the Olympic villages and will be further discussed at the IOC Session which will take place in Rome the 26th-29th May 1982. The IFs must make an attempt to reduce the number of international judges and referees coming to the Games in order to cut costs. An implementation of a new rule that would place an age limit for competitors at the Games will be further reviewed at the next meeting of the IFs and the Executive Board to take place in Lausanne the 14th and 15th April 1983. The IFs must create their own medical commissions if they have not already done so. The IFs will be represented, until October 1982, for the Commission of the Olympic movement by the following members : Messrs. Keller, Palmer, Ajan, Gneccchi-Ruscione, Kim, Nebiolo, Hodler and Sabetzki.

As mentioned above, the IOC Session will be held at the end of May in Rome. Along with many Commissions that will meet there, representatives of both the Los Angeles and Sarajevo Organising Committees will present more details at that time for the approval and recommendations of the Executive Board. Also in store, the traditional meeting of the Executive Board with the National Olympic Committees will be held in Los Angeles at the beginning of February 1983.

