

# HELLO FROM VIDY

The vogue word of the moment is communication. Our world is seized by an irrepresible desire and unquenchable thirst for contacts, dialogues, confessions declared or whispered.

Anguish in the face of increasing solitude in spite of all the artifices which our society offers; the laudable need to know, to learn ; a desperate quest for human warmth ; the reasons for this great outpouring are numerous. Must we apply to these the famous title "Gone with the wind ?"

Sometimes, certainly. But — and this is the point I wish to make — communication may be the key to success for those who make it into an effective tool in their role as

"deciders", those whom my Anglo-Saxon friends aptly call the "decision-makers".

If I feel I have to speak of them today, it is because I have, here in front of me, two striking examples of what can be real communication in the service of the Olympic cause.

I find the first of these examples in an analysis of the IOC President's programme for February 1990, the shortest month of the year.

After spending the end of January in Auckland, New Zealand, for the opening of the Commonwealth Games, then moving on to Melbourne for the finals of the tennis Open and to visit the sports and cultural

## NOTEBOOK

Mr Gisli Halldorsson, president of the NOC of Iceland, presenting Mr Gunnar Ericsson, IOC member in Sweden and on the IOC executive board, with the NOC's highest honour. It was awarded in recognition of Mr Ericsson's work in sport generally and particularly for what he has done for the Nordic countries.



## CALENDAR

1990 APRIL

<b>BELGRADE</b>	24th-26th	IOC Executive Board (I)
	27th	Executive Board with the ASOIF

JUNE

<b>BARCELONA</b>	4th	20th meeting of the ANOC board
	5th-7th	IOC Executive Board (II)
	6th-7th	ANOC General Assembly
	8th	Meeting of the IOC Executive Board with the NOCs
	23rd	Olympic Day

AUGUST

<b>MADAGASCAR</b>	24th-2nd Sept.	3rd Games of the Indian Ocean
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SEPTEMBER

<b>TOKYO</b>	14th-16th	IOC Executive Board (III)
	16th-19th	96th IOC Session

facilities of the city, President Samaranch began his journey on 9th February. On that day he was in Paris, to observe the preparations for the Olympic Congress in 1994. By 14th February he was in Amman, in Teheran on 16th, Bagdad on 17th, and Bahrain on 18th on a visit to four NOCs. On 19th he was in Kuwait for the meeting of the IOC "Apartheid and Olympism" Commission ; from 23rd to 25th in Dakar, in the company of the Unesco Director-General, Federico Mayor, and the IOC Director-General, François Carrard, to inaugurate the "J.A. Samaranch Olympafrica Centre". Then on 28th he was in Rome for a meeting around representatives of the ASOIF and ANOC.

And what about Vidy all this time ? Abandoned, sacrificed ? Far from it. During the month, at various times, the President spent around ten days here and met, amongst others, twenty or so foreign digni-

taries, Mrs Yvette Jaggi, the new mayor of Lausanne, and several IOC members.

Is this not the nec plus ultra of how work and personal commitment may be harnessed in the service of true communication and the constant leadership of Olympic operations ?

My second example derives from my recent visit to the Commonwealth Games. I take it from the existence across the world of a host of multi-sports Games, so valuable in strengthening contacts between officials and athletes of different countries. The list of these games, whether patronized by the IOC or not, speaks for itself, and that is why I deemed it opportune, in order to give full weight to my second example of communication, to feature the list of them in this issue of the *Olympic Review* (page 153).

The IOC devotes great attention to these games. It unreservedly approves the holding of them, seeing in them an ideal means of communication, on all levels of Olympic activity, provided — and this is an essential condition — that the sole objective of their organizers is to serve sport and not make use of them for financial or partisan ends foreign to the very essence of Olympism.

But the survival of some of these games risks being compromised through the overburdening of those who take financial responsibility for them. Indeed, the rations of manna doled out to them by television are often meagre, while the demands of athletes and officials are rising.

To maintain these privileged encounters, wherein the Olympic tapestry is woven, I can, in the short term, envisage only one solution : that all the participants, both athletes and officials, cease acting like spoiled children who expect to find everywhere the conditions achieved within the exceptional context of the Olympic Games themselves.

These spoiled children would not, within the Olympic family, have found favour with Pierre de Coubertin; his life bears witness to it. And it would be greatly in our own interest to bear this in mind. This, indeed, is the price of progress in communication.



**By Raymond Gafner**  
Editor-in-Chief

	20th	Commission for the Olympic Movement
<b>BEIJING</b>	22nd-7th Oct	11th Asian Games
<b>NOVEMBER</b>		
<b>MONTE CARLO</b>	24th	GAISF Congress
<b>DECEMBER</b>		
<b>LILLEHAMMER</b>	9th-11th	IOC Executive Board (IV)
	12th	Executive Board with the International Winter Sports Federations
1991	<b>APRIL</b>	
<b>LAUSANNE</b>		IOC Executive Board (I)
		Executive Board with the ASOIF
This calendar is provisional.		