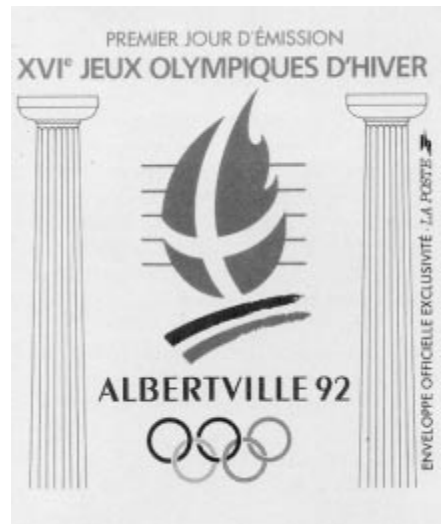


# PHILATELY: SENDING THE FLAME



The Post Office and France-Telecom are full partners of the OCOG, their contribution to the XIV Winter Games on the same huge scale as the event itself. Mr Paul Quilès, French Minister of Postal Services, Telecommunications and Space, made this point when on the occasion of the presentation of the exclusive contribution of the postal services to the running of the Games.

"These Games," said the minister, "are global events and crucial moments for communication : the immediacy of results, the simultaneous diffusion, the instant information, the precision and quality of the image... The whole of France for seventeen days will be a real shop window of technology." Besides this, the Post Office will be responsible for the organization of the Olympic Torch Relay between Olympia and Albertville, without, of course, forgetting the traditional functions of creating an Olympic philately programme for the greater pleasure of serious and amateur collectors.



## PHILATELY PROGRAMME LAUNCHED ON 8th FEBRUARY

The launch of this programme has just taken place in Albertville, on 8th February, two years day for day before the opening of the Games. The post office knows a thing or two about the importance of dates! A cancellation office for the special first day covers will be set up for the occasion.

Up until January 1992, there will be twelve stamps in a special series devoted to the Winter Games. The first, on the 'visual identity' of the Games and the last, which will bear the flame of the logo are the odd ones out, with each of the ten others illustrating an Olympic discipline. On the right of the stamp, a motif indicates the sport, in the centre is the name of the venue and on the left the image of the Albertville flame. These stamps are FF 2.50 in value (2.30 plus a 20 centimes surtax which will go to benefit the Red Cross.) The estimated print run is 15 million.

