

# GENERAL ASSEMBLY

9TH TO 15TH OCTOBER 1975

*44<sup>th</sup> session*



BUENOS AIRES

Photo no. 1:

Plaza de Mayo: Church of the Cabilda  
(colonial period) and clock tower.

Photo no. 2:

General view: the harbour. In background,  
the Rio de la Plata.

*PHOTOS ROGER-VIOLET - PARIS*



# OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY

The 44th session of the I.C.P.O.-Interpol General Assembly was held in Buenos Aires from 9th to 15th October 1975, at the invitation of the Argentine government.

The conference met at the San Martin Cultural Centre, a fine modern building in the city centre, housing Buenos Aires' main conference complex.

Addressing the high-ranking Argentine officials and the delegates attending the Assembly, Mr. Angel Federico ROBLEDO, Minister of the Interior of the Argentine Republic, welcomed the participants and made the following speech :

Mr. President, Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with great pleasure that, on behalf of the Argentine government, I welcome the delegates to this Interpol General Assembly and

convey to them my warmest greetings.

Argentina and the Argentine people have a very high opinion of the police as custodians of law and order which, we believe, is a necessary requisite for progress. We understand that the human personality cannot develop fully and a society cannot evolve and progress towards its major spiritual and material goals without a stable set of rules designed to safeguard individual rights and to condition everybody's activities within the higher framework of the law and respect for legality.

In modern society the task of the police, and of criminal investigation departments in particular, is precisely to ensure that the law is obeyed, that the legislation embodying peoples' rights is enforced, and that these ideals can be put into practice in everyday life. It is



Mr. Angel Federico ROBLEDO, Minister of the Interior of the Argentine Republic, making his inaugural speech

a noble task. But life in a dynamic society, in which technological progress makes the world smaller and brings people closer together, makes it essential that the fight against crime and crime prevention and punishment be carried out in close co-operation, which can disregard political frontiers to a certain extent. In our modern changing society, the concept of sovereignty is also changing. Although we may not wish to go as far as to set up supranational institutions, we can only achieve our common objectives, by maintaining close co-operation not only between nations but also between the different national organisations and agencies assigned specific duties of the highest importance. The police is one such institution and naturally it needs the co-operation of its counterparts in the rest of the world with all of which we maintain friendly relations. Hence the well-deserved importance and fame of the organisation known throughout the world as INTERPOL.

Co-operation, and the exchange of technical knowledge and information, undoubtedly help to protect people and society more efficiently; they also help to prevent crime more effectively, and to solve crime cases more easily, thus enabling national institutions to bring more offenders to justice.

Since I am addressing police delegates, I should like to take this opportunity to praise and pay tribute to the profession for its special importance in today's world. Police officers may be required to make every possible sacrifice, even that of their own life; no effort or fatigue is spared them; they are familiar with all the different sorts of setbacks, including discouragement. But they also earn the gratitude of honest people and, above all, they have the immense satisfaction of knowing that they have done their duty and that they are contributing to the prestige of their institution, whatever their rank.

I am proud that the 44th Interpol General Assembly is meeting in my country and in the city of Buenos Aires; I regard it as an

honour for our people and above all as an expression of confidence and trust in our ability to attain the great humanitarian ideals that we are all struggling for and, hoping to translate into reality by our daily efforts.

I am sure that the news and reports of this Interpol assembly will be highly beneficial for the whole of Argentine society. It is for this reason that I wish your Organisation every success in the hope that the discussions will give rise to an extensive exchange of information and to closer personal acquaintance with each other so that the ties of friendship will be strengthened with resulting benefits for our common cause. Above all, I wish Interpol true recognition of the self-sacrificing work it accomplishes, and every success in the attainment of its unselfish goals. Lastly, I hope that the delegates of the Argentine Federal Police, who are your hosts, will treat you with the kindness and hospitality which are characteristic of the Argentine people so that when you return home you will all feel that you have been visiting a sister country.

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In reply to Mr. Angel Federico ROBLEDO, Interpol President William L. HIGGITT, delivered the following address:

My first words, as President of this great International Criminal Police Organisation—Interpol, must be words of thanks to the government of Argentina for inviting us to hold our 44th General Assembly in this beautiful country and in this magnificent city of Buenos Aires.

Interpol is not a stranger in South America. We have the most pleasant memories of our General Assembly sessions in Caracas in 1964 and in Rio de Janeiro in 1965. However, this is the first time we have been privileged to meet in Buenos Aires. We are truly pleased to be here and our short stay with you will enable us to get to know this great continent better. We have

already been struck by the beauty of your capital city and by the warmth of the hospitality that has been spontaneously shown to us.

We are especially pleased that our session here will give us an opportunity to become better acquainted with one of the oldest State Police forces. The Argentine Federal Police has already distinguished itself by having given more than 150 years of dedication and service to the people of this country. Such a record speaks eloquently of the solidity of its founding principles and of a tradition of service that must be a source of pride for all its members and an object of envy for the many who have not yet equalled its record.

In addition to its many other law enforcement responsibilities, since 1947 the Argentine Federal Police has borne the responsibility of being the Interpol National Central Bureau in this country. From that time onward they have maintained an active and efficient National Central Bureau that has served as a model for other National Central Bureaus to copy and follow.

In addition, they have served Interpol and the police forces in neighbouring countries by accepting responsibility for operating a regional station on our worldwide Interpol telecommunications network. The usefulness and importance of this regional station has become increasingly evident with each passing year.

As if this was not enough, let me add that this same famous Police Force has extended its mission on behalf of Interpol, to include the offering of generous technical assistance, to the Police Forces of several other countries. This gesture has been very much appreciated.

On behalf of Interpol I want to acknowledge this record of service, efficiency and co-operation. We are deeply grateful for it and I thank the Government of Argentina and the Argentine Federal Police for their dedication to the cause of true international police co-operation.

If it is true that an organization must progress or regress then I am pleased to affirm that Interpol is continuing to grow and to flourish. Our membership representing 120 sovereign countries places us amongst the largest international organizations. I believe our record of accomplishments places us amongst the best as well. Later today we will be dealing with two more applications for membership, so you see we are progressing surely and steadily.

This growth is not automatic. Rather it is the inevitable result of our good works becoming known to others who are interested in true international co-operation in the meeting of law enforcement problems. It is the result too, of our dedication to the encouragement of the highest possible standards of law enforcement efficiency throughout the world, and especially within the boundaries of our own member countries. It is also the result of the willingness of our own members to give help and support to each other in the meeting of our special law enforcement problems. Every co-operative step we take draws us closer together, gives us a

better understanding of the problems of others and strengthens us as an International Organization. Because we are dedicated to the highest principles of law enforcement and to mutual help and co-operation I believe we are justified in continuing to face the future with confidence that Interpol will continue to grow and to flourish to the good of all — especially to the good of the citizens of the countries we each are pledged to serve.

Deplorable as it is, we must with realism face the fact that increasingly violent criminal behaviour is today widespread throughout the world, no country has a monopoly on it and none is immune; so it is that police and law enforcement agencies are being required to face the most serious and distressing situations. They are being regularly required to withstand serious criminal attacks and absorb unreasonable abuse. All of us regret this and look forward to better and more settled days. However, it is during times of testing such as this that Police Forces have the greatest opportunity for bringing credit upon themselves and or earning the

respect and gratitude of the citizens they serve. It is while under stress that the necessity for self discipline and exemplary conduct is the greatest. As a profession and as individual policemen or policewomen it is in times of greatest difficulty that we must be doubly careful not to allow ourselves to react unreasonably to provocation. We must not be led into a policy of countering violence with violence. We must, above all, remain calm under pressure and be guided by the highest ethics of our profession. We must live within the terms of the laws we are pledged to enforce. We must be firm but not officious; we must be resolute but not inflexible; we must be fair and not vindictive.

If we can meet these standards not only will we win the respect of our friends but we will earn the respect of our adversaries as well. Tensions will reduce and, hopefully, a degree of quietness will return to our streets and homes.

As always, our General Assembly faces a heavy agenda and we must bring our minds to bear upon serious law enforcement matters.



Mr. William L. HIGGITT, President of the I.C.P.O.-Interpol, at the opening ceremony

Among our considerations will be international policing problems as they relate to illicit drug trafficking — a tragically dangerous enterprise that we are pledged to curb or eradicate wherever this is possible; counterfeiting and its close ally, international fraud; and the recovery of stolen property taken illegally across national boundaries, so that it may be restored to its rightful owner.

These are just examples, there are many others. While we will be talking of the practical aspects of each, our real success will depend upon the distance we are able or willing to go towards furthering the genuine international co-operation that has been growing, as we have been growing over the past fifty-two years, as an International Criminal Police Organization.

This General Assembly, in these magnificent surroundings, presents us with another excellent opportunity for building still further upon our already sound foundations. One of our most important considerations will surround the possibility of the preparation and the signing of bilateral police co-operation agreements. It is our hope that by agreement between countries, it may be possible to eventually reduce some of the legal obstacles that now stand in the way of true international police co-operation. Obstacles which, amongst other things for example, result in an inordinate disparity between the freedom of movement of criminals and the restricted movement of law enforcement officers charged with the suppression of serious criminal behaviour. It is our hope too that some of the legal or judicial shackles that now tip the scales so far in favour of the criminal will be evened somewhat in the direction of efficient international police action.

We do not minimize the difficulties that face us in this matter because we recognise the delicacy of the almost sacred rights of sovereignty that are involved. Neither do we believe that our next few days of discussion will bring the adjustments to age-old traditions that we hope for in the future; but, working earnestly

together, perhaps we will be able to sow the first seeds of serious thought on this problem — seeds that may take root and grow to fruition in seasons yet to come, tended perhaps by our successors.

Thus our history might record Buenos Aires as the site of one of our most noteworthy General Assemblies; let us make certain that if this be so each one of us here today will be proud of what is written.

We must now turn to our tasks, knowing that what we do here today will affect those who will follow in a future we cannot see. I know that our work will be made less difficult by the wonderful facilities that have been placed at our disposal. I know too that the friendliness of our hosts will encourage us to do our best.

On behalf of Interpol I repeat my thanks to the authorities of

Argentina for inviting us to meet in Buenos Aires, this beautiful and world-famous South American city.

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President HIGGITT then thanked the guests at the opening ceremony and declared the 44th session of the I.C.P.O.-Interpol General Assembly open.

Before going ahead with proceedings, the President asked the Assembly to pay tribute to two Interpol personalities who had died recently: Sir Richard JACKSON, former Interpol president from 1960 to 1963, and Mr. Jean BENOIT, a member of the Executive Committee, whose obituary was published in the October issue of the Interpol Review.

Delegates stood and observed a minute's silence in their memory.



Centre:

Mr. Angel Federico ROBLEDO, Minister of the Interior of the Argentine Republic; on his right, Mr. PINTO, Head of the Argentine Federal Police.

## APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

Applications had been made by Somalia and the Kingdom of Swaziland and the Assembly was asked to vote on these applications.

The SWAZILAND delegate hoped that his country would benefit from the experience of Interpol members and said that his government promised to co-operate efficiently with them within the

Interpol framework for combating international crime.

The membership of Somalia which already maintained close relations with Ethiopia would be of great benefit to the latter and to the international community as a whole.

A secret ballot was held and both countries' applications were accepted. The voting was as follows:

— SOMALIA: 80 votes in favour, one against and three abstentions.

— SWAZILAND: 83 votes in favour and one abstention.

The President declared that those countries were now members of the Organization and asked their delegations to take their seats in the Assembly.



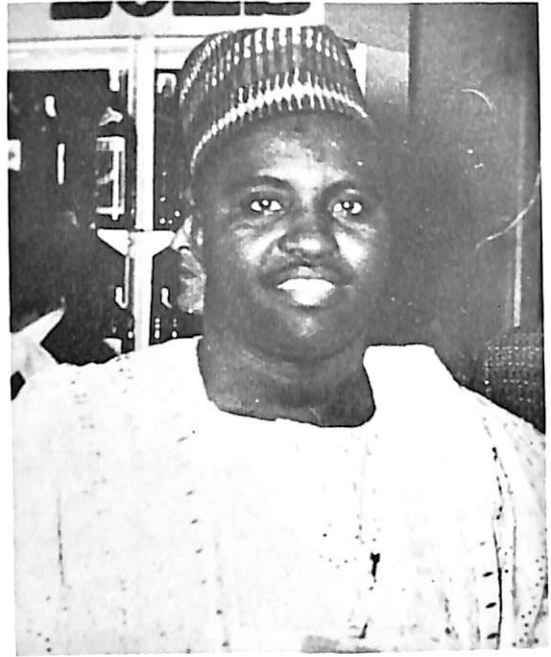
Mr. Julien DE GRUYSE (Belgium)  
newly elected Vice-President of the I.C.P.O.-INTERPOL



Mr. Tahar BERREDJEB (Tunisia)  
newly elected Vice-President of the I.C.P.O.-INTERPOL



Mr. Carl G. PERSSON (Sweden),  
newly elected to the Executive Committee



Mr. Idrissa BOUBE (Niger),  
newly elected to the Executive Committee



Mr. Horacio Alberto ROJAS (Argentina),  
newly elected to the Executive Committee



Mr. Werner HEINL (Federal Germany),  
newly elected to the Executive Committee



# PROGRESS REPORT

- Relations with countries
- International criminal cases
- Dangerous drugs
- Studies and seminars
- International Criminal Police Review
- External Relations
- Facilities
- Technical co-operation

The Secretary General read out a report describing the main activities of the Organization and the General Secretariat for the period from September 1974 to October 1975. The main points are summarized below.

## ● Relations with countries

The Assembly's decision brought the number of Interpol-affiliated countries to 122.

An Interpol Caribbean Conference was held in Kingston (Jamaica) in March 1975 with representatives from 17 countries and a large number of territories. The Third Asian Regional Conference was held in Manila (Philippines) in April 1975 and the 5th American Regional Conference was held in Buenos Aires in October 1975.

## ● International criminal cases

The fight against international crime is the Organisation's *raison d'être* and the permanent concern of the National Central Bureaus and the General Secretariat.

By 1st August 1975, 38 National Central Bureaus had supplied statistics on their activities during 1974. These were:

— Arrests at the request of other countries . . . .	965
— Arrests obtained through foreign NCBs	933
— Items of information sent to other NCBs ..	143,961
— Items of information received from other NCBs .....	108,332

The General Secretariat's activities can be summed up as follows: it dealt with a total of 24,398 cases (violence against persons: 314; theft: 2,479; offences involving motor vehicles: 426; fraud: 2,357; counterfeits and forgeries: 4,643; drugs: 12,894; exploitation of prostitution and morals offences: 578; searches for missing persons: 348; unlawful interference with civil aviation: 36; miscellaneous:

323). 426 international notices were issued about persons and 130 notices were issued about valuable stolen property; 630 individuals were arrested in connection with cases being examined at the General Secretariat; 191 persons were identified by the General Secretariat and 10,071 items of information were supplied to NCBs.

Circulation figures for the Review "Counterfeits and Forgeries" continued to rise: at 1st January 1975, there were 8,000 subscribers, not including the 3,259 subscribers to the German regional edition. Between 1st June 1974 and 1st June 1975, 118 new types of counterfeits, 209 new genuine notes and coins and 6 genuine travellers cheques were described in the Review. The specialists at the General Secretariat analysed 214 suspect bank notes and drew up cards with the specifications of 148 genuine notes for comparison purposes. A report on currency counterfeiting during 1974 was compiled.

## ● Dangerous drugs

The Drugs Sub-Division, which had been set up in June 1974, organised its structure and working methods during the course of the year. The ultimate aim is to make this Sub-Division a real international intelligence centre on illicit drug traffic.

Five liaison officers from European countries were assigned to the Sub-Division. They each carried out one general mission, visiting the National Central Bureaus in their zones, and several specific missions in connection with particular cases.

A liaison officer was appointed for South America and he carried out two missions in his zone. A South East Asian liaison officer was also appointed and it was decided that after a training period at the General Secretariat he would be based in his zone as from 1st January 1976. The number of cases handled by the General Secretariat between 1st June 1974 and 1st June 1975 (12,894) was slightly

higher than the figure for the preceding year (11,884). Twelve recapitulative tables giving full identity particulars of 2,930 persons were issued (1st June 1974 to 1st June 1975). Individual notices were published about 52 international traffickers during the same period.

A report on the general situation with regard to illicit drug traffic in 1974 was prepared for the General Assembly.

The "Operation Narcontrol" plan for co-ordinated checking at borders was again implemented this year in Europe, in a more flexible form which took into account the suggestions made by the countries concerned; stress was laid on co-operation between the police and customs services.

The drugs teaching programme was published in three languages. The new editions of the Guide for Drug Law Enforcement Officers and the booklet on chemicals and equipment used in clandestine drug laboratories were completed. A brochure is being prepared on various types of equipment of use during drug investigations.

The Organization was represented at many international conferen-

ces on drugs, and, as part of its co-operation with the United Nations, arranged visits to the General Secretariat for U.N. trainees attending two courses at the centre in Geneva.

Finally, experts from the General Secretariat attended various meetings of the Customs Co-operation Council and a number of special drugs symposia.

#### • Studies and seminars

Several symposia were held at the General Secretariat. Subjects included international fraud (September 1974), hostage-taking (February 1975), and forensic science (September 1975). A conference was held on police problems connected with international road traffic in European countries.

Reports were written on a number of subjects including: the recovery of motor vehicles stolen or misappropriated in one country and sold abroad to a third party acting in good faith; recent aspects of traffic in women; recruitment and training of police officers for juvenile delinquency work; trends in juvenile delinquency; use of

aircraft by the police; bilateral police agreements.

Work also began on other reports for the next General Assembly session (traffic in wild animals; arson and insurance frauds) or was completed: crime trends in European countries for the Council of Europe; the role of the police in terms of their prevention and social activities for the United Nations Congress.

#### • International Criminal Police Review

Editing the International Criminal Police Review is one of the General Secretariat's standard tasks and by no means the easiest.

The Review has been published without interruption since September 1946 and the 290th issue appeared in September 1975. The Spanish edition of the Review continued to appear later than the French edition but it was difficult to avoid the delay. On the other hand, the English edition appeared much more promptly.

We have a good stock of articles on forensic science subjects but



more articles on cases illustrating crime investigation techniques and on new working methods or equipment tested by our readers' services would be welcome. Everyone is interested in new developments and in the experiences of others and it is hoped that the International Criminal Police Review will be able to play a fuller role as a forum for exchanging professional information.

To provide the "News and Notes" section with regular material, the National Central Bureaus should send the I.C.P.R. copies of any documents they release to the press in their countries.

### ● External relations

The General Secretariat maintained its traditional links with the United Nations, with other inter-governmental organization (I.C.A.O., I.T.U., Council of Europe, Arab League) and with non-governmental organizations (I.A.T.A., International Association of Penal Law, International Society of Criminology, International Society of Social Defence). Within the framework of our relations with the Arab League, the Secretary General attended the Third Conference of Arab Police Chiefs, (Tripoli, May 1975).

Between 1st June 1974 and 1st June 1975, the General Secretariat was visited by 331 individuals from 52 countries and 6 groups (comprising 232 persons in all) from 15 countries. In addition, 122 journalists from the press, radio and television services in 15 countries reported on Interpol and its activities.

### ● Facilities

#### Telecommunications

During the course of 1974, the international police radio network carried a total of 219,090 messages, including 751 general broadcasts and 2,609 zone broadcasts.

— In Africa, the stations in Abidjan (Ivory Coast) and Lagos (Nigeria) are now operational. The stations in Addis Ababa (Ethiopia) and Dar-es-Salaam (Tanzania) have been linked up to the regional station in Nairobi (Kenya). Other tests are continuing.

— The South American regional station is in Buenos Aires; a new transmitting station is to be opened and the Argentine authorities are playing an important role in this field.

Venezuela is planning to extend its broadcasting facil-

ities; Peru has given Ecuador a transmitter and Colombia is preparing to join the network.

— In Asia, the South-East Asian network is based on the regional station in Tokyo; the Bangkok station is now operational and others are soon to become so, in particular the station in New Dehli.

— In Europe, the station in Athens has just started tests.

#### Modernisation of the Network

The stations at the General Secretariat, in Brussels, London, Rome, Stockholm, Wiesbaden and Zurich now have radio teletype equipment for broadcasting and receiving. Others, such as Belgrade, Bucharest, Utrecht, Luxembourg, Madrid and Vienna, are able to receive but not broadcast on the radio teletype.

### ● Technical co-operation

Since the last General Assembly session, 15 grants have been awarded to different police officers to enable them to attend training courses.

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The General Assembly was asked to vote on the progress report and adopted it unanimously.

## FINANCE

The report on the 1974 financial year was adopted by the General Assembly after the auditors had submitted their statement.

It seemed that the 1975 budget was being implemented along the lines anticipated and that expenditure would not exceed the sums approved by the General Assembly unless unexpected circumstances arose.

The operation involving the transfer, construction, installation and modernisation of the telecommunications centre had been completed with a balance remaining of 31,000 Swiss francs which were paid back into the ordinary budget.

The draft budget for 1976 had been drawn up along the lines of the budget for 1975, taking into consideration how the Organization's activities were likely to progress and how the economic situation would probably evolve.

The increase in the General Secretariat's activities, if it was to continue as expected, would necessitate a change in the value of the budget unit in 1977 and that problem would have to be dealt with by the General Assembly at its 1976 session.

The draft budget submitted to delegates by the Secretary General was approved by the General Assembly.

## DRUGS

- Evolution of illicit traffic
- Cases of international co-operation
- Statistical tables

After noting the report compiled as usual by the General Secretariat, the Assembly decided to set up a committee and Mr. John CUSACK (United States) was appointed Chairman.

The report was based on information sent to the General Secretariat in various forms: reports of investigations and seizures, annual national reports, United Nations documents, etc. It is summarised below.

### ● Evolution of illicit traffic

The illicit traffic situation has not altered to any great extent since the previous report: international co-operation continued to improve and the staff in the specialist drugs service at the General Secretariat are now able to analyse the intelligence reported to them more fully. Countries are urged to indicate, where possible, after laboratory analysis, the exact nature of all drugs seized and their potency.

#### OPIUM AND ITS DERIVATES

Opium seizures have decreased since 1973 because traffickers are

considerably reducing the quantities in their consignments and because the centres for converting opium to morphine and heroin have been moved nearer the production areas, in particular, the "Golden Triangle" area.

The Turkish Government decided to re-authorise cultivation of the opium poppy in 1974, but farmers will no longer be allowed to incise the poppy heads to extract the opium latex and it is hoped that this measure will prevent illicit traffic. All member countries are urged to send the General Secretariat and the Turkish National Central Bureau reports on any cases of traffic in opium or its derivatives that appear to originate in Turkey.

Morphine seizures are also down on previous years because of law enforcement successes: some laboratories were discovered and some traffickers were arrested, slowing down illicit traffic considerably; the morphine was mainly transported by air, but also by merchant seamen. However, traffic to Europe continued to increase through the main distribution centre in Amsterdam and it is beginning to interest suppliers of the North-American market.



## COCAINE

Illicit traffic in the coca leaf remained essentially local but cocaine tended to be a substitute drug for heroin on the U.S. market.

Traffic towards Europe (Italy, Spain and the United Kingdom) continued and seemed to be becoming more highly organised, probably on account of the fact that certain European criminals had sought refuge in some South American countries.

## CANNABIS

As in previous years cannabis in all its forms continued to be the drug most popular with traffickers and quantities seized were up on 1973.

There was little change in the trafficking routes and most of the traffic was still conducted by travelling students carrying small consignments. The Middle East, and in particular Lebanon, supplied Eastern Europe and North Africa, whilst Western Europe received most of its supplies from Morocco.

North America received most of its supplies from South and Central America, mostly overland and by sea. Supplementary supplies came from Morocco, Lebanon, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Nepal.

With regard to liquid hashish, analyses have shown that it is very difficult for purchasers to check the quality of substances they are buying since the T.H.C. content varies considerably.

## HALLUCINOGENS

There was a renewed interest in LSD: the increase in the quantities seized was considerable, especially in Federal Germany and the United Kingdom.

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The General Secretariat attaches great importance to the accuracy of drug reports received, not only as

regards the drugs themselves (details of which should be obtained by means of laboratory analyses, where possible) but also when they concern traffickers and seizures; in the latter case, every effort should be made to establish the source of the drug, the route used by the traffickers, and its intended destination.

### ● Cases of international co-operation

The General Secretariat's report described several cases which were solved successfully through international co-operation. We have selected the following two.

At the end of 1973, the Interpol NCB in Beirut informed the Interpol NCB in Ottawa that a large amount of cannabis had left Lebanon for Canada aboard a Russian ship the "Donetzki Kimick". On arrival in Montreal, the boat was put under surveillance and 224 kgs. of cannabis in false-bottomed wooden cases were discovered.

On 24th May 1974, two suspect suitcases were searched at Fiumicino Airport (Italy) and found to contain 50 kgs. of hashish. The suitcases were being shipped to Denmark. The Italian authorities decided to replace the drugs with other substances and, after advising the Interpol NCB in Copenhagen, to send the suitcases to their destination in order to identify the recipient(s). As a result, several traffickers were arrested.

### ● Statistical tables

The General Secretariat's report was completed by statistical tables on drug traffic, broken down by drug and by geographical region; the tables were drawn up on the basis of reports of seizures received by the General Secretariat during 1974.

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In committee, Delegates discussed a proposal put forward by the Venezuelan delegate who wanted the

General Secretariat to estimate the monetary value of the drugs seized.

It was pointed out that the problem was a difficult one since drugs were not ordinary merchandise and certain factors such as the origin and price fluctuations had to be taken into account. The aim was to recommend to all countries a system whereby each stage of the drug traffic (cultivation, manufacture, transport, consumption) could be pinpointed and evaluated.

With regard to opium, Turkey, as everyone knew, had decided, after an interval of two years, to re-authorise cultivation of the opium poppy, under strict control by the authorities who would forbid incision of the poppy heads to extract the opium latex. The location of the cultivation areas in central Turkey would also make smuggling more difficult. The control measures had been approved by the United Nations whose technical assistance programme had given excellent results, particularly with regard to control of cultivation.

In the "Golden Triangle" area of Thailand, there was a United Nations project to persuade local tribes to cultivate other crops instead of the opium poppy\*. It was a long-term project and those countries which had been willing to finance the project should be prepared to continue their financial assistance for a long period or find other countries willing to replace them.

Law enforcement might provide a partial solution to the problems of that area, but never a complete one.

To obtain a lasting solution, fundamental social and economic changes would have to be introduced in the Golden Triangle region.

Consumer countries should make every effort to reduce illicit demand; if action against drug abuse was not stepped up, the

\* The Interpol Secretary General published an article on the subject in the November 1975 issue of the International Criminal Police Review.

prices of drugs would rise and plans to introduce substitute crops might fail.\*

The United Nations Observer felt that the programme of activities might include a specific study of the part played by the police in campaigning to prevent drug abuse.

Some countries, such as Argentina for example, attached great importance to prevention; the Argentine federal police had set up a special division responsible for the prevention of drug abuse; its tasks were to inform the public, educate and train specialised staff, and provide assistance.

**Articles on the subject written by police officers could usefully be published from time to time in the International Criminal Police Review.**

Discussion of the General Secre-

\* The Thai authorities would welcome any delegates interested in visiting the Golden Triangle region.

tariat report also revealed the value of international co-operation in combating illicit drug traffic. Bilateral and multilateral agreements, a comparative study of different legislations, and tougher penalties for traffickers would all help to curb drug traffic.

It was also very important for information to be exchanged rapidly between the NCBs, on account of the increase in drug traffic in many countries.

Stress was laid on co-operation between the police and customs services, which had led to a number of spectacular drug seizures.

Several countries had made efforts to treat and cure drug addicts.

The public needed to be informed and educated but prevention campaigns had to be handled carefully to make sure that they did not produce the opposite effect to the one intended. The Libyan

delegate thought that there should be a World Drugs Day, as recommended in the resolution adopted by the Conference of Arab Countries in Riyadh in 1974.

A serious increase in cannabis traffic had been noted. Cannabis could no longer be considered an "amateur's" drug; it was now in the hands of professionals. Distribution was organised on an industrial scale and the use of liquid hashish was fraught with serious dangers, especially for young people. Claims that marihuana was not dangerous had contributed to a substantial increase in consumption in certain countries, in so-called "intellectual" circles in particular.

Transit countries not directly affected by the problems of drug production and abuse should demonstrate their solidarity by combating illicit drug traffic resolutely.

The International Narcotics Control Board was pleased to see the prominence given to the problem





of drug abuse by young people and welcomed the measures included in the 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs regarding the limitation of drug cultivation, production, manufacture and sales to medical and scientific uses. The Amendment to the Single Conven-

tion had now come into force thus widening the Board's scope of activities.

The effectiveness of international co-operation was stressed by many delegates who thought that the discussions had clearly brought

out the main aspects of the problem.

The Drugs Committee drafted a resolution which was adopted by the General Assembly in the following version:

## RESOLUTION

### Illicit drug trafficking

**CONCERNED** with the seriousness of the worldwide problem posed by the illicit traffic and abuse of narcotic and psychotropic substances;

**RECOGNISING** that in certain areas of the world there exists an uncontrolled production of opium, coca leaf and cannabis which gives rise to a worldwide illicit use and traffic problem in these substances and their derivatives;

**RECOGNISING** that the illicit demand for narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances tends to stimulate and increase this uncontrolled production and illicit manufacture as well as the international illicit traffic in these substances;

The I.C.P.O.-INTERPOL General As-

sembly, meeting in Buenos Aires from 9th to 15th October 1975 at its 44th session:

**RECOMMENDS** that the United Nations and other competent international bodies further develop their long-term socio-economic programmes to assist governments to gradually eliminate the uncontrolled production of opium, coca leaf and cannabis;

**RECOMMENDS** further that all governments simultaneously increase their efforts and co-operation with each other in suppressing the illicit manufacture and traffic of all narcotic and psychotropic substances;

**RECALLS**, in this connection, the resolutions previously adopted by the

General Assembly recommending vigorous repression of the illicit manufacture and traffic in narcotic and psychotropic drugs;

**RECOMMENDS** that, as a means to reduce demand, governments intensify their programmes for illicit drugs and psychotropic substances use prevention and, where these problems arise, provide programmes for the treatment, rehabilitation and re-education of drugs abusers, if they have not already done so;

**RECOMMENDS** further that competent international organisations further develop their technical assistance and advisory programmes for drug use prevention and the treatment, rehabilitation and re-education of users of drugs and psychotropic substances.

# INTERNATIONAL CURRENCY COUNTERFEITING

- Paper currency
- Metal currency (including gold coins)
- Other counterfeit means of payment
- Miscellaneous counterfeits

The General Secretariat's report was based on information received during 1974; the main features of the report are summarised below.

## • Paper currency

The number of countries whose currencies were counterfeited increased slightly: 26 in 1972, 28 in 1973 and 30 in 1974. The U.S. dollar was still the most counterfeited currency: counterfeit dollars were discovered in 54 countries; the total face value of counterfeit U.S. dollars seized showed a steep 49.1% rise over 1973.

366 new types of counterfeit U.S. notes were identified, an increase of 9%. 36 new counterfeit types of 20 other national currencies were discovered, compared with 51 types of 22 currencies in 1973.

Counterfeit West-African (CFA francs) as well as German, Austrian, British, Canadian, Spanish, French, Italian, Dutch, Norwegian, Portuguese, Swedish, Swiss, Saudi Arabian, Venezuelan and Yugoslav notes were seized in Western Europe.

Counterfeit West African, British, French, Italian and Nigerian notes were seized in Africa.

Counterfeit Venezuelan notes were discovered in South America.

Counterfeit Indian, Indonesian, Iraqi, Jordanian, Khmer Republic, Lebanese and Thai notes were seized in Asia.

In 1974 no seizures of Belgian, Greek, Guatemalan, Macau, Nepalese, or Peruvian currencies were reported, although seizures of counterfeits of these countries' currencies had occurred in 1973.

The total face value of seized counterfeit Federal German, Spanish, Jordanian, Khmer Republic and Swiss currencies was lower in 1974 than in 1973.

However, the face value of seized counterfeit West African, French, Indian, Indonesian, Italian, Dutch, Thai, Turkish, Venezuelan and Yugoslav currencies was higher than it had been in 1973.

The currencies of Austria, Saudi Arabia, Ethiopia, Iraq, Lebanon, Norway, Portugal, Qatar, Sweden and Syria, none of which had been reported counterfeited in 1973, were counterfeited in 1974.

The General Secretariat's report quoted a few cases solved through international co-operation.

In May 1974, the police seized 6,596 counterfeit Yugoslav 500-dinar notes in Dusseldorf and arrested several persons including the printer who stated during questioning that in 1972 he had made counterfeit driving licences, salary tax deduction cards and more than 1500 admission tickets for the World Cup Football Match between Spain and Yugoslavia which took place in Frankfurt on 13th February 1974.

In June/July 1974 a case was investigated and found to involve traffic between Italy and Federal Germany in 450 counterfeit Italian 5000-lire notes and 148 counterfeit 10,000-lire notes. Six Italians and a German were arrested in Franenlag and in Pforzheim. The counterfeits had been made in Italy and put into circulation in Germany.

In November 1973, a Syrian national, on his way from Yugoslavia, was arrested at the border check-point at Rosenbach (Austria) where he was found to be in possession of 2,690 grams of cannabis, 196 counterfeit French 20-franc gold coins, and 192 counterfeit Turkish 1-pound gold coins.

The drug and the counterfeit coins were discovered in the false bottoms of three antique gramophones that had been given to the Syrian when he was in Syria; he had been told to deliver them to someone in the Netherlands, in exchange for 1000 German marks.

Investigations revealed that this person had travelled from Syria to Austria via Turkey, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia. He was sentenced to 9 months' imprisonment and ordered to pay a fine of 80,000 Austrian schillings for violating the drug laws.

Counterfeit currency trafficking between the U.S.A. and Europe involved notes with a total face



value of from 20 to 30 million dollars. In February 1974, three U.S. nationals of Italian origin were identified and arrested for currency counterfeiting in Chicago. The counterfeits were made in the U.S.A., but it was established that there were accomplices in Italy.

In April 1974 in Beirut, Lebanon, customs officers conducting a search discovered 3882 counterfeit Saudi Arabian 100-rial notes in a Lebanese national's car. When questioned about the origin of the counterfeits, the man stated that he had obtained them from the person who had printed them — a German. The German and his accomplices — a Frenchman with a Bolivian passport, a Lebanese national, and a Palestinian national — were subsequently arrested in Federal Germany.

In April 1974, the director of a company in Lagos asked a printing company in Zurich, Switzerland, to print some Nigerian 1-naira notes for him. He enclosed a specimen of the note to be reproduced and asked for the matter to be handled with maximum discretion; he was arrested in Nigeria in July 1974.

Early in September 1974, an operation involving the smuggling

of counterfeit Portuguese 1000-escudo notes from Canada to Lisbon was uncovered. The counterfeits were discovered hidden inside decorative plastic imitation wood wall plaques being shipped by air freight. The smugglers — Portuguese and Canadian nationals — were arrested.

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There was no significant change in the techniques used by counterfeiters: the offset method was still the most commonly used printing process.

- **Metal currency**  
(including gold coins)

Counterfeit metal coins of 21 countries were discovered in 10 countries.

Gold coins (especially U.S., Austrian, British, French and Dutch) again made up the largest part of the reported seizures, but seizures of several other coins in general circulation also occurred.

In November 1974, during an investigation conducted subsequent

to the discovery in Finland of numerous counterfeit Finnish 500-markkaa coins (commemorating the 1952 Olympic Games held in Helsinki), the Finnish police learned that the coins had been manufactured in Beirut. The counterfeiter was found to be a Lebanese national who manufactured medals, and the dies for the counterfeits had been made by a Lebanese jeweller. During a search of the workshop, several Finnish coins were seized and some counterfeit Canadian coins (also commemorating the Olympic Games) and the dies used to mint them were also discovered.

99 genuine new coins put into circulation were described in the review Counterfeits and Forgeries.

- **Other counterfeit means of payment**

  - Counterfeit cheques**

Contrary to previous years the number of cases involving counterfeit cheques did not increase; most of the counterfeits (about 100 cases in all) were imitations of cheques issued by major international banks.





Since September 1974, counterfeits of an Australian bank's 20- and 50-pound travellers cheques have been uttered in many countries in Europe and the Far East. The counterfeits are very deceptive and the losses incurred are very heavy. Several persons of various nationalities have been arrested, and many others are implicated in the case.

Plates were seized in Italy.

#### ● Miscellaneous counterfeits

In February and March 1974 a number of forged payment orders, drawn against a major Italian bank and payable on behalf of a large Italian company, were cashed in various countries in Europe and in the United States, Japan and Argentina. The payment order forms themselves were genuine, and they were mailed in envelopes bearing the seal of the bank in question, but the authorised signatures on them were forgeries. The loss incurred amounted to several million lire. Several attempts to negotiate such orders were made in Germany, but none were successful.

In 1974, a large number of counterfeit letters of credit (about 80) drawn against a North American bank were negotiated in Germany, Belgium, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Hong Kong, Brazil, the United Kingdom, Australia, Singapore, Spain, Thailand and Denmark. The persons submitting the letters of credit for payment all used stolen or forged passports. Substantial losses were incurred. Some of the offenders were habitual international criminals already on record at the General Secretariat.

In April 1974, the Lebanese authorities seized a large supply of counterfeit Lebanese and Syrian fiscal stamps. About fifteen persons, most of them Lebanese nationals, were arrested. The stamps had been made by an employee at a printshop in Beirut. The face value of the Lebanese stamps exceeded 3 million Lebanese pounds and the face value of the Syrian stamps was over a million and a half Syrian pounds.

Seizures of forged driving licences, especially Yugoslav and Portuguese ones, were rather numerous but of limited importance.

Other counterfeits were discover-

ed: bills of exchange, airline tickets, diplomas.

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After taking note of the report, the Assembly decided to set up a committee and Mr. DE GRUYSE (Belgium) was elected Chairman.

The delegates described the situations in their respective countries; co-operation between NCBs with regard to currency counterfeiting cases was deemed satisfactory.

In Belgium, the National Bank of Belgium and the Belgian police were urging stricter controls regarding certain photocopying machines. Various national banks had been alerted with a view to taking joint action; Interpol ought to take this technological innovation into account, for the public could easily be deceived.

In France, extremely deceptive publicity-type notes had been circulated among the public: the French delegation had prepared a report on the subject which was available to NCBs; the manufacture of publicity-type notes had been banned in May 1975 and the offenders had been imprisoned.

Several important cases had been solved by the French police who had noted that some criminals specialised in the forgery of travellers cheques, credit cards, etc., because of the substantial profits to be made.

In the United States, currency counterfeiting had increased by 65 % in 1974, whereas it had dropped by 23 % in the rest of the world. All interested NCBs could obtain documentation on the counterfeiting of U.S. currency from the U.S. NCB.

In Argentina, most counterfeits were produced by the offset process but, more recently, counterfeit 500-peso notes had appeared: they had been produced by a combination of the rotograph system and offset, and the techni-

cal quality obtained was sufficient to deceive the public. The counterfeiters had overcome the difficulty of reproducing the backs by adding, in the areas corresponding to the counters, a few drops of plastic which, once dry, gave the same tactile sensation as genuine notes.

In Canada, the situation with regard to currency counterfeiting was serious; since the Olympic Games would be held in Canada in 1976, it was possible that attempts would be made to forge the Olympic medals which had a fairly high silver content, their nominal value being about 5 to 10 dollars. Thanks to the co-operation of the Libyan police, one counterfeiter of such medals had already been arrested.

Close co-operation between all

the special services combating currency counterfeiting was more and more necessary. The institutions printing paper currency should take more care over the choice of paper and design, and the use of visible or invisible metal threads.

Delegates felt that a meeting of currency counterfeiting experts and representatives of issuing banks should be held in the near future. Such conferences were advocated in the 1929 Convention; the last had been held in Mexico City in 1969. The General Secretariat would try to organise such a meeting.

At the end of the discussions, the following resolution was adopted by the General Assembly.

## RESOLUTION

**HAVING NOTED** the manufacturing and marketing of colour photocopying machines that make it possible to obtain very exact copies of documents;

**CONSIDERING** the possibility of fraudulent use of such machines to reproduce paper currency, cheques and other securities;

**AWARE** of the fact that the above problem can only be solved by the adoption of security measures based on technical studies and by contacts between the responsible authorities and the manufacturers of such machines;

The I.C.P.O.-INTERPOL General Assembly, meeting in Buenos Aires from 9th to 15th October 1975 at its 44th session:

**CALLS** attention to the problem arising in the prevention of counterfeiting from the existence of photocopying machines that produce exact colour copies of documents;

**REQUESTS** the Secretary General to continue the study of this question and take all possible steps to assist member countries in the prevention of the use of such machines for counterfeiting purposes.

## TRAFFIC IN WOMEN: RECENT TRENDS

In accordance with a resolution adopted by the General Assembly in Ottawa in 1971, the General Secretariat sent out a questionnaire to the National Central Bureaus to collect information in order to compile a report on traffic in women and "disguised" traffic. 69 countries answered the questionnaire.

Traffic in women is defined in international conventions as hiring, inducing or leading astray a woman or a girl — whether she is a minor or has reached her majority and even with her consent — with a view to making her engage in prostitution in a country other than that in which she usually resides.

Disguised traffic can be summed up as hiring women in one country for certain types of employment in another country (as dancers, cabaret artistes, barmaids, etc.) under conditions which subject, incite or expose them to prostitution.

The General Secretariat's report analysed the volume of traffic in women throughout the world, the preventive measures suggested by the countries answering the questionnaire and then went on to draw the following conclusions.

- In almost all cases, the women were apparently consenting (there seemed to be hardly any cases in which the victims were forcibly kidnapped).
- Disguised traffic continued to exist all over the world: here again most women were either consenting or naive and misled by false promises.
- The replies received revealed several networks for traffic in women:
  - South American women are "exported" to Puerto Rico, to Southern Europe and the Middle East;
  - there is a European regional "market" which also has links with other regions, notably the Middle East;

- some women are recruited in Europe and sent to certain African countries;
- there is an East-Asian market;
- in Lebanon, there is a concentration of prostitutes from other Arab countries;
- more generally, women from all countries may be found in countries other than those in which they usually reside but it is impossible to establish whether or not they have been victims of traffic in women.
- The victims usually refuse to co-operate with the police, which constitutes a serious handicap for investigations.
- Evidence collected in connection with procuring often consists of a collection of different elements for which it is difficult to find precise legal definitions.

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The report was discussed by the Assembly; the delegate of Uruguay said that the situation had been serious in his country until the previous year but had now improved considerably. Although certain cases were detected at national level, no international connection could be established; the measures adopted at the 43rd General Assembly session seemed to be producing positive results.

The Kenyan delegation said that women were taken out of his country and, once abroad, were abandoned and left to earn their living as prostitutes; however it was difficult to establish whether or not this was carried out on an organised scale.

After discussions on the subject ended, the Assembly took note of the report submitted by the General Secretariat.

# JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

- Trends from 1970 to 1973
- Recruitment and training of police officers for juvenile delinquency prevention work

## ● Trends from 1970 to 1973

At the General Assembly sessions in 1968 and 1970, it was decided that regular reports on trends in juvenile delinquency would be compiled at least every four years.

A questionnaire on the subject was sent out to all National Central Bureaus; the General Secretariat received 57 replies and used them as a basis for drawing up a long report which was submitted to the General Assembly. Unfortunately, it is impossible to analyse it here.

The following data were taken into consideration for each country;

- Total figure for the juvenile population; age limits of the juveniles considered; information supplied by the country.
- Statistics on juvenile delinquency and deviant behaviour for the period 1970 to 1973.
- Evolution and trends observed.
- Prevention and law enforcement; new measures and new methods.

The General Secretariat's report

advises against comparing the situations in the different countries — even when certain data might appear comparable — because:

- definitions of offences vary from country to country;
- the age of "minors" varies from country to country;
- statistics are sometimes non-existent or supplied with no explanation or comment and do not always apply to the whole of the country.
- in most cases, the statistics were compiled at police level but sometimes they were compiled by the court authorities.
- the majority of countries failed to supply information about "deviant behaviour".

## ● Recruitment and training of police officers for juvenile delinquency prevention work

This was the second subject discussed under the heading "Juvenile delinquency". The report was compiled by the General Secretariat, in accordance with a decision taken by the General Assembly in 1973 in Vienna.



Its purpose was to establish:

- Whether every member country had specialised police personnel whose main task was to prevent juvenile delinquency.
- If, in those countries which did have such specialised personnel, the officers were specifically selected for this work.
- If specialised instruction on preventing juvenile delinquency was given and, if so, what its main characteristics were.
- If countries followed the outlines given in the Model Juvenile Police Training Programme drafted by the General Secretariat in 1956.

The replies to these questions were classified into two groups according to whether or not police officers were specially selected and received specific training.

The report concluded that special police units had been set up in quite a large number of countries to deal with the prevention of juvenile delinquency, but that the methods for selecting the officers were fairly empirical and special training either rudimentary or non-existent.

These conclusions appeared to apply even more frequently to prevention than to law enforcement and it may be wondered whether police forces have attached sufficient importance to crime prevention policies and programmes.

More method and care should undoubtedly be applied to the recruiting and training of staff specialising in juvenile delinquency problems, using in particular the model training programme drawn up by the General Secretariat as a basis.

The report was completed by 5 appendices giving details about training programmes in Canada, France and India.

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After taking note of the two reports by the General Secretariat,

The Assembly decided to set up a committee and Mr. FARIELLO (Italy) was appointed Chairman.

The delegates discussed the reports and particular emphasis was placed on the importance of training staff to specialise in juvenile delinquency work.

Juvenile delinquency, which was on the increase in many countries (France, Indonesia, Italy) was a basically urban phenomenon and called for close co-operation between the police and the public. It was important to educate rather than punish young persons and that was one of the top priorities for all police forces. Exchange of information on the subject, as suggested by Romania, would certainly help to extend knowledge.

It was very important to begin by studying the causes of juvenile delinquency; that was exactly what had been done in Argentina where a juvenile squad had been set up in Buenos Aires to carry out prevention work; it also provided guidance for minors through a psychopedagogic consultation service.

The Argentine Federal Police also operated a department staffed by social workers who dealt with juvenile delinquents. They were specialists with professional qualifications; after passing a psychological and technical examination and an oral aptitude test, they had to take courses in criminal law and criminal procedure, legislation on the employment of minors and criminology. The efforts made had brought results, for the juvenile delinquency rate had dropped over the past four years, except in the case of drugs offences which had shown a slight increase.

It was important for juveniles in prison to be separated from older criminals, but that was not always possible, as the Indian delegate pointed out.

Venezuela had submitted a proposal concerning juvenile delinquency at the recent Congress held in Geneva, in which prevention work was divided into three

sectors designed to bring the police into closer contact with young people through sporting and cultural activities. A team of specialists was responsible for carrying out investigations within the framework of a socio-psychological department.

In Uruguay, a juvenile squad had recently been formed, and the work done by the women police was also very effective.

In France, crime prevention among young people was carried out jointly by the police and all the other educational services. In Panama, on the other hand, the police did not deal with juveniles: they were dealt with by a government institution, a special court responsible for the guardianship of juveniles. In Italy, there seemed to be a tendency among magistrates to use specialists of the Social Service for Minors as substitutes for parents whenever possible; however, the situation was becoming more and more serious and crime prevention was very difficult, especially in densely populated areas.

On completion of the discussion, the Committee submitted a resolution to the Assembly, which was adopted in the following form:

## RESOLUTION

HAVING TAKEN NOTE of Reports No. 9 and 10 submitted by the General Secretariat, entitled "Criteria for recruiting men and women police officers for juvenile delinquency work" and "Trends in juvenile delinquency during the period 1970 to 1973", respectively;

CONCERNED about the trends observed in the development of juvenile delinquency, particularly in large cities, during the last few years;

CONSIDERING that the prevention of juvenile delinquency must be considered as one of the priority objectives of the police;

CONSIDERING also that one of the fundamental tasks of the police is developing relations between the police and the community, such relations also being indispensable for the prevention of juvenile delinquency;

The I.P.C.O.-INTERPOL General Assembly, meeting in Buenos Aires from 9th to 15 th October 1975 at its 44th session:

RECOMMENDS that police services develop and apply programmes on prevention of juvenile delinquency aimed at attaining better relations between the police and the community and reducing juvenile delinquency;

BELIEVES that proper selection and training are essential if police officers responsible for the prevention of juvenile delinquency are to accomplish their tasks satisfactorily;

ENCOURAGES police forces to perfect and apply scientific methods of selection for the recruitment of such officers;

REMINDS police forces of the need to provide specialised training for police officers for juvenile delinquency work;

DRAWNS THE ATTENTION of police forces to the "Model juvenile police training programme" drawn up by the General Secretariat in 1956.



## THE USE OF AIRCRAFT BY THE POLICE

The report was based on the replies of 17 countries<sup>(1)</sup> to a questionnaire drawn up by the General Secretariat. The information obtained was presented under the following headings:

- The kinds of missions performed and the number of flight hours logged for them in 1973.
- The types of aircraft and the ground facilities used.
- The available personnel: crews, type of personnel (police and/or civilian), and training.
- The special departments within police forces: structures and responsibilities.

Aircraft were usually used for the following operations: control of road traffic and waterways, search and rescue operations, surveillance of demonstrations, transport of prisoners, relaying of messages by loud speaker, protection of the environment.

With aircraft the police could make their presence felt everywhere and take action very quickly. In some countries it was even cheaper to use aircraft rather than road transport.

(1) Argentina, Australia, Austria, Canada, Federal Germany, France, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Mexico, Nigeria, Norway, Sweden, Thailand, United Kingdom, United States, Venezuela.

## BILATERAL POLICE AGREEMENTS

From time to time, international police co-operation is criticised, and it is true that there is a striking difference between the mobility of international criminals who move easily from one country to another, and the difficulties encountered by police investigators wanting to operate abroad.<sup>(1)</sup>

It is obvious that international police co-operation could be substantially improved if these

(1) See article "Interpol and organised crime" by Jean Népote in issue no. 282 (November 1974) of the I.C.P.R.

Various types of aircraft were used including, short-takeoff twin-engine light aircraft or 2-place limited range helicopters; the composition of each fleet depended essentially on police budgetary considerations, the kinds of mission usually performed, and the nature of the territory over which the force had jurisdiction.

The police authorities who used aircraft were satisfied with the results obtained and believed that, overall, the high cost was justified; several countries were even planning to increase their airborne operations.

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The report was submitted to the General Assembly, together with the information sent in by the Netherlands and Italy which was received too late to be included in the report. Both those countries stated that they, too, were satisfied with the use of aircraft by their police.

The I.C.A.O. observer then handed the General Secretariat a document describing the norms used by the civilian air traffic authorities, for the information of the National Central Bureaus.

The General Assembly took note of the reports and the observations made by I.C.A.O.

difficulties could be overcome — partially at least — by international police co-operation treaties.

Initially, it would be better to have recourse to bilateral police agreements between neighbouring countries; the contents of such agreements could vary to take into account the specific relationships existing between the states concerned.

For this reason, the General Secretariat compiled a report, including a "model bilateral agreement", for submission to the General Assembly.



It is obviously not possible for a single model bilateral agreement to cover every case; the aim was to provide an outline giving the main matters of form and content which would have to be dealt with and allowing each pair of countries to select, from the outline, the items to be included in a bilateral agreement between them.

Thus the outline submitted for the delegates' consideration simply

suggested the direction a plan of work could take and indicated a few basic principles.

The delegates were extremely interested in the outline drawn up by the General Secretariat and in its view that it was time to break down the barriers barring the police from operating beyond the frontiers of a given country.

Some countries, though very

few, had already begun discussing bilateral agreements with their neighbours. Efforts should be made to develop that policy, while still making use of the Interpol machinery for general co-ordination.

The Assembly took note of the Secretariat's draft agreement and adopted the following resolution to mark its interest.

## RESOLUTION

**HAVING TAKEN NOTE** of Report No. 19, "Bilateral Police Agreements", submitted by the General Secretariat;

**BELIEVING** that the conclusion of police co-operation agreements between I.C.P.O.-INTERPOL affiliated countries, especially those with common borders, could effectively help to reinforce international police co-operation;

The I.C.P.O.-INTERPOL General As-

sembly, meeting in Buenos Aires from 9th to 15th October 1975 at its 44th session:

**RECOMMENDS** that the NCBs:

— draw their governments' attention to the advantages to be derived from the conclusion of international bilateral police co-operation agreements, and

— urge their governments to use the "Outline for a Standard Police Co-operation Agreement" contained in the aforementioned report as a basis for drafting such agreements.

**UNDERLINES** that it is important that the strengthened co-operation resulting from such bilateral agreements continue to be harmoniously integrated with the arrangements set up by the I.C.P.O.-INTERPOL.





**REQUESTS FOR  
INFORMATION,  
INVESTIGATIONS,  
ARRESTS, etc.,**

**SENT TO THE NCBs  
OR THE  
GENERAL SECRETARIAT**

**Rules to be observed**

At the proposal of the American delegation, the General Assembly unanimously adopted the following resolution, designed to facilitate the work of NCBs and improve international co-operation.

**RESOLUTION**

HAVING NOTED the question on policy on investigations raised by the United States delegation,

CONSIDERING that effective international police co-operation through the I.C.P.O.-INTERPOL depends on the rapid exchange of information between countries,

STRESSING the fact that the rapid exchange of information depends upon the degree of detail contained in a request submitted by one NCB to another during the course of an investigation, since such detail is of great assistance to all police services when making the enquiries requested; and assists in preventing any additional communications solely for the purpose of requesting details as to the type of investigations, etc.;

The I.C.P.O.-INTERPOL General Assembly, meeting in Buenos Aires

from 9th to 15th October 1975 at its 44th session:

STRESSES THE NEED for National Central Bureaus requesting information, investigation, arrest, etc. from either another NCB or the General Secretariat to:

1. State clearly the reason for the request, indicating as far as possible the type of investigation involved, details of the offence (dates of offence, charges, arrests, convictions, sentences, etc.);
2. Give the fullest possible details when requesting information about persons, to assist in establishing their identities (date and place of birth, parents' names, nationality, passport number with date and place of issue, place of residence, fingerprints, etc.), as well as any other information likely to be of assistance to the answering NCB.

URGES that whenever an NCB or the General Secretariat receives a request for information, investigation, arrest, etc. it answers as soon as possible or states the reason for the delay or the inability to provide the information requested, since the failure by an NCB to respond in a timely manner tends to destroy the effectiveness of the I.C.P.O.-INTERPOL.

# MEETING OF HEADS OF NATIONAL CENTRAL BUREAUS

- Procedures for deporting foreigners who have committed extremely serious crimes
- Draft international identification form for use between NCBs
- Form for reporting on cases involving hostages
- Motor vehicle theft
- Typewriter identification system

As is customary, the heads of NCBs met to discuss a number of problems concerning international co-operation. Mr. ARENZ (Argentina) was unanimously elected Chairman of the meeting.

Discussions focused on ways of improving day-to-day co-operation between NCBs.

- **Procedures for deporting foreigners who have committed extremely serious crimes**

Delegations discussed procedures for deporting aliens, as either an administrative or a judicial measure.

Most countries' laws included provisions on deportation; in some cases the deportee could choose the country he wished to be sent to — the best solution, in the opinion of several delegates. It was advisable for the police authorities in the country receiving the deportee to be informed of his arrival.

- **Draft international identification form for use between NCBs**

It was very important for NCBs to be able to exchange accurate information concerning people's identities and, indeed, such data was exchanged daily on a massive scale.

To make this work easier, the General Secretariat would submit a draft international form — based on the outline suggested by Greece — to the General Assembly at its next session.

- **Form for reporting on cases involving hostages**

The First International Symposium on Cases Involving Hostages was held at the General Secretariat from 3rd to 5th February 1975; discussions centred on police

tactics and organization, equipment, international co-operation and prevention.

As a result of suggestions put forward at the symposium, the General Secretariat drew up a draft form designed to collect general information on the strategy and tactics used by criminals as well as by law enforcement services.

This form could be used for reporting information to the National Central Bureaus explicitly concerned in a given case and for systematically informing the General Secretariat of all cases involving hostages, whether national or international in nature. Information gathered in this way would then be summarised and would form the basis for special circulars to be sent from the General Secretariat to all National Central Bureaus.

A drafting committee was set up to prepare a resolution, and the following text was adopted by the General Assembly:

## RESOLUTION

HAVING NOTED the results of the symposium on the taking of hostages held from 3rd to 5th February 1975;

CONSIDERING that in this field the exchange of technical information regarding previous cases is specially important for purposes of prevention;

HAVING STUDIED the draft form attached to Report No. 16, designed to facilitate exchanges of information concerning the modus operandi of the criminals and the technical means used to combat them;

The I.C.P.O.-INTERPOL General Assembly, meeting in Buenos Aires from 9th to 15th October 1975 at its 44th session:

ADOPTS the draft international form attached to Report No. 16, subject to the condition that the modifications suggested during the debate thereon, as set down in the records of the meeting, be taken into consideration;

REQUESTS the Secretary General to establish the modes of use of the form.

## • Motor vehicle theft

### RECOVERY OF MOTOR VEHICLES STOLEN OR MISAPPROPRIATED IN ONE COUNTRY AND SOLD ABROAD TO A THIRD PARTY ACTING IN GOOD FAITH

The Second European Regional Conference, which was held in Saint Cloud in 1970, examined the subject of "international trafficking in stolen vehicles, especially ones that had been rented" and called on the General Secretariat to compile a report on misappropriation of rented motor vehicles.

A report entitled "Recovery of motor vehicles stolen or misappropriated in one country and sold abroad to a third party acting in good faith" was drawn up, based on 55 countries' replies to a questionnaire sent out by the General Secretariat.

The report made a distinction between the legal position of bona fide purchasers of stolen vehicles and that of bona fide purchasers of misappropriated vehicles, since

different legal principles often came into play in each case.

The information received was classified, according to the legal solution preferred, into the following categories: countries where the laws protect bona fide purchasers; countries where the laws protect dispossessed owners; composite systems (countries where the laws protect bona fide purchasers in some cases and dispossessed owners in others). To make for easier understanding, tables indicating the systems used in the different countries were included in the report.

The report then went on to study the procedures dispossessed owners could use to have their vehicles restored to them, responsibility for payment of the transport costs involved in restitution, and the administrative formalities for importing and registering second-hand motor vehicles.

The following suggestions for improving the current situation were drawn up from the replies received by the General Secretariat:

- Adoption of an international certificate of motor vehicle ownership;
- Required presentation at the time of customs clearance of a motor vehicle ownership or authorised possession certificate fully identifying the vehicle in question, issued by the authorities in the country where the vehicle is registered;
- Required presentation (at the time of registration) of an official cancellation certificate for the previous foreign registration;
- Compulsory surrender of the registration and ownership documents to the authorities whenever a vehicle is scrapped;
- Motor vehicle documents to specify all the identifying characteristics of the motor vehicle in question;
- Engine and chassis numbers to be embossed or engraved on the engine and chassis themselves and not on plates affixed to them;



— Increased exchange of international tracer ("wanted") notices concerning stolen or misappropriated motor vehicles;

— Increased police-customs collaboration;

— Intensification of border checks.

The report added the following comments:

— It seems appropriate to recommend that, where this is not already done a check on ownership should be made when a motor vehicle is imported into a country or registered there (i.e. by examination of the documents and the vehicles and checking the vehicle's identifying characteristics against the data on the documents and against available information concerning vehicles reported stolen or misappropriated).

— Documents must be devised that will be more difficult to forge or counterfeit.

#### TRAFFIC IN STOLEN OR MISAPPROPRIATED VEHICLES

The second report prepared by the General Secretariat gave an account of the suggestions made during a meeting on motor vehicle theft and the resulting illicit traffic, which was held at the Organization's headquarters from 16th to 18th December 1974. In the final report, which was sent to all National Central Bureaus, the following points were made:

— The percentage of stolen vehicles not recovered varied between 3% and 20%; there were gangs of criminals specialising in this type of operation on an international basis, who disguised the vehicles or, more commonly, altered the relevant documents.

— Many motor vehicle thefts could be prevented by improving locking systems and anti-theft devices.

— Car-hire firms should follow the example of certain countries in building up their own security units and photocopying the documents produced by customers when hiring a car so that the photocopies could be forwarded to the police in the event of misappropriation.

Co-operation between police services and insurance companies should be encouraged.

— It was important for police services to exchange information at international level, particularly about suspect second-hand and luxury vehicles which had been re-registered after being imported from abroad.

The General Assembly took note of the two reports referred to above and decided to adopt the following resolution:

#### RESOLUTION

**HAVING NOTED** the findings of the Meeting on traffic in stolen or misappropriated motor vehicles, held from 16th to 18th December 1974;

**CONSIDERING** the increasing amount of traffic in stolen or misappropriated motor vehicles;

**NOTING** that various investigations have indicated the existence of criminals or gangs of criminals who specialise in stealing or misappropriating motor vehicles, disguising them using alterations and forgeries, and having them taken across borders;

**NOTING ALSO** that both preventive and law enforcement measures must be taken to combat this form of crime;

The I.C.P.O.-INTERPOL General Assembly, meeting in Buenos Aires from 9th to 15th October 1975 at its 44th session:

**EMPHASISES** the value of good co-operation at national level between the police, automobile manufacturers' associations, insurance companies and car-hire companies with a view to developing the most efficient preventive measures possible;

**DRAWS ATTENTION** in particular to the value of advising car-hire companies to take certain preventive measures before hiring out any vehicle, for example by photocopying the documents submitted;

**RECOMMENDS** that co-operation

between police services be stepped up in this field, notably by exchanging more information on motor vehicles suspected of being stolen or misappropriated from another country;

**RECOMMENDS** that member countries systematically provide motor vehicle identifying information to the country of prior registration when a motor vehicle having been registered in one country has been or is to be reregistered in another;

**REQUESTS** each country to study and initiate techniques that would make it more difficult to alter or forge driving licences, registration documents, vehicle identification numbers (chassis number, engine number, etc.) and licence plates.

● **Typewriter identification system**

The General Secretariat had been engaged in implementing a resolution adopted by the General Assembly at its session in Caracas (1964) and stating that documentation making it possible to identify the make of typewriter on which a text was typed should be collected and distributed to the NCBs.

The documentation and classification method suggested by the French delegation had been used as a basis for the Secretariat's study and a first collection of index cards, with two subsequent sets of addenda, had been sent out to various police laboratories and forensic departments.

A Committee of Experts had been established as the result of a decision the General Assembly

had taken in Mexico in 1969 and the Committee, by a substantial majority, expressed its approval of the method employed.

The Assembly consequently decided to adopt the method that had been used so far as the standard classification system which would be distributed to member countries. It also adopted the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION**

**IN VIEW** of the resolution adopted by the General Assembly at its 33rd Session (October 1964),

The I.C.P.O.-INTERPOL General Assembly, meeting in Buenos Aires from 9th to 15th October 1975 at its 44th session:

**TAKES NOTE** of the dissemination of the typewriter identification system

effected by the General Secretariat in implementation of this resolution.

**TAKES NOTE** of the fact that a large majority of the members of the Committee of Experts appointed by the General Assembly at its 38th Session held in October 1969 considers that the method of classification used today is satisfactory.

**INVITES** the Secretary General to continue disseminating the typewriter characteristics according to the method used up to now.

**INVITES** the NCBs to collect all possible data and transmit this to the General Secretariat with a view to updating the files and improving the subclassification systems.



The General Assembly decided to set up a Committee to discuss the subject; Mr. Misić VOJISLAV (Yugoslavia) was elected Chairman.

The discussions between delegates showed that excellent results had been achieved: aircraft hijacking and other unlawful acts against civil aviation had decreased substantially, mainly because of the strict security measures taken at airports, and the information exchanged between the police and airline companies. However, vigilance and precautionary measures should be maintained.

ICAO was planning an amendment to the Security Handbook to

be published in May 1976; it would give detailed specifications for the design of airports and for the remodelling of existing ones, taking into account the experience of various countries and using the assistance of a group of security experts.

The Committee also discussed luggage theft and ticket forgery; it was stressed that co-operation between the various services concerned by such offences was excellent.

## USE OF THE ARABIC LANGUAGE

The Assembly was asked to vote on an amendment to the General Regulations proposed in a report submitted by Vice-President MESSAID on behalf of Arabic-speaking countries; the amendment was designed to institute Arabic as a working language at the General Secretariat and at General Assembly sessions.

Arabic was used by several major international organizations and spoken in 18 Interpol member countries. Arabic-speaking countries were prepared to subsidise the project through appropriate increases in the number of budget units they paid.

If the use of Arabic was ap-

proved by the Assembly, it would be used by the Secretariat but appropriate measures would be taken so as not to complicate the task of National Central Bureaus in non-Arabic-speaking countries.

The following resolution amending Article 58 of the Organization's General Regulations, drafted by an *ad hoc* Committee composed of Messrs. MESSAID (Algeria), ARUL (India), CHAUDHRI (Pakistan), AL-ALI (Kuwait), and ROJAS (Argentina), was unanimously adopted by the General Assembly.

With the draft resolution, the Committee also submitted a note explaining how the Assembly's decision would be implemented.

### RESOLUTION

**BEAR IN MIND** document AGN. the proposed modification of Article 58 of the General Regulations;

**BERING IN MIND** document AGN. 44/PROJ/RES/LANG submitted by the Ad Hoc Committee, meeting in keeping with Article 60 of the General Regulations;

The I.C.P.O.-INTERPOL General Assembly, meeting in Buenos Aires from 9th to 15th October 1975 at its 44th session:

**ADOPTS** the conclusions of this document and **DECIDES** that Article 58 of the General Regulations shall be drafted as follows:

ARTICLE 58 (new text)

1. The working languages of the Organization shall be French, English and Spanish.

2. Arabic shall also be used during General Assembly sessions and shall be a working language of the General Secretariat.

3. During General Assembly sessions, any delegate may speak in another language provided he makes arrangements for the interpretation of his

speeches into one of the languages mentioned in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this article.

4. Any request submitted by a group of countries for simultaneous interpretation of a language other than those mentioned in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this article must be sent at least four months before the opening of the General Assembly session to the Secretary General, who will state whether such interpretation will be technically feasible.

5. Countries wishing to apply the special provisions in paragraphs 3 and 4 of Article 58 may do so only if they have undertaken to provide adequate administrative facilities and to meet all expenses involved.

# INTERNATIONAL FRAUDS AND COMMERCIAL CRIME

During the Third Asian Regional Conference of the I.C.P.O.-INTERPOL (Manila, April 1975), it was noted that international frauds and commercial crime constituted a serious problem, especially in developing countries where the whole economy was undermined by such crime. In India, for example, the loss caused to the country could be put at one billion dollars per annum. The conference had concluded that international police co-operation needed to be strengthened.

The Asian Conference had therefore proposed a series of long-term and short-term measures described in a report which the General Secretariat submitted to the Assembly.

Long-term action, as suggested by the General Secretariat, would consist of a report on the various forms of international fraud and commercial crime and an analysis of the different laws in force, to be compiled by June 1976. This report could then be used as a basis for recommendations.

In the short-term, co-operation could be improved by making

maximum use of existing facilities, by making greater efforts to supply the information requested — which was often of a general nature — and by facilitating relations with other services whenever the police were not competent in a particular case.

A committee was set up to draft a resolution and Mr. Mahmood Ali Khan CHAUDHRI (Pakistan) was elected Chairman.

Several delegates stated that the problem was a particularly serious one for developing countries because the profits made from that type of crime were diverted to illicit drug traffic, arms smuggling, the exploitation of prostitution and currency counterfeiting.

All economically-advanced countries had to deal with a considerable amount of commercial crime, in particular in the fields of fraudulent invoicing and fraud connected with taxes, property and stocks and shares. International fraud was directly related to technical advancement and the facilities enabling persons, property and services to circulate freely.





After adopting the resolution set out below, the General Assembly decided to set up a Committee of experts to help the

General Secretariat in its task. Representatives of the following countries would sit on the Committee: Federal Germany, Canada,

United States, Guatemala, India, Israel, United Kingdom, Senegal, Sudan and Sri Lanka.

## RESOLUTION

### International frauds and commercial crime

#### HAVING TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION:

1. The proposals of the 3rd Asian Regional Conference held in Manila from 3rd to 8th April 1975;
2. The observations of the sub-committee which was set up by the 3rd Asian Regional Conference and met in New Delhi on 25th and 26th June 1975;
3. Report No. 15 submitted by the General Secretariat on "International Frauds and Commercial Crime";

The I.C.P.O.-INTERPOL General Assembly, meeting in Buenos Aires from 9th to 15th October 1975 at its 44th Session:

#### RECOGNISES:

1. That international frauds and com-

mercial crime (including economic offences)

a) have serious adverse consequences on the economy and general well-being of the member countries, particularly the developing countries,

b) and have repercussions on other crimes affecting all member countries;

2. That the successful combating of such crimes will also be of great help in fighting and containing other organised criminal activities which are financed and sustained by illegal and unaccounted funds generated by these crimes;

ENDORSES the immediate need and importance of increased co-operation between the police (as also other law enforcement agencies) of the

member countries to combat effectively this class of crime;

#### RECOMMENDS THAT:

1. The suggestions for "short-term" action contained in the aforesaid Report No. 15 of the General Secretariat, and appended to this resolution, be implemented forthwith;

2. The "long-term" action suggested in the abovementioned report be taken promptly;

3. A Committee of experts be appointed to examine the material prepared by the General Secretariat and submit its report to the General Assembly at its 45th Session.

### Appendix to the Resolution

It is proposed, within the ambit of international fraud and commercial crime, to act according to the following methods and principles:

1. The requesting National Central Bureau must clearly explain the circumstances in which the offence was committed, the purpose of the request and the assistance required. From the start of the case the number of requests must be kept to the minimum.
2. The receiving National Central Bureau should examine the request with the maximum of goodwill and care and in a spirit of international solidarity. The legal facilities at its disposal must be used to the fullest extent.
3. To overcome any problems involving procedure or jurisdiction the receiving National Central Bureau should seek the voluntary co-operation of those persons who may be in a position to furnish the information required. It will

doubtless be possible, in many cases, to obtain spontaneously information or documents from persons of firms concerned. It should also be possible for the receiving countries to give information contained in published records such as journals, stock market reports, price lists, etc.

4. In certain cases the receiving National Central Bureau will only be required to obtain information of a general nature (e.g. the price of certain goods on a certain date, the nature of regulations relating to a particular transaction etc.). The National Central Bureau receiving the request must endeavour to supply this information.
5. Where the information sought does not come within the ambit of police jurisdiction but within that of another administrative body with which the National Central Bureau is unable to obtain co-operation, this information should be conveyed to the

requesting National Central Bureau informing it of the identity of the body concerned and the manner in which the information required may be obtained.

6. In those cases where problems of jurisdiction prevent the co-operation required, the receiving National Central Bureau should so advise the requesting National Central Bureau, and in so doing explain the nature of the problem and what means, if any, exist to overcome it.
7. If a country where a commercial crime or economic offence has been committed sends its Investigating Officer to another member country for some enquiry or investigation the Head of the NCB of the receiving country should be informed in advance and the latter should give all possible assistance to the Investigation Officer (please see Resolution No. 3 adopted by the General Assembly session in Vienna).

## 1975-1976 PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES

The General Secretariat had drawn up a programme of activities for the period 1975-1976 (i.e. until the forthcoming Assembly session), which was submitted to the General Assembly.

Among the many activities listed were:

- Extension and modernisation of the Central Radio Station.
- The four-yearly Interpol telecommunications conference (St. Cloud, 1976).
- A symposium on crime in port and dock areas: international co-operation and the organisation of maritime and river police forces.
- A training seminar for police officers working in National Central Bureaus.
- Regional conferences in Africa and Europe.

- A symposium for Heads of Police Colleges.
- A symposium on new ways of identifying persons and collecting evidence.
- A symposium on crime prediction methods and research.
- A meeting for police officers and juvenile court magistrates on the questioning of juveniles.
- A study on relations between the police and social welfare agencies dealing with juvenile delinquency.
- An inventory of research projects and studies of interest to police services in member countries.
- A review of the international crime statistics.



## ELECTIONS AND CHOICE OF MEETING-PLACE FOR NEXT ASSEMBLY

The Assembly had to elect a Vice-President for Africa, a Vice-President for Europe, a Member for Africa, a Member for America and two Members for Europe.

Messrs. Tahar BERREJEB (Tunisia) and Julien de GRUYE (Belgium) were elected Vice-Presidents. Messrs. Idrissa BOUBE (Niger), Werner HEINL (Federal Germany), Carl G. PERSSON (Sweden) and Horacio Alberto ROJAS (Argentina) were elected to the Executive Committee.

Messrs. Emile BENHAMOU (France) and Harry THOMSEN (Denmark) were elected Auditors. Messrs.

S.R. PITTAWAY (United Kingdom) and Vojislav MISIC (Yugoslavia) were elected Deputy Auditors.

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The President urged those countries wishing to host the Organisation's next session to inform the Secretariat as quickly as possible. The Executive Committee would take a decision at some future date.

After thanking the Assembly for the excellent work it had accomplished, the President declared the 44th Interpol General Assembly closed.



## FIFTH AMERICAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE

The Fifth American Regional Conference was held in Buenos Aires from 6th to 8th October 1975 under the Chairmanship of Mr. Pedro Bruno GIACOMELLO (Argentina).

The purpose of the Conference was to strengthen the links between countries on the American continent and to improve international co-operation.

The Conference discussed a number of subjects: the report on the Interpol Caribbean Regional Conference (March 1975); the Interpol radio network on the American continent; kidnappings for ransom; theft of motor vehicles; illicit drug traffic; theft of aircraft equipment; technical assistance; various questions concerning day-to-day co-operation.

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Firstly, an account of the Interpol Caribbean Conference which was held in Kingston, Jamaica, gave the delegates an opportunity they were seldom afforded to discuss problems particular to countries in that part of the world.

It was planned to hold the next conference in Curaçao (Netherlands Antilles) in 1977.

With regard to the Interpol radio network, it was reported that several countries had made considerable efforts to improve the situation. In the course of 1976, still further efforts had to be made to perfect the network which was vital to international co-operation. The Argentine Federal Police described the efforts made to modernise and extend the Interpol regional station in Buenos Aires.

The discussion on kidnappings for ransom centred on preventive measures and investigation techniques.

Motor vehicle thefts were becoming more and more frequent and international criminals were becoming particularly active in that field: the subject had already been studied at a symposium held at the General Secretariat in 1974. It was vital for NCBS to exchange the necessary information rapidly, and for the police to co-operate with the customs, car manufac-



Mr. Pedro Bruno GIACOMELLO (3rd from right), Chairman of the American Regional Conference

turers, insurance companies and car-hire firms.

Delegates then went on to consider illicit drug traffic on the American continent.

Since drug traffic was not confined to a single country, only joint action could achieve satisfactory results. The Interpol Liaison Officer could constitute a permanent link between the American countries and could arrange working meetings for their representatives. It would be useful for each country to set up a special interdisciplinary committee, composed of representatives of the medical profession, welfare services, the judiciary and the police, to keep general policy on drugs permanently under review.

The difficulties inherent in setting up an international police force. It would be almost impossible to overcome. However, it would be perfectly possible to extend the Liaison Officers' scope of action.

The General Secretariat was ready to help American countries by giving them the benefit of all its experience.

Lastly, the Conference examined technical assistance facilities, in particular with regard to police colleges, forensic science and investigation services. Those subjects had already been discussed several times at previous General Assembly sessions and a circular had been sent out by the

General Secretariat in February 1974.

Delegates concluded that the Conference had enabled them to exchange useful information on specific subjects, and had helped to improve international co-operation.



Mr. Jose Enrique ALAZRAKI, Head of the telecommunications service of the Argentine Federal Police, Chairman of the telecommunications committee



The "escuadra azul"

# CONFERENCE SIDELIGHTS

Gaicho and his herd



At a plenary session of the General Assembly, Comisario General Horacio Alberto ROJAS, Assistant Chief of the Argentine Federal Police and Head of the Argentine delegation, officially commemorated the first International Police Conference which met in Buenos Aires on 11th October 1905.

That Conference, which was held 9 years before the first Criminal Police Congress convened by Albert I of Monaco, was attended by representatives from Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Uruguay who met to work out how the police forces of these countries might co-operate together.

They concluded an agreement concerning the exchange of information on international criminals, thus laying the first foundations of international co-operation.

Even at that early stage, they had excluded offences with political or religious overtones, prefiguring in this respect Article 3 of the Interpol Constitution.

The speaker paid special tribute to the police officers who had made that agreement possible. The Assembly warmly endorsed the tribute.

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On various occasions during the conference in Buenos Aires the Argentine Federal Police authorities exhibited their new radio installations and, in particular, the equipment used by the Interpol regional station in Buenos Aires.

The Secretary General and his colleagues were invited to visit the new transmission centre located on the outskirts of Buenos Aires. It is equipped with:

- Six 10-KW transmitters with a synthesizer
- Ten 3-KW 12-channel transmitters
- Sets of rhombic, logarithmic and Y.A.G.I. rotating aerials
- Three 156-KVA power units.

The transmitters and aerials are set on approximately 32 acres of land which is perfectly suited to the purpose. The centre is operated



by remote control (radio or telephone) from the Federal Police Headquarters.

On another occasion, the Interpol network operations room was inaugurated in the presence of Mr. PINTO, Head of the Federal Police, and all top-ranking officers of the Argentine Police.

Comisario General Alazraki, head of Federal Police telecommunications, showed the visitors round the new installations which are technologically highly advanced. The room is fitted out for 3 chief operators, each with his own electronic control panel facilitating contact with the transmission centre and other correspondents. The Buenos Aires station is thus fully equipped to broadcast to the Paris central station and all the stations on the South-American network without any problems.

The room is named after a police officer, Armando O. CADENAZZI, who was killed on duty by criminals raiding a bank. The victim's family attended the ceremony.

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Before their arrival in Buenos Aires, all the delegates knew that this great city stands on one bank of the Rio de la Plata. However,

when they actually saw the estuary many of them mistook it for the sea: it is so wide that the Uruguayan side (left bank) is beyond the horizon. In fact, the estuary of the River Paraná pours its waters into a wide-spreading delta with innumerable arms. Delegates were lucky enough to sail over some of it, thanks to the courtesy of the Federal Police, the Naval Police and the Buenos Aires Provincial Police. For three hours they sailed along the canals and rios of San Antonio, and Sarmiento discovering, to their great surprise, right on the outskirts of Buenos Aires, a landscape full of contrast: industrial complexes, small houses, sumptuous villas, sports clubs and wild country which looked exactly as it must have looked long ago when it was first seen by explorers.

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But, for many foreigners, Argentina means the Pampas, which the delegates also visited. The Federal Police took them to a village called St. Antonio de Areco about a hundred kilometres from Buenos Aires, where they were greeted by a troupe of fast-riding gauchos astride their horses, whirling lassos and a strange device consisting of three leather balls tied together by a leather thong which



Drawings of gauchos from a brochure distributed to delegates at SAN ANTONIO de ARECO

The occasion was an elegant one and attended with great interest by a number of spectators. Nobody quite knows how many delegates "picked the winner".

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The delegates left Buenos Aires with many happy memories of the kindness and hospitality shown them by their Argentine hosts. They had been able to see for themselves that the Argentine people had taken to heart the advice of Ricardo Güiraldes, the poet and novelist, who gave his countrymen this advice, at the beginning of the century, on how to welcome foreigners: "Cuando se vaya, llevará consigo el regalo de tu hermandad que mejora al hombre" (When he goes away he will take with him the gift of brotherhood which makes mankind better).

is used to catch galloping cattle or ostriches. Escorted by these horsemen, the delegates were taken to the Mayor of the village who made a simple but warm speech of welcome.

After a hearty "churasco", eaten in a vast marquee, delegates were treated to a first-class equestrian demonstration of the daily work of gauchos as they gather in their herds and of their attempts to ride wild horses in the great rodeo tradition. The culmination was, a spectacular demonstration by the Argentine Mounted Police, the "escuadra azul".

The atmosphere at the receptions was particularly relaxed, whether they were given by the Ministry of the Interior, the Argentine Federal Police, or other delegations. Some of the receptions enabled delegates to appreciate the quality of Argentine "cuisine", in particular its meat and wines which are equal to the best anywhere.

They were also able to appreciate the talent of the Federal Police Symphony Orchestra and its soloists.

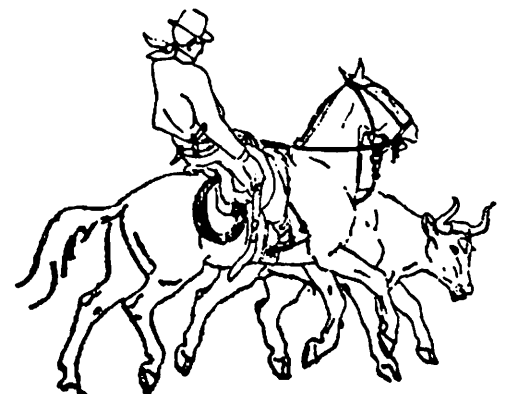
Naturally, folk traditions were not forgotten and, at the closing dinner, the best tango band were

present. Violins and bandoneons played so sweetly that several delegates were unable to resist their rhythms. Admittedly, the Argentine delegates set an example and demonstrated that the tango, contrary to what "modernist" thinkers might claim, cannot be relegated to past history; it is well and truly alive in the country of its birth.

Why hide the fact? Some delegates felt a little apprehensive when they arrived in Buenos Aires. They had read numerous articles in the press describing Argentina as a country where violence and insecurity were rife. In fact, they found Buenos Aires a calm city, was no more dangerous than any other capital city for people who wanted to stroll around at night. Nevertheless the Argentine Federal Police had taken strict security measures, in particular in the Conference Hall.

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The afternoon of Sunday 12th October, given over to Argentine hospitality and horses, ended with an original event: the "Interpol" cup, run at Palermo race course over 1,100 metres by 14 horses taking part in the 6th race.



## LIST OF COUNTRIES, TERRITORIES AND OBSERVERS ATTENDING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION

ALGERIA - ARGENTINA - AUSTRALIA - AUSTRIA -  
BELGIUM - BERMUDA - BOLIVIA - BURMA - BURUNDI -  
CAMEROUN - CANADA - CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC  
- CHAD - CHILE - CHINA - COLOMBIA - CYPRUS -  
DAHOMY - DENMARK - EGYPT - EL SALVADOR -  
ECUADOR - ETHIOPIA - FIJI - FINLAND - FRANCE -  
GABON - FEDERAL GERMANY - GHANA - GREECE  
- GUATEMALA - HONDURAS - INDIA - INDONESIA - IRAN  
- IRAQ - ISRAEL - ITALY - JAMAICA - JAPAN - JORDAN  
- KENYA - KOREA - KUWAIT - LEBANON - LIBERIA -  
LIBYA - MADAGASCAR - MALAYSIA - MALI - MAURITIUS  
- MAURITANIA - MEXICO - MONACO - MOROCCO -  
NEPAL - NETHERLANDS - NICARAGUA - NIGER - NIGERIA  
- NORWAY - NEW ZEALAND - OMAN - PAKISTAN -  
- PANAMA - PERU - PHILIPPINES - PORTUGAL - QATAR  
- ROMANIA - SPAIN - SAUDI ARABIA - SENEGAL -

SIERRA LEONE - SINGAPORE - SOMALIA - SRI LANKA -  
SUDAN - SURINAM - SWEDEN - SWITZERLAND - SYRIA  
- SWAZILAND - THAILAND - TOGO - TUNISIA - TURKEY  
- UNITED ARAB EMIRATES - UNITED KINGDOM - UNITED  
STATES - UPPER VOLTA, URUGUAY- VENEZUELA -  
YUGOSLAVIA - ZAIRE.

### Observers:

UNITED NATIONS - INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION  
ORGANIZATION (I.C.A.O.) - CUSTOMS CO-OPERATION  
COUNCIL - PAN-ARAB SOCIAL DEFENCE ORGANIZATION  
- INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PENAL LAW -  
INTERNATIONAL AIR TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION (I.A.T.A.)  
- INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE  
(I.A.C.P.) - INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF CRIMINOLOGY.

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