



# GENERAL ASSEMBLY

19TH TO 26TH OCTOBER 1978

**47<sup>th</sup> SESSION**

PANAMA CITY

General view of Panama City



*On the inside cover of this month's magazine, the name of the Secretary General has changed. After 15 years as Secretary General of the ICPO-Interpol, Mr. Jean Népote decided not to stand for re-election. Although he informed us of his plans several years ago, his official announcement was received with great regret. We shall undoubtedly miss his outstanding qualities and experience; on the other hand, we are delighted to see him enjoying the new-found leisure which he so richly deserves. We wish him a long and happy retirement.*

*The General Assembly appointed me to succeed Mr. Népote as Secretary General. I am fully aware of the importance of this post and of the difficulties that can arise, but I shall do my best to be worthy of the confidence the member countries have shown in me.*

*As Secretary General, I am now also editor of the International Criminal Police Review.*

*As I take up this new appointment, I should like to emphasize how much I believe in the importance of the Review for present and future international police co-operation.*

*It links together — and should bind ever more closely as the years go by — all those involved in combating international crime since it is the ideal medium for circulating scientific, legal and technical information relating to all aspects of crime investigation.*

*Above all, it should supply information on police techniques used in law enforcement and — perhaps more important — in crime prevention.*

*But it can only perform these tasks if it receives well-documented, top quality articles of practical interest.*

*This is why I appeal to all readers of the Review, and particularly to the Interpol National Central Bureaus, to send in interesting articles and items of information, bearing in mind that the ICPR is a specialist magazine not available to the general public. Only your response can make our journal an increasingly valuable source of information.*

A. BOSSARD



From left to right : His Excellency Dr. Aristides ROYO, President of the Republic of Panama, Colonel NORIEGA and Mr. PERSSON, President of the I.C.P.O.-INTERPOL

## OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY

The 47th session of the ICPO-INTERPOL General Assembly was held in PANAMA CITY from 19th to 26th October 1978, in the "Bella Vista" conference room of the El Panama Hotel.

The opening ceremony was attended by His Excellency Dr. Aristide Royo, President of the Republic of Panama, who was greeted by strains of the national anthem.

Mr. Persson, President of Interpol, addressed the senior Panamanian officials and the delegates attending the General Assembly in the following terms:

It is indeed a great pleasure and honour for me - on behalf of the

International Criminal Police Organization—Interpol - to forward to you Mr. President and to the Government of the Republic of Panama our sincere gratitude for the kind invitation to hold the 47th meeting of the Interpol General Assembly here in Panama City. Two years ago, our Organization passed a landmark as we gathered in Ghana - the first time on African soil. Today - for the first time in Central America - we can add yet another landmark to our history.

Mr. President, your presence here at the opening ceremony is a great honour to us as it reflects your interest in our Organization-Interpol. The large number of delegates and delegations who have

gathered here in this conference room with its magnificent view over the Gulf of Panama and the Pacific Ocean is true evidence of the great interest which the member countries have in attending this meeting here in Panama.

Someone has said about the Panamanians that they are a people who have not forgotten how to smile, and that a visitor does not feel like a stranger but as an honoured guest. I believe that all of you who have arrived here during the past few days will be willing to agree with me that those comments already have proved to be an understatement rather than a mere fact. We all feel quite at home and I am personally of the

opinion that this will considerably facilitate and vitalize our work during the week to come. Let us promise each other that the meeting here in Panama City will be a landmark not only geographically but also from the point of view of the work accomplished and the decisions taken.

Being here in Panama I would also especially like to greet Colonel Noriega who, through his good offices, has spared no effort to make this meeting the success it undoubtedly is going to be, and Mr. Arosemena our distinguished Panamanian Delegate on the Executive Committee.

Interpol has now added yet another year to its history by arriving at the age of 55. Few other international organizations have grown as quickly as Interpol and very few are today bigger than Interpol is. This is a very demanding fact as far as performance is concerned but I feel that without exaggerating I can state that Interpol today - within its limitations such as differences in legislation between different countries, financial boundaries and so on - carries out its primary task, that is to ensure and promote the widest possible mutual assistance between all criminal police authorities, in an efficient and rational way. This, however, can never permit us to sit back and rest saying: "Look how good we are". On the contrary, we must strive forward with all the strength we can mobilize in order to become even better, even more efficient. The international criminal would be only too satisfied to note that Interpol, and may it never happen, had turned into an international organization for mutual admiration.

As there is day-to-day development in international crime, there has to be even greater development and improvement of international police cooperation. In order to achieve this there are three main conditions: Money, Co-operation and Solidarity within the Organization.

The budget of Interpol represents indeed a very humble sum of money in comparison with other worldwide organizations and as such sometimes forms a regrettable bottleneck as far as efficiency is

concerned. I would therefore like to call upon the governments of all member countries to appreciate what Interpol is doing and to understand the necessity of an international organization like Interpol by increasing their financial contributions to the Organization. Increased funds would enable the General Secretariat to better assist member countries and permit even greater possibilities for more comprehensive co-ordination of crime investigations. If we are restrictive concerning monetary contributions we are bound to have to pay for that decision later on, and many times the amount by which we could have increased our contribution.

Anyone involved in crime investigations realizes the importance of the time factor. An investigation could easily come to a halt and the suspect be released due to the time lag between the request for vital information and the actual delivery of the information. I would therefore like to urge the Heads of the NCBs to do all they can in order to further speed up the exchange of information between different member countries.

Solidarity within the Organization might appear to be a rather harsh expression which calls for further explanation. I have touched upon this subject on several occasions previously but I think it still has considerable validity. We must never forget that the General Secretariat is the focal point of our Organization. And in order for the Secretariat to be able to assist member countries in exchanging information and co-ordinating investigations it is very essential that our files in Saint Cloud continuously be supplied with crime information which is of international interest. Furthermore these files will be much more efficient through the introduction of mini-computers in the near future.

The regionalization of certain Interpol activities is a measure that I strongly feel will add to the development of the Interpol performance. Steps have already been taken in this direction. Regional conferences are held annually and Interpol Liaison officers have been appointed in certain parts

of the world. We should, however, not stop at this level but continue forwards and make the regional function of Interpol stronger and more effective.

Finally, Mr. President, may I again on behalf of Interpol extend to you and the Government of the Republic of Panama our deeply felt gratitude for your invitation to hold this meeting in the lovely city of Panama. Before going to this meeting, I read a tourist brochure named: "Panama - not only a Canal." It is however true that Panama to a large extent is well known to the world because of the very famous waterway between the Atlantic and the Pacific Oceans. The treaty which only recently was agreed upon has indeed impressed the world not least because of the smooth way in which it was achieved.

We have come here to carry out work of great importance and we know from experience that it will be quite fatiguing. Therefore, we note with great satisfaction that the organizers have spared no effort to make the social part of the programme as relaxing as possible. I rest assured that we will be taken care of in the friendly spirit for which the Panamanian people is so well known and that we will be able to acquaint ourselves with both cultural and social life here in Panama. Thank you.

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**His Excellency Dr. Aristides Royo, President of the Republic of Panama, then delivered the following speech:**

It gave us the greatest pleasure to see that our country had been selected to host this General Assembly session. We feel a great honour has been conferred upon us.

We do indeed support the Organization and we hope you will look on us as a friendly country, and one where hospitality is all important. I am indeed grateful to President Persson for pointing out that Panama is not just a Canal. In fact, like many other countries, Panama is a nation with a government engaged in the fight against crime in all its forms including of course drug trafficking offences and the use of drugs, for these offences

constitute a scourge, an endemic disease threatening all mankind.

We are very proud of the fact that Panama is a member of this Organization. Today, as we declare this session open, criminals the world over will feel threatened because, as this Organization becomes stronger, as you yourselves meet, bound together by a desire for greater solidarity and unity at international level to prevent crime and punish offenders, the criminals will become that much more aware of the fact that the whole world is against them. They will also feel threatened because, although Interpol is an Organization which was founded and set up this century, its aims and objectives can be traced back to Holy Writ, for in Genesis, after Cain had murdered his brother he said "I shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth

and whoever finds me will slay me".

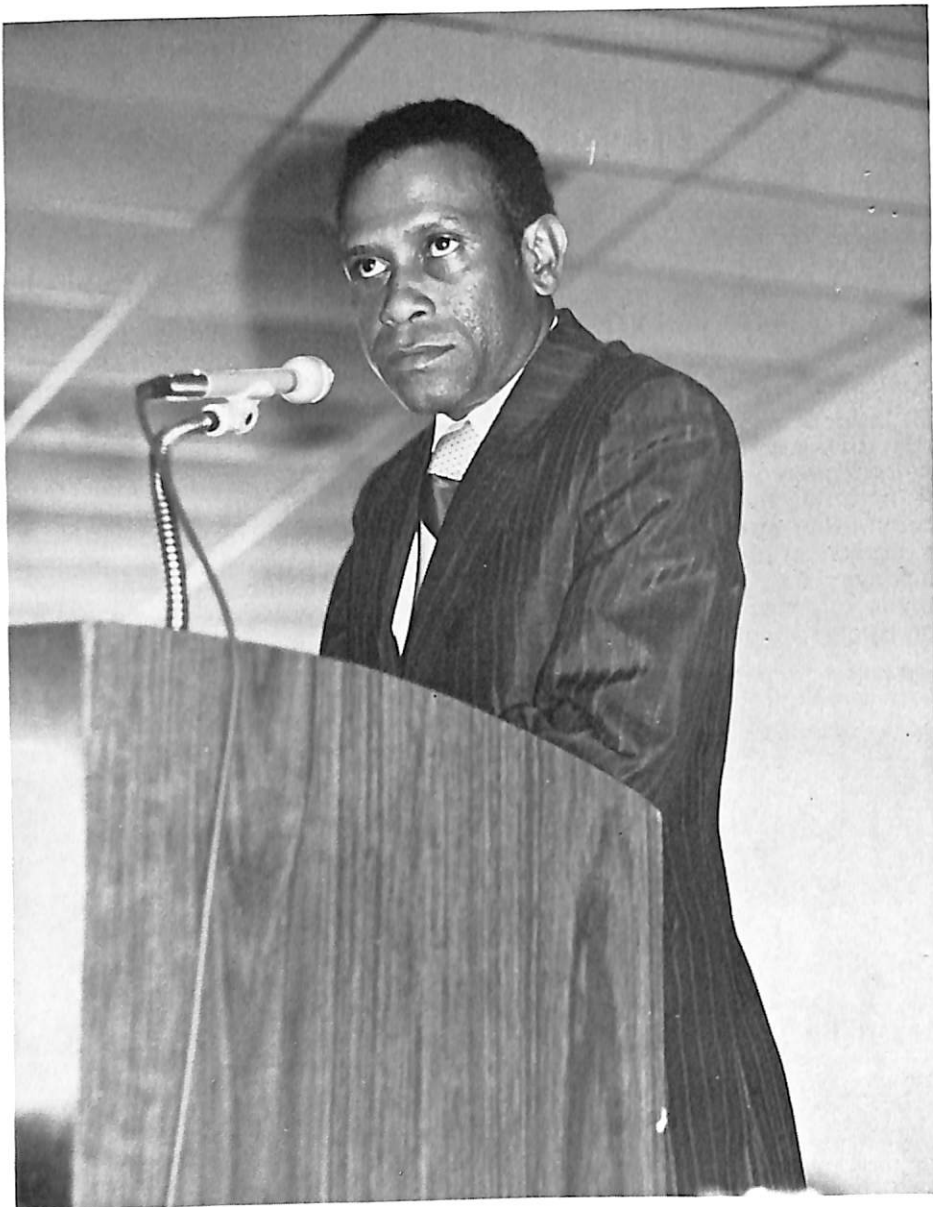
And it is vitally important that criminals today should know that the existence of legal boundaries and natural and geographical frontiers does not limit law enforcement action or constitute a real obstacle to those responsible for punishing crime. And as men are organising meetings to deal with matters such as International Law, International Politics, Education, Science, and Health, it is equally important that an organization such as Interpol should meet to discuss the prevention of crime and law enforcement at international level. It is often thought that a person committing an offence is attacking a person or an institution. I think however that on many occasions, these offences represent an attack on Human Rights and Human Rights

are of universal significance. Interpol is, then, an Organization whose roots are embodied in the very Declaration of Human Rights that first began to emerge during the French Revolution and finally took the form of the Declaration of Human Rights that was drawn up in San Francisco in 1945.

We are very much aware of the strength and power of Interpol, but this strength and this power depend wholly on the support the Organization receives from governments the world over. Naturally, Panama is playing its part and the support the Organization receives is very significant as can be seen from the fact that 109 countries have sent delegations to this Conference, a Conference which testifies to countries' willingness to assist each other in confronting the tactics and inventions of the inter-



The conference hall during the opening ceremony



His Excellency Adolfo AHUMADA,  
Minister of the Interior and of Justice of the Republic of Panama

national criminal organizations, for these also exist and are becoming more aggressive despite the fact that Interpol has already beaten them. This is an objective of prime importance: crime and the criminal must remain one step behind the measures devised and implemented by an Organization like Interpol because this is the only way in which we are going to be able to cope with the undertow currently attempting to disrupt peaceful relations the world over.

Crime today is being fought not only at national level but at the international level as well. One day we shall reach another stage, that of world justice, as Grosso wanted, a situation where the criminal committing an offence in one country is not only handed over to the law enforcement authorities but where International Penal Law really is international, by which we mean that the same criminal act will constitute an offence in any country because there will always be a

court and there will always be a prescribed penal sanction for the offenders, in addition to the various forms of co-operation.

The advances made in the international co-operation machinery that Interpol provides are indeed well-known. The subjects to be discussed at this Conference will make a further contribution. We are waiting, as is the whole world, to see the results of this 47th session, because the whole world wants you to hoist the colours and advance into battle against crime.

We should like to repeat that our Government is most grateful to you, and so are our people, for deciding to meet here. We know that it is a great honour for a country which has set humanity an example, with the Torrijos-Carter Treaty, of how disputes such as that over the Canal can be peacefully resolved. We know that it is an honour for a country whose institutions are battling to ensure that Panamanians can bring up their sons properly; we know it is an honour for a country which has always attempted to welcome others and offer them hospitality, a country which is ready to continue co-operating with Interpol and with any organization struggling to improve world institutions for promoting peace, well-being and social justice.

Lastly, we want to say to you in the International Criminal Police Organization that we in Panama know, as indeed delegates from all the countries represented here today know, that when we dial 602 55 50, a friend is at hand, a friend who is ready to assist when needed.

We now declare the 47th General Assembly session of the ICPO-Interpol formally open and wish you every success in your deliberations. Thank you.

# PROGRESS REPORT

- Relations with countries
- International crime cases
- Dangerous Drugs
- Training Courses, Symposia and Studies
- International Criminal Police Review
- External Relations
- Working Methods and Resources
- Technical Co-operation

The Secretary General introduced the Progress Report which summarized the main activities of the I.C.P.O.-Interpol and the General Secretariat during the period from September 1977 (46th General Assembly session) to October 1978 (47th General Assembly session). Some statistics in the report referred to a slightly different period but that was indicated in each case.

## ● Relations with countries

At the time of the opening of the 47th session the ICPO-INTERPOL had 126 member countries.

The 7th European Regional Conference was held at the Organization's headquarters in February 1978, and the 6th African Regional Conference was held in Tunis (Tunisia) in May 1978.

## ● International crime cases

The Report pointed out that the fight against international crime was the Organization's raison d'être and the permanent concern of the National Central Bureaus and the General Secretariat.

The General Secretariat dealt with a larger number of cases than in the preceding year, a fact which reflected an improvement in co-operation. 22 modus operandi sheets were sent out between 1st June 1977 and 1st June 1978.

Statistics for the General Secretariat's activities were as follows:

- Cases handled: 36,973
- International notices issued about persons: 480
- International notices issued about stolen property: 144
- Items of information supplied to NCBs: 14,286

A brochure on the identification of machine-pistols had been published and sent out to the National Central Bureaus.

The special lists of "Most Wanted Works of Art" were published twice a year after being vetted by an expert; a form for standardising descriptions of stolen works of art was being studied.

## ● Dangerous Drugs

The Drugs Sub-Division continued to improve its working methods with a view to achieving its ultimate aim, which was to become a real international information centre on illicit drug traffic.

The five European liaison officers assigned to the Drugs Sub-Division had carried out 28 general missions, visiting the National Central Bureaus in their respective areas, and several specific missions in connection with particular cases. Steps were being taken to recruit a sixth liaison officer.

The Latin-American liaison officer had carried out two missions in his area. The South-East Asian liaison officer had conducted three missions in his area. A Caribbean liaison officer had been appointed and had carried out two missions in his area.

The number of drugs cases handled by the General Secretariat between 1st June 1977 and 1st June 1978 (21,088) was practically the same as the figure for the previous year (21,411).

Police/Customs co-operation continued on the same sound basis during 1977. Periodic meetings were held between representatives of the Customs Co-operation Council Secretariat and the Interpol General Secretariat.

A report on the general situation regarding illicit drug traffic had been prepared for the General Assembly.

The General Secretariat had pursued its work in connection with the publication of circular letters describing the activities of gangs of traffickers and various types of modus operandi, and providing other information of strategic or tactical value.

The audio-visual teaching material on drugs was no longer available but an updated version was being prepared; in addition, a study on drug terminology was being printed.

Co-operation with the United Nations had continued: the General Secretariat had been represented at the 5th Special Session of the Narcotic Drugs Commission (February 1978) and had participated in the work of the Sub-Commission

on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East (Tehran, 23rd September - 2nd October 1977).

On three occasions (June 1977, September 1977 and April 1978), the General Secretariat had been visited by trainees attending courses held at the United Nations training centre in Geneva, and Interpol had taken part in three training courses organised by the United Nations in different countries.

A European Conference for Heads of National Drugs Services was held at Interpol headquarters in January 1978, and a similar South American Conference was held in Buenos Aires in February 1978.

A Europe-Middle East Conference for Heads of National Drugs Services was held in Islamabad on 14th June 1978.

Finally, experts from the General Secretariat attended several meetings organised by the Customs

Co-operation Council and a considerable number of international conferences on drugs.

#### ● Training Courses, Symposia and Studies

Several of the symposia and meetings included in the Programme of Activities were held at the General Secretariat, in particular those on the use of electronic data processing by the police, on civil aviation security, on crime prevention and on forensic science.

A training seminar for National Central Bureau officers was held in English at the Organisation's headquarters in November 1977.

A similar training seminar in French and Spanish was planned for November 1978.

Reports had been prepared on a number of subjects: theft and fraudulent use of airline passenger tickets; women police officers;

civil aviation security; crime prevention; comparisons of police powers in connection with the questioning of persons; electronic processing of police data.

A number of other studies had been completed and sent out to the National Central Bureaus. They included an inventory of research projects and studies of interest to the police; the publication of General Assembly resolutions (1st dispatch); a list of legislative and statutory texts governing the establishment of National Central Bureaus, or mentioning the ICPO-Interpol, or alluding to the Organization.

The collection of international crime statistics for 1973/1974 appeared in March 1978.

The General Secretariat also attended several international meetings sponsored by OECD, the United Nations (preparatory regional meetings for the next Congress), UNESCO, the Council of Europe.



President PERSSON (left)  
and Secretary-General  
J. NEPOTE (right)



## ● International Criminal Police Review

Publication of the International Criminal Police Review was one of the General Secretariat's standard tasks, although not always an easy one.

The Review had been published without interruption since September 1946. The Spanish edition was now published regularly and on time, thanks to the assistance of the Spanish police. The English edition was published with some delay but efforts were being made to improve matters.

An Arabic edition was being prepared in co-operation with the Arab Social Defence Organization; the first number was published in October 1978.

The I.C.P.R. had a sufficient number of forensic science articles awaiting publication but would like more articles on crime investigation techniques used in actual cases and on new working methods and equipment that had been tested by various services. Everyone was interested in new developments and in the experiences of others. The International Criminal Police Review had a fuller role to play as a vehicle for professional information in the future.

## ● External Relations

Between 1st June 1977 and 1st June 1978, 290 individual visitors from 58 countries and 16 groups totalling 619 persons from 19 countries came to the General Secretariat. In addition, 67 journalists, writers and reporters from 18 countries visited the Organization's headquarters.

Interpol had maintained its traditional contacts with the United Nations, with other inter-governmental organizations (I.C.A.O., I.T.U., Council of Europe, Customs Co-operation Council, Arab League) and with various non-governmental organizations (I.A.T.A., International Association of Penal Law, International Society of Criminology, International Society of Social Defence).

## ● Working Methods and Resources

### Working methods

A questionnaire was sent out to National Central Bureaus to elicit suggestions for improving the overall functioning of Interpol and its General Secretariat. A report, submitted to the present General Assembly session, analysed the results.

After examining the report on the 1977 financial year, the balance sheet at 31st December 1977 and the auditors' report, the General Assembly unanimously adopted the report on the 1977 financial year.

The draft budget for 1979 outlined

The General Secretariat was also making an internal review of its own working methods. A number of improvements had already been introduced, for example in connection with updating international notices.

A major project concerning the procedures, tasks and requirements of international co-operation had been undertaken. The documentation collected as a result of this project would be of the greatest importance for the National Central Bureaus.

## Telecommunications

In 1977, the volume of traffic carried by the international police radio network was approximately 19% higher than in 1976, and amounted to 332,166 telegrams.

## ● Technical Co-operation

Since the General Assembly session in Stockholm, technical co-operation funds had been used to provide four travel or maintenance grants for radio operators and 27 grants in connection with the training seminar for National Central Bureau officers held in English in November 1977.

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The progress report was submitted to the General Assembly and adopted unanimously.

# FINANCIAL MATTERS

the distribution of funds required for developing the Organization's activities and had been prepared on the basis of the general economic situation.

It was approved by the General Assembly.

# INTERNATIONAL ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFIC IN 1977

- Evolution of the traffic
- International co-operation
- Annual statistics form on illicit drug production, traffic and use
- The monitoring of precursor chemicals

The purpose of the General Secretariat's report was to give an indication of the extent and nature of the flow of international illicit drug traffic, of the changes in this flow from year to year, of the level of co-operation between member countries in combating the traffic, and of the possible nature of future developments.

During the past twelve months, the general improvement in the quality and quantity of information reaching the General Secretariat had been maintained, and it was hoped that all countries would continue to work towards a high standard in that respect.

It was also very important that all reports and documents published by the General Secretariat on the subject of drugs and illicit drug traffic be distributed at national level so that the information they contained was widely circulated.

## ● Evolution of the traffic

### OPIUM AND ITS DERIVATIVES

#### Opium

The total quantity of opium seized was much lower than during the previous year. The only region in which an increase occurred was Europe, where the total was approximately double the amount reported in 1976. The amount seized in the Far East represented 86% of the world total.

#### Morphine

The total amount of morphine seized showed an increase compared with the 1976 figure. The largest seizures were again made in South East Asia. A significant increase was also noted in the amounts reported by Iran and certain European countries. It seemed likely that some morphine tablets were now being manufactured illegally in the Middle East to cater for the demand in certain European countries.

#### Heroin

A world total of 1,262 kilos was reported seized, compared with slightly less than 1,500 kilos in 1976. Seizures in the Far East and Europe accounted for most of this figure, and Mexico also reported a substantial amount. The general trend, noted in recent years, for opium to be refined into morphine or heroin in or close to the areas of poppy cultivation, appeared to have continued during 1977.

Traffic in heroin from South East Asia to Europe suffered a major setback during the first half of 1977, partly as a result of rigorous enforcement measures taken in Thailand and Europe and co-operation between enforcement services.

It was also noted that an increasing number of European traffickers were going to Thailand to obtain heroin for subsequent distribution in their own countries.

### COCAINE

Although the total quantity of cocaine reported seized in 1977 was substantially lower than in the



Colonel NORIEGA  
(Panama),  
Chairman of the Drugs  
Committee



A delegate  
from the Republic of Korea

previous year, this should not be taken as an indication of any reduction in the illicit traffic. The American continent continued to be the most seriously affected but there had been a steady increase in seizures in Europe in recent years. The flow of cocaine from South America to Europe, across the Atlantic, had risen considerably during the first half of 1978.

### CANNABIS

Greater quantities than ever before were being put on the illicit market. In spite of the massive seizures made in all regions during 1977 there were still no signs of any reduction in the traffic. The total quantity of concentrated liquid cannabis seized in 1977 rose by 46% over the total reported for 1976.

### PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES

It was difficult to reach any firm conclusions from seizure reports on psychotropic substances. As greater control was exercised over the licit trade in pharmaceutical products, so the illicit manufacture of such drugs became more prevalent.

In the case of stimulants, effective action taken in the Netherlands against illicit laboratories brought to an end the activities of seven such laboratories.

The illicit traffic in both stimulants and depressants was probably far more widespread than seizure reports reaching the General Secretariat indicated.

Seizures of the hallucinogen L.S.D. dropped considerably in 1977.

#### ● International co-operation

The General Secretariat report described a few cases that had been solved through international co-operation.

— On 5th July 1977, information sent from the Swiss NCB to the French NCB led to the discovery of a 1-kg. slab of cannabis, and later of 1330 kg. of cannabis resin and approximately 100 kg. of cannabis. A further 30 kg. were seized from a car during the same investigation. In all, nearly 1½ tons of drugs were seized and a dozen international criminals arrested.

— On 27th January 1978, Interpol The Hague informed Interpol Athens

that two Dutchmen travelling on a KLM flight from Bangkok (Thailand) to Vienna (Austria), via Karachi and Athens, were thought to be carrying a large quantity of heroin. The Dutch authorities provided detailed information about the two men and on 28th January, at Athens Airport, the Greek authorities checked up on the two Dutchmen and found 17,934 g. of No. 3 heroin in their luggage.

— On 20th March 1977, the Hong Kong authorities informed the General Secretariat that they had identified four Chinese who intended smuggling heroin from Bangkok to the Netherlands. The General Secretariat transmitted this information to the countries likely to be involved and on 14th April 1977, the Dutch authorities arrested the Chinese in Amsterdam (Netherlands) and seized 2,815 g. of heroin.

#### ● Annual statistics form on illicit drug production, traffic and use

The General Secretariat drew up a report containing national statistical tables which were presented in the same form as in previous years. They were intended to provide

information complementary to that contained in the annual report published by the General Secretariat on international illicit drug traffic.

It was hoped that in future National Central Bureaus would make every effort to complete the forms in as much detail as possible and forward them to the General Secretariat by the due date.

### ● The monitoring of precursor chemicals

The report, submitted by the United Kingdom delegation, pointed out that in most cases psychotropic substances were synthesised from chemicals which were in widespread legitimate commercial use; it was therefore necessary to develop a monitoring system whereby purchases of precursor chemicals were brought to the notice of enforcement authorities.

The first essential step was to identify those chemicals for which monitoring was practicable, and for that purpose the assistance of a forensic scientist was vital.

Having decided which chemicals should be monitored, the next important step was to identify within the country all manufacturers of those basic chemicals.

The arrangements were simple and inexpensive to introduce, but depended on the voluntary co-operation of chemical companies. A further difficulty was that illicit chemists could obtain the precursor chemicals from another country, or else could synthesise them themselves from everyday chemicals.

The report concluded that there was a clear need for improved international co-operation, particularly with regard to the exchange of scientific intelligence and the monitoring of precursor chemicals.

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The General Assembly decided to set up a Drugs Committee and Mr. NORIEGA (Panama) was elected Chairman.

During the discussions, it was stressed that each NCB should see that the General Secretariat publications it received were circulated to the appropriate authorities in its country; it was also mentioned that laboratories in the United Kingdom,

Federal Germany and the United States were willing to analyse drug samples for other countries.

The delegates decried the situation in their respective countries; it was pointed out that the purpose of the Drugs Committee was not to enable delegates to read reports drawn up in advance but to elicit discussions likely to provide information about new trends in traffic and, if possible, suggestions about improving the situation. Assembly sessions were especially suitable for exchanging such general information; the General Secretariat was organising more and more regional meetings to discuss specific points.

On the whole, excellent results had been achieved thanks to the development of international co-operation, in spite of the increase in illicit drug traffic and the appearance of new drugs.

Several countries (Algeria, Republic of China, Dominican Republic, Honduras, Kuwait, Nigeria, United Kingdom / Hong Kong, Uruguay) mentioned that their laws provided heavy penalties for drug traffickers. In Iraq and Thailand, for example, traffickers could be sentenced to death and that was considered an effective deterrent. In Libya, the sentences could not be appealed against and rewards were paid to people who helped the police.

It was important to seize not only the drugs themselves but also the holdings of traffickers (United States) and of financial backers and organisers (United Kingdom). In the United States, the narcotics agencies worked in close collaboration with the inland revenue departments in order to find out about the material and financial resources available to traffickers. They systematically investigated the accounts of persons or firms suspected of being involved in drug trafficking.

It was urged that an international meeting be organised to study ways of rationalising drug law-enforcement and of dealing with financial backers and organisers.

The campaigns to liberalise cannabis use were criticised, for recent scientific studies (USA, Canada) had shown the damage caused by this drug which

affected the lungs and contained carcinogenic substances.

The Algerian delegate urged that any resolution or text emerging from the General Assembly's discussions include a special mention of the real health risks that would be incurred if a permissive attitude was adopted to cannabis and similar drugs which were wrongly thought to be relatively harmless.

Trafficking involving small quantities of drugs had increased and diversified. The work of the ICPO-Interpol liaison officers was particularly appreciated for they supplied the countries concerned with extremely useful information. An extension of the Interpol liaison system was requested at regional level, in the Middle East and South America.

Several delegates stressed the importance of training special narcotics agents, the value of the special courses organised by the United Nations and the ICPO-Interpol, and the need for close collaboration between experts, particularly for exchanging information about traffickers, their "modus operandi", new drugs, legislation, extradition, statistics, etc. A special effort had to be made by developed countries to help the others combat drug traffic more effectively.

The need to inform the public, especially schoolchildren, was also stressed (Spain, Thailand). Publicity about sentences imposed on traffickers could have a deterrent effect. (Libya).

Prevention was very important and the deep-seated causes of drug abuse had to be studied in greater detail (Argentina). Pressure exercised by foreign customers encouraged farmers to grow cannabis which was sometimes more profitable than replacement crops (Morocco).

Delegates also discussed cures for drug addicts (Republic of China, Sudan) and the diversion of legally manufactured drugs to illicit markets (Portugal).

Extradition was the subject of special discussion: the General Secretariat once again drew delegates' attention to Resolution no. 10, adopted by the General Assembly in Stockholm, concerning

the need to speed up the communication of extradition documents to avoid offenders' having to be released on expiry of the maximum period for provisional detention.

The Bolivian delegate stressed the value of special extradition treaties relating to drug traffic.

Citing as an example a co-operation treaty between Switzerland and the United States, the U.S. delegate said he hoped that such treaties would result in the closest possible mutual assistance, in particular with regard to the exchange of information, and reminded the meeting that the question had already been discussed by the United Nations in 1962.

The Committee concluded its meeting by discussing the comparative scientific analysis of drugs.

The Mexican delegation presented an audio-visual programme consisting of coloured slides illustrating drug law-enforcement, and the Hong Kong (United Kingdom) delegation

showed a film entitled "Fighting the Dragon" illustrating the different aspects of the fight against drug trafficking and abuse, and methods for treating and rehabilitating drug addicts.

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The Committee prepared two draft resolutions which were adopted by the General Assembly as follows:

**CONCERNED** with the seriousness of the worldwide problem created by the illicit production, traffic and abuse of cannabis and its derivatives,

**INFORMED** of the results of medical studies carried out recently in the United States and Canada showing that repeated cannabis abuse is positively harmful to health,

**ALARMED** that consideration is being given in certain countries to legalisation or partial legalisation of the possession and use of cannabis,

The I.C.P.O.-INTERPOL General Assembly, meeting in Panama City,

from 19th to 26th October 1978, at its 47th session:

**RECOMMENDS** that in the interests of health all previous resolutions relating to the illicit production, traffic and abuse of cannabis and its derivatives be reaffirmed and that governments of all countries be urged to maintain legal sanctions in respect of all aspects of cannabis abuse.

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**CONCERNED** with the increasing seriousness of the worldwide problem of the illicit production, traffic and abuse of drugs,

**CONSIDERING** the inadequacy of the legislative provisions in certain countries to deal with the problem,

**WITH A VIEW TO** making the fight to diminish or even eradicate the delinquent aspects of the abuse of drugs more effective,

The I.C.P.O.-INTERPOL General Assembly meeting in Panama City from 19th to 26th October 1978, at its 47th session :



The Swedish delegation;  
behind,  
the Swiss delegation

## RECOMMENDS:

1) That Governments of member countries be encouraged to provide for adequate specialised training in sufficient numbers, of personnel who are required to participate in the fight against all aspects of drug abuse, this by the organisation of seminars for all categories of personnel;

2) That Governments of member countries be urged, where this is not already being done, to introduce legislation with more severe penalties against drug traffickers as a deterrent measure to discourage drug delinquency;

3) That Governments of member countries be encouraged to include in their legal provisions, where this does not already exist, extradition for drug related crimes.

# INTERNATIONAL CURRENCY COUNTERFEITING IN 1977

- United States currency
- Other currencies
- "Counterfeits and Forgeries"
- Other counterfeits

The number of countries whose currencies were counterfeited remained about the same: 28 in 1973, 30 in 1974, 29 in 1975, 28 in 1976 and 27 in 1977.

Seizures of counterfeit currency were made in 61 countries.

### ● United States currency

United States currency was by far the most widely counterfeited: counterfeit U.S. notes were discovered in 57 countries (compared with 48 countries in 1976). The total face value of counterfeit U.S. notes seized in 1977 was \$53,981,408.

Of the \$33,692,947 worth of counterfeit U.S. notes found in the United States, about 86% were seized before they could be put into circulation.

In 1977, there was a drop in the number of counterfeit U.S. notes seized throughout the world, in particular within the United States, whereas there had been an upward trend in 1976.

### ● Other currencies

Counterfeits of other countries' currencies were seized as follows:

#### Western Europe:

Counterfeit currencies of the West African Financial Community, Federal Germany, Argentina, Belgium, Cameroon, Canada, Colombia, Spain, France, Hong Kong, Italy, Lebanon, Mozambique, Netherlands, United Kingdom, Sweden, Switzerland, Venezuela and Yugoslavia.

#### Africa:

Counterfeit currencies of the West African Financial Community, Federal Germany, Saudi Arabia, France, Italy, Libya, Netherlands and Switzerland.

#### America:

Counterfeit currencies of Brazil, Ecuador and Venezuela (all seized in South America), and of Canada and Italy (all seized in North America).

#### Asia:

Counterfeit currencies of Hong Kong, India and Thailand (all seized in South-East Asia), and of Jordan and Lebanon (all seized in Western Asia).

428 new types of counterfeit U.S. notes were recorded, — 23.6% fewer than in 1976.

The General Secretariat also recorded 38 new types of counterfeit currencies of 18 other countries — 15.5% fewer than in 1976.

More discoveries of counterfeit U.S. currency printshops occurred in the United States than elsewhere, but several such printshops were discovered in the Philippines, Italy, Canada, Federal Germany and Lebanon.

### ● "Counterfeits and Forgeries"

During 1977, descriptions of 186 types of counterfeit notes and of 84 types of newly-issued genuine notes were published in the reference work "Counterfeits and Forgeries". These figures represented increases of 39% and 25% respectively over 1976.

### • Other counterfeits

During 1977, there were 10% more cases involving manufacture and circulation of counterfeit banking documents. European countries were more seriously affected by such activities in 1977, but there were notable increases in the Far East and Africa as well. In Africa,

in fact, specialisation in such offences seemed to have developed, though it was too early to talk of "organised crime".

In conclusion, although international currency counterfeiting still gave cause for concern, the situation seemed to have been stabilised.

International co-operation, in the form of exchanges of information, progressed significantly in 1977 and the number of cases handled by the two specialised groups at the General Secretariat (Counterfeit Currency Group and International Frauds Group) was considerably higher.



The Danish delegation

## PREVENTION OF UNLAWFUL INTERFERENCE WITH CIVIL AVIATION

The Assembly decided to set up a Committee and Mr. WONE (Senegal) was elected Chairman.

The Committee studied:

- The report on the Symposium on unlawful interference with civil aviation.
- The theft and fraudulent use of airline passenger tickets.

The latter subject, discussion of which had been postponed at the previous Assembly session, was presented in two reports, one submitted by the General Secretariat and one by the I.A.T.A. Observer.

The following resolutions were drafted by the Committee and adopted by the General Assembly:

**HAVING STUDIED** Reports 8 and 9 concerning the theft and fraudulent use of airline tickets,

**NOTING THAT** in many countries passenger tickets are fraudulently obtained, stolen, fraudulently altered and counterfeited and used for illicit purposes particularly in connection with currency exchange and that such activities currently constitute a form of international crime,

**CONSIDERING THAT** the fight against this form of crime can be improved by co-operation,

The I.C.P.O.-INTERPOL General Assembly, meeting in Panama City, from 19th to 26th October 1978, at its 47th session:

**EXPRESSES THE WISH THAT** co-operation between the airline companies and the police be instituted or

reinforced, as the case may be, in order to permit better development of investigations;

**CONSIDERS IT NECESSARY** for the police officers responsible for these investigations to be given adequate information about the procedures for issuing and validating such tickets;

**EMPHASISES THE BENEFIT** to be derived from the setting up, in certain countries, of police units specialising in such matters;

**DRAWS ATTENTION** to the importance of study by all the institutions concerned of prevention measures such as the security of airline offices and travel agencies against ticket thefts, increased security arrangements for postal shipments of tickets, improvement of ticket validation procedures, and the use, in the manufacture of such tickets, of means for preventing counterfeiting;

**RECOMMENDS:**

a) that the exchanges of information should continue between the General Secretariat and the appropriate international bodies, and between police organisations and airlines at the local level, for the study and implementation of measures to combat this type of crime;

b) that appropriate procedures be implemented to ensure adequate investigation and prosecution of offenders even if the offence was committed abroad;

c) that co-operation be reinforced in this field between the member countries to make it possible to identify, search for and prosecute persons committing theft, fraudulent alteration, counterfeiting and/or illicit trafficking of airline passenger tickets;

d) that, insofar as communicating lists of such tickets and *modus operandi* of offenders is concerned, good co-ordination be established between the NCBs, the General Secretariat, and the appropriate organisations to ensure information is circulated and transmitted rapidly and efficiently to the services concerned without any duplication.

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**RECOGNIZING** that crimes involving unlawful interference with international civil aviation continue to threaten civil aviation safety, most importantly the safety of passengers and crew and possibly other persons.

**RECOGNIZING** that such crimes have resulted in the loss of lives and destruction of and/or extensive damage to aircraft and airport facilities,

**RECOGNIZING** that the civil aviation systems of all member countries are potential targets and the citizens of all member countries potential victims,

**RECOGNIZING** that it is vitally important that all member countries seek to prevent and eliminate the use of their territories for criminal activity related to acts of unlawful interference with civil aviation,

**RECOGNIZING** that the establishment of preventive security measures would further limit the capabilities of these offenders to conduct their dangerous activities,

**CONVINCED** that the mutual co-operation of all member countries is absolutely necessary to effectively combat and prevent such crimes,

The I.C.P.O.-INTERPOL General Assembly meeting in Panama City from 19th to 26th October 1978, at its 47th session, therefore **RECOMMENDS** the Interpol National Central Bureaus to:

1) Bring to the attention of and encourage their respective governments to take whatever actions are considered necessary to prevent the use of its territory for criminal activity related to acts of unlawful interference with civil aviation and/or as a refuge to avoid criminal prosecution for such acts;

2) Encourage their respective governments to take whatever actions that are necessary to ensure the effective administration and maintenance of security measures in international air transportation that are at least equal to the minimum standards which are established pursuant to the conventions or other texts on international civil aviation security, i.e.:

- a) The protection of airports, aviation facilities and aircraft,
- b) The screening of passengers and their carry-on baggage,
- c) The additional screening of hold baggage, cargo and mail when necessary to cope with certain special risk situations,
- d) Planning to meet every conceivable contingency associated with the unlawful interference with civil aviation,
- e) Appropriate training and continued supervision of personnel engaged in any way with implementation of the measures mentioned in the present resolution.
- f) To provide adequate manpower and facilities including equipment for the implementation of the measures mentioned in the present resolution.



# CRIME PREVENTION

## - POLICE PARTICIPATION IN CRIME PREVENTION ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED BY OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

- Organizations that conduct crime prevention activities
- The role of the police

## - REPORT ON THE SYMPOSIUM ON CRIME PREVENTION

- Subjects adopted at the 45th General Assembly session
- Subjects suggested by the General Secretariat

The Assembly decided to study Crime Prevention in Committee, and Mr. KOBLAN-HUBERSON (Ivory Coast) was elected Chairman.

## POLICE PARTICIPATION IN CRIME PREVENTION ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED BY OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

The Committee began by considering the report submitted by the General Secretariat, drawn up on the basis of information supplied by the National Central Bureaus; it supplemented the report entitled "Principles for Organizing Police Crime Prevention Activities" submitted by the General Secretariat at the 46th General Assembly session in Stockholm in 1977.

Since the concept of "crime prevention" varied from country to country, depending on cultural and legislative factors, it was difficult to find a common denominator in the replies to the questionnaire.

The first part of the report focussed on the general characteristics of organisations that, with the help of the police, conducted crime prevention activities.

The second part described how, in general terms, the police took part in those crime prevention activities.

- Organizations that conduct crime prevention activities

The report studied such organizations under the following subsections: *nature*, *types of efforts*, objectives, operational scopes, means and methods.

### NATURE

It seemed that empirical factors usually determined the initiation of crime prevention activities. Organizations, be they public or private, were set up specifically to conduct crime prevention activities as needed; moreover, there might be only one or several public or private organizations engaged in a given prevention activity.



Mr. KOBLAN-HUBERSON  
(Ivory Coast),  
Chairman  
of the Committee  
on Crime Prevention

## TYPES OF CRIME PREVENTION EFFORT

Crime prevention efforts could be of three types: **special**, when agencies were set up specifically to handle particular threats; **incidental**, when groups conducted crime prevention activities not as their **raison d'être**, but only incidentally to their primary interests, as complements, for example, to their humanitarian commitments; **general**, when national-level organizations had responsibility in several areas to ensure that crime prevention efforts did not overlap.

## OBJECTIVES

They might concern:

- **potential victims**, the purpose being to develop in the public an awareness and resistance to crime.
- **potential offenders**, e.g. former offenders, young drivers.
- **protection of property** (by means of patrols or technical equipment).
- **protection of the environment** (preserving flora and fauna and safeguarding the environment).

## OPERATIONAL SCOPE

**In time:** The enquiry yielded little information about whether crime prevention activities of the organizations in question were permanent or "sporadic".

**In space:** The crime prevention activities of the organizations in question could be conducted locally, regionally (in countries where the administration was not highly centralized), or nationally.

Most replies described nationally centralized agencies conducting widespread crime prevention activities through various regional and local branches.

Some national organizations could have practically autonomous regional or local branches connected to central organizations only insofar as major policy guidelines were concerned.

## MEANS

**Personnel:** Crime prevention organizations used all sorts

of personnel, e.g. government employees (in public organizations), salaried personnel, volunteers, full-time and part-time employees, employees with very varied backgrounds.

**Funding:** Public organizations were usually supported by public funds, while private organizations could be granted government subsidies. Private organizations might help the police finance crime prevention activities.

## METHODS:

Organizations might engage in scientific research, conduct campaigns to inform and instruct the public, provide aid and assistance or attempt to deter potential offenders.

### • The role of the police

Most replies said that crime prevention was one of the main duties incumbent upon the police; it was therefore logical to see the police lend support to organizations that conducted activities for crime prevention purposes.

In the report "Principles for Organizing Police Crime Prevention Activities" submitted to the General Assembly in Stockholm in 1977, there was a survey of the extent to which police crime prevention activities were predetermined by laws or regulations and various special provisions were mentioned therein.

In 21 countries, prevention of crime was either mentioned explicitly in laws and regulations or was understood in those laws and regulations that defined overall police responsibility which could be summed up as the protection of people and property.

According to 12 countries' replies, the police could not remain aloof from activities conducted for crime prevention purposes.

Police crime prevention work could take very different forms: moral support; advice and counsel; committee work; talks given to groups; training; manpower loans; material support; aid and assistance.

It appeared that even if crime prevention activity was sporadic, police participation could be considered as permanent, given that the police remained at the service of the various organizations, ready to respond to their least requests within the limits of their resources.

The domains in which the police participated in crime prevention activities developed by other organizations could vary, depending on the general orientation given by the public authorities and on crime trends.

According to the replies received, no text in any country formally limited "police participation in crime prevention activities conducted by other organizations".

The support that the police gave to numerous organizations conducting crime prevention activities enabled the latter to become better acquainted with the criminal process; to keep abreast of new developments and to modify their activities accordingly; to benefit by assistance in the form of personnel, equipment and techniques.

This police assistance also enabled the organizations to be more efficient.

It seemed likely therefore that police support helped to reduce crime by arousing public interest in the subject. It also enabled police officers to realise that crime prevention was everybody's business and that approaches differing from those used by the police could be beneficial. Such collaboration brought them into contact with very different milieus, and therefore gave them a much broader view of the society that they were responsible for protecting.

The report reached the following conclusions :

Over the years, as various circumstances had arisen, some non-police organizations had become more and more deeply involved in crime prevention.

The police had accepted (and often encouraged) this trend, while maintaining their positions as leaders and counsellors.

No laws limited police participation in other organizations' crime prevention activities; the scale of participation depended on means available, circumstances, and social environment.

Generally speaking, the police were eager to co-operate with organizations engaged in crime prevention activities.

Crime prevention activities were conducted by non-police organizations mainly in the following fields: protection of property, protection of certain sectors of the population (the elderly, the young); the fight against drugs; highway safety.

There was a trend towards national co-ordination of crime prevention activities. Several countries had set up committees or administrative agencies with nationwide jurisdiction, to plan and guide the activities of official or private organizations. In all cases, the police continued to play a major role.

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The General Secretariat's report contained an appendix describing the various organizations with which the police collaborated on crime prevention. The appendix

listed the countries in alphabetical order and, for each country, the information was given under the following headings:

- organizations set up specifically for crime prevention purposes,
- organizations conducting activities directed towards young people,
- crime prevention and the mass media,
- safety and security organizations (except road safety groups),
- road safety organizations.
- miscellaneous organizations.

The organizations mentioned in the appendix were those for which sufficient detail was given in the replies sent in by the countries.

### REPORT ON THE SYMPOSIUM ON CRIME PREVENTION

The Committee then considered and discussed the findings of the Symposium on crime prevention which was held at the Organization's Headquarters from 30th May to 1st June 1978 and attended by 77 participants from 40 countries.

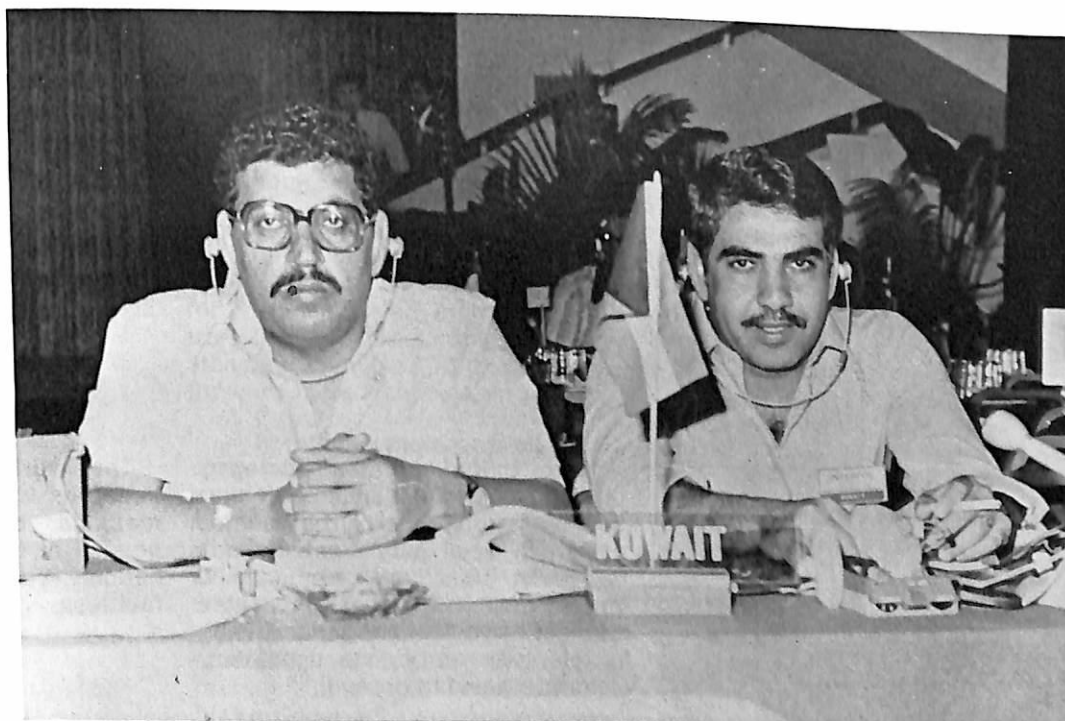
The agenda for the meeting comprised five subjects adopted at the 45th Interpol General Assembly session (Accra, 1976) and four subjects suggested by the General Secretariat:

#### ● Subjects adopted at the 45th General Assembly session

- Crime prevention advisory centres operated both by the police and by other bodies.
- Duties of a purely "social" nature undertaken by the police for crime prevention purposes.
- Mass media crime prevention campaigns.
- Crime prevention and school teaching programmes.
- Police participation in the drafting of laws.

#### ● Subjects suggested by the General Secretariat

- Crime prevention planning and co-ordination agencies.
- Results and practical applications of scientific research into crime prevention matters.
- Prevention of specific types of offences.
- Miscellaneous.



The Kuwaiti delegation

The discussions at the Symposium had provided evidence of police interest in crime prevention. Considerable emphasis was laid on the need to get members of the general public to participate in their own security, and also on the importance of traditional moral values and a sense of civic responsibility. It was also emphasised that the mere presence of a sufficient number of police officers "on the beat" constituted a highly effective crime prevention measure.

From the Committee's discussions on crime prevention in general, it was clear that several delegates wished to see a greater exchange of information on the subject.

An English-language document distributed by the United Kingdom (Hong Kong) delegate emphasised the sociological aspect of the problem ("sociological" being taken in its widest sense), and the need for the police to co-operate with the public.

The United States delegation also announced that a paper on crime prevention was available to all NCBs interested.

Several delegates pointed out that the best way to combat crime was to combat social inequality, for the police could not prevent crime single-handed; it was the responsibility of governments to fight poverty, unemployment, alcoholism and illiteracy and to ensure a fairer distribution of wealth.

However, it was pointed out that in Sweden, for example, although the country had reached a satisfactory level from the point of view of social equality, crime had not decreased. In several countries, it was very difficult to rehabilitate professional criminals for they considered their activities as legitimate work.

It was urged that the General Secretariat compile a report on the relations between private security agencies and the police, and that it circulate to the NCBs accounts of the experiences of other countries.

The Committee voted in favour of maintaining crime prevention on the Regional Conference agendas, and of holding crime prevention symposia every four or five years.

**DRAFT INTERNATIONAL  
CONVENTION FOR  
THE SUPPRESSION OF  
INTERNATIONAL  
TRAFFIC  
IN UNLAWFULLY-  
OBTAINED GOODS**

The Israeli delegation submitted a report describing the difficulties that arose when stolen goods were transferred from one country to another, both with regard to prosecution (some national laws excluded from the definition of "receiving" the case of goods stolen in a foreign country) and with regard to extradition and the recovery of the goods.

Certainly there were bilateral extradition agreements and multi-lateral treaties such as the 1959 European Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters, but those instruments did not adequately solve the many problems connected with international traffic in unlawfully-obtained goods. The report

suggested that only a special multilateral treaty on the subject could solve the problem successfully and that the ICPO-Interpol should examine the problem.

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After a discussion of the report, the General Assembly decided to set up a Working Party, comprising representatives from five countries, which would meet at the General Secretariat to draft a text which could be submitted to the next General Assembly, and which could later be used as a basis for a convention. The NCBs were asked to send their suggestions to the General Secretariat which would pass them on to the group of experts.

**INTERNATIONAL  
THEFT RINGS**

The United States delegate outlined the problem, explaining that thefts of property represented nearly 80% of all offences committed in his country and caused huge financial losses, for the criminal organisations specialising in this type of offence used very elaborate modus operandi.

The cultural heritage of many countries was threatened, and new methods of investigation were needed in this field in which international co-operation ought to be faultless.

## **POLICE POWERS IN CONNECTION WITH THE QUESTIONING OF PERSONS (SUSPECTS AND WITNESSES)**

This report constituted the third part of a larger comparative law study. Part One was the subject of a report on the powers and duties of the police with regard to detention, submitted to the General Assembly in 1969; Part Two, dealing with searches of persons and premises and the seizure of property, was submitted to the General Assembly in 1973. The report entitled "Police powers in connection with the questioning of

persons (suspects and witnesses)" was in the process of being drafted and would be sent out to the NCBs after the General Assembly session. It would constitute the final part of the survey of laws and regulations governing police powers in crime investigation.

## **STATUS AND FUNCTIONS OF WOMEN POLICE OFFICERS**

This report was compiled by the General Secretariat as a result of a decision taken by the General Assembly in Stockholm and on the basis of replies to a questionnaire sent out to the NCBs.

The main points emerging from the report were as follows:

— Women police officers were employed in 55 countries; several other countries were planning to introduce women police officers. (The report printed a table giving the percentage and, where possible, the actual number of women police officers in each country.)

— With regard to recruitment, nearly all countries replied that the same academic standards applied indiscriminately to male and female recruits. As far as physical requirements were concerned, the majority of countries indicated that the minimum height requirement for women recruits was lower than that for men; however, eighteen countries replied that the physical standards required were the same for both male and female recruits.

— In most of the countries which replied to the questionnaire, the basic training given to female members of the police was practically identical with that given to male personnel. In some countries, women police officers received special instruction (e.g. on the searching and care of women prisoners, on child care, and on how to deal with juveniles).

— Most countries indicated that women police officers could be employed to carry out all police duties and that there were no legal restrictions in that respect. However, a few countries mentioned that women police officers never took part in operations conducted for the purpose of maintaining law and order.

— In many countries, police-women were assigned to road traffic control duties, especially in large towns.

— Several countries stated that policewomen were called upon to handle cases involving women, in particular vice cases or sexual offences such as rape or traffic in women.

— Women police officers were also sometimes assigned duties in the following fields: clerical work; telecommunications; checking of female passengers; guarding female prisoners; identification (including fingerprint work); public relations; police training; crime prevention; crowd control at certain events; public security; protection of female VIPs; drug-related case work; criminal records management; technical and/or expert examination work; vehicle driving; social welfare.

— In the majority of countries, certain specific duties were earmarked for women police officers to the exclusion of their male counterparts.

— Most countries stated that women police officers were promoted in the same way as their male counterparts. 16 countries, however, pointed out that in practice women were not promoted to senior command positions.

— All countries stated that policewomen received the same salaries as policemen of the same rank.

— Civilian females were also employed in the police as: clerks,

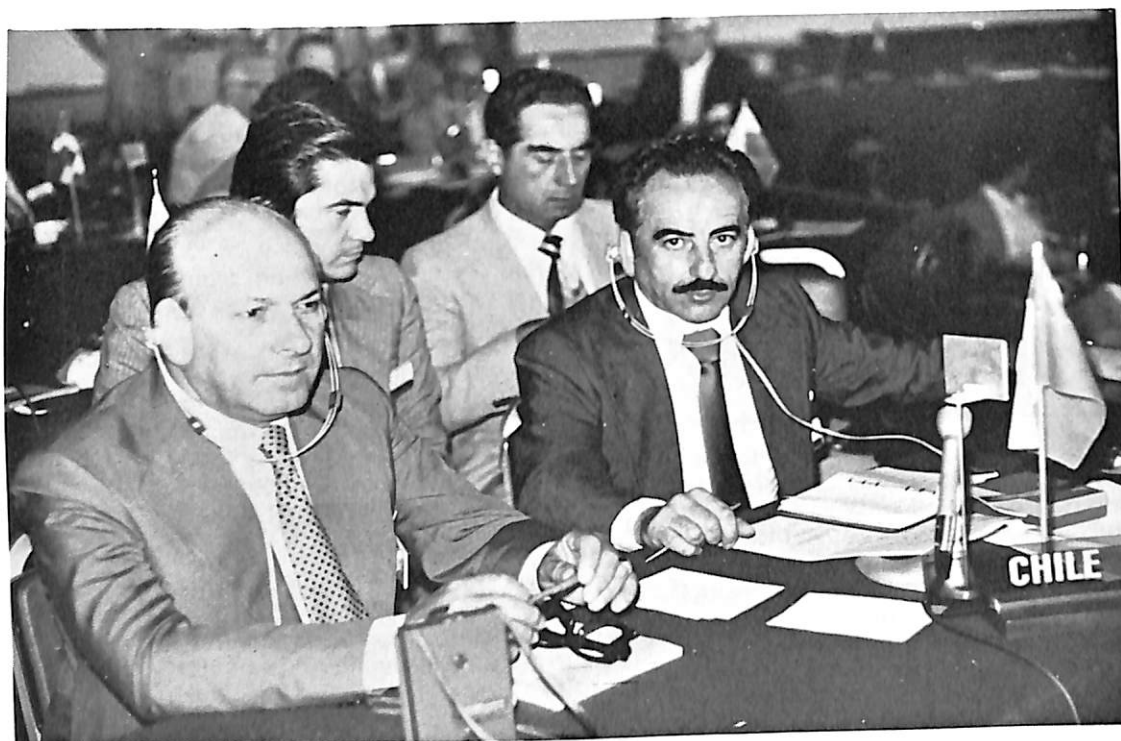
typists; switchboard operators; laboratory technicians; translators; forensic experts; police college instructors; doctors; computer system operators; parking wardens.

Thus, some countries employed civilian females for duties which in other countries were assigned to women police officers.

— Nearly all countries stated that the job performance of women — whether police officers or civilians — was as good as that of their male counterparts.

Apparently, absenteeism was higher among women than among men, but there were few pertinent statistics.

Similarly, it was difficult to assess career trends among women working for the police, because women had not been employed in police work long enough.



The Chilean delegation

## PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

The Chilean delegation submitted a report entitled "Protecting the Environment" which proposed that the natural environment be safeguarded by making "ecocide" a criminal offence.

The Secretary General summarized the delegates' discussions on the subject and reminded them that the General Assembly had adopted a resolution in Accra in 1976, concerning the protection of

endangered species, one aspect of the protection of the natural environment.

It was finally decided that, during the coming months, the General Secretariat would seek further information from the member countries and from the appropriate international organizations. It would then prepare a report which could be submitted for discussion at a future General Assembly session.

## ELECTRONIC DATA PROCESSING

This agenda item comprised two distinct parts.

- **Computerization of police data; laws and other measures for protecting privacy**

A representative of the General Secretariat introduced the report, which listed the main types of measures that might be adopted to protect privacy in an E.D.P. context, reviewed the possible repercussions of such measures on police work, and suggested to police agencies a course of conduct to follow.

The United States delegate reported that a U.S. law had been passed several years previously

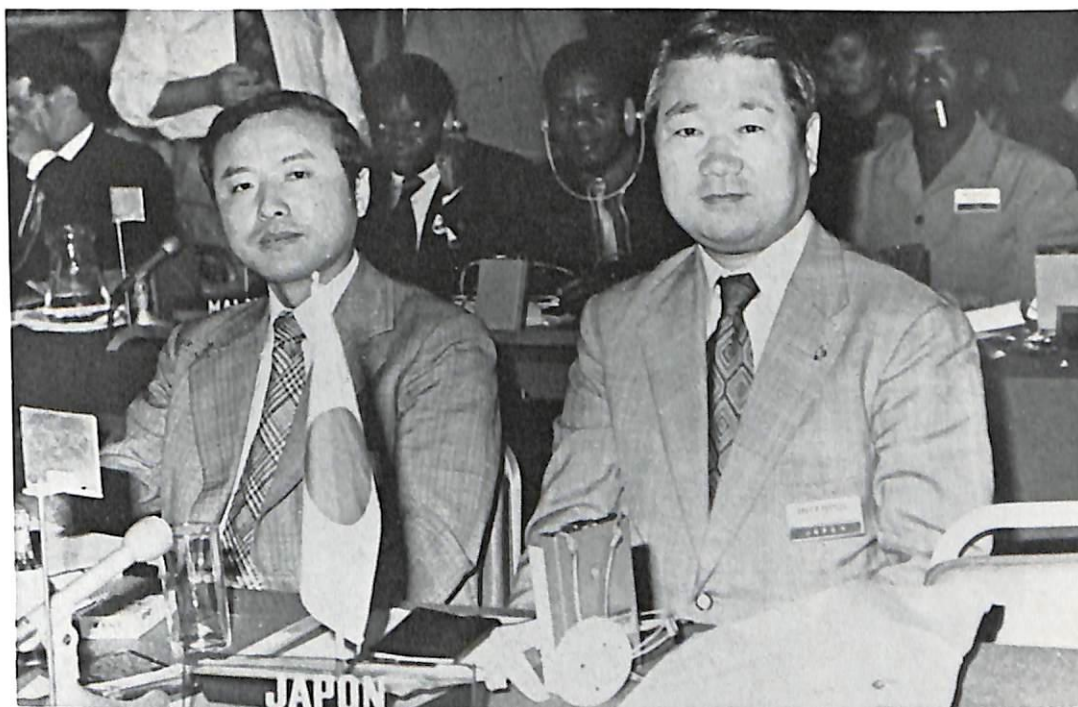
which, for instance, gave people right of access, in certain cases, to computerized data concerning them.

- **Development of the F.I.R. Project**

The Secretary General introduced a report on the subject, which had been prepared to inform the General Assembly about the status of the General Secretariat's plans to set up a computerised search file with long-distance accessing.

After duly studying the report, the General Assembly authorised the working party previously appointed to pursue its task so as to be able to submit a report at the 1979 General Assembly session.

The Japanese delegation



## RADIO-COMMUNICATIONS: PROTECTION OF INTERPOL RADIO NETWORK FREQUENCIES

The Secretary General introduced a report describing the situation: a Worldwide Administrative Conference on Radiocommunications was to be held in Geneva from 24th September to 30th November 1979.

One of the Conference's main tasks would be to revise the "Table of Frequency Allocations".

It was vital that NCBs should approach the appropriate telecommunications authorities in their countries to ensure that the

frequencies allocated to the Interpol radio network were safeguarded.

After a discussion between delegates, the following resolution was adopted by the General Assembly.

**HAVING BEEN INFORMED** that a Worldwide Administrative Conference on Radiocommunications is to be held in Geneva from 24th September to 30th November 1979,

**AWARE THAT** proposals may be made during this Conference with a

view to re-allocating certain frequencies currently assigned to fixed stations and that the Organization's network would be deprived of some of its frequencies as a result,

**REALISING THAT** such re-allocation could eventually make it impossible to operate the morse network in the Europe-Mediterranean region and the radioteletype network, and could also jeopardise some intercontinental links,

The I.C.P.O.-INTERPOL General Assembly, meeting in Panama City at its 47th session from 19th to 26th October 1978,

**RECALLS:**

— That the Radiocommunications Conferences in Washington (1972), The Hague (1927) and Cairo (1938) allocated special frequencies for police use;

— That the procedure for selecting frequencies for the international

exchange of information designed to achieve the arrest of criminals was laid down at the Radiocommunications Conferences held in Atlantic City (1947) and Geneva (1959);

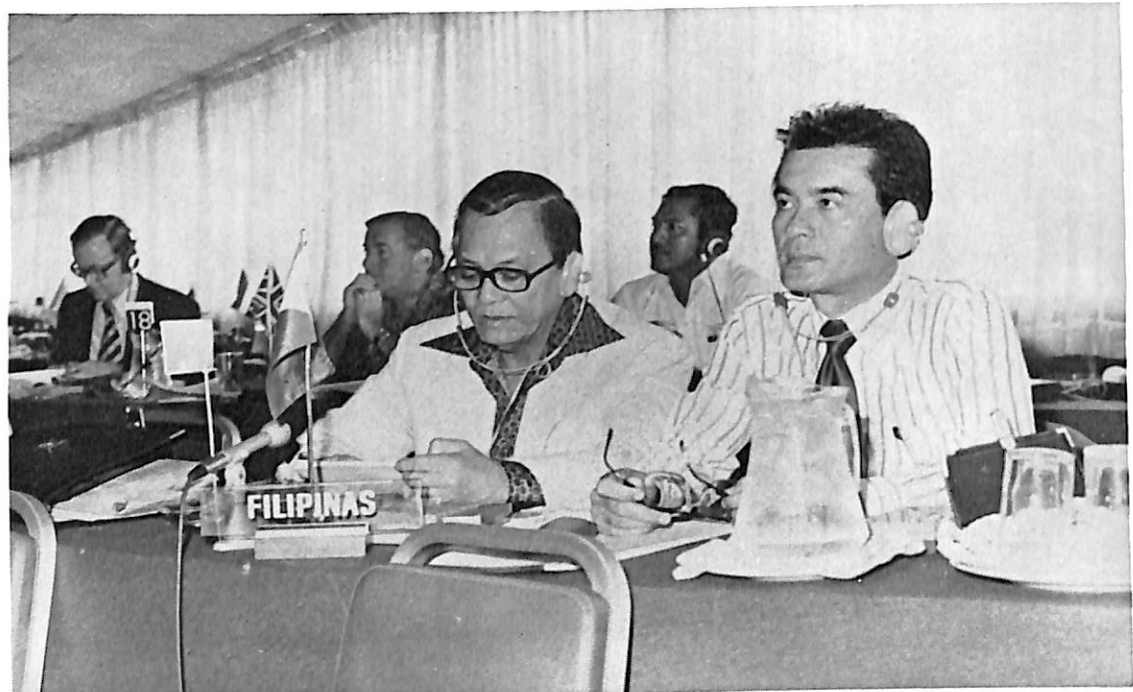
**REAFFIRMS** the importance of the Interpol radiocommunications network which currently covers 53 countries, which carried 330,000 telegrams in 1977, and which the countries concerned and the Organization have built up and modernised at considerable expense;

**DRAWS ATTENTION** to the fact that, if the Interpol radio network was unable to function because it had been deprived of the necessary frequencies and if public telegraph services had to be used instead, international co-operation would be rendered less effective as it would no longer be possible to transmit information simultaneously to several destinations;

**ASKS** the National Central Bureaus to approach the competent national authorities in their countries and request them:

1. To give paramount consideration to the frequencies allocated to the stations on the Interpol network, in any proposals they intend to submit with a view to modifying the Table of Frequency Allocations at the next Worldwide Administrative Conference on Radiocommunications (Geneva 1979);
2. To protect the existing frequency allocations if proposals threatening these allocations are made at the Conference;
3. To ensure, in the event of the Table of Allocations being substantially altered, that the frequencies used on the Interpol network are maintained notwithstanding.

The Philippine delegation



## PLANS FOR EXTENDING THE ORGANIZATION'S PREMISES

The Secretary General introduced a report on the subject in which it was explained that the Organization's premises had to be expanded and a study had been undertaken to find a solution to the problem.

The General Assembly asked the General Secretariat to continue its investigations.



# CONTINENTAL MEETINGS

- European Continental Meeting
- Asian Continental Meeting
- African Continental Meeting
- American Continental Meeting

## ● European Continental Meeting

The European Continental Meeting, chaired by Mr. DE GRYSSE (Belgium), an ICPO-Interpol Vice-President, examined what action had been taken following the resolution adopted by the General Assembly in Stockholm concerning the need to revise extradition treaties, particularly with regard to drug trafficking.

Delegates also discussed the Interpol radio network: it was important for stations to have regular operating hours from 0700 to 2100 hours GMT and to have someone on duty on Sundays and holidays.

The Greek delegate announced that his country would join the Interpol radio network in 1979.

An Interpol telecommunications conference would be held in Saint-

Cloud in Spring 1979, and there would later be an international telecommunication conference in Geneva at which Interpol would have to fight to preserve its frequencies.

The next Regional Conference would be held in Saint-Cloud at the end of January or the beginning of February 1979; the European NCBs were urged to send in their suggestions for items to be included on the agenda.

## ● Asian Continental Meeting

The Asian Continental Meeting, chaired by Mr. BUDIDARMO (Indonesia), noted with satisfaction that many NCBs had already approached the appropriate authorities in their country (Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Foreign Affairs) about implementation of the



Mr. DE GRYSSE (Belgium),  
Vice-President of the I.C.P.O.-INTERPOL  
and Chairman of the European continental meeting



Mr. BUDIDARMO (Indonesia),  
Vice-President of the I.C.P.O.-INTERPOL  
and Chairman of the Asian continental meeting

Stockholm resolution; that was a very encouraging sign for the future, for it proved that General Assembly resolution had direct repercussions in member countries.

With regard to telecommunications, the volume of traffic on the South-East Asian network had increased by 27% between 1976 and 1977.

The Tokyo Regional Station was able to carry out all its functions, and studies were under way to improve the network. New Delhi was prepared to act as relay station for Nepal, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka.

Only one of the seven frequencies allocated to the South-East Asian network was in danger of re-allocation.

A successor had to be found to the present Drugs liaison Officer whose term of office was due to expire; the question of widening the Liaison Officer's sphere of activity would also be studied, and the list of countries in which he would carry out his mission would be reviewed.

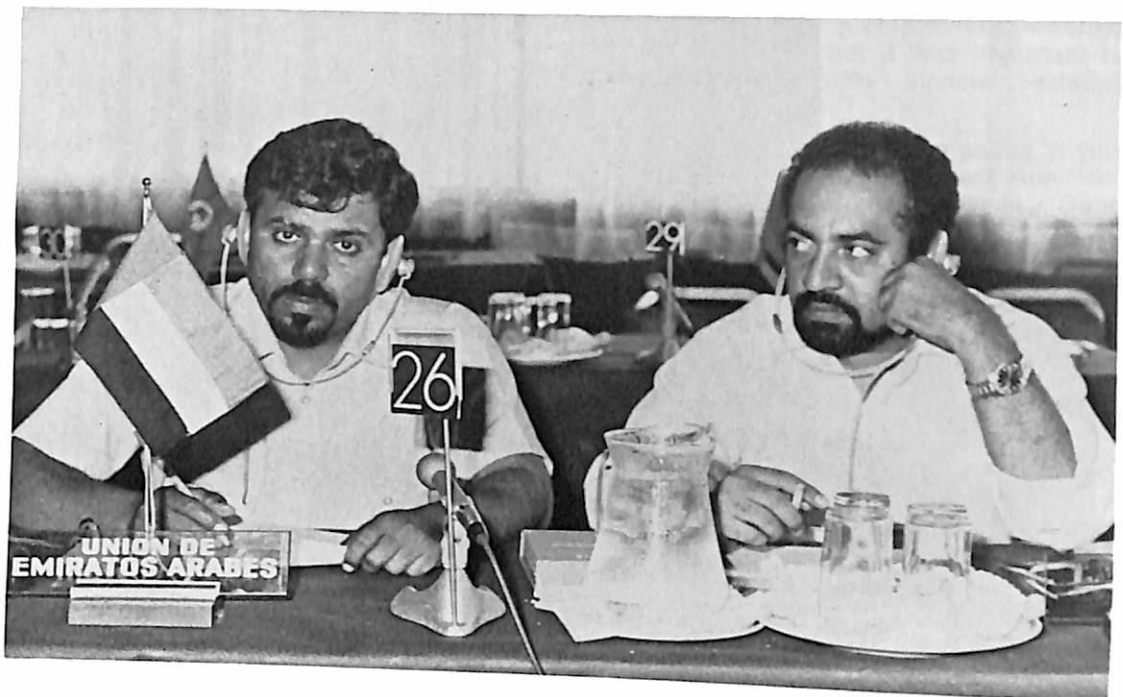
Information about criminal associations ("triads") would again be sent out by the General Secretariat to NCBS.



Mr. SINYINDA (Zambia),  
Chairman of the African continental meeting



The Kenyan delegation



The United Arab Emirates delegation

Finally, it was decided to hold the 5th Asian Regional Conference in Seoul (Korea) in 1979.

● **African Continental Meeting**

The meeting, chaired by Mr.

SINYINDA (Zambia), examined the telecommunications situation in Africa. The stations at Algiers, Rabat, Tripoli and Tunis were part of the European network and operated in Morse; Algiers and Tunis could receive teletype broadcasts directly from the Central

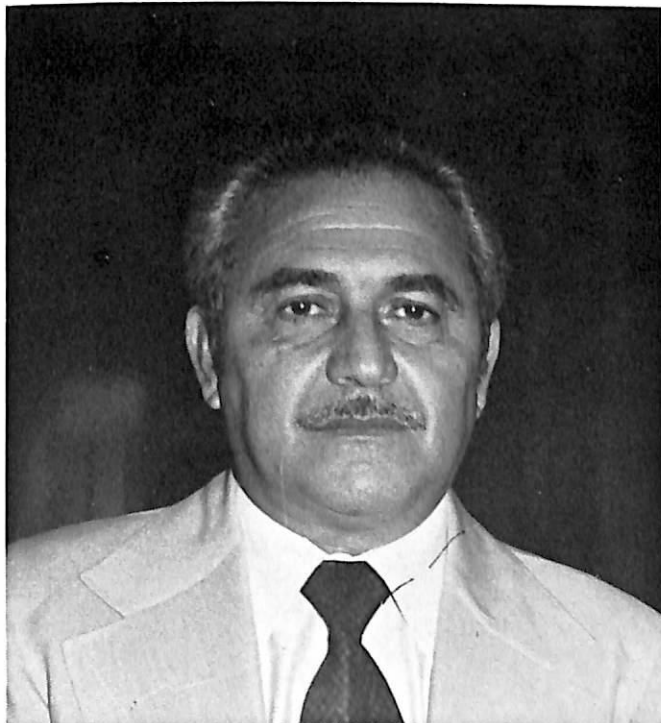
Station. In East Africa, in addition to the regional station in Nairobi, there were stations in Addis Ababa, Dar Es Salaam, Kampala, Lusaka and Zomba. In that zone, the volume of traffic in 1977 had remained the same as for 1976. In West Africa, in addition to the regional station in Abidjan, the regional network comprised stations in Dakar, N'Djamena and Niamey. In Africa, there were two stations which could act as relay stations for other countries: they were the stations in the Ivory Coast and Kenya; it was possible to join the Interpol network at little expense, by joining a regional network.

Senegal's official application to join the Interpol radio network had been forwarded to the General Secretariat; Benin intended to follow Senegal's lead.

One frequency used in West Africa might be in danger of re-allocation, as might two others used for contacts between Paris and the stations in Abidjan and Nairobi.

The follow-up to the extradition resolution adopted in Stockholm was examined.

The meeting accepted the Senegalese delegate's invitation to hold the next African Regional Conference in Dakar in 1980.



Mr. AROSEMENA (Panama),  
Chairman of the American continental meeting

The Haitian delegation



### • American Continental Meeting

The meeting was chaired by Mr. AROSEMENA (Panama).

With regard to telecommunications, the American continent was divided into three zones:

— South America, up to Panama, where the situations was satisfactory;

- the Caribbean and Central America (including Mexico), where there was no telecommunications network;
- the United States and Canada.

The South American network had been very active (a 49% increase in traffic between 1976 and 1977). No frequency in South America was threatened, but three frequencies used for Paris - Buenos Aires contacts were endangered.

The problems concerning telecommunications in the Caribbean area could be discussed at the forthcoming Caribbean Regional Conference in 1979.

The following points emerged from the discussions: regional network telecommunications conferences would be held regularly (every 2 or 3 years) to be attended by radio technicians associated



The Panamanian delegation

with the network in question; the General Secretariat would recommend that a conference for heads of national Interpol stations be held in Buenos Aires before the conference due to be held in the Spring of 1979 in Paris.

Delegates also discussed liaison between Interpol radio stations and

their National Central Bureaus, the best solution consisting of a direct teletype line between the radio operator receiving the telegrams and the Interpol NCB.

With regard to extradition, a draft inter-American treaty could be submitted at the next American continental meeting. Progress on

extradition problems was always very slow, but it was important to endeavour to update existing agreements.

At the end of the meeting, it was decided to hold the next American Regional Conference in Quito (Ecuador) in May 1979.



Mr. L.B. SIMS (United States),  
Chairman of the Meeting of Heads of NCBs



The Mauritanian delegate

## MEETING OF HEADS OF NATIONAL CENTRAL BUREAUS

- **General review of the functioning of Interpol**
- **Briefing regional and local police services about the ICPO-Interpol**
- **Day-to-day co-operation in combating international fraud**

As is the case every year, the Heads of National Central Bureaus met to review different questions. Mr. SIMS (United States) was elected Chairman of their Meeting.

### ● **General review of the functioning of Interpol**

A report had been compiled by the General Secretariat on the basis of replies to a questionnaire sent out to NCBs; the information was organized as follows: General Secretariat and National Central Bureau Activities; Organization and working methods of General Assembly sessions; Regional Conferences and Symposia.

The results of the general review of the functioning of Interpol, as reflected in the replies received,

were positive in the final reckoning, inasmuch as no fundamental criticisms were voiced of the way in which co-operation took place.

The report was used as a basis for discussion by the delegates and it was decided to set up a drafting committee to prepare a draft resolution.

### ● **Briefing regional and local police services about the ICPO-Interpol**

A General Secretariat report on the subject, entitled "Briefing regional and local police services in member countries about the co-operation machinery provided by the I.C.P.O.-Interpol", was commented on by a General Secretariat representative.

A more intensive information campaign was recommended, and a booklet that had been prepared for the NCBs was shown to delegates. The document was printed in English, French, Spanish, and Arabic, and described the way Interpol worked, its role and activities.

The importance of the role played by the I.C.P.R. was stressed by two delegates: they expressed satisfaction with the exchange of information which, through the Review, contributed greatly to the development of international co-operation and said they hoped that national police journals could reprint certain articles in the I.C.P.R.. It was noted that permission to reprint articles was always granted, provided the author himself agreed.

Most NCBs briefed their local police forces, using various methods (lectures; symposia; visits to local police departments by NCB officials).

In the United States, a booklet had been published to explain how

Interpol operated and how the Washington NCB could be contacted. The booklet also listed the names of all member countries.

• **Day-to-day co-operation in combating international fraud**

Following a decision by the General Assembly in 1977, a symposium on the subject was to be held at the General Secretariat in 1979.

During the discussions, delegates emphasised the need to strengthen international co-operation by exchanging information about fraudulent invoices. A description of the relevant "modus operandi" had been circulated to the NCBs.

The General Secretariat representative stressed that if an NCB was unable to comply with a request for information, it should acknowledge receipt of the request and indicate the reasons for its inability to co-operate.

The following resolution, submitted by the meeting of Heads of

National Central Bureaus, was adopted by the General Assembly.

**IN VIEW OF** Reports Nos. 21 submitted by the General Secretariat and 21 bis submitted by the United States Delegation,

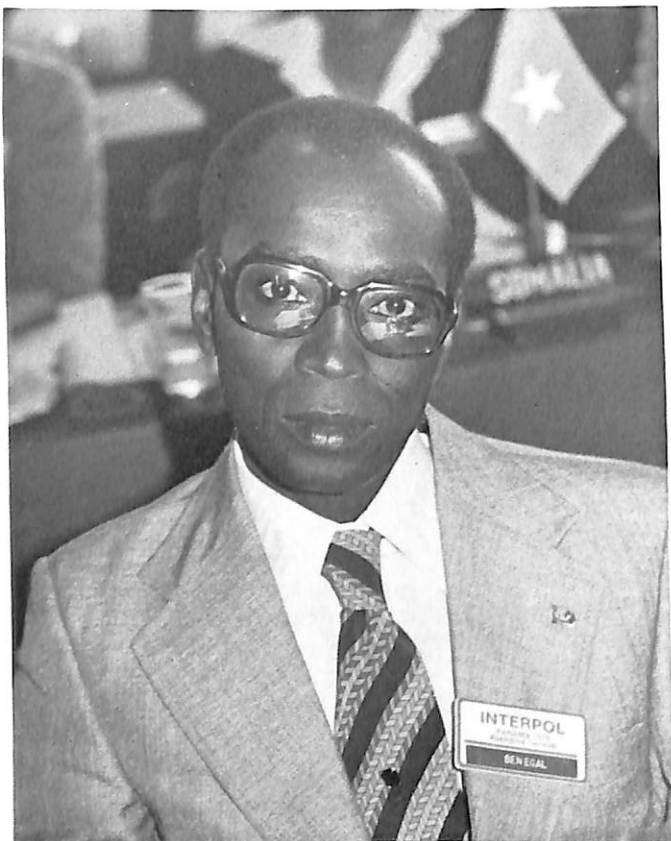
**IN VIEW OF** recommendation No. 4 adopted by the 6th American Regional Conference (Montevideo 1977),

**CONSIDERING** the continuing need to improve the efficiency of day-to-day co-operation within the framework of INTERPOL,

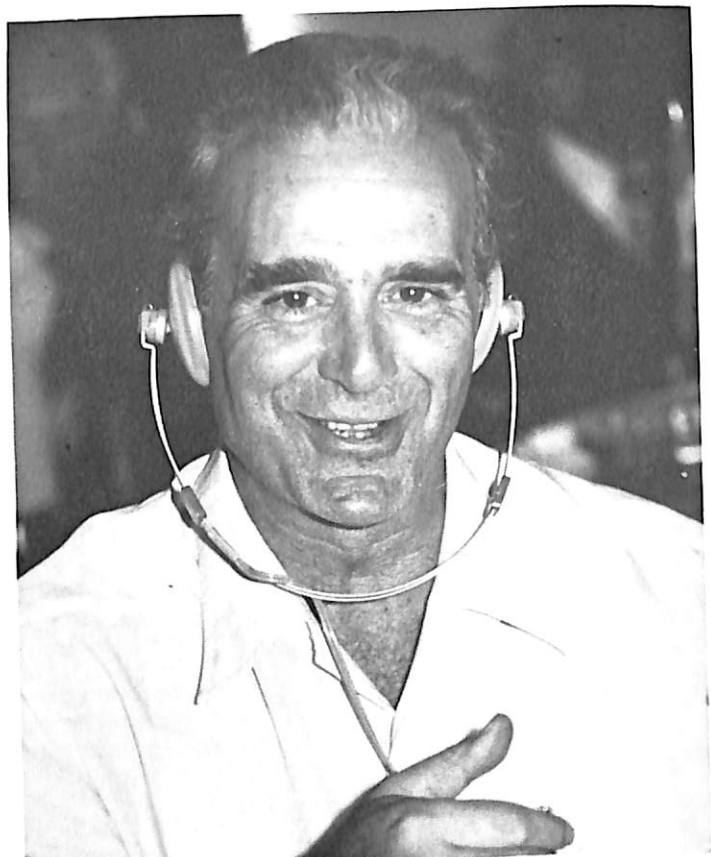
The I.C.P.O.-INTERPOL General Assembly, meeting in Panama City, from 19th to 26th October 1978, at its 47th session:

**REMINDS** NCBs of the provisions of Article 15, paragraph 74 of the Regulations of International Police Telecommunications and of the General Secretariat's circular letter 924-TECOM/200 of 9th February 1971 entitled "The radio network: rules to be observed";

**ALSO REMINDS** NCBs of the provisions of Resolution AGN/44/RES/3 adopted by the General Assembly at its 44th session (Buenos Aires 1975);



Mr. I. WONE (Senegal),  
newly-elected Vice-President of the I.C.P.O.-INTERPOL



Mr. ASTILLEROS (Spain),  
newly-elected member of the Executive Committee

FURTHER REMINDS NCBs that the indications "D" and "XD" refer to the transmission of the message. "D" signifies that the message must be transmitted as a matter of urgency and "XD" indicates that absolute priority must be given to the message, interrupting other traffic on the network;

RECOMMENDS therefore that NCBs should only use the indication "XD" for messages in cases where it is essential for the receiving NCB to take immediate police action;

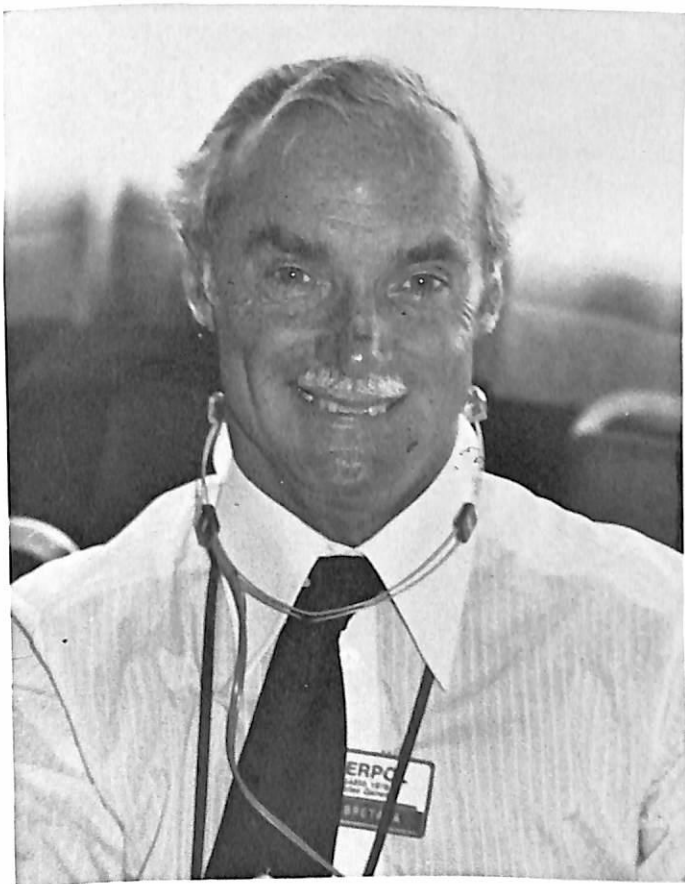
RECOMMENDS that any NCB request-

ing urgent information from another NCB should indicate the date by which the information is required;

ASKS the receiving NCB to reply by the date given by the requesting NCB or to acknowledge receipt of the request and provide the probable date the response will be forwarded; in those instances where the receiving NCB cannot provide the assistance requested, it should so inform the requesting NCB immediately;

RECOMMENDS that where this is not already being done, each NCB take the necessary measures to ensure that

all urgent "D" and "XD" messages received are monitored 24 hours a day (including weekends and holidays), so that appropriate action can be taken immediately.



Mr. KELLAND (United Kingdom),  
newly-elected member of the Executive Committee



Mr. OKEIL (Egypt),  
newly-elected member of the Executive Committee

## THE 1978-1979 PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES

The General Secretariat had drawn up a programme of activities for the period 1978-1979 (that is, until the next General Assembly session), which was submitted to the General Assembly.

The programme proposed a number of activities, some of which are listed below:

- Expansion and modernization of the Central Radio Station.
- Preparation and adoption of INTERPOL teletype network regulations and modification of the International Police Radio Regulations.
- Continuation of work on the F.I.R. project.

- Training Seminar for NCB officers (in French and Spanish, November 1978).
- National Central Bureaus' possibilities for rapid intervention (additional countries).
- Continuing publication of circulars in the "EXTRA-600" series.
- Publication of General Assembly Resolutions (by year and by subject).
- Revision of the audio-visual teaching material on drugs.
- Use of a mini-computer at the General Secretariat.
- Revision of the INTERPOL Phrase Code (English edition).
- Study of Arabic family names.
- Publication of a "Vade mecum" for the National Central Bureaus.
- Preparation of a guide to drafting drug-case reporting forms.
- Study of the police role in preventing drug abuse.
- Updating of the typewriter identification index.
- Preparation of a guide to describing stolen works of art.
- Updating of the bibliography "Identification of Firearms and Ammunition".
- Updating of "Cartridge Identification".
- Symposium on the influence of gambling and other "marginal" activities on crime.
- Symposium for heads of police colleges.
- Symposium on violent crime by organized groups.
- Symposium on international fraud.
- Interpol telecommunications conference.
- Meeting of Heads of National Drugs Departments in the Gulf Area.
- Meeting of Heads of National Drugs Departments in Europe (late January or early February 1979).
- European Regional Conference (February 1979).
- American Regional Conference.
- Asian Regional Conference
- Interpol Caribbean Area Conference
- Training Seminar for NCB officers (in English, November 1979).



Mr. OLUOCH (Kenya),  
newly-elected member of the Executive Committee



Mr. PEREZ-GARIN (Uruguay),  
newly-elected member of the Executive Committee





Mr. YIGIT (Turkey),  
newly-elected member of the Executive Committee



Mr. KNIGHT (United States),  
Vice-President of the I.C.P.O.-INTERPOL

## ELECTION OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

The Secretary General, Mr. Népote, informed the Assembly that he did not wish to stand for another term of office. Having devoted over 43 years of his life to public service, including 32 years at the ICPO-INTERPOL, the time had come for him to step down.

He had made his intentions clear a long time ago, in particular in 1975 to the Executive Committee. Mr. Népote felt that there was no reason to invoke the provisions of Article 28 of the Constitution, permitting the Secretary General to remain in office beyond the normal retirement age of 65. Nor would it be wise for the Assembly to re-elect him for one year only.

"For each one of us", he said, "time marches on inexorably, and I am no exception to the rule."

He continued:

"Thanks to two of my predecessors, the memorable Secretaries

General Louis Ducloux and Marcel Sicot, I have been extremely fortunate: my career has been truly fascinating from all points of view. My work for the international community has brought me extraordinary satisfaction, both personally and professionally. I feel proud because I have served, always to the best of my ability, such an exceptionally noble cause, a cause to which have rallied so many governments throughout the world and so many men of good will of all nations. My pride springs also from the sustaining confidence in me that you, your governments, and your elected INTERPOL Presidents and Executive Committee Members have always placed in me, and from your friendship. For that, you have my very deepest gratitude and my most heartfelt thanks.

Yet there is sadness in me as I leave my post and the Interpol community:

I feel like a man on the dock of  
 [a bay  
 Who watches a ship as it  
 [carries away  
 His loved ones, but leaving  
 [forever behind  
 Fond mem'ries cut deep in his  
 [heart and his mind.

Such are the sentiments that I wish to express not only to this General Assembly, but to all the Interpol National Central Bureau officers throughout the world who, with no thought for glory, perform the many daily tasks involved in international police co-operation. All of them, working together with all of us, have made our Organization what it is today. And I certainly do not mean to forget my colleagues and my friends at the General Secretariat. Without exception, now as in the past — and some have been with me for many, many years — they have accomplished a considerable task with unflagging devotion."

Mr. Népote stressed that his departure would pose no problems for the Organization where all the managerial positions were held by highly competent men deeply devoted to the cause they served. He hoped that the man selected by the Executive Committee to succeed him would be honoured by an overwhelming vote of confidence. He ended with these words:

"As for the Organization itself, I am confident that it will continue to develop harmoniously and acquire the new resources it needs. Needless to say, for the rest of my life I shall retain a deep attachment for Interpol, just as I shall retain for all of you a most fraternal friendship."

President Carl PERSSON, addressing Mr. Népote, said he regretted but appreciated the reasons for his decision. He outlined for the Assembly Mr. Népote's career in the French government service from 1935 onwards, and his conduct during the war which led to his being awarded the French Croix de Guerre for his work in the Resistance. In 1946 he was seconded to Interpol, in 1958 he was elected Deputy Secretary General, and then in 1963 Secretary General.

The President added: "There is no doubt that much of your own personality has been built into Interpol, thus making it a forum for international police co-operation. Your unstinting efforts have been a source of inspiration to us all and have also inspired governments and organizations all over the world to contribute to international police-co-operation. When difficulties have arisen — and indeed they have — you have always exercised diplomacy and talent to find solutions."

President PERSSON then went on to pay tribute to Mr. Népote's talents as administrator and diplomat, saying:

"It is one thing to be intelligent but quite another — and much more important to my mind — to be generous, too."

President PERSSON said he was sad to lose Mr. Népote as Secretary General, but hoped he would always retain the friend with whom he had worked in close confidence for many years, and in particular since his election as President.

President PERSSON informed the Assembly that, as a tribute to Mr. Népote for the outstanding service he had made to Interpol, the Executive Committee wished to have a plaque fixed to the General Secretariat building and to name the technical assistance grants "the Jean Népote grants".

The President then submitted to the Assembly the following draft resolution which was unanimously adopted by the 102 delegations voting.

**NOTING THAT Mr. Népote, having been re-elected Secretary General in 1973, has now completed his term of office,**

**BEARING IN MIND that Mr. Népote has indicated on various occasions during the last few years that, wishing to retire, he would not seek re-election,**



President PERSSON  
 addressing Mr. BOSSARD,  
 the new Secretary-General.

On the right:  
 Mr. BUDIDARMO (Indonesia),  
 Vice-President of the  
 I.C.P.O.-INTERPOL



Mr. Jean NEPOTE (right) shaking hands with his successor Mr. André BOSSARD

The I.C.P.O.-INTERPOL General Assembly, meeting in Panama City from 19th to 26th October 1978, at its 47th session:

**TAKES NOTE** that Mr. Népote has formally confirmed that he does not wish to seek re-election;

**WISHES** to express hereby its admiration for Mr. Népote and its gratitude for all he has accomplished over the past 32 years on behalf of the Organization, including the 15 years he has served as its Secretary General;

**FURTHER WISHES** to pay tribute to Mr. Népote for the action he has always pursued, independent of any outside influence and to the satisfaction of all member countries, with a view to increasing the effectiveness of international police co-operation, while respecting the provisions of the Organization's Constitution and the national sovereignty of individual States;

**REAFFIRMS** that, as a result of his action, the ICPO-Interpol has been able to significantly extend the fight against ordinary law crimes and offences;

**DECIDES** to confer upon Mr. Népote the title of Honorary Secretary General of the International Criminal Police Organization, as an expression of its highest esteem.

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After reading out Article 28 of the Constitution and Articles 42 and 43 of the General Regulations, the PRESIDENT announced that

the Executive Committee had unanimously nominated Mr. André BOSSARD as candidate for the post of Secretary General. The President gave an account of Mr. Bossard's career, saying that he was 52 years old, held a Doctorate in Law and had entered the French national police in 1950, where he had held various positions of responsibility. In 1972, he had joined the ICPO-Interpol General Secretariat at Mr. Népote's request. Mr. Bossard held the rank of Contrôleur Général in the French police. The President drew attention to Mr. Bossard's qualities, saying he was a highly educated, approachable and broad-minded man.

The result of the vote was as follows:

Votes in favour	: 85
Votes against	: 3
Blank papers	: 4
Spoiled papers	: 3

Mr. André Bossard was declared elected as Secretary General of the ICPO-Interpol.

Mr. Bossard, who had left the conference hall, returned and was applauded by the delegates.

The President informed him that he had been elected Secretary General of the Organization and offered him his congratulations. He added:

"No-one knows better than you what the position involves for you have been so closely associated with it over the last few years.

I am convinced that your great competence will enable Interpol to progress even further in its fight against international crime. I hope that our firmly-established co-operation will continue and I wish you every success in the important job ahead of you."

Mr. BOSSARD thanked the Assembly and said that he, a policeman, was proud to be entrusted with such an eminent position by the most important police body in the world. He continued: "I shall do everything in my power to prove worthy of your confidence. I fully appreciate that my task will be a difficult one. This fills me with apprehension and humility. There are two reasons for my apprehension, the first is the fact that crime is increasing alarmingly, and sophisticated means will be required to combat it. I shall sometimes have to ask you to make special efforts, but I shall not hesitate to do so because I know that you, like myself, are convinced of the need to continually improve this incomparable instrument which is Interpol. The second reason that I am apprehensive is that I am taking over from Mr. Jean Népote and this is a very difficult thing to do."

Turning to his predecessor, he said: "No one deserves the title 'Mr. Interpol' more than you. To accomplish my mission, there is but one method and that is to follow your example and the route you have traced out."

He assured the President, the Executive Committee and the General Assembly that he would do everything possible to prove himself worthy of the confidence placed in him. "I am sure", he said, "that together we can all contribute to the Organization's success. I personally shall do my utmost."

The President then gave the floor to those delegations wishing to pay special tribute to Mr. Népote.

The Chilean delegate spoke first. Speaking as a national of the only South-American country which had attended the 1946 General Assembly session, he outlined Mr. Népote's career and said that he had left an indelible mark on the Organization which he had indeed incarnated. He paid tribute to the Secretary General's work within the Organization and as Interpol representative to the outside world, a role which he had often played. The Chilean delegate presented Mr. Népote with a gift as a token of the esteem in which he was held.

The head of the Indonesian delegation also presented the

Secretary General with a gift as a token of his country's gratitude.

The Swedish delegate said that Mr. Népote was leaving his post at a time when, thanks to his efforts, Interpol had become an international organization recognised and respected throughout the world; to express the Swedish Government's gratitude, and on behalf of his Majesty the King of Sweden, the speaker then invested Mr. Népote as a Commander in the Order of the Northern Star.

The Libyan delegate then offered Mr. Népote his best wishes and thanks, saying that he had made a major contribution to strengthening friendship and co-operation among Interpol member countries. He had always acted with wisdom and firmness, thus enabling Interpol to achieve its goals. The Libyan delegate then presented Mr. Népote with a gift and, turning to the new Secretary General, assured him of his full co-operation and assistance.

On the previous day, the Head of the Gabonese delegation had presented Mr. Népote with a gift to mark his country's gratitude for all the Secretary General had done to promote co-operation. Delegates from other countries such as Iraq, Senegal and Tanzania, had also paid homage to Mr. Népote's outstanding achievements during his term of office.

The ICAO Observer, as the representative of an intergovernmental organisation, felt it was incumbent upon him to pay an official tribute to Mr. Népote; ICAO and INTERPOL had worked together for many years to ensure security in civil aviation. Without Mr. Népote's informed guidance, co-operation between the two organizations would not have been as effective, and ICAO joined the Interpol delegations in paying tribute to him at the present General Assembly session.

Mr. Népote said that he had been deeply honoured to receive those tokens of esteem; he felt that between him and the delegates there was something more than a mere professional bond. However, the praise and honours he had received were not addressed to him alone but to all those who had collaborated with him. He ended his speech and brought the agenda item to a close by declaring: "The Secretary General is dead, long live the Secretary General!"

Delegations from many other countries including, in particular, Argentina, Australia, Canada, Panama, Peru, the United Kingdom, the United States and Venezuela, also paid tribute to Mr. Népote in various ways and at various times, outside the General Assembly's formal meetings.

## ELECTIONS AND CHOICE OF MEETING-PLACE FOR 1979

The Assembly was asked to elect a Vice-President for the African continent. Mr. WONE (Senegal) was elected.

The assembly then voted to elect six Executive Committee members.

The following persons were elected: Mr. ASTILLEROS (Spain), Mr. KELLAND (United Kingdom), Mr. OKEIL (Egypt), Mr. OLUOCH (Kenya), Mr. PEREZ-GARIN (Uruguay) and Mr. YIGIT (Turkey).

Mr. BENHAMOU (France) and Mr. THOMSEN (Denmark) were elected Auditors and Mr. SCHANEN (Luxembourg) and Mr. ALI-IDOWU (Nigeria) Deputy Auditors.

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On behalf of its government, the Kenyan delegation officially invited the ICPO-Interpol to hold its 48th General Assembly session in Nairobi, in 1979. The Assembly unanimously accepted the Kenyan delegate's invitation.

Mr. DE GRUYSE (Belgium), Interpol Vice-President, who had reached retirement age, officially took leave of the delegates, expressed his gratitude to Mr. Népote and wished the new Secretary General Mr. Bossard every success.

The closing session of the 47th ICPO-Interpol General Assembly was honoured by the presence of his Excellency Adolfo AHUMADA, Minister of the Interior and of Justice of the Republic of Panama.

President PERSSON concluded the proceedings and reaffirmed the need for increasingly close international co-operation.

He thanked the Panamanian authorities, the delegates and all the personnel for their help in making the General Assembly a success.

After mentioning the possible social, psychological, economic and cultural causes of crime, the Minister of the Interior and of Justice of the Republic of Panama stated that his country would always support the fight against international crime and then declared the 47th session of the General Assembly closed.



Panama Canal, Miraflores lock

# CONFERENCE SIDELIGHTS

El Panama Hotel



Back home in their respective countries, all delegates will have different memories of Panama, depending on their individual tastes; but everyone will remember the local colour and happy atmosphere of Panama City.

Among the many tourist slogans ("Panama: much more than a canal", "Panama, shop-window of the new world", "the Hong Kong of the West", "Crossroads of the world" etc.) there is one that seems particularly significant: "Panama, land of contrasts": Atlantic-Pacific; sea-mountains; new city-old city; sun-rain. And, for the delegates, there was the contrast between the serious General Assembly discussions and the light-hearted gaiety of the receptions.

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It would have been easy enough for delegates to have spent all their time at the El Panama Hotel, making the most of its comfortable amenities, especially the magnificent swimming-pool.

But the official invitations, the dinners given by the government authorities and the conference

organisers, the sight-seeing tours of Panama City, the Sunday spent at a "finca" outside town, an "Interpol race" at the hippodrome, certainly helped to awaken the curiosity of many delegates; curiosity about a city — and a country — capable of satisfying all tastes.

Panama, in an Indian dialect, means "fish in abundance". This, at any rate, is what high-powered linguists discovered after painstaking research. Visitors to Panama may reach the same conclusion within hours of their arrival: every restaurant offers a huge variety of fish and shellfish (ah, those "langostinos a la plancha"...).

Another memory: the Canal (of course) which the delegates could inspect from one of the observation towers at Miraflores lock, while listening to commentaries by highly competent guides; they were also shown a film giving historical and geographical facts about the Canal. For lovers of statistics (and they do exist), let it be said that the journey from one end to the other takes approximately 8 hours and that ships pay a toll ranging from \$9,000 to over \$40,000.

The Anthropology Museum, with its pre-Columbian gold jewellery,

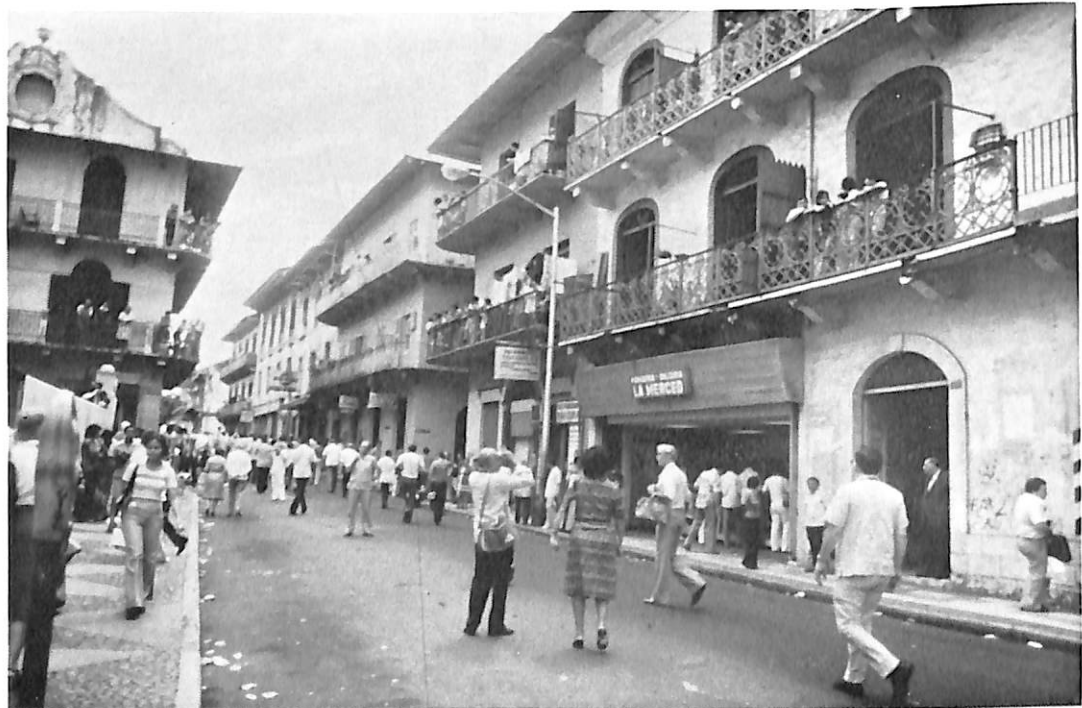
and stone statues, and its models of old-style dwellings, will also remain a vivid memory, as will the Old City, with its cathedral (undergoing restoration), and museum of colonial religious art (Chapel of Santo Domingo) housed in an old convent classified as a historical monument and which contains some admirable paintings and works of art. Finally, no-one will forget the old ruined convent which was one of the deciding factors in the choice of Panama for the construction of the Canal: the fact that its pillars had remained intact over so many years constituted living proof that there had been no earthquakes in the country for a long time.

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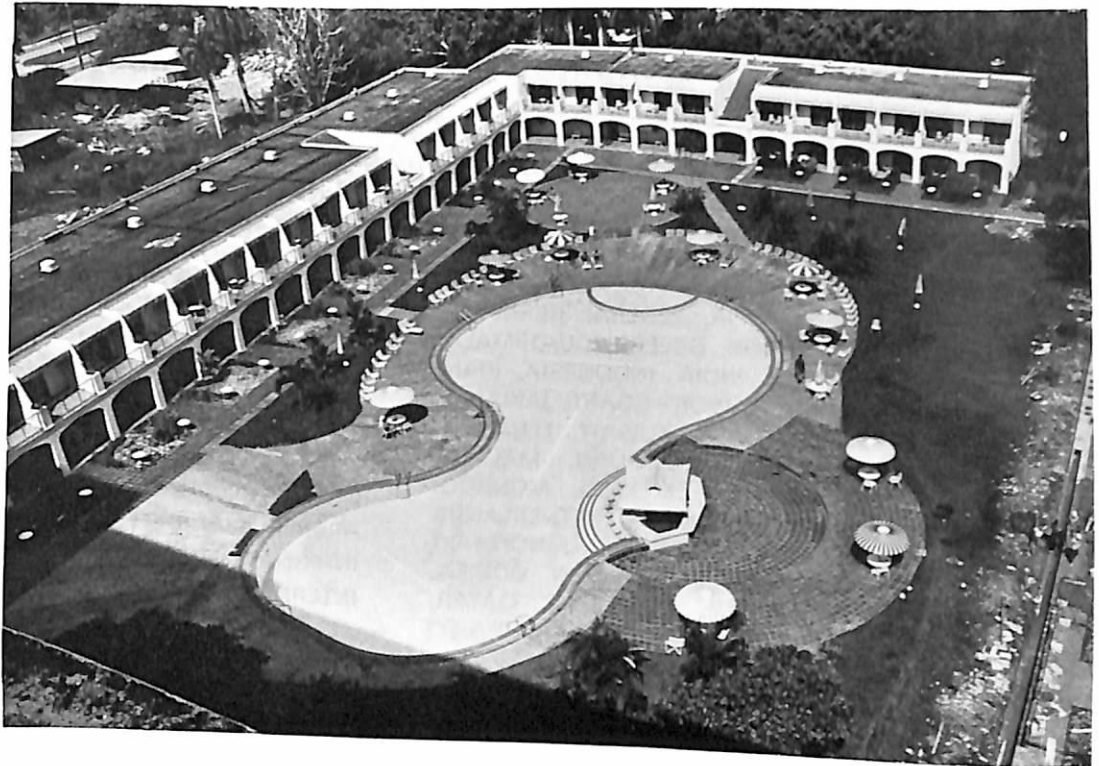
Those who were able to make the hour's drive from Panama City to Colon were able to visit a world-famous commercial centre.

The drive itself is delightful for the road makes its way through luxuriant vegetation — lush green fields where cattle graze peacefully — and crosses a river that flows into the Canal.

The wealth of local colour — bright dancers' dresses, embroidered



Panama City, sightseeing in the old part of the city



Swimming pool  
at El Panama Hotel

shirts, lengths of fabric ("molas") richly decorated by the "Cuna" Indians of San Blas, necklaces, bracelets and pendants of pre-Columbian design, expressively-faced statuettes — was also typical of Panama, as were the many local buses with happily blaring music.

And we simply must pay tribute to the organizers who coped so competently with the innumerable

difficult problems that never fail to arise in connection with General Assembly session.

The charming multi-lingual hostesses and the technical staff, who worked unstintingly and with infinite patience, also greatly helped delegates towards a better understanding of the country.

At last, it was time to take leave of Panama, for many of us via the brand new Tocumen Airport (over

a million passengers pass through every year), with the beat of the all — pervasive music and evocative names such as "Bellavista", "Portobello", "Boca del Toro" still ringing in our ears and our hearts filled with memories of the true kindness of the Panamanian people.



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

ALGERIA, ARGENTINA, AUSTRALIA, AUSTRIA, BANGLADESH, BELGIUM, BENIN, BOLIVIA, BRAZIL, BURMA, CAMEROON, CANADA, CENTRAL AFRICAN EMPIRE, CHAD, CHILE, CHINA, COLOMBIA, COSTA RICA, CYPRUS, DENMARK, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, ECUADOR, EGYPT, EL SALVADOR, ETHIOPIA, FEDERAL GERMANY, FIJI, FINLAND, FRANCE, GABON, GREECE, GUATEMALA, GUYANA, HAITI, HONDURAS, INDIA, INDONESIA, IRAN, IRAQ, IRELAND, ISRAEL, ITALY, IVORY COAST, JAMAICA, JAPAN, JORDAN, KENYA, KOREA, KUWAIT, LEBANON, LESOTHO, LIBERIA, LIBYA, LUXEMBOURG, MALAWI, MALI, MAURITANIA, MAURITIUS, MEXICO, MONACO, MOROCCO, NEPAL, NETHERLANDS, NETHERLANDS ANTILLES, NEW ZEALAND, NIGER, NIGERIA, NORWAY, OMAN, PAKISTAN, PANAMA, PAPUA NEW GUINEA, PARAGUAY, PERU, PHILIPPINES, PORTUGAL, QATAR,

ROMANIA, SAUDI ARABIA, SENEGAL, SEYCHELLES, SIERRA LEONE, SINGAPORE, SOMALIA, SPAIN, SRI LANKA, SUDAN, SURINAM, SWAZILAND, SWEDEN, SWITZERLAND, SYRIA, TANZANIA, THAILAND, TRINIDAD & TOBAGO, TUNISIA, TURKEY, UGANDA, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, UNITED KINGDOM, UNITED STATES, UPPER VOLTA, URUGUAY, VENEZUELA, YUGOSLAVIA, ZAIRE, ZAMBIA.

### OBSERVERS:

CUBA  
INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION  
ARAB SOCIAL DEFENCE ORGANIZATION  
INTERNATIONAL AIR TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION  
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE

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296 :	Draft international convention for the suppression of international traffic in unlawfully-obtained goods
296 :	International theft rings
297 :	Police powers in connection with the questioning of persons (suspects and witnesses)
297 :	Status and functions of women police officers
298 :	Protecting the environment
299 :	Electronic data processing
299 :	Radiocommunications: protection of interpol radio network frequencies
300 :	Plans for extending the organization's premises
301 :	Continental meetings
305 :	Meeting of heads of National Central Bureaus
307 :	The 1978-1979 programme of activities
309 :	Election of the Secretary General
312 :	Elections and choice of meeting-place for 1979
313 :	Conference sidelights