



General Assembly

23rd to 27th November 1987

56th session

NICE



OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY



The Acropolis in Nice, the convention centre where the General Assembly session was held

The General Assembly of the ICPO-Interpol held its 56th session in France, from 23rd to 27th November 1987.

The venue chosen for the occasion was the city of Nice and the meetings took place in the "Acropolis" convention centre. The President of the Organization, Mr. John Simpson, chaired the plenary sessions which were attended by delegates from 117 of the Organization's member countries, by Interpol's Secretary General and a number of his staff, and by Observers from eight international organizations. Mr. Charles Pasqua, Minister of the Interior of France, and Mr. Jean-Claude Rouillot, Deputy Mayor of Nice, were present at the opening ceremony.

Mr. Raymond Kendall, Secretary General of the Organization, opened the session and then gave the floor to Mr. John Simpson who delivered the following speech.

"I would like to extend a very warm welcome to every Interpol representative and to our guests at this 56th General Assembly session. Once again we are privileged to come

together as friends and colleagues to pursue one goal and that is to strengthen the ties that bind us together as a professional community.

But, before we begin our work for this session, I would like to congratulate each and every one of you on your many accomplishments this past year.

As usual, in this profession, a few of our efforts capture the attention and interest of the media and public. But just as important are the routine, daily police tasks, performed diligently and quietly by the Members of Interpol, without public recognition. It is, perhaps, these small, daily accomplishments that best reflect the level of success we have achieved as an international organization.

However, there are still major issues facing us that I would like to call to your attention because I believe the continued success of this Organization hangs on their resolution. Most are practical issues with practical solutions.

Certainly one of the primary concerns facing us today is the need to modernize our entire communications system. It is simply impossible for Interpol to succeed in the role it has chosen unless we can at least compete with the criminal world technologically, and, better yet, remain one step ahead of them.

We must have the capability to communicate instantly and efficiently on a global basis. I believe the resolution of this issue should be a major priority for this General Assembly and for those in years to come until we can ensure that our regional stations can provide Member Countries with the diversified and state-of-the-art communications that are necessary in today's world.

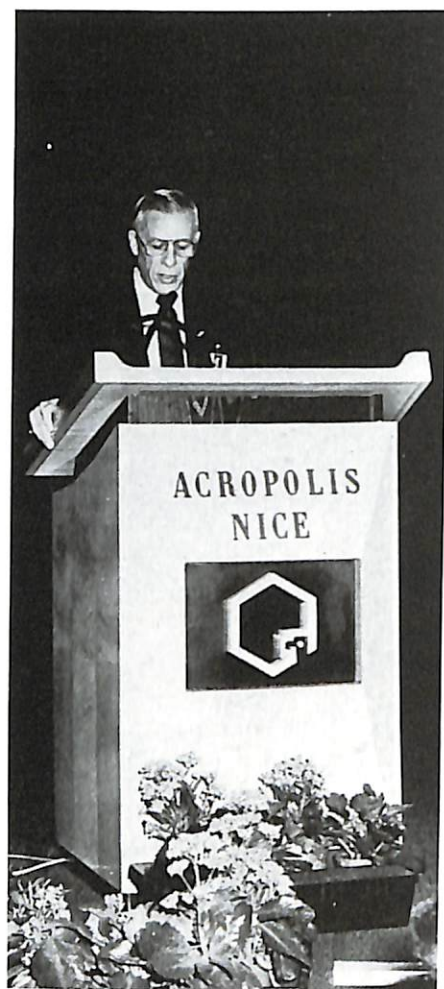
A few Member Nations are

already deeply committed to this modernization, and they should serve as beacons for the rest of us. Two prime examples are the efforts under way to improve communications in Japan for the entire Asian region and in the Caribbean/Central American region. Both regions are to be highly commended for their foresight and commitment to the future of this Organization. The Japanese are modernizing and upgrading their Regional Station.

In the Caribbean/Central American region, the Member Countries are planning to take their new telecommunication system a step further and are merging it with an automatic data processing system. So, for the first time in the Caribbean/Central American region, Interpol will be able to "track" cases automatically and distribute such information instantaneously where needed. I can assure you, this will make an impact on criminal activity in this very strategic area.

A corollary to this is the strides we have made to date to encrypt our communications systems. I am extremely pleased at the progress of this program. All Regional Stations are now encrypted, as well as most European NCBs. And for those Member Countries who have yet to complete this step, I would encourage them to do so, as well. It is an inexpensive process, but one whose benefits will far outweigh its modest cost, for two reasons. First, of course, is simply the importance of protecting data from a practical aspect.

But second (and equally important) is the credibility such security lends to Interpol as an international entity. The truth is, in the past the lack of security in communications detracted from our credibility. And I think now that we have achieved it, "nearly" universally, our credibility has risen in direct proportion.



Mr. John Simpson, President of Interpol, delivering his opening speech

A third issue of primary concern to our future is the current status of many of our National Central Bureaus. In many areas of the world, National Central Bureaus are less than adequate, sadly lacking in personnel and resources to do the job at hand. This, too, affects the credibility of the entire Organization. We have made great strides in bringing up the Secretariat and the Central Station through such programs as the implementation of the new Automatic Message Switching System.

But we cannot improve the image or perception of this Organization as a whole without doing the same for all of its parts. There is an old saying that "a chain is only as strong as its weakest link". This is true for organizations such as ours as well. All of our National Central Bureaus must be upgraded and improved to similar levels so that they can perform with equal efficiency for the benefit of all.

To do so, we must have the support and assistance of our colleagues throughout the worldwide law enforcement community and I hope those officials here with us this week will take the lead in providing this needed support.

The last point I would like to make concerns the entire law enforcement community. One of the major problems in the field of law enforcement today is the loss of resources due to the "duplication of efforts" among organizations.

We are wasting both financial and human resources on a grand scale by duplicating programs; duplicating technology, such as expensive telecommunication systems. We need to improve our efforts to co-ordinate programs and activities that would, in turn, conserve resources. Because certainly no police agency today has the amount of resources that allows for waste.

There are a few areas of the world where this problem is being addressed. Again, the Caribbean/Central American region serves as an example of countries working together to build systems and share data, thereby developing a unified strategy to attack crime in that region.

I would like to just reiterate that as an international unit, Interpol is the only entity devised to serve this vital role for the entire law enforcement community.

We can and should work relentlessly to eliminate the level of duplication that exists in this field and create a unified effort against crime.

I would ask each of you (as I have many times before) to serve as advocates and emissaries in your own countries and geographical spheres of influence to help us accomplish these goals. As I said in the beginning, none of the issues facing us lack practical solutions and I am totally confident that we can and will achieve them, with only a little more dedicated effort on our part.

May this 56th General Assembly begin with proof of our commitment to this work and end with results that will help ensure our continued success.

And speaking of success, it is a great pleasure for me to introduce to you a man who has had a fair degree of success, particularly in regard to combating terrorism.

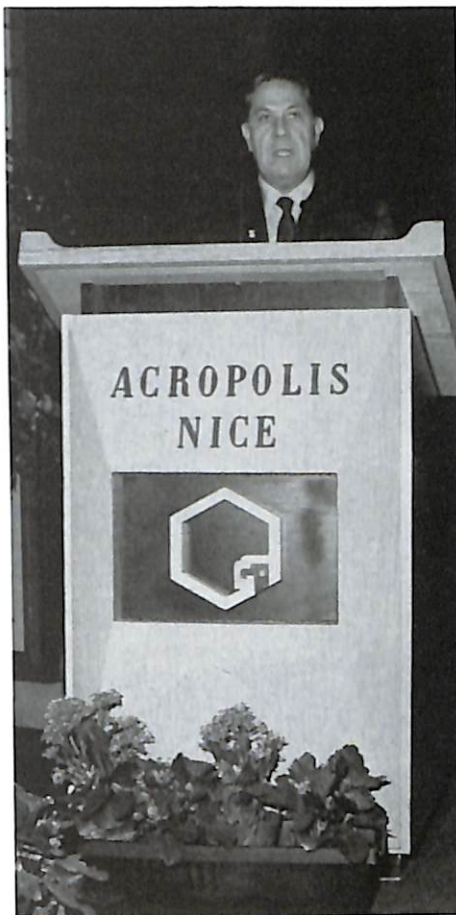
We are honoured to have with us today the Honorable French Minister of the Interior, Mr. Charles Pasqua who wishes to address you. His presence here today is a clear indication of the importance that the Government of France attaches to the presence of Interpol on its territory and I ask him to please thank the French authorities on our behalf for the assistance which is given continually to our General Secretariat throughout the year.

It is an honour and privilege for me to present Mr. Charles Pasqua, Minister of the Interior of France."

Mr. Pasqua then delivered the following speech:

"Mr. President,
Mr. Secretary General,
Delegates,

It is a great honour and pleasure for me to be invited to attend the Opening Ceremony of the 56th ICPO-Interpol General Assembly session.



Mr. Charles Pasqua, the French Minister of the Interior, during his speech welcoming the delegates

On behalf of the French Government, I should like to welcome you to France.

My presence here with you today underlines the special importance France has always attached to Interpol, particularly since 1946 when the member countries of the International Criminal Police Commission did my country the honour of choosing Paris for its Headquarters.

Much water has flowed under the bridges of the Seine since then but French involvement in all aspects of the development of this international organization has never waned.

Interpol's aims deserve unanimous respect, encouragement and support as they involve combating international crime within the framework of respect for the law and for national sovereignty. Should any proof be required of Interpol's universality and effectiveness, one only has to look at the number of States that are members of Interpol.

The agenda for the present session is indicative of the gravity and complexity of the problems which Interpol must solve in order to obtain the resources it requires if it is to assume its international mission.

I have no doubt that all of us together shall be worthy of the trust our fellow citizens place in us to protect them against drug traffickers, terrorists and other international criminals.

You are all aware of the importance France attaches to the fight against terrorism.

At its session held in Luxembourg in 1984, Interpol's General Assembly adopted two very important resolutions indicating the role which your Organization intends to play with regard to terrorism.

As regards the fight against illicit drug trafficking, Interpol's leading position in the international community is a well-deserved reward for the efforts your Organization has made over a long period of time.

It is comforting to note that a universal organization like yours reached a consensus when faced with the task of protecting the vital interests of our fellow men.

Rest assured that France is sparing no effort, either at home or abroad. In this respect, we shall continue in our endeavours to assist Interpol to the best of our ability so that your



Organization can come through the sensitive period ahead without too much difficulty. The coming months will be marked by the construction of your new Headquarters and the transfer of the General Secretariat to Lyons, and these operations must be completed without any interruption in day-to-day co-operation.

I look forward to meeting you in a few minutes at the reception the French Government is holding in your honour and I should like to wish you, Mr. President, Mr. Secretary General, Ladies and Gentlemen, a very pleasant stay in this beautiful region and much success in the work you will undertake here."

The platform during the opening ceremony. From left to right: Mr. Simpson, President of the Organization (standing), Mr. Babovic, Vice-President, Mr. Pasqua, the French Minister of the Interior, Mr. Kendall, Secretary General, Mr. Rouillot, Deputy Mayor of Nice, Mr. Zhu Entao Delegate on the Executive Committee, and Mr. El Menady, Vice-President

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

Four countries — Andorra, Aruba, Belize, Saint Kitts and Nevis — applied for membership of Interpol this year. The General Assembly accepted all four applications. The Delegates of Andorra, Aruba and Belize, who were present at the session, thanked the other delegations for voting for them,

and undertook to do everything in their power to co-operate in Interpol's fight against international crime.

The Organization now has 146 Member States.

The Delegate of Andorra



ANDORRE



The Delegate of Aruba



The Delegate of Belize

PROGRESS REPORT

The Secretary General began by highlighting the main events that had occurred since the 55th General Assembly session (Belgrade, October 1986). He then commented on the Progress Report, a summary of which is given below.

General functioning of the Organization

There have been several important structural changes at the General Secretariat.

One example is the creation, within the Secretary General's office, of a Public Relations Department responsible for promoting the Organization's image.

Again, after the bomb attack of 16th May 1986, a Special Unit was set up immediately. Initially, the Unit was in charge of restoring satisfactory working conditions at the General Secretariat; it is now also responsible for all surveys of a general nature and

it reports directly to the Secretary General.

Following a resolution adopted by the General Assembly at its session held in Washington, D.C., in October 1985, the European Secretariat was set up in 1986. It has participated in a number of meetings including, in particular, the European Regional Conference held in Wiesbaden, Federal Germany, and meetings of the Technical Committee for Co-operation in Europe.

The network of European liaison officers, which is to be established following proposals from the European Secretariat, should allow the latter to achieve greater efficiency in day-to-day co-operation in Europe.

Some of the recommendations of the Organization and Development Department have already been implemented: a Support Division, bringing together the Electronic Data Processing Department and the Telecommunications Department (both detached from the Administration Division), has been established, with a Criminal Records

Sub-Division which deals with international notices, records and fingerprints. In addition, the Administration Division has been thoroughly reorganized in preparation for the transfer to the new Headquarters in Lyons.

Other proposals concerning internal organization and the standardization of forms are currently being carefully studied.

The New Building Project (construction of the new Headquarters building and transfer of the General Secretariat to Lyons) is progressing according to schedule and there have been no major technical problems.

The Executive Committee met on three occasions in 1987: in February, in mid-July and, most recently, just before the General Assembly session.

Three Regional Conferences have taken place since the last General Assembly session. The American Regional Conference was held in Panama City, Panama, in April 1987, the European Regional Conference

was held in Wiesbaden, Federal Germany, in May 1987, and the Asian Regional Conference was held in Tokyo, Japan, in July 1987.

The 7th International Counterfeit Currency Conference took place in Lyons, France, in June 1987. It was attended by 450 representatives from 75 States and by 43 observers from international organizations and private firms.

Technical co-operation

Twenty-two grants were awarded for the NCB officers' training seminar held in November 1986 in French and Spanish.

Thirty grants were awarded for the training seminar held in English and Arabic in October 1987.

International crime

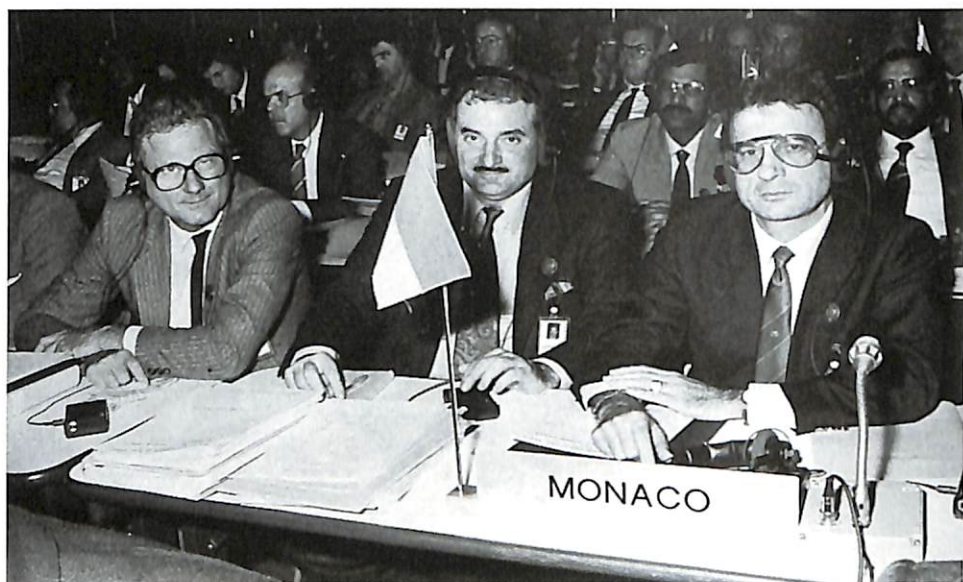
Fighting international crime is naturally Interpol's main vocation and is the chief concern of the National Central Bureaus and the General Secretariat.

NCB Activities

The NCBs of twenty-three Member States sent in Activity Reporting Forms for the period from 1st January 1986 to 31st December 1986.

Twenty-one NCBs stated that 645 arrests with a view to extradition had been made on their territories at the request of other countries, and 20 NCBs also reported that 823 arrests with a view to extradition had been made in other countries at their request.

Twenty-two NCBs stated on their forms that they had sent 33,646 requests for identification to NCBs of other countries.



The Monegasque Delegation

Officials from twenty countries undertook 766 missions abroad.

General Secretariat Activity

The General Secretariat's Police Division is responsible for co-ordinating co-operation in the fight against international crime.

The Division now comprises three Sub-Divisions (responsible for general crime which includes international terrorism, economic and financial crime, and drug-related crime respectively) and a Group directly attached to the Head of Division. This latter, the Organized Crime - FOPAC Group, has been separated from the Economic and Financial Crime Sub-Division and is now in charge of analysing the involvement of criminal organizations in various types of crime. As recommended by the Organization and Development Department, this Group will develop into a Criminal Analysis Office.

The Criminal Records Department, which became a Sub-Division of the Police Division in June 1986, has now been attached to the newly-created Support Division.

The General Crime Sub-Division took part in about ten conferences and meetings organized by other international institutions, and it also organized four working meetings at the General Secretariat.

The new forms concerning international notices, which were adopted by the General Assembly at its session held in Belgrade in 1986, were sent to all NCBs. The forms came into force on 1st September 1987.

Following a resolution adopted in Belgrade in 1986, Group C (offences against property) drafted a set of forms relating to cases of traffic in and seizures of arms and explosives. The updating of previously issued brochures on the identification of firearms, ammunition and explosives is continuing.

In February 1987, the 4th Meeting of the Committee to study applications of electronic data processing to stolen art objects was held in Saint Cloud.

The layout and presentation of the annual publication "The 12 most wanted works of art" have been

modified: there will now be two issues per year entitled "The most wanted works of art"; each issue will be concerned with six works of art and presented so that it can be displayed in places such as police stations, museums, etc.

The "Vehicle Registration Index" will be updated, and a circular will be sent to the NCBs with a view to obtaining more up-to-date information. Another circular will be issued containing information on international criminals who have been reported to the General Secretariat over the past few years as being involved in vehicle theft and trafficking cases.

With regard to offences against persons, Group D conducted a statistical study of cases of hijacking/attempted hijackings for the period 1980-1985, based on CRIGEN/AVIA forms received from Member Countries. The next study will form part of an annual bulletin, the first edition of which is planned for early in 1988.

A first-ever meeting on sea piracy was held in Saint Cloud in January 1987.

The tenth report from Group D on hostage-taking and kidnapping for ransom, based on the CRIGEN/OT forms, was sent to NCBs. The General Secretariat still does not receive enough information about such cases.

Reports on cases of armed robbery and robbery with violence come mainly from European countries, with a very few cases being reported by countries in the Americas. The situation is similar with regard to cases of extortion.

Group D has begun to draw up a list of countries which have disaster victim identification units.

The Sub-Division dealing with economic and financial crime is divided into three Groups.

Group E deals with fraud and general economic offences, including the fraudulent alteration of identity documents.

The First European Symposium on Fraud and Economic Crime took place at the General Secretariat in March 1987.

Group E handled 3,751 cases in 1986, compared with 3,483 in 1985. Most of the new cases were reported in the European region.

Although the number of cases reported to the General Secretariat is too low to make it possible to draw any specific conclusions as to the scale of economic and financial crime, it can nevertheless be seen that fraud on an international scale has increased both in volume and in complexity.

Group F, which deals with cases of counterfeit currency, handled 4,759 cases in 1986, compared with 6,492 cases in 1985. A new system to assess the number of cases handled was introduced in 1986. The specialized laboratory continued to carry out expert analyses of counterfeit banknotes and cheques.

A report on currency counterfeiting in 1985 was sent to the NCBs in May 1987.

The 7th International Counterfeit Currency Conference was held in Lyons, France, from 22nd to 26th June 1987. The Conference was organized by the General Secretariat and partially sponsored by the issuing banks and participants from the private sector.

The "Counterfeits and Forgeries" Group is responsible for the publication of the review *Counterfeits and Forgeries* which, at 1st January 1987, had approximately 15,000 subscribers.

The review is published in two volumes. Volume I is devoted to counterfeits and forgeries of banknotes discovered throughout the world, and is now laid out in the same way as Volume II. The presentation of texts and photographs has been modified. The counterfeits are reproduced in colour with enlargements of the main defects. Volume II covers genuine banknotes in circulation. Approximately 150

The Ugandan Delegation



countries co-operate with the General Secretariat in the preparation of this publication. The banknotes of several new countries, together with travellers cheques, have been added. The monthly newsletter has been improved. *Counterfeits and Forgeries* is issued in five languages: Arabic, English, French, German and Spanish.

The Drugs Sub-Division at the General Secretariat is now operating in line with the revised organizational structure set up in April 1985. It is divided into three elements: the office of the Head of Sub-Division (encompassing the Bangkok Liaison Office), the Operations Group and the Intelligence Group.

As of 15th May 1987, there was a staff of 31 in the Sub-Division, including police officers from 19 Member States.

The Sub-Division also benefits from the services of a part-time liaison officer for the Caribbean region.

A high turnover of personnel, and the resulting vacancies, impair the overall efficiency of the Drugs Sub-Division to some degree.

During 1986, the Sub-Division nevertheless handled 51,778 cases,

compared with 43,373 in 1985. During the same reference period, some 12,000 seizure-based case summaries were entered into the General Secretariat's Strategic Intelligence System. This system has been used since early 1985 to produce a monthly bulletin (Statistical Analysis-Monthly).

In 1986, 52 Weekly Drug Intelligence Messages were circulated to all the Organization's Member Countries. The Drugs Sub-Division personnel participated actively in a total of 70 meetings, conferences, training seminars, etc., around the world. Twenty-one of these meetings were organized by the Sub-Division itself.

During the same calendar year, Drugs Sub-Division liaison officers undertook a total of 38 missions to 72 Member Countries in Africa, South America, Europe, the Far East, the Pacific and the Near East.

The training courses on combating drug trafficking for officers of national police forces, which were introduced for the first time in 1985, were further pursued in 1986 when a major training programme was undertaken for Member States in Africa. This project, which was undertaken with financial support from the United Nations Fund for

Drug Abuse Control, made it possible to provide training for 115 police officers from 34 African countries during two training courses: one in Nairobi, Kenya, in September 1986, and the other in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, in March 1987.

Finally, the Drugs Sub-Division continued, as in the past, to expand its co-operation and to harmonize its activities with other international bodies concerned by the multifaceted problem of drug trafficking. Throughout the period, regular and close contact was maintained with the Customs Co-operation Council and with the specialized United Nations Drug Control Agencies.

The formation of the FOPAC Group, to deal with funds derived from criminal activities, in 1984 was a first step in the implementation of the overall reorganization plan of the General Secretariat. The plan is for this group, now renamed the "Organized Crime - FOPAC Group" to be the nucleus of a Crime Analysis Office, which will be responsible for providing the Head of the Police Division with information about current and projected crime trends and patterns, so that he will be in a position to determine policies, objectives and goals for the Police Division.

The Group has again updated the Financial Assets Encyclopaedia and circulated it to Member States. The publication now contains responses from 68 Member States and reprints of two model legislations developed by the FOPAC Working Group operating under Interpol's auspices. The FOPAC Group itself continues to work closely with the Customs Co-operation Council in Brussels, and, in particular, has participated in the Council's expert working group on developing training modules. The Group also participated in the two training seminars mentioned above, held in Nairobi and Abidjan.

The Brazilian Delegation



The 5th FOPAC Working Group Meeting was held in Panama City, Panama, on 7th April 1987.

Studies, general reference sources, symposia, I.C.P.R.

The activities of the "Studies - General Reference Sources - I.C.P.R." Division of the General Secretariat include: drafting documents and reports on subjects of interest to the police and on Interpol's activities; organizing meetings and arranging for Interpol's representation at meetings organized by other bodies; participating, by consultation and the preparation of documents, in the work of other General Secretariat departments; managing and processing the Secretariat's general reference documents (library) and answering requests for documentary material; publishing the *International Criminal Police Review* and managing its circulation.

The Division organized the following meetings and symposia at Interpol's Headquarters: 6th Symposium on electronic data processing in police work (November 1986); 8th Forensic Science Symposium (December 1986); 3rd, 4th and 5th meetings of the Supervisory Board for the internal control of Interpol's archives (December 1986, and March and June 1987). It also represented the General Secretariat at several meetings, conferences and symposia organized by other international institutions.

The Head of this Division is also the Organization's legal adviser.

A large number of reports and documents were drafted, and the Division produced several statistical and bibliographical papers. It also co-operated with other General Secretariat departments in the study of many legal and technical matters.

The General Secretariat Library is part of the General Documentation

Sub-Division. The Library specializes in subjects of interest to the police and the Organization (police techniques, science and practice, law, criminology, etc.). Between 1st May 1986 and 1st May 1987, 282 written requests for information from police departments or researchers in 60 countries were handled, together with approximately 100 requests from members of the General Secretariat staff and authorized visitors.

Following the decisions taken by the Executive Committee in June 1986, the *International Criminal Police Review* has appeared in a new form since the first issue of 1987. The NCBs have been informed of the details of the changes to the Review.

Today, virtually all the articles which appear in the ICPR are being published for the first time. Many of these articles deal with international police co-operation. Considerable progress has been noted in co-operation with NCBs.

The French and English editions are published by the General Secretariat with little or no delay. The Spanish edition is still published in Madrid with the valuable co-operation of the Spanish police.

The Arabic editions for 1985 and 1986 are currently being produced with the assistance of the Tunisian NCB. The first issue for 1987 is a special one devoted entirely to drugs matters and consequently it has already been issued. The Executive Committee has expressed its sincere gratitude to the Tunisian NCB for the special assistance it has provided.

Technical support

Within the context of the re-organization of the General Secretariat, a fourth Division, the Support Division, was created on 9th March 1987 to cover both telecommunications and criminal records.

The Telecommunications Sub-Division was previously part of the Administration Division and was itself re-organized on 1st June 1987. It now has two distinct sections: the Operations Section is responsible for the Organization's day-to-day communications, and in particular for the Automatic Message Switching System which has been in operation since 1st July 1987; the Studies Section is responsible, in liaison with the

The Syrian Delegation



Standing Committee on Information Technology (SCIT), for studying and managing projects designed to enable the Organization to acquire the communications facilities it requires to meet its needs.

The Criminal Records Sub-Division was previously part of the Police Division. It was attached to the new Division IV on 9th March 1987 and comprises the four units described below.

- The Message Research Branch and Back Record Conversion Team which carried out 388,000 file searches and opened 27,696 files between 1st June 1986 and 31st May 1987. The new data computerization system was introduced in February 1987 and, since that date, no new personal or speciality index cards have been created. All information received is analysed and then immediately computerized. The index cards referring to files which have yet to be computerized will be kept until the computerization process has been completed. Consequently, the Branch's staff are currently obliged to operate both a manual and a computerized search system.
- The Data Entry and International Notices Branch which is responsible for: entering, modifying and cancelling data concerning persons and cases; drafting international wanted notices on persons whose extradition will be requested, warning notices on offenders with criminal records in a number of countries, and enquiry notices on missing persons or persons whose true identity has not been established; controlling all other notifications such as those concerning stolen works of art, etc.
- The Fingerprint and Photograph Branch which, in 1986, added 13,220 cards to the ten-print index and



Some of the United States Delegates

successfully identified 507 individuals from their fingerprints, communicating the results to the NCBs concerned.

- The Electronic Data Processing Service whose computer system has been improved in order to provide more effective and ergonomic access to information. All the Police Division staff have been trained to use the system.

Computerization of the existing manual indexes is a long-term undertaking. However, all international police information received at the General Secretariat since February 1987 has been immediately entered in the computer. Similarly, the names of all persons about whom notifications are issued are also entered in the system.

Resources

These resources are located in the Administration Division which has been considerably reorganized in preparation for the move to the new Headquarters building in Lyons.

Document Production

The Document Production Sub-Division comprises all the departments responsible for typing, translating, printing and dispatching all the documents drafted at the General Secretariat. The Sub-Division has had two major problems to contend with, the first created by the considerable increase in the volume of documents produced by the General Secretariat in recent years, and the second brought about by the bomb attack on the Organization which totally destroyed a large portion of its premises in 1986. The necessary repairs have been carried out, and in 1987, the Organization and Development Department made a certain number of proposals which should make it possible to rationalize the Sub-Division's working methods and improve efficiency.

Finance and Accounts

This Sub-Division was established early in 1984. A computer was installed in January 1985 in order to meet the requirements of programme budgeting and to improve the control

and information system needed for that purpose.

Since 1986, monthly statements have been produced to inform Programme Managers about how their expenditure corresponds to the budget. The file of fixed assets acquired since 1985 has been updated and the calculation of assets subject to depreciation has been automated.

Within the context of the structural changes at the General Secretariat, the payroll department has been transferred to the Personnel Department.

General and Social Welfare Matters

This Sub-Division is responsible for managing property and supplies, such management covering, in addition to the administrative and technical maintenance of the Headquarters building in Saint Cloud, all purchases except for the acquisition of complex equipment requiring substantial capital investment.

A certain number of other activities were also undertaken, such as a study on the transfer of staff to Lyons, a review of the Organization's insurance contracts, drafting of the Staff Regulations and Staff Rules in collaboration with Division III, and a study on a welfare programme for the General Secretariat staff.

Security

This Sub-Division was created on



The Greek Delegate

23rd February 1987 and is responsible for the general security of the Headquarters building, the staff, visitors and meetings. It is also responsible for the maintenance of the General Secretariat's official vehicles.

The Sub-Division also takes part in the various studies aimed at ensuring maximum security, at every level, in the operation of the new Headquarters.

Internal Control of Archives

The Supervisory Board for the internal control of Interpol's archives, established in accordance with the Rules on international police

co-operation and on the internal control of Interpol's archives, submitted its report for 1986, covering the Board's first three meetings, to the Executive Committee. The Board suggested drafting more precise criteria for the publication of green notices. The General Secretariat consulted the Supervisory Board about the "Rules on the deletion of police information held by the General Secretariat", and the Board made no objections. The Board carried out checks under the terms of Articles 22 and 23 of the Rules previously mentioned.

Personnel Matters

At 30th April 1987, the General Secretariat staff totalled 256 persons, compared with 262 on 1st April 1986. The breakdown of the different categories of staff was as follows on 30th April 1987: 166 staff under contract, 60 seconded police or government officers and 30 detached police or government officers.

The staff members working at the General Secretariat come from the following 36 countries: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Colombia, Denmark, Federal Germany, France, Greece, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kampuchea, Lebanon, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Portugal, Senegal, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Syria, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay, Yugoslavia.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Committee on the Organization's Finances was chaired by Mr. Inkster (Canada).

The General Secretariat's representative commented on the financial reports prepared for the General Assembly. At the end of its

meeting, the Committee approved the Report on the 1986 financial year and the balance sheet at 31st December 1986.

At its session held in Washington D.C. in 1985, the General Assembly had approved a new set of Financial Regulations which provided for

external auditors to replace the Auditors who had hitherto been elected each year by the General Assembly.

The external audit had been entrusted to the French "Cour des Comptes". A rapporteur from that body presented the conclusions of the

external auditors to the General Assembly. The auditors certified that the accounts submitted had been accurately and properly kept and could be submitted to the General Assembly for approval.

Both the rapporteur and the General Secretariat's representative emphasized the high level of unpaid contributions and the continuing rise in arrears.

The auditors suggested that the payment of contributions be subject to more stringent provisions than those currently in force, and they also suggested that an internal control system be set up to complement the external control.

On the subject of contribution payments and the regular increase in contributions, many delegates emphasized the difficulties their countries found in meeting their obligations.

On the subject of the Organization's general financial policy, the General Assembly adopted, in plenary session, the

following resolution concerning a modification in the value of the budget unit :

HAVING EXAMINED the Draft Budget for 1988 (Report No. 5) prepared by the Secretary General and approved by the Executive Committee,

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the implementation of the 1987 Budget and the forecasts for 1988,

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Nice from 23rd to 27th November 1987 at its 56th session:

DECIDES that the value of the budget unit for the 1988 financial year shall be 15,000 Swiss francs;

APPROVES the Draft Budget for 1988 as contained in the document referred to above.

The auditors' second suggestion, concerning an internal control system, was also discussed at length. The General Secretariat's representatives and the Financial Advisers said that control procedures were operating satisfactorily but could be improved as

the Organization's management was becoming increasingly complex and Interpol was facing major expenditure in respect of the construction of the new Headquarters, the modernization of communications and the computerization programme. In addition, procedures should be institutionalized.

Further to a proposal from the United Kingdom Delegation, the General Assembly adopted the following resolution in plenary session:

HAVING TAKEN NOTE of Report No. 4, entitled "Report by the *Cour des Comptes* to the General Assembly", submitted by the external auditors,

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Nice from 23rd to 27th November 1987 at its 56th session:

ASKS the Secretary General to:

- establish, as recommended by the external auditors, an improved internal financial management control system;
- devise performance measures for the General Secretariat and its Divisions;
- submit a report on the measures thus adopted to the General Assembly at its 57th session.

At its session held in Belgrade in 1986, the General Assembly had adopted a resolution setting up a Staff Welfare Fund, with allocations from budget surpluses, in order to provide the Organization's staff with loans at more favourable interest rates than those offered by banks. Having examined the accounts for the 1986 financial year the General Assembly, in plenary session, adopted a resolution providing for the allocation of surplus funds to the Capital Investment Fund with a view to financing the building project and transferring the Organization's Headquarters to Lyons, and also for the allocation of SFr 100,000 to the Staff Welfare Fund.

The Moroccan Delegate



Mr. Van Hove, Adviser to the Organization, submitted a report on contributions in arrears. He emphasized that it had become clear over a number of years that more and more countries were paying their contributions later and later; at the same time, the Organization was undertaking its modernization programme which required the contributions from Member States to be paid more promptly. Mr. Van Hove proposed a number of measures designed to solve the problem. The matter had already been raised several

times during General Assembly meetings, but a lively discussion took place.

Further to a proposal from the Federal German Delegation, the General Assembly adopted the following resolution in plenary session:

HAVING TAKEN NOTE of Report No. 19 entitled "Contributions in arrears", submitted by the Organization's Adviser,

The ICPO-Interpol General

Assembly, meeting in Nice from 23rd to 27th November 1987 at its 56th session:

- (1) INVITES the Secretary General to send out reminder letters every quarter, accompanied by statements of account;
- (2) RECOMMENDS that Members pay their contributions as early as possible in the financial year;
- (3) ASKS the Organization's Adviser to continue his study on the payment of contributions, with the collaboration of the Financial Advisers.

INTERPOL'S STAFF REGULATIONS

The Committee on the Staff Regulations was chaired by Mr. Rouillon of France.

A General Secretariat representative presented the Draft Staff Regulations, together with the opinion given on the text by the *ad hoc* Committee set up in application of Article 56 of the General Regulations.

He recalled that the Organization's staff were currently subject to local law (French law in the case of the Headquarters staff), a situation which was not at all suited to the needs of an international organization.

The conclusion of a Headquarters Agreement with the French Government had made it possible to undertake the preparation of a specific set of regulations. The French Ministry of Foreign Affairs had been consulted and had made three suggestions which had been taken into consideration. The International Labour Organization (ILO) had been contacted with a view to submitting any disputes between the Organization and its staff to the authority of the ILO's Administrative Tribunal. The



Some of the Australian Delegates

Executive Committee had decided to submit the Draft Staff Regulations to the General Assembly for adoption.

The Staff Regulations, which would constitute an appendix to the Organization's General Regulations, laid down general principles; a set of Rules of application would be adopted by the Executive Committee.

The General Assembly adopted the

Staff Regulations in plenary session.

This means that the Executive Committee will be able to adopt the Rules of application at one of its forthcoming meetings, and necessary steps can then be taken to establish the authority of the Administrative Tribunal of the ILO.

TRANSFER OF THE HEADQUARTERS — BUILDING PROJECT: STATUS REPORT

The Secretary General reported that construction of the new Headquarters building in Lyons was progressing according to schedule and within the budget limits.

He said that Stage No. 1 of the operation ("Studies") had been completed in December 1986, and the building permit had been granted in January 1987. The General Secretariat had then issued an international call for tenders and, by the beginning of June 1987, the list of companies chosen and an estimate of the cost of the work had been drawn up. Stage No. 2 ("Consultations — Contracts") had thus been completed at the end of June, within the scheduled time limits.

Consequently, on 18th July 1987, in the presence of the members of the Executive Committee and the French authorities, President Simpson and Mr. Collomb, Mayor of Lyons, had laid the foundation stone of the new Headquarters and placed in a bronze cylinder the following message bearing their two signatures: "May those who inhabit this building serve the cause of peace and security in the world".

The Secretary General went on to say that excavation for the foundations had begun in September 1987. If all went according to schedule, in 20 months, time, Interpol's new Headquarters would be the first element of the "International City" planned by the Lyons municipal authorities.

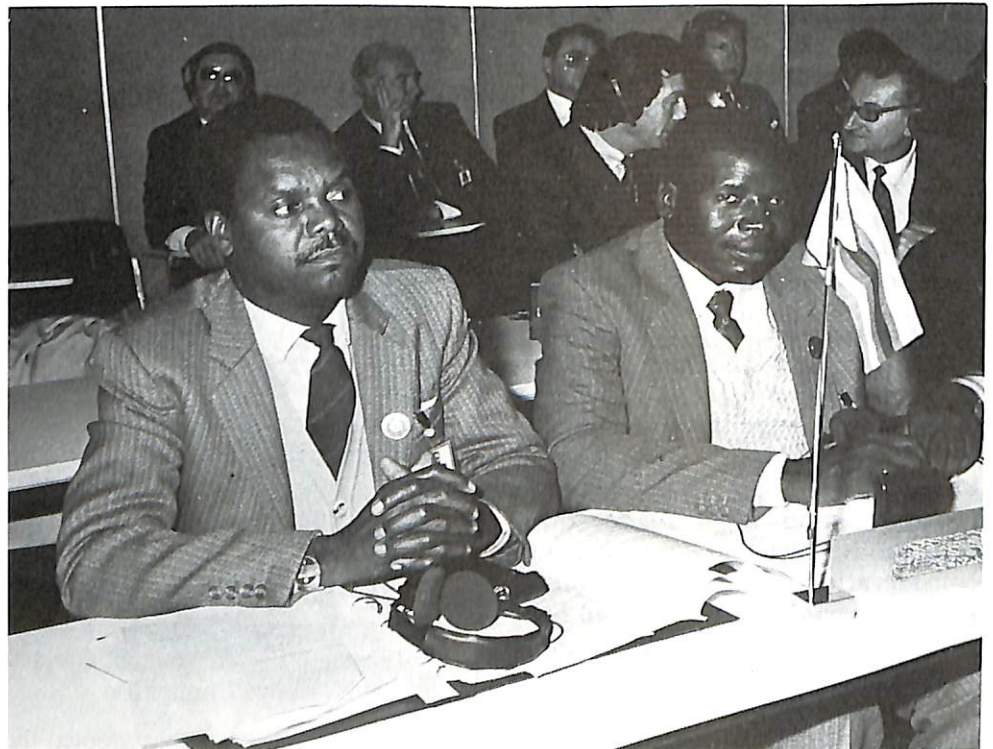
Interpol's square building, with sides measuring about 50 metres, would be surrounded by an oval pond and set in grounds of 14,500 square metres. It would be 21 metres high and would have one basement floor, one ground-level floor and five storeys of offices arranged around a central patio lit by a glass roof. Its total

surface area would be approximately 16,000 square metres, designed to accommodate 300 people, but subsequent extension would be possible.

Finally, the Secretary General announced that the conditions of sale for the property at Saint Cloud were much more favourable than those originally estimated.

The French Delegate stressed that his country was strongly attached to the presence of the Interpol Headquarters in France. Both the Lyons and French authorities were determined to ensure that the transfer of the Organization's Headquarters went ahead under the best possible financial conditions and without international police co-operation being disrupted in any way.

The Delegation of Zimbabwe



To that end, France had provided the following assistance:

- An officer responsible for handling the matter on a full-time basis, placed at the disposal of the Secretary General.
- Exemption (as an exceptional measure) from Value Added Tax on the construction costs for the new building.
- A special subsidy from the "Ministère de l'Équipement", in addition to the subsidy already granted by the Lyons municipal authorities.

The financial implications of the last two measures meant that the French authorities were making a grant equivalent to more than 28 million French francs, in addition to the regular contributions to the Organization.

The Interpol President thanked the French authorities for the considerable assistance they were providing.

INTERNATIONAL DRUG TRAFFIC

General situation and forecasts

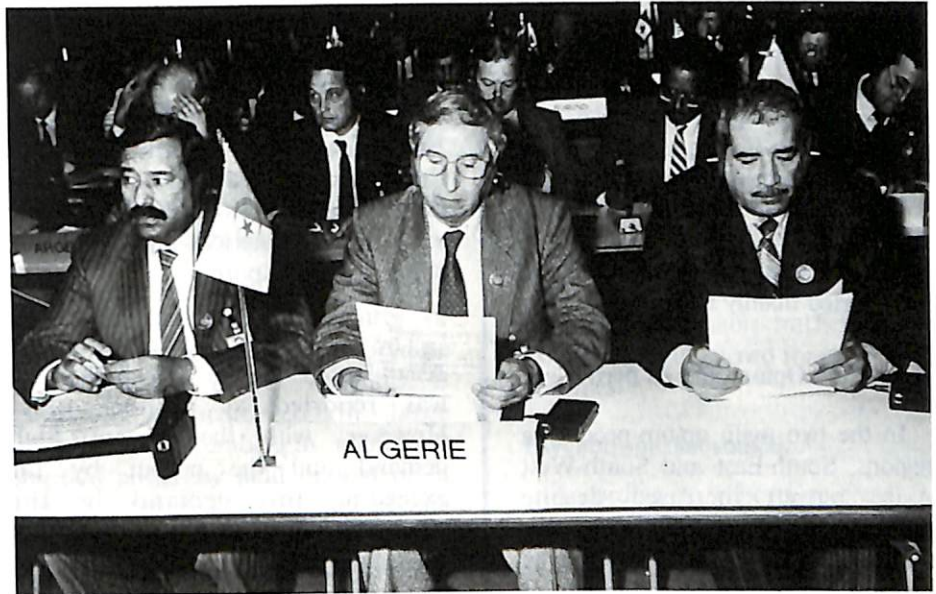
The Drugs Committee was chaired by Mr. Kumar (India). The General Secretariat representative introduced the two reports submitted on the situation in 1986. Summaries of the reports are given below.

General remarks

During 1986, traffickers in all types of illicit drugs managed to expand their operations as a result of the efforts they made to establish new markets for their products and despite the determined counter-offensive maintained by law enforcement agencies on a global scale.

Reports reaching the General Secretariat indicated that more opium, cocaine and cannabis had been produced than in 1985. Prices, which can invariably be used as an indicator of the availability of the various drugs, remained relatively stable except for cocaine. In some production areas, there was almost a glut on the cocaine market and, as with any excess commodity, prices dropped considerably, especially in the United States, the principal outlet for cocaine.

Both traffickers and drug law enforcement services rely on flexibility for their successes. The traffickers change their routes, their couriers and their methods of concealment as soon as one or the other becomes exposed. Equally, law enforcement agencies have to respond to and indeed anticipate new trends, given that the chances of success are, at the present time, heavily biased in favour of the



The Algerian Delegation

traffickers. This is due to the fact that the various police forces engaged in the fight against drug trafficking have reached the limits of their resources in terms of manpower, finance and equipment.

Perhaps the greatest obstacle, for police and customs officers alike, is the wide variety of methods of concealment used by the traffickers. During the period under review, a wide range of methods came to light, some of them totally new and others constituting variations of known methods. Cocaine, for example, was smuggled in tea bags, as a solution in bottles of wine, in the hollow struts of a hang-glider frame and in a shipment of swimming pool filters. Heroin and cannabis were hidden among perishable goods which are

normally given high priority for customs clearance. Different drugs were concealed in heavy machine parts, as the size, weight and complexity of such items serves as ideal cover for contraband goods.

Shipment by container provides opportunities for the concealment of very large quantities of drugs, often with little danger of discovery. At any given time, there is an enormous volume of legitimate cargo being shipped around the world in containers. For example, the port of Rotterdam in the Netherlands handles 250 million tonnes of cargo per year, carried in 2 million containers by 30,000 vessels. This presents customs officers with the daunting task of determining which, of the thousands of containers passing through their

jurisdiction every day, deserve their attention.

On a less commercial basis, there was the usual stream of traffickers using the methods of concealment preferred by couriers. These included body packs, use of body orifices by insertion or swallowing, and false-bottomed suitcases. It may appear that, because each courier carries only a small quantity of drugs, these amounts are not particularly significant, especially when compared with quantities concealed in containers. However, surprising as it may seem, the figures reported to the General Secretariat showed that about 45% of the total quantities of heroin and cocaine seized in Europe were intercepted at airports and were being transported mainly by couriers.

Opiates — Opium and its derivatives

In the two main opium-producing regions, South-East and South-West Asia, output increased despite intensified eradication programmes maintained by the governments concerned. Opium was also produced

in the Near East, though on a much smaller scale. Also the so-called "black tar" heroin made several appearances in the United States.

Because of Thailand's policy of banning chemicals in the North of the country, this region began to sell more raw opium than morphine or heroin. Neighbouring countries, however, have compensated for this drop by producing enough opium to meet the market demand.

Trafficking routes from this region have changed little over the years, and the principal transit centres for destinations such as Australia, Europe and North America remain Hong Kong and Singapore.

The proportion of South-East Asian heroin seized in Europe in 1986 was reported at around 19%. However, with the current high demand and the output by far exceeding this demand in the producing region, it is estimated that the actual percentage finding its way to Europe is considerably higher.

Although the situation in South-East Asia changed little during 1986, this was not the case in South-West Asia. Unstable conditions both in the producing countries and in neighbouring countries resulted in new trafficking routes being developed.

It is difficult to obtain accurate figures for opium production in this region, but it has been calculated that a total of about 1,500 tonnes were produced during the period under consideration; in addition, it was estimated by the countries within the region that between one-half and two-thirds of this amount would be required to satisfy the demands of local populations.

Afghanistan is the biggest producer of heroin in the region and, during 1986, the Afghan authorities seized almost 1,100 kg. of illicit opium. Heroin is now being shipped in transit through India, with the result that the number of local heroin abusers has risen to 500,000.

Most of the South-West Asian heroin being routed through India is intended for Europe and North America. The couriers are frequently nationals of countries in the region, but also include a number of Africans. Moreover, in the past few years, Africa has become a transit centre for Europe, with the result that heroin abusers are now found in an increasing number of African countries. Furthermore, there are strong indications that the raw material is being smuggled into Africa where it is being converted into heroin in clandestine laboratories.

Cocaine

Although, from time to time, efforts have been made by traffickers to cultivate cocaine in the Pacific region, there is no doubt that the main area of production of the coca leaf is the Andean region of South America. In addition to the already large number of traditional coca leaf

A Malian Delegate



chewers, more and more persons in the region are now using other forms of cocaine, which accounts for the considerable quantity produced. In 1986, however, coca leaf production was so high that supplies were in excess of demand. Traffickers were thus forced to increase their efforts to establish new markets.

It was reported that traffickers were even distributing cocaine free of charge, in order to create a user population. In the United States, which has the greatest number of cocaine abusers, prices dropped by almost one-third.

As was predicted, abuse of crack, a particularly potent form of cocaine, gained ground in the United States. There were a few relatively minor seizures reported in Europe in 1986, and a laboratory apparently intended for the production of crack was discovered. Given the popularity of the drug in the United States, the situation in Europe is expected to deteriorate.

Efforts have been made in most of the producer countries to eradicate illicit coca leaf plantations, and financial support has been received from international organizations and countries directly concerned. However, a great deal still remains to be done.

Cocaine from South America is smuggled to countries all over the world by powerful trafficking organizations. It is shipped to the United States by land, sea and air, and by all forms of transport, although for Europe and other parts of the world, transport has generally been provided by couriers. During the period under consideration, Spain and Portugal — with their historic ties to the producer countries — proved to be the main gateways for distribution to Southern Europe. The large shipping ports in Belgium and the Netherlands were the transit centres for cocaine shipments bound for Central Europe.

In 1986, Africa emerged as an important transit centre for African couriers en route to Europe. As recently as two years ago, this route was unheard of.

During the same period, the Indian authorities seized 24 kg. of cocaine on their territory, almost five times the quantity seized in 1985.

Cannabis

Cannabis, the most widespread drug of abuse, is still considered by many users to be relatively harmless. Many findings proving the contrary have been published over the past ten years, but abuse of the drug has continued nevertheless.

Numerous countries reported significant increases in seizures of cannabis and its derivatives. Because of its bulk, herbal cannabis is generally transported in large quantities, preferably in containers shipped either by land or sea, or in specially adapted vessels and private aircraft. Cannabis resin, being a concentrate, is more readily concealed by the courier; the latter is often difficult to detect as he can easily

blend in with the hundreds of thousands of tourists who travel every year to cannabis-producing countries.

There was little change in trafficking patterns during the period under review. Most of the cannabis consumed in Europe originated in Africa and South-West Asia. Much of the cannabis produced in Africa is now destined for North America. Cannabis is also produced in large quantities in the Caribbean, in Latin America, in a number of South-East Asian countries and in Australia, not only for local consumption but, in many cases, for export to other countries within these regions.

According to information reaching the General Secretariat, it appears that a certain number of organizations involved in cannabis trafficking are using the profits earned for other illicit activities.

Psychotropic substances

According to reports received by the General Secretariat, consumption of natural and synthetic drugs remained fairly stable, whereas seizures of synthetic hallucinogens fell

The Hungarian Delegation





The Delegation of Honduras

by about two-thirds during the year under review. This may be due in part to a marked decrease in the demand for LSD in certain regions. On the other hand, the quantities of depressant and stimulant substances seized trebled during the same period. The situation with regard to psychotropic substances is generally the reverse of that of the more common drugs. Vast quantities of most of the substances subject to abuse are diverted from supplies of pharmaceutical products in industrialized countries, and sent to markets in poorer developing countries.

Fenetylamine, which was listed in 1986 under the 1971 Convention as a Schedule II substance, is a good example of the diversion process. In the same year as that in which it was scheduled internationally, 20 million dosage units of the drug were seized in the Middle East. The source of this substance is believed to be essentially the European pharmaceutical industry and commerce; however, increasing quantities of psychotropic substances are being manufactured in India and West Africa. Methaqualone remains one of the substances most abundantly available on the illicit

market, despite a drop in its production.

A number of countries reported the discovery and dismantling of clandestine laboratories used to manufacture amphetamines and LSD. The majority of these substances are produced in Europe and North America for local consumption, and in the Far East both for local use and for sale in neighbouring countries.

Countermeasures

The United Nations representative, who had recently been appointed as Head of the Narcotics Division, expressed the esteem felt within the United Nations for Interpol, pointing out that the two organizations had been co-operating since the days of the League of Nations.

In June 1987, an Interministerial Conference had been held in Vienna and had adopted a multidisciplinary plan with 35 objectives and a declaration of principle on the collective responsibility of producer, consumer and transit countries. Four institutions currently existed to deal with regional co-operation in, respectively, the Near and Middle East, Asia and the Pacific, Africa, and

Latin America including the Caribbean.

In 1984, Venezuela had proposed that a new convention on co-operation against drugs be drafted. Interpol had helped to identify the fourteen points that should be included in such a convention and a draft text had been sent to the governments which had sent in their observations. A group of experts had already met twice and would meet a third time early in 1988. With the approval of the Narcotics Commission, the draft could perhaps be submitted to a Conference of Plenipotentiaries which could be held towards the end of 1988 in order to draw up the new convention.

The General Secretariat representative, discussing the collection of information concerning the control of psychotropic substances, recalled that the 1971 Convention on psychotropic substances had come into force in 1976. This important Convention had extended international control measures beyond opiates, cocaine and cannabis, to cover psychotropics, another group of substances likely to give rise to abuse. New chemical compounds and medicines were being developed almost daily, and it was obvious that some of them were likely to give rise to abuse. It was at that level that Interpol's role was important, since the Organization was currently the only source giving the World Health Organization and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs an "international" picture of drug trafficking and abuse. Interpol should establish close links with pharmaceutical bodies and with those responsible for making regulations, in order to ensure that data on the abuse of such substances was systematically reported.

More than thirty Delegates addressed the Committee on Drugs, all of them reporting an overall increase in both production and traffic.

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL CRIME

The Committee was chaired by Mr. Von Raab (United States).

Co-operation between the police and banking establishments

The General Secretariats representative reported that the Working Group set up to improve co-operation between the law enforcement and banking communities had met in Saint Cloud, in March 1987, in application of a resolution which the General Assembly had adopted at its Belgrade session in the light of the general increase in economic and financial crime.

It was clear that some laws and working methods needed to be modified if such crime was to be tackled successfully and also that co-operation between the law enforcement and banking communities had to be improved. That had been the purpose of the meeting of the Working Group. The participants had described the situations in their various countries and the facilities or, more often, the difficulties they encountered in international co-operation. The law enforcement and banking communities had defined their respective positions:

- Police officers were public servants who were required to obey the law; banks were part of the private sector.
- The problem created by the protection of data could not be ignored and it restricted the

communication of information to banks. Banking secrecy was a major obstacle to co-operation with the law enforcement community, irrespective of the rules in force in any particular country.

The aim was therefore to bring about a situation where the banks, which were often the first institutions to be aware that an offence had been committed, could both obtain more information from law enforcement agencies and supply information to such agencies.

At the meeting of the Working Group, the representative of the International Banking Security Association described the system his Association had adopted for the sharing of information and expressed the hope that a legal formula could be found to include Interpol in the

system. Proposals were also made in connection with the "Counterfeits and Forgeries" Review.

The Working Group had also drafted a memorandum containing recommendations which would be examined at its next session.

The General Assembly Delegates discussed these subjects in detail at the committee meeting. The following resolution was adopted in plenary session:

BEARING IN MIND Resolution No. AGN/55/RES/18 (Belgrade, 1986) and the decision to create a working group to improve co-operation between the banking and financial institutions and associations and law enforcement agencies,

The Turkish Delegation



HAVING NOTED the contents of Report No. 18 entitled "Working Group to improve Co-operation between the Law Enforcement and Banking Communities" and the Memorandum, of Co-operation contained therein considered at the meeting at the Interpol General Secretariat in March 1987 and, in particular, the conclusions at the end of the Memorandum, according to which it is necessary:

1. To strengthen further co-operation between the law enforcement and banking communities,
2. To examine and develop ways and means in which co-operation and consultation between the law enforcement and banking communities could be improved with a view to combating international fraud,
3. To facilitate a productive exchange of information between the law enforcement and banking communities in accordance with national legislation,
4. To consider practical ways in which banking communities might assist law enforcement in the investigation of frauds and the apprehension of perpetrators of fraud,
5. That Member States encourage the adoption, by the banking community, of a code of conduct similar to that known as the Swiss Agreement of 1st July 1987,
6. That Bank Regulators, Bank Associations, Banks and Law Enforcement Agencies establish a contact point for law enforcement matters,
7. That Banks do their utmost to investigate the background of and take necessary security precautions respecting persons seeking employment in or purchasing a bank,
8. That Interpol representatives work with Bank Regulators to ensure that financial institutions report violations of law as well as informing financial institutions of suspected violators, and

9. That Member States be encouraged to adopt laws that make the laundering of monies obtained from criminal enterprise a criminal offence,

REALIZING that international financial crime is now widespread and is increasing throughout the world,

RECOGNIZING that law enforcement agencies could act more effectively if they received early notification from banks of cases of international fraud causing losses to such banks,

BELIEVING that banks would not be victims of fraud so often if they possessed better information on perpetrators of fraud and their modus operandi,

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Nice from 23rd to 27th November 1987 at its 56th session:

INVITES the NCBs to rapidly transmit relevant information on international frauds to other NCBs and to the General Secretariat and also, when this is legally possible, to the banking community in their respective countries;

The Barbadian Delegate



RECOMMENDS that the working group created at the 55th General Assembly shall continue its work to explore ways and means of improving co-operation between banking and financial institutions and associations on the one hand, and law enforcement agencies on the other;

RECOMMENDS further that the working group explore the issues related to the abuse by perpetrators of fraud of offshore banking institutions.

Situation with regard to economic and financial crime

The General Secretariat representative gave a report on the situation; his presentation is summarized below.

Banking fraud is increasing rapidly and could seriously threaten business life. The main problem is that of fraudulent banking instruments, most of which are drawn on offshore banks registered in the Caribbean islands.

Establishment of an offshore bank generally requires the following:

- one local attorney or auditor who arranges the incorporation of the bank;
- nominee shareholders whose registered details are either false or insufficient to identify them;
- one employee to operate the telex machine and to answer mail.

These factors make it extremely difficult to investigate the cases.

Credit card frauds cause losses estimated by the credit card companies at hundreds of millions of dollars annually. A form is being prepared for the presentation of these companies' statistics. This form will follow the standard regional divisions normally used by the Secretariat.

The following is an example of advance fee and promissory note fraud.

During the late 1970s, 15 NCBs reported that a Mr. X was advertising offers of loans. Businessmen who applied for such loans paid the up front service charges but they never received the loans. When the public became aware of this practice, Mr. X turned to a scheme involving promissory notes purportedly issued and backed by two governments. He used the notes in two ways, either by offering them to businessmen at a huge discount, or by paying for goods ordered from foreign countries with them. Six countries participated in a working meeting held at the General Secretariat in October 1986 and it appeared that Mr. X and some of his associates had been known to Interpol since 1960. In March-April 1987,

several arrests were made in the United States, Switzerland, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. A second working meeting was organized in June 1987 to discuss follow-up action. The frauds involved a total of 600 million dollars.

Computer-related crime, which was forecast as the crime of the 1980s, has not yet really materialized as far as can be seen from the records of the General Secretariat. This is a result of the fact that most companies that are victims of such offences are reluctant to report them for fear of losing public confidence.

Frauds involving cheques, travellers cheques and Eurocheques continue to be a major source of concern for 1987, and the frauds are often connected with counterfeiting or forgery. Cheques are often stolen by organized groups: one gang steals the

cheques in one country and a different gang cashes the cheques in another country; Eurocheques, for example, seem to be cashed in Northern Europe in particular. The Spanish police dismantled no less than six clandestine Eurocheque printshops during the year. The 1st European Conference on Fraud was held at the General Secretariat in March 1987, and the participants decided to create a message form to accelerate the exchange of information related to Eurocheques.

Investment frauds are increasing, especially in the United States and Europe. Investing has become very fashionable and the fraudsters take advantage of the small investors' credulity and their ignorance of the system, especially by using misleading advertisements in financial magazines.

The conference hall where the General Assembly's plenary sessions were held



Airline ticket frauds ultimately cost legitimate travellers hundreds of millions of dollars every year. This type of fraud is often the work of organized groups operating in several countries. The General Secretariat is particularly interested in frauds committed by offenders who are also involved in other illicit activities such as trafficking in weapons or drugs. Airline ticket frauds can also be used to violate currency exchange regulations.

The International Chamber of
The Jordanian Delegation



Commerce estimates that between 2 and 6% of the total world trade involves goods with counterfeit trademarks, which would represent at least 60 billion dollars. The U.S. Department of Justice has estimated that this form of fraud has already caused the loss of 750,000 jobs, while in the United Kingdom annual losses from video piracy are estimated to amount to approximately 100 million pounds. Quite apart from their economic consequences, these counterfeits can be extremely dangerous for the consumer when the products are medicines or spare parts

for the automobile and aircraft construction industry.

Law enforcement in this area is difficult for a number of reasons: the police have other priorities, penalties are light, and it is often difficult for trademark holders to take legal action. The industrialized countries have found it difficult to agree on a common strategy to combat such offences and the only reaction within Interpol so far was the resolution adopted by the 46th General Assembly in Stockholm on "International traffic in stolen or unlawfully duplicated motion pictures and sound recordings".

Of the total number of new fraud cases reported to the General Secretariat in 1986, 42% related to the use of counterfeited or fraudulently altered identity documents. The problem is aggravated by illegal migration which is affecting more and more industrialized countries.

Finally, as far as co-operation is concerned, of the new cases reported to the General Secretariat in recent years, 80% are reported by European countries.

INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

The General Secretariat representative reported that, following decisions taken by the General Assembly at its 55th session in Belgrade, a special anti-terrorist group, with a new internal structure, had been set up. Each member of the Group was responsible for a specific geographical region. The officers in the Group also worked on combating other forms of crime linked to terrorism.

The Group's computer was used to compile a data-base of terrorism-related information. In addition, a Guide for Combating International Terrorism had been published in March 1987 and circulated to all NCBS.

During 1987, the Group became more widely-known by attending meetings, notably the Interpol American Regional Conference, which was held in Panama City,

Panama, in April, and also conferences in the United Kingdom, France, Federal Germany, the Netherlands, Italy and the United States. It had also organized meetings at the General Secretariat.

Numerous delegates participated in the discussions on problems posed by the fight against terrorism.

CURRENCY COUNTERFEITING

The General Secretariat representative began by thanking all the countries which had helped in the organization of the 7th International Counterfeit Currency Conference, held in Lyons, France, from 22nd to 26th June 1987.

He announced that the Conference had adopted six resolutions about combating currency counterfeiting. One of the resolutions recommended the inclusion of an item relating to counterfeit currency on the agendas of all Interpol General Assembly sessions.

Although the Conference had been organized by Interpol, it had been held within the context of the Geneva Convention on Counterfeit Currency of 20th April 1929, and the resolutions it adopted did not have to be submitted to the Interpol General Assembly. However, the final report on the Conference would be distributed by the General Secretariat to the NCBs.

The speaker then reported on the counterfeit currency situation during the first half of 1987, basing his remarks on information received by the General Secretariat.

The cases reported had involved seizures of counterfeits of eight different currencies, but mainly of United States banknotes which were not only involved in the largest number of cases, but also made up the largest number of counterfeits seized and the counterfeits most widely circulated throughout the world.

Still in terms of quantity, the currencies most frequently counterfeited after the US dollar were the CFA franc, the French franc, the Spanish peseta, the Italian lira, the

Deutschmark, the Netherlands guilder and the pound sterling.

The banknotes most counterfeited were, for the US dollar, the \$100 note, followed by the \$50 and \$20 notes. With respect to the other currencies, information sent to the General Secretariat appeared to indicate that, for the French franc, the most counterfeited banknote was the 50-franc note, followed by the 500-franc note. In the case of the Deutschmark, the 100-mark note represented more than 90% of counterfeits seized. Banknotes of 50,000 lire and 100,000 lire represented 80% of counterfeit Italian banknotes seized.

From the expert analyses carried out by the laboratory at the General Secretariat it could be said that, currently, there were no startling new techniques in the area of currency counterfeiting. Most counterfeits examined were still being printed by offset, with screen offset used to the same extent as in previous years. Some

The Delegation of Nepal

counterfeits had been produced by letterpress.

The use of colour copiers was on the increase, since they were now capable of reproducing the front and back of a banknote on the same sheet of paper. However, the threat posed by colour copiers was not yet reflected in the statistics, mainly owing to the high cost of the machines and the limited number available.

Currency counterfeiting was a steadily-growing phenomenon and an overall system of control was required at international level in order, firstly, to promote specialization within the police forces in certain regions and, secondly, to achieve harmony in the area of international co-operation. For that reason, the First Latin-American training seminar for counterfeit currency experts had been held in Lima, Peru, from 10th to 21st March 1986. Other seminars of the same type would be arranged in other regions in the future.

Numerous delegates took the floor during the discussions on this subject.



TELECOMMUNICATIONS (MODERNIZATION OF THE NETWORK)

The meeting was chaired by Mrs. Palacios de Miranda (Puerto Rico).

Current network and requirements

The General Secretariat representative recalled the Organization's telecommunications requirements, i.e. the need for NCBs to be able to exchange messages by means of a secure, reliable and rapid system adapted to modern conditions and technology and operating through different kinds of equipment. The last constraint, specific to Interpol, resulted from the fact that each country was free to acquire the equipment it wished within the framework of its national equipment policy.

The current situation was far from ideal: 45% of the NCBs had either no communications system whatsoever, or one based on Morse; the four Regional Stations were equipped for manual operation which could be a source of error; encryption currently existed on the radio network only.

More specifically, out of the

Italian Delegates



Organization's 142 NCBs and 5 Sub-Bureaus, 31 NCBs and the four Regional Stations were connected directly to the Central Station and, through it, to the International Police Telecommunications Network; 36 NCBs and 1 Sub-Bureau had access to the network via one of the four Regional Stations (in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in Nairobi, Kenya, and in Tokyo, Japan) mainly by communications in Morse; 52 NCBs not connected to the network had telex as their sole means of telecommunication; 22 NCBs used only the telephone; one used only facsimile.

The Central Station was being modernized. After emphatic urging by the SCIT, an Automatic Message Switching System had been installed and had come into operation on 1st July 1987. It made use of the following means of communication:

- radio with encryption (ARQ)
- telex
- teletex via Transpac
- teletex via telephone lines
- dedicated telegraph lines to the Paris NCB and Ottawa
- dedicated telephone line to Washington, D.C.

The teething problems with the AMSS had been remedied, although a

certain number of improvements would be made in 1988 to make the system more efficient. Transmission time had been considerably reduced and a significant reduction had been made in the number of operators.

The regular increase in traffic, together with the constraints involved in operating the AMSS such as the elimination of direct links between NCBs, meant that the network would now have to receive, transmit and relay about one million messages per year, i.e. a 50% increase in the load of traffic. The AMSS was certainly capable of handling the increased load but the network itself was already saturated, since the communication channels used, mainly ARQ and telex, were not very efficient and ill-suited to heavy traffic.

It had therefore become necessary to be able to adapt the AMSS for connection to micro-computers via the international packet-switched X 25 network. It was worth pointing out, in that connection, that a single X 25 channel, used by teletex terminals or micro-computers, was equivalent to 48 ARQ channels.

Work in progress

Caribbean Project

Work was still in progress on the Caribbean Project, a new telecommunications system based on the installation of a mini-AMSS at the Regional Station in San Juan, Puerto Rico, which would be connected to all the countries in the Caribbean and Central American region that agreed to take part in the project. The Regional Station would be linked directly by the AMSS computer to the Central Station in Saint Cloud.

The project confirmed the principle of a network based on Regional Stations; for the first time, however, fully automatic communication from

one NCB to another would be possible, via two automatic communication nodes: one at the General Secretariat (AMSS) and one at the Regional Station in Puerto Rico (mini-AMSS).

Modernization of the network: equipment policy

A recent study conducted at the General Secretariat on the load on the network after the start-up of the AMSS had highlighted the urgent need to modernize the communication channels on the Europe-Mediterranean and North American networks in order to avoid serious over-loading problems.

In addition, the Standing Committee on Information Technology (SCIT) and specialists at the General Secretariat had carried out a study on the state of the whole network. The findings had made it clear that it would be necessary to upgrade the system in three main areas:

- modernization of the four Regional Stations, by equipping each of them with a mini-AMSS to the CCITT X 400 standard, thereby interconnecting the national stations in each region and linking them to the AMSS at the Central Station via a rapid and reliable means of telecommunication;
- modernization of the National Central Bureaus which had only Morse or telex at their disposal, by providing them with radioteletype equipment at least, in order to link them to their Regional Station's AMSS computer;
- integration into the network of National Central Bureaus which communicated solely by telex or telephone.

A great many of the delegates present at the meeting took part in the discussions about the solutions their countries would have to adopt in order to upgrade their telecommunications equipment; many also expressed their concern at the fact that the new equipment would have to be financed within a fairly short time.

Following the discussions, the General Assembly adopted the following resolution in plenary session:

HAVING EXAMINED Report No. 6 entitled "Telecommunications" and its appended recommendations concerning the development and modernization of the ICPO-Interpol's telecommunications systems,

AWARE of the strategic importance of such development and modernization for the Organization's future,

DESIROUS of providing the ICPO-Interpol with a telecommunications network which meets the requirements of the Organization and its Member States,

CONSIDERING that special emphasis should be given to the security and inviolability of the Interpol telecommunications network,

ACKNOWLEDGING that, in accordance with Resolution No. 54/AGN/RES/10 adopted by the General Assembly at its 54th session in Washington D.C., the General Secretariat's equipment has been adapted for encryption on the ARQ radioteletype network,

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Nice from 23rd to 27th November 1987 at its 56th session:

APPROVES of the telecommunications policy options contained in Report No. 6 referred to above;

INVITES the General Secretariat to adapt the AMSS at the Central Station to the CCITT X 25/X 400 standards in 1988;

RECOMMENDS that the NCBs adapt their equipment to these standards;

RECOMMENDS most particularly that NCBs which are still using Morse, or which have no means of communication other than the telephone, rapidly acquire means of communication which are better



The Sri Lankan Delegation

suiting to current requirements and technologies;

RECOMMENDS that automation of the Interpol network be continued by equipping the Regional Stations with automatic message switching systems meeting the X 400 standard mentioned above, and that, in the meanwhile, if possible before 1989, the Regional Stations be equipped with modern electronic communications terminals for their communications with the Central Station;

STRESSES the vital importance to the Organization of building up a worldwide, automatic, rapid and reliable telecommunications network as soon as possible, and in any case within the next five years;

RECOMMENDS that NCBs which do not yet possess the Thrane & Thrane 1585B modem with the 007 Crypto option should acquire that equipment;

ASKS the Standing Committee on Information Technology, in co-operation with the General Secretariat, to continue the studies underway and to make recommendations in respect of the security and inviolability of all the Organization's telecommunications resources.

MEETING OF HEADS OF NATIONAL CENTRAL BUREAUS

The meeting was chaired by Mr. Thil (France).

Report on the activities of the working parties established by the General Assembly

Standards and Documentation Committee set up to study applications of electronic data processing to stolen cultural property

The General Secretariat representative reported that the Committee had been established on the basis of a resolution adopted in 1983 and had met on several occasions between 1984 and 1987.

It had begun by examining various different systems for electronic processing of data relating to works of art, as a result of which it had concluded that such data should be standardized. A manual of standardized data and a new form had later been prepared. Both those documents had been produced by a working party on the Committee's instructions and submitted to the countries concerned.

Following that consultation, the Committee had met again at Saint Cloud, in February 1987, and had

The Delegate of the Yemen Arab Republic



decided to submit, to the present session, the text of the new form based on the terms used in the Manual of Guidance and with a format similar to that used by the FBI in the United States. In addition, the General Secretariat had been asked to revise the Manual so as to make it a reference work which would enable police officers at the National Central Bureaus to understand the technical terms used on the form, in other words to make the document accessible to non-specialists.

The General Assembly adopted the following resolution in plenary session:

RECALLING the terms of Resolution No. AGN/52/RES/5 relating to the setting up of a Standards and Documentation Committee to study applications of electronic data processing to stolen cultural property and to recommend specific criteria common to all applications,

NOTING that the work done by the Committee has made it possible to produce a new CRIGEN/ART form and a Manual of Guidance on completion of the form which includes standardized basic data and that the aim specified in the above-mentioned Resolution has thus been achieved,

HAVING HEARD the General Secretariat's account of the way in which the Committee performed its task and of the purpose of the documents produced,

CONVINCED of the need to use common, standard terms within Interpol when dealing with thefts of cultural property,

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Nice from 23rd to 27th November 1987 at its 56th session:

APPROVES both the content and the format of the Manual of Guidance and of the new CRIGEN/ART form;

DECIDES that these two documents should be distributed to all the National Central Bureaus;

ASKS that, in order to facilitate computer processing of data, the NCBs should:

- use these documents as much as possible,
- in cases where a telegram is sent out before the form or even instead of it, ensure that the information supplied in the telegram is drafted so as to follow both the headings on the appropriate form and the order of those headings;

RECOMMENDS that NCBs incorporate the standard basic data found in these documents into their computer systems.

Working Group on the new form to transmit information about weapons and explosives discovered, seized or connected with trafficking cases

The General Assembly, at its session held in Belgrade in 1986, had instructed the General Secretariat to prepare a special form to assist in investigating traffic in weapons and explosives by providing such particulars as the names of manufacturers and purchasers, successive sales, methods of concealment, means of transport, routes taken and the identities of traffickers and importers.

After consulting the Interpol Working Group on Forms, the General Secretariat had compiled a list of items of description which it considered should be included in the new form, and had then forwarded the document for comment to the Working Party which had then reached its final conclusions. The General Secretariat representative reported on the results of the discussions and the General Assembly, in plenary session, adopted the following resolution:



Some of the Spanish Delegates

RECALLING its Resolution No. AGN/55/RES/4 (Belgrade, 1986) concerning, inter alia, the creation of a form to transmit information on traffic in weapons and explosives,

HAVING EXAMINED Report No. 12, submitted by the General Secretariat, entitled "Report regarding the new form for use in reporting incidents involving the seizure of weapons and explosives",

CONSIDERING that the list of headings appended to the said Report could provide a solid basis for a form designed to transmit information on weapons and explosives discovered, seized or connected with trafficking cases,

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Nice from 23rd to 27th November 1987 at its 56th session:

APPROVES the Appendix to the said Report;

ASKS the Secretary General to have a suitable form produced and circulated to the National Central Bureaus;

RECOMMENDS that the National Central Bureaus and the General Secretariat use the form to transmit information about weapons and explosives discovered, seized or connected with trafficking cases.

Minimum criteria for the circulation, by the General Secretariat, of international warning notifications

It was explained by the General Secretariat representative that the criteria essentially concerned the content of 'green notices' relating to international criminals. Following a suggestion by the Supervisory Board for the internal control of Interpol's archives that the General Secretariat draw up minimum criteria for the circulation of such notices, a draft text on the subject had been prepared. It had then been discussed by the Supervisory Board which had not expressed any reservations. The draft had then been submitted to the Executive Committee which had approved it and had decided to submit it to the General Assembly.

The draft was finally adopted, in plenary session, by a resolution.

Modification of the CRIGEN/AVIA (aircraft hijacking) form

The General Secretariat representative said that the previous CRIGEN/AVIA form had been adopted by the General Assembly at its 1970 session. Interpol's Committee of Experts on Civil Aviation Security had decided that the form ought to be revised and adapted to present-day needs.

In the light of the opinion of the Committee of Experts and of the decisions taken by the General Assembly in Belgrade in 1986, the General Secretariat had prepared a new version of the form taking into

account: the work already done on this subject by other international organizations concerned with the problem of civil aviation security; the requirements arising out of computerization and standardization; the possibility of presenting the form as a questionnaire, thus making it easier to complete by national departments.

The new form was presented to the General Assembly in plenary session and adopted by a resolution.

Sea piracy

The General Secretariat representative presented a report dealing with the problem of sea piracy, which had been raised officially for the first time in 1985, at the General Assembly in Washington D.C., by the Federal German Delegate. Over the previous few years, there had been more than 90 attacks on merchant vessels in foreign ports and territorial waters.

Furthermore, reports from the International Maritime Organization (IMO) revealed that trading vessels from a good many countries were affected by such offences.

The countries concerned by the problem had been asked to contact the Federal German Delegation directly, and Federal Germany had then asked the Interpol General Secretariat to organize a meeting which had been held in January 1987 in Saint Cloud. The International Shipping Federation

A Kenyan Delegate



(also representing the International Chamber of Shipping) and the International Chamber of Commerce (also representing the International Maritime Bureau) had participated in the meeting.

It was pointed out by a number of Heads of NCBs that piracy at sea had been studied by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) from the legal point of view, by the International Maritime Organization from the point of view of security measures to be taken in ports and on board ships, and by the International Maritime Bureau with respect to security measures aboard ships.

It thus became apparent that the role of Interpol could be to tackle the problem of sea piracy from a purely crime investigation point of view, i.e. by studying methods of preventing piracy and enforcing the law, and by facilitating the exchange of information between Interpol Member States.

It was therefore proposed that the General Secretariat should conduct a study on this type of crime (attacks on ships) on the basis of suggestions made during the meeting and taking into account the systems for circulating information on such incidents that might already have been set up by other organizations.

The General Assembly, meeting in plenary session, adopted the following resolution:

The Cypriot Delegate



HAVING BEEN INFORMED of Report No. 14 submitted by the General Secretariat and entitled "Report on sea piracy (attacks on ships) pursuant to the suggestions made to the General Secretariat by the Interpol Working Party meeting in January 1987",

CONSIDERING that maritime piracy is a matter of increasing international importance,

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Nice from 23rd to 27th November 1987 at its 56th session:

APPROVES the proposal to establish a working party on maritime piracy (attacks on ships) to study what action the ICPO-Interpol can take concerning maritime piracy, particularly in the field of prevention and how co-operation might be improved, and whether it would be advisable for Interpol to:

- (1) Set up a warning system;
- (2) Set up a system for reporting such incidents;
- (3) Prepare regular reports based on the incident reports.

Working Group on fraudulent travel documents

The Canadian Delegate reported that, in a single year, some 7,000 persons had succeeded in entering Canada by fraudulent means, in particular by using fraudulent travel documents. The various laboratories to which the problem had been referred had managed to develop new versions of such documents which were difficult to reproduce or fraudulently alter.

Canada had therefore decided to submit a preliminary draft resolution, requesting that a working group be set up to study the problems relating to the use of such documents at international level. The Working Group, of which Canada would be a member, would assist countries affected by such problems.



The Burmese Delegation

This proposal met with the approval of the Delegates and the General Assembly adopted the following resolution in plenary session:

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the worldwide increase in the use of fraudulent travel documents for purposes of illegal border crossings associated with other criminal activities and illegal immigration,

RECALLING the resolutions previously adopted by the General Assembly concerning this issue and in particular Resolutions:

- (a) AGN/42/RES/9: "Fraudulent procurement and use of passports and other international travel documents",
- (b) AGN/55/RES/16: "Preventing the international migration of offenders",

CONSIDERING that combating such criminal activities can only be accomplished successfully by the co-operation of all member countries in the exchange of information concerning the activities of criminals and the fraudulent documents they use and the exchange of technical information necessary for the identification of fraudulent travel documents,

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Nice from 23rd to 27th November 1987 at its 56th session:

DECIDES to create a Working Group to study the problems associated with the international use of fraudulent travel documents;

ASKS the Working Group to focus attention particularly on:

- (a) Examining ways and means to facilitate the exchange of criminal intelligence and technical information;
- (b) Determining security standards to be used in the manufacture of genuine travel documents with a view to strengthening the safeguards against forgeries and counterfeits and facilitating the identification of such forgeries and counterfeits;
- (c) Formulating firm recommendations to be submitted for consideration by the 57th session of the General Assembly in 1988.

Study on NCB resources

The modernization of Interpol's

structures, especially its telecommunications system, will result in an increase in requests for information from National Central Bureaus. That fact had led the United States to raise the question of NCBs' adapting their structures where necessary and increasing their resources.

The United States Delegate presented a preliminary draft resolution which was the subject of lively discussion.

A modified draft was then presented to the General Assembly which adopted the following resolution in plenary session:

CONSIDERING that the modernization of the Interpol telecommunications system can be expected to increase the number of requests for information from all National Central Bureaus and that, without adequate staffing and technical support, delayed responses

will become the norm and harm our efforts to prevent crime,

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Nice from 23rd to 27th November 1987 at its 56th session:

RECOMMENDS:

- (1) That all governments, police administrations and NCBs continually evaluate the procedures, staffing and technical needs of their National Central Bureau, according to their structure, to assure that it is and will continue to satisfy its responsibility for responses;
- (2) That this topic be included as an agenda item at meetings of Heads of NCBs;
- (3) That the General Secretariat make, in consultation with NCBs, a study on their current financial and technical situation and future needs and report to the next General Assembly session.

CONTINENTAL MEETINGS

African Continental Meeting

The meeting was chaired by Mr. Akele (Benin).

Telecommunications

The General Secretariat representative explained that, the AMSS having been installed at the General Secretariat, the next goal was to equip the Organization with a modern, secure, fast and reliable telecommunications system. Following a question from the Moroccan Delegate, he replied that the equipment programme being considered assumed that the use of Morse code would be discontinued in the near future, and a case-by-case study would have to be made in order to determine what communications system was best suited to each

country. For most African countries, the existing quality of telecommunications would make the transition to modern equipment possible without any particular problems.

The Delegate of Côte d'Ivoire emphasized that the major problem for African countries would be how to finance the new equipment. In reply to his comment, reference was made to the subsidy granted by the United Nations to help finance the creation of a modern telecommunications network in the Caribbean region, and it was suggested that a similar subsidy might be requested.

Bearing in mind that the General Secretariat was preparing a survey of telecommunications equipment which would include detailed specifications of the new systems and their cost, the Delegates agreed on the creation of an

ad hoc Committee which would study the problems of countries wishing to join the network for the first time and of those already in the network that wished to modernize their equipment. The Committee would be composed of representatives from the two countries with Regional Stations —

Two Belgian Delegates





Some of the Portuguese Delegates

Côte d'Ivoire and Kenya — and from Cameroon, Guinea, The Gambia and Ghana. The Committee would meet shortly before the next Regional Conference, with the country hosting the Regional Conference also participating.

Regional activities and day-to-day co-operation

The Regional Conference scheduled for 1987 had not taken place as no country had offered to host it.

Several examples of regional co-operation were discussed. An informal meeting on crime had been held in Lomé, Togo, and had been attended by representatives from no less than 16 English - and French - speaking NCBs.

A Conference on drug trafficking had been held in Côte d'Ivoire in 1986, with the assistance of the United States Drug Enforcement Administration.

The Chairman and Delegates from several countries expressed their appreciation of the training courses organized in Egypt from which numerous African police officers had benefited.

The Delegates agreed that day-to-day co-operation was generally satisfactory, especially between neighbouring countries, even if problems concerning extradition arose from time to time.

Date and place of the next Regional Conference

All the African NCBs gratefully accepted the offer made by the Tunisian Delegate, on behalf of his country's authorities, to host the next African Regional Conference. The Conference would be held in Tunis during the first week of May 1988.

American Continental Meeting

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

Regional activities

The Secretary General outlined the situation concerning the Sub-Regional Bureau in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Negotiations with the Argentine authorities were in the closing stages, and it would probably be possible to submit the final version of the Headquarters Agreement between Argentina and Interpol to the General Assembly, for approval, at its next session.

However, as Argentina was proposing to bear the cost of installing the Bureau, the latter could be operational as of 1988. There still remained the problem of the nationality of the Head of the Bureau and who would pay his salary.

After discussing the matter, the Delegates from the Americas agreed with the Secretary General's proposal

that the Bureau could operate temporarily under the management of an Argentine official. That would give the Secretary General time to ask the countries of the region to propose candidates whose salaries they would be prepared to pay, to allow him to examine the applications, and to appoint the Head of the Bureau.

Telecommunications

The General Secretariat representative announced that the Caribbean would be a pilot zone for the installation of a regional automatic message switching system financed by the United Nations. To date, twelve countries had given a firm undertaking to join the network and the funding provided by the United Nations would be sufficient to cover the corresponding costs. If other countries were interested in joining the network, they should make their intentions known very rapidly, since additional funds would have to be sought from the United Nations.

He added that the network was based on a mini-AMSS operating through the X 400 system with the General Secretariat, to which the NCBs in the region would be linked with micro-computers with teletex adapter facilities. An equipment test would be carried out in two islands in the region.

The Delegates of Saint Lucia, Barbados and Belize said that their countries' governments intended to join the new network.

Day-to-day co-operation

Several Delegates from smaller countries, especially those in the Caribbean region, stressed the need for more productive police co-operation, which was the only way in which the small countries could make up for the limited resources available to them for combating crime, especially large-scale crime such as drug trafficking.

The Argentine Delegate announced that the 2nd Regional Meeting for Heads of National Drugs Departments would be held in Buenos Aires in June 1988.

Date and place of the next Regional Conference

The United States Delegate said that his country would offer to host the next American Regional Conference in 1989, subject to the approval of the United States Congress.

Asian Continental Meeting

The meeting was chaired by Mr. Zhu Entao (China).

Telecommunications

The General Secretariat representative, in his report on modernization of the telecommunications system, pointed out that, for budgetary reasons, it would probably take a total of five years to modernize the entire network.

The Japanese Delegate reported that the South-East Asian network was currently composed of eleven countries. The Tokyo Regional Station, through which traffic had increased considerably, had acquired radioteletype equipment allowing for communications at a speed of 100 bauds. The Singapore station had acquired facsimile equipment.

Regional activities

The Chairman presented the report of the Working Party on Regionalization. The Working Party had agreed that the Liaison Office in Bangkok and the Regional Telecommunications Station in Tokyo should be maintained. A South Pacific Conference, which had been held recently in Australia, had decided that the telecommunications sub-regional network should be operational within two years.

The General Secretariat representative explained that attempts to reach a consensus on the concept of regionalization within Asia had run into difficulties, in spite of the fact that great strides had been made in the Arab world and in the South Pacific, where conferences for heads of police forces were held regularly.

Day-to-day co-operation

Several Delegates, especially those of Sri Lanka and the United Arab Emirates, expressed the view that co-operation could be closer if enquiries were answered more rapidly. The Indonesian Delegate suggested that it might be possible to improve co-operation by sending liaison officers to the region and by organizing visits to other countries and exchange schemes with foreign police officers.

It was suggested that NCBs with common interests should organize meetings on specific cases or particular types of crime.

Date and place of the next Regional Conference

The General Secretariat representative recalled that it had been decided to hold the 10th Asian Regional Conference in 1989. It was announced that China would probably offer to act as host country.

European Continental Meeting

The meeting was chaired by Mr. Babovic (Yugoslavia), who welcomed the Delegate of Andorra into Interpol's European family.

Telecommunications

Following a comment from one of

the Delegates in connection with the security of the Organization's telecommunications network, the General Secretariat representative announced that an encryption facility had been incorporated into the AMSS; in a few days' time, European countries which had Thrane & Thrane equipment with cryptomodems would be able to send encrypted messages.

Regional activities

The United Kingdom Delegate, the Chairman of the Technical Committee on Co-operation in Europe, reported on the activities of the Committee which had devoted much attention to improving the working methods currently being used and to problems raised by the introduction of new methods and equipment.

He drew the attention of the Delegates to the problem of direct contacts between police officers of different countries concerning cases where two or more NCBs were involved. There was certainly a risk that decisions might be taken as part of such direct contacts without the NCBs concerned being informed.

The question of the period of validity of resolutions adopted by the General Assembly was then discussed at length. The General Secretariat

Some of the Observers attending the Assembly



representative concluded that, legally speaking, any General Assembly resolution was valid until it was cancelled or modified by another General Assembly resolution. Nevertheless, certain resolutions might no longer require any measures to be taken for their application.

Liaison/Contact Officers

A circular had been sent out by the General Secretariat in the Summer of

1987 asking the European NCBs to appoint, within their NCBs, liaison or contact officers who would help to further day-to-day co-operation. Several NCBs had already appointed such officers.

The Delegates then discussed the various specific tasks that should be entrusted to those officers, and concluded that the system should be implemented immediately and that the

results should be assessed at the next Regional Conference.

Date and place of the next Regional Conference

The next European Regional Conference would probably take place in the Spring of 1988. Since no country had thus far offered to act as host, the Conference could be held at the General Secretariat in Saint Cloud.

PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES 1987-1988

The General Assembly adopted the following draft Programme of Activities:

I - General Administration

- Reorganization and modernization of the General Secretariat
- Transfer of the Headquarters (New Building operation)
- Entry into Force of the Staff Regulations and Staff Rules
- Training Seminar for NCB Officers (in French and Spanish) - Saint Cloud
- Meeting of the Financial Advisers:
 - Publication of administrative and internal control procedures
 - Publication of the accounting plan and guidelines for its use
 - Publication of procedures for preparing budgets
 - Study on the payment of contributions

II - Police

- 7th Caribbean/Central American Conference
- 17th European Regional Conference
- 10th African Regional Conference
- Standing Committee on disaster victim identification
- Working Party on regionalization in Asia
- Working Party on regionalization in Africa
- Meetings of the Technical Committee on Co-operation in Europe

- Working Party on false travel documents
- Preparation of a form concerning discovered or seized weapons and explosives

Symposia, Working Parties and Meetings:

- 6th Symposium on International Fraud
- International terrorism
- Thefts of vehicles and their freight
- Traffic in human beings
- Piracy at sea
- Organized crime
- Currency counterfeiting in Europe
- Co-operation between the police and banking establishments
- 14th Meeting of Heads of European National Drugs Departments
- 4th Meeting of Heads of National Drugs Departments in the Gulf Area
- 2nd Meeting of Heads of National Drugs Departments in the Americas
- 2nd Latin-American Training Seminar on combating currency counterfeiting

III - Legal matters and training

- Rules governing co-operation between NCBs
- Negotiation of the Agreement between Argentina and the ICPO-Interpol relating to the establishment of a Sub-Regional Bureau in Buenos Aires

- Application of the Headquarters Agreement for the Bangkok Office and application of the Exchange of Letters accompanying the Agreement
- Meetings of the Supervisory Board for the internal control of Interpol's archives
- Modifications to the ICPO-Interpol's Constitution and General Regulations
- Symposium for the Heads of police colleges
- Symposium on the identification of persons and traces
- Exchanges of information on research in progress in forensic science laboratories

IV - Technical matters

- Definition of a general policy in the area of telecommunications (Activity of the Standing Committee on Information Technology)
- Modernization of the Organization's telecommunications network and its adaptation to the X 25 - X 400 standards
- Study on the future Central Station at the new Headquarters
- Implementation of the Caribbean/Central American network project
- Working Party on telecommunications in Africa
- Study of NCBs' technical and financial resources

ELECTIONS AND SELECTION OF A MEETING PLACE FOR THE NEXT GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION



Mr. Akele (Benin), who was elected Vice-President



Mr. Zhu Entao (China), who was elected Vice-President

Elections

The term of office of Vice-President El Menady (Egypt) had expired and Mr. Akele (Benin) was elected Interpol Vice-President for Africa.

To fill the vacancy created by the withdrawal of Mr. Youssif (Sudan), Mr. Seudié (Cameroon) was elected for one year as African Delegate to the Executive Committee.

Mr. Zhu Entao (China) was elected Interpol Vice-President for Asia, succeeding Mr. Sarasin (Thailand) whose term of office had expired. Mr. Kanemoto (Japan) was elected to the Executive Committee as Delegate for Asia to fill the vacancy left by Mr. Zhu Entao's assumption of office as Vice-President.

Mr. Annesley (United Kingdom), Mr. Barbot (France), Mr. Inkster (Canada) and Mr. Kahin (Sudan) were elected to the Executive Committee for three-year terms.

57th session

The President of the Organization announced that the Thai authorities had extended an invitation to the General Assembly to hold its 57th session in Bangkok. The invitation was accepted by acclamation.



Mr. Annesley (United Kingdom), who was elected to the Executive Committee



Mr. Barbot (France), who was elected to the Executive Committee



Mr. Inkster (Canada), who was elected to the Executive Committee



Mr. Kahin (Sudan), who was elected to the Executive Committee



Mr. Kanemoto (Japan), who was elected to the Executive Committee



Mr. Seudié (Cameroon), who was elected to the Executive Committee

Conference Sidelights

by Miguel Chamorro
Interpol General Secretariat



Mr. Médecin, Mayor of Nice, and Mr. Simpson exchanging gifts at the reception hosted by the Nice municipal authorities at City Hall

Nice, Queen of the French Riviera and capital of the Côte d'Azur, became the capital of the world's police forces during the week of 23rd to 27th November 1987 when it played host to the delegations of 117 police forces from all the corners of the globe, and to representatives from eight international organizations with observer status — making a total of about 400 people of all nationalities.

From a brief look at its history, we can learn a great deal about present-day Nice and its inhabitants.

The city was founded in 350 B.C. by the Massaliotes, a people of Greek origin, who gave it the name Nice, from the Greek "Nikê", which means "victory". It was later occupied by the Romans, and then ravaged by barbarian and Saracen invaders. In the 13th and 14th centuries, the Counts of Provence began to rebuild

Conference Sidelights

the city, which later became one of the territories of the House of Savoy. In 1860, the population of Nice voted in a plebiscite for the city to be attached to France. On 12th September 1860, the mayor solemnly handed over the keys of the city to Napoleon III and the Empress Eugénie.

Today, traces of the city's Roman past can still be seen in the residential district of Cimiez, the Castle Tower and the Tour Bellanda, which affords the visitor a splendid view of the whole city. The *Promenade des Anglais*, running for 7 kilometres along the sea-front of the *Baie des Anges*, is also a marvellous sight. Our next landmark

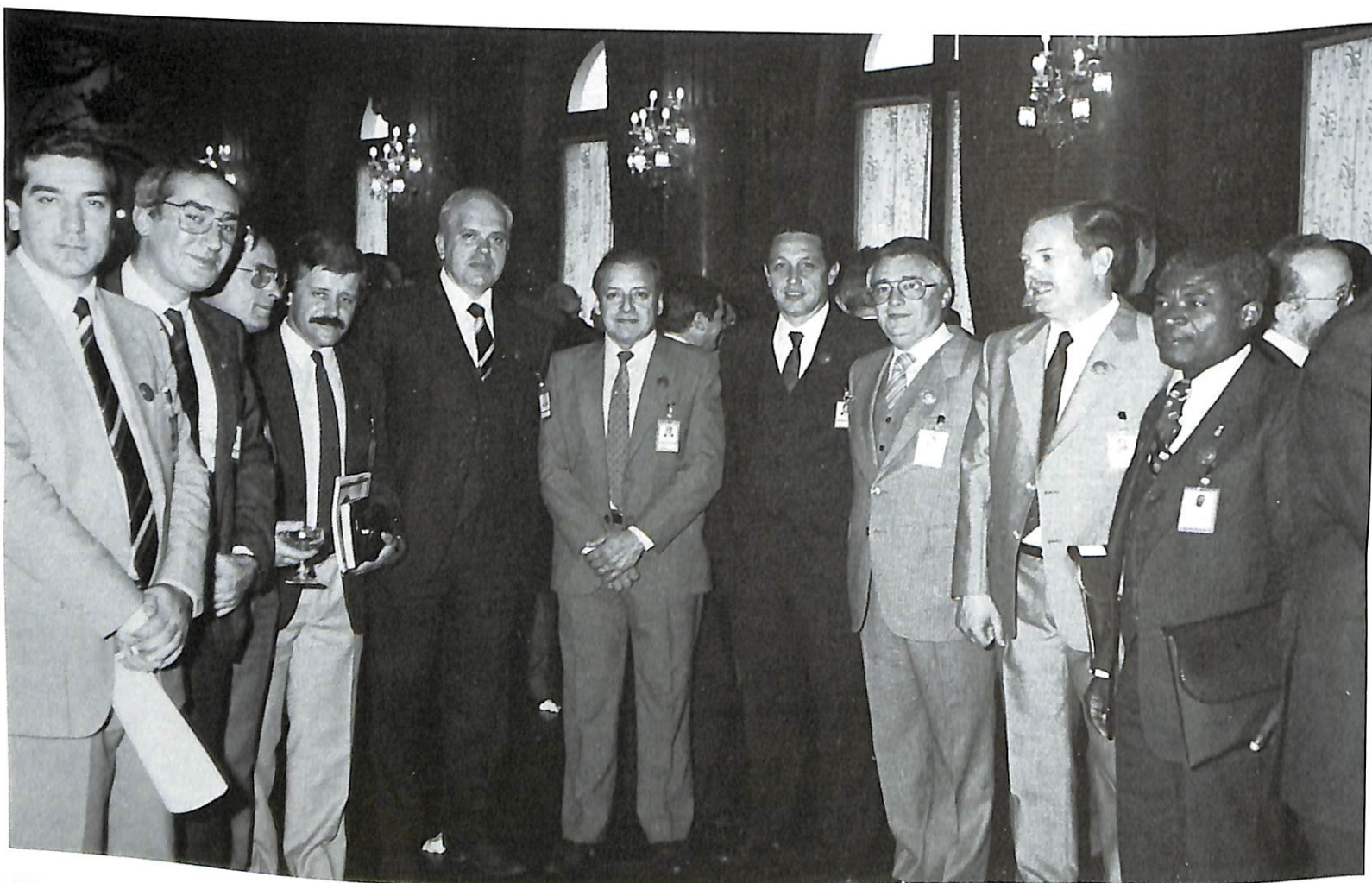
Some of the Assembly delegates at the Prefecture of the Alpes Maritimes Department, during the reception given by Mr. Pasqua

on a historical tour would be the Place Masséna which, with its beautiful gardens and fountains, magically transports us back to the "Belle Epoque" of the last century.

Returning to reality, we would end our tour at the Acropolis, Nice's modern convention centre, where the proceedings of the General Assembly began on Monday, 23rd November.

Since no country was able to host the General Assembly this year, the General Secretariat was more directly involved than usual in the organization of the session and substantial efforts were required of all those concerned.

As the Secretary General had announced during the preparatory meetings, every attempt had to be made this year to reduce travel and daily allowance costs, without



Conference Sidelights

jeopardizing the smooth running of the General Assembly. It was therefore decided that only a small group of General Secretariat staff would go to Nice.

This group was, however, only the visible tip of the iceberg: most of the document production team, and all of the translation team, worked at Saint Cloud, receiving documents from Nice and sending them back via the new telefax facsimile machines. This was a chance to demonstrate the efficiency of the modern and costly equipment the Organization had acquired as part of its reorganization programme.

As President Simpson emphasized in his speech, the presence of Mr. Pasqua, the French Minister of the Interior, at the opening ceremony, and the reception he gave for the Delegates

at the Nice Prefecture, bore witness to the importance the Headquarters country attaches to international co-operation in the fight against crime.

Despite the absence of a host country, there was no shortage of receptions: in addition to the reception at the Prefecture, there was one organized by the Mayor and Municipality of Nice, and a third given by Interpol's President and Secretary General.

There were also numerous opportunities for informal discussions and contacts among the members of the various Delegations. It was not uncommon to see groups of Delegates who had a language in common gathering together during the coffee breaks between working sessions or enjoying the delicious fish dishes of the restaurants in the old town at meal times.

The admission of Andorra, Aruba, Belize and Saint Kitts and Nevis as new Member States gave us the opportunity of learning a little more about the history, geography and special features of those countries and, above all, the chance of meeting the police officers representing them. Spurred by their common desire to co-operate in the fight against crime, the decision of these four countries to join Interpol brings the total membership of the Organization up to 146.

Before saying "au revoir" to Nice and its citizens, who welcomed us so warmly during our stay, we owe a special "thank you" to the city's municipal authorities and to our French colleagues who were responsible for the security of all those who attended the 56th General Assembly session.



The reception given by Interpol at the Acropolis

Photographs: Information and Public Relations Department of the French Ministry of the Interior and the S.R.P.J. in Nice, except on pages 9, 23, 33, 35, 36 and 38: Agence Khrona, Nice

States, territories and observers attending the 56th General Assembly Session



States

Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Aruba, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bermuda*, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei, Burma, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cayman Islands*, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia (The), Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Hong Kong*, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Korea (Republic), Kuwait, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, Netherlands Antilles, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Puerto Rico**, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Tanzania, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen (Arab Republic), Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zimbabwe.

* United Kingdom NCB Sub-bureaus

** United States NCB Sub-bureau

Observers

Commonwealth Secretariat
Council of Arab Ministers of the Interior
International Civil Aviation Organization
United Nations Organization

International Air Transport Association
International Association of Airport and Seaport Police
International Association of Chiefs of Police
International Banking Security Association