



General Assembly

6th to 13th October 1986

55th Session

BELGRADE



Official opening ceremony



The Sava Centar where the General Assembly session was held.

The 55th session of the ICPO-Interpol General Assembly was held in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, from 6th to 13th October 1986.

The meetings took place in the Sava Centar, with Mr. John Simpson, President of the Organization, in the chair.

The General Assembly session was attended by Delegates from 113 Member States, the Secretary General and some of his staff, and Observers from nine international organizations. Mr. Dobroslav Culafic, a member of the Yugoslav Federal Executive Committee and Federal Secretary for Internal

Affairs of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, was present at the Opening Ceremony and delivered the following speech:

“Mr. President of Interpol, Mr. Secretary General, Members of the Executive Committee, Ladies and Gentlemen, Comrades:

I consider it to be a special honour and a pleasure for me to greet the delegates and all the participants at the 55th session of the International Criminal Police Organization’s General Assembly both personally and on behalf of the host country, on behalf of the Federal Executive Council. It is a pleasure for me to greet Mr. Jean Népote, Honorary Secretary General of Interpol, who served the Organization for so many years. I extend a cordial welcome to you all and wish you every success in your work, on behalf of the Yugoslav internal affairs authorities.

I wish to emphasize the fact that this is the first time the governing bodies of Interpol have met in Yugoslavia since this well-known international organization resumed its activities after World War II. We are honoured by the decision to hold these meetings in Yugoslavia, in its capital, Belgrade, the very year that Interpol celebrates the fortieth anniversary of its rebirth.

I am certain that you will agree with me when I say that, during these four decades, Interpol has continually striven to contribute to the efforts being made by the police authorities in Member States to combat international crime. Interpol is a valuable co-operation instrument and it continues to improve, adapting itself constantly to new requirements in order to justify and reaffirm the reputation it enjoys both in the eyes of the public and in expert circles. That is why Interpol today provides the most important — you could say almost only — universal machinery for police co-operation.

Delegates, dear colleagues,

I am not going to speak about the significance and the development of

Interpol. A great many facts about that have been already mentioned and are known, and distinguished participants and guests are going to speak about them. I would like to take this opportunity to comment on present and future international police co-operation.

There is absolutely no doubt that this co-operation represents a very significant part of the relations between the countries.

In view of the great development of all means of communications, borders and distances do not have the same significance as they used to. There are mass migrations, for short or long periods; the world is constantly changing.

At the same time, crime is constantly becoming more international and, in its destructive expansion, it overcomes geographical, state, cultural and ideological barriers.

In such circumstances there is an increasingly greater need to expand and improve international co-operation organs for detecting crime and bringing criminals to justice. The international community should be organized in its activities, fighting crime in all its forms.

During talks about protecting the interests of Yugoslav citizens with my colleagues from many countries, I am often in a position where I can exchange views on international police co-operation. There is an impression that this co-operation seems, on the whole, to be operating satisfactorily, not only in the domain relating to Interpol, but even beyond that. In most cases internal affairs authorities, i.e. the police forces of all Member States, act effectively in response to the requests of their foreign partners. Although that does not mean that thanks to their action every case is solved, it is encouraging to know that international police co-operation in fighting against crime is operating successfully in most cases, although there is room for further improvement.



The Delegates during the opening ceremony.

This is an important stimulus for members of organizations to which society has entrusted this noble and difficult mission of protecting life and property. By carrying out this mission, they contribute to the efforts made to protect the law, and the lives and property of citizens: in brief, the welfare of humanity. That contribution is by no means insignificant, especially at a time when individual security and the security of peoples and states is greatly endangered by poverty and hunger, by the ever deepening gap between rich and poor, by threats of war and by aggressions and actual wars. There is no doubt that some reasons for the expansion of criminal activities can be found in those problems which have been exerting pressure on the modern world for a long time.

Numerous difficulties and obstacles — legal, organizational, technical and others — stand in the way of international police co-operation. It is our duty to try to prevent them from halting our prevention and detection of crime and pursuit of offenders. If we approach international police

co-operation with an open mind and in a spirit of co-operation it can and ought to develop further.

Interpol, as a professional international organization has achieved the high level of being universal in its membership and in its concerns which are not one particular crime, but crime in general.

In fighting drug traffic and counterfeiting, Interpol has its place and a role sanctioned by international conventions, but the role of Interpol is also recognized in other fields, such as economic crime, protection of cultural and historical values and property, etc. Certainly, in this connection, Interpol has to respect its Constitution and its well-known Article 3, in order to avoid overstepping its limits.

One specific area of violent crime that has recently developed is terrorism which has become a global international problem. As an activity directed against the interests of the whole international community, it constitutes a danger for the security of people, for the

security of States and even for peace in the world.

The frequency and variety of terrorist acts, beginning with individuals and groups and ranging up to States and beyond, make it clear that no country, regardless of its socio-political orientation, size or economic power, can regard itself as completely safe. That is why no country can stand aside in the fight against this evil.

In this situation Interpol, as an international organization, has to be engaged in issues which are related to international terrorism. Its engagement has not only to take account of its Constitution and authority, but has also to be based on an agreement to combat every kind of terrorism, without speculating about whether some forms of terrorism are less bad than others. We believe that this approach to the problem of international terrorism is the only possible approach for an international organization such as Interpol.

You are certainly aware that Yugoslavia was a victim of terrorism before many other countries. That is why it is natural for Yugoslavia to condemn all forms of terrorism most strongly. It has fought against terrorism, it is fighting against it now, and it will continue to fight against it in the future, very decisively and in an organized manner, starting from the criteria adopted for its own policy and those adopted on the international level.

Yugoslavia is an open country. Citizens from 55 countries can enter it without visas. Over 100 million persons cross our borders every year. Among them all kinds of criminals can be found — drug smugglers, smugglers of stolen cars, counterfeiters. Our organs and services put all their efforts into detecting and preventing different forms of international crime, regardless of the fact that Yugoslavia might not be directly affected by such activities if the criminals are merely transiting through our country in some direction.

The successes they have achieved in combating drug traffic, and in other spheres as well, are no secret.

We can now state emphatically that there has been relatively little crime in Yugoslavia; in that respect, we are fortunate in being at the bottom of the league of European countries.

We act within the scope of the system of social self-protection, which means that other members of our society are also engaged in the fight against crime. This fact has greatly helped us to achieve good results.

Special attention has been paid to respect for laws and regulations by the members of the Organs of Internal Affairs. All this contributes to the high degree of social respect for our Organs. However, as in other countries, the members of the Organs of Internal Affairs in our country have not been spared professional difficulties. It should be mentioned that the Yugoslav approach to co-operation within Interpol has been based, among other things, on full recognition of great diversity

which can be found among Interpol's Member States in respect of various kinds of criminal activities and their differing gravity.

Mr. President, distinguished guests,

We are quite sure that, as usual, this year's Conference will be a forum for fruitful professional discussion and for finding out the best way to carry out the complex and humane mission of Interpol.

Yugoslavia will offer the full support of all its competent organs.

Many of you are experiencing the reality of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia for the first time.

We wish and hope you will find some spare time, in spite of your very full agenda, to get to see something of our country's efforts to make life as acceptable as possible to man, and in conformity with his desires.

At the end of my presentation and at the beginning of your session, I wish to convey my gratitude to all those who



Mr. Dobroslav Culafic, Federal Secretary for Internal Affairs, delivering the opening speech. Behind him, from right to left: Mr. Kendall, Secretary General, Mr. Simpson, President of the Organization, Mr. Van Hove, Vice-President, and Mr. Népote, Honorary Secretary General.

contributed to the preparation of this Conference. In this connection, we must mention the city of Belgrade, where numerous international meetings and cultural and sports events have been organized. Belgrade has always been a good host and has had much experience. I am certain that you will appreciate the hospitality and organizational capacity of Belgrade.

According to the decision of our Federal Executive Council, I am the Chairman of the Organizing Committee for this session. On behalf of the Committee I should like to inform you that we are prepared and ready to satisfy all your requests and wishes: if you would like to visit some of our organizations of associated labour, or some other parts of our country, we could organize that for you; we could organize meetings and talks concerning various aspects of our political, economic and social life, or we could try to satisfy other requests.

Mr. President, Mr. Secretary General, Gentlemen — the Executive Committee members, ladies and gentlemen delegates, comrades — once again I wish you success in this session and I wish you a pleasant stay in our country and in our capital, Belgrade. I am certain that this meeting of the General Assembly of Interpol will fulfill the expectations of your Organization's governing bodies. Also, I am certain that when you leave the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia it will be with a wealth of new experiences and impressions.

With this in mind, I greet you once again and wish you all successful work and a pleasant stay".

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Mr. John Simpson, President of the ICPO-Interpol, then delivered the following speech:

"I am honoured to welcome each of you to the 55th session of the General Assembly. May I speak on behalf of this entire Organization to say "thank you" to our kind hosts,

the officials of the Government of Yugoslavia — and the City of Belgrade — for their generous hospitality. I know it has taken the concerted efforts of many people — working relentlessly for many, many months — to assure the success of this event. We deeply appreciate your efforts and look forward to visiting this beautiful, historic city.

Once again, all of the representatives from our member nations have the privilege of coming together as one cohesive unit. Since we met last, a great deal of work has been accomplished — and a great deal more is in the "offing". The credit for our accomplishments, of course, goes to each of you. Without your individual efforts, very little would have been achieved.

If anyone ever doubted the effectiveness of this Organization and its impact on the terrorist world — the bombing should be ample proof that the terrorists are very aware of it.

The Members of this Organization deserve the highest commendation for the co-operative and enthusiastic manner in which you have met our commitment to fight terrorism. It is obvious that we are moving forcefully in a new direction on this issue.

I would also like to give special thanks and applause to the Secretary General and his staff on their handling of the bombing incident of our Headquarters in May. They worked effectively, and efficiently, and calmly — under very stressful conditions — and continued to perform their duties in an exemplary manner.

Though the bombing was a great concern to all of us, I think it is also important for what it represents — and that is a "measure" of our success.

I feel certain that the new international terrorism unit at Headquarters will also prove to be a highly effective "combatant" in the "war" on terrorism, and I

congratulate each of you for your ready support of the unit.

Other concerns are equally prominent, of course — our efforts against illicit drug trafficking, for example. There, too, we see signs of new resolve within our Organization to push harder at the problem. As a result of long, unrelenting efforts to stop drug trafficking in the Caribbean area, we are now upgrading the telecommunications network and facilities in that region. I am pleased to announce that Puerto Rico will be the site of the new regional station for the Caribbean area. This will be accomplished as a result of financial support from the United Nations. And it is an outstanding example of what can be achieved through commitment and hard work.

That brings me to another major concern that this Assembly must address — and that is our financial resources. To this present day, we have tried to operate under an antiquated system of assessment; one that will no longer suffice. If we are to continue our programmes and carry out the vital work of this Organization, we must increase the financial support we receive. It's just that simple.

I believe there is no alternative but to increase the budget assessment that each member nation pays. Because we must all accept the fact that "payment in kind — for services rendered" equals fiscal responsibility. I urge you to lend your support to budgetary reform — so that we may complete the work we have begun.

There is an old saying in my country — "Either you're part of the solution, or you're part of the problem". That means simply that the burden is on each of us, individually, to look beyond our own parochial interests and concerns — and work for the good of all. But that goal will never be achieved without a sound, financial system that allows us to perform at optimum efficiency.

It has been alleged on occasions that we are cumbersome, factious and under-financed. The General Secretariat's services are undergoing reorganization and modernization. We shall be moving to our new Headquarters in 1988. An automatic message switching system will be functioning by the beginning of 1987. This improvement, coupled with the application of cryptography, will make our communications more rapid and secure. The computerization of our records system is well under way and implementation of modern techniques in document production is adding considerably to our Secretariat's efficiency. Much remains to be done and additional financial support will be necessary. The Organization can only be as strong as its weakest link. A modernized Secretariat is of no value if the National Central Bureaus are not equipped to fulfill their role. The valuable services which Interpol can offer to

governments are insufficiently realized. The Secretary General and I have discussed this matter and we are looking for ways in which governments can be made to understand the potential offered by Interpol through a series of NCBs which are properly staffed and equipped and are situated at an appropriate level in the national police structure. We count on your support in bringing this about. It is only in this way that the criticisms which are levelled at us can be refuted. The remedy is in your hands and your commitment to the Organization should be total. If you do not defend the Organization against its critics or become committed to removing the causes for criticism the Organization will not progress.

In mentioning progress it should not be forgotten that 1986 is the fortieth anniversary of Interpol since it was reborn after the Second World War. I am pleased to see with us today a personality who

accomplished much of the progress since then, former Secretary General Jean Népote. Let us make this important anniversary the starting point for a new form of dynamic progress.

As I said in the beginning, these meetings afford us a few days to work as a unified, cohesive unit. I hope we can leave Belgrade with an increased sense of unity and determination. For it is obvious that the world grows more and more dangerous — and the time left to us to turn the situation around diminishes daily.

When we meet again — a year from now — I hope we will be able to look back with pride on our accomplishments this week. The "path" is simple: resolve to work together and to utilize the vast range of resources and expertise this Assembly represents.

I wish you great success. Thank you".

Applications for membership

Three countries — Grenada, Antigua and Barbuda, the Gambia — applied for membership of Interpol this year. The General Assembly voted in favour of all three applications. The application for readmission to the Organization, presented by Brazil, was also approved by the General Assembly.

This brings the number of ICPO-Interpol Member States up to 142.



The Delegate of Antigua and Barbuda, a new Member State.



The Delegate of The Gambia, a new Member State.

Progress report

The Secretary General began by highlighting the Organization's main achievements since the 54th General Assembly session (Washington, D.C., October 1985): reorganization of the General Secretariat was under way and progress had been made in computerizing the criminal records and modernizing the telecommunications system. He stressed the need to increase the Organization's resources and he referred to the considerable damage caused to the Headquarters building by the bomb attack in the spring. He then commented on the Progress Report, a summary of which is given below.

GENERAL FUNCTIONING OF THE ORGANIZATION - POLICY DEVELOPMENTS

During the General Assembly's 54th session held in Washington, D.C., in 1985, Mr. Raymond Kendall was confirmed in the post of Secretary General, a post which he had held in an acting capacity for several months, and the appointment was announced of Mr. Akira Kawada as the Head of the Police Division at the General Secretariat. Both appointments represent a step forward in the internationalization of the Secretariat. The special unit to deal with cases of terrorism, provided for in a resolution of the 54th General Assembly session, was established in January 1986 and a recruitment procedure is under way with a view to making this unit a group comparable with the other specialist groups in the Police Division. Staff are also being recruited for the European Secretariat to be installed at the Headquarters.

On Friday, 16th May 1986, the General Secretariat was attacked by a terrorist group which set off a bomb on the premises. One night guard was injured but not too seriously. This attack resulted in damage estimated at some 5 million French francs. Apart from the units located closest to the seat of the explosion, the Secretariat's departments were neither directly nor totally disrupted. Nevertheless, the extent of the damage was such as to cause considerable interference with their normal functioning. The staff were to be commended for the spirit of solidarity they showed in response to this difficult situation. Services to Member States were maintained at the maximum possible level in the circumstances. It did not prove necessary to cancel any of the activities planned at the General Secretariat. Increased protection has been provided for the Headquarters, with the assistance of the French police.

Some members of the Indonesian Delegation.



At its 54th session, the General Assembly adopted a resolution on the construction of a new Headquarters in Lyons. The application for the building permit has been submitted to the appropriate administrative authorities and current indications suggest that the building will be ready for occupation in the second half of 1988 as planned, and that the overall cost will not exceed the sum envisaged in the 1985 resolution.

The organizational study on the General Secretariat, originally entrusted to an outside expert but subsequently conducted by the Secretariat's Organization and Development Department, has been presented to the Secretary General and is now being examined by the Management. Certain recommendations may be implemented rapidly but the overall objective is to ensure that re-organization is completed in good time for the move to Lyons.

Upgrading of the Secretariat's computer facility was completed in January 1986 and, in accordance with the recommendations in the organizational study, a new Sub-Division has been created to cover international notices, criminal records, fingerprints and identification. There are now a sufficient number of computer terminals to enable the specialist police groups to have direct access to electronically processed data as well as to allow for the entry of current and selected historical information concerning international criminal activity. One of the two existing parallel indexes

the financing of an Interpol telecommunications network in the Caribbean region. The establishment of such a network in a region where international police communications facilities are relatively poor or non-existent was recommended by the Caribbean Regional Conference held in the Bahamas in May 1986. The assistance granted will total 600,000 US dollars and will cover the entire cost of installations for some 25 countries. This represents an important step forward in the Organization's communications possibilities in a key area for illicit drug traffic.

normal services. Although the percentage increase may appear to be high, the overall commitment remains small for an important international Organization. It would be regrettable if, for budgetary reasons, the considerable progress which has been achieved should not be allowed to continue.

It is perhaps also the moment for some Member States to review their situation with regard to the number of budgetary units they contribute. It is also important that Member States support the Organization's position in day-to-day international co-operation. The Constitution is sufficiently flexible to allow regional initiatives to take place within the Organization rather than as a competitive parallel element. If the universality of the Organization is to be respected in the way that international criminals respect universality, with no political or geographical restrictions, the efforts of all members must be directed towards this aim.

The Executive Committee held three meetings in 1986, one in late February, a second in early June and a third immediately before the General Assembly session.

Three Regional Conferences have taken place since the last General Assembly session. The Asian Regional Conference was held in Nuku Alofa, Tonga, in April 1986, the European Regional Conference took place in Malta, also in April 1986, and the Caribbean and Central American Conference was held in Nassau, Bahamas, in May 1986.

The first American Regional Meeting for Heads of National Drugs Services was held in Santiago, Chile, in July 1986.

The Secretary General, the Heads of Divisions and other Secretariat officials visited 24 National Central Bureaus during the course of the year while the Drugs Liaison Officers carried out their normal missions.



The Danish Delegation.

(alphabetic and phonetic) has become redundant and been discarded, thus making space and personnel available for the new projects.

The automatic message switching system, acquisition of which was approved by the 52nd General Assembly session, is currently being installed and should be operational by the end of 1986. The United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control has agreed to contribute to

During the past few years, the Organization has had some difficult problems to solve but it has now reached a point where normal progress would seem possible. Under the circumstances, it is important that normal progress be allowed to continue. This will only be possible if the necessary financial support is given to the Secretariat. A budget has been presented for 1987, which represents the minimum necessary for the Secretariat to continue to provide

TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION

A training seminar was held in Arabic and English in November 1985 and 26 grants were awarded. A training seminar will be held in French and Spanish in November 1986 and 26 grants have been awarded.

INTERNATIONAL CRIME

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

- NCB Activities

The NCBs of 26 Member States sent their Activity Reporting Forms for the period from 1st January to 31st December 1985 to the General Secretariat.

Twenty-three NCBs indicated that 1,764 arrests with a view to extradition had been made on their territories at the request of other countries and 25 NCBs reported that 874 arrests with a view to extradition had been made in other countries at their request.

Twenty-five NCBs reported that they had sent 34,820 requests for identification to NCBs of other countries.

Officials from 22 countries undertook 758 missions.

- General Secretariat Activity

The General Secretariat's Police Division is responsible for co-ordinating co-operation in the battle against international crime. The Division is divided into four Sub-Divisions. Three of them handle crime, including international terrorism, economic and financial crime, and drug-related crime respectively. A fourth Sub-Division was established at the end of June 1986 and, under the title "Criminal Records Department", incorporates the former International Notices, Criminal Records and Fingerprint Groups, as well as a newly created Data Entry Section.

The number of cases handled by the Police Division during the period under review shows no decrease compared with the previous year. The General Secretariat reorganization project, currently being implemented by one of its own departments, has already resulted in certain changes and should soon enable the police officers on the staff to provide Member States with the kind of intelligence analysis service they hope to receive.

In 1985, *Sub-Division 1* (Offences against persons and property) handled 5,559 cases of crimes against persons and property, compared with 5,339 in 1984. This type of crime is the responsibility of Group C.

A new circular about international thieves and receivers specializing in works of art was issued.

The 3rd Meeting of the Committee set up to study applications of electronic data processing to stolen art objects was held at the General Secretariat in March 1986.

Group D, the group responsible for offences against persons, handled 3,808 cases in 1985 compared with 3,259 in 1984.

A study on unlawful interference with civil aviation is currently being published and will be circulated to the NCBs in the Organization's four working languages. It is based on the aircraft hijackings or attempted hijackings reported to the General Secretariat on CRIGEN/AVIA forms between 1980 and 1985 inclusive. Although it would appear that 175 aircraft hijackings occurred during that period, the General Secretariat received reports on only 103 cases.

Group D has sent a circular to NCBs about a new type of passport which is machine-readable and difficult to forge.

The most recent report from Group D on hostage-taking and kidnapping for ransom appeared in

August 1985 and was the fourth in the series. It was based on the forms sent to the General Secretariat but, once again, the number of forms received does not seem to correspond to the number of cases.

Most reports on cases of armed robbery or robbery with violence are sent to the General Secretariat by European countries, although a few cases are reported by countries in the Americas; the situation is similar with regard to extortion. According to the information received by the General Secretariat, it seems that offenders' prime targets are still banks, jewellers' shops and cash transporters.

During the period under review, 38 notices were issued about unidentified dead bodies and so far 10% of the corpses have been identified with the help of these notices.

Copies of the "Manual on Disaster Victim Identification" and the "Summary of Disaster Victim Identification Procedures" were sent to the NCBs in December 1985. They were published in the Organization's four working languages. Additional copies of both documents are available from the General Secretariat at a cost of 90 French francs for the Manual and 20 French francs for the Summary.

Further to the resolution adopted by the 54th General Assembly session (Washington, D.C., 1985), a special "International Terrorism" unit was set up in the Sub-Division in 1986. The activities of the special unit are described in another section of the Progress Report.

Sub-Division 2 (Economic and Financial Crime) is divided into three Groups and a department.

Group E deals with fraud and general economic offences. A list of the thirty or so types of offences handled by the group would include the fraudulent use of identity documents, commercial fraud, maritime fraud, cheque and credit card fraud, audio-visual piracy, commodity futures fraud, airline

ticket fraud, telex transfer fraud and computer-related fraud.

Group E handled 3,483 new cases in 1985, compared with 3,235 in 1984. The European region reports the major part of these cases (80%). The Group published 155 international notices, including 146 on people wanted with a view to extradition.

Group F deals with counterfeit currency and handled 6,492 cases in 1985, compared with 6,823 in 1984 and 5,747 in 1983. As usual, the laboratory service attached to the Group carried out expert analyses of counterfeit notes and cheques.

The General Secretariat organized a two-week training course on combating currency counterfeiting in Latin America. It was held in Peru in 1986 and was attended by 59 participants from ten countries in the region. It is hoped to organize similar courses on other continents.

Preparations are underway for the 7th International Conference on Counterfeit Currency. The last Conference of this type was held in Madrid in 1977. As no country has offered to host the conference, the Executive Committee has agreed that it should be organized by the

General Secretariat. About 500 participants are expected and organizing such a large conference will place a considerable strain on the General Secretariat's human and financial resources. Consequently, the Executive Committee has agreed that the conference should be sponsored, i.e. some of the expenses will be borne by the issuing banks and participants from the private sector. Should this private sponsorship not be forthcoming, it will not be possible to hold the Conference.

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

The FOPAC Group, the group responsible for cases involving funds derived from illicit activities, aims primarily to facilitate the exchange of information about financial operations connected with criminal activities. It periodically reissues its publication *The Financial Assets Encyclopaedia* which contains descriptions of national legislations on the means available to the police to have access to financial information. The Group has also drafted the Interpol model legislation on the tracing, seizing and forfeiture of assets derived from drug trafficking and

organized crime. The document was sent to Member States with a circular, and many countries have used portions of the model when reforming their laws in this respect.

A financial investigation training programme has already been submitted to a number of meetings and will shortly be available for use.

The Counterfeits and Forgeries department is responsible for publishing the Review "*Counterfeits and Forgeries*" which had approximately 14,000 subscribers at 1st January 1986.

The Review is published in two volumes. Volume I is devoted to counterfeit and forged banknotes discovered worldwide. It is now published in the same format as Volume II. The layout of the texts and photographs has been modified. Counterfeit notes are reproduced in colour, with enlargements of the principal defects. Volume II covers genuine notes in circulation worldwide. Approximately 150 countries co-operate with the General Secretariat on this volume. The notes of several new countries as well as travellers cheques have been added. The monthly newsletter has also been improved. The "*Counterfeits and Forgeries*" Review is published in five languages: Arabic, English, French, German and Spanish.

A revised organizational structure of the Drugs Sub-Division has been developed by the General Secretariat and was formalized as of 1st April 1985. The Drugs Sub-Division is now divided into three elements: the office of the Head of the Sub-Division (encompassing the Bangkok Liaison Office), the Operations Unit and the Intelligence Unit. As of 1st June 1986, the Drugs Sub-Division had 30 persons from 19 countries working for it and also benefited from the services a part-time liaison officer for the Caribbean region.

During 1985, the Sub-Division processed a total of 43,373 cases, compared with 39,740 in 1984, and nearly 12,000 seizure-based case

The Delegation from Burundi.



summaries were entered into the Sub-Division's computerized Strategic Intelligence System. The SIS system has been used to produce a monthly bulletin entitled "Statistical Analysis - Monthly" (the "SAM" Bulletin).

A total of 52 Weekly Drugs Intelligence Messages was distributed to the Organization's entire membership during the year. During 1985, Drugs Sub-Division staff organized and participated actively in a total of 70 meetings/conferences/training seminars, etc. around the world. Twenty of these events, including two specialized training courses, were organised by the General Secretariat. For the first time, the Drugs Sub-Division was able to offer Member States specialized drug-related training, based on a programme developed by the Drugs Sub-Division itself. Two training courses based on this programme, one for European countries and one for countries in the Asia/Pacific region, were conducted during 1985. This programme will continue in 1986 with a major training project for Member States on the African continent.

During the period July 1985 - June 1986, Drugs Sub-Division liaison officers undertook a total of 71 liaison visits to 44 countries in Africa, South America, Europe, the Far East/Pacific and the Near and Middle East.

Finally, during the year the Drugs Sub-Division continued to co-operate closely with other international bodies concerned with the multi-faceted problem of international drug trafficking. Throughout the year, regular and close contacts were maintained with the Customs Co-operation Council and the principal United Nations Specialized Agencies on matters of mutual interest.

The Criminal Records Sub-Division was set up in June 1986 and is destined to become a computerized data centre for criminal information in the General Secretariat.

A section for assessing incoming messages will be set up in June 1986



The Delegation of Tonga.

and is destined to become a computerized data base centre for criminal information in the General Secretariat.

A section for assessing incoming messages will be set up once the automatic message switching system has been introduced.

The International Notices Group was established in 1984 to improve the handling of wanted notices for fugitives; it now allows for the instant retrieval of personal data concerning international criminals wanted on red notices or on Interpol broadcasts.

Between 1st June 1985 and 31st May 1986, the Criminal Records Group carried out 570,000 searches, and opened 2,422 new files and 260,631 reference documents. The Group currently has a staff of 28 persons and reached saturation level in its work several years ago. This was the subject of some concern and a temporary team has been created to purge and computerize the files. The alphabetic index was discarded on 1st May 1986.

The fingerprints group is responsible for processing fingerprints and co-ordinating the various stages of international

notices. In 1985, 14,419 new cards were added to the ten-print index while 607 individuals were successfully identified from their fingerprints, their identity particulars being communicated to the NCBs concerned.

STUDIES, GENERAL REFERENCE RESOURCES, MEETINGS AND SYMPOSIA, ICPR

The General Secretariat's "Research - Studies - ICPR Division" undertakes a number of activities, including the following: drafting of documents and reports on subjects of interest to the police and on Interpol's activities; organization of meetings and representation of Interpol at meetings organized by other bodies; participation, by consultation and preparation of documents, in the work of other General Secretariat departments, management and processing of the Secretariat's general reference documents (library) and answering requests for documents; publication of the *International Criminal Police Review* and management of its circulation.

During the year the General Secretariat was represented by this

Division at seven meetings, conferences and symposia.

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

Numerous reports and documents were drafted and various statistical works and bibliographies were compiled.

The General Secretariat Library is part of the General Documentation and Library Sub-Division. It is a specialized library with a collection designed to cover areas of interest to the police and to the Organization (police techniques and practices, forensic science, law, criminology, etc.).

Between 1st May 1985 and 1st May 1986, 234 requests for information from departments or researchers in 61 countries were handled. In addition, 76 requests from members of the Secretariat staff and visitors were also handled.

The International Criminal Police Review has been published since 1946, on the basis of ten issues a year. The Arabic, English and French editions are published by the General Secretariat, and the Spanish edition is published in Madrid, thanks to the efficient assistance provided by the Spanish police.

The English, French and Spanish editions are currently published with little or no delay. The numbers of the Arabic edition for the years 1985 and 1986 are currently being translated and printed with the assistance of the NCB in Tunis.

During the period 1985-1986, considerable efforts have been made to publish more original articles and articles drafted by the General Secretariat and the NCBs, as well as to reduce production costs.

In application of resolution No. AGN/54/RES/4, the Working Party on the International Criminal Police Review met in April 1986 and drew up proposals which were submitted to the Executive Committee at its June 1986 meeting. The Committee approved

the proposals and the NCBs were informed of the measures planned. The measures adopted constitute a major reform in the outlook of the ICPR and will be effective as from the first number for 1987.

WORKING METHODS AND RESOURCES

Working methods and resources are concentrated in the Administration Division which comprises all the Secretariat's general services. Consequently, the Division is involved, in whole or in part, in all the General Secretariat's activities.

Telecommunications

During 1985, 690,458 messages were carried over the international police telecommunications network, an increase of 6.4% over the previous year.

The Telecommunications Sub-Division participates in the work aimed at developing telecommunications facilities, especially by being represented at the meetings of working parties and the Standing Committee on Information Technology. In accordance with the decision taken by the General Assembly in 1984, the General Secretariat is proceeding with work on the automatic message switching system which is scheduled to become operational at the end of 1986.

Document Production

This Sub-Division consists of the departments responsible for translating, typing, printing and dispatching all the documents prepared at the General Secretariat. After a sharp increase in recent years, the growth in the number of documents produced has slowed down. A document control system was introduced on 1st April 1986 with the aim of planning the flow of documents sent for processing by the Sub-Division by monitoring their arrival, the various stages of their preparation, and the final completion dates. The system should provide a clearer analysis of

the tasks carried out by the Sub-Division and a better appreciation of its problems, both internal and external. This Sub-Division was one of the services most seriously affected by the bomb. The building housing the translation department and typing pool was destroyed and the staff had to be relocated within the main General Secretariat building under somewhat difficult conditions. Normal working nevertheless continued.

Finance and accounts

This Sub-Division was created early in 1984. A computer was installed in January 1985 to meet the requirements of programme budgeting and the attendant control and information system. The software used meets the requirements of programme budgeting and facilities currency conversions. An additional programme is now used to maintain the inventories of assets subject to depreciation and to calculate depreciation.

The payroll section has been included in the Sub-Division and it uses a mini-computer for calculating the internal tax and also for programme — by — programme staff management.

Supplies and Internal Services

This Sub-Division is responsible for management of property and supplies and public relations. In its first capacity, in addition to the technical maintenance and administration of the buildings in Saint-Cloud, it deals with all purchases except those involving the acquisition of sophisticated equipment requiring large-scale investments. Its public relations tasks include processing requests for information from journalists, institutions and private individuals. It makes the arrangements for visits to the General Secretariat and it works closely with the Secretary General's Executive Assistant. During the period from 1st June 1985 to 30th June 1986, the General Secretariat received 643 individual visitors from 54 countries, 295 visitors from 11 groups representing

over 50 countries and 77 journalists, writers and television crews from 30 countries, in all a total of 1,015 persons.

Personnel

At 1st April 1986, the General Secretariat's personnel consisted of a total of 262 persons, compared with 242 at 1st April 1986. The various staff categories were as follows; 170 employees under contract, including 29 technical or management executives; 64 seconded police officers and civil servants, and 28 detached police officers and civil servants. A total of 198 people are paid directly by the Organization, compared with 171 on 1st April 1984.

Members of the Organization's staff come from the following 39 countries: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Denmark, France, Federal Germany, Greece, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kampuchea, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Senegal, Spain, Sri

Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Syria, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States, Yugoslavia.

The Sub-Division's current priorities are the drafting of Staff Regulations and Rules, and the classification and assessment of posts within the Organization. This task must be completed by the time the Headquarters is transferred to

Lyons. It may result in the reorganization of salary scales.

Security

The post of Security Officer was created in December 1985 and it is currently held by a police officer who is under the direct authority of the Head of the Administration Division. He is responsible for maintaining security and planning and implementing measures for protecting persons and property.



Members of the Maltese Delegation.

Transfer of the Headquarters - Building project: Status report

In application of the resolution adopted during the 1985 General Assembly session held in Washington, D.C., empowering the Executive Committee and the Secretary General to proceed with the implementation of the project, the Organization's *chargé de mission* reported on the progress of the headquarters building project, explaining that he was directing it under the supervision of the Secretary General. The report covered the period from July 1985 to July 1986 during which a detailed technical programme, the architectural design and a summary

preliminary project had been drawn up. The General Secretariat had concluded the appropriate agreements for the project, namely the Owner's assistance contract, the project management contract and the supplementary clause added to the Agreement dated 22nd March 1985 authorizing a modification to the boundaries of the site originally placed at the Organization's disposal. Those operations had been carried out within the schedule laid down.

The initial programme had been

refined, making it possible to draw up the summary project and to submit the application for building permission. The new Interpol headquarters would be part of the planned "international city" in Lyons, and would consist of a square, five-storey building with a car park, set in a landscaped site covering 14,500 square metres. The plans provided for working space for 300 people and the Agreement signed on 22nd March 1985 provided for an extension of up to 20,000 square metres. The building would not be affected by floods from the nearby river Rhône.

The total surface area given in the summary preliminary project had only been slightly modified; it was now 6,874.53 square metres of usable surface area. It had been possible to reduce the usable surface area in line with the General Assembly's recommendation by defining requirements more accurately.

The rapporteur then described the building floor by floor. He reminded the Assembly that the study which had been submitted on 23rd September 1985 had highlighted the need for a building which would be easy to protect, easy to adapt, and attractive. All those criteria had been respected. The allocation of a whole storey to each of the main units would make for convenience of communications. Heating and ventilation had been the subject of careful study, fire regulations in force in France had been scrupulously observed and the minimum surface area allocated for each staff member was 10 square metres. Provision had been made for access by disabled persons, and there would be computerized control of access and traffic in order to meet the Organization's specific security requirements.

The basements contained 715 square metres of usable surface, including 490 square metres for office space and 250 square metres for technical premises. The car park would have space for 168 vehicles.

The ground floor had 1,058 square metres of usable surface area, including 490 square metres for catering facilities and 301 square metres for the conference hall. At that level, there would be an external security post for surveillance of the grounds and of access to the main building. The ground floor of the building would consist of a central courtyard, around which would be premises for technical equipment, the main security office, a reception desk, two conference halls, the mailing service, the restaurant, a number of ancillary welfare facilities and two apartments for maintenance and security staff living on the premises.

Before moving on to detailed descriptions of the working areas of the various General Secretariat departments, the rapporteur stressed that the plans adopted would not in any way restrict the scope of decisions that might be taken within the context of the reorganization of the General Secretariat. Whatever the structure decided on, there would be no problem accommodating the Secretariat in the new building.

With regard to security, the initial plan had been supplemented

General Assembly in Washington, D.C.

The rapporteur then turned to the financing of the operation. The New Building Project Office had drawn up two schedules of estimated financing requirements: one for February 1986 and the other for July 1986. The estimates had been examined by the Financial Advisers whose recommendations were contained in other documents submitted to the Assembly.

The Committee on the Organization's Finances, chaired by



The Korean Delegation.

with a number of features using the most up-to-date techniques.

Mr. Raguideau then gave the Assembly some information on the schedule of work for the new building project. The time-table had been respected so far, and it was hoped that construction work would begin on 15th March 1987 so that the building would be ready for occupation in December 1988. The contracts would be drawn up under the supervision of the Secretary General in his capacity as Project Owner, under the provisions of the resolution adopted at the previous

Mrs. Pallett (United Kingdom), subsequently examined and noted the financial reports submitted by the General Secretariat and by the *chargé de mission*, with their accompanying documents and explanations.

In plenary session, the General Assembly adopted two resolutions: one concerning modifications of the construction and security plans for the new Headquarters building, and the other concerning means of financing the building project in Lyons and the transfer of the Organization's Headquarters.

Programme of activities 1986 - 1987

The General Assembly adopted the draft Programme of Activities in the form given below.

- Study on the connections between illicit drug trafficking and other forms of crime
- Amendment of the Organization's Constitution and General Regulations
- Activities consequent upon the ratification of the New Headquarters Agreement:
 - Document weeding rules for the General Secretariat;
 - Rules on co-operation between NCBs; (These rules are provided for in the Rules on international police co-operation and on the internal control of Interpol's archives which were approved simultaneously with the Headquarters Agreement);
 - Staff Rules
- Reorganization and modernization of the Secretariat
- Transfer of the Organization's Headquarters - Construction Project
- Preparation of a form for exchanging information on criminalistic and forensic science research projects
- Revision of the CRIGEN/AVIA form
- Developments in juvenile delinquency 1982 - 1985
- Establishment of a European Secretariat within the General Secretariat
- Establishment of a Sub-Regional Bureau in Buenos Aires
- Negotiation of a headquarters agreement for the Bangkok Office
- Police and Electronic Data Processing Symposium (5th - 7th November 1986)
- Training Seminar for NCB officers (French and Spanish: 19th - 28th November 1986)

- 8th Forensic Science Symposium (2nd - 5th December 1986)
- European meeting for Heads of National Drugs Departments (1987)
- International Conference on Counterfeit Currency (1987)
- 16th European Regional Conference (1987)
- 11th American Regional Conference (1987)
- 10th African Regional Conference (1987)
- 9th Asian Regional Conference (1987)

Standing Committees and Working Parties

- Standing Working Party on Disaster Victim Identification
- Committee to study applications of electronic data processing to stolen art objects
- Working Party on Forms

- Committee of Experts on Civil Aviation Security
- Technical Committee on Co-operation in Europe
- Financial Advisers
- Supervisory Board for the internal control of Interpol's archives
- Working group on model legislation concerning tracing, freezing and forfeiture of the proceeds of criminal activities
- European Working Meetings on Currency Counterfeiting
- Standing Committee on Information Technology
- European Meeting on Economic Crime
- European Meeting on assessment of national and regional trends in drug abuse
- European Meeting with Tunisia on Eurocheque Fraud

The Ecuadorian Delegation.



- Meeting for the Heads of National Drugs Departments in the Gulf Area
- Training courses
- Working Party on Regionalization in Asia

Telecommunications

- Definition of a general telecommunications policy (work of the Standing Committee on Information Technology)

- Modernization of the central station (installation of the automatic message-switching system)
- Interpol Telecommunications Conference (1987)

Agreement concerning Interpol's South-East Asian office in Bangkok

The General Secretariat's representative reminded the Assembly that an Interpol office had first been set up in Bangkok in 1976 after the initial appointment of a Drugs Liaison Officer for South-East Asia. The Office currently had a staff of three. Negotiations with the Thai authorities concerning the legal status of the Office had begun before 1980, with a view to obtaining for it a status similar to that of an intergovernmental organization. Those negotiations had resulted in a consensus on the draft text submitted to the General Assembly for approval. It would also have to be approved by the Thai Government and ratified by the Thai Parliament.

The General Secretariat's representative added that the Bangkok Office currently had no special legal status. If the draft agreement was approved by both parties, the Office would enjoy significant privileges: immunity from legal process in respect of certain civil suits; immunity from administrative and judicial constraints; inviolability of its archives and correspondence; the right to use codes; privileges with regard to foreign exchange, direct taxation, customs duties and taxes; guarantees relating to free access, immunity in respect of their official duties, and facilities with regard to foreign exchange, for Delegates of Member States, members of the Executive Committee and members of the General Secretariat staff on

mission to the Office. Finally, international officials appointed to the Office would also benefit from immunity in respect of their official duties and from various privileges. Pending the entry into force of the Agreement, an exchange of letters provided for its provisional application, whenever possible.

The General Assembly adopted the following resolution in plenary session:

HAVING TAKEN NOTE of Report No. 22, submitted by the Secretary General, entitled "Draft Agreement between the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand and the International Criminal Police Organization regarding the privileges and immunities of the Interpol Office for South-East Asia in Bangkok",

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Belgrade from 6th to 13th October 1986 at its 55th session:

APPROVES the draft Agreement and the Exchange of Letters concerning the Agreement, given at Appendix 1 to Report AGN/55/RAP/22;

AUTHORIZES the President of the Organization to sign both the above instruments on the Organization's behalf;

THANKS the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand for the privileges and immunities it is offering to grant the Interpol Office in Bangkok, in accordance with the terms of the Agreement and the Exchange of Letters.

The Delegate from Costa Rica.



Rules on the deletion of police information recorded by the General Secretariat

The General Secretariat's representative reminded the Assembly that, in accordance with the Rules on International Police Co-operation and on the Internal Control of Interpol's Archives, police information could only be deleted by the General Secretariat with the consent of the NCB empowered to dispose of such information or in application of a set of special rules.

In view of the urgent need for a set of such rules, the General Assembly, meeting in plenary session, adopted the following resolution:

MINDFUL OF Article 5 (5) of the Rules on international police co-operation and on the internal control of Interpol's archives,

NOTING THAT it has not been possible for a draft set of rules on the deletion of police information recorded by the General Secretariat to be submitted to the General Assembly during its 55th session, because of the multiple effects of such rules on police matters, computerization, cost and data protection,

CONSIDERING THAT the adoption of such rules has now

become a matter of urgency since the computerization of the criminal records and, consequently, the reorganization prospects of this sector of the General Secretariat's activity are dependent upon them,

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Belgrade from 6th to 13th October 1986 at its 55th session:

DECIDES to instruct the Executive Committee to examine and adopt these rules, in accordance with Article 22 (e) of the Organization's Constitution.

Continental meetings

AFRICAN CONTINENTAL MEETING

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

Telecommunications

It was announced that the Abidjan station had been operating in ARQ since May 1968 and that the link with the General Secretariat was satisfactory. There had been substantial growth in traffic amounting to an increase of more than 20% for West Africa and 40% for East Africa. The representative of the Regional Station in Nairobi pointed out, however, that a good number of countries were not yet linked to the Interpol network and that slowed down communications.

The representative of the Regional Station in Abidjan said

that there were plans to organize a meeting of the heads of national stations in the near future, in order to adapt the activities of these stations to the development of the network. Delegates from a number of African countries described the practical and technical difficulties they encountered and requested more facilities for training radio operators.

It was also suggested that the Organization should strive to obtain for the African countries facilities similar to those which were to be provided in the Caribbean with the assistance of the United Nations.

Regional Activities

At the previous African Continental Meeting held during

the 1985 General Assembly session, a Working Party had been set up to study the question of regionalization. It had been agreed that the Working Party would meet a few days before the African Regional Conference due to be held in 1987. However, as no country had yet offered to host the Conference, the countries represented at the Continental Meeting decided to wait for a few months in order to give the General Secretariat an opportunity to take the necessary steps to find a host country.

All the participants agreed that day-to-day co-operation between African countries in general, and between neighbouring countries in particular, was satisfactory.

AMERICAN CONTINENTAL MEETING

Mr. Alvarez (Argentina) chaired the meeting.

Regional activities

Mr. Alvarez recalled that a resolution adopted by the General Assembly in 1985 had decided that a Sub-Regional Bureau for South America should be set up in Buenos Aires, Argentina. He said a Headquarters agreement between Argentina and Interpol was being prepared.

He also reported that the Regional Telecommunications Station for the Caribbean would be established in Porto Rico.

The Peruvian Delegate informed the Committee that the first Latin-American Symposium providing training on counterfeit currency, held in Lima in March 1986, had been a success; he hoped it would not be the last.

The Chilean Delegate said that the First Meeting of Heads of National Drugs Services had taken place in Santiago in July 1986 and had adopted a recommendation on the improvement of extradition procedures.

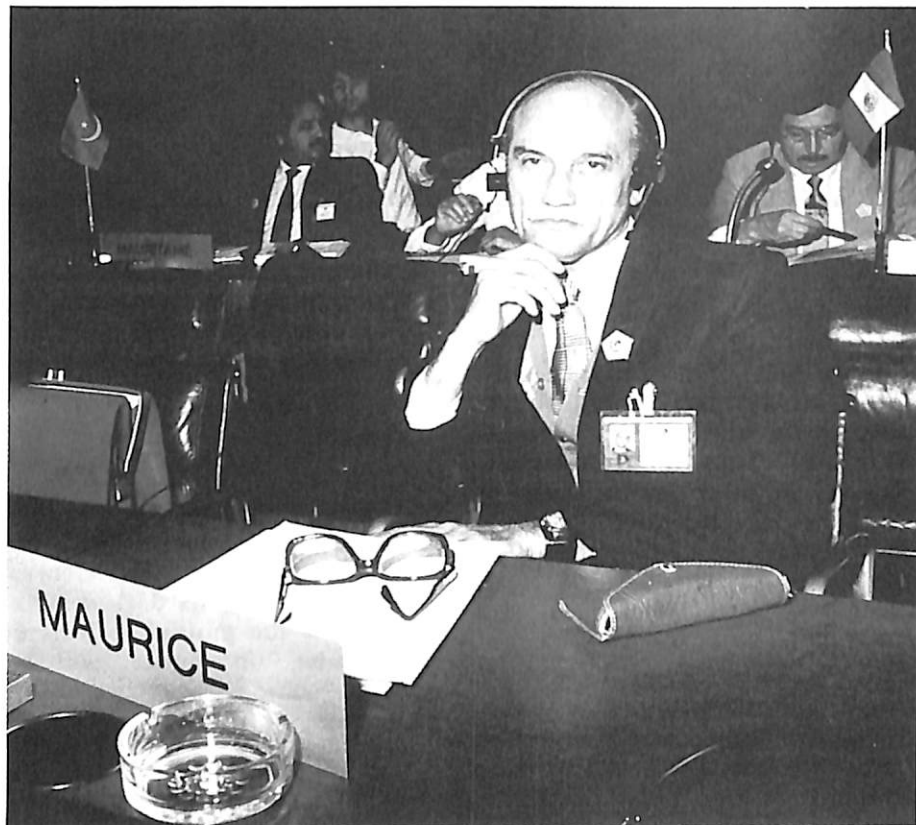
After a discussion in plenary session, the General Assembly adopted the following resolution.

HAVING BEEN INFORMED of Recommendation No. 2 entitled "Improvement of extradition procedures" adopted at the First Meeting of Heads of National Drugs Services of Interpol Member States in the Americas, held in Santiago, Chile, from 1st to 3rd July 1986,

DESIRING that the fight against international crime should be facilitated by the adoption of appropriate legal instruments to allow the arrest and extradition of offenders,

AWARE of the important role the ICPO-Interpol could play in the first stages of extradition proceedings,

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Belgrade



The Delegate from Mauritius.

from 6th to 13th October 1986 at its 55th session:

APPROVES the recommendation mentioned above and attached to the present resolution;

INVITES the NCBs of Member States of the Americas to take the necessary measures with a view to obtaining the ratification of the Inter-American Convention on Extradition and ensuring that requests for provisional arrest can be sent through ICPO-Interpol channels.

Recommendation No. 2

CONSIDERING THAT:

- (a) Between 1879 and 1940, nine multilateral conventions and numerous bilateral agreements on extradition were signed and ratified,
- (b) All these instruments stipulate that requests for extradition should be sent through diplomatic or consular channels,

(c) This procedure is very slow, and therefore allows criminals to go unpunished,

(d) An Inter-American Convention on Extradition was adopted in Caracas, Venezuela, on 25th February 1981,

(e) The Caracas Convention contained provisions to streamline extradition procedures,

(f) Despite being signed by almost all American countries the convention has only been ratified by Venezuela,

(g) Until such time as the Inter-American Convention on Extradition has been ratified by the countries it will remain a dead letter and will be of no use whatsoever,

The First Meeting of Heads of National Drugs Services of Interpol Member States in the Americas, meeting in Santiago, Chile, from 1st to 3rd July 1986,

RECOMMENDS:

- (1) That delegations request their countries' governments, through their NCBs, to ratify the Inter-American Convention on Extradition, signed in Caracas, Venezuela, on 25th February 1981;
- (2) That delegations ask their governments, when ratifying the Convention, to give a firm undertaking that requests for arrest with a view to extradition and requests for precautionary measures will be made through the National Central Bureaus of the International Criminal Police Organization, in accordance with the provisions of Articles 10 and 14 of the Convention.

The Panamanian Delegate invited the next Regional Conference to meet in his country in 1987.

EUROPEAN CONTINENTAL MEETING

The meeting was chaired by Mr. Van Hove (Belgium).

The Chairman (United Kingdom) of the Technical Committee for Co-operation in Europe reported on the Committee meetings held in Malta in April 1986 and in Saint-Cloud in July 1986. The Committee had worked along the lines of the recommendations made by the 15th European Regional Conference, with emphasis on the following points:

- Co-ordinating the activities of international police working groups studying problems related to the fight against illicit drug trafficking (it having been noticed that the multiplicity of meetings of such groups had led to duplication of effort);
- Utilization of funds from the SEPAT Plan provided by supplementary annual contributions from European countries to assist in the struggle against illicit drug traffic;
- Preparation of an "address book" of European NCBs, containing all the information

required to provide practical communication links between NCBs;

- Preparation of a document concerning the organizational structures of national police forces and judiciary systems, based on a questionnaire which had been sent to European Member States after the Malta Conference;
- Installation of the European Secretariat within the General Secretariat in application of a resolution adopted by the General Assembly in Washington, D.C.; staff for the European Secretariat were currently being recruited.

It was decided that the next European Regional Conference would be held in Wiesbaden, Federal Germany, in the Spring of 1987, an invitation having been extended by the Bundeskriminalamt, the Federal German Crime Investigation Department.

ASIAN CONTINENTAL MEETING

The meeting was chaired by Mr. Pow Sarasin (Thailand).

Telecommunications

The Japanese Delegate, representing the Regional Station located in Tokyo, announced that Pakistan has joined the Interpol network with the establishment of its station in Islamabad.

The Delegate of Pakistan said that the radio link — which had been set up with the assistance of Federal Germany — had in fact been in operation since March 1986.

Regional activities

During the 8th Asian Regional Conference held in Tonga in 1986, a Working Party on Regionalization had been set up. It had met on 6th October to discuss the various possibilities for developing regional activities in Asia. The Working Party would hold its second

The Delegate from the Central African Republic.



meeting in Bangkok in December 1986.

The Japanese Delegate announced that his country would be pleased to host the 9th Asian Regional Conference in Tokyo in 1987. The Japanese invitation was accepted, and it was decided that the third meeting of the Working Party on Regionalization would be

held immediately before the Conference.

The Jordanian Delegate reported that his country was in favour of the establishment of regional committees and would be happy to act as host country for the Arab regional committee. The Working Party would study the question of establishing sub-regions.

Day-to-day co-operation

The Korean Delegate expressed his country's gratitude to the Organization for all the assistance it had supplied in connection with the Asian Games recently held in Seoul, and hoped that the same assistance would be forthcoming in connection with the 1988 Olympic Games.

International terrorism

The Committee on Violence and Terrorism was chaired by Mr. Boge of Federal Germany.

The large number of delegations from all the continents that were present at the meeting demonstrated the Member States' determination to tackle this form of crime.

traffickers threatened the authorities with terrorist acts as reprisals for the dismantling of trafficking networks. It was emphasized that traffickers had such extensive resources that they were able to attempt to bribe police officers and other public officials.

The Chilean Delegation

General Assembly which adopted the following resolution.

BEARING IN MIND that the essential role of the police is to prevent crime and enforce the law,

CONSIDERING that violent crime and terrorism are increasing day by day, and that the victims of such crimes are politicians, leaders, law enforcement authorities, defenceless men, women and children,

CONSIDERING that terrorism is the most dangerous form of violent crime threatening mankind,

CONSCIOUS of the fact that criminals and terrorists require weapons and explosives in order to commit their crimes,

EMPHASIZING the fact that criminals in general and terrorists in particular obtain arms and explosives illegally through an active international trafficking organization operating outside the law,

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the fact that trafficking in arms and explosives is an international crime,

RECOGNIZING that police work is severely hampered by the lack of adequate international exchange of information,

RECALLING the Resolutions previously adopted by the General Assembly:

- AGN/32/RES/1, Helsinki, 1963: Identification of firearms and ammunition



The Romanian Delegation.

A number of delegates described the situation in their countries.

The Committee discussed the links between terrorism and drug trafficking which had come to light on a number of occasions in various places. It also considered the problems which arose when certain

submitted a preliminary draft resolution to the Committee which provided for the use of a special form to supply information about firearms, explosives and ammunition used by terrorists. The Committee discussed the text and it submitted a revised draft to the

- AGN/37/RES/1, Tehran, 1968: Sale, possession and transport of firearms
- AGN/41/RES/11, Frankfurt, 1972: Control of trade in firearms
- AGN/43/RES/8, Cannes, 1974: Small firearms, ammunition and explosives purchased by private individuals abroad; exchange of information between member countries
- AGN/50/RES/2, Nice, 1981: Tagging of explosives
- AGN/51/RES/6, Torremolinos, 1982: Weapons on board aircraft
- AGN/53/RES/6, Luxembourg, 1984: Violent crime commonly referred to as terrorism
- AGN/54/RES/1, Washington, 1985: International terrorism and unlawful interference with civil aviation,

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Belgrade from 6th to 13th October 1986 at its 55th session:

- (1) **RECOMMENDS** that illicit traffic in weapons and explosives should not be considered as a simple crime of smuggling in national legal texts, but as a specific crime in itself, as serious as, or more serious than, drug trafficking;
- (2) **REQUESTS** that police, customs, coastguard and other security services' surveillance operations be intensified at international borders, coasts, ports and airports, in order to prevent trafficking in weapons and explosives;
- (3) **DECIDES** that a special form should be created to assist with the investigation of the entire weapons and explosives trafficking operation, i.e. determining the manufacturer, the buyer, successive sales, methods of concealment, means of transport, routes taken, identification of traffickers and importers, etc. and instructs the General Secretariat to prepare a draft form for submission to the 56th session of the General Assembly.



The Delegate from Congo.

It was announced that, further to the resolution adopted in Washington, the International Terrorism Unit at the General Secretariat had drafted a Guide on practical ways of improving co-operation in international terrorism cases. The draft had been discussed at the 4th Symposium on International Terrorism held in May 1986. The Symposium had drafted a final version of the Guide which was intended for the use of NCBs.

The final version was submitted to the General Assembly which adopted the following resolution.

BEARING IN MIND Resolution No. AGN/54/RES/1 (Washington, D.C. 1985), inviting the General Secretariat to prepare a Guide outlining the practical possibilities that currently exist for co-operation in dealing with terrorist cases,

NOTING that the Fourth Symposium on International

Terrorism (Saint Cloud, 28th to 30th May 1986) discussed the contents of the Guide and that a Working Party met in Saint Cloud from 22nd to 24th July 1986 to assist the General Secretariat in drafting the text,

HAVING EXAMINED Report No. 18 submitting the draft Guide to the General Assembly,

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Belgrade from 6th to 13th October 1986 at its 55th session:

ADOPTS the "Guide for combating International Terrorism" (as given in the Appendix to Report No. 18);

ASKS the NCBs to circulate the Guide at national level to the appropriate specialized services and to use it as they deem necessary for international police co-operation in terrorist cases.

Financial matters

REPORT ON THE 1985 FINANCIAL YEAR - BALANCE SHEET AT 31st DECEMBER 1985 - 1986 BUDGET AND DRAFT 1987 BUDGET

The Committee on the Organization's Finances was chaired by Mrs. Pallett (United Kingdom).

The General Secretariat's representative commented on the reports prepared for the General Assembly. Further to a discussion, the Committee approved the balance sheet at 31st December 1985 and the report on the 1985 financial year.

As far as future financial policy was concerned, the General Assembly adopted the following resolution on the value of the budget unit.

HAVING EXAMINED the 1987 Draft Budget (Report No. 5) prepared by the Secretary General and approved by the Executive Committee,

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the implementation of the 1986 Budget and the forecasts for 1987,

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Belgrade from 6th to 13th October 1986 at its 55th session:

DECIDES that the value of the budget unit shall be fixed at 15,000 Swiss francs for the 1987 financial year;

APPROVES the 1987 Draft Budget as it appears in the document mentioned above.

It was also reported that staff salaries had been subject to an internal tax since 1st January 1986, and that the staff had asked that part of the income from the tax be used for a staff welfare programme. At its second meeting held in 1986, the Executive Committee had



Reception of the Organization's President, Secretary General, Executive Committee members and General Secretariat Heads of Division by the Federal Executive Council and the Federal Secretary for Internal Affairs.

decided to set up a special fund for that purpose.

Consequently, the General Assembly adopted the following resolution.

HAVING STUDIED Report No. 8 entitled "Staff welfare programme - Proposal to set up a special fund" submitted by the Executive Committee,

TAKING NOTE of the fact that since 1st January 1986 the internal tax has provided the Organization with a new source of income which makes it possible to envisage such a programme,

WISHING to provide the Organization's staff with certain loans facilities by offering more advantageous rates of interest than those available from banks or other financial institutions,

NOTING that a fund set up for this purpose would be continually replenished by the borrowers'

repayments, in accordance with the procedures to be decided,

BEARING IN MIND the provisions of Article 20 of the Financial Regulations governing the creation of special funds,

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Belgrade from 6th to 13th October 1986 at its 55th session:

DECIDES:

- (1) to set up a special fund to be known as the "Staff Welfare Fund";
- (2) to use the Fund to grant loans to the Organization's staff;
- (3) to contribute 100,000 Swiss francs to the Fund in 1987;
- (4) to allocate loan repayments and the interest on loans to the Fund.

INSTRUCTS the Secretary General to submit to the Executive Committee, at its next session, a set

of rules covering the granting and administration of the loans;

ASKS the Executive Committee to examine and adopt these rules.

On the subject of compensation paid by insurance companies for the damage suffered by the Organization as a result of the bomb attack on the Headquarters, the General Assembly adopted a resolution stating that all sums paid "shall be automatically assigned to readjusting the appropriations or Funds from which the cost of repairs was met".

It was pointed out that Interpol's Constitution authorized the Executive Committee to accept gifts, bequests, subsidies, grants and other resources on the Organization's behalf. This Article was of topical interest, as the United Nations had declared its willingness to provide financial support for Interpol's activities linked with the training of police officers to combat illicit drug trafficking and with the development of a telecommunications

network in the Caribbean region. In addition, the Executive Committee was considering the possibility of asking sponsors to bear some of the cost of the International Counterfeit Currency Conference planned for 1987.

In order to clarify the situation in connection with the allocation of those resources, the General Assembly adopted the following resolution in plenary session.

BEARING IN MIND the provisions of Article 38 (b) of the Constitution, which authorizes the Executive Committee to accept gifts, bequests, subsidies, grants and other resources on behalf of the Organization,

NOTING that the sums involved received by the Organization constitute budget income over and above that derived from Members' financial contributions,

TAKING ACCOUNT OF THE FACT that the payment of such sums to the Organization may be subject to conditions governing their use,

ASSERTING that such sums must be used in accordance with the conditions laid down,

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Belgrade from 6th to 13th October 1986 at its 55th session:

DECIDES that:

- (a) Any sum of money received by the Organization in the form of a gift, bequest, subsidy, grant, or other resources accepted by the Executive Committee under the terms of Article 38 (b) of the Constitution, and subject to conditions governing its use, shall be automatically allocated to a special fund;
- (b) Such funds shall be used in accordance with the conditions laid down;
- (c) Should such use prove impossible, any unused portion of the sum concerned shall be returned to the person or institution from which the Organization received the sum, unless the donor agrees to its use for another purpose meeting with the approval of the Executive Committee.

Further to the resolution adopted by the 54th General Assembly session (Washington, 1985), the NCBs had been asked to provide information on companies and institutions which could be appointed as the Organization's external auditors under the terms of the Financial Regulations. The Executive Committee had examined the proposals submitted by NCBs, and asked the Assembly to approve its choice of the French *Cour des Comptes*. This body had offered to conduct, free of charge, an external audit of the Organization's administrative and financial management for a period of three years beginning on 1st January 1987 and covering the financial years 1986, 1987 and 1988.

The General Assembly also adopted two other resolutions, one on financing the construction of the new Headquarters and another one on the construction project and related security measures.

The Delegation from the Philippines.



International drug trafficking

GENERAL SITUATION AND FORECASTS

The Drugs Committee was chaired by Mr. Schmidt-Nothen (Federal Germany). The General Secretariat representative outlined the contents of the reports on the situation in 1985 which are summarized below.

General Remarks

Information forwarded to the General Secretariat from many different sources makes it clear that the measures taken to contain illicit drug trafficking in 1985 have not produced the results anticipated.

Supplies of opium and its main derivative, heroin, continue to meet consumer demand. The centuries-old habit of coca smoking has given way in recent years to widespread consumption of cocaine and, since last year, of cocaine base or "crack". This form of drug abuse is currently creating problems in North America which may extend to the rest of the world. Furthermore, the seizure of consignments of cannabis weighing hundreds of kilograms is no longer an unusual occurrence, and there is a considerable traffic in synthetic psychotropic substances.

This disturbing picture is based only partially on the General Secretariat's statistics. It has been pointed out on numerous occasions that most of the statistics currently available on drug abuse cannot be used to draw anything but the broadest conclusions. A reduction in the annual volume of seizures of a particular substance may reflect changes in a country's law enforcement priorities. It may also mean changes in drug trafficking routes, reduced availability of the drug concerned, or a decreasing addict population. Conversely, an increase in seizure figures compared



Some members of the Swiss Delegation.

with previous years could reflect more effective drug law enforcement, but could equally well point to the fortunate detection of a few very large shipments, to a deteriorating drug user situation, to the targeting of a country for increased drug attention or to changes in legislation.

It can nevertheless be stated with certainty that the quantities of addictive drugs reaching mainly young users are sufficient to produce a cycle of social deterioration, the scale of which may not yet be appreciated. New trafficking routes and techniques are being developed as soon as existing ones are discovered. New markets are being constantly sought. The enormous profits thus generated represent a redistribution of wealth — a redistribution from weaker economic groups, who are often partially dependent on public assistance, to wealthy criminal groups or individuals who are very often immune from legal process.

In many cases these profits are used to promote other criminal enterprises. If this process of deterioration continues, it will be at a high cost to the less fortunate members of our societies and, ultimately, to the very structure of these societies.

Opiates - Opium and its derivatives

Heroin continues to dominate the international smuggling of opiates, it being the easiest drug to conceal in its refined form and, consequently, the most attractive for smugglers.

Despite some difficulties in obtaining reliable data on the subject, it is believed that amount of opium produced worldwide was greater in 1985 than in 1984.

It is believed that much of the opium produced is consumed in traditional forms in the producing areas, but production has been sufficiently high to allow a more than adequate supply for

conversion into morphine and heroin. Processing takes place either in local laboratories or after the opium has been transported to other countries. Morphine trafficking is not regarded as a serious problem but the reports of stable — and in some cases falling — prices of heroin suggest that smuggling activities are ensuring adequate supplies for the illicit markets. There is evidence that consignments of heroin are being smuggled in larger quantities than was previously the case.

The major opium-producing areas are still the Far East (the Golden Triangle) and the Near and Middle East (the Golden Crescent). However, reports continue to indicate that cultivation of the opium poppy is now established in countries in Central America and Africa. This means that drug sources are being brought nearer to the rich markets of Europe and North America. The development of poppy cultivation in other areas also demonstrates the determination of trafficking organizations to secure and develop their product as well as their markets.

The involvement of nationals of Central and West African countries in heroin trafficking was noted in the 1984 report. This trend has become even more marked during 1985 and couriers travel widely throughout the world, supplying mainly the European and North American markets. The readiness and speed with which couriers change their routes provide a constant challenge to drug enforcement agencies.

The trends observed in Central and West Africa are disturbing. Apparently, rather than working for other organizations, people from the central part of Africa are branching out and forming their own trafficking networks. Experience from other regions suggests that this development will shortly be followed by heroin addiction problems in the couriers' home countries.

Cocaine

Cocaine supplies reached record levels in North America last year and it was thought that trafficking organizations might try to find markets in other countries, in order to maintain their profits. This forecast is unfortunately becoming a reality, and drug enforcement services in Europe, Asia and Africa are reporting the appearance of this drug in new areas, with prices remaining stable in areas where markets are already established. Cocaine consumption is no longer confined to the higher economic levels of society, but has spread to other groups already affected by drug abuse.

Cultivation of the coca plant is spreading over wider areas of South America, frequently in regions where natural obstacles and logistical problems make it particularly difficult to detect and stamp out these illicit activities. Using their vast profits from previous operations, trafficking groups are able to choose, develop and exploit the new coca-producing sites with little risk of being discovered and arrested. In some cases, these groups are better equipped than the law enforcement

agencies which attempt to counter their activities. Whilst the coca bush was originally confined to South America, a recent report indicates that efforts have been made to establish cultivation in the Pacific region.

Although most of the coca is processed in South America, for several years now some cocaine base has been finding its way to other countries nearer the sources of chemicals required for processing into cocaine. One of the more disturbing results of this has been the increased use of impure cocaine base which is said to produce a particularly rapid effect on the user. Reports are now emerging of accidents and even deaths, especially among young persons, caused by the impurities released during use.

Many seizures carried out have shown that South American nationals are employed as couriers, travelling directly by air from the producing countries to the regions where the drug is sold on the street. It is known, however, that large quantities of cocaine are reaching the illicit market in consignments transported in shipping containers or among perishable goods which

Some members of the Iranian Delegation.



are not normally delayed very long by Customs authorities. Effective means of combating these forms of smuggling have yet to be devised.

Eradication programmes are being implemented in certain countries to eliminate coca plantations.

The access of trafficking groups to weapons and their connections with armed insurgent organizations seem to have been established.

Cannabis

Cannabis and its derivatives are still produced in many areas of the world. While no reliable estimates of actual quantities are available, national drugs services report a ready supply wherever a market exists for it.

Intelligence and seizure reports indicate that, although a great deal of cannabis is cultivated for use by local populations, the main regions of production for foreign markets are Central America, North and West Africa, the Near and Middle East and parts of the Far East. Because of its bulk, herbal cannabis is usually transported by sea and overland, air transport being favoured for the more concentrated forms of the drug, such as cannabis oil.

Trafficking patterns suggest that the number of organizations and individuals involved in distributing cannabis and its derivatives may be greater than the number involved in heroin or cocaine traffic. Similarly, whilst the Near East provides a regular supply of the drug for Europe, large consignments are also being shipped to North America and the South Pacific, despite the greater distances involved. Cannabis produced in the Far East is directed to North America and Oceania, and large quantities of the drug produced in Central America and northern South America are being transported to Europe as well as to North America.

Seizures of herbal cannabis originating in West and Central Africa seem to point to a continuing development of new trafficking routes from the areas of cultivation



The Irish Delegate.

to the illicit markets, especially those in Europe. Seizures in countries north of the Mediterranean also seem to indicate that law enforcement efforts are having little effect on the supply of hashish from North Africa. This fact, coupled with the involvement of West Africans in heroin and cocaine trafficking, is creating an extremely alarming situation in Africa.

The volume of cannabis being supplied regularly to illicit markets shows that this is still one of the drugs from which traffickers can make enormous profits.

Psychotropic substances

From all the information available, it seems that the situation concerning the five categories of substances listed below has remained relatively stable. These substances, monitored by the General Secretariat, together with precursors and essential chemicals, are the natural drugs and their derivatives apart from opium, cocaine and cannabis, synthetic drugs (narcotics and narcotic analogs), central depressant substances (including sedative hypnotics), central stimulant substances and synthetic

hallucinogens (excluding those in the first category above).

Worldwide traffic in natural drugs such as mescaline and psilocybine shows no major changes in relation to previous years. Similarly, the synthetic drug situation has remained stable; some of the methadone in this category is presumed to have been diverted to the illicit market from legal treatment programmes.

The demand for central depressant substances such as diazepam and methaqualone continues to be strong in Europe; large seizures of these drugs have also been reported in African countries. Europe and Africa also feature in reports of seizures of central stimulant substances, of which the most widespread are amphetamine and fenetylline, and these substances continue to create problems in some parts of the Middle East. Traffic in synthetic hallucinogenic substances is still mainly limited to LSD, abuse of which is still widespread.

Diversions from legal channels are a particularly disturbing aspect of the traffic in psychotropic substances: much of the supply reaching the illicit market originates

from legitimate pharmaceutical laboratories. Since these substances are produced and marketed quite legally, particularly in Europe where the chemical industry is highly developed, diversion may not be detected as easily as traffic in other drugs. Cases of document forgery, corruption or theft which seem to have purely local implications may in fact be connected with drug trafficking, so that drugs legitimately manufactured on one continent eventually appear on illicit markets in another.

★

Various delegates present at the Committee meeting then described the situation in their respective countries. The trends reported had been confirmed and were becoming more widespread. Traffic growth was not limited merely to an increase in volume, but was expanding geographically. In certain areas, traffickers were resorting to violence to protect their interests.

COUNTERMEASURES

The United Nations Observer stated that co-operation between all

Interpol Member States was essential if the battle against drug traffic was to succeed. The United Nations Organization was currently tackling the problem on two main fronts by preparing a draft convention to combat traffic in drugs and psychotropic substances and by organizing an interministerial meeting, to be held in Vienna in 1987, at which all aspects of the battle would be discussed. It had also organized the first interregional meeting for Heads of drugs departments in Vienna, from 28th July to 1st August 1986.

The Observer then drew the Committee's attention to the importance of the recommendations contained in the draft convention and hoped the draft would receive the unflagging support of the international community. In conclusion, he said that the United Nations Narcotics Division would be organizing a first meeting for Heads of African drugs departments, in March 1987 in Addis Ababa.

The General Secretariat representatives pointed out that with the Strategic Intelligence System, Interpol had a unique computerized data bank at its disposal. It was the responsibility of the Member States to provide the General Secretariat with a more regular supply of detailed information in order to make the system fully effective. They also mentioned certain developments at the General Secretariat which would help to improve co-operation, such as the installation of the automatic message-switching system, and the new system of duty rotas for police officers.

Finally, they expressed the General Secretariat's gratitude to the United Nations for its support, particularly in making it possible for Interpol to organize training courses, and for its financial assistance in equipping the Caribbean region with a telecommunications network.

In all, more than fifty delegations contributed to the discussions at the meeting of the Drugs Committee.

Telecommunications - Modernization of the Interpol network

The meeting was chaired by Mrs. Stromsen (United States).

STATE OF THE NETWORK

The General Secretariat's representative stated that of the Organization's 142 NCBs, only 71 were connected to the international police telecommunications network; of those 71, 25 NCBs had radioteletype facilities, 24 had phototelegraphy equipment and 26 had facsimile equipment. In addition, 114 NCBs were linked to the international telex network.

It was announced that the automatic message — switching system would shortly be put into operation, and that the Organization should therefore begin to plan future developments.

THE REGIONAL STATIONS

The Argentine Delegate reported that the Buenos Aires regional station normally had a round-the-clock radioteletype link with the Central Station in Paris, and also had a similar link with Venezuela. However, it was only able to send

messages to other countries in the region by Morse or, if necessary, via the international telex network. The Regional Station had collected all the necessary information on operating a Teletex terminal, and had offered technical assistance to the Caribbean countries, especially the new Interpol Member States.

The General Secretariat's representative explained the reasons for the creation of a new Regional Station in the Caribbean. The countries of that region did not have any direct telecommunications links with the Interpol network and,

at the Conference held in Nassau in 1986, they had asked for a Teletex system to be installed in the region and had discussed the location of the Regional Station. Subsequently, Puerto Rico had been selected. In the meantime, negotiations conducted by the Secretary General had resulted in an offer of a contribution of US\$ 600,000 from the United Nations to set up the proposed network.

The Côte d'Ivoire Delegate reported that of the 22 stations on the West African network, 14 were linked to the Regional Station in Abidjan but five of those were experiencing serious operating difficulties. Praiseworthy efforts had been made by the stations in Dakar, Brazzaville and Bangui. In the new premises it had recently occupied, the Regional Station, which was staffed by 33 operators and had eight traffic positions, would be able to perform its tasks much better.

However, it was important that the Organization should do its utmost to ensure that links were established in the very near future with all the NCBs not yet on the network.

The training centre in Abidjan had trained more than 70 specialists and was also planning to train maintenance staff. It would continue to train radio operators and could take 40 trainees, including 12 from other countries, at any one time.

Traffic on the West African network had increased by 5% compared with 1985 and by 25% in comparison with 1984.

The Kenyan Delegate said that the Regional Station in Nairobi maintained satisfactory links with the Central Station and the NCBs in the region. The ARQ system that it used for communicating with the Central Station operated well enough but, if necessary, the telex network could be used. Traffic in the region had increased by 40% in 1985.

The Delegate of Japan, where the Regional Station was located,

described the situation of the South-East Asian network. It was equipped with four ARQ sets and the Islamabad station had joined the network on 18th March 1986. The Tokyo Regional Station had been modernized with the introduction of facsimile equipment, and a growing number of stations were equipped with ARQ systems. With regard to modernization, the Japanese Delegate wished to emphasize that, despite the changeover to Teletex, the Tokyo Regional Station would maintain facilities for short-wave transmission.

REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The Chairman of the Standing Committee on Information Technology outlined the conclusions of the Committee's last meeting, held in September 1986 in Saint Cloud. Five items were discussed at the meeting: the network in general, security, the automatic message — switching system, the Caribbean network and the Interpol Telecommunications Conference.

Following an initiative from the French NCB, the CNET (French National Telecommunications Research Centre) had undertaken a study of the entire Interpol network to determine the best way in which it could be modernized. The CNET's conclusion had been that the most technically reliable system would be Teletex, but the Committee has decided that, in order to retain a certain measure of flexibility, Teletex should not be imposed throughout, and that the radio networks should be phased out over a period of time.

The SCIT had considered that the Regional Stations and the current structure of the network should be maintained; it appeared, in fact, that the Regional Stations were better equipped than the Central Station to meet the specific requirements of the NCBs in a given region.

So that the Headquarters would be able to continue communicating with all the NCBs in all the regions following its transfer to Lyons, the Committee had recommended installing a small modern station in or near the Headquarters building.

The Tanzanian Delegation.



The forthcoming operational start-up of the AMSS would make it possible to handle both radio messages and messages sent on the telex network and, at a later date, Teletex and facsimile messages. The advantages of Teletex would soon be put to the test in the Caribbean, where a pilot project was about to be initiated.

The Committee had also suggested that small automatic message-switchers could be installed in the Regional Stations.

The problems of network security had been discussed in great depth by the Standing Committee, and several different solutions had been proposed.

With regard to the Caribbean project, Puerto Rico had been chosen as the location for the Caribbean Regional Station; a project manager had already been appointed and representatives of the Puerto Rican Telephone Company, the General Secretariat and the United States were planning to meet in November 1986. Puerto Rico had the most up-to-date technology at its disposal as it was linked to the United States system.

The Caribbean project was a very important pilot scheme for Interpol and, if successful, it could be applied to other regions.

Finally, in Washington the General Assembly had recommended that the Interpol Telecommunications Conference should be held every two years. The next Conference, which would be the tenth, would be held in 1987. It would have to discuss the AMSS, the future structure of the network, the results of the Caribbean experiment, problems of encryption and, lastly, the Regulations which would have to be amended progressively as new techniques were introduced.

In conclusion, the chairman of the SCIT urged all Member States to send representatives to the next Interpol Telecommunications Conference and give them a mandate to support the efforts of the Standing Committee and the Secretary General.

Following the discussions, the General Assembly adopted the following resolution:

HAVING TAKEN NOTE of Report No. 25 entitled "Report on

the meeting of the Standing Committee on Information Technology" concerning the development and modernization of the Interpol telecommunications network, and of the recommendations attached thereto,

CONSCIOUS that this development and modernization are of vital importance to the Organization's future,

DESIROUS that the ICPO-Interpol should have a telecommunications network adapted to the requirements of the Organization and of its Member States,

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Belgrade from 6th to 13th October 1986, at its 55th session:

APPROVES the approach to telecommunications recommended by the Committee;

ASKS the Secretary General to examine the related financial implications after consultation with the Standing Committee on Information Technology, and report back to the Executive Committee.

Revision of the organization's constitution

At the suggestion of one of its members, the Executive Committee had discussed the advisability of revising the Organization's Constitution and General Regulations during its meeting held in February and in June 1986.

The Executive Committee had decided that the General Assembly should be invited to set up a committee to discuss this extremely sensitive subject about which opinions differed considerably.

The Committee set up by the Assembly was chaired by Mr. Baun (Denmark). The consensus that emerged as a result of the discussions was that the General Secretariat should be asked to study the Constitution and General Regulations with a view to their possible amendment, on the understanding that the General Secretariat would ascertain the opinions of all Member States. The General Secretariat would then

submit its conclusions to the Executive Committee and to the General Assembly.

The General Assembly was notified of the Executive Committee's decision, under the terms of Article 36 of the Organization's Constitution, to appoint Mr. Van Hove (Belgium) as Adviser to the Organization on the revision of the Constitution.

International Economic Crime

The General Secretariat report on this subject is summarized below.

BANK FRAUD

As in 1984, the number of cases involving the fraudulent encashment of stolen cheques remained stable. However, there was an increase in the number of cases concerning "Eurocheques", particularly in France, Italy, Portugal and Spain. In many of these cases, the cheques were stolen from unattended vehicles in the Mediterranean area of Europe and then tendered with stolen or false identification documents in the same country or in other European countries. From a review of the cases reported to the General Secretariat it appears that many of the offenders involved are of South American origin.

The counterfeiting of cheques and travellers cheques continues to be an increasing problem. The General Secretariat attributed 12 Indicatives to counterfeit bank cheques and travellers cheques in 1984 and 5 such Indicatives in 1985.

Attention is once again drawn to the need to use the E/BA form to report cases involving counterfeit bank cheques, travellers cheques or other means of payment.

There are plans to publish more information on counterfeit cheques and credit cards in "Counterfeits and Forgeries".

The number of cases of credit card fraud reported to the General Secretariat is constantly increasing, but even so this does not reflect the true scale of this type of crime. Most of the cases reported to the General Secretariat were from the European region whereas the credit card companies indicate that approximately 86% of their

fraudulent losses occur in the United States.

Greater police interest in this type of crime should be encouraged. A meeting was held at the General Secretariat on 17th March 1986 with representatives of major credit card companies who agreed to provide statistics on the frauds reported to them by their companies for the General Secretariat to analyse and disseminate to all Member countries. The aim would be to indicate trends in this type of crime, as reported to the commercial victims, and to circulate the information to the police of Interpol Member countries. Further offers were made to provide the General Secretariat with detailed information to assist in the preparation of Modus Operandi sheets and also to provide particulars of offenders involved in such crimes. These proposals were put to the 5th Symposium on International Fraud which was held in Saint-Cloud from 18th to 20th March 1986; the participants tacitly agreed to such action. The proposals are now awaiting further discussion between the General Secretariat and the companies concerned.

In July 1985, the Economic Crime Group published a modus operandi notice concerning white plastic imitations of credit cards which are used fraudulently, in collusion with an authorized dealer, to defraud credit card companies.

ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL FRAUDS

General

Much of the day-to-day work of the General Secretariat Economic Crime Group has been concerned

with comparatively routine cases of theft from companies and fraudulent bankruptcies. In many cases, the international ramifications only begin when the offender absconds with the proceeds of a crime and a Member State requests that an international wanted notice be issued.

Types of fraud

Frauds committed by the presentation of fraudulent shipping documents — bills of lading in particular — to obtain payment on letters of credit still result in substantial financial losses. A General Secretariat representative still regularly attends the meetings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

Transportation frauds are a type of international crime which frequently require the co-operation not only of several countries but also of several different bodies within each country. So far as airline ticket frauds are concerned, the General Secretariat maintains close contact with the International Air Transport Association (IATA). The Economic Crime Group receives the bimonthly lists of stolen or suspect airline tickets which is available for reference by Member States. However, many airlines are now operating a computerized system of ticket handling and enquiries can also usefully be made of the IATA Fraud Prevention Officer for the airline concerned. The General Secretariat keeps an up-to-date list of the Fraud Prevention Officers of the IATA affiliated airlines for consultation by the Member States if required.

Very few cases of computer crime are reported to the General Secretariat. On the other hand, there are frequent reports of

fraudulent operations based on the transfer of funds by telex.

There has been a renewal of interest in the counterfeiting of commercial products, and the General Secretariat has been invited to attend conferences on this subject at the Council of Europe (May 1986), the Customs Co-operation Council (June 1986), and the World Intellectual Property Organization (May 1986). Because of the comparatively few cases of this nature reported to the General Secretariat, a questionnaire was sent out to all Member States and a total of 31 replies were received. The range of goods counterfeited include perfume, watches, clothing, etc., but the greatest increase in recent years has been in the unlawful copying of video cassettes. The results of the findings of the questionnaire and the findings of all the various conferences are now being analysed in detail.

The alarming increase in commodity future investment frauds, involving corn, gold, copper, oil, etc., which was observed in the European region between 1982 and 1984 appears to have slowed down. However, there has been a rise in the number of cases of fraudulent advertisements for development land where the property is either non-existent or falls short of the specifications published.

The range of investment frauds is wide and it should be emphasized that the dissemination of information concerning such fraudulent schemes by way of an international modus operandi notice can be very valuable in the prevention of further losses in other countries.

There has been a marked increase in the number of reports received by the General Secretariat concerning a fraudulent method of soliciting payment from companies for entries to be made in non-existent telex directories. It is considered that many such cases are not brought to the notice of the police authorities and that where they are



The Jamaican Delegation.

reported, the criminal elements are somewhat difficult to prove. The international incidence of these cases, as monitored by the location the companies operate from and where they advertise for "clients", extends over the following countries: Belgium, Denmark, France, Federal Germany, Netherlands, Ireland, Mexico, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States. In order to draw the attention of Member States to the grounds for concern about this type of fraudulent activity, the General Secretariat published a circular letter in November 1985 entitled "International Telex Directories" and based on information provided by the Belgian authorities.

In 1984 eight cases involving false gold ingots, and affecting Austria, Belgium, Spain, Luxembourg, Federal Germany and Switzerland, were reported to the General Secretariat. The police recovered more than 250 false gold ingots in these cases. Five offenders were arrested in Austria and two in Spain for attempting to sell the counterfeits. Only three cases were reported in 1985, two in Europe (Italy and France) and one in Australia.

A study on postal and postal-related crime has been carried out on the basis of a questionnaire sent to all NCBs and of a subsequent visits to Belgium, France, the United Kingdom, Italy and Japan. It is planned to distribute a final report in late 1986 and also to hold a meeting on the subject.

False and Forged Identity Documents and Related Offences

Of the total number of new fraud cases reported to the General Secretariat during 1985, 37% were based on the use of counterfeit or altered identity documents, of which 85% were reported from the European region.

There are an increasing number of cases where the principal offence is drug trafficking, prostitution or fraud but where the offender is also found to be in possession of false or forged identity documents. This secondary offence of possession of false documents is frequently not apparent in the cases reported and could inflate the statistics even further.

The use of false identity documents as a "tool" of their trade by international criminals, particularly in terrorist cases, has resulted in a review of the way in

which the General Secretariat deals with such cases, with the result that as from March 1986 all cases involving the use of stolen or altered identity documents are being referred to the Economic Crime Group for analysis after the principal element of the crime has been dealt with in the group concerned. It is intended that this analysis, hopefully with the future assistance of the computer, will make it possible to give a breakdown of such cases by the type of document involved, the country where it was issued, the country where it was used and the nature of the criminal purpose for which it was used.

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The General Secretariat representative reported on the 5th Symposium on International Fraud, held at Saint-Cloud from 18th to 30th March 1986. The participants had begun by proposing that future symposia should concentrate on particular areas of fraud, rather than try to cover the whole spectrum of fraud as was currently the case. Secondly, they had proposed that the fraud symposia be held more frequently, every two years for example, while the European Regional Conference had recommended that a European Fraud Conference be held in the intervening years. Thirdly, the participants had agreed that the problem of Eurocheque fraud justified a meeting on that subject alone.

Many delegates spoke at the plenary session of the General Assembly devoted to this topic. They described cases which were under investigation and proposed various measures which could be taken to combat economic crime, especially with a view to strengthening co-operation between the police and financial institutions. Several delegations also brought up the subject of legislation providing for the confiscation of the proceeds of illicit activities and stressed the ways in which certain financial practices were linked with terrorism

and drug traffic. There was also criticism of "tax havens".

The delegates also underlined the need to improve international co-operation in respect of the detection and confiscation of illicitly acquired assets, and there was agreement that the model legislation drafted by the General Secretariat was a sound basis for such efforts.

The Observer from the International Banking Security Association pointed out that economic and financial crime was on the increase in every country and caused billions of dollars' worth of damage every year. IBSA was aware of the problems the police met when investigating cases of fraud; for that reason, from the moment it had been granted observer status, his Association had given its full backing to Interpol's efforts to stem the rising tide of economic and financial crime. Both the Caribbean Regional Conference and the 5th Symposium on International Fraud had been correct in insisting that close co-operation between the police and banking institutions was essential. IBSA offered its assistance to Interpol and to national law enforcement agencies and would be more than willing to contribute to the efforts of any working groups that might be set up.

The President of the Organization, noting the interest many delegations had shown in problems related to economic crime, said that the next General Assembly session should set up a special committee to discuss the subject.

The General Assembly adopted the following resolution in plenary session:

HAVING STUDIED the reports of the 4th and 5th ICPO-Interpol Symposia on International Fraud,

RECALLING the previous resolutions on economic and financial crime, in particular

Resolution No. AGN/52/RES/3 and Resolution No. AGN/54/RES/13,

NOTING the recommendations adopted at the 6th Interpol Caribbean and Central American Regional Meeting, particularly those recommending closer co-operation between law enforcement agencies and banking and financial institutions,

CONVINCED of the need to intensify co-operation between the law enforcement community and the banking and financial institutions and associations,

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Belgrade from 6th to 13th October 1986 at its 55th session:

DECIDES that the General Secretariat shall create a working group to:

- (1) Improve co-operation between the banking and financial institutions and associations and law enforcement agencies;**
- (2) Develop guidelines and memoranda of understanding with banking security associations and banks to co-operate more fully with law enforcement authorities in the investigation of international frauds and financial crimes;**
- (3) Identify and analyse the methods adopted by criminals in committing international fraud and financial crime, and propose guidelines to the NCBs which would help in fighting such crimes and assist the banking security associations, financial institutions and banks in preventing such frauds.**

Meeting of the Heads of National Central Bureaus

The meeting was chaired by Mr. Babovic (Yugoslavia).

INTERNATIONAL TREATIES ON MUTUAL ASSISTANCE IN JUDICIAL MATTERS AND ON POLICE CO-OPERATION

This item had been placed on the Agenda at the request of the Federal German NCB.

The Federal German Delegate explained that in recent years, his NCB had noticed a tendency not to consult police forces at all or to consult them too late when international treaties on mutual assistance in judicial matters and on police co-operation were being drawn up although, in fact, the treaties were often concerned with the location and arrest of international criminals. These treaties also frequently contained bureaucratic restrictions and rules which did not take practical necessities into account: for instance, no provisions were made for the use of police channels to send rogatory commissions, or for detention with a view to extradition. He therefore proposed that the Heads of National Central Bureaus discuss provisions which would ensure that the authorities responsible for negotiating treaties and conventions paid greater attention to police requirements.

Many of the delegations agreed that the proposal was justified, although certain delegates thought that the treaties in question were traditionally the responsibility of the legislature and the judiciary. On the other hand, certain delegates stated that the police forces in their countries already participated in the drafting of treaties which concerned police matters.

Following the discussions, the General Assembly adopted the following resolution:

HAVING DISCUSSED Report No. 24 entitled "International

treaties on mutual assistance in judicial matters and police co-operation",

RECOGNIZING that, between certain countries, certain international conventions and agreements in this field have been negotiated without participation of the appropriate national or international police bodies,

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Belgrade from 6th to 13th October 1986 at its 55th session;

RECOMMENDS that:

The authorities responsible for negotiating international treaties and agreements take account of police requirements by involving the police at the earliest stage when drafting such instruments on extradition and mutual assistance in criminal matters;

Authorization for use of Interpol channels in transmission of requests for provisional arrest with a view to extradition and for mutual assistance should be included in such instruments whenever possible.

REPORT ON THE ACTIVITY OF THE WORKING PARTIES SET UP BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Working Party on Forms

The General Secretariat representative reported that, since the Disaster Victim Identification Form was designed to be filled in by forensic pathologists and consisted of three separate parts, it had been decided that a new form should be created for the identification of individual dead bodies. This new form was to be entitled "Information concerning an unidentified dead body".

Furthermore, there would henceforth be a single form for weapons and explosives to be

identified, and for trafficking in weapons and explosives.

The General Assembly adopted the following resolution in plenary session:

HAVING TAKEN NOTE of Report No. 17 entitled "Report on the Third and Fourth Meetings of the Working Party on Forms",

HAVING DISCUSSED the Forms prepared by the Working Party at the Meeting of Heads of NCBs,

CONVINCED of the importance of these forms in the context of day-to-day co-operation between the NCBs and the General Secretariat,

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Belgrade from 6th to 13th October 1986, at its 55th session:

ADOPTS the Forms appended to the present Resolution, as follows:

- **Personal Data Sheet**
Personal data sheet to be used with the forms pertaining to cases
- **Form No. 1 (red form)**
Wanted international criminal (arrest with a view to extradition)
- **Form No. 2 (blue form)**
Request relating to the identification, criminal record, or location of a person
- **Form No. 3 (green form)**
Information about a person who may commit offences affecting several countries
- **Form No. 4 (yellow form)**
Information concerning a missing person, or a person unable to identify him/herself
- **Form No. 5 (black form)**
Information concerning an unidentified dead body;

ASKS the General Secretariat to send copies of these forms to the National Central Bureaus;

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

- use these forms 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.

★

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

It was announced that the Committee, created under the terms of a resolution adopted in 1982, had met on several occasions between 1984 and 1986.

The Committee had begun by studying various different systems for processing data relating to works of art, as a result of which it had concluded that such data should be standardized. Subsequently, a manual of standardized data and a new CRIGEN/ART Form had been prepared.

Those two documents had been produced by a Working Party on the Committee's instructions, and submitted to the countries concerned. Another meeting of the Committee would be required to put the finishing touches to those texts.

★

Working Party on the Prevention of Migration of Offenders

It became clear from the discussions that points of view varied considerably on the question of whether information should be exchanged within the context of international police co-operation aimed at preventing the migration of offenders, about persons applying for citizenship or residence. On the one hand, certain countries — especially in Europe — considered that requests for such information were administrative rather than judicial in nature; on the other hand, some countries

considered that such information could be of value in preventing crime. The ensuing discussions, which reflect the divergent points of view, nevertheless led to the adoption of the following resolution in plenary session:

HAVING DISCUSSED, during the meeting of Heads of NCBs, Report No. 20 entitled "Preventing the migration of offenders" submitted by the General Secretariat following the meeting of the working group set up under Resolution No. AGN/54/RES/5 (Washington, D.C., 1985),

RECALLING the aims of the Organization as defined in Article 2 of its Constitution,

AWARE that certain member countries exchange information in connection with applications for naturalization or residence permits,

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Belgrade from 6th to 13th October 1986 at its 55th session:

RECOMMENDS that, in this connection, the NCBs be guided by the following rules:

- (1) Submission of an application for a residence permit or for naturalization to the appropriate authorities of a country can be considered as sufficient reason for triggering an exchange of information through Interpol channels if the applicant has committed an offence or is suspected of having committed an offence and, in particular,
 - when his entry into a country or his residence therein constitutes a criminal offence,
 - when consideration of his application by the appropriate authorities indicates that he may have committed a criminal offence in any other country;
- (2) The routine exchange of information through Interpol channels on foreign nationals seeking residency or naturalization is recognized as a preventive measure which can assist in identifying international fugitives and

criminals; exchange of such information is encouraged on a bilateral basis where existing laws permit;

- (3) When using Interpol channels for international co-operation, NCBs should bear in mind that it is useful for countries to be informed of the offences committed on their territories or committed by their own nationals or residents;

EXPRESSES THE HOPE that travel and identity documents will be standardized internationally;

ASKS the General Secretariat to consider publishing reproductions of specimens of travel and identity documents currently in use, as well as information concerning counterfeits and forgeries of such documents.

★

Standing Working Party on Disaster Victim Identification

The General Secretariat's representative outlined the Working Party's activities and the results it had achieved.

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

HAVING BEEN INFORMED, at the meeting of Heads of NCBs, of the report on the second meeting of the Standing Working Party on Disaster Victim Identification,

BEARING IN MIND Resolution No. AGN/50/RES/3 (Nice, 1981), recommending that the experts in different countries keep each other and the General Secretariat regularly informed about their respective work in this field and that a Standing Working Party be established to consider new developments,

CONSIDERING that identification of disaster victims is a matter of increasing international importance,

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Belgrade from 6th to 13th October 1986 at its 55th session:

APPROVES the proposal of the Standing Working Party on Disaster Victim Identification to

establish a Sub-Committee to study to following:

- (1) updating of the Disaster Victim Identification Form in the light of the experience gained in the different countries, as reported to the Standing Working Party at its second meeting,
- (2) the possibility of using electronic data processing techniques to identify disaster victims and the possible influence of such techniques on the layout and contents of the Form ;

ASKS the Secretary General, after consultation with the NCBs, to establish and circulate an updated list of countries that have disaster victim identification units;

ASKS the Secretary General to consult the NCBs that have disaster victim identification units, in order to establish:

- (1) the types of courses organized in different countries for personnel attached to disaster victim identification units (police training, basic training in forensic medicine and in forensic odontology),

- (2) their willingness and ability to accept foreign trainees (police officers, physicians and dentists specializing in forensic medicine and in forensic odontology).

During the discussions on general co-operation, the Netherlands Delegate presented a draft manual, designed to contain the characteristics of passports issued by over 100 countries which would be published in 1987 in the Netherlands. It was announced that a circular would be sent to the NCBs to let them know when the manual appeared.

Elections and selection of meeting place for the 56th General Assembly Session

Mr. Babovic (Yugoslavia) was elected Interpol Vice-President for Europe, succeeding Mr. Van Hove (Belgium) whose term of office had expired.

Mr. Portaccio (Italy) was elected to the Executive Committee as a Delegate for Europe to fill the seat left vacant by Mr. Babovic's election to the post of Vice-President.



Mr. Portaccio of Italy, who was elected to the Executive Committee.

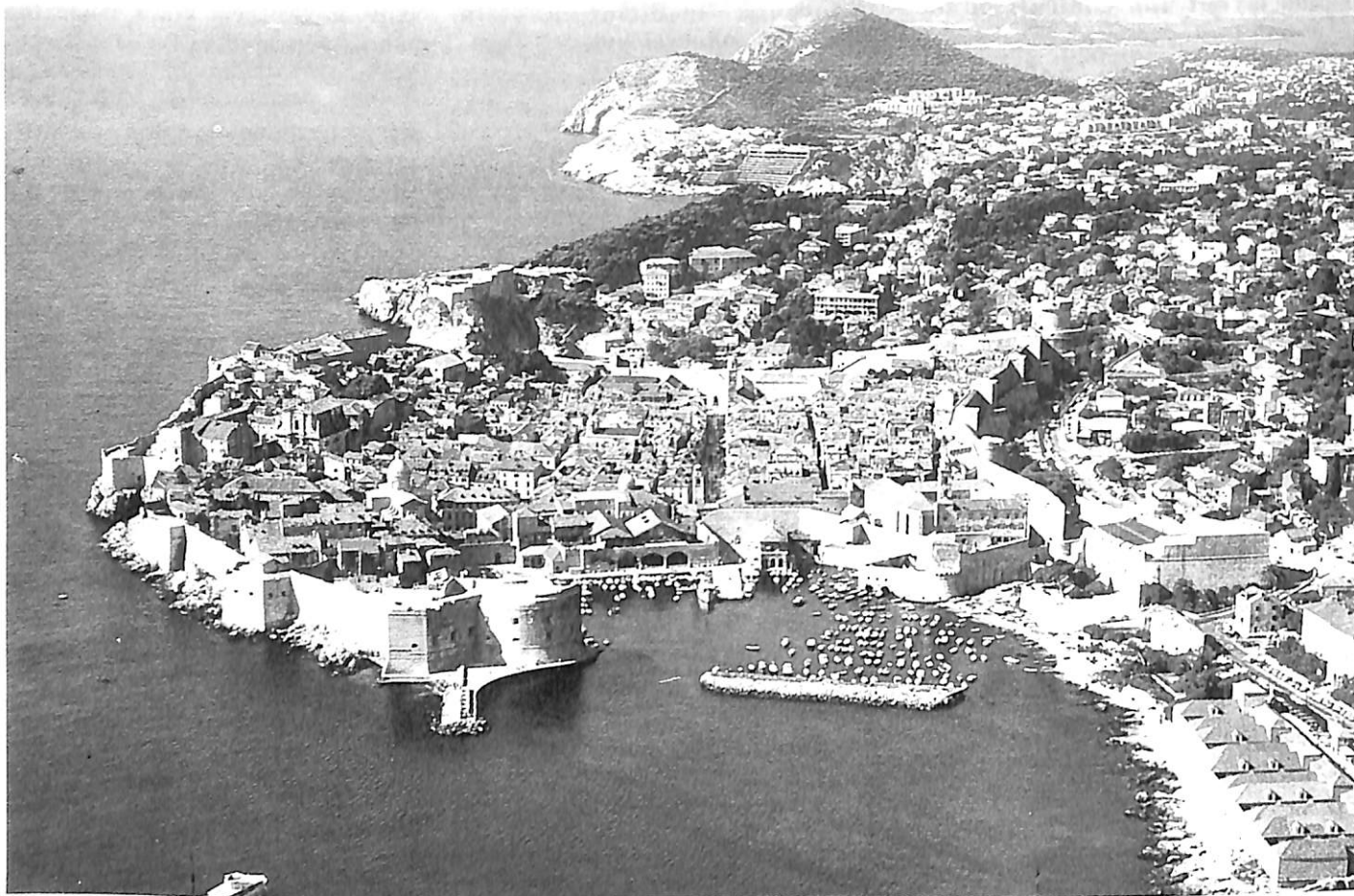


The Yugoslav Delegation, with on the right, Mr. Babovic who was elected Vice-President of the Organization.

Mr. Akele (Benin), Delegate to the Executive Committee for Africa, officially submitted to the General Assembly an invitation from the Senegalese authorities to hold the 56th General Assembly session in Dakar. The General Assembly delegates accepted the invitation with warm applause.

Conference Sidelights

by Miguel Chamorro
ICPO - Interpol
General Secretariat



Faithfully keeping the appointment made a year ago in Washington, D.C., we once again found ourselves together, this time in Yugoslavia. A country of great contrasts, Yugoslavia's varied geography ranges from the Alps, Carpathian and Balkan mountains and the plains formed by the basins of the river Danube and its

tributaries, the Drava, Tisa and Sava, to the Adriatic coast with the famous port of Dubrovnik.

With an area of 255,804 square kilometres (98,766 square miles), and a population of over 20 million inhabitants, the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia is made up of six socialist republics: Bosnia-

Hercegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Slovenia.

For those of us who had never visited the country, there was the added excitement of discovering the unknown — an excitement we felt from the moment we started work on the documents for the 55th session of the General Assembly, to

*Photographs: top: Stamp and postmark commemorating the 55th General Assembly session.
bottom: Dubrovnik (photograph by Turisticki Informativni Centar, Dubrovnik).*



Kalemegdan Park (photograph by Belgrade Tourism Association).

be held in Belgrade from 6th to 13th October 1986.

It was a year of feverish expectation, a year of silent, painstaking work to prepare each of the documents for the next Assembly session. At the time, it seemed we were making slow progress, but we pressed on unrelentingly in the knowledge that we would only see the fruits of our labours during the few days of the actual Assembly session. This however, is how it should be; the very nature of the General Secretariat's work means that it should not attract any attention if it is carried out properly.

The police officers had the task of collecting and analysing the information required; this was then condensed into concise but highly technical reports which in turn had to be translated, with all due grammatical and stylistic precision, into the Organization's four working languages. These reports were then typed to give them the

polished presentation required by the printshop to prepare the final product in the elegant but simple form now adopted by the Organization.

The feverish activity at the General Secretariat during the weeks leading up to the General Assembly to make sure that all was set for the day of the Opening Ceremony, was only matched by the level of activity in the Belgrade NCB.

The choice of the "Sava Centar", a modern conference centre, was only the first of many excellent initiatives which contributed to the success of the 55th General Assembly session.

The spacious central hall with its excellent public address system was used for the Opening and Closing Ceremonies as well as for the Plenary Sessions. The Continental Meetings, and Working Party Meetings were held in the smaller adjacent halls. The fact that the

translation teams, the typing pool and the rest of the Secretariat staff were all located within the Sava Centar complex greatly facilitated the work of all those involved.

The Sava Centar also offered numerous other facilities including shops, post and telegraph office, telephones, medical centre, restaurant and cafeteria, all of which contributed to a pleasant and efficient working environment for the Delegates.

It is also worth pointing out that the attendance figures for this Assembly set a new record with 113 Delegations and some 600 persons being involved in the work of the General Assembly.

On arrival at Belgrade airport, a special local team took care of the immigration and customs formalities, whilst we enjoyed a welcome drink.

The arrival and departure services at the airport were most efficient and an excellent bus service was laid on to transport Delegates to their hotels and to and from the conference centre.

Prior to the Assembly, the Interpol public relations department had contacted representatives of the mass media; regular contacts were maintained, thus creating a climate of mutual confidence which was certainly reflected in the good press that the General Assembly received.

Another local team took charge of the registration and accreditation formalities for the Delegates, and security arrangements for staff and premises were efficient and discrete.

The General Secretariat's usual team was backed up by a smaller local group, thus forming a solid, coherent unit which worked to the difficult and demanding schedule we have now come to expect at General Assembly sessions. President Simpson and the Secretary General, Mr. Kendall, complimented the teams and congratulated them on the way they had done their job.

In keeping with the Organization's new policy, there

was a great deal of informal discussion between Delegates speaking the same language, as well as between those from the same part of the world or quite simply those who got on well together. These contacts, motivated as always by mutual professional interests, led to lively exchanges during the breaks between meetings and at the social events organized as part of the 55th General Assembly session. One of the highlights of the social programme was the superb banquet given by Mr. Culafic, Yugoslav Federal Secretary for Internal Affairs, who gave a speech to which President Simpson, replied. An added attraction during the evening was a display of folk dancing. Both the banquet and the official cocktail party given by the President of the Assembly of the City of Belgrade to welcome the Delegates, were held in the Hall of Honour in the Hotel Jugoslavija.

Belgrade, the Federal Capital of Yugoslavia, standing at the confluence of the Danube and Sava Rivers, has a particularly romantic

appeal, which is further heightened by the melancholy atmosphere created by the smoky darkness of its buildings. But, despite its almost foreboding appearance and the quietness of its streets at night, the city is very much alive and has preserved many of its old traditions, such as the evening walks through the pedestrian precincts between Republic Square and the attractive, secluded Kalemegdan Park which, in addition to its many immodest statues, boasts a zoological garden, a sports complex and a war museum. Courting couples stroll hand in hand, while those of an older generation sit and relax.

Kalemegdan is the pride of the nation. Like happy owners, the inhabitants of Belgrade enjoy visiting the walls of the old fortress which afford an exceptionally beautiful view over the confluence of the Danube and the Sava whose deep and silent waters meander on between the lively river banks and seemingly endless embankments separating the old Belgrade from

the new. It is hardly surprising that the nation should love its capital city and delight in showing it off to visitors.

A young Yugoslav guide had told us that the spread of tourism had more or less destroyed the charm of the old Bohemian district of Skadarlija, but having had our curiosity aroused, we made several visits to the steep, cobbled Skadarska — the main street — flanked by café terraces, restaurants and art galleries along its entire length. There we sampled the delights of the highly-seasoned local dishes, and listened to the typical folk music with its melancholy, Slavonic charm.

Even today, Skadarlija retains that unhurried, romantic atmosphere typical of the traditional haunts of musicians and painters, actors and writers, bohemians and artists of all kinds. Also a centre for international cuisine, it was a compulsory and almost daily port of call for many Delegates.

Nearby, at No. 7 Francuska Street parallel to Skadarska, still in the heart of the city, we kept our daily rendez-vous with Ivo, a charming and courteous old Croatian, who took great pleasure in explaining the delights of his culinary specialities in his softly spoken French. This was the "Writers' Club": an old, turn-of-the-century town house with an out-of-the-ordinary but welcoming restaurant, always full of customers from varied but usually bohemian backgrounds, all lovers of paprika, well-seasoned lamb and Yugoslav wines, and never slow to raise their glasses and drink a toast in "slivovitz", the typical and memorable plum brandy.

Special mention must also be made of the excursion to Dubrovnik. This small fortress city was already renowned in the 15th century as being an independent city state with a flourishing trade and powerful fleet. It was severely damaged by three earthquakes, and overrun and pillaged by invaders and pirates on numerous other



Palace of the Rectors in Dubrovnik (photograph by Turisticki Informativni Centar, Dubrovnik).



Statue of "The Victor" in Belgrade (photograph by Photo Turisticki Savez Jugoslavije).

occasions. In spite of this, many of the city's beautiful monuments have survived to this day, including Orlando's Pillar (1418) which symbolizes the city's freedom, the 16th-century Sponza Palace with its Gothic-Renaissance façade, the Rector's Palace (probably the most splendid of Dubrovnik's buildings), the baroque Cathedral of Our Lady, and so on. We recall with particular pleasure our tour of the city walls which are over 5 metres thick in places. Transported by our imaginations back to the Middle Ages and letting our fantasies take over, we stood beside a huge cannon trained seaward, and found ourselves scanning the horizon, expecting to see a pirate ship appear in full sail at any moment.

The joyful cries of bathers off the island of Lokrum, the Isle of Love, brought us back to the 20th century with a jolt, and the hordes of invaders our quixotic imagination had conjured up were transformed

into General Assembly Delegates, on a somewhat more peaceful mission, and what we had imagined to be muskets and cutlasses turned out to merely be harmless tourists' cameras.



Folk dances performed during the reception provided by the Federal Secretary for Internal Affairs.

The spell broken, we set off back to Belgrade having enjoyed an excursion that had begun before dawn and lasted over 12 hours. We were exhausted, but very happy and some of us were already beginning to doze off on the return flight to Belgrade, where the Closing Ceremony awaited us the following morning.

The next day, 13th October, shortly before lunchtime, Mr. Budimir Babovic, Head of the Yugoslav NCB, was elected Vice-President for Europe; this was, in a way, the crowning glory for the man who had done such a magnificent job organizing the 55th session of the General Assembly.

In order to maintain a geographical balance between the different regions, it was unanimously agreed that the next General Assembly session be hosted by an African country. The invitation extended by the Delegate of Senegal was enthusiastically accepted and the world's police forces therefore have a rendez-vous in Dakar in 1987.

Photographs in this issue:

- Page 253: Aerial view of Belgrade (Belgrade Tourism Association).

- Unless specified otherwise, all the other photographs are by Mr. Lutin Rajkovic, Kartus, Belgrade, with the assistance of the Belgrade NCB.



States, Territories and Observers attending the 55th General Assembly Session

States

Algeria, Angola, Antigua & Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Botswana, Brunei, Burkina Faso, Burma, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cayman Islands*, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia (The), Germany (Federal Republic), Ghana, Gibraltar*, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hong Kong*, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Korea (Republic), Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Puerto Rico**, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Vincent & the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Tanzania, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen (Arab Republic), Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

* United Kingdom NCB Sub-Bureaus.

** United States NCB Sub-Bureau.

Observers

Council of Arab Ministers of the Interior
Council of Europe
Customs Co-operation Council
International Civil Aviation Organization
United Nations Organization

International Air Transport Association
International Association of Chiefs of Police
International Banking Security Association
International Federation of Airline Pilots Associations

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