

I. C. P. O. INTERPOL

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

28th (EXTRAORDINARY) SESSION

PARIS, (8th - 10th DECEMBER 1959)

In a communiqué which appeared in n° 131 of this review (p. 256), the Secretary General informed readers of the difficulties experienced in connection with the place in which the 28th session of the General Assembly was to meet, it having been decided that this should be Lahore, from 25th to 28th November, 1959.

The causes which prevented the meeting taking place in Pakistan were, as the statement pointed out, "independent of the spirit of co-operation" which has always animated all the members of our organization.

A proof of the truth of this statement is that at the extraordinary session which took its place recently in Paris (8th to 10th December), no fewer than forty-seven out of the total of sixty-three member countries and territories were present.

Because of this and the nature of the discussions which took place, this extraordinary session may be considered to have been a real success.

Of course, not so many matters were dealt with as would have been the case if the meetings had been held in Lahore, though some of them were of vital importance to the future of Interpol.

These matters may be divided into four main groups: general policy, activities of the Organization, technical and administration.

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GENERAL POLICY

A) The reasons for the extraordinary session

1. *When opening the first meeting of the session, the President, Mr. Lourenço reminded the delegates of the circumstances responsible for the meeting in Paris and expressed satisfaction at being again amongst so many old friends and colleagues and his pleasure to see the Organization prospering more and more each year, "and", he said, "growing both larger and younger. I say "younger", because in this as in previous years, new friends have come to swell our numbers. Either their countries have only recently joined, or they are replacing delegates who have been appointed to other positions or have simply left to seek rest and tranquillity in retirement.*

So here I am before you, without my friends Mr. Nicholson and Mr. Chehab. Most of you will probably know the circumstances—which not only do him honour, but all policemen throughout the world — of Mr. Nicholson's

retirement from the position of commissioner of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. It is the world of diplomacy which has taken from us the distinguished Emir Chehab, whose government has appointed him Lebanese Ambassador to Ghana. We are also very sorry not to have with us the young and cheerful General Manich Jumsai, who has temporarily left the Thai police for UNESCO, with whom he will be working for a considerable time.

Interpol's progress is the resultant of everyone's efforts and it is essential that all concepts and aspirations should have someone among the leaders to champion them. Unforeseen events, such as those we have had to deal with this year, have clearly shown the need for this and the Organization needs an active and representative executive committee.

The rather unusual character of our meeting obliges me to take the unusual step of speaking first and of myself, opening this



One of the plenary sessions.



Mr. Kosti Vasa and Mr. Jarva (Finland).

session in this great capital. The Organization is meeting at its headquarters with the benefit of the hospitality of France, which, once again, is manifesting the interest it has had in us for so many years with so much generosity. Let us thank her once again.

In spite of my wish to express the pleasure that I feel and that you all feel, I am sure, to see us meeting once again, I do not wish to delay the beginning of our work. Let me



The President, Mr. Lourenço, thanking Mr. J. Verdier, Director General of the French Sûreté Nationale (left); on his right is Mr. Marcel Sicot.

simply say what great confidence I have in the future of Interpol, how sure I am that this solidarity, this cohesion to which I alluded recently will facilitate the solution of several problems which we shall have to solve. Do not let us lightly exaggerate any temporary differences. One of the most important things to the credit of the I.C.P.O. is that it has managed to keep free of politics. Its success is due to the efficacy of its action which is based solely on the police technique applied by all with the same respect for national characteristics and personal rights. The man and women of all races, all colours and all religions of our member countries expect us to present a united front against crime, an enemy which is still strong, unfortunately and always preparing to make use of new weapons.

We must not disappoint them."

2. *M. Verdier, the Director General of the French Sûreté, replied.*

He said he was happy to welcome, in the names of the Ministry of the Interior and the French Government, the delegates of the I.C.P.O. General Assembly.

Satisfaction was a rare feeling for those who carry out the duties of police officer. He therefore appreciated all the more the results obtained by the criminal police, which is the cream of the police forces of all countries. He wanted to thank the N.C.B. for their collaboration friendly and profitable. He particularly thanked the President, whose efforts had greatly contributed to combat crime throughout the world. He also paid tribute to M. Sicot who untiringly devoted himself to the task of furthering the aims of Interpol. In conclusion, he thanked all delegates for coming to Paris and he hoped that France would remain for them a place associated with friendship and human understanding.

In the name of all the members of the Assembly, the President thanked the Director General of the Paris Sûreté for his warm welcome and asked him to thank the Minister of the Interior for him. He also paid tribute to the French Government for the efforts and sacrifices they were still making so that the I.C.P.O. could develop.

In conclusion he expressed his sorrow to the French authorities at the terrible catastrophe of Fréjus and asked the delegates to

rise and observe one minute's silence in memory of those who had died in this tragedy. The President after this suggested that a collection might be taken for those who had managed to survive. The French delegation expressed their thanks.

3. The Secretary General wished to give the Assembly all the details concerning the cancellation of the Lahore meeting which it had the right to expect.

In a spirit of complete objectivity, so as neither to harm the morale and unity of the Organization nor to stimulate political discussion, M. Sicot first of all summarised the facts:

In substance, he said that it was in order to emphasize the world-wide nature of Interpol that the invitation of the Pakistani authorities for 1959 had been most willingly accepted by the General Assembly at its last meeting. When the invitation was made from the platform, it expressed no reservations.

On 25th March and 29th April last, two circulars had been sent out by him, confirming the invitation.

Now in May, the head of the Karachi N.C.B. informed the General Secretariat that the Pakistani authorities were sending their official invitation to all member countries except Israel, whose representatives Pakistan could neither "invite nor accept".

This, of course, was incompatible with the spirit of the Constitution of the I.C.P.O. which, as is known, forbids any discrimina-



From left to right: Mr. Bouya Bachir (Morocco), Mr. de Silva (Ceylon), Mr. Bel Gnaoui (Morocco) and Mr. Jebanasam (Ceylon).

tion of a political, religious or racial character.

The Executive Committee, at its meeting in Paris in June, expressed the hope that Pakistan could at any rate accept delegations from all member countries, even if she could not invite them. If not, then it considered that the cancellation of the Lahore meeting would have to be considered.

Several days later, Mr. Anwer Ali, Inspector General of the Intelligence Bureau and head of the Pakistan N.C.B., arrived in Paris for the purpose of making arrangements for the Assembly meeting. In view of his personal understanding, there appeared to be some hope that the difficulties would be smoothed out, but this proved illusory and, on 17th August, the Pakistan authorities confirmed that, while understanding our point of view, they could not accept Israelis, whose country they did not recognise.

After a final, urgent appeal by the General Secretariat to the Pakistan authorities, who were regretful but felt obliged to keep to their principles, an extraordinary meeting of the Executive Committee took place in Paris on 9th September, at which the following resolution was adopted:

"The Executive Committee, having heard the Secretary General's detailed and objective account of the preparation of the 1959 session of the General Assembly,

"Notes with great regret that Pakistan has decided not to admit delegates from Israel;

"Considers that the fundamental principles contained in articles 2 and 3 of the Constitution must be applied strictly in the interests of the Organization and in order not to create an unfortunate precedent which could endanger the Organization's unity and existence;

"Cannot allow any form of discrimination against a member of the Organization;

"Considers that the conditions mentioned in article 5 of the General Regulations have occurred.

"The Executive Committee therefore,

"Decides that it would be inopportune to hold the General Assembly session in Lahore and that an extraordinary session of the General Assembly, as provided for in Article 10 of the Constitution and articles 14 and 15 of

the General Regulations, should be held in Paris as from 8th December 1959;

“Expresses its sympathy with the authorities of Pakistan who had taken a great deal of trouble to organize the General Assembly session and hopes that this misunderstanding will in no way adversely affect the excellent co-operation between Pakistan and the I.C.P.O.”

The Secretary General then considered the *legal aspect of the matter*.

Articles 10 and 12 of the Constitution state that the Organization's General Assembly shall meet every year in ordinary session, that it may meet in extraordinary session at the request of the Executive Committee or of the majority of the members and that it is the General Assembly which shall choose the place of the meeting of the coming session.

Moreover, according to article 5 of the General Regulations, *if the Executive Committee considers that the circumstances are unfavourable to the meeting of the Assembly in the place fixed at its previous session, it may decide on another place.*

Art. 7. states that *“the date and place having been decided upon, the notices convening members shall be sent not less than four months in advance by: a) the inviting country to the other countries, through diplomatic channels and b) the Secretary General to the various members of the Organization.”*

Lastly, art. 14 lays down that *“Extraordinary sessions shall be held, in principle, at the seat of the Organization...”*

The General Secretariat and the Executive Committee met the situation and convened the 28th General Assembly session simply by applying these articles. The Assembly of course, was an “extraordinary” one and essentially administrative in nature.

Mr. Sicot added that a lesson should be taken from this affair and a repetition of it avoided. All that need be done was to see that any delegation making an invitation solemnly undertook, in the name of its government, to accept all delegates from any country which was a member of the Organization, without exception or reservation.

The Secretary General thought that our Pakistani colleagues could not be held re-

sponsible for the events. They had at least remained calm and wishful of continuing to work at our common task. He thought that the General Secretariat had acted calmly and wisely and shown the ability which should go hand-in-hand with enthusiasm and a sense of responsibility.

Mr. Kalmuddin (Pakistan) stated that he had been most interested to hear what the Secretary General had said, but wanted to make his government's point of view still clearer. He recalled that the invitation made officially in London by Pakistan had been accepted unanimously. Invitations had been sent through diplomatic channels to all the countries except one, because that country was not recognised by his government. The organization of a conference in Lahore, rather than in Karachi, was a particularly difficult task. Money had been spent for nothing. The decision made on 9th September by the Executive Committee to cancel the Lahore conference had greatly disappointed his country. Coming so late, when all arrangements had been made, this cancellation had placed Pakistan in a difficult position.

It appeared to him that this decision had not been entirely justified by the circumstances since the 1959 Assembly meeting was held in Lisbon, although the Portuguese government also had been unable to invite certain countries. In spite of this lack of objectivity, which he deplored, he hoped that collaboration between his country and the Organization would be able to continue without difficulties.

The Secretary General was pleased to hear the Pakistan delegate once again affirm, in spite of a certain bitterness, that nothing would affect the relations between Pakistan and the I.C.P.O. He again maintained that the Organization had done all it could, with great perseverance, to settle matters amicably.

The president, at the request of the Secretary General, explained the position of his government at the 1957 Assembly and stressed that all member countries had been invited. In regard to Israel and Yugoslavia and other countries with which Portugal had no diplomatic relations, *the invitations had been sent by the Secretary General, instead of directly by the Portuguese Government*, which had given its consent and seen that visas were given to all delegations. For example, in spite of the incident between In-

dia and Portugal, an invitation had been sent to New Delhi.

In conclusion, the Secretary General mentioned a very comforting fact: the South East Asia regional conference on the drug traffic which was to have been held in Lahore just before the General Assembly meeting was, thanks to the understanding of the Pakistan authorities, still to be held, but in January 1960. The Executive Committee, wishing to show its desire to collaborate, had not only asked Mr. Népote, the Deputy Secretary General and a specialist in questions concerning the drug traffic, but also the Secretary General himself to represent the Organization at the conference.

These explanations, coupled with the latter, clearly eloquent fact, were not made the subject of a discussion and, the incident being closed, the General Assembly continued with matters on the agenda.

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Two more matters of general policy were discussed, one of them was raised by the head of the Cuban delegation, while the other concerned existing and future relations between the I.C.P.O. and the Council of Europe.

B) The Cuban motion

Mr. de Castroverde had been asked by his government to carry out a certain task.

Previous to the recent revolution in his country, some police officers, acting in the course of duty, had committed crimes which, in fact, were against ordinary criminal law. The Organization, he said, could therefore intervene without violating article 3 of its constitution and ask for the arrest of these persons, who should be punished.

He recalled that at the Assembly meeting of 1949, a motion condemning such crimes had been adopted.

Mr. Sicot (the Secretary General) pointed out that the statements made by Mr. Louwage in 1949 in Berne which were followed by this important resolution related to totally different problems, rightly condemning any isolated cases of violence by police officers when dealing with criminal matters. This had nothing to do with important internal or external political events, nor with the problems of genocide.

The Secretary General did not consider it

advisable to adopt the Cuban resolution, which would be a grave danger to the Organization. Moreover, things which happened under one régime might very well happen under a subsequent one. This meant a permanent source of danger to which allusion had been made.

Mr. de Castroverde said that he had never doubted the objectivity of the Secretary General and thanked him for his explanations. He insisted, however, that his motion be put to the vote.

Mr. Franssen, of Belgium, observed that the question had two sides to it: the police aspect and the legal one. The crime police and Interpol were both executive bodies, but it was for the law to make any decisions regarding extradition. It was not for Interpol to take action which the legal authorities should really take.

Mr. Plaza-Marquez (Venezuela) asked for details of the Cuban motion and the one adopted in 1949. In any case, he said the same treatment should be given to all members and it was important that they should not give the impression that they were alluding to any country in particular.

Mr. Weichmann (Chile) understood the spirit in which Mr. de Castroverde made his request, but, in his opinion, the question was outside the scope of police technique which should be dealt with by the Assembly.

The requests for extradition in question, stated Mr. de Castroverde, concerned persons who had committed, in the course of their duties, such crimes as murder, unauthorized assumption of office, theft, black-



The Cuban delegation.

mail, etc., which meant that those having committed them were ordinary law criminals. They were quite within the aims laid down in art. 2 of the Organization's Constitution.

Mr. de Castroverde formally presented the following motion:

Whereas, at the session of the I.C.P.C. held in Berne, Switzerland in 1949, its president, at that time Mr. Louwage, submitted a report and a draft resolution to "condemn violence and inhuman methods used by police officers and their immediate denunciation to the appropriate courts for punishment". Both report and resolution were unanimously adopted by the 29 nations present, six of which were from America, for the most part represented by diplomats.

Whereas the acts detailed previously happened recently in the Republic of Cuba, acts without any political character, in view of the fact that on many occasions the police officers were tried by courts of law,

In consequence, the extraordinary session of the General Assembly held in Paris from 8th to 10th December 1959, on the suggestion of the Cuban delegation

DECIDES TO

Ratify the resolution presented by professor Louwage at the I.C.P.C. Assembly meeting in Berne, Switzerland, in 1949, condemning violence and inhuman methods used by police officers and their immediate denunciation to the appropriate civil courts for punishment.

The resolution referred to, adopted at the eighteenth session in 1949, was as follows:

"The I.C.P.C.,

Having considered the report n° 3 of the President Mr. F. E. Louwage, referring to the "illegal and inhuman methods with respect to accused persons",

Considering that it is necessary to act against statements, which tend to spread the belief that the criminal police employ, or rather tolerate, systematically, with regard to persons suspected of an infringement of the penal law or with regard to other persons, means of pressure, privations or acts of violence contrary to the different law

codes and to the Declaration of human rights,

Considering that it intends on the contrary to denounce the use of such means,

DECIDES:

The representatives of the I.C.P.C. will remind the criminal police that their enquiries, investigations and collaborations in the work of justice must be conducted according to the methods provided by the progress of the scientific or technical, police and criminology; that all acts of violence or inhuman treatment, that is to say, those contrary to the dignity of mankind, committed by the police in the exercise of their judicial and criminal police duties must be denounced to the law.

They recommend also that in all the police training schools, special importance be attached to the complete recognition of the right of all persons, suspected of an infringement of the penal law, or of other people to receive a fair and humanitarian treatment.

Resolution unanimously adopted.

In support of Mr. de Castroverde's argument, Dr. Corrales (Cuba) strongly stressed that the persons in question should not be considered to be political refugees but as criminals of common law who had violated human rights. He knew that some countries which had accepted the I.C.P.O. constitution did not respect these rights and that they had protected criminals by declaring them to be political refugees, but he hoped that the Assembly would adopt the motion submitted.

Mr. Lamarre (Haiti) complimented the Cuban delegation on having based their request for the punishment of the war criminals in their country on the Declaration of Human Rights. He pointed out, however, that Cuba had just undergone a serious political crisis and that the crimes in question came under the headings of both ordinary crime and politics. The present tendency in international law was to give priority to the political character of such crimes and it was because of this that many countries which had ratified the Declaration of Human Rights had granted asylum to these criminals, who were generally known as "political criminals". Interpol might very well have a criminal arrested and the foreign office of the country make a different in-

terpretation of the offence for which he was being asked to pay. This could cause a conflict between Interpol and the country concerned. He didn't think that the Organization could accord itself rights which affected the foreign policy of some of its members.

Mr. Jackson (United Kingdom) stated that, before considering this draft resolution, the Assembly should give objective thought to the facts and motives which had led to this draft resolution being submitted.

The second paragraph of the resolution began with the following words: "Whereas the acts detailed previously happened recently in the Republic of Cuba". The Assembly was therefore being asked to ratify a resolution submitted ten years ago and to apply it to the behaviour of certain police officers in a particular country. It was the present police force of this country, now under a different political regime, which had brought up the subject. In 1949, the I.C.P.O.-Interpol had been perfectly right to adopt a resolution asking that police officers who offended against human rights be brought to trial. However, when a country asked that the behaviour of its own police force be investigated, by other countries, it generally meant that the request had a political motive. In view of these facts, he was not in favour of any resolution on this subject.

Mr. Lehmann (Switzerland) supported the speeches made by the delegates from the United Kingdom and from Haiti. He said that great care should be taken to compare only those things which were comparable. *He proposed that the General Assembly should first of all decide whether this draft resolution was in order.*

Mr. Rivett-Carnac (Canada) considered that the Cuban motion was not only opposed to the terms of article 3 of the Constitution, the keystone of Interpol's neutrality, but also to article 15 of the General Regulations, which stated that in principle, the agenda of an extraordinary session might only include the object for its convening. For this reason he whole-heartedly supported the statements just made.

Mr. Essid (Tunisia) agreed. This draft resolution expressly referred to what had recently happened in Cuba and to some extent asked the I.C.P.O. to act as a court and to pass judgement on war criminals, people who had acted up to their ideals or obeyed their commanders.

Mr. Weichmann (Chile) agreed with the United Kingdom and Belgian delegates.

Mr. Ramirez (Colombia) entirely supported the statements of the Chilean delegate. His country had always respected the right of asylum and always would.

Mr. Nuamah (Ghana), while understanding the consequences of the incidents which happened in Cuba, stated that the draft resolution was political in nature and therefore out of order.

Mr. Plaza-Marquez (Venezuela) remarked that the phrase "tending to condemn violence and the inhuman methods used by police officers and their immediate denunciation to the appropriate courts for punishment" in itself contained nothing of a political nature. If one opposed such an expression, it might mean that one wished to see these shameful police officers go scot-free. It was undoubtedly difficult for certain delegates to understand the part played by police officers in countries where political upheavals occurred frequently. If the I.C.P.O.-Interpol showed itself opposed to this resolution, it might be more dangerous than the possibility of a connection with political matters. That was why he joined with the Cuban delegation in requesting that there be no discrimination by police officers towards other police officers who had violated ordinary criminal laws.

Dr. Corrales (Cuba) wished to remind the representatives of South American countries that the draft resolution did not mention war criminals but police officers. For seven years, the police force in Cuba had gone beyond its rights and its duties. In fact, these people were really thieves and criminals pretending to be policemen. They had murdered 20,000 people. They could no longer be considered as war criminals; they were offenders against ordinary criminal law and it was most regrettable that they were able to enjoy the right to asylum in foreign embassies. These people should be punished as they deserved; they should be taken back to Cuba where they would be tried. The Cuban police was respected because its officers respected human rights.

Mr. de Castroverde (Cuba) added that his delegation would place on view an album containing photographs published by the Cuban press, so that members would be able to obtain a better understanding of the reasons for this resolution.

Mr. Pastor de Oliveira (Brazil) suggested that the Assembly should, as the Swiss delegate had suggested, decide whether the motion was out of order or not. While sympathising with Cuba and abhorring inhuman acts, he had to admit that the wording of the draft resolution made it impossible for the Assembly to adopt it.

Mr. Zentuti (Libya) said that the resolution adopted ten years previously concerned discrimination between police officers and members of the public. Since then, the I.C.P.O. had adopted a constitution in which articles 2 and 3 dealt with the matter. The old resolution had therefore become null and void when articles 2 and 3 were adopted.

Summing up, Mr. Sicot (the Secretary General) explained that the Assembly had to deal with a draft resolution submitted by the Cuban delegation and a proposal from the Swiss delegation. The latter should be put to the vote first of all, since it concerned a matter which had to be settled before the draft resolution could be put to the vote.

The President consequently asked the Assembly to indicate whether it considered the draft resolution out of order or not.

By 40 votes to 2, the draft resolution was declared out of order.

C) CO-OPERATION WITH THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

Mr. Sicot (Secretary General), recalling the bonds which united Interpol to the United Nations and especially to its Economic and Social Council, said that relations had also been established with the Council of Europe, which was interested in a draft convention on mutual help in judicial matters concerning extradition procedure. Its purpose was to replace existing bilateral agreements with one of a general character. The Council of Europe had established a committee to deal with criminal problems.

It was desirable that the relations between the Council of Europe and the I.C.P.O. be sanctioned by an agreement to co-operate on the basis of an exchange of letters.

Contacts with the Council of Europe had made it possible to affirm quite definitely that the universal and non-political nature of the I.C.P.O. would be most carefully respected.

The plan to exchange letters, the principle of which had been adopted by the General Assembly in 1958, had been unanimously

approved by the Executive Committee, but could only be ratified, according to art. 41 of the Constitution, with the approval of the General Assembly.

Miss Destner (Council of Europe) recalled that the Council of Europe and the I.C.P.O. had not waited for the drawing up of this agreement to begin collaborating in the closest way. The multilateral convention on extradition and the convention on mutual legal aid, of the Council of Europe, bore witness of the confidence which existed between the two organizations since the relevant provisions of these conventions laid down the transmission of requests for extradition or mutual aid in an emergency through Interpol.

Moreover, Interpol was helping the Council to draw up a convention concerning the suppression of road offences and this aid had been very useful, both in the way of providing information on offences committed by foreigners in the countries they crossed and in consultations concerning the categories of offences which the convention should concern. This collaboration might extend with the studies that the Council wished to undertake on the criminological aspects of traffic regulations.

The I.C.P.O. and the Council of Europe had therefore a large number of interests in common and the draft agreement submitted to the Assembly would again help to strengthen the firm bonds which had already been established.

The Council of Europe, which was a regional organization, was particularly pleased to be able to conclude an agreement with a world-wide organization like Interpol.

Colonel El Sebaei (United Arab Republic) stated that his delegation approved an agreement which favoured mutual comprehension between the organizations concerned and considered that similar agreements concerning police interests should be encouraged with other organizations.

General Zentuti (Libya) saw no objection to the adopting of this project in so far as it conformed with the aims of the Organization as defined in articles 2 and 3 of the Constitution. That is why, considering that the Organization was not concerned in economics, he proposed that the word "economic" should be deleted from the draft agreement.

Mr. Granier (Venezuela) said that his delegation had only received a copy of the

draft agreement at the end of November and that his government had consequently not had time to study all its aspects.

His government was in favour of anything which would lead to close co-operation between all the police forces of the world and was ready to recommend other agreements on condition that the points of view of all interested parties were respected. That was why it appeared to him desirable to set up a kind of I.C.P.O. Sub-Secretariat in South America for the countries in that part of the world. Several international organizations had already set up regional committees for South America. He knew that technical and financial factors made this impossible at the moment, but hoped that this suggestion would be borne in mind and that, as a first step towards this far-off goal, regional conferences would be organized in South America.

Mr. Sicot (Secretary General) said that the draft agreement submitted to the Assembly was entirely technical in character.

He was gratified to note that the United Arab Republic was completely in favour of it. Then, addressing the head of the Libyan delegation, he stated that the Secretariat had no objection to deleting the word "economic", though this word should here be taken in its widest sense in contradistinction to "political". It was used in this way by the U.N.O. where the Economic and Social Council was concerned.

Replying to the head of the Venezuelan delegation, he emphasized the danger of any actions which might lead to a dispersal of effort. The main thing, he felt, was to maintain one central headquarters to deal with everything.

With regard to the principle of regional conferences, this was approved of by the Secretariat, as the conference on drugs, to be held in Asia, showed. It would be difficult, at the moment, to go further.

Mr. Singh (India) saw no objection to the adoption of the draft agreement as it was quite non-political in nature and simply drew the attention of the Assembly to a particular aspect of the problem. The Council of Europe was a regional organization and Interpol had to remain an international. There was a risk that this precedent might induce it to come to agreements with other regional bodies. In the future it would be advisable if any such requests were examined with care. Moreover, the application of

the agreement under consideration might entail an expenditure for Interpol which it might be difficult to meet without the help of the Council of Europe, which had far greater financial resources.

Mr. Kolenc (Yugoslavia) agreed with the statement made by the Indian delegate.

Mr. de Castroverde (Cuba) considered that relevant document had been sent out very late and, because of this, he hadn't been able to submit it to the Minister of State. One had to be particularly careful in such matters and it would be advisable to distribute the text of the Venezuelan statement to members so that they could study it at their leisure. All Latin-American countries should be able to take part in a discussion of this matter, but only five of them were represented at this session. Mr. de Castroverde consequently requested that, according to custom, when such important matters were concerned, the draft submitted should be brought up at the following session of the Assembly for a decision to be made.

Mr. Lamarre (Haiti) asked for information upon the type of information which Interpol could send to the Council of Europe over the radio network which was to be put at his disposal "for the transmission of urgent judicial information".

Mr. Sicot (Secretary General) thought, like Mr. Singh, that there was no objection to the consideration of agreements with other responsible organizations offering such a degree of security (mainly in regard to the non-political character of the obligations). But he stressed that the draft under consideration was a definite one, that its principle had been developed with the



Mr. Lamarre (Haiti), Mr. Franssen (Belgium), Mr. Xavier (Philippines) and Mr. Bel Gnaoui (Morocco) standing between the two delegates from Ethiopia.

greatest care and unanimously adopted by the Executive Committee, in which the Assembly could have full confidence. It was therefore now difficult to go back on a decision which had been virtually taken.

With regard to the financial aspect of the question he wished to reassure the Indian delegate: no particular expenditure was envisaged, but if, by chance, some unforeseen activity of a continuous nature was asked of the Organization, it was certain that any expenditure involved would be made good.

In reply to the delegate from Haiti, the Secretary General said that the information passed would solely concern criminal, legal and police cases which came under the heading of ordinary criminal law.

Mr. Lamarre (Haiti) asked why the agreement should be ratified by the I.C.P.O. Assembly if it was merely a matter of relations with the Council of Europe. Mr. Népote replied that *this was because it was not merely the Council of Europe which was concerned, but also its members, which were also all of them members of Interpol.* Information would be passed between the countries themselves and not to the Council itself. *It was simply a matter of sanctioning a daily routine which had been going on for some time.*

What would happen, asked Mr. Lamarre, if a European criminal took refuge in America?

Mr. Népote replied that the usual procedure would be followed. The country concerned would ask the country in which the wanted person had taken refuge, through Interpol, to extradite him.

Mr. Sicot (Secretary General) gave the Assembly his solemn promise that the Executive Committee and the General Secretariat would most carefully study all the consequences of the agreement. They would in particular take into account the need to strictly avoid any question of a political character.

Mr. Granier wished to make it clear that he had not submitted a formal proposal, but had simply made a suggestion in order to voice his aspirations and to prepare the ground for possible future co-operation with American countries. He repeated his delegation's approval of the draft agreement and the hope that consideration would be given to the idea of regional conferences.

Mr. Hacq (France) said that there was no question of dividing Interpol up into a number of sub-secretariats but to attempt to obtain the co-operation of international organizations in all field of interest to Interpol.

The Council of Europe was willing to co-operate, but it was quite possible that other similar organizations in other parts of the world might also and they would be welcome.

Mr. Knecht (Switzerland), thought that the question had not been sufficiently explained and he proposed that the Assembly postpone its decision until the following session.

The Secretary General did not agree with the Swiss point of view, as the principle of the agreement had already been approved by the Assembly at its last session and also by the Executive Committee. If the Assembly postponed its decision, it would appear as though it was repudiating both the Executive Committee and the General Secretariat. This was also the opinion of Mr. Nuamah, of Ghana. The Assembly should come to a decision straight away, as several nations, notably several in Africa, would soon be gaining their independence and perhaps become members of Interpol. It was most likely that they would group together according to regions and also ask for the help of the Organization.

Of course, no one was thinking of dividing Interpol up into regional groups, but simply of having meetings in various parts of the world at which representatives of the Secretariat would be present. If the Assembly accepted the draft agreement with the Council of Europe, it should also think of taking similar measures in connection with organizations of countries in other parts of the world.

The President put the draft agreement with the Council of Europe, as amended by Mr. Zentuti of Libya, to the vote.

The draft agreement was adopted by 33 votes to nil, with ten abstentions.

Mr. de Castroverde explained that he had not voted — although he had voiced approval of the agreement at the previous session — because his country's ministry of foreign affairs had not had time to consider the draft.

Mr. Kolenc (Yugoslavia) had abstained because his government did not approve

the principle of such an agreement. He had moreover supported the statements made by the Delegate of India on this subject. In addition, Yugoslavia was not a member of the Council of Europe. In his opinion, Interpol should collaborate with the U.N.O. and other world organizations, but he did not see the need to sign an agreement with a body which was not only regional, but political in character. Moreover, Interpol's activities were specialized and he failed to see how they might coincide with those of the Council of Europe.

Mr. Sicot appreciated the Yugoslav delegate's tactful behaviour in abstaining rather than opposing the adoption of the agreement. The I.C.P.O. was not the only organ-

ization to conclude an agreement with the Council of Europe. Both the World Health Organization and the International Labour Organization had done this before it had. He wished, however, to assure the Yugoslav delegate that the I.C.P.O. would limit its collaboration with the Council of Europe to the criminal and social fields. In any case, the Executive Committee and, if necessary, the General Assembly, would be there to keep an eye on its activities and, if necessary, rectify any slips.

Miss Destner (Council of Europe) thanked the Assembly on behalf of the Council of Europe. She felt that this vote would mark the beginning of a profitable collaboration between the two organizations.

I.C.P.O. ACTIVITIES

A) PROGRESS REPORT AND PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES

The Secretary General submitted his progress report in the customary manner. The following pages contain almost the whole of this report.

Part I - Past activities

Relations with affiliate countries.

Generally speaking, it seems that international relations within the framework of Interpol have become an essential part of police work in many countries.

Colombia, which had ceased to collaborate actively as a result of an internal reorganization of its administration, resumed normal co-operation several months ago and we greatly appreciate this fact.

I should also draw your attention to the circumstances which affected the attitude of the Jordanian authorities towards the I.C.P.O. Their country twice decided to leave the Organization, but Jordan should still be considered a permanent member of the Organization. The last letter from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom, dated 28th July 1959, is categoric and the government of Jordan has paid its financial contributions right up to the end of 1959. We are very pleased to see that this rather confused situation has now been rectified.

Finally, we are pleased to have received a request for membership from the Republic of Salvador, which would bring the number of countries affiliated to our organization up

to 63. We very much hope that the several countries in South America which have not as yet joined the I.C.P.O. will do so... I am speaking of Bolivia, Ecuador, Peru and Paraguay. Similarly with some Asian countries, such as Irak and Afghanistan, which at one time contemplated becoming members. In regard to the future, there is Africa in particular, where several territories have received or will soon receive their independence. This freedom will not exempt them from international crime and they could hardly find a better means of co-operation, not only with other African countries but also other continents, than by becoming a member of an organization which has long ago proved itself and which scrupulously keeps out of politics.

Finances.

I shall not stress the financial situation here, since there is a detailed report on the subject. However, I would like to say how much the task of the General Secretariat has been facilitated by the adoption of two important measures: the new method of calculating national contributions and the financial regulations. We now have the right instruments for proper administration and the results are proving excellent. An indication of the real success of these reforms is that in 1958, out of 62 member countries, fifty-nine paid their financial contribution in full.

The radio network.

Our radio network has become a powerful

instrument. Since September 1958 we have increased the Paris central station's equipment by two one-kilowatt transmitters with the corresponding aeri-als. Consequently we have now seven transmitters working, six of which are up-to-date and belong to the Organization. We are at present negotiating with a view to providing the central station with an emergency power generator.

These improvements have made possible a considerable extension in the Interpol radio network. Last year, I mentioned that Argentina would be linked with the international network. This became fact in January of this year and its importance should be stressed. Interpol Buenos Aires is excellently equipped and, thanks to the understanding attitude of the Argentine and Chilean authorities, the links already existing between Santiago and Buenos-Aires were integrated in the Interpol radio network in May. Consequently, Brazil, Argentina and Chile are now included in the Interpol network and we hope that soon, thanks to the station of Buenos-Aires, both Uruguay and, strange as it may appear, Canada, will be included.

A specialist from Iran has already been to Paris to obtain information on the technical conditions of a link with Tehran. This would be a very desirable extension of our network towards the Asian continent. Provisional radio contact has already been made.

As the area covered by the network is increasing, so is the volume of traffic. In 1958, 55,172 messages were transmitted over the whole of the network and of these, 1,226 were general ones. This is an increase of 19% over the figures for the previous year. The figures for 1959 will show a further increase.

The problem of frequencies is still of primary importance and difficult to solve. In January 1959 we made a consultation about the use of three frequencies but this has produced no results as yet because of difficulties encountered in only two countries.

An important general conference on telecommunications is being held in Geneva and the interests of the Interpol network will be taken care of.

While still on the subject of radiocommunications, I should mention the new code which was promised several years ago. This is now virtually finished. We shall be talking about this again during the present session,

so I will simply say that the work has been spread out over several years and we have finally managed to devise a code which, under some 300 headings, comprises nearly four thousand expressions used in international exchanges of information. The French edition will be completely finished in several days and the English version in several weeks. Consequently, the code will doubtless come into use in 1960.

Police affairs.

It is gratifying to note that the N.C.B.'s, whose activities were at one time only symbolic, are playing a greater part in co-operation. One year ago, the General Secretariat received an average of 500 copies of letters exchanged between the N.C.B. each month on purely police matters. This figure is now 850.

Secondly, the influence of the N.C.B.'s in their own country has become established and they have really become essential centres for international police relations. Police forces in every country are relying more and more on their competence and potentialities. These bodies instituted by the I.C.P.O., one feels, are becoming more effective every month.

Statistics compiled in 1958 in connection with N.C.B. activities in six countries (Australia, Austria, Germany, India, Switzerland and the U.A.R.) show that for the authorities of other countries, they have made 235 arrests, made 2,902 identifications and sent out 18,537 items of information; these figures are considerably higher than for 1957.

Unfortunately, as was the case last year, too few N.C.B. have sent us statistics of their activities although these would be of great value in defending the moral and material interests of the Organization from any attacks which might be made by governments or other international organizations. It is for this reason that I am insisting on N.C.B. regularly drawing up records of their daily activities.

The General Secretariat itself is still as active as ever in the field of police affairs proper. Between 1st June 1957 and 1st June 1958, we dealt with some 2,697 cases, of which 36 were murders, 151 cases of theft, 715 cases of breach of trust, swindling or fraud, 859 cases of counterfeiting, 561 cases of drug traffic, 72 sexual offences, 129 identifications and 174 cases of other natures. In connection with the above cases, 330 cir-

culations were issued, 113 of which requested the arrest of wanted persons, while the others were preventive in nature. If radio transmissions are also taken into account, the results were 136 criminals arrested and 15 identified outside the countries where they were "wanted". In addition, 3160 items of information were supplied.

In conformity with the spirit of Interpol, with the provisions of Article 3 of the Constitution and the repeated instructions of the General Assembly and the Executive Committee, I am constantly on the alert to see that no imprudent actions can ever be attributed to our Organization. In this, I am sure of the approval of everyone, even of those who are sometimes forced by circumstances to insist on intervention or circulations which the Secretary General must refuse. This is one of the vital points in our organization.

Our crime records have been considerably increased. On 1st June 1959 we had 375,989 general cards concerning approximately 135,000 persons, 27,462 fingerprint cards, 836 descriptive cards and 3,624 photographs of specialised criminals.

The "Counterfeits and Forgeries" review still provides regular information on counterfeit currency. It is sent to 78 countries and territories. From 1st June 1957 to 1st June 1958, information on 43 new counterfeits and 143 specimens of genuine money were published.

With the help of one of the new advisers, we have this year put into use a little gadget which we have called the "falsiscope" and which should make it easier to detect the characteristics of counterfeits. It has been issued to most subscribers to the Counterfeits and Forgeries review.

General activities.

Most conspicuous of all our general activities was the international seminar on illicit drug traffic.

As we shall not be having a special discussion on drugs this session, I should mention that this seminar was held from 9th to 28th March 1959 at the Organization's headquarters.

There were 63 participants from 33 countries or territories, i.e.: 25 participants from ten countries in Europe, 10 participants from eight countries in Africa, 5 participants from five countries in North and South America and 23 participants from sixteen countries in Asia.

Of those participating there were 40 police officers, 9 civil servants, 8 customs officers and 6 heads of laboratories.

There were thirty-three lecturers, all of them highly qualified in their own field.

In all, there were 54 hours of lectures followed by discussion, 3 hours of twenty-minute talks and 21 hours of practical work.

The cost of the seminar to the Organization was 18.721 Swiss Frs.

The Administration of the Technical Assistance of the U.N.O. made the following thirteen grants: Aden (1), Hong Kong (1), Indonesia (2), Israel (1), Jamaica (1), Kenya (1), Lybia (3), the Philippines (1), Tunisia (1) and Yugoslavia (1), while France also made seven grants.

The general atmosphere of the seminar was extremely pleasant and the contacts made between people most useful. All were unanimous in considering this experiment as an undoubted success and as one which deserved to be repeated.

— In regard to counterfeit currency, more countries have bought copies of the instructional film on counterfeiting which we made in 1954. This speaks well of the interest it still arouses.

— International crime statistics for 1955 and 1956 have been published. The value of future statistics will be all the greater if the N.C.B. will send us more precise information every year.

— In conformity with the decisions of the Assembly, studies have been made on forms of international proxenetism, on extradition and on the safety of taxi drivers. They will be presented in the form of reports at the next ordinary session of the General Assembly.

— We have started the publication of monographs on the organization of the police in affiliated countries. The series begins with the French police. A report on the Swiss police will soon appear and the others will be published in due course.

— We have continued the series of circulars on the powers of extradition in various countries by publishing, since the last meeting of the General Assembly, information on eight countries: Ghana, the Netherlands, the Netherlands Antilles, Norway, Surinam, Pakistan, the United Arab Republic and Venezuela.

— Special studies have been made for, or special information supplied to, the follow-

ing countries: Argentina, Belgium, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Morocco, the Sudan, Sweden, Tunisia and Venezuela.

In this connection, I should like to repeat one of my last year's recommendations: applications for information of this kind should always be sent to the General Secretariat which may already have some or all of the details requested and which is generally in the best position to complete the information by suitable inquiries.

In addition to all these different and sometimes difficult tasks, there is also a large amount of library work. Between 1st September 1958 and 1st November 1959, the I.C.P.O. library received a further 107 volumes, making a total of 1,449 to which should be added the 856 monographs and papers on different subjects. Each month we have received 258 reviews from 52 countries. The four quarterly lists of selected articles have been published. Containing references to 2,362 articles on criminal law, criminology, police work, etc. Reviews have been printed in the *International Criminal Police Review* of 118 books. On request, we sent 578 microfilms of articles to 126 departments and specialists.

The *International Criminal Police Review*.

The *International Criminal Police Review* has appeared regularly, as you will know, in French, English and Spanish. Only the German edition was delayed. This resulted in some complaints, but our friends in Wiesbaden will be working with us to dissipate these passing difficulties.

On 1st November 1959 we had 917 subscribers to the French and English editions of the *Review*, as compared with 992 the previous year. This slight decrease is due to the fact that we had to get rid of those who failed to pay their subscriptions.

If the eulogistic and encouraging letters we receive are anything to go by, the *International Review* seems, on the whole, to contain interesting articles. Coloured illustrations are sometimes used.

We are counting on the good will of the Heads of the N.C.B. to send us good articles, written by specialists of various kinds. It should not be forgotten that the *International Criminal Police Review* is probably the most widely circulated police review because of its editions in several languages and it is worth mentioning that it contains no publicity whatsoever. It is therefore important that each of us should, in his own

way, make some contribution to this review, which is the finest link between the different police forces.

International and public relations.

As usual, the I.C.P.O.-Interpol was represented at all international conferences where problems liable to interest it were discussed.

We naturally attach particular importance to the work of the United Nations and, since the last Assembly meeting, our representatives have been present at the session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (April 1959), the Seminars on Human Rights in Buenos Aires (August 1959) and Ceylon (May 1959) and the Arabian seminary on the prevention of crime, in Copenhagen (October 1959).

We also attended the discussions of the Council of Europe on the prevention of crime and on a draft international convention concerning the suppression of road offences.

A representative of the General Secretariat was present at a conference of the International Civil Aviation Organization on the legal status of aircraft commanders at which our previous work on the legal powers of aircraft commanders was often used as a basis for discussion. In 1958 and 1959 we were represented at two meetings of the chiefs of airline security departments.

If this had been an ordinary session, we



Mr. Anwar (U.A.R.) on the right and Mr. Wiechmann (Chile) talking to a journalist.

should have suggested that an air police committee be formed, in conformity with the wishes of the Security Officers.

We were also represented at the General Assembly meetings of the International Air Transport Association in October 1958 and October 1959.

Finally, last January, we had a delegate at the conference organized in Rio by the Latin-American centre for protection against currency counterfeiting.

Generally, for reasons of economy, we are represented by the N.C.B. nearest to the place where the conference is held and to which we send the necessary instructions.

— In previous reports I have stressed that the press, the radio, television and the cinema attach great importance to the activities of our Organization. The public is very interested in Interpol.

Generally speaking, we are on good terms with the press. Most articles published on our Organization are correct, apart from the little distortions which have to be tolerated. Broadcasts on French stations which we do our best to control, are definitely successful. On the other hand, our relations with the cinema and television are far more difficult. The love of the sensational and a wish to over-dramatise often lead them to distort the truth to such an extent that we just cannot keep up with them. It will be remembered that after lengthy negotiations, we came to an agreement with an important British company which wished to make a series of television films on our organization and that after several weeks of work, the producers broke the terms of the agreement which they found too narrow from the point of view of adaptation. We therefore cancelled the facilities we had virtually given them and refused to accept any responsibility for this television program which may be presented to the public under the fascinating heading of "Interpol" or "The International Police".

As requested by the Assembly last year, we have been dealing with the legal defence of the name "Interpol", which is part of our official title. Our friend, Dr. Dosi, recently head of the Italian N.C.B., had copyrighted the name "Interpol" at the Washington Copyright Office, for use as the title of any detective story. Dr. Dosi has very kindly handed these rights over to us, so that we have now a legal weapon of some value for

limiting the improper use of the name "Interpol".

While we are on the subject, I should mention that we have protested to the "Organisation internationale de protection civile" which has existed for the last four years and whose initials are the same as ours in French, though not in English (I.C.D.O.). In future, to avoid any confusion, we shall always add "Interpol" to the initials "O.I.P.C." or "I.C.P.O."

Part 2 - Programma of work

Quite apart from the tasks which naturally fall upon us in connection with ordinary criminal cases, the work we have set ourselves to do in the immediate future is considerable, even when one only considers decisions taken previously. Some tasks have already been started on while others have not even been touched.

With regard to the work commenced and which we must finish, there are: 1) Monographs on the organization of the police forces of different countries which I have already mentioned; 2) A report on the restitution of seized articles; 3) Analyses of various police problems, such as clandestine laboratories for producing drugs; 4) The training film "Police and Children", which is only in the incubation stage; 5) The system of interdigital classification proposed by the Australian delegation; this is at present being examined by the N.C.B. and a report will be published for the General Assembly; 6) The Australian descriptive code, which is to be studied by the committee of experts established last year; 7) The crime statistics for 1957 and 1958 which will be published in several months' time; 8) The extradition powers of various countries; 9) The report for the United Nations on services specialising in juvenile delinquency.

With regard to the tasks decided upon but not yet begun, these are: the regional conference on drug traffic in South East Asia, to be held in several weeks' time in Pakistan; the protection of cars against theft; the use of television; the finding of missing persons and the help the press and radio might provide; and colour photography and cinematography in criminal investigation.

We should also add our intended participation in the international meetings of the United Nations and other organizations whenever this proves necessary or useful to the causes which it is our duty to defend.

In conclusion, I should mention three projects which have been approved in principle by the Executive Committee: a conference on the problems of currency counterfeiting, a conference of the heads of Interpol radio network stations (these two meetings are mentioned under point 10 of the agenda) and a seminar based on the previous one whose subject — of great topical value — would be road traffic and its connection with police investigations. This seminar could last two weeks, and be held some time between October 1960 and March 1961.

I think that with such a programme, which is wide, comprehensive and varied and with which our N.C.B.'s will be closely associated, Interpol will be able to maintain and consolidate its moral position and growing influence, both on the level of police action and on that of human ideals and professional doctrine.

The programme is extensive and perhaps rather too ambitious. Thus, conscious of the ever increasing responsibilities of the General Secretariat, which must work harder and take greater care than ever before, I am sure that you will have sufficient confidence to allow us to perform our tasks in the order and at the rate we feel to be best. Internal difficulties sometimes arise without your knowing it, the need for changes in priority at certain times explain delays, while unexpected events and unexpected accidents complicate matters. None of these things has prevented your General Secretariat from functioning normally in the spirit of international co-operation with which it is profoundly imbued. It has managed, and will manage in the future, under the control of the Executive Committee, to withstand all exclusive or disruptive forces and to help, in so far as it is able, to reduce crime and awaken consciences.

B) DISCUSSION ON THE PROGRESS REPORT

The President opened the discussion on the report and suggested that it be considered paragraph by paragraph.

Referring to Mr. Sicot's remarks on the relations between N.C.B.'s, Mr. Hacq (France) said that contacts between the bureaux were indeed frequent and generally effective. However, he took this opportunity of pointing out that some correspondents on Southern Europe and South America did not always answer requests sent to them, particularly when they concerned drug

traffic. The General Secretariat had already approached these countries, but without much success. He wondered whether the General Assembly could adopt a recommendation on this subject.

On the subject on international and public relations, the Secretary General reported that certain radio and television concerns sometimes broadcast programmes on Interpol's activities and that the General Secretariat often knew nothing about the programmes beforehand. He asked all delegates to inform the Secretariat if any such programmes were produced in their countries.

Mr. de Castroverde (Cuba) said that some of the radio and television programmes in Cuba has used the name "Interpol" on various occasions. After having informed the General Secretariat of the fact, he had inserted announcements in the newspapers stating that the I.C.P.O. had taken no part in the production of these programmes.

The progress report for 1958—1959 was adopted unanimously

During the discussion on the programme of activities, on the subject of the coming conference on drug traffic in South-East Asia, Mr. Ambrose (United States) asked whether countries from other parts of the world could send observers to the meeting.

Mr. Sicot reminded the Assembly of three facts. In the first place, the conference had been requested by the United Nations Organization and was to have been held just before the General Assembly session in Lahore. Secondly, Pakistan had decided, in full agreement with the General Secretariat, to invite representatives from the countries of South-East Asia to meet in Lahore from 18th to 23rd January 1960 in order to discuss drug problems in their own lands and, thirdly, the Secretariat had considered widening the range of participants but had thought it preferable to limit their number to representatives from the South-East Asian countries alone.

Mr. Nepote (Deputy Secretary General) explained that when people spoke of South-East Asia, they generally meant the area around Singapore. Because of where the conference was being held, it had been decided to include Pakistan in South-East Asia although this, in itself, made the distinction rather artificial. It was also felt that Japan, which was directly concerned with this problem, could also be invited and, from the

geographical point of view, this appeared to be the widest possible definition. It would be difficult to change the qualifications for participants since the invitations had already been sent out. In addition, it would probably be advisable to allow the representatives from this area to discuss their common problems among themselves.

Mr. Sicot (Secretary General) said that he agreed with the point of view which had been expressed by the Venezuelan delegate who had suggested that fairly limited regional conferences could give excellent results.

Mr. Ambrose (United States) stated that he wished to underline the interest his government felt in drug problems. He nevertheless quite understood the Secretariat's attitude.

Mr. Rivett-Carnac (Canada) pointed out that the situation in his country was very similar to that in the United States. However, in view of the reasons given by the Secretariat, he would not ask if Canada could send observers to the regional conference.

On a different subject, Mr. de Castroverde (Cuba) recalled that, during its session in London, the General Assembly had decided to consider a proposal submitted by the Cuban delegation on the *organizing of training courses for photography technicians*. English and French versions of the relevant documents would shortly be sent to the General Secretariat for circulation among members.

Mr. Sicot (Secretary General) could not promise that this plan would be studied during 1960 as the programme of activities was already fairly ambitious.

Mr. Hacq (France) had noticed that a seminar on "*road traffic and its connection*

with police investigations" was planned for the winter of 1960/1961. He suggested that the word "investigations" be changed to "interventions" since the seminar would deal with all aspects of road traffic. This alteration was accepted.

Mr. Singh (India) wished to draw the Assembly's attention to *the problem of the gold being smuggled into India* and the foreign currency being smuggled out of the country. The Assembly had already recognized the urgent nature of these problems and the need to try to solve them on the international level. The smuggling was undertaken by international gangs and the Assembly had decided that all affiliated countries should provide detailed information about the members of these gangs. This information would be collected by the General Secretariat and then sent to the countries concerned. He was sorry to have to say that the activities of these gangs had not decreased over the past year and he asked that this subject be included in the programme of activities for 1960.

Mr. Nepote (Deputy Secretary General) said that the Secretariat would continue to gather all the information, to publish the circulars giving summaries of the information obtained and, in particular cases, would give the Indian N.C.B. all the help it possibly could. He wondered, however, whether the matter could be included in the programme of work of the next Assembly.

Mr. Sicot (Secretary General) added that Mr. Franssen and he had insisted, at a recent meeting of airline security officers, that a stricter watch should be kept, especially on aircraft crews in connection with this matter.

The programme of activities for 1960 which had been submitted by the General Secretariat was adopted without any alterations.

TECHNICAL MATTERS

As was to be expected in view of the reasons for this extraordinary session and in view of the short time available for preparing it, there were not many technical subjects on the agenda. The few, but nevertheless extremely important, items of this type on the agenda were mainly dealt with during the meeting of the Heads of National Central Bureaux.

A) THE NEW PHRASE CODE

a) *During the talk given by Mr. Aubé, Section Head at the General Secretariat, who is the author of the code and the person mainly concerned with its use, the chair was taken by Mr. de Magius who also presided over the discussion which followed.*

Mr. Aubé emphasized the part that would

be played by this code in day-to-day police work.

The principles on which the new edition was based had been chosen as a result of fifteen years' experience, particularly bearing in mind the changes which had occurred since 1950, and also in view of the desires and comments expressed mainly during the 24th General Assembly session in 1955. There had been three aims: in the first place to enable the radio network to transmit a greater number of messages, more rapidly, without increasing its equipment; secondly to reduce the cost of messages which had to be forwarded and, thirdly, to ensure the secrecy of police communications.

The former code had been criticized as being both too limited and too easily decipherable. Both these criticisms had been borne in mind during the lengthy preparation of the new code which was intended to meet the maximum number of requirements.

The main principles on which it is based are the following:

1) The words, groups of words or whole sentences most commonly used are listed under headings which are given in alphabetical order and are expressed by a single *code-word*.

Coding a sentence therefore almost always implies a choice of simple, equivalent expressions from among those listed rather than a process of word-for-word translation. The code can, naturally, be translated into any other language as long as the groups of five letters (code-words) are not altered.

2) The present code comprises three sections: a French coding table, its English translation and a bilingual de-coding table. The French version contains over 200 pages, about 300 chapter-headings and nearly 4,000 code-words but since both the chapter-headings and the code-words are in strictly alphabetical order, the same pages can be used for either coding or de-coding. In the English version, however, the coding and de-coding tables are printed separately.

There is no connection between any code-word and its meaning and this fact should ensure a certain amount of secrecy. The lay-out was planned to enable people to find the words they want rapidly. All conventional phrases used merely for the sake of politeness have been omitted. Some of the longest chapters contain sub-titles and a great many of them end with references to other chapters.

Only seven letters of the alphabet have been used for the initial letters of the code-words; this would enable the code-words alone to be changed at a later date if this were made necessary for security reasons.

3) A few problems will undoubtedly arise in practice; the lack of any relationship between the code-words and their meanings would certainly slow down the process of coding or de-coding and would make a period of adaptation essential. It will, in any case, be impossible to use both codes simultaneously.

Mr. Aubé pointed out that with the present state of affairs, some telegrams did not contain any code-words while others contained only a few of the simpler ones and a similar minimum number of code-words would probably be generally used when the new code came into operation.

However much care was taken during the preliminary stages, any code was sure to be incomplete or unsatisfactory on some points. The Assembly was therefore asked to offer suggestions and criticisms.

b) *The discussions on the code.*

Mr. de Castroverde (Cuba) appreciated all the efforts made by the Secretariat to draw up a code which, in his opinion, called for no criticisms. He only wished to draw the attention of the Assembly to two points of detail. Firstly he insisted that messages should only be coded after careful checking, since a mistake in only one letter would alter the meaning of a text and would involve asking for explanations, thus considerably slowing down operations. Secondly, he felt that secrecy was of great importance where proper nouns were concerned and he suggested that the code should be completed by a cipher enabling proper nouns to be expressed by figures.

General Zentuti (Libya) also stressed the importance of secrecy as regards proper nouns.

Mr. Népote (Deputy Secretary General) said that this important question had not been overlooked by the Secretariat, but that progress had to be made by stages. In reply to Mr. Rivett-Carnac (Canada) who asked whether the code should be used for short, nonconfidential messages, Mr. Népote said that two factors should be considered when sending a message: whether secrecy was essential and the cost of transmission. For short and non-confidential messages, ordi-



One of the plenary sessions.

nary wording could be used but if the message were long, even if it were not secret, it should be coded in order to make it briefer.

Mr. Essid (Tunisia) wondered whether all countries could use expressions which were understood by all the N.C.B.'s; the Tunisian Bureau often received messages in Spanish which were difficult to translate.

Mr. Népote agreed that, in time, the new code might become a sort of international language. The Assembly had considered the language problem at great length and had decided to use English and French as working languages but an increasing number of messages in Spanish were being sent out over the network. Perhaps the central station should be asked not to re-transmit messages in Spanish until they had been translated by the Secretariat.

Mr. Trèves (Central transmitter station) said that this was a possible solution but it would cause further delays because of the different working hours throughout the world. It would therefore be preferable for countries using Spanish to write their messages in one of the working languages. Mr. Weichmann (Chile) agreed with Mr.

Trèves and added that messages in Spanish should not be accepted.

Colonel Mabratu (Ethiopia) also asked whether the telegraphic addresses of the N.C.B.'s could be included in the code.

Mr. Népote (Deputy Secretary General) first replied to the Chilean delegate by pointing out that if messages in Spanish were forbidden, this would cause difficulties for messages sent from one Spanish-speaking country to another via Paris. In reply to General Zentuti, he said that the cipher code for proper nouns would probably be completed during 1960. Finally, he reminded the delegate from Ethiopia that a list of the telegraphic addresses of all N.C.B.'s was circulated every year and that the Bureaus' telephone numbers would be added to this list. Since telegraphic addresses changed fairly frequently, it would be unwise to include them in the code.

Mr. de Castroverde (Cuba) said that he approved of the solution which had been suggested by the Deputy Secretary General. It would be impossible to abandon the Spanish language completely but the best idea would be for the different N.C.B.'s to come to an agreement on the use of this language.

All the delegates understood the difficulties that the Secretariat had had to overcome and the need to make a long-term experiment as regards the code. Mr. Dickopf (Germany) thought that it should not be used until three months after publication.

As no other delegates wished to speak, *the specimen of the code was approved* and the President declared the discussion closed.

B) MEETING OF HEADS OF INTERPOL RADIO STATIONS

Mr. Sicot (Secretary General) suggested that this conference be held in April 1960. He thought that it would be advisable to invite representatives from member countries which wished to form part of the radio network.

This suggestion was accepted.

Mr. de Castroverde (Cuba) said that he wished to consult the Secretariat about the conditions under which his country could join the network. Mr. Sicot replied that the Secretariat would be only too pleased to give him any information he required.

C) LINKS BETWEEN THE N.C.B.'S

Mr. Népote (Deputy Secretary General) mentioned that certain National Bureaus had a habit of sending the central station messages for transmission to countries which did not form part of the network.

Mr. Aubé (General Secretariat) reported that the Secretariat had recently received a message for "general Interpol circulation, except South America". The message was about an important case with repercussions in several countries which did not form part of the network. A few days later, the Secretariat received a message from the N.C.B. of one of these countries, asking why it had not received the message at the same time as the others. The reason was that the Secretariat had thought that the sender of the message would write to inform the countries which were not on the network.

Mr. Chesson (Liberia) asked what were the obstacles in the way of certain countries joining the Interpol radio network and Mr. Népote said that on an international level there were no problems, as an international station capable of meeting all requirements had been built. Unfortunately some countries did not have the necessary installations.

Mr. Lehmann (Switzerland) recalled that at the previous session the Assembly had

decided to have Interpol messages transmitted by the central station in Paris at certain times. This procedure had proved excellent. Unfortunately, some stations had not kept to the hours and stopped receiving before time.

He therefore took the liberty of making two suggestions:

1) The transmitting and receiving stations of the international police radio network should be automatic.

2) I.P.C.Q. telegrams should be sent out on special wavelengths — short or long — exclusively reserved for the central station. This would free the normal working frequencies.

Mr. Lehmann also pointed out that I.P.C.Q. telegrams about missing persons frequently contained 300 words or more. He wished to stress the fact that N.C.B.'s should send out short messages. He also felt that teleprinters should be more widely used.

Mr. Zentuti (Libya) stated that his country was considering forming part of the radio network and he wondered whether Interpol could send an expert to Libya in order to discuss the plans. Mr. Népote replied that the General Secretariat would be happy to give all the necessary technical information to Libya.

Mr. Trèves (Central radio station) pointed out that the radio network would, little by little, cover the whole world. In order to cut down on expenditure, it would be useful for groups of five or six countries to get together to install a powerful regional station, in direct communication with Paris, which could be used by five or six of them. This question could be considered by the countries and the General Secretariat.

Referring to the speech made by the Swiss delegate, he entirely approved of the request that all stations keep to the stated time-table. The ideal situation would be for all stations to function during both day and night as did those in Paris, Wiesbaden and Rome.

With regard to new frequencies, he said that the Secretariat had planned, from the beginning of the year, to ask for two more frequencies. To this end, enquiries had been made in the various member countries and all but two of them had sent favourable replies.

In another connection, he agreed that lengthy telegrams took up too much time

on the network; this was why the phrase code would be valuable. He was also in favour of further automation but some countries were unfortunately not in a position to achieve this at once. The idea of transmitting on long-wave from the central station was most interesting but this would result in a great deal of expenditure for the General Secretariat and the same result could be obtained at a smaller cost by using the new frequencies on short-wave.

Mr. Hacq (France) pointed out that N.C.B.'s should always mention the full identity of wanted persons and the exact nature of their offences. Mr. Franssen (Belgium) gave his full support to the remark made by the French delegate. He also reminded the meeting that all N.C.B.'s should try to reply as rapidly as possible to any messages they received and added that it was also essential to ensure that telegraphic confirmation of warrants of arrest arrived within twenty-four hours of the criminal's arrest.

Mr. Népote laid great stress on the need to give reasons for requests for circulations. This he considered to be a most important point, not only where requests from one N.C.B. to another were concerned, but also in the case of general "wanted" notices. Requests for an international search for a person who had committed theft or murder often reached the Secretariat in the form of ordinary letters, even though there was a special form which, when properly filled in, enabled the Secretariat to draw up an exact and detailed notice. Frequently, the Secretariat found itself unable to answer enquiries about the exact nature of the offence with which a person was charged.

Mr. Lamarre (Haiti) agreed that countries often asked for a person's arrest or extradition without giving the necessary details. However, extradition legislation often provided for the release of a person within three months if his guilt could not be proved and this meant that the police of the country in which the person had been arrested were placed in an embarrassing position.

Mr. Jackson (United Kingdom) entirely agreed with the opinions expressed by the Belgian delegate. Laws did indeed differ from country to country. In Great Britain, these laws were extremely severe and were scrupulously applied. A police officer could be prosecuted if he arrested anyone unlawfully. It was therefore useless to ask for the



The delegates from Ghana (left) and the United Kingdom (right).

extradition of anyone from the United Kingdom if sufficient information did not accompany the request.

Mr. Hacq (France) also asked that the date of the offence be given whenever telegrams about wanted persons were sent out. This was most important because time limits for prosecution were based on that date.

The chairman brought up the subject of the circulation of notices about missing persons.

Mr. Bel Gnaoui (Morocco) pointed out that young people were often attracted by Tangiers and often passed through this city on their way into Africa. Young girls had sometimes been taken there, either of their own free will or against it. It would be useful to inform Interpol of this at once so that they could be stopped before they had gone far and before people had lost track of them.

Mr. Essid (Tunisia) once again brought up the question of requests from European countries about young boys who had gone to Africa or girls who had been taken there. He wondered whether these cases could be dealt with for the sake of the families. He hoped that the General Secretariat would give advice on how to deal with such cases.

Mr. Pastor de Oliveira (Brazil) felt that a general line of conduct could not always be applied to individual cases. Police officers should use their police techniques but should not be bound by them. They should consider the human side of any cases submitted to them by Interpol.

Mr. Népote (Deputy Secretary General) felt that police forces could exercise their own judgment about the measures requested on notices sent out about criminals. When Interpol asked for a person to be watched, there was no need to arrest him. Interpol notices should be used but not abused.

Mr. Dickopf (Germany) said that, in practice, when an Interpol circulation arrived, the best thing to do was to circulate the information throughout the country. It would not be a bad thing for wanted people to realize that they were being watched by the police.

Mr. Fontana (Italy) agreed, as did Mr. Wiechmann (Chile) who also said that as far as his own country was concerned, anyone accused of committing a crime abroad was forbidden to enter Chile.

Mr. Zentuti (Libya) reported that he received descriptive circulations of different types. He wondered if a list of them could be made.

On a different subject Mr. Walterskirchen (Austria) stated that the descriptions of dead bodies were often incomplete and that, consequently, it was often difficult to identify them and even impossible to compare the details given with those in the files. In addition, it might be useful to change the existing practice and to cancel wanted notices as soon as a person had been arrested, rather than waiting for his extradition.

Mr. Fontana (Italy) said that this was a most important suggestion and should be considered.

Mr. Népote (Deputy Secretary General) pointed out that, in giving descriptions of dead bodies, the Secretariat could only pass on the information it had been given. Where cancellations of wanted notices were concerned, there were, indeed, two possible procedures. This problem could be discussed during the next General Assembly session.

D) CURRENCY COUNTERFEITING IVth Conference

Article 15 of the international convention on currency counterfeiting recommended that conferences should be held from time to time at which representatives of the issuing bodies and central authorities concerned would be present. The last one had been held in 1950 in The Hague and now, after ten years, it seemed that the time had come to convene a fourth conference.

The main aims of this meeting would be to

examine the legal bases of the drive against currency counterfeiting, to study counterfeiters' methods, to try to improve methods of prevention and suppression and to develop international co-operation.

Participants would include representatives of the central offices of the High Contracting Parties to the convention, representatives of the issuing banks and central authorities concerned and, as observers, representatives of certain important international concerns issuing travellers' cheques and representatives of some firms of international reputation who made the materials used by the great majority of issuing authorities.

It would, in fact, be preferable for the place and date of this meeting to be chosen only when a decision had been taken about the next General Assembly session.

Mr. de Castroverde (Cuba) reminded delegates that, during the 1954 session, his delegation had submitted a motion about the need for stricter controls where counterfeit travellers' cheques were concerned and had asked that banks send to the N.C.B.'s all information which could help them in their task.

He therefore emphasized the fact that representatives from banks should be encouraged to attend the conference.

Mr. Singh (India) said that this was a particularly serious problem in his country where currency counterfeiting had reached alarming proportions during the past few years. He felt that it was essential to discuss the problem thoroughly, as soon as possible, and recommended that the conference be held in 1960.

Mr. Nuamah (Ghana) said that this problem was becoming extremely serious in his own new country which had a new currency.

Mr. Jackson (United Kingdom) supported the suggestion about inviting the main firms which manufactured the materials used by issuing bodies to send observers.

Mr. Hacq (France) suggested that France submit a very detailed report to the conference since this problem had been dealt with every day in his country over a long period.

Mr. Sicot (Secretary General) said that he entirely agreed with all the remarks which had been made by delegates about the importance and urgency of this problem.

He himself felt that the General Secretariat could be trusted to settle the date and place of the meeting and the people who should

be invited, although any decisions would naturally be taken only after discussion with the heads of N.C.B.'s.

Mr. de Castroverde (Cuba) pointed out however that if the currency counterfeiting conference did not coincide with the General Assembly, representatives would have to be sent to two different conferences and this would place a heavy financial burden on the countries concerned.

Mr. Sicot (Secretary General) said that the Secretariat would try to bear this in mind when a decision had been taken regarding the meeting-place for the following General Assembly session.

In reply to Mr. Rivett—Carnac (Canada) who asked whether all countries should send representatives from their banks or issuing bodies, the Secretary General felt that this question should be given careful thought and that, once more, it would be up to the N.C.B.'s to exercise their judgment by making a wise selection. He added that the Secretariat had been thinking more of representatives from issuing bodies than of those from banks.

E) ADVISERS

Article 34 of the Organization's constitution states that on scientific matters, the Organization may consult "Advisers".

Article 36 of the Constitution lays down that "Advisers" shall be appointed for three years by the Executive Committee and that their appointment only becomes definite after notification by the General Assembly.

In 1958 and during its last meeting, the Executive Committee selected ten persons for designation as "Advisers". The ten candidates submitted to the General Assembly were as follows:

1. *Mr. Marc Bischoff*, born 1893, Swiss.
Director of the Lausanne Police Science Institute. Has undertaken many missions for foreign governments. One of the pioneers of police science.
2. *Mr. P. F. Ceccaldi*, born in 1917, French.
Doctor of medicine and pharmacology. Agrégé of the University (forensic medicine) and professor at the Paris Institute of Criminology. Director of the laboratory of the Préfecture de Police in Paris. The author of a number of scientific works (micro-analysis and biology).

3. *Mr. Jacques Cogniard*, born in 1903, French.
Chemist, at one time lecturer at the Conservatoire des Arts et Métiers, Paris. Head of the Laboratory of the Bank of France. A member of a number of scientific societies. Legal expert on questions of counterfeit paper currency.
4. *Mr. Paul Cornil*, aged 56, Belgian.
President of the International Criminal Law Association, Secretary General of the Belgian Ministry of Justice. Professor of law at the University of Brussels. Member of the United Nations' group of experts for the prevention of crime and the treatment of delinquents. Mr. Cornil has a world-wide reputation in the field of criminal law and penitentiary science.
5. *Mr. Wiebo Froentjes*, born in 1909, Dutch.
Doctor of chemistry. Director of the State Police Laboratory in The Hague and Professor at the University of Leyden. Highly qualified in general chemistry.
6. *Mr. Roland Grassberger*, born in 1905, Austrian.
Professor of criminology at the University of Vienna. Head of the Vienna Institute of Criminology. Author of a number of books. Has an international reputation.
7. *Mr. N. K. Iyengar*, born in 1911, Indian.
Doctor of Science and doctor of philosophy. Author of forty scientific publications, mainly concerning bio-chemistry. For the last three years has been director of the Calcutta Police Laboratory and head of the division of bio-chemistry in the Indian Central Drugs Laboratory. Member of the Indian Academy of Science. Has worked in laboratories in Toronto, New Brunswick and Washington.
8. *Mr. Christfried Leszczinski*, born in 1915, German.
Doctor of chemistry. Head of the chemistry and physics section of the Wiesbaden police laboratory. The author of a number of books on the fluoroscopic examination of stains and the origin of fires.

9. *Mr. Marrocco*, born in 1911, Italian. Doctor of law and doctor of chemistry. Quaestor of the Italian police and director of the Higher Institute of Police Science, Rome. Specialist in the examination of forgeries, also in ballistics and photography. Between 1935 and 1949 was in charge of important departments concerned in criminal investigation.

10. *Mr. Niyomsen*, Song Grant, Thai. Doctor of Medicine of the University of Hamburg. Bachelor of Law. Professor of Forensic Medicine at the University of Bangkok. Medical expert. Official expert of the Ministry of Justice. Member of the Grand Medical Council of the Thai Ministry of Health. Editor of the "Journal of the Medical Association of Thailand". Has practiced his speciality in Germany (Hamburg and Berlin) and done research work in Harvard University (Boston). Professor of forensic medicine at the Faculty of Medicine and in the police schools of Bangkok. Member of the Forensic

Medicine Society of England and contributor to the "Annals of International Medical Law". The author of two books on forensic medicine.

Mr. Sicot (Secretary General) recalled that this list was not necessarily complete, since the Constitution and the General Regulations did not limit the number of advisers, though, for practical reasons, they would have to be limited.

Mr. de Castroverde (Cuba) said that, as a highly experienced expert on legal odontology, he would have liked to become an adviser; his candidacy was supported by Mr. Plaza Marquez who considered that the American continent should be represented. Although he did not think that the duties of an adviser were incompatible with those of the head of a N.C.B., Mr. Sicot nevertheless said that this name had been put forward too late to be considered by the Executive Committee. There was naturally no reason why it could not be considered at some later date.

The Assembly confirmed the appointment of the ten advisers selected by the Executive Committee.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

A) APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

His Excellency, the Chargé d'Affaires of El Salvador in Paris, stated on behalf of his government that El Salvador greatly desired to become a member of an Organization which did so much to preserve individual freedom throughout the world.

Mr. Plaza Marquez (Venezuela) supported El Salvador's application all the more warmly because the long-standing friendship between the two countries had recently become even closer.

Mr. de Castroverde (Cuba) also supported the application and pointed out that only six South American countries — Bolivia, Ecuador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Paraguay and Peru — were not members of the Organization.

The Assembly voted on the application by secret ballot.

The Republic of El Salvador was elected a member of the I.C.P.O.-Interpol unanimously. Forty-four votes were cast.

B) FINANCIAL MATTERS

Report on the 1958 financial year: Mr. Benhamou (Auditor) stated that the three auditors designated at the previous General Assembly session had examined the Organization's accounts for 1958. They had no particular remarks to make, either on the bookkeeping or on the use of the Organization's funds.

Nor were there any comments on the 1960 Budget which was approved without a discussion.

C) ELECTIONS

1) Preliminary explanations

Mr. Sicot (Secretary General) reminded the General Assembly that elections would be held for the following offices:

— ONE Vice-President to succeed Mr. L. H. Nicholson (Canada) and to be in office for three years. In accordance with the verbal agreements made in 1956, can-

didates should be from one of the countries on the American continent.

- ONE Vice-President to succeed Mr. F. Chehab (Lebanon) who had resigned from his position after having been appointed to another post. This Vice-President would be in office for one year and should come from one of the countries in Africa or Asia.
- ONE member of the Executive Committee to replace Mr. Franssen (Belgium) and to be in office for three years. According to the 1956 agreements, candidates should come from one of the European countries.
- ONE other member of the Executive Committee to succeed Mr. M. Jumsai (Thailand) and to be in office for three years. This member should again come from one of the African or Asian countries.

The President asked the Assembly to appoint three heads of delegations to form an Election Committee.

Mr. ZENTUTI (Libya), Mr. GONZALEZ SERRANO (Spain) and Mr. DE SILVA (Ceylon) were selected to form the Election Committee.

Mr. Sicot (Secretary General) asked the delegates to propose candidates for the positions to be filled, either directly or indirectly.

He recalled that the candidates themselves were required to give their formal consent before being proposed.

Moreover, all candidates should be present at the election unless they were very well-known delegates and had found it impossible to attend.

2) Voting

a) VICE-PRESIDENTS

Election of one Vice-President for a year: The Chairman of the Election Committee announced that Belgium, Ethiopia, Italy, Liberia and the United Kingdom proposed General Zentuti (Libya) as a candidate.

General ZENTUTI (Libya) was elected Vice-President for a year by secret ballot by 43 votes in favour to none against and two abstentions.

Election of a Vice-President for three years: Brazil proposed Mr. de Castroverde (Cuba), the United States proposed Mr. Rivett—Carnac (Canada) and Ceylon proposed Mr. Weichmann (Chile).



Mr. Rivett—Carnac (Canada), Vice-President.

Mr. RIVETT-CARNAC (Canada) obtained 23 votes in the secret ballot while Mr. de Castroverde (Cuba) obtained 12 and Mr. Weichmann (Chile) 10.

General Zentuti (Libya) and Mr. Rivett—Carnac (Canada) thanked the Assembly for this expression of confidence and said that they would perform their tasks to the best of their abilities.

Mr. Népote (Deputy Secretary General) pointed out that since General Zentuti had been elected Vice-President, there would be, in addition to the two Executive Committee members already mentioned, a third member to be elected for three years.

b) EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS: General Zentuti announced that two candidates had been proposed to succeed Mr. Franssen in a seat which should be filled by a delegate from a European country.

Sweden, Ethiopia and the United States had proposed Mr. Heidejoergensen (Denmark) while Belgium and Spain had proposed Mr. Dickopf (Germany).

Mr. DICKOPF (Germany) was elected to the



From left to right: Mr. Essid (Tunisia), Mr. Franssen (Belgium) and Mr. Dickopf (Germany).

Executive Committee by 28 votes out of 45 after a secret ballot.

There were four candidates for the second seat which was reserved for a delegate from either Africa or Asia.

Ethiopia, Austria and Ghana proposed Mr. Chesson (Liberia), Morocco proposed Mr. Bel Gnaoui (Morocco) and Colonel El Sabaei (United Arab Republic) while the United Kingdom and Haiti proposed Mr. Essid (Tunisia).

Mr. CHESSON (Liberia) was elected to the Executive Committee for three years by 17 votes out of 44, after a secret ballot.

There were once again four candidates for the third position on the Committee, also reserved for a delegate from either Africa or Asia.

Brazil, Germany and Morocco proposed Mr. Bel Gnaoui (Morocco), Haiti and the United Kingdom proposed Mr. Essid (Tunisia), France proposed Mr. Nahmias (Israel) and Morocco proposed Colonel El Sabaei (United Arab Republic).

Mr. ESSID (Tunisia) was elected by 16 votes out of 42 (3 abstentions) after a secret ballot.

Mr. Essid thanked the Assembly for the honour done to his country. He assured the delegates that he would work hard for the

I.C.P.O.-Interpol of which Tunisia had been a member for several years.

Mr. Népote (Deputy Secretary General) recalled that the Executive Committee comprised the following delegates:

- President: Mr. A. Lourenço (Portugal)
- Vice-Presidents: General Zentuti (Libya); Mr. Rivett-Carnac (Canada)
- Delegates: Mr. Amoroso Netto (Brazil); Mr. Chesson (Liberia); Mr. Dickopf (Germany); Mr. Essid (Tunisia); Mr. Fontana (Italy); Mr. Jackson (United Kingdom)

D) At the beginning of the session, Mr. de Castroverde had suggested that miscellaneous matters be discussed at the end of the agenda.

1) In this connection, Mr. Wiechmann (Chile) recalled that, at their meeting, the heads of the N.C.B.'s had examined the question of languages used for radio and telegraphic communication.

Personally, he felt that if Spanish was not considered as a working language, only French and English should be used. He understood that Spanish had not been



Mr. Nuamah (Ghana) and Mr. Chesson (Liberia).

chosen as a working language simply for reasons of a financial nature and that it was the Spanish government which had agreed to meet the expenses of certain Spanish translations. He said that his government was disposed to share in the cost of the adoption of Spanish as an official working language of the Organization. He asked the Assembly to signify whether it agreed to this.

Mr. Espailat de la Mota (Dominican Republic) supported the Chilean delegate and said that his government was also ready to share in the expenses involved in the translation of documents into Spanish.

Mr. Népote (Deputy Secretary General) said that Spanish had become a working language during sessions of the Assembly and that the costs involved were met by the budget of the Organization. In addition, correspondence with the Secretariat by Spanish speaking countries was done in Spanish. There were only the documents published by the Secretariat (circulations, etc.) which were not translated into this language. It would be difficult for the Secretariat to accede to the request which had just been made, first of all, for financial reasons, and secondly because it would entail practical difficulties. Circulations were printed on pieces of paper of small size, French on one side and English on the other. The Spanish version would have to be printed on another sheet. Moreover, the Secretariat did not have the staff that would be needed to translate all documents into this language. It was impossible to state now just what expenses would be involved by the adoption of Spanish as an official language, but the Secretariat could go into the matter after the end of this session.

Mr. Gonzales—Serrano (Spain) said that twenty countries used Spanish for circulations, and he did not feel that the difficulties mentioned by the Secretariat were insurmountable.

Mr. Népote (Deputy Secretary General) insisted that at present the Secretariat could not deal with the difficulties involved by the publication of documents in Spanish.

2) Mr. Lamarre (Haiti) asked whether the Organization could help any member countries which wished to improve their knowledge of technical police work. The Secretariat could perhaps ask member countries what kind of assistance they wished to have, it being understood that this assistance

would be paid for by themselves, and see to what extent it could satisfy them by applying to other countries which had technicians of the type required.

Mr. Népote replied that the Secretariat would try to help in this matter by consulting the N.C.B.'s.

E) CHOICE OF A MEETING-PLACE FOR THE 29th SESSION

The President asked the delegates who wished to extend invitations to speak. He reminded the Assembly that all invitations had to be accompanied by a solemn promise that no affiliated country would be excluded.

On behalf of his government, Mr. Ambrose (United States) invited the Assembly to meet in Washington during the week beginning on 10th October 1960. He made it clear that this invitation was extended to all countries affiliated to the Organization, without any exceptions, and said that the date he had mentioned seemed suitable, not only because of the climate in Washington during that period but also because the International Association of Chiefs of Police were to meet in the same city during the previous week and some of the I.C.P.O. delegates might find it interesting to attend their conference.

Applause.

Mr. de Castroverde (Cuba), on behalf of his government, invited the Assembly to



From left to right: Mr. Pozo Gonzales (Spain), Mr. Soeroso (Indonesia), Mr. Von Sydow (Sweden) and Mr. Valenzuela (interpreter).



The United States delegation.

meet in Cuba early in November. He also said that his invitation was extended to all member countries. He added that the Cuban government wished to invite the General Secretariat and the members of the Executive Committee at its own expense and that if the invitation were accepted, his government would also be ready to pay the living expenses of all the delegations which come to Cuba.

Applause.

Mr. Boas (Denmark) said that his government had hoped to be able to welcome the Assembly to Copenhagen this year and had asked him to renew Denmark's invitation for 1960. However, since it was apparent that the Organization wished to hold an Assembly session outside Europe as soon as possible, he would step aside once more although he wished to state that the invitation would remain valid for the following year.

Mr. Sicot (Secretary General) said that, thanks to the disinterested attitude adopted by Denmark, the Assembly had to choose between only two invitations, those extended by the United States and by the Republic of Cuba.

The Assembly voted on the invitation from the United States. It was adopted by 32 votes out of 45.

Applause.

Mr. Ambrose (United States) thanked the Danish delegation for its kindness in withdrawing and thanked the Assembly for having accepted his government's invitation.

Mr. de Castroverde (Cuba) congratulated the United States delegation on its success and said that the Government of Cuba would do all in its power to facilitate matters for any delegates who wished to visit Cuba either before or after the session in Washington.

As all the items on the agenda had been dealt with, the President thanked the French authorities for their kind welcome and for the facilities they had granted to the Assembly.

He also thanked the Secretary General, the Deputy Secretary General and their collaborators for the work they had done and for their devotion to duty, thanks to which the clouds that had threatened this session of the Assembly had been swiftly dispersed, making it possible for useful work to be accomplished.

He expressed his gratitude to Mr. Franssen (Belgium) for the help he had given during his three years on the Executive Committee, congratulated the new members of the Committee on their election and declared the General Assembly session closed.

LIST OF DELEGATES

AUSTRIA

Dr. WALTERSKIRCHEN, Head of the N.C.B., Councillor, Ministry of the Interior, Vienna.

BELGIUM

Mr. Firmin FRANSSEN, Commissaire général aux Délégations judiciaires, Brussels.

BRAZIL

Mr. J. PASTOR DE OLIVEIRA, Federal Police, Rio de Janeiro.

Mr. Luis NORONHA, id.

BURMA

Mr. J. E. SHIRCORE, Deputy Inspector General of Police, Railways and C.I.D., Rangoon.

CANADA

Mr. Charles E. RIVETT-CARNAC, Commissioner, R.C.M.P., Ottawa.

CEYLON

Mr. L. DE SILVA, Superintendent, Colombo.

Mr. W. E. C. JEBANASAM, id.

CHILE

Mr. Patrick WIECHMANN, Prefect, Head of the N.C.B., Santiago.

COLOMBIA

Colonel Saulo RAMIREZ, Head of the Police force of Colombia, Bogotá.

CUBA

Dr. Jorge A. de CASTROVERDE, Permanent Interpol representative in Havana.

Dr. José CORRALES, Barrister, Lieutenant of the Policía Nacional Revolucionaria, Havana.

Commandante Raúl DIAZ ARGUELLES, Director Departamento de Investigaciones, Havana.

DENMARK

Mr. Vilhelm BOAS, Secretary of State, Ministry of Justice, Copenhagen.

Mr. Erling HEIDE-JOERGENSEN, Director General of the Danish Police, Copenhagen.

Mr. F. C. V. DE MAGIUS, Chief of the Danish C.I.D., Copenhagen.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

His Excellency Rafael ESPAILLAT de la MOTA, Ambassador to France.

EL SALVADOR

His Excellency the Chargé d'Affaires in Paris.

ETHIOPIA

Colonel Fissaha MABRATU, Addis Abbeba.
Major Amare SHIFERAW, id.

FINLAND

Mr. Fjalar JARVA, Commander in Chief of Police Forces in Finland, Helsinki.

Mr. Kosti VASA, Head of the N.C.B., Helsinki.

FRANCE

Mr. Jean VERDIER, Director General of the Sûreté Nationale, Paris.

Mr. M. HACQ, Director of the Police judiciaire Sûreté Nationale, Head of the N.C.B., Paris.

Mr. R. PERRIER-ROBERT, Director Services de Sécurité Publique, Sûreté Nationale, Paris.

Mr. R. FAUGERE, Sous-Préfet, Head of the Cabinet du préfet de Police, Paris.

Mr. Max FERNET, Director of the Police judiciaire, Préfecture de Police, Paris.

Professor CECCALDI, Head of the Identité Judiciaire Department. Paris.

Mr. Jacques TREVES, Head of the Service des Transmissions, Ministry of the Interior, Paris.

Mr. R. CAMATTE, Commissaire pal, Direction des services de Police Judiciaire, Sûreté Nationale, Paris.

Mr. E. BENHAMOU, Commissaire pal, Office Central pour la répression du faux-monnayage, id, Paris.

Mr. A. GERTHOFFERT, off. pol. pal, International Relations Office, id, Paris.

GERMANY

Mr. R. DULLIEN, President of the Bundeskriminalamt, Wiesbaden.

Mr. Paul DICKOPF, Regierungs- und Kriminaldirektor, Wiesbaden.

GHANA

Mr. H. A. NUAMAH, Acting Assistant Commissioner of Police, C.I.D., Accra.

HAITI

Captain Joseph M. LAMARRE, Police Department, Port-au-Prince.

INDIA

Mr. Sardar GURDIAL SINGH, Joint Director, Intelligence Bureau, New Delhi.

INDONESIA

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Mr. Walter PELOSI, General Directorate of police, Ministry of the Interior, Rome.

Mr. FONTANA, Vice-Questor, Hd N.C.B., Rome.

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Mr. Motoo SHISHIDO, Chief Superintendent, Legal and Planning Administrator, Tokyo.

Mr. Noriaki TAMURA, Chief Superintendent, Yokohama.

Mr. YAMAMOTO, Japanese Embassy, Paris.

LAOS

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Mr. Ch. DROUOT, Inspecteur Sûreté Nationale, Direction générale de la police, Vientiane.

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Dr. Walter FRUH, Police Commandant, Zurich.

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