



# GENERAL ASSEMBLY

*18th to 25th October 1983*

*52nd Session*

—  
**CANNES** (France)



CANNES: The Croisette

(Photo: Traverso, Cannes).



The Hotel Martinez where the General Assembly was held.

### **Official Opening Ceremony**

The 52nd session of the ICPO-Interpol General Assembly was held from 18th to 25th October 1983 in Cannes in the Organization's headquarters country. The meetings were held in the Hotel Martinez and were chaired by Mr. Jolly R. BUGARIN, President of the Organization.

The Opening Ceremony was attended by Mr. FRANCESCHI, Secretary of State for Public Security in France, and by Mr. TROUILLET, Deputy Mayor of Cannes, who welcomed the Organization to the city on

behalf of the Mayor, Mrs. Anne-Marie DUPUY. In his speech Mr. TROUILLET stressed the alarming increase in crime in recent years, referring in particular to certain types of violent crime which were affecting a growing number of countries. He hoped that those countries would devote adequate resources to combating that serious threat to society, adding that crime prevention was of vital importance, especially in urban areas. He then gave some information about policing the city of Cannes and, finally, he

wished the Assembly every success in its work.

Mr. BUGARIN then made the following speech:

"Welcome, fellow Delegates:

Welcome to the 52nd General Assembly session of Interpol.

Before anything else, let me convey on behalf of the Executive Committee Members and of all the Delegates here present, our thanks and appreciation to the officials of Cannes, of this

beautiful convention and resort city, for their important participation as host city of this year's Conference.

For all their efforts in providing us with an ideal conference atmosphere, we assure them, in return, of a fruitful and successful Assembly.

My friends, it has always been a great moment in my life addressing this international body of the cream of law enforcement, this dynamic group of select men from different countries of like or diverse persuasions, bound by a common objective and acting as one in this troubled and highly interdependent world that we live in.

For a week or so, we are convened in fulfilment of an annual commitment as active members of the ICPO-Interpol.

We are here gathered to represent mankind, and not just the welfare of this or that country, of this or that race, creed or ideology, but the aggregate well-being of humanity as a whole. As we work, we shall have at heart the countless, nameless victims and would-be victims of criminality

everywhere in the world. For it is the paradox of our times that while the winged feet of technology have brought us prosperity, comfort and convenience, they have at the same time given us distress, misery and uncertainty. Society reels under the wretchedness of crime alone. And so we exist to share our resources and other co-operative efforts in order to effectively combat criminality and ease somehow the confused condition of man.

At this meeting, we shall chart and update our course of action in the light of present-day requirements, and in so doing shall be guided by a critical review of our previous performances, hoping as we face the increasing perplexities of modern age, to prove ourselves stronger than the forces that we, in concert, oppose.

The task to pursue an undertaking that is designed to ease and alleviate the human condition from the evils of crime, and make life worth living, deserves and requires the best of us. This alone, and the abiding hopes of our peoples, summon

us to respond collectively against the enemies of peace and order with no less than renewed competency, efficiency and effectiveness. It is in this spirit that it is hoped we shall meet the responsibilities that we face. I wish to recall with gratification the successful re-negotiation of the Headquarters Agreement in the recent past. A number of factors, including developments within the Organization, problems pertaining to the data protection legislation in relation to Interpol records, and civil suits to which the Organization and its officials have been subjected, have brought about the need to obtain a new Headquarters Agreement.

While unavoidable circumstances prevented me from being with you in Torremolinos, Spain, during last year's Conference, I wish to acknowledge your wise assent and approval, in that Conference, of the drafts of the instruments which are the basis for the new Headquarters Agreement and accompanying Exchange of Letters, later signed upon your authority by your President, for and on behalf of the ICPO-Interpol. The new Agreement is now in the French Parliament awaiting ratification.

I wish to thank and commend the presiding officer of last year's Conference under whose able leadership this was undertaken – and I refer to former Vice-President Robert A. SIMMONDS. And of course I wish to acknowledge the important participation in the undertaking of the Secretary General, Mr. André BOSSARD, and other members of the Executive Committee.

Likewise, let it be made of record that the ICPO-Interpol acknowledges and deeply appreciates the co-operative



Mr. Bugarin, President of the ICPO-Interpol, welcoming Mr. Franceschi, French Secretary of State for Public Security, on the steps of the Hotel Martinez.



The platform at the Opening Ceremony during the speech given by Mr. Franceschi, French Secretary of State for Public Security.

attitude of the French Government in all of these undertakings, important among which is the grant to Interpol, its officials and officers of such privileges and immunities on French territory as are substantially enjoyed by other important international organizations. The Secretary General of the United Nations, in a letter dated 14th December 1982, confirmed that his Organization considered the ICPO-Interpol as an inter-governmental organization, thus fully recognizing the legal status of the ICPO-Interpol.

Fellow Delegates, we are here to accomplish another assignment that would consider the necessity of today. The ICPO-Interpol's Constitution came into force on 13th June 1956, binding fifty-seven member countries. Twenty-seven years and seventy-seven more members later, today, the same Constitution is still in force.

It may well be timely and appropriate for us now to examine this Constitution and determine from the point of view of 134 member countries, against the backdrop of the present world situation, what proposals or changes might be alid for an updated and ade-

quate organic law. The participation of every Delegation in this project is hereby enjoined to ensure its success.

For an initial step, it would be in good advice that we should first amend our rules on amendments. Whereas the Constitution requires the vote of two-thirds of all Interpol members to amend a provision in the Constitution, it is hereby proposed that instead, a majority of two-thirds of all members present and voting should suffice to effect an amendment, provided that it does not pertain to an alteration of a fundamental principle in our organic law. In this manner, we shall not be hampered by absences, and this certainly shall make us more dynamic.

Gentlemen, we ought to keep pace with time as it moves on unsparingly. Not only should we continue with the usual prompt attention that we give to requests from counterparts, but let us keep our vigilance more alive, and our enthusiasm in the task burning. We cannot just drift from year to year and glide by the tide of events. Rather, hand-in-hand, let us lay siege against criminality in all its forms with all the means at our command. This

much we owe to the Organization, to the respective countries and peoples we here represent, nay, to the entire human race.

Thank you and good day ”.

Mr. FRANCESCHI, French Secretary of State for Public Security then gave the following speech:

“ I should like to thank you, Mr. President for inviting me to open the 52nd Interpol General Assembly session and for your kind words about me and about the French Government.

I am pleased that this year again – as has been the case several times in the past – the International Criminal Police Organization has decided to hold its General Assembly session in France, its Headquarters country.

I am very conscious of the honour of being present at the opening ceremony of this session, and I am pleased – both personally and on behalf of the French Government – to welcome you to Cannes. I sincerely hope that your very important word will be crowned with success.

Sixty years ago, in September 1923, after the Vienna Congress, which was attended by the heads of the police of seven countries, it was decided to set up the International Criminal Commission. A lot of ground has been covered since then: delegates from 134 member States are present here today.

Enormous progress has also been made in the area of cooperation and investigation, as your Secretary General pointed out recently.

Without this development towards greater universality and the use of modern techniques and methods, the International Criminal Police Organization would merely have been an empty phrase expressing a pious hope in the face of the



View of the conference hall where the plenary sessions were held.

vast array of resources available to criminals nowadays.

It has to be noted that today's criminal has enormous possibilities for putting considerable distance between himself, his victim and the authorities that are looking for him, in a very short space of time.

The modern world gives him facilities, and he takes full advantages of them. It also encourages the appearance of new types of crime, each constituting a challenge to police forces throughout the world.

States must respond energetically to such attacks against society, for they jeopardize the efforts being made to attain greater social justice and to develop liberties, and represent a danger to law and order as a whole.

Faced with the growing internationalization of crime – which has been so clearly highlighted by the various studies carried out by Interpol – it is becoming more and more necessary to unite our efforts

both with regard to crime prevention and law enforcement.

Exemplary work is being done by your Organization to promote efficient co-operation, while fully respecting States' national sovereignty. The results achieved every day show the extent of the task undertaken and incite us to give it our wholehearted support.

The number and diversity of the delegates and observers gathered here today prove – if proof were needed – how much interest countries take in your work.

Since 1946 France has had the honour of being Interpol's headquarters country and has always done everything in its power, to facilitate the work of the Organization. It is resolutely determined to continue to do so within the limits of its possibilities.

It is in this spirit that – as you pointed out, Mr. President – a new Headquarters Agreement was signed on 3rd November 1982 between the International Criminal Police Organization and

the French Government. This Agreement grants the Organization the privileges and immunities generally given to international organizations that have headquarters in France.

I am sure that the Agreement will allow you to continue your essential task in the best possible conditions, guaranteeing Interpol's independence.

I know how impatient you are for this text to be implemented since, as you reminded us, Mr. President, it is to be the starting point for new developments in the Organization.

The French Government was therefore most anxious to begin the Agreement's ratification procedure as soon as possible.

I am now able to confirm that the Senate will give the Agreement a first reading in two days' time, on 20th October. The text will then be submitted to the National Assembly.

Parliament's decision will of course be taken in a manner befitting a sovereign institution. However, I am hopeful that the text will be adopted and put into force very rapidly.

During your speech, Mr. President, you referred to the Assembly's agenda for this session. During the coming week you will discuss subjects such as illicit drug trafficking, currency counterfeiting, economic crime and crimes of violence, to mention but a few of the matters which will come before you.

The French Government will follow your deliberations and their outcome with the greatest possible interest, as it is aware of their importance and is anxious to contribute to the achievement of your objectives. These objectives do not, of course, involve the creation of a kind of supra-national police force, but rather the active co-operation between police forces in member states.

I have no doubt that, as so often in the past, this meeting of those responsible for combating crime will bear much fruit and will further reinforce the cooperation between Interpol member countries, all of which are united in their determination to combat international crime.

Recent decades have seen a steady decline in those traditional moral values to which our societies, despite their diversity, have always been attached. I am personally convinced that this attachment still exists.

The waning influence of family structures and of the authority of teachers, plus the dominance of the materialist ethic as a criterion for social success, have all led to a decline in the quality of human

relationships, to the supremacy of the rule of force over the rule of law, to contempt for the laws which govern collective living and, finally, to the systematic spread of violence.

The development of crime in all its various forms, from the most spectacular to the most banal, is merely the concrete indication that traditional law enforcement methods have neither contained nor changed the current situation.

However, we are convinced that the preventive action taken recently is a significant step towards success if we show sufficient perseverance and determination.

For evil is at the very heart of society and must be rooted out. No individual or group can claim to be unconcerned by this problem. Our collective strug-

gle will brook no failure or desertion, and my Government is convinced that the police have a vital role to play, guaranteeing the security and liberty to which every citizen is entitled.

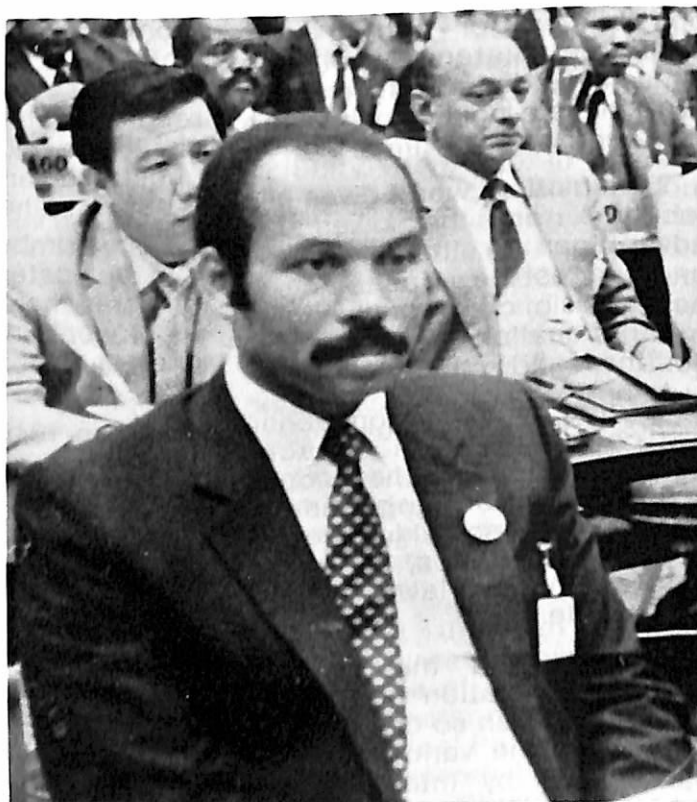
Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen, on opening the 52nd General Assembly session of the International Criminal Police Organization-Interpol, I should like to wish it every success in its task which it has undertaken for many years with a dedication to which – speaking personally and on behalf of the French Government – I should like to pay tribute.

I hope that you will go away from your visit to France, the Organization's Headquarters country, with memories of a session rich in meetings, lessons learnt and plans for the future."

### **Applications for Membership**

The application of St. Lucia was submitted to the Assembly and the Delegate from that country explained the reasons underlying the decision to apply for membership of the Organization. He assured the General Assembly that his country wished to play a full part in the Organization's activities.

The President then invited the Assembly to vote on St. Lucia's application; it was approved with 96 votes in favour.



The Delegate from St. Lucia, the new member country.

## **Progress Report**

- **General functioning of the Organization; policy developments**
- **International crime**
- **Studies, training courses, symposia, International Criminal Police Review**
- **Working methods and resources**
- **Conclusions**

The Secretary General commented on the Progress Report giving an account of the main activities of the ICPO-Interpol and the General Secretariat during the period from October 1982 (51st General Assembly session) to October 1983 (52nd Assembly session).

He pointed out that the presentation of the report had been modified, principally to give a more accurate review of the work carried out by the Secretariat's specialist departments.

The relevant statistics were appended to the report which can be summarized as follows.

- **General functioning of the Organization, policy developments**

The General Assembly's approval of St. Lucia's application for membership brings the number of Interpol member countries up to 135.

On 3rd November 1982, a new Headquarters Agreement was signed by the Organization and the French Government. The new Agreement has been laid before the French Parliament for ratification. It will give the Organization the privileges and immunities usually granted to intergovernmental organizations.

During the 51st session of the General Assembly, a set of rules on international police co-operation and on the internal control of Interpol's archives was adopted along with the Headquarters Agreement. The Supervisory Board referred to in the Rules will be set up as soon as the Agreement is ratified.

Several projects stemming directly from the new Headquarters Agreement were included in the Programme of Activities by the General Assembly at its 51st session. They concerned

such important matters as the Staff Rules, the internal taxation system and rules governing co-operation between NCBs.

Two Regional Conferences were held during the period under review:

- An American Regional Conference in Lima, Peru, in March 1983;
- A European Regional Conference at the Organization's Headquarters in 1983.

The Secretary General and his senior staff visited NCBs in 18 countries during the course of the year.

### **TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION**

Nineteen grants were awarded for the training seminar for NCB officers held in French and Spanish in 1982.

Twenty-two grants were awarded for the training seminar held in English and Arabic in October 1983.

Eight maintenance grants were awarded to radio operators in 1983.

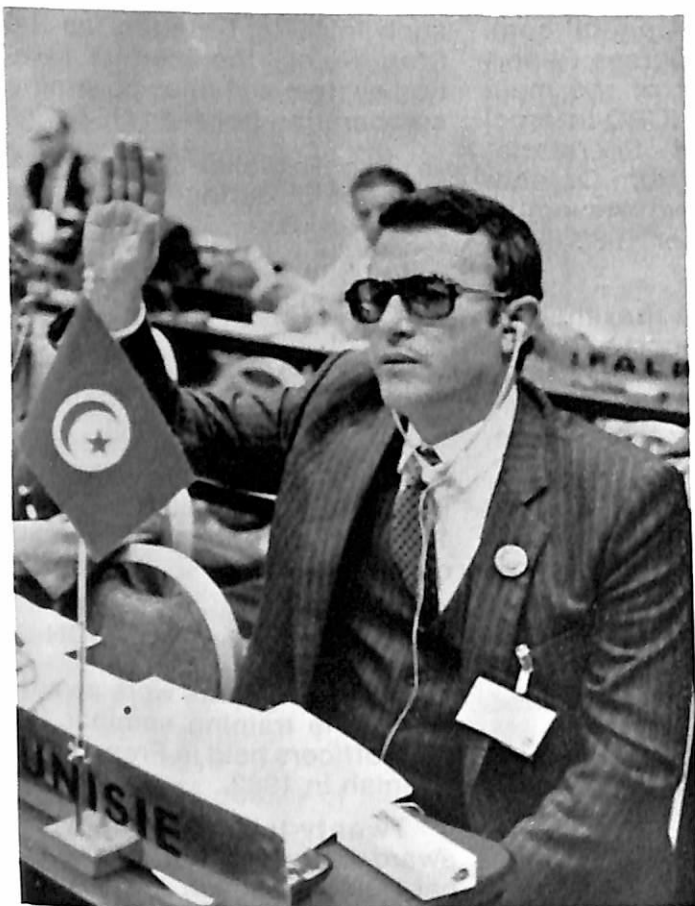
- **International crime**

The fight against international crime is the Organization's "raison d'être" and is the major concern of the National Central Bureaus and the General Secretariat.

### **ACTIVITIES OF THE NATIONAL CENTRAL BUREAUS**

An increasing number of NCBs are sending their activity statistics to the General Secretariat but it would be helpful if all NCBs sent in their annual reports.

More than half the telegrams transmitted over the network originated from only 41 NCBs. There were 36,935 requests for



The Tunisian Delegate.

identification of persons from 37 NCBs and 1,355 individuals were arrested in 33 different countries with a view to extradition.

#### ACTIVITIES OF THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT

At the General Secretariat, the Police Division is responsible for co-ordinating co-operation in relation to international crime. The Division has three Sub-Divisions, one dealing with general crime, one dealing with economic crime and one dealing with drug-related crime. The criminal records group and the fingerprint and identification group are also attached to the Police Division.

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In 1982, the General Crime Sub-Division handled 3,115 cases involving offences against property compared with 2,665 the previous year. There was a marked increase in theft by breaking and entering. More and more countries are requesting publication of lengthy lists of lost or stolen property, and the number of international stolen property notices increased by 19%.

A Second Symposium on the Theft of Works of Art and Cultural Property was held at the General Secretariat in September 1983.

The number of cases involving offences against persons and violent crime dropped from 2,595 in 1981 to 2,217 in 1982, but it is possible that not all kidnapping, hostage-taking and aircraft hijacking cases were

reported to the General Secretariat.

It was also noted that the number of armed robberies of banks had decreased. However, there were many more attacks on less well-protected financial institutions such as savings banks and post offices.

The committee of experts on disaster victim identification produced a manual to supplement the new disaster victim identification form which has now been published in the Organization's four official languages.

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The gravity and scale of economic crime continued to increase year by year. The Economic Crime Sub-Division dealt with a wide variety of offences among which the most important were those concerning the fraudulent use of banking and identity documents, maritime and civil aviation fraud, the counterfeiting of certain commercial products (including film and music piracy), all types of commercial fraud and computer fraud.

In 1982, 2,736 fraud cases were reported compared with 2,474 the previous year. The number of counterfeiting and forgery cases totalled 6,574 compared with 6,005 during the previous year.

A Fourth Symposium on International Fraud was held from 1st to 3rd June 1983 at the General Secretariat.

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The Drugs Sub-division processed 31,923 cases compared with 29,724 the previous year. The number of drug seizures made in the context of these cases was 7,624 compared with 6,778 the previous year. 139 notices on drug traffickers were published.

The Organization continued to work in close co-operation





Members of the United Kingdom Delegation.

with the United Nations (particularly with the Division of Narcotic Drugs) and with the Customs Co-operation Council.

- **Studies, training courses, symposia**

This heading covers a number of regular activities, most of which are handled by the Secretariat's Studies and Documentation Division.

A Sixth Symposium for Heads of Police Colleges was held at the Organization's Headquarters in December 1983.

The General Secretariat was represented at twelve international meetings, conferences and symposia.

Ten reports were prepared, three of them for submission to the General Assembly.

In the context of general reference material, six bibliographies and statistical reports were produced and a large number of requests for information were answered.

The General Secretariat's library specializes in works of interest to the police and the Organization on such subjects as police techniques and practice, law, criminology, etc.

#### INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL POLICE REVIEW

The ICPR has been published since 1946 on the basis of ten issues a year. The Arabic, English and French editions are published by the General Secretariat and the Spanish edition is produced in Madrid thanks to the assistance so efficiently provided by the Spanish police.

Unfortunately the Review still does not receive enough contributions from serving police officers describing their investigations, giving their views of their equipment, and generally sharing their experiences with their colleagues in other countries. It would be desirable, and in the interests of all the Review's readers, if some effort could be made in this direction.

- **Working methods and resources**

The resources available for international police co-operation are concentrated in the Administrative Division which comprises all the Secretariat's general services and is consequently involved in whole or in part, in all the General Secretariat's activities.

#### TELECOMMUNICATIONS

During the past year, radio traffic grew by 20% and five new stations were added to the network. Approximately 500,000 messages were exchanged. The increase in the volume of traffic has made it necessary to consider plans for modernizing the Central Station.

#### STAFF

At 1st June, the Secretariat had a total staff of 225 (220 at 1st June 1982).

The staff consisted of:

- 151 employees under direct contract, including 23 technical or management executives;
- 59 seconded police officers and civil servants;
- 15 detached police officers and civil servants.

The 151 employees under direct contract and the 15 detached police officers and civil servants, a total of 166 persons, are paid directly by the Organization. The figure on 1st June 1982 was 161.

The Organization's staff (employees under direct contract, police officers and civil servants) came from the following 30 countries: Australia, Austria, Canada, Colombia, Denmark, France, Federal Germany, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kampuchea, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mauritius, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Portugal,

Senegal, Seychelles, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Syria, Thailand, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States and Uruguay.

- **Conclusion**

The year under review was marked by an increase in co-

operation reflected both in the number of items of information exchanged by NCBs and in the number of cases handled by the General Secretariat.

At the same time, the Organization has embarked upon a period of thoroughgoing legal, administrative, financial and

technical change designed to result in more rigorous management practices but also likely to lead to an increase in the General Secretariat's administrative tasks.

## ***Admendment to the Constitution***

Following a proposal by the Executive Committee, the General Assembly considered an amendment to Article 42 of the Constitution. The amendment was not adopted as the number of votes in favour did not amount to two-thirds of the Organization's Members.

## ***Financial Matters***

- **The Organization's Financial Policy**
- **Modification of the General Regulations and the Financial Regulations**

After examining the reports on financial matters, the Auditors' Report and the Balance Sheet at 31st December 1982, the General Assembly approved the Report on the 1982 financial year.

At its 51st session in Torre Molinos in 1982, the General Assembly had adopted a resolution asking the Executive Committee "to make an in-depth study of the Organization's financial policy and ensuing procedures, with particular emphasis on:

- the currency units to be used as the basis for budgeting and contributions;
- the level of the reserves;
- the extent and use to be made of any further surpluses;
- contributions in arrears;
- the need for additional information to be given to the

General Assembly on financial matters;  
and to report to the General Assembly at its 52nd session."

In the same Resolution, the General Assembly decided "to set up a Working Party, comprising representatives of Member Countries and the Organization's Auditors, to assist the Executive Committee in this task."



The two Mexican Delegates.

The Working Party met at the Organization's Headquarters from 10th to 12th January 1983, and at the end of its meeting it made a number of recommendations to the Executive Committee; these recommendations were later amended and extended to form the basis of the draft resolution submitted to the General Assembly which was inspired by the following considerations:

- The reduction of the reserves to a level corresponding to the Organization's ordinary expenditure over a period of nine months;
- The setting up of three funds: a working capital fund, a reserve fund, and a capital investment fund to be used to finance the building project (extension to the headquarters building), the equipment needed for the new building, and the acquisition and installation of automatic message switching equipment at the General

Secretariat (a project requiring the prior approval of the Executive Committee.)

- The suspension of the right to vote of Member States failing to fulfil their financial obligations for two full years or more, unless such a measure would be unfair or contrary to the best interests of the Organization;
- The cancellation – as an exceptional measure – of debts owed by Members in respect of contributions outstanding for the years prior to 1980;
- A series of modifications to the Financial Regulations.

It was therefore decided that Article 53 of the General Regulations should read as follows:

" If a Member fails to fulfil its financial obligations towards the Organization for two full years or more, the Executive Committee shall suspend that Member's right to vote at General Assembly sessions and

other meetings of the Organization, and may refuse any other benefits the Member may claim, until all obligations have been settled. However, the Executive Committee shall not take such measures if it considers them unfair or not in the best interests of the Organization.

The Member concerned may appeal against such a decision to the General Assembly.

The Executive Committee shall cancel any measure taken in application of the first paragraph of this Article when it considers that measure is no longer fair or is no longer in the best interests of the Organization."

- Finally, taking into account the additional income the Organization was likely to receive as a result of the drop in the exchange rate of the French franc vis-à-vis the Swiss franc, the General Assembly decided that the value of the budget unit should be reduced to 10,900 Swiss francs.

## **Headquarters Agreement**

*(Status report)*

At its 51st session (Torremolinos, October 1982), the General Assembly had approved the Draft Agreement between the Government of the French Republic and the International Criminal Police Organization concerning Interpol's Headquarters and its privileges and immunities in France.

The Agreement was signed on 3rd November 1982 by the President of the Organization and the Director of the United Nations and International Organizations Department of the French Ministry for External Affairs.

The Assembly was informed that the Headquarters Agreement was awaiting ratification



Members of the Ugandan Delegation.

by the French Parliament. During the session the French Delegate announced that the Senate had just approved the text on its first reading\*.

\* Editor's Note: The French Parliament subsequently authorized approval of the Headquarters Agreement by Law No. 83-1023 of 2nd December 1983. The Agreement will come into force on 14th February 1984.

**Extension of  
the Headquarters**  
(Status report)

The Secretary General gave an account of the current state of the building project. He briefly described the difficulties the Organization had experienced in trying to get the project implemented and announced that the calls for tenders were being organized.

The Assembly was informed that the Executive Committee had asked the Secretary General to postpone the building work and to have a study carried out to compare different possibilities of extending Interpol's headquarters in France.

By 52 votes in favour, 19 against and 11 abstentions, the Assembly adopted the following Resolution:

**HAVING BEEN INFORMED** of the decision taken by the Executive Committee, by seven votes to five, to ask the Secretary General to have a study made on:

- a) The feasibility of selling Interpol's headquarters building and the rest of the land it owns in Saint-Cloud;
- b) The sum that could currently be realized by selling the property mentioned under a) above;
- c) The purchase and rental costs of buildings appropriate for Interpol's headquarters and located in suitable areas in France;
- d) The cost of purchasing a site suitably located in France and of constructing a new single headquarters building that would accommodate all the General Secretariat departments except those installed at St. Martin d'Abbat;

**NOTING** that the Executive Committee's decision stems from a concern:

- a) To find out whether there are any solutions to the problem of extending Interpol's headquarters that would be more appropriate and more favourable for the Organization than implementation of the construction project approved by the General Assembly (decision taken at its 48th session in 1979 and confirmed at its 51st session in 1982);
- b) To allow room for expansion of Interpol's headquarters over a period longer than that provided by the current project;

**REALIZING THAT** an alternative solution would consequently be considered by the Executive Committee only if that solution was undeniably more advantageous than the project already approved by the General Assembly;

**AWARE OF THE FACT** that the building permit for the construction project approved by the General Assembly might lose its validity if work on the site, which was suspended on 20th March 1983, is not resumed on 20th March 1984 at latest;

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Cannes from 18th to 25th October 1983 at its 52nd session:

**INVITES** the Executive Committee to meet in February 1984 in order to consider the study submitted by the Secretary General;

**AUTHORIZES** the Executive Committee to decide not to pursue implementation of the construction project approved by the General Assembly even if the new Headquarters Agreement with the French Government is ratified before 20th March 1984, provided the above-mentioned study offers a more appropriate and more favourable alternative solution which would not entail an increase in the sum allocated to the Capital Investment Fund during the present General Assembly session to cover the cost of the current headquarters extension project;

**INVITES** the Executive Committee to consider all pertinent data and factors (including, for example, the amortization rates applied to buildings, the cost of adapting an existing building to the General Secretariat's requirements, the cost and other possible consequences of moving the General Secretariat and the capitalized value of any rent paid) before taking its decision;

**ASKS** the Executive Committee to submit a report justifying its decision, accompanied by a copy of the above-mentioned study and setting out the conclusions drawn from that study, to the General Assembly at its 53rd session.

## **Setting up of a supervisory board**

During its 51st session the General Assembly had also adopted, along with the Headquarters Agreement, a set of rules on international police co-operation and on the internal

control of Interpol's archives; these rules would come into force at the same time as the Headquarters Agreement.

In accordance with the Exchange of Letters appended to the Headquarters Agreement, the Supervisory Board referred to in the rules would be set up as soon as the Agreement was ratified. The Executive Committee had designated the members of the Board who were to be appointed by the Organization.

## **International Illicit Drug Traffic in 1982**

The purpose of the General Secretariat's report to the General Assembly is to give an indication of the extent and nature of international illicit drug traffic, the changes in the traffic from year to year, and the scope and volume of work undertaken by the General Secretariat's

The Assembly was informed that the Secretariat was currently preparing a draft set of rules governing the deletion of police information on record at the General Secretariat. A preliminary draft had already been prepared and was currently being studied by the departments concerned at the Secretariat. The draft would be submitted first to the Supervisory Board and then to the General Assembly for approval.

Drugs Sub-Division during the year. The report is summarized below.

The statistics contained in the report do not indicate the total quantities of drugs seized in the various countries; they are based on the reports on seizures sent to the Sub-Division and consequently relate to cases of international significance.

The quality of reports submitted to the Drugs Sub-Division improved during the year. There was a welcome increase in co-operation from certain drug-producing drug countries. In order that this situation should not only be maintained but improved, all National Central Bureaus are urged to encourage the highest level of reporting by the various national drug enforcement agencies and to ensure that relevant documents emanating from the General Secretariat continue to be forwarded to these specialised departments.

### **• Evolution of the traffic**

The number of seizures recorded in 1982 showed an increase for all categories of drugs. The volume of heroin trafficking is constantly increasing and the presence of cocaine was recorded in



The New  
Zealand  
Delegate.



The Delegates from Oman.

regions which had previously been untouched by the phenomenon.

Cannabis is ubiquitous and originates in almost every region of the world.

Psychotropic substances are creating a serious problem and will continue to do so in the future.

• **Annual Statistics Form on Illicit Drug Production, Traffic and Use.**

In order to provide information complementary to that contained in the general report which covers only international traffic, the General Secretariat prepared a report containing tables giving the national statistics of various countries.

For 1982, only one country completed the old form while fifty used the new one; it can consequently be assumed that the new form has found general acceptance.

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The General Assembly decided to set up a Drugs Committee; Mr. Ronald GREY (Australia) was elected Chairman.

During the Committee's meeting the majority of delegates reported a constant increase in the volume of illicit drug traffic, even though some countries reported momentary decreases for certain types of drug. For example, Austria reported that LSD had practically disappeared from its national territory.

Illicit traffic had also spread geographically and several delegates informed the Committee of recent reports on traffic in their countries (Bahrain, Ivory Coast, Mauritania and Sudan). Delegates from a number of other countries (Cyprus, Honduras, Hungary and Uganda) expressed concern that their national territories were being used as transit areas.

It was noted that the development of international communications, and particularly tourism, has encouraged the spread of drugs offences.

Several Delegates had expressed satisfaction at the amount of co-operation they were receiving from their neighbours. The Australian Delegate said that stress should be laid on regional co-operation to enable countries in Asia, for example, to improve their co-operation within the Interpol framework and to pool their resources.

It became clear during the Committee's meetings that delegates were unanimous in their disapproval of the tendency to decriminalize certain drugs such as cannabis.

The United Nations Observer reminded the meeting that his organization considered these to be dangerous drugs.



Two of the Indian Delegates.

The Observer from the United Nations Fund For Drug Abuse Control described his organization's activities. It had been set up in 1971 to plan and oversee the operation of programmes in member countries. It concentrated on the following four areas:

- development of replacement crops;
- rehabilitation of drug addicts;
- improvement of prevention campaigns;
- improvement of training of law enforcement agents.

Several delegates had stressed the need for more stringent penalties for traffickers. Once again the Canadian and United States delegates in particular recommended that traffickers should be punished in the way that would hurt them most, i.e. financially. Malaysia was considering confiscating traffickers' property and legislation to that effect was in force in India.

The Committee also stressed the connections between drugs offences and other types of crime.

The General Assembly adopted the following resolution:

**CONCERNED** about the increasing availability on the illicit world market of psychotropic substances diverted from legal sources, and,

**CONSIDERING** that it would be useful to convey this concern to the appropriate U.N. agencies,

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Cannes from 18th to 25th October 1983 at its 52nd session:

**RECOMMENDS:**

- That the attention of the Economic and Social Council's Commission on Narcotic Drugs be drawn to the need for measures designed to limit production of

**psychotropic substances and to reinforce control of their legal international distribution, notably in the case of methaqualone and its precursor substances, amphetamines and methamphetamines and their precursor substances, hydro-morphine, amobarbital, pentobarbital and secobarbital, and the benzodiazepines especially diazepam, there being an ever-increasing demand by illegal organizations for these substances;**

- That the provisions of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances adopted in Vienna in 1971 be strengthened, particularly as regards the volumes of imports and exports of psychotropic substances that were laid down in the 1961 Convention on Narcotics Drugs and the 1972 amendment Protocol.

## **International Economic Offences**

The General Secretariat had considered it useful for the report to cover the whole range of the Fraud Group's activities in 1982. The report is summarized below.

### **Banking Related Fraud**

The number of cases involving fraudulently cashed cheques is constantly increasing. The principal victims of this type of crime are the institutions that issue travellers cheques; either the cheques are counterfeited or large quantities of blank cheques are stolen during transport.

Most of the gangs specializing in stealing cheques and handling stolen cheques are composed of Latin Americans.

In 1982 clandestine printshops were put out of operation in Austria, France, Portugal, the United Kingdom and West Berlin.

Frauds involving credit cards are giving rise to increasing concern.

Criminals have also taken advantage of the conditions prevailing in certain countries generally referred to as "tax havens" to set up fictitious banks or financial institutions, commonly called "offshore

shell banks", which are used to carry out fraudulent operations all over the world.

"Offshore banks" are legally operated banks or financial institutions situated in tax haven countries. However, even these banks are frequently used to "launder" and conceal proceeds from various types of criminal activities such as drug trafficking, arms trafficking and tax evasion.

### **Economic and Commercial Fraud**

#### **• Commodity Future Frauds**

Western Europe was affected by the activities of an organized gang of fraudsmen composed of approximately 50 individuals using about 30 company names. They obtained money from investors to be deposited in accounts to be used on the commodity futures markets. The proceeds were not invested in accordance with the investment contract but misappropriated by the syndicate.

The financial losses reported were enormous and the true total may be considerably greater as some victims may not have reported the fraud to the police as they had probably obtained their funds from illegal sources.



The Malawi Delegation.



- **Airline ticket frauds**

The Fraud Group at the General Secretariat is receiving an increasing number of reports of airline ticket thefts and frauds. Furthermore, several cases of counterfeit air tickets came to light recently.

- **The fraudulent purchase of merchandise on credit**

This type of fraud has traditionally been confined within national boundaries but it has become more international in recent years as trading restrictions between groups of countries have been relaxed.

- **Computer crime**

The number of cases reported was relatively low; they all had the following common characteristics:

- 1) The frauds were employee-related;
- 2) The amounts stolen were relatively small;
- 3) The use of the computer was intergral to each scheme.

There were several cases of telex directory fraud, involving the mass mailing of computer-generated, non-solicited requests for payment designed to exploit the automated accounts-payable sections of most large organizations. Police in Norway recently arrested members of a large telex fraud group and parallel arrest warrants were issued in Sweden.

Most cases of this type occur in Europe.

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The General Assembly decided to set up a Committee and Mr. REVELL (United States) was elected Chairman.



Two of the Austrian Delegates.

The Committee began by considering the report on international fraud and the report on fraudulent operations involving unfunded banks and similar financial institutions used by criminals to "launder" unlawfully obtained assets.

Several delegations mentioned the difficulties created for investigators by the rules on banking transactions and banking secrecy.

The Swiss Delegate drew the Committee's attention to the new Swiss legislation on mutual assistance in criminal matters which stated that assistance could not be granted in tax cases unless the offence constituted fraud under Swiss law. In any case, one of the fundamental principles of international assistance was that the accused person's actions had to be defined as an offence in both the countries concerned.

The Delegate went on to mention Swiss banking secrecy rules. A bank employee could not give information about the bank's customers. However,

the Swiss judicial authorities could order the banks to supply information within the context of criminal proceedings.

It was consequently necessary that the cases for which judicial assistance was requested should be clearly explained so that the appropriate authorities could decide if they were indictable under Swiss law. Such information should be supplied by international letters rogatory.

Following this clarification of the Swiss position, several delegates stressed the need to improve the exchange of information.

The Observer from the International Banking Security Association gave some information about his Association whose members were the directors of security departments of financial institutions throughout the world.

He hoped that fruitful cooperation could be developed with Interpol in those areas where the aims and interests of the two institutions overlapped, and assured the meeting of his

Association's will to collaborate.

The following resolutions were then adopted:

**HAVING EXAMINED** the proposals made by the Fourth Symposium on International Fraud and Commercial Crime held at the General Secretariat from 1st to 3rd June 1983.

**NOTING WITH CONCERN** the increasingly serious implications of operations carried out by banks and other financial institutions in order to facilitate illegal transactions involving the proceeds from criminal activities,

**RECOGNIZING** that this type of criminal activity has serious consequences for, and important repercussions on, national economies,

**CONVINCED** that international police co-operation is absolutely essential to combat this type of crime,

**THE ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Cannes, from 18th to 25th October 1983, at its 52nd session:**

**RECALLS** the resolutions already adopted on international fraud and commercial crime, and in particular the following resolutions:

AGN/35/RES/2 (Berne) on international fraud,

AGN/37/RES/9 (Tehran) on exchange control violations,

AGN/41/RES/10 (Frankfurt) on economic offences,

AGN/44/RES/4 (Buenos Aires) on international fraud and commercial crime and Report No. 15 "International Frauds and Commercial Crime" submitted by the General Secretariat,

AGN/45/RES/10 (Accra) on international frauds, and commercial crime (including economic offences) and Report No. 5 submitted by the General Secretariat,

AGN/46/RES/8 (Stockholm) on international frauds and commercial crime,

AGN/48/RES/6 (Nairobi) on financial assets and transactions related to illicit drug traffic,

AGN/49/RES/1 (Manila) on illicit drug traffic,

AGN/50/RES/1 (Nice) on financing illicit drug traffic,

**ASKS:**

(1) That the General Secretariat pay particular attention to the processing and transmission of information relating to this type of fraudulent activity; that the General Secretariat devote a special section of its records to this purpose and also encourage those countries that have not previously replied to questionnaires on this subject to do so forthwith;

(2) That the National Central Bureaus exchange comprehensive information on the activities of such banks and financial institutions, without delay, in order to limit the number of victims and maintain detailed records of operational value;

(3) That the National Central Bureaus draw the attention of the appropriate authorities in their countries to the importance of making relevant legislation more stringent and comprehensive in order to facilitate:

(a) identification of the methods used by criminals to launder the proceeds from illicit activities,

(b) attachment and seizure of funds and assets obtained by means of such activities,

(c) identification of persons transporting, mailing, shipping or otherwise transferring illegally obtained funds (including

gold and bearer instruments) and of the means and frequency of transportation used,

(d) waiving of banking secrecy when there is reasonable suspicion that a transaction effected by a bank, pseudo-bank or financial institution is connected with criminal activities:

(4) That the agendas for Regional Conferences should always include an item on this type of crime;

(5) That the General Secretariat should establish contact with the international professional banking associations in order to obtain their co-operation on the prevention, detection and reporting of such crimes;

(6) That the General Secretariat should continue to co-operate with other concerned international organizations, notably the Customs Co-operation Council, in the prevention and detection of such crimes.

**HAVING CONSIDERED** Reports Nos. 10 and 11 on international fraud presented by the General Secretariat,

**The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Cannes from 18th to 25th October 1983 at its 52nd session:**

**DIRECT** the Secretary General to give priority to realigning responsibilities and:

(1) establishing an identified group within the General Secretariat to specialize in matters relating to the recommendations contained in Report No. 11, and

(2) staffing the group with appropriate experts.

## Currency Counterfeiting

Some of the salient features of the report are given below.

The number of countries whose currency has been counterfeited has remained fairly stable with a slight overall increase since 1977. The figure for 1982 was 39, compared with 32 in 1981.

Counterfeit banknotes were seized in 74 countries.

- **United States currency**

In 1982, the United States dollar was still the most counterfeited currency. Counterfeit U.S. notes were discovered in 67 countries. Europe was still the worst affected continent with seizures in 24 countries followed by Asia (21 countries), America (12 countries) and Africa (10 countries).

The total face value of seized counterfeits, worldwide, amounted to \$129,357,250.

The authorities also seized genuine banknotes whose face-values had been altered, e.g. \$1, \$2 and \$5 bills which had been made to look like \$100 notes.

- **Others currencies**

In 1982, 169 new counterfeit types were recorded in 23 coun-

tries. The seizures can be broken down as follows:

**EUROPE** : counterfeits of Austrian, Belgian, French, Federal German, Italian, Netherlands, Portuguese, Swedish, Swiss and United Kingdom banknotes;

**AFRICA** : counterfeits of West African Financial Community (CFA franc), Saudi Arabian and United Arab Emirates banknotes;

**AMERICAS** : counterfeits of Canadian, Colombian, Uruguayan and Venezuelan banknotes;

**ASIA** : counterfeits of Australian, Indian and Malaysian banknotes.

Spain was the only country to have reported a seizure of publicity-type notes: 500,000 publicity-type 5,000 peseta notes and 244,000 publicity-type 1,000 peseta notes were seized. Such notes are illegal in a large number of countries.

Some poor quality counterfeits were also seized. Most of them had been produced with black-and-white photocopiers and then coloured in by hand. Some reports were received about seizures of genuine notes

The Delegation from Qatar.



which had been withdrawn from circulation and were no longer legal tender.

- **“Counterfeits and Forgeries” Review**

In 1982, descriptions of 181 counterfeit notes or new Indicatives (Volume 1) and of 60 recently issued genuine notes (Volume 2) were published in “Counterfeits and Forgeries”.

- **General Secretariat Laboratory**

In 1982, 680 suspected counterfeits were examined in the

laboratory. Some of these notes proved to be genuine.

At the request of the NBs, 1,246 examinations were made to identify counterfeit types. Fifty-two genuine notes were also examined and their technical descriptions were placed on record. The laboratory examinations do not reveal any significant changes in the techniques used by the counterfeiters. Offset was still by far the most frequently used process.

The United Kingdom, however, reported a case where the colour separation process for

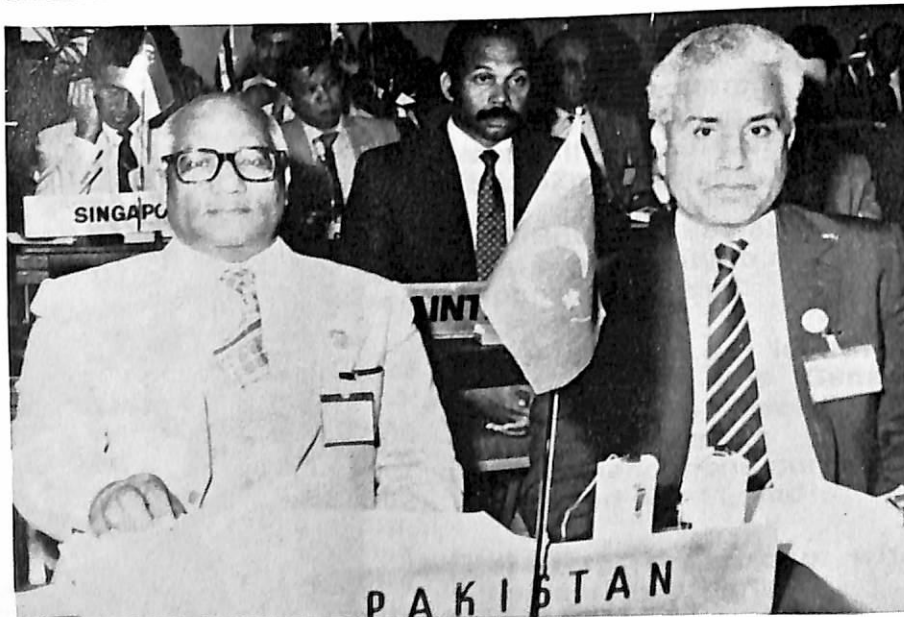
making the plates used to print counterfeit sterling bank notes had been carried out with a DC 300 scanner. Belgium had reported another case where counterfeits had been produced by means of a colour-copier.

The increase in the number of cases reported to the General Secretariat and in the number of new types of counterfeit speaks for itself. There is already evidence suggesting a trend towards new printing methods, due in particular to the fall in the prices of scanners and photocopiers.

The Delegation from Colombia.



The Delegation from Pakistan.



## Violent Crime

The Assembly decided to set up a Committee on Crimes of Violence; it was chaired by Mr. Paredes Pizarro of Chile.

Many delegates, particularly those from Latin America outlined recent developments in their countries and it was generally agreed that crimes of organized violence should be referred to as "terrorism". It was felt that Article 3 of the Organization's Constitution, which states "It is strictly forbidden for the Organization to undertake any intervention or activities of a political, military, religious or racial character" was generally invoked to allow the Organization to exercise some degree of self-censorship respecting certain types of crime covered by the word "terrorism". However, the problem was now so serious and had attained such proportions worldwide that Interpol had to tackle it. There were plans to review the Organization's position in order to enable the police to deal with crimes of organized violence, which were condemned on all sides, and to

ensure that Article 3 was still respected.

The Committee decided, unanimously apart from one vote, to ask the General Assembly to include a symposium on crimes of violence committed by organized gangs, and on the illicit traffic in weapons used by such gangs, in the 1984 Programme of Activities.

After some discussion, the General Assembly adopted the following resolution:

**CONSIDERING** that in very many countries many people are the victims of various criminal acts which are committed by organized groups and which are usually covered by the general term "terrorism";

**AWARE** of the fact that the Organization cannot remain indifferent to this problem;

**BEARING IN MIND** the provisions of Article 3 of the Organization's Constitution;

**The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Cannes from 18th to 25th October 1983 at its 52nd session:**

**ASKS** the Executive Committee to carry out a study to define the Organization's position regarding this form of crime and to lay down the international co-operation procedure to be followed when combating such crimes;

**PROPOSES** that, when carrying out its study, the Executive Committee should take account of the advice given by qualified experts from Member States;

**ASKS** the Executive Committee to report back to the General Assembly at its 53rd session;

**INSTRUCTS** the Secretary General to organize a symposium in 1984 to discuss this type of crime, with particular reference to the traffic in the weapons used by offenders engaging in such acts.

The Delegation from Rwanda.



## **Unlawful Interference with International Civil Aviation**

The General Assembly was given a report on the activities of the Committee of Experts on Civil Aviation Security. The Committee had met on four occasions, but not during 1983.

It had considered the following problems:

- Measures to be taken when an aircraft hijacking occurred;

- The procedure to be followed if it was reported that there were explosives on board an aircraft;
- Systems for detecting explosives before embarkation;
- Dogs for detecting explosives;
- Problems of passenger security prior to embarkation.

The ICAO Observer said he was delighted with the cooperation there had been over the years between his organization and Interpol.

He described ICAO, with its 151 member states, as the UN specialised agency whose main task was to set up an efficient, economic, world transport system.

He then informed the delegates that since the 51st Interpol General Assembly session,

ICAO had produced an information document about its security programme; it would be distributed to all member countries for their information. In March 1983, a revised edition of the Security Manual had been prepared. Members of Interpol could ask their national authorities to obtain copies from the ICAO headquarters or regional offices. A number of suggestions for amendments to the manual had been received and would be studied. ICAO provided technical assistance and a basic audio-visual staff training programme on the inspection and checking of passengers and hand-baggage prior to embarkation.

The IFALPA Observer reported the concern expressed during an IFALPA Security Committee meeting about assaults on air-crews and acts of sabotage at airports.

## **Draft Convention for the Suppression of International Traffic in Unlawfully Obtained Property**

At the 47th General Assembly session (Panama City, 1978), the Israeli Delegation submitted "A draft international convention for the suppression of international traffic in unlawfully obtained goods" and the Assembly decided to set up a Working Party to consider the question.

The Working Party was composed of delegates from Federal Germany, France, Israel, Panama and the United States. It met at the Organization's Headquarters in Saint-Cloud from 23rd to 25th February 1982 and from 29th November to 1st December 1982. The Working Party made a large number of amendments to the draft convention which it then adopted, together with a draft commentary. These documents were contained in a report submitted to the Assembly, together with the following resolution which the Assembly adopted.

**HAVING TAKEN NOTE of Report No. 3, entitled "Draft Convention for the suppression of international traffic in unlawfully obtained property",**

**CONVINCED of the need to improve international co-**

**operation to combat international traffic in unlawfully obtained property,**

**The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Cannes from 18th to 25th October 1983 at its 52nd session:**

**RECOMMENDS that NCBs submit the above-mentioned Report to their Governments so that the latter may assess the advisability of taking steps to adopt an international convention along the lines of the draft prepared by the ICPO-Interpol, and comment on the provisions of this Draft,**

**REQUEST that NCBs transmit to the ICPO-Interpol General Secretariat the observations of their Governments relating to the above-mentioned draft, before the 53rd General Assembly session.**

## Telecommunications

The General Secretariat's report mainly described the development of the international police telecommunications network, the project for automation of the Central Station, and the possibility of setting up a standing committee on telecommunications whose members would be experts familiar with telecommunications technology and management. A summary is given below.

A preliminary study on installing an automatic message switching system at the General Secretariat had been carried out by a consultant at the request of the Executive Committee. The International Telecommunications Conference had set up a Working Party to study the proposals and draw up specifications for the system. The Working Party had decided that the system recommended by the consultant should be completely revised and, wishing to extend his proposals, had prepared – with the Executive Committee's approval – a new set of specifications. It had asked the Executive Committee to provide funds in the budget so that work could begin as soon as the Committee had been able to take a decision on the new set

of specifications, at its Spring 1984 meeting.

If the proposed system was installed, messages arriving at the Central Station would automatically be re-directed to the NBC(s) to which they were addressed, or to the appropriate General Secretariat groups. The system would save a considerable amount of time for operators at the Central Station and the NBCs, would facilitate rapid transmission of the ever-increasing volume of traffic (more than 500,000 messages in 1982), and would allow countries that could not afford to join the radio network to have access to it via the international telex network. One result would be that the International Telecommunications Conference would have to modify the current telecommunications regulations.

The Executive Committee had agreed that the automatic message-switching equipment should be installed as soon as possible, and had included in the resolution on the Organization's financial policy a provision allowing for the necessary sums to be made available immediately. There was therefore no need to adopt a special



The Finnish Delegation.

resolution on telecommunications, since the matter would be handled as part of the Organization's general financial policy.

The Working Party had also recommended setting up a Standing Committee on Telecommunications whose purpose would be to review changing technological requirements, to assess technological solutions and to ensure that information was shared to the benefit of all.

This recommendation had been approved by the Executive Committee which proposed that the Standing Committee on Telecommunications should be composed of the present members of the Telecommunications Working Party, the Heads of the Regional Stations and, to avoid over-representation by the industrialized countries, telecommunications experts from various other countries.

Once it had been set up, this Committee could take over responsibility for ongoing telecommunications studies and projects (automation of the Central Station, facsimile system, protection of the telecommunications network.) It could also be consulted on substantial telecommunications projects.

Decisions would of course still be taken by the appropriate Interpol bodies as defined in the Constitution: the General Assembly for general policy and budget matters, and the Secretary General under the control of the Executive Committee for management matters.

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The General Assembly approved the establishment of a Standing Committee on Telecommunications and decided to finance the acquisition and installation at the General Secretariat of an automatic message switching system.



The Delegation from Somalia.

The Delegation from Trinidad and Tobago.





## Continental Meetings

### • African Continental Meeting

With Mr. MESSAÏD (Algeria) in the chair, the African Continental Meeting started by discussing day-to-day co-operation, the standard of which appeared satisfactory to several delegations. However, the Ivorian Delegate stressed that there was still room for improvement, and suggested the adoption of appropriate resolutions. He read out the text of a preliminary draft reso-

lution he had prepared and it was decided that the text should be studied in detail at the next Regional Conference.

After listening to some information about the multilateral convention on extradition being prepared by the Organization of African Unity, the meeting went on to discuss the subject of telecommunications. It was pointed out that the volume of traffic was increasing considerably and that the networks currently operating in Morse (part of the Europe-Mediterranean network, the West African network managed by the Regional Station in Abidjan, and the East African network managed by the Regional Station in Nairobi), should start making plans for conversion to radioteletype, especially since it was to be hoped that during the next few years the number of stations in Africa would increase from the current 22.

Finally, the Ivorian Delegate recalled that the station in Abidjan organized training and refresher courses for radio operators, and the Kenyan Delegate described the steps being taken

to obtain a second frequency for the southern stations.

### • American Continental Meeting

The meeting was chaired by Mr. SIMPSON (United States).

The discussions revealed two main causes for concern: violence committed by organized groups and drug traffic. In connection with the latter, the participants emphasized the need for improvement in the exchange of information on trafficking networks and on the modus operandi used by traffickers.

On the subject of telecommunications, the General Secretariat Representative reported that there had been a 33% increase in the volume of traffic. The Americas were divided into two zones: in the North American zone stations in Ottawa and Washington were linked directly to the General Secretariat; in the South American zone, eight stations were managed by the Regional Station in Buenos Aires which was linked to the General Secretariat by radioteletype.



The Delegate from Madagascar.

It was announced that the NCB in Trinidad and Tobago hoped to be able—with the assistance of other countries—to join the network in the near future.

The Secretary General recalled that the next American Regional Conference would not be held until 1985. The Chairman reported that a Sub-Bureau of the United States NCB would probably be set up in Puerto Rico shortly.

#### • Asian Continental Meeting

The meeting was chaired by Mr. BAWA (India).

The Hong Kong Delegates felt that day-to-day co-operation between the countries of the region was very satisfactory. He stressed the importance of the work of the General Secretariat Liaison Officer for the region and thought that someone should be appointed to assist him.

In reply it was stated that the question of the Bangkok Regional Office had not been forgotten by either the General Secretariat or the Thai Government which was awaiting ratification of the Headquarters Agreement by the French authorities so as to be able to confer certain immunities on the Bangkok Office.

The Thai Delegates said that his country's Foreign Affairs Ministry was willing to give the Bangkok Office the same privileges and immunities as those granted to the Organization by the French Government. The Australian Delegate stressed the need to set up the Regional Office as soon as possible.

The General Secretariat Representative described the structure of the South-East Asian telecommunications network, to which nine stations were currently connected. The Regional Station was in Tokyo

and was linked to the Central Station by radioteletype with automatic error correction facilities. Traffic on the network had risen by approximately 10% between 1981 and 1982. Sri-Lanka and Bangladesh intended to join the network shortly.

It was suggested that the next Asian Regional Conference should be held in 1984.

The ICAO Observer reported that his organization would be holding a seminar on civil aviation security in Bangkok, Thailand, from 14th to 18th November 1983.

#### • European Continental Meeting

Mr. VAN STRATEN (Netherlands) was elected to chair the meeting.

With regard to questions of day-to-day co-operation, Mr. BAUN (Denmark), Chairman of the Technical Committee on Co-operation in Europe, reported on the last meeting of the Committee. One of its recommendations had been that the next Regional Conference should be prepared by working

parties. The Committee had also devoted some time to the possibility of revising the forms used by Interpol on a regional basis.

The General Secretariat Telecommunications Representative reported that 30 NCBs were currently linked to the Europe-Mediterranean network, on which increasing use was being made of radioteletype. The network was saturated in Europe and, consequently, serious operating difficulties were being encountered at the Central Station and at the NCBs. A working party had studied the problems and had looked for solutions. A plan to install an automatic message switching system at the Central Station, drawn up in close consultation with the NCBs, would solve the current problems and enable Interpol to carry out its task satisfactorily with the appropriate means of communication.

It was decided that the next European Regional Conference would meet in Saint Cloud, probably in the Spring of 1984.

The two Delegates from Singapore.



## **Meeting of the Heads of National Central Bureaus**

The Heads of National Central Bureaus held their annual meeting to discuss various topics.

Mr. MESSAÏD, the Head of the Algerian NCB, was unanimously elected Chairman of the meeting.

- **Modification of Form No.1 requesting publication of a red notice**

After discussion of a number of amendments proposed by the Federal German Delegate, it was decided that the meeting would suggest that a Working Party be set up to revise the form and submit a new draft to the General Assembly at its next session.

- **Exchange of information on persons reported missing or presumed missing in a country other than their country of origin or residence.**

This item too had been included on the Agenda at the request of Federal Germany, which considered that Interpol countries in which disappearances were reported should always notify the missing person's country of origin and should further ensure that country's police force was kept informed of developments in the case.

It was decided that the General Secretariat would publish a circular on the subject.

- **Thefts of works of art and cultural property**

The General Secretariat Representative reported on the work of the recent Symposium on the thefts of works of art and cultural property. Among the subjects it had discussed were: trafficking in works of art as a

means of "laundering" the proceeds of illicit drug traffic; the training of specialist police officers; relations with the art-dealing world; prevention; national inventories of works of art drawn up in various countries; thefts of works of art and cultural property accompanied by demands for ransom; the use of EDP in investigations.

The European Regional Conference had already asked the General Secretariat to find out which member countries had begun to use EDP in this connection and the results that had been obtained.

The Symposium discussed how to standardize such computerization at international level so that countries that were interested could benefit from the experience of others. The delegates had recommended that the General Secretariat set up a standards and documentation committee to study the development of computerization in that area and to draw up specific criteria which could be used for all such computerized applications. The intention was not to dispense with the stolen property notices but to ask the Committee to make recommendations about harmonizing descriptive categories and codes.

The following two resolutions, drafted by the Meeting of heads of NCBs, were subsequently adopted by the General Assembly.

**AWARE that the forms used to request the General Secretariat to circulate information are not regularly revised and vary in their format, presentation, contents and value,**

**NOTING that some of these forms are almost never used,**

**The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Cannes from 18th to 25th October 1983, at its 52nd session:**

**DECIDES to set up a Working Party to study the forms**

used to request the General Secretariat to circulate information, in particular by means of international notices on persons;

INVITES the Working Party to consider the format, contents and value of these forms and to make recommendations to the General Assembly in this connection;

ASKS the Working Party to take the legal implications of the contents of the said forms into account.

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## **1983/1984 Programme of Activities**

The Programme of Activities prepared by the General Secretariat for 1983-1984 (i.e. up to the 53rd General Assembly session) was submitted to the Assembly and unanimously adopted. It is printed below.

- Continuation of work to extend and modernize the Central Radio Station.
- National Central Bureaus' possibilities for rapid intervention (additional countries).
- Continuing publication of circulars in the EXTRA-600 series.

HAVING HEARD the General Secretariat's report on the 2nd International Symposium on Theft of Works of Art and Cultural Property which was held at the Organization's Headquarters from 14th to 16th September 1983,

NOTING THAT several countries are working on the computerization of data on stolen cultural property,

HAVING NOTED THAT the participants at the above Symposium, as well as those at the 12th European Regional Conference (1983), recommen-

ded that such data should be standardized so as to facilitate international co-operation,

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Cannes from 18th to 25th October 1983, at its 52nd session;

DECIDES to set up a Standards and Documentation Committee to study existing applications of electronic data processing to stolen cultural property and those under development, and to recommend specific criteria common to all applications.

- Continuing publication of General Assembly resolutions (by year and by subject).
- Continuing publication of a Vade Mecum for the National Central Bureaus.
- Study of the police role in preventing drug abuse.
- Continuation of work to update the typewriter identification index.
- Continuation of work to update the bibliography "Identification of firearms and ammunition".
- Updating of the documentation on cartridge identification.
- Continuing publication of a series of circulars (one for each country) on the possibilities of police co-operation in connection with cases of international fraud and commercial crime.
- Continuation of work to update the motor vehicle registration brochure.
- Elaboration of a drugs training programme.
- Study on ways of improving

the use made of Interpol facilities by member countries.

- Study on the connections that exist between illicit drug trafficking and other forms of crime.
- Activities related to the ratification of the new Headquarters Agreement.\*
- Activities stemming directly from the signature of the Headquarters Agreement, to be undertaken once the Agreement has been ratified by the French Parliament:
  - Setting-up of the Supervisory Board;
  - Rules on the purging of documents at the General Secretariat;
  - Rules on co-operation between the NCBs\*\*;
  - Rules on electronic data processing\*\*;
  - Internal rules drafted by virtue of Article 3 of the Headquarters Agreement:

\* The Headquarters Agreement was ratified on 2nd December 1983. It came into force on 14th February 1984.

\*\* Provided for in the Rules on international police co-operation and on the internal control of Interpol's archives which the Assembly approved along with the Headquarters Agreement.

- Staff Rules (conditions of work and social security benefits); rules on internal security at the General Secretariat; internal taxation system; re-organization of the Secretariat; study on regionalization of the Organization.
- Construction of a second Headquarters building.
  - Study on the possibility of establishing an international institute of criminalistics and forensic science.
  - Survey of the possibilities offered by national immigration laws regarding refusal of entry and deportation.
  - Survey of methods of evaluating true crime rates.
  - International Counterfeit Currency Conference.
  - Forensic Science Symposium.
  - Updating of the 1971 report entitled "Technical assistance in police matters: list of possibilities".
  - Reorganization of the Organization's finances.
  - Training seminar for French-

- speaking and Spanish-speaking NCB officers (1984).
- European Regional Conference (1984).
- European meeting for heads of national drugs departments (1984).
- Asian Regional Conference (1984).
- African Regional Conference (1984).
- Symposium on violent crime commonly referred to as terrorism.

### **Elections and Selection of a Meeting-Place for the Next General Assembly Session**

Mr. Van Hove (Belgium),  
newly-elected Vice-President of the Organization.



The Assembly was called upon to elect a new Vice-President for Europe, in replacement of Mr. VAN STRATEN (Netherlands), whose term of office had expired.

Mr. VAN HOVE (Belgium) was elected to this post.

Mr. VAN HOVE'S election to the Vice-Presidency left a vacant seat on the Executive Committee, to which Mr. WAGNER (Luxembourg) was elected.

Mr. BOSSARD, whose term of office as Secretary General had expired, was re-elected. The Secretary General thanked the General Assembly for the confidence it had shown in him. He confirmed that he would not complete his term of office, but would leave when he reached retirement age, in 1986.

Mr. BENHAMOU (France) and Mr. THOMSEN (Denmark) were re-elected as Auditors and Mr. SIMMONDS (Canada) and Mr. GUYOT (France) were elected as Deputy Auditors.

The Luxembourg Delegate extended his Government's invitation to the Assembly to hold its 53rd General Assembly session at the Kirchberg in Luxembourg.

The Assembly enthusiastically accepted the Luxembourg Delegation's invitation.



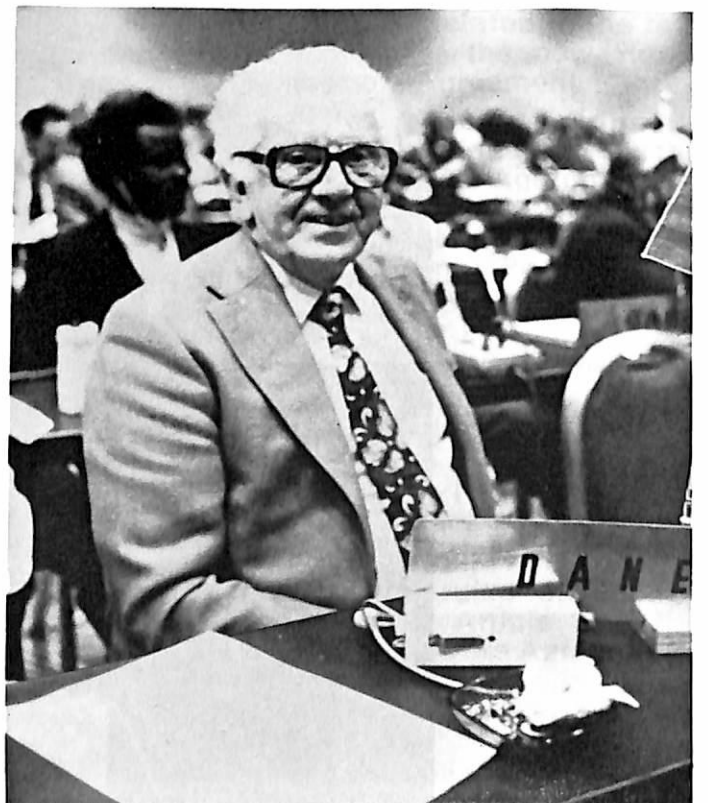
Mr. Wagner (Luxembourg),  
newly-elected member of the Executive Committee.



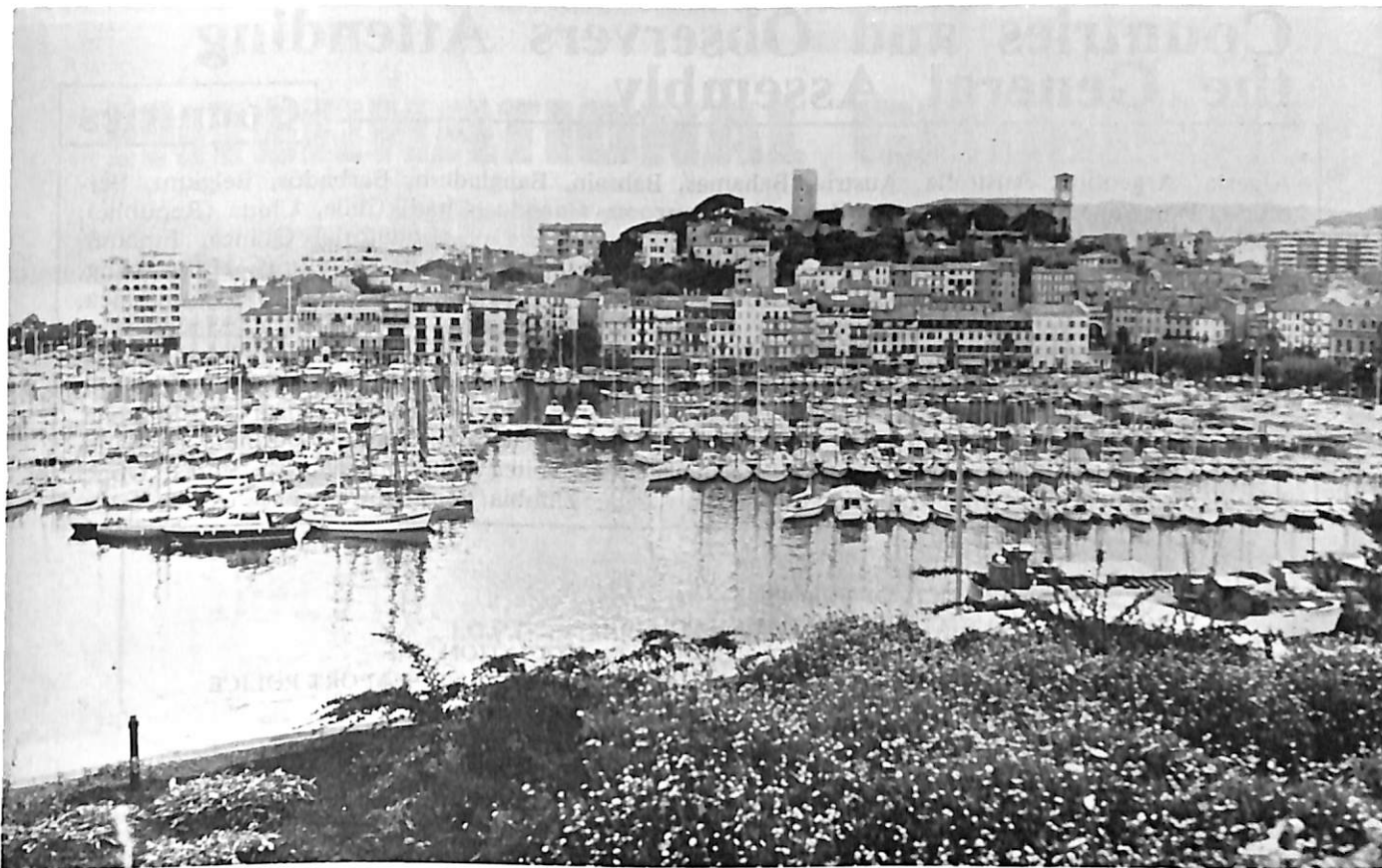
Mr. Bossard (France),  
re-elected Secretary General of the ICPO-Interpol.



Mr. Benhamou (France), re-elected as Auditor.



Mr. Thomsen (Denmark), re-elected as Auditor.



Cannes : the harbour.

## CONFERENCE SIDELIGHTS

Since no member country had extended an invitation for the 52nd General Assembly session, the General Secretariat decided to organize it in Cannes, where the 43rd session had been held in September 1974.

The meetings again took place at the Hotel Martinez, renovated in the meantime and where the delegates were also accommodated very comfortably.

The President of the Organization hosted the traditional cocktail party for delegates and their spouses at the hotel, and the Cannes municipal authorities invited the delegates to a reception at the Palais des Festivals.

All in all, despite the absence of a host country and of an official social programme, the delegates were pleased to be back on the Côte d'Azur – one of the headquarters country's most pleasant areas – two years after the Assembly session held in Nice in 1981.

# Countries and Observers Attending the General Assembly

## Countries

Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Bermuda, Botswana, Brunei, Burma, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, China (Republic), Colombia, Congo, Cyprus, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany (Fed. Rep.), Gibraltar, Greece, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hong Kong, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Korea (Republic), Kuwait, Lesotho, Libya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, St. Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Surinam, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Tanzania, Thailand, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom, United States, Upper Volta, Venezuela, Yemen (Arab Republic), Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

## Observers

COUNCIL OF EUROPE  
 CUSTOMS CO-OPERATION COUNCIL  
 INTERNATIONAL AIR TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION  
 INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF AIRPORT AND SEAPORT POLICE  
 INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE  
 INTERNATIONAL BANKING SECURITY ASSOCIATION  
 INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION  
 INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF AIRLINE PILOTS ASSOCIATIONS  
 INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF CRIMINOLOGY  
 ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY  
 PANARAB ORGANISATION FOR SOCIAL DEFENSE  
 PERMANENT SECRETARIAT OF THE SOUTH AMERICAN AGREEMENT ON DRUGS AND PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES  
 UNITED NATIONS

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