**National Committees**

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**ANGOLA**

A high-level sports administration course, patronised by Olympic Solidarity, was held from 21st to 26th March in Luanda. The Angolan NOC President, Mr. Augusto de Araujo, and the Secretary General, Mr. Fernando Matos Fernandes, an Olympic athlete who took part in the Games in 1952, were the principal co-ordinators of the event, which attracted twenty-six participants. Messrs. Conrado Durantez (ESP) and David Sequerra (POR) were amongst the visiting experts.

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**NETHERLANDS ANTILLES**

The former NOC Vice-President, Mr. Walter J.M.A. van Rosberg, has been nominated an honorary member of the committee in recognition of his services to the Olympic Movement and sport in general.

The above appeared by mistake under the NOC of the Netherlands heading in OR 246.

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**ARGENTINA**

“Dieguito Maradona” has joined the Olympic team as mascot of the Argentinian NOC’s ‘Going to Seoul’ campaign. The cartoon image of the famous footballer, created by Mr. Jorge Fishein, was officially adopted at a ceremony attended by Mr. Roberto Peper, IOC Member in Argentina, national sports administrators, representatives of the Korean embassy in Argentina, Olympic athletes and officials, sponsors and advertisers.

Col. Antonio Rodriguez, NOC President explains: “The Argentinian Olympic Committee is carrying out an intense publicity campaign for the Olympic Movement and sponsoring to enable us to finance our participation in the Games of the XXIVth Olympiad in Seoul. Dieguito will be the image that focuses and inspires all those who believe in Olympism”.

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**ARUBA**

The new NOC Secretary General is Mr. Carlos B. Bisilp. The address of the committee is: PO. Box 253, San Nicolas, Aruba. Telephone (297.8) 21451 for the President and 45383 for the Secretary General. Telefax : (297.8) 31571 and telex (0303) 5066 SPOR NA.
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

The NOC’s telex number is (0971) 5338 RC. The telephone number of the President, Mr. Jacob Gheti, is (236) 61 02 20.

PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Jingshan Park in Beijing was the setting for this year’s Olympic Day run in China. One thousand five hundred people lined up for the start on 5th June, including schoolchildren from the Beijing’s Dongcheng district and members of the veteran runners team.

Mr. Xu Yinheng, NOC Vice-President, fired the starting gun for the race, which was watched by Mr. He Zhenliang, IOC Member in China, and members of the Olympic Committee and the State Commission for Physical Culture and Sports.

China is to send its largest-ever Olympic team of around 300 hundred sportsmen to Seoul, in comparison with the 200 hundred who went to Los Angeles, including for the first time boxers, footballers and table tennis players. This means the Chinese team will be participating in nineteen events. A 28-year-old ban on boxing was lifted last year and the Games are the first major international competition for its new team.
National Committees

COOK ISLANDS

Mr. Tony Hole, Secretary General since 1987, has resigned owing to ill health. He is replaced by Mr. Peter Tom Marstser, (left) Co-ordination Officer for the Ministry of Outer Islands Affairs.

Born in 1945, a gold medallist in welterweight boxing at the South Pacific Games in 1963, he has been the national boxing coach in the sport since 1987 and was also President of the squash rackets association from 1986 to 1987.

The President, Mr. Hugh Henry, who has been appointed to the ONOC board, made his report to the NOC’s Annual General Meeting on 3rd May 1988. He qualified the previous eighteen months as a time of rapid growth in several areas of sport in the Cook Islands. He pointed to the organization of the Oceania Amateur Boxing Championships in July 1987, at which a hundred boxers from eight Pacific countries participated. This event also provided the NOC with some experience in the use of sponsors. Two young weightlifters received training through the Australian Institute of Sport and subsequently did well in the New South Wales Country Championships. The Islands were also represented at the South Pacific Games held in 1987 in Noumea (FRA) in weightlifting, boxing, cricket and rugby. As regards the Games of the XXIVth Olympiad in Seoul, the NOC has entered competitors in athletics, boxing and weightlifting.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

“The most important construction project in its history” is how USOC describes the future U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame in Colorado Springs. Mr. Robert Helmick, NOC President, says that is to be “a facility to establish a focal point for the Olympic Movement in the United States which will be symbolic, preserve its history, celebrate its spirit, commemorate its heroes, and stimulate public interest in and support for the nation’s Olympic efforts”. A team of Los Angeles-based consultants will complete the planning process and choose the architect, who will present his design concept by the end of 1988.

Dr. Harold Henning, chairman of the NOC’s international relations committee and a sportsman who had been involved in the Olympic Movement for over fifty years, has died in Illinois. President of FINA from 1972-76, he had been a member of the Olympic committee since 1969 and was on the organizing committee of the Games in Los Angeles. He was given numerous awards for swimming, which culminated in his receiving the Olympic Order in 1981. An excellent all-round athlete, he was a finalist for the Olympic swimming team for the Games in 1940 which were cancelled due to outbreak of the Second World War. He then turned his talents to coaching on a voluntary basis and trained two world class swimmers for the Games in 1960, Dick Blick (USA), gold medallist at the Games in 1960 and Reuben Rocca (CUB), as well as the USA team that competed in the Games in Tokyo in 1964.

A sports exchange agreement, which includes cultural and sports medicine links, has been signed by the Costa Rican and Mexican Olympic Committees for 1988 and 1989. This was the outcome of a visit to Mexico City by the President of the NOC of CRC, Mr. Jorge Nery Carvajal and a member of PASO’s medical commission, Dr. Vladimir Gordienko.
Nearly four thousand participants took part in the 1988 Olympic Day run on 18th June 1988 in the capital, Accra. The starting point was the Nkrumah Circle north of the city. Named after the first president of Ghana, this is a busy area for traffic but the police got everything under control and Mr. Saarah Mensah, the Secretary of State for Youth and Sports, fired the gun to start the race at 8.00 a.m. precisely.

The first to finish at Accra Sports Stadium was 22-year-old national long distance runner Alhaji Amoh, who covered the ten kilometre course in 31 minutes. He was presented with a twelve yard piece of traditional Ghanaian cloth and a miniature bronze replica of the Seoul Olympic Stadium, donated by the South Korean Embassy in Ghana, as well as the IOC certificate.

Dan Boateng, also on the national team, followed him in second place, with Francis Ahadji, a policeman, in third.

A colleague of his, Agnes Adiedu, 24, was the first woman finisher and placed 252 overall. Two other runners who caught the attention of the media were an eleven-year-old who came in number 403 and 65 year old Roy Ankrah, the first Ghanaian to win the British Empire featherweight boxing title in 1951.

Altogether, nine hundred and thirty people managed to cross the finishing line and receive their certificates. But even those who did not quite make the distance still enjoyed the music along the way provided by the police band and the cocoa drinks and chocolates donated by a local firm. All in all, a fun occasion which had Dr. Yaw Nkansa-Gyane, the NOC President, saying that although this was the first time Ghana had organized the Run, “judging from what we have achieved by way of massive participation, popular enthusiasm and organizational success, the event should augur well for the future”.

Popular start for the Olympic Day Run in Ghana.
National Committees

GREAT BRITAIN

The NOC is keen to maintain the impetus created by the award of the Olympic Pins to British medallists. Dr. Elizabeth Ferris, who received a bronze medal in springboard diving at the Games in Rome in 1960 and the Olympic Order in 1980 for her work in sports medicine and in journalism, particularly on the subject of women in sport, has drafted a proposal for an Olympic Association of Great Britain. This is at present being studied by the NOC board.

HONG KONG

By the end of last year, a grand total of eighteen sports associations had benefited from the Incentive Awards Scheme for good international achievements, implemented by the NOC.

A full programme of NOC courses is under way for 1988, covering sports leadership and administration, sports science, sports medicine and programmes on the International Certification on Sports Management and Coaching offered by the United States Olympic Academy with the assistance of the NOC of the USA.

The federation is carrying out an increasingly ambitious sports education programme, as, in the words of the NOC President, Mr. A. de O. Sales, “There can be truly no greater assurance of sound and progressive sports development than to have a wide base of highly-trained and well-qualified officials”.

IRELAND

The Olympic lapel pins were awarded at a ceremony held in Dublin on 11th June 1988, attended by the President of Ireland, Mr. Patrick Hillery, who presented the first pin to the oldest surviving medallist. Mr. Robert Tisdall, winner of the 400 metres hurdles in the Games of Los Angeles in 1932, flew in from Australia specially for the occasion. The Lord Killanin, Honorary Life President of the IOC, Dr. Kevin O’Flanagan, IOC Member in Ireland and Mr. Desmond O’Sullivan, NOC President, made the rest of the presentations before a celebratory banquet in honour of the Irish Olympians.

NETHERLANDS

The entry concerning Mr. J.M.A. van Rosberg which appeared in OR 246 should have placed under the NOC of the Netherlands Antilles. It has been reproduced in the correct place in this issue.

PORTUGAL

The Portuguese delegation in Seoul will be fifty percent larger than in Los Angeles, with 55 to 60 athletes plus 25-odd officials, coaches, etc., “a big effort from a small committee”, writes Mr. David Sequerra, Secretary General.

Four of the Portuguese hopes for 1992, two girls and two boys, have been chosen by their respective federations and the NOC to attend the Youth Camp in Seoul in September.

The NOC’s main annual award, the Nobre Guedes Medal, has just been awarded to Luis Ramos Pereira, at eighteen years old twice world junior champion in skeet shooting.

The IOC Sports Journalism Trophy was awarded on 27th June 1988, on Olympic Day in Portugal, to Mr. Rodrigo Pinto, Editor of the paper “O Jogo”, in which he writes a weekly article on sport and Olympism.
GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Gillis Grafstroem, Swedish Olympic figure skating champion at the Games in 1920, 1924 and 1928, silver medallist in 1932, and three times winner of the world championships, was honoured by the NOC in a commemoration service held at his place of burial in Potsdam, GDR, on 16th April 1988. Mr. Grafstroem settled in Potsdam, where he worked as an architect, and married Cecilia, great-granddaughter of the composer Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy. His step-daughter, Mrs. Vera Schieckel, was present at the ceremony, together with Mr. Arne Kallin, first secretary of the Swedish embassy, representatives of the Sports and Gymnastics Union of the GDR and two world figure skating champions of the GDR, Gabriele Seyfert and Christine Trettin-Errath.

Cold for Gillis Grafstroem (SWE) on the ice in St. Moritz in 1928.

Mr. Kim Yu Sun, left, presenting Mr. Kim Bong Bong with the trophy.

DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Mr. Kim Jong Bong (above right) receives the 1988 IOC Trophy for the journalist who has most promoted Olympism nationally from Mr. Kim Yu Sun, IOC Member in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea and NOC President.

EL SALVADOR

The lI1rd Central American Sports Medicine Congress took place in the capital San Salvador in March 1988, with participants from Belize, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Brazil, Nicaragua and Panama as well as the host country.

Also in March, Mr. Rodolfo Cremer and Mr. Hector Chamarro gave a course in sports leadership to 42 leading Salvadorean sport administrators.
National Committees

SUDAN

The new President is Prof. Kamal Hamid Shadded and the Secretary General Col. Mustafa Elzein Soghairon. The telex number is now (0984) 22783 SD.

SYRIA

A special ceremony was held on 12th May in honour of sportsmen who had excelled themselves so far in 1988. Mr. Said Hammade, Head of the Youth and Sports Office and the NOC President Mr. Samih Medallal were present, together with other members of the Olympic committee and many sportsmen.

VENEZUELA

‘Sports Day’ Honours Venezuelan Olympians’

Olympic medallists Arnoldo Devenish, bronze in triple jump in 1952, Francisco Rodriguez, gold in light flyweight boxing in 1968, Bernardo Pinango, silver in bantamweight boxing in 1980 and Rafael Vidal, bronze in swimming, 100 m butterfly in 1984, received their Olympic Pins in a ceremony held in United Nations Park in Caracas. Distinguished guests from the world of sport were present to pay their tributes: in addition to the Minister of Youth, Dr. Virginia Olivo de Celli, Mrs. Flor Isava-Fonseca, IOC Member in Venezuela, Mr. Fernando Romero, NOC President and Mr. Cesar Rojas, Secretary General.