

## REPORT on XXXIXth FISA CONGRESS & ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

held on Sunday, September 19th 1999 in VIENNA, AUSTRIA,

on the occasion of FLUGPOSTPHILA '99

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### Verification of the proxies

### Inaugural addresses and honouring ceremony

Word of welcome by Herbert Judmaier, President of 'Freunde der Österreichischen Ballonpost'.

President Kuno Sollors expressed his appreciation of the organisation and especially for the spontaneous offer from Herbert Abfalter, Herbert Judmaier and Hans Mierl to host this Congress in Vienna, as Bucharest/Romania was not possible. Special thanks to the Organising Committee.

In the almost 40 years of FISA, Vienna is now the fourth city that has held the FISA Congress for the fourth time: Berlin (1962/1971/1977/1987), London (1964/1980/1983/1990), Luzern (1969/1975/1981/1985) and now Vienna (1965/1968/1988/1999).

President Kuno Sollors read the fax from Jackie Bekaert concerning the sudden illness of Georges Lauwers and that they could not attend, but that their thoughts were with us.

He introduced the Board Members present and excused Nelson Eustis.

**Present:** Tony A. Roth, Dr. Stefan Bruylants, Alex S. Newall, Gérard Collot, Dr. Bedrich Helm, John L. Johnson Jr, Hans Mierl, Dr. Romano Savini.

A further welcome was extended to FISA Hon. Members Kurt Dahmann and Johann Kormann, and to Marian Szwemin/Poland.

Greetings and best wishes for a successful Congress were received from:

1. The Canadian Aerophilatelic Society/Dick Malott
2. EAPC/ Dr. Peter Moeller, Stuttgart
3. APCD/ Reiner Stimm, Potsdam
4. DAPC/ Günther Lachmann, Köln
5. Hermann Walter Sieger, Hon. Member FISA
6. The Irish Airmail Society / Brian Warren, Dublin
7. Roland F. Kohl, Former President FISA
8. Brian Jones
9. The Philatelic Society of India / Dhirubhai Mehta
10. De Vliegende Hollander / W.P. Heere

### Ceremony of award presentation

#### 1999 GOLD MEDAL was awarded to:

- Georges Lauwers/Belgium, President of BFV Cosmos, Gent/B, for a lifetime devotion and services rendered to astrophilately and FISA.
- Herbert Abfalter, President of the Österreichischer Flugpostsammlerverein, Wien/A, for his engagement and work for the Austrian airmail collectors club and his spontaneous offer to bring the FISA Congress to Vienna.

## **GOLDEN FISA PIN**

Dr. Stefan Bruylants, O.L.V.-Waver/B, for his engagement rendered to astrophilately and his outstanding work and activities for the development of a FISA website.

## **DELFT FISA PLATE**

- Herbert Judmaier, - Frau Ilse Ströbl, - Martin Lutschek, Vorstand Wiener Sonderpostamt,  
- Mrs. Phil McCarthy, wife of the AAMS President, for her great hospitality to the guests from abroad during last year's Congress in Virginia Beach, USA. Kuno will take the plate with him to the US.

## **Literature medals**

### **SILVER MEDAL**

- Roland F. Kohl for two publications: "Die Schweizerischen Flugpost-Zuschlagstaxen ab 1919" and the catalogue "Die Flugpost von Österreich".  
- Petr Horka for his catalogue "Ceskoslovenska Letecká Posta, 1918-1939". (Airmail Catalogue of Czechoslovakia, 1918-1939). Remark: maybe an English translation for the next edition.

### **BRONZE MEDAL**

- Team of authors: Herdt/Jankiewicz/Lange for their "Luftpost Katalog der DDR, 1949/1991"

The presenting of awards was followed by the **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**.

## **AGENDA:**

### **1. Acceptance of the AGENDA**

A change in the listing of the Agenda: point 10. Revision of Statutes comes before point 7. Election of Members of the Directorate and the Auditor. This motion was agreed unanimously.

### **2. Election of Tellers**

Mr. Peter Beer/CH accepted and was elected as Teller.

### **3. Acceptance of the Minutes of the previous General Assembly at Virginia Beach 1998**

No remarks, unanimously accepted.

### **4. Acceptance of the Annual Report 1998**

No remarks, unanimously accepted.

### **5. Acceptance of the audited Treasurer's Report**

1998 showed a small loss due to three factors: Interest rates are going down worldwide. Postage fees are going up worldwide (100-200 SFR a year for communication between the Secretary General and members worldwide). Invitation for Virginia Beach: gifts to the clubs, lunch for the delegates, etc.

The Auditor agreed with the Treasurer and proposed to accept the Financial Report. The 1998 Financial Report of the Treasurer and the Auditor's Report were unanimously approved by the A.G.M.

## **6. Admittance of New Members**

Re-entry of British Aerophilatelic Federation/BAeF. Unanimously accepted. They will keep their old affiliation number in FISA.

## **7. Revision of Statutes**

The Board decided to have a Congress every two years.

For this, two articles in the Statutes need to be changed:

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|-----------|--|
| Art. 8.2  | as is: General meeting meets annually.<br>new: General meeting meets every other year.   |
| Art. 10.7 | as is: Members of the Directorate are elected for 3 years. They can be re-elected...<br>new: Members of the Directorate are elected for 2 years. They can be re-elected<br>... |

H. Judmaier suggested to admit: ... 2 years, or until the next General Meeting. The Delegates unanimously approved the revision. The next General Meeting will be in 2001.

At that moment K. Dahmann and J. Kormann were honoured for their work on the Statutes back in 1961.

## **8. Fixing of the Yearly Subscription**

No changes.

## **9. Report of the Hon. Editor, Alex S. Newall**

The FISA Bulletin is now printed and posted in Cyprus; costs are lower and more printing in colour is possible. The next Bulletin (# 112) will be published by the end of this year. Alex Newall restated that the Bulletin is from and for the membres, therefore a feedback is necessary. Please send all information to the Hon. Editor. The Bulletin costs money and of each issue four items are sent to each member society, where most of the time it stays with the President or the Secretary: the Bulletin is for each collector to reach! As an example: the EAPC/Stuttgart has the costs for the Bulletin included in their yearly contribution.

## **10. Report on the FISA website by Stefan Bruylants**

First talks in 1998, work started in November 1998 (after learning the program). Third edition first shown at Board Meeting in March 1999/Stuttgart. Fifth edition ready in June 1999. Difficulty to get on the web: FISA has its seat in Zurich, cannot be registered in Belgium; I have a Belgian provider. A name with .com costs money. Finally I got 10 MB free webspace from my provider, but address would be something like <http://my.name@myprovider.be>, not quite nice for an international organisation. Searching the web again, I found a re-directory service and finally could work out the URL address: <http://fly.to/fisa> (in fact an address on the Tonga Islands!).

Now the sixth edition is on the web since 13 September 1999.

## **11. Election of Members of the Directorate and the Auditor**

Secretary General Jackie Bekaert to be elected. Since the new Statutes are accepted, the whole Board is electable. The Board, as it is, is unanimously re-elected for two years by the AGM.

## **12. Discussion of Motions and Appeals**

### **A/ Letter from F. van Beveren and W. Heere / De Vliegende Hollander**

F. van Beveren wrote a letter in which he stated not to agree with the definition of Aerophilately as printed in the Bulletin by Alex Newall (a) and that they also do not agree with the 'Council of Elders' (b).

(a) The definition of Aerophilately was written in the sixties-seventies by Kurt Dahmann, was updated in 1987 by A. Newall and was accepted in 1988 (Tokyo) by FIP (one of the only definitions both agreed on). Both definitions will be published in the Bulletin and the members are asked to give their comments.

(b) Council of Elders: It seems some member societies or persons have a wrong idea about this Council. K. Dahmann stated he is not old, does not want to sit in another 'club' and discuss something for hours. J. Kormann stated that a name is of no importance; everything is changing and maybe people will forget how it all started. Therefore the advice of some pioneers might be useful, discussed if some facts are to be combined with early aerophilately. In the philatelic press, even journalists make mistakes about these early flights. Alex Newall said it might be useful to compare the early days and now.

Kuno Sollors decided to wait with the Council of Elders, it must be a Council with enthusiasm for the hobby!

### **B/ Protest Note from Kurt Dahmann concerning 'Atmospheric Flights'**

Kurt Dahmann wrote a letter protesting the name 'Atmospheric Flights' (used at IBRA 99 and Philexfrance 99) instead of Aerophilately: "ein schlechter Scherz" (a bad joke) ? This protest was followed by letters from EAPC, IAPC and DAPC.

Mrs. B. Bachmann mentioned the fact that - to her knowledge - this name was used already before (San Francisco). K. Dahmann mentioned this problem will be treated in the Concilium of the BDPH.

The Board of FISA agreed with this protest and a Resolution was drawn up in German and English. This Resolution was signed by all members of the Board and all Delegates. It will be sent to the Secretary General of FIP.

### **C/ Conflict FIP - FIP AirCom - FISA**

Kuno Sollors remarked: in 1951 members of FISA drew up the first definition of Aerophilately, since they did not agree with the comments of FIP on Aero- and Astrophilately. In 1961, FISA was created. Now, 39 years later, we still argue with FIP about judging Aero- and Astrophilately by judges from FISA.

FIP Aircom and FISA still do not talk, though FISA accepted the regulations. FIP Aircom did not say a word to FISA. This has to be cleared up soon. Federations will stop working together with FIP-AirCom, especially in the US the problem is big. Yet FISA went to talk with the Secretary General of FIP and will continue. If a collection goes down, having better material, this creates problems!

FISA can take over the role of FIP AirCom and it would cost them nothing. To be continued.

Alex Newall concluded: we are responsible for aero- and astrophilately, we must decide how the story continues.

## **13. Granting of Patronage and Auspices to Exhibitions**

No applications were received.

#### **14. Fixing of time and place of the next General Assembly**

The next Congress in 2001 will be prepared as soon as we have a location. Trying to make it a Congress, AGM and Exhibition and Symposia.

#### **15. Communications**

On behalf of S.A.V., Tony A. Roth invited FISA for a Board Meeting in Dübendorf/Zürich in April 2000.

#### **16. Closing ceremony**

The President thanked all the participants and invited the Directorate, the Delegates and guests for a lunch at Restaurant Hauswirth in Wien.

SB/KS, October 1999.