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LOCAL NEWS

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For the coming festive season I would like to take this opportunity to extend all of my many friends the best of the Yuletide Greetings. May God bless you.

Walter Risi.



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SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

May I please remind you of the special group travel offer advertised in last month's issue. Space does not permit us to print it in full this month, but keep it in mind.

My Dear compatriots,

It is for the forth and last time I send you my little message at the turn of the year. I will leave New Zealand in May 1979 to take up another appointment abroad. Before I leave this beautiful country, in which my family and I will then have spent four years and made many friends among New Zealanders and Swiss, I hope to be able to visit all the Swiss Communities here once more and to say good-bye personally.

My best wishes for a blessed and happy Christmas and a peaceful and prosperous New Year.

Fritz Adams
Charge d'Affaires of Switzerland

Do you remember?

The 20 years of the Solidarity Fund – it was in the June 1978 Issue of this paper.

Extract from the Constitution:

Art. 2 Aims

The aim of the Solidarity Fund is to unite Swiss abroad with a view to accumulating personal savings and to affording mutual assistance in the event of loss of livelihood abroad due to war, civil disturbances or general coercive measures of a political nature, and not due to the member's own fault.

Art. 3 Execution

Members accumulate joint assets by making statutory or voluntary contributions and with the help of further contributions from third parties, together with the revenue from interest, will be used.

- For the payment of lump sum compensation intended to enable the claimant to re-establish the material basis of existence either abroad or in Switzerland. The size of such lump sum payments depends on the amount of savings deposits and risk category chosen by the member.
- For the repayment of savings deposits plus interest.
- For the maintenance of an auxiliary relief fund and other funds.
- For covering administrative expenditure.

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Solidarity Fund of the Swiss Abroad, Gutenbergstrasse 6, 3011 Berne, Switzerland.

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- Nr. 4 24 Oktober—15 November 1978 (Ruder-Weltmeisterschaft)
- Nr. 5 12 Dezember 78—07. Januar 1979.
- Nr. 6 16 Januar—11. Februar 1979.
- Nr. 7 11. Dezember 79—6. Januar 1980.
- Nr. 8 15. Januar—10. Februar 1980.

Information senden wir auf Ihren Wunsch gerne an Ihre Schweizer Bekannten

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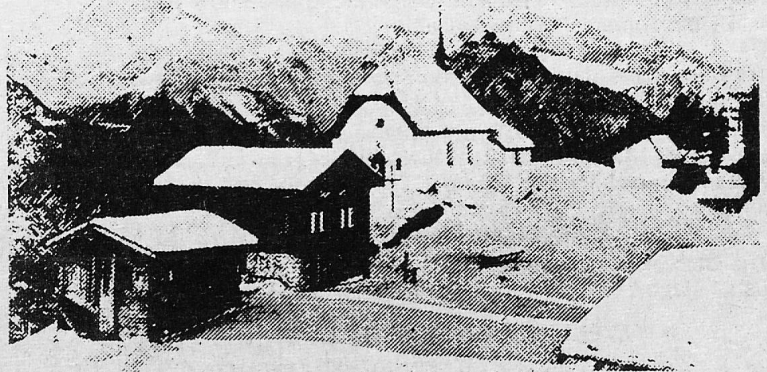
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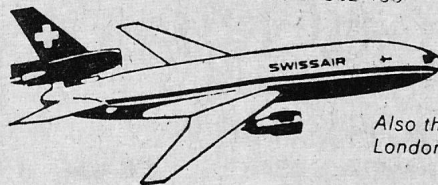
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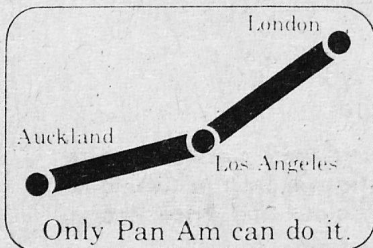


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New Method for Testing the Hardness of Metals

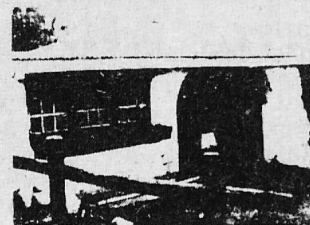
A team of Swiss engineers has developed a new method of measuring the hardness of metals, based on the principle of energy measurement. An impact body is propelled by a spring against the surface to be examined from which it rebounds; the velocities are measured immediately before and after the impact. The quotient of these values is calculated electronically, multiplied by 100 and displayed directly on the instrument as the L-hardness value. The L-value serves as a direct indication of the hardness of the material tested. By means of conversion curves, the value of the hardness measured can moreover be converted into the corresponding Brinell, Vickers or Rockwell hardness values. Under the name of "Equotip", a Swiss firm produces a hardness tester operating according to this new method. This instrument is about the size of a ballpoint pen, which makes it possible to carry out accurate measurements even when the surface to be tested is very small. It can be used for testing mass-produced parts and checking large and heavy work-pieces on the spot or even machines that have already been installed. This new process was awarded a gold medal at the International Salon of Inventions and New Processes in 1977 in Geneva. (SODT) (PROCEQ AG, Riesbachstrasse 57, CH-8034 Zurich, telex 53 357 proce ch)

Swissair Opens its Own Freight Hall in Cairo

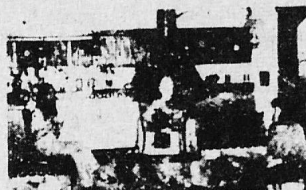
At Cairo Airport, Swissair recently opened its first freight hall in the Orient. This new construction comprises the actual freight hall, covering an area of about 16,500 square feet, and a number of offices, occupying an area of 1,300 square feet. This new premises allows better supervision and safer and faster handling of goods. Facilities for carrying out customs formalities in the hall itself represent an important innovation for Cairo Airport. The planning and construction of these new premises have been carried out in cooperation with Air France, which occupies half the hall. (SODT) (Swissair Schweiz, Luftverkehr AG, Hirschengraben 84, CH-8001 Zurich, telex 52 407)

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