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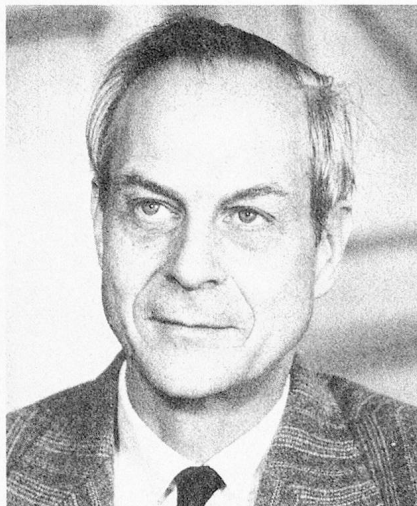
Official Communications

On 8th December 1982 the Federal Assembly elected two new Federal Councillors: States Councillor Alphonse Egli (CDP), who received 125 votes, and Na-

tional Councillor Rudolf Friedrich (RDP), who received 130 votes. They take over from Hans Hürlimann and Fritz Honegger, who have resigned.



Alphonse Egli, whose places of origin are Entlebuch and Lucerne, was born in Lucerne on 8th October 1924. After attending primary and secondary school and the «Gymnasium» he read law at the Universities of Zurich, Berne and Rome, completing these studies by obtaining his law doctorate. Having qualified as a barrister, he opened a legal practice in Lucerne in 1952 and still runs it today. He was a member of the Lucerne cantonal parliament from 1967 until 1975, when he entered the Council of States, where he is the leader of the Christian Democratic group. Mr. Egli is married and has three children. When on military service he holds the rank of lieutenant-colonel of infantry.



Rudolf Friedrich was born in Winterthur, his place of origin, on 4th July 1923 and went to school there. After some months of active service as a lieutenant in the Army he studied law and economics at the University of Zurich, where he obtained his law doctorate. He worked in Zurich district court from 1947 to 1952 and then in private enterprise. Having qualified as a barrister, he has run his own legal practice in Winterthur since 1957. From 1962 to 1975 he was a member of the Winterthur Municipal Council and from 1967 to 1977 of the cantonal parliament. He was elected to the National Council in 1975. Mr. Friedrich, a bachelor, is a member of the Radical Democratic Party. In the Army he holds the rank of captain.

National Council Elections – 23rd October 1983

Dear Compatriots,

The Federal Act of 17th December 1976 on political rights, accepted by the Swiss people on 4th December 1977, provides that **the cantons shall send a complete set of voting papers to each elector not later than 10 days before election day.**

For reasons connected with organization and printing it was necessary to fix a shorter time-limit than the three weeks prescribed in the case of referendums.

The Federal Council will circularize the Cantons about the National Council Elections, asking them to send the voting material for the Swiss abroad to the «communes of presence» in Switzerland as soon as possible.

To be on the safe side, however, we would advise you, if possible, to plan your visit to Switzerland in such a way that you can cast your vote in your «commune of presence» or in your voting commune between 13rd and 20th October 1983.

*Yours sincerely:
Federal Chancellery*

The Federal Authorities 1983:

President of the National Council:
Franz Eng

President of the Council of States:
Walter Weber

President of the Confederation:
Pierre Aubert

Composition of the Federal Council and allocation of Departments:

Department of Foreign Affairs:
Pierre Aubert

Department of the Interior:
Alphonse Egli

Department of Justice and Police:
Rudolf Friedrich

Military Department:
Georges-André Chevallaz

Department of Finance:
Willi Ritschard

Department of Public Economy:
Kurt Furgler

Department of Transport, Communications and Energy:
Léon Schlumpf

Functions and Organization of the Federal Department of Justice and Police

The **principal functions of the Federal Department of Justice and Police** can be summed up as follows:

- Working out the legal bases for a continual improvement of the quality of life;
- Creating the essential conditions for the protection of the freedoms and the fulfilment to which every citizen is entitled.

This description shows that the human being, as an individual and as a member of society, occupies a prominent place in the fulfilment of the Department's functions.

● Protection of the person

This means, above all, improving the protection of the human person in the economic, technical and social fields, for example against encroachments by the mass media and data banks; revising the law protecting the human person, family law etc. Revising the legislation on tenants and on tenant farming.

● Protection of the individual in road traffic

Under this heading are included not only traffic safety in general but also the regulation of noise and of the emission of exhaust gases from motor vehicles.

● Protection against crime

Working out the legal bases for successfully combating crime. Encouraging and supporting the Cantons in the carrying out of sentences, whose aim is not primarily expiation and retribution but the reintegration of the offender into society.

● Protection in war

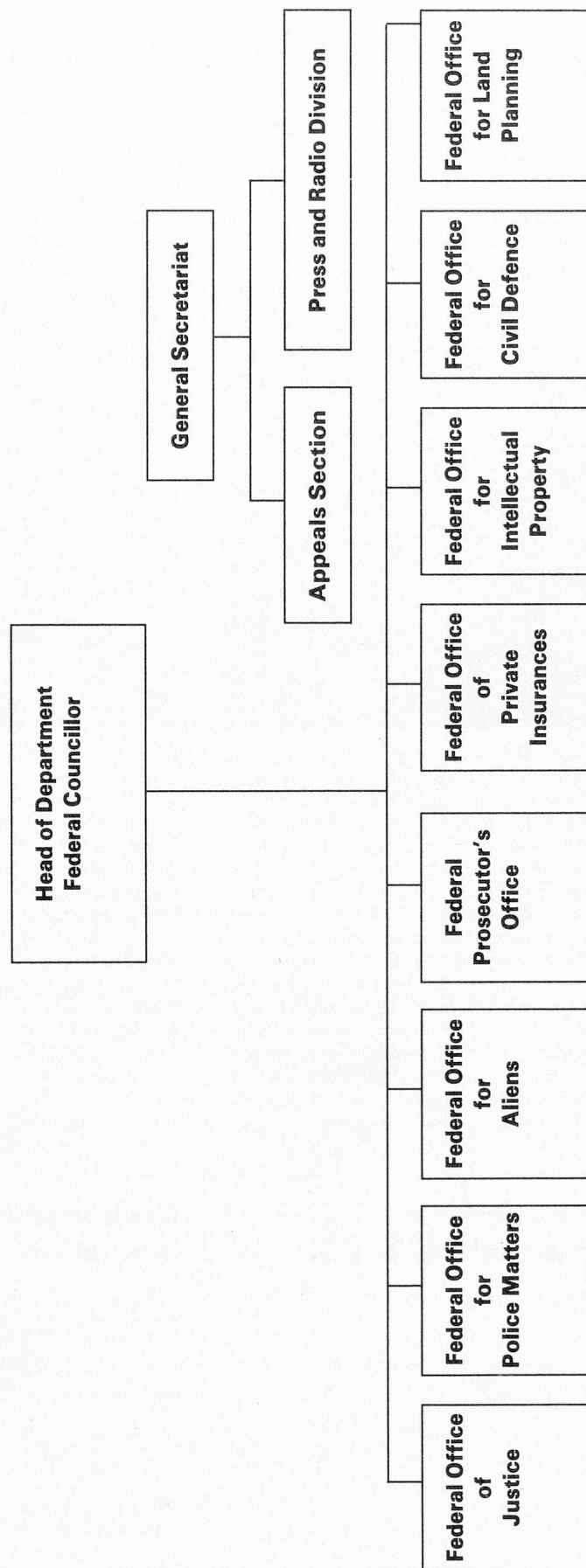
The revised civil defence legislation provides that by the year 2000 a place of shelter shall be available to every inhabitant of Switzerland. Civil defence contributes substantially to deterrence.

● Protection of the land

In 1969 the people and the Cantons asked the Confederation to establish the basic principles of land planning. A first draft law having been rejected in the summer of 1976, a new law, taking account of the objections expressed during the campaign preceding the ballot, entered into force on 1st January 1981.

● Protection of aliens and refugees

The Department submitted to parliament a draft law relating to the settlement and residence of aliens



which furnished the legal bases for a balanced policy on aliens, clarified the legal position of aliens in Switzerland and – by providing legal remedies – endeavoured to improve it. This draft law was rejected by the people and the Cantons on 6th June 1982.

The policy on asylum can be summarized as follows:
Financial and operational aid on the spot;
Admittance of refugees who are particularly endangered and handicapped.

Department of Justice and Police

GENERAL SECRETARIAT

Coordination within the Department and with other Departments; planning, direction and supervision of business, preparation of business for the Head of Department; organization, direction of the personnel service and management of finances; internal and external information on departmental matters; handling of appeals falling within the Department's competence.

FEDERAL OFFICE OF JUSTICE

Participation in, and coordination of, all legislative work; legislation on constitutional and administrative matters, and in the fields of private law, civil actions and criminal law; advice on the application of the law; handling of appeals addressed to the Federal Council. Overall supervision of the Commercial Register, the Civil Status Service and the Land Register; overall direction and supervision of Land Register surveys.

FEDERAL OFFICE FOR POLICE MATTERS

Legislation in the fields of road traffic, mutual legal assistance, citizenship, asylum, welfare, games of chance and lotteries; handling of citizenship questions; international mutual legal assistance; reception of, and assistance to, refugees; preparation of measures relating to road safety and to protection from noise and the emission of exhaust gases.

FEDERAL OFFICE FOR ALIENS

Legislation concerning the settlement and residence of aliens; examination of requests for entry, settlement and residence permits; keeping of aliens statistics and the Central Aliens Register; preparation of international agreements; supervision of the execution of legislation and agreements.

FEDERAL PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE

Prosecution in cases falling under federal criminal law; preparation and execution of measures relating to the defence of the State; coordination of action against counterfeit money, drug trafficking and obscene publications. Direction of the national central bureau of Interpol.

FEDERAL OFFICE OF PRIVATE INSURANCES

Supervision of private insurance firms; examination of their soundness; approval of the tariffs and conditions of insurance; inspection of firms' management; preparation of international agreements in the field of private insurance.

FEDERAL OFFICE FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Legislation in the field of invention patents, designs and models, brand names and trade marks, copyright; examination and issuing of patents; examination of designs and models, of brand names and trade marks; preparation of international agreements; supervision of the execution of legislation and the agreements.

FEDERAL OFFICE FOR CIVIL DEFENCE

Planning, preparation, execution and supervision of measures aimed at protecting, rescuing and looking after persons and goods; training of personnel and acquisition of material; information on foreseeable dangers and on means of protection and rescue.

FEDERAL OFFICE FOR LAND PLANNING

Preparation of a land planning law and of the relevant implementing regulations; coordination of the planning projects of the Confederation and the Cantons and harmonization with other countries' projects; defence, within the organs of the Confederation and vis-à-vis the Cantons, of the land planning policy.

Marriage of a Swiss woman

A Swiss woman wishing to retain her Swiss nationality on marrying a foreign national **must** make a declaration in writing to that effect, **before the marriage**, on a form obtainable from the Swiss diplomatic and consular missions abroad.

