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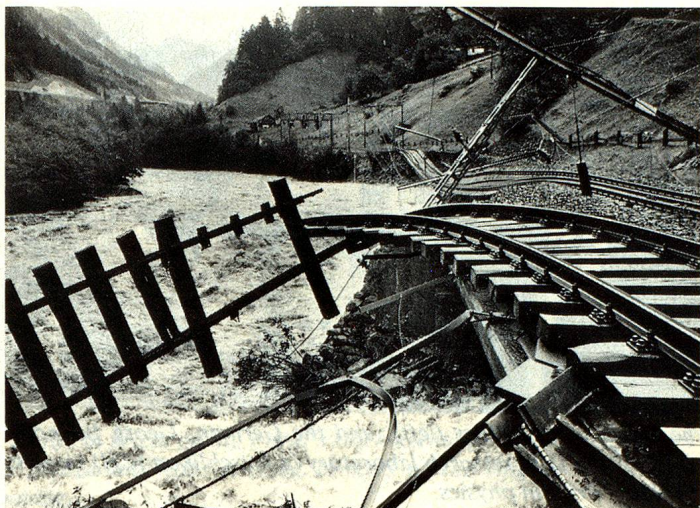
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The worst storms within living memory swept over large areas of Switzerland last summer, bringing destruction and distress in their wake (photo: part of the Gotthard railway line washed away near Gurtellen).



Storms: hard-hit Poschiavo (Grisons), with damage amounting to around SFr. 50m.



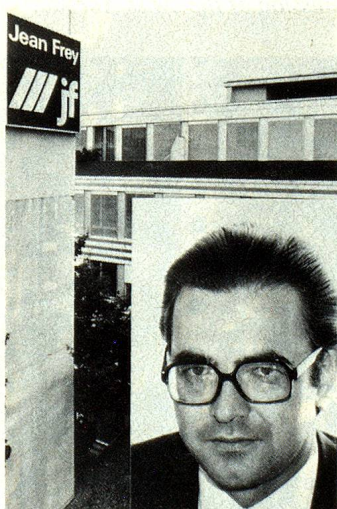
Storms: aerial view of the floods at Flüelen.



Storms: Army units clear the motorway in the Urnerland.



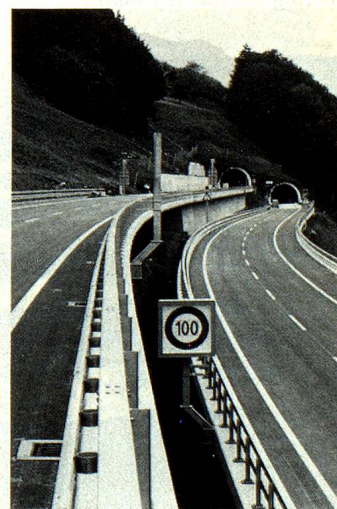
Aidshilfe Schweiz and the Federal Office for Public Health launch a large preventive campaign in February against the immunodeficiency disease, Aids.



Young entrepreneur Werner K. Rey purchases the large publishing house of Jean Frey AG in Zürich.



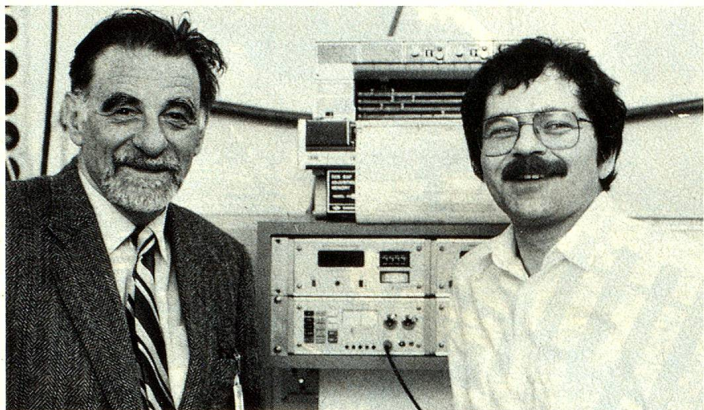
The «Rail 2000» concept was accepted in the referendum of 6th December. (The picture shows the opening of the Geneva-Cointrin airport railway station).



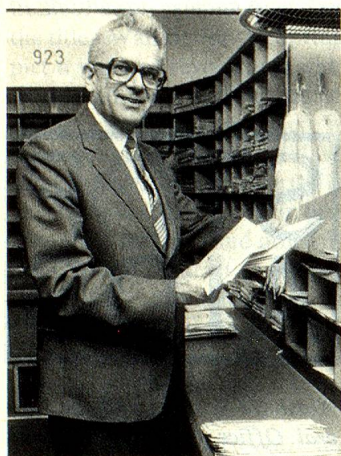
After the opening of the Walensee motorway in November, the legendary traffic jam belongs to history.



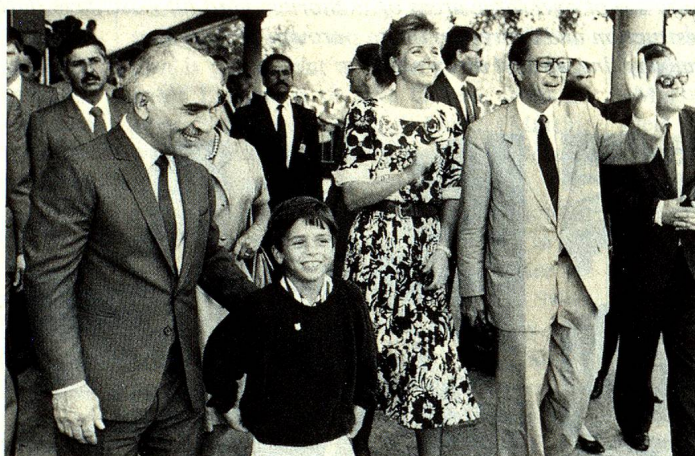
Election of National Council and Council of States in mid-October. (Our picture shows the opening ceremony and oath-taking of the 43rd legislative period of the Federal Assembly).



The Swiss, Alex Müller (left), and the German, Georg Bednorz (right) of the IBM research laboratory in Rüschlikon (ZH) receive the Nobel Prize in physics.



Two resignations from the Federal Council as from the end of the year: Federal Councillor Leon Schlumpf – in our picture as principal post-office official, sorting the railway mail...



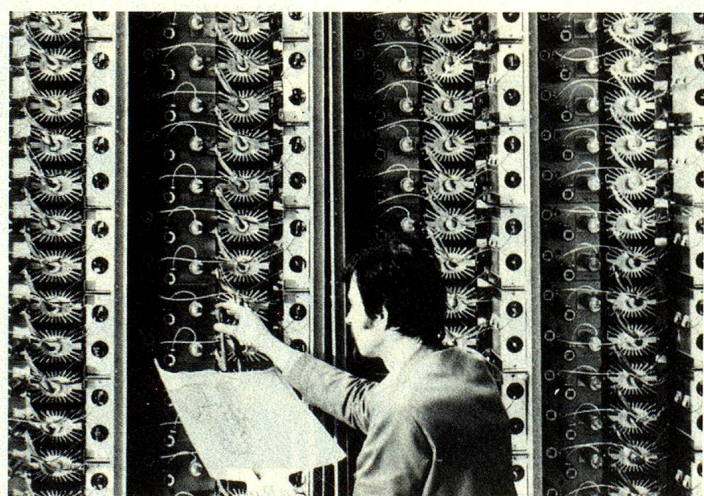
...and Federal Councillor Pierre Aubert (second from right with Queen Noor and King Hussein of Jordan – front, left – during their state visit to Switzerland).



National Councillor Eva Segmüller is the first woman to be elected president of one of the large political parties of Switzerland – the Christian Democratic People's Party. She is also a member of the Commission of the Swiss Abroad.

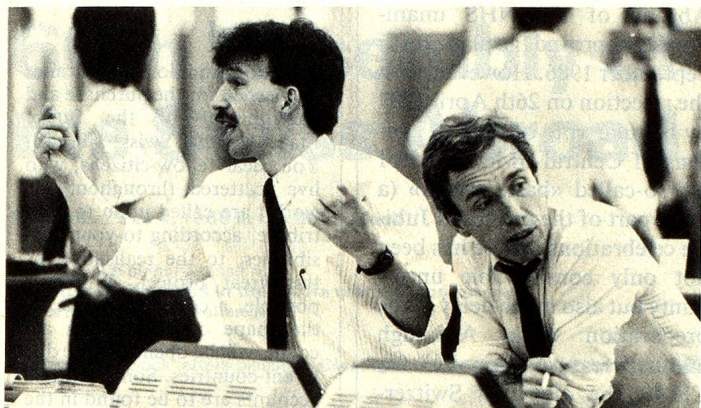


The first Leopard battle tank is handed over to the armed forces.



The Swiss BBC (Brown Boveri Company) in Baden merged with ASEA of Sweden to form the world's largest electrical engineering concern (picture: static converter of a transmitting station).

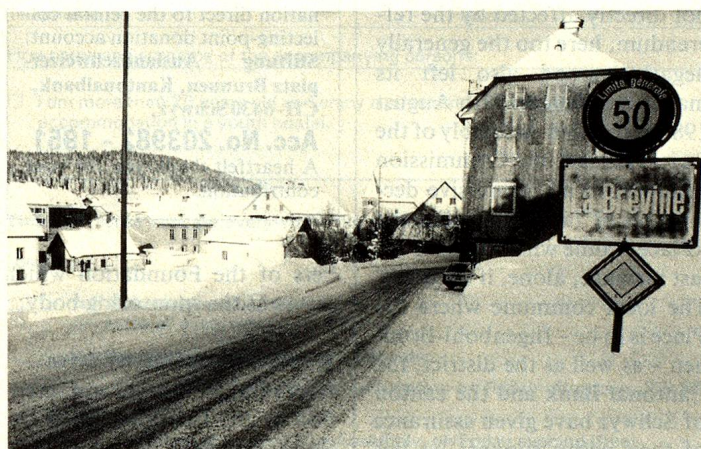
Looking back on 1987



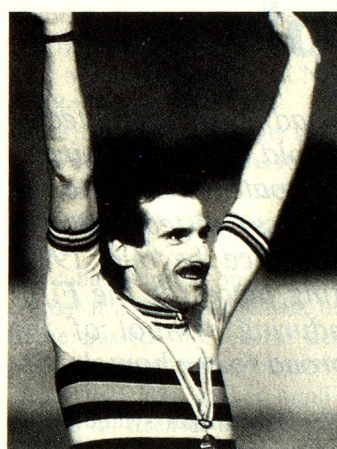
The fall in prices on the world's stock exchanges had consequences in Switzerland too: stressed brokers at the ring of the Zurich bourse.



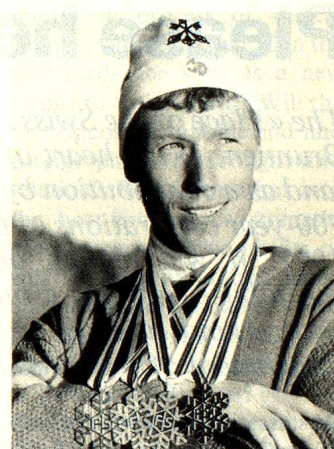
Forcible eviction of settlers in the alternative shanty colony called Zaffaraya, by the Berne police, was followed by further hard confrontations between demonstrators and police.



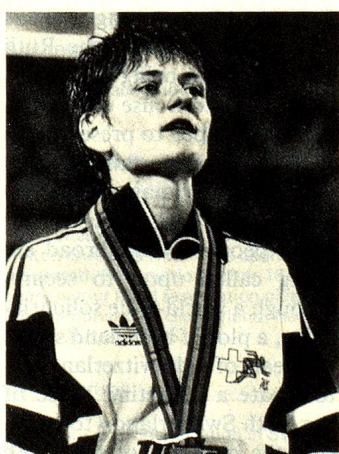
Cold record in La Brévine, Neuchâtel on 12th January: minus 41.8° C, the lowest temperature ever recorded in Switzerland.



Urs Freuler successfully defended his title of (points) world track-rider champion at the world cycle-racing championships in Vienna.



Gold and Silver rain for master of all (ski) trades Pirmin Zurbriggen who twice won a gold and twice a silver at the Alpine world championships in Crans-Montana.



The Sandra Gasser doping affair: this Swiss athlete had to return the bronze medal she won at the track-and-field world championships in Rome.



Sportswoman of the year: Maria Walliser, who won the title of world champion in the parade discipline of Alpine events and the gold medal in the Super G in Crans-Montana.



Sportsman of the year: Werner Günthör. He won the gold for shot-putting at the athletics world championships in Rome.

Photos: Associated Press, Keystone Press, Beat Marti.