

**Zeitschrift:** Swiss review : the magazine for the Swiss abroad  
**Herausgeber:** Organisation of the Swiss Abroad  
**Band:** 22 (1995)  
**Heft:** 6

**Vorwort:** Editorial  
**Autor:** Tschanz, Pierre-André

### **Nutzungsbedingungen**

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

### **Conditions d'utilisation**

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

### **Terms of use**

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

**Download PDF:** 22.08.2025

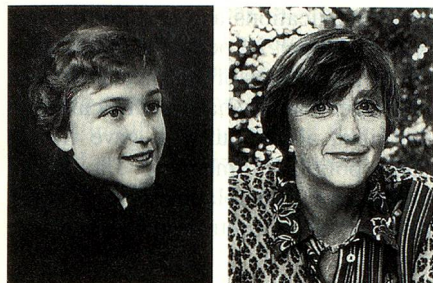
**ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>**

## CONTENTS

### Forum

50 years on:  
commemoration

4



Woman strengthened  
by adversity

6

### Social

100 years  
Heiligenschwendi

12

### Mosaic

Otto Stich bows out

16

### Cover:

Uniforms and clothes filthy, shoes torn, the dominant colours military grey, green and brown: refugees on the march in Switzerland.  
(Repro: Max Baumann)

## IMPRESSUM

Swiss Review, the magazine for the Swiss Abroad, is in its 22nd year of issue and is published in German, French, Italian, English and Spanish in more than 20 regional editions. It has a total circulation of over 310,000. Regional news appears four times a year.

Editors: René Lenzin (RL), Secretariat for the Swiss Abroad (chairman); Alice Baumann (AB), Press Bureau Alice Baumann Conception; Pierre-André Tschanz (PAT), Swiss Radio International, Berne; Giuseppe Rusconi (RUS), parliamentary correspondent for "Corriere del Ticino". Editor of Official News: Paul Andermatt (ANP), Service for the Swiss Abroad, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, CH-3003 Berne. Translator: Ian Tickle.

Publisher, Editorial Office, Advertising: Secretariat for the Swiss Abroad, Alpenstrasse 26, CH-3000 Berne 16; Tel: 41 31 351 61 10, Fax: 41 31 351 61 50, Postal Cheque Account (Swiss National Giro): 30-6768-9. Printed by: Buri Druck AG, CH-3084 Wabern.



The end of the Second World War, demobilisation, the men coming home, peace again, return to normal. And then with the celebrations over – questioning, doubts, perhaps a bad conscience kept carefully at bay. Silence. And now, fifty years on, a critical look back for the commemoration. Grey areas, black spots, troubling compromises, human dramas. The Swiss cross is not as white as it was once thought to be.

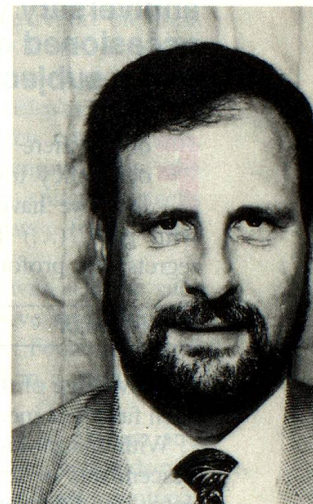
Switzerland has been making a painful examination of its conscience in this jubilee year of the end of the war. How many human lives did the very restrictive asylum policy of those war years cost? Nobody knows. But Switzerland behaved badly, that much is certain. The President of the Confederation did well to express the regrets and apologies of the Swiss government and people.

Reminders of the events and questions about the role of those running the country at the time have dominated Swiss life throughout this year. It is now the turn of Swiss Review to make a modest contribution to this vast enterprise. We cannot

know ourselves without knowing our past.

This quest for Switzerland's past has been heavily influenced by the identity crisis which the country has been suffering from since the end of the 1980s. The Swiss disease has affected our view of the war years, just as it did our look back over the 700 years of the Confederation four years ago. In this decade of commemorations – the 150th anniversary of the federal state is coming up in 1998 – the Swiss are showing a strong propensity to harp on what divides them rather than what unites them, concentrating more on the wound itself than the healing process.

This is not our attitude. Our retrospective is intended to integrate rather than to separate. How could our slate be completely clean after the huge distance we have travelled together? We should pick ourselves up and get going once more.



PA Tschanz

Pierre-André Tschanz