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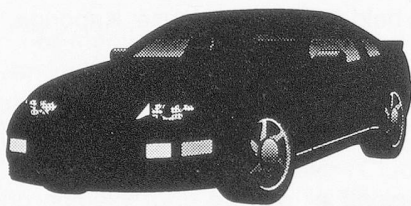
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CHARTER PASSENGERS ON SCHEDULED FLIGHTS

Very quietly the Swiss Civil Aviation Department has changed the rules governing charter flights. In the past, charter flights were strictly regulated: all passengers had to travel together, there and back, with no change of airlines, return dates or place of return.

The new regulations allow charter passengers almost as much freedom as normal paying passengers. They can change their return dates, return from a different city than the one they flew to, even change airlines for the return journey. These new regulations allow more interchange between Balair and Swissair on international flights to the delight of both Swiss airlines.

Strangely enough, these regulations are in direct contrast to the new European rules which practically abolished charter flight operations as from January 1, 1994.

DEAD IN TREE

A pedestrian who was walking through Zurich's Schindlerpark discovered a dead man sitting in a tree. In view of the advanced decomposition of the body, the police believe that the man had been dead in the tree for over 10 days when he was discovered. They believe he died of drug overdose.

MAMMOTH BOOK STORE

Orell Füssli has just opened Switzerland's biggest book store in Zurich. It offers 2000 square meters of shopping space, with over 100,000 book titles. Eighty staff are ready to look after an expected 5000 customers a day. Mammoth book stores are becoming very fashionable and Zurich is merely following the worldwide trend.



In a spectacular move, a glass dome was placed by helicopter on the top of the building housing Orell Füssli's mammoth book store.

PRIVATE AMUNITION DEPOT IN TOGGENBURG

Over 2 tons of ammunition and some 90 guns were discovered by the St Gallen Police in a private house. The arrested man, a well-off Swiss citizen, had painstakingly been purchasing his collection over a period of 5 years and stored it in his house in total disregard to laid-down regulations. The police was lead to the cache by the man himself after he was stopped by a routine midnight traffic patrol who discovered a loaded pistol in his car next to the driver's seat. Talking about giving the game away...

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BOY SCOUTS WORRY ABOUT THEIR CAMPING GROUNDS

Every year 20-30 camping places disappear in Switzerland. The 61000 Swiss boy scouts find it more and more difficult to secure suitable camping places to pitch up their tents. On the other hand, the boy scouts are sometimes their own worst enemies. Many farmers who used to let them camp on their own private properties are now restricting or refusing the use of their land after bad experiences with places being damaged or left in a dirty state by the scouts.

HILLBILLIES IN HEIDILAND

Every year Gstaad turns itself into a Wild West town when it stages its Country and Western Music Festival. For 24 hours, one of the most typical Swiss villages is taken over by lovers of country and western music complete with cowboy hats, western regalia, chicken nuggets, cole slaw, Budweiser beer, Rib Eye steaks, Bourbon-Whisky and Salagnin "Country Wy". World stars of country and western music such as Emmylou Harris, Travis Tritt, Trisha Yearwood and Collin Raye perform at these festivals.

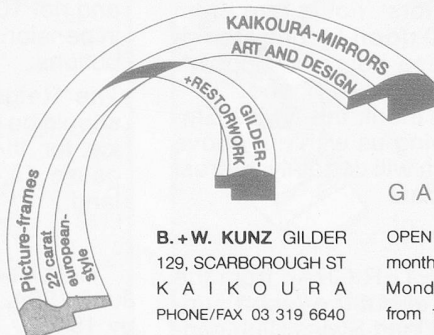


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