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## MATTERHORN, THE HARD WAY

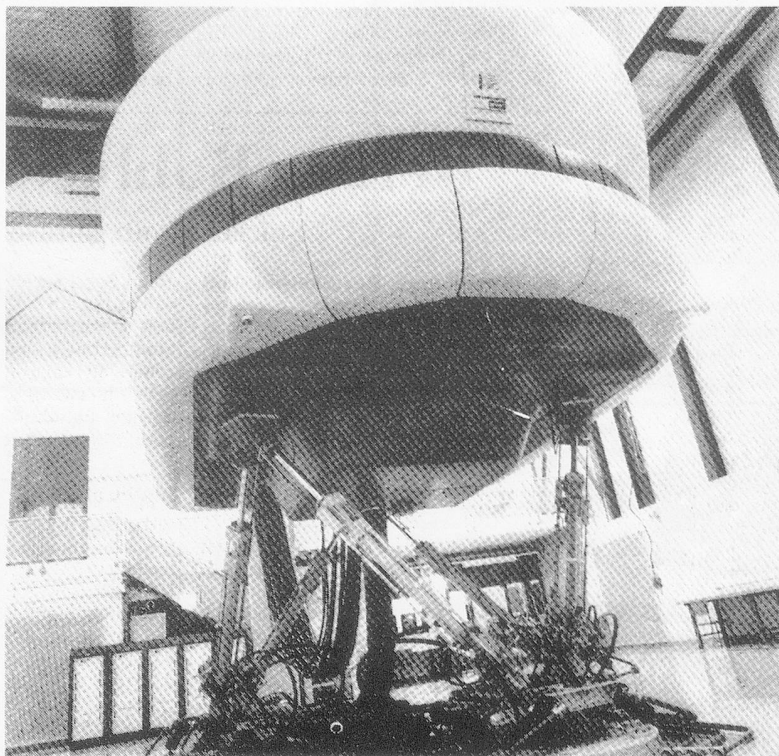
For the first time a woman, Cathrine Destivelle (France) has succeeded in a solo climb up the Matterhorn via the most difficult Walter Bonatti route. This route pioneered by Walter Bonatti (of course) in 1965 takes climbers straight up the north face of the mountain. Because of its enormous difficulties, it is very seldom used. Cathrine Destivelle, who had already climbed solo the north face of the Eiger, took five days to climb to the top of the Matterhorn.

## NO MILITARY TAX FOR HANDICAPPED

A move is under way in Switzerland to reduce or eliminate the military tax for people who are unable to perform their military duties due to a physical handicap. The argument is that mentally or

## FLY YOUR VERY OWN JUMBO JET FOR ONLY \$800.

Swissair found a novel idea how to get extra revenue from its seven flight simulators. Under the control of an airline captain, groups of up to 3 persons can learn to fly a Jumbo jet in one of these simulators which can reproduce every aspect of a flight from take off to landing including air turbulence, engine failures and every other imaginable emergency that could possibly occur during a flight. If you make a wrong move, you can even experience a nasty crash landing. So for some \$800 per hour, you can enjoy the thrill of piloting your very own Jumbo jet without endangering anyone's life.



This latest Airbus simulator costs 30 million SFR. The inside looks exactly like a real cockpit with its hundreds of dials, push buttons, switches and levers. The built-in computers can realistically simulate every conceivable situation that can be encountered on the ground or during a flight. Thanks to its telescopic legs, the simulator's computers can also reproduce crash landings, clear air turbulence, even a tricky flight through a heavy thunderstorm with lightning striking the "aircraft".

physically handicapped people have already great difficulties to get ahead in life without being burdened with a crippling extra tax which they can ill afford to pay. At the moment, only the 100% disabled are exempt from this tax.

## LA SUISSE GONE

Another well known Swiss newspaper bites the dust. The famous Geneva newspaper La Suisse, founded in 1898, almost 100 years ago, has gone under. Following certain errors of judgement by the management, the circulation dropped from 90,000 to some 50,000 copies per day and the subsequent loss in advertising made the newspaper uneconomical to produce. A sad loss for Geneva where La Suisse had been considered as a sort of local institution.

## SHORTER DOLE QUEUES

For the first time since June 1990, the number of unemployed has slightly dropped in Switzerland. There are around 187,400 people looking for jobs against some 5,300 vacant positions. The unemployment rate stands at 5.2%.



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