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# Official Communications

## Einsiedeln, 56th Assembly of the Swiss Abroad

450 Swiss from abroad met for three days at Einsiedeln on the occasion of the 56th Assembly of the Swiss Abroad. It was a success in every respect (see page 2). The many events and meetings were followed with interest by the participants, and they will remember them with pleasure.

The official opening started with an organ recital of highest standard at the Monastery Church. It was the prelude to the many meetings and the Plenary Session held in the attractive hall at the new Village Centre.

The main theme, «Information of the Swiss Abroad» enabled the audience to get comprehensive information of all the means available at present, which transmit news from Switzerland to the compatriots resident abroad. The «echo», monthly publication of the Swiss abroad, and the «Revue» (Review), a quarterly information periodical, were introduced, and a humorous slide presentation gave a picture of how they are prepared.

A direct radio link between Dakar and Einsiedeln, organised by the

Short Wave Service, was one of the highlights of the Assembly. It enabled everyone to get a good idea of the possibilities of this particular medium of transmission. After a weekly paper specially designed for the Swiss abroad, had an opportunity of presenting itself, the future of information was dealt with. It is planned to give the film medium a wider field, and also to consider the possibilities of television by developing the video-cassette system.

The Solidarity Fund has been in existence for 20 years. It is an insurance which covers risks not considered by any other institution. In addition, this Fund enables the Swiss abroad to make attractive savings at home.

It is gratifying that the federal authorities watch the problems of the Swiss abroad with interest and even assure them of positive solutions to their problems.

A number of gay festivities took place and contributed to a happy atmosphere.

Your next meeting: 57th Assembly of the Swiss Abroad, 24th–26th August 1979.



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