

Zeitschrift: The Swiss observer : the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK

Herausgeber: Federation of Swiss Societies in the United Kingdom

Band: - (1982)

Heft: 1785

Rubrik: Colin Farmer reporting from Berne

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: 04.02.2026

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

Colin Farmer

A Swiss appeals court has refused to re-open the case of a British-based businessman convicted of industrial espionage.

Stanley Adams, now 54, was working as a senior executive of the Hoffmann-La Roche company in Basle in 1973 when he supplied confidential information to Common Market authorities alleging illegal practices by the company in the international marketing of vitamins. Hoffman-La Roche was later fined by the Common Market.

But Mr Adams' name was leaked back to the company. He was arrested in 1974, detained for three months, fined Sfr. 25,000, given a suspended prison sentence, and barred from Switzerland. While Mr Adams was in detention, his wife committed suicide after reportedly being informed by the authorities that he faced up to 20 years in jail.

Maltese-born Mr Adams went to live in Italy with his three young children and has since moved to Britain (*he held a British passport until Malta became independent in 1974 and now has Maltese nationality*).

Now a Basle court has rejected an appeal by Mr Adams' Swiss lawyer for his case to be reopened, the court ruling that there was no new evidence to warrant such a move. Mr Adams' lawyer, however, says he is now considering taking the case to the Swiss Federal Court.

Since his expulsion from Switzerland Mr Adams has been facing financial hardship. A fund has been launched in Britain – supported by leading academics and Members of Parliament – aimed at “relieving Stanley Adams in his present dire situation and at rectifying the injustice he has suffered.” The Common Market has paid him £25,000, but the relief fund describes this as “a derisory amount which cleared only about one-tenth of his legal costs and debts.”

But Mr Adams has received at least some encouraging news. The Home Office announced last month that he and his three children would be allowed to remain per-



manently in Britain, even though none of them qualify for settlement under current immigration regulations. The Home Office said the decision had been made in view of the “exceptional” circumstances.

★ ★ ★

A non-Swiss has been named the new managing director of the Nestlé company – and some shareholders don't like it. The board of directors has elected to the post Mr Helmut Maucher, a 54-year-old West German. He succeeds Mr Arthur Furer, a Swiss.

As a result, seven shareholders have called for a change in the company's statutes to ensure that the top posts in future go only to Swiss nationals. Although some of the shareholders are believed to be descendents of founder-families of the giant Vevey-based multinational, company sources say that no single group or individual holds more than four per cent of the registered shares.

Supporting the seven shareholders is a local member of parliament, who suggests

that the company is in danger of losing its Swiss character. It's like Rolls Royce being run by an Italian or Volkswagen's top man being French, he argues.

But the company points to Mr Maucher's qualifications – he has been with the company for 30 years – and to the fact that nearly 97 per cent of Nestlé sales are outside Switzerland. And, it recalls, the original Henry Nestlé who founded a small powdered milk factory in 1867 was an immigrant – from Germany.

★ ★ ★

A Swiss diplomat who served for four years in London has been appointed new ambassador to Iran. He is 51-year-old Basle-born Paul Stauffer, who moves to Teheran after two years as Swiss ambassador in Pakistan.

Mr Stauffer served at the Swiss Embassy in London from 1965 to 1969 and has also held diplomatic posts in Berlin, Moscow and Ankara. He has also served in Teheran before, from 1972 to 1974.

VELCRO

the name to stick to

TOUCH AND CLOSE FASTENER
Sole U.K. manufacturer, Selectus Limited, Biddulph,
Stoke-on-Trent ST8 7RH. Telephone: Stoke-on-Trent (0782) 513316

VELCRO®

In Iran he now succeeds Ambassador Erik Lang, who played a prominent intermediary role in the American Embassy hostage affair in Teheran. Mr Lang has been appointed Swiss ambassador to Algeria.

★ ★ ★

SWISS members of parliament representing all major parties are urging tighter government controls on the employment of go-go girls from developing countries.

A petition launched by Social Democrat MP and lawyer Moritz Leuenberger claims that many girls are hired under false pretences, sign contracts they can not read, and are exploited by unscrupulous nightclub owners. Most of the girls come from the poorest population groups, says the petition, and are afraid to complain to the authorities.

Official figures show that in Zurich alone 31 nightclubs are currently employing 140 go-go girls – almost all of them from Thailand, the Philippines and the Caribbean.

★ ★ ★

THE thrifty Swiss are way ahead of the rest of the world when it comes to saving money, according to latest official figures.

A survey by the Geneva-based International Savings Banks Institute reveals that, on average, each Swiss has US\$14,461 stacked away in savings. Way behind in second spot is Belgium with per capita savings of US\$9,043, followed by the Japanese with US\$8,748. Other top savers are West

Germany (\$7,931), Austria (\$5,913), Sweden (\$5,604), the United States (\$5,583), France (\$5,285), and Norway (\$5,273).

Savings banks attract around half the savings market in most industrialised countries, reports the Institute. Their biggest competition comes from insurance companies and securities.

★ ★ ★

THOUSANDS of Swiss who queued for hours to see an exhibition of 2,000-year-old Chinese statues have now been told that the supposedly ancient treasures are imitations made in Hongkong.

The Zurich Art Museum said the statues of warriors and their horses – on display at large department stores in several Swiss cities – were in fact Hongkong copies of originals uncovered in 1974. And the museum's findings have been supported by the Chinese Embassy in Berne.

But the exhibition organisers, who have insured the "fakes" for Sfr. 21 million, still maintain that the statues are original. "The statues have been restored since their discovery – but they are genuine", insisted a store spokesman.

★ ★ ★

THE Swiss-based International Olympic Committee has presented its annual cup to the Swiss Government, in recognition of this country's help in promoting the Olympic cause.

Juan Antonio Samaranch, Spanish president of the 82-member committee, handed over the Olympic Cup to Swiss President

Kurt Furgler, whose government recently granted an IOC request to be given international status.

This eases the committee's tax burden and enables it to hire non-Swiss staff without problems over work permits. The decision set the seal on more than half a century of close co-operation between Swiss authorities and the IOC which began in 1917 when Baron Pierre de Coubertin, pioneer of the modern Olympic Games, established the panel in Lausanne.

The committee plans to move in 1985 from its present cramped headquarters in the Château de Vidy into a purpose-built centre in Lausanne comprising offices, a conference hall, library and museum.

★ ★ ★

SO England have finally made it to this year's World Football Cup finals in Spain, while Switzerland again failed to qualify. The English will be competing in the final tournament for the first time since 1970; Switzerland's last appearance was in 1966.

Ironically, the Swiss almost dashed England's chances with last year's shock 2-1 victory at Basle – but they then went on to ease England's path to the finals by taking three points off Rumania. When England finally clinched their place in Spain with that 1-0 victory over Hungary, *Der Bund* of Berne typified the reaction of the Swiss soccer world with this comment: "The whole of England is in ecstasy. It's a bright new world again. It seems not to matter to the English that they had to depend upon the efforts and achievements of other teams – not least, Switzerland."

SWISS SOCCER

Football League tables up to and including 6 December

'A' Division								'B' Division							
	Pl	W	D	L	Gls	Pts		Pl	W	D	L	Gls	Pts		
Servette	15	14	0	1	52	13	28	Winterthur	15	10	3	2	34	14	23
Zürich	15	9	6	0	26	12	24	Wettingen	15	9	5	1	33	16	23
Grasshoppers	15	8	5	2	30	13	21	Chénois	14	8	4	2	26	11	20
Xamax	15	8	4	3	26	12	20	Grenchen	14	6	6	2	28	18	18
Sion	15	7	5	3	30	20	19	Chaux-de-Fonds	14	6	5	3	29	17	17
Young Boys	14	8	2	4	26	19	18	Locarno	15	7	3	5	36	22	17
Basle	15	5	5	5	21	20	15	Biel	15	6	5	4	24	20	17
Aarau	15	5	4	6	26	30	14	Ibach	14	3	9	2	20	22	15
Lucerne	14	6	1	7	25	26	13	Mendrisiostar	15	6	3	6	24	35	15
St. Gallen	15	6	1	8	21	26	13	Fribourg	15	4	6	5	20	20	14
Bulle	15	3	4	8	18	32	10	Lugano	15	4	4	7	29	30	12
Vevey	14	2	5	7	18	28	9	Berne	14	3	3	8	20	32	9
Bellinzona	15	2	5	8	12	33	9	Altstätten	15	2	5	8	12	29	9
Lausanne	14	3	2	9	19	27	8	Aurore	13	2	4	7	14	39	8
Chiasso	15	2	4	9	9	24	8	Frauenfeld	14	1	6	7	13	26	8
Nordstern	15	3	1	11	16	40	7	Monthey	15	2	3	10	15	26	7

Lines separate championship leader, relegation and promotion zones.