

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: 1790

Rubrik: Colin Farmer reporting from Berne

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Reagan and Brezhnev to meet in Switzerland?

SWITZERLAND has expressed its willingness to host a summit meeting between President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev.

The Soviet leader has proposed that President Reagan meet him in Switzerland or Finland in October for the first bilateral summit since the summer of 1979.

A Swiss government spokesman said Switzerland had received no requests to arrange a conference, but added: "If the two leaders agree to meet, then we have a tradition of offering our territory for such meetings. If both sides ask, we would do everything possible to welcome them."

President Reagan has said he would like to meet Mr Brezhnev at the United Nations in New York this month during a special UN conference on disarmament. But the Soviet leader has rejected the offer and has suggested an October summit instead.

The last summit conference in Switzerland was in 1955, when the leaders of the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain and France met in Geneva.

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ONE in four Swiss believes that the Soviet Union is likely to attack Western Europe by 1987, according to a public opinion poll.

Of the 600 people questioned, four per cent considered the likelihood of a Soviet attack as "very great". Another 21 per cent thought the possibility "rather great" while 71 per cent con-

sidered the likelihood "rather unlikely" or "unlikely". Only 31 per cent expressed "very great" or "great" confidence in the capacity of the NATO alliance to protect Western Europe against such an attack. And 46 per cent expressed "no great confidence".

Of the Swiss questioned, 77 per cent stated their readiness to take up arms against Soviet aggression. Only eight per cent said they would accept a Soviet occupation of Switzerland without offering resistance.

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POPE John Paul is to visit Switzerland this month. He will spend several days in Geneva around mid-June and will address the annual conference of the International Labour Organisation.

The Pope was to have addressed last year's ILO conference as part of an extensive six-day trip through Switzerland but the journey was cancelled following the attempt on his life in Rome.

This month's visit will be limited to Geneva, with a full trip through Switzerland a possibility for 1983.

Besides addressing the ILO conference, the Pope is also expected to visit the Geneva headquarters of the World Council of Churches. The WCC, sometimes referred to as the "Protestant Vatican", unites some 300 non-Roman Catholic churches worldwide.

Following last year's assassination attempt on the Pope and the cancellation of his visit

to Switzerland, the WCC called for prayers for his recovery and the continuation of "his universal ministry of love and peace."

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IT'S back to the ballot box this month as the Swiss vote on yet another "foreign worker" issue.

Only last year, parliament approved a new law improving the status of foreign workers here. The most controversial provision of the legislation allows foreigners to become resident in Switzerland after working in the country over a four-year period for a total of 32 months, instead of 36 months as previously.

The small, right wing Volk und Heimat (People and Homeland) Party promptly contested the new law and collected nearly 84,000 supporting signatures – well over the 50,000 necessary to force a nationwide vote. Voting takes place on June 5 and 6.

The party, which was responsible for three other "anti-foreign worker" initiatives defeated between 1970 and 1977, has accused the government and parliament of going back on promises to reduce foreign labour in Switzerland. The new law, it claims, will only encourage immigration.

Latest official figures put the proportion of foreign residents in Switzerland at nearly 15 per cent – the highest level for five years.

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THE Swiss government has ordered a crackdown on foreign go-go dancers "in the

. . reporting from Berne

interests of the girls themselves", explained a government spokesman.

From this month the girls must be placed under the same permit restrictions as other foreign workers here. Nightclub and disco owners must obtain work permits for the girls before bringing them into Switzerland, and must also obtain official approval of employment contracts.

Until now, go-go dancers have been classified as artists in the same way as musicians and actors, enabling them to work in Switzerland for up to eight months without a permit.

Unscrupulous employers have been using this loophole to lure the girls – mostly from the poor population areas of Thailand and the Philippines – with promises of high wages and luxury living conditions.

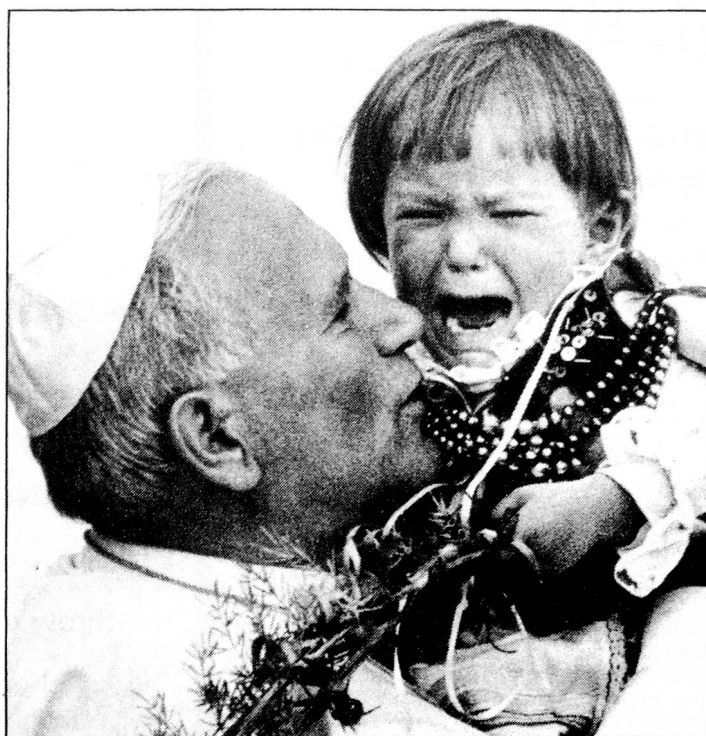
In reality, however, many of the estimated 3,000 go-go dancers here have been exploited and have received bad pay, poor accommodation and little or no legal protection.

Swiss women's rights groups, supported by an all-party group of members of parliament, have been campaigning for government action. It's claimed that the hiring of the go-go girls resembles slave trade practices – and that many of them are required to do more than just dance.

From now on, they must be in possession of a proper permit; otherwise the go-go girls really will have to go.

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HORDES of mice have devastated pasture land and crops in much of



Pope John Paul will doubtless receive a more rapturous reception than this when he visits Switzerland this month!

Switzerland this spring, causing damage amounting to millions of francs and serious concern among agricultural officials.

A senior government agricultural official warned of "a very grave situation" for some farmers as he toured parts of Fribourg, one of several Swiss cantons invaded by the rodents.

Conservative official estimates have put the damage in Fribourg alone to about Sfr. 20 million (£6 million). About 75,000 acres of land are affected, and some Fribourg farmers

face production losses this year of at least 50 per cent.

Mice have been plaguing Switzerland's farmers for the past few years but the devastation this year has reached an unprecedented level.

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A FUND-raising raffle organised by the International School of Berne is receiving generous support from the British community here. Among the many prizes – a selection of Argentinian wine donated by the Argentinian embassy.

SWISS SOCCER

Football league tables up to and including May 3

'A' Division								'B' Division							
PI	W	D	L	Gls	Pts			PI	W	D	L	Gls	Pts		
Servette	25	18	4	3	65	24	40	Wettingen	25	15	9	1	51	25	39
Grasshoppers	25	16	7	2	56	19	39	Winterthur	25	15	6	4	55	22	36
Zürich	25	15	8	2	48	20	38	Chênois	25	13	8	4	42	22	34
Xamax	25	15	7	3	56	25	37	La Chaux-de-Fonds	24	10	3	6	42	24	28
Young Boys	24	13	5	6	42	33	31	Grenchen	25	9	10	6	38	28	28
Sion	25	11	6	8	44	34	28	Mendrisiostar	25	12	4	9	37	48	28
Basle	25	10	5	10	40	39	25	Biel	25	7	13	5	37	33	27
St. Gallen	24	9	4	11	31	36	22	Lugano	25	10	6	9	47	41	26
Lucerne	29	9	4	12	43	50	22	Locarno	25	9	7	9	48	35	25
Aarau	25	7	7	11	41	49	21	Ibach	25	6	12	7	31	35	24
Vevey	25	4	10	11	33	45	18	Berne	25	7	6	12	36	48	20
Bellinzona	25	6	6	13	28	55	18	Aurore Biel	25	7	6	12	22	52	20
Lausanne	25	4	8	13	29	42	16	Fribourg	25	6	7	12	30	38	19
Bulle	25	4	8	13	27	49	16	Monthey	25	6	6	13	21	31	18
Nordstern	25	6	2	17	25	56	14	Altstätten	24	2	10	12	17	43	14
Chiasso	25	3	7	15	18	50	13	Frauenfeld	25	2	8	15	21	50	12

Lines separate championship leader, relegation and promotion zones.