

CIA NEWSLETTER



Summer 1997

Number 1/97

1998 CIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Venice, Italy

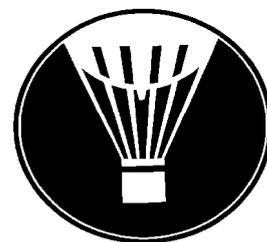


4th, 5th, 6th, 7th

March 1998

The 1998 CIA Annual Conference will take place in Venice, Italy, on 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th March 1998 by kind invitation of the Aero Club d'Italia.

Details for the conference have yet to be finalised, and will be included in the Autumn CIA Newsletter.



STATE OF THE NATION

CIA President - Jacques W. Soukup

Summer is upon us. The seasons seem to change faster each year, but changes and the differences they bring are exciting. Many of us have weathered the spring showers and blustery winds of winter and are now getting that refined burner touch back or reviewing the feel for contour flying with just a handful more of sand overboard. Our aerostats and our skills are being brought back to their best possible condition with every flight. And, of course, those "down under" are preparing their crafts for their winter hiatus.

Changes like the seasons surround us in the aerostation community. And these, too, are exciting and, for the most part, really beneficial to our international fraternity. The development of the "giant" passenger gas balloons is generating enthusiasm around the world. Not only do they offer the possibility of introducing more people to a tiny bit of the experience of flight, but they will be seen for miles or kilometres around. When operated safely, these gentle giants can promote the sport and tempt people to try a free flight and perhaps become part of the lighter-than-air flying family.

There are elections occurring around the globe and no doubt new faces will bring fresh ideas to various committees or boards. New blood can often bring needed new discussions and directions to any organisation. It's preferable to stay as positive and upbeat as possible during debates and voting. In reality, any political scene, including our Commission, can have bumpy and sometimes uncomfortable moments. However, honestly trying to do one's best is all one can hope for in new or more seasoned volunteers in the political arena.

The State of the Ballooning and Airshipping Nation is one filled with excitement over growth and new concepts in various parts of our world. The first World Air Games in Turkey has many of the world's finest pilots competing and the Turkish Aero Club has now included a "fiesta" component with one-man or "hopper" balloons. They have approved Phil Dunnington of the UK to help get the information out on this fun event. Another first occurred with the highly successful Baltic Cup '97, the first CIA Sanctioned Event in the former Soviet Union. Still other developments are coming later this year with the 8th Ladies World Cup moving to France, and with the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta and America's Challenge Gas Balloon Race both sanctioned. The 13th World Hot Air Balloon Championship in Saga, Japan is the grand finale with the largest ever field of our top competitors, and with opening and closing ceremonies beyond compare. All these changes are to the credit of the most talented and dedicated volunteer officials, adventurous pilots and crews and highly experienced staff in all corners of the globe who work to improve our sport.

Finally, we have new names and figures in different positions in the FAI Ballooning Commission. On behalf of the international community, I thank Sabu Ichiyoshi (JAP) for his many years of service as Vice President, whether First, Second or Third! I always valued his advice, his wealth of historical information and his honesty. We welcome Darryl Stuart (AUS) as our Second Vice President. Darryl has already proven to be logical, intuitive and a great evaluator of the situation. We deeply missed Alfi Feltes' (LUX) presence with his comforting smile and kind words. We welcome a wise, experienced and most knowledgeable Jean-Claude Weber as the new Delegate from Luxembourg. Alain Poulet joins the French Delegation which consists of many helpful people in a variety of positions. And we also welcome the very experienced Ron Wiseman (USA) who is in line to succeed the inexhaustible Arnost Honig (CZE) as Chairperson of the Observers Subcommittee.

So, like our balloons, we are moving in a variety of directions and at different speeds. And like the seasons, the times are changing, with new growth, new concepts, new firsts and new faces.

REPORT ON THE FAI COUNCIL MEETING

by Jacques W. Soukup

The FAI Council met in Paris on the 22nd and 23rd of May. Prior to the Council meeting, various Council Committees met as well. CIA President Soukup attended the Air Sports Commission Presidents meeting, the Statutes Committee and Air Sport General Commission (CASI) meetings, on all of which he is a voting member. Other CIA people, acting in various capacities, were present. Jean-Claude Weber is a voting member of CASI, representing Luxembourg and has contributed greatly to the General Section review as well as other documents. Dr. Thierry Villey, FAI Vice President (FRA) serves on the Finance Committee. Kirk S. Thomas, FAI Vice President (ISV) serves as the President of the FAI Public Relations Committee but was unable to attend due to a death in his family.

FAI AIR SPORT COMMISSION PRESIDENTS MEETING

FAI President Eilif Ness presided over a rather informative and productive meeting. A report was given on the World Air Games, focusing on the Opening and Closing Ceremonies. It appears that two persons from each participating FAI Member will be at the Opening Ceremony and the less formal Closing Ceremony in Efes (Ephesus) is open to all. Hotel rooms will be at a premium, however. A discussion followed on the transfer of rights to FAI events (the CIA discussed and voted on this in Istanbul - see Item 37 in the Minutes of the Plenary meeting). Jacques reiterated the Air Sport Commissions' crucial involvement and President Ness once again explained their pivotal role. It was also pointed out that trademarks now exist in six countries. A report was given on the FAI liability and Errors & Omissions insurance of 30,000,000 French Francs. Unfortunately, it was not affordable for the entire world and Jacques encouraged the FAI Officers to keep working on universal coverage. Finally, the Air Sport Commission Presidents were told that two countries have promised to host the FAI Secretariat should the FAI choose to move from Paris. Geneva, Switzerland and Monte Carlo, Monaco have indicated availability of office space, tax concessions and recognition of our international status.

CASI

President David Cole (GBR) presided over a brief meeting. The Air Sport Commissions remain independent regarding Drug Testing (the CIA has voted on our position). There was a unanimous vote for a new G.S. 4.3.4. to include appointment of a Public Relations Officer with G.S. 4.3.6. detailing that person's responsibilities. A new G.S. 3.9.6. saying that competition organisers should consider obtaining public liability insurance to protect participants and organisers. For CIA this could include Observers. There was also a discussion on G.S. 3.6.3. on International Teams with the proposal to add, "and Air Sport Commission" after NAC. The CASI General Section Subcommittee will continue to study this proposal. If anyone has any comments, please write to Jacques and Jean-Claude Weber on this proposal so the CIA may give input.

FAI COUNCIL

I will primarily concentrate on those issues of interest to the FAI Ballooning Commission as the Minutes are available on the Internet or from your NAC.

The Philippines Ballooning Association will become an FAI Associate Member and replace the suspended body. They report four balloons. No other Members under the agenda item listed ballooning as an activity. There are thirty one countries in the process of gathering information on joining FAI.

The FAI Vice President for Belarus apologized for not being able to attend. In a letter he outlined his difficulties in obtaining a visa from the French authorities. Several of us asked that the FAI President again strongly urge him to attend the General Conference. The FAI has ceased utilizing the London attorneys and are exclusively using the Minsk firm.

In discussions on the "Review Of FAI Finances," the Commissions will be charged 1250 French Francs for the cost of the meeting rooms and services provided in Paris. In informal discussions with the President of the Italian Aero Club, he assured Jacques that they will provide the meeting rooms in Venice. Neil Robertson will have a report elsewhere in the Newsletter.

Relating to Public Relations, the World Air Games will be broadcast live on Eurosport from 4:30 - 6:00 PM daily. This television broadcast reaches 75 million homes with 20 million average viewers daily. BBC 1 is to broadcast live for 20 minutes on 18 September, set tentatively for 1800 GMT. The Turkish Aero Club are still in negotiations with North American networks

REPORT ON THE FAI COUNCIL MEETING

as well. FAI's magazine, *Air Sports International*, is going on the Internet starting in January, 1998. The will have 12 issues per year and a special page which will be updated constantly, with championship results, etc. For those not on the Internet yet, the magazine will still be printing one annual 'Year Book' version. And for you coin collectors, the Finnish Mint is doing a complete set of special coins to include ballooning for the World Air Games. Information can be gotten from the FAI. There are over 50 NAC's with over 3400 total people involved in the first World Air Games. Ballooning is one of the highest with 33 NAC's and Rotorcraft the lowest.

An Airspace Working Group will be proposed at the next General Conference. The purpose will be to protect and increase air sport use of the airspace and to work with all authorities to achieve this result. CIA Delegates are urged to advise their NAC's to propose people knowledgeable about balloons and airships for sport, competition and, especially, record setting.

CIA members elected to FAI positions include Dr. Thierry Villey (as a member of the FAI Finance Committee), Mr. Jean-Claude Weber (CASI General Section Review Subcommittee), Kirk S. Thomas (President of the FAI PR Committee) and Jacques W. Soukup (member of the FAI Statutes Committee).

CIA HALL OF FAME

STEVE FOSSETT NAMED TO HALL OF FAME

Steve Fossett, who recently flew nearly half way around the world in a roziere (combination gas and hot air) balloon, was named to the International Balloon and Airship Hall of Fame for 1997, housed at the Soukup & Thomas International Balloon & Airship Museum in Mitchell, SD, USA.

Steve Fossett will hold the Absolute World Distance Record and Absolute World Duration Record in balloons, with a distance of 10,360.6 statute miles and 6 days, 2 hours and 50 minutes flying time. He also broke his own Absolute Distance Record which he had set when he was the first person to fly solo in a balloon across the Pacific Ocean in 1995.

Quite the adventurer, Steve Fossett has also sailed solo across both the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, and is known for his auto racing, running Triathlons, dogsled racing and he has even swam the English Channel (21 miles) and both ways in the Turkish Dardanelles.

Steve Fossett will be inducted into the Hall of Fame during the annual Corn Palace Balloon Rally Awards Banquet on Sunday, June 22, 1997 where he will make a short speech.

SALOMON AUGUST ANDRÉE NAMED TO HALL OF FAME

Salomon August Andrée, Swedish gas balloonist who tried to fly to the North Pole by balloon in 1897, will be posthumously inducted into the International Balloon & and Airship Museum in Mitchell, SD, USA.

S.A. Andrée, born in Granna, Sweden in 1854, acquired his interest in ballooning during a visit to Philadelphia, USA in 1867. After making 9 training flights, where he collected meteorological data and conducted scientific experiments, he managed to raise the equivalent of US \$5 million for his polar flight with the support of the King of Sweden and Swedish industry.

On July 11, 1897 his balloon Örnén (Eagle) was launched with S.A. Andrée, Nils Strindberg and Knut Fraenkel on board. They flew for 65 hours, 35 minutes before being forced to land on the ice after a flight of 400 km. The three men walked back searching for White Island, where they planned to spend the dark winter, but they died within a few weeks, probably infected by trichinosis after having eaten polar bear meet which had not been sufficiently cooked.

The world knew nothing of their fate until 1930 when Norwegian hunters found the remains of the team on a small island in northern Svalbard. The remains were brought to Sweden and the team's diaries and films were examined and developed.

Salomon August Andrée will be posthumously inducted into the Hall of Fame during the annual Corn Palace Rally Awards Banquet on Sunday, June 22, 1997.

MATTERS FINANCIAL

CIA ADMINISTRATION ACCOUNT (1st January to 31st December, 1996) IN SWISS FRANCS

<u>INCOME</u>		<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	
DONATIONS		OFFICERS EXPENSES	5811
Denmark 96	100	PURCHASE OF DIPLOMAS	1067
Czech Republic 95/96	350	PURCHASE OF DECALS	928
Luxembourg 96	122	PURCHASE OF BADGES	717
Virgin Islands 95/96	117	SUNDRIES	
Belgium 96	244	WAG Dinner, Vienna	751
Japan 95	488	Mailfast	470
Hungary 96	244		
Sweden 96	535		
	2200		
SANCTION FEES	4047		
WAG MAN. FEES	10569		
SALE OF BADGES	1550		
SALE OF FLAGS	30		
PROTEST FEES	641		
TOTAL INCOME	19037	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	9744

<u>CASH FLOW</u>	
Balance 1/1/96	21431
Income	19037
	40468
Expenditure	-9744
Balance 31/12/96	30724

CIA ADMINISTRATION ACCOUNT (1st January to 15th May 1997) IN SWISS FRANCS

<u>INCOME</u>		<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	
DONATIONS		EXPENSES	
Virgin Islands 97	75	Robertson, N	700
Austria 97	423	Honig, A	592
Poland 97	292	Purfield, L	170
Hungary 97	292	Weber, J-C	308
	1082		1770
SANCTION FEES	3000	PURCHASE OF BADGES	1015
SALE OF BADGES	888	PURCHASE OF TIES	2037
WAG MANAGEMENT FEE	3620	PURCHASE OF PATCHES	460
		RTCA MEMBERSHIP	137
TOTAL INCOME	8590	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	5419

<u>CASH FLOW</u>	
Balance 1/1/97	30724
Income	8590
	39314
Expenditure	5419
Balance 31/5/97	33895

MATTERS FINANCIAL (continued)

TABLE OF DONATIONS

Pilots	Donation (US \$)
1 - 25	50
26 - 50	100
51 - 200	200
201 - 500	300
501 - 1000	400
1000 +	500

PAYMENTS TO FAI/CIA

All payments up to US \$500 in value, and this includes all Donations, can be paid to the FAI/CIA Account by Credit Card using the form below. All payments over US \$500, and **ALL** Sanction Fees should be paid by Bank Wire Transfer using the following bank routing information:

Send International Money Transfer Order or SWIFT Transfer with the following remarks.

SWIFT CODE: COUTCHZZ
 Federation Aeronautique Internationale
 Bank Account No: 425737.00
 BANK: COUTTS & Co. AG.
 Talstrasse 59 Postfach
 CH-8022 ZURICH
 SWITZERLAND

Mark: Without charge for the beneficiary, and state what payment is for.

FORM FOR USE WHEN MAKING PAYMENTS TO FAI/CIA BY CREDIT CARD

TO: FEDERATION AERONAUTIQUE INTERNATIONALE (FAI)
 93 boulevard du Montparnasse
 75006 PARIS, FRANCE

Tel: +33 1 49 54 38 92 Fax: +33 1 49 53 38 88

We hereby authorise you to debit our credit card as follows:

TYPE OF CARD : (VISA/MASTERCARD) _____

NUMBER:

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

EXPIRY DATE:

--	--	--	--

NAME ON CARD: _____

SUM TO BE DEBITED: _____

REASON FOR PAYMENT: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

SCHEDULE OF FORTHCOMING FAI/CIA SANCTIONED EVENTS

1997

1st World Air Games Balloon Championship, Urgup, Turkey, 15 - 20 September 1997 (Category 1)

13th World Hot Air Balloon Championship, Saga, Japan, 15 - 27 November 1997 (Category 1)

41st Coupe Gordon Bennett, Warstein, Germany, 6 -12 September 1997 (Category 1)

The America's Challenge Gas Balloon Race, Albuquerque, USA, 4 - 11 October 1997 (Category 1)

5th Coupe d'Europe and 8th Ladies World Cup, Mainfonds-Charente, France, 31 July - 3 August 1997
(Premier Sporting)

3rd World Match Flying Cup, Mildura, Australia, 28 June - 6 July 1997 (Premier Sporting)

1st Baltic Cup, Riga, Latvia, 13 - 18 May 1997 (Premier Sporting)

Banks Open Air, Lednice, Czech Republic, 24 - 28 September 1997 (Premier Sporting)

Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta, Albuquerque, USA, 4 - 12 October 1997 (Premier Fiesta)

1998

6th World Hot Air Airship Championship, Gatineau, Canada, 2 - 7 September 1998 (Category 1)

11th European Hot Air Balloon Championships, Katrineholm, Sweden, 19 - 27 June 1998 (Category 1)

1st World Team Championship, Mildura, Australia, 27 June - 5 July 1997 (Category 1)

1999

14th World Hot Air Balloon Championship, Bad Waltersdorf, Austria, 28 August - 5 September 1999
(Category 1)

WORLD AIR GAMES REPORT

The World Air Games is nearly upon us, and the organising team - Neil Robertson, Les Purfield and Isik and Ismail Keremoglu are all working hard to make sure the event is the success it deserves to be, given the tremendous response from CIA Member countries.

We are all greatly looking forward to greeting competitors, crews and officials from around the world

POINTS FOR ACTION

from CIA PLENARY MEETING, Istanbul, March 1997
(Numbers refer to CIA Plenary Meeting Minutes.)

22a JURY BOARD

The CIA Jury Case History Handbook

The handbook shall be produced by the Jury Board for distribution to all approved jurors for self study. The Handbook shall contain sample Jury Presidents Reports and protest documentation from past events. The material shall be selected by the Jury Board for the educational value.

22b BUREAU

Interpreters for Juries

The Bureau to set up an independent body to study the Interpreters for Jurors issue and call for comments in writing by 1st November 1997. The independent body of 3 members to be selected from volunteers.

23 OBSERVER SUBCOMMITTEE

Observer registration

The Observer Subcommittee were requested to present detailed procedures in writing to the Secretary by 1st November 1997 for the 1998 Plenary on the following:

i. A registration process be prepared and executed by the Observer SC as the basis for creating a pool of registered International Observers for Category.

ii. The registration process will be based upon the recommendation of the Chief Observer of the country in which the Observer resides, and secondarily if there is no Chief Observer existing for the country, then the registration process will be based upon the International Observer Examination.

iii. The pool of registered International Observers will be maintained on a regular basis through input of the Chief Observer from each country, or in the absence of a Chief Observer, the Delegate of that country will be responsible.

24 PR & DEVELOPMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

Ties

CIA will make 500 CIA Ties to be re-sold for US \$10 each

Patches

CIA shall supply CIA Logo patches to organisers of CIA Sanctioned Events. For the minimum allowed Sanction fee, 50 patches will be provided. For Sanction fees paid over the minimum amount, the number of patches supplied will be negotiable. These patches are not for re-sale except by CIA.

30 Sporting Badges

The PR and Development SC of the CIA shall make arrangements for design, procurement and delivery of Sporting badges to the NAC or delegated Ballooning Authority concerned.

25 RECORDS REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE

GPS

The Records Review SC were asked to investigate the efficiency of Data Logging GPS.

25 RULES SUBCOMMITTEE

Incompleted Flights

i. The Rules SC to add all the necessary Flight Definitions to the Sporting Code, Section 1, and make an editorial review of the motions concerning Incompleted Flights

ii. The concept and proposals on Incompleted Flights be further studied by the Statutes, By-Laws and Sporting Code Working Group and report to the Rules Subcommittee by 1st July 1997. The Rules SC in turn to report to the Bureau by 5th August 1997.

Rules for Single Flight Events

Table for one more year; the AX Working Group will investigate, and make recommendations in 1998

Approved Equipment and Limitations

POINTS FOR ACTION

continued

In view of the ongoing effort by the Records Review Subcommittee, the RSC requests a proposal be presented by Records Review to them before 1st November 1997

CIA Scoring Handbook

RSC recommends approval of the information document *CIA Competition Operations Handbook*, Draft Version 2.1, effective 8th March 1997, and it be published by FAI as *CIA Competition Operations Handbook*. Copies of the draft may be obtained from the Statutes, By-Laws and Sporting Code Working Group, and will be available on internet later in the year.

30 CIA Recommendations for Long Distance Events or Coupe Gordon Bennett

Safety SC recommendations referred to the AA & AM Working Group to study the wording and decide how to put it into the Sporting Code.

35 **EPAS**

Outstanding Sanction items

Ensure Sanction fees received for the following 1997 Events: Albuquerque (2); Coupe Gordon Bennett; Banks Open Air; World Championships, Saga.

44 **CIA SECRETARY**

1998 Conference

CIA Secretary, and possibly the CIA President, to visit proposed location to ensure suitability for CIA Annual Conference and report back to CIA Bureau by end of April, 1997

45 **ALL**

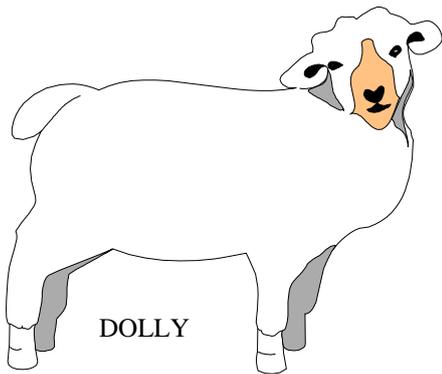
1998 Conference

i. Deadline for further declaration of intent to bid - 1st November 1997

ii. For the next CIA Conference (1998) schedule an opportunity prior to the Plenary Session for discussion amongst delegates. Ask Delegates in the CIA Publications up to the official agenda/invitation to submit topics to CIA. CIA to identify 2 - 3 key topics for this discussion. This is a voluntary meeting in a relaxed and not formalised structures. It is the delegates open forum. Given the expected topics to appear this meeting should be facilitated by the PR and Development Subcommittee and the Safety Subcommittee.

CIA DELEGATES FOR 1998

Please remember that the names of CIA Delegates and Alternate Delegates for 1998 have to be approved by the FAI General Conference in October 1997. Names have to be submitted by NATIONAL AEROCLUBS to the FAI Secretary General in Paris by 15th July 1997 at the latest. It is the responsibility of each individual country to make sure this is done if you wish to be represented at the CIA next year



With thanks to Max Bishop, FAI General Secretary, for permission to reproduce this article he wrote for the FAI magazine, Air Sports International

The story of 'Dolly', the sheep cloned from genetic material taken from an adult animal, illustrated perfectly people's fear of the future - an anxiety that will probably only get worse as the new millennium approaches. Instead of focusing on the tremendous opportunities for improvements in medical treatments which the new cloning technology may offer, most of the press and media coverage was centred on the risks and ethical dilemmas of human cloning. President Clinton suspended federal funding of human cloning research, a measure which calls to mind the story of the farmer who built a stone wall round his field "for to keep the frost out".

Why do we fear the future? Is it simply that it brings us closer to our rendezvous with destiny, that we are more comfortable with the known than the unknown? Or is it lack of imagination? Whatever the answer, it is clear that we live in an age when only those who innovate survive. Innovation has been described as "creative destruction". Unfortunately, eggs have to be broken to make an omelette.

Here are some of the eggs in the air sports omelette:

Volunteerism

The age of the selfless, altruistic volunteer is drawing to a close. People now expect to be paid the rate for the job. Instead of volunteers being held in high esteem as public-spirited individuals, they are now often thought of as curious survivals from an age when people were less "street wise".

Moral: Expect to pay in future for services volunteers provided free in the past. Conscious decisions need to be made in air sports - at local, national and international level - about what roles are given to the remaining volunteers, to part-time consultants and to full-time professionals.

Money

Government funding of air sports is a thing of the past, or soon will be. But governing bodies are needed for air sports at all levels. How should these be funded: by taxation, i.e. flat-rate subscriptions, payments for specific services, commercial sponsorship, or a combination of those? The FAI is currently conducting a review of the way it is financed. This has already revealed that FAI members want to pay less but obtain more - no revision needed here of the "Manual of Human Nature"!

Moral: Start thinking now about how to live without subsidies. Decide what you want your governing bodies to do and find ways of giving them the means to do it.

Privacy or Public Exposure?

For most air sport enthusiasts, the joy of flying has been, essentially, quite a private, individual matter. We have been happy to potter around out of the public eye, convinced that our activities did no-one any harm, and complacent in our conviction of superiority over the ground-bound. But now environmental pressure groups are (unjustifiably) singling air sport out for their campaigns. Regularly authorities are closing in with ever increasing constraints on our use of air space. The pressure to go public is enormous. From another angle, many see exposure of air sport on TV as being the key to solving our funding dilemma.

Moral: You can no longer ignore public relations. The future prosperity of air sports depends on a good public image. We cannot rely on others to create this image for us.

Steady State or Growth?

We have not been used to making conscious decisions about how our sports should look in 5, 10, or 20 years' time. Mostly, there is a tacit assumption that growth is a good thing, the more air sports enthusiasts, the better. Growth certainly brings advantages; more people to support covering structures, greater lobbying power, more advertiser appeal and so on. But the drawbacks cannot be ignored either; greater environmental impact, more airspace congestion, greater pressure on a diminishing number of flying sites.....

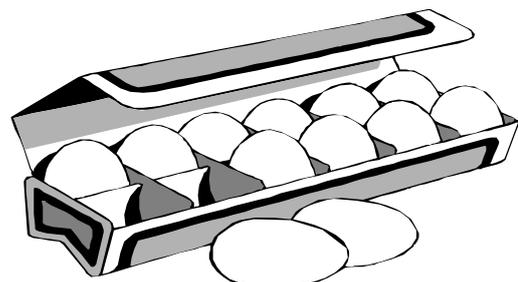
Moral: Let growth, if it is desired and achievable, be a conscious decision, not just a spontaneous happening.

General Aviation?

In ICAO terminology, all forms of sporting and recreational aviation are bracketed together, with corporate jets, crop spraying, air taxi work and other forms of aerial work, paid or unpaid, under the banner of "general aviation". There are undoubtedly advantages in this arrangement. But are they overwhelming? There could also be merit in having small aircraft, gliders, hang gliders and parachutes classified as "sporting equipment", taking them entirely out of the regulatory net that often treats a kitfox as though it were a learjet. Indeed, this has already happened in at least one country. Should not the pros and cons be debated more thoroughly?

Moral: Don't assume that things must remain the way they have 'always been', ICAO rules are not carved in tablets of stone.

Enough for one omelette. I recommend it as a starter, followed by a perfect cutlet from a cloned sheep.



CIA - LIST OF OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS

As at May 1996

NAME OF DOCUMENT	VERSION	EFFECTIVE DATE
<u>FAI POLICY DOCUMENTS - MANDATORY</u>		
FAI STATUTES	96 EDITION	OCT 88

All the above documents are available on disk (MS Word 6.0 except Directory - MS Access 2.0) from the CIA Secretary or the FAI in Paris, or on the FAI Web Pages - <http://www.fai.org/~fai/> where various down-loading options are offered.

1997 CIA PLENARY MEETING

The full minutes of the 1997 Plenary Meeting were distributed in April to CIA Officers, Delegates, Presidents of Subcommittees and Chairpersons of Working Groups. The minutes, without appendices, can also be found on the FAI web pages - look under 'FAI Ballooning Commission - What's new?'

The Plenary Meeting was attended by 31 voting delegates + 1 proxy, 14 alternates and 24 observers

For those who do not have easy access to the minutes, here are some of the highlights not covered elsewhere in this newsletter.

The Jury Board is to produce a CIA Jury Case History Handbook.

The Observer Subcommittee is to make proposals to set up a registration procedure for International observers.

The Records Review Subcommittee proposed radical changes to the 'around-the-world' rules which would allow passengers to evacuate the balloon during flight.

The Safety Subcommittee proposed the introduction of a new 'Safety Handbook' to replace 'Organising a Safe Balloon Event'.

The Rules Subcommittee proposed approval of a new CIA Information Document - CIA Competition Operations Handbook.

The procedures for the awarding of CIA Badges were agreed.

New rules for Invitation Procedures for Sanctioned Events were approved

Delegates expressed their extreme dissatisfaction with the progress of investigation into the Belarus accident.

Montgolfier Diplomas

Best Performance - Hot Air

No nominations

Best Performance - Gas

No nominations

Best Performance - Rozier

No nominations

Contribution to the Sport

Awarded to Mr. Hans Akerstedt (SWE)

Santos Dumont Gold Airship Medal

Awarded to Mr. Tom Sage (GBR) for his services and contribution to airship development.

FAI Air Sports Medal

Mrs Barbara Butler (ISV) was nominated for the award of an FAI Air Sports Medal.

WHO'S WHO FOR 1997/98

The following were elected at the 1997 Plenary Meeting:

CIA President	Jacques Soukup (ISV)
CIA 1st Vice President	Hans Akerstedt (SWE)
CIA 2nd Vice President	Darryl Stuart (AUS)
CIA 3rd Vice President	Mathijs de Bruijn (NED)
CIA Secretary	Neil Robertson (GBR)
Record Review Subcommittee Chairman	Karl Stefan (USA)
Instrument Working Group Chairman	Daniel Griffin (USA)
Observer Subcommittee Chairman	Arnost Honig (CZE)
PR & Development Subcommittee Co-Chairmen	Kirk Thomas (ISV)
	Darryl Stuart (AUS)
World Air Games Working Group Chairman	Neil Robertson (GBR)
Event Planning Advisory Service Chairperson	Stella Roux Devillas (FRA)
Logo & Products Working Group Chairman	Arthur Westworth (RSA)
LTA Education Working Group Chairman	Wang Lei (CHN)
Rules Subcommittee Chairman	Jean-Claude Weber (LUX)
AX Working Group Chairman	Les Purfield (GBR)
AA/AM Working Group Chairman	Mark Sullivan (USA)
BX Working Group Chairman	Neil Robertson (GBR)
Statutes, By-Laws & Sporting Code Working Group Chairman	Jean-Claude Weber (LUX)
Scoring Working Group Chairman	Masashi Kakuda (JPN)
Safety Subcommittee Chairman	Jean Sax (BEL)
Jury Board Chairman	Hans Akerstedt (SWE)

CIA POLICY MANUAL

This CIA Information Document is now available in electronic format (MS Word 6.0). Anybody requiring a copy should send a blank 3.5" disk to the CIA Secretary. The document is NOT being offered in hard copy format because its size (270 pages) makes the cost of reproduction and mailing prohibitive.

For those who already have a copy of the Policy Manual, the up-date for the 1997 Plenary Minutes is now available in hard copy format or on disk.

This Newsletter is published by the CIA Secretary on behalf of the CIA Bureau. It is available to ANY interested party on request to the CIA Secretary, who would be happy to add new names to the mailing list.

All information is believed to be correct at the time of publication, but no responsibility can be taken for any errors, omissions etc.

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