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# Switzerland from Day to Day

## 24th April

The first of four volumes of the «Encyclopaedia of Switzerland today» was presented to the press. This work is unique of its kind and shows Switzerland in its many aspects in the 'seventies'.

The PTT services announced that postal rates for abroad would increase as from 1st July.

## 25th April

The Federal Council decided to increase the subsidy to the farmers by 7.5% as from 1st May.

## 27th April

The world boxing championship in fly weight at the «Hallenstadion» in Zurich ended in a victory by Chionoi of Thailand who beat the Swiss, Fritz Chervet.

## 28th April

After having announced a 17.5% increase in the price of beer, the prices and wages board published an increase of 10 cts per bar of chocolate as from 1st September.

## 1st May

At Geneva, the Swiss football team was beaten by Belgium 0:1.



## 2nd May

The first Swiss earth station for satellites was officially inaugurated at Loèche in the Valais. Working with the satellite Intelsat IV, the station links Switzerland with USA, Canada, Brazil and Israel.

## 9th May

The Commission of Experts appointed by the Federal Department of Justice and Police, to deal with the total revision of the Federal Constitution had its first meeting in Berne.

## 11th May

The Swiss Newspaper Publishers' Association announced an increase in the price of newspapers as from 1st July. This is due to a general increase in the cost of living and the rise in the price of paper.

## 12th May

The cyclists' «Tour de Romandie» ended in a victory for the Dutchman Zoetemelk.

## 15th May

Nearly 4000 old-age pensioners from all over Switzerland demonstrated in Berne in favour of an increase in their pensions. The pensioners demanded of the Federal Council the adjustment of the pensions to the cost of living and a minimum of 600 francs a month for a single person and 900 francs for a married couple as from the beginning of 1975.

## 19th May

At Loëx, the Swiss team of archers gained the «Casque d'or» trophy from the Italian holders.

## 22nd May

A rock face of several tons collapsed onto the Gotthard railway line between Faido and Lavorgno (Ticino). Fortunately, there were no victims.



Rita Pfister (Keystone)

## 29th May

The Swiss Office for the Prevention of Accidents announced that traffic accidents had been less numerous by 6% during the first four months of 1974 than in the same period of the previous year.

In an opinion poll in Switzerland it was established that the majority of Swiss families wanted two children, and a strong minority three.

For the first time since the war, a dirigible aircraft, coming from Lyons, passed over the skies of the Suisse Romande to land at the airport of Berne.

## 1st June

The manager of an art gallery opened a permanent exhibition for inventors, the second of its kind in Europe, after Sweden.

## 2nd June

The Spanish Embassy in Berne was attacked with explosives. There were no injuries, but the damage was considerable.

## 5th June

A phantastic discovery by a Basle



Federal Councillor Pierre Graber is received in Peking by his colleague Tscheng Peng Fei (Keystone)

schoolboy enabled archeologists to establish that 400 000 years ago, prehistoric beings lived in Switzerland.

#### **12th June**

The centenary of the Federal Constitution of 1874 was celebrated solemnly in Berne.

#### **16th June**

The discus thrower Rita Pfister (Zurich) established a new Swiss record with 54 m 30 cm.

#### **21st June**

The Belgian Eddy Merckx won the Tour de Suisse (cycling).

#### **23rd June**

By 36 802 yes to 34 057 no, the people of the Jura answered in the affirmative the question «Would you be in favour of a new Canton?»

#### **24th June**

The National Council approved the new federal law concerning help to the Swiss schools abroad. The voting was unanimous at 135 in favour.

#### **28th June**

The famous rock singer Johnny Hallyday gave a song recital to the 200 detainees at the Bochuz penitentiary.

#### **30th June**

The electors of Zurich rejected a wealth tax proposal. The Initiative planned tax relief on small and middle incomes by raising taxes on high incomes.

#### **4th July**

The new «Mr. Price», Mr Léon Schlumpf (49) from the Grisons, was appointed in place of Mr. Léo Schuermann to take over the difficult post of watching prices, wages and interests.

#### **9th July**

Wanting to continue its policy of stabilising the foreign population, the Federal Council published new regulations regarding a definite maximum of entry permits for workers, both seasonal and trainees.

The four Swiss test pilots sent to the United States by the Federal Military Department, in order to

make the first tests with the Tiger F II-5E, announced their satisfaction with the aircraft and said that the Tiger would be suitable for the purpose for which Switzerland wants it.

#### **11th July**

A team of six volunteers of the Swiss Aid Corps departed for Senegal and Mali where they will spend three months on behalf of FAO.

#### **12th July**

An opinion poll made by «ISO-Public» in Zurich showed that inflation has become the primary preoccupation of the Swiss.

#### **20th July**

It was announced that Federal Councillor Graber would inaugurate an exhibition by 200 Swiss firms in Peking. This would be one of the biggest shows of its kind abroad and would take place from 7th to 27th August.

#### **23rd July**

The net result of the Pro Patria stamps and the First of August badges of this year would go partly to needy mothers and partly towards old people's homes and helping the chronic sick.

#### **4th August**

The racing driver from the Ticino, Clay Regazzoni, won the Grand Prix of Europe and Germany at the Nürburgring. He drove a Ferrari.

#### **6th August**

An agreement was concluded between the Government of Hanoi and the Swiss Federal Council, according to which the Confederation would send to North Vietnam materials, machinery and experts necessary to install a factory for prefabricated panels needed for the reconstruction of houses destroyed in the war. Thus 1000 houses could be built by 60 workers in 3 days.