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50th Federal Shooting Contest, Lucerne



At the Allmend rifle-range (Photo LP)



Celebrating victories ...

«Concours d'honneur» of the Swiss rifle associations abroad

The get-together of the Swiss from abroad is always one of the finest experiences at a federal shooting contest, and the one of 1979 was no exception; 247 marksmen from all continents – 21 groups in all – met in Lucerne from 14th to 16th July 1979.

Of the groupings in the official procession, that of the Swiss abroad was applauded most. Their clothes which generally represented their countries of residence – from bowler-hat to cowboy headgear, from Dutch national costumes to colourful shirts of Central Africa – drew everyone's attention.

The guests of honour at the official banquet, amongst them five Federal Councillors, were able to admire the Lucerne countryside at leisure from aboard ship which took them to the cradle of Switzerland. With typically helvetic spontaneity, not least due to liberal refreshments, they all started singing in the different national languages, the Ticinese minority clearly on top.

The serious part did not really start until Monday when the contest of honour of the Swiss rifle associa-

tions from abroad took place. The majority were equipped with borrowed carbines and assault rifles. Merrily they began firing their rounds, adjusting their weapons to which, of necessity, they had to get accustomed first.

What pleasure when the shots hit the black, promising a much coveted medal. Many did indeed wear it afterwards with great pride. Others did not fail to tell how only



The Netherlands and the United States, a pretty picture of Swiss from abroad in the official procession (Photo Hopfner)

Placing of the groups

Place Group

- 1 *Gold laurel and stained glass panel*
Vancouver, Swiss Canadian Rifle Club
- 2 *Gold laurel and Lucerne tankard*
Antwerp, Société Suisse de Tir
- 3 *Silver laurel and bronze relief*
Paris, Société Suisse de Tir
- 4 *Laurel and pewter tray*
Calgary, Swiss Rifle Club Tell
- 5 Los Angeles, Swiss Athletic Society
- 6 Liechtenstein, Schweizerverein im Fürstentum
- 7 London, Swiss Rifle Association
- 8 Mitchell, Swiss Rifle Club Thames-Valley
- 9 Holland, Schützensektion der NHG
- 10 Lyon, Tireurs Suisses
- 11 Munich, Schweizer Verein München e.V.
- 12 Milan, Schützensektion des Schweizervereins
- 13 Pays de Gex, Cercle Suisse
- 14 Frankfurt on Main, Schützens. Schweiz. G.
- 15 Monrovia, Liberian Swiss Club
- 16 Mexico, Club Suizo de Tiro
- 17 Brussels, Société Suisse de Tir
- 18 Vienna, Schweizerische Schützengesellschaft
- 19 Bogota, Club Suizo de Tiro
- 20 Durban, Swiss Club
- 21 Accra Ghana, Teshie Rangers

List of the 10 best individual results

Place Name

- 1 Tochtermann Heinrich, 26, Liechtenstein
- 2 Schaffner Traugott, 44, London
- 3 Hangartner Josef, 17, Wellington
- 4 Delosme Jean, 21, Paris
- 5 Amrein Adolf, 27, Antwerp
- 6 Schilter Hans, 21, Mitchell
- 7 Weber Paul, 21, Milan
- 8 Greuter Fritz, 29, Barcelona
- 9 Koenig Gertrud, 32, Calgary
- 10 Brügger René, 35, Vancouver

the «stupid dud» prevented them from winning a trophy.

Quiet reigned in the large hall at the Allmend in Lucerne until about 12.30. With the arrival of the Swiss marksmen from abroad, the atmosphere began to get lively. Several women proudly displayed one or more medals on their chests.

Before lunch was served, several couples lined up for dancing, for there was an excellent folk music band. That set the tone for the festivities which were interrupted only by speeches and later by the distribution of the prizes when nobody was forgotten.

It was a festive occasion which one would like to repeat and

which nobody will forget in a hurry, all the more because the prizes were of excellent quality. Apart from the bear skin offered by the Swiss Canadian Rifle Club of Vancouver, which went to the Swiss Society of Antwerp, the Organization of the Swiss Abroad wanted to present an engraved pewter cup to the group which had the longest journey to get to Switzerland. This was awarded to the Swiss Athletic Society of Los Angeles. The remaining groups received a pennant «Fifth Switzerland» with an inscription in honour of the participants of the 50th Federal Shooting Contest. Long live the 51st Contest!

Lucien Paillard

Special prizes

Best woman:	Mrs Koenig Gertrud, Calgary
Best junior:	Miss Hodel Margrit, 60, Surrey
Best veteran:	Mr Hangartner Josef, 17, Wellington
Best veteran-D:	Mr Strub Paul, 05, Schaan

Skiing Camp 1980 «Les Crosets»



First camp:
25th March–3rd April

Second camp:
8th April–17th April

Those who dislike the cold but do not wish to do without skiing, should apply to one of the spring skiing camps for Swiss from abroad at «Les Crosets».

In the middle of the snow-covered skiing territory of «Les Crosets», a small place in the Val d'Illeiez, 1600 m above sea-level, we shall install ourselves in a well-equipped holiday chalet.

With expert leaders, we shall go skiing in groups in the sunny mountain landscape and also practise skiing technique.

In the evening, we shall spend some happy hours in one another's company.

Swiss living abroad between 15 and 25 who are interested in a spring skiing camp at «Les Crosets», should apply for an application form before 15th February 1980 from Youth Service, Secretariat of the Swiss Abroad of the NSH, Postfach, CH-3000 Berne 16, Switzerland.


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