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**SPEECH BY FEDERAL PRESIDENT ADOLF OGI
HEAD OF THE FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT,
COMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY TO THE SWISS ABROAD ON THE
OCCASION OF THE SWISS NATIONAL DAY 1993**

Dear Compatriots Abroad Dear Fellow Swiss

It is with great pleasure that I convey to you the cordial wishes of the Swiss Government and people on the occasion of our national day 1993. This day is a special day. It is a solemn occasion and a day of pleasure for us all. For each one of you it is a proud reminder of your ties with your home country: Switzerland.

Dear Fellow Swiss Abroad

You represent our country all over the globe. We are proud of you! After all, we Swiss back home benefit a lot from your open spirit, your cosmopolitan outlook and experience. On behalf of the Swiss Government, let me thank you most sincerely for all the good things you are doing for our common fatherland.

Dear Fellow Swiss

As you are all aware, we are facing great challenges. I am thinking, for example, of the economic situation which is far from rosy, even in Switzerland. I am thinking, in particular, of the 150,000 unfortunate Swiss in our country who are currently unemployed. Matters have changed on the foreign policy front too. The world is a completely different place since the fall of the Berlin Wall and the opening up of the former Eastern Bloc. However, with your enthusiastic support, we will continue to face all the future challenges. Dear Fellow Swiss Switzerland is a cosmopolitan nation. Yesterday - today tomorrow, this is a fact. Even the Swiss electorate's no for membership in the European Economic Area cannot change it. Our country is still closely linked with the International Community. Our country, Switzerland, with its 26 cantons and four languages, is a multicultural community in itself. A community which is well rooted and represented all over the world.

Fellow Citizens

I take this opportunity to ask for your help. Do help Switzerland in fulfilling its international solidarity commitments! Do help that our children inherit a strong, healthy Switzerland. Make extensive use of the right to vote given to the Swiss Abroad last summer!

Dear Compatriots Abroad

On behalf of the Swiss Government and people, I wish you and your families all the best. Have a happy, memorable National Day.

**VISITS TO NEW ZEALAND OF
TWO PROMINENT
PERSONALITIES**

MAJA BEUTLER

Swiss authoress from Berne who will read from and discuss her books.

13 September 1993 7.30 pm. German Department, Victoria University of Wellington.

16 September 1993 1.00 pm. German Department. Massey University, Palmerston North, Main Building, Room 332.

23 September 1993 7.00 pm. German Department, Auckland University, McLaurin Hall, 18 Princes Street.

MARGRIT SIEGENTHALER REUSSER

Manager of Alliance of Swiss Women's Organisations

Monday 6 September 12.00 noon. Speech at University of Waikato Law School on "Voting and Women's Rights Compared to New Zealand". Forum with Women's Studies Department.

Tuesday 7 September. Lunch for members of the North Shore Branch of Federation of University Women: Lounge of Northbridge Retirement Village, Northcote, Auckland.

Wednesday 8 September 7.30 pm. Speech at Annual Meeting Auckland Association of Presbyterian Women: Suffrage topic. St Davids Church Hall, Kyber Pass Rd. Auckland.

**NEWS FROM THE SWISS
EMBASSY IN
WELLINGTON**

The Embassy wishes to advise all Swiss in New Zealand that it has a list of video cassettes available to Clubs, Societies and individual people. Requests to borrow any of these videos have to be made to the Embassy in writing.



**VIDEOS HELD BY
THE EMBASSY:**

- Ways to Switzerland:* The Walser 31min.
- Ways to Switzerland:* On Roman Tracks in Switzerland 15min.
- Ways to Switzerland* "Hiking the "Swiss Path" 9min.
- La Confédération Suisse et son parlement (English) 24min.
- Visages Suisses 100min.
- Visages Suisses (version courte) 46min.
- The Albula Line - Chur to St Moritz 50min.
- Lötschbergbahn (English) 8min.
- Lugano-Luzern als Lokführer 61min.
- Simplon (French) 25min.
- Montreux Oberland Bernois 28min.
- Railorama SBB 66min.
- Red & White Colours of Switzerland 52min

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

We apologise for certain society news items being a bit out-dated, but with the forced non-appearance of the Helvetia magazine in August, some items have become slightly "stale". Well this is a situation our readers will have to get used to again, as in the old days. This issue covers two months too, so the next issue will only be in November. Club Secretaries please take note.

If you would like to receive your Helvetia magazine on a monthly basis again, please help us getting more advertisers. Some clubs have already appointed a correspondent who's job is to drum up some more advertisements.

Here are the first names:

- Matthias DAMM**
45 Ramahana Rd.
Christchurch
Ph. 03 332-8520 Hme 366-3667 Bus
- Anna Rufer**
35 Griffiths Street
Putaruru
- Heidi Fraser**
8 Leonard Place
Hamilton
- Christine Alderdice**
9 St Edmond Cresc.
Redwood, Tawa
Wellington

Many thanks for your assistance. We trust the action will succeed. Unfortunately, maybe by coincidence or maybe not, but two major advertisers have just pulled out. Guess who?

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