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1983 in retrospect

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**1** Great success of the Swiss watch industry much afflicted by the recession, with the launching of the quartz watch «Swatch».

2 World Championship at Lake Placid and European Championship in Sarajewo were won by the 4-bob team Switzerland II (Ekkehard Fasser). From left to right: E.Fasser, Hans Märchy, Kurt Poletti and Rolf Strittmatter. **3** The 2-bob World Champion in Lake Placid: the Swiss team Ralph Pichler / Urs Leuthold.

**4** The Ice Hockey Club of Bienne won the 1983 Swiss championship.

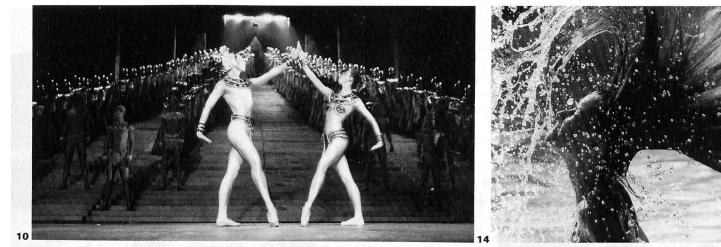
**5** Two new aircraft types for Swissair: the Airbus A-310 and the Jumbo B-747-300.

6 The Ticinese Doris de Agostini won the 1983 World Cup in the down-hill race. **7** Official state visit by Monsieur François Mitterand, on this occasion accompanied by Federal President Pierre Aubert.

8 The «Foundation for Art and Culture» signed an agreement with the owner of the Castle of Grandson so as to keep it in Swiss hands. Several collections were organized in order to get part of the required funds.

**9** Daniel Nipkow from Zurich became double archery world champion at Bad Homburg.











**10** The performance of Aida (produced by the Verona Opera Company) turned out to be the biggest operatic spectacle in Switzerland.

**11** The mysterious peregrination of the Seveso barrels at an end: After the 41 barrels of toxic waste had been found in France, they were returned to their owners.

**12** The Swiss horseriding team Willy Mellinger, Heidi Robbiani, Thomas Fuchs and Walter Gabathuler won the gold medal for jumping at the European Championship in Hickstead (GB).

**13** Accidents in July and August were caused by explosions of grenades in the Flumserberge and in the Valais. A total of seven people were killed and four seriously injured.

**14** Above-average temperatures and a long period of drought marked the summer of 1983.

**15** Rolf Biland and Kurt Waltisberg won the side-car world championship title. **16** «Leopard II» will be the  $a^{s-1}$  sault tank of the Swiss Army. 210 of these will be purchased in 1984 to the tune of  $2.5 \text{ mr}^{d}$  Francs.

**17** Spectacular escape from the Geneva jail Champ d'Ollon: Licio Gelli, head of the Italian secret lodge P-2 and chief suspect in the crash of the Banco Ambrosiano.

**18** Ernst Schläpfer from Herisau AR became Swiss «Schwinger» King (Wrestling) for the second time. The picture shows him in the final round against Niklaus Gasser.







12











**19** In 1983, too, runner Albrecht Moser won the military championship.

**20** The Zurich team Grasshoppers won both titles in Swiss football – Championship and Cup.

**21** The Federal Councillors G.A. Chevallaz and W. Ritschard announced their retirement for the end of the year. A few days later, Mr Ritschard died on a mountain hiking tour.

**22** Changes in the media world: several local radio stations, as well as Channel III of DRS, began broadcasting.

23 Large numbers of demonstrators against the arms race and for peace. In the rally in Berne in October, nearly 50000 people took to the streets.

**24** Emil Bollhalder and Kurt Büsser became Moto-Cross-Worldchampions in the side-car Class for the first time in 1983.

**25** To replace the two retiring Federal Councillors, the Social Democrat Otto Stich (left) and the Radical Liberal Jean-Pascal Delamuraz (right) were elected to the Federal Council.

26 Urs Freuler became

double world champion at the World Cycling Championships in Zurich, and in December he won the Zurich Six-Day Race together with Daniel Gisiger. 1983





