

Report on 16th International Congress on High Speed Photography and Photonics Strasbourg, France, August 27-31, 1984

By Lincoln L. Endelman

The 16th International Congress on High Speed Photography was held in Strasbourg, France, August 27-31, 1984. The Congress was organized by the Association Nationale de la Recherche Technique (ANRT). It was jointly sponsored by several French and German organizations including:

ISL — Franco-German Research Institute of Saint-Louis

EMI — Ernst Mach Institute, Fribourg

CEA — Commission on Atomic Energy, France

DPG — German Physical Society

BMFT — Federal Ministry for Research and Technology, Germany

BMVg — Federal Ministry for Defense, Germany

The Society of Photo-Optical Instrumentation Engineers was the International Secretariat and provided assistance in the distribution of information on the Congress. It is also publishing the proceedings.

Approximately 500 people were registered for the Congress, including about 56 from the U.S. At least 21 different countries were represented, including Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Venezuela, Sweden, Denmark, Czechoslovakia, Austria, Australia,



National delegates to the 16th International Congress. At left, SMPTE representative Lincoln L. Endelman. Among those shown are M. André (France), B. R. C. Garfield (U.K.), M. Hugenschmidt (F. R. of Germany), H. Preschern (Austria), M. Y. Schelev (USSR), and W. G. Hyzer (U.S.)

Norway, Belgium, U.S., USSR, France, West Germany, China, Switzerland, Israel, Canada, U.K., and East Germany.

Approximately 200 papers were presented on 14 different topics. The paper subjects covered almost every facet of the photographic and photonics areas.

Sessions were held on: Picosecond Cameras, Flash Radiography and Cineradiography, Industrial Applications, Medical and Scientific Applications, High Speed Cameras, Light

Sources and Detectors, Video Cameras, Information Acquisition, Holography, Detonics, Flow Studies, Acquisition and Image Processing, Data Transfer, and Holographic Interferometry.

Many very good papers were presented which provided new information on advanced techniques and equipment. There were also a substantial number of papers which showed little preparation, and in some cases the presentation was an ad lib type. Unfortunately, the impression left after a few sessions with poorly prepared papers was perhaps an unfair one of the overall Congress not being up to expected standards.

The social program included a tour of Strasbourg and visits to the Sauer Valley and Baden-Baden. On Thursday afternoon a tour was given, open to all Congress registrants, of the old Alsace towns including Colmar and the wine-growing center at Riquewihr, including dinner at a country inn. The social program also included a concert at the Strasbourg Cathedral and beautiful lighting effects. The farewell banquet held in the Palais des Congrès

A contribution by Lincoln L. Endelman, Perkin Elmer Optical Tech. Div., Santa Clara, Calif. This article was received October 10, 1984. Copyright © 1985 by the Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers, Inc.



(L-R) At Town Hall for a reception are (L-R) Roberta Bryant; Larry Bryant, Los Alamos National Laboratory; and Mrs. Lincoln (Sally) Endelman.



At the final banquet, Robert Shoberg, Photonic Systems, and Mrs. Shoberg admire the Coleman Award for 1984 he received.

included regional specialties of food and wines.

During the final banquet the Schardin Medal was awarded to Leonid S. Usakov, the Scientific Secretary of the Soviet Committee for High Speed Photography and Photonics. This Gold Medal is awarded by the ISL to a scientist not over 35 years old who has made significant contributions to the High Speed Photographic field.

The Coleman Award for 1984 was given to Robert Shoberg, president of Photonic Systems, U.S., for his significant contributions to improvements in rotating prism cameras. The award for 1983 was given to Michel Andre of the French Atomic Energy Commission. This award consists of a Certificate and a stipend of £500 given by the British High Speed Committee.

The technical exhibit included over 20 different companies and organizations displaying high-speed cameras, video systems, image intensification systems, analysis systems, and other equipment for data evaluation.

The national delegates met to discuss the plans for future High Speed Congresses. There were about 21 delegates at the meeting. The primary topic was the decision to hold the next Congress in Pretoria, South Africa. An initial approval of South Africa's offer to hold the Congress had been given at the delegates' meeting during the 15th Congress held at San Diego in 1982. The Chinese had previously been scheduled to hold the 1986 Congress, but their offer was withdrawn during

the meeting. In the interval since, a decision was reached that the Congress could be held in China in 1988.

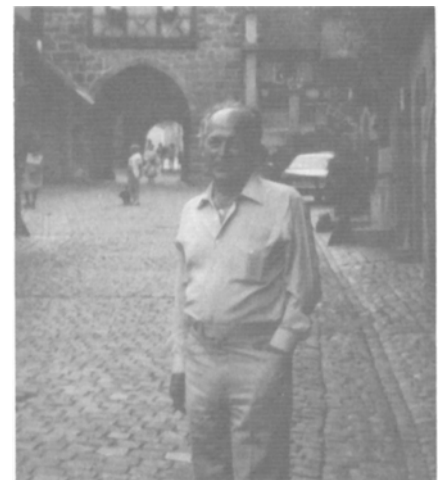
The national delegates were now faced with the difficult decision of whether to accept China's offer or to reaffirm the original commitment made to South Africa. The decision was made even more difficult by strong opposition to the South African site by several delegates who felt that the political climate would not provide free access for them or their countrymen. There was also fears that travel costs would be so high that many people could not afford to attend. Reassurance was given by the South African delegate that all participants would be treated with equal courtesy and that the costs of the registration and accommodations would be kept low to offset any additional airfare costs. He

stated that with the help of the South African sponsors, the total costs would not exceed that for the present Congress.

After extended discussion a ballot was passed out to the delegates, and South Africa was confirmed as the site for the 1986 Congress. China then offered to host the 1988 Congress, and their offer was unanimously accepted. Czechoslovakia and the U.K. both extended offers to host the 1990 Congress.

The method of appointing the U.S. delegate was explained, and the change from the Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers to the Society of Photo-Optical Instrumentation Engineers was clarified.

The SPIE was appointed the International Secretariat for another two years and will be assisting the South African Organizing Committee in its distribution of information on the Congress.



Jack Kiel, president, Photo Sonics, touring France with a group from the 16th International Congress.



Mr. and Mrs. William Hyzer enjoying the reception in Strasbourg. He was the U.S. delegate and former SMPTE High Speed Committee Chairman.