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Ref: C/5/1

12 August 1993

Dear Archie

Since it was impracticable to arrange a get-together on the way home I did want to write to thank each one of you for the immense effort you made, not only in Taipei, but over many preceding months to ensure the best possible performance by the UK team.

Inevitably during the competition itself we were all more conscious of what had gone wrong than what had gone right. And although the overall result was an improvement on Amsterdam, (and warmest congratulations again to those experts whose competitors received medals or diplomas) it is clear that we have more to learn and much more to do.

I was therefore particularly encouraged by the positive tone of our 'wash-up' meeting under David Bartley, and your carefully considered reports (almost all of which I have now read!) which will be important in shaping our future tactics and strategies.

But none of this important process of self-criticism must be allowed to obscure the real positive achievements of the UK team taken as a whole. Although I do not have the experience of our team leaders and many of you, I do believe that our competitors were a marvellous (perhaps again "the best ever") group of generally highly competent individuals, who yet formed a coherent and civilised whole, as witness, not least, their performance at the Farewell Party.

I believe that all our Chief Experts did a highly competent job, (upon which a number of Jury Presidents particularly commented) and I am also aware of a number of others amongst you who effectively acted as Chief Experts when the nominee lacked language or competence. Generally I believe you all contributed to what was, in spite of very real problems to be energetically tackled in certain trades, a supremely successful IVTC.

contd./

Chairman: Sir John Cassels CB
Chief Executive: Patricia Snell

Although I know Pat has written to the two team leaders I would, on behalf of all experts, like to thank Archie and Martin for their customary enthusiasm, perceptiveness, ingenuity, good humour and sheer hard work, which did so much to keep competitors competing in spite of disappointments and setbacks.

Lastly, on a more official note, you will be aware that your appointment as technical expert for the 32nd IVTO ends on the 31 August 1993. Would you be good enough, before that date, to let Charles Turner have a copy of your jury's authentic recommendations for changes to the trade description?

At this stage I cannot obviously predict any of our plans for Lyon in 1995. It is very likely however that we shall be considering the appointment of experts during November/December 1994. The dates chosen for the 33rd IVTO are 12 - 15 October 1995 which I assume will mean a total period of say 7 - 19 October. This date is obviously not ideal but we shall have to live with it.

Thank you again for all your efforts. I hope you feel it was worthwhile, as I certainly do, and I wish you much needed relaxing holidays and all the best for the future.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'J D G Hammer' with a stylized flourish at the end.

J D G Hammer
Technical Director