

Opening Ceremony

The 19th International Vocational Competition

GREETINGS

10:00 - 12:00

Tuesday, 10 November 1970

at Nihon Budokan, Tokyo

PROGRAMME OF THE OPENING CEREMONY

from 10:00 to 12:00 a.m.
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PROGRAMME

- 9:30 Competing teams and officials arrive.
- 10:20 The Crown Prince and the Crown Princess arrive.
- 10:30 The Crown Prince and the Crown Princess take seats.
(All participants and spectators stand up.)
- 10:31 Fanfare
- 10:32 National flags of all participating countries enter.
- 10:42 National anthems of all participating countries rendered.
(All participants and spectators stand up.)
- 11:10 Declaration of opening
- 11:11 Welcoming message by K. Komai, chairman of J. O. C.
- 11:14 Greetings by B. Palomares, Chairman of International Organizing
Committee
- 11:18 Oath by a representative of the contestants (The representative
is to be singled out of the Japanese contestants.)
- 11:20 Congratulatory message by the Crown Prince
- 11:23 Greetings of guests of honor
M. Nohara, Minister of Labor
T. Sakurada, Representative of organizations related
to I. V. T. C.

11:30 Commemoration postage stamps presented (by Japan's Minister of
Postal Services to Chairman Palomares)

11:34 Chorus: "The Song of I.V.T.C." by Mitsubishi Bank Chorus Group

11:40 Declaration of closing

11:40 The Crown Prince and the Crown Princess leave .
(All participants and spectators stand up.)

11:41 Concerted singing of a few Japanese songs

11:50 Competing teams and officials leave.

Welcome Address

Mr. Ken'ichiro Komai,
Chairman of the Japan
Organising Committee for
the International Vocational
Competition

It is a great honor and privilege for us to hold the opening ceremony of the XIX International Vocational Training Competition in the presence of the Crown Prince and the Crown Princess.

And it is a great pleasure for me, as the chairman of the Japan Organizing Committee of I.V.T.C., to address this magnificent ceremony.

Ladies and gentlemen, I would like particularly to welcome the many distinguished guests who have come here from many countries in Europe and Asia.

Since it participated for the first time in the 11th I.V.T.C. held in 1962 in Jijona of Spain, Japan has taken part in I.V.T.C. meetings each year and has made gratifying results in many competing events, thus greatly contributing toward cementing friendly ties between Japan and European countries.

It is indeed fortunate and a glorious duty for Japan, a member country, to hold the XIX I.V.T.C. this time here in Tokyo. Japan regards this occasion as the most favorable opportunity to repay the participating countries for their warm friendship shown to her for many years. Filled with the sense of duty and with gratitude, the Japan Organizing Committee has made every effort to hold this meeting. And this time, encouraged by the Government's thoughtful consideration and assistance, and obtaining helpful cooperation from the industrial world, Japan is fully determined to do its best to perform its responsibility as the host country.

It is my sincere hope that all the competitors, upholding the honor of their mother countries, will display their longtrained skills to the full in cooperation with each other to lead this Competition to a great success.

With the steady advance of scientific technique, geographical distance between countries is diminishing year after year. International relations will become ever so closer in the future. In this age of an unprecedented progress, we hope we will be good friends, good neighbors, good collaborators with each other. We believe this Competition will constitute a momentum for that hope and that our movement for promoting vocational skill will continue to make great strides in its progress with every passing year.

I am afraid that you might feel any inconvenience during your stay in this country whose manners and customs are quite different from yours. But I do hope you will enjoy beautiful views of Japan's late fall. We'll do everything we can to discharge our responsibility as the host country.

With your cooperation, I am sure we can make this XIX I.V.T.C. a landmark in the movement for promoting vocational skill in Japan. Once again let me say how happy I am to welcome all of you and thank you for making your valuable time available to me. I wish you every success.

Thank you.

GREETINGS

Dr. B. Palomares,
President of the International
Organising Council

For the first time in history we are holding an International Apprenticeship Competition in this continent. Three years of efforts have been necessary to organize it.

In October 1967, at the meeting of the Organizing Council held in Madrid, Japan offered to hold the competition in its country. I must confess that many delegates were worried by the many and apparently unsurmountable problems that its acceptance would originate but the tenacity, organizational know-how and generosity of our Japanese friends solved one by one the problems until this final result was achieved: We feel like a fish in the water; that is to say, we feel at home. Just as if we still were in old Europe.

The gates of ancient Asia are now wide open to us, through one of its greatest Nations, with exquisite hospitality and deep friendship. I must express our gratitude for their hospitality and our admiration for this impressive organization. Nevertheless our joy is not complete. Two men have been lost along the way; two men that will not share with us the work, hopes, troubles and satisfactions related with these events. I am speaking, as you may have already guessed, of Mr. Woerner, Chairman of the Technical Committee, and Mr. Malagodi, Official Representative from Italy. Two old friends that have worked jointly with us for many years, and that death was now taken from us. I am sure that we all share the same emotions in this moment and I promise here and now that our grief will not hinder our efforts. On the contrary it will stimulate us to go forward with greater hope. We have no doubt that the XIX International Competition that we open today will have the greatest of success.

It is fair to state that this success is mainly due to the Japanese Organizing Committee. Its long days of work have made possible to have everything ready and available. We must express our gratitude for his work to Mr. Komai, Chairman of the Japanese National Committee; and for their help to, Mr. Nohara, Minister of Labour; and to Mr. Sakurada, Chairman of the Economic Council of Japan. For their knowledge of our field of endeavor and their exceptional organizational know-how Mr. Hayakawa, International Vice-president; Mr. Furuya, Official Representative; and Mr. Miyamori, Technical Representative have made this competition a reality. We also must mention the important contribution of the International Council, the Technical Experts and the valuable cooperation of Foremen that have covered the smallest needs of our competitors.

We keep working because we know that a well trained youth, aware of its mission in life and capable of doing a well done job is a warranty of a bright individual and collective future.

You, young participants, represent the working youth of your countries. You are, because you have proved it, the best trained in your trades. Here, you must now prove that you are also the best in human virtues, especially in victory or defeat, because in this noble contest that is awaiting you, there will be only one winner and he will be no less than the best of the best. To the winners I say, "Do not let victory blind you with pride" and to losers, "Do not let despair overwhelm you". This Labour Olympics starting tomorrow, as the World Athletic Olympic Games held in this same country in 1964, only have one goal which is the essence of competition: to go faster, higher and farther. The mere fact that you are here now means that you were fast in your learning, you went far in the knowledge of your trade and you will reach high in your profession.

To all of you, my young friends, my warmest welcome, my congratulations and let the best man win.

And last but not least, it is a pleasant duty to express our gratitude and respect, too. His Royal Majesty Prince Akihito and Her Royal Majesty Princess Michiko, who have honoured and distinguished us by accepting to preside the opening of this International Contest. I pray their Royal Majesties to transmit to their August Father and to their Government, our sincere friendship, gratitude and admiration towards this great Country to which we can only wish a future of peace, progress and prosperity.

Your Majesties, thank you very much for your presence.

GREETINGS

H. I. H. the Crown Prince

We are very happy today to hold this 19th International Apprentice Competition, welcoming here large numbers of participants, both from home and from abroad, to enter the contests, and many other persons specially concerned in this event.

It is my ardent desire that the present Competition will prove to be a great success, and that it will be called a true festival for all the youthful workers of the world who are devoting their lives and efforts for the constant improvement of their technical skills.

I also hope that the mutual understanding and friendship gained by you all on this particular occasion will eventually contribute to the promotion of the peace and prosperity of the world.

GREETINGS

Mr. Masakatsu Nohara,
Labour Minister of Japan

It is my great pleasure to pay a warm tribute to this grand opening ceremony of the XIX International Vocational Training Competition which is being held today in the presence of the Crown Prince and the Crown Princess and many distinguished guests.

First of all, I, on behalf of the Japanese people, would like to welcome the many competitors and officials, as well as Chairman Palomares of the International Organizing Committee of I.V.T.C. and Vice-Chairman Ramos of the same, who have come here all the way from abroad to take part in this magnificent meeting which is being held for the first time in the Asian region.

I understand that I.V.T.C. has been held annually for the purpose of promoting the international exchange of vocational training and strengthening the ties of friendship and good will between young skilled laborers from various countries of the world, and I would like to pay a tribute of admiration to those who for the development of I.V.T.C. has made their untiring efforts to contribute toward the elevation of the levels of vocational skill and cementing friendly relations between our countries. Thanks to the painstaking efforts, the number of countries participating in I.V.T.C. has increased steadily since its foundation, and thus today's XIX I.V.T.C. has been participated in by 16 countries -- the most in the history of I.V.T.C. I firmly believe with justification that we may proudly call this Competition the "festival of young skilled laborers."

As is well known, science of late has made great strides in its progress and the need of highly-sophisticated skill is keenly felt as years

go by.

Equaling science and technique in its indispensability, skill is said to be one of the three pillars supporting a country's industry. It is the key to improvements in the standard of living and is the driving force of a bright future in which man can live in affluence. In this sense, it should be of great significance that all our young skilled laborers, who are participating in this memorable Competition which is deservedly called the "Olympiad of Vocational Skill", will display their long-fostered skill to their heart's content, thereby demonstrating to the whole world the importance and the greatness of skill.

Also, let me say that Japan, as the first country to host this Competition in the Asian region, should be most happy if she could afford all our participants an opportunity to deepen understanding and friendship between them, thereby contributing toward the world's peace and prosperity that we all ever so eagerly wish for.

It is my sincere hope and firm belief that this Competition will be carried out all right and that the aim of its holding will be accomplished to the fullest extent.

In conclusion, I would like to express my deepest gratitude and respect to those who have exerted constant endeavor to make every possible arrangement for the opening of this Competition -- notably to those belonging to the Headquarters of I.V.T.C., all the competitors and officials from various countries, the Japan Organizing Committee for I.V.T.C., and other parties concerned.

Thank you.

GREETINGS

Mr. Takeshi Sakurada,
Delegate of
I.V.C. Organisations

It is a great honor and privilege for us, industrialists, to take part in this magnificent opening ceremony of the XIX International Vocational Training Competition, in the presence of the Crown Prince and the Crown Princess.

We understand that I.V.T.C. has been held in regular order by its member countries, with a view to cultivating friendly relations and deepening international understanding and good will between various countries of the world by expediting the training of skilled laborers and by exchanging vocational information with each other. And the whole industrial world of Japan takes a special pride in that the XIX I.V.T.C. has come to be opened this time here in Japan.

I am fully confident that this Competition will contribute toward promoting the development of industries in all participating countries and that it will pave the way for future contacts and better understanding between us. It is our sincere hope that we industrialists will take an active part in developing an ideal, harmonious society by strengthening, with I.V.T.C. as a medium, the ties of friendship and good will between countries in Europe and Asia.

Gentlemen, I believe that in this memorable Competition, all our contestants will display their long-trained skill to the full, thus upholding and championing the cause of I.V.T.C.

Finally, let me once again extend a warm welcome to all contestants and express the wish that they will all enjoy lovely landscapes of Japan's