

Mr. H.J.H. Hamer,
Secretary,
Nederland Comité voor Nationale en
Internationale Beroepenwedstrijden,
Kerkstraat 363,
Amsterdam-C.

18th December 1970.

Dear Harry,

At a meeting last week the City and Guilds and the Government Dept. finally withdrew support for the Competition - so it seems I am back to "square one" where I was 17 years ago.

Both John Mousley and Miss Snell will be transferred to another Dept. of the City and Guilds so I shall be without a U.K. Secretariat or language translator, but in spite of these difficulties I will do my best to scratch together a small U.K. team for Spain in September.

With regard to the meeting in Madrid in January, although I had planned to be there, it is very doubtful if I shall be able to come, for now all financial support has been withdrawn it becomes a personal matter whether one attends or not and when I consider the costs of air fare and hotel I feel it is better to conserve my personal finance in the hope that I can get a team together in 1971. It is possible that our Government Dept. may wish to send a Junior Representative Observer to the next meeting but it is doubtful if this will further the interests of the Competition now they have decided definitely to withdraw. The future of U.K. participation will depend upon dedication of voluntary enthusiasts, willing to go forward in the interests of the Competition and International goodwill.

I am not sure yet what Mr. Reeves position is, for he is closely tied to industry and may not be able to devote the time he would wish, but I am in close touch with him - I need his support, in fact I am endeavouring to collect support from all quarters and hope to find a new home in U.K. for the I.A.C.

This is just preliminary information to keep you informed of the difficulties over here and of my doubts about getting to Madrid in January.

Greetings to you and your Family for Christmas.

Yours sincerely,