Dear Mr. Mayer:

In March 1963, the late President John F. Kennedy extended a cordial invitation to the International Olympic Committee to stage the X Olympic Winter Games at Lake Placid, New York.

In the name of the American people, I hereby reaffirm that invitation. I commend with confidence Lake Placid's long history as a winter sports center and its proven ability to meet with distinction the demands of this important event. And I extend with pride a welcoming hand on behalf of all the people of a hospitable land.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Mr. Otto Mayer
Chancellor
International Olympic Committee
Lausanne, Switzerland
November 6, 1963

Dear Mr. Mayer:

The State of New York extends a very cordial invitation to the International Olympic Committee to conduct the 1968 Winter Olympic Games at Lake Placid, New York.

As you are certainly aware, the first Winter Olympic Games in this country were held at Lake Placid in 1932. This Adirondack Village has long enjoyed an international reputation for hospitality and good sportsmanship and the State of New York will be proud to have this great international meeting once again at the site of the '32 games.

New York State is anxious to do whatever we can to insure selection of Lake Placid as the site of the Winter Olympics and stands ready to cooperate in every feasible way.

Sincerely,

Mr. Otto Mayer
Chancellor
International Olympic Committee
Mon Repos, Lausanne,
Switzerland

Nelson A. Rockefeller
Governor
State of New York
Executive Chamber
Albany
Extending an invitation to the International Olympic Committee to hold the 1968 winter Olympic games in the United States.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, whereas the United States Olympic Association will invite the International Olympic Committee to hold the winter Olympic games in the United States at Lake Placid, New York, in 1968, the Government of the United States would welcome the holding of the 1968 winter Olympic games in the United States and expresses the sincere hope that the United States will be selected as the site for this great enterprise in international good will.

Approved August 12, 1963.
Office of the Attorney General
Washington, D.C.

September 16, 1963

Dear Mr. Mayer:

Mayor Cavanagh of Detroit has informed me that the International Olympic Committee desires an official statement from the United States Government concerning the entry into this country of participants in the 1968 Olympic Games should they be awarded to a city here. I am happy, therefore, on behalf of Detroit and Lake Placid, to give you the assurances that were requested in your letters of March 14, 1963, to the Olympic Committees of those cities.

While the 1968 Olympic Games are now several years in the future, the United States Government anticipates in the light of past experience in developing satisfactory arrangements that adequate provision will also be made for entry into the United States by participating athletes, teams, officials, juries, etc., from the National Olympic Committees and international federations recognized by the IOC to attend the 1968 Olympic Games should they be held in the United States.

Mayor Cavanagh indicated that you would prefer that after the word "entry" the words "without any restrictions" should be added. The United States immigration laws are such that it is possible that some persons who will qualify to participate in the 1968 Olympic Games may be ineligible for admission into the United States. There is, however, a statutory provision that would permit the admission of any such persons upon a waiver of their ineligibility. It is the policy of the United States that this waiver provision would be utilized to permit the entry of any bona fide participant in the Olympic Games.
Some restrictions on the movement of persons entering the country under such a waiver might ensue. I can assure you unqualifiedly, however, that no such restriction would impair the affected person's participation in the Games.

I have also learned from Mayor Cavanagh that you had some question about the term "past experience" as that term was used in his letter to you of August 7. That term, which appears also in the second paragraph hereof, has specific reference to the 1960 Olympic Games. In the light of the special nature of the Olympic movement and of its contributions to international understanding, a way was at that time found to overcome all apparent obstacles to attendance at the Games by all qualified participants. I can assure you that the Olympic movement continues to be held in this country in the same high esteem and that should the 1968 Olympic Games be held in this country, obstacles to attendance will be overcome in 1968 as they were in 1960.

Very truly yours,

Robert F. Kennedy

Mr. Otto Mayer,
Chancellor,
International Olympic Committee,
Mon Repos,
Lausanne, Switzerland.
January 10, 1963

Chancellor Otto Mayer:
Comité International Olympique
Mon Repos, Lausanne, Suisse
Lausanne, Switzerland

Dear Chancellor Mayer:

On behalf of the Village of Lake Placid I am happy to inform you that our community is formally bidding for the 1968 Winter Olympic games. The Lake Placid committee is presently organizing material for presentation to the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and this formal bid will reach you by April of this year.

We feel it a great honor for Lake Placid to be considered once again as the site of the Olympic games and we will do our upmost to make them the finest in history.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

Robert J. Peacock
Mayor of Lake Placid
November 15, 1962

Mr. Otto Mayer, Chancellor  
International Olympic Committee  
Mon Repos, Lausanne  
Switzerland

Dear Mr. Mayer:

In accordance with Rule VI of the International Olympic Committee rules and regulations, the United States Olympic Committee has chosen Lake Placid, New York, as the United States city which will have its official endorsement when its representatives extend an invitation to the International Olympic Committee to designate it as host city for the 1968 Winter Olympic Games.

Our selection was made after consideration of applications from Lake Placid and Salt Lake City, Utah.

Our organization wishes to emphasize to the members of the International Olympic Committee the fact that the endorsement which it has given to Lake Placid is of an unqualified nature. Our organization urges the members of the International Olympic Committee to give careful and favorable consideration to the invitation which will be received by them from the Lake Placid authorities.

Thanking you for your good offices in transmitting our message to the membership of the International Olympic Committee, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Asa S. Bushnell

ASB:ARM

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