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18 MARS 2005

Budapest, March 1, 2005

Mr. Max Bishop

General Secretary

Fédération Aéronautique Internationale

Lausanne

Dear Mr. Secretary,

On behalf of the Hungarian Aeronautical Association it is for year of 2005.

Nominee for the Leon Biancotto diploma for aerobatics in the year of 2005 is:

Nominee: Sándor KATONA

Birth date and place: August 16, 1935, Budapest

Citizenship: Hungarian and French

Occupation: Flight instructor, power planes and gliders

Qualification: Master's degree of Hungarian Academy of Physical Training

Sándor Katona started flying aerobatics more than fifty years ago. He got his first aerobatic training in April, 1953 (Békéscsaba, Hungary).

Between 1953 and 2003 his aerobatic career has followed three courses:

1. Engagement in aerobatic competitions

He had competed in 12 World Aerobatic Championships, of which 2 championships were for power planes, 10 championships were for gliders. He competed in 5 European Aerobatic Championships as well.

His best results:

Power planes: 2nd member of the Hungarian World champion, Nesterov Cup winning team (2nd World Aerobatic Championships, 1962, Budapest).

Gliders: 9 FAI Medals (4 silver, 5 bronze) won at World and European Championships; 1st place, Bavarian Glider Aerobatic Championship, 1988; 2nd place, Austrian Glider Aerobatic Championships, 1999; 1st place, Italian Glider Aerobatic Championships, French Glider Aerobatic Champion 6 times.

His nicest result: In several occasions he had been standing on the winner's stand together with his previous pupils at European and World Championships.

2. Aerobatic instruction

Hitherto he instructed basic and advanced aerobatics in 10 European countries and in the USA, and he specifically prepared pilots for aerobatic competitions as well. Among his pupils National, European and World champions as well as other top scoring aerobatic

pilots can be found. His basic attitude to aerobatics is that it improves flight safety. For this reason he instruct non-competition pilots in "flight safety" courses as well.

3. Promoting aerobatics

His way of promoting aerobatics has been flying a couple of hundred solo and team aerobatic demonstration flights, presenting educational lectures, giving interviews, participating in educational films and attending international professional consultations.

As an aerobatic instructor his aim is to get more countries involved in aerobatics and to educate new generations.

Even now he is an active aerobatic instructor.

Warm regards,



A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Gyula Vári".

(Gyula Vári)

President

Hungarian Aeronautical Association