

When we moved here, I had never seen snow before, now I am extremely sick of it!

From,
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Pond Diplomacy

It is Beijing, January 28, 1990, the scene is a beautiful snowy day at the Soviet Embassy (the largest in the world, courtesy of the Guinness Book of Records). The Soviets are hosting the first hockey match of 1990. The Soviet team is supplemented by three Czech players and three Americans.

It was a fast-paced game on the small outdoor pond, with little room for play-making. The Canadian Czech American team was victorious by a score of 4 to 1, to the roaring cheers of a wide variety of fans from many embassies and companies in Beijing.

Prizes were awarded to players from both teams, and then everyone enjoyed the warm hospitality of the Soviet Embassy.

The plan for a rematch was soon in the works. The date: February 25, 1990. The Canadian-Czech-American team played host to the Soviet team at the Capital Arena in Beijing. The Soviet team had no Czech supplement, the Canadian team had lost one American and gained a Canadian. The arena was filled with roaring cheers and children chanting: "Go Canada Go". The Soviets came to play hockey and the Chinese referees called a good close game. Again, the combined Canadian team emerged victorious by a score of 4 to 2. Prizes were awarded to key members of both teams, and some Embassy spouses, fans and players enjoyed the warm hospitality of the Canadian Club.

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Players are: Front row, left to right:

Jim Munson: CTV News; Sgt. J D Harbak: DND; Mioslav Kralek: Czech Embassy; Robert Daly: American Embassy, Larry Finkle: Wang computers; Chris Thompson: International School; Thomas Xu Rei: Gang Ericsson Corp.

Back row:

MCPL John Corcoran: DND; Ivan Majercin: Czech Embassy; Henri-Paul Normandin; Brad Gilmour; Robert Collette; Rick Lewis: Canadian Embassy, and Francois Bisson: CTV News.

Note from the Editor:

In our Christmas edition of Liaison, we published two cartoons by Victor Cartin/Tin Glao, a locally engaged staff member in the CIDA office in San Jose, Costa Rica. The cartoons were submitted by our Community Coordinator who informed us that Mr. Cartin's drawings are well known locally as well as being syndicated in Canada. We appreciated the contribution and published the cartoons with the best of intentions. However, should these cartoons have offended any reader, we offer our apology; no offense was intended.

The Editor

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