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Mr. Lars Stugemo

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Luxembourg, December 3, 1985

Dear Lars,

Thank you for your letter of November 24. I hope that you all in all had a good experience during your trip to the Far East, and I regret that you were not able to fly back with us.

It was also unfortunate that you lost your camera and of course the pictures taken in Japan. We will try to use some of the pictures you have sent us now, but would appreciate if we could have the negatives. Furthermore it would be nice if some new pictures could be taken in spring, when you are sailing again.

We would like to take you up on your offer to write something for our internal magazine. Please do so in English, when you have a chance.

Last but not least, I would like to congratulate you on your performance in Japan and hope to be in touch with you at a later stage.

Best regards,

Sten Grotenfelt

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Hello,

It is now a couple of weeks since we came home from Japan and we thought to explain a little about what really happened on and around our trip.

To begin with, we want to say that we have had a successful journey, we have experienced a lot, from the time we boarded your 747 in Luxembourg until we were home again. We also really want to emphasize that we are very grateful for the help with boats and passenger transport we received from CargoLux - without this it would have been very difficult to implement the World Cup initiative.

First we spent a couple of days in Taipei, strange city with nice people, very interesting. Then we travelled to Japan where we were first in Tokyo for a couple of days and then among other things we climbed to the top of Mt. Fuji. In short, we can say that we were not very impressed by Tokyo, but that Mt. Fuji was a real experience, (3776 masl).

After these initial days, we were ready for Enoshima, the place where the World Cup was to be held. We went there and when we arrived our boats had just arrived, in addition we were the first foreign participants on site so it started well. We acclimatized by sailing and training a lot on the spot before the competitions, and during this period we had absolutely fantastic weather with shorts and T-shirts even though it was Japanese autumn.

The whole time we trained, ie until the pre-WC started, we used the spinnakers with CargoLux logotypes in. They actually looked very good and people around noticed that we were sponsored by you. In addition, we were out photographing and got several good pictures. That these later disappeared is a sad and embarrassing story to which I will come back to.

The competition during the World Cup was very good with the absolute best boats from all over the world. Among other things, the Australian team with 14 boats containing three former world champions was very strong. In addition, it was Americans, Englishmen with several other participating nations who were really good.

Before the World Cup there was a pre-World Cup in varying weather conditions, Gary Bruniges from Australia, later also the new world champion, won. We came on the 9th resp. 19th place. However, we felt that it was possible to make better results.

In the first race at the WC, Rosén/Wenrup led until a vital fitting on the boat broke and they were forced to retire from the race. Of course, it is not as successful to have to start in the first race in a long series, and maybe this contributed a little to the fact that they did not succeed quite as well in the future as they had expected.

During the World Cup, it turned out that the Australians totally dominated and that we Swedes could keep up well sometimes but did not really have the strength all the way.

Philipsson/Stugemo ended up being 11th and Rosén/Wenrup 13th. We think the eleventh place is approved given the tough competition, last year we were 18th, and then the competition was not as tough. On the other hand, the 13th place may be seen as a small failure considering what Rosén/Wenrup has achieved before, but there is little difference between failure and success!

By and large, it must be said that we prepared very well, sailed a lot before the World Cup and really went in for the competition, but that the Australians were a little too good.

Now to more practical details about the trip.

In Japan, we discovered that both boats were quite damaged after transport, (we have announced this before). We contacted our insurance company so everything is under control.

The biggest problem, however, was, as you probably know, the journey home. In Taipei, we were not allowed to fly with the plane we were booked on, and we had to take us to Hong Kong because we did not have a visa. Once in Hong Kong, we spent two days trying to sort everything out, it was a very difficult situation, and we could not be told what to do.

We were in contact with Your Secretary Denise and with Robert Arendahl who was in Hong Kong at the time. We went to Arendahl's hotel and left a handwritten message, (he was busy and did not have time to meet us), where we explained our situation.

Our main problems were that we had to be at work/school on Tuesday, in addition we had no money left. We were also in contact with CargoLux's local office in Hong Kong, but they also had no information about what we were going to do.

At this point we were quite worried, we did not know what to do, we could not find anyone who could give notice and we also felt that time was running out - we had to go home. Therefore, we acted as we did, using CargoLux - HongKong, without contacting You first.

We thought it felt very sad to do so without your knowledge, but we had to come home to our commitments. We hope that CargoLux realizes the situation we were in and that this is resolved in a good way.

During these chaotic days in Hong Kong, we also managed to get rid of a camera bag containing a camera, two lenses and four roles of film, including the pictures you would have! Having lost your photos is very embarrassing for us, although of course it is possible to get new ones.

At home in Sweden, we borrowed a boat and sailed for a weekend to be able to take pictures, and we send copies of these so you can see which ones you want. In addition, we have some pictures taken from land in Japan where you can see how the spinnakers look like. We realize that the pictures are not 100% and unfortunately they are not as good as the ones we took in Japan, but we think there are some that are useful.

Of course we are ready to sail this spring and take new pictures if you wish. Unfortunately, we already have a full winter in Stockholm for a few weeks now, so sailing today is unfortunately difficult.

The next plan is a fairly large article in Race & Cruising Segling, Sweden's largest magazine for sailors, about the entire World Cup venture. In it, we had intended to mention our sponsors, if you do not mind, and write a little about them. (The other sponsors that line up are Pharmacia, Digital Equipment and SAAB in Japan).

If there is something else you would like us to do for you, we will be more than happy to help. Maybe you would like some material for a possible internal newspaper or similar.

With this letter, we have wanted to talk a little about everything that happened during our "adventure", and also explain a little why it happened. One more time ó Many Thanks!

Best regards

Nicklas Philipsson Ebbe Rosén Lars Stugemo Olle Wenrup

