

Montbrison, France  
April 26, 2006

Dear Bob,

I just learned about your correspondence of January 25, 2006, which took some time to reach BCM.

The address, 19 rue des Légouvés, was my home address at the time, 49 years ago.

Let me introduce myself. I am Jean Soleillant, I turned 91 years old on May 1, 2006, and was the organizer of the international tournament of April 20 and 21, 1957, in which you participated. How time passes!

It is with deep emotion, mixed with real pleasure, that I learned that one of the participants of the team I created in 1946 and organized (literal translation which, perhaps, should be "managed") in 1957 remembered Montbrison and the BCM.

As for me, I have wonderful memories of the arrival of the Desert Rats of Chambley. As a matter of fact I included these very sentiments in a letter dated April 26, 1957 to the base. The letter was enclosed in your dispatch.

You might be pleased to learn what happened to this international tournament which has been held for 50 years, a duration which is unparalleled in France. All the members of the BCM team who participated in the 1957 tournament are still alive and in perfect health. But since it became increasingly more difficult to garner worthy teams, BCM stepped aside to make room for an international tournament consisting of young boys from 13 to 14 years old. As a matter of fact, this competition just ended,

I'm enclosing a copy of an article which appeared in the newspaper Le Progrès.

Bon souvenir (what he wants to convey is that he has pleasant recollections of those times). Cordially,

Jean Soleillant  
Les Camélias

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