



CANADIAN TAEKWON-DO FEDERATION INTERNATIONAL
FÉDÉRATION CANADIENNE DE TAEKWON-DO INTERNATIONAL

HAPPY SILVER ANNIVERSARY
INTERNATIONAL TAEKWON-DO FEDERATION

GENERAL CHOI HONG HI CELEBRATES
ITF 25th ANNIVERSARY .

March 22 1991 marked 25 years since the inception of the International Taekwon-Do Federation. The Canadian Taekwon-Do Federation International in Ottawa had the special fortune of having General Choi, President of the ITF with us to celebrate this auspicious occasion. The ITF itself is 25 years old, however General Choi created Taekwon-Do over 45 years ago and has been working ever since to share his art with the world.

Over 120 members attended the banquet along with a number of special guests. The guest list includes representatives from the government, local police and members of the news media as well as other martial arts leaders from the area and from the U.S.A. All spoke of their support and admiration for the work being done to promote the art of TKD in our area and the tireless effort of General Choi in his work throughout the world.

General Choi being the founder of Taekwon-Do is often referred to as the father. This is not a figurative form. The General does regard all ITF Taekwon-Do students as his children. How else could he make the sacrifices he does if not through love of his art and his students.

The General at one point in the evening when asked where he considered his true home to be

he answered with a smile "in the air". This was not a joke. Last year as a result of his world travels, teaching seminars and meeting with world leaders the General was able to spend a total of 71 days at his home in Mississauga, Ont.

There was one point in evening that was particularly moving for me. It was after the General had walked around to each table and toasted every one present (120 people). He spoke for a while on the importance of TKD in our society today. He thanked the special guests for their support. He thanked the CTFI for the lovely banquet. But then he who has devoted his entire life to give us the greatest martial art in the world turned to us, his students. "Thank you my Taekwon-Do children" he spoke in a melodious tone, " for without you there would be no ITF, no Taekwon-Do and no General Choi." This statement alone reflects what a truly honourable man General Choi Hong Hi is. I feel one of the greatest men of this century.

Through his teachings we, General Choi's Taekwon-Do world-wide family will be able to show others that ITF Taekwon-Do is truly an art, a philosophy, a sport and a peaceful way of life.

