

# INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE FOR PEACE

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Relief Section 109  
British Red Cross  
BAOR.

24th March 1946

DLS / 6

Dear John,

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Friedland :

I was very impressed with the Friedland Scheme when I went there this week. I had one day working with it and another (maintaining the car and) going with Ramsay to see Professor Weber, Theologisches Stift, Göttingen, who is ready to act as the permanent correspondent for the University for I.V.S.P. There was a very good atmosphere about the hut, which is a thing you notice right away, and it was a good crowd of lads; "crowd" because there were eight more than the maximum allowed for previously. There would be no difficulty whatever in keeping summer schemes going, and in fact they were most anxious to know - some had already suggested it off their own bat - whether we were going to arrange further schemes in the summer.

Ramsay, Marian and Fred have done good and hard work there for a month without break, which was not in the circumstances possible, and the scheme has gone some way to restoring Ramsay's shaken confidence and setting his Mind, which was one of the things I hoped for from it.

I enclose Ramsay's report on the scheme as a whole.

I hope you've received my draft Memo to the CCG and that it's on its way back. I enclose a revised draft for your information. Further revisions are of course possible before I actually send it in.

Future Work :

You will have received DS/5, which also deals with this. In view of the Friedland experience, I think that whether or no the CCG permits normal IVSP work, we should aim at keeping sufficient personnel in the field until the end of September to cover at least one and possibly up to half a dozen schemes to operate during the University vacations which start in August. This would need to be done with the consent of HQ% or its successor, as it would mean either keeping out more people than are strictly required for relief or welfare work of the normal kind, or cutting the teams on that sort of work. I do not think however it should be difficult to get their agreement, since it would be in the line with the other work, and Miss Roberts, as you know, has been interested in the Friedland experiment.

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Visit from England :

Miss Roberts brought this up when I saw her on Tuesday, so here again our thoughts have been running parallel simultaneously. I think it would be useful for someone to visit the teams here. For one thing, reports from the field are at best inadequate in giving a picture of what goes on, unless the reader has some experience of the conditions in which they were written. For another, it would do the teams good. I think it might also help the development of IVSP here, particularly if a German-speaker could be included.

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Erich Mohr :

Was the secretary of the Internationaler Freiwilliger Hilfsdienst which Basil mentioned in his last report; he passed through Friedland a couple of days ago (on Business) and found the scheme there, about which Basil had told him. He is a Quaker was a teacher until he had to resign. I enclose a pamphlet by Otto Weis which he gave me: I haven't read it, but think in the present circumstances I'd better not keep it until I have.

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Cheerio

David