

INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE FOR PEACE

VICE-PRESIDENTS: T. EDMUND HARVEY, LAURENCE HOUSMAN, GILBERT MURRAY, EDWIN D. H. ROWNTREE, LILIAN STEVENSON, GEORGE SUTHERLAND

CIVIL SERVICE
VOLONTAIRE
INTERNATIONAL

INTERNATIONALER
FREIWILLIGER
ZIVILDienst



FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICE:
34, BROADWAY
LONDON S.W.1
TELEPHONE WHITEHALL 1461

28th March 1946

SRG 7

Dear David,

Many thanks for your letter DLS 6 and its enclosures. I have for the complete set of the revised draft on International Work Schemes, but in the other one Page 1 is missing while there are two copies of Page 2. I am returning one of the latter and if you have a spare copy of Page 1 would you please let me have it to complete our second set.

Friedland Scheme.

It is grand to hear that this has been so successful and we owe a great debt to Ramsay, Fred and Marian for the hard work they have put in to make it so.

International Work Schemes.

As the FSC are not due to meet until April 7th and I did not want to hold up your draft memorandum, I submitted this to the Executive, and enclose two copies of the revision they have made, but this was done before your revised draft was received.

On the first page of the Executive draft I have underlined in pencil one or two alterations in wording.

Donald in a letter to me makes the following comments:- "It was felt that we ought to make it clear that what we are aiming at principally is adult services -- i.e. for people over 18, and that we should very much like to see these developed in Germany, but if the people on the spot consider services for peoples between the ages of 14 and 18 are more likely to advance I.V.S.P.'s fundamental aim at the present time in Germany, we should be guided by them.

The reason for this clarification is that as far as we can see from the report of the conference at which the matter was first raised, the office to which the memorandum is addressed is concerned with people between 14 and 18."

As regards Paragraph 5 (1) of your new draft you will see that this has been dealt with in Para 7 of the Exec. draft. We feel at this end that much as we should like to see young German people working outside Germany we think the situation would be very tricky in this country, for example, this year, as anti-German feeling is still quite high in some quarters. In addition I think that quite frankly some of us feel that it would not be the best experience for young Germans to bring them on to the British schemes as they are at the moment and that they would gain more of the spirit of IVSP working alongside our teams in Germany. We don't want to spoil chances of developing work camps in Germany for the sake of asking rather much at this stage.

My own feeling about the Paragraph 5 as redrafted by the Executive is that in

(a) "in Germany" should be taken off the end and put in after "schemes", otherwise it is a little ambiguous. Although in

(b) the Executive have omitted British volunteers I somehow do not think this is their intention as when we were discussing it at the National Committee and FSC we had in mind the possibility of sending out both British and other nationalities for short periods if there were the schemes on which they could be absorbed. Personally I feel that while we should want to stop up the number of non-British volunteers coming in from outside, we don't want to exclude the possibility of sending further British volunteers if necessary in case we cannot get suitable ones from the other Branches.

One other comment on conditions of service. We learnt at the International Conference last December that the Swiss Branch has always considered its own name and that of the International to be Service Civil International. Apparently it was the French Branch which sometime before the war decided to put in "Volontaire". It might be as well, therefore, to alter references to SCI. However, on looking at the Exec. draft again I notice they have not made this alternation so perhaps they do not think it worth bothering about.

Now that you have the Executive draft and other comments I suggest you go ahead with the submission of your memorandum in the light of these points in order to avoid further delay. If there is anything else which the Executive think should be amended I will get in touch with you right away, probably by wire.

Best of luck in getting the thing through, we shall eagerly await the result of your negotiations.

Future work.

I note that you suggest keeping up the strength of personnel until September and I should not think that it would be difficult to persuade HQ 5 for this to be done.

Future of HQ.

Perhaps you will let me know if you do find anyone out there who is at all interested in working at HQ 5. There might always be the possibility that we could send someone out from here, but we should be very reluctant to do so with our staff position being what it is!

.....
.....

Eric Mohr.

I am sending up the pamphlet to Donald as he may already know something of this organisation.

It was good to see Arthur Brown and Betty Dinwiddy from Unit 5, both in excellent spirits and able to give us a keener picture of the work the team is doing.

I am glad to hear that Ian is recovering. No more news from France yet. We are expecting Derek back sometime next week.

Best wishes,

P.S. Before sending this letter I decided to send up your second draft to Donald. He calls attention to the reference to discussions on national socialism at Friedland + thinks it should be made ^ clear that the results of these discussions were not to strengthen belief in nazism.