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INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE FOR PEACE

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I.V.S.P. WORK CAMPS IN GERMANY

The first part of this story is now familiar. (Unit 4 at GÖTTINGEN interesting the university students in the refugee camp at FRIEDLAND, an interest which developed from a number of students giving part-time help to the aged refugees, by carrying their baggage along the road to the camp to desire on the part of some 40 Germans to take part in a full-time 'Pick and Shovel' service in the camp during their vacation. This took place under the leadership of Ramsay Bramham and its success came to the notice of the Education Branch of the Control Commission, who saw in IVSP work camps a sound method of demonstrating democracy in action.)

Since then, negotiations in high places in London and Germany, finally resulted in the Control Commission granting permission to IVSP to run work camps this summer at : - RENDSBURG, HAMBURG, TWISTEDEN and MESCHEDE. The volunteers will be made up from members of our relief teams and from some other Societies, the six volunteers sent out from England especially for the camps, and German volunteers who have applied to David Sainty to take part.

The work will be manual, the rations will be shared and the ISS have allocated to us some food to help out in this direction. It is too early for reports to have come in on the camps, but hopes that they will lead the way to the establishment of a German IVSP 'Group' that will eventually become an official branch of IVSP are high. I think all of us would like to send special greetings to the volunteers on these German services, and to wish success and support for the future of IVSP in Germany. We hope that it will not be too long before Germans can come to services in other countries.

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