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CIVIL SERVICE VOLONTAIRE INTERNATIONAL INTERNATIONALER FREIWILLIGER ZIVILDIENST



NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS:

34. BROADWAY

LONDON S.W.1
11a, ST.ANDREW'S ROAD
TELEPHONE WHITEHALL 1461
LONDON E. 13
Tel Al Bert Dock 16 20

23 Dec 46

BE / DE /

I.V.S.P., HQ 5 Brit.Red X., (Civilian Relief), B. A. O. R.

Dear Derek,

It is quite pleasant to be back in the office again; and thanks to Eric's able stage-management in my absence things are in very good order.

The most urgent matter is the winter camps. Bruce, Steve and Connie are leaving London on Saturday 28th Dec. Bruce and Connie should leave the train at Oberhausen, where it will arrive about 7am. A truck from RS/150 will be awaiting them there; but in case of emergency, they can ring up Mülheim (Military) 5294. Steve should remain on the train and go on to Bad Oeynhausen, where I will collect him at 10am.

I am sorry that Connie had to be switched from Schleswig to Duisburg, but I am sure that she will understand. Enclosure "C" will give you the names of the volunteers from abroad and the places to which they will go. There have been some awful last minute doubts as to whether some of them would obtain their Military Entry Permits in time, in spite of the fact that they had applied for them as early as mid-November; so all I can do now is to keep my fingers crossed . . .

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Next on the list comes your visit. I have enclosed a copy of the proposed itinerary. It can, of course, be altered to suit your convenience. Once again it means that you will leave the train in Oberhausen, and be picked up by RS/150. Arriving early as you do, this will give you the whole day in Duisburg. I hope that it will then be possible to travel on the North Express from Cologne direct to Flensburg (you have to pay in German marks for that) and be picked up by the scheme lorry and taken to the last two days of the Schleswig scheme. If the Nord Express is not running on that day I shall have to take you up in my own transport. But more about that when you arrive. You will see that you have about five clear days with 109 and then you go with Stan to the meeting in Vlotho. The same night you go to Berlin with Betty, and perhaps yours truly, and have two clear days there. Of course, you could extend that over the Sunday as well, though there is not really much doing on Sundays.

 That's all for now,
Yours aye,

Basil