

4 Jul 48
Peace

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International Voluntary Service for
HQ 5, C.B.S.R.A., (Civilian Relief),
B.A.O.R., Germany

Derek Edwards, IVSP,
34 Broadway, London S.W. 1.

Dear Derek,

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Camps :

I hope that you got my notes regarding the unfortunate cancelling of the cologne camp, and also my circular letter yesterday outlining plans for the Berlin camp. I am sure that you must be almost as much in despair as we are at these sudden changes, and I hope that you can arrange last-minute alterations.

The food for the Berlin camps is as much a puzzle as any; for as yet we do not know if we can get it on a plane, and if we do if we shall have to pay for it. And it is certainly not right to involve IVSP in more expense just at the present moment; and for that reason, I have written to the IZD group in Berlin explaining that the only reason why I decided to take the decision of putting Asta on the plane was because her passage was already booked on the train and boat, and IVSP would in any case have to pay for it. It was not so with Dieter, nor with any of the other volunteers going in other countries - eight more of them. Since each return fare costs £ 12 it was a quite impossible expense - £ 108. I shall be most interested to know what the Executive think about this; at the moment the volunteers are quite resigned to remaining in Berlin, and not going abroad. And it would be unfair to say that one or two should go (if we were given up to a certain sum to spend) and the others not. In addition there may be this expense of flying the food up to Berlin.

Sorry about Asta's telegram. I must have used the Telegraphic address.

Volunteers in :

We should be glad to accept the offer of Susanne Burghardt from 30 Aug until the 2 Oct. At the moment it is not certain which camps will be going (if any) then, but it is certain that there will be one. She seems an excellent person to have, especially as she speaks such good German.

I am puzzled about Alan Codd. In my last letter to you you will notice that I have assumed that we shall not have to call him forward, nor Patsie Reeves since presumably YHA will get them documented for Germany along with the rest of their people - and will presumably also pay for their journey. Or am I quite up a gum tree?

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The whole question of pocket-money, amounts for small railway and tram fares, etc. will have to come up at a meeting which we are having in Hamburg tomorrow, at Heinrich's place. Herbert will be there, and Ogden Hanaford as well, in addition to the two Hamburg group representatives. Will report later

Meanwhile your assumptions that the volunteers could travel on their passports without paying for the last part of their journey is correct until I hear from anyone that it no longer works. It has always worked whenever I have had to try it. But I hope that some more satisfactory solution will be found tomorrow.

I am sorry that I have not received the Marks, but I am afraid that it would be as well to keep them as souvenirs for Mark or other youngsters, as they are quite useless now. IZD had about 8.000 marks in the bank altogether, and of this they hope to get about 400 in the new currency.

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All the best

Basil