

4 th January 1949
AE

IVSP Advisory Officer
RS 150 / IVSP
CBSRA Commission
Duisburg, BOAR 4

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

Dear Derek,

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The biggest worries are the German volunteers to go abroad for Easter Services. Bill asked me to look through the Blaricum suggestions and then ask the other secretariats if they could accept so-and-so-many German volunteers. Now then regarding Britain right away : There is a camp with about 15 volunteers for about a fortnight. Would you be prepared to accept two German volunteers? I give you the names here, so that in case you can accept them, you will be able to send the official invitation right away to Bill as it takes such a long time still to get the permits for them. Please forgive our crossing into your plans, but as I say, Bill worries very much, and would have liked this to be done at the end of November.

Here the names : Helmut Ockel, Frankfurt / Main, Holbeinstraße 14
Grete Albers, Bucholtswelmen / Friedrichsfeld, Baumschulenweg 10

The volunteers can be recommended. They are not yet notified and it will not cause any harm if you are not able to accept them. They offered service for Easter, of course.

The German New Year Camps are running very well now after some difficulties at the start. The British volunteers have arrived at last, badly waited for by the volunteers. But they are able to take part in the scheme most the time. It is a pity that three of them have to go back to England so soon after the camp is closed, or even before. The three long-term volunteers will go to two other services, one to IAL who are working now at Druhwald near Soltau (Lüneburger Heide), building a centre for wandering youth. It will be very valuable work. Two will go to Nürnberg to the "Friedensdorf", similar work and similar conditions as Druhwald, under German leadership. I hope it will be suitable for them as an SCI service. Please give our thanks to Michael Wilkins for the work he has done to get the volunteers to Germany.

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My hopes for 1949, regarding SCI are that we might get away from a "work-camp organisation" movement. The tendency is very strong in the German Branch to make a real good job of one scheme. Have a work which is really valuable and not just a camp here and a camp there. And I myself would wish very much that there might also be one international planned scheme like this. I am always thinking a bit of Liechtenstein, or Oakengate, or Boussu Bois, where all the people afterwards said how satisfied they were because it was "their" service.

I feel that we put the national branches too much in front. We are always very glad to have had "many foreigners" in our camps. I really do not think that that is the point.

I am very much in favour of the Palestine Service, because I think that help is badly needed there. And all of us should be asked to help (in case a scheme comes off), should be informed. Even if we are not able to go there. But we could think perhaps of other ways of help. So that even for us Germans it would be "our" service. I do not know, Derek, whether I have expressed that clear enough, because that is what I feel about it.

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That is all from now. All my very best wishes to you and other friends,
Amitiés,

Anneliese