

Auszug aus :

SERVICE CIVIL INTERNATIONAL 1920 - 1970

— 70 Years of Voluntary Service for Peace and Reconciliation —

Origin of SCI's East-West Activities with organisations in European Socialist Countries 1946 - 1975
by Ralph Hegnauer

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In summer 1956 by way of private contacts and the help of WFDY a limited exchange of volunteers became possible : SCI sent a few volunteers to a WFDY / FDJ camp at Leipzig and welcomed some FDJ volunteers at a specially organised SCI / WFDY camp at Bonnat / France.

There was a small incident connected with this exchange showing how difficult relationship was at that time : A "Festival Group" at Stuttgart /FRG, had mixed in one of their publications news about the camps in Leipzig and Bonnat concerning common responsibilities. The secretary of the SCI German branch immediately protested and asked ultimatively for revocation in the next publication of the "Festival Group"; he insisted that SCI had "nothing to do" with the WFDY / FDJ camp in Leipzig. This was not quite true because other branches than SCI FRG had in fact sent some volunteers to that camp.

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(texts re-typed 17.11.89)

Dieser von Ralph Hegnauer etwa zwanzig Jahre nach den Ereignissen geschriebene Bericht stimmt wahrscheinlich nicht in allen Details : Es ist unwahrscheinlich, daß FDJ-Freiwillige am Ost-West-Dienst in Bonnat in Frankreich teilgenommen haben, denn DDR-Bürgern erhielten seinerzeit in aller Regel kein Einreisevisum für Nato-Staaten. In Berichten über Bonnat wird dem entsprechend auch nur von WFDY-Teilnehmern aus der UdSSR, Ungarn, Polen und Chile berichtet > 57 03 00 - 2