

Abschrift des Sekretariats :

Berlin, Johannisstift

10. Nov. 61

Dear Roswitha,

We're off to a good start with nine people doing full time work, including Verena Ritter und Fritz Konnu who arrived yesterday. Thanks for your notes and the War Resisters and Radar clipping which we will read happily. Also we are almost overwhelmed with the number of invitations you have engineered to local people. We all went to the international group in the Zehlendorf Social Centre on Wednesday where we were warmly welcomed although too much went on in German (some was in English) for all of us to feel at ease. Also the time required for travel, considering our hours to work, puts a serious crimp in such visits. We will do more, however, as long as lack of sleep doesn't get too serious.

People are fitting into their stations with varied success. Most have felt unneeded, unwanted or misunderstood at times but non of these troubles appears permanent. Frau Westerhaus, at least, has felt that we are more important for the psychological welfare of the patients than for the mechanical nursing of the place --- more for talking than working. But all are working most of the time and some left mostly with sweeping (i. e. no contact with people).

As we reiterated to Frau Westerhaus the separation of living quarters is a serious drawback in developing a community-life. However, we spend much of our free time together and are growing closer.

On our free day some of our more irrepressible went to the East German border and talked to guards on both sides. Also to East Berlin for a brief look around including museums.

In general we seem to be appreciated for rendering useful service to Johannisstift. It remains to be seen how much we can develop together.

Yours

Kendrick Putnam (USA)

Participants :

Kendrick Putnam	USA
Judith Evans	England
Merryn Bishop	England
Elenor Holmes	Australia
Elisabeth Alm	Sweden
Christina Rydlund	Sweden
Suresh Chopra	India
Verena Ritter	Switzerland
Fritz Konnu	Togo