

Abschrift des Sekretariats :

IZD-camp at Berlin, Verena Ritter

19. Jan. 62

" I informed Frau Westerhaus today about the date of 10th February as probable date of our leaving. At the same time I asked her to realise me from work enough time to prepare the new project. Pfr. von Hammerstein is very helpful in providing addresses and people interested in us but he has not got enough time to deal with all these questions personally. So the volunteers have elected me to make all necessary arrangements.

Pastor Weckerling's proposal to live in a home for East German students in the West does not seem to be realizable; reasons : Pfr. von Hammerstein failed to provide the man in charge (Herr Hanirel) with particulars of the probable volunteers by the stipulated date of 15. 1. which probably means there would be now too much delay before the project could be realized. Also Herr Hanirel told me on the phone that he doesn't see any possibility to begin with of boys and girls living together. I think we'd better drop this idea altogether now, however hopeful and promising it sounded at first.

Today Frau Block of the Ev. Akademie called (She was informed by Pfr. von Hammerstein that we wanted to change our camp). She offered — as Pastor von Hammerstein said — the group to live in the Akademie, to attend their meetings, provide us with contacts with the East and last not least to earn our living by working in the house and on the construction programme of the Akademie.

We have one big hesitation to go in for further negotiations with Frau Block, that is : Wannsee is as far away from the centre of the city as Johannisstift is. It is also doubtful how much the volunteers not knowing German can get out of the conferences held at Wannsee. The work would be for the direct benefit of Wannsee, not for any person or organisation with real need.

To Roswitha's proposals we have to say :

1. We are surprised that a work-study-project asks a 6-hours workday. We feel that serious intellectual work should be as much appreciated as poor manual work.
We will try and set up a kind of programme for our studies and send you the plans as soon as possible.
2. Concrete planning with the Innere Mission (Pastor Broelsch) and definite arrangements could be made by the first of February. I am going to meet him Tuesday evening. But we should know :
 - a) does the German branch want a new project as proposed in Berlin and it is willing to give the necessary support ?
 - b) what do you think about Wannsee ?
3. New volunteers could be accepted and are welcome (beside Merryn Bishop and Elisabeth Alm, who think of coming back for the new project) if they
 - a) are really interested in studies about the whole Berlin situation,
 - b) committed SCI members willing to give their best to the group,
 - c) stay at least from the beginning of the new project a month with us.
4. Ken, Judith and I are willing to take over the responsibility . . . "