

**S E R V I C E   C I V I L   I N T E R N A T I O N A L**  
**European Secretariat**

Working paper Nr. 10 c

Matters of special significance to European branches : Y u g o s l a v i a

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At the end of the last year I.D. was approached about taking over the responsibility for the contacts with Yugoslavia. The suggestion had originally been Roza Smagur's - a girl well known in the Norwegian branch and to me personally. She has always been very keen to help SCI. In accepting the proposition we were relying on her help to get matters moving. However, she has been sick this year and up to now we have only heard from her once. Her suggestion is that SCI should try and organise something in one of the republics and co-operate with one of the local organisations. She thinks that she can help us in Slovenia. I wrote to her in the beginning of September encouraging her to submit a suggestion for a definite project, but up to now I have had no reply. I am afraid that she may be ill again.

Apparently there are very many workcamps all over Yugoslavia each summer, but the only one which we heard about this year, as far as I know, was the "Unity-Fraternity Highway" project. We received the invitation to send 20 vols. so late that only 8 volunteers were able to go. I asked all the volunteers to send me a report after the camp, but in spite of a reminder, I have only received a report from Virgillo Galassi, who was the leader of the SCI group. However, his report is so detailed and he was the most experienced Volunteer so I think we may assume that nothing especially important would have been found in the reports of the others which he didn't think of.

The report did not give a very favourable impression of the organisation of this gigantic project. The SCI volunteers were not together as a group at all. Some of the 8 vols. he hardly saw during the whole period. There was no opportunity to present SCI's ideas at the camp. However he managed a short interview in the radio at Beograd and an interview with a member of the Commission for International Relations and explained our ideas to her. Virgillo thinks that SCI should only send a delegation and not individuals if we should send anybody to one of these big projects. For my part, I had reckoned that our volunteers would form a little group and I had asked all the vols. to consider him as leader of the SCI group.

If we cannot organise a small project next year we shall have to send some vols. again to this project in order to maintain the contacts until we are able to arrange a smaller affair. I do not know if we can insist that the SCI vols. stay together.

I.D. supported by the ES is in favour of trying to arrange a smaller camp in one of the republics. We suggest 30 - 40 vols., half from SCI and half from Yugoslavia. The Development Fund has granted SFrs. 700,- so that ID can explore projects in Yugoslavia. We want to send a person as soon as possible, and have asked Walter Schenkel if he could go. There are several reasons for asking Walter - he is very interested in Yugoslavia and has intimate knowledge of SCI methods. The journey from Switzerland will, of course, also be cheaper than from Norway. Of course, if the ES could go to Beograd on his way to or from somewhere else, it would be very helpful if he would visit PYY.

We feel that an SCI / PYY project should be in the nature of a work and study camp. Up to now we have not discussed any particular theme, but it will be easier to decide about that when we have a project and a leader.

Although our plans are still very much in the air, we would be glad if all branches would be on the lookout for suitable volunteers. Further we have asked for the summer programme of all the camps in Yugoslavia, promising in return that all branches would send current information about camps to PYY. Will all branches therefore put them on their mailing list. Address :

People's Youth of Yugoslavia, Trg. Marksa i Engelsa 9, Beograd, Yugoslavia.

I hope that by the time of the international meetings we shall have something more definite to report.

18 October 1962

Enid Skardalmo