

ES / 1168 EO

26th May, 1963.

C o n f i d e n t i a l

Internationaler Zivildienst,
Hamburg 1.
Beim Strohhaus 14.
Germany.

Dear friends,

At its meeting at Boldern, the International Committee pointed out that the camp to be held near Potsdam in the G.D.R., will be of great importance for S.C.I. as a whole. After full discussion the following minute was passed :

"The IC affirms that all West German volunteers should be given the opportunity to participate freely in the work camp organised in the G.D.R. and ask the committee of the German branch to reverse their decision on this point and to refrain from influencing negatively West German volunteers who wish to take part in this camp. (9 for, 1 against, 0 abstentions)"

"The IC requests the International President and the European Secretary to renew contacts with the German branch to explain the IC's point of view and to help them to reconsider their decisions. (9 / 0 / 1)."

"The British branch is encouraged to continue the preparations of the work camp in spite of these difficulties, in order to guarantee maximum success. (9 / 0 / 1)."

Your delegate at the International Committee expressed very well indeed the feeling of your Committee on the difficult problem of the camp in the G.D.R. It was made quite clear that the German branch had no reason to make any positive statement in favour of services in the G.D.R. As you know, the camp organised with the Freie Deutsche Jugend falls under the overall responsibility of the International Committee and does not involve the German branch directly. I should be very glad, therefore, if you could send at least two West German volunteers to this camp in the G.D.R.

Looking forward to your reply on this point,

With very best wishes,

Roger Briottet,
European Secretary,
Service Civil International

cc. IS