

FAJ / JF.

Bertram Schröter
Internationaler Zivildienst e.V.
Beim Strohhaus 14,
Hamburg 1

4th July, 1963.

Dear Bertram Schröter,

Thank you for your letter of 3rd June. (30. 6.) The British branch has really had very little discretion in the administration of the project in East Germany. The conditions of service and the agreement with FDJ have been drawn up by the appropriate international officers of S.C.I. On such a vital project it has seemed most important to stick by the approved regulations.

Clearly, an S.C.I. internal rule made it obligatory for all volunteers going to Potsdam to attend a Seminar in Paris. It was agreed that volunteers who would have to make a special journey (several are, in fact, making such a special journey) to Paris should receive financial assistance. It is not appropriate, at this stage, to go into the rights and wrongs of this decision although I happen to agree that if we take East-West projects seriously at all a preparatory seminar is essential. Unless I am mistaken this has also been the view of the German branch at various international meetings.

Hans-Ulrich kindly suggested that Marianne Reiff be available to lead discussions at the Seminar. It was only subsequently that I discovered that she was not available to do this but that she was anxious to go as a volunteer to East Germany. You will appreciate that on our own responsibility we have already brushed aside two of the rules laid down for this particular project. We have done this because we felt that it is desperately important to have West German volunteers at the project.

- (a) The application from Marianne Reiff arrived long after agreed final dated for applications.
- (b) The application from Marianne was not for the entire project.

Despite these two conditions we have gone ahead trying to place her. I am not in a position to make special arrangements for securing visas as the way in which they were to be issued was clearly stated in the agreement with FDJ. I am, however, asking Michael Holman, who will be supervising the Seminar in Paris to do his best to get a visa to Marianne in Berlin. You must understand that I can guarantee nothing in this respect.

If Lutz Caspers wishes simply to visit the project this again is something on which I have no authority to act. I shall, of course, be prepared to write to FDJ in the absence of Roger Briottet in Greece, asking whether such a special visit would be acceptable. But again I can guarantee nothing.

You will forgive me for writing in these firm terms but when we are embarking upon this sort of development we must really be most careful about the degree of flexibility, we allow.

Yours very sincerely,

FRANK A. JUDD.
General Secretary

c.c. Chris Hollaender
Ralph Hegnauer
Roger Briottet
German Branch Office