

ES / EC / Cs - DDR

Alfred Knaus
IZD Stuttgart

Dear Alfred,

Concerning Czechoslovakia. I have had a letter from Jo and copy of his letter to you, as you have had copy of his letter to me. But various points are still not clear. What is definite is that he has taken initiatives (possibly very good ones) without enough prior consultation and annoyed people in CSM and amongst the group of ex-SCI volunteers who are arranging small projects with the agreement of CSM. What is also fairly clear is that Jo, while having no authority to act on behalf of CSM or SCI, has written things which imply that his initiatives are improved, or extremely likely to the approval, by CSM or SCI.

Now it seems that Jo has made great efforts to get the approval of Skacel for the leaders' course and workcamp, at Marianska and Jachymov respectively. But we must not forget the ex-SCI people in CSSR are also involved by Jo mentioning them in the letter he wrote to Jachymov, and the group resented this strongly because their position is not very strong and they want to move slowly, without any 'faits accomplis' suddenly appearing.

I am now going to write a personal letter to Jo saying it is difficult to cooperate with him unless he learns the usual ways of working with people instead of trying to push them into actions Jo wants.

I think the best way to deal with Marianska and Jachymov now is to first get the approval of the SCI group, and then the approval of the CSM - that is, if you still went to try either or both of the activities. It seems to me a bit risky to attempt them both this year. If you like to write yourself to Zdenek Teichman about the proposals, fine, and please make clear that further action depends on his approval *, and is not just a formality. I guess he will want full information about the proposals, to compensate for talk of prior consultation. If you prefer me to do this, I will, but do not have information here. You could write to CSM after getting Teichman's approval. In letters to Teichman and CSM (Skacel) on these subjects please say I have agreed that you write. I am sorry this is so complicated, but many people are involved and we must avoid further confusion. Also, if you write to Skacel, I must write too, as I have written to Skacel that possibly there would be no follow-up th these projects.

Please let me know how you decide.

DDR. FDJ invites us ... 6 June to visit Tuchheim and sign the agreement for the camp. They do not feel able to organise two this year because of various Celebrations. I asked for earlier dates, but the department of FDJ concerned cannot use us earlier - some conference at the end of May. Can you come ? If not (but I hope you can) can... ... in Hanover ?

Amitiés

Janet Goodricke

* If you write to Teichman please say you want the opinion of him 'and his friends'. You can write in German, and send the letter c/o Eugen Schart, ul. L. Listopaduka 17, Prague 4. OK ?

(Teile des Briefes sind in der Zweitschrift übereinander geschrieben und leider nicht vollständig zu entziffern)