

SERVICE CIVIL INTERNATIONAL  
European Secretariat, Luxembourg

**Confidential**

Fuller notes on E-W discussions in CSSR, November 1967

**CSSR** The Teichman-Schart-group has had weekend-camps and is arranging a marionette show series this winter. They see no immediate possibility of formal registration of the group yet, and will continue small scale activities under CSM's umbrella. There has been no recent contact between Schart and Skacel. Skacel is quite satisfied with the summer cooperation, he says. I strongly urged Skacel to agree with Schart some procedure so Group members - even older ones - can be assisted by CSM for travel, etc., saying there might be trouble otherwise (This is because CSM opposes private SCI invitations to volunteers, and I've told Skacel before that SCI can only cooperate on this matter if special arrangements are made for established SCI contacts). He will discuss the matter with Schart.

**CSM** (Skacel, Central Student Council) Of the matters discussed, some required further discussion :

- a signed agreement giving reasons for cooperation (stating clearly some of SCI's aims and methods, and CSM's), and general nature of cooperation (list of activities and where headed).
- joint camp at Marianska 1968. CSM had no definite proposals about the form of the camp. It seems work at the Institute will finish in 1968 (for vols. to do), and other projects must be considered for 1969. I think Skacel is not very keen on joint camps, and we must make sure they are not dropped by default (see also Brno below).
- final settlement of accounts re. money given to Czech TV team, some of which we used as credit for Marianska costs. £ 10 is owed to ES. The film produced is of a high standard, and it would be well worth taking a copy instead of the £ 10. IS agreement requested. (British branch made a separate loan, and will get film(s) in return).
- exchange of groups of vols. between Prague CSM Town Council and IVS London and Paris local groups. This is likely to be approved, but not certain. See below notes on other Town Council proposals less likely to be approved by Skacel.
- A volunteer, Vladimir Stych, who has been on six camps in Western Europe (of which at least two SCI) is interested in LTS. He is student of nuclear physics. Seems good. If Skacel approves, Stych will offer to be an 'all-rounder'. (It seems Skacel has discussed with CoCo the possibility of sending them junior office vol., and had Stych in mind).

We have got CSM agreement on the followings :

- 1968 exchange figures;
- Follow-up to V. Andrlé's defection and press statements, if IVS agrees;
- Participation of two Czechs in L.T. Course, GB, Easter;
- Agreed procedure for having Czech leaders for SCI camps. Branches submit requests for named vols. to CSM via ES, after CSM approval branches write to vols. concerned. If vols. agree to lead, branch requests CSM to arrange travel;
- Branches may also request CSM to send again any vols. they consider good and useful : same procedure as for leaders.  
(Administrative procedure will be proposed to ESM, as worked out with RB)
- CSM wants reporting on its vols., i. e. list of above and below average, and those suitable for leadership (Admin. worked out with RB).

**University Students Council of the CSM of Prague (Safranek)**

Besides the group exchange mentioned above, Safranek wants to send vols. to off-season camps direct, while using the central CSM office for the main summer season. This would have to be approved by Skacel, and a problem would be the currency requirements. The figures given by Safranek are as follows :

10 vols. at Easter and 10 at Christmas, to countries where SCI has camps. 10 per out-of-high-season months, divided between GB, France, Germany and Switzerland (April-May-June, Sept-Oct.)

The Student Council is responsible for the following camps in 1968 : two in North Bohemia, one in East Bohemia and one in West Bohemia. Each camp has two periods of three weeks during July / August. I think all these camps are part of the Central CSM workcamp programme, but some may be reserved for group-exchange vols.

Brno CSM Returned vols. (not only SCI) in CSM are keen on vol. service activities. The CSM office there is responsible for looking for projects for the central CSM, and may also run local weekend camps. Herschel Shorr suggested to them to look for social service projects like Marianska, and suggested one might be a joint AFSC / Brno CSM camp. Skacel was informed about these discussions and did not object.

Contacts in Brno :       Josef Kužela, President (concerned with many different activities)  
                                  Emil Klimo, Student, responsible for workcamps : friendly.  
                                  Address : Namesti Rude Armady 2, Brno (Room 11).

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Yugoslavia UYY rep. satisfied with this year (1967) - only complaint was about late information sheets (1967 was first year they sent substantial number of vols. - about 90). Will send 90 again in 1968. Applications will be treated like those from branches, i. e. no special reservation for particular places in advance. SCI exchange forms will be used, after offers sent early to CLH (April or early May requested). The UYY rep. is the person with whom we corresponded this year : she is an intelligent girl of 21, who has travelled in the West and is easy to negotiate with. We asked her to look for a small joint camp, and she said she would circulate the request to some local UYY offices. UNA has made a similar request, so we suggested a project might be found where two or three consecutive small joint camps could be held, as in Marianska, thus reducing organisational work. The proposal may not have any results this year, but repetition of the request each year would surely have some effect. Further discussions and on-the-spot investigations by the ES or a good vol. in Yugoslavia would help.

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Poland ZSP rep. satisfied and wants to increase numbers slightly. It was agreed that SCI would pay \$ 10 to each Polish vol., when he arrives at the workcamp (Note. please make sure branches instruct leaders to do this, without the Poles having to ask, and please ask ZSP to tell its vols. the pocket money is paid at the camp : last year ZSP gave its vols. a voucher to present to branch offices or the ES). For most countries, \$ 10 is about the normal rate, but please check with branches again on their standard rate. For GB, however, since devaluation, it may be a problem (50 poles for GB in 1968). ZSP will pay SCI, at the end of the season, the equivalent of \$ 10 per vol. sent minus 10 for each vol. we've sent them (1968 approx.  $100 - 25 \times \$ 10 = \$ 750$ ). Could be used to repay branches if necessary, except French and any others who have governmental subsidies for pocket money, or for CLH costs or E-W travel. Franco please discuss with Ralph. ZSP will pay \$ 200 for 1967, please instruct them where to send it. \*

ZSP agrees to joint study camp with French leader. French branch should write to ZSP about programme, organisation and Co-leadership. British branch will invite two Poles to Easter leaders' training course, and it would be the best if French leader could meet him there - otherwise Pole should be invited to Paris en route to meet French leader. Suggest ES sends French branch 1967 study programme and instructs French what to put into its letter to ZSP (Franco see separate French notes).

The Polish rep. complained that travel instructions are inadequate in the information sheets, especially French and Belgian, the only good ones being British, Danish and Swedish (he may have mixed up SCI and other organisations). Also complains we sent them too many girls (true), and requests 50 % boys 1968. Total vols. required 20, plus 10 if SCI requests (10 are required for study camp). ZSP cannot guarantee that German vols. will get visas. Suggest two or three are offered early, so visa application can be made, but request CSM to accept them if Polish visas refused.

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\* If Poles are put only on 3-week camps, none on 2-week camps, it will reduce confusion over pocket money, which is usually paid at a weekly rate.

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One or two MTV's ( 3 - 4 month summer programme) could be requested by USA group from the Student Council, Warsaw University, Krakowske Przadmiscio 24, Warsaw, saying vols. would do

social work mainly, must speak English, and specifying maintenance, travel pm etc. Copy of letter from US to ZSP.

**OKWOM.** I did not try to expand activities with OKWOM, as one organisation per country is easiest to cope with. But OKWOM may invite us to send vols. to their camp (we sent about 6 in 1967). This would increase the number of SCI vols. required for Poland, as OKWOM possibility was not included in the provisional figures stencilled after Marianska.

ZSP again. Special request that information sheets should include something about cheap accommodation. If branches cannot manage this, ask them to send you (ES) sufficient number of copies of some youth hostel leaflets, etc., to pass to ZSP. It is worth repeating to ZSP that SCI is doing what it can to get the information, but cannot arrange accommodation after the camps, unfortunately. Poles also request that the nearest railway station be named in the information sheet (See also CoCo list of contents of ideal information sheet, to be compared with the list-of-contents of the inf.-sheet format prepared by Jef Smith for consideration at ESM).

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**Hungary.** Re exchange figures agreed, the Hungarians offered to accept more SCI vols., but this is not desirable because of the nature of the camps (single-sex-brigades). Joint camps are not being considered by them at the moment.

The Hungarians prefer to have direct correspondence with branches to which they send vols. They have had direct correspondence with Austria, and that is the only branch which has had Hungarians regularly, so it's worth trying, as the numbers of vols. are small and only a few branches are involved (1968 Austrians, French, British, German - and possibly Swiss); please discuss with branches concerned, and ask them to write direct. Letter from ES in January to Hungary should ask Hungarians to send copies of lists of vols. to CLH.

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**Bulgaria.** Rep. annoyed because (he said) SCI vols. hadn't arrived when expected. Following a telegram from SCI, someone waited in vain at the railway station expecting SCI vols. However, exchanges for 1968 agreed. Besides ES confirmation, special letters should go from British and French branches, to impress on them that they are expected to send the vols. agreed.

The Bulgarians want about the same number of vols. as last year for their international brigade. I think we should offer four, asking the French branch to send two good ones (prepared for brigades). The Bulgarians agreed, in connection with a discussion of the possibility of small joint camps in Bulgaria, to allow vols. sent by us to visit a small camp (local not international). French vols. should be briefed to discuss small joint camps in Sofia afterwards. Similarly, the Bulgarian vols. to France should be shown around a whole area, e. g. Ariege, and have the overall programme and individual camp structure explained to them, with the leader constantly making sure they understand how camps are run (same for Bulgarian to GB). If the French and British branches cooperate, we might get joint camps in 1969. However, next year may be overshadowed by the Youth Festival, in which case further attempts will be necessary the following year.

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**DDR.** FDJ has a heavy programme next year, and can have only one camp with SCI, not two - second being study camp - as proposed to them. Will probably send five volunteers to joint SCI - AFSC camp in Austria (see correspondence). We discussed pocket money, in connection with the volunteers to Austria. FDJ can give vols. tickets right to the camp, but requested pocket money - in return, a similar sum would be put aside for use on our joint camp in the DDR, for an excursion. In 1968, AFSC will apply its usual procedure for the camp in Austria, but the question may come up again if FDJ sends vols. to SCI camps in Austria or Switzerland in 1969. FDJ's usual practice on its camps is to pay pocket money and rewards for specially good work, and it has taken a long time to make them understand our principles. So if we have to pay their vols. pocket money and they insist on reciprocity, make sure it takes the form of a weekend excursion - which they would arrange as they always do.

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FDJ rep. stressed that FDJ considers the ES as "Verhandlungspartner" for SCI, not West German branch (Old stories about the behaviour of West German vols. who 'did not behave like guests' were brought up, as well as the 1967 spring discussion). After long discussions, they agreed that it was

valuable to talk about problems direct with the West Germans, and agreed to consider the request for a meeting. Then I asked that a West German, for the same reasons, should be present at the spring meeting when the ES goes to Berlin to discuss actual arrangements for the camp at least as an observer, not mentioned in the "Vereinbarungen" (I took the liberty of saying some younger people would soon enter the German SCI Committee, and it would be important for them to have good direct relations with FDJ, and think this point was well taken).

AFSC has contacts with the Red Cross in Dresden and some anti-fascist group, so there is a possibility of vols. from those sources in future years if SCI and AFSC continue to cooperate re. DDR.

It seems FDJ can send vols. to Switzerland as well as Austria without use of the unacceptable ATB. Ask Swiss branch if they would like to invite volunteers in 1969 (probably too late for '68, as FDJ was a little hesitant even about the five for Austria).

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**USSR.** The USSR delegate said 6 - 7 vols. would be invited to the big Rostov camp, as in 1966 (near Black Sea, on Don), in August, three weeks. The last Rostov was an exercise in international friendship with some cherry picking etc. thrown in, but all vols. learnt a lot and thought it valuable. We might also send 10 vols. to Siberia for 35 days : I think the vols. for Siberia have been mainly Soviet students in the past, and the work is probably really serious in their programme. The British branch had shown some willingness to make special efforts re USSR, so should be asked to consider sending two to four good vols. to Siberia, who could assess whether small joint camps would be useful and possible to fit into Siberian programme, and talk to CYO people in Moscow about it afterwards. Thus we might work towards a camp of 10 SCI + 10 - 20 Soviet or mixed EE vols. in 1969. If no invitation for Siberia is confirmed, same tactics for Rostov. Usually foreign volunteers for USSR camps have to pay tickets to Moscow, and from there they get free transport to the camp and back to Moscow. CYO agreed joint camps should be discussed some time in the future . . .

Re. USSR vols. to SCI camps, invitations should go from the branches concerned (French and British) as well as ES, to impress seriousness. The CYO delegate asked that the ten for each country should be divided into two groups of five, and go on camps with other Socialist vols. and a 'general interest' programme, e. g. study, excursions, as well as work. If vols. come in 68, the reports they make will definitely influence continuation of such cooperation. If no vols. come, some contact might be tried with a University to get vols. for 1969, preferably with CYO's assistance. No pocket money is required for CYO vols. - important to confirm this. The CYO delegate was new to CoCo, pleasant and intelligent young man (he made a 45 minute speech in the working group at Marianska and was angry when it was not sufficiently reflected in the Report : Report was re-written). However, if he stays in the department concerned in CYO we might get further than in the last few years re. vols. to our camps.

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See also summary statistics and brief notes of 21. 12. 67

J. G.  
Luxembourg, 22. 12. 1967