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HISTORICAL SECTION
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The Experiences of a Canadian
Civil Affairs Officer in
Germany, March 1945 - April 1946

1. This report is the sequel to an earlier report dealing with the experiences of a Canadian Civil Affairs Officer in France and Belgium. Like the previous report the present one is a personal account by Captain J.E.G. Labrosse and is based upon his personal diary and various documents in his possession. The reader will realize that a certain amount of what is written here is hearsay, as the author was not always in a position to check the various rumors and stories; and some is simply a reflection of the author's views. The material contained here is, however, of historical value as the record of experience of a Canadian officer attached to a British Civil Affairs Unit.

INTO GERMANY

2. On 7 Mar 45 we received word that the officers and men of the 1st British E.C.A. Group were to be posted to the Second Army (Main) C.A., with effect from 7 Mar 45 and that they were to report to the Town Major at Diest for further instructions. We therefore left Armentieres at 1045 hrs going through Lille, Tournai, Brussels and Louvain and arrived at Diest. Upon our arrival, the Officer Commanding of our Detachment reported to the Town Major for further instructions. As there was no accommodation available in the town or the district we were obliged to return to Louvain for overnight accommodation. Next morning we found the Headquarters of our Group situated in the outskirts of Louvain on the road Louvain-Tirlemont.

3. I was attached temporarily to 119 Detachment, for quarters and rations, and was located in the small village of Roosbeck in Eastern Flanders. The officers and men of our Detachment were billeted in private houses. One house was requisitioned as a Headquarters and messing hall. We were five officers and six other ranks. Three other Detachments were billeted in the same village. All Detachments which had been formed from the 1st British E.C.A. Group, were stationed in small villages between Louvain and Tirlemont. The Provincial Detachment for Westphalia was composed of the Provincial Detachment Headquarters and 50 sub-Detachments of all sizes. The Provincial Detachment for the Province of Hannover included 70 sub-Detachments.

4. On 19 Mar 45 I was attached to the Headquarters of 307/08 Provincial Military Government Detachment

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for the Province of Westphalia as Relief and Welfare Officer. I therefore moved from Roosbeck to Kerhkon where the Detachment Headquarters was located. The Headquarters was composed of 80 officers and 200 other ranks. We lived in an old XVI Century Manor which had belonged to one of the oldest families in the Flanders. On 23 Mar instructions were received that the Westphalia and Hannover Detachments would be attached to the Ninth American Army for all purposes for the invasion and the occupation of Germany until relieved by the British Army. The 307/08 Detachment to which I belonged and its R.B.* and kreis detachments were therefore attached to the XVI Corps of the Ninth American Army for the Military Government Administration of the Province of Westphalia. On Saturday 24 Mar 45, while we were still in Kerhkon, we watched thousands of planes and gliders flying over our heads towards Germany to the bridgehead at Wesel. They were American and British planes and carried British and American paratroops. On the following day all Detachments in the District received orders to move to the Headquarters of Civil Affairs of the Ninth Army, located in the town of Tirlemont. The Headquarters and the messing Halls were located in the barracks of a Belgian Cavalry Regiment. As the space was limited the beds were spread all over the place to accommodate everybody. During the next week lectures were given on Germany.

5. On Easter Sunday, 1 Apr 45, both provincial Detachments were instructed to proceed at once to Germany. This order was received at 0830 hrs in the morning. An advance party was sent at once to the town of Kamp Linfort, located in the Province of North Rhine, to requisition billets. The Westphalian Detachment left about 1100 hrs going through St Trond Tongres, Maastricht, where we halted about one hour for lunch, then through Roermund to Kamp Linfort where we arrived about 1800 hrs. As the town had been completely evacuated during the attack on the Rhine, all the troops were billeted in private houses.

6. On Tuesday, 3 Apr, we left Kamp Linfort about 0700 hrs in the morning to reach the small village of Heiden, the temporary Headquarters of the XIII Corps. On our way we crossed the Rhine at Wesel. On the west side of the river the road leading to the bridge had been destroyed and we had to go through shell holes to reach the pontoon bridge laid across the Rhine. After crossing the river we were in the town of Wesel which had fallen a few days before to the American Ninth Army. The town was badly damaged and the ruins were still smoking when we entered. With the exception of a part of the Railway Station, which was still standing, only a few walls here and there could be seen above the rubble. On each side of the road Wesel-Heiden we could see hundreds of gliders which had been used by the paratroops who had helped to seize the bridgehead.

7. We arrived at the small village of Heiden where we reported at once to the Headquarters for further instructions. Our job was, if possible, to prevent Refugees and Displaced persons from impeding the movements of troops by keeping the roads clear and preventing them from trying to reach the bridge at Wesel and crossing the Rhine. During the day we could see on all roads leading to the village light armoured cars protecting the entrance of the

* "Regierung Bezirke" - a political German district.

village. Every civilian was stopped and questioned; many were arrested and put in a temporary cage. Most of them were refugees trying to reach Wesel.

WE ARRIVE AT MUNSTER

8. Next morning orders came for us to proceed to Munster, where the Corps Headquarters had moved the night before. We left Heiden about 0800 hrs going through Coesfeld, an important railway junction for Holland and Northern Germany. The railway viaduct had been demolished by a ten thousand ton bomb. The town had been largely destroyed; the streets were torn up and one could hardly get through them; the railway tracks were ripped and twisted into queer and fearsome shapes. I remember seeing an odd sight, a railway locomotive which had been hurled upon the top of another by bomb blast; even a crane could not have done better. Debris and rubble covered the streets as high as the first storey of many buildings. Dulmen, another important road junction on the main highway Munster-Wesel, had been completely destroyed by air raids and fighting around the town. Finally we arrived on the outskirts of Munster about 1000 hrs and reported at once to Corps Headquarters for further instructions. As there was still fighting going on in the town, it was impossible for us to start work. In the fields across the road from the apartment house where the Headquarters was located we could see German soldiers giving themselves up. By the apartment, at the corner of the street, was an artillery battery, shelling the retreating German Army on the other side of the town on the road Hamm-Dortmund. Shells were bursting all over the place. Later in the afternoon, the battle quietened down and the Americans were in full possession of the town.

9. Munster was the capital of the Province of Westphalia. It was one of the most beautiful towns in western Germany, but when we entered it had been reduced to rubble and ruins. Munster had been bombarded for the first time, on Easter Sunday 1943, again in 1944 and also before our arrival. Bulldozers began at once to clean the streets to make a way for military traffic. That afternoon we went back to Heiden for the night. Next morning we came back to Munster and visited the famous Stalag VI where about 5,000 Allied prisoners of war, French, Poles and Russians had been kept. As we crossed the town we could see the debris and rubble piled, in some places, as high as a two storey building. On the Cathedral Square only a few buildings were standing up and the famous XIII Century Cathedral completely destroyed. The Lambert XII Century Church had a part of the steeple destroyed, the interior was gutted but the four walls were standing. Nothing was left of the City Hall and the business section. Around the Station there was not a house standing for about ten blocks. It took us an hour to cross the town to the camp owing to the rubble.

THE P.O.W. CAMP AT MUNSTER

10. We were welcomed on our arrival by the Camp Commandant, a Polish Doctor, who had been appointed Officer Commanding by the German Camp authorities before their departure the previous week. The German staff had left food supplies for two weeks and other commodities. The Doctor had organized his camp very well; but one night the Russians had stolen the keys of the kitchens, made a good meal and found some schnapps; they became so drunk that they set fire to the kitchen and burned the food supply store. As a result the prisoners had to go without food for two days. We immediately sent a dispatch rider to the Quartermaster Stores and shortly afterwards lorries loaded with "K" rations arrived. Regular allied rations were thenceforth issued to the camp. We re-organized the kitchens and the next day it was ready. Daily rations were drawn at the Quartermaster Stores under the supervision of an American Staff. The Doctor told us that he had had no trouble except with the Russians who drank too much and were unwilling to obey anybody since the Germans had left. The camp quarters were in a fairly good condition but the Russian quarters were the worst I have ever seen during my stay in Germany. It was pitiful to see the P.O.W's eating their ration but their greatest joy was to receive cigarettes with it. Some smoked the cigarettes with tears in their eyes; others kissed them. The P.O.W's were like children so very happy to be delivered and all thinking that soon they would be sent home. We were continually asked when they would be allowed to return home; what had happened in their countries, etc. There was a French Captain, who had been a Staff officer at St Cyr, who asked us all kinds of questions about the French Army. He was broken hearted at the downfall of France, but we comforted him by telling him of the great part played by the New First French Army, which was under the command of General Leclerc. He told us that all the prisoners knew of the invasion and the swift advance of the Allied Armies; and that while they knew liberation was only a matter of time they did not expect us so soon. Everywhere we were greeted with tears of joy and happiness; many could hardly believe that they were to be free at last.

REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS CAMP NO. "B"3

11. On Thursday, 5 Apr 45, I was placed in charge of a Refugees and Displaced Persons camp, located on the road Munster-Dulmen, about a mile from the little village of Buldern. I was left alone in the camp with no guard and with only one "K" ration. Assistance had been promised me before night fall but it never appeared. I had been forgotten. I proceeded to install myself in the officers hut and made a thorough inspection of the Camp. What a mess the place was in! American troops spent a night there and had upset everything.

12. The camp had previously served as a Hitler Jugend training camp. It consisted of seven large wooden huts, a large garage for lorries, and outdoor latrines for 500 persons. The camp buildings formed a square with a parade

ground enclosed in the centre. Near the entrance, facing the parade ground the administration building was located. Here were also the Guard room, the Orderly Room, the Kitchen and the Messing Hall. There was, in addition a camp hospital with an attractive medical inspection room with a good Dispensary. The camp hospital consisted of eight beds, an isolation room, a dispensary and a toilet. The sleeping quarters consisted of four large buildings accommodating about 450 persons. At the rear between the Administration Building and the first sleeping hutment were to be found officers and sergeants quarters, the garage and the workshop.

13. During my inspection I found two French Refugees wandering around the camp looking for food. They were on their way to Wesel. I explained the situation to them and they stayed with me, one of them becoming my batman. They helped me clean the Officers Quarters and we made ourselves as comfortable as we could for the night. The next morning as I was inspecting one of the buildings I found an ablution room with 20 showers served by a steam furnace which had been sabotaged by the Germans before their departure; one valve had been left open and the basement was flooded. A thorough inspection of the kitchen was made. I found five big boilers under which fires could be set, a large electric refrigerator, a large camp stove and kitchen accessories of all kinds. I was very happy about these discoveries. As I had seen the Mayor the day before with the Officer in charge of all the camps in the district I sent one of my men to fetch an electrician to connect the wires which had been cut by the Germans before leaving. At 1200 hrs the lights were on again. That afternoon 100 Germans came to clean every building. Early in the afternoon the Staff of the camp arrived. They included Capt Lismer, Sgt Brown, both Canadians, and a British Corporal. Capt Lismer and Sgt Brown were to be responsible for the external administration of the camp and all supplies; the corporal and myself were to look after the internal administration. Capt Lismer and I visited the Mayor of the village to arrange for food supplies such as bread, potatoes, meats, etc; also all materials needed for the camp.

14. That afternoon we posted a Sentry at the Crossroad to stop the refugees from going to Wesel. The first day we collected about 150 refugees and displaced persons of all nationalities. We installed them in the huts, made them clean the camp, erect the double deck beds, clean the kitchen, etc. By nightfall the camp was in good condition and ready to receive more refugees and displaced persons. Amongst those who came in were five good cooks; one of them had been a Chef at the Feldkommandantur in Munster. He was appointed the Chief Cook. He was a Marseillais, a marvelous cook but what a story teller! The refugees and Displaced Persons were fed that night with requisitioned rations. The French P.O.W's were regarded as ex-Allied soldiers and were entitled to the Allied Army rations; the others were considered as civilians and received civilian rations. I had found in the kitchen basement about ten tons of potatoes. Meats, breads, vegetables were requisitioned by Capt Lismer at the Mayor's Office. We also visited several German farms where we

saw tons of vegetables such as potatoes, carrots, beets, parsnips, etc, which had been specially set aside for the Wehrmacht (German Army).

15. By Saturday, 7 Apr 45, i.e. only two days after opening the camp there were about 300 refugees being cared for. The provision of a camp civilian staff was a real necessity. This was drawn from the refugees themselves. There was a Central Refugee Committee representing each nationality. Military Government could not expect to provide the staff to run camps of this nature and had to rely on finding suitable personnel among the refugees. We merely acted in an advisory capacity. Each nationality had its own "Chief" who was responsible for keeping law and order amongst his own countrymen; the cleanliness of the huts, beds, mattresses, blankets, latrines used by his countrymen, the clothing issued, fatigues and general duties in the camp, helpers in the kitchen to peel potatoes, and especially for the good discipline at the meal parade. Each nationality was divided into groups of 100 and again subdivided into groups of 50. Each group and sub-group had leaders who worked under the "Chief" of the national group. Each day at 1000 hrs we met the nationality "Chiefs" and listened to their complaints and issued instructions regarding duties for the following day. The following nationalities were represented: French, Belgian, Dutch, Italians, Poles, Russians. /

16. We had the camp organized like a regiment, with "companies", "platoons", "sections", etc and found by experience that it was the best way to run the camp. American sentries were posted at the road junction to direct all refugees moving westward to our camp. As the numbers of inmates increased we cleaned up the workshop and the garage and used them as sleeping quarters. Loads of straw were brought to the camp from neighbouring farms and used as mattresses. After a few days we were able to find mattress covers which were filled up with straw. This was more sanitary than having straw strewn all over the place.

17. We had asked for transport but nothing had been given us. Accordingly Capt Lismer requisitioned several German lorries and cars for the camp transportation. These vehicles were under my supervision and the civilian chief of the garage. Gasoline and oil were supplied to us by the American Army. The lorries were used to fetch foods, building materials, water for washing, straw, etc.

18. On 8 Apr 45 a special request was sent to the officer commanding the American Battery "A" 571 Triple A/A for additional guards to be posted around the camp and the cross-road to help to keep order amongst the refugees. Our request was granted at once. An hour later a guard of 25 other ranks with a Top Sergeant and a Corporal arrived at the camp. Lt-Col Hunter of the Battery "A" 571 Triple A/A was the Commanding Officer of all the camps in the District with his Headquarters at the Castle in the village of Buldern. The N.C.Os. and the men were billeted in the same hut as we were with only a wall separating us. A field telephone was connected with the Headquarters at the Castle. The duties of the guard consisted

of mounting the Guard around the camp, at the cross-road, and keeping order. Guards were always present at meal times. At night the guards were doubled and a special section was kept in duty for outside call. No civilians were allowed on the roads at night. The sergeant was responsible to me for the discipline of his men in the camp. They had their own cook, and three refugees were detailed to keep their quarters clean.

19. At curfew all guards turned out to see that everyone was in his billet. Guards saw that the black-out rules were strictly enforced. The sentries posted at the cross-road were required to check all passes or identification papers; those whose papers were not in order or who appeared to be suspicious characters were sent to me for further inquiry, and then, if I was not satisfied, to the Intelligence officer or the Commanding Officer at the Castle. The sentries at the cross-road helped to catch about 1,000 Germans who had hidden themselves in the woods surrounding the Recklinghausen pocket. These men were ex-soldiers trying to reach their home town; most of them were dressed as civilians but had no passports. A great deal of useful information was obtained and important arrests were made. Each German was sent to the Castle. A Message Slip, M-120, accompanied the driver and was handed to Intelligence Officer or the Commandant on arrival. This form outlined the details concerning the arrest. In special cases telephone conversations were held with the Headquarters before the prisoners were forwarded (See Appendix "B").

20. Among the Dutch families who arrived at the camp there was a woman who complained all the time about the Allies, especially the Americans. She was never satisfied. We investigated and found that she and her husband were both notorious Dutch Nazis. They had a full hand bag of German Mark Notes and several precious stones. Both were arrested, paraded by the sergeant to the Officer Commanding at the Castle. Both were sent to Holland under heavy escort and handed over to the Dutch Military Authorities at the frontier.

21. Each time a refugee disobeyed an order or perpetrated an offence maliciously he was paraded before the Officer Commanding at the Castle, by the sergeant of the Guard with a message signed by myself. Here are a few illustrations of the kind of thing which sometimes happened. On 2 May 45, at 0030 hrs, a refugee was caught wandering around the camp trying to escape. He was arrested at once, and in the morning paraded to the Officer Commanding (See Appendix "D" No. 1). On 4 May 45, a Frenchman, who had reported himself to the camp with his bicycle was told he could not take it to France. He therefore took a knife and ripped the tires to pieces. He was arrested for sabotage. He was paraded to the Officer Commanding and received solitary confinement in the Castle dungeon, for two days. (See Appendix "D" No. 2). In another case a Dutch refugee threw his plate of food on the ground saying that the food was no good and not palatable. He was given four days of solitary confinement (See Appendix "D" No. 3). Two Belgians were caught trying to

make their way to the road to Wesel on the Rhine. They were punished by two days of washing dishes at the Castle. (See Appendix "D" No. 5).

22. Refugees seem to have had a mania for stealing potatoes from the kitchen even when they received between 2500 to 3000 calories a day. They were always hungry, probably because most of them did no work and being idle all day the only thing they had in their mind was to eat. One was caught, one day, making a fire to cook his potatoes beside a hut where there were over 50 beds. I sent a guard to warn him to put out the fire at once but he refused to obey the order. I ordered the Guard to fire on the cooking pan with his Sten and the man was arrested at once. He received two days at hard labour unloading ammunition trains into Army lorries. (See Appendix "D" No. 4).

23. Each time we had to transfer the Refugees from one camp to another, the Officer Commanding had to be notified so he could get accommodation and quarters for them. (See Appendices "E" Nos. 1, 2, 3).

24. As I have already hinted above, all persons, who did not have their passports or identification papers in order, were sent to the Intelligence Officer for further questioning. Many of those with whom we came in contact had discharge papers from the Wehrmacht, but these were of no value. Capt Shay of the C.I.C. was the Intelligence Officer of the Battery. He was assisted by a sergeant of a British Field Security Section. As we were not far from the Ruhr pocket, thousands of German soldiers were found hiding in the surrounding woods after the surrender of the German Army in the Ruhr. Some of them had been living in the woods for months. Most of them had hidden their arms in the woods, before taking the road home, and had their soldier book but no other papers to identify them as civilians. They were arrested and questioned by me and sent to the Intelligence Officer for further disposal.

25. A large stockade had been built around the Castle. After a week of rounding up suspects at every cross-road in the district it was filled up. One day, we received orders not to arrest any more people because the stockade was overcrowded. Some of those whom we let pass thought they were free but as soon as they reached another district they were arrested. Proclamations were posted in every town stating that no one could have a ration or labour card without registering first at the Labour Office with his discharge papers stamped with the seal of the Allied Forces. Those prisoners of war who were caught in hiding were to be punished with death. These proclamations brought a large number of German prisoners of war to camps. Included as appendices to this report are copies of slips accompanying arrested German soldiers and other nationalities.

Appendix "F" 1: A German soldier, who had been a Nazi party member wandering on the roads and not reporting to the Allied Military Authorities.

Appendix "F" 2: A German Policeman, whom we had arrested and who had not reported himself to the Military Government.

Appendix "F" 3: Two Germans discharged from the Wehrmacht in Dusseldorf. There had not been any discharge for months prior to our arrival. The papers had been a forgery.

Appendix "F" 4: A Dutchman, who had stolen from one of his countrymen in the barn where they had been sleeping, was arrested and sent to C.I.C. for questioning, after paraded to the Officer Commanding. He was awarded a two years sentence at hard labour in Holland.

Appendix "F" 5: Two Poles arrested for menacing farmers; one of them had been a Nazi during his stay in Germany working on farms. After liberation, he began to black-mail and menace the farmers in the district. A few came to the camp complaining about him. He was warned to desist but did not pay any attention so I had him arrested. He was severely dealt with.

Appendix "F" 6: These fifteen Germans of the Wehrmacht were trying to reach their homes without reporting themselves to the Allied German War Prisoners Authorities.

Appendix "F" 7: These five men were in the same position as the fifteen others but the three boys who had been in the Wehrmacht had destroyed their papers thinking they would reach home quicker.

Appendix "F" 8: Sixteen Germans without pass or soldier's book, a few of military age.

Appendix "F" 9: Six Russians who were caught looting a German farmer by one of our guards when going to the farm to fetch milk for the Camp Hospital.

Appendix "F" 10: Five men who were caught looting farmers and killing cows.

26. Looting was regarded in a serious light. Our Officer Commanding had no heart and no use for any looter. The severity of the penalties for looting were made clear in "Allied Military Government of Proclamation No. 2"; Article 1 of which listed the offences against the Allied Forces which were punishable by death. These included any person who committed any act of plunder or pillage or who robbed the dead or wounded; and any person who raped any nurse or other woman serving with the Allied Forces or who should commit assault upon any such nurse or other woman with intent to commit rape. In every case

an inquiry was held. Many murders and burning of farms were only solved after the use of the third degree. The death sentences did not, however, seem to worry the Poles or Russians. Many of these people did not kill for revenge but for the thirst of blood. The refugees and Displaced Persons with whom we had the greatest trouble were the Poles and the Russians. They were disliked by every other nationality. Many western Refugees asked us why we did not go to Stalingrad and have it out with the Russians.

27. On Sunday, 8 Apr 45, the parish Priest of the little village of Karthaus, about half a mile from the camp, came to say the Mass for the refugees. That Sunday morning a roll call revealed that the number of refugees in the camp was now over 600. Having accommodation for only 500 steps were taken at once to remedy this situation.

CAMP ADMINISTRATION

28. Each of the large huts was divided into five dormitories. Each dormitory contained about 25 double deck beds and was in charge of a leader who was responsible for the discipline and cleanliness of his dormitory. An orderly was in charge of each dormitory for a period of 24 hours. The duties of the orderly consisted of the maintenance of order and cleanliness in the room and also preventing thievery. He saw to it that every blanket was taken out in the sun and the beds were made ready for the 1100 hrs inspection. He reported to me any deficiencies in the room. On sunny days nobody was permitted to remain indoors; everybody was obliged to go outside to take a sun bath. The orderly also showed each new arrival how to make his bed. Nothing was allowed on the floors, everything had to be placed on the bed near the pillow in army fashion. No papers could be left on the floor or food left lying around the room. It was strictly forbidden to cook in the dormitory. Gambling was forbidden as it usually led to a fight. The floors were swept three times a day. The orderly had to see that lights were extinguished at lights-out.

29. On Sunday afternoon, 8 Apr 45, the guards at the cross-road sent us a French doctor and a Padre with their staff who were proceeding towards the Rhine with a French ambulance car. We explained to them that it would be impossible for them to cross at Wesel. Dr. Vigneau, the French Army Doctor, had been a prisoner of war in a German camp near Bremen for over five years with Padre Moreau, a Belgian Army Chaplain, and his two medical sergeants and orderlies. The Doctor and the Padre took charge of the hospital. A few hours after their arrival our Medical Inspection Room became a real hospital. All refugees were inspected and deloused on their arrival. Minor surgical operations were carried out and vaccines and serum injected in those who needed them. Special diets were prescribed by the doctor in cases where refugees were suffering from malnutrition or starvation. Dr. Vigneau with Sgt Brown went to Munster to fetch drugs and medical

supplies. As a result, the Dispensary was well equipped. Daily sick parades were held every morning on the parade ground at 0900 hrs. A roll call of each person of every nationality was held and their names given to the Hospital orderlies for medical records. As their names were called they were paraded to the doctor.

30. A twice-daily milk parade was also held, under the Doctor's supervision, for those who needed it, such as children, expectant mothers, weak women, men from the Concentration Camps, famine cases, and tuberculosis cases, which were numerous owing to the lack of vitamins. The British corporal in charge of the stores and the kitchen was personally responsible for the fetching of milk from neighbouring farms. Every morning and every night he went to German farmers to fetch the milk for the camp. The milk was boiled before it was handed over to the hospital. The hospital maintained a list of those entitled to milk on the doctor's orders. Double portions of milk were given to certain cases under the doctor's advice. The best care was given to cases of famine. When the doctor and the padre had organized the hospital a German doctor from the nearby village was chosen to replace them as they both wished to return to their own countries. The doctor left his two sergeants behind in charge of the hospital, so that the system established would not suffer interruption. A special request was made to the Commanding Officer at the Castle for a laissez passer at the Rhine and the Belgian and French frontiers for the doctor and the padre. This was granted at once. How happy the doctor and the padre were. Their joy cannot be adequately described. Dr Vigneau had not seen his wife and children for over five years. We gave them the gasoline and oil they needed to reach their destination. Two weeks later we received a grateful letter of thanks from them. Capt Lismer and I were very sorry to see them leave but happy for their own sakes.

31. At this point I should like to describe the daily routine at the camp. Reveille was at 0630 hrs; breakfast parade at 0700 hrs. Everybody had to be present on the parade ground for the roll call. Those who were sick were accounted for and their breakfasts arranged for. After the roll call by the "Chief" of each nationality the report was handed into the Orderly Room. Breakfast was then served. It usually consisted of ersatz coffee or, when possible, good Allied coffee, two slices of German bread, two pieces of sausage (when we were able to get them) or oatmeal with powdered milk.

32. At 0800 hrs the fatigue parties reported on the parade ground for the roll call. There were those who were detailed for kitchen fatigues, such as dishwashing, potato peeling, etc. Each dormitory took its turn at providing kitchen details. There were the camp fatigues who cleaned the parade ground, picked up the papers around the camp, looked after latrines, emptied garbage pails, etc. There were carpenters and their helpers who built a new hut; lawnmakers and the gardeners who worked in the flower garden in front of the parade ground. As we had requisitioned private cars and German lorries for the camp transport an expert mechanic was in charge of the garage. Every morning he handed in his list for parts he needed for repairs.

33. At 0900 hrs the sick parade was held at the camp hospital. At 0930 hrs, I received all heads of the permanent staff; the chief cook, the garage man, the plumber, the electrician, the carpenter, the stationary engineer, the lawnmaker, the Chief of Police and the Fire Chief. We discussed their requirements and heard complaints. At 1000 hrs we met the "Chiefs" of each nationality and their subordinate leaders, the Chief of the Registration and orderly room staff to discuss daily matters and camp routine and what might be done to improve the lot of the refugees in the camp. At 1100 hrs there was the camp inspection. I was accompanied by each of the Chiefs who took notes concerning their own departments. We began every morning with the kitchen and then proceeded to the ablution rooms, the sleeping quarters, the garage, the boiler room, the latrines, the workshops. We inspected the garbage disposal arrangements, the parade ground, around the huts and the camp hospital.

34. In each room special attention was paid to the water and sand pails for fire. The fire chief of the camp had been a fire chief of a big town in Holland and was a very smart chap. We had located a fire pump which he had repaired and always had ready for action. He formed a fire brigade in the camp with ten firemen with experience. Orders were that on sunny days every blanket should be placed in the sun for desinfestation for about two hours. Straw for mattresses was changed twice a week and burnt. Everyone was present during his hut inspection standing by his bed. No luggage was permitted on the floor. Everything was arranged in military fashion.

35. As we were able to have soap for every one, each person received half a cake for bathing and washing their clothes. Every person was obliged to take a shower at least once a week. There was an orderly in the ablution room where there were 20 showers. Each room had a special hour for the use of the ablution room. From 1100 to 1200 hrs it was reserved for mothers, their children and the ladies. A woman orderly was in charge of the ablution room during these hours. The afternoon between 1500 hrs and 2200 hrs was free for everybody. The laundry area was outside the huts near the playing ground. A horse drawn water tank brought water for washing four times a day. There were six big wash tubs near two salamanderstoves for hot water, a long clothes line for drying. Two large garbage cans were available to hold the waste from the refugees meals and two large water drums in which they could wash their plates and utensils. We inspected this area twice daily. When the camp inspection was over it was lunch time.

36. Dinner parade was held at 1200 hrs. Food was, of course, put aside for those who were on duty outside the camp. It took about 45 minutes to one hour to serve 1,000 refugees. At first there was practically no discipline at meal parades. On the third day, I decided that all gatherings should be on a military basis. Every nationality was to form a company and every room a platoon. The French prisoners of war illustrated what I meant with a demonstration of a company and a platoon. With the help

of the "Chief" of every nationality I explained to the civilians what I wanted. For instance, if hut No. 1 and rooms Nos 1, 2, 3 and 4 were French, then the hut was the French Company, and each room a platoon; the same for Belgians, Dutch and other nationalities.

37. Two large tables were placed outside the kitchen on which food was served to each one in line. They were allowed to eat in their own rooms. Each "Chief" of nationality was present during the meal parade to maintain the good behaviour and discipline of his countrymen. Women, children and married couples were served first. We had a special hut for them.

38. About 1300 hrs was my lunch time. I usually ate alone because the three others were out. During my meal I was disturbed frequently for this or that; I was never able to have a minute to myself. It might be a lorry coming back with wood or straw to the camp or a truck with rations. In the afternoon I went around and talked with the refugees. Everyone told me his little story, what he had suffered in Germany, how he had been well treated or mistreated. Much of the material in this report was obtained in the course of these little chats. Sports were often arranged in the afternoon; occasionally we had football games between the different national groups. An all-star team composed of the best players of each nation was selected to play against the American troops. This was a good game; the Yanks were beaten three to one. The Americans showed the refugees how to play baseball and they seemed to enjoy it. Our object was to keep their minds busy so they would not get into mischief. Every afternoon at 1500 hrs I inspected the sentries at the cross-road in company with the Top Sergeant. At 1600 hrs I inspected the kitchen and the food again paying particular attention to the cleanliness of the refrigerator. The meat inspection was always very strict. I looked to see that the cook's fingernails were clean, and that there was no food laying around, that the supper would be ready for 1800 hrs. At 1700 hrs, I visited the hospital, chatted with every patient and handed out cigarettes. I looked over the hospital record book and discussed cases with the sergeant in charge. Cases of infectious diseases were at once sent to the Refugees hospital at Recklinghausen. We had an isolation room for cases of infectious disease, but our hospital was too small to hold very many cases. At 1700 hrs, after the departure of the French doctor, a sick parade was held by the German doctor appointed to our camp. At the supper parade everybody had to be present for the roll call except those on duty; the latter were suppose to be back the latest by 1900 hrs because the cooks had orders to close the kitchen at 2000 hrs. Usually all were present.

39. We had a radio playing all day in the camp with loud speakers, and the main topic of the day was the B.B.C. News at 2100 hrs. In the evening there were occasional concerts on the parade ground by the camp orchestra with community singing. Each nationality had its night for a concert. I was the leading man for the singing with my badine. There were recitations, yarns and plays. We always finished by playing the American,

baton

British, and other Allied Nations national anthems. At 2130 hrs the curfew was indicated by a burst of machine gun fire. The guards turned out, and with the chiefs of each nation, were responsible for seeing that everybody was in their huts. The black out was rigorously observed because we were still at war. 2200 hrs was lights out, and everybody was supposed to be in bed. After the lights out every night, I paid a little visit to the American boys next door. By 2230 hrs I was back in my quarters. At 2300 hrs I inspected the Camp with the Top Sergeant and two sentries to see about the black out, the lights out and that every sentry was at his post. We sounded out the doors and windows of the food stores, and the kitchen. Half an hour later I was ready to go to bed. Sometimes I discussed camp problems with Capt Lismer, Sgt Brown and the corporal before retiring. Then, too often, when I was ready to go to bed a sentry would report that someone was sick in one of the huts, or that something else was wrong. If I heard the mooing of a cow, I knew there would be trouble and that it would be not long before someone would come for help. It usually meant looting of farms or slaughtering of farm animals. Sentries had orders to shoot in the direction where the noise came from and patrol could be sent out to catch slaughterers and visit the surrounding farms. We caught several Poles and Russians slaughtering animals on different occasions. After the killing of the cows they took the legs to roast and left the rest there to rot. On other occasions the men in our camp might try to get in the women's hut, or there might be a brawl among the different nationalities. We never knew what the night would bring us. Capt Lismer and myself took turns on night calls, so that one of us could have a good night's sleep.

40. Clothes of all kinds had been requisitioned by the Military Authorities from the German local authorities for clothing the refugees. Upon their arrival, after their registration and delousing with D.D.T. their clothes were inspected, if found unfit for wear, new ones were issued at once. One day two German farmers came to the camp with ten suits of clothes for sale or exchange for cigarettes or food. They told us that refugees had gone to their farms and exchanged the clothes for eggs and bacon. A close check revealed that this was true. We questioned each refugee, to whom a suit of clothes had been issued. All kinds of lies and alibis were told us. Some said their clothes had been stolen. Not a word of truth could be obtained. These people were informed that no other clothes were to be issued to them and they would have to wear their old rags. Here we were devoting ourselves day and night to the task of improving their welfare only to be rewarded with ingratitude and lack of cooperation. The Refugees seem to think we were obliged to help them and that they owed nothing in return. Most of them were the laziest people we had ever met before; they could hardly help themselves, even when they had everything handy in the camp. They had in their minds, that after the liberation, they were to be waited on by the Germans.

41. Before we had taken over the camp, we had paid a visit to the Mayor of the Village of Buldern in which district our camp was located. We ordered him to requisition

from the local farmers all the food needed for our camp. The Mayor had been appointed by the Americans upon their arrival. A few days later we met the village Pastor and the Parish Priest, who told us, that the mayor had actually been a notorious Nazi and that he had worked behind the scenes, and that through his influence a number of people had been arrested and sent to Concentration Camps. We reported this to the C.I.C., who investigated and found that our information was correct. He was arrested at once and sent to Political Prisoners Camp. A new Mayor was appointed at once by C.I.C. The new Mayor had held the position prior to 1933. As Capt Lismer was in charge of the requisitioning of meat, vegetables, potatoes, bread, etc, he dealt directly with the Mayor. The bread was baked for us at the local bakery by the Germans. One day the local baker decided not to work any more for the camps. He was at once arrested and sent to the Political Prisoners Camp. A distribution centre or store was set up where all the requisitioned food was brought and re-distributed under the American supervision to all the Refugees Camps in the district. A daily parade state was handed over to the store before the rations were issued. Every night at 1700 hrs, we sent a lorry to the store to fetch our rations. Meats and perishable goods were stored in the refrigerator. At 1900 hrs food for the next day was issued to the head cook and his assistants. The daily bread ration amounted to between 600 and 700 loaves. Each refugee was allowed two pieces at each meal. Every two weeks we received Allied displaced persons rations, which were used for morning meals with German rations for dinner and supper. The calories content was between 2500 to 3000 calories per day. Heavy workers, fatigues and the staff personnel had extra rations. When we had food left over, a second portion was served to each room in turn. Each time, it was possible to have cigarettes and sweets, they were distributed amongst the permanent staff. As most of the inmates of the camp did no work the ration was quite adequate. It struck us as rather surprising that many refugees wished to remain in Germany and were not anxious to go back to their own lands. The fact is that on the whole, refugees, working in Germany, had been very well fed by the Germans.

42. We often found that refugees, who were detailed to peel potatoes, would steal them filling their pockets once they had finished their work and making fire in some out of the way corner to cook the potatoes. They paid no heed to fire hazards or warnings. Those who were caught doing this were dealt severely with. As nobody seemed to pay any attention to our warnings, I gave orders to the Top Sergeant and his men that the first fire they saw they would shoot at. That day they located about fifty and fired at them. Those who were caught were detailed to latrines or garbage duties. The refugees had no need to eat between meals as their rations were adequate and most of them were idle all day.

43. This potato problem suddenly quieted down. One day an American sentry told me: "This is too good to be true; there is something fishy somewhere". I detailed two camp policemen to watch the potato peelers, as they were still disappearing at the rate of almost a quarter of a ton a day. One day, going around the camp's limit, I saw smoke in the wood across the field. The Top Sergeant

and I went to investigate at once. We found a whisky still with two jugs of whisky beside it and not far distant two tons of potatoes. We hid ourselves behind the trees and waited for further developments. Suddenly we saw four men, amongst them two of the camp policemen who had been placed in charge of the potato peelers. When they began working on the still the sergeant and I suddenly emerged from our hiding places and with our revolvers in hand placed the men under arrest. I whistled and four G.I.s. appeared and took the men away. We demolished the still and arranged for the potatoes to be brought back to the kitchen.

44. The men were paraded to the Officer Commanding at the Castle and were awarded two years imprisonment in a Dutch prison. They were escorted to Holland under heavy guard and handed over to the Dutch authorities at the frontier. When the sentence was known, it was read out at the meal parade by the "Chief" of their nationality. That night two men brought over to my place two five gallon jugs of whisky which were destroyed. After this incident the camp hospital reported to me that on the previous day, three men had reported themselves sick but did not state why. After inquiries were made, we found that they had drunk the famous whisky. After this punishment the situation returned to normal.

45. It was forbidden by the Military Government for any Displaced Persons or Refugees to go to German farmers to buy, exchange, trade or barter for farm products. One morning while working in my office, I heard a pig grunting. I looked towards the door and saw it in front looking at me. At once I called the nationalities "Chiefs" to inquire where the pig was from. Nobody knew anything about it. During my kitchen inspection that morning I opened one of the cauldrons to find in the pea soup a large piece of pork and in the cooking stoves some nice roast pork instead of beef stew. I made inquiries, but again nobody seemed to know anything. How they had brought the pig into the camp remained a mystery. A few days later, my corporal, going for his milk learned from one of the farmers that Refugees had exchanged two suits of clothes and 600 pieces of sausage and an old tire for the pig. These incidents illustrate a few of the troubles we experienced with Displaced Persons and Refugees.

46. Many times, during my thirteen months with the British Army of Occupation, I asked myself if all the sacrifices we had imposed on ourselves to liberate these people were worth while. Such things as these would not have been tolerated by the Germans. Why did these people behave themselves under the Germans and cause us so much trouble? I do not know. I believe they felt we were obliged to them instead of them being obliged to us. We never heard them say "the food was good". The cooks naturally complained of this lack of gratitude. The cooks worked 12 to 15 hours a day and received no remuneration. Nobody was paid on the camp staff. How little it would have cost people to say "Thank you" or "The food is good". On numerous occasions I chatted with Frenchmen, Belgians, Dutchmen, Italians, Russians and Poles. It became obvious from such conversations that many refugees were German

in their sympathies, that their own country meant little to them; in fact it would not be far from the truth to say that the majority preferred to work in Germany where they received better salaries, and worked under better conditions than in their own countries. It should be remembered that they received food, clothing and fuel for their families at home while they were working in Germany.

THE UNCOOPERATIVE ATTITUDE OF THE POLES AND RUSSIANS

47. It seems that almost every day German farmers came to the camp and asked for protection against Poles and Russians who were wandering around the country. As notices and proclamations had been posted by the Military Government forbidding German farmers from selling or exchanging products with Displaced Persons or Refugees, the Russians and Poles, who did not want to live in camps, wandered around the countryside threatening farmers if they did not give them food. All available food had been requisitioned by the Military Government for Refugees Camps. A special squad was therefore formed to deal with these people. It consisted of a corporal and four other ranks with two machine guns and a jeep. This squad was on alert 24 hours a day. Captain Lismer and I had a car and each time the squad went out at night we went with them.

48. One night about 2300 hrs, one of the farmers from whom we obtained milk for the camp hospital, came and told us that Russians were looting a neighbour. At once the squad jumped in the jeep. A few other G.Is., who were not on duty, followed them with another vehicle. Capt Lismer was in charge of the party. When they reached the farm and entered his house, they found out the farmer had been killed; his throat cut open with a razor, his wife raped and disembowelled with a knife. His daughter had also been raped and one of her breasts cut and the baby's hands cut. At once the men covered all the buildings of the farm. Meanwhile the lorry rushed the wife, daughter and baby to the hospital. A thorough search of every building began. Finally the culprits were found in the barn, three of them slaughtering the livestock. One of the G.Is., who spoke German, asked them what they were doing. They answered it was none of our business. They assumed a threatening attitude as they had knives and one had a revolver. The soldiers ordered them to surrender, but they paid no attention, pretending not to understand. The G.Is. then opened fire killing the three of them; two others, who were hidden, fired on the soldiers but were wounded. They were taken at once to the hospital at the Chateau. We learned later that they had been hanged. This was not an act of vengeance on their part, it was an atrocity.

49. Another night a German widow came to the camp, about 0200 hrs in the morning, and told us that five Russians were raping her twelve year old daughter. When the squad reached the farm they attempted to arrest the Russians who attacked the troops with knives. The Americans fired killing four of them and wounding the fifth. He was hung the following day at the Castle. But what a horrible sight

we saw. The little girl was covered with blood and dead when we arrived.

50. The slaughtering of livestock was a nightly occurrence; and murders were all too common. Sometimes we were fortunate enough to arrive in time to catch the culprits. Too often they managed to get away. Many times the farms were burned, livestock killed, and farmers murdered just from sheer blood lust. The bestiality and ignorance of these people were amazing. Almost invariably the people who perpetrated these crimes were Poles or Russians. They would feign ignorance, paying no attention to orders, and would always produce an alibi for not obeying Military Government Proclamations, even after they had been translated to them in their own language.

51. The Poles and Russians, we have had in our camp were transferred to a Russian refugees camp at Nottuln, about five miles from our camp. There were over 5,000 of them. The Officer in charge of the camp told me, one day, that they did not want to cooperate at all. The Americans put up a Notice, stating that it was forbidden to go out of the camp; several began to go out and when the guards shot over their heads as a warning to stop they took their revolvers and fired on the guards. Hundreds of Refugees from Western Europe seemed to feel that the attitude of the Russians was an indication of trouble to come. To us it appeared, rightly or wrongly, that the misbehaviour of the Russians was deliberate with a view to making our problems more difficult.

52. Refugees and Displaced Persons told us almost every day that instead of going to Berlin, we should have gone to Moscow and Stalingrad, if there was to be a lasting peace. After seeing what I did of the Russian behaviour I began to fear that Allied cooperation might not last and that this contained the seeds of a future war. The belief in a war between Western Europe and Russia is deeply ingrained in the minds of Germans and many Displaced Persons owing to the constant repetition by Hitler of the idea that the Western Powers or Russia will govern the World. There were many people in our camp who still believed in the German propaganda; and the behaviour of the Russians gave it a semblance of truth.

53. The Germans themselves asked us the same kind of questions about Russia. Many refugees who had been in the Russian Zone, told us that when the Russian troops arrived, it was possible to recognize British and American war equipment, such as motor vehicles, tanks, etc, but that the Russians still relied upon horse drawn transport and that Russian supplies were not comparable to ours. They saw the Russians strip the pockets of the Allied Prisoners of War stealing their watches, precious objects such as rings, etc. The Russians do not appear to have had much respect for the International Convention concerning the Laws and Customs of War on Land. We were told that the Russians permitted over 200,000 German Prisoners of War to die in the cages at Stalingrad. Only a few of the Prisoners taken at Stalingrad survived. This statement was reported to me by one of the German Red Cross Directors of the Province of Westphalia. A waiter, at the St James

hotel bar at Paris, told me how the Russians had dispossessed him and another prisoner of their belongings after being delivered by them as war prisoners; even after he had displayed his French Communist party membership card. The Russians simply tore the cards to pieces. The Allies seem to have been afraid or unwilling to tell the Russians to behave themselves. Those, who, like myself, spent some time in Germany with the Military Government are not surprised at present Russian policy.

ADMINISTRATIVE ROUTINE

54. From 4 to 12 Apr 45 our camp was used as a general reception centre for all West European refugees - French, Belgians, Dutch and a few Italians. On 12 Apr the first group - 52 Belgians and 158 Frenchmen - were sent in lorries to the assembly centre at Wesel to be repatriated to their homelands. The railhead for refugee traffic was at Meklenbeck about ten miles from our camp where a refugee transit centre had been set up. Our camps were very crowded. For example, on 10 Apr we were responsible for 1100 refugees and our camp could hold 600 at the most. The other 500 were sleeping in barns in the surrounding farms and came to meal parades and a daily nominal roll call. This was typical of the whole British Zone at this time where there were about 5,000,000 refugees and displaced persons. We were told that the quicker we could get rid of them the quicker we could begin to administer Germany. We therefore spent little time beyond that necessary to pass them on to their homes.

55. On their arrival in the camp, they were taken to the orderly room where they gave their names, nationality, date of birth and their former trade or profession so that they could be used to best advantage. Each nation had a representative in the orderly room to watch over their own personnel. Refugees were then escorted to the camp hospital for medical inspection and delousing. Old clothes were burned or buried, other clothes were spread with D.D.T. and the attendants were specially dressed in overalls of oiled silk. After the medical inspection, the refugees were assigned beds in rooms set aside for their nationality and were given identification cards with their name and number. Then they received fresh straw to fill their mattresses and were taken to read the camp's permanent orders which were posted in every room. Usually their belongings were inspected for small arms, knives or blunt instruments.

56. Our camp police and fire department were under the supervision of one chief appointed by the camp commandant and directly responsible to him. There were representatives of each nationality, working with their own groups to keep law and order, watching their own huts during meal parades and supervising the kitchen during the daytime. They were difficult to trust and appear to have had a share in every racket in the camp. Twice we completely changed the whole police staff and finally, after a scheme for distilling whisky had been discovered I got fed up, discharged them all, and gave their duties to the American guard.

BULDERN AS A DUTCH REFUGEE CAMP

57. On 12 Apr 45 SHAEF decided that refugees were to be segregated by nationality and our camp became the Dutch refugee camp. As no special camp had been set up for Italians we were assigned the 50 who happened to be in our camp. They were no good as heavy workers, claiming that they had done enough work for the Germans, but as singers, musicians, artists, they were marvellous. The chief of our orchestra was an ex-conductor of the opera at Naples and on one night they gave us an excellent rendition of "La Tosca". They formed a concert party and visited the surrounding camps. Another Italian became our landscape gardener and set out one of the most beautiful flower gardens I have ever seen in the front of our parade ground as well as planting rows of flowers around the entrance to each hut.

58. After the departure of the other nationals we found it much easier to operate our camp. All we needed was one staff, a chief and four sous-chiefs and the orderly room chief. This cut our work by at least a half. Due credit and praise should be given to the Dutch chief and his staff for the handling of the camp. Many had been business men in their own country and were smart, clever, clean, and well-disciplined. On Sunday, 22 Apr, a notorious Dutch Nazi was discovered by some of his countrymen and only the American military guards prevented him from being lynched. I ordered the top sergeant to take him to military headquarters where Lt-Col Hunter of 571 Triple A/A Regiment disposed of him.

59. When the camp became purely Dutch the French doctors were removed and an old German doctor was appointed as medical officer to the camp. He lived only half a mile away and every afternoon held his sick parade about 1700 hrs. Only mild cases of sickness were treated in the camp, the others being sent to the General Refugee Hospital at Recklinghausen. Later a United States Army medical officer was appointed to our camp, but since he had fifteen camps under his care he was not available for emergency cases. We were lucky not to have had any epidemics. Perhaps this was because once a week we carried out a very complete disinfection. Blankets and clothing were deloused and sprinkled with D.D.T., fresh straw was supplied in all mattresses and even personal belongings were spread out for inspection and treatment if necessary. Every day the ablution rooms and latrines were disinfected with creoline and the garbage was burned or buried. Only two cases of infectious diseases - one of diphtheria and the other of typhus - were found and they were at once isolated in the hospital at Recklinghausen. In our camp the hospital dispensary was well equipped with drugs and surgical instruments which had been found in a German Army medical store at Munster.

REPORTS ON ATROCITIES

60. In the Administration Building of our camp was a dark room with a rope hanging from the centre of the ceiling. One afternoon I visited a farmer across the road who explained its purpose. Whenever a "Hitler Youth" was caught doing something wrong or even being inefficient, he was brought here to be whipped. His hands were tied to the rope and hanging there, stripped to the waist, he was beaten by another "Hitler Youth" until he fainted. When he regained consciousness the officer in charge told him that the enemies of the Reich would all be so treated. The victim never knew the identity of the comrade who lashed him.

61. Numerous cases of malnutrition reported at our camp, some of them walking in great pain and so weak that they could go no further. Among them were young men six feet tall with grey hair and not weighing more than a hundred pounds. Most of them had been punished in Germany for disobedience of orders or for sabotage in war factories. Special medical care and diet were provided for these unfortunates. The worst case we met, was that of a young Belgian farmer from the District of Mons. One night in 1942 he had declared in a cafe that he would never work for the Germans or say "Heil Hitler". Next morning he was arrested and a Belgian judge sentenced him to a concentration camp in Germany. There he was suspended by his hands and whipped by guards who demanded that he say "Heil Hitler" with every blow of the lash. He refused and when he was finally cut down in a fainting condition he was kicked about the head with the heavy boots of the German guards, suffering 22 recorded skull fractures. He was then taken to the camp hospital where he received medical attention but before he was fully recovered he received a second and similar beating. As he was a strong man he had been able to stand up under the punishment but he told of several German victims who had been crippled for life or had died as a result of their beatings.

62. A few days before the American soldiers arrived the whole staff of his concentration camp had fled leaving their victims in the wire cage. At their liberation the prisoners were entirely naked and they had proceeded to search every house in the village to get the clothes they needed. They were so happy at their new freedom that they forgot their pains and took the road home eating what they could find and sleeping in barns. The young Belgian told us that the thing which kept him going was his desire to see his family again and to find the judge who had sentenced him to this camp. When he reached us he was so weak we sent him to the hospital at Recklinghausen where the Allied military authorities recorded the particulars of his case. One day he heard a doctor say that he had not long to live, so he walked out of the hospital and travelled the 40 kilometres back to our camp. Permission was granted for a *laissez passer* over the Rhine at Wesel and Capt

Lismer took him back to Mons. Upon his return Captain Lismer told me of a very touching family reunion but had heard nothing of what happened to the judge. The doctors who had examined this man declared that it was most surprising that he was still alive for his skull had been flattened in about one-quarter inch from the beatings that he had received.

63. One afternoon there arrived at our camp two Canadian soldiers who had been taken prisoners at Dieppe. One was from the South Saskatchewan Regiment and the other from the Fusiliers Mont Royal, the French Canadian from the town of Saint Vincent de Paul and the westerner from Saskatoon. They had a requisitioned German car and wanted gasoline to continue their trip to Brussels. We were happy to see them because they were the first Canadians we had yet seen in Germany. We kept them with us for two days and they told their story. They had been to a Stalag in Upper Silesia with about 800 Americans, British and Canadians. Early in January 1945 when the Russians were advancing into Upper Silesia they were ordered to proceed west. Out of the 800 who left the Stalag only 200 had reached the Province of Westphalia. They had been forced to walk all day with only two meals of beet soup. They slept in barns if available, if not they huddled in the open in the dead of winter. If one of their comrades fell on the road they were not even allowed to turn their heads. As they passed through towns and villages in Eastern Germany the crowds lined up on the sidewalks jeering and spitting in their faces. Some casualties were suffered during an air raid near Berlin but as they entered the province of Westphalia they were liberated by American soldiers who gave them uniforms and a car to take them to Belgium.

64. We never saw anyone who hated the International Red Cross so much as these Canadian ex-prisoners. They told us that the parcels sent by the Canadian and American Red Cross to be distributed among the prisoners of war were turned over instead to the Germans. They had caught German guards smoking their cigarettes, eating the contents of the parcels and even wearing their underwear. Protests were made to the International and German Red Cross but nothing was ever done that they could see to remedy the situation. I have been told by the Americans that they found hundreds of thousands of cigarettes intended for P.O.W. in Germany in German Army stores and literally millions of parcels which had never been delivered. These Canadians also told us that one day they had observed Germans loading machine guns, mortars and ammunition into Red Cross Ambulances but when they reported the case to the International Red Cross inspector who visited the camp, they were told to mind their own business and the Canadian who had reported the case was severely dealt with.

65. We fed these boys with good steaks and the best food we could find. We gave them gasoline and had their car overhauled by our garage men. When they left I wrote a letter to Lieutenant-Colonel Payan, Canadian Garrison Commander at Brussels to ask that they be well received and flown to England. Later I received letters from them

saying then that Colonel Payan had treated them like a prince and arranged air passage to England. They said that the Canadian Army in England was giving them the best of care and that they soon were to be repatriated to Canada.

66. Statements regarding the camp at Buldern can be verified by Capt L.J. Lismer, C.I.C., attached to 307/08 Provincial Military Government at Munster, Westphalia, Sgt Brown, R.C.A.S.C. of Vancouver, B.C., S/14686779 L/Cpl S. Moren, 307/08 Headquarters Military Government Detachment (British Army). On 4 May 45, orders were received that the British personnel of the camp were to report to Military Government Headquarters in Munster for new duties.

67. Upon my return to Munster, I reported to the Deputy Commander of our Detachment, who assigned me the duties of Relief and Welfare Officer for the Province of Westphalia. The following paragraphs explain some of the problems of our branch and the measures which we took to solve them.

ALLIED PLAN FOR DENAZIFICATION OF GERMAN WELFARE

68. On 31 May 45, the directors of all welfare organizations and agencies which were allowed to function under Military Government were summoned to the Office of the Relief and Welfare Officer for new instructions. The new policy of Military Government was to eradicate all taint of Nazi ideology from these Societies and to ensure that they were in accordance with the principles of Military Government and to ensure that no differentiation of treatment should be made due to race, colour, religion or creed in the activities of these Societies or Organizations. The Arbeitwohlfahrt (Workers Welfare) originally founded in 1919 by the Socialist Party, built up a nationwide organization from 1919 to 1933 but was dissolved by the Nazis in October 1933 and its properties and funds confiscated, most of them finding their way into the coffers of the Nazi Party Organizations (N.S.V.). It was planned to revitalize those private welfare societies which had had a sound democratic or religious basis and were well established before 1928. Further it was planned that all Party Welfare Organizations or agencies should be dissolved or absorbed by the Provincial Welfare and that all discriminating decrees and laws should be abolished and annulled forthwith. Welfare of Jews was to be the special care of the German Red Cross until it became possible to form a Jewish Welfare Organization. See Appx "A"

69. Orders were issued by the Allied Military Government at SHAEF Headquarters that upon our arrival in Germany all National Socialist Welfare Party Agencies and Organizations should be dissolved at once and their funds frozen. The German Red Cross had been greatly used by the Nazis during the present war and had become for all purposes a para-military organization. All holders of office, even to the level of platoon commander, were ipso facto party members, and as such would require careful screening.

70. The organization was to be completely denazified and reorganized on sound democratic basis. Confessional Welfare Organizations such as Caritas Verband, Innere Mission and Social Workers should be aided by Military Government to reorganize themselves and institutions confiscated by the Nazis should be handed over to their original owners. All paid and non-paid members of all welfare organizations and agencies, etc, should fill in a fragebogen (a questionnaire) which was filled in by every German official, to disclose their political connection with the Nazi Party, the date they joined, the position they had held, if they had been members of the S.S., the reasons why they left the party, if they had been members of the Wehrmacht, the reasons why they had been discharged, whether they had been voluntary members of the party or forced into it. There were over 50 such questions to be answered and heavy penalties for any one making false declarations. These were to be screened by the Public Safety Branch of Military Government and no one should be dismissed, retained or appointed without the authority of the Relief and Welfare Officer.

71. Welfare was to continue its daily routine until further notice but in all welfare schools teaching should be suspended until all the books had been approved by the Educational Branch of the Military Government. The same applied to all hospitals and institutions where nurses were taught. All Nazi institutions were to be absorbed by the Provincial Welfare, and all the Nazi personnel replaced as soon as possible. All welfare organization money was to be frozen until orders were received from the Military Government Finance and Property Control Branch.

72. The Provincial Welfare Officer was responsible for the general supervision and efficiency of all German Welfare within his Province. During the summer of 1945, Youth Welfare became the responsibility of the Educational Branch and Social Insurance, the responsibility of Man Power Division. Staff Officers, Welfare, were under the command of, and were technical advisers to, the Provincial or Governmental District Detachment Commanders, whom they were to keep informed of all Welfare matters. On technical matters Staff Officer No. 3 (Captain) at Governmental District Detachment was to report to Staff Officer No. 2 (Major) at Provincial Detachment, who in turn would report to Staff Officer No. 1 (Lt-Col) Welfare at Headquarters Public Health and Welfare Branch I.A. & C. Division.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF PROVINCIAL WELFARE OFFICER

73. The following summary of the responsibilities of Provincial Welfare Officer is extracted from Military Government Instruction No. 27. See Appx "B"

1. He will see that all Military Government Instructions to Welfare Authorities and/or Societies are carried out.

2. He will be responsible for the supervision of the Wohlfahrtsamt (Provincial Welfare) and other Private Welfare Organizations at his

level, and will make recommendations to the appropriate authority on removal of officials found to be inefficient or non-cooperative.

3. He will see that all Welfare Committees authorized by Military Government are formed and functioning efficiently and will whenever possible attend such committee meetings and satisfy himself that Military Government policy is being put in force.

4. He will collect and forward all returns called for by H.Q. Control Commission Germany, and see that the German authorities supply correct and up-to-date information.

5. He will exercise overall supervision of those private welfare societies who are members of the Provincial or Governmental District Welfare Committee and ensure that they make such returns each month as may be required by Military Government.

6. He will maintain the closest possible liaison with all Divisions and Branches on whose fields welfare activities may impinge.

Later in our narration we will explain in more detail the functioning of these Welfare Committees. In the summer of 1945, 307/08 Provincial Military Government Detachment was the only one in the British Zone to have a Welfare Officer at the Provincial level.

GERMAN RED CROSS

74. The German Red Cross served both utilitarian and charitable purposes. It was organized as a voluntary aid association and cooperated with other welfare organizations. Prior to 1933, the German Red Cross Society was one of the best and most efficient on the continent, but it was taken over by the Nazis in 1933 and lost its independence completely in 1937. At that date they had the following numbers of institutions and centres: 280 Institutions with 18,000 beds; local nursing centres over 2,000; First Aid Centres 6,582; report centres for accidents 27,000; ambulances 699. These institutions covered all Germany and had a membership of 1,461,748. Their report centres for traffic accidents along the autobahn or other highways and their ambulance service were among the best organized on the continent.

75. This all came under the Military Government Control after our arrival. Military Government allowed them a previous deduction tax of ten Reich Mark Pfennig on each head of the population in the Province of Westphalia to finance their Society. They also received a certain percentage of collections made by the Provincial Welfare. Their welfare activities were widespread. They maintained hospitals, sanitoriums, convalescent homes, recreation homes, establishments for mothers and children

and provided nurses in rural areas. They had established soup kitchens in many cities after the Allied occupation to help the transient Germans, evacuees and refugees. In the railway stations, bunkers and shelters provided a refuge for travelling mothers, children and single women. In Munster, Dortmund and Hamm, they had established Red Cross stations in bunkers and shelters, where they rendered the most humanitarian services to travelling people. First aid stations were in charge of a doctor and a few nurses. One of their auxiliary services was the transportation of the sick and wounded through the province. Their famous ambulance service came under the Fire Branch of Military Government to prevent the abuse of transportation. Their automobiles, accessories, cars, fuel, tires, etc, were under the supervision of the Welfare Officer of the Military Government.

76. The Sisterhood of the German Red Cross was reorganized as prior to 1933, on a sound democratic basis. Their work consisted of evacuating Germans from other Zones into ours, providing doctors, nurses, food, etc, on trains provided by the Military Government. As the refugees became more numerous the German Red Cross could no longer cope with the situation due to the lack of experienced workers, so many having been dismissed as Nazis. Appeals for help went to the British, Swedish and Swiss Red Cross and special permission was granted to train new members to deal with the emergency. Millions of Reich Mark, belonging to the Westphalian Society were recovered from the German Bank at Hamburg. Public Health Branch was in charge of the medical section, their discipline and meeting of their material needs. Under the heading of International Red Cross more will be written concerning the German Red Cross work.

DEUTSCHER CARITAS VERBAND (GERMAN CATHOLIC CHARITIES)

77. The Deutscher Caritas Verband, the chief organization for the Catholic Welfare Associations in Germany, is an incorporated body with headquarters in the Werthman House in Freiburg, Breisgau. The Diocesan Caritas Associations for the Province of Westphalia were under the Diocese of Munster and the Archi-Diocese of Paderborn. The Archi-diocese of Paderborn was the largest in the British Zone and one of the most densely populated. There were over 1,000 institutions belonging to Caritas Verband: 104 hospitals, 38 convalescent homes, 95 old peoples homes, 17 single homes, three houses for crippled, three houses for frails, 13 suckling homes, 38 educational establishments, 237 kindergartens, 222 sewing rooms, 309 stations for nursing, 38 voluntary organizations for the care of children and the youth, 13 charity organizations, 18 communal and social institutes with Catholic Sisters. Over 200 institutions had been partially bombed out and some completely destroyed. Caritas Verband for Munster was not so big as the organization for the Diocese of Paderborn because they had several institutions in the Province of North Rhine and in the Province of Hanover. They had about 500 institutions in Westphalia.

78. Confessional Charitable Organizations consisted of paid and non-paid members, mostly voluntary workers, beside the Sisters and the Brothers of the religious Orders. They had Catholic training centres for Catholic workers, nursing schools, training schools for infants' nurses, seminaries for social workers. Their welfare work consisted of welfare in rural areas, child care, youth welfare for pre-delinquent and delinquent adolescents, public health welfare of the crippled, welfare institutions for the feeble-minded, psychopaths, epileptics, insane, blind and mutes, drunkards, transients and homeless. In Munster there was one of the most modern houses for students in Germany, under the patronage of Caritas Verband. There were also about 500 Provincial Welfare institutions of the same type - some Catholics, others Protestants or lay. Under the Provincial Welfare supervision they were governed by Catholic Sisters or Evangelical Nuns or laity.

INNERE MISSION

79. The Innere Mission is the welfare organization of the Evangelical Churches of Germany, corresponding to Caritas Verband. The National Agency is the Central Ausschuss fur Innere Mission (Central Committee for Innere Mission). This provides the organizational coordination of all connected associations and establishments of the Innere Mission. Its members are the State and Provincial association as well as special associations whose activities reach beyond the boundaries of States and Provinces. The central administrative office, which was in Berlin-Dahlem, was under a professional director, who is assisted by several section chiefs. For the Province of Westphalia, the coordination was from the Innere Mission at Bethel for the institutions, establishments, associations, and territory. Their professional workers were Sisters and Brothers and voluntary workers in each parish. Their institutions were on the same type as those of Caritas Verband. Innere Mission had 800 institutions in the Province of Westphalia all governed by the Evangelical Sisters Staff.

VISITS AND OBSERVATIONS IN WESTPHALIA

80. On 17 Jun 45, I received orders from the Brigadier to visit a few of the main Provincial Welfare Institutions, and upon my return to make a report. We first visited the tuberculosis Sanitorium at Wald Brilon for pregnant tubercular mothers. This institution was one of the most modern I have seen in Europe. We paid a visit to an insane Asylum with over 3,000 inmates at Marsburg. The institution was in good condition but overcrowded. At Buren, we visited the Provincial Welfare Headquarters and a few institutions for Deaf and Mutes. During my tour of inspection in the lower part of the Province I found that most institutions were overcrowded and that it was impossible to release any build-

ings because so many other institutions had been requisitioned for military purposes or for Displaced Persons. I interrogated the Directors of all institutions about their needs and requirements, checked if they had all their personnel fragebogen and found how many had been dismissed and/or replaced. The visit gave me an idea of the problems of welfare, overcrowding of institutions, lack of clothing, and just enough food for survival. Upon my return I made a report of the situation to the Commanding Officer of our Provincial Detachment. Prior to my departure, I had ordered Dr Teetmyers of the German Red Cross to make a purge of his Nazi staff. On 20 Jun upon my return he reported that the purge had been carried out, but that the German Red Cross was losing its best and most experienced members and that new recruits were to be enlisted at once to fill the vacancy. I notified him that no one could be hired on his staff without previously being fragebogen and found acceptable to the Military Government.

81. On 25 Jun 45 I paid a visit to the Bishop of Munster, accompanied by the Director of Caritas Verband for the Diocese, the late Cardinal von Gallen, who died in March 1946. The Bishop was one of the greatest anti-Nazis in Germany. He had always condemned Nazism from the bishop's throne by his pastoral letters, especially on the question of State control of children, the youth camp policy, the Nazis doctrines and ideologies. He reminded me that the Allies should not think that all Germans were Nazis. He protested about the murders of German farmers by the Poles and the Russians, the burning of the farms and the rape of the women in Germany. He declared that he had always believed in Democracy, and at the beginning of the Nazi rule a council of the German bishops had warned the Western Powers of the danger of war but that nobody paid any attention to them. His brother, Count von Gallen, had been in a concentration camp for over a period of two years, because he was one of the last deputies of the Prussian Diet, to give his demission to the Party as such. He told us that every morning, a Schuleleiter (School Inspector) visited every class in each school asking the children if any one had the day before heard anything said against the Fuhrer, the Nazi Party or the Greater Reich. If a child only stood up, without even saying a word, the parents were at once arrested and sent to concentration camps and the child sent into a Nazi institution to be raised as a good Aryan. In 1941, during the Corpus Christi procession, a Regiment of S.S. was sent from Recklinghausen to stop the procession and arrest the Bishop. When they arrived, the Colonel came into the Cathedral to put the Bishop under arrest but the Bishop, who was a man about six feet and a half, took him by the collar and threw him out.

82. On 26 Jun 45 Major Battersby, Statiscian Public Health Officer, and myself paid a visit to the Famous Bethel Protestant Colony, the largest of its kind in Europe. Founded in 1869 by Pastor Frederick von Bodelschwing, the Institution is a unit of the Innere Mission. It stands on the Hills above Bielefeld, a self-contained community of more than sixty buildings. It houses 6,500

inmates, cripples, epileptics, old people, invalids and refugees. Devoting themselves to a life of self-sacrifice in the care of the sick and the needy are 2,000 Sisters, who undertake six years training and are then asked if they are willing to spend the remainder of their lives at the Institute. In charge is Sister Dora Schoof, for ten years Matron of the German Hospital in London, until recalled in 1937 by Ribbentrop because, to use her own words, "of her friendship with the Jews". During the war years much of the Institution's work was contrary to Nazi precepts, and the story is told of a visit by S.S. men with orders to immolate the most helpless inmates at the time when the racial fitness creed had reached the peak of fanaticism. The Pastor, then 65 years old, the late Dr Frederich von Bodelschwing (son of the founder), resisted and invited Hitler's own physician to visit the institution. This he did, and the S.S. order was rescinded. Several buildings were damaged by bombs during the raid on the famous viaduct near the town including the Sisters' Homes and accommodation today is scarce. Now, while grappling with the immediate problem of relieving distress, the organization is embarking upon a task - long planned in secret during the dark days of the Nazi regime - the mission of evangelisation. The Theological College was reopened and 120 students will study for the next 12 months. The College was closed by the Nazis in 1937 and today there is a long waiting list, with little hope of a accommodation for more than a very small percentage.

83. As self-supporting as present day conditions permit, the colony has its own medical staff, teachers, professors, its own shops, post office and clothes weaving plants. One building is a miniature factory where aluminium pots and pans are made, some for sale, but mainly to supply the needs of the community.

84. In another house, a group of epileptics worked under supervision at the cloth weaving looms. The finished material is made into overalls, tableclothes and dresses. In the valley beside Bethel are the colony's own farms supplying the dairy needs of the community. Work is part of the cure for many of the unfortunates in the Institution and each is fitted, as far as possible, into some vocation which will suit either temperament or ability. A little grey-haired lady of 70 is in charge of the maternity hospital. Two hundred or so babies are born in the hospital each month for many expectant mothers are brought to the hospital simply because they have not means of providing proper care for the babies. They are placed in charge of fully-trained nurses, but often entry to the hospital has been too long delayed. No unfortunate is turned away from this institution: indeed, before the war, nationals from other European countries went there and today in the epileptic wards there are still many foreigners. With a greater need in Germany now than ever before in her history, the Protestant Colony of Bethel is endeavouring to discharge ideals to which its Sisters are pledged - the care of the sick and the needy. Special Instructions were received at the Headquarters of B.A.O.R. that the Welfare Officer should take special care of the Institution. Dr Kunze was the fin-

ancial agent of the institution with whom I dealt during my stay in Germany. All their requests were made through Military Government channels.

85. Lengerich Asylum was a provincial institution, which had been requisitioned by the British Army after their arrival for a German Prisoners of War Hospital, without notifying the Military Government. The patients were transferred to the local schools in overcrowded quarters and many were lost; some hiding themselves in the woods nearby, others going back home. The Institution had a capacity of about 1200 patients. Five hundred of whom were billeted into the local schools where they were overcrowded and no sanitary accommodation whatsoever, not even a booth for epileptics' treatment. Release of the building was asked time after time from the Royal Army Medical Corps but nothing was ever done; until a British soldier was murdered by one of the inmates. All kinds of complaints poured to the local Detachment and were forwarded to the Provincial Detachment Welfare Officer for immediate action concerning this institution. Late in the fall the establishment was released to the German authorities.

INSTRUCTIONS ISSUED TO THE WELFARE ORGANIZATIONS

86. On 28 Jun 45 the first official meeting of all German Welfare Organizations was held in the Parish House of Innere Mission, Lippstadt, and presided over by the Military Government Relief and Welfare Officer. The following German personnel were present: Landeshauptmann Salzmann, Director of the Provincial Welfare; Pastor Moeller, for Innere Mission; Dom Kapitular Holling, for Caritas Verband (Munster); Dom Kapitular Bruckling, for Caritas Verband (Paderborn); Dr Teetmeyers, for German Red Cross; Dr Meyers, for Arbeitwohlfahrt (Workers Welfare). The purpose of the meeting was to meet the directors of all welfare organizations and reorganize them on a sound democratic basis. We told them that the Military Government insisted on a complete denazification of their personnel from the top to the bottom and warned them we would have no mercy on those who did not answer their fragebogen honestly or had been ex-members of the Party. No welfare workers could be retained or accepted without first having their fragebogen accepted by the Public Safety and Welfare Branches of the Military Government.

87. Each welfare organization or society was to make a report to the Welfare Branch of the Military Government declaring the available space in the institutions of their towns or Kreis giving the exact location and pointing out those which were overcrowded and any which could be temporarily repaired. The biggest problem was the releasing of institutions which had been requisitioned by the Wehrmacht and were now used by the Occupation Army as hospitals for the Allied Forces or as Displaced Persons Centres. Every day during the summer of 1945, Priests, Sisters, Pastors came to our Branch asking that their

institutions be released. In the beginning of September 1945, after the departure of the Displaced Persons to their respective countries and the release of the German Ps.O.W., we were able to release hundreds of buildings to the German welfare organizations. This became even more important when we learned of the impending arrival of about 2,000,000 Germans from Poland whom 800,000 were for the Province of Westphalia. A further report concerning state of health, nourishment, the conditions of clothing, living and heating in each area was called for as soon as possible so that steps could be taken to prevent epidemics that winter. See Appx "C"

88. There were many tasks for welfare that winter. The re-organization of soup-kitchens and if possible sleeping accommodation for transients, evacuees and refugees and Ps.O.W. demanded a high priority. The question of communal feeding for people in bombed towns without means of cooking could not be forgotten. The repatriation of evacuated children and families through refugees centres had to be organized before they could be placed by the Housing Department. Accommodation for boys and girls in the reformatory schools, the question of guardianship, the screening of foster parents or people adopting children and the raising of the children along democratic principles all came under the Welfare Branch. Special care and feeding for expectant mothers, nursing mothers, babies, old people and orphans had to be provided. All Youth Organizations were to be dissolved forthwith and none could be re-organized without special authority from the Military Government. The German War Legion (similar to the Canadian Legion) and the Reich Unions of Persons Injured by the War were to be abolished and absorbed by the Provincial Welfare along with widows, orphans and disabled veterans.

89. Requests for fuel, motor cars, lorries, gasoline coupons, tires, etc, for Welfare Directors and Institutions were to be made through the Welfare Officer of the Military Government. As all the Welfare funds had been frozen a special order had been issued to all local banks by the Finance and Property Control Branch of the Military Government explaining how advances could be obtained.

90. Requests for building materials had to be made through Military Government channels. All requests for welfare needs at high level should be submitted to the Welfare Officer at Military Government Provincial Headquarters, otherwise through the local detachment. Suggestions concerning the new welfare policy were welcomed by the Military Government. Teaching in all welfare institutions was to be halted while samples of the books used were forwarded to the Educational Branch of the Military Government for approval. No welfare school could be re-opened without authority of the Military Government. All text books had to be screened and replaced if not found acceptable. Directors of Institutions should be screened by the Public Safety Officer in their respective Kreis for the policy of the Military Government was to eradicate all taint of Nazi ideology from these societies and to ensure that they were in accordance with

the principles of the Military Government. Germans of Jewish Faith were to be taken care of by the Gentile Welfare Societies until they will be able to re-organize their own groups. Nothing should be done to impede the operations of those welfare societies which had a sound democratic or religious basis and were well established before 1928. The Director of the Provincial Welfare was empowered to return any property which had been confiscated by the Nazis. No new welfare organizations could be formed or come into existence without the authority of the Military Government.

91. At the commencement of the occupation, the cooperation between the Army and the Military Government left nothing to be desired - the two organizations pulled together admirably. As time went on, however, and due to a number of reasons, the Army authorities began to act independently, causing a great deal of misunderstanding and unnecessary difficulty for the Military Government which was endeavouring to act in as humane a manner as possible. It should be understood that the German was forever holding up the Geneva Conventions and the International Conventions concerning the Laws and Customs of War on Land as the basis of correct government of a defeated people. This was not generally appreciated by the young commanders of the Army. On 3 Jul 45 we received a visit from the Archbishop of Paderborn concerning certain sanitoriums and unreasonable demands made by the Army. Together, we interviewed the Assistant Deputy Governor of the Military Government for the Province of Westphalia, to whom the Archbishop explained the situation. This matter had to be cleared up and was therefore referred to General Montgomery who laid down that the Military Government was the senior directing body and that Army should take advice from the Military Government before initiating any action whatsoever. After this understanding had been reached the initial cooperation and good feeling was resumed.

SOME LOCAL PROBLEMS

92. Welfare and Relief problems were growing more and more acute every day. Requests were made to B.A.O.R. Pers to have ten more officers for the Province of Westphalia. Civil Affairs Detachments in Holland were disbanded and officers were transferred to other detachments of the British Military Government in Germany for disposal. We needed ten relief and welfare officers but only one was posted as relief and welfare officer - Major Yuille of the Canadian Army - the others were posted to fill other vacancies. We protested to the Executive Branch of our Provincial Detachment but the answer was that as relief and welfare officers were not yet on the War Establishment of B.A.O.R., it was impossible to post officers as such. Later in September 1945, welfare became a section of a new Public Health and Welfare Branch.

93. On 11 Jul 45 we held our regular monthly German welfare meeting. The question of repatriating 600,000 evacuated children, mothers and families scattered all over Germany and in neighbouring countries was the main topic of discussion. It was impossible to get trains for repatriation alone and the scheme was postponed because all Allied Displaced Persons first had to be moved out to make room for the incoming German refugees. The other problems of German welfare became more acute every day: lack of clothes, scarcity of food, fuel and accommodation, lack of transportation for farm products to the institutions, shortage of labour on the farms and lack of raw materials to keep the reformatory schools' factories going. It was still difficult to get buildings released by the Occupation Army to relieve the overcrowded conditions.

94. On 13 Jul 45 we visited the Archbishop of Paderborn who told me that two Polish Colonels had asked if it was possible to have 50 Polish Priests for Polish Displaced Persons Camps. Most of the Poles had not been to Church since their evacuation from Poland at the beginning of the war. The Archbishop's role as protector of the Polish Displaced Persons had been reported to us by many reliable Poles in Westphalia. Both Caritas Verband and Innere Mission had taken care of many hundreds of thousands of Displaced Persons during their stay in Germany. On my return this request was made to Religious and Educational Branch of Control Commission, Germany, and it was granted at once. The Diocese of Paderborn had been one of the largest in Germany but now a big section was situated in the Russian Zone. The Archbishop asked us if it was possible to keep the German men working, especially those released from the Wehrmacht, because seeing them loafing or doing nothing would endanger morale. They should be kept busy so they would not have time to think about Nazism or new subversive ideas. He claimed that Germany had paid dear enough for the National Socialism and that he did not wish something similar to replace it.

95. Hamm, one of the most important railway junctions in Germany, had been bombed almost every week during the last year of the war. The Marinstift Hospital, one of the largest in the district, had suffered severely from air raids, only one section being suitable for hospitalization - the eastward on the main floor. On the day we visited the institution it was raining and the water was pouring onto the patients' beds and all over the place. To remedy this situation eight huts were later released by the Town Major at Beckum. On the same day, we visited the bunkers and shelters which were used for travelling mothers and children under the supervision of the German Red Cross for medical care, nursing and administration and found them in perfect condition.

REMOVING NAZI PERSONNEL

96. On 18 Jul 45 I visited the Famous Brown Sister's School, the Wimbern Hospital, near the town of Menden. The Brown Sisters were a National Socialist Welfare Sisterhood, a party organization of N.S.D.A.P. but they were called Brown Sisters because their custom was to wear brown dresses like Nuns. Their purpose was sooner or later to remove the religious influence in this field by replacing the confessional Sisters with nurses grounded in Nazi ideology. Upon my arrival, the hospital was in charge of a Polish Director. Inquiries proved that he had been brought from Poland, in January 1945, to be attached to the Hospital staff and through the intrigue of the Polish Liaison Officer at B.A.O.R. he had displaced the former director after the Germans surrendered. He was charged with being a notorious Nazi collaborator in Poland who had been sent to Western Germany before the Russian advance. During my stay in the hospital, I found out that the Nazi ideology was still going on. Questioning a few displaced persons, patients in the hospital, I discovered that there were still some of the Sisters greeting each other with "Heil Hitler". I informed the Chief Doctor that this custom must cease forthwith; he protested that he knew nothing of it. He was told that the Nazi teaching must cease, a sample of all the text books be given to me and all the Nursing Sisters' books be placed under lock and key at once. Warning was given that the first one caught giving the Nazi greeting was to be severely dealt with. Fragebogen were handed out to all staff and personnel to be filled in as soon as possible.

97. Upon the arrival of the Americans, the Chief Doctor had been arrested and shot by the Americans and the Chief Nurse suspended because their brutal treatment of German patients. The Chief Nurse however was still on the staff, never dismissed and always raising trouble in the hospital, so I had her fired at once and out she went. Both of them had practiced sterilization on patients and had a few murders to their credit. The staff had never been Fragebogen or screened. Upon my arrival in Munster, I reported the case to the Chief of Public Health Branch and to Educational Branch. All the books were carefully screened, every one condemned and found unfit for democracy. I visited the Public Safety Officer of our Detachment, who could hardly believe what I had told him. Ten days later, I went back to the hospital to collect the Fragebogens, dismissing the Polish Doctor and replacing him by a German. The former had acted like a dictator since our arrival and had not reported to the Military Government the conditions existing at the hospital. Every Fragebogen had been carefully screened by the Public Safety Officer of our Detachment. Of 60 on the staff, 25 of the most notorious were at once dismissed. The new director made up a list of people to be dismissed on account of anti-religious opinions and Nazi fanaticism. Many patients had died at the hospital without seeing a clergyman because some nurses had refused them the visit of a priest or pastor.

98. A few weeks later, I paid a visit to see if the orders had been carried out only to find out that

some of the offenders were still there. I found out that a British Medical Brigadier had ordered that nobody could be dismissed without his consent. I went to see him and explained the situation but nothing was done. Finally one day the Public Safety Officer sent me back the fragebogens saying that the case was closed. I was greatly disappointed but when the Educational Branch found out about the case it was another story. Later, I heard that most of the staff had been replaced except the chief doctor and a few of the original group. It took patience but I had the place finally cleaned of the Nazis.

REPATRIATION OF EVACUATED CHILDREN AND MOTHERS

99. On 19 Jul 45 a special meeting was held under the authority of the Military Government, Welfare and Transportation Branches, and all the German Welfare Organizations concerning the repatriation of Westphalian children and mothers who had been evacuated to other Zones. The following groups were represented: Provincial Welfare, German Red Cross, Innere Mission, Caritas Verband, Social Democratic Worker's Welfare and Evangelical Hilfswerk. A scheme was to be submitted by all the German welfare organizations as soon as possible and forwarded for approval to the Military Government. It was specified that the Reichbahn (German Railways) were not to loan or move a train without our approval. I explained clearly to them that food for the Evacuees had to be provided from German sources. The German Red Cross was in charge of the trains and the other welfare organizations were subordinate to them. The hour of departure from the entraining point, and of arrival at the main detraining point in each district, and all requests for train movements all were to be cleared through the Welfare Officer of the Military Government.

100. Written instructions were provided and everything was explained very clearly so no mistakes could be made through ignorance. When you explain something to a German, you have to be very explicit otherwise he will take advantage of you. I warned them that requests for trains should be made in a certain restricted period of time and that it was still impossible to repatriate children and mothers from Austria, Hungary and the Russian Zone. For the present, requests for travelling permits would be granted as soon as possible for Innere Mission and Caritas Verband representatives to make agreements about repatriation of children and mothers in the American and French Zones, Schleswig-Holstein, Denmark and other parts of the British Zone. Their duty was to choose assembly points, and prepare lists of refugees and their destinations.

101. A few weeks later, the plan was submitted to 1st Corps, where it was well understood that train movement orders should be handed over by the Railway Officer to the German Railways with an authorization letter from the Military Government. Due to the shortage of coaches and locomotives the movement of the evacuees had to be carefully synchronized with D.P. moves. The operation took over two months finishing about the end of October.

The German Red Cross was in charge of the trains. To each train was attached a hospital car to take care of the sick and a field kitchen to feed the Evacuees. Time tables were arranged for detraining them as close as possible to their destinations. In each town Caritas Verband and Innere Mission had set up a special welfare committee to receive the children and mothers. For those who had no home to go to camps were set up until a home could be found. During the war the chief function of the German Red Cross had been the transporting of casualties, civilian and military, throughout the Reich and the Society was now used to assist in the distribution of refugees to Kreis from the dispersal camps in various Regierung Bezirke (Governmental District). They also possessed a competent nursing service and were used to provide staffs for assisting German Medical Officers at all stages during the handling of the refugees from Poland.

102. All this was not achieved without some confusion. One morning a train with 1500 children evacuated from the American Zone arrived in the city of Recklinghausen without any warning. An inquiry was held but as usual nobody knew anything of it. On another occasion, I received a telephone from 1st Corps at Iserlohn saying that a train had been stopped at the border of the American Zone going to fetch evacuated children in Bavaria. I gave orders to hold the train until further notice and at once summoned all the Directors of Welfare Organizations to my office. I found that Provincial Welfare and Caritas Verband had gone to the Reichbahn at Bielefeld, requesting a train, saying that Capt LaBrosse had given the authority for the train movement. I paraded the Welfare Directors to the Commanding Officer of our Provincial Detachment, who warned them that the next time Military Government Orders were not respected they would be dismissed and sent to jail.

103. As the refugees problems became more acute every day, a new Branch was formed at Internal Administration and Communication Division called the Refugees Branch to handle the Germans who were expelled from the East of Germany; over 2,000,000 of whom were to be moved into the British Zone. This new Branch moved them from dispersal camps in the British Zone to the different Provinces, Westphalia alone taking half a million. The new committee handled not only refugees but also released German P.S.O.W. and greatly reduced the work of the Welfare Branch of the Military Government.

NAZI YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS

104. 1. Jugendvolk (Young People)
The Nazi education of the child started with Jugendvolk which all the boys and girls joined at the age of ten.

2. Hitler's Jugend (Hitler's Youth)
From the Jugendvolk the boys passed to Hitler's Jugend at the age of 14. They remained members of this organization until they were 19 years old, when they served six months in the Labour Service. The indoctrination of the young

men with Nazi ideals was the chief function of this organization.

3. Bunddeutschermaidchen (League of the German Girls)

The girls on reaching the age of 14 became members of this league, which corresponded to the Hitler's Jugend for boys. At the age of 19, the girls usually served six months in the Labour Service.

4. Studentenbund (Students Associations)

The boys and girls who continued their studies in the universities after the age of 19, when they would normally have gone to the Labour Service or after they had served their six months there, continued to be supervised and controlled by this association.

5. Arbeit Dienst (Labour Service)

Boys and girls on reaching the age of 19 were sent to Labour Service Camps where they remained six months. The boys did useful work in drainage, reforestation, road-building and settlement. The girls worked either in domestic service or on the farms. Intense indoctrination in Nazi ideals was carried on in the evenings and weekends. The boys who proved diligent and showed promise of being leaders were appointed the posts in the Party and Government Services. It was estimated that this service took half a million young people off the labour market every year. The boys then served their time as soldiers under the conscription laws, while the girls returned to domestic life or to civil employment. No girl was allowed to hold a remunerative post until she had served her six months in the Labour Camp. All men and women entering paid service had to join the Labour Front and become a member of the compulsory occupational Estates that controlled their particular callings. All Trade Unions and Employers' Associations and all unorganized employees and employers were compelled to join the Labour Front. The Employers were to "lead"; the workers to follow. While the employers forfeited some of their rights as owners they continued to direct the business, were entitled to the profits accruing therefrom and had certain powers conferred on them by the State.

AIMS OF NAZI EDUCATION

105. The chief object of Nazi education was to supplant family influence, secure control of the adolescent mind, and to train the youth of Germany to be blind devotees to Hitler. In his speech of May 1937, Hitler promised to dispose of paternal opposition to his system as follows:

We will take the children away and train and educate them to become new Germans. We will take them away when they are 10 years old and bring them up in the spirit of the community until they are 18. They shall not escape us. They will join the Party, the Storm Troopers, the Black Guards or other

formations, or go into the factories or offices. Later they will do military service. Who shall dare say that such training will not produce a new Nation?

All Nazi schooling was designed to produce a new generation of soldiers and young mothers ignorant of conditions outside of Germany, holding grotesque opinions about other nations and leaders, but fanatically believing in Hitler as the God-sent saviour whom it was their privilege to serve. On Hitler's accession to power the teaching profession was ruthlessly screened and the first qualification for admission to its ranks became the possession of a Party ticket. The resulting shortage of teachers was never quite made good, even by an influx of inferior teachers but the Nazis did not bother about this, merely curtailing the schooling period.

106. The complete mental Nazification of the growing generation is a factor with which we shall have to reckon long after Hitler is overthrown. Every school subject was taught first and foremost from a political standpoint with a political object. A vast number of scientific works were proscribed in 1933 as being contrary to the new doctrine and the writings of learned Jewish authors were publicly burnt. In their place new textbooks had been issued which presented everything - history, literature, even mathematics and science - from a racial standpoint, designed to glorify Germany and to train the children to become unthinking followers of Hitler in the coming conquest of the world. Two songs had been always sung, not merely as patriotic ditties, but as a profession of faith - "Deutschland Uber Alles" and another the last line of which was "Heute gehort uns Deutschland unter morgen die ganze welt" ("the world will be ours to-morrow as Germany to-day"). Any attempt on the part of the parents in the homes to inculcate any other principles, Christian or democratic, was vigourously checked. The children were ordered to report to the authorities if their parents made the slightest criticism of the official doctrine, so that an atmosphere of fear, suspicion and mutual distrust often grew up in families where formerly the greatest affection prevailed. Parents were ordered to answer, when asked by the children, "To whom do we really belong"?, only "You belong to Hitler". Nazi education was designed to turn the male youth into fanatical warriors, and the female youth into no less fanatical mothers of a further generation of fanatical warriors.

RE-ORGANIZATION OF GERMAN YOUTH MOVEMENT

107. On our arrival the whole Nazi Youth Movement had been dissolved. It was agreed that while Youth Movements came properly under the Educational Branch, their activities were largely concerned with those of Welfare and our section found it desirable to have some cooperation from the few democratic youth movements which had not been nazified. The programmes of these movements were carefully studied, screened and considered by the Military

Government before they were allowed to carry on. The two chief groups allowed to continue were "The Falcor" and "The Greater Dortmund Youth Movement". It was specified by the Military Government and understood by the Youth Movements that former leaders of Hitler's Youth, members of the N.S.D.A.P. and affiliated organizations as well as ex-officers of the Wehrmacht and police were to be excluded. The avowed purpose of both groups was to gather working people of all races and religions and educate them to be good citizens of a democratic State. They hoped to awaken in the young working people all the positive elements of character, decency, dignity and a taste for beauty. Friendship, cooperation, gallantry and solidarity were accepted watchwords.

108. One of the main problems was to find rooms for their clubs, as space was very restricted in the district. They asked for the release of the Youth Hostels, which were numerous in Westphalia, but they had been requisitioned for the Evacuees from Poland, and usually the movements had to find their own accommodation. The Youth Movements asked to have a representative on the Provincial Welfare Committee but this request was refused by the Educational Branch at 918 Military Government, who supervised both movements.

109. In September 1945, 80 boys and girls met in Dortmund to form the first circle of the Falcon Movement. This organization, founded in Vienna in 1928, had seen its activities reduced to a minimum during the Hitler regime but had retained its democratic principles and had always been respected. The Falcons were supported by the Social Democrats and had the advantage of keen and capable leaders. Their weakness was a tendency to act high handedly. They proposed to teach democracy through work and play but disapproved of ball-room dancing at their meetings and political discussion among members under 18. They asked Welfare for many items: musical instruments, games of all kinds, literature and text books, material for carpentry, hiking material. A request to be allowed to wear coloured uniforms, flags, etc, was refused partly because of shortages but also because it seemed a possible start for a para-military organization. The Sunday before Christmas 1945, The Falcons presented a "Sunday Morning Music Concert" with the Youth Music Band and young actors of the municipal theatre, which was attended by over 800 people. During the Christmas Season they distributed hand-made toys and all kinds of biscuits to several thousand destitute children. Some groups had made doll theatres and arranged doll-plays for the children. The Falcons had worked prodigiously for their Christmas programme and had raised enough funds to pay their expenses. The members were very enthusiastic about the help given by the British Red Cross and seemed very happy. This was not strange for Youth Movements had been always popular in Germany, even before Hitler set up his elaborate programme.

110. The Greater Dortmund Youth Movement, the chief rival of the Falcons, was founded by the leaders of a group which had been absorbed by the National Socialist Welfare in 1933. The programme of the Greater Dortmund was more

serious and up-to-date than that of the Falcons. They insisted that no youth in their movement should be bound to the politics of any party, but that all should work at the important task of preparing the way for a new democratic form of life. Their groups met twice a week and studied music, arts, languages and foreign affairs. The Greater Dortmund Youth Movement was in the organization phase and their activities were somewhat limited but with the passage of time both organizations may help to form a good German democratic youth. It will be pretty hard for certain young Germans to lose their mentality of superiority even among their country-men. Both Military Government and British Red Cross were surprised at the progress made in so short a time.

111. There was considerable tension between the movements; The Greater Dortmund Youth Movement claiming that The Falcons were using their organization as a training ground for party leaders. Inquiries made by the Military Government into the matter declared that the claims were unjustified but special instructions were issued by the Military Government to keep a close check on the activities of all Youth Movements. This supervision was later turned over to the British Red Cross when they started to work in the Zone.

112. The Catholics and Evangelical Churches had not asked permission from the Military Government to reopen their Youth Movements when I left. Caritas Verband had opened a camp near Munster, where over 4,000 youths from the Wehrmacht had been sent to be re-educated in Church principles and democratic ideals. There were a few of these camps in Westphalia and the churches had really done some good work there. Both Churches were very suspicious of these new Youth Movements fearing that they might detract from the work of the Churches as Hitler's Youth had done before the War.

FURSORGE (PUBLIC ASSISTANCE RELIEF)

113. Public Welfare programmes in Germany included all governmental activities for the prevention and treatment of dependency, neglect, delinquency, crime and physical and mental handicaps. It also embraced the various types of assistance, such as general assistance, work relief, assistance to special groups and the new types of aid made necessary by the war. The legal framework for all public welfare was provided by the Constitution of Weimar Republic. The two basic laws of public welfare remained under the Nazi Regime and formed the framework within which welfare work was carried out although changes had been made since 1933 in regard to administrative centralization and the conception under which it was extended. The treatment of the needy was no longer determined by the individual's need but by the value of the individual to the community as judged by the National Socialist Standard. The Nazis had centralized welfare so they could control it more easily. The State and District welfare agencies had charge of public assistance on the basis of the Third Tax Emergency Order of 14 Feb 24. Their resources consisted

of Federal contributions made on the basis of budgetary allocations of the proceeds of certain taxes, etc, and subsidies from the Reich, the States and communities.

114. Upon our arrival, special instructions were received from the Finance and Property Control Branch of Internal Administration and Communication Division of Control Commission Germany, that the German Provincial Welfare should continue to pay the existing rates of relief until further notice. Military Government would not issue new rates until a survey had been made of the money in banks and of how many people were working or unemployed. Heavy industry had been destroyed or paralysed when we arrived, and trade was almost at a complete standstill. To check the black market and to prevent the cost of living from rising unduly, Military Government established a price control board for food, housing, etc. Nearly 50% of the population of the Ruhr area was receiving relief, and the lack of housing facilities and the offers of Allied soldiers to buy certain luxury goods made inflation a real danger. The ordinary fursorge rates during the Nazi regime had been as follows:

- | | | | | | |
|--|-------|------------|-----------|---|---|
| (a) Man and wife | 40 | Reich Mark | per month | | |
| (b) Child over 16 | 20-25 | " | " | " | " |
| (c) Child under 16 | 15-20 | " | " | " | " |
| (d) Rent | 50 | " | " | " | " |
| (e) The local relief official could make additional allowances for food, fuel, light and clothing repairs. | | | | | |

Rates of fursorge were formerly dependent on the standing of the individual in the Nazi Party; disabled S.S. and soldiers' widows getting the highest rates. A small family in a country village could receive more money than a big family in an urban centre, if they were good Nazis. In fact many members of the Party had never worked, receiving a special rate of fursorge as salary. A searching inquiry had been made by the Military Government into the rates paid by the fursorge and it was decided to establish a "Means Test". Previous deduction of a special tax on working people and on those who had a specified income was made to maintain the fursorge.

115. Military Government in the British Zone was trying to produce a balanced budget, from provincial estimates and fursorge requirements would take one-eighth of the total revenue of the Zone. In every province there were variations in the rules governing the payment of fursorge and the committee wished the provinces to submit proposals for:

- (a) a minimum universal rate of fursorge,
- (b) the maximum amount which any individual might have in property, invisible or visible assets, and still be eligible for fursorge.

The Provincial Welfare authorities were given three weeks to submit these facts and figures. It was understood

that there could be no modification of a fixed rate and while the different provinces had different conditions to take into account, Westphalia fixed a sum necessary to purchase food allowed on the ration cards and a little over for other non-rationed purchases. The existing rate for an adult was 30 to 40 Reich Mark per week and 20 for children per week. Questionnaires were forwarded to every Military Government detachment for the German officials to fill in the present rates. Special rates were suspended forthwith and only the regular rate was to be paid until further notice. See Appx "D"

116. A month after the sending of the "Means Test" to German Officials, reports began to come in and they were checked by our branch, a copy kept for our records and the others sent to Public Welfare Branch at Internal Administration and Communication Division for further consideration until a minimum and maximum rate could be approved by Control Commission. German welfare authorities reported that there had been no recrimination at the reduction of the rates among the population. It was the policy of the Control Commission, Germany, that the rates in the Ruhr should be raised and those in the rural district decreased because of the cost of living and the destroyed areas. In the rural districts undamaged towns got the same rates as rural districts. Towns such as Munster, Paderborn, etc, which had been completely destroyed were to receive the same rate as towns in the Ruhr.

VICTIMS OF NAZISM

117. In the fall of 1945 a few ex-inmates of concentration camps had formed a Wiedergutmachtung Komitee (Restitution Committee for the ex-victims of Nazism) with their Headquarters in the City of Munster and branches in other cities. The members of the new association were all persons, who had been in concentration camps, Jews, priests, half-Jews or Germans who had been imprisoned because they listened to the B.B.C., carried out espionage or sabotage, deserted the Wehrmacht or made contact with foreign persons. Their claims may have been justified but they seem to have used Welfare as camouflage to form a new political party. The committee had been operating for over a month, without the knowledge of the Military Government, and some members of the committee had already expelled German families from their homes, taking possession of their furniture and personal belongings for their members with a special identification card, and although the only identification card recognized by the Military Government and the Military Authorities was the one issued by the German Civilian Government approved by the Military Government, the president of the committee had declared that his cards had been approved and recognized by the Military Government as identification cards. A special paragraph was written at the bottom of the card saying that the bearer of the card had priority on food, clothes, fuel, housing, positions, etc.

118. We were warned of these activities by the British Field Security Section in Munster, for many German families had complained to the Section and a few of their members had been summoned to the Security Officer for information and when asked for their identification they had produced their membership card saying that the Welfare Branch of the Military Government had approved of it. We at once denied this and had the members brought to our branch for further questioning. We warned them that these cards were worthless and I summoned Herr Kunz, the president of the committee, and warned him that practice of issuing cards must cease forthwith and the committee be dissolved. They had been promising all kinds of impossible things to their members. Two German Ps.O.W. working in a labour unit had been told that on application to their Officer Commanding with their membership cards they would be discharged from the Wehrmacht at once. See Appx "E"

119. The committee levied no fees but the directors appeared to have blackmailed the German officials to finance their movement. We found out after inquiries that these directors had been known as dangerous politicians before 1933 and the Nazis had taken no chances with them. One of them, a member of the old political party before 1933, had joined the Nazis and made a collection amongst the old party members saying it was for their old party to fight Nazism. He brought his collection to the Nazi officials, where a check proved that he had kept half of the money. He was sentenced to 12 years in a concentration camp.

120. A few weeks later, their representative in Dortmund presented an application to form a local Restitution Committee under the Military Government. In the meantime, we had received a confidential letter from our Headquarters in Bunde that soon a Zonal Policy - No. 20 - was to be released for ex-inmates of concentration camps and the formation of the Special Kreis Assistance Committees. I explained to Herr Geboni the special procedure that had to be followed to have his committee approved and pointed out that till he complied with the rules it was impossible to allow the society to operate. After all the warnings he went to see the Oberprasident (The German Governor of the Province) to have his committee approved by the Military Government. The Oberprasident had given him some encouragement but now he found that Herr Geboni was trying to make a political capital from this organization for the provincial elections in the summer of 1946. This was confirmed by the Public Safety Branch who reported after our inquiry that the whole thing was a scheme to form a new political party using welfare as a camouflage. See Appxs "F" - "J"

121. In November 1945 we issued Zone Policy No. 20 - Special Assistance for ex-inmates of concentration camps - with instructions for formation of the Kreis Special Assistance Committees. As this instruction was complicated we were obliged to explain it very clearly to the German authorities. Copies of the instructions were forwarded to every Military Government Detachment in the province, and through the German Civilian

Government under the Oberprasident of Westphalia to the mayor of every city, town or village. A special proclamation was posted all over the province in English and German notifying ex-inmates of concentration camps, etc, that they had a period of two calendar months to present their claims to the Kreis Special Assistance Committee. The German Governmental authorities thought at first that this proclamation was only to apply to those who had actually been in concentration camps, but we explained that it applied to all those who had been victims of Nazis persecutions - those who had been sent to jail or other institutions of confinement as well as their widows, orphans and dependents. For example Herr Gronosky, who for years had been the Oberprasident of the province of Westphalis, was dismissed without pension when Hitler came into power and became completely destitute. This scheme was intended to help those who had suffered, not only on humanitarian grounds, but also to show the Germans that those who had suffered in their opposition to Nazism would be reasonably recompensed. In each Kreis of the province the Burgeirmeister or Landrat was to set up a committee called the Kreis Special Assistance Committee. Military Government was responsible to see that these committees were set up, that every member was fragebogen and screened by the Public Safety Officer of the Kreis Detachment. See Appx "K"

122. A few weeks later, I asked the Oberprasident about formation of the committees only to learn that nothing had been done yet. He stated that he made a special appendix of 20 pages to our Instruction No. 20. When I asked who had given permission to change these instructions he said that this was a German matter. I explained him that the matter was already complicated without making it worse but we forwarded a copy of his appendix to our Headquarters branch at Internal Administration and Communications Division where it was rejected. Other provincial committees had already begun to function so I instructed all our Military Government Detachments that the committees should be put to work forthwith and reports forwarded to our Headquarters.

123. A week later, the Oberprasident came into our office to know if it would be possible to form a Provincial Board of Appeal to revise the decision of the Kreis Special Assistance Committee if the claimant felt the decision of the Committee adverse. I explained that claimants had the right of appeal to the local Military Government Detachment within 14 days of an adverse decision being given. Detachments receiving these appeals could either uphold or reverse the decision of the Kreis Special Assistance Committee. Military Government might intervene on their own authority and quash any decision of the committee without appeal. If the local Detachment found it impossible to give a decision the case should be referred to the Provincial Welfare Branch Headquarters. A few days later, the British Executive Officer for German Control came to my office asking authorization for the Oberprasident to form his Provincial Board of Appeal as the wish of the Commanding Officer. I explained to Major Emck that the

instructions were not political but Military Government rulings and referred his Officer Commanding to our Headquarters in Bunde who refused the local board.

OPERATION OF THE OFFICIAL ASSISTANCE COMMITTEES

124. The Committees consisted of: one legal representative (chairman), one member of the public, one ex-inmate of concentration camp or, in a Kreis where such a person is not available, one person who had actively opposed the Nazi regime or suffered at its hands, or a member of the Kreis nominated council. Our committees operated very well, only two appeals were submitted to our office and they were very special cases. The few members found unacceptable to Military Government were at once replaced. The great question was eligibility for assistance. An ex-inmate of concentration camp, providing that he was not living in a Displaced Persons Camp, was eligible for special assistance,

- (a) if he was a displaced person of undetermined nationality;
- (b) was a displaced person of a state which had remained neutral during the war;
- (c) was an enemy or ex-enemy national who had been sentenced for imprisonment for any one or more of the following reasons:
 - (i) because he offended against Nazi laws or racial doctrines,
 - (ii) because he had religious convictions or belonged to a religious organization which conflicted with Nazi laws or policy,
 - (iii) because he belonged to a political party actively opposed to the Nazis or resisted joining the party.

125. A special clause had been inserted to prevent the following categories from applying for this relief:

- (a) ex-active members of the party;
- (b) mutinous members of the Wehrmacht;
- (c) those detained solely because they had had a sectional quarrel with the Nazi party, e.g. persons detained for being involved, or detained in connection with recent purges of the Nazi Party. (In very exceptional cases Military Government approved Special Assistance for such people.)
- (d) Those who had been detained under the German criminal Laws. (Many persons had

been detained for reasons other than those for which they were officially charged and these persons could apply to Military Government for a review of their cases;

- (e) Those who, while in a concentration camp, assisted in the punishment or persecution of other inmates;
- (f) Those, who, since the occupation, had been tried by a military or civilian court and sentenced to imprisonment. (Persons of this category who appealed to Military Government were judged on their merits and the claims of a person imprisoned for a small matter like a breach of curfew in mitigating circumstances might well be upheld.)

126. Claims were to be made only to the committee of the Kreis in which the applicant normally resided. This made it easier for the committee to verify the claims. The burden of proof of eligibility for special benefits rested with the claimants, whose claims had to be endorsed by one of the following:

- (a) Any British Officer of Military Government serving with a Kreis Detachment;
- (b) German Police Authorities;
- (c) Priests, or Ministers of religion;
- (d) Judicial officials, lawyers, notaries.

As similar organizations had been set up in other zones, it was easy for them to verify the true position of the claimants.

127. A successful claimant was entitled to the following:

- (a) Rations as medium heavy-workers;
- (b) Priority on housing for himself and his family;
- (c) Priority of employment if found fit for work (many came back in such state that they will be never able to work again);
- (d) Financial aid of 50% more than the ordinary Public Assistance Relief Rate, with a reasonable allowance for rent, to apply to the whole family of the claimant. If the claimant refused to work he could be submitted to a Means Test. The duration of relief was 26 weeks. to be continued only after a Means Test unless the applicant proved his inability to work. Persons who qualified and had suffered physical and mental injury of permanent or semi-permanent nature were eligible for an indefinite period subject to annual review.

Statistics showing the number of applications, number interviewed, number awaiting interview and number to whom benefits had been granted as at the last day of the month, were forwarded by the Kreis Special Assistance Committee through Welfare channels to Province level. From there they were passed into British channels and forwarded to Internal Administration and Communications Division (Public Health and Welfare Branch) pending the formation of a statical Bureau at Main Headquarters Control Commission for Germany. For text of Inst. No.20, See Appx "L"

PLANS FOR COMMUNAL FEEDING

128. On 20 Aug 45 a meeting was held at the City Hall of Dortmund for all the Welfare Organizations in the Ruhr District, twelve towns in all being represented. The main problem of this meeting was to find a way to feed people if no coal was to be released to individuals for the coming winter of 1945. They discussed means to establish communal kitchens which could provide a balanced diet of a higher caloric value than family cooking could provide under the present circumstances. A standard of 1800 calories was considered a desirable figure to establish. In the course of the meeting I asked for an outline of the proposals for my personal consideration as I well knew some difficulties which would arise. For example, Military Government had frozen all kitchen equipment for inventory purposes and nothing could be done until release was effected.

129. The meeting approved the appointment of Dr Grosse-Boyman, who had been in charge of communal feeding during the bombing of the Ruhr-Westphalian District, as director with other directors of welfare associations of the Ruhr District and myself as representative of Military Government to assist him. The general plan, which was drawn up and operated by German authorities under Military Government supervision, called for the establishment of public soup kitchens, communal kitchens and field kitchens, the latter being considered important in case of epidemics which might require isolation of large groups. A weekly rate of three and a half Reich Marks was laid down as the official price for meals.

130. The food office were prepared to grant certain additional rations beyond the usual allotments for charitable institutions in a community. The expansion of the public kitchens was possible, but the Germans seemed to be too proud to go to those kitchens for food. The so-called Community kitchens, destined to feed professional people, were more popular than the public kitchens. The heavy and medium workers in the factories were taken care of by the works kitchen under Military Government supervision but there was not sufficient care of the normal consumption rations of the ordinary workers who were without cooking apparatus of their own, or lived too far from their working places. Military Government was asked to give special consideration to the expansion of the community kitchens.

131. On 27 Aug 45 another meeting was held at the City Hall of Recklinghausen where all the representatives of the welfare associations were present. The scheme for communal feeding was submitted by Dr Grosse-Boyman and his welfare associates for consideration by Military Government. A long list of requirements was handed over for approval by Military Government. The most urgent items were cooking vessels, stoves, insulated vessels for food transportation, kitchen installations, fuel for stoves, staff rations, transport, financial requirements, etc. We made a short survey of the situation and decided that in view of the size of the scheme it would be better to delay communal feeding until Military Government had given the matter serious consideration. Meanwhile hospitals and charitable organizations, which had soup kitchens and communal feeding centres for the poor, old, infirmed, and for those having no cooking facilities, should continue their work. To give an idea of the size of the scheme the following excerpts from the requirements are presented:

- (a) 546 Stoves.
- (b) 18,200 vessels for transportation
- (c) 90,000 kilos coal per day
- (d) 182 chief cooks
- (e) 1093 cooks
- (f) 7,500 assistants
- (g) 182 5 ton lorries
- (h) 250,320 kilos of potatoes daily
- (i) 65,520 kilos vegetables.

The weekly expense of feeding 950,000 people per day was estimated at 182,000 Reich Marks.

132. Upon my return to our detachment, I submitted the scheme to the North German Coal Control Branch for consideration. They judged the scheme too big and referred it to the Headquarters of the North German Control Commission for Germany at Essen. There we were told the scheme must first have the approval of the Food and Agriculture Headquarters at Minden, Headquarters for the whole British Zone. I went to Minden and had an interview with the Director of the Food and Agriculture Branch who refused to take the responsibility. Every branch of Military Government seemed to be in favour of it but nobody wanted to place the plan before General Montgomery who alone could have made the decision.

133. I warned the Food and Agriculture and other branches of Military Government that sooner or later this scheme would have to be adopted. As I travelled through the Province, visiting and inspecting institutions, I saw thousands of Germans going to the farmers, buying food and reselling it at black market prices in the big cities. Military Government authorities warned the German Civilian Government of the matter but it was impossible for them to cope with the situation due to the lack of police to watch the roads for delinquents. Rural Districts had more food - in fact certain districts had a surplus of food which they could not export due to the lack of transportation, particularly refrigerator cars to move meat and fish to the urban areas. On 18

Dec 45 a special meeting was held at the Office of the Deputy Military Governor (British Zone), located in the Tax House at Lubbecke, concerning communal feeding for the whole Zone. Representatives of the Welfare and Food and Agriculture Branches from every province in the Zone were present. It was agreed that communal feeding could be adopted better on a local than a Zone or Provincial basis. It was recommended for the most seriously damaged Ruhr areas where domestic cooking facilities had been largely destroyed. Any scheme for a larger area was abandoned. There was a great lack of containers so I made a plea that all Wehrmacht field kitchens be released as soon as possible for communal feeding. Special fuel allowances were made by the North German Coal Control Commission and Welfare Organizations were notified of the procedure to obtain extra fuel for this purpose. See Appx "M"

134. In spite of those local efforts food calorie values decreased steadily all winter until by April 1946 they had fallen to between 1,000 and 1,200 calories per day. When I left Germany early in April 1946, Military Government was still seriously considering plans to put the communal feeding into operation. If this scheme had been adopted in the early stage of occupation, the German food calories need never have fallen to 1,000 calories a day. Both food and fuel would have been used more economically and the people would have benefitted.

135. As a result of our reports to the North German Coal Control Commission Headquarters at Essen a fuel allowance of 75 kilos of coal per month was allocated to each member of each family in the Ruhr District. Later it was decided by Internal Administration and Communications Division of Control Commission for Germany that fuel allowances for Institutions should be made by Public Health and Welfare in each Province, through the German Coal Control Branch, at Provincial level. The allocation was 75 kilos of coal per month for each bed in each institution. Requests for coal were to be made through the Landrat of each Kreis and forwarded to our Branch for approval. Rural towns and villages were getting their fuel from the woods located nearby.

SCHOOL FEEDING

136. On 15 Jan 46, a special meeting was held at the Headquarters of the Food and Agriculture to discuss school feeding which had become one of the most urgent problems in our zone especially in Westphalia and Hamburg. The meeting wanted to increase the ration by 300 to 400 more calories to 2,000 per day for many children had so little resistance that they had been unable to attend. The scheme was to be operated jointly by Educational and Welfare Branches of the Military Government. Welfare was to provide all cooking apparatus and fuel, and Education to arrange for food to be imported from England and sold to the German provincial authorities for schools only. It was to be resold to the German scholars at a very low price.

DISTRIBUTION

for action: 229/305 P Mil Gov Det, Hannover
307/308 P " " " Munster
312/806 P " " " Kiel
714/719 P " " " Dusseldorf
609/610 L/R " " " Hamburg
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Copies to:

1 Corps District (MIL GOV)
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30 Corps District (MIL GOV)

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137. We visited Colonel Wilson, R.C.O. at 1st Corps, in charge of all the captured stores, to get captured cooking apparatus for this purpose. Special authority was granted to have all the cooking apparatus from Salvage Depot released to German Welfare Organizations. Thousands of thermos vessels were needed to transport food from the central kitchen in each town to the schools and special permission was granted by the Hardware Section of Industry Branch to requisition German hardware firms to manufacture as many as we needed for our scheme. This scheme worked fairly well for 400,000 scholars who had schools to attend. Most of the original buildings in the big towns had been destroyed by air raids and any available structures or huts were being used as schools. School children between the ages of 6 and 12 were given 400 calories a day and those between the ages of 12 and 16 500 calories above their regular rations. At first the supplementary calories consisted of milk and biscuits, later a good pulse soup with meat stock every morning for six days a week. Our branch worked closely with the Educational and food and Agriculture Branches. German welfare organizations were in charge of feeding in the schools: Caritas Verband for Catholic Schools, Innere Mission for Protestant Schools, Arbeit Wohlfahrt and German Red Cross for other schools. The teacher of each class was responsible for the health of the children and was instructed to avoid waste and to see that each child had got the share that he had paid for. In the beginning, a weekly inspection of the school kitchens was made jointly by Education and Welfare Branches. Later it came under the supervision of the German School Authorities for the Province. The International, British Swedish and Swiss Red Cross had undertaken the task of feeding children until they reached school age. See below paras 148-9.

138. Early in February 1946 I visited Econ 6 (Food and Agriculture Branch), Headquarters for the whole Zone, about the shortage of milk in our province. The Colonel in charge explained that there was plenty of milk in the province but the farmers had no containers to send it to the cities and used it to feed the pigs. There were millions of pounds of butter in storage but no wax paper or containers to put the butter in. There were no jars or containers for millions of pounds of marmalade so they had the German prisoners of war clean millions of glass mines of their explosives and used them as containers. To add to our worries early in February 1946 we had the Weser River flood, which inundated the valley and destroyed millions of tons of food.

RED CROSS SURVEY OF THE SITUATION

139. At the beginning of September 1945 Mr. J.C. Wood of the British Red Cross Headquarters at Vlotho was attached as liaison officer for the Province of Westphalia to the Public Health and Welfare Branch of our Detachment. His mission was to make a survey of the existing conditions in the Westphalian Ruhr in view of possible deployment of British Red Cross teams in the

area. Before his departure for the Ruhr district, Mr. Wood had contacted every director of each German welfare organization to get personal views on the existing conditions, and letters of introduction to their representatives in the Ruhr. For two weeks he had gathered information and studied the situation on first hand. Previous reports to the British Red Cross Headquarters had pointed out the gravity of the Ruhr problems and asked for assistance. Mr Wood's report indicated 1,250,000 persons living in twelve towns where the houses were between 24% and 74% destroyed or damaged, people short of coal, clothing, drugs, transport and seldom getting their full rations. The general situation of the civilian population had improved a little since our arrival; German welfare organizations had really done good work in taking care of those institutions but there was also the general civilian population to be taken care of. The Officer Commanding of our branch, Lt-Col Rea, recommended that the first teams should concentrate on the Ruhr towns, which were not surrounded by rural areas and where the population was entirely dependent on the effectiveness of the local authorities and Military Government to supply their needs. Dortmund, Bochum, Gelsenkirchen, and Hagen had been selected as the four worst towns in the district. In the more rural communities private enterprise would prevent the greatest hardships.

140. The following notes on the general situation in the Ruhr appeared in both reports.

(a) Coal: Coal was the keystone of relief. Unless coal was made available in much larger quantities for essential services, town authorities said that they could not carry on. At the Constantine Mine, Bochum, there were 180,000 tons of coke and 70,000 tons of coal at the surface but it could not be touched because it was allotted for reparations to France, Holland and Belgium. Military Government commanders had tried every appeal but still could not get coal released even for essential services.

(b) Housing: The situation was desperate - many were living in cellars and air raid shelters unsuitable for the coming winter. The following remedies were suggested: Intensive reconstruction, temporary dwellings (nissen huts, etc) from Army sources, or evacuation to country districts. There were plenty of trees in Germany and lumber was available but there was no transportation. The Forest Section of the Food and Agriculture Branch had a winter scheme for cutting trees in the German forests to make wood for the summer of 1946 but that did not help now.

(c) Hospitals: Many had been destroyed or badly damaged with consequent loss of equipment. Usually there were not enough beds to accommodate current cases comfortably let alone to maintain a reserve against epidemics.

It was difficult to get drugs and dressings, sufficient staff or enough ambulances and general transport.

(d) Mass Feeding: (See also para 128-35) The scheme of mass feeding of 1,360,000 people per day was still under discussion when Mr Wood's report was presented. If carried through this would have saved a large percentage of the coal which was issued to individuals for cooking. Against that apparent saving were the considerations that home-cooking warms a room, family life is maintained, long queuing-up is avoided and meals are more palatable. Communal feeding was recommended for certain classes of people: transient and needy people, people with no home cooking facilities or employed away from home and the sick, aged and crippled. Communal kitchens were already in operation in many towns for these groups.

(e) Mass Evacuation: The idea of mass evacuation of the towns was looked on with dread by the urban dwellers. "Better die here than to be the slave of a farmer" was their expression. Mary agreed to the wisdom and the need of evacuation, but said it was not for them. There lingered a distrust of their own officials and both German evacuees and refugees told us about the toughness and wickedness of the German farmer.

141. The following directive for the information of Red Cross teams was presented to a meeting of the Public Health and Welfare Branch, the British Red Cross liaison officer and the Detachment Commanders.

- (i) The needs of the big towns in order of immediate priority are:
 - (a) coal
 - (b) building materials
 - (c) assured food supply
 - (d) clothing
 - (e) medical supplies
- (ii) In view of the resources at our disposal the teams' most valuable contributions would be transport for:
 - (a) collection of food for hospitals and communal kitchens
 - (b) Hospital ambulance service
 - (c) collection and delivery of building materials for repairs
 - (d) visiting establishments
 - (e) evacuation of children and aged persons
 - (f) assistance to German Red Cross Search Bureau.
- (iii) Liaison must be maintained between German charitable and welfare organizations and Military Government.

- (iv) Full reports on conditions and developments must go to Headquarters to keep the public informed.
- (v) Mass feeding must be supervised as well as the distribution of the British Red Cross supplies (dried milk, etc) if such supplies are allowed to be distributed.
- (vi) It was up to the individual members to develop their particular sphere and, if necessary, personnel would be reshuffled to ensure that only those who were really keen to do German relief work were so used.

142. At this stage it would be absolutely useless to send teams of Relief workers only. Except in Bochum no group said that they needed help in looking after children; they had plenty of suitable personnel for that job. The driving and maintenance of vehicles was a much more valuable service but a difficulty arose from a B.A.O.R. order that no women of the Allied Forces could drive unaccompanied. Two ambulances doing 24 hour shift would require at least three men or six women so fifty per cent of the teams should be male. The teams were warned that conditions would be tough and that they must be prepared to accept bad billets, long hours and heartbreaking work with no thanks from those they were trying to help. The ability to speak German well was most important in working with Germans who do not want charity or condescension, but do appreciate willing cooperation. Mr Wood said in conclusion:

Mere repetition of such words as "Desperate plight", "intolerable conditions" will not serve to drive home the fact that unless large scale measures of relief are undertaken hundreds of thousands will be left to die among the ruins under which their families still lie buried. I believe the municipal authorities when they say they can only carry on another two months under the present conditions.

143. The following recommendations were forwarded to the British Red Cross Headquarters, to Public Health and Welfare Branch Headquarters at Internal Administration and Communications Division, Control Commission Germany and all other branches concerned for their information:

(a) One team of British Red Cross should be sent as soon as possible to each of the following towns: Dortmund, Bochum, Gelsenkirchen and Hagen.

(b) Lt-Col Rea, Officer Commanding of Public Health and Welfare Branch at our Headquarters would be notified of decisions taken by the British Red Cross.

(c) Lt-Col Rea would notify Stadtkreis Military Government Commanders as to the terms of reference under which teams would work, i.e. directly under Public Health and Welfare Branch at Provincial level and at Regierung Bezirke Detachment in conjunction with German welfare authorities.

(d) Lt-Col Rea would send a representative from each team with a written signal from 307/08 Detachment to the Town Majors concerned in time to prepare accommodation for teams.

RED CROSS HEADQUARTERS AND ORGANIZATION

144. Lt-Col K.M. Agnew, D.S.O., M.C., was the Commanding Officer of the 30 British Red Cross teams and also Chief Supervisor for the International and Swedish Red Cross teams, in the British Zone. The Headquarters, stores, equipment and supplies for the British Red Cross in the field were located in the small town of Vlotho, on the River Weser, near Bad Oeyenhausen, the Headquarters of B.A.O.R. International Red Cross, who had ten teams in the zone, also had its supplies and stores there. Mr. Burckhardt, who had been one of the Secretaries of the League of Nations, was appointed director of the International Red Cross for the British Zone and worked under Col Agnew.

145. International Red Cross supplies were transported by rail from Switzerland to Vlotho under the protection of the Allied Forces. The Swedish Red Cross Headquarters and supply stores were located in the small town of Lubecke, situated on the Baltic Sea, where they received their supplies from Sweden by ship. They had five regular teams working in the British Zone and a special team to show to the Germans how to assemble and erect portable metal huts. An agreement had been signed between the Red Cross Societies and the B.A.O.R. for the purchase of fuel and oils and the repair and maintenance of their vehicles. This saved shipping space and eliminated the danger of fire. The teams in our zone could feed 25,000 children one bowl of soup six days a week for an indefinite period. They had over 200 tons of supplies at Lubecke for the whole zone to begin with. It was wonderful to see the British, Swedish and the International Red Cross teams work with the German Red Cross like one big family. The Red Cross Societies could not do all the work but they furnished the goods and the preparation and distribution was done by the German Red Cross and other welfare organizations. The collaboration between these organizations was simply grand. By 1 Mar 46 the Province of Westphalia had 12 British, one International (Don Suisse) and two Swedish Red Cross teams so we had the situation well in hand.

WORK OF THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS

146. The International Red Cross, besides taking care

of the German population with its Red Cross teams, had a special staff to distribute parcels of food, drugs, etc, amongst the Allied Displaced Persons living in German camps. Millions of parcels of the Allied Red Cross Societies, which had been forwarded to the Allied Prisoners but not delivered at the end of the war, were brought to Germany for distribution. Often I wrote to the International Red Cross requesting sets of clothes for Displaced Persons living in German towns and each time the clothing parcels were accompanied by a parcel of food. It also dispensed most of the drugs and surgical apparatus for the Displaced Persons Camp Hospitals of all kinds. The Red Cross Societies had gained the esteem and admiration of Military Government, the Army of Occupation and the German Welfare Organizations but won the hearts and respect of the German population through their devotion and charity. Displaced Persons also thought highly of the Red Cross for they were never refused help when they were in trouble. The Red Cross teams had esprit de corps, discipline, understanding and charity. It was marvelous to see teams of different countries and languages working with a spirit of Christianity, charity, kindness knowing that the reward for their humanitarian work might be only ingratitude. Many of them told us that most of the Germans had been very grateful to them for their work.

147. From what we saw in Germany it would have been better to give the handling of the Displaced Persons and Refugees to the Red Cross Societies instead of to U.N.R.R.A. This was not only my personal opinion - it was shared by many Military Government personnel who felt that U.N.R.R.A. had been the greatest failure of all the Allied organizations in occupied Germany. The Allied Armies - American and British - took care of the repatriation of the 3,000,000 people of Western Europe, but U.N.R.R.A. claimed through the European Radio in the fall of 1945 that they did the job. I had in Munster, in my office, documents and files which would prove that the repatriation was done by the Allied Armies for the Western people and for a part of the Eastern people. U.N.R.R.A. came too late in the summer of 1945 to take charge of the Displaced Persons camps, the bulk of the repatriation being already done. It was known amongst the occupation troops as the political "Tower of Babel of Europe".

WORK OF BRITISH RED CROSS

148. Early in November 1945 the first four British Red Cross teams arrived in the Ruhr district to be stationed in the towns of Dortmund, Bochum, Hagen and Gelsenkirchen. Many Red Cross workers realized the seriousness of the situation only when they arrived, never having believed it could be as bad as they had been told. As it was impossible for the teams to be billeted in the centre of the towns they were quartered with Military Government for temporary accommodation, later being billeted in the outskirts of the towns. The teams had some early dif-

difficulty in getting organized because of shortage of storage space but these conditions were soon remedied. Medical and Health centres and food centres for children, mothers and babies were opened in different sections of each town, under the supervision of the teams and with personnel of the German welfare organizations. Children were brought weekly to the clinics where German doctors and nurses gave medical examinations and dispensed medicines free. Special care was given to expectant and nursing mothers, children and babies. The most serious problem was infant mortality due to the lack of milk. The German Red Cross had suggested that all babies should be breast fed until conditions improved. If a mother's milk was too poor for the baby the child was handed over to a wet-nurse or a breast-feeding mother who had lost her child. This system worked very well and saved thousands of lives among the babies. A special feeding system was adopted by the British and German Red Cross for the mothers. All kinds of diseases were treated in the clinics and serious cases were sent to the hospitals for further treatment.

149. Centres were also opened in the different towns where food was distributed to children under the care of the welfare organizations but supervised by the British teams. If the child was too sick to come for his food, a doctor's certificate entitled the mother to collect it. At the beginning, the Red Cross teams had at their disposal 200 tons of Pacific Packs for the Ruhr district in addition to their other stores and supplies. The British Red Cross had all kinds of difficulties in the setting up of the food centres but these were overcome quickly with the cooperation of Welfare Branch of Military Government.

150. The work of the Red Cross teams did not consist solely of the care of the sick and needy with medicines or food but also supply the German population with materials for sewing circles where old clothes could be repaired and new ones made. Sewing machines were supplied by the Red Cross Societies and sewing clubs organized in every district. These were very much appreciated by the Germans because they had been short of sewing materials for some time. At first there was a serious lack of German Red Cross workers for many of those with experience had been dismissed by the Military Government for their Nazi activities. This was in part overcome by the loan of apprentice workers from Caritas Verband and Innere Mission welfare organizations.

151. As most of the German Red Cross vehicles had been taken over by the fire service, their ambulance service was practically non-existent and they warmly welcomed the arrival of other Red Cross ambulances. Since the funds of the German Society had been frozen by Military Government their operating funds were almost entirely obtained from the "Tariffs" on transporting patients in their ambulances and they wished to see patients carried in B.R.C. vehicles on their behalf similarly charged. This appears here to be on standard practice except in the case of emergencies for the D.R.K. (German

Red Cross) was spending considerable sums of money on their Search Bureau personnel and their first aid posts. The former rendered innumerable services to the German population, thousands of children having been recovered and brought back to their families by this organization. They also had a group working with the British Military authorities in charge of all the German Prisoners of War.

152. The two British Red Cross teams stationed in the city of Dortmund could provide 1000 calories daily for about 5,000 children. The British Red Cross contributed to the development of one of a Malt tonic designed to supply the vitamins lacking in the local diet. This tonic which was prepared with the help of the chief chemist of the world famous Brewery at Dortmund, had a high caloric value and was both nourishing and palatable. The teams were in constant contact with the German Hospitals and the welfare organizations, and besides all their ordinary welfare work they were in charge of the youth movement in each town.

WORK OF SWISS RED CROSS

153. The Swiss Red Cross teams operated in the Cologne-Aachen district. Their ten supervisory units in the British Zone had 10,000 children to be fed 1,000 calories per day for 100 days and 5,000 babies to get one-half liter of milk per day for the same period. Each unit had 30 tons of supplies to start with including 100,000 metres of cloth of all kinds, 100,000 metres of underwear material, ten sewing circle huts for 20 women each and 20 to 30 sewing machines. They operated self-contained kitchens and feeding centres, all cooking apparatus and supplies being furnished by Military Government.

WORK OF SWEDISH RED CROSS

154. To relieve the housing situation in the Cologne-Aachen districts the Swedish Red Cross had brought over 10,000 dismantled huts from Sweden. The huts were made of light metal, were wind and rain-proof and quite comfortable. Eight thousand of them were set up in Cologne where the need was most acute. The huts which could be assembled and set up in four hours, had four large bed rooms with three double deckers in each, a large dining room, a kitchen and a bath room. A few of these huts were set up in the town of Gladbeck. More were suppose to arrive during the summer of 1946.

SOME REPORTS ON RED CROSS

155. The following extract from the minutes of a meeting of the German welfare organizations and the Red Cross Societies held in the town of Gladbeck on 8 Feb 46 may be of interest. The meeting included represent-

atives of the German welfare organizations operating in the town with one British and three Swedish Red Cross representatives. The chairman, Dr Wenning, expressed his heartfelt thanks to the representatives of the Swedish Red Cross in the name of the welfare organizations stating eloquently that at the distribution centres every one had seen the happy faces of the children. Distribution of food was handled by two Swedish vehicles and one town vehicle. Benches were still lacking in certain distribution centres, but these could be procured later. The girls helping the centres were asked to bring ladies to help them in their work because they had no experience. The centre of Kamhowe was too small for over 400 had to be fed there. As there was no other possibility for feeding the children at the Rosenhugel, the representative of the Red Cross teams agreed that for the time being the children could take their food from Kamphowe to their homes. Cleaning materials for the centres could be hardly provided by Red Cross so the German hostesses would have to look after the cleaning themselves.

156. The following account of a regular monthly meeting of the British Red Cross teams and the Public Health and Welfare Branch of Military Government at 918 Military Government at Dortmund provides further illustration. The meeting was under the chairmanship of Major Battersby, supported by Capt LaBrosse and Miss Torr, the British Red Cross Liaison Officer for the Province of Westphalia. Every team commander was there to present his monthly report of activities, requirement in supplies and stores and the situation in the local hospitals, the local food situation or the efficiency of charitable organizations. These meetings were as a result of a decision that the German welfare organizations should deal with the local Red Cross team in their district. If the local team could not deal with any matter it could be referred to Provincial Red Cross Liaison Officer who would refer the matter to our Provincial Welfare Branch. All such requests were brought up at the meeting and when we returned to our detachment we handed them over to the branches concerned for their consideration and approval.

GENERAL SITUATION IN WESTPHALIA, JANUARY 1946

157. The following paragraphs are taken from a report on the general situation in the Province of Westphalia at the beginning of 1946 prepared for Headquarters of Public Health and Welfare Branch Internal Administration and Communications Division Control Commission Germany.

158. Our observations of the general state of health and nourishment, of clothing, heating and accommodation indicated great distress and misery, not only among the transients and evacuees but also among the long-settled population. Moreover the Province of Westphalia had been assigned between 800,000 and 900,000 refugees from Poland who were soon to arrive. Even the

admirable efforts of the British, Swedish and International Red Cross, the Vatican and friendly countries could not change things much. The distress in the Rheinisch Westphalian industrial district might well produce a real catastrophe in the form of an epidemic although Public Health and Welfare Branch had taken precautions by reserving hospitals with food and medical supplies, which could be put in operation complete with personnel on 24 hours notice. Mortality among adults on account of tuberculosis, pneumonia, and other diseases, was largely caused by continued poor nourishment. The Germans calorie intake had been very low in the two last years of the war, especially during air raids when they often missed regular food and sleep. They were short of medicines and remedies especially sulfonamid, medicines for the heart and circulation, insulin and vitamin preparations such as Cod Liver Oil.

159. Rationing had prevented waste and abuses but the distribution in calories was still below living standard, especially with regard to fats and eggs. While the German officials realized the world food situation, many citizens thought that we wanted them to die of starvation.

160. Existing stores of manufacturing works had been almost completely destroyed, and since the towns which did the knitting were in the Russian Zone, it was virtually impossible to get fabrics. The Germans thought that there was enough wool in England for export to Germany. It was curious that they could not realize the world situation on food, clothing and other commodities; they could not believe that Canadians were rationed for food, or that the English needed coupons for clothes. They expected help instead of the misery the war had brought.*. Even in the Ruhr where bomb damage was probably the worst German welfare organizations reported that their scheme for mass evacuation to the rural districts had been refused by the urban population of the destroyed towns. Consequently the expellees from Poland were sent to the small towns and villages.

EXPELLEES FROM POLAND

161. British Military Government had agreed with Poland that the German expellees could bring with them 25 kilograms of their belongings - clothing, cooking utensils, etc - but reports to our branch every day stated that they were arriving without even baggage. The representative of Evangelical Hilfswerk reported that many had lost all their possessions even having their luggage looted on the train. This matter was reported by our branch to Major-General G.W.R. Templer (Director of Military Government and Control Commission Germany). It was found that the Poles often had not allowed the Expellees to bring their cooking utensils, bedding, etc, and finally guards were put on trains to protect the Germans from being looted. It is feared that individual Poles did not respect the Governments' agreement not to molest the refugees.

* There was no civil disorder during the winter of 1946 in Westphalia but Mil Gov had prepared precautionary instructions which appear as Appx "N"

PROBLEMS OF CLOTHING

162. In the summer of 1945, 1st Corps ordered a clothing levy amongst the German population in the Province of Westphalia and the British Zone. This was supervised by the German Provincial Welfare. Teams were organized to make a house to house collection and also a clothing centre set up in each ward where the people could bring their old clothes. From these collecting points the garments were taken by lorries to a central depot where they were sorted in different categories. The levy was made for the Displaced Persons spending the winter in Germany, the Expellees from Poland, evacuees and the local indigent. A quota set by Military Government was never reached. Most of the Displaced Persons who had been in Germany for years were in rags so we had to dress them warmly for the coming winter even at the expense of the Germans. Only five per cent of the clothing levy was allocated to the German population, and the situation was further complicated by the arrival of the 1,500,000 German Expellees from Poland. Welfare Branch Headquarters at Bunde reported that stores of clothing from the levy had all been allocated, and that there was no central bank on which provinces could draw. Provinces could only use their own assets and such clothing as they could persuade outside sources to send them. Many times at welfare meetings German organizations protested indirectly against the clothing levy. My answer always was that they brought the Displaced Persons here to work for them and they must care for them. The German Clergy often replied that the Nazis had brought them to Germany more for political motives than labour, most of them never worked during their stay and the German citizens had had to take care of them.

163. As the stores of the Wehrmacht had been impounded by the Allied Control Commission nothing could be released until inventory was complete. At the beginning of the release of the Wehrmacht it was impossible to dress the Ps.O.W., but later each releasee was given a double outfit. The worst shortage of clothes was in the Ruhr District where Displaced Persons, Russians and Poles had completely looted the district before our arrival. During the crossing of the Rhine by the Allied Forces the population of the Ruhr District had been evacuated to small villages and towns in the East and South. As raw materials for clothing had been destroyed by air raids and railway communications were badly damaged, it was impossible, for the present, to manufacture goods even in the factories which were intact. There were a few big textile factories in the town of Wuppertal and a few in the small towns of the Munster area. All the main textile factories were located in the Russian Zone.

164. Late in the fall of 1945, the textile factories re-opened their doors under the supervision of Military Government and began to produce. In February 1946, Military Government began the release of clothing through the Landeswirthschaftsamt at Warendorf for the Province of Westphalia. Requests for the release of fabrics were

made at the local Military Government of the town or country in which the applicant lived. Many small German factories had been caught making ladies silk dresses, underwear and slips for the Black Market and some items had been traced to ladies' wear stores in Brussels.

165. Our branch had asked America to find all the needles and thread they could lay their hands on and forward them to our Headquarters for there was an acute shortage of material for mending clothing. The British Red Cross offered to help in securing sewing materials from England. After the distribution the German welfare organizations thanked us but said it was not enough to handle the situation. Welfare organizations requested Military Government that all production be earmarked for refugees, expellees, young children and householders who took refugees. There was a big demand for shoes for the released soldiers from the Wehrmacht. Growing children, children's homes and orphanages were in the greatest need. There was no proper range of sizes and lack of leather for repairs kept the shoe-makers and cobblers idle. In the city of Paderborn, Caritas Verband established an exchange store for barter of clothing and footwear. If you wanted a pair of shoes you brought a hat in exchange. This store did wonders in the town but not enough to relieve the situation. Many willing social workers were without shoes and in a few cases we had shoes released to them so they could help. Requests by the welfare organizations for the release of the Wehrmacht stores were refused because the soldiers were judged to have a priority there.

ASSISTANCE FROM OTHER COUNTRIES

166. The first stores from abroad came from Sweden, Switzerland and Ireland. The Swedish items were earmarked specifically for the relief of Berlin but the Swiss and Irish gifts were handed over to Mr Burckhardt and Lt-Col Agnew of International and British Red Cross respectively, for the Ruhr, Hamburg, etc. The first boat from America did not arrive till May 1946. The Portugese Red Cross arranged to ship supplies to Germany and the Icelandic Red Cross was sending large quantities of cod liver oil through the Swedish Red Cross. The Friends Relief Service in America were buying and sending large amounts of medicines and meat in soup form to Germany, also via Sweden.

167. In view of the diverse sources of supply and possible large quantities involved, a central office was needed to which requisitions for assistance could be sent and from which allocations could be made according to available supply. Such an organization was the more necessary because only districts that were well known abroad were receiving gifts while there were badly damaged districts not so well known and receiving nothing. Moreover, rural areas by now were also getting crowded with refugees. We notified the welfare organizations that all sources of supply should be reported to Military Government and that no more gifts would be accepted for specific places but distributed on the basis of need and need

only. A central organization was formed to deal with all incoming gifts. This body would try to send gifts to the selected areas but would make sure that there was no duplication. All interested organizations were to inform potential sources of assistance that the gifts must be consigned to the British Red Cross, Headquarters 5, Vlotho or Public Health and Welfare Branch, Bunde, Province of Westphalia, British Zone, Germany, with a notice of despatch to the addressees and a copy to the secretary of the distribution committee, so that arrangements could be made with the port authorities. Evangelische Hilfswerke was put in charge of all the incoming stores for all welfare organizations. At first there seems to have been a little suspicion on the part of other organizations but it was clearly explained by Military Government that the incoming stores, food, clothes, etc were for every one who was in need no matter what his religion, creed, race or colour. Eventually they were satisfied with this arrangement and co-operated fully.

SOME NOTES ON THE SITUATION

168. At the beginning of March 1946 the situation had improved somewhat, thanks to the work of the Red Cross teams and the German Welfare organizations in collaboration with Military Government. Much to the surprise of the Germans, there had been no epidemics of any serious nature during the winter. What we feared most was influenza, because it would have affected so large a proportion of the population but precautions had been taken to meet it. Public Health and Welfare had requisitioned hospitals in every district which in case of emergency could have been in operation on a few hours alert and serums, vaccines, drugs, etc, had been requisitioned or imported from England to provide against any eventuality.

169. Different branches of Military Government had already begun to manufacture clothing, stoves, cooking apparatus, etc - even Volkswagen had re-opened their works and were manufacturing cars for Military Government. Slowly but surely things were coming back to normal. Only those, who had seen the dreadful conditions of the Ruhr district upon our arrival, could tell you the value of the work done by Military Government and Control Commission for Germany. Most of the public utilities had been restored to normal in the Ruhr district, and street cars were running normally although the copper wire for street car trolley had been removed by the Nazi Government to make fuse caps for bombs and new wires had to be installed by Military Government.

170. In the farming districts food was in sufficient quantity to feed the local people, but not enough to send to the big centres. People living in cities and towns located in rural districts, such as Minden, Bielefeld, Paderborn, Detmold and Munster did not have great difficulty in obtaining food from the farmers in the surrounding district, but those in the Ruhr areas who were miles away from any farmer, had to rely entirely on rations and welfare sources.

171. British, Swedish and Don Suisse Red Cross teams had brought clothes to be distributed amongst the Ruhr population and a certain amount was reserved for the Expellees from Poland. These people arrived in our Zone

denude of their personal belongings by the Poles and the Russians. I saw and heard many pitiful cases. This welfare work was not very merry - all day long trying to find solutions, sometimes possible, other times impossible, to relieve those unfortunates of their miseries. To our office came all the nationalities in the world, one day a Chilean and a Venezuelan woman, both of whom had been in a concentration camp for the duration of the war. Both were repatriated to their countries through the Foreign Office in London. I helped to arrange the family affairs of many Frenchmen, who had been living with German women during their exile. A typical case was a Frenchman from Limoges, who had four children by a German girl and wanted to marry her. It was arranged through Military Government for the mother and children to go to France for the legal and religious wedding. We had many similar cases among Belgian and Dutch Displaced Persons.

172. Our Welfare Branch cared for both Germans and Displaced Persons. When the latter were unable to get satisfaction from U.N.R.R.A. they usually came to our branch to get help. The Red Cross teams worked day and night, always with a smile and a good word for every one, often donating their sweets and cigarettes to the unfortunates. I worked in very close collaboration with all the Red Cross teams in our province so I know their devotion to their work. German welfare organizations cooperated 100% with the Red Cross teams. When we saw them at work you could never believe there had been a war.

NOTE

The remaining paragraphs of this report present the personal activities and opinions of Capt La Brosse. It was felt that they might be more accurately expressed in French.

RAPATRIEMENT AU CANADA

173. Au mois de Janvier 1946, une lettre circulaire des Quartiers-Généraux de l'Armée canadienne nous avertissait que tous les officiers, sous-officiers et soldats canadiens, détachés au gouvernement militaire britannique, seraient rappelés dans un bref délai et que, le 30 Juin 1946, tout le personnel canadien devrait être rentré en Angleterre pour rapatriement au Canada. Ceux, qui désireraient s'engager à la Commission de Contrôle Britannique d'Allemagne, devraient être licenciés en Angleterre avant le 30 Juin 1946. Dans la lettre circulaire, il était bien entendu que même ceux qui avaient demandé de prolonger leur appointment auprès du gouvernement militaire jusqu'au 30 Juin 1946, pourraient être rappelés à quelques heures d'avance. See Appx "O"

174 Mercredi le 3 Avril 1946, l'officier en charge du personnel de notre détachement m'annonçait que j'étais rappelé à l'Armée canadienne et que je devais me présenter à ses Quartiers-Généraux de Londres le 10 Avril 1946. La date du départ fut fixée au 9 Avril 1946; ceci me donna très peu de

temps pour mettre ordre aux affaires urgentes de notre service ainsi que pour emballer et expédier mes malles au Canada par l'intermédiaire de l'officier expéditeur britannique détaché à Munster. Mardi le 9 Avril 1946, je quittais Munster pour le Hook, Hollande, d'où je m'embarquais le soir, à bord d'un bateau de permissionnaires pour Harwich, Angleterre. Mercredi le 10 Avril, nous entrions en gare, à Londres, tôt dans la matinée; dès mon arrivée, je me présentais aux Quartiers-Généraux de l'Armée canadienne pour ré-affectation, où l'on m'enjoignait de me présenter au bureau militaire des archives canadiennes, situé à Acton. Le major Hunt, officier de permutation en charge de la liste "Q" (officiers, sous-officiers et soldats canadiens, prêt Canada, détachés pour toutes fins utiles, sauf la solde, aux armées alliées) fut très surpris de mon arrivée, car d'après la correspondance, j'aurais dû être permuté de Munster à Bunde. On m'accorda une permission de quinze jours et un mandat de transport pour un séjour en Ecosse. Dès mon retour le Major Hunt m'offrit de rentrer en Allemagne jusqu'à la fin de Juin 1946; je refusai du fait que mes malles avaient été expédiées et que la période de séjour était trop restreinte.

175. Pendant ma permission, je fis la connaissance du Major C.A. Brisette d'Edmonton, détaché à la Section Historique de l'Armée canadienne out-mer, et je lui fis part de mes intentions d'écrire un exposé de la situation telle que je l'avais vue en France, en Belgique et en Allemagne. Il me dit que je devrais communiquer avec le Colonel Stacey, Directeur de la Section Historique de l'Armée canadienne à Ottawa dès mon arrivée au Canada. Après quelques semaines d'attente au camp-étape no 4, (Huron), nous nous embarquons sur le paquebot Isle de France, qui quittait Southampton le 7 Mai 1946 pour amarrer à Halifax le 13 Mai 1946. Dès mon retour au pays, on m'accorda une permission de trente jours après laquelle il fallait me présenter de nouveau au dépôt du district militaire no 4 pour affectation future. Durant ma permission, j'avais écrit à la Section Historique, leur faisant part de mes intentions d'écrire pour le Département, un exposé de la situation en France, en Belgique et en Allemagne, durant mon séjour aux Armées Américaines et Britanniques. Dès ma première visite à Ottawa, j'exposai mon projet au Lt. Col. Lynn-Grant, officier d'administration de la Section Historique, qui parut très intéressé. Quelques jours plus tard, je recevais l'ordre de me présenter à la Section Historique pour accomplir mon travail sur cet exposé, avec documentation à l'appui.

176. L'expérience et les connaissances acquises, en qualité d'officier d'administration civile et du gouvernement militaire, me firent constater, avec regret, le manque de connaissances qu'avaient les forces combattantes alliées, sur la Convention de Genève et sur la convention internationale régissant les lois et coutumes de guerre, sur terre, en pays libérés et en pays conquis. L'ingérence erronée de certains jeunes officiers supérieurs des forces combattantes alliées dans l'administration civile et le gouvernement militaire, aurait pu créer des situations très fâcheuses et embarrassantes. Chaque officier d'administration civile et du gouvernement militaire était un spécialiste dans son attribution, ayant suivi des cours d'état-major spécialisés en cette matière soit à Wimbleton, Charlottesville, ou Kingston. Les officiers canadiens, spécialisés au cours d'état-major du Collège militaire royal de Kingston, avaient acquis des connaissances plus approfondies sur les questions européennes, en particulier sur la question allemande qui était primordiale, en comparaison

des officiers combattants des Nations Alliées et même des officiers anglais et américains en cette matière. A maintes reprises, j'eus l'occasion de vérifier, durant mon séjour en pays libérés et conquis, la supériorité des cours d'état-major du Collège militaire royal de Kingston avec ceux des autres Nations Alliées.

177. Au gouvernement militaire provincial de Westphalie, sept services sur douze furent attribués à des officiers canadiens; de plus plusieurs officiers canadiens furent désignés pour remplir les fonctions de commandant de détachements de districts très importants. Les officiers canadiens, qui occupèrent des postes d'état-major remplirent leurs attributions à la grande satisfaction des autorités du gouvernement militaire britannique. Cependant, chaque fois qu'il y avait une nomination à un grade supérieur, on se gardait bien d'appointer un canadien. Plusieurs d'entre nous ont occupé la fonction d'un grade supérieur sans promotion ni rémunération. Après le rappel des officiers canadiens, nous étions remplacés par des officiers britanniques qui étaient promus au grade requis par le service.

178. La conduite, la négligence de la tenue, le langage vulgaire, et la discipline des troupes combattantes alliées laissaient parfois beaucoup à désirer en pays libérés et conquis; ils croyaient que tout leur était permis dans les cabarets, cafés et même dans la rue. Le trafic du marché noir par les troupes et les civils avait créé une inflation non-justifiée des prix et rendait la tâche de l'administration civile et du gouvernement militaire encore plus ambiguë. Maintes plaintes furent portées par la population civile qui nous faisait remarquer que l'armée d'occupation allemande était mieux disciplinée et plus respectueuse des droits civils que les forces combattantes alliées, ce qui était des plus regrettable, mais, parfois, malheureusement trop vrai. Les maladies vénériennes disséminaient les troupes, causant plus de victimes que les V-1 et l'ennemi au front. Une campagne d'éducation et de prévention avait été entreprise par les Corps médicaux des armées alliées pour enrayer le ravage causé par la prostitution et en prendre le contrôle. La coopération apportée en cette matière par les autorités civiles en pays libérés était des plus négligeable. La conduite répréhensible des armées de certains pays continentaux laissait beaucoup à désirer dans leur pays et encore plus en pays d'occupation où l'on se croyait roi et maître et où l'on ne respectait aucune convention militaire et internationale.

179. L'indiscipline de certaines troupes alliées en pays d'occupation a été bien néfaste à la cause alliée car l'allemand, connaissant notre faiblesse pour le beau sexe, se disait que ceci amoindrirait la sévérité de l'occupation. Plusieurs officiers britanniques, qui avaient fait l'occupation de l'Allemagne après la guerre de 1914-18, disaient que c'était la même histoire qui se répétait. L'éloge doit être fait des troupes britanniques et canadiennes ainsi que du gouvernement militaire en Zone britannique de l'Allemagne.

180. En France, la population civile ainsi que les autorités françaises semblaient ignorer les sacrifices que

s'étaient imposés les Nations Alliées, pour envahir le continent et libérer les pays conquis. Quelques temps après notre séjour en pays libéré nous avons constaté avec regret le mécontentement de la population civile qui croyait que, dès notre arrivée, elle serait ravitaillée en vivres, vêtements et autres commodités de tout genre. On ne semblait guère croire au rationnement des Etats Unis et du Canada, ni particulièrement à celui de l'Angleterre. Ce fut avec tact et patience que l'administration civile réfuta cette propagande anti-britannique de non-rationnement en Angleterre, lancée par les armées allemandes d'occupation lors de leur retraite.

181.- La position des officiers alliés d'administration civile en pays libéré était des plus délicate; chaque fois que nous avions l'occasion de causer avec la population civile, on terminait toujours la conversation par la politique française, qui était, au temps de la libération des plus épineuse pour nous à discuter. La population était toujours mécontente. Chaque fois que l'on affichait une proclamation, on entendait des murmures et parfois des commentaires fort désobligeants et même blessants envers les forces alliées et leurs gouvernements. On s'imaginait que dès la libération, tout leur serait permis: pillage du butin de l'armée allemande qui avait été laissé en France, vengeance politique et personnelle, enfin, que l'on ne travaillerait plus parce que l'on avait trop travaillé pour les allemands. A peine libérés, les Français critiquaient déjà le gouvernement provisoire de France qui faisait tout en son pouvoir pour libérer le pays; ils parlaient de la semaine de 36 heures et de l'élection d'un nouveau gouvernement. La cinquième colonne disséminait la discorde parmi la population par toute sorte d'histoires et de racontars sans fondement, qui rendaient la tâche des autorités civiles françaises plus difficile. L'individualisme français se montra sous son vrai jour, ne voulant accepter aucune discipline dans ces heures graves de libération.

182. Les observations tirées de mon séjour en pays libérés, (France et Belgique), et en pays d'occupation (l'Allemagne), me firent constater le manque de collectivisme dans la nation canadienne. Les deux seuls pays Européens ou l'esprit de collectivisme et de discipline existe sont l'Angleterre, d'une façon modérée, et l'Allemagne, d'une façon extrême. Le manque de connaissances du peuple canadien sur la question internationale, devrait être remédié dans les écoles primaires et secondaires du pays. Si les peuples connaissaient mieux les besoins des différents pays et se visitaient davantage pour se comprendre, les guerres deviendraient moins nombreuses. L'individualisme qui existe parmi les différentes nationalités habitant le Canada, devrait disparaître et faire place à un esprit de collectivisme canadien, sans question de race, de nationalité, de religion ou de croyances. Le manque de collaboration entre les gouvernements provinciaux et le gouvernement fédéral et vice-versa, crée toujours une certaine animosité. Tout en respectant l'Acte Britannique de L'Amérique du Nord, tout canadien devrait travailler à l'unité canadienne. Outremer, ce que l'on entendait parmi nos troupes était "Canada ici, Canada là": malheureusement, depuis le retour de nos troupes, tout semble être oublié.

183. Il est inconcevable de constater dans un pays comme le nôtre, que les différents partis politiques semblent s'ingérer à diviser le pays pour régner; ceci nous conduira tôt ou tard à des conséquences terribles et fâcheuses. Le collectivisme devrait primer l'individualisme. Devant l'instabilité de la politique internationale présente, le Canada devrait être prêt à faire face à toute éventualité. Les luttes intestines telles que les grèves et la lutte des classes, etc, avaient affaibli les Puissances de l'Ouest du continent européen. L'Allemagne en profita pour semer la discorde et se renforcer à leur dépens. La propagande allemande, qui était des mieux organisée, avait créé un esprit de défaitisme qui existait au moment de la déclaration de la guerre de 1939-45, et qui aida fort à la reddition et à la chute de ces pays. L'Allemagne savait que pour régner, il fallait diviser et c'est ce qu'elle fit en France, en Belgique et en Hollande. Il ne faut pas oublier que nous n'aurons pas toujours quatre ans pour nous préparer et pour repousser l'ennemi chez lui. Si nous ne sommes pas prêts les conséquences et les suites seront terribles et désastreuses pour les peuples et les pays. Dans un pays comme le nôtre où le climat varie considérablement, nous devons être préparés à faire face à toute éventualité.

184. Les quelques observations que je me suis permis de faire, ne sont pas dans le but de critiquer mais bien de construire et de parer aux malheurs qui pourraient nous arriver si nous n'étions pas prêts. Le Canada, étant devenu une puissance internationale, doit garder et améliorer sa position au prix de n'importe quel sacrifice.

(J.E.G. LaBrosse) Capt.
for Colonel,
Director Historical Section

HQ/2684 (Sec P)
22 Nov 1945

Zon/PI (45)

Main H.Q. Control Commission for Germany (British Element)

Zone Policy Instruction No 12

22 November 1945

Reactivation and Control of Private German Welfare Societies
(Die Freie Wohlfahrtspflege)

1. General

The "Battle of the Winter" and the influx of an unpredictable number of refugees into the British Zone has made the resuscitation of German Welfare Societies a matter of first importance. It has therefore been decided that the following private societies shall be resuscitated at the earliest moment:

- (1) Deutsches Rotes Kreuz
- (2) Caritas Verband
- (3) Innere Mission
- (4) Hauptausschuss f. Arbeitwohlfahrt

2. German Welfare Societies

- (a) Deutsches Rotes Kreuz (DRK). This Society had been greatly used by the Nazis during the present war and became for all purposes a para-military organization. All holders of offices, even to the level of Platoon Leader, were ipso facto Party members, and as such will require careful screening. Therefore, it is to be early understood that there is to be no compromise on the denazification of the DRK. Higher ranks must be removed and be replaced by approved personnel, and great care is to be taken even over leaders of lower rank before they are approved.

During the war DRK's chief function was the transport of casual ties, civilian and military, throughout the Reich and the Society should be used to assist in the distribution of refugees to Kreis from the Dispersal Camps in various RBs.

They also possess a competent nursing service and may be used to provide staffs for assisting German M.O.'s at all stages during the handling of the refugees.

British Red Cross teams will also be working in the British Zone and where feasible DRK might well be employed under British Red Cross supervision.

Welfare of Jews will be the special care of the DRK until it is possible to form a Jewish Welfare Organization.

- (b) Caritas Verband and Innere Mission. These Societies, the former of the Roman Catholic Church and the latter of the Evangelical Church, are to a great extent in working order, their activities embracing every sphere of welfare-social, religious and scholastic, medical and catering for all ages from the cradle to the grave.

Their elaborate organization down to Gemeinde level is such that these two great Church organizations may well prove to be the keystones to the whole problem of relief communal feeding and refugees, during the coming winter.

Owing to their strong church attachments they have resisted the influence of Nazi ideology to a greater extent than any other welfare society in Germany, and should therefore receive every assistance from the Military Government so as to increase their efficiency before the winter sets in. They should also prove a strong bulwark against Nazi underground activity among the working classes and refugees.

- (c) Hauptausschuss Fur Arbeitwohlfahrt. This was originally founded by the Socialist Party in 1919 and through the period 1919-1933 built up a nation-wide organization (in 1931 there were 35 district committees with 2,600 local committees).

The Society was dissolved by the Nazis in Oct 1933 and its property and funds confiscated, most of these finding their way into the coffers of the Nazi Party Welfare Organization. (NSV).

3. Policy

The policy which will be put into effect by P Det and L/R Det commanders is as follows:

- (a) To revitalize those Private Welfare Societies which have a sound democratic or religious basis, e.g. where well established before 1928.
- (b) To afford maximum assistance to such societies during the ensuing winter.
- (c) To eradicate all taint of Nazi ideology from these societies and to ensure that they are run in accordance with the principle of Military Government.
- (d) To ensure that no differentiation of treatment is made due to race, colour, religion or creed in the activities of these Societies.
- (e) To form at Provinz, Land and Regierungbezirk levels, Welfare Committees comprising the following Societies:

Wohlfahrtsamt
Caritas Verband
Innere Mission
Deutsches Rotes Kreuz
Arbeiterwohlfahrt

and such other Welfare Societies and their branches as have a Provincial standing.

4. Formation of Welfare Committees

In forming welfare committees, Military Government Detachment Commanders will observe the following points:

- (a) The Provincial Committee will include one member of the Jewish Faith who will represent his co-religionists who have not yet got a central organization. All the committees recommendations will be submitted for approval to the specially appointed officers, pending the appointment of welfare officers at P and L/R Dets (see para 7 below).
- (b) Committees at Kreis and Gemeinde levels will follow the pattern of the one described in sub-para 3(e) above.
- (c) All members of committees at each level will be submitted to Counter Intelligence staffs of appropriate formations for vetting.
- (d) Any society applying for reactivation and membership of the Welfare Committee will be submitted to CI at P Det level for investigation.
- (e) The names of any former NSV officials whose employment is considered essential in any society must be submitted to CI at appropriate level but every endeavour will be made to avoid the employment of ex-NSV members.

5. Function of the Committees

- (a) The function of these committees will be to co-ordinate private welfare activities within their appropriate sphere, and to submit through Military Government channels such proposals and recommendations as they may agree to be for the good of the German people in conformity with Military Government policy.
- (b) The committees besides dealing with what might be termed routine matters, will automatically provide a most useful body for the co-ordination of relief etc. measures amongst refugees.

6. Co-ordination

Owing to the wide sphere covered by these four societies it is obvious that their activities will impinge on many different functions of Military Government Welfare Officers (or until these are appointed the specially designated officer, see para 7 below) should therefore act as liaison and co-ordinating officers between the various functions.

7. Supervision

The supervision of these societies is vital to the success of many plants made to combat famine and disease, and pending the posting to P and L/R Dets of Welfare Officers, P and L/R Commanders will designate an officer to be responsible for the activities of these societies.

Signed: J. Templer
Major-General
Director of Military Government

Distribution

For Action

1 Corps District (Mil Gov)
8 " " (" ")
HQ British Troops Berlin
For information HQ, 30 Corps District

229/30 P Det Hannover
307/08 P Det Munster
312/806 P Det Kiel
714/719 P Det Dusseldorf
609/L/R Det Hamburg

CONTROL COMMISSION FOR GERMANY (BRITISH ELEMENT)

I.A. & C. Division MIL GOV Instruction No 27Functions and Status of Welfare Officers

In view of the forthcoming increase of Establishment of P. H. Branches and the inclusion of a Welfare Section, it is considered desirable that a definition should be given of Welfare activities, and of the Status of the Section within the P. H. set up.

STATUS(a) H.Q. Level

Welfare Section is an independent Section of Public Health Branch in I.A. & C. Division.

S.O. 1 Welfare is responsible for technical matters to Director General of Public Health Branch and through him to Chief I.A. & C. Division.

(b) The Provincial Welfare Officer

S.O. 11 Welfare is responsible for the efficiency and general supervision of all German welfare within his province, except Youth Welfare which is the responsibility of Education Branch, and Social Insurance which is the responsibility of Man Power Division. To assist him in his work he will have on S.O. 111 at Provincial H.Q. and one S.O. 111 at each L/R Detachment.

S.O.'s Welfare are under command of, and are the technical advisor to the 'P' Detachment Commanders, whom they will keep informed of all Welfare Matters.

On technical matters Staff Officer III at L/R Detachment will report through S.O. 11 P. Detachment who in turn will report direct to S.O. 1 Welfare at H.Q., Public Health Branch.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF PROVINCIAL WELFARE OFFICER

1. He will see that all Military Government Instructions to Welfare Authorities and/or Societies are carried out.
2. He will be responsible for the supervision of the Wohlfahrtsamt at his level, and will recommend to the appropriate authority on removal officials if found to be inefficient and non-cooperative.
3. He will see that all Welfare Committees authorized by Military Government are formed and functioning efficiently and will whenever possible attend such Committee meetings and satisfy himself that Military Government policy is being put in force.
4. He will collect and forward all returns called for by Headquarters for Control Commission for Germany and see that the German Authorities furnish information correctly and up to date.
5. He will exercise overall supervision of these Private Welfare Societies who are members of the P. and L/R Welfare Committee and ensure that they render such returns each month as may be required by Military Government.
6. He will maintain the closest possible liaison with all Divs/Branches on whose field Welfare activities may impinge.

INTR/62038/1/PH

To: Distribution as below:

Subject: I.A. & C. Div Mil Gov Instruction No 27

The following remarks are sent in the hope that they may assist temporary Welfare Officers in what is admittedly a task for those with little or no previous experience of this work.

It is particularly stressed that Welfare Officers should look on Headquarters as a source of help and should refer any matter of difficulty to us, so that every help can be given.

We are making every effort to secure a Special U.S. Army publication on this subject, which is without doubt the best book ever published in German Welfare.

These will be sent around to all officers as soon as they are received at Headquarters. Visits to Headquarters by P Detachments W.Os. will always be most welcome.

Para 3 of Responsibilities of Provincial Welfare Officers enjoin the attendance of Welfare Officers at the Welfare Committee meeting at their appropriate level.

In this connection the following points are stressed.

1. The German Committee should be ordered to submit a copy of the agenda for your approval at least 4 days before the meeting.
2. Two copies of the minutes should also be forwarded to you (both in German and English) after the meeting, one of these for onward transmission to Public Health Branch, Control Commission for Germany (BE). Further a copy should also be sent to the local Regierungsamt in the case of L/R Committees or to the Praesidium in the case of Provincial Committees.
3. Any points arising from these minutes which have more than a Provincial interest will be extracted by S.O. 1 Welfare at Headquarters, C.C.G. for inclusion in the Zonal Agenda.
4. Periodic and unannounced visits should be paid to Kreis to see how the special committees for ex-inmates of concentration camps are functioning. Considerable opportunity exists in these committees for favoritism and for Black Market activities, so that they will need careful watching. Welfare Officers are responsible for the supervision of the Wohlfahrtsamt i.e. the office responsible for the payment of Public Assistance to those unable to work.

At the moment rates of P.A. are frozen throughout the British Zone pending the issue of new scales. This matter is being pressed forward but work is of necessity slow since many factors have to be considered, viz. cost of living, amount of damage suffered locally, income exemptions of participants, method of raising P.A. funds contribution from Reich budget etc.

The absence of Zonal rate may be causing some local hardship but this is unavoidable.

The following documents should be in possession of every Welfare Officer and steps should be taken to secure personal copies for constant reference:

Zone Political Instruction No 12
Zone Political Instruction No 13
Zone Political Instruction No 20

I.A. & C. Division Military Government Instruction No 27
with Appendix "A"

I.A. & C. Division Military Government Instruction No 14
Technical Manual Public Welfare (Military Government).

British Red Cross have received permission to work with the German civil population and will now be able to send experts to assist in organizing local German Welfare. B.R.C. Liaison Officer will be attached to P Detachments and application for teams should be made to them. The B.R.C. officers can be of immense assistance in many un-official ways and Welfare Officers are strongly advised as they are all trained Welfare Workers and possess wide experience of work in N.W. Europe.

The closest liaison must be maintained with all other functions as Welfare possesses so many ramifications that there are few functions of Military Government which do not come into the picture at some time. The more obvious have been listed on the Appendix to Instruction No 27 but it will be found that other functions will crop up from time to time.

Great care must be taken not to put it on the preserves of other functions-e.g. Child Welfare - this is an Educational Branch responsibility whilst the Wohlfahrtsamt may have something to say on the non-educational aspects, the responsible office is now the Jugendsamt. Any points which may require action should therefore be referred to Education and Welfare and should not take action on these now.

D. Wolfe-Murray
Lieut. Colonel
S.O.1 Welfare
Public Health Branch

DISTRIBUTION

WELFARE OFFICERS (PH)

307	P MIL GOV Det	Munster
714	"	DUSSELDORF
312	"	KIEL
229	"	HANNOVER
609	L/R	HAMBURG
808	"	KOLN
318	"	DUSSELDORF
227	"	AACHEN
507	"	MINDEN
121	"	DETMOLD
917	"	ARNSBERG
110	"	WARENDORF
616	R.B.	SCHLESWIG
613	"	AURICH
604	"	OSNABRUCK
611	"	STADE
504	"	HANNOVER
914	"	HILDESHEIM
120	Land	BRAUNSCHWEIG
821	"	OLDENBURG

Subject: EVACUEES AND REFUGEES

To: Oberprasident

From: 307 P Military Government Detachment

1. Six copies of Control Commission for Germany (EE) Zonal Policy Instruction No. 10 of 26 Nov 45 are forwarded for your personal attention. This instruction deals with the machinery to be provided by the German local administration for the handling of Refugee movement.
2.
 - (a) The number of German evacuees and refugees who must ultimately be received in Westfalen is not at present precisely known.
 - (b) An interzonal Exchange of Evacuees is now in progress. Under this scheme, it is estimated that Westfalen will receive 450,000 Evacuees some 100,000 of them have already arrived. It is very doubtful whether more than an insignificant number of persons will be repatriated out of Westfalen under this scheme.
 - (c) Plans for acceptance into the British Zone of 1,500,000 German refugees from Poland are in course of preparation. Under this plan, it is estimated that approximately 500,000 must be accepted in Westfalen. This plan is due to begin in December 1945 and to be completed in July 1946.
 - (d) In addition to the above planned intakes, Westfalen will be required to accept a proportionate quota of the following classes.
 - (i) Evacuees from the US/FR Zone not included in the head for Interzonal Exchange.
 - (ii) Discharged members of the Wehrmacht.
 - (iii) German Subjects from Austria.
 - (iv) German subjects from Territories of the United Nations.

Movement of population as set up in para 2 above will be effected on an organized basis. Sudden variations in the number of Evacuees and refugees to be received will require quick decisions. The formation of executive Refugee Branches at all levels of German Civil Administration is therefore necessary; this information should be proceeded with at once. All other branches of your administration will be affected and will require to be kept constantly in the picture so that refugees and evacuees may be received in the most orderly and humane manner, and that the burden of their reception may be borne equally by the whole population.

3. A Refugee Branch has been formed at this Headquarters and specialist officer will shortly be appointed at LR/RB Military Government level. It is essential that the closest liaison be established between your branches and these officers at the appropriate level.

4. (a) You will therefore give this matter your immediate and personal attention.
- (b) You will bring this organization into being at all administration level in the Province and the Lander Lippe and Schaumburg Lippe, in consultation with the Landesprasident, at the earliest date and report when this has been completed.
- (c) You will submit by (16 Dec 45) a detailed plan showing the lines on which this organization is being developed.
- (d) You will arrange that a notification of all Refugee Committees at Province, Land, Regierung-bezirk and Kreis level be sent early to the Relevant Military Government Detachment Commander in order that he may arrange, if considered advisable for a British representative to be present.

5. Financial instruction regarding the formation of Refugee Branches and Committees have been forwarded to you and of 307 P Military Government Detachment No ; 307/Fin/1849 of 5 Dec 45.

(Sgd) Col Chadwick
Brigadier
DDMG 307 P Mil Gov Det.

MUNSTER

Local Ext 535

FCD/IM

CONTROL COMMISSION FOR GERNAMY (BE)

I.A. & C. DIVISION MIL. GOV. INSTRUCTION NO. 14

Subject: FURSORGE (Public Assistance Relief)

1. It is necessary to collect certain information as a basis for formulating a new scheme for the administration of the Fursorge (Public Assistance Relief), including revision of the present rates of cash benefits.
2. Pending the introduction of the new scheme it has been decided to freeze all cash benefit payments at the Allgemeine and Gehobene rates in force on the 1st October 1945. You will by now have received a Finance Division Technical Instruction dealing with this subject and with the treatment of refugees.
3. The attached questionnaire should be completed by the local German Authorities or Department concerned; it is not intended or required that 'P' Detachments or lower military government formation should burden themselves with any avoidable labour on this account. Their part may be confined to a general scrutiny of the returns rendered by the German Authorities or Departments to ensure that all questions have been answered.
4. It is asked that the questionnaire may be completed and returned not later than the 30th November, 1945.

I.A. & C. Division

COPY

Bochum 5, Feb 46

To: 307 P. Military Government
Captain LaBrosse

From: Central Committee for the Victims of Facism, Westfalen

Subject: Relief for ex-inmates of concentration camp.

The central committee for the Victims of Facism in the Province of Westfalen greatly appreciate the order of Military Government that for certain groups of former political detainees special compensation and relief shall be granted, we appreciate this plan especially because it shall be the aim of this scheme to help on the grounds of humanity those persons who had suffered in concentration camps, jails, etc, and in order to show the public that the opponents of National Socialism shall be fully acknowledged.

Therefore we agree with the establishments of the special committees which are to receive the applications of the victims and to decide if a person can be acknowledged as a victim of Facism and how their reparation shall be made on the injustice done to them.

But we think, that besides these special committees, existing for months shall be the advisory councils desirable and necessary which are functioning well and were elected by the victims of Facism on a democratic basis. They consist only of former political detainees who really experienced what detention means and therefore are the most suitable persons to advise the applicants and to give any information to the special committees if they desire so. The work of the special committee will not in the least prejudice that of the special committees. The advisory councils are working honorarily and will do their part that unjustified applications will be avoided and justified applications will be submitted in due form with the required records.

But it seems more essential that the central committee of Westfalen Province for the victims of Facism will exist in the future. In the light of the multitude of desires and of the enormous injuries many victims had to suffer, from there will be surely applicants who are not satisfied by the decisions reached by the committee. That would result in a flood of petitions, protest notes, and many will intend hints coming into the offices of Military Government and the Civil Administration. At this stage we consider it the best that all these matters would be handled at first by the central committee of Westfalen Province. And it is the duty of this central committee to try to settle this matter with the complainant and only if they do not succeed in doing so they have to pass the protest note to the appropriate British or German Authorities as far as this is admissible at all.

The variety of the problems and the required individual treatment will bring about many doubts so that even the special committees will be doubtful sometimes how to act principally. It will be desirable that decisions are based on the same principles throughout the Province of Westfalen. In order to meet such dubious cases and the above mention there must be an office which will deal with such dubious cases. For this purpose the central committee will be quite suitable because of their experiences and of their co-operation with the authorities of Military Government. The assistance of the special committee would not only be for the best of the victims of Facism but would mean also a support of the British and German authorities in performing their tasks.

Therefore we suppose that there will be no objections made against the continuance of the central committee which is existing already for half a year.

Signed: Josel Giboni
Siegfried Heimbürg
Kaufmann Klara

HQ/1835/1/Sec P.

ZON/PI/(45)10

MAIN HQ CONTROL COMMISSION FOR GERMANY (BE)ZONAL POLICY INSTRUCTION NO 10 OF 21 NOVEMBER 1945MACHINERY TO BE PROVIDED BY THE GERMAN LOCAL ADMINISTRATIONFOR THE HANDLING OF REFUGEE MOVEMENT1. General

Up to the present time the burden of work involved in the movement of German refugees has been borne by Military Government Officers. In many cases local committees consisting of German officials and members of voluntary societies, have already been set up to cope with the problem. The object of this instruction is to regularise the present situation and to lay down the broad lines on which the German local administration should be instructed to organize the handling of refugee movement which might assume large proportions at short notice.

2. Refugee Committee

Refugee Committees will be formed by the Germans at all levels from inclusive Provinz downwards and will work under the general direction of the German Provincial, L/R and K administrations. Much work will have to be carried out by these committees and a number if not all should be full-time occupations, before large scale movement can be commenced.

It is suggested that a suitable composition of these committees should include representatives of the:-

Finance Department;
 Food " ;
 Housing " ;
 Labour " ;
 German Police;
 Social Welfare Department;
 Youth Department;
 R.C., Protestant and Jewish Churches;
 Public Health Department;
 German Voluntary Organizations;
 Refugees themselves.

It will probably be found that representatives of some or all of these Departments will be unnecessary at the Kreis level, and that the majority of the functions can be performed by the Burgermeister with his staff. Whenever possible the Oberburgermeister, Burgermeister or Landrat should organize and supervise the working of these committees.

3. Responsibilities of Refugee Committees.

The duties which should eventually be laid on Refugee Committees are set out below.

(1) At Gemeinde and/or Kreis

The Oberburgermeister, Burgermeister or Landrat, will be made responsible for:

- (a) the provision of the staff required;
- (b) the collection of information regarding the number of refugees to be evacuated and the number of incoming refugees which can be absorbed;

- (c) the dissemination to refugees of such orders regarding movement or standfast as may be given by British Military Government authorities for the care and control of refugees.
- (d) the establishment of reception centres or transit camps and information offices, for Germans who have been returned to their home areas and for whom no dwellings exist or who are in transit to their permanent homes;
- (e) the collection and despatch of outgoing refugees as directed by Land, RB or Kreis and the reception and dispersal of incoming refugees;
- (f) the provision of the means necessary for the care, shelter maintenance and medical attention required for refugees including medical inspection of out going and incoming persons.
- (g) the release of food, sanitary, medical and clothing stores as authorized by British Military Government for the care and administration of refugees;
- (h) the provision and payment for all goods and services required for refugees.

(11) At Provinz, Land, Regierungbezirk.

The head of the German authorities concerned will be responsible for:

- (a) the provision and payment of the staff required;
- (b) the passing of orders regarding refugees issued by Military Government and the checking and supervision of the execution of such order by the subordinate German authorities;
- (c) the maintenance of statistics and the rendering of information in connection with refugees and existing population required by Military Government;
- (d) the establishment of transit centres for the reception and despatch of refugees and the provision of staff for sorting and documentation of incoming persons.

4. Financial Responsibility

(1) Gemeinden and/or Kreis are responsible for meeting the cost of:-

- (a) Staff required for the duties laid on them.
- (b) Reception arrangements for refugees, including billeting, relief and the provision of clothing.
- (c) Medical inspection of refugees, on evacuation or reception.

(11) Gemeinden will receive a grant of 85% of the costs incurred by them in respect of refugees whom they receive, excluding these normally resident or dependents of residents in the British Zone.

(111) Lander and Provinzen are responsible for meeting the cost of:

- (a) Movement of refugees.
- (b) Establishment of transient camps.
- (c) Billeting, maintenance and medical care of refugees in transit.
- (d) Staff required for the duties laid on them.
- (e) Grants to Gemeinden of 85% of the costs incurred by Gemeinde in respect of refugees whom they receive excluding those normally resident or dependents of residents in the British Zone.

(IV) Lander and Provinzen will receive the following grants from Reich Funds:-

- (a) In respect of grants to Gemeinde under (111) (e) above, 75% of the amount paid by the Gemeinde as relief.
- (b) In respect of payments, excepting those under (111)(d) and (e) above, 75% of the cost falling on the Lander or Provinzen.

These payments will be chargeable against Einzelplan XII (Relief) in the Reich Budget.

5. Supervision and Assistance

- (1) Military Government authorities will render the maximum assistance to these Refugees Committees at all levels, but care must be taken not to endanger their early assumption of the utmost possible responsibility.
- (11) Members of these Refugees Committees, whether permanent or temporarily co-opted, will be screened beforehand.

6. Welfare Committees

Instructions are being issued separately for the establishment at Provinz, L/R and R/B levels of Welfare Committees comprising the following organizations:-

Wohlfahrtsamt
Innere Mission
Caritas Verband
Deutsches Rotes Kreuz (after de-nazification)
Arbeiter Wohlfahrt
and such other Welfare Societies
as have a provincial Standing.

The Refugees Committees will obtain the maximum amount of help from these Welfare Committees as they come in operation.

Signed J. Templer
Major-General
Director of Military Government

Extract 2343
2369

APPENDIX "F"

Public Health Branch
I.A. & C. Division
C.C.G. (BE)
Bunde. B.A.O.R.

Intr/62038/6/PH

11 Feb 46

To Welfare P.H.
Westfalen Region

Subject Formation of Welfare Societies

1. Reference your 307/Wel/PH/379/46 of 7 Feb 46 on above mentioned subject.

Before a society is formed Military Government should be consulted and the following information be submitted.

(a) The name of the society and the composition.

(b) Object and scope.

(c) Names of proposed officials paid and voluntary.

2. Copies of the fragebogens of all officials must be supplied for submission to C.I.B.

3. Other branches concerned should be contacted if warranted, such as Public Relations, etc.

(Sgnd)

Director General.

To 307 P. Military Government Detachment Welfare

Subject; Your inquiry regarding the Restitution Committee,
Giboni, Dortmund.

In reply to my inquiry I have been informed that Herr Giboni had kept contact with the KPD already before 1933 and at the time is again in touch with same. He is told to have been in the concentration camp. The chief committee that has been established by him, is a branch committee of the Union of the Victims of Facism, Berlin. Giboni had submitted to the oberprasident an application for being employed, that has been forwarded to the Military Government. Giboni does not appeal for a position in the Provincial Administration, but for the position of a trustee of the Oberprasident in Bochum. In the opinion of Herr Regierungarat Loppuch, Giboni hopes to obtain the recognition of his committee, when Giboni himself is considered as acceptable to Military Government.

By proxy

(Sgnd) Landeshauptmann Salzmann

13/2/46.

To: 307 P. Military Government Detachment
(Capt. LaBrosse)
From: Provincial Civil Administration
Westfalen

Munster, 14 Feb 46
DOP/1 C 4/15

Subject: Central Committee for the victims of Facism.

1. A central committee for the victims of Facism has been formed for the Province of Westfalen. Its members have been elected by the victims of Facism. Thus the committee is formed on a democratic basis.

2. I have no objections to raise against the establishment of this central committee. It will be able to do a lot of work for the English and German authorities and to help and advise the victims of Facism in certain major matters. My co-operation with the central committee has proved a boon so far.

3. The tasks of this central committee are shown in the enclosure.

(Sgnd)

Mr. Menzel
for the Oberprasident.

Regierungsrat Dr. Loppuch.

Munster 15 Feb 46

Subject Giboni

To-day I had a conversation with Mr. Giboni. He communicated that on Sunday, 17 Feb 46 in Hamburg will be a meeting of the deputies of the organization "Victims of Facism". When I asked Mr. Giboni whether Military Government had allowed this meeting he told me merely the following:

If our committee would be forbidden there will be uproar in Hamburg and in the Ruhr district. And if Military Government will forbid our Conference in Hamburg on Sunday, we shall have our meeting in the cellar.

(Signed) Loppuch.

Regierungarat Loppuch

Munster 15 Feb 46

Subject; Herr Dickmann

Mr. Dickmann told me not long ago that Military Government had shut the Restitution Committee in Munster. But it was intended to form an association for the "Victims of Facism". The list had already been laid out.

The new organization now established in Munster some days ago had invited for a meeting. This meeting however had been forbidden by order of Military Government which progresses in the formation of the association for Victims of Facism now are reached. I could not yet fix it because I did not see Mr. Dickmann in the last days.

(Sgnd)

Loppuch.

MAIN HQ CONTROL COMMISSION FOR GERMANY (BE)ZONE POLICY INSTRUCTION NO, 20 OF 4 DEC, 1945SPECIAL ASSISTANCE FOR EX-INMATES OF CONCENTRATION CAMPSOBJECT

1. To ensure that special benefits and assistance are granted to certain classes of ex-inmates of German concentration camps and other victims of oppression in Germany.

This scheme is intended not only to help on humanitarian grounds those who have suffered, but also for political reasons, to show the Germans clearly that those who suffered in their opposition to Nazism will be reasonably rewarded.

SCOPE OF THIS INSTRUCTION

2. The object of this instruction is to lay down:
- (a) who shall be eligible for benefits under this scheme and the method of qualifying for and providing these benefits;
 - (b) the administrative machinery by which the scheme will operate.

ELIGIBILITY FOR SPECIAL ASSISTANCE

3. The following persons, provided that they are not living in a D.Ps camp, will be eligible for special assistance:-

Any ex-inmate of a German concentration camp, who:-

- (a) is a displaced person of undetermined nationality;
- (b) is a displaced person of a state which remained neutral during the war;
- (c) is an enemy or ex-enemy national and was detained for any or more of the following reasons:-
 - (i) because he offended against the Nazi laws or racial doctrine;
 - (ii) because he had religious convictions or belonged to organization which conflicted with Nazi law or policy;
 - (iii) because he belonged to a political party actively opposed to the Nazis or resisted joining the Nazi party.

Provided that the above categories (a) to (c) shall not be deemed to include any person:-

- (d) who was at any time a member of the Nazi Party, unless he is approved by Mil Gov. as eligible for relief;
- (e) who was confined in a concentration camp solely because he was a mutinous member of the Wehrmacht;

- (f) who was detained solely because he had a sectional quarrel with the Nazi Party, e.g. persons detained for being involved in bomb outrages, or detained in recent purges of the Nazi Party. In exceptional cases, however, Military Government may approve Special Assistance for such people.
- (g) who was detained for an offence which under present criminal law would render him liable to a sentence of not less than (5) years imprisonment without the option of a fine;

NOTE: In many cases persons were detained for reasons quite other than those for which they were officially charged. It may not be possible to disprove the ostensible grounds for imprisonment. Such persons would not be entitled to assistance under this sub-paragraph, but they may apply to Military Government for a review of their case.

- (h) who, while in a concentration camp, assisted in the punishment or persecution of other inmates;
- (i) who, since the Occupation, has been tried by a military or civil court and sentenced to imprisonment.

NOTE: Persons excluded under this category who appeal to Military Government will be judged on their merits, e.g. the claim of a person imprisoned for a breach of curfew in mitigating circumstances might well be upheld.

- (k) who, in the opinion of the Special Assistance Committee referred to below, falls within a category similar in principle to the foregoing categories (d) to (i) or is of known bad character and undeserving relief; provided always that any such a case is immediately reported to Military Government, who may review the case and order assistance.

RE-ELIGIBILITY:

4. Any person who has qualified under this scheme, but has since lost his qualification by obtaining employment, and loses such employment through causes directly attributable to having been in a concentration camp, shall be re-eligible to make an application for these benefits, provided he applies within 14 days of losing such employment.

METHOD OF PROVIDING SPECIAL ASSISTANCE

5. (a) Kreis Special Assistance Committees

In each Kreis there will be established a Committee to be called the "Kreis Special Assistance Committee". "P" Detachments will issue instruction to the Oberprasident for the formation of these committees.

These Committees will consist of:

- One legal representative (chairman)
- One member of the public
- One ex-inmate of a concentration camp, or in a Kreis where such a person is not available, one person who has actively opposed the Nazi regime or suffered at its hands, or a member of the Kreis Nominated Council.

609L/R Det Hamburg will instruct the Burgermeister to set up such number of Special Assistance Committees as are necessary to ensure that applications are dealt with expeditiously.

The Committees will be part of the organization of the Wohlfahrtsamt. An official of the latter will act as secretary and will be responsible for the co-ordination of the work of the Committee.

The Committees will not be paid for time spent in session, but will be reimbursed for their travelling and out-of-pocket expense from public funds.

They will have the power to co-opt such persons as are necessary for the purpose of obtaining expert opinions, e.g. doctors, mental specialists.

(b) CLAIMS

Claims by persons considering themselves eligible, will be made within two calendar months of the date of promulgation of this scheme. Claims will be made only to Special Assistance Committee of the Kreis in which the applicant normally resides. People released from D.Ps camps, hospitals who are known to have been in a concentration camp will henceforth be given a Military Government certificate to this effect. A questionnaire, to be filled in by applicants, is attached as the type of form which should be used. Copies printed in German, will be distributed in due course.

(c) VERIFICATION

Onus of proof of eligibility for special benefits rests with the claimant, whose claim must be endorsed by one of the following:-

- (i) Any British Military Government Officer, serving with a 'K' Detachment
- (ii) Polizeibehorde (Police Authority)
- (iii) Priests, Minister of Religion, judicial official, lawyers, notaries or other responsible officials.

If the necessary data for proof are submitted to the Special Assistance Committee, but verification is required from elsewhere, the following procedure will be adopted:-

- (iv) If verification can be obtained from within the British Zone, the Special Assistance Committee will communicate through the Kreis Wohlfahrtsamt direct by civil post with the Committee in the Kreis from which it is desired to obtain verification;
- (v) If verification is required from the Russian Zone, U.S. or French Zone, the Special Assistance Committee will communicate through the Kreis Wohlfahrtsamt direct by civil post with the Kreis authorities in the Zone concerned.

(d) APPEAL

Claimants will have the right of appeal to the local Military Government Detachment within 14 days of an adverse decision being given. Detachments receiving the appeals, will, after investigation, either uphold or reverse the decision of the Special Assistance Committee. Military Government may intervene of their own motion and squash any decision of the Committee without appeal being made.

(e) FALSE STATEMENTS

Any claimant knowingly making false statements either to the Kreis Special Committee or to the endorser of his claim in an endeavour to obtain these benefits will be liable to prosecution under Military Government Ordinance 1, Article 11.

HELP TO BE GIVEN

6. Assistance and benefits will be granted as follows:-

(a) FOOD

Successful claimants will be fed as medium heavy workers. Instructions on the ration scale to be issued are being sent to Food Office by Food and Agriculture Branch, Economic Division. This will apply to the claimant only and will not apply as a concession for the whole of his family.

(b) PRIORITY FOR HOUSING

A successful claimant will be entered in a special list in the Kreis Wohnungsamt. This office will make immediate inquiries as to his present housing accommodation and if that accommodation (excluding any kitchen not exceeding 8 sq. m. or any room of a type not normally used in the locality for living) provides less than 7 sq.m. of hygienic living space for himself and for each member of his family, if any, (excluding children under 1 year of age and counting each child between 1 year of age and 14 years of age as half a member), that office shall, within six months of his being declared eligible for relief, offer him, at a rent he can reasonably afford to pay, such additional or alternative accommodation as will provide the said standard of living space. If the repair of any accommodation is necessary to provide this standard within the said period, building materials shall be specially allocated for the purpose from such stocks as are, or may hereafter become, available to the Kreis.

(c) PRIORITY OF EMPLOYMENT

If a successful claimant resides in a district where employment suited to his capability is difficult to obtain, he will be given such priority over other applicants for work as may be necessary to ensure that he is placed in suitable employment with the minimum of delay; on such employment being given, all Public Assistance under paras. 6 (c) and (d) will automatically cease. Arbeitsamt will be instructed to accord this priority of treatment to any applicant who presents an identification card issued by a Kreis special Assistance Committee and appropriately endorsed in Serial 3 "Priority Employment".

(d) Financial Aid

- (i) A successful claimant shall receive public assistance, free from enquiry as to need, at a rate 50% above the Allgemeine Fursorge rate obtaining in the Kreis in which he resides, together with a reasonable allowance for rent, and such assistance shall be paid, if the applicant so desires, otherwise than on personal application. This 50% increase shall apply to all members of the applicant's family who are eligible for normal Public Assistance rates.

This special public assistance will be conditional upon able-bodied applicants registering for work at the Kreis Labour Exchange. Furthermore, if the applicant refuses work, both relief and allowances shall be subject to a Means Test.

Unemployed applicants will be encouraged to undergo training at technical or other training centres, thus serving the dual purpose of teaching a trade and restoring the individual's self-respect.

- (ii) These special assistance payments will be borne in the first instance by the Gemeinde: the Gemeinde will, however, be entitled to claim back from Reich funds the 50% excess Allgemeine Fursorge. The Gemeinde must submit to the competent Reich authorities certified lists of payments made in support of such claims.
- (iii) Provided an applicant qualifies, special public assistance will be paid, whether or not the applicant is in receipt of Social Insurance Benefits.

DURATION OF RELIEF

7. (a) The above special assistance will be granted initially for a period of 26 weeks. Thereafter, its continuation to any applicant will be conditional upon submission to a Means Test, and applicants will have to prove their inability to work. If they are then still eligible for relief, they will still be entitled to full benefits as in para 6(d)(i) for one further period of 13 weeks; after this period they will revert to normal public assistance rates.
- (b) Persons who qualify and have suffered physical or mental injury of a permanent or semi-permanent nature, sufficient to render them incapable of work will be made eligible for special assistance as in para 6 (d)(i) for an indefinite period of time, subject to annual review.

STATISTICS AND RETURNS

8. Statistics showing numbers of applications received, number interviewed, numbers awaiting interview and number to whom benefits have been granted as at the last day of each month, as on attached proforma will be forwarded by the Special Kreis Assistance Committees through Wohlfahrtsamt channels to Province Levels. From there they will be passed into British channels and will be forwarded to I.A. & C. division (Public Health and Welfare Branch) pending the formation of the Statistical Bureau at Main H.Q. Control Commission Germany (BE).

EFFECTIVE DATE AND PUBLICITY

9. Publicity of this scheme will be strictly withheld until Kreis Special Assistance Committees have been set up. Publicity will be undertaken by I.A. & C. Division (Public Health Branch) through PR & ISC Group; the former will be responsible for announcing the date of which this scheme will come into effect (dependent on progress in the formation of Special Assistance Committees).

BERLIN

10. This instruction will NOT apply to the British sector in Berlin unless it has been previously agreed upon by the Allied Kommandatura.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR SCHEME

11. I.A. & C. Division Main H.Q. Control Commission for Germany (British Element) will be responsible for the control and supervision of this scheme, consulting with other Divisions concerned as necessary

sgd J.W. TEMPLER

Major-General
Director of Military Government

APPENDIX "M"

HQ/2099/Sec

Ext 214

Office of the Deputy Military
Governor, (British Zone),
Main Headquarters,
Control Commission for Germany
(British Element)

LUBBECKE
BAOR

22 December, 1945.

Distribution; - As for Minutes

Subject: Communal Feeding

Attached are the minutes of the
conference on Communal Feeding,
held at LUBBECKE on 18th December
1945.

F.S. Fielding Capt.

Secretariat.

INTRODUCTION

1. The Chairman, outlining the objects of the conference stated that at the last 'P' Detachment Commanders conference, the question of Communal Feeding had been raised and summarily dismissed as being un-economic. As a result of second thoughts on the matter, the position was being reconsidered, and this conference was called.

The two main objects were:

- (a) to consider and spread both the experience and views of those who had tried out Communal Feeding, especially with regard to plans in different Corps Districts; and
- (b) to consider what assistance, if any, was required from Main H.Q. C.C.G.

Communal Feeding was basically a local matter, and systems would vary in different places owing to the variety of local conditions.

PRESENT DEVELOPMENTS

2. Major Muller then outlined the system at work in Schleswig-Holstein. These were mainly works canteens, but there was an emergency winter communal feeding scheme, which would feed half a million people over the normal existing systems total of 350,000. One of the objects of the works canteens was to prevent the workers sharing their extra rations with their families.

The Chairman pointed out that works canteens were outside the immediate scope of this conference, and asked for information of the communal feeding scheme as far as it affects households. He was informed that preparations were made for the authorities in Kiel to take in peoples ration cards, draw the food and cook it. People draw the food from the central cooking depots, and either eat it or take it away.

Wing Commander Griffin said that both before and during the war the Germans had extensively organized Communal Feeding, and this organization still existed where any administration remained. It was on this basis that the Kiel organization rested.

It was confirmed that similar schemes were ready in Westphalia and North-Rhine Province, and were being prepared in Hannover. Brunswick and other districts were waiting to see how the scheme worked in Hannover before taking any action. The main difficulties were fuel and containers. (See below paras 5 and 6).

RESPONSIBILITY

3. Wing Commander Griffin claimed that the responsibility for controlling Communal Feeding was not clearly laid down, but at the moment was being held by Econ 6; this should not be, for Econ 6 merely provided the rations, which would be the same whether communal feeding was organized or not.

Lt-Col Wolfe-Murray stated that the responsibility was that of Welfare (Public Health Branch) who would control it through the Wohlfahrtsamt. Welfare Branch was prepared to take over this work when more personnel arrived which, it was hoped, might be January. The Wohlfahrtsamt would do all the executive work, but would be controlled by Welfare.

'P' Detachments confirmed that their Welfare personnel (where they existed) were in charge of the organizations.

IT WAS AGREED

- (a) that the responsibility for running communal feeding was a German one;
- (b) that the sponsoring branch in C.C.G. would continue to be Econ 6 (Food and Agriculture Branch) until such time as Welfare was able to take over the scheme in its entirety.

COMMENCEMENT OF THE SCHEME

4. Throughout most of the British Zone, Communal Feeding was organized and merely waiting for the word to start.

Major Stevenson wished the scheme to be delayed, preferably until next March or April, but the Chairman pointed out that there were two advantages in starting the scheme as soon as possible.

These were

- (a) that it was more economical and food went further;
- (b) in the Ruhr and many large towns, the damage to residential property was so great that there was a possibility that many people were unable to cook meals at all.

IT WAS AGREED THAT

As the scheme was governed by local conditions, these should govern the date of inauguration of the scheme in the different areas.

MATERIALS

5. Captain LaBrosse put in a plea for the release of ex-Wehrmacht mobile field kitchens for use in bombed towns.

It was stated that this had already been considered, and the Chairman said he would take it up with H.Q. B.A.O.R.

- (a) to effect their release;
- (b) to ensure that they were not all ear-marked for Schleswig-Holstein.

Various suggestions for improvising containers were put forward e.g. new dustbins, which could be converted to hay-boxes; smoke containers from naval sources; milk churns. The possibility of containers being manufactured or released from Army salvage dumps was mentioned, and

IT WAS AGREED:

- (a) That Econ 6 should take up with Economic Division the possibility of manufacture or of release from already manufactured stocks.
- (b) Local representatives should investigate the possibilities of Army Salvage Dumps.

COAL

6. The Chairman outlined the various difficulties of coal allocations and the various quadripartite claims.

Major Daffern stated that in 8 Corps District fuel had been switched from the allocated to food processing, and also from slight stocks that restaurants etc, seem to have had.

Wing Commander Griffin stated that an allocation of coal for Communal Feeding should be made at the next allocation meeting. All 'P' Detachments had put in bids except 229 'P' Military Government Detachment, who were instructed by the Chairman to put an extra bid. Brigadier Borrodalle stressed that - although these bids for fuel for Communal Feeding would, being small amounts, probably be met, they will not take effect until February, as the January allocations had already been made. Until then, fuel must be found from the present allocations or by using peat and wood.

SWILL

IT WAS AGREED THAT

7. (a) as Hamburg had made a successful experiment with Army swill, Q Branch, H.Q. B.A.O.R. would investigate the possibility of putting as much swill as possible to Communal Feeding use instead of turning it over for animal consumption. The swill would be sold, not given, to the Germans.

FOOD REPLACEMENT

8. Wing Commander Griffin stated that food removed from the Germans by local purchase was replaced on a zonal basis, replacements being mainly of dried food, which was suitable for communal feeding.

9. (i) Wing Commander Griffin said he was unable to comprehend how the impression that Communal Feeding was uneconomical could possibly have crept in.

(ii) Summing up, the Chairman said that

- (a) plans for communal feedings are already made in all areas, but asked local representatives to consider whether any extension of the scheme was required.
- (b) the responsibility for looking after Communal Feeding rests with Food and Agriculture Branch at the moment; authority to implement any of the schemes was a matter of local decision.
- (c) 229 'P' Military Government Detachment will submit a bid for coal for Communal Feeding.
- (d) H.Q. B.A.O.R. will look into the question of release of ex-Wehrmacht field kitchens.
- (e) Econ 6 (Food & Agriculture) will take up the question of provision and containers.

DISTRIBUTION

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HQ/2899 (Sec M)
26th November, 1945

SECRET
ZON/PI(45)14

MAIN HQ CONTROL COMMISSION FOR GERMANY
BRITISH ELEMENT

ZONAL POLICY INSTRUCTION No. 140F 26th NOVEMBER, 1945

"PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES AGAINST CIVIL DISTURBANCES"

Reference para 4 (b) of BAOR/806/1/4/Ops dated 19th November, 1945, the following instructions are particularly directed to Military Government Legal Officers at all levels.

1. The situation will be dealt with in the first instance by a Declaration of a State of Emergency. The responsibility for taking this step rests with Corps District Command. For this purpose the form of Declaration attached hereto at Appendix "A" will be used. Notice of the Declaration of such State Emergency will be given to the German population by the posting under Military Government arrangements of printed copies of the Notice. These will be distributed by this H.Q. at an early date.
2. As soon as it is known that public security and order are seriously endangered or disturbed the following action will be taken forthwith by the (P) Military Government Detachment concerned or by 609 (L/R) Military Government Detachment as the case may be:
 - (a) arrangements will be made for a responsible Military Government Legal Officer to be despatched immediately to the scene of the disturbance;
 - (b) arrangements will be made for the delegation to the Military Government Detachment Command nearest to the scene of the disturbance of authority to convene General Military Governments Courts
 - (c) the Senior Legal Officer will instruct the Legal Officer despatched under para 2 (a) above that in accordance with Rule 7 (1) Military Governments Courts, all cases arising out of the disturbance in the area in question shall be brought before a General Military Government Court for trial;
 - (d) the following instructions will be issued regarding the proceedings before any such General Military Government Court:-
 - (i) that the Legal Officer who has been present at the scene of the disturbance will himself sit as one of the members of the Court;
 - (ii) that the time allowed for the preparation of the defence is within the discretion of the court and that an extension of time will not be granted without very good cause. Whilst

sufficient time must be allowed to the Defence to prepare its case and call its witness the Defence must not be allowed to make this the occasion for delaying tactics;

- (iii) that the opening speeches by Counsel for the prosecution will be dispensed with;
- (iv) that when the Court has sentenced a person found guilty of committing an offence during a State of Emergency any petition for Review shall be lodged with the Court within 48 hours of the pronouncement of the sentence.
- (v) that in any case where sentence of death has been imposed by the Court the Case Record and Petition, if any, shall be despatched by the quickest and most direct means to Legal Division, Main H.Q., Control Commission for Germany (BE), Lubbecke.

3. (a) As mentioned in paragraph 3 (c) of BAOR/806/1/4/Ops dated 19th November, 1945, circumstances may arise in the case of a purely local disturbance or disorder in a particular area when it is not practicable for the procedure outlined in paragraphs 1 and 2 above the fully implemented and when the responsibility for the decision regarding the necessary remedial measures to be immediately undertaken will rest with the local Military Command.
- (b) In the event of these circumstances arising in a particular area the procedure outlined in paragraph 2 above will be followed as far as practicable. All cases which are to be sent for trial will be brought before General Military Government Courts whose procedure will be covered by paragraph 2 (d) above.

4. The decision as to when a State of Emergency shall be terminated will rest with Corps District Command. Notification of the decision will be in the form appearing at Appendix "B" hereto. Printed copies of this Notice in Blank Form will be distributed by this H.Q.

5. Legal Division letter reference Legal/MGC/52214 dated 1 Nov 45 is hereby cancelled.

(Sgd) G.V. Britten
Brig.
For Major General
Director of Military Government.

DISTRIBUTION: FOR ACTION:

H.Q. 1 Corps District (MILGOV)
H.Q. 8 " " "
H.Q. 30 " " (A Branch)
H.Q. British Troops BERLIN
229 P Mil Gov Detachment
307 " " " "
312 " " " "
714 " " " "
609 L/R " " "

MILITARY GOVERNMENT GERMANY

BRITISH ZONE OF CONTROL

NOTICE

DECLARATION OF STATE OF EMERGENCY

1. A state of emergency exists in -----
2. Any order issued by Military Government or by any member of the Allied Forces must be obeyed immediately.
3. Any person contravening any of the foregoing provisions is liable to be shot without challenge or to be prosecuted in a Military Court and upon conviction to be sentenced to any lawful penalty (including death).
4. A Military Government Court which has sentenced any person found guilty of committing an offence during a State of Emergency declared by Military Government, may direct that any Petition for Review shall be lodged with such Court within 48 hours of the pronouncement of Sentence.

BY ORDER OF MILITARY GOVERNMENT

Date _____

Time _____

MILITARY GOVERNMENT GERMANY

BRITISH ZONE OF CONTROL

NOTICE

END OF STATE OF EMERGENCY

The Notice dated _____ declaring a State of Emergency in _____ IS hereby cancelled.

BY ORDER OF MILITARY GOVERNMENT

Date _____

Time _____

9/Civ Affairs/1/2
 9/CCD/1
 9/CCMD/1
 1/CCMD/1

5 Feb 46

To: Capt. J.E.G. LaBrosse,
 307 P. Mil Gov Det.,
 B.A.O.R.

REPATRIATION - CANADIAN CIVIL AFFAIRS OFFICERS

Further reference is made to this Headquarters' correspondence of even file reference dated 2 Jun 45 concerning repatriation or continued employment of CA/MG officers.

2. As you are aware, you were previously informed that no commitment could be entered into that you would continue to be employed as a Canadian CA/MG officer after 31 Mar 46. This period has now been extended until 30 Jun 46, but it must be clearly understood that:

- (a) if you wish to continue service with the Control Commission after 30 Jun 46, you must, by 15 May 46, have submitted direct to this H.Q., with copy to British Authorities, an application for discharge in the U.K. in accordance with the Attached Appendix "B" to Overseas R.O. 5855 to assume a civilian appointment or be commissioned into the British Army for employment under Control Commission auspices;
- (b) if you wish to continue employment until 30 Jun 46 and then be repatriated, you must be returned to the U.K. in June 46; i.e. you must have vacated whatever CA/MG appointment you are holding, and be in the U.K. on 30 Jun 46;
- (c) If you wish to be repatriated in the meantime, application should be made direct to C.M.H.Q. with copy to British authorities, and the necessary steps will be taken to effect your return to Canada.

3. You are requested to complete and return IMMEDIATELY the pro forma Appendix "A" to this correspondence.

L.G. Scribner
 For(A.B.MacLaren) Lt-Col
 AAGS (MS)
 Canadian Military Headquarters