Occupation Log

Reorientation Progressing in Bavaria
Attendance at Bavarian reorientation projects have continued to increase, gaining 26.6 percent in February over the previous month.

At the same time, the number of individual projects also rose. There were 19,170 meetings in February, an increase of 3,572 over January.

During February, a total of 1,594,194 persons attended 19,170 forums, town meetings, discussion groups, film showings and similar events in Bavaria. This was an increase of 334,360, or 26.6 percent, over January, when 1,259,834 persons participated in 15,598 different reorientation activities.

Last August, 527,003 persons attended 5,678 meetings, less than a third of the number reported in February.

Exporters Study American Markets
Northwest German exporters were recently shown that cashing in on the US market is not as difficult as many seem to believe. This was done through the media of lectures, discussions and motion pictures at a four-day meeting in Bremen's US Information Center.

German businessmen of the area, interested in increasing trade with the US, heard ECA business experts explain the relationship of European markets to those in America. Resumption of Germany's prewar delicatessen exports (See “New Markets for Meat,” pages 48-49) was also discussed along with customs and tariff problems.

Adenauer Becomes Foreign Minister
Chancellor Konrad Adenauer has concurrently assumed the post of Foreign Minister of the Federal Republic,

Mrs. John J. McCloy, wife of the US High Commissioner for Germany, meets members of Wurttemberg-Baden's press during a recent conference of Women's Affairs advisers in the state held at Stuttgart. (Schwarz photo)

until a permanent officer is chosen. Dr. Adenauer was nominated to the position by the Cabinet. His nomination was approved by President Theodor Heuss March 15.

IRO Installations Returned
A total of 844 installations in Germany, including former German army barracks and camps, apartment blocks, hotels and hospitals, has been handed back to Occupation Authorities since July 1947 by the International Refugee Organization (IRO) which used them to house displaced persons.

In the three western zones of Germany, in July 1947, the IRO had under its supervision 902 installations of all types which housed 620,000 refugees and displaced persons. As of Feb. 1, 1951, only 58 groups of buildings were being used by IRO to house 114,000 refugees.

In the intervening 43 months, IRO officials said, the UN organization has assisted more than 630,000 DP's to emigrate to new homes in countries all over the world. Another 47,000 left to return to their countries of origin.

Visual Aid Program Tops Record
More than 360,000 visitors during February set a new monthly attendance peak for Hesse's visual aid program.

The Hessian visitors saw almost 4,000 individual film showings, two-thirds of them followed by discussions. In addition, more than 15,000 Hessians attended 230 displays of lantern slides and other visual presentations.

Two hundred and twenty-five copies of 22 new German titles received during February took the total of films available for the program in Hesse, to 171 titles with 1,835 copies. In addition, there are 75 copies of 44 films with English titles.

Historic Cathedral Stone Sent to US
Historic Berlin Cathedral has contributed a 10-pound stone to be built into a new Gothic chapel being erected.

It may have been March but it didn't change the Christmas spirit that prevailed for 10 children of the Wuerfel Children's Home in Berlin. Occasion was belated arrival of a crate of Christmas gifts delayed enroute from the Loup City, Neb., 4-H Club. (PRB BE-HICOG photo by Schubert)
at Michigan State College at East Lansing, Mich., in memory of nearly 400 former students who lost their lives in World War II.

Stones from St. Paul's Cathedral and Westminster Abbey in London have already been received by college officials, and will be set into the narthex of the chapel along with the stone from Berlin. Efforts are being made to obtain similar contributions "representing the culture of Europe" from other famous European edifices.

Partially destroyed during the war, Berlin's Cathedral, the history of which dates back to 1465, is located in the Lustgarten, in East Berlin. Much of the damage has been repaired and restoration of the remainder is in progress.

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Sporting Guns to Military Weapons

Manufacturers of sporting guns in the Soviet Zone of Germany have been instructed to begin production of spare parts and components for military weapons, according to a RIAS (Radio in the American Sector) broadcast.

The report added that the manufacture of all sporting weapons in the Soviet Zone has been discontinued. Among companies immediately affected are the Simon, Fortuna, Thaelmann and Merkel firms, all located at Suhl, in Thuringia, which have been allocated contracts for the production of parts and components for military weapons.

It is believed, the report said, that the large stock of sporting weapons in the Soviet Zone — reportedly approximately 30,000 guns — is to be sold to Western Germany to obtain Deutsche mark credits.

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CARE Shipment Still Missing

CARE (Cooperative for American Remittances to Europe) textile packages valued at $4,500, shipped from the United States to distribution to Berlin needy, are still missing after their seizure in February by Soviet control authorities at the barge check-point at Wittenberg, in the Soviet Zone.

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Eight Bavarians prepare to depart for America under HICOG Exchange Program. They will study various aspects of public life including civic education, religious institutions, union activities, Red Cross facilities, and social services. Front row, l-r., Hildegard Bischoff, Hof/Saale; Anna Marie Herold, Munich; Helene Fichte, Coburg. Back row, Alfred Roedl, Ansbach; Wolfgang Zorn, Augsburg; Luise Joerissen, Munich; Lotte Branz, Munich and Franz Wiesner, Munich.

(Photoby Schoenborn, PRD HICOG)

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(US Army photo)

The Berlin-bound shipment, comprising 35 crates of textile goods, was confiscated Feb. 15. Soviet authorities, in a letter to the CARE office in Berlin, admitted they are holding the consignment.

Explanations given for the seizure were "improper documentation" and the fact that the goods were enroute from the US, instead of Hamburg, as stated on the bills of lading.

Another CARE shipment of approximately 1,000 pounds of textiles was seized by the Soviets last October, and to date has not been returned.

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Unemployed Get Double Treat

Unemployed residents of Rothenburg, Hesse, accustomed to waiting many long hours for their semi-weekly relief checks are now finding the waiting time enjoyable.

Thanks to the ingenuity of US Resident Officer R. J. Wilson, the hundreds of persons who come to the county capital twice every week for their money, now view the newest motion pictures of the US film program. The Wilson-inaugurated film program, which continues until the last person has received his money, will probably be extended to other areas of Hesse.

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Dependents Visit Cotton Mill

The third in a series of visits to German installations by students of the Stuttgart Military Post Dependents School took place when 30 pupils visited the Otto Heinrich & Son cotton mill in Wendlingen, near Stuttgart.

The project was conceived through the cooperation of the OLCW-B Labor Affairs Division and the Stuttgart Parent-Teacher Association to better acquaint the pupils of the school with the German economic situation and, in particular, to give them a chance to examine the

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apprentice training system for German youth. The success of the previous two visits, the first to Maschinenfabrik Esslingen and the second to the NSU Werke in Neckarsulm, resulted in the invitation to Wendlingen.

US Home Furnishings Shown in Stuttgart

The world premiere of a new exhibition of American home furnishings, "Design for Use, USA," containing more than 500 examples of modern American design, was held in Stuttgart's State Trade Museum March 21.

The show, first of its type ever to tour Europe, was sent to Stuttgart at the request of the museum and was prepared by the Museum of Modern Art, New York City, at the invitation of the US Department of State and the Economic Cooperation Administration.

Most of the articles on display are not available in Germany. The American motive in presenting the exhibition is to show German manufacturers and exporters the kind of products that are in demand in the United States. The exhibition is part of a Europe-wide Marshall Plan campaign to help European firms increase their exports and thus help their countries close their "dollar gap."

After its first German exhibition in Stuttgart, the exhibition will tour Europe, showing in Milan at the Triennale, in London during the Festival of Britain, and in Paris and Zurich before returning to Germany.

Information Center Sponsors Tours

Study tours to other European countries are to become a new feature of the activities of the Frankfurt US Information Center. To give its visitors the opportunity to become directly acquainted with the culture of other countries, the Frankfurt center, in conjunction with the US resident officer of Hesse's largest city, will provide inexpensive trips to various parts of Western Europe.

The program got underway early in March with a one-week trip to Paris for members of local youth groups. A second trip to Paris and one to Spain are scheduled later this year.

100,000 Easterners See US Movies

Special US Information Center performances of movies for Eastern Germans have drawn audiences totaling more than 100,000 persons since the program was inaugurated one year ago.

Begun March 15, 1950, the continuing program features newsreels as well as documentaries, some of them full-length. A large proportion of the films shown deal with life in the United States.

Center officials also announced that residents of East Berlin and the Soviet Zone have received 150,000 copies of Western-licensed newspapers under a project, also inaugurated March 15, 1950, for making such papers available to visitors from Eastern Germany.

Camp Victims' Welfare before UN

Suggestions to aid victims of the "scientific" experiments in Nazi concentration camps have been placed before the United Nations' Economic and Social Council meeting in Santiago, Chile.

The proposals are part of a report submitted to the council for action by UN Secretary General Trygve Lie. Recommendations include that new legislation be enacted to satisfy the legitimate claims of the victims of such experiments, making both the East and West German central governments liable for compensation. Payments provided by such legislation would not be subject to foreign exchange regulations and would be transferable.

Secretary General Lie noted that the Federal Republic had admitted a moral obligation to such victims and had expressed its willingness to render aid to survivors.

The perplexities and complexities of life in Berlin are illustrated by sign in vicinity of Communist-controlled Radio Berlin, in British Sector, which warns strangers that the Western sponsored NWDR (Northwest German Radio) and RIAS (Radio in American Sector) are in other areas of the city. Eastern Germany residents have disappeared after entering Communist operated station in mistaken belief they were visiting RIAS or NWDR. (FRB BE-HICOG photo by Schubert)
Potsdamers Resist Korea Fund

Tumultuous scenes occurred in Potsdam when workers were ordered to triple their financial contributions to the so-called “Korea Aid Fund” sponsored by the East German Communist government.

A report in Die Neue Zeitung, the US German newspaper in Berlin, said the uproar broke out at a meeting of the Brandenburg state government after workers were told their contributions to the “Korea Aid Fund” would henceforth be 3.5 percent of their income instead of one percent.

Several employees complained that it was time to put an end to such practices in as much as the “Korea Aid Fund” was contrary to the policy of the World Peace Council. When a spokesman tried to explain that a Communist victory in Korea will bring about world peace, vehement shouting ended the meeting ahead of schedule.

Cheese Helps Needy Children

More than 104,000 pounds of cheese, joint gift of the Pestalozzi Foundation of America and the United States Government, has arrived in Munich for distribution to needy Bavarian children.

Child Guidance Extending in Hesse

Modern child guidance practices, so familiar to American parents, have taken firm roots in Hesse.

The two first Hessian child guidance clinics, established at Kassel and Marburg approximately two years ago with American financial help and guidance, have proved so successful that the Hessian government intends to extend the service throughout the state. For that purpose, the Hessian government has organized a “board of directors for child guidance,” consisting of high-ranking representatives of the various ministries and prominent Hessian medical personnel. Establishment of two more clinics, at Frankfurt and Darmstadt, is planned as the next step in the development of the program.

Mathewson Makes First Official Tour

Paying his first official visit to Berlin’s 3rd Sector boroughs since his appointment as the US commander of Berlin Feb. 1, Maj. Gen. Lemuel Mathewson recently met with Tempelhof Mayor Hermann Fischer. Also on the General’s itinerary were visits to the 12,000 seat Friedrich Ebert Stadium, which has been rebuilt with a grant from ECA funds, the 850 bed Wengelsbach Municipal Hospital and a Tempelhof youth installation.

Pieces on Peace Fill East Press

Pious protestations of peace now fill pages of East Berlin’s Communist-controlled press as Red propagandists seek to sell the world on the pacific motives of the Soviets and their satellites.

A HICOG Berlin Element Public Affairs survey shows that during a recent seven day period the word “peace” appeared nearly 500 times on the front page of Tagesliche Rundschau, official Soviet German-language newspaper. The other nine East Berlin dailies dutifully followed suit, carrying peace references almost as frequently.

In its page-one coverage of the World Peace Council meeting in Berlin’s Soviet Sector and of other events it found interesting during the period, the Rundschau em-

It’s questionable where more paint is being applied: on walls or on dungarees of young volunteer workers making last minute preparations for recent opening of a new Neighborhood Home in Zehlendorf, Berlin. However, their efforts produced an attractive and much needed center which was partly financed by grant of DM 160,000 from HICOG Special Projects Fund. (PRB BE-HICOG photo)
played the term "peace" in a wide variety of contexts and connections. Among the most frequent were: peace, peace-loving, peace pact, peace appeal, peace dove, peace powers, world peace, will to maintain peace, peace greetings, peace-time industry, peace phrases, peace policy and World Peace Council. The last-listed alone appeared in 134 front page references.

Germany Again Wins Tourism Prize

The German Central Tourist Association has been awarded the King Fuad Bronze Medal as third prize in the annual world's tourist travel promotion literature and poster contest established in 1932 by the late King of Egypt.

The association's predecessor, the German Railroad's Central Tourist Office, won the first prize in 1934 for its poster advertising the Oberammergau Passion Play. The 1950 award resulted from the selection by the international jury of the Goethe Year prospectus. The booklet commemorated the 200th anniversary of the poet's death and dealt with his travel experiences.

East Berlin Police Desertions Mount

Another 103 "People’s Policemen" deserted the Communist German paramilitary force and sought sanctuary in West Berlin during February. This was nearly three times as many desertions as during December 1950 and reflects a steadily increasing volume of flights.

The latest defections bring to 706 the number of East German soldier-policemen who have fled to West Berlin over a nine-month period.

During February 123 Communist propagandists and agitators were arrested in Western Berlin.

Bremen Labor Receives Books

Bremen's labor unions are receiving more books as HICOG donations toward replenishment of union libraries confiscated and destroyed by the Nazis. The German Trade Union Federation (DGB) has received 50 more volumes on international, political, economic and social affairs in addition to the 82 books sent last year. Another trade union in the same area, the German Employee's Union (DGB) also received 50 similar volumes.

March of Dimes Nets $370,000

Contributions to the 1951 European Command March of Dimes totaled $373,723, exceeding last year's donations by more than $69,000.

Military Academy Founding Celebrated

The founding of the US Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., on March 16, 1802 was celebrated 149 years later throughout Europe by alumni members of the famed institution. Among them were approximately 300 graduates now on duty at US military posts in Frankfurt, Heidelberg and Wiesbaden who attended a celebration in Heidelberg's European Command Casino.

Peace Bridge Opened in Frankfurt

The newest and largest street bridge in Western Germany, crossing the Main river in the heart of Frankfurt, has been completed. The structure, built in the record time of one year at an approximate cost of DM 4,000,000 ($952,000), has been christened the "Peace Bridge." Its predecessor, the former Wilhelmsbrücke, was destroyed by retreating German troops during the last weeks of the war.

With a span of 1,000 feet, nearly 100 feet wide and containing 1,115 tons of structural steel, the bridge is the last of five Frankfurt bridges, linking the city with suburbs on its southern bank, to be rebuilt.

The opening ceremony on March 1 was attended by US State Commissioner for Hesse James R. Newman and Hesse Minister President Dr. Georg-August Zinn. Frankfurt Mayor Walter Kolb cut a ribbon to formally open the bridge to traffic.

Lt. Josephine J. Stong, the first member of US Women's Air Force in Europe to be recalled to active duty as an officer, receives her bars as a second lieutenant. Discharged one day as a staff sergeant and placed on a commissioned status the next, Lieutenant Stong is pictured at the bar pinning ceremony presided over by Lt. Gen. Lauris Norstad (left), commanding officer, USAFE, and Maj. Gen. Truman H. Landon (right), deputy commanding officer, USAFE.