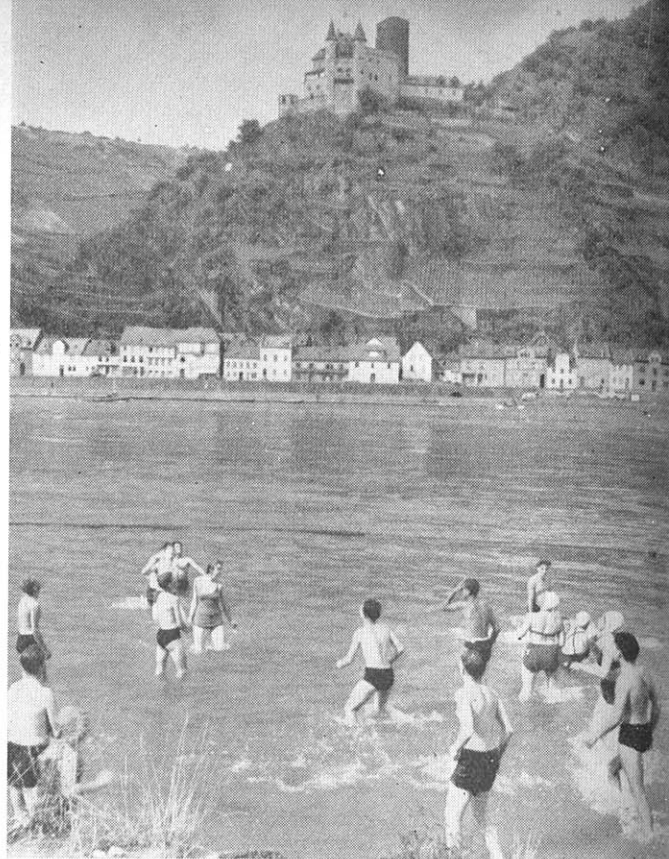




Discussion group takes up political questions and problems in the shade of an oak tree overhanging the Rhine.



Beach at St. Goar was a very popular spot visited daily by the boys and girls at International Youth Camp. In background are village of St. Goarshausen and Katz castle.



Posters illustrating major points of United Nations' Declaration of Human Rights, in special tent, drew many.

Neighboring towns were visited by groups attending camp. French youth are shown before tiny Boppard's city hall.



Deputy French High Commissioner Armand Berard (left) and Dr. Hermann Ehlers, president of the federal parliament, were among guests of honor at inaugural ceremonies.



Famed Lorelei Beckons Youth To Peace and Unity

LORELEI ROCK, A STONY CRAG high above the fabled Rhine, is famed in song and story as the home of a legendary blonde siren whose dulcet voice and golden hair lured many a Germanic boatman to his doom on the jagged rocks beneath her.

In this summer of 1951, Lorelei Rock and its surrounding green plateau, one of the most beautiful spots on the Rhine, had a new allure — one almost as intangible and out of reach today as the beckoning charms of the mythical Lorelei who sang to passing sailors in a fairy-tale long-ago. But the sound was just as sweet. It was a summons to Europe's youth to join hands there in a search for the peace and unity of their troubled continent.

An estimated 10,000 answered the call. Upon their firm acceptance of, and belief in, an alluring dream held by free men everywhere can well depend much of the reality of a future Europe united in a common cause — the cause of Freedom and Peace.

During the six-week camping period from July 20 to Sept. 6, the youth came and went every 10 days in contingents of approximately 2,000, by bus and private car, in government vehicles and supply trucks, by bicycle and on foot, in groups and pairs and singly. Clouds of dust whirled above the yellow dirt road lined with the flags of a dozen nationalities as traffic moved in and out of the tent city. Above the confusion and the traffic noise rose the incessant babel of hundreds of young voices shouting to one another — in German, French, English, Dutch, Italian, Finnish, Norwegian, Swedish, Spanish, Hindustani and even Chinese.

BOYS SHOULDERING FIELD PACKS and girls lugging suitcases converged on 600 US-Army tents and 10 permanent log houses on the camp site for the start of an experience unique to all of them — mingling and playing and talking with the youth of other nations, listening to Free Europe's leaders tell them that in their spiritual union and in the practical, treaty-bound union of the countries they represented lies the chief hope not only for peace but also for survival.

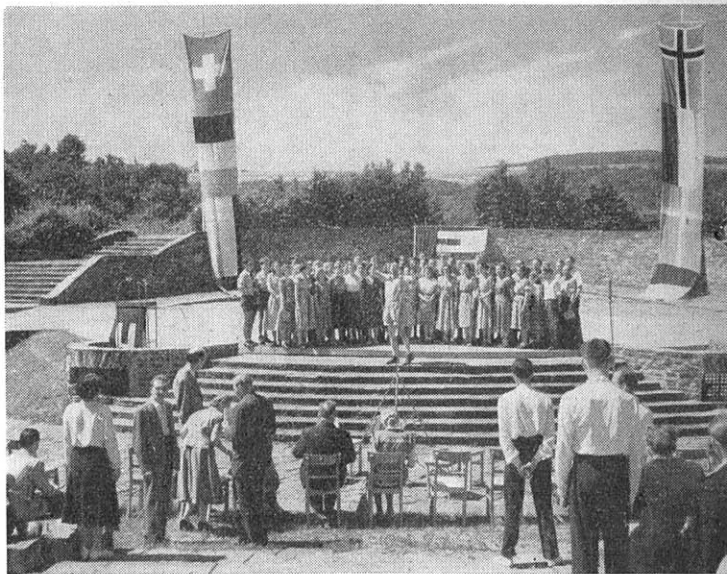
Less than 300 miles to the east, deep in the Soviet Zone, thousands of other young people, held in the unrelenting grasp of a power which has created the Iron Curtain as a symbol of slavery; assembled in quartered Berlin to strut and sing and shout slogans about peace amid the same, well-remembered trappings of another totalitarian regime which 12 years ago brought the world to war.

Contrary to the "command performance" of the Communist Youth Festival in Berlin, Lorelei campers sought out the "Meeting of European Youth" simply because they wanted to. All of them paid their own way, although

they were given reduced railway fares. Many had just turned 16; there were some as old as 25.

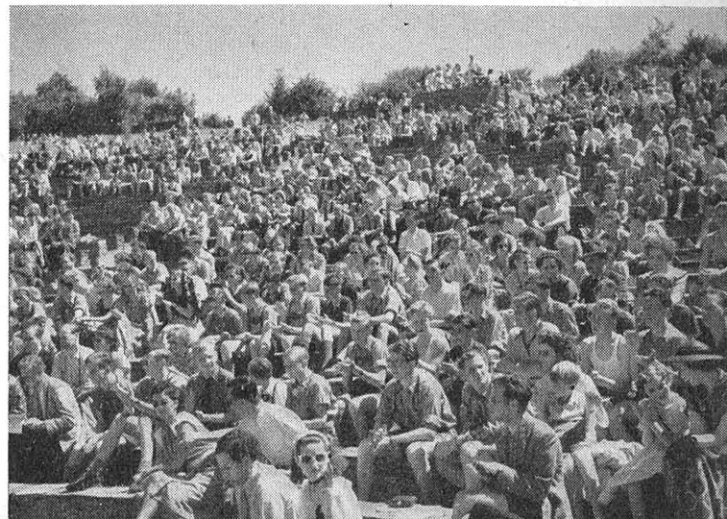
One-third of the campers were girls. The majority — 61 percent — were Germans; the French delegation was next in numbers with 19 percent, and from England came 12 percent. The remainder represented Italy, Belgium, Holland, the Scandinavian countries and a half dozen others. There were also a few Americans.

The encampment was the first large-scale cooperative effort of this type attempted by the German federal gov-



German choir participated in the opening rites at vast International Youth Camp held at Lorelei Rock from July 22 to Sept. 6, 1951. (PRD HICOG photos by Claude Jacoby)

Below, section of audience at opening of International Youth Camp sponsored by the German Federal Government with the cooperation of the Allied High Commission.





At left is fabled Lorelei, to which many youth cycled from all parts of Germany and several European countries.



Large white tent (rear) held American library, much frequented spot. Most tents were lent by the US Army.

On reverse side of entrance arch was admonition "Think of Europe" — for the benefit of departing participants.



ernment and the Allied High Commission. It was designed to bring together the youth of Free Europe for a mass rejection of totalitarianism and a manifestation on behalf of unity and peace.

THE IDEA ORIGINATED at a tripartite meeting of THICOM Youth and Community Activities officials. It was organized by members of the National Committee of German Youth Organizations (*Bundesjugendring*) in cooperation with Youth Activities representatives of the US, French and British High Commissioners and of the Union of European Youth, and financed by the German Federal Republic with assistance from the Allied High Commission. The camp director was the leader of the Catholic Youth Organization in Rhineland-Palatinate.

In his welcoming address at the opening, Josef Rommerskirchen, chairman of the German Federal Youth Association, appealed to the young campers to attempt to achieve the kind of mutual understanding which helps to remove national borders and the age-old jealousies and hatreds which have previously been a barrier to European union. "Although we are young," he said, "it is up to us to help build the large, common house based on freedom of mind and conscience, justice, mutual respect and recognition of true fraternity.

"Because we have tasted the bitter fruit of chauvinism and nationalism, we are demanding that Europe be the larger, freedom- and life-preserving unit . . . the foundation for freedom and peace. We must not wait until others build this house, which may then perhaps not be ours. Therefore, we have first to remove the borders between ourselves, borders which are hindering the growth of Europe. A European conscience must in these times replace national egoism — in thinking and in action."

Diversion came in many forms. Here semi-professional French dancers demonstrate various types of folk dances.



DR. HERMANN EHLERS, president of the German federal parliament, brought the good wishes of the Bonn government to the international gathering, first of its kind held in western Germany. He urged the young delegates to forget the bitterness engendered by the wars of 1871, 1914, 1939 and 1945, and to look forward to a halcyon time of real mutual faith and understanding. Declaring that a common cultural life has sustained the West for thousands of years, he warned "we will not stop in front of an iron curtain; we want to include all those who think and feel as we do, and... we know that at the Elbe and the Oder people do think as we do."

Armand Berard, French deputy high commissioner, crystallized the hope of Europe's adult leaders for a union of the free countries of the continent in these few words: "You are an example of the Europe of tomorrow, of the European solidarity which has nothing in common with the regimented Communist mass meetings in the East."

Three main themes related to Europe's present and future were developed during the session. "Youth is Calling Europe" marked the official opening ceremony July 22; "Youth is Building Europe" was the theme of the huge camp demonstration Aug. 18-19, and "Youth is Living Europe" was the topic for the closing program Sept. 2.

Discussion groups; forums featuring prominent guest speakers from various nations; political workshops under expert supervision designed to emphasize the contribution of youth to European union and western democracy; music, dancing and games produced a varied program. It included: (1) the young citizen in the state; (2) work and life; (3) ways of European cooperation; (4) amateur theatricals, puppet shows and introduction of play techniques; (5) music, singing, folk dancing; (6) importance of press and radio today; (7) films and photography; and (8) sports and games.

Old and young participated in political discussions, in which as many as dozen nations often were represented.



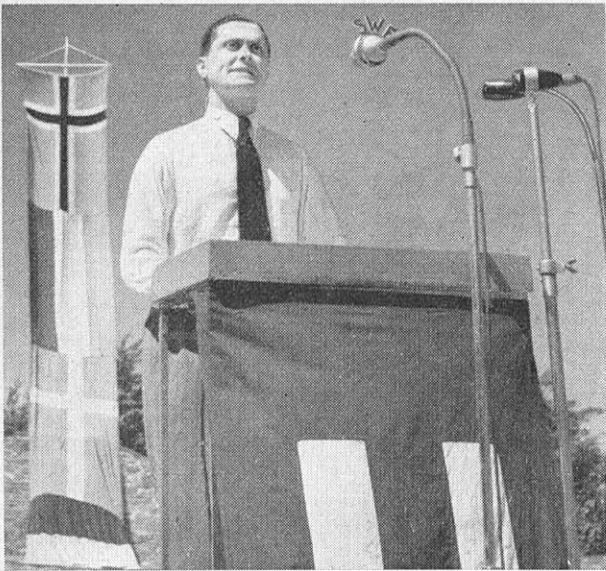
Boys and girls staging informal march to neighboring town along Rhine were preceded by European Union flags.



French boy scouts get together to stage singing session during lull. Accompaniment was provided on mouthorgan.

Youngsters from Marseille, France, returning from visit to Boppard, enliven their hike with songs and capers.





Joseph Rommerskirchen, chairman of German national youth organization, delivered welcoming speech at dedication.

On the cultural side, choirs, orchestras, interpretive and ballet dance groups and stage performers — professional as well as amateur — presented programs characteristic of their particular nation's music and interpretive art.

THE CAMPERS LIVED in four tent villages named in honor of three men and a woman noted for their love of peace and freedom: Count Folke Bernadotte, the *Geschwister* (Brother and Sister) Scholl, Frederico Garcia Lorca and Emmanuel Mounier. (Count Bernadotte, president of the Swedish Red Cross and first United Nations mediator in Palestine, was murdered by a terrorist during truce negotiations in 1948; the Scholls, Hans and Sophie, were German students at the University of Munich who were executed by the Gestapo because they opposed Hitler's totalitarianism; Frederico Garcia Lorca, Spanish poet, was murdered by Fascists in 1936, and Emmanuel Mounier was a French socialist political writer bitterly opposed to dictatorships, who died in 1950.)

Head of each village was an elected mayor who was in charge of showing newcomers to their lodgings, turning out the lights and acting in a general supervisory capacity. Several boys volunteered as camp guards for night duty, and there were 22 adult policemen, members of the German police force in civilian clothes, who kept technical equipment and the large installations under surveillance.

In addition to the US-Army tents donated for the use of the young Europeans, there were 10 mess-halls, workshops, exhibition tents and a tent chapel supplied by the British and French occupation forces. The Youth and Community Activities Branch, HICOG, also provided trained personnel and a large tent as the central gathering place equipped with a portable US Information Center library; a record player and numerous records of classical as well as modern American dance music; loudspeaker and movie projector.

The central tent had a wooden floor and a stage and was especially suitable in rainy weather for large meetings, discussion groups, amateur theatricals, folk dancing and movies. Several displays on stands and on the tent's walls depicted youth activities in the United States and other phases of American life.

THE CAMP HAD ITS OWN post office, four trunk telephone lines and 30 camp extensions, a travel and currency-exchange bureau and even its own newspaper — a weekly with a deep, black-lettered "Camp" as its masthead. A water supply system financed by the state of Rhineland-Palatinate and costing DM 40,000 (\$9,520) provided plenty of fresh water; there was a dispensary with trained medical staff; an international youth library held more than 1,000 volumes printed in several languages; and there were also a canteen, photo laboratory and sports field among other facilities.

Each 10-day period was opened with an introductory session to acquaint newcomers with their surroundings and with the camp's purpose. Choral singing and dancing around the camp fire and speeches by young people who were concluding their stay featured the end of each session.

One day of each period was devoted to a trip to one of the Rhine cities nearby, where campers received a warm welcome. Usually there was a public meeting in these localities, at which leaders of the political workshops spoke on the principles and problems of European union.

Because the Lorelei was planned principally to bring Western Europe's youth together in a political as well as social and cultural union, there was considerable emphasis on the political workshops and discussions outlining the principles of a democratic state, the problems of — and within — the trade unions, and European institutions already in existence to promote an international European federation.

Although some of these daily workshops were not too well-attended, principally because many of the young people, having a full, exciting holiday for the first time

St. Goarshausen, tiny Rhine town nearest the Lorelei, was roused from summer torpor by thousands of visitors.





Among countless picturesque characters at camp were these Italian scouts.

in their lives, were too busy with other phases of the camp program, they turned out virtually en masse for the Aug. 18-19 rally. Held midway in the camping period, the two-day rally drew more than 6,000 to the camp amphitheater to hear speeches by German government officials, representatives of the French and British High Commissioners, camp leaders and youth delegates themselves.

NO ONE HAD URGED attendance at the rally, and yet no one wanted to miss it — a clear indication that despite their seeming preoccupation with a good time, the boys and girls were indeed interested in political trends of today and political planning for the future.

Speaking for the Federal Republic, Vice Chancellor Franz Bluecher told his young listeners that he is a firm believer in a united Europe and pointed out the "high responsibility which is imposed on us who are allowed to think." Declaring that "we must also look at things as they are," the vice chancellor said, "we do not want to hate any nation, but we reject tyrants who suppress the freedom of opinion and the freedom of action of the individual."

French High Commissioner Andre Francois-Poncet explained that "the European idea means... a complete renewal which must include the economic, moral and social as well as the military and political fields." He reminded the young Europeans that they were the ones who would steer such a union in the future, and that there was much for them to do now. Declaring that although he did not underestimate the German-French wariness of one another, Mr. Francois-Poncet said he believed it could be removed with a determination to achieve mutual understanding:

"It is possible if we do not stay in the past... we should rather listen to the voice arising from the Rhine river, which tells us that we both, French and Germans, owe to this large river that humanistic and Christian culture which we have in common..."

Maj. Gen. C. J. G. Dalton, speaking for the British High Commissioner, told his young audience that "Europe itself is only a part of a greater world which



Norwegian girls snapped in front of bulletin board are students from Paris.



Pretty Bodil Foldrup, Norwegian music student, was visitor to American library.

British girls skip supper in regular dining tent to enjoy their meal outdoors.



Four attractive visitors from Strasbourg leave camp for swim in Rhine.

Translator-interpreter (center) was kept busy by delegates at political talks.





Physical instructor, member of camp staff, details day's activities to girls.

includes also the Commonwealth and South America." He added that "on the lovely Lorelei rock European understanding begins."

A FORMER PRESIDENT of the Swiss Federation, Pilet Golaz, began his rally talk by saying "the most important thing of all to me is that I am permitted, here in the Free West, to tell you what I want to." He declared that the Swiss is watching European developments with great interest.

Referring to the unification of Europe, he said "the small countries also want to keep their lives and their souls. It is not easy to achieve the goal of a union giving equal consideration to all, but we have done it, and we have three nationalities, three languages and differences of religion, yet we are living pretty well. Why can't Europe do this? It can, if you — the young ones — want it so."

Greetings from Christian youth the world over were brought to the Lorelei by Walter Kilpatrick, secretary of the World Federation of the Young Men's Christian Association, who encouraged the campers to maintain their optimism. "Not the immediate result of this camp is the important thing, but what will follow. Not the big rally, not the flags are essential here, but what is going on in your heads and in your hearts — that's what counts. Peace cannot be preserved through posters of propaganda catchwords; peace begins in our hearts."

The campers were enthusiastic about their experiences, the new friends they made and what they learned about each country's language, culture, music, art, education and myriads of other things. Although most of them admit to political immaturity, they were equally enthusiastic about the need for nurturing political understanding and eventually arriving at a strong political union dedicated to freedom.

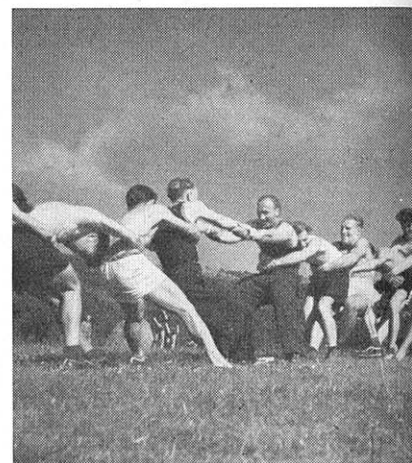
"We must convey," said Hans W. Kannengiesser of the *Europa-Union*, "our sound knowledge of political facts to others, be it within the family, youth organization, school or elsewhere in our democratic society; otherwise the Lorelei camp will be ineffective and unavailing." +END



Group of British boys and girls chat on beach after pleasant dip in Rhine.

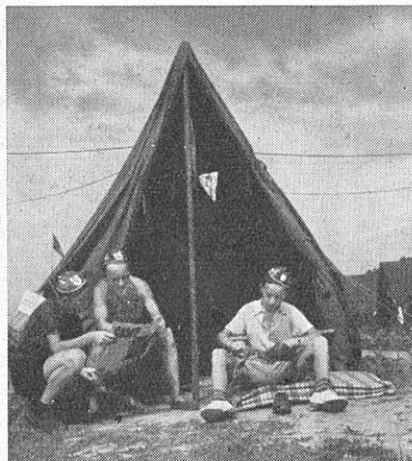


Competitive games such as this wheel-borrow race were a regular feature.



Tug-o'-war between national and international groups was another diversion.

Free Berlin was represented at camp by delegation including these boys.



German youth play basketball. At rear is unofficial flag of European Union.

