

Cooperation Solving Bremen's Traffic Problems

The vexing problems arising from overlapping of duties of American, British and German law enforcement officers in the vicinity of the port city of Bremen, are being solved in a cooperative manner.

When the jurisdictional headache became serious last summer, John W. Jergensen, chief of the Public Safety Division, OLC Bremen, stepped in to get all factions to agree to a Bremen state public safety conference. While there have been similar meetings in other parts of the US Zone, this was the first meeting of its kind in Bremen and proved so successful that get-togethers were scheduled once a month.

Participating in the conferences have been representatives of the Bremen minister of interior, chiefs of the various German police and security offices of Bremen, Bremerhaven and some neighboring cities in the British Zone, British public safety officers of Oldenburg and Lueneburg, officers of the US Army and OLC Bremen police and security units.

With the motto "Cooperation is the key to good law enforcement," last summer's initial meeting in the HICOG building got off to a flying start and the round-table discussions are now an established function. Attendance so far has ranged between 30 and 35 each time and the concentrated method of hitting at problems has worked splendidly.

James L. McCraw, who at the time was chief of HICOG's Public Safety Division, Office of Political Affairs, was a guest at the September meeting. Expressing keen gratification at the large press representation at that session, Mr. McCraw said: "Police work cannot be successful without public support and public support can only be gained through the press. The press has the same obligation to the public as the police."

At one conference a German police officer asked about the American way of writing traffic tickets in Germany. Between 85 and 90 percent of the Germans given tickets by the Americans were acquitted in court, he said, because the violation slips were not made out according



John W. Jergensen (left), chief of OLC Bremen's Public Safety Division, discusses a traffic problem with a British Zone police officer at one of the monthly conferences Mr. Jergensen organized. Representatives of the US Army and German police officials of both the state and city of Bremen as well as a growing number of other cities also attend regularly. (Photo by Georg Schmid, Bremen)

to German methods. Discussion resulted in a revision in the American method and, incidentally, better traffic law enforcement.

Mr. Jergensen, serving as chairman of the group, explained that in the safety conference traffic problems are being given priority consideration. The two port cities bear the brunt of heavy vehicular traffic moving from the port of embarkation into the zones. The problem is further complicated by 200,000 bicycles.

Through the conferences, the officers are learning of each other's work, their sources for informational help and how enforcement can be brought about more effectively.

Radio Bremen Stages "France Week"

During January Radio Bremen is broadcasting "France Week" as the fifth in a series of international weeks devoted to a single European country.

The series was inaugurated by the station more than a year ago in an effort to make a practical and concrete contribution toward a united Europe through promotion of better understanding among European peoples. Dutch, Swiss, British and Belgian "weeks" have already been presented.

Each of these "weeks" opened with a talk by a prominent political figure and included from 32 to 45 special programs covering all aspects of cultural and social life — musical, historical and political, as well as economic features, entertainment and specialities of interest to children, young people and women. In most cases, Radio Bremen staff members were invited by the foreign broadcasting institutions to assemble recorded programs, to conduct interviews and to prepare reports. Plans are under way for additional programs on other European countries.