

BAND II
HISTORY OF THE INTERNATIONAL
TRACING SERVICE
1945-1951
SECTION I
(THUDICHUM)





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II. HISTORY OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRACING SERVICE

1945 - 1951
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Study prepared by IRO Administration between the end of May 1950 and the middle of September 1951. The study is based on the instructions given to Mr. THUDICHUM by IRO Director Liaison and Planning Office, 25.5.1950 ("That we need, and what we hope you will be able to let us have, is the complete story of ITS, related as closely as possible to the appropriate basic documents on which your policies and activities have been based. Copies of such documents should also be attached"). Mr. THUDICHUM is obviously the author of the bulk of the historical survey. Only the studies concerning Child Tracing have been written by other IRO representatives: one, dated 11.9.1950, by Mr. Herbert MEYER, Chief Child Search Branch, and one, dated 23.9.1951, by Miss Vera SAMSONOFF, then Chief Information Division. Mr. THUDICHUM had finished the major part of his historical work on 24. January 1951 (see letter to Geneva, page 316) and was able to dispatch to Higher Headquarters his last chapter concerning the History of US Zone Division on 13. September 1951. (see respective letter, page 329)

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of Jews and political opponents undertaken by the Nazi Regime had led, by the end of 1945, to a vast displacement of populations, in the course of which a great number of family groups had become separated from one another. Within Germany itself large numbers of persons had been separated from their families and their relatives, and their relatives knew neither where they lived nor where they were being held. Thus, one of the problems considered during the latter part of 1945 by the Committee on Displaced Populations of the Allied Post-War Requirements Bureau in London was the establishment of machinery for tracing missing persons.

Already the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva had set up a massive card index system for the purpose of communications with prisoners-of-war, and to this card index a section had been added for displaced civilians. The working of the central card index of dispersed families was described by the ICRC in a document which came before the Committee on Displaced Populations early in 1946. The importance attached to this subject is indicated by the personal attention given to it by Sir George Sichel who submitted in February 1944 a number of recommendations to the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA) which the latter on reflection believed to be "a few molehills being made into mountains". The representatives of the European

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THE

INTERNATIONAL TRACING SERVICE

I.T.S.

The tracing of Missing Persons.

SECTION I.

HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT

I. BACKGROUND

The circumstances of the war and in particular the persecution of Jews and political opponents undertaken by the Nazi Regime had led, by the end of 1943, to a vast displacement of populations, in the course of which a great number of family members had become separated from one another and had lost touch. Within Germany itself large numbers of persons were unable to maintain contact with the outside world owing to their internment in concentration camps and prisons, and their relatives knew neither where they lived nor where they were being held. Thus, one of the problems considered during the latter part of 1943 by the Committee on Displaced Populations of the Allied Post-War Requirements Bureau in London was the establishment of machinery for tracing missing persons.

Already the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva had set up a massive card index system for the purpose of communications with prisoners-of-war, and to this card index a section had been added for displaced civilians. The working of the central card index of dispersed families was described by the ICRC in a document which came before the Committee on Displaced Populations early in 1944. The importance attached to this subject is indicated by the personal attention given to it by Sir George Rendel who submitted in February 1944 a number of comments to Mr. Hoehler of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA) which the latter on reflection believed to be "a few molehills being made into mountains". The representatives of the European

INTERNATIONAL TRADING SERVICE

I.T.S.

The Trading of Missing Persons.

SECTION I.

INTRODUCTION

I. INTRODUCTION

The circumstances of the war and in particular the prosecution of Jews and political opponents undertaken by the Axis powers had led, by the end of 1945, to a vast displacement of populations, in the course of which a great number of family members had become separated from one another and had lost touch. Within Germany itself large numbers of persons were unable to maintain contact with the outside world owing to their internment in concentration camps and prisons, and their relatives knew neither where they lived nor where they were being held. Thus, one of the problems considered during the latter part of 1945 by the Committee on Displaced Populations of the Allied Post-War Reparations Bureau in London was the establishment of machinery for tracing missing persons.

Already the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva had set up a massive card index system for the purpose of communication with prisoners-of-war, and to this card index a section had been added for displaced civilians. The working of the central card index of dispersed families was described by the ICRC in a document which came before the Committee on Displaced Populations early in 1946. The importance attached to this subject is indicated by the personal attention given to it by Sir George Bampfylde who submitted in February 1946 a number of proposals to Mr. Hoehner of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA) which the latter on reflection believed to be "a few solutions being made into a machine". The representatives of the European

Governments who were members of the Allied Repatriation Commission (an informal body meeting in London) and who possessed repatriation departments, also concerned themselves with the problem of tracing. In the United Kingdom the Foreign Relations Department of the British Red Cross Society was already operating a tracing bureau, and in addition had set up a Record Bureau for Displaced Persons at Bari at the request and with the approval of the Allied military authorities.

During the lifetime of the Allied Post-War Requirements Bureau, Major Eyre Carter of the Foreign Office Relief Department had been in charge of this subject, and under his guidance a tentative plan began to take shape which envisaged the creation of national tracing bureaux by the various European Governments, and the development of the tracing service already established by the ICRC. During March 1944 Mr. Hochler left London for America and took with him a request that Washington Headquarters should authorize the European Regional Office (ERO) to invite the ICRC and/or the National Red Cross Societies to participate in a world-wide network for tracing missing persons.

Mr. Hochler himself appears to have entertained hopes of some kind of direct operational cooperation between UNRRA and the ICRC, and he suggested either that the ICRC should be compensated by UNRRA for the performance of certain services, or that UNRRA staff should have access to the ICRC files. These proposals he put before the Director-General on April 12th 1944.

In London a meeting was called by Sir Herbert Emerson, of the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees (ICOR), with representatives of the ICRC, the Foreign Relations Department of the British Red Cross Societies (BROS) and UNRRA with regard to tracing missing persons and communication between Displaced Persons and their families. It was agreed at this meeting that UNRRA should submit a memorandum on the registration and tracing of Displaced Persons and the re-establishment of communication between them and their families. This memorandum was to be criticised by those present and others before being submitted to the National Government. It was also to be placed before the military authorities in order that it should be in line with military policy.

A few days later, the military authorities issued their final Directive

Government who were members of the Allied Registration Commission (an inter-
 national body meeting in London) and who possessed registration documents,
 also concerned themselves with the problem of trading. In the United Kingdom
 the Foreign Relations Department of the British Red Cross Society was
 already operating a trading bureau, and in addition had set up a bureau
 known for Displaced Persons at Paris at the request and with the approval
 of the Allied military authorities.

During the lifetime of the Allied Post-War Reconstruction Bureau,
 Major Eric Carter of the Foreign Office British Liaison Department had been in charge
 of this subject, and under his guidance a tentative plan began to take
 shape which envisaged the creation of national trading bureaux by the various
 European governments, and the development of the trading services already
 established by the ICRC. During March 1944 Mr. Hoehler left London
 for America and took with him a request that Washington Headquarters should
 authorize the American Regional Office (ARO) to invite the ICRC and/or the
 National Red Cross Societies to participate in a wide-area network for
 trading displaced persons.

Mr. Hoehler himself appears to have entertained hopes of some
 kind of direct operational cooperation between WEMA and the ICRC, and he
 suggested that the ICRC should be organized by WEMA for the
 performance of certain services, so that WEMA staff should have access
 to the ICRC files. These proposals were put before the Director-General
 on April 12th 1944.

In London a meeting was called by Sir Herbert Jackson, of the
 Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees (ICR), with representatives of
 the ICRC, the Foreign Relations Department of the British Red Cross
 Societies (FRCS) and WEMA with regard to trading displaced persons and
 communication between Displaced Persons and their families. It was agreed
 at this meeting that WEMA should send a memorandum on the registration
 and trading of Displaced Persons and the re-establishment of communication
 between them and their families. This memorandum was to be submitted by
 those present and others before being submitted to the National Government.
 It was also to be placed before the military authorities in order that
 it should be in line with military policy.

This document was eventually developed under the title:

"Communication between Displaced Persons and their families - Enquiries, Tracing and Registration of Missing Persons." It referred to the work of the ICRC and the ERCS and also the register kept by the Vatican authorities and by the Mission Catholique at Fribourg in Switzerland. The paper proposed the establishment in each Allied country of ^aNational Tracing Bureau along the lines of the ERCS Bureau in the U.K. The function of a Central Tracing Bureau was also described and it was suggested that this could easily be set up by expanding the existing ICRC Register at Geneva. This document came before the Standing Technical Sub-Committee on Displaced Persons at its 5th Meeting on 30th June 1944 and received its approval subject to certain minor amendments.

In the meantime, the military authorities in Europe were becoming concerned about the problem of "communications to, from and about civilians in liberated areas" and they produced in July 18th 1944 a draft directive on this subject which they brought before a meeting, comprising the interested ^{r/}Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Forces (SHAEF) ^{ti/}Divisions and civilian agencies, for discussion. This SHAEF document envisaged a very similar system to that which was submitted by ERO to the Standing Technical Sub-Committee, and the ERO document was being brought into line with the final version of the SHAEF directive. ^{s)} The ICRC had been consulted at all stages and had unofficially approved the functions proposed for them as the Central Tracing Bureau for Europe and the agreements of the Governments in regard to the establishment of National Tracing Bureaux followed from their acceptance of the ERO paper laid before the Sub-Committee.

On September 3rd, 1944, ERO was able to send to the members of the Standing Technical Sub-Committee a copy of the document on "Communication between Displaced Persons and their families", as amended in the light of the comments of the military authorities. In this communication the delegate was asked formally to ascertain whether his Government was in general agreement with the memorandum and, in particular, whether it proposed to set up a National Tracing Bureau as suggested in paragraph 7 thereof. A few days later, the military authorities issued their final Directive

This document was eventually developed under the title
 "Communication between Displaced Persons and their Families - Registered"
 Working and Registration of Displaced Persons. It referred to the work of
 the ICND and the IRO and also the register kept by the National Authority
 and by the Displaced Persons at Geneva in Switzerland. The paper
 proposed the establishment of a central office at Geneva to register the
 names along the lines of the IRO Bureau in the U.S. The function of a
 Central Trading Bureau was also described and it was suggested that this
 could easily be set up by expanding the existing IRO Register at Geneva.
 This document came before the Standing Technical Sub-Committee on Displaced
 Persons at its 5th meeting on 10th June 1944 and received its approval
 subject to certain minor amendments.

In the meantime, the military authorities in Europe were being
 kept concerned about the problem of "concentration camps" and they proposed in July 1944 a draft
 directive on this subject which they brought before a meeting, consisting
 the interested European Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Forces (AEF) in
 various and civilian agencies, for discussion. This AEF document envi-
 saged a very similar system to that which was submitted by IRO to the Stan-
 ding Technical Sub-Committee, and the IRO document was being brought into
 line with the final version of the AEF directive. The ICND had been
 consulted by all stages and had unhesitatingly approved the function proposed
 for them as the Central Trading Bureau for Europe and the agreement of
 the Government in regard to the establishment of National Trading Bureaux
 followed from their acceptance of the IRO paper laid before the Sub-Com-
 mittee.

On September 2nd, 1944, IRO was able to send to the members of
 the Standing Technical Sub-Committee a copy of the document on Displaced
 Persons between Displaced Persons and their Families, as revised in the light
 of the comments of the military authorities. In this connection the sub-
 committee was asked formally to ascertain whether its Government was in gen-
 eral agreement with the amendments, in particular, whether it proposed
 to set up a National Trading Bureau as suggested in paragraph 7 thereof.
 A few days later, the military authorities forwarded their final directive

on Civilian Communications.

At that time ERO was engaged in developing memoranda embodying suggestions on the functions of National Tracing Bureaux. Copies of these documents were sent to the Apostolic delegate on September 15th with a request that the Vatican should be asked whether they desired to participate in the scheme and if so in what way. On the same day, Mr. Dudley Ward, on behalf of Sir Frederick Leith-Ross, formally invited the ICRC to undertake the role of Central Tracing Bureau for Europe.

The plans for National Tracing Bureaux and a Central Tracing Bureau for Europe were further elaborated in two papers entitled respectively "Suggestions Regarding the Functions of the National Tracing Bureaux and the Local Tracing Offices" and "Suggestions on Functions of the Central Tracing Bureau for Europe". These were sent both to the European Governments and to the Committee of the International Red Cross for the purpose of indicating the lines along which UNRRA, in agreement with the Standing Technical Sub-Committee, envisaged the development of the Tracing organization in Europe. It is noteworthy that this scheme did not provide for any kind of tracing bureau within Germany. The reason for this was that tracing at that time was envisaged in terms of marrying enquiries with registrations. If a National Tracing Bureau had no record of the whereabouts of a person enquired after, the enquiry would be sent to Geneva and an attempt made there to marry the enquiry against some record in their card index. If the person was believed to have been in Germany, reliance would be placed upon records that could be extracted from the DP.2 Registration Cards made out for each Displaced Person which, according to plan, were to be deposited centrally with SIEAF. As will be seen below, this limited conception of tracing had to be actively supplemented by actual search among German records and in Assembly Centres and other places in Germany while, at the same time, the DP.2 Cards proved entirely unworkable for any tracing or Central Record purposes. The National Tracing Bureau described in the above paper was modelled, broadly speaking, on the Tracing Bureau operated by the Foreign Relations Department of the British Red Cross Society.

On October 10th, 1944, the ICRC formally accepted UNRRA's invitation to cooperate in the work of tracing by becoming responsible for the

an Civilian Commission.

At that time the Commission was engaged in developing memoranda embodying suggestions on the functions of National Trading Bureaux. Copies of these memoranda were sent to the Economic Committee on September 19th with a request that the National Council be asked whether they desired to participate in the scheme and if so in what way. On the same day, Mr. Jeffrey Ward, on behalf of Sir Frederick Leith-Ross, formally invited the E.C.C. to undertake the role of Central Trading Bureau for Europe.

The plans for National Trading Bureaux and a Central Trading Bureau for Europe were further elaborated in two papers entitled respectively

'Suggestions regarding the functions of the National Trading Bureaux and the local Trading Offices' and 'Suggestions on functions of the Central Trading Bureau for Europe'. These were sent both to the European Govern-

ments and to the Committee on the International Red Cross for the purpose of indicating the lines along which E.C.C. in agreement with the Economic

Technical Sub-Committee, envisaged the development of the Trading Organisations in Europe. It is noteworthy that this scheme did not provide for any

kind of trading bureau within Germany. The reason for this was that no

claim at that time was envisaged in terms of carrying out operations with regard to Germany. If a National Trading Bureau had no records of the whereabouts of a

person employed after the enquiry would be sent to Germany and an attempt made there to carry the enquiry against some records in their own index.

If the person was believed to have been in Germany, references would be placed upon records that could be extracted from the B.P.S. Registration Cards made out for each displaced person which, according to plan, were to be deposited centrally with E.C.C. As will be seen below, this limited conception

of trading had to be actively supplemented by several other means: German records and in Assembly Centres and other places in Germany while, at the same time, the B.P.S. Cards proved entirely unsuitable for any trading or other record purposes. The National Trading Bureau described in the above

paper was outlined, broadly speaking, as the Trading Bureau envisaged by the Foreign Relations Department of the British Red Cross Society.

On October 10th, 1945, the E.C.C. formally accepted E.C.C.'s invitation to cooperate in the work of setting up trading organisations for the

Central Tracing Bureau for Europe. This acceptance was also conveyed by cable to the ICRC London Delegation and referred to ERO on October 17th.

In regard to the National Tracing Bureaux, most European countries were at first very slow in informing UNRRA of their intentions. However, in November a memorandum on Communications between Displaced Persons and their Families agreed upon at the 5th Meeting of the Standing Technical Subcommittee on Displaced Persons for Europe was finally approved by the British Government, who recommended that the functions of a National Tracing Bureau as suggested, be carried out in Great Britain by the Foreign Relations Department of the British Red Cross Societies.

Subsequently, the French and Dutch Governments led the way in establishing their own National Tracing Bureau and in bringing it into operation within the framework proposed by UNRRA.

One question which was material to the subject of tracing, but not directly connected with it, was that of postal communication between Displaced Persons and their families. Obviously, if at the earliest possible moment arrangements could be made for Displaced Persons to communicate, even though very briefly, with their families, it would quickly remove large numbers of cases from the whole field of tracing. As far back as May 1944, UNRRA developed a proposal for a form postcard which could be sent by each Displaced Person to his or her relatives at home and which would simply indicate that he or she was alive and well. The matter was, however, frowned upon by SHAEF, and in the Directive on Communications to, from and about Civilians in Liberated Areas, of September 15th, no such scheme was envisaged while, on the other hand, it was expected that ordinary postal communications would be available fairly quickly subject to censorship regulations. Thus, for the time being, the field postcard was thrown out. However, the news came through in October that SHAEF was considering a simple form postcard for Displaced Persons, and it was learned during December that the Army had definitely settled on a one-way field postcard. The form postcard stated in English, French and Dutch: "I am well and safe"; "Will write as soon as possible"; "Expect to be home soon, do not write". They were subject to one hundred percent censorship and each Displaced Person was permitted to write one card only.

General meeting between the groups. This meeting was also covered by
 cable to the UNHCR London Liaison and referred to UNHCR on October 1964.

In regard to the National Training Program, most European countries
 were at first very slow in indicating their intentions. However,
 in November a memorandum on Germanization between displaced persons and
 their families agreed upon at the 2nd meeting of the Working Technical Sub-
 Committee on Displaced Persons for Europe was finally agreed by the Ger-
 man Government, who recommended that the formation of a National Training
 Bureau as suggested, be carried out in Great Britain by the Foreign Office.
 Home Department of the British had given assistance.

Subsequently, the French and Dutch Governments led the way in
 establishing their own National Training Bureaus and in bringing it into ex-
 ecution within the framework proposed by UNHCR.

The question which was central to the subject of training, but not
 directly connected with it, was that of general communication between Displa-
 ced Persons and their families. Obviously, it is the earliest possible co-
 ordination arrangements could be made for displaced persons to communicate, even
 though very tentatively, with their families, it would greatly remove many im-
 parts of stress from the whole field of training. As far back as 1954,
 UNHCR developed a proposal for a form postcard which could be sent by each
 displaced person to his or her relatives at home and which would simply
 indicate that he or she was alive and well. The matter was, however, pro-
 posed upon by UNHCR, and in the Executive on Communications to, from and about
 Displaced Persons in 1954, it was suggested that initially general communication
 would be available fairly widely subject to necessary restrictions. This,
 for the time being, the field postcard was chosen over. However, the news
 came through in October that UNHCR was considering a single form postcard
 for displaced persons, and it was learned during January that the reply had
 definitely settled on a one-way field postcard. The form postcard would
 be in English, French and Dutch "I am well and safe"; "All well as soon as
 possible"; "Expect to be here soon, do not write"; "They were subject to one
 hundred percent censorship and even displaced person was forbidden to write
 one card only."

2. INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS.

At the first meeting of the UNRRA Council in December 1943, a Resolution was passed relating to policies with respect to Displaced Persons which provided, among other things, that the Director-General should "take steps to ensure the closest cooperation with such agencies as the International Committee of the Red Cross and the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees and any other appropriate bodies....." Following the Council meeting, the Director-General wrote on 14th December to the Delegate of the ICRC in the USA, stating that he was pleased to note the decision of the ICRC to extend their existing Record Bureau for Prisoners-of-War to "civilians no longer living at their usual addresses who desire to establish contact with other members of their families". He added that UNRRA would be "pleased to collaborate with the International Committee of the Red Cross particularly as such collaboration was envisaged by action of the Council of UNRRA". Thus it was assumed from the outset that UNRRA would look to the ICRC for services in connection with the tracing of missing persons.

During 1944 the ICRC in Geneva established a Central Register for Civilians along the lines of that already existing and in use during the war for Prisoners-of-War. By means of this Register it was hoped that enquirers could be paired off against one another by the use of a suitably indexed record in which the names of missing persons could be sought.

Reference has already been made to the fact that UNRRA and the Standing Technical Sub-Committee on Displaced Persons for Europe contemplated using the services of the ICRC as a Central Tracing Bureau for Europe for which purpose, as has been seen, an invitation was issued in the name of UNRRA on September 15th, 1944. It was the intention of UNRRA that the bulk of the tracing business in Europe should be carried out by direct communication between National Tracing Bureaux and that the Central Bureau for Europe should only be consulted, generally speaking, in the case of enquiries not solved by National Tracing Bureaux, or enquiries in which even the country of probable residence of the person sought was unknown. The ICRC felt that as a Central Tracing Bureau they should be consulted in the first place; cases of enquiries not satisfactorily dealt with in this way should then be

2. INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

At the first meeting of the ICRC Council in December 1945, a resolution was passed relating to policies with respect to displaced persons which provided, among other things, that the Director-General should take steps to ensure the closest cooperation with such agencies as the International Committee of the Red Cross and the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees and any other appropriate bodies..... Following the Council meeting, the Director-General wrote on 14th December to the Delegates of the ICRC in the USA, stating that he was pleased to note the decision of the ICRC to extend their existing Search Bureau for Prisoners-of-War to civilians no longer living at their usual addresses who desire to establish contact with other members of their families". He added that UNRWA would be pleased to collaborate with the International Committee of the Red Cross particularly as such collaboration was envisaged by action of the Council of UNRWA. Thus it was assumed from the outset that UNRWA would look to the ICRC for services in connection with the tracing of missing persons.

During 1947 the ICRC in Geneva established a Central Register for missing persons along the lines of that already existing and in use during the war for Prisoners-of-War. The name of this register it was hoped that enquiries could be paired off against one another by the use of a suitably indexed record in which the names of missing persons could be sought.

Reference has already been made to the fact that UNRWA and the Standing Technical Sub-Committee on Displaced Persons for Europe contemplated using the services of the ICRC as a Central Tracing Bureau for Europe for which purpose, as has been seen, an invitation was issued in the name of UNRWA on September 25th, 1946. It was the intention of UNRWA that the work of the tracing bureau in Europe should be carried out by direct collaboration between National Tracing Bureaux and that the Central Bureau for Europe should only be consulted, generally speaking, in the case of enquiries not solved by National Tracing Bureaux, or enquiries in which even the country of possible residence of the person sought was unknown. The ICRC felt that as a Central Tracing Bureau they should be consulted in the first place; cases of enquiries not satisfactorily dealt with in this way should then be

sent to the National Tracing Bureaux. This point of view was, of course, in contradiction to the pattern envisaged by UNRRA. The scheme which had already been accepted by the Standing Technical Sub-Committee did not provide for referral to the Central Tracing Bureau until after the National Tracing Bureaux had failed to produce results. It was considered by UNRRA essential that the tracing system should be decentralized as far as possible, and the volume of work which would be thrown on the Central Tracing Bureau, if it worked on the plan suggested by Mr. Burchardt, President of the ICRC, would be overwhelming. Finally there were political difficulties in the way of too extensive a committal to the ICRC owing to the lack of diplomatic relations between the USSR and Switzerland. This difference of opinion between UNRRA and the ICRC did not appear capable of resolution in London, and accordingly the London Delegation of the ICRC suggested to Geneva that they should invite UNRRA to send delegates to Switzerland for conferences. The invitation was for coming on January 29th, 1945 and arrangements were immediately made to send to Geneva Mr. Eyre Carter of the Foreign Office Relief Department, working with UNRRA.

Mr. Carter travelled to Geneva on February 23rd in the company of Mr. Ben Youngdahl, UNRRA officer attached to SHAEF. In the course of some cordial meetings with the ICRC the latter accepted without questions the view of UNRRA that all possible enquiries should be dealt with in the first place by National Tracing Bureaux. Thus, apparently, the stage was set for tracing to be carried out in the main by National Tracing Bureaux, but in regard to difficult cases not solved by other methods or with regard to persons in distant countries for whom a National Tracing Bureau was not available, the Central Tracing Bureau for Europe would exercise its function.

By the early Spring of 1945, therefore, the time had apparently arrived for the establishment of a tracing system along the lines proposed by UNRRA, and indeed a number of Governments of liberated countries were already taking practical measures to set up National Tracing Bureaux. An account will be given below of the manner in which at this stage the military authorities became interested in the subject of tracing and eventually took over the responsibility for the Central Tracing Bureau and Record

... to the National Trading Bureau. This point of view was, of course, in contradiction to the pattern envisaged by UNCTAD. The concern which had already been accepted by the Economic Commission for Europe was not yet fully reflected in the General Trading Bureau until after the National Trading Bureau had failed to produce results. It was considered by UNCTAD essential that the trading system should be formalized as far as possible, and the volume of work which would be thrown on the General Trading Bureau, if it worked on the plan suggested by Mr. Borchardt, President of the ECEU, would be overwhelming. Finally there were political difficulties in the way of too extensive a transfer to the UNCTAD of the task of organizing relations between the USSR and Switzerland. This difference of opinion between UNCTAD and the ECEU did not appear capable of resolution in London, and accordingly the London Delegation of the UNCTAD suggested to Geneva that they should invite UNCTAD to send a delegate to Switzerland for consultation. The invitation was for coming on January 27th, 1955 and arrangements were immediately made to send to Geneva Mr. Guy Gordon of the Foreign Office Relief Department, working with UNCTAD.

The matter proceeded to Geneva on January 27th in the company of Mr. Ben Youngblood, UNCTAD officer attached to UNCTAD. In the course of some initial meetings with the UNCTAD the latter accepted without question the view of UNCTAD that all possible expedients should be dealt with in the first place by National Trading Bureau. This, accordingly, the stage was set for dealing to be carried out in the main by National Trading Bureau, but in regard to difficult cases not solved by other methods or with regard to particular in distant countries for whom a National Trading Bureau was not available, the General Trading Bureau for Europe could exercise its function.

In the early spring of 1955, therefore, the line had apparently been set for the establishment of a trading system along the lines proposed by UNCTAD, and under a number of Governments of interested countries were already taking practical measures to set up National Trading Bureaus. In the future will be given below of the manner in which at this stage the UNCTAD authorities became interested in the subject of trading and eventually took over the responsibility for the General Trading Bureau and its work.

Tracing Office in Germany. In the meantime the ICRC in a memorandum addressed to SHAEF on April 21st 1945 asked SHAEF to enable the ICRC to instal their delegates in occupied Germany. While, in the main, they would devote their time to the traditional tasks of assisting Prisoners-of-War, it was pointed out that the Committee was much concerned with the problem of dispersed families and desired to place its service at the disposal of the official organisations in connection with the enquiry for and the repatriation of this category of war victims. This letter seems to have been followed up by a personal conference between Mr. Pradervand, ICRC Delegate in France and General Graslet of SHAEF, in which the latter reacted favourably to the ICRC proposals. On May 30th he replied officially approving the establishment of an office of the ICRC in Germany and stating that if the ICRC desired to work in connection with Displaced Persons, it would be necessary to work out an arrangement with UNRRA.

The ICRC submitted its proposals to UNRRA on May 29th in which the ICRC proposed a plan, "the putting into practical effect of which will be studied with UNRRA", for tracing missing persons and, in connection with this, for "the distribution and collection of the cards, which are now being printed in Geneva, in Assembly Centres in Germany". This plan was approved by UNRRA and submitted to SHAEF G-5. Brig. Gen. Michelsen replied on behalf of G-5 that the recommendation of UNRRA for service by the ICRC along the lines of the ICRC memorandum was "accepted and the application of the International Red Cross approved subject to the terms set forth in Administrative Memorandum No. 39, Appendix G". This decision was communicated to the ICRC on June 12th. It was thus clear that both UNRRA and SHAEF accepted the principle of using the ICRC for tracing services along the lines of the ICRC proposals the details of which were to be discussed with UNRRA.

Some of these details had already been discussed on June 2nd 1945 by Major Eyre Carter, who was acting as Records Officer attached to the DP Division of IRO, in a document signed jointly him and Mr. Thudichum, the Tracing Expert of the ICRC, and addressed to G-5 SHAEF at Versailles. It was suggested that the bulk of the repatriable Displaced Persons were being or were shortly being returned to their homes and that they would,

Working Office in Germany. In the meantime the ILO in a memorandum addressed to SHAW on April 23rd 1922 asked SHAW to enable the ILO to finance their delegates in occupied Germany. In the main, they would devote their time to the traditional work of assisting employers and workers, it was pointed out that the Committee was much concerned with the problem of unemployment and desired to place its services as the disposal of the official organizations in connection with the enquiry for and the registration of this category of war victims. This latter work has not been followed up by a personal conference between Mr. Trefanberg, ILO Delegate in France and General Counsel of SHAW, in which the latter requested favorably some ILO proposals. On May 19th he replied officially approving the establishment of an office of the ILO in Germany and stating that if the ILO desired to work in connection with displaced persons, it would be necessary to work out an arrangement with SHAW.

The ILO submitted the proposals to SHAW on May 25th in which the ILO proposed a plan, "the putting into practical effect of which will be studied with SHAW," for working similar to that set up in connection with this, for the distribution and collection of the cards, which are not being prepared in Germany, in assembly centers in Germany. This plan was approved by SHAW and submitted to SHAW on 6-2-22, the plan being replied on behalf of G-2 that the recommendation of SHAW for services by the ILO along the lines of the ILO memorandum was accepted and the application of the International Red Cross groups subject to the terms set forth in Administrative Memorandum No. 22, August 17, 1922. This resolution was communicated to the ILO on June 1922. It was then clear that both SHAW and SHAW accepted the principle of using the ILO for working out along the lines of the ILO proposals the details of which it was to be discussed with SHAW.

Some of these details had already been discussed on June 2nd 1922 by Major Pyre Carter, who was acting as ILO's Director, according to the Director of ILO, in a document which clearly sets out the ILO's traditional working system of the ILO, and referred to G-2 SHAW as follows: It was suggested that the bulk of the reports displaced persons were being or were shortly being returned to their homes and that they would

therefore, be traced by their own National Tracing Bureaux. There would remain a number, estimated at 500,000 to a million, non-repatriable and it was proposed that the ICRC function as the Central Tracing Bureau for Europe would be the vast responsibility for dealing with the tracing enquiries of non-repatriable. The Red Cross tracing form P. 10,027 in nineteen different languages, together with instructions, were to be distributed in the Assembly Centres by ICRC delegates and after collection and censorship were to be transmitted to Geneva. The general authority for this plan stemmed, according to the document, from the fact that, "by agreement between SHAEF, UNRRA and the Committee of the International Red Cross the latter named acts as a central link in the system of tracing missing persons". Major Carter was, of course, correct in supposing that this proposal accorded with UNRRA policy as it had been developed during the previous eighteen months in ERO with the full approval of the Standing Technical Sub-Committee. His assumption reflected SHAEF policy was at that time less well founded though it was no doubt based upon the SHAEF approval of the document "Communication Between Displaced Persons and Their Families". Nevertheless, this document only related to the use of the ICRC facilities and no decision had hitherto been reached on detailed procedures for tracing enquiries by Displaced Persons either at SHAEF or in ERO. Major Carter appears to have overlooked the fact that it was SHAEF and not UNRRA that was running the operation at that stage and that any detailed procedure would have to receive the fullest concurrence of the various military authorities. However, it is evident that SHAEF at that time was ready to contemplate the entry of the ICRC Delegates into Assembly Centres for purposes of tracing as indicated by its official acceptance of the ICRC proposal mentioned above. Colonel Charles I. Schottland, at the time in the Displaced Persons Branch of G-5 SHA EF and later Chief of Relief Services in CIM, described the situation in the following terms:

"As regards the International Red Cross it is true that an agreement with them on the use of their tracing facilities was concluded by UNRRA with the approval of Combined Displaced Persons Executive (CDPE). But the method of using their facilities has not yet been settled. Mr. Byre Carter, during his assignment as Records Officer, went to Switzerland and drew a more

... be traced by their own National Security Bureau. There would be
 a number, estimated at 500,000 to a million, non-identifiable and it was
 proposed that the ICCC function as the Central Security Bureau for Europe
 and be the main responsibility for dealing with the security agencies of
 the member states. The Red Cross strategy form P. 40, 1947 in the case of
 these languages, together with instructions, were to be distributed in the
 Assembly Center by ICCC delegates and other delegates and membership
 was to be transferred to Geneva. The Geneva authority for this plan
 was, according to the document, "as the last step" by agreement bet-
 ween SHARP, ICCC and the Committee of the International Red Cross the
 document was as a central link in the system of working which persons.
 The document was, of course, correct in suggesting that this proposal accorded
 with ICCC policy as it had been developed during the previous eighteen
 months in ICCC with the full approval of the Executive Committee and Council.
 The document reflected SHARP policy as at that time had been
 though it was no doubt based upon the ICCC approval of the document
 Commission between Displaced Persons and their families. However,
 this document only related to the use of the ICCC facilities and no
 mention had hitherto been made on detailed procedure for working ex-
 cept by Displaced Persons either at SHARP or in ICCC. Major Carter appears
 to have overlooked the fact that it was SHARP and not ICCC that was re-
 sponsible for the operation at that stage and that any detailed procedure would have
 to receive the fullest concurrence of the various military authorities.
 However, it is evident that SHARP at that time was ready to contemplate the
 transfer of the ICCC delegates into Assembly Centers for purposes of working
 as indicated in the official acceptance of the ICCC proposal mentioned
 above, Colonel Charles I. Schottland, at the time in the Central Com-
 mand Branch of G-5 DIA IV and later Chief of Relief Services in G-1, desert-
 ed the situation in the following terms:
 "As regards the International Red Cross it is true that an agree-
 ment with them on the use of their existing facilities was concluded by SHARP
 with the approval of Combined Displaced Persons Executive (CDPE) and the
 transfer of using their facilities has not yet been effected. In the interim,
 during the assignment as Health Officer, was so determined and from a more

detailed agreement without having the authority to do so. As a result, misunderstandings arose which are greatly to be regretted".

On July 4th, 1945 Miss H.P. Pollak, UNRRA Welfare Officer attached to SHAEF, sent to the ICRC on Col. Schottland's suggestion a brief memorandum outlining the main aspects of the Displaced Persons Operation in Germany with particular reference to the relationship of UNRRA to the military authorities and to Voluntary Agencies. In this memorandum some detail was given of the procedure which had to be followed in arranging for operations by Voluntary Agencies and asking the ICRC to submit full details of supplementary proposals. It was, however, acknowledged that the proposal for an International Tracing Bureau had already been admitted and duly approved, and the memorandum is unclear on whether the additional details required were intended to apply also to the International Tracing Bureau.

On July 23rd Dr. R. Marti, Chief ICRC Delegate in Germany, wrote to UNRRA saying that the ICRC Tracing Expert, Mr. Thudichum, had arrived on the previous Thursday with two lorries loaded with half a million ICRC Tracing cards, (P 10.027) and large quantities of instructions in fourteen languages. UNRRA was asked if the first distribution of this material in an Assembly Centre might take place in the presence of Mr. Thudichum. To this request UNRRA replied that they regretted it would not be possible to arrange for the immediate distribution of the ICRC Tracing Cards in Assembly Centres as CDPX had not yet issued the military directive governing such operations. Arrangements for tracing operations would be the subject of discussions between the military authorities, the ICRC and UNRRA in the near future.

From that time onwards, the ICRC was virtually excluded from the field of civilian tracing. On September 7th, 1945, CDPX wrote to the ICRC informing them that they had set up a Tracing Records and Communications Unit incorporating a Central Tracing Bureau (CTB) and a Central Records Office. It was proposed that all enquiries received by the CTB referring to Allied military personnel should be passed on to Geneva, and similarly all civilian enquiries unsuitable for field tracing or on which negative results had been obtained, The ICRC, for its part, was asked to pass civilian enquiries regarding persons missing in Germany to the CTB and to inform the CTB of the

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detailed agreement without having the authority to do so. As a result, misunderstandings arose which are hereby to be corrected.

On July 6th, 1945, Mrs. H.M. Lohr, Chief of the IGOB, advised that she had been to SHAEF, and to the IGOB on Col. Robertson's suggestion a brief memorandum outlining the main aspects of the proposed IGOB operation in Germany with particular reference to the relationship of IGOB to the military authorities and to Voluntary Agencies. In this memorandum some details were given of the procedure which had to be followed in arranging for operations by Voluntary Agencies and asking the IGOB to submit full details of supplementary proposals. It was, however, acknowledged that the proposal for an International Trading Bureau had already been drafted and duly approved, and the memorandum is confined to whether the additional details required were intended to apply also to the International Trading Bureau.

On July 23rd Dr. R. Hertz, Chief IGOB Delegate in Germany, wrote to SHAEF saying that the IGOB Trading Report, Mr. Thindman, had arrived on the previous Thursday with two further loads with half a million IGOB Trading Cards, (P 10,000) and large quantities of instructions in fourteen languages. It was noted that the first distribution of this material in an Assembly Centre might take place in the presence of Mr. Thindman. To this request SHAEF replied that they regretted it would not be possible to arrange for the immediate distribution of the IGOB Trading Cards in Assembly Centres as they had not yet issued the military directive governing such operations. Arrangements for trading operations would be the subject of discussion between the military authorities, the IGOB and SHAEF in the near future.

From that time onwards, the IGOB was virtually excluded from the field of civilian trading. On September 7th, 1945, SHAEF wrote to the IGOB advising them that they had set up a Trading Bureau and Germanic Commission for incorporating a Central Trading Bureau (CTB) and a Central Bank Office. It was proposed that all enquiries received by the CTB referring to Allied military personnel should be passed on to SHAEF, and similarly all civilian enquiries suitable for field trading or on which negative results had been obtained, the IGOB, for its part, was asked to pass civilian enquiries to the IGOB and to inform the CTB of the

records concerning Displaced Persons either held by them or whose location was known to them. The ICRC appears still to have entertained some hopes of playing a definite part in the tracing business and expressed this point of view at meetings held in Paris on August 1st and 17th. But in fact no more consideration was given to using the ICRC facilities. In January 1946, Col. Bowring, Director of CTB, visited Geneva and asked the ICRC to place its facilities at the disposal of UNRRA. In reply the ICRC stated that it would announce that the centralisation of enquiries concerning, and the search for, Displaced Persons in Germany had now been taken over by the CTB in cooperation with the National Tracing Bureaux. The ICRC would place at the disposal of the CTB and the NTB's all future and existing data regarding tracing enquiries and information.

In March and April, Miss S.J. Warner, ERO Tracing Consultant, visited Germany and Switzerland and proposed that the ICRC should be asked on a commission basis to analyse the vast number of lists of former inmates of concentration camps and others in Germany by means of its mechanical filing machines. This proposal, however, was not taken up by UNRRA.

Since a quadrupartite tracing organisation was contemplated, including the Russian Zone, it was evident that the ICRC could not play an active part owing to the lack of diplomatic relations between Switzerland and the USSR. Unfortunately, CDPX and UNRRA both approved of a plan for the active participation of the ICRC in tracing, and this obvious error on the part of CDPX which had the responsibility for the decision no doubt only contributed towards the general misunderstanding. All these circumstances cooperated to produce an atmosphere of misunderstanding and irritation of which the ICRC was the largely innocent victim. It was, however, inevitable in the circumstances that the decision was eventually made to place the responsibility for tracing activities on the shoulders of CDPX.

3. MILITARY PLANS FOR TRACING

Since, during the first half of 1945, responsibility for Displaced Persons rested upon SHAEF, it was natural that on the liberation of Allied territories and the occupation of enemy territory a large number of enquiries should be directed to SHAEF by anxious relatives of Displaced

records concerning Displaced Persons either held by them or whose location was known to them. The IJRC agents still to have undertaken some steps of playing a definite part in the tracing business and expressed this point of view at meetings held in Paris on August 1st and 2nd. It was stated no more consideration was given to using the IJRC facilities. In January 1946, Col. Bowring, Director of GIN, visited Geneva and asked the IJRC to provide its facilities at the disposal of UNRRA. In reply the IJRC stated that it would announce that the concentration of enquiries concerning, and the search for, Displaced Persons in Germany had now been taken over by the GIN in cooperation with the National Tracing Bureau. The IJRC would place at the disposal of the GIN and the UNRRA all letters and existing data regarding tracing enquiries and information.

In March and April, 1946, Mrs. S. J. Warner, IJRC Tracing Consultant, visited Geneva and Switzerland and proposed that the IJRC should be asked on a confidential basis to analyze the vast number of lists of former inmates of concentration camps and other in Germany by means of the mechanical filing machines. This proposal, however, was not taken up by UNRRA. Since a quantitative tracing organization contemplated, including the Russian zone, it was evident that the IJRC could not play an active part owing to the lack of diplomatic relations between Switzerland and the USSR. Unfortunately, GIN and UNRRA both approved of a plan for the active participation of the IJRC in tracing, and this obvious error on the part of GIN which had the responsibility for the decision no doubt only contributed towards the general misunderstanding. All these circumstances cooperate to produce an atmosphere of misunderstanding and irritation of which the IJRC was the largely innocent victim. It was, however, inevitable in the circumstances that the decision was eventually made to place the responsibility for tracing activities on the shoulders of GIN.

3. MILITARY PLANS FOR TRACING

Since, during the first half of 1945, responsibility for displaced persons rested upon SHAEF, it was natural that on the liberation of allied territories and the completion of enemy territory a large number of enquiries should be directed to SHAEF by various relatives of Displaced

Persons. In January already it was learned from Col. Scotland of G-5 SHAEF that a large number of communications were arriving through various channels in SHAEF Headquarters in Versailles. Col. Schottland felt that these letters could not be ignored, but that a small unit should be attached to the Field Headquarters of the DP Division of SHAEF G-5 which would acknowledge enquiries and refer enquirers to the appropriate National Tracing Bureaux or to the ICRC in Geneva. He thought that it would be appropriate for this function to be carried out by UNRRA. Although it was proposed by the Standing Technical Sub-Committee that every possible publicity should be given to National Tracing Bureaux and the need for enquiries to be directed to them in the first place, it was considered inevitable that many enquiries would nevertheless continue to reach SHAEF from persons who did not seem to be able to get satisfaction in other directions.

The flow of letters continued to increase as the Armies advanced, and on March 31st Brigadier-General Mickelsen directed an enquiry to UNRRA as to whether the Administration would be prepared to set up a "Forwarding Bureau" which for administrative purposes might be attached to the UNRRA Mission to France. UNRRA felt that it would be willing to undertake this responsibility, but considered that it should be expanded so as to include the task of coordinating National Tracing Bureaux since additional duties might fall to the lot of the Administration particularly in relation to the non-repatriable category of Displaced Persons. The kind of additional duty foreseen at that time was the necessity "to scrutinize the means by which information about Displaced Persons in Germany" could be collected: The description continued: "At the moment full reliance is placed on the DP.2 Registration Card...but this may well prove insufficient for tracing missing persons in Germany. Another most important task will be connected with the measure necessary to identify children whose nationality and personal identity may have been lost, and to find their nearest relatives. Finally, some study will be necessary of the problem of handling cases where contact has been lost through the death of the missing relative unknown to the enquirer". In point of fact, the above tasks eventually occupied an essential place of the work of the CTB.

During the time British and American components of the Central Commission, which had been sitting in London since the beginning of the year,

In January already it was learned from Col. ... that a large number of communications were ... in ... Headquarters in ... that ... factors could not be ignored, but that a small unit should be attached to the ... Headquarters of the ... Division of ... which would ... and refer enquiries to the appropriate National Training ... in Geneva. It thought that it would be appropriate to be carried out by ... Although it was proposed by the Standing Technical Sub-Committee that every possible publicity should be given to National Training Bureau and the need for enquiries to be directed to them in the first place, it was considered inadvisable that enquiries would nevertheless continue to reach ... from persons who did not seem to wish to get satisfaction in other directions.

The flow of letters continued to increase as the ... advanced, and in March ... directed an enquiry to ... whether the Administration would be prepared to set up a "forwarding system" which for administrative purposes might be attached to the ... to France. ... felt that it would be willing to undertake this responsibility, but considered that it should be expanded so as to include the task of coordinating National Training Bureau also additional duties might fall to the lot of the Administration particularly in relation to the ... of displaced persons. The kind of additional duty between at that time was the necessity "to ascertain the means by which information about displaced persons in Germany" could be collected. The ... continued: "At the moment full reliance is placed on the ... but this may well prove insufficient for training ... persons in Germany. Another mass transport pack will be connected with the movement necessary to identify children whose nationality and person identity may have been lost, and to find their nearest relatives. Finally, ... study will be necessary of the problem of building cases where contact has been lost through the death of the missing relative known to the ...". In point of fact, the above tasks eventually emerged as essential parts of the work of the UNR.

During the time British and American components of the General ... which had been sitting in London since the beginning of the year,

gave consideration to the problem of a Central Records Office and of tracing. A statement showing the concern of the British component on the setting up of the Central Records Office was submitted to SHAEF, and UNRRA was invited on April 14th 1945 to support the scheme. The British component further suggested that UNRRA should later assume responsibility for the Central Records Office. It will thus be seen that both SHAEF and the Anglo-American elements of the Control Commission were concerned about the problem of tracing for very practical reasons and were both of the opinion that this was not directly a military task, but was one very suitably delegated to UNRRA.

Meanwhile the field was yielding to the necessity for action and had already set up the nucleus of a Tracing Bureau. On April 27th, SHAEF issued instructions on the subject which provided for the processing of enquiries through normal military channels. SHAEF thus accepted responsibility for incoming enquiries while the task of field search was delegated to the local military detachment Commanders who were authorised to use non-military personnel, (such as Red Cross, UNRRA etc.) in conducting investigations and in exploiting local German records. A month later a SHAEF Tracing and Locating Unit was set up to collect ~~Watte~~-Nominal Rolls of Concentration Camp inmates and to forward lists to National Tracing Bureaux. There was also to be a Central Registry of non-repatriable Displaced Persons maintained by UNRRA and the ICG. For staffing the Location Bureau, SHAEF drew upon personnel under a Miss de la Pole. This bureau was first located at SHAEF/CIH in Versailles (France) and was moved with this CIH to Frankfurt on June 28th 1945.

When UNRRA ultimately replied to SHAEF agreeing to cooperate in the proposed Forwarding Bureau, it was suggested that a responsible UNRRA Officer should be appointed who would coordinate the various National Tracing Bureaux, draw up a scheme for organising the collection of information on records in Germany, and direct the work of the Forwarding Bureau. This wider interpretation was accepted by SHAEF. The DP Division there upon proceeded to seek the necessary budgetary authority and to arrange for the recruitment of key personnel. It was envisaged, that Mr. Tyre Carter should be transferred from the UNRRA Mission to France to become the head of the UNRRA Unit which would be attached to SHAEF and not to the UNRRA Mission to France. The setting up of a Tracing Bureau by UNRRA at SHAEF in the last

...consideration to the program of a Central Records Office and of training...
 ...statement showing the concern of the British command on the setting up...
 ...of the Central Records Office was submitted to SHAW, and SHAW was invited...
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 ...gations and in exploiting local German records. A month later a SHAW Tr-...
 ...ning and Working Unit was set up to collect, review, and forward lists of Ger-...
 ...manization Camp inmates and to forward lists to National Security Bureau...
 ...There was also to be a Central Registry of non-identifiable displaced Ger-...
 ...man maintained by WEMA and the IGO. For starting the Working Bureau...
 ...SHAW drew upon personnel under a lease to the IGO. This bureau was first...
 ...based at SHAW's in Versailles (France) and was working with this CP to...
 ...transfer on June 15th 1945.

When SHAW ultimately replied to SHAW agreeing to cooperate in...
 ...the proposed Working Bureau, it was suggested that a responsible WEMA...
 ...officer should be appointed who would coordinate the various National Se-...
 ...curity Bureaux, draw up a scheme for organizing the collection of information...
 ...in records in Germany, and direct the work of the Working Bureau. This...
 ...other information was accepted by SHAW. The WEMA Division there upon...
 ...proceeded to seek the necessary regulatory authority and to arrange for the...
 ...recruitment of key personnel. It was envisaged that the WEMA should...
 ...be transferred from the WEMA Liaison to France to become the head of the...
 ...unit which would be attached to SHAW and not to the WEMA Liaison to...
 ...France. The setting up of a Working Bureau by SHAW at SHAW in the last

week of May 1945 was foreseen as follows:

"UNRRA set up Tracing Bureau at SHAEF"

As the Allied armies have moved across Germany from the East and from the West during this recent weeks - millions of allied nationals and others have been liberated, and the full extent of the dislocation and disruption in Europe, and the systematised horrors to which people have been subjected have been revealed. Relatives and Friends of people believed to have been held in subjection to the Nazi machine in Germany have been stirred by the deepest anxiety for news of their whereabouts, welfare, and health (or even to know whether they are alive or dead). The breaking up of family groups has also made it urgent that family members in Germany be informed of the present whereabouts of other members of the family outside, since plans for their future movement may depend on this information.

Enquiries concerning displaced persons in Germany coming to Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force have increased in number during these weeks relatively in proportion to territorial gains. The rapid repatriation of displaced persons of western nations, and the patience and hopefulness of those awaiting them at home, plus uncertainty as to how information can be obtained, have so far kept the number of enquiries comparatively low. The only means of communication into Germany is through military channels. In late April an average of three to ten enquiries were received daily. This number has steadily mounted to an average at the end of May of about fifty a day.

At the suggestion of the Displaced Persons Branch of Supreme Headquarters, UNRRA agreed to provide staff to the Displaced Persons Branch for dealing with the enquiry service, with a view to its developing into an international forwarding service for Germany. This tracing bureau had initially two activities:

1. Dealing with enquiries concerning displaced persons in Germany
2. Processing and distribution of nominal rolls of displaced persons registered in concentration camps.

There ~~are~~ four UNRRA staff members assigned:

Miss D. de la Pole - Chief
Miss S. Collins - Assistant
Miss M. Campsie - Secretary
Miss S. Dougal - Secretary

In addition secretarial service from ~~staff~~ the military staff ~~is~~ used as available.

Simple statistics will be accumulated to serve as guide for planning and evaluation. As of June 1st, however, there were 295 enquiries which forwarded through military channels and on which replies were being awaited and 321 enquiries screened and categorised but not yet forwarded. In addition, however, there were the enquiries which had been screened out as not appropriate for forwarding or which had to be held until channels were available for dealing with them in the field.

The source from which enquiries are received are becoming increasingly varied as the service becomes more widely known. The chief sources at the present time may be grouped as:

... of May 1955 was forward as follows:

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

As the Allied armies have moved across Germany from the East and West during this recent weeks - millions of Allied soldiers and civilians have been liberated, and the full extent of the destruction and devastation in Europe, and the systematized horrors to which people have been subjected have been revealed. Relatives and friends of people believed to have been held in subsection to the West within Germany have been especially the deepest anxiety for news of their whereabouts, welfare, and health (or even to know whether they are alive or dead). The pressing way of family groups has also been to want that family members in Germany be informed of the present whereabouts of other members of the family outside, since plans for their future movement are dependent on this information.

Information concerning displaced persons in Germany coming to the attention of the Displaced Persons Administration has increased in number during these weeks relatively in proportion to territorial gains. The registration of displaced persons of western nations, and the assistance and relief of those awaiting them at home, has necessarily as a result of this increase, have so far kept the number of displaced persons actively low. The only means of communication into Germany through military channels, in late April an average of three to five messages were received daily. This number has steadily increased to an average of ten to fifteen a day.

At the suggestion of the Displaced Persons Branch of the War Relocation Authority, it is agreed to provide staff of the Displaced Persons Branch with the existing service, with a view to its developing into a permanent forwarding service for Germany. This service branch is to be established as a separate unit.

1. Dealing with enquiries concerning displaced persons in Germany.
2. Forwarding and distribution of material calls of displaced persons registered in concentration camps.

There are four UNRWA staff members assigned:

- Miss D. de la Bole - Chief
- Miss S. Collins - Assistant
- Miss M. Gupate - Secretary
- Miss S. Douglas - Secretary

It is suggested that the military staff be made responsible for the service.

Single stations will be recommended to serve as units for the service and evidence. As of June 1st, however, there were 253 enquiries which were forwarded through military channels and on which replies were being awaited. In addition, enquiries were forwarded but not yet forwarded. In addition, however, there were the enquiries which had been forwarded but were not forwarded for forwarding or which had to be held until channels were available for dealing with them in the future.

The service from which enquiries are received are hereby transferred as the service becomes more widely known. The chief concern of the present time may be regarded as:

1. Military - War Office London, War Department Washington, SHAEF and the various SHAEF Missions, and the Army Groups.
2. Official Sources - British Foreign Office, U.S. State Department, Embassies, Allied Liaison Officers.
3. American Red Cross for enquiries from U.S. Service men, the British Red Cross for British citizens and others.
4. Direct requests from individuals.

The following tentative plan of priorities into which enquiries are classified is being tried out in order to ensure first attention to the most urgent enquiries, and to relieve Army Groups of requests for information on unsuitable enquiries:

1. Very important persons and very important sources.
2. Specially urgent situations (youth, illness, etc.)
3. United Nations nationals enquiring about United Nations nationals.
4. United Nations nationals enquiring about others.
5. Screened out - temporarily or permanently -
 - a) No addresses - name put on search list
 - b) Enquiries from other than immediate family
 - c) Transmitting of letters or verbatim messages
 - d) POWs and British and US repatriation requests (sent on to appropriate authorities)
 - e) Enquiries concerning persons with whom no communication had been held for some time before the war period.
 - f) Trivial or, at present, non-essential requests (e.g. finding whereabouts of silver or personal belongings left behind)
 - g) Germans for Germans
 - h) Persons in territory to which this Headquarters has no means of communication.

The general plan of work includes the carding and registering of each enquiry as it comes in, classifying and screening, locating of the address in Germany, and finally forwarding the enquiry through military channels. Forms for forwarding, enquiries have been devised in order to reduce the amount of clerical work in this office and in the field.

Nominal rolls from concentration camps are, where appropriate, first searched before an enquiry is forwarded. These nominal rolls come in from the camps in instalments and as time goes on become more and more complete, and therefore more useful. When a person enquired about is identified on a concentration camp nominal roll, it means that as of the date of that roll the person was alive at that camp. In many instances more specific and current information is required. Rapid repatriation of concentration camp inmates, or their removal after registration to other localities reduces the usefulness of the nominal rolls as an answer to enquiries. However, the information in these rolls very often furnishes a clue for additional search.

The above is an account of the functioning of the unit during the preliminary period when displaced persons are being moved rapidly and very often few records kept in the field. As, however, we approach the period when the majority of displaced persons will have been repatriated it will be advisable to begin the search first with the appropriate national tracing bureau to see if the person is home, and then forward to Germany through military channels, only those enquiries for which this first search was unproductive."

In the meantime the hand of the Military Authorities was being forced by the pressure of events. A secret document from the US Group of the Control Commission in July stated that "national officials are growing restless for information and in certain instances are sceptical

1. Hitler - War Office London, War Department Washington, and the various SWBY Missions, and the Army Groups.
2. Official Sources - British Foreign Office, U.S. State Department, and Allied Mission Offices.
3. American Red Cross for supplies from U.S.A. Services and the British Red Cross for British citizens and others.
4. Direct requests from individuals.

The following tentative plan of activities into which activities are classified is being tried out in order to ensure that attention is given to the most urgent activities, and to relieve any groups of requests for information on available activities:

1. Very important persons and very important requests.
2. Specially urgent situations (youth, illness, etc.).
3. United Nations nationals requiring some United Nations assistance.
4. United Nations nationals requiring about others.
5. General list - categorized or summarized -
 - a) No addresses - name put on search list
 - b) Addresses from other than immediate family
 - c) Transmittal of letters or written messages
 - d) Data and British and US registration requests (sent on to appropriate authorities)
 - e) Requests concerning persons with whom no communication has been held for some time before the war period.
 - f) Special or, at present, non-essential requests (e.g. finding whereabouts of soldier or personal belongings left behind)
 - g) Names for Germans
 - h) Persons in territory to which this headquarters has no access of communication.

The general plan of work includes the coding and registering of each enquiry as it comes in, classifying and assessing, locating of the address in Germany, and finally forwarding the enquiry through military channels. Plans for forwarding, enquiries have been devised in order to reduce the amount of clerical work in this office and in the field.

Material which is concentrated under one or more appropriate titles searched below an enquiry is forwarded. These material titles come from the range in instructions and as time goes on become more and more complete, and therefore more useful. When a person enquired about in their file on a concentration camp material file, it means that as of the date of that file the person was alive at that date, in any instance case specific and current information is required. Right registration of concentration camp inmates, or their removal after registration to other localities reduces the usefulness of the material file as an answer to enquiries. However, the information in these files very often furnishes a clue for additional search.

The above is an account of the functioning of the unit during the preliminary period when displaced persons are being moved rapidly and very often the records kept in the field. As, however, we approach the period when the majority of displaced persons will have been resettled it will be inevitable to begin the search from the appropriate national records bureau to see if the person is dead, and then forward to Germany from military channels, only those enquiries for which this search was unproductive.

In the meantime the head of the Military authorities was being covered by the end of events. A secret document from the US Group of the Control Commission in July stated that military officials are being required for information and in certain instances are requested

of current procedures with respect to administrative documentation relative to DP's. There is a definite trend on the part of the United Nations towards the formation of special investigation teams for operations in Germany with a view towards locating records, graves and other personnel information concerning their respective nationals..... This trend may reflect understandable anxiety on the part of the national Governments for prompt and first-hand information. Yet, on the other hand, it is possible that such anxiety is aggravated by knowledge of the non-existence of a proper centralised and coordinating office for handling personal data pertaining to United Nations nationals... Recent conferences with Lt. Col. Proudfoot, DP Branch G-5 SHAEP, and Mr. Eyre Carter, UNRRA, relative to a Central Records Office have resulted in a firm agreement that the prompt establishment of a Central Personnel Records Office for Displaced Persons is an urgent necessity."

On July 5th, Mr. R.H. Parker, Head of the Central Records Section of DP Division, put up a scheme for the establishment of a Central Records Office which would be closely linked with the problem of the re-settlement of non-repatriables and would be located in London. During August 1945, the Central Records Section was dissolved and entire responsibility for the whole matter transferred to the newly-set-up UNRRA CTR. Some comments on the reasons for this step are given in a later section.

On July 11th, a meeting was arranged by DP Branch of G-5 SHAEP regarding the establishment and scope of the Central Records Bureau. It was stated that "the primary purpose of the Bureau is to develop such records and information as will be necessary to answer official governmental and personal enquiries regarding Displaced Persons in Germany. It is not considered practicable or desirable to develop records which are not to be used as a basis for answering such specific enquiries."

The idea of setting up a file of non-repatriable DPs "to enable UNRRA, the Inter-governmental Committee on Refugees (IGOR) and other interested agencies to arrange for ultimate resettlement" was considered necessary, but was to be quite separate from the Central Tracing Records. It was emphasized that there should be the maximum decentralisation of tracing activities to the National Tracing Bureaux in order that the Nations towards

current procedures with respect to administrative dissemination relative to the U.S. There is a definite trend on the part of the United Nations towards the formation of special investigation teams for operations in Germany with a view towards locating records, traces and other personnel information concerning their respective nationals. This trend may be most unfortunate mainly on the part of the national governments for they are first-hand information. Yet, on the other hand, it is possible that such anxiety is aggravated by knowledge of the non-existence of a proper centralized and coordinating office for handling personal data pertaining to United Nations nationals. Recent comments with Lt. Col.

in a letter to the U.S. Army, dated 12/15/45, and in a letter to the U.S. Army, dated 1/10/46, relative to a Central Records Office have resulted in a firm agreement that the proposed establishment of a Central Personnel Records Office for displaced persons is an urgent necessity.

On July 11th, 1945, Lt. W.H. Fisher, head of the General Records Section of the Division, set up a scheme for the establishment of a Central Records Office which would be closely linked with the problem of the re-education of non-repatriables and would be located in London. During August 1945, the Central Records Section was dissolved and entire responsibility for the whole matter transferred to the newly-created UNRWA GRC. Some comments on the reasons for this step are given in a later section.

On July 11th, a meeting was arranged by Lt. Branch of G-5 SHAIR to discuss the establishment and scope of the Central Records Bureau. It was stated that "the primary purpose of the Bureau is to develop such records and information as will be necessary to answer official governmental and personal enquiries regarding displaced persons in Germany. It is not considered practicable or desirable to develop records which are not as a basis for answering such specific enquiries."

The idea of setting up a file of non-repatriables was to enable the Inter-Governmental Committee on Refugees (ICGR) and other interested agencies to arrange for ultimate resettlement was considered necessary, but was to be quite separate from the Central Records Bureau. It was stated that there should be the maximum dissemination of existing records to the National Trading Bureau in order that the resettlement

weight falling on the Records Office might be kept to a maximum.

In the meantime, Brig.Gen. Wood, Major Haller and Mr. Eyre Catter of UNRRA were given the task of investigating the status of records available in Germany, at the ICRG and at National Tracing Bureaux. At the same time, Miss de la Pole was to continue to develop the Card Index of Enquiries received and of various useful records, and to prepare any directives and instructions to the field and make arrangements with Allied Liaison Officers in connection with enquiries. An account of the actual development of the Central Tracing Bureau from this stage onwards must be sought in the report on this subject. It will be found in Section II.

After the dissolution of SHANF early in July 1945, its successor organisation in charge of Displaced Persons, the Combined Displaced Persons Executive (CDPX), set up a working party to examine the whole subject and to make recommendations. In the meantime it issued the following directive on July 24, 1945:

" Combined DISPLACED PERSONS EXECUTIVE
c/o G-5 Division, USFET
" GE-CDPX 383.7 24 July 1945

SUBJECT: Central Tracing Bureau and Central Records Office

TO : Headquarters, 21 Army Group for Military Government
Headquarters, Third US Army for G-5
Headquarters, Seventh US Army for G-5
Headquarters, First French Army for Military Government.

1. A Central Records Office and a Central Tracing Bureau have been established by Combined Displaced Persons Executive and are now in process of development. The following preliminary information and instruction will be supplemented in due course.

2. Central Records Office

a. The Central Records Office is responsible for locating, safeguarding analyzing and determining disposition of all records in Germany that are concerned with displaced persons.

In this connection you are requested to instruct all Military Government detachments to safeguard pending further instructions any such records located in their area and to notify CDPX thereof, through the normal channels.

b. The Central Records Office is responsible for analyzing and determining disposition of Displaced Persons Registration Records (DP2 Cards) forwarded to this Headquarters in accordance with SHANF Administrative Memorandum No. 99 - Revised 15 April 1945, para 31, sub-para (c), and of nominal rolls called for under para 6, sub-para (b) of the above-cited Memorandum, and by SHANF signal S-85927 of 23 April 1945.

Attention is called to the necessity for forwarding fully completed DP2 Cards in respect of all non-repatriable persons (SHANF's 94204 signal dated 29 June 1945 has reference) and in respect of all deceased displaced persons.

She was appointed as Director of the Central Tracing Bureau after Combined

weight falling on the Records Office might be kept to a minimum.

In the meantime, Mr. Gen. Wood, Major Heller and Mr. Hyde Goggin of IBERA, were given the task of investigating the status of records available in Germany, at the IBERA and at National Trading Bureau. At the same time, IBERA was to continue to develop the Card Index of statistics received and of various useful records, and to prepare any directives and instructions to the field and make arrangements with Allied Liaison Offices in connection with statistics. An account of the actual development of the Central Trading Bureau from this stage onwards must be sought in the report on this subject. It will be found in Section II.

After the dissolution of IBERA early in July 1945, its successor organization in charge of Displaced Persons, the Combined Displaced Persons Executive (CDPE), set up a working party to examine the whole subject and to make recommendations. In the meantime it issued the following directives:

on July 21, 1945:

CDPE
 10-0-2 Division, IBERA

24 July 1945

SUBJECT: Central Trading Bureau and General Records Office

TO : Headquarters, 21 Army Group for Military Government
 Headquarters, Third US Army for G-2
 Headquarters, Seventh US Army for G-2
 Headquarters, First French Army for Military Government.

A Central Records Office and a Central Trading Bureau have been established by Combined Displaced Persons Executive and are now in process of development. The following preliminary information and instruction will be supplied in due course.

Central Records Office

a. The Central Records Office is responsible for locating, collecting, analyzing and determining disposition of all records in Germany that are concerned with Displaced Persons.

In this connection you are requested to forward all military government documents to appropriate central institutions and such records located in their area and to notify CDPE thereof, through the normal channels.

b. The Central Records Office is responsible for analyzing and determining disposition of displaced persons registration records (IIB cards) forwarded to this headquarters in accordance with IBERA Administrative Instruction No. 15 - Revised 15 April 1945, para 5, sub-para (c), and of non-IBERA cards forwarded for under para 6, sub-para (b) of the above-mentioned instruction, and by IBERA under 5-55327 of 25 April 1945.

Attention is called to the necessity for forwarding fully completed IIB cards in respect of all non-IBERA displaced persons (IIB cards) and in respect of IIB cards (IIB cards) and in respect of all displaced persons.

c. The Central Records Office will turn over to the National Tracing Bureau of each Allied government records of interest to the country concerned. Other records will be kept centrally and used by the Central Tracing Bureau.

3. Central Tracing Bureau.

a. The Central Tracing Bureau is responsible for promoting the development of a National Tracing Bureau in each country to which all enquiries originating in that country will in the first instance be directed.

b. The Central Tracing Bureau will receive all enquiries from National Tracing Bureaux that cannot be dealt with by them. It will sift such enquiries and pass on those which it judges suitable and which cannot be answered from enquiries the records in the Central Records Office to the appropriate Zone. These enquiries will concern both displaced persons and ex-enemy nationals who are relatives of United Nations nationals.

In this connection you are requested to develop an organisation capable of handling the enquiries which will be transmitted to your Zone or area of command. Officers of this Executive are available on request to advise and assist.

4. Responsibilities.

a. Combined Displaced Persons Executive at present has responsibility for developing and directing the Central Records Office and the Central Tracing Bureau. It will coordinate all interested organisations and utilize all available personnel and resources.

b. CDPX will in due course hand over this responsibility to UNRRA by agreement with all interested organisations."

As will be seen these two bodies were to operate directly under CDPX. This organisation was quite contrary to the idea of giving to the ICRC the right of entry into camps for collecting enquiries and in fact it appears that neither Miss de la Pole nor other UNRRA Officers in Frankfurt had any knowledge of such a proposal at the time. Mr. Eyre Carter, who appears to have been connected with the ICRC move (described above) was still administratively linked with ERO and this event merely emphasises the distance which separated the field from the ERO at that time. (Mr. Eyre Carter was withdrawn by ERO at the beginning of August).

Apparently during June 1945 or even earlier, SHAEF instructed 21 Army Group to set up machinery for recording and tracing Displaced Persons. Col. J.R. Dowing was given the task of directing this Search Bureau which was established under PDMP Division of Control Commission Germany/DE, and located in the British Zone.

On August 3rd Miss de la Pole arrived with all her staff from Frankfurt in Hoechst which was at that time also the location of UNRRA/CH.

She was announced as Director of the Central Tracing Bureau after Combined

o. The Central Records Office will have over to the National
Trading Bureau of each Allied Government records of interest to the country
concerned. Other records will be kept centrally and used by the Central
Trading Bureau.

Central Trading Bureau

a. The Central Trading Bureau is responsible for providing the de-
velopment of a National Trading Bureau in each country to which all agree-
ments originating in that country will in the first instance be directed.

b. The Central Trading Bureau will receive all enquiries from British
and Trading Bureaux that cannot be dealt with by them. It will also
enquiries and pass on those which it judges suitable and which cannot be
answered from its own records in the Central Records Office to the
appropriate Bureau. These enquiries will concern both British persons and
foreign nationals and the relatives of British persons.

In this connection you are requested to develop an enquiry
system of handling the enquiries which will be transmitted to your Bureau
on the basis of country. Officers of this Executive are available on request
to advise and assist.

Personnel

a. General Displaced Persons Executive at present has responsi-
bility for developing and directing the Central Records Office and the
Central Trading Bureau. It will coordinate all interested organizations
and utilize all available personnel and resources.

b. IICG will in due course hand over this responsibility to IICRA
by agreement with all interested organizations.

As will be seen these two bodies were to operate directly under IICG.
This organization was quite contrary to the idea of giving to the IICG the
rights of entry into camps for collecting enquiries and in fact its operations
were neither more than its role nor other IICG Officers in Frankfurt had any
knowledge of such a proposal at the time. It is true, however, that reports to
have been connected with the IICG news (mentioned above) was still contin-
tively linked with IICG and this event merely emphasized the distance
which separated the IICG from the IICG at that time. (The latter was with-
drawn by IICG at the beginning of the war.)

Accordingly during June 1945 or even earlier, IICG instructed its
staff group to set up machinery for receiving and trading Displaced Persons.
Col. J.H. Downing was given the task of directing this search bureau which
was established under IICG Division of Central Commission Germany, Ltd. and
located in the British zone.

On 20th June 1945 the IICG arrived with all her staff from Frank-
furt in London which was at that time also the location of IICG.
She was announced as Director of the Central Trading Bureau after Downing

Repatriation Executive (CRE) had issued its directive on the establishment of the CTB and the Central Records Office. Opinions were sought from the various Zones on the question of tracing. Col. Bowring submitted a proposal for an organisation to trace missing persons of Allied nationality throughout Germany to the Headquarters of PWDP Division of CCG/BE on August 15th. Furthermore, on August 22nd, he convened a meeting at Bad Geynhausen, at which various liaison officers of Allied Governments were present, when it was made clear that the CTB would not itself carry out tracing, but would forward enquiries to the Zones where tracing would be done by Zonal Bureaux. Major Smith, representing CDEX, stated that it intended to hand over the Central Tracing Bureau and Records Office to UNRRA at the earliest possible moment. With regard to the ICRC records in Geneva, he stated that he was doubtful about their value but added that test cases would be referred to Geneva to study their effectiveness.

A Working Group set up by CDEX at the Central Tracing Office, which comprised representatives from all four Zonal administrations, met a number of times and finally presented their report to the PWDP Directorate of CDEX on 13 September. This report was adopted by the PWDP Directorate, coordinated with the political, Military, Internal Affairs and Communications Divisions of the four elements of the Control Commission, and subject to two small amendments accepted by the Coordinating Committee of the Control Commission for Germany at its eighth meeting on September 17th 1945. The PWDP Directorate was instructed to implement the policy and open direct negotiations with UNRRA.

The following are the texts of this report and of the minutes of this eighth meeting of the Coordinating Committee of CCG in Berlin. They represent the first official policy for the tracing of Missing Persons, as agreed upon by the quadrupartite authorities:

"A."

CCRG/F(45)54

DIRECTORATE OF PRISONERS OF WAR & DISPLACED PERSONS

Recommendations of the Directorate regarding the Establishment of a Central Tracing Service for United Nations Missing in Occupied Germany.

NOTE: This paper has been coordinated with the Political, Military and Internal Affairs and Communications Divisions of the four National Elements of the Allied Control Authority and they concur therein.

... (GEX) has issued its directive on the establishment of the GIB and the Central Records Office, ... various zones on the question of trading, ... for an organization to trace missing persons of Allied nationality through out Germany to the headquarters of ICBP Division of COMSEC on August 19th. Furthermore, on August 22nd, he convened a meeting at Bad Godesberg, at which various liaison officers of Allied Governments were present, when it was made clear that the GIB would not itself carry out trading, but would forward enquiries to the zones where trading would be done by local bureaus. Major British representative GEX, stated that it intended to hand over the Central Trading Bureau and Records Office to WEMA at the earliest possible moment, with regard to the ICBP records in Geneva, he stated that he was doubtful about their value but added that test cases would be referred to Geneva to study their effectiveness.

A working group set up by GEX at the Central Trading Office, which comprised representatives from all four Allied administrations, met a number of times and finally presented their report to the ICBP Directorate of COMSEC on 12 September. This report was adopted by the ICBP Directorate, coordinated with the Political, Military, Internal Affairs and Communications Divisions of the four elements of the Central Commission, and subject to two small amendments accepted by the Coordinating Committee of the Central Commission for Germany at its eighteenth meeting on September 17th 1945. The ICBP Directorate was instructed to implement the policy and open direct negotiations with WEMA.

The following are the texts of this report and of the minutes of this eighth meeting of the Coordinating Committee of CGG in Berlin. They represent the first official policy for the trading of missing persons, as agreed upon by the quadripartite authorities:

COM/TRA/24

DIRECTIVE OF THE COMMISSION OF THE ALLIED CONTROLS IN GERMANY

Recommendations of the Directorate regarding the establishment of a Central Trading Service for missing persons. Meeting in occupied Germany. This paper has been coordinated with the Political, Military and Internal Affairs and Communications Divisions of the four Allied elements of the Allied Control Authority and they concur therein.

Objectives

1. Recommended that the following should be the objectives of the Tracing Service:
 - (a) to search for and trace military and civilian missing of the United Nations;
 - (b) to establish, where possible, the fate of those missing who cannot be found alive;
 - (c) to locate, collect and preserve all available records regarding displaced persons in Germany;
 - (d) to serve as a link to bring interested persons into communication with each other.

National Tracing Bureau

2. Recommended that each interested United Nation that has not already established a National Tracing Bureau within its own national boundaries should be invited to establish such a Bureau, which should receive all initial enquiries concerning missing of its own nationality.

ZONAL SEARCH BUREAUX

3. Recommended:
 - (a) that these Bureaux (which are established already in each Zone) should assume responsibility for instituting searches in their own Zones, including searches on all enquiries passed to them by the Central Tracing Bureau;
 - (b) that each Zonal Bureau should operate under the complete jurisdiction of its own Zone Commander subject only to the general policies of the Allied Control Council and the Central Tracing Policy Board (see below)

Central Tracing Bureau

4. Recommended:
 - (a) that the Allied Control Council should be requested to invite UNRRA to place the Central Tracing Bureau and associated Central Records Office, which it is already operating, at the Council's disposal to be operated by UNRRA under policies and directives issued by the Central Tracing Policy Board;
 - (b) that the Central Bureau should operate as a central clearing house between the Zonal and National Bureaux and not as an executive body; it should not, therefore, issue policies and directives to the Zonal Bureaux, this being the task of the Central Tracing Policy Board.

Search Parties

5. Recommended:
 - (a) that the Central Tracing Bureau should not have search parties under its own jurisdiction.
 - (b) that each Zone Commander should agree, where, upon the recommendation of the Central Tracing Policy Board, he considers it necessary and desirable, to admit into his Zone either Liaison Officers or special teams of the other United Nations.
 - (c) that such Liaison Officers or teams should work in conjunction with, and under the control of, the search organisation of the receiving Zone Commander.

Routing of Enquiries

6. Recommended:
 - (a) that every enquiry should be addressed initially to the National Tracing Bureau of the country of which the person being enquired for is a national; or, in the absence of a National Tracing Bureau, to the Government concerned;

Recommendations

- It is recommended that the following items be the objectives of the working parties:
- (a) to search for and trace military and civilian missing in the United Kingdom;
 - (b) to establish, where possible, the fate of those missing in Germany and to be found alive;
 - (c) to locate, collect and preserve all available records relating to displaced persons in Germany;
 - (d) to serve as a link to bring interested persons into communication with each other.

National Trading Bureau

It is recommended that each interested United Kingdom firm has not already established a National Trading Bureau within its own national boundaries should be invited to establish such a Bureau, which should receive all initial enquiries concerning trading of the own nationality.

SEARCH PARTIES

- It is recommended:
- (a) that three bureaux (which are established already in each zone) should assume responsibility for instituting searches in their own zones including searches on all enquiries passed to them by the Central Trading Bureau;
 - (b) that each zone Bureau should operate under the complete jurisdiction of its own zone Commander subject only to the general policies of the Allied Control Council and the Central Trading Policy Board (see below).

Central Trading Bureau

- It is recommended:
- (a) that the Allied Control Council should be requested to instruct the Central Trading Bureau to place the Central Trading Bureau under the jurisdiction of the Central Economic Office, which is already operating in the Control Council's disposal to be operated primarily under the orders and directives issued by the Central Trading Policy Board;
 - (b) that the Central Bureau should operate as a central clearing house between the zone and National Bureaux and not as an executive body; it should not, therefore, issue orders and directives to the zone Bureaux, this being the task of the Central Trading Policy Board.

Search Parties

- It is recommended:
- (a) that the Central Trading Bureau should not have a search parties under its own jurisdiction;
 - (b) that each zone Commander should agree, when the recommendation of the Central Trading Policy Board, he considers it necessary and desirable, to make use of his own search parties or special teams of the other United Nations, and under the control of, the search organization of the receiving zone Commander.

Number of Enquiries

- It is recommended:
- (a) that every enquiry should be addressed initially to the National Trading Bureau of the country of which the person being enquired for is a national or, in the absence of a National Trading Bureau, to the government concerned;

- (b) that, in the case of doubtful or unknown nationality, the enquiry should be addressed initially to the Central Tracing Bureau;
- (c) that, if the National Tracing Bureau (or Government) is unable to answer the enquiry, it should be forwarded on to the Central Tracing Bureau;
- (d) that, if the Central Tracing Bureau is itself unable to answer, the enquiry should be sent to the appropriate Zonal Bureau for a search to be instituted; or, if the appropriate Zone is unknown, it should be sent to all Zonal Bureaux;
- (e) that the answer to an enquiry should pass in reserve through the same channels, with the proviso that, where facilities exist, a copy of the answer may be sent direct to the enquirer.

Records

7. Recommended:

- (a) that each Zone Commander should agree to make available to the Central Tracing Bureau all information, including records (original or copies) uncovered in his Zone which concerns other nationals;
- (b) that each United Nation should be invited to make available to the Tracing Bureau all information, including records (original or copies), uncovered within its national boundaries which concerns other nationals;
- (c) that the Allied Control Commission should be requested to ask other countries which are not included in the United Nations to make available the records in which the Central Tracing Policy Board is interested;
- (d) that the Central Tracing Bureau should retain in its General Records office only those records which, owing to their nature, cannot be decentralised; and that all other records should be passed to the National Tracing Bureau concerned.

Location of Central Tracing and Zonal Search Bureaux.

8. Recommended

- (a) that the Central Tracing Bureau should be in the vicinity of Herfeld provided that suitable signal and road communications and accommodations are found to exist in that area.
- (b) that the Central Tracing Policy Board should carry out a joint reconnaissance as soon as possible to decide, in conjunction with Q Branch and Signals, the exact location;
- (c) that the four Zonal Bureaux should be situated as near as possible to the Central Bureau.

Control of Tracing Service

9. Recommended:

- (a) that there should be established a Central Tracing Policy Board consisting of one representative of each of the four Military Governors;
- (b) that the Board should be responsible for:
 - i) determining the policies regarding the tracing of missing or displaced persons and the collection and use of records pertaining to such persons;
 - ii) coordinating the work of the four Zonal Search Bureaux;
 - iii) controlling, by the issue of directive, the policies to be followed by the Central Tracing Bureau.

"B. Joint Co-ordinate Committee
 Extract of the Minutes of the eighth meeting held
 in Berlin on 17 September 1945, at 15,00 Hours.

- (c) that, in the case of a letter or document, the copy should be addressed initially to the Central Trading Agency.
- (d) that if the letter or document is to be sent to the Central Trading Agency, it should be forwarded on to the Central Trading Agency.
- (e) that, if the Central Trading Agency is to be sent a copy of the letter or document, it should be sent to the Central Trading Agency.
- (f) that, if the Central Trading Agency is to be sent a copy of the letter or document, it should be sent to the Central Trading Agency.
- (g) that the answer to an enquiry should be sent in reply through the Central Trading Agency, with the letter, if the letter exists, and a copy of the answer may be sent direct to the enquirer.

Records

- 1. Records:
 - (a) that each Central Trading Agency should retain a copy of the original of all letters, including records, forwarded to it from other Central Trading Agencies.
 - (b) that each United States Agency should be invited to retain a copy of the original of all letters, including records, forwarded to it from other United States Agencies.
 - (c) that the Central Trading Agency should be requested to ask other agencies which are not included in the United States to retain a copy of the original of all letters, including records, forwarded to them from the Central Trading Agency.
 - (d) that the Central Trading Agency should retain in its files a copy of all letters, including records, forwarded to it from other Central Trading Agencies, and that all other records should be forwarded to the National Trading Agency concerned.

Location of Central Trading and Semi-Central Agencies

- 2. Recommendations:
 - (a) that the Central Trading Agency should be in the vicinity of the main business of the Central Trading Agency.
 - (b) that the Central Trading Agency should be in a joint location with other Central Trading Agencies, in conjunction with the main business of the Central Trading Agency.
 - (c) that the four Central Trading Agencies should be situated as near as possible to the Central Trading Agency.

Control of Trading Services

- 3. Recommendations:
 - (a) that there should be established a Central Trading Policy Board consisting of one representative of each of the four Agencies.
 - (b) that the Board should be responsible for:
 - (i) determining the policies regarding the trading of metals in different forms and the collection and use of records pertaining to such persons;
 - (ii) coordinating the work of the four Central Trading Agencies;
 - (iii) controlling, by the issue of directives, the policies to be followed by the Central Trading Agencies.

Continued on page 88

"ESTABLISHMENT OF A MISSING PERSONS TRACING SERVICE"

The Committee had before them COIC/P(45)54. General ROBERTSON drew the attention of his colleagues to the fact that the operation of the scheme depended on two factors, first, the pooling of available documents held by UNRRA, by the occupying authorities and by the Allied nations, and secondly the recognition of the principle that representatives of each Power shall be permitted to enter other zones for necessary investigation.

The paper was acceptable from the British point of view, subject to the resolution of one point of detail, namely that Directorates were not in a position to approach Foreign Governments. General Clay suggested that paragraph 8(a) should be amended to read: "The Central Tracing Bureau should be in a suitable place where signal and road communications and accommodation are available."

General SOKOLOWSKY proposed the addition of a tenth paragraph:

10.

"The above-mentioned organization as a whole would be under control of the Prisoners of War and Displaced Persons Directorate."

THE MEETING:

- a. approved the paper subject to General CLAY's amendment in paragraph 8(a) and the addition of General SOKOLOWSKY's tenth paragraph.
- b. referred ~~to~~ the paper to the PW & DP Directorate for implementation with instructions to open direct negotiations with UNRRA.
- c. agreed that correspondence on this question be conducted by the Political Directorate with the Allied Military Missions on their arrival in Berlin, and that pending their arrival such correspondence be conducted by the normal diplomatic channels of the four Allied Governments.
- d. referred the question of correspondence with those nations who will not have Military Missions to the Political Directorate for their consideration and report to the Coordinating Committee.

The unanimity with which the Working Party finally presented its views does not seem to give any indication of the difficulties experienced in reaching agreement which were those characteristic of quadrupartite organs. For example, at the meeting on August 30th, 1945, representatives of all four Zones had their own views on the eventual location of CTB, and after discussion it was recorded in the Minutes merely that "it was agreed that the Central Tracing Bureau and Records Office should be located in Germany".

4. THE ROLE OF UNRRA

On October 18th 1945 the approved policy on tracing was submitted to UNRRA by the PWDP Directorate of the COG. General Morgan, Chief of UNRRA operations in Germany, thereupon referred it to IRO with a recommendation that it should be accepted in principle as it stood. At the same time General Morgan wrote to the Control Commission stating:

"In view of what I hope is the probability of acceptance of your Authority's proposal by my Administration, I should like, if I may, to ask you for further particulars". The Control Commission gave the necessary further explanation to General Morgan on October 25th. Meanwhile ERO replied to the proposal giving to General Morgan "authority to proceed and carry out the task with the Allied Control Commission has asked UNRRA to undertake". General Morgan was asked to bear in mind the necessary additional expenditure when submitting a revised budget for UNRRA CTR. Thereupon he formally accepted the task on behalf of UNRRA on condition of cooperation from the Control Council, and two months later this cooperation was formally assured. At its meeting on November 26th the PRDP Directorate of CCG accepted the designation of Arolsen as the permanent seat of the CTB. It was known at that time that Miss D. de la Pole should leave to return to the USA. Col. Dowring was appointed as Director of the CTB. Miss de la Pole left at the end of December. The move from Hochst to Arolsen took place on January 5th 1946, under Col. Dowring's management.

Thus, the policy embodied in the Working Party's Report - see page 19 - came to be the agreed basis for the participation of UNRRA in tracing activities and may be looked upon as the Charter of the Central Tracing Bureau. One interesting point about the Charter governing the Central European Tracing Bureau is that it was concluded directly with the Control Commission itself and not separately with the Zones. It therefore had the authority of all four members of the Control Commission including Russia, and indicated that the CTB should have precisely the same relations with the Tracing Bureau in the Russian Zone as was the case in the other three zones.

The Agreed Policy contained the following section:

"It was furthermore made clear that the Central Tracing Bureau should not have search parties under its own jurisdiction, but that each zone Commander should agree at his own discretion and on the recommendation of the Central Tracing Policy Board (CTPB) to admit to his zone either liaison officers or special search teams of the United Nations. Thus, while CTB might be able to answer many enquiries reaching it from the National Tracing Bureaux, on the basis of records held at CTB, those not so dealt with would be forwarded to the zone Tracing Bureaux working under the jurisdiction of the four zone Commanders for further action."

in view of that I hope in the probability of having one of your answers to this proposal by my administration, I should like, if I may, to ask you for further particulars. The Control Commission have the necessary further explanation to General Morgan on October 21st. I should like to refer to the proposal giving to General Morgan "authority to proceed and carry out the task with the Allied Control Commission has asked UNRRA to undertake". General Morgan was asked to bear in mind the necessary additional expenses when submitting a revised budget for UNRRA CTR. Thereupon he formally accepted the task on behalf of UNRRA on condition of cooperation from the Control Council, and two months later this cooperation was formally secured. At the meeting on November 28th the UNRRA representatives of UNRRA accepted the designation of Krolan as the permanent head of the CTR. It was known at that time that Mrs D. de la Pina should have to return to the USA. Col. Dowling was appointed as Director of the CTR. Mrs de la Pina left at the end of December. The new team started to work in the place on January 1st 1946, under Col. Dowling's management.

The policy embodied in the Working Party's report - as far as it - came to be the agreed basis for the participation of UNRRA in trading activities and may be looked upon as the Charter of the Central Trading Bureau. One interesting point about the Charter governing the Central Trading Bureau is that it was concluded directly with the Control Commission itself and not separately with the Council. It therefore had the authority of all four members of the Control Commission including Russia, and indicated that the CTR should have gradually the same relations with the Trading Bureau in the Russian zone as was the case in the other three zones.

The agreed policy contained the following sections:

"It was understood and also clear that the Central Trading Bureau should not have enough parties under its own jurisdiction, but that each zone Commander should agree at his own discretion with the reconstruction of the Central Trading Policy Board (CTPB) as regards his zone either liaison officers or special agents to be sent to the United Kingdom, France, while CTR will be able to answer any enquiries regarding it from the National Trading Bureau, on the basis of records held at CTR, those not so dealt with would be forwarded to the zone Trading Bureau working under the jurisdiction of the four zone CTRs for further action."

5. THE ATTITUDE OF ERO TO TRACING

Although the principle of UNRRA participation in some form in the work of tracing had long been accepted and had been embodied in the ERO reply to the SHAME request of March 31st 1945 relating to Forwarding Bureaux, nevertheless ERO was extremely slow in taking appropriate action. As late as September 5th 1945, Col. Schottland, then Chief of ~~Relief~~ Relief Services at CHQ/UNRRA, informed ERO of the decision of the Working Group which was being laid before the Control Council and emphasised that this made it imperative that UNRRA should fulfil the commitments already made. Only five employees had been assigned to the CTB since July 4th and the existing staff were so discouraged that they were seeking release from their duties. Forty additional personnel were urgently requested from the Mobilisation and Tracing Base at Granville.

Early in 1946, Mr. G.W. Rabinoff, Deputy Director of Displaced Persons Division ERO, was sent out to Arolsen to discuss the budget proposals of CTB which had been prepared by Col. Bowring. In February, Washington grew uneasy about the apparent tendency of CTB to extend its scope of activities into fields outside the UNRRA Mandate. ERO also found a tendency to take on functions which should be left in the hands of the National Tracing Bureaux. While these differences with Arolsen may have arisen from misunderstanding the extension of tracing activities to enemy relatives of United Nations nationals was part of CDPX policy as enunciated on July 24th nevertheless there was a feeling that Col. Bowring was being carried away by his enthusiasm and being held in check by the Chief of Operations. Accordingly a Working Party was formed in ERO under the chairmanship of Mr. Rabinoff to formulate more clearly the role that UNRRA should play in the Central Tracing Bureau. The result of the efforts of the Working Party were embodied in a policy statement which was placed before the Administrative Council by the Chief of Relief Services on February 20th 1946. The document, entitled "UNRRA policy for Tracing Activities in Germany", was agreed to by the Council and the policy was thereupon sent to General Morgan by General Sir Humphrey Gale, Personal Representative of the Director General of UNRRA European Office, London, on 22nd February. It was worded as follows:

2. THE HISTORY OF THE TRADING

Although the principle of URM participation in new form in the
 part of trading had not been accepted and had been embodied in the 1930 re-
 sults to the URM request of March 1931 relating to Forwarding business,
 nevertheless URM was extremely active in taking appropriate action. As late as
 September 25th 1931, Col. Robinson, then Chief of URM's British services
 as URM/URMA, informed URM of the decision of the Working Group which was
 being laid before the Control Council and explained that this was its im-
 perative that URM should fulfil the conditions already made. Only five
 employees had been assigned to the URM since July 1931 and the existing staff
 were so discouraged that they were seeking release from their duties. Party
 additional personnel were urgently requested from the Mobilisation and
 Trading Base at Birmmham.

Early in 1932, Mr. G.W. Robinson, Deputy Director of Dispatches Per-

sons Division URM, was sent out to London to discuss the budget proposals
 of URM which had been prepared by Col. Bowring. In February, Robinson
 grew worried about the apparent tendency of URM to expand the scope of activi-
 ties into fields outside the URM mandate. URM also found a tendency
 to take on functions which should be left in the hands of the National Tra-
 ding Bureau. Again this difference with London may have arisen from
 misunderstanding the extension of trading activities to enemy relatives of
 United Nations nationals was part of URM policy as enunciated on July 25th
 nevertheless there was a feeling that Col. Bowring was being carried away by
 the enthusiasm and being held in check by the Chief of Operations.

Accordingly a Working Party was formed in URM under the chairmanship of
 Mr. Robinson to formulate more clearly the role that URM should play in the
 general Trading Bureau. The results of the efforts of the Working Party were
 embodied in a policy statement which was placed before the Administrative
 Council by the Chief of British Services on February 20th 1932. The document
 entitled "URM Policy for Trading Activities in Germany", was agreed to by
 the Council and the policy was thereafter carried out in general
 by the Working Party, Personal Representative of the British Council of URM
 European Office, London, on 25th February. It was worded as follows:

" UNRRA POLICY FOR TRACING ACTIVITIES
IN GERMANY "

The following policy has been adopted by the ERO in relation to UNRRA tracing activities in Germany.

1. UNRRA can accept responsibility for tracing persons falling under the definitions of the Council Resolutions as eligible for UNRRA care. This includes persons at present receiving care from UNRRA in Germany, persons eligible for but not in receipt of such care and persons technically eligible for such care but now dead.

2. UNRRA cannot accept responsibility for tracing any Germans ^{c/} except victims of Nazi persecution.

3. Pending establishment of direct channels to appropriate agencies, UNRRA can accept responsibility for routing enquiries regarding persons who may not be eligible.

4. The Chief of Operations in Germany is responsible for negotiations with the Allied Control Authority regarding UNRRA functions for tracing and their relationship to the total activities for tracing in Germany.

5. The ERO is responsible for coordinating UNRRA policy with the policy of National Tracing Bureaux, in so far as it concerns those persons eligible for UNRRA care.

(The following statement prepared by the Central Tracing Bureau was accepted as being a correct interpretation of paragraph No.5)

ERO is responsible for the coordination of tracing policy throughout its sphere of influence, including Germany; in Germany it will discharge that responsibility through the Central Tracing Bureau. On tracing problems regarding Germany, the CTB will deal directly with the NTBs under the policies established by ERO."

General Morgan in reply said that the general policy as stated was perfectly clear and did not differ in any respect from the policy already in operation.

The new policy statement emphasised that UNRRA could only trace persons falling under the definitions of the Council Resolutions as eligible for UNRRA care. UNRRA could not accept responsibility for tracing any Germans except victims of Nazi persecution. CEU should therefore negotiate with CTB and suggest the formation of a German Tracing Unit working under the COG in the same way as CTB. A Mail Intake Office under the COG would sort incoming enquiries and transfer them to the Tracing Unit concerned. On March 18th the Coordinating Committee of COG considered at its 44th Meeting the proposal to establish a Tracing Bureau for missing Germans, but owing to disagreement the proposal was withdrawn. However, UNRRA from that time onwards adhered rigorously to the Tracing Policy which was limited by the Council Resolutions.

THE POLICY FOR THE TREATMENT OF
IN A TREATY

The following policy has been adopted by the EEO in relation to

German trading activities in Germany.

1. EEO can accept responsibility for trading persons falling under the definitions of the Council Resolutions as eligible for EEO care. This includes persons at present receiving care from EEO in Germany, persons eligible for but not in receipt of such care and persons temporarily eligible for such care but not such.
2. EEO cannot accept responsibility for trading any German except victims of Nazi persecution.
3. Trading establishment of direct channels to appropriate agencies, EEO can accept responsibility for routing enquiries regarding persons who may not be eligible.
4. The Chief of Operations in Germany is responsible for negotiations with the Allied Control Authority regarding EEO functions for trading and their relationship to the local activities for trading in Germany.
5. The EEO is responsible for coordinating EEO's policy with the policy of National Trading Bureau, in so far as it concerns those persons eligible for EEO care.

(The following statement prepared by the Central Trading Bureau was accepted as being a correct interpretation of paragraph 10.2.)

EEO is responsible for the coordination of trading policy throughout the sphere of influence, including Germany, in so far as it will discharge that responsibility through the Central Trading Bureau. On trading persons in Germany, the CTR will deal directly with the EEO under the policy established by EEO.

General Morgan in reply said that the general policy as stated was

entirely clear and did not differ in any respect from the policy already

in operation.

The new policy statement emphasized that EEO could only trade

persons falling under the definitions of the Council Resolutions as eligible

for EEO care. EEO could not accept responsibility for trading any

persons except victims of Nazi persecution. CTR should therefore negotiate

with CTR and suggest the formation of a German Trading Unit working under

the CTR in the same way as CTR. A full liaison office under the CTR would

be handling enquiries and transfer them to the Trading Unit concerned.

At a meeting of the Coordinating Committee of CTR convened at the last meeting

of the Council on 18th March 1946 a proposal to establish a Trading Bureau for trading persons, but with

the agreement the proposal was withdrawn. However, EEO is from that time

adhered rigorously to the Trading Policy which was laid by the

Council Resolutions.

During March 1946, Miss S.J. Warner, Director of the Foreign Relations Department of the British Red Cross, was taken on by ERO on a temporary basis as a Consultant of Tracing. Early in April she was sent to Germany and Austria to investigate the situation and advise ERO. On her return to London, Miss Warner presented a long and valuable report, including recommendations with regard to the budget. She was able to show that the description of the duties of Director of CTB in the budget request contained sentences which went beyond the mandate contained in Sir Humphrey Gale's memorandum sent to General Morgan of February 22nd. She also advised that the records of missing persons which had been accumulated in considerable quantities by CTB ought to be handed over to the permanent care of some organisation such as the United Nations Organisation or the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva. She suggested that UNRRA might sound the latter on their willingness to undertake such a function, and might in due course approach UNO officially on the subject.

Miss Warner expressed her view that "UNRRA ERO could well recommend to UNO that the tracing and recording of missing and displaced persons could now be carried out without regard to the political action during the war of the original country of these unfortunate people - with the sole exception of the German persons making enquiries for Germans....." She recommended "that the tracing and recording of displaced and missing persons should now be regarded as the humanitarian responsibility of all civilised nations working together."

6. INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES ON TRACING.

During the lifetime of UNRRA three international conferences have been held with representatives of National Tracing Bureaux at which UNRRA representatives have been present.

On June 25th, 1946 ERO agreed that UNRRA should be represented at the Conference called by the Polish Government at Warsaw by an official of the CTB, but this official must not take any responsibility for coordinating UNRRA policy with that of the National Tracing Bureaux or for tracing activities regarding persons not eligible for UNRRA care.

During March 1946, Miss G. J. ... Director of the ...
 Justice Department of the United States, was taken on by ...
 temporary basis as a Consultant of Inquiry. Early in April she was sent
 to Germany and Austria to investigate the situation and advise ...
 on her return to London, Miss G. J. ... presented a report and ...
 including recommendations with regard to the subject. She was able to show
 that the description of the duties of Director of ... in the subject report
 contained sentences which were beyond the scope contained in ...
 Miss G. J. ... also advised ...
 that the records of missing persons which had been accumulated in ...
 table furnished by ... ought to be handed over to the permanent care of ...
 an organization such as the United Nations Commission on the International
 Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva. She suggested that ...
 the factor on their willingness to undertake such a function, and might in
 the course approach WHO officially on the subject.

Miss G. J. ... expressed her view that ...
 to WHO that the tracing and recording of missing and displaced persons could
 now be carried out without regard to the political system during the war
 of the original country of these unfortunate people - with the excep-
 tion of the German persons lacking capacities for ...
 stated "that the tracing and recording of displaced and missing persons
 should now be regarded as the immediate responsibility of all civilized
 nations working together."

6. INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON MISSING PERSONS

During the session of WHO these international conferences have
 been held with representatives of National Red Cross Societies of which WHO
 representatives have been present.
 On June 28th, 1946 WHO agreed that WHO should be represented at
 the Conference called by the Polish Government at Warsaw by an official of
 WHO, but this official must not take any responsibility for coordinating
 policy with that of the National Red Cross Societies on the tracing and
 records regarding persons not eligible for WHO care.

In September 1945, Col. Bowring (for CTB) and Miss Rading (for ERO) attended the Tracing Conference at Brussels in which UNRRA consulted with the Government representatives at their request, but did not participate in any of the final recommendations.

Finally, Mr. Karl Martini, Displaced Persons Headquarters, after his temporary appointment as Consultant on Tracing attached to EPHQ Paris, was instructed to act as UNRRA observer at the International Tracing Congress at Prague on 3rd to 10th March 1947. He was, however, given much wider terms of reference than on the occasion of previous conferences. He was to present to the Tracing Congress UNRRA's functions and limitations in relating to tracing, and he was to consult with the Tracing Congress on subjects within UNRRA's competence.

7. THE HANDING OVER OF TRACING ACTIVITIES BY UNRRA TO A SUCCESSOR ORGANIZATION.

At the Relief Services Conference on May 21-24 1946, a special session was held on Tracing Policies and procedures and a draft directive for the field was prepared and agreed by those present. This directive was drawn up with the consideration in mind that UNRRA was a temporary organisation and that provision should be made for eventual hand-over to a permanent body. This aspect of the problem of UNRRA's tracing activities had already been noted by Mr. Rabinoff, Deputy Director of DP Division ERO in the report which he submitted after returning from Germany in February 1946. On one of the accompanying documents he dealt with the permanent legatee should be nominated as soon as possible to permit orientation and arrangements for transfer starting about July 1st. The draft directive envisaged a greater degree of decentralisation of tracing activities upon the respective Zonal Bureaux which would be empowered to correspond direct with National Tracing Bureaux. The CTB would deal only with the documents and records and with enquiries regarding persons whose Zonal location was unknown. Thus the importance of the CTB in comparison with the Zonal Bureau would be diminished. This draft directive was passed on to Gen. Morgan on June 18th and comments upon it were requested. Gen. Morgan replied by indicating that in his opinion some of the proposals were either undesirable

In September 1947, Col. Bowring (for CIE) and Miss Keating (for IIO) attended the Trading Conference at Brussels in which IIO was consulted with the Government representatives at their request, but did not participate in any of the final recommendations.

Mr. J. M. Keating, Deputy Director, IIO, after the temporary appointment as Consultant on Trading attached to IIO in Paris, was instructed to act as IIO's observer at the International Trading Conference at Prague on 10th March 1947. He was, however, given much other forms of reference than on the occasion of previous conferences. He was to present to the Trading Conference IIO's functions and limitations in relation to trading, and he was to consult with the Trading Conference on subjects within IIO's competence.

7. THE HANDING OVER OF TRADING ACTIVITIES BY IIO TO A SUCCESSOR ORGANIZATION.

At the initial Services Conference on 17-18-1946, a special session was held on Trading Policies and Procedures and a draft report for the field was prepared and agreed by those present. This document was drawn up with the understanding that IIO was a temporary organization and that provision should be made for eventual hand-over to a permanent body. This aspect of the transfer of IIO's trading activities has already been noted by Mr. Radinoff, Deputy Director of the Division IIO in the report which he submitted after returning from Geneva in February 1946. On one of the accompanying documents he dealt with the permanent transfer should be maintained as soon as possible to permit organization and arrangements for transfer starting about July 1947. The draft directive envisaged a greater degree of decentralization of trading activities than the respective local bureaux which would be expected to correspond closely with the National Trading Bureau. The CIE would deal only with the documents and records and with enquiries regarding foreign trade local factors and so on. Thus the importance of the IIO in connection with the local bureaux would be diminished. This draft directive was put up for comment on 18th and comments upon it were requested. Comments were received by Mr. Keating that in his opinion most of the proposals were either undesirable

or impractical and furthermore that to propose them at the present stage was inappropriate because the CTB was at that time studying the steps necessary to relieve UNRRA of its tracing responsibilities in view of the prospect of the dissolution of UNRRA at the end of 1946.

The next step was taken on September 13th 1946 when General Sir Humphrey Gale, addressed an official communication to the US, UK, French and Soviet members of the Committee of the Council for Europe (CCE), indicating that UNRRA had come to the conclusion that it was no longer appropriate for the Administration to operate the CTB on behalf of the CCG. He explained that it had become increasingly clear that the operation of the CTB was not an essential or integral part of the Displaced Persons Operation, but that it was closely connected with many activities outside the scope of UNRRA's authority. The Chief of Operations in Germany, he said, had already informed the CCG of this view which was set forth in greater detail in an attached memorandum. The Committee of the Council for Europe (CCE) representatives were asked to bring this matter to the attention of their Governments so that appropriate step might be taken. The operating factor in this approach was, of course, the limitation both on UNRRA's mandate and on the funds remaining available for future operations.

On October 4th, 1946, the French representative replied to Sir Humphrey Gale's letter saying that the International Tracing Conference at Brussels on 16th-18th September had recommended the creation of an international tracing service under the United Nations. In Germany and Austria the operation of this service would constitute a special Branch working under the control of the CCG. The French Delegation at the Assembly of the United Nations had been charged with presenting a project of this nature to the Economic and Social Council and hoped for rapid results. The British Government, on the other hand, referred to the fact that CCG had requested UNRRA to continue operating the CTB and Sir Humphrey Gale was asked whether this meant a reconsideration of the UNRRA decision to withdraw from tracing operations. In his reply, Sir Humphrey Gale recited the progress of events which had taken place since the assumption of responsibility by UNRRA from the CCG at the end of 1945. He repeated that CCG had advised CCE that UNRRA wished to terminate its operation of CTB and return it to CCG.

of international and transnational trade to require that at the present stage
 was appropriate because the GOC was at that time studying the steps
 necessary to relate UNRWA to the trading responsibilities in view of the
 prospect of the dissolution of UNRWA at the end of 1966.

The next step was taken on September 1966 when General Sir
 Humphrey Gale, addressed an official communication to the UN, Mr. French
 and other members of the Committee of the Council for Europe (CCE), in-
 dicating that UNRWA had come to the conclusion that it was no longer appro-
 priate for the Administration to operate the CCE on behalf of the GOC.

He explained that it had become increasingly clear that the question of the
 CCE was not an essential or integral part of the European Economic Community,
 but that it was closely connected with other activities outside the scope
 of UNRWA's authority. The Chief of Operations in Beirut, in this regard,
 already informed the GOC of this view which was based on a review dated
 in an attached memorandum. The Committee of the Council for Europe (CCE)
 representatives were asked to bring this matter to the attention of their
 Governments so that appropriate steps might be taken. It was noted that
 in this approach was, of course, the limitation such as UNRWA's mandate
 and on the funds remaining available for future operations.

On October 14th, 1966, the French representative replied to Sir
 Humphrey Gale's letter saying that the International Trade Centre
 at Geneva on 16th-17th September had recommended the creation of an
 international trading centre under the United Nations. In January and
 Austria the operation of this centre would constitute a special branch
 working under the control of the GOC. The French Government at the time
 of the United Nations had been aware of such a project and had
 nature to the Economic and Social Council and had not had re-
 sults from the Government, on the other hand, referred to the fact that the UN had re-
 quested UNRWA to continue operating the CCE and Sir Humphrey Gale was asked
 whether this meant a reconstituted of the UNRWA function in addition to
 trading operations. In his reply, Sir Humphrey Gale indicated the
 of events which had taken place since the cessation of responsibility by
 UNRWA from the GOC at the end of 1966. It was noted that the CCE had advised
 GOC that UNRWA wished to terminate the operation of CCE and return it to GOC.

However, the Central Tracing Policy Board informed the CCG that it was recommending to the PWEP Directorate of the CCG that the latter should not take over the CTB and that UNRRA should continue to operate it. In view of this situation in Germany, Sir Humphrey Gale addressed his communication of 13th September to the representatives of the four Governments of CCG. ~~It remained~~ that since that time UNRRA had continued to operate CTB and was only awaiting the replies of the four Governments.

A new difficulty was caused on 29th January 1947 by the decision to close the Central Headquarters UNRRA at Arolsen, and instructions were sent from UNRRA's European Regional Office, London to CIG that the PWEP Directorate of CCG should be informed that the CTB must be out of Arolsen before 15th March and therefore every effort must be made to find a new location. It was, however, considered that at the present stage UNRRA could not say that in the absence of a new location the CTB function would be abandoned by UNRRA. The Allied Control Office for Germany (ACOG) had already sent to the personal representative of the Director General two alternative proposals on organisation in view of the closing down of CIG Arolsen. According to alternative the tracing and child services activities were to be handled in the Zones whose Tracing Bureaux would correspond directly with the National Tracing Bureaux and a Central Records Office would be maintained with a staff of forty, and for this purpose space should be sought in Berlin. Under the second alternative, UNRRA was to confirm its tracing functions to maintaining a "general locator index for DPs under its care"- this could be discharged by maintaining centrally or in Paris a small staff for keeping the index up-to-date on the basis of Assembly Centre records and Displaced Persons movement records. The ACOG recommended the adoption of the first alternative in view of the time element involved and suggested that CCG should be notified accordingly. If, however, the four Governments were willing to release UNRRA immediately from its present obligations, it would be desirable to adopt the second alternative at once.

On January 28th 1947 Mr. Martini, Tracing Consultant CIG conferred with the PWEP Directorate in Berlin. The Directorate felt that none of the activities assigned to the CTB by CCG should be closed down, though

However, the Central Finance Board informed the GOC that it was
recommending to the IFCP Director of the GOC that the factor should not
take over the GIB and that IFCP should continue to operate in
of this situation in Germany, the IFCP has addressed his recommendation
of 13th September to the representatives of the four Governments of GOC.
It reminds that since the IFCP had continued to operate GIB and
was only awaiting the signature of the four Governments.

A new difficulty was raised on 13th January 1947 by the decision
to close the Central Headquarters IFCP at Berlin, and instructions were
sent from IFCP's European Regional Office, London to GIB that the IFCP
Directorate of GOC should be informed that the GIB must be set up in
before 15th March and therefore every effort must be made to find a new
location. It was, however, considered that at the present stage IFCP could

not say that in the absence of a new location the GIB would be
abandoned by IFCP. The Allied Control Office for Germany (ACOG) has al-
ready sent to the personal representative of the Director General the in-
formative proposals on organization in view of the closing down of GIB
Berlin, according to alternative the training and other services will
visits were to be handled in the home where IFCP's business would be
conducted directly with the National Trading Agency and a Central Board

ofices would be maintained with a staff of forty, and the IFCP
space should be sought in Berlin. Under the second alternative, IFCP
to continue its trading functions to maintaining a general business level
the under its care" - this could be discharged by maintaining centrally
to Paris a small staff for issuing the bank up-to-date on the basis of
monthly GOC's records and IFCP's records. The GOC

representative's objection of the IFCP alternative in view of the time element
involved and suggested that GOC should be better considered. It was
not, the four Governments were willing to release IFCP immediately from
its present obligations, it would be desirable to sign the second alter-
native at once.

On 1 January 1947 IFCP's Director, Berlin, informed the Director
with the IFCP Directorate in Berlin. The Director's view that part of
the activities assigned to the GIB by GOC should be placed under IFCP

any activities of CTB not assigned by CGC should be dropped. The Directorate placed its requirements in the following order of priority:

- (a) Completion of the work of the Records Branch, including child tracing
- (b) Mass radio and newspaper tracing in order that information obtained therefrom might be passed on to the National Tracing Bureaux.

The Directorate felt that forty UNRRA key personnel, supplemented by local labour, could do the work assigned to CTB. As only five months were left for work under UNRRA, the Directorate was against removing the Records Branch to a new locality as it would involve the loss of two months' work and probably prevent the completion of the task required of it. Furthermore, it was considered impossible at that juncture to find a location for the CTB in Berlin. In the circumstances, the US and British members undertook to see that the Bureau was provided with accommodation supplies, and assistance from Displaced Persons.

This decision of the Directorate placed UNRRA in a quandary because it would mean maintaining at Arolsen an establishment for which provision had not been made and also the Liaison Officers attached to CTB would require to remain. Mr. Martini had emphasised at the meeting of the Directorate that it would be necessary to maintain services for transport, mail, billeting, etc. etc. in Arolsen, but this was not accepted by the Directorate. The Arolsen closure staff could not be given the responsibility for ~~administering~~ administering the CTB which would have to be placed under the US Zone for administrative purposes and this would require discussion and understanding with the US Army. In reply CGC stated that UNRRA was prepared to continue the work of the Records Branch, including child tracing, but was unable to continue mass radio and newspaper tracing. However, regarding the proposal to continue the CTB at Arolsen, UNRRA must insist on the US military taking full responsibility for billets, feeding, medical care, communications, personal mail, transport and transport maintenance, petrol, PX, etc. and administrative personnel. The alternative would be to agree to the UNRRA request for accommodation in Berlin or elsewhere in the US Zone. If neither of these conditions could be met, UNRRA had no alternative but to close CTB completely by March 15th 1947 and to put the records in storage. On February 12th, CGC informed Zone Directors that CTB could

any activities of CIA not assigned to GUS should be stopped. The Director
was placed in the following order of priority:

- (a) Completion of the work of the working party
including child tracing
- (b) Plans for the future and progress towards the
information obtained previously should be passed
on to the National Training Institute.

The Director also felt that work under WEMA was essential, especially
by local labour, could be the work assigned to GUS, as only two months
were left for work under WEMA, the Director was against removing the
labour force to a new facility as it would involve the loss of two months
work and probably prevent the completion of the task required of it.

Furthermore, it was considered impossible to start before the end of the
month for the GUS in Berlin. In the circumstances, the US and British
members undertook to see that the Bureau was provided with accommodation,
supplies, and assistance from displaced persons.

This decision of the Director placed WEMA in a difficult position
as would mean maintaining at least an establishment for which provision
had not been made and also the liaison officers attached to GUS would be
difficult to maintain. Mr. Harland had expressed at the meeting of the Dis-
placed Persons Commission that it would be necessary to maintain services for transport, mail,
biffling, etc, etc, in Berlin, and this was not covered by the Dis-
placed Persons Commission. The Displaced Persons Commission could not be given the responsibility for
maintaining the GUS which would have to be placed under the
US zone for administrative purposes and this would require discussion and
understanding with the US zone. It was agreed that GUS was pre-
pared to continue the work of the working party, including child tracing,
but was unable to continue the work of the working party in other areas. However, the
Director's proposal to continue the GUS at present, with the same staff as
the US military taking full responsibility for liaison, feeding, medical, etc,
etc, communications, personnel, etc, transport and transport arrangements,
petrol, etc, etc, and administrative personnel. The administrative staff to be
provided for WEMA progress for accommodation in Berlin or elsewhere in the
US zone. If neither of these conditions could be met, then the work of
the GUS would have to be stopped. On February 1954, the Director had GUS closed

no longer undertake tracing through wireless stations and newspapers and asked whether the Zone Tracing Bureaux could take on this task.

On February 17th 1947, the Directorate replied that it did not consider that UNRRA had the right to close CTB on the authority of the Director-General and thus repudiate its commitments to CCG. Furthermore, it did not consider that UNRRA had the right to offer, as the only alternative to closure, a solution necessitating additional expenditure by one of the occupying powers (US). It considered that UNRRA should continue to administer and finance the CTB until a new organisation succeeded it. If UNRRA repudiated its commitments unilaterally this would be reported to the Coordinating Committee (CCG) with the recommendation that the Control Council should take up the question with the United Nations Organisation.

However, the subject of tracing also came up in the Preparatory Commission of IRO at its meeting in February and March 1947 in Geneva, when a Resolution was passed noting with satisfaction the intention of UNRRA to continue the operation of the CTB until June 30th ~~(see page 28)~~. On the 17th and 18th February, conferences took place between UNRRA and representatives of France, the UK and US, concerning the operation and location of the Central Tracing Bureau, and at these meeting the three Governments representatives gave assurance that they were prepared to assist UNRRA in finding alternative accommodation in Berlin and in instructing their representatives in Berlin to this effect. UNRRA agreed to continue operations in Arolsen until the provision of alternative accommodation. The Administration indicated that the size of the CTB in Berlin would be forty key personnel and a small administrative staff of ten persons responsible for internal servicing. General Sir Humphrey Gale followed up this meeting with letters to the three Powers urging prompt action. A cable was then sent to the Directorate urging reconsideration of the problem, so that within the reduced financial resources available the work might continue until June 30th. The Directorate was informed of Sir Humphrey Gale's approach to the Government representatives who were respectively from the Control Office in London, USFET and the French Control Commission in Berlin.

It may here be added that in his report to the ACOG on the International Tracing Conference at Prague on March 3rd to 5th 1947, which he attended

no longer undertake trading through various countries and as-
 and whether the Zone Trading Bureau could take on this task.

On February 17th 1947, the Directorate reported that it did not con-
 sider that UBERA had the right to claim CTR on the authority of the Direc-
 tor-General and thus requested the Government to UBERA. Furthermore, it did
 not consider that UBERA had the right to claim, as the only alternative to
 UBERA, a solution necessitating additional expenditure by one of the
 occupying powers (U.S.). It considered that UBERA should continue to admin-
 ister and finance the CTR until a new organization succeeded it. It UBERA
 requested the Government to UBERA until the time was reported to the Gov-
 erning Committee (CGC) with the recommendation that the Central Com-
 mittee should take up the question with the United Nations Organization.

However, the subject of UBERA also came up in the Temporary Commission
 of 1940 at its meeting in February and March 1947 in London, when a decision
 was taken to proceed with UBERA until the intention of UBERA to continue
 the operation of the CTR until June 30th 1948. In the 1947 and 1948
 January, conferences took place between UBERA and representatives of the
 U.S. and U.K., concerning the operation and location of the Central Trading
 Bureau, and at these meetings the above Government representatives gave as-
 surances that they were prepared to assist UBERA in finding alternative ac-
 commodation in Berlin and to instruct their representatives in Berlin
 to this effect. UBERA agreed to continue operations in Berlin until the
 provision of alternative accommodation. The Government indicated that
 the size of the CTR facilities would be fairly big, general and a small addi-
 tional scale of ten persons responsible for technical services. General
 Sir Humphrey Cole followed up this matter with letters to the two Govern-
 ments proposing action. A cable was then sent to the Directorate on 27th
 consideration of the problem, as this within the proposed financial resources
 available the work might continue until June 1948. The Directorate was
 informed of Sir Humphrey Cole's opinion on the Directorate representatives
 were respectively from the Central Office in London, UBERA and the German
 Central Commission in Berlin.

It may have been at this time that the report to the CGC on the Inter-
 national Trading Conference at Prague on March 2nd to 5th 1947, which is en-
 closed

on behalf of UNRRA, Mr. Martini records that:

"The members of the Conference were taking as an accomplished fact the preliminary and tentative assurances which had been given at Geneva on and following 12th February to the effect that IRO would sponsor completely a tracing service which would meet the needs of all national governments."

He went on to make the following important points:

"The UNRRA representative pointed out informally the difficulties and limitations dependent from IRO sponsorship for the usual reasons, and primarily for the reason that any Refugee Organization working with limited funds would present to National Tracing Bureaux many of the limitations which from their standpoint UNRRA's tracing activities now brought about.

It was pointed out that the IRO or any Refugee Organization would presumably concern itself primarily with the care and tracing of living refugees and their relatives living or deceased. The National Tracing Bureaux, on the other hand, are seeking to establish what would be a service which would provide Home Governments with records and documentation on residence and employment within Germany of their citizens during the war years, for the purpose of establishing eligibility or non-eligibility for government benefits and for other legal documentations not primarily of a tracing nature.

The National Tracing Bureaux representatives, with the exception of the "Directeur General du Commissariat Belge au Repatriement", were under the impression that the operations required would be of a year or two's duration."

Mr. Martini also urged the members of the Conference to make representations to assure the re-location of CTB at Berlin.

It was later found, however, that accommodation in Berlin was absolutely impossible to secure, and it was therefore eventually decided, in spite of everything, to leave the Central Tracing Bureau at Arolsen.

(3rd July 1947).

8. CONCLUDING REMARK

There is one major question which has been posed by the circumstances and manner in which UNRRA's tracing responsibilities in Germany may have been partially demobilized. It is the question whether a Central Tracing Bureau was ever required and whether it would not, in the circumstances, have been better if the respective Zone Tracing Bureaux had led an entirely autonomous existence to that of any National Tracing Bureau.

on behalf of WETA, Mr. Marshall reports that:

"The members of the Conference were taking as an accomplished fact the preliminary and tentative arrangements which had been made at Geneva on and following 12th February in the effort to bring the two sides together on a strategic service which would meet the needs of all national Governments."

It went on to state the following important points:

"The WETA representative pointed out that the WETA's main task and immediate responsibility was to bring about a meeting of the two sides on a basis of mutual respect and equality for the reason that any failure to do so would mean a complete breakdown of the WETA's work. He stressed the fact that the WETA's main task was to bring about a meeting of the two sides on a basis of mutual respect and equality for the reason that any failure to do so would mean a complete breakdown of the WETA's work."

It was pointed out that the WETA or any other organization would be unable to function effectively without the cooperation of the two sides and their respective Governments. The WETA's main task was to bring about a meeting of the two sides on a basis of mutual respect and equality for the reason that any failure to do so would mean a complete breakdown of the WETA's work. It was pointed out that the WETA or any other organization would be unable to function effectively without the cooperation of the two sides and their respective Governments. The WETA's main task was to bring about a meeting of the two sides on a basis of mutual respect and equality for the reason that any failure to do so would mean a complete breakdown of the WETA's work."

The National Trading Bureau representatives, with the exception of the "Director General of Commercial Sales in Switzerland," were under the impression that the operations required would be of a year or two's duration."

Mr. Marshall also urged the members of the Conference to make representations to ensure the re-orientation of WETA at Berlin.

It was later found, however, that accommodation in Berlin was absolutely impossible to secure, and it was therefore eventually decided to advise of everything, to leave the Central Trading Bureau at Geneva.

(1st July 1947)

3. CONCERNING WETA

There is one major question which has been posed by the WETA's main task and immediate responsibility was to bring about a meeting of the two sides on a basis of mutual respect and equality for the reason that any failure to do so would mean a complete breakdown of the WETA's work. It was pointed out that the WETA or any other organization would be unable to function effectively without the cooperation of the two sides and their respective Governments. The WETA's main task was to bring about a meeting of the two sides on a basis of mutual respect and equality for the reason that any failure to do so would mean a complete breakdown of the WETA's work."

WETA

It is obvious that at the time there were several influences which favoured the creation of a Central Office. The first, perhaps, was the mere fact that tracing developed in the first instance under SILMF, which was itself a combined organization. The second influence was undoubtedly that of Col. Bowring who had been responsible for setting up and developing the Tracing Bureau in the British Zone, and who had put forward plans for the tracing of missing persons of Allied nationality throughout Germany, which certainly influenced the thinking of the Working Group on Tracing of the PWMP Division CCG, and, indeed, the PWMP Division itself. At a Conference at Bad Oeyenhausen, Col. Bowring stated "that the tracing of missing persons in all parts of Germany would not be fully successful unless centralised as much as possible". Early in September Miss de la Pole at CTB analysed 886 enquiries which had been received by the British Zone Tracing Bureau. It was found that 304 of these enquiries could be identified in the CTB index and information upon them found there. In her concluding remarks Miss de la Pole wrote: "The fact that 45 % of the enquiries which had gone direct to the British Zone without previously clearing through CTB were identified in our index, is surprising and has important implications regarding the value of central clearance of all enquiries. This will be increasingly true as the master index becomes more and more complete, not only with regard to persons being sought, but also as we continue to add to the index information regarding known locations of DPs and death records of DPs."

While the tracing functions of CTB under the run-down scheme have been transferred to the Zone Tracing Bureaux which are empowered to act with complete autonomy in communication with National Tracing Bureaux, it was still felt that the maintenance of the Reference Library of Records was a function which should continue to be carried out centrally. Moreover, the PWMP Directorate of CCG evidently felt very strongly that this was the case. Thus, while some doubt might be cast on the question whether, at later phases of the tracing operation, the "post-office" function of CTB were justified, there would seem to exist no reasonable doubt about the importance of other aspects of the work. Miss Gibbons, in a minute to the PRDC, said that "the Central Tracing Bureau in Germany is performing functions extremely important to members of the United Nations by (a) centralising

It is noted that at the time there were several influences which
 favored the creation of a General Trading Bureau. The first, perhaps, was the
 fact that trading developed in the first instance under WIT, which was
 itself a combined organization. The second influence was undoubtedly
 that of Col. Bowring who had been responsible for setting up and develop-
 ing the Trading Bureau in the British zone, and who had put forward plans
 for the trading of missing persons of Allied nationality throughout Germany,
 which certainly influenced the thinking of the Working Group on Trading of
 the WIT Division GOC, and, indeed, the WIT Division itself. At a Con-
 ference at Bad Godesberg, Col. Bowring stated "that the trading of mis-
 sing persons in all parts of Germany would not be fully successful unless
 controlled as much as possible". Only in September 1945 in fact as
 WIT analyzed 685 captives who had been received by the British Zone
 Trading Bureau. It was found that 30% of these captives could be iden-
 tified in the GIB index and information was then found there. In her con-
 cluding remarks Miss de la Folie stated "The fact that 45% of the capti-
 ves which had gone direct to the British Zone without previously clearing
 through GIB were identified in our index, is surprising and has important
 implications regarding the value of central clearance of all captives.
 This will be investigated as the matter takes precedence and more
 complete, not only with regard to persons being sought, but also as we
 continue to add to the index information regarding known locations of
 WIT and death records of WIT."

While the trading functions of GIB under the two-zone system have
 been transferred to the new Trading Bureau which is expected to act
 with complete autonomy in consultation with National Trading Bureau, it
 was still felt that the maintenance of the reference library of records was
 a function which should continue to be carried out centrally. However,
 the WIT Directorate of GIB evidently felt very strongly that this was the
 case. Thus, while some doubt might be cast on the question whether, as in
 the phases of the trading operation, the "post-office" function of GIB was
 justified, there would seem to exist no reasonable doubt about the impor-
 tance of other aspects of the work. Miss Gibson, in a minute to the WIT,
 said that "the General Trading Bureau in Germany is performing functions
 extremely important to members of the United Nations by (a) centralizing

records for Allied nationals who were displaced, imprisoned or killed in Germany; and (b) coordinating tracing of individuals."

9. THE PREPARATORY COMMISSION FOR THE I.R.O. (P.C.I.R.O.)

On 15th December 1946, the General Assembly of the United Nations decided to create an International Refugee Organization (I.R.O.) as its agency to deal with all aspects of the displaced persons and refugees problem.

At the same time an Agreement on Interim Measures was also adopted, under which a Preparatory Commission for the IRO was to be established, pending the entry into force of the Constitution. It was to take all necessary and practical measures for bringing the organization itself into effective operation as soon as possible.

On 31st December 1946, the requisite eight governments having signed the Constitution, the Secretary General of the U.N.O. convened the first session of P.C.I.R.O. to be held at the Palais des Nations in Geneva, from 11-21 February 1947. It was also attended by representatives of the UNRRA and the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees, who had been in constant contact with PCIRO during the drafting of the IRO Constitution.

As successor agency of IGCR and UNRRA, IRO was not necessarily to take over the tracing activities so far pursued by the latter. As a matter of fact several members of PCIRO were very reluctant to do so. And it was only on the very strong pressure and insistence on the part of the French Government particularly, who made it even a condition for their participation in IRO, that PCIRO finally accepted to assume the responsibility of taking over the tracing.

The following is the first indication of PCIRO's final acceptance (Doct.No.Prep./27 dated 21st February 1947).

"The preparatory Commission, taking into consideration the results already obtained by the CEB, considering as essential the continuation of the activities of the CEB, notes with satisfaction the declaration of UNRRA according to which this organization has undertaken generally to continue operating the CEB until 30 June 1947, and directs the Executive Secretary to proceed to the study of the special problem raised by the continuation of the activities of the CEB after 30 June 1947 - and in particular activities relating to the use of documents, individual search, wave and press tracing, child tracing - and to put forward all necessary plans on this subject in connection with the entry into operation of the International Refugee Organization."

records for allied nations was not detailed, explained or listed in
Germany and (b) continuing working of individuals.

3. THE PROVISIONS OF THE I.C.E.O. (I.C.E.O.)

On 15th December 1945, the General Assembly of the United Nations
decided to create an International Refugee Organisation (I.R.O.) as its
agency to deal with all aspects of the displaced persons and refugee problem.
At the same time an agreement on interim measures was also adopted,
under which a Preparatory Commission for the I.R.O. was to be established, pre-
paring the entry into force of the Constitution. It was to take all necessary
and practical measures for bringing the organization itself into effective
operation as soon as possible.

On 15th December 1945, the respective eight governments having signed
the Constitution, the Secretary General of the U.N.O. convened the first
session of I.C.E.O. to be held at the Palais des Nations in Geneva, from
11-21 February 1947. It was also attended by representatives of the USSR
and the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees, who had been in constant
contact with I.C.E.O. during the drafting of the Constitution.
A successor agency of I.R.O. and I.C.E.O., I.R.O. was not necessary to
take over the preparatory activities as far pursued by the latter. As a matter
of fact several members of I.C.E.O. were very reluctant to do so. And it was
only on the very strong insistence and insistence on the part of the French
Government, particularly, who made it over a condition for their participation
in I.R.O., that I.C.E.O. finally accepted to assume the responsibility of taking
over the preparatory.

The following is the first resolution of I.C.E.O.'s final session

(Resolution No. 1, 11th February 1947).

The Preparatory Commission, taking into consideration the results
already obtained by the I.C.E.O., considering as essential the contin-
uation of the activities of the I.C.E.O. in order to facilitate the dis-
charge of I.R.O. according to which this organization has under-
taken to carry out its functions operating the I.C.E.O. until 31 June 1947,
and desiring the Preparatory Commission to proceed to the early of the
preparatory activities necessary to bring into effect the activities of the
I.R.O. as soon as possible - and to continue its activities relating to
the care of refugees, individual search, news and news sending,
and to take forward all necessary plans on this
subject in connection with the entry into operation of the Inter-
national Refugee Organization.

Extensive discussions took place between the Acting Director of the CTB, Mr. Roman Flohr (appointed Director on 12th April 1947) and Organisation & Management of DPRA/UNRRA, concerning re-organisation of the CTB and decentralisation of individual tracing, and a new organisational set-up of the Central Tracing Bureau was outlined as follows:

"The name of CTB will remain "Central Tracing Bureau" and it will consist of an Executive Office and five branches whose chiefs will be directly responsible to the Director: the Case Office Branch, the Child Tracing Branch, the Mass Tracing Branch, the Records Processing Branch and the Administration and Supply Branch, which will be sub-divided into sections:

1. the Central Tracing Bureau will undertake to:
 - (A) Maintain a Records Library, the keeping of which will entail the compilation of a catalogue of records held by the Central Tracing Bureau, which could not be duplicated owing to technical difficulties. The Library will act, also, as a depository for documents and certificates relating to stateless persons, and persons of undetermined nationality.
 - (B) Process and duplicate records in its possession, and distribute these to interested Governments in the form of photostat copies or extracts of nationalities.
 - (C) Receive concentration camp, prison, and other similar records which may contain information concerning Allied nationals in Germany.
 - (D) Maintain the existing Master Index, which contains the names and brief particulars of all persons for whom the Central Tracing Bureau has instituted a search; together with such information as has been obtained about them from records of concentration camps, prisons and hospitals, and documents received from burgo-masters and clergy. It has, as well, data respecting many Allied nationals who are living or have died outside UNRRA camps in Germany, and a considerable number of records death cases.
 - (E) Maintain the present D.P.2 Card Index as a records of approximately 600,000 Displaced Persons who have been under UNRRA at some time or another.
 - (F) Check against the Master Index, D.P.2 Index, and Records all enquiries sent in by Zonal Bureaux and such enquiries from National Bureaux as refer to specifically stated records (see para.3 below).
 - (G) Give full publicity through the medium of European radio stations, and a large number of different language newspapers, to cases which could not be solved within the Bureau.
 - (H)
 - a) collect documentary evidence from countries outside Germany respecting Allied children deported to Germany between the years 1938/1945.
 - b) analyse and distribute information thus obtained to Child Search Teams in Zones, so that they may be able to locate and identify Allied children.
 - c) correlate and distribute evidence about children from inside Germany to interested agencies in other countries.
 - d) act as depository for files sent in by Zones relating to closed cases of unaccompanied children.

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(I) Maintain its Branch in Berlin which will act as a Zonal Tracing Bureau for all four sectors of Berlin and to whom enquiries can be forwarded directly from National Tracing Bureaux or Zonal Bureaux. The Berlin Branch will communicate directly with the originating offices.

- 2. a) National Tracing Bureaux are requested to forward future enquiries for search in Germany to the respective Zonal Tracing Bureaux. Enquiries for cases outside Germany should be addressed to the National Tracing Bureau of the country of the last location. When, however, the Zone is not known the enquiry should be sent to all four Zones.
- b) After all field search media available to Zonal Bureaux has been tried without success, the enquiry should be passed by the Zonal Bureau to the Central Tracing Bureau.
- c) On receipt of the enquiry, The Central Tracing Bureau shall initiate a search as outlined in paragraphs 1.F. and G above.
- d) As soon as partial or positive information is uncovered, the Zonal Bureau concerned will be notified immediately, and the information entered on the relevant enquiry cards then resting in the Central Tracing Bureau's Master Index.

3. All enquiries whether from a National Tracing Bureau or another Tracing Agency must first be sent to a Zonal Tracing Bureau who may subsequently forward them to the Central Tracing Bureau. The only exception to this rule will be in the case of enquiries concerning missing persons, who were inmates of one of the Gross Rosen, Flossenbuerg, Dachau, Buchenwald, Mauthausen/Ebensee, Natzweiler concentration camps, of which the Central Tracing Bureau possesses fairly extensive records.

- 4. a) As stated above (para.1.C), the Central Tracing Bureau will continue the collection of records for analysis and distribution, and it is anticipated that Zonal Bureaux will continue to send as previously for retention in the Central Tracing Bureau Library, records relating to stateless persons and persons of undetermined nationality, prisons, concentration camps, etc.
- b) In its turn the Central Tracing Bureau will keep Zonal Bureaux informed of documents in its possession and any clues which may assist them in the un-covering of new material in the field.
- c) To give the fullest assistance possible to search operations, the Central Tracing Bureau is compiling a list giving the present location of documentary material in the possession of various agencies all over the world which could be consulted before routing a search enquiry."

The above scheme which had been agreed upon with most of the Zonal Tracing Bureaux and some National Tracing Bureaux, became effective on 15th February 1947.

Replies to enquiries initiated by the CTB prior to this date were re-routed. Enquiries including those about children which were sent to the CTB after that date were returned to their originator with an advice to forward them to the Zonal Tracing Bureaux concerned.

Simultaneously the staff of the CTB was reduced from 290 to 72.

Thus, from February 1947, the CTB did in fact put an end to its primary task defined in document CORC/(45)54. From that date it devoted itself solely to the processing of documents and archives, and did not undertake any individual tracing.

PCIRO met again in May 1947 and examined in detail the two alternative schemes submitted to it by the Executive Secretary:

- a) the organization of a strongly centralised International Tracing Service.
- b) the establishment of an International Tracing Bureau in co-operation with the various National Tracing Services.

On the first scheme the ICRC - International Committee of the Red Cross - having been approached signified its readiness to undertake the task and to enter into negotiations with the Governments concerned, in order to obtain their cooperation in supplying certain vital information. It was certain, however, that such a service could not be established before 30th June 1947.

The second scheme outlined proposals for continuing on a European scale the activities organized formerly by the CTB in Germany, working in close cooperation with the National Tracing Bureaux.

In view of the importance attached by several delegations to the continuance, improvement and widening of tracing services, the Commission decided in favour of the second scheme and adopted the following resolution (Doct.Pre/90/Rev 1/Add.1. dated May. 27th, 1947):

- convinced of the supreme importance of the tracing of missing persons, as emphasised by the Conferences of the National Tracing Bureaux in Brussels - September 1946 - and Prague - March 1947)-
- being anxious to ensure the continuation of such tracing, believing that the IRO, if it is not know at all exactly the scope of the task it will be given, should be in possession of lists of all persons for whom search is being made,
- invites the Governments concerned to have drawn up as soon as possible a list in alphabetical order of their nationals who have to be traced. For each person the following particulars (to which other may be added) should be supplied:
 - Name - Christian names) any other names by which known - date and place of birth - last official place of domicile (country, town, street, number) - last place of residence before arrest or departure (country, town, street, number) -date, place and grounds for arrest or departure latest information available - names and addresses of people able to give evidence - and address of the family or persons initiating the enquiry.

Simultaneously the staff of the OTS was reduced from 250 to 15.
 From February 1947, the OTS did in fact act as and to its
 primary task defined in document 5087/43/50. From that date it devoted
 itself solely to the processing of documents and archives, and did not
 undertake any industrial training.

UNICEF was again in May 1947 and examined in detail the two alter-

native schemes submitted to it by the Executive Secretary

(a) the organization of a strongly centralized international
 training service,

(b) the establishment of an international training bureau in co-
 operation with the various National Training Services.

On the first scheme the UNICEF - International Committee of the Red

Cross - having been approached slightly its readiness to undertake the

work had to enter into negotiations with the Government concerned, in

order to obtain their cooperation in supplying certain vital information

It was certain, however, that such a service could not be established

before 1948.

The second scheme outlined proposals for continuing on a European

scale the activities organized formerly by the OTS in Germany, working in

close cooperation with the National Training Bureau.

In view of the importance attached by several delegations to the

continuation, improvement and widening of training services, the Commission

decided in favour of the second scheme and adopted the following resolu-

tion (Doc. 5087/43/50, Annex A, dated May 21st, 1947):

- convinced of the supreme importance of the training of missing
 persons, as emphasized by the Conference of the National Training
 Bureau in Brussels - September 1946 - and Paris - March 1947 -

- being anxious to ensure the continuation of such training, believ-
 ing that the UNICEF, as it is not now at all exactly the scope of
 the work it will be given, should be in possession of lists of all
 persons for whom search is being made,

- inviting the Governments concerned to have drawn up as soon as pos-
 sible a list in alphabetical order of their nationals who have to
 be traced. For each person the following particulars (so far as
 other may be added) should be supplied:

- Name - Christian name (any other name) by which known - date and
- place of birth - last official place of domicile (country, town,
- street, number) - last place of residence before arrest or departure
- (country, town, street, number) - date, place and grounds for arrest
- or departure (where information available) - names and addresses
- of people able to give evidence - and address of the family or
- persons maintaining the identity.

The Preparatory Commission:

- resolves to ensure the continuation of tracing activities by means of an International Tracing Bureau taking into consideration:
 - that its scheme would be closely modelled on the proposals of the Conference of National Tracing Bureaux held in Brussels on 15th September and attended by delegates of the NTBs of Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, France, Greece, the Netherlands, Norway, Luxembourg and Poland,
- that these proposals for the continuation on a European scale of the activities already organized by the CTB in Germany also obtained the support of the recent conference of the NTBs held in Prague on March 3rd 1947.

The activities of the ITS would be wider than those of the Central Tracing Bureau for Germany and would include the following:

- a) Rationalization and coordination of national and international tracing methods,
- b) Transmission of requests to trace individuals to the appropriate National Bureaux, according to their nationality,
- c) Examination of unsolved cases submitted to it by the NTBs. These would be handed on to the country in which a search should be made.
- d) Catalogizing of all documents, lists, etc. in the possession of the National Tracing Bureaux.
- e) Formation of a Library of documents or photocopies thereof which the National Tracing Bureaux should undertake to supply.
- f) Organisation of tracing operations on an international scale through the press, the radio or the cinema.

The activities of the International Tracing Service would, therefore, be centred on three main functions:

- a) collective search
- b) Formation of a Library and a Catalogue
- c) Tracing on an international scale.

while the NTBs will continue the individual tracing of their own nationals.

The ITS would be responsible for coordinating the work of the NTBs.

The Preparatory Commission:

- directs the Executive Secretary to proceed to the organisation of the said International Tracing Service, to approach the Governments concerned, in particular those of countries where tracing operations are to be carried out, so as to secure their most vigorous cooperation;
- reminds the Executive Secretary of the necessity of maintaining the Zonal Tracing Services in Germany and Austria."

At about the same time UNRRA issued its closure order announcing the terms and conditions of service in the successor organisation, notifying terminal benefits of UNRRA employees transferring to the aforesaid, and promulgating instructions regarding the termination of such employees and their appointment to PCIRO or to IRO itself, which should be effective on 1st July 1947.

The Preparatory Commission

resolves to ensure the continuation of trading activities by means of an International Trading Service... that the service would be directly controlled by the Commission... the Government of International Trading Service will in accordance with the 1952 Convention and attached to the Commission... the Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg and France.

that these proposals for the continuation of a European state of the activities already organized by the ITC in Germany also obtained the support of the present conference of the ITC held in Paris on March 2nd 1954.

The activities of the ITC would be wider than those of the General Trading Bureau for Germany and would include the following:

- a) Nationalization and coordination of national and international trading methods,
- b) Examination of requests to issue certificates to the agents of National Trading Bureaux, according to their nationality,
- c) Examination of requests to issue certificates to the ITC. These would be issued on to the country in which a service would be established.
- d) Cataloguing of all documents, lists, etc. in the possession of the National Trading Bureaux.
- e) Formation of a library of documents or brochures which would be available to the National Trading Bureaux on request to supply.
- f) Organization of trading operations on an international scale through the press, the radio or the cinema.

The activities of the International Trading Service would, therefore, be confined to these main functions:

- a) collective search
- b) formation of a library and a catalogue
- c) trading on an international scale.

while the ITC will continue the individual trading of their own nationalities.

The ITC would be responsible for coordinating the work of the ITCB.

The Preparatory Commission

directs the Executive Secretary to proceed to the organization of the said International Trading Service, to approach the Government concerned, in particular those of countries where trading operations are to be carried out, so as to secure their most vigorous cooperation;

requests the Executive Secretary of the necessity of maintaining the local trading services in Germany and Austria.

At about the same time ITCB issued its circular under number...

the terms and conditions of service in the successor organization, including...

formation of ITCB employees transferring to the ITCB, and promoting transactions resulting in the formation of such employees and...

their appointment to ITCB or to ITCI, which should be effective on...

1st July 1954.

It is clear that on the cessation of UNRRA/DP activities in Germany on 1st July, the Administration could transfer to PCIRO only such authority in regard on the Bureau as it then possessed, and presumably could do that only with the approval of the Allied Control Authority. It should not be forgotten that the ACA had set up in the autumn of 1945 a Central Tracing Policy Board (CTPB) which consisted of one representative of each of the four Military Governors in Germany and that its functions were:

- a) to determine policies regarding the tracing of missing or displaced persons and the collection and use of records pertaining to such persons;
- b) to coordinate the work of the four Zonal Search Bureaux,
- c) to control, by the issue of directives, the policies to be followed by the Central Tracing Bureau.

The ACA was requested to invite UNRRA, to place the Central Tracing Bureau and the associated Central Records Office (which were already operating) at the disposal of the Allied Control Council, to be operated by UNRRA under policies and directives to be issued by the CTPB. The Bureau was to operate as a central clearing-house between Zonal and National Bureaux, not as an executive body. It was not, therefore, to issue policies and directives to Zonal Bureaux, this being the task of the CTPB. Each Zonal Bureau was to operate under the complete jurisdiction of its own Zone Commander, subject, however, to the general policies of the Allied Control Council and the CTPB.

UNRRA accepted the above situation.

At the Meeting of the CTPB held in Berlin on the 24th July 1947, the Director of the CTB stated that UNRRA had already terminated its activities in Germany, and that all its financial and administrative functions, without modification, had been taken over by PCIRO for a period of three months. He added that negotiations were under way for the creation of an International Tracing Service, which was to combine all the tracing organizations.

At a meeting of the board, held on 26th August 1947, the Soviet member stated that he lacked authority to discuss a report on the activities of the CTB submitted by PCIRO as the PWP Directorate had not requested PCIRO to sponsor the Bureau, especially because the USSR was not a member of IRO, which claimed to sponsor, under its own auspices, a quadrupartite agency - the CTB - without prior ACA authority. On 29th August the same

It is clear that on the creation of WEMA activities in Germany on 1st July, the Administration could transfer to WEMA only such authority in regard on the future as it then possessed, and necessarily could do this only with the approval of the Allied Control Authority. It should not be forgotten that the ACA had set up in the autumn of 1945 a Central Trading Policy Board (CTPB) which consisted of one representative of each of the four Military Governments in Germany and that its functions were:

- a) to determine policies regarding the transfer of assets or disposal of persons and the collection and use of records pertaining to such persons;
- b) to coordinate the work of the four local Control Bureaux;
- c) to control, by the issue of directives, the policies to be followed by the Central Trading Bureau.

The ACA was requested to invite WEMA, to place the Central Trading Bureau and the associated Central Records Section (which were already operating) at the disposal of the Allied Control Council, to be operated by WEMA under policies and directives to be issued by the CTPB. The Bureau was to operate as a central clearing-house between local and national bureaux, not as an executive body. It was not, therefore, to issue policies and directives to local bureaux, this being the task of the CTPB. Each local bureau was to operate under the complete jurisdiction of its own Command, subject, however, to the general policies of the Allied Control Council and the CTPB.

WEMA accepted the above situation. At the meeting of the CTPB held in Berlin on the 12th July 1947, the Director of the CTPB stated that WEMA had already formulated the activities in Germany, and that all the financial and administrative functions, with one modification, had been taken over by WEMA for a period of three months. He added that suggestions were under way for the creation of an International Trading Service, which was to comprise all the trading organizations.

At a meeting of the board, held on 12th August 1947, the member stated that he lacked authority to discuss a report on the activities of the CTPB submitted by WEMA as the ICB Directorate had not requested WEMA to operate the Bureau, especially because the ICB was not a member of WEMA, which claimed to operate, under the own auspices, a subordinate agency - the CIB - without prior ACA authority. On 23rd August the same

member expressed his indignation at the action of the Director of the Central Tracing Bureau, who, without the authority of the Directorate or of the coordinating Committee of the ACA, had "transferred the Bureau from UNRRA to an unknown organization".

It seems that no notification of the termination of UNRRA's interest in the CTB on 1st July 1947 was given to the CTPB until the meeting of the Board held on 24th July. The formal course might have been:

- a) for UNRRA to give notice of termination to ACA and to the Policy Board,
- b) for ACC and the Board to accept, ACA being informed by ACC,
- c) for the representative of one of the three Western zones on ACA to propose that PCIRO be requested to continue to operate the Board on a wider basis than the one on which UNRRA had operated, and
- d) for the submission by ACC to PCIRO of a formal request to this end.

At the same time ACA would have wound up the CTPB and authorized PCIRO to operate in the four zones of Germany independently of ACA.

Doubtless there would have been opposition from the Soviet Representative and the exclusion of the Russian Zone. The broad question as to how far the Western Powers were prepared to go in the face of Soviet opposition seems to be involved in a minor degree. Alternatively, the Commanders in the three western zones, subject to their being in possession of the requisite authority could enter into tripartite arrangement authorizing PCIRO to operate the CTB so far as their respective zones were concerned, independently of ACA. But in any event, action by ACA in regard to CTPB and ACA rulings in regard to zonal Bureaux should have been desirable.

At the meetings of the Central Tracing Policy Board held on 26th and 29th August 1947 during the first of them one of the British members of CTPB declared that the British Red Cross should terminate its tracing activities on 31st August in the British Zone of Germany and that a British officer with a small staff only should remain to complete a "live records index" and to turn over the British Zonal Tracing Bureau activities to an agency to be ^{de/}terminated. At the second meeting it was decided to instruct the Director of the CTB, Mr. Flohr, to submit to the Directorate of Prisoners of War and Displaced Persons a complete report showing the volume of work accomplished during the period that CTB was administered by UNRRA. + At the same meeting a paper was submitted by the Soviet member concerning the

+ This report, see Section II, "Organization and Work".

number expressed his indignation at the action of the Director of the GIB
 and the Board, who, without the authority of the Government or of
 the coordinating Committee of the GIB, had transferred the London from
 to an unknown organization.

It seems that no notification of the formation of GIB's a Institute
 in the GIB on 1st July 1947 was given to the GIB until the meeting of the
 Board on 28th July. The formal course might have been:

- a) for GIB to give notice of formation to GIB and to the Board;
- b) for GIB and the Board to agree, the latter informed by GIB;
- c) for the representative of one of the three western zones to GIB
 to propose that GIB be required to continue to operate the GIB
 on a wider basis, than the one on which it was set up, and
- d) for the submission by GIB to GIB of a formal report to this effect.

At the same time GIB would have been by the GIB and authorized

GIB to operate in the four zones of Germany independently of GIB.

Justification there would have been opposition from the Board regarding
 the exclusion of the Russian zone. The Board decision as to how
 the western zones were prepared to go in the face of Board opposition
 seems to be involved in a minor degree. Alternatively, the Committee in
 the three western zones, subject to their being in possession of the right
 the authority could enter into separate arrangements authorizing GIB to
 operate the GIB so far as their respective zones were concerned, independent
 of GIB. But in any event, action by GIB in regard to GIB and the GIB
 in regard to some business should have been desirable.

At the meeting of the General Trading Board held on 28th

and 29th August 1947 during the first of them one of the British members of
 GIB declared that the British Red Cross should terminate the trading enti-
 tities on 31st August in the British zone of Germany and that a British
 officer with a small staff only should remain to operate a "live records
 index" and to turn over the British Board Trading Manual activities to an
 agency to be determined. At the second meeting it was decided to instruct
 the Director of the GIB, Mr. Platt, to submit to the Directors of GIB
 of his and displaced persons a complete report showing the volume of work
 accomplished during the period that GIB was administered by GIB. At the
 same meeting a paper was submitted by the Soviet member concerning the

advisability of the liquidation of the CTB with the intention of submitting such recommendations as might be agreed, to the Coordinating Committee for approval.

The Directorate of POW and DPs instructed the Coordination Committee on September 26th to confirm the following recommendations:

- a) to consider the Central Tracing Bureau in Germany as officially disbanded and the provisions pertaining to its activities - (CORC/P(43)54) - as cancelled.
- b) to dissolve as having achieved its task the Central Tracing Policy Board which, under the Directorate, manages the CTB.
- c) to allow the FWDP Directorate to create a Liquidation Commission for the distribution and despatch, to interested organizations in different countries, of archives which they concern, registration cards and other documents which can be used for further tracing,
- d) to state the final day for the closing down of the CTB in Germany on 31st December 1947.

In the meantime PCIRO concluded agreements:

- a) on 28th June 1947 with the Control Commission for Germany (CCG) with respect to its operations in the British Zone of Germany
- b) on 6th July with the Commander in Chief, European Command) - CINCEUR - American Zone of Germany.
- c) on 6th September with the French Government relating to operations in the French Zone of Germany and in the French Zone of Austria.
- d) on 12th September with the Commanding General United States Forces in Austria - CG/USFA

In the first agreement a) no mention is made of tracing. The second one b) contains the following:

"IRO will be responsible for the operation of an enquiry and tracing service for determining the locations and conditions of displaced persons and refugees including child search".

The agreement Tuck-Koenig (c) specifies:

1. for Germany: "The Zonal Bureau for tracing refugees and displaced persons shall be under the supervising of the Central Tracing Bureau of IRO. Its staff shall continue as part of the French occupation services. The number of such personnel shall be fixed by agreement between the French authorities and IRO, and the salaries of the staff, and the operating expenses of the Bureau shall be paid by IRO and shall be the subject of an agreement between the two contracting parties."
2. for Austria: "The IRO assumes operational responsibility for operation of an enquiry and tracing service for Displaced Persons, including Child Search, to the extent authorized by IRO..."

As regards agreement d) it disposed that the International Refugee Organization will assume responsibility for operation of an enquiry and tracing service for DPs including Child Search.

With a view to preparing his report to PCIRO at its Session in October 1947 on the implementation of the resolution it had adopted in May 1947 (Frep/90/Rev.1. (Add.1.) on the establishment of an International Tracing Service, the Executive Secretary sought the assistance of the ICRC.

Being aware of Mr.M.Thudichum's activities and experience in the field of tracing, he asked the President of the ICRC, where he was member of the Board of Directors of the Central Agency for Prisoners of War if he could see his way to lending temporarily his services to study for PCIRO the whole organization of the CTB in relation to the zonal and national Tracing Bureaux, and to present to them suggestions for the proper organization and financing of an International Tracing Service.

The ICRC having consented Mr.Thudichum visited in September 1947 both the CTB in Arolsen and the US Zonal Bureau in Ludwigsburg. On September 27th Sir Arthur Rucker, Deputy Executive Secretary of PCIRO advised the members of PCIRO, of the action thus taken and indicated that at their next meeting a paper based on Mr.Thudichum's report would be placed before them for decision

A while later Mr. W.H.Tuck, Executive Secretary PCIRO, Sir Arthur Rucker, Mr. Myer Cohen Assistant Executive Secretary, Mr. W.W.Cox, Special Advisor and Brigadier C.Greenlade, all of PCIRO, Geneva, as well as Mr. Lawrence and Mr. Thain of CIPB-Berlin visited the CTB on the possibility and advisability of setting-up an International Tracing Service.

The aforesaid meeting of PCIRO was held from 21st October to 1st November 1947 in Geneva. On the basis of Mr. Thudichum's report the Executive Secretary Mr. W.Hallam Tuck put before the Commission an assessment of CTB activities and their cost, along with detailed recommendations as regards the establishment of a new International Tracing Service. The report assessed the relatively minor costs to the organization which an International Tracing Service would involve over and above those incurred for the less integrated central and zonal Tracing Bureaux, and proposed that the functions of the former should be a centralisation of tracing information, of mass tracing activities and of the tracing of children, the consequent absorption of the Zonal Bureaux, and the establishment of adequate liaison with a coordination of the work of the National Tracing Bureaux.

with a view to organizing the report of the Board of
 October 1937 on the subject of the organization of the
 (1937) (1937) on the subject of the organization of the
 and services, the Executive Committee would be required to
 taking account of the Board's activities and experience in the
 field of trading, it would be required to be able to
 of the Board of Directors of the Central Agency for
 could see his way to having temporarily his services to
 whose organization of the CIB in relation to the local and
 financial, and a proposal to this suggestion for the
 and a proposal of an International Trading Service.

The Board having considered the proposals in October 1937
 both the CIB in relation to its local branch in
 for the CIB in relation to its local branch in
 members of the Board, of the Board that such and
 meeting a paper based on the Board's report would be
 for October
 a while later Mr. [Name], Executive Committee
 member, Mr. [Name] Executive Committee, Mr. [Name],
 and Mr. [Name] Executive Committee, all of whom, as well as
 and Mr. [Name] Executive Committee visited the CIB on the
 possibility of setting up an International Trading Service.

The Board's meeting of 1937 was held from 1st October to 1st
 November 1937 in London. On the basis of Mr. [Name]'s report the Board
 five members to [Name] that the Board should be organized on a
 of its activities and their cost, and that the Board should be
 regard the establishment of a new International Trading Service. The report
 assessed the relative merits of the various proposals and
 and trading service would involve one or more of those
 less integrated central and local trading services, and proposed that the
 functions of the Board should be a central office of local information,
 of a trading service and of the trading of oil, the company
 aspects of the local market, and the establishment of a
 with a committee of the Board of the International Trading Service.

The Commission warmly welcomed this report and the proposals contained therein, and adopted a resolution directing the Executive Secretary to convert the CTB into an International Tracing Service in accordance with the principles of the report and to create a truly international and integrated tracing service on a democratic basis.

The resolution read as follows (see document PREP/146/Rev. of 31st October 1947):

"The Preparatory Commission for the International Refugee Organisation Recognising the importance to the solution of the displaced persons and refugee problem of the fullest possible tracing of missing persons within the limits of the funds available to the Preparatory Commission, and Convinced of the necessity of coordinated and centralised international tracing procedure, and having taken note of the commendable tracing work of the Central Tracing Bureau and the Zonal Tracing Bureaux as described in the Report of the Executive Secretary on the Establishment of an International Tracing Service Resolves

- to approve the principles of the proposals for the establishment of an International Tracing Service as set forth in the Report; and Directs the Executive Secretary
- (1) to take the necessary measures in accordance with the principles of the report for the conversion into an International Tracing Service of the present Central Tracing Bureau, its staff, facilities and functions, in order to eliminate to the maximum extent possible the present duplication of effort in the tracing field; and to extend the mandate of the International Tracing Service to include as far as possible the tracing of all non-German nationals, and of such German nationals as would be eligible under the Constitution of the International Refugee Organization, who have disappeared by reason of the War;
 - (2) to invite all interested Governments whether or not members of the Preparatory Commission, as well as voluntary societies engaged in tracing work, to relate their tracing activities with the work of the International Tracing Service; and to take steps in accordance with this invitation for obtaining the aid of, and establishing adequate liaison and coordination with both the National Tracing Bureaux and the Voluntary societies; and for arranging suitable exchanges of basic tracing information and material between such governments and agencies and the International Tracing Service;
 - (3) to notify all interested countries that, in view of the non-permanent character of the International Refugee Organization, the International Tracing Service can continue the function for a maximum of two or three years, and will in due course of that period so organize its work as to make feasible the turning over to some more long-term body such tracing functions as remain incomplete at the conclusion of its own activities;
 - (4) to negotiate with the occupation authorities for the amalgamation and full subordination of the Zonal Tracing Bureaux to the International Tracing Service, as well as for arrangements for the collection of necessary documents held by the military authorities or otherwise to be found in the occupation areas;
 - (5) to negotiate with the control authorities of Germany for suitable arrangements whereby the Headquarters for coordinated tracing operations may remain in Germany;
 - (6) to devote full consideration to every possibility for:
 - (a) the replacement of German employees of the International Tracing Service in the Zones of Occupation by displaced persons & refugees;

The Commission hereby requests that you and the proposed
 member states, and suggest a committee directed by the Executive Secretary
 to carry out the work of the International Training Service in accordance with
 the objectives of the report and to create a truly international and inde-
 pendent training service on a democratic basis.

The resolution was adopted (see document E/1947/10, para. 12)

(1947)

The Preparatory Commission for the International Refugee Organization
 recognized the importance to the situation of the displaced persons and refugees
 problem of the United Nations of the various possible training activities within the
 limits of the funds available to the Preparatory Commission, and
 considered
 of the necessity of coordinated and centralized international training
 procedures, and
 having taken note
 of the considerable training work of the Central Training Bureau and the
 Local Training Bureau, as described in the report of the Executive
 Secretary on the Establishment of an International Training Service
 Resolved

- (a) to approve the programme of the proposals for the establishment of an
 International Training Service as set forth in the Report, and
 through the Executive Secretary
 to take the necessary measures in accordance with the principles of
 the report for the conversion into an International Training Service of
 the present Central Training Bureau, its staff, facilities and functions,
 in order to eliminate to the maximum extent possible the present dupli-
 cation of effort in the training field; and to extend the mandate of the
 International Training Service to include as far as possible the training
 of all non-German refugees, and of such other persons as will be
 eligible under the Constitution of the International Refugee Organization,
 who have been displaced by reason of the war;
- (b) to invite all interested Governments whether or not members of the
 Preparatory Commission, as well as voluntary agencies engaged in training
 work, to relate their training activities with the work of the International
 Training Service; and to enter into agreements with this Service
 for covering the staff of, and establishing adequate liaison and coordi-
 nation with both the National Training Bureau and the Voluntary Coordi-
 nating Council; and for strengthening contacts and exchange of data training information
 and material between such Governments and agencies and the International
 Training Service;
- (c) to notify all interested Governments that, in view of the non-possibility
 operation of the International Refugee Organization, the International
 Training Service can continue the function for a maximum of two or three
 years, and will in the course of that period be organized in work as to
 make feasible the transfer over to some other long-term body with training
 functions as regards refugees as the completion of the own activities;
- (d) to negotiate with the Government authorities for the emigration and
 full participation of the Local Training Bureau in the International
 Training Service, as well as for arrangements for the collection of
 necessary documents with the relevant authorities or agencies to
 be found in the respective areas;
- (e) to negotiate with the central authorities of Germany for suitable
 arrangements whereby the Headquarters for coordinated training operation
 may remain in Germany;
- (f) to invite all Governments to every possible extent
 to facilitate the participation of the International Training
 Service in the form of cooperation by displaced persons & refugees;

- (b) the use of displaced persons and refugees as guards for the security of tracing materials and documents collected and retained by the International Tracing Service;
 - (c) the recruiting of International Tracing Service staff on an appropriate geographical basis within the conditions established by Article 9 of the Constitution;
 - (d) the establishment of a Zonal Tracing Bureau under the International Tracing Service in the British Zone of Germany, and early negotiations with the occupation authorities to that end;
 - (e) the establishment of adequate liaison with the governments of the non-member countries of Europe whence tracing data could be provided, together with suitable arrangements for the assignment of liaison officers from these countries to the International Tracing Service.
- (7) to express on behalf of the Commission its appreciation of the contributions made to the tracing functions by the Vatican and to enquire whether the Vatican might envisage the possibility of placing at the disposal of the International Tracing Service its mass tracing facilities, including in particular its broadcasting services, for the tracing of missing persons."

At the end of the meeting the Executive Secretary announced that he had appointed Mr. M. Thudichum Director of the International Tracing Service just created.

The text of the above quote resolution was sent on 10th November to all Governments Members of the United Nations, to the Government of Italy, to all National Tracing Bureaux and also to all Voluntary Societies with which UNRRA had had and with which PCIRO had relations.

Since the full text has been given in this paper of document CORC/P(45)54 which had been the standing order of CTB until UNRRA's termination, copy also is given here of "The Proposals for the Organization of an International Tracing Service" included in Mr. Thudichum's report submitted by Mr. W.H. Tuck, considered by PCIRO and agreed to during the meeting, which became in that way the Organizational Chart of I.T.S.

"A. PROGRAMME

The programme of an international tracing service may be summarised as follows:

- (a) to trace all nationals of other than ex-enemy countries who have disappeared owing to the war;
- (b) to determine what has happened to missing persons who cannot be traced alive;
- (c) to collect and maintain records of all available information concerning missing persons, refugees and any other persons who voluntarily or under compulsion changed their place of residence owing to the war.
- (d) to arrange appropriate exchanges of information between all recognised agencies dealing with tracing, and to coordinate their activities on a centralised basis;
- (e) to create an organization which shall be the only one officially accredited to the Allied Control authorities, and

the final text as approved became: to trace all non-German nationals and those German nationals who would be eligible for IRO assistance, who have disappeared owing to the war.

- (1) to express on behalf of the Commission the appreciation of the contributions made to the meeting by the various countries and to the staff of the International Training Service who were present;
- (2) to express on behalf of the Commission the appreciation of the contributions made to the meeting by the various countries and to the staff of the International Training Service who were present;
- (3) to express on behalf of the Commission the appreciation of the contributions made to the meeting by the various countries and to the staff of the International Training Service who were present;
- (4) to express on behalf of the Commission the appreciation of the contributions made to the meeting by the various countries and to the staff of the International Training Service who were present;
- (5) to express on behalf of the Commission the appreciation of the contributions made to the meeting by the various countries and to the staff of the International Training Service who were present;

At the end of the meeting the Executive Director advised that he had appointed Mr. R. B. ... as the International Training Service ...

The text of the above press release was sent on 10th November to all Government leaders of the United Nations, to the Government of Italy, to all National Training Service and also to all Voluntary Agencies with which UNITS had and with which UNITS had relations.

Since the full text has been given in this paper of document ... which had been the standing order of the United Nations ...

"A. PROGRAM"

- (a) to create an organization which shall be the only one ...
- (b) to create an organization which shall be the only one ...
- (c) to create an organization which shall be the only one ...
- (d) to create an organization which shall be the only one ...
- (e) to create an organization which shall be the only one ...

A. The first part of the program is to create an organization which shall be the only one ...

which they will recognise as having the right and the mandate to carry out investigations in all zones of occupation in Germany and Austria in order to find out what has happened to persons of non-German nationalities who lived there.

B. MACHINERY REQUIRED

It is recommended that in order to carry out this task, the NTB should be retained and developed, the ZTB kept on, and the CIB replaced by an International Tracing Service.

National Tracing Bureaux.

The NTB would be organically linked with the ITS, and would be closely associated with it in carrying out the programme outlined above; All requests for tracing would be sent to them; they would reply themselves to those relating to their own nationals, sending them on to the ITS only in case of failure, and would forward to each other enquiries about nationals other than their own. After checking, they would send on to the ITS enquiries about persons of undetermined nationality and stateless persons. They would pass on to the ITS all information in their possession which had not yet been used, and communicate all information already used, but obtained from a other source than the ITS.

Zonal Tracing Bureaux.

The ZTB would be an integral part of the ITS, which would control their activities and define their functions. Broadly speaking, their task would be limited to helping the ITS as regards tracing of records and information, and field tracing of missing persons in their respective zones. They would be staffed solely with a view to such activities.

C. FUNCTIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRACING SERVICE.

Centralisation of all requests for tracing relating to persons not yet traced by the NTB or ZTB.

The circular sent by the Executive Secretary on 6th August 1947 to all Member Governments and to the Italian Government, in accordance with Resolution No.23 adopted by the Preparatory Commission on 21st May 1947 was designed to bring about this centralisation.

Centralisation of all information.

The ITS would be the sole depository and archivist for all existing documents relating to the persons who are its concern. The NTB would be under no obligation to hand over to the ITS documents in their possession of which they have already made full use, but the ITS should be informed of their contents, so as to be able to keep a complete index of such documentary information. It would have the assistance of the ZTB in finding the documents needed to complete its index, particularly those which may help to build up the record of deportations, prison sentences, mass executions, etc.

Centralisation of mass tracing.

The ITS would be the only organisation using publicity methods, and such centralisation should help to prevent duplication of work, as it so often happens at present as a result of the many appeals, confusing to the public, sent out by various organisations. To that end, the ITS would make the necessary arrangements direct with military government authorities, radio stations etc. without going through the ZTB. Outside Germany it would have the support of the NTBs in action of this kind.

Centralisation of the work of tracing children.

This problem, with its ramifications in countries other than Germany, is one of such proportions that it obviously demands a centralised approach on an international scale. The ITS would collect, inside and outside Germany, all documentary information relating to United Nations children deported to Germany or born there between 1938 and 1945. It would centralise all the files of children still missing or already traced, and of unaccompanied children who have lost their parents. It would make the ZTB responsible for field tracing and would supply them with the necessary documentary material.

Pending preparations for more inclusive discussions with the National

which they will receive as having the right and the duty to carry out investigations in all cases of suspicion in Germany and Austria in order to find out the facts and to prevent the non-German nationalities who lived there.

CONCLUSION

It is recommended that in order to carry out this task, the IIG should be retained and developed, the IIG kept on, and the IIG replaced by an international working committee, composed of representatives of the IIG, and would be closely associated with it in carrying out the program outlined above; all requests for funding would be sent to them by way of the IIG, and they would be responsible for the IIG's financial affairs, and would forward to them on the IIG only in case of failure, and would forward to each other requests about nationalities other than their own. After consulting, they would send on to the IIG requests about persons of uncertain nationality and national persons. They would pass on to the IIG all information in their possession which had not yet been used, and communicate all information already used, but could not find a better source than the IIG.

The IIG would be an integral part of the IIG, which would control their activities and define their functions. It would specify that work would be limited to helping the IIG in regard to finding out the facts and information, and that the IIG would be entitled to such assistance.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

Organization of all requests for working documents in various countries by the IIG or IIG. The committee sent by the Executive Committee on 28 August 1937 to all member governments and to the British Government, in accordance with Resolution No. 13 adopted by the Executive Committee on 21st July 1937 was designed to bring about this organization. The IIG would be the sole depository and exclusive for all existing documents relating to the persons who are its concern. The IIG would be under no obligation to hand over to the IIG documents in their possession of which they have already made full use, but the IIG should be informed of their contents, so as to be able to keep a complete index of such documentary information. It would have the assistance of the IIG in finding the documents needed to complete its index, particularly those which may help to fill up the record of organizations, press cuttings, news bulletins, etc.

The IIG would be the only organization using this method, and such organizations should help to prevent duplication of work, as it is often happens at present as a result of the many appeals, coming to the IIG, sent out by various organizations. To that end, the IIG would make the necessary arrangements direct with the IIG Government authorities, other nationalities, etc. which could through the IIG. Outside Germany it would have the support of the IIG in order of this kind.

Organization of the work of the IIG. This problem, with the realization in countries other than Germany, is one of such proportions that it seriously demands a concerted approach on an international scale. The IIG would collect, index and outside Germany, all documentary information relating to United Nations children reported to Germany or born there between 1938 and 1945. It would centralize all the files of children still missing or already traced, and of unaccompanied children who have lost their parents. It would make the IIG responsible for their tracing and would supply them with the necessary documentary material.

Further suggestions for more intensive discussions with the IIG.

Tracing Bureau in the near future, the Director of the ITS was able, with the assistance of the Netherlands Ministry of Social Affairs, to have profitable joint discussions early in December 1947 with representatives of the Belgian, Dutch and French NTBs at the Hague.

In order to carry out the terms of the Resolution as regards liaison with the Governments of European States which were not Members of IRO, these countries was asked to send one liaison officer each to ITS Headquarters and provisions were made in the ITS budget to cover their expenses.

It was at that time the desire of the Director of the ITS to transfer his Headquarters from Arolsen to Ludwigsburg which would, in his opinion, have many advantages, i.e. better facilities for recruiting local DP employees, reduction in administrative expenditure and less isolation of the international staff. He did not, however, succeed in his negotiations.

Conversations were also held with the Occupation Authorities in the British Zone of Germany with the view to the early reestablishment there of a Zonal Tracing Bureau having field tracing teams like those of the corresponding office in the US Zone. A first contact was also made with the French Zonal Tracing Bureau. On the other hand instructions were issued for guidance in the future work, to the head of the Berlin office which was to act as Zonal Tracing Branch for the US, British and French Sectors of Berlin.

At the next meeting of PCIRO held in Geneva from 20th to 31st January 1948 Mr. de Rosen and Mr. Schneider respectively French and Belgian delegates, remarked that Child Tracing could not be carried on without Child Search. Because United Nations children had often been given German names, a general registration would be necessary if they were to be found. They suggested that a close cooperation be aimed at between the ITS and the Voluntary Societies interested in Child Search activities. The Executive Secretary declared that Child Search would be continued in order to meet the wishes thus expressed. He added that in Austria and in the British Zone of Germany the work of Child Search had been largely completed. In the US Zone he said, the work of mass search had just begun, and it was considered that an extended search should be instituted. He believed that in the French Zone the work was in progress. After Mr. Thudichum had observed that the work of Child tracing was over, once the location of the child had been

discovered, and that from that point it was for the "Child Care Branch of IRO" to take full responsibility, the Preparatory Commission expressed a strong interest in the functions of Child tracing and search and instructed the Executive Secretary to coordinate the work of the International Tracing Service in this regard with the Child Welfare programmes of the organization as a whole. The resolution then voted reads: - See Doc. PREP/195/Rev.1 of 2nd February 1948 -:

"The Preparatory Commission for the International Refugee Organization:

- having examined and discussed the Report of the Executive Secretary on the Establishment of an International Tracing Service
- resolves 1) to take note of the Report, 2) to direct the Executive Secretary to coordinate the work of the ITS with regard to tracing and search for children with the Child Welfare programmes of the Organization as a whole, with a view to ensuring the most efficient development of this important work."

The first months of the year 1948 were devoted by the Director of ITS essentially to putting in shape the new structure of ITS and in revising its working procedures, in entrusting the responsibility of ITS/ Zonal Divisions to new chiefs and in defining with them the respective tasks of Headquarters and Divisions, in equipping the Divisions materially and in personnel, in contacting the Military Authorities in the three Western Zones of Germany and in Berlin, as well as all the NTBs directly interested in the ITS.

On 26th February 1948 the Office of Military Government for Germany U.S. (OMGUS) in Berlin issued the following order concerning the conduct of searches by German Authorities for United Nations Citizens. The order was sent to the offices of Military Governments for Bavaria, Hesse, Württemberg-Baden, Bremen and the U.S. Berlin Sector.

"It has been brought to the attention of this Office that in certain instances, records and documents containing information of value in locating or establishing the identity of United Nations Citizens have been lost through destruction by German agencies as a matter of their routine office procedure whereby bracketed records maintained by such agencies are destroyed periodically.

"It is desired that the German Authorities within your "Inaeder", be instructed that no documents or records containing information pertaining to the United Nations citizens or non-Germans will be destroyed until such information has been made available to the US Zonal Tracing Bureau."

In the meantime the Netherlands Red Cross terminated their activities

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... the Executive Secretary to coordinate the work of the ...
... in this regard with the G.I. Bill ...
... as a whole. The resolution then voted ...

and February 1948 -

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The first meeting of the year 1948 was devoted by the ...
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in Germany and their duties were henceforth to be performed by the Tracing Mission of the Ministry for Social Affairs operating under the IIS. Their personnel attached to the IIS received a formulation of their attachment to EUCOM (Civil Affairs).

The Belgian Red Cross Tracing Team attached to the IIS were discontinued with effect from 13th February and their duties were taken over by the representative of the "Ministere de la Reconstruction" in charge of the Belgian National Tracing Bureau.

As heavy reductions were being made at the same time by the French Government in the number of their officials everywhere and as a great number of their liaison and tracing officers were being transferred to the "Ministere des Anciens Combattants" steps were taken to ask this Ministry to add them to the officials allotted by the French Government for the operations in the French Zone.

All Voluntary Agencies personnel who were attached to the US Zone Division at the time of the take-over of this Division by the IIS were maintained pending a careful study of their work and analysis of their personnel requirements, as well as a coordination of their respective programmes with the overall tracing programme of the IIS.

A routine order of CCG dated 11th March 1948 established the British Zone Division of the IIS:

"CCG ROUTINE ORDER No.149 dated 11th March 1948
Formation of British Zone Division
International Tracing Service.

1. The British Zonal Search Bureau was operate up to 31 December 1946 by 55 Search Bureau (P.W.&D.P. Division) Goettingen. On 1st January 1947 it was taken over by the British Red Cross Society - vide R.C. No.1 of 1947. The British Red Cross Society ceased its operations on 31 August 1947, since when a small CCG holding unit under the name of "Records Sub-Section, P.W.&D.P. Division Goettingen" has been taking care of the records and processing outstanding material.

2. The Central Tracing Bureau for tracing United Nations nationals who had been missing in Germany was taken by UNRRA on 16th November, 1945. On the disbandment of UNRRA on 30 June, 1947, the Central Tracing Bureau came under control of P.C.I.R.C. as the successor of UNRRA.

3. During the fourth part of its first session, P.C.I.R.C. unanimously adopted a Resolution on the establishment of an International Tracing Service to stand in place of the Central Tracing Bureau. Consequent upon this decision P.C.I.R.C. wish to take over the present British Zonal Search Bureau operated by the Records Sub-Section, P.W.&D.P. Division in Goettingen, as part of the International Tracing Service, and this has now been approved.

in January and their duties were transferred to a permanent by the Division of the Ministry for Social Affairs operating under the Ministry. Their (Government) referred to the ICB resolved a resolution to their assistance as follows (Social Affairs).

The Belgian Red Cross Trading Team assigned to the ICB were discussed with effect from 1954 however and their duties were taken over by the representative of the "Ministère de la Reconstruction" in charge of the Belgian National Trading Bureau.

As heavy reductions were being made at the time by the Government in the number of their officials everywhere and as a great number of their liaison and trading offices were being transferred to the "Ministère des Affaires Commerciales" steps were taken to ask this Ministry to ask them to the officials located by the French Government for the operations in the French zone.

All voluntary agencies personnel who were assigned to the ICB were Division at the time of the takeover of this Division by the ICB were called pending a careful study of their work and analysis of their personnel requirements, as well as a consideration of their respective programs with the overall trading programs of the ICB.

A routine order of 500 dated 11th March 1954 established the Belgian zone Division of the ICB:

THE HONORABLE ORDER NO. 149 dated 11th March 1954
 Division of Belgian zone Division
 International Trading Bureau

1. The Belgian zone Division Bureau was created by the 21 December 1954 by the Honorable Order (S.O.) No. 149. The Belgian zone Division - January 1957 is now taken over by the Belgian Red Cross Trading Team under the name of "Belgian Red Cross Trading Team" which was established on 21 August 1957, since then a name change was made under the name of "Belgian Red Cross Trading Team" and the name of "Belgian Red Cross Trading Team" has been taken over of the present and present operations.

2. The Belgian Trading Bureau for trading United Nations International who had been assigned to Germany was taken over by the ICB on 15th November 1954. On the assignment of this on 10 June 1957, the Belgian Trading Bureau was under control of I.C.B. as the successor of ICB.

3. During the month of 1st March 1954, I.C.B. was newly assigned a division on the establishment of an International and Trading Bureau to stand in place of the Belgian Trading Bureau. Consequently the Belgian I.C.B. was to take over the present Belgian Red Cross Trading Bureau operated by the Belgian Trading Bureau, Division in Belgium, as part of the International Trading Bureau, and this has now been approved.

4. Records Sub-Section P.W.&D.P. Division Goettingen, will cease to exist at a date to be fixed between 15th March and 31st March 1948, when P.C.I.R.O. will set up in Goettingen in place of the Records Sub-Section a Unit, designated: -

British Zone Division
International Tracing Service
922 Area Team I.R.O.
GOETTINGEN
B.A.O.R. 30

5. The duties of the British Zone Division will be to continue to expand the work at present being done by the Records Sub-Section, P.W.&D.P. Division, and to continue

- (a) to search for and trace military and civilian missing of the United Nations. This search will be based on individual enquiries registered with and received from the Headquarters of the International Tracing Service;
- (b) to establish where possible the fate of those missing who cannot be found alive;
- (c) to locate and collect all available records regarding United Nations nationals, who have been in the British Zone of Germany since 1 September 1939;
- (d) to forward all documents collected to HQ ITS for registration and onward despatch to Nations concerned;
- (e) to maintain a Zonal Index giving the names and the particulars of all missing persons, who have been traced, or whose names have appeared in documents collected by the Bureau;
- (f) to forward to HQ ITS for registration and action all individual enquiries received from sources other than HQ ITS.

Simultaneously Mr. W.C.Lee, formerly in charge of the Records Sub-Section P.W.&D.P. Division HQ/COG was appointed Chief of the British Zone Division and as such directly responsible to the Director of ITS.

Finally, as regard the US Zone, the functions of the former Tracing Child Search Division US Zone, were taken over, with effect from 1st April 1948 by the US Zone Division of ITS. Mr. A.J.Wittamer, former Chief of Records Branch ITS/HQ was appointed as its chief. It had been agreed that this integration included the assumption by the ITS of the collection, processing and storage in archives of documents, previously held by the CID and the Child Search, subject to such rules and directives as had been or would be issued by the competent US Authorities.

None of the records, indices and other documents which were in the possession of PCIRO, of which might come into its possession in future, would be moved outside the US Zone of Germany without explicit approval of the responsible US authorities. Information contained in the documents,

... the work of the British Home Office will be to ensure that the work of the British Home Office is carried out in accordance with the provisions of the Act...

INTERNATIONAL TRADING CORPORATION
INCORPORATED IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
100 WALL STREET
NEW YORK 5, N.Y.

The Board of Directors of the International Trading Corporation will be pleased to receive from you any information you may have regarding the work of the Corporation...

(a) to provide for the payment of the interest on the loan...

(b) to establish a fund for the purpose of providing for the interest on the loan...

(c) to provide for the payment of the interest on the loan...

(d) to provide for the payment of the interest on the loan...

(e) to provide for the payment of the interest on the loan...

(f) to provide for the payment of the interest on the loan...

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files and indices of the International Tracing Service should at all times be available to the US authorities for any enquiries they might wish to make concerning displaced persons, refugees or other non-German nationals missing or displaced as a result of the war.

In broad lines the general organization of the International Tracing Service had been planned as follows :

The Headquarters was remaining in Arolsen, since Ludwigsburg or any other place had not been obtained.

The former US Zone Tracing/Child Search Division located at Ludwigsburg was transferred to Eslingen to become the US Zone Division of ITS.

The British Zonal Bureau re-established at Goettingen was to become the British Zone Division of the ITS with Mr. W.C. Lee as its Chief.

The French Zonal Bureau functioning in Rastatt under the French Administration was to constitute the French Zone Division of the ITS.

The three aforesaid Divisions, placed under the immediate authority of the Director of the ITS, were to operate as field search and tracing units in their respective Zones, all their documentary material being handed over to ITS Headquarters and their field tracing operations being effected on the sole behalf of the ITS/HQ.

As a consequence the NTBs should direct all their enquiries to the ITS/HQ and not to its Zonal Divisions.

The ITS should send all its replies to individual enquiries, including those which referred to enquiries received by it directly, through the National Tracing Bureaux.

In order to carry out to the best the task entrusted to it, the International Tracing Bureau should as soon as possible become the sole depository of all documentary evidence relating to United Nations nationals who were missing since September 1939 in Germany and in the territories formerly occupied by Germany. The National Tracing Bureaux should therefore be requested to send to the ITS all the documents they possessed which concerned persons of other nationalities than their own, and if they had not done so, to communicate to it the catalogue of the documents in their hands which pertained solely their nationals.

The Berlin Office should be part of the ITS Headquarters and directly

files and indices of the International Trading Service should be available to the US authorities for any purposes they might wish to use concerning business persons, relatives or other non-German nationals arising or developing as a result of the war.

In broad lines the general organization of the International Trading Service has been planned as follows:

The Headquarters was to be located in London, since London was the only other place not yet obtained.

The former US Zone Trading/Trade Division located at Leipzig was transferred to Berlin to become the US Zone Division of I.T.S. The British Zone Division was established at Goettingen and to become the British Zone Division of the I.T.S. with Mr. W.G. Lee as the Chief.

The French Zone Division was to be located in Paris under the French Administration was to constitute the French Zone Division of the I.T.S.

The three proposed Divisions placed under the immediate authority of the Director of the I.T.S. were to operate as field offices and trading units in their respective Zones, all their temporary material being held over to the Headquarters and their field trading operations being effected on the sole basis of the I.T.S.

As a consequence the I.T.S. should direct all their enquiries to the I.T.S. and not to the local Divisions.

The I.T.S. should send all its replies to individual enquiries, including those which referred to enquiries received by it directly, through the National Trading Bureau.

In order to carry out to the best the task entrusted to it, the International Trading Bureau should as soon as possible become the sole depository of all documentary evidence relating to United Nations nationals who were missing since September 1939 in Germany and in the territories formerly occupied by Germany. The National Trading Bureau should therefore be requested to send to the I.T.S. all the documents they possessed which concerned persons of other nationalities than their own, and if they had not done so, to communicate to it the existence of the documents in their hands which pertained solely their nationals.

The Berlin Office should be part of the I.T.S. Headquarters and directly

responsible to the Director.

In the report on the ITS by the Executive Secretary of PCIRO presented at the meeting of the latter held in Geneva from 4th to 12th May 1948, mention was further made of a visit to Austria by Mr. Thudichum, where as a result of the assistance afforded him by the Chancellor H.E. Ing. Figl, he was able to establish closer contact with the Austrian NTB which still had a considerable task before it. The report added that the Director of ITS had also made very useful contacts in Berlin; not alone with OMSUS, but also with the French element of the Allied Control Commission and with the heads of the Czech and Polish Missions. The way had also been prepared for a close cooperation with the Polish NTB which had promised to the Director of ITS to receive an ITS Mission and permit it to make copies of certain important documents in the possession of its Bureau in Cracow.

Contact was also made with the Central Location Index in New York at the suggestion of the US representative of PCIRO and with the PCIRO Office in Rome, both of which were carrying on considerable tracing activities. Excellent results were hoped for ITS from these contacts.

Again the Executive Secretary indicated that he had taken steps to put into effect the decision of the Preparatory Commission, with regard to tracing and search for children, adopted at the foregoing meeting of the Commission. It had been decided that the ITS would include within its functions child search and child tracing and that the child search functions would not include case work planning for children, but would cease at the point at which a child is located and it appears that he falls within the mandate of PCIRO. At this point reference would be made to the Child Welfare Officer in the appropriate PCIRO Field Office. The ITS had commenced several "working parties" of experts from the three Western Zones of Germany and from Austria to explore methods of carrying out the Preparatory Commission's decision regarding Child Search, and pending further consideration of this problem, the Executive Secretary had made an allocation of funds to be used partly for the search programme and partly for staff to plan and care for children found.

The report ended on the information that the Luxembourg Government which was not a member of PCIRO, but which had a special interest in the pro-

blem

responsibility to the Government.

In the report on the 15th by the Executive Secretary of UNICEF, dated at the meeting of the Inter-Agency Committee on 15th July 1953, it was further stated of a visit to Austria by Mr. Thelander, who as a result of the assistance afforded him by the Government of Austria, is able to establish closer contact with the Austrian Red Cross which had a considerable task before it. The report added that the Director of UNICEF had also made very useful contacts in the UK; not only with UNICEF, but also with the French element of the Allied Control Council, and with the heads of the Czech and Polish Missions. The way had also been prepared for a close cooperation with the Polish MEB which had promised to the Director of UNICEF to receive an UNICEF Mission and permit it to make copies of certain important documents in the possession of the Bureau in Warsaw.

Contact was also made with the Central Location Institute in New York at the suggestion of the UN representative of UNICEF and with the POLISH Office in Rome, both of which were carrying on considerable research activities. Excellent results were hoped for UNICEF from these contacts.

Again the Executive Secretary indicated that he had taken steps to give into effect the decision of the Preparatory Committee, with regard to finding and caring for children, adopted at the foregoing meeting of the Commission. It had been decided that the UN would include within its functions those child search and child tracing and that the child search functions would not include case work planning for children, but would cease at the point at which a child is located and it appears that it falls within the mandate of UNICEF. At this point reference would be made to the Child Search Office in the appropriate UNICEF Field Office. The UNICEF had commenced several "working parties" of experts from the three Western zones of Germany and from Austria to explore methods of carrying out the Preparatory Commission's decision regarding Child Search, and pending further consideration of this problem, the Executive Secretary had made an allocation of funds to be used partly for the search programme and partly for staff to plan and care for children found.

The report ended on the information that the Luxembourg Government which was not a member of UNICEF, but which had a special interest in the pro-

of tracing, had offered to contribute to the expenditures of the International Tracing Service.

At the same time at the meeting of FCIRO in Geneva in May 1948 the question of declarations of death was raised. The Commission recognising the urgency of solving the legal difficulties arising from the disappearance due to war events or persecution, of large numbers of persons whose death could not be conclusively established, and recognising further that such a solution would be in the interest of refugees and displaced persons who were the concern of the Organization and who were the persons most likely to be directly affected by the existing difficulties, directed the Executive Secretary to request the Secretary General of the U.N. in the name of the Preparatory Commission to place the question on the agenda of the next Session of the ECOSOC - Economic and Social Council - of the United Nations, and to offer every assistance in connection therewith.

This question is mentioned here because in many cases since its creation the ITS had uncovered evidence leading to the conclusion that missing persons were dead. Although it had lacked the authority to issue official death certificates in such cases, its findings frequently had already served as a basis upon which the heirs of a deceased person were able to obtain such official determination of death from the proper authorities. The Director of ITS had in the meantime himself approached the German authorities with a view to the setting-up by them, at ITS HQ of a special Civil Registrar's Office which, on the basis of ITS documents would be in a position to issue death certificates for all persons, inmates of Concentration Camps who had died on German soil.

A few weeks later the ITS was asked also to supply the American civil authorities with certificates of imprisonment - Certificates of Incarceration - for large numbers of people wishing to be resettled in the U.S.A.

At a last meeting of FCIRO before the coming into life of the International Refugee Organization itself, the Executive Secretary reported as follows on the ITS (See doc. CC/36 Geneva 16 September 1948).

"At the present time the International Tracing Service consists of a Head Office at Arolsen, an office in Berlin and a zonal branch in the British and in the American Zone of Germany. The Headquarters in Arolsen directs the activities of the offices mentioned and maintains close relations with the French Zonal Office.

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The Head Office now consist of the offices of the Director and of the Chief of the Head Office, and the following departments:

- (1) the Documents Service, which collects, studies and preserves documents, sends copies or photocopies of them to the Governments concerned, and makes out notifications of death and certificates of imprisonment;
- (2) the Tracing Service, which is responsible for carrying out enquiries and which answers all requests for information;
- (3) the Child Tracing Service, which deals with the tracing of children whose names are known and of their families, and child search in general;
- (4) the Mass Tracing Service, which is responsible for the publication in DP camps, or through the press and radio, of the names of missing persons whom it has proved impossible to trace in any other way;
- (5) the Central Card-Index, containing all the cards on which are entered the information obtained by the ITS and the enquiries sent in to it;
- (6) the Administrative Department, which deals with all questions relating to personnel, accommodation, food, transport, equipment, and management of funds.

As regards the Head Office of the International Tracing Service, the military occupation authorities in the American Zone of Germany have not yet been able to put at the disposal of the ITS premises in which the Director could arrange to bring together all the documentary material held by the Head Office and by the American Zonal Division, an essential measure. The present separation of these two offices has considerable disadvantages and the work of the ITS is hampered as a result.

The staff of the Head Office and the Zonal Bureau consists of 909 persons including 78 international officials, 83 employees recruited locally, 10 liaison officers and representatives of voluntary societies and 738 persons recruited among displaced persons and Germans. If the Budget for child search, which will be discussed separately, is approved by the General Council, the total will be increased to 1,501 persons, including 157 international officials, 102 employees recruited locally, 41 liaison officers and representatives of voluntary societies, and 901 persons recruited among displaced persons and Germans.

The Director of the ITS has requested the Executive Secretary of the Preparatory Commission to inform the General Council of its staffing problems. At its meeting in October 1947 the Preparatory Commission expressed the wish that the number of German employees should be reduced. Although the latter hold only subordinate posts, it has, however, proved necessary to increase their number because of the shortage of qualified workers who are likely to stay on. This situation has arisen because more and more of the displaced persons employed by the ITS are leaving to be repatriated or resettled, and the number of persons possessing the necessary qualifications for employment by the ITS is diminishing steadily. Unless the ITS continues to engage Germans, it seems difficult to solve the problem, unless by adopting one of the two solutions described below:

- (1) replace the thousand or so displaced persons and Germans by about 500 international officials (the greater efficiency of the latter would make possible a proportionate reduction in staff);
- (2) establish the Headquarters of the ITS in some other country, retaining in Germany only the staff required for field tracing operations.

Though the increase in the staff of the ITS is partly due to the extension of its activities in the field of child search, it is also made inevitable by the number of tracing enquiries forwarded to the ITS by the National Tracing Bureaux and also by the fact that now the ITS does actually carry out tracing operations and only gives negative replies when it has exhausted all the possibilities of finding any trace or particulars of the missing persons.

Special stress must be laid on the need for the ITS to maintain close touch with the National Tracing Bureaux, since the latter are in possession of a large number of documents and much information which can be very useful to the ITS; at the same time the ITS is in a position to provide them with a good deal of the documentary material which they lack. Some of the National Bureaux systematically forward any material concerning other persons besides their own nationals. There are, however, other National Bureaux which have not yet established contact with the ITS, and in view of the importance of the documents held by some of them, the Executive Secretary considers that it is most essential for the ITS to be able to enter into relations with these Bureaux. Moreover, the ITS makes enquiries on a large scale regarding persons who are the concern of these Bureaux, particularly in connection with the tracing of Polish and Czech children brought to Germany under the Germanisation programme. Consequently, it seems only right that the States to which the above-mentioned persons belong should support the ITS and make their financial contribution to its work."

Speaking about the future of the International Tracing Service the Executive Secretary of PCIRO continued:

"For the reasons described above, and in view of the possibility that the task of the ITS may not be completed within the lifetime of the International Refugee Organization, the Executive Secretary thinks it advisable to review the constitution of the ITS and consider whether it should be altered. At its October 1947 meeting, the Preparatory Commission had already foreseen the possibility of the ITS being attached to some other International Organization when the time came. In this connection, it might be considered whether the Service could not be attached, for example, as an independent body, to the United Nations."

In conclusion the Executive Secretary drew the attention of the General Council to the need for continuing the search for persons - adults and children - who had disappeared as a result of the Second World War, and recommended that the General Council confirm the mandate which the ITS held from the PCIRO.

The following recommendations were thus submitted to the General Council :

"The General Council of the International Refugee Organization
Recognising
the importance of the fullest possible tracing of missing persons within the limits of the funds available to the Organization, and
Convinced
of the necessity of co-ordinated and centralized international tracing procedures, and
Having taken note
of the work of the International Tracing Service described in the Report of the Executive Secretary of the Preparatory Commission on the International Tracing Service (document GC/36),
Instructs the Director-General
1. to continue the work of the International Tracing Service, seeking to eliminate to the maximum degree possible duplication of effort in the tracing field, and extending its mandate as far as possible to all non-German nationals, and such German nationals as would be eligible under the Constitution of the IRO, who have

Through the inclusion in the draft of the ITO in part by the
extension of the committee in the field of child labor, it is also
indicated by the report of the committee forwarded to the ITO by the
National Trading Bureau and also by the fact that the ITO does not
carry out trading operations and only gives negative replies when it has
extracted all the possibilities of limiting any trade or performance of
the trading process.

Special stress must be laid on the need for the ITO to maintain
close touch with the National Trading Bureau, since the latter are in
possession of a large number of documents and much information which can
be very useful to the ITO; at the same time the ITO is in a position to
provide them with a good deal of the documentary material which they lack.
Some of the National Bureau's specialities toward any national committee
other than those which exist on national level. These are, however, other
National Bureau which have not yet established contact with the ITO, and
in view of the importance of the documents held by some of them, the
Executive Secretary considers that it is most essential for the ITO to be
able to enter into relations with these bureaus. Moreover, the ITO sees
opportunities of a large scale trading between and the concern of these
bureaus, particularly in connection with the trading of Polish and Czech
children brought to Germany under the Germanization program. Government-
ly, it seems only right that the Bureau to which the above-mentioned per-
sons belong should support the ITO and take their special restriction
to its work.

Specializing about the future of the International Trading Service the
Executive Secretary of ITO continues:

"For the reasons described above, and in view of the possibility
that the task of the ITO may not be completed within the life-
time of the International Trading Organization, the Executive
Secretary thinks it desirable to review the constitution of the
ITO and consider whether it should be altered. At the October
1947 meeting, the Preparatory Commission had already foreseen
the possibility of the ITO being absorbed by some other Inter-
national Organization when the time came. In this connection,
it might be considered whether the Bureau could not be attached,
for example, as an independent body, to the United Nations."

In conclusion the Executive Secretary drew the attention of the
General Council to the need for continuing the search for persons - adults
and children - who had responded as a result of the Second World War, and
recommended that the General Council continue the search within the ITO limits
from the ITO.

The following recommendations were then submitted to the General

Committee:

- "The General Council of the International Trading Organization
recognizing
the importance of the further possible trading of missing persons
within the limits of the ITO's activities to the Organization, and
Committee
of the necessity of co-ordinated and centralized international
trading procedures, and
having taken note
of the work of the International Trading Service described in
the report of the Executive Secretary of the Preparatory Commission
on the International Trading Service (document ITO/35),
Intervene the Executive-General
1. to continue the work of the International Trading Service,
seeing as essential to the further possible trading of
of efforts in the trading field, and extending its search as far
as possible to all non-German nationals, and such German nationals
as would be eligible under the Constitution of the ITO, who have

disappeared by reason of the second World War.

2. to maintain close relations with all interested governments whether or not members of the Organization, as well as with voluntary societies engaged in tracing work, in order to coordinate their tracing activities with the work of the International Tracing Service; to negotiate with those interested governments with which liaison has not already been established, with a view to their relating their tracing work to that of the International Tracing Service; and to arrange with all such governments and voluntary societies suitable exchange of basic tracing information.
3. to coordinate the work of the International Tracing Service with regard to tracing and search of children with the child welfare programmes of the Organization as a whole,
4. to take appropriate steps for the issuance of notifications of death of as a formal or evidentiary a character as may prove useful, as well as of certificates of incarceration.
5. to give particular attention to the difficulties experienced by the International Tracing Service in carrying out its work at its Headquarters in Germany, owing to the constant loss of its numerous refugee and displaced person staff through repatriation and resettlement.
6. to consider in consultation with the United Nations, other international organizations, the occupying authorities, and all interested governments the practicability of turning over to the "United Nations or to some other long-term body as early as may be possible those important tracing functions which should continue after the cessation of the work of the IRO."

On July 23th, 1948 a new agreement, effective 1st January 1948 and superseding the one concluded on July 6th 1947 intervened between IRO and the Commander-in-Chief, European Command - CINCEUR - as to IRO's operations in the US area of control in Germany.

It contained on the ITS nearly the same text as the preceding i.e. "IRO would be responsible subject the terms of the agreement for the operation of an Enquiry and Tracing Service in and for the US area of control, for determining the locations and conditions of displaced persons and refugees, including Child Search."

In the meantime the Director of ITS convened a meeting of representatives of the National Tracing Bureaux. Although he thought that there were at the moment no problems of general interest to be discussed or solved, it would afford the representatives of the NTBs an opportunity to get an inside view of the work of the ITS and its difficulties and to bring forward their suggestions or criticism. The conference was held at ITS Headquarters in Arolsen from 30th September to 2nd October. It was attended by Sir Arthur Rucker, Deputy Director-General of IRO, the Director of ITS, the Deputy Director of ITS, three delegates of the Belgian NTB, two of the French NTB accompanying the Chief of the "Service des Personnes Déplacées" of the French Zone, one delegate of the Greek, Italian, and Luxembourg NTBs, two of the Netherland NTB, Mr. Burckhardt of the International Committee of the Red Cross, the four liaison officers - Belgium, France, Luxembourg and the Netherland - one representative of the Italian Red Cross, one of CIGUS two of EUCOM and the Chiefs of Divisions and Branches of ITS.

Having exposed the set-up of the Zonal Divisions and the difficulties encountered by ITS - excess of international employees, frequent

movements among the local, DP and German staff, inconvenience of separation and need of consolidation, transport difficulties after tracing in the field, etc. the Director enumerated briefly some of the ITS achievements and its immediate targets, - carding of all documents not yet processed, transforming the Index into a phonetic-alphabetically one, backlog of enquiries, grave location, centralized Child Search, relationship with Eastern countries etc.

Mr. Thudichum commented also on the future of the ITS - attachment to an other international body and location-.

After three days of detailed visits and of confident and courteous discussions, the unanimous conclusion was that the conference had been a valuable experience not only because it had assured the ITS of the permanent interest of the NTBs, but also because it had allowed the delegates to become acquainted with the methods adopted, as a result of which they would be able to collaborate better with the ITS in the future.

10. THE INTERNATIONAL REFUGEE ORGANIZATION.

At the end of the first Session of the International Refugee Organization in September 1948 the Executive Secretary had been able to state that the International Tracing Service which came into being in January 1948, had obtained wide international significance and appreciated results.

In his preliminary recommendation on the termination of the IRO programme to the General Council of IRO, at its Second Session in march 1949 the Director-General Mr. Tuck recalled that the First Session had requested him to consider the practicability of turning over to the United Nations or some other long-term body, as early as may be possible, those important tracing functions which should continue after the cessation of the IRO. He had studied this question in detail and having reviewed the main activities of the ITS now recommended that the work of ITS should be continued under IRO until at least 1st July 1950 and if it might appear desirable not to terminate the existence of the ITS at that time, to agree that it should continue to function for an additional short period, under the auspices of the IRO inasmuch as the latter organization continues to exist. At that time the International Tracing

Service should be terminated and its responsibilities assumed by the various countries concerned. The records could be divided when and if feasible between the respective interested National Tracing Bureaux and the residue handed over as archives to some other agency existing or to be established.

Having studied the abovementioned statement the Director had come to the conclusion that it would be impossible to carry out the work of the ITS far enough before least the end of 1950 and he immediately advised the Director-General of IRO accordingly.

For the first time, he said, a date line had been envisaged for the termination of ITS which would be fixed by the coming Session of IRO. Whatever the date line would be - June 1950, June 1951 or even December 1951 - the span of life of ITS was going to be limited to a relatively short period and the question arose whether it would be in a position or not to achieve its main tasks.

On the basis of the experience gained so far, he felt that for the accomplishment of its work the Child Search Branch would require one whole year i.e. up to June 1951. As to the tracing of adults he was not, for many reasons, able to make any evaluation, nor to state how far the ground still to be covered, would be covered on the date IRO wanted to fix. There was no decrease in the number of enquiries, the total volume of findings resulting from two systematic drives for documentary evidence at that moment in operation in the US and British Zone could not possibly be measured. For the British Zone it had been estimated that with the help of the German Land and Kreis Authorities, all the material concerning non-Germans, deceased, imprisoned, in hospitals in the Zone, etc. should have been collected at the end of May 1950. However, to a large extent the exploitation of this material could then still to be done. In the US Zone the load was just as heavy. It was known, for instance, that the material to be checked by the German Authorities in Hesse, with a view to supplying the ITS with what pertained to non-Germans, was so voluminous, that it would take more than a year for these authorities to complete this task. In Kassel, for instance, Social Insurance records, bearing on nearly three million names, had been found with invaluable information on disablements and deaths which occurred during captivity.

On the other hand the ITS was urged by the Governments mostly interested in tracing to prepare the catalogue of all concentration camps, commandos,

... should be retained and the responsibilities assumed by the various ... The records could be divided into two and it would be ...

... having studied the experimental statement the Director had come to ... is considered that it would be impossible to carry out the work of the ...

... for the first time, he said, a date line had been envisaged for the ... of the IIS which would be fixed by the coming Session of IHO. However ...

... On the basis of the experience gained so far, he felt that for the ... of the work the IHO should be given a wide range of powers and ...

... from two separate bodies for documentary evidence as that moment in opera- ... tion in the US and British zones could not possibly be separated. For the ...

... not, in his opinion, in the zone, etc. It would have been collected at the end of ... However, to a large extent the explanation of this material could ...

... On the other hand the IIS was urged by the Government to carry out ... in order to prepare the material of all concentration camps, commandos,

prisons, labor camps, etc. established on and outside of German territory by the Nazis. It was urged also to draw up a complete catalogue of all the documents in its possession etc. etc.

Further, after prolonged negotiations with the German authorities, the Sonderstandesamt - special civil registry office - was expected to be set up at the ITS/HQ. Its duties and functions, which could be fulfilled by no other body, would consist in establishing official death certificates for those victims of the war who died in German territory, the original documents held by ITS being submitted to this office for it to make up the required certificates particularly with the original documents of the concentration camps. It was impossible to say how long this Office would be in operation, but it was quite evident that its service would be required as long as new documents would be forthcoming through the search mentioned above.

This question was again taken up at the Third Session of IRO in Geneva at the end of June 1949. The Council appointed on 30th June a Committee comprising Delegates of Belgium, France, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the United States. The Committee met twice in order to consider the question of the International Tracing Service from the point of view of the immediate future and the time when the IRO would not longer exist.

The Delegates for Belgium and the Netherlands were most anxious that the work of the ITS should not be hampered and that it should continue as long as the IRO would exist. The same view was expressed in general by the Delegate of France. The Delegates for the United Kingdom and the United States, equally conscious of the value of the work of the ITS, felt that arrangements should be put in hand as soon as possible for it to be transferred to another and more permanent agency than the IRO. The special qualifications of the International Red Cross in that respect were recognized, although it was realized that financial difficulties might be encountered by that agency. It was suggested, however, that if the ICRC could take over the work in the fairly near future, IRO might make available the funds which it would otherwise have spent itself upon the ITS.

After full discussion the Committee authorized the Director-General to transmit its views to the Council. It was of the opinion that the work

prison, labor camp, etc. established on the outside of German territory
by the Nazis. It was urged also to draw up a complete catalogue of all the
documents in the possession of, etc.

Further, other practical suggestions with the German authorities
the Government - special civil registry office - was expected to be
set up at the ITC. Its duties and functions, which could be fulfilled
by an other body, would consist in establishing official death certificates
for those victims of the war who died in German territory, the original
documents held by the body admitted to this office for it to take up the
required certificates particularly with the original documents of the non-
national camp. It was impossible to say how long this office would be
in operation, but it was quite evident that the services would be required
as long as new documents would be forthcoming through the search mentioned
above.

This question was again taken up at the Third Session of the ITC in
Geneva at the end of June 1943. The Council appointed on 10th June a
Committee consisting of Belgium, France, Italy, Luxembourg, the
Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the United States. The Committee met
twice in order to consider the question of the International Tracing
Service from the point of view of the immediate future and the time when
the ITC would not longer exist.

The delegates for Belgium and the Netherlands were most anxious
that the work of the ITC should not be neglected and that it should continue
as long as the ITC would exist. The view was expressed in Geneva by
the delegate of France, the delegate for the United Kingdom and the United
States, equally conscious of the value of the work of the ITC, that
arrangements should be put in hand as soon as possible for it to be trans-
ferred to another and more permanent agency than the ITC. The special
qualifications of the International Red Cross in that respect were recog-
nized, although it was realized that financial difficulties might be en-
countered by that agency. It was suggested, however, that if the ITC should
take over the work in the fairly near future, ITC might make available the
funds which it would otherwise have spent itself upon the ITC.

After this discussion the Committee authorized the Director-General
to transmit the views to the Council. It was of the opinion that the work

of the ITS should continue throughout the lifetime of the IRO and that some aspects of it should be maintained thereafter. The Committee agreed that the most appropriate body to take over tracing activities would be the International Committee of the Red Cross and that there would be considerable advantages of that agency were able to agree to take over those activities before the demise of the IRO, i.e. while the IRO would still be in a position to assist them in assuming the burden.

The Council then instructed the Director-General to continue the activities of the ITS within the limits of the funds earmarked for it and to discuss with the ICRC the feasibility of its taking over the tracing activities when the ITS relinquished them and, if possible before the close of the IRO.

Accordingly the Director-General approached the ICRC who decided to send a mission of investigation to ITS/HQ and Divisions.

As soon as it became evident in April 1949 that IRO would most likely not last beyond 30th June 1950 and although it had been foreseen when the ITS was created, that it would have to be given a much longer span of life by being taken over by another agency, it appeared imperative to the Director of ITS to take steps with a view to going as far as possible in the completion of its essential tasks, i.e.

- a) processing and exploitation of the Concentration Camps documents handed over by the US Occupation Authorities;
- b) collection and checking of the German Category Material;
- c) Location of graves of non-German nationals;
- d) Individual tracing on enquiries received, most of which emanated from DFs.
- e) Child Search

Consequently an important increase of the number of indigenous (DP and German) personnel was requested and obtained, from the US Army. Simultaneously additional means were asked for in the budget submission for the period July-December 1949, presented to IRO/HQ in May. However, the General Council decided that until its Fourth Session, in October 1949, when the future of ITS and its eventual transfer to another agency would again be discussed, the additional means needed by it for the pursuance of its activities at the requested level would not be given to it. In taking

of the IIR should continue throughout the life of the IIR and that some reports of it should be maintained throughout. The Committee agreed that the most appropriate body to carry out these activities would be the International Commission of the Red Cross and that there would be considerable advantages if that agency were able to agree to carry over those activities during the course of the IIR, i.e., while the IIR would still be in a position to assist them in carrying the burden.

The Council then instructed the Director-General to continue the activities of the IIR within the limits of the funds allocated for it and to discuss with the IIR the feasibility of the taking over the trading activities when the IIR relinquished them and, if possible, before the close of the IIR.

Accordingly the Director-General requested the IIR who decided to send a mission of investigation to IIR's and Division.

As soon as it became evident in April 1952 that IIR would not finally not last beyond 1952 and although it had been foreseen when the IIR was created, that it would have to be given a more longer span of life by being taken over by another agency, it appeared imperative to the Director of IIR to take steps with a view to going as far as possible in the completion of the essential tasks, i.e.,

- a) production and exploitation of the Commission's reports documents handed over by the Commission authorities;
- b) collection and checking of the German category materials;
- c) location of graves of non-German nationals;
- d) individual tracing on enquiries received from which emanated from the IIR;
- e) other tasks.

Consequently an important task of the matter of indigenous (IIR and German) personnel was requested and obtained from the US Army. Sixteen thousand additional personnel were asked for in the budget submission for the period July-December 1952, presented to IIR/UN in May. However, the General Council decided that until the fourth session, in October 1952, when the future of IIR and the eventual transfer to another agency would again be discussed, the additional amount needed by it for the performance of its activities at the requested level would not be given to it. In taking

this decision not only did the General Council refuse ITS additional credits, but compelled it to restrict itself to a budget which represented a cut of 30% of its previous allotment.

Mr. Thudichum called the attention of the Director-General of IRO to the fact that over four years had passed since the end of the war and that it became imperative that what could be done through tracing and with documentary evidence to at last clarify the fates of those who had been victims of the Nazis, should be done as early as possible. Before the ITS was placed under a new sponsor it was essential that it should accomplish as much as possible and therefore be given the necessary means. This, would, in his opinion, be a condition put by any successor agency, which could then only, the main task being accomplished, take over the formidable archives of ITS and for many years to come keep them at the disposal of those who would again require proofs of incarceration, of death, of burial, etc.

ITS Headquarters were moved in April/May 1949 within Arolsen itself into the SS Baracks. This long hoped for an indispensable move into larger premises made it at last possible to consolidate there all the documentary evidence - mostly original card indices - of concentration camps so far maintained in Besslingen at the HQ of its US Zone Division. It of course created momentarily quite serious disturbances in practically all departments of ITS/Hqs. After a couple of months, however, the benefit resulting from the move proved to be immense. ITS had just reached that point when a Second Conference of National Tracing Bureaux was held in Arolsen from 1st to 3rd September 1949, attended by fifteen representatives of five National Tracing Bureaux and of the Polish Red Cross, as well as by delegates of the CCG, the French Military Government, the IRO in the US and British Zones. This conference, as in the autumn of 1948, convened by the Director, was meant to enable the representatives of NTBs to see for themselves in full activity what was of such paramount interest to them and to help the Director with their suggestions at the same time learning how the indispensable cooperation between NTBs and the ITS could be rendered better and closer.

Next to a number of unwarranted criticisms, the delegates expressed certain wishes related to the way and means of accomplishing certain tasks which they considered essential before ITS was taken over by another agency.

This decision was only after the General Council returned the additional evidence, and completed its report to a body which represented a part of the previous agreement.

Mr. Tomlinson called for attention of the Director-General of ITO in the last few years had passed since the end of the war and that it became necessary that there should be some through working and with documentary evidence to at least clarify the facts of those who had been victims of the Nazis, should be done as early as possible. Before the ITO was placed under a new sponsor it was essential that it should be organized in such a manner and therefore to give the necessary funds. This would, in his opinion, be a condition put by any sponsor which would mean that only the main task being accomplished, that over the terrible victims of ITO and for many years to come help that of the Director of those who would again receive profits of international, of health, of burial, etc.

The headquarters were moved in 1947 to the United States itself into the UN Building. This was hoped for an independent move into larger premises and it was last possible to complete there all the documentary evidence - mostly original cards - of concentration camps as far as was known in Belgium at the UN of the UN Division. It of course created considerable difficulties in practically all departments of ITO/UN. After a couple of months, however, the benefit resulting from the move proved to be immense. ITO had just reached that point when a second Conference of National Trading Bureau was held in London from 1st to 10th October 1949, attended by fifteen representatives of the National Trading Bureau and of the British Red Cross, as well as by delegates of the GOC, the French Military Government, the ITO in the UN and British Home. This conference, as in the autumn of 1948, convened by the Director, was held to enable the representatives of ITO to see for themselves in full activity what was of such permanent interest to them and to help the Director with their suggestions at the same time learning how the independent cooperation between ITO and the UN could be rendered better and closer. Part to a number of questions circulating the delegates expressed certain wishes related to the way and means of accomplishing certain tasks which they considered essential before ITO was taken over by another agency.

When reporting to the Fourth Session of the General Council held in Geneva from 11th to 20 th October 1949, the Director-General of IRO mentioned that the International Committee of the Red Cross had advised him of its interest in the possibility of taking over the activities of the ITS on account of the humanitarian aspect of the problem and of the advantage of adding information about persons concerning whom the ITS had made enquiries to the documentation which the Central Agency for prisoners of War already holds about victims of the last war. But, considering that the work of Child Search presents a special aspect of the problem, which did not come within the normal activities of the ICRC, it would be unwilling to assume responsibility for that part. Mr. Tuck concluded that he had not yet had an opportunity to hold conversations with representatives of the governments particularly interested in tracing activities. He hoped, however, that he would be able to do so during the session of the Council itself. Meanwhile he hoped that the Council would examine the question of the future of the ITS in the light of his report and give him guidance of the general policy to be followed.

The condition laid down by the International Committee of the Red Cross for the take-over of ITS next to the granting by IRO of a certain amount of dollars were as follows:

The Committee

- a) must be able to exercise its functions in a spirit of independence, liberty and neutrality, into which political considerations would not enter,
- b) rules itself the way it makes appropriate replies to the enquiries received
- c) cannot consider taking over the activities of the ITS before the work of field tracing, collecting and carding documents, making notes and classifying documents and making photostat copies of documents giving information which had been requested by the NIBs of France, the Benelux countries and Italy, had been completed.
- d) the documents to be taken over must be free of all restrictions and free to be used as it thought fit.

In his report the Director-General described as follows the work to be completed by ITS, and the question of Child Search.

" Of the sixty to seventy tons of documents relating to victims of the Nazi regime at present in the hands of the ITS, approximately 10 per cent still remains to be carded, a task which it is estimated can be completed in a few months. Of this material a considerable proportion has to be made available, in photostat copies, to the National Tracing Bureaux of the countries of which a large number of the persons to

When reporting to the Board of Directors of the General Council held in Geneva from 1945 to 10 October 1946, the Director-General of ILO wrote that the International Committee of the Red Cross had advised him of its interest in the possibility of taking over the activities of the ILO on the basis of the humanitarian aspect of the problem and of the advantage of adding information about persons concerning whom the ILO had made enquiries to the information which the Central Agency for Prisoners of War already holds about victims of the last war. But, considering that the work of ILO is humanitarian in a special sense of the word, which did not seem within the normal activities of the ICRC, it would be unwise to assume responsibility for that part. He then concluded that he had not yet had an opportunity to hold consultations with representatives of the government particularly interested in taking over the work, but he would be glad to do so during the session of the Council in 1947. Meanwhile he hoped that the Council would examine the question of the future of the ILO in the light of his report and give him guidance of the general policy to be followed.

The Committee held down by the International Commission of the Red Cross for the takeover of ILO work to the amount of 100 of a certain amount of dollars were as follows:

The Committee

- a) must be able to exercise its functions in a spirit of independence, liberty and neutrality, into which political considerations would not enter;
- b) raise itself the way it takes appropriate steps to the enquiries received;
- c) cannot exercise taking over the activities of the ILO before the work of this body, collecting and sending documents, making notes and classifying documents and making arrangements of documents giving information which has been requested by the ICRC at Geneva, the Danish Committee and ILO, has been completed;
- d) the documents to be taken over must be free of all restrictions and free to be used as it should be.

In his report the Director-General described as follows the work to be completed by ILO, and the question of ILO's work.

"Of the staff to survey some of documents relating to victims of the last war at present in the hands of the ICRC, approximately 10 per cent still remains to be sorted, a task which it is estimated can be completed in a few months. Of this material a considerable proportion has to be made available, in printed copies, to the National Trading Bureau of the countries of which a large number of the persons to

whom the material relates were nationals. The collation and card-indexing of the documents, which is a necessary preliminary to the distribution of photostat copies, is a task of considerable magnitude.

The ITS receives from the German authorities documents known as "German Category Material", from which it has to extract all information found therein regarding non-Germans. This material is German administration documentation other than concentration camps records, relating to people (German and foreign) in hospitals, prisons, factories, cemeteries etc. It is in the hands of German administration which is responsible for handing over to the ITS on lists or cards all names of non-Germans found in this material. The processing of these documents is expected to result in the insertion in the Master Index of $3\frac{1}{2}$ - 4 million cards, and to complete it before 30 June 1950 it will be necessary to add a number of extra staff to the Index Branch of the ITS.

The ITS receives considerable material from IRO regarding displaced persons coming within the mandate of the Organization - DP2 registration cards, mass and individual resettlement lists, inter-camp movement lists, etc. Of more than 50% of the displaced persons' population is either repatriated or resettled, it is estimated that the ITS will have to insert in its Master Index 1 million information cards concerning those persons.

In addition to the tasks described above the ITS will also have to accomplish the following:

- (a) prepare and inventorise all concentration camp material for insertion in its library;
- (b) sort all the documentary material into restricted and unrestricted material;
- (c) establish a catalogue of all concentration camp and Gestapo material in existence in countries other than Germany and Austria;
- (d) inventorise all documents which will have to be transferred either to the successor agency or the Military Authorities, or destroyed;
- (e) increase the output of the German Civil Registry so that it may establish all death certificates from the concentration camp material at hand. This work has only just begun and could not continue were the records of the ITS to be moved out of Germany. There are two new factors which are resulting in an increase in the workload of the ITS, in addition to the activities indicated above. The first is the request of the National Tracing Bureaux of the Benelux countries, France and Italy for all documents either in original or photostat copy which relate to their nationals and which are at present held by the ITS. Whereas formerly documents were requested only in respect of persons not yet traced, it is now desired to have them relating also those persons who are alive and already known to the National Tracing Bureau concerned. This request, which as contended by the latter must be met for the proper implementation of their national laws on the indemnification of the victims of the Nazi regime, could be met by the ITS between 1 November 1949 and 30 June 1950 provided additional means were given to it.

The second factor is connected with the so-called General Claims Law which has recently been promulgated in the American Zone of Germany, under which victims of Nazi action may claim recompense. (Similar laws will, it is presumed, be promulgated in the British and French Zones). Claims under this law must be supported by documents which, in a high proportion of cases, are held by the ITS, and may be made up to 31 March 1950. It appears certain that the number of these claims will amount to many tens of thousands. It is evident that considerable delay and inconvenience would be caused by moving the appropriate records from Germany. Such

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When the material relating to the collection and card-indexing of the documents which is a necessary preliminary to the distribution of processed reports, is a task of considerable magnitude.

The ITD receives from the German authorities documents known as "German Category Material". These which it has to extract all information from include (German, non-German, and other) in German, English, French, Dutch, Spanish, Italian, and other languages, and also in the hands of German authorities which is necessary for handling over to the ITD on lists or cards all names of persons mentioned in this material. The processing of these documents is expected to be completed in the latter part of 1950 - 1951 (million cards), and to complete it before 30 June 1950 it will be necessary to take a number of extra staff to the Index Branch of the ITD.

The ITD receives considerable material from the German authorities and some covering the records of the Organisation - ITD regarding the cards and indices, and other material, including names and addresses of persons mentioned in the material. It is estimated that the ITD will have to handle in the latter part of 1950 information concerning these persons.

In addition to the cards described above the ITD will also have to handle the following:

- (a) process and inventory all concentration camp material for inclusion in the Library;
- (b) sort all the documentary material into categories and sub-categories;
- (c) establish a catalogue of all concentration camp and Gestapo material in existence in Germany and other than Germany and Austria;
- (d) inventory all documents which will have to be transferred either to the successor agency or the Military Authorities, or destroyed;

(e) improve the output of the German Civil Registry so that it may establish all birth certificates from the concentration camp material as far as possible. This work will be done in Germany. Considerable work is being done at the ITD to be done out of Germany. There are two main factors which are working in an increase in the output of the ITD, in addition to the activities mentioned above. The first is the report of the National Training Bureau of the British counter-intelligence and other for all documents of the German counter-intelligence which relate to their nationals. They are material of historical value which is being processed and which are at present held by the ITD. However, for only documents were processed only in respect of persons not yet traced, it is not desired to have them relating also to those persons who are known and already known to the National Training Bureau concerned. This material, which is contained in the latter part of the report, is being processed of their material in the information group. The material of the last report, could be met by the ITD between 1 November 1949 and 30 June 1950 provided additional means were given to it.

The second factor is concerned with the so-called General Claims Law which has recently been promulgated in the American zone of Germany, which gives effect to the claims law which is in force in the British (British zone) and is in force, it is proposed, in the British (British zone) and French zones. Claims under this law must be supported by documents which, in a high proportion of cases, are held by the ITD, and may be made up to 31 March 1950. It appears certain that the number of these claims will amount to many tens of thousands. It is evident that considerable delay and inconvenience would be caused by having the appropriate records from Germany, such

requests for documentary proof of damage to body, life, liberty etc. are already numerous. The Director-General considers that as this work is a direct consequence of an introduction of a German law, it should be the responsibility of the German Authorities to provide the ITS with the necessary staff and equipment for dealing with it. This matter is being taken up by the Director-General.

The International Committee of the Red Cross is not prepared to take over the Child Search programme. The IRO has now to decide, therefore, whether this programme should cease on 31 December 1949, when funds now allocated will have been largely exhausted, or whether means should be found to continue it until 30 June 1950 or until some other convenient date before the transfer of other work of the International Tracing Service takes place.

The aims of the Child Search Branch of ITS are:

- (a) to find children kidnapped by the Nazis and all other non-German children who have become displaced and unaccompanied as a result of the war;
- (b) to identify these children, establish their citizenship and provide them with documents;
- (c) to bring them into communication with their parents or relatives;

The late receipt of material giving information on these children has caused the Child Search programme only now to be reaching the peak of its activity. After lengthy negotiation with the Occupation Authorities and with the German authorities, the ITS received permission to start a programme of intensive search in institutions, with foster parents and for adopted children. Organized search for children in institutions started in June 1949 and is expected to be finished by the end of the year, by which time some 200,000 children will have been investigated and about 1,500 unaccompanied non-German children discovered. This work does not, however, include organised search for children living with foster parents and a programme has been worked out for them which, if it began on 1 January 1950, would, it is expected, be finished by the middle of that year. Investigations of adopted children is a continuous process.

The procedure adopted is that on discovery of a child, the authorities of its country of origin are informed, and at the same time the process of documentation is begun and the IRO Child Welfare officers conduct social welfare investigations. It has been the practice in the U.S. Zone of Germany for children to be removed from German institutions and put in IRO Assembly Centres; while in both the British and French Zones children are placed in centres, run by the military authorities under IRO supervision, this the continuation of the Child Search programme has usually been connected with the continuation of the IRO Care and Maintenance programme, and it has been considered prudent to plan for the closure of the Child Search programme sufficiently far in advance of the Care and Maintenance programme for the children under care and maintenance to have their cases completed before the closure of Assembly Centres.

Increasingly, however, it is evident to the Director-General that there is no need on grounds of physical welfare alone for children to be put in IRO Assembly Centres, since economic conditions are so much improved in Germany. It would in many cases be reasonable and possible for a child to remain where it is until final plans are made for its future. This would of course, necessitate a continuance of the legal protection which is already undertaken in part by the existing work of identification and documentation. Furthermore, any action necessary for the repatriation of children

can always be taken by the government concerned.

It is thus considered that the continuation of the Child Search programme is not necessarily dependent on the continuation of the IRO Care and Maintenance programme and even of the IRO Repatriation programme, and that the present Child Search Programme could, if so desired, continue with certain handicaps until it is completed, about the middle of 1950, even though the care and maintenance programme were not continued after 30 June 1950.

There has recently been a marked increase in the number of cases solved, as many being solved in the past three months as in the previous six. This applies particularly to old cases on which new information has been obtained. About 20,000 enquiries about children of 31 nationalities are still open, of which 5,000 have been received in 1949, and solved cases represent over 10,000 children of 33 different nationalities. The completion of search proper by the middle of 1950 would of course still leave uncompleted the work of documentation and of bringing children and relatives into touch with one another. This would be no worse, however, in respect of children discovered during 1950 than in respect of children discovered earlier, and adequate plans for a continuation of efforts to solve these individual problems have yet to be made. A continuation and completion of searching would not materially affect them."

During the discussion held on 17th and 18th October, Mr. Erauw, Belgian Delegate, stated that his country attached considerable importance to the ITS and the prolongation of its activities. In order to apply the existing legislation in Belgium to some 200,000 persons who had made claims for indemnification for war damage, war pensions, and delivery of death certificates, it was of the utmost importance to receive the relevant documentation from the ITS as rapidly as possible. It seemed to him that the greater part of the work could be completed by 30 June 1950 if the necessary funds were available, and he hoped that effect would be given to some of the suggestions made at a recent meeting at Arolsen by the National Tracing Bureaux to simplify and speed up the work. Belgium was not particularly interested either in child search or in the new German office for the issue of death certificates.

Mr. ERAUW emphasised the necessity for the provision of photostat copies of documents. There were three stages in the provision of documentation:

- (1) original documents concerning nationals of the respective countries;
- (2) photostat copies of documents concerning such persons; and (3) circulation of all relevant documents concerning persons whose nationality was not indicated. New tasks should not be assumed by the ITS which would defer the completion of its main task.

With regard to the future, if it were necessary that the activities of ITS be extended beyond 30 June 1950, Mr. ERAUW thought a final date should be fixed and adhered to, or suitable plan of work should be established and the suggestions made by the National Tracing Bureaux recently at Arolsen for expediting the work should be implemented. The suggestion to transfer the

activities of the ITS to the ICRC did not recommend itself to the Belgian Delegation.

Mr. ERAUW concluded by expressing the hope that the ITS would work as rapidly as possible, continuing beyond 30 June 1950, if that were necessary, but meantime enabling the National Tracing Bureaux to receive the documents they required now while such documents could be of practical use to them.

Mr. ROCHEFORT (France) supported the views of the Delegate for Belgium. To terminate the work of the ITS prematurely would mean that what had already been done would not be fully made use of; and to transfer its activities to another organization would relegate the collected documentation to the status of mere archives.

Dr. de Kanter (Netherlands) stressed his Government's appreciation of the work so far accomplished. Over 200,000 persons of Netherlands nationality or former nationality had disappeared during the war, and no records remained regarding a great number of them. Many issues and private interests depended on a correct official confirmation that a persons had died at a certain date, and it had been found necessary to introduce special legislation regarding declarations of death. In that connection, it was essential (a) that the existing information, often confused or even contradictory, should be properly analysed; (b) that the material should be as complete as judged necessary by the competent experts.

Dr. de Kanter thought it would be unwise if the ITS did not finish the task it was so well equipped to do. Relegating the work to another body would mean dispersal of centralised material, duplication of effort, loss of time and money. It was indispensable for the Netherlands National Tracing Bureau to obtain, either in original or in photostat copy, all documents relating to persons of Netherlands nationality or of former Netherlands nationality. Further, a catalogue of all documents in the possession of ITS, or of which the existence was known to ITS, should be furnished to the National Bureaux.

The Netherlands Government attached great importance to the completion of the task of the ITS and believed that funds should be allocated for the purpose. Before expressing an opinion on future activities, Dr. de Kanter decided information from the Administration as to whether, in the event of the continuation of the ITS with adequate funds to 30 June 1950, its records

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activities of the ITC to the ITC and not transfer itself to the Belgian

Delegation.

Mr. KANIS (France) suggested that the ITC should work as

well as possible, continuing beyond 30 June 1950, if this were necessary,

in order to enable the National Training Bureau to receive the documents

concerning the ITC which would be of practical use to them.

Mr. KANIS (France) suggested the views of the Delegation for Bel-

gium. To continue the work of the ITC temporarily would mean that what had

already been done would not be fully made use of and to transfer the materi-

als to another organization would require the collection of documents in

the state of work available.

Mr. de KANIS (Belgium) advised the Government's organization

of the work as far as possible. Over 500,000 persons of Belgian origin

in or former Belgium had disappeared during the war, and no records exist-

ing regarding a great number of them. Many names and private interests deper-

ted on a correct official confirmation that a person had died at a certain

date, and it had been found necessary to introduce special legislation regard-

ing the situation of death. In that connection, it was essential (a) that

the existing information, often confused or even contradictory, should be

properly analyzed; (b) that the activity should be as complete as judged

necessary by the competent experts.

Mr. de KANIS thought it would be useful if the ITC did not finish

the task it was so well equipped to do. Delegating the work to another body

would mean dispersal of centralized material, duplication of effort, loss of

time and money. It was indispensable for the Belgian National Training

Bureau to obtain either in original or in photostat copy, all documents re-

lating to persons of Belgian origin or of former Belgium who had

emigrated. Further, a catalogue of all documents in the possession of ITC, or

of which the existence was known to ITC, should be furnished to the National

Bureau.

The Belgian Government attached great importance to the completion

of the task of the ITC and believed that funds should be allocated for the pur-

pose. Before expressing an opinion on future activities, Mr. de KANIS said

that information from the Administration as to whether, in the event of the

continuation of the ITC each separate fund to 30 June 1950, the records

would be substantially complete in the form of historical archives.

Mr. MILBURN (United Kingdom) was not prepared to support any suggestion for additional funds in the current plan of expenditure or any addition to the draft budget for the supplementary period envisaged for the completion of certain work strictly within the mandate of the IRC. While not denying that the object was a worthy one, he felt that the IRC could no longer agree to carry the extra burden involved. He suggested that the countries primarily interested in tracing activities should attempt to work out an arrangement to take over certain parts of the work, leaving others to the International Committee of the Red Cross. On that basis, it might be possible to present something more generally acceptable than the present proposals.

Mr. STURM (Luxembourg), supported the views expressed by the Delegates of the other Benelux countries. His Government believed that the work of the ITS should be completed as quickly as possible and in any case as soon as possible after ³⁰June 1950; and before the final date, documents and archives should be transmitted to the various Governments insofar as their nationals were concerned. He had no instructions in regard to the suggestion to transfer ITS activities to the ICRG.

Mr. ROSEMAN (United States) was not sure that the ITS had not assumed certain extraneous functions, and was concerned that the Administration had not placed before the Council any specific proposal concerning future operations of the ITS. His Government was interested in the possibility of using some of the ITS services in connection with the new General Claims Law in the US Zone of Germany. The United States Delegation felt that the question of the future should be discussed in more detail by the Director-General with governments and with the Allied High Commissioners in Germany in an attempt to arrange the transfer of activities from the ITS, and a report submitted to the Executive Committee or the General Council early in 1950. At that time the United States Government would approach the matter with a completely open mind, but it was not prepared at the present stage to consider any increased allocation of funds for the current year or to make any commitment with respect to the future.

Mr. MORRIS (Australia) supported the view that the burden of the present services of ITS should be transferred to some other body as speedily

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It would be desirable to place in the form of historical documents
 the various (United States) and the various (United States) and the various
 also for historical items in the current form of documents or any addition
 to the date's report for the Commission's report envisaged for the Commission
 to obtain some activity within the scope of the I.C.C. This was not
 that the object was a worthy one, as felt that the I.C.C. would no longer agree
 to carry the same burden involved. He suggested that the Commission primarily
 interested in seeing activities which might be set out as arrangements to
 also over certain parts of the work, looking ahead to the International
 Commission of the sea areas. On that point, it might be possible to present
 something more generally acceptable than the present proposals.

Mr. [Name] (Australia) suggested the views expressed by the delegates
 of the other Pacific countries. His Government believed that the work of the
 I.C.C. should be completed as quickly as possible and in any case as soon as pos-
 sible after June 1950; and before the final date, documents and studies
 should be transmitted to the various Governments before all their national
 were completed. He had no intention in regard to the suggestion to trans-
 fer the activities to the I.C.C.

Mr. [Name] (United States) was not sure that the I.C.C. had not assumed
 certain extensive functions, and was concerned that the Administration had
 not placed before the Council any specific proposal concerning future opera-
 tions of the I.C.C. The Government was interested in the possibility of using
 some of the I.C.C. services in connection with the new General Order Law in the
 US zone of Germany. The United States Delegation felt that the question of
 the future should be discussed in more detail by the Director-General with
 Governments and with the Allied High Commissioners in Germany in an effort
 to arrange the transfer of activity from the I.C.C. and a report should be filed to
 the Executive Committee of the General Council early in 1950. At that time
 the United States Government would approach the matter with an officially open
 mind, but it was not proposed at the present stage to consider any transferred
 allocation of funds for the current year or to make any agreement with respect
 to the future.

Mr. [Name] (Australia) suggested the view that the burden of the pre-
 sent activities of the I.C.C. should be transferred to some other body as speedily

as possible. In the present state of the Organization's programme and finances, his Government was not in favour of any further allotment of funds to the ITS.

H.E. Prince del Drago (Italy) supported the statements made by the Delegates for Belgium and France.

Mr. Rochefort (France) asked whether the Council was in favour of the maintenance of the status quo until 30 June 1950.

Mr. Edmonds (United Kingdom) said he was concerned that suitable arrangements should be made to ensure that no financial responsibility would fall to the IRO after 30 June 1950. He was prepared to support the continuation of the ITS until 30 June 1950 on the understanding that the expenditure involved would not exceed the amount already allocated in the plan of expenditure.

The DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL said that the Administration would act on the Council's instructions in regard to consultation with the High Commissioners in Germany and various Governments so far as the long term policy was concerned. With regard to the short-term policy, he drew the attention of the Council to the fact, that if no further funds were made available, the Child Search Programme would have to end early in the year 1950, and could not be carried on till 30 June 1950 without the additional £ 53,872 mentioned in document GC/111.

Mr. Roseman (United States), replying to the Delegate for France, said that in the view of his Delegation the ITS should not go beyond the allocated funds during the first six months of the current financial year, i.e. until January 1950. With respect to the programme, he was not convinced that it should remain in the status quo, and suggestions had been made that some of the activities of the ITS could be curtailed or transferred to certain governments. Possibly a sum of money might likewise be transferred to meet the requirements of those governments. If specific plans could be submitted to the Executive Committee or the Council at its next session, an acceptable solution might be found.

H.E. Mr. Andersen (Norway) reminded the Council of the Resolution on the subject of the ITS which had been adopted at the Session in September 1948, which clearly indicated that the Council already then envisaged turning over the activities of the ITS to the United Nations or some other long-term body.

as possible. In the present state of the Organization's programme and
finances, his Government was not in favour of any further allotment of funds
to the ITC.

M. A. S. (United Kingdom) supported the statements made by the
Delegates for Belgium and France.

The President (France) asked whether the Council was in favour of
the maintenance of the status quo until 30 June 1950.

M. A. S. (United Kingdom) said he was concerned that suitable
arrangements should be made to ensure that no financial responsibility would
fall to the ITC after 30 June 1950. It was proposed to support the conti-
nuation of the ITC until 30 June 1950 on the understanding that the expendi-
ture involved would not exceed the amount already allocated in the plan of
expenditure.

The DELEGATE BELGIUM-FRANCE said that the Administration would not

on the Council's instructions in regard to consultation with the High
Commissions in Germany and various Governments as far as the long term
policy was concerned. With regard to the short-term policy, he drew the
attention of the Council to the fact that if no further funds were made

available, the ITC's financial programme would have to end early in the year
1950, and could not be carried on until 30 June 1950 without the additional
£ 25,875 mentioned in document COM/1.

M. A. S. (United Kingdom) replied to the Delegate for France,
saying that in the view of the Delegation the ITC should not be paying the
allocated funds during the first six months of the current financial year,
i.e. until January 1950. With regard to the programme, he was not con-
vinced that it should remain in the status quo, and suggested that it should
first seek the activities of the ITC could be curtailed or transferred to
certain Governments. Possibly a cut of money might likewise be transferred
to meet the requirements of those Governments. It would be possible to
submit to the Executive Committee or the Council at the next session, an
enough to be taken.

M. A. S. (United Kingdom) replied to the Council of the resolution on
the subject of the ITC which had been adopted at the session in September 1948,
which clearly indicated that the Council already then envisaged turning over
the activities of the ITC to the United Nations or some other long-term body.

Mr. ERAUW (Belgium) proposed, and Mr. EDMONDS (United Kingdom) agreed that a sub-committee should be established consisting of representatives of the countries particularly interested in tracing activities to study, in collaboration with the Director-General, whether any simplification of the operations of the ITS could be envisaged, thus releasing certain funds for the completion of its essential tasks within the present budgetary allocation.

Finally the Council voted the following resolution (Doct.CC/128)

"THE GENERAL COUNCIL of the International Refugee Organization
HAVING CONSIDERED
the report of the Director-General on the International Tracing
Service (document CC/111)
INSTRUCTS THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL
1. to re-examine in detail the programme and budget of the
International Tracing Service, and to effect the maximum possible
savings and simplification of operations in order that the main
documentation functions of the Service may be completed by 30 June
1950, within the limits of the funds allocated;
2. to negotiate with interested governments and with occupation
authorities for the transfer by 30 June 1950 of the then remaining
tracing functions of the International Tracing Service to govern-
ments or to another international or intergovernmental body."

In the opinion of the Director of ITS the re-examination in detail of the programme and budget of the ITS as required by the foregoing resolution surely could not be his responsibility, as he had alone organised this Service, revised its procedures, coped with its evergrowing obligations and had done his very best to execute the immense task with which he had been entrusted.

There was one way only to follow the wish expressed by the General-Council, namely for somebody at IRO/IR's highest level to visit Arolsen, the Zone Divisions and the field and to see in detail how ITS was working. After which this examiner could eventually suggest measures to be taken to speed up, reduce, simplify, etc. without disrupting the whole of the operation, due account being taken that just then ITS was rendering greater services and more trust was put in it than ever.

These recommendations were not followed and a reduction was nevertheless made in the budget of ITS.

As regards the second part of the resolution a first step was taken in the direction of approaching the US High Commissioner through the Civil Affairs Division of EUCOM in November 1949. Early in December 1949 Messrs. Eric Hughes - Chief Internal Affairs EUCOM/EA - and E.W. Lawrence - Displaced

The Board (Belgium) proposed, and the Board (United Kingdom) agreed that a sub-committee should be established consisting of representatives of the countries particularly interested in tracing activities in study, in collaboration with the Director-General, whether any simplification of the operations of the ITC could be envisaged, thus releasing certain funds for the completion of the essential work within the present budgetary allocation.

Finally the Council voted the following resolution (Doc. CO/128)

- "THE GENERAL COUNCIL of the International Refugee Organization
HAVING CONSIDERED
the report of the Director-General on the International Tracing Service (document CO/117)
and the recommendations of the Board of Directors;
1. to continue to assist the programme and subject of the International Tracing Service, and to effect the maximum possible savings and simplification of operations in order that the main documentation functions of the Service may be completed by 30 June 1950, within the limits of the funds allocated;
2. to cooperate with interested governments and with other authorities for the transfer by 30 June 1950 of the then remaining tracing functions of the International Tracing Service to government or to another international or intergovernmental body."

In the opinion of the Director of ITC the re-examination in detail of the programme and budget of the ITC as required by the foregoing resolution merely could not be his responsibility, as he had alone organized this service, revised its procedures, agreed with the foregoing organizations and laid down his very best to ensure the success task with which he had been entrusted.

There was one way only to follow the wish expressed by the Council - namely, merely for ourselves at the highest level to visit London, the same Division and the field and to see in detail how ITC was working. After which this Director could eventually suggest measures to be taken to speed up, reduce, simplify, etc. various steps of the operation. It was necessary being taken that just then ITC was rendering greater services and more trust was put in it than ever.

These recommendations were not followed and a reduction was nevertheless made in the budget of ITC.
As regards the second part of the resolution a first step was taken in the direction of appointing the 32 High Commissioners through the Civil Affairs Division of ITC in November 1948. Early in December 1949 Messrs. John Hughes - Chief Internal Affairs (INDO/3) - and E.W. Lawrence - Displaced

Persons Branch, Civil Administration Division of the Office of the US High Commissioner for Germany - made a detailed visit of the ITS Headquarters. Mr. Thudichum again met these two gentlemen on 20th January 1950 in Frankfurt. Simultaneously on instruction from the Director-General of IRO, Mr. Rahardt of Geneva IRO/HQ Division of Budget and Administrative Management made a survey of all branches of ITS with a view to preparing alternative recommendations for either the continuation of all or parts of ITS work, or for the termination of its entire operation, including Child Search, after 30 June 1950.

At a meeting with the High Commissioners held in Bonn on February 9th, 1950, Mr. Kingsley stated that for the period after June 1950 no funds were budgeted by the IRO for operations of either the International Tracing Service or the Child Search Programme and he wished the High Commissioners, in view of the security aspects of their records, to consider whether the High Commission should agree in principle to accepting the transfer to it of the files of these two services and the task of maintaining the records as well as the financial responsibility.

In their reply the High Commissioners stated that the question of continuing the work of ITS, the disposal of the archives and the financial support of the Service could be explored by the group working on transfer of IRO responsibilities i.e. could receive further attention from the Allied and IRO experts working on IRO problems.

On 17th February an order was sent by the acting Director-General Mr. Myer Cohen, to Mr. Thudichum confirming Mr. Kingsley's personal decision namely to discontinue as of 1st March 1950 the Mass Tracing and the Individual Tracing activities of ITS. The instruction read:

".....all individual tracing enquiries received after this date should be answered only on the basis of the information at present available in the Master Index and Records Branch. The dossiers of these cases should be held in readiness for transfer to German tracing agencies for further investigation if this course of action should prove to be feasible....."

At the Fifth Session of the General Council of IRO in Geneva from 10th to 21st March 1950, before reporting on the progress made in the execution of the instructions given to him in October 1949, and before presenting

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For your French CIVIL Administration Division of the Office of the US High Commissioner for Germany - with a detailed visit of the US Headquarters. The Division also has been the recipient of 2000 in Frankfurt. Simultaneously on instruction from the Director-General of IIG, Mr. Roberts of Geneva IIG, Division of Budget and Administrative Management with a view of all members of IIG with a view to preparing alternative recommendations for either the continuation of all or parts of IIG work, or for the continuation of the entire operation, including Civil Service, after 30 June 1950.

At a meeting with the High Commissioners held in Bonn on February 22nd, 1950, Mr. Kingley stated that for the period after June 30, 1950 no funds were budgeted by the IIG for operations of either the International Training Service or the Civil Service Programs and he stated the High Commissioners in view of the security aspects of their records, to consider whether the High Commissioners should agree in principle to accepting the transfer to it of the files of these two services and the task of maintaining the records as well as the financial responsibility.

In their reply the High Commissioners stated that the question of continuing the work of IIG, the disposal of the archives and the financial support of the Service could be explored by the group working as transfer of IIG responsibilities i.e. could receive further attention for the IIG and IIG agrees working on the program.

On 15th February an order was sent by the acting Director-General Mr. Peter Gahan, to Mr. Kingley concerning Mr. Kingley's personal decision namely to discontinue as of 1st March 1950 the IIG work and the IIG dual training activities of IIG. The instruction reads:

"..... All individual training operations received after this date should be entered only on the basis of the information at present available in the master index and records books. The despatch of these cases should be held in readiness for transfer to German training agencies for further investigation if this course of action should prove to be feasible....."

At the 17th Session of the General Council of IIG in Geneva from 10th to 24th March 1950, before reporting on the progress made in the execution of the instructions given to him in October 1949, and before presenting

the situation regarding ITS' operation, the Director-General made a brief review of the ITS programme and of the main uncompleted tasks.

He then stated that he had decided to curtail certain activities of ITS immediately. He added that the staff and resources released by the cessation of these functions (Mass and Individual Tracing) were to be assigned to the processing and carding of documentary evidence which was considered to be one of the essential tasks of ITS. He stressed that these measures, which had been taken before the Council's meeting would not allow any of the important tasks of the ITS to be completed satisfactorily within the funds available and thus, unless other arrangements could be made for the continued sponsorship and financial support of the ITS, further curtailment of tasks and consequent reduction of personnel would be necessary if ITS was to be brought to a conclusion in a way which would ensure completion of the more important tasks assigned to it.

As regards the alternatives for the future Mr. Kingsley stated:

"Complying with instructions of the Council at its Fourth Session, the Director-General is discussing with representatives of interested Member Governments and the High Commissioners in Germany the possibility of there being created an agency representing these governments to assume responsibility, in cooperation with the High Commissioners, for at least the most important of the remaining tasks of the ITS. In view of the value of the work of the ITS to Belgium, Netherlands, Luxembourg, France and Italy, it may be that these countries would be willing to contribute towards the expenses of such an agency, possibly on the basis of each one's proportionate benefit. Such a scheme would ensure that continuing functions would be carried out at present locations, thus avoiding any immediate problems in connection with the custody of the archives, originally placed at the disposal of the ITS by the United States Army authorities, or the loss of present trained personnel. The possibility of the International Red Cross taking over at least part of the activities of the ITS was taken up with that Organization some time ago and the results of these discussions were reported to be provisionally negative. The Director-General is discussing possibilities with the Allied High Commission and interested Member Governments. During these discussions he will make every endeavour to arrive at an arrangement that will make it possible for the most important tasks of the ITS to be brought to a successful conclusion.

While pursuing the negotiations referred to above, the Director-General has deemed it prudent to prepare a plan for the liquidation of the ITS, within the limits of the funds currently available, to be put into operation only if the negotiations should be unsuccessful. Under this plan the search for documents and their collection and survey would be curtailed to the limits imposed by the ability of the ITS to prepare these documents for addition to the archives and Master Index by 30 September 1950, and the date of 31 August would be set after which no individual tracing enquiries would be accepted. There would be a steady reduction of personnel commencing on 1 May 1950, and a concentration of the remaining staff and resources on the major tasks. By the final liquidation date, which would be 30 September 1950, the ITS would have completed the following tasks:

- (a) the preparation and distribution of photostat copies of documents as requested by the Governments of France, Italy, Belgium, Netherlands and Luxembourg;
- (b) The reduction to the form of archives and card index of all documentary material collected; it would then be possible to transfer the archives and index to whatever permanent custodian might be selected;
- (c) the answering by reference to the Master Index and records only, of all individual tracing enquiries received prior to 31 August 1950, and the referral of these enquiries to German tracing agencies if that had been decided upon;
- (d) the issuing of notifications of death and certificates of incarceration would have continued until the date of the final liquidation."

On 17th March the General Council agreed that there was general recognition among the Members of the Committee that the work of the ITS was most valuable and that it should continue under international auspices. On the other hand several Members expressed the view that as the IRO was approaching the end of the activities it should take steps now to divest itself of responsibility for the ITS and the Organization should not allocate further funds for tracing activities. With certain variations of detail the Committee accepted a proposal made by the Delegate for the United States that prior to 1 September 1950 the participation of the IRO in the ITS be reduced to an extent greater than that envisaged by the Director-General, the bulk of the work should be turned over to the German administration and sufficient funds should be saved to provide for a small supervisory international staff to remain in charge until the earliest date prior to 31 March 1951, when full responsibility could be assumed by the Allied High Commission. The Committee agreed that this proposal should go forward to the General Council as a recommendation of the Committee.

In considering the subject of Child Search, the General Council dealt first with the Child Search programme particularly as regards the accomplishment of its main objective of discovering and registering children, presumed to be non-German (by completing the Limited Registration Plan and handling as many enquiries as possible for missing children), the establishment of nationality and identity of as much children as possible and the tracing of relatives. Under this plan the operational functions of the Child Search Branch of the ITS would cease on 31 July 1950, by which date all cases of children whose eligibility under the mandate of IRO was reasonably certain would have been passed to the Child Welfare Services of the

(a) The preparation and distribution of printed copies of documents as requested by the Government of France, Italy, Belgium, Netherlands and Luxembourg;

(b) The retention of the form of evidence and card index of all documents received and to be retained in accordance with the provisions of the Convention and to be retained in accordance with the provisions of the Convention;

(c) The answering by reference to the Index and records only of all documents received and to be retained in accordance with the provisions of the Convention and to be retained in accordance with the provisions of the Convention;

(d) The issuing of notifications of death and certificates of death and to be retained in accordance with the provisions of the Convention and to be retained in accordance with the provisions of the Convention.

On 17th March the General Council agreed that there was general recognition among the members of the Committee that the work of the ITC was most valuable and that it should continue under international auspices. On the other hand several members expressed the view that as the ITC was approaching the end of its activities it should take steps now to discontinue its activities for the ITC and the Organization should not allocate further funds for training activities. With certain variations of detail the Committee accepted a proposal made by the Delegates for the United States that prior to 1 September 1950 the participation of the ITC in the ITC be reduced to an extent greater than that envisaged by the Director-General, the bulk of the work should be turned over to the German Administration and activities should be carried on for a well-organized international staff to remain in charge until the earliest date prior to 1 March 1951, when full responsibility could be assumed by the Allied High Commission. The Committee agreed that this proposal should be forwarded to the General Council as a recommendation of the Committee.

In considering the subject of Child Search, the General Council dealt first with the Child Search programs particularly as regards the accomplishment of its main objective of discovering and registering children presumed to be non-Germans (by completing the United Registration Plan and handling as early as possible as possible for missing children), the establishment of nationality and identity of as many children as possible and the tracing of relatives. Under this plan the operational functions of the Child Search Branch of the ITC would cease on 31 July 1950, by which date all cases of children whose eligibility under the mandate of ITC was reasonably certain would have been passed to the Child Welfare Services of the

Organization, and the administrative liquidation of the Branch would be completed by 31 August 1950.

During the course of the Committee's discussion it became clear that the plan outlined by the Director-General received the support of the majority of the Members but that there was a general feeling that an attempt should be made to terminate the operation of the Child Search Programme by the IRO earlier than 31 July 1950.

Finally the Council adopted the following resolution:

"THE GENERAL COUNCIL of the International Refugee Organization having taken note of the Report of the Director-General of the IRO on the International Tracing Service
Notes with satisfaction the efforts made and the results obtained in connection with the tracing of allied nationals dead or missing in Germany by reason of war,
CONSIDERING further that it is highly desirable that the work now proceeding should be completed at a very early date
INSTRUCTS the Director-General:

- (a) to take all the necessary steps in order that the processing of the documents and other information material now held at ITS Headquarters at Arolsen, or which may be found in the future, should be continued and speeded up with a view to supplying the national tracing bureaux concerned with information concerning their nationals;
- (b) to undertake the necessary negotiations with the Allied High Commission in Germany, with a view to enabling the latter to take over, in such form as it may deem most appropriate, field tracing work, whether individual or not;
- (c) to make provision in the plan of Expenditure for the Supplementary Period of the IRO of the necessary funds for the maintenance at Arolsen after 1st July 1950 of a reduced IRO supervisory staff; provided that such provision shall not exceed the amount of the savings which he can make in the sum allocated in the Plan of Expenditure for 1949/50 for the ITS, including Child Search;
- (d) to enter into negotiations with the High Commission in Germany with a view to arranging for the taking over at a date as early as possible before 31 March 1951 of the operations of the ITS and the Master Index and archives by the High Commission, with the possible participation of certain governments, especially those interested in the tracing problem, in a Liaison capacity.
- (e) To inform the Allied High Commission of the concern of the General Council in the security and preservation of the records and of the Master Index and that the information contained therein may be made fully available continuously in the future in the same manner as heretofore."

In order to implement this resolution, the Director-General of IRO on 21st March 1950 instructed the Director of ITS as follows:

1. Child Search Branch would cease to register children as from 1 April 1950, but would continue up to 31st August 1950 the work of identifying and documenting the children already found.
Starting 1st September 1950, the normal period of one month's liquidation would be carried out by a reduced staff. This liquidation should entail the removal of the Child Search archives to the ITS Headquarters at Arolsen, suitably arranged for integration therein. Provision would be made at this time for the minimum number of international employees, say two, to be attached to ITS/HQ for the handling of incoming enquiries or correspondence resulting from previous activities.
The funds thus made available by the limitation of Child Search activities would be transferred to the general budget of ITS.

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Organization, and the administrative organization of the ILO should be completed by 31 August 1950.

During the course of the Director-General's examination it became clear that the plan outlined by the Director-General received the support of the majority of the members but that there was a general feeling that an attempt should be made to facilitate the operation of the Child Search Programme by the ILO earlier than 31 July 1950.

Finally the Council adopted the following resolution:

"THE GENERAL COUNCIL of the International Labour Organization having taken note of the report of the Director-General of the ILO on the International Child Search Programme, and the results obtained in connection with the meeting of allied countries held at Geneva in 1949, and of the progress made in the various countries in the field of child search, and of the fact that it is highly desirable that the work now proceeding should be completed at a very early date:

- (a) to take all the necessary steps in order that the processing of the case files and other information material now held at ILO Headquarters at Geneva, or which may be found in the future, should be continued and speeded up with a view to supplying the national working bureaus concerned with information concerning their nationals;
- (b) to undertake the necessary negotiations with the Allied High Commission in Germany, with a view to enabling the latter to take over, in each town as it may deem most appropriate, child search work, whether individual or not;
- (c) to make provision in the plan of expenditure for the supplementary period of the ILO of the necessary funds for the maintenance of a liaison office in Berlin after 31 July 1950 on a reduced ILO supplementary staff; provided that such provision shall not exceed the amount of the savings which he can make in the sum allocated in the plan of expenditure for 1950 for the ILO, including Child Search;
- (d) to enter into negotiations with the High Commission in Germany with a view to arranging for the taking over at a date as early as possible before 31 March 1951 of the operations of the ILO and the Inter-Liaison and Liaison by the High Commission, with the possible participation of certain governments, especially those interested in the treaty problem, in a liaison capacity;
- (e) to inform the Allied High Commission of the concern of the General Council in the security and preservation of the records and of the Inter-Liaison and Liaison and that the information contained therein may be made fully available continuously in the future in the same manner as heretofore.

In order to implement this resolution, the Director-General of ILO on 21st March 1950 instructed the Director of ILO as follows:

1. Child Search Branch would cease to register children as from 1 April 1950, but would continue up to 31st August 1950 the work of identifying and documenting the children already found.

Starting 1st September 1950, the normal period of one month's identification would be carried out by a reduced staff. This identification should entail the review of the Child Search files to the ILO Headquarters at Geneva, and the arrangement for information for international agencies, made at this time for the interim number of international employees, to be attached to ILO (I) for the handling of incoming enquiries or correspondence resulting from previous activities.

The funds thus made available by the liquidation of Child Search activities would be transferred to the general budget of ILO.

2. While making the maximum effort within the terms of the resolution paragraph (a), and in accordance with paragraph (c), between 1st April 1950 and 30th September 1950, there would be a gradual reduction in the numbers of the international staff employed by the ITS, leaving adequate staff of international status to supervise activities until such time as the operation may be assumed by the Allied High Commission in Germany.
3. Regarding paragraph (b) of the resolution he instructed the Director of ITS to start negotiations with the Allied High Commission in Germany.
4. He would conduct himself the negotiations in connection with paragraphs (d) and (e) of the Resolution.

On 22nd March 1950 at a meeting of the Sub-Committee for Refugees and Displaced Persons held at Petersberg and attended by Dr. Meillon, Mr. Logan Gray and Mr. Swope respectively representatives of the French, British and United States High Commissioners, the future of the International Tracing Service was discussed.

After the American member had read the resolution adopted by the General Council of IRO, the Sub-Committee agreed to wait until the representatives of IRO would enter into negotiations with the High Commission. The French Member, on behalf of the Governments concerned, was to submit a paper on certain of the functions of the International Tracing Service at a later date.

The Director of ITS started his negotiations as he had been instructed under paragraph 3 above, by contacting Mr. Lawrence early in April 1950. He thought that the best thing for him to do would be first to supply the latter and through him the High Commission, with some information on the subject so that the Sub-Committee of DPs of HICOG would be able to examine the question in its broader lines.

In his memo Mr. Thudichum indicated what was meant by field tracing how much had been done up to 1.9.1950, what portion of it could eventually be safely entrusted to another agency and what other portion of it would of necessity remain undone, lest the orders given were waived.

On 16th May 1950 on the wish of the Director-General, the Director of ITS met Mr. Hughes and Mr. Swope HICOG, Chief DP Division

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3. With regard to the matters referred to in paragraph 2 of the resolution (a), the Commission will continue to be kept informed of the progress of the work and will be invited to report on the results of its work at the next meeting of the High Commission in Geneva.

4. The Commission will be invited to report on the results of its work at the next meeting of the High Commission in Geneva.

5. The Commission will be invited to report on the results of its work at the next meeting of the High Commission in Geneva.

On 22nd March 1950 at a meeting of the Sub-Committee for Technical and Scientific Cooperation held at Geneva and attended by Mr. Lellinger, Mr. Lagan Gray and Mr. Lagan Gray respectively representatives of the French, British and United States High Commissions, the members of the International Technical Co-operation Committee were discussed.

After the meeting had been held the Commission decided to refer the matter to the General Council of ITC. The Sub-Committee agreed to refer the matter to the representatives of ITC who would meet later in the year. The Commission will be invited to report on the results of its work at the next meeting of the High Commission in Geneva.

The Director of ITC accepted his resignation as he had been unable to continue his work. He was succeeded by Mr. Lagan Gray in April 1950. He thought that the best thing to do would be first to supply the letter and through the High Commission, with the information on the subject to the Sub-Committee of ITC of which he would be able to examine the question in the next year.

In his report Mr. Lagan Gray indicated that the work of the Commission had been done up to 1.8.1950, and that the work of the Commission would eventually be referred to another agency and that other parties of it would be possibly remain active, but the orders given were

On 12th May 1950 the report of the Director-General, the Director of ITC and Mr. Lagan Gray, Chief of Division

in Frankfurt with a view to discussing informally with them the question of the take-over of ITS by the High Commission.

It was agreed that the best would be for the Director of ITS to submit to HICOG a memorandum on the present position of ITS, its problems and unachieved tasks, and also on the prospect of further discoveries of documents, on the volume of incoming enquiries, on its dollar and DM budget, staffing etc.

Simultaneously HICOG would assign somebody to the special task of making an overall survey of ITS activities and aims. While HICOG assigned to Arolsen to that effect Major Woodruff, Mr. Thudichum was able to submit to Messrs. Swope and Hughes a 40 pages memorandum on 7th June 1950.

No further steps were taken until Mr. Thudichum again met Messrs. Swope and Hughes on 20th July 1950 after which he reported verbally on 31st July 1950 in Geneva to Sir Arthur Rucker on his conversations.

The Deputy Director-General insisted on the necessity for the Director-General to be able to report to the General Council in October 1950 that the negotiations foreseen in Resolution No. 57 of March 1950, had been successfully carried out. On the occasion of his forthcoming visit to the High Commission in Bonn, the Director-General would wish therefore, to hear the final acceptance of the High Commission on the take-over of ITS. Mr. Thudichum was again asked to contact Messrs. Swope and Hughes and to tell them of the aforesaid which he did on 25th August 1950. Mr. Swope suggested to him that the Director-General submit to him in writing as soon as possible his proposals and suggestions which could be limited to the question of the take-over itself and of the date. He would gladly present these proposals to the High Commission's Sub-Committee dealing with ITS affairs. He added that the Director-General could

In January 1950 a view of the situation was taken by the
Director of the Bureau of the High Commission.

It was agreed that the next step would be for the Director of the
Bureau to submit to the High Commission on the present position of the
Bureau and unassigned matters, and also on the progress of further
discussions of accounts, on the volume of incoming applications, on
the dollar and the budget, staffing etc.

Consequently the High Commission would have to consider
the question of making an overall survey of the activities and also
the High Commission was advised by their Chief Mr. Woodruff, Mr. Tomlinson
was able to submit to the High Commission a 40 page memorandum
on the 15th June 1950.

No further steps were taken until Mr. Tomlinson again met
the High Commission and High Commission on 20th July 1950 after which he reported
verbally on 21st July 1950 to the High Commission on his
conclusions.

The Deputy Director-General insisted on the necessity for
the Director-General to be able to report to the Council in
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to him that the Director-General should be in a position to
submit his proposals and suggestions which would be limited to
the question of the take-over itself and of the date. He would gladly
present these proposals to the High Commission's Sub-Committee
dealing with the matter. He added that the Director-General could

not possibly receive an answer in Bonn if his questions were put there at the end of September, and that even if put in writing early in September, it was improbable that the Sub-Committee in question would be in a position to submit a conclusive report in time to the High Commission for the latter to decide and advise the Director-General early enough before the General Council's meeting.

Messrs. Swope and Hughes' views on the transfer were that as long as ITS had enough funds to carry out its tasks without running too great risks until 31st March 1951, there was no reason for HICOG to envisage a take-over before that date. They moreover shared Mr. Thudichum's opinion that should IRO's life be extended beyond 31st March 1951, the best possible solution would be for the ITS - provided the necessary money was available - to be equally prolonged.

Concerning the distribution of records through photostating as foreseen in paragraph (a) of Resolution No. 57 of March 1950, Messrs. Swope and Hughes took note that ITS had carried it out. Concerning letter b) relating to field tracing, they felt that there was no purpose in negotiating with the High Commissioner since IRO had decided to stop it on 1st March 1950 and since IRO alone could come back in that decision.

In his report to the Sixth Session of the General Council dated 30th August 1950 the Director-General of IRO made the following statement :

"Plans for the future of the International Tracing Service have been based on the instructions of the General-Council contained in Resolution 57:

- (a) To speed up the processing of essential documents in order to meet the requirements of interested national tracing bureaux;
- (b) to undertake negotiations with the Allied High Commission in Germany with a view to turning over the archives and responsibility for any activities to be continued.

not possibly receive an answer in time to answer the questions were put
 there at the end of September, and that even if put in writing
 early in September, it was impossible for the High Commission to
 answer them in a position to submit a preliminary report in
 time to the High Commission for the latter to decide and advise the
 Director-General early enough before the General Council's meeting.
 Messrs. Gope and Higon had been on the Director's staff since
 as long as they had enough funds to carry out the work of the
 running the Great Lakes until that March 1950, there was no reason
 for them to continue a job over before that date. They however
 stated that the Director's opinion that their life be extended
 beyond that March 1950, the best possible solution would be for the
 ILO - provided the necessary money was available - to be equally
 prolonged.

Concerning the distribution of records through the
 and an interest in paragraph (a) of Resolution No. 27 of March 1950,
 Messrs. Gope and Higon were sure that ILO had carried it out.
 Concerning paragraph (b) relating to field training, they felt that there
 was no purpose in negotiating with the High Commission since ILO
 had decided to stop it on 1st March 1950 and since ILO also could
 come back in that decision.

In his report to the Sixth Session of the General Council
 dated 20th August 1950 the Director-General of ILO made the follow-
 ing statement:

Plans for the future of the International Training Service
 have been based on the instructions of the General Council
 contained in Resolution 27:

- (a) To speed up the processing of essential documents
 in order to meet the requirements of interested
 national training courses;
- (b) To undertake negotiations with the Allied High
 Commission in Germany with a view to turning
 over the training and responsibility for any
 activities to be continued.

The collection and processing of records and their distribution to the interested governments has been accelerated. The systematic, geographical combing of British and United States Zones of Germany for records is nearly completed so that, by the end of September, the United States Zone Division will be liquidated, and the British Zone Division by 31 December 1950.

Processing of the documents should be finished by January or February 1951. The bulk photostating of concentration camps records in respect of the five Western European countries will be almost completed by September 1950. Residual work will consist of checking, carding and filing; answering tracing enquiries on the basis of existing documentation; issuance of Certificates of Incarceration; and the processing of any new material which may be found. The German Civil Registering Office (Sonderstandesamt) attached to Arolsen, will be dependent on the ITS records for a considerable time to come in view of the estimated need for 220,000 Death Certificates.

Negotiations with the Allied High Commission and particularly with the United States High Commissioner, for the complete transfer of the ITS to its control as soon as possible before 31 March 1951 are in process and, after discussion with the High Commission in September, the Director-General hopes to be in a position to report definite plans to the General Council when it meets in October.

With regard to the closure of Child Search the rundown of the Child Search Programme starting 1 April 1950 provided for the retention of the Child Search Headquarters until 31 August 1950. The month of September will see the final reduction of child search personnel and the transfer of records and indices to ITS Headquarters in Arolsen. However, a small child tracing unit, consisting of two international staff plus indigenous personnel, will continue as an integral part of the ITS Headquarters. The main functions of this unit will be:

- (a) Receiving new enquiries for missing children, checking these against records held and notifying enquiries of the results obtained;
- (b) Forwarding to appropriate quarters incoming correspondence initiated prior to 31 August 1950;
- (c) Answering any enquiries (legal, social, medical, etc.) concerning children already resettled since, under existing procedure, individual "closed" case files from Child Welfare are stored with Child Search;
- (d) Servicing IRO Child Welfare by continuing efforts to procure documents and tracing for relatives in order to assist in the earliest possible reduction of the Child Welfare case load. This activity, of course, will cease with Child Welfare.

The collection and processing of records and their distribution to the interested government has been accelerated. The National Geographic Society of British and United States... of Canada for records is being completed by first, by... of Canada, the United States and the United States... of Canada, and the United States Division by 31 December 1950.

Proceedings of the documents should be finished by January or February 1951. The bulk processing of documents... records in respect of the five Western European... will be almost completed by September 1950. Manual work will consist of checking, sorting and filing... records on the basis of existing... of documents of documents; and the processing of any new material which may be found. The... Office (Documentation) attached to Division will be dependent on the ITB records for a comprehensive view in view of the... need for 1950-51 South Caribbean.

Registration with the United States Commission and... with the United States High Commission, for the... of the ITB to the control as soon as... 1951 and in process and, after... the High Commission is completed, the... to be in a position to report... the Council when it meets in... October.

With regard to the closure of this Section for... of the United States Division... 1 April 1950... for the retention of the United States... 31 August 1950. The work of September will... of this work between and the... and follow to ITB Headquarters in... a small office... the... will... of the... will... of the ITB... The main functions of this will be:

- (a) Receiving and... for... (b) Receiving... (c) Receiving... (d) Receiving...

"This work will continue as long as the ITS remains under IRO control, the activities enumerated under points (b) and (c) being likely to diminish automatically. As from the date of eventual transfer of the ITS to the Allied High Commission or some other authority, the duties specified under (d) will cease and have to be assumed by Child Care Officers, leaving the ITS concerned principally with handling Child Tracing enquiries and preservation of documents, which functions properly belong to that service."

The letter recalled that this decision had been based on the desire of both parties to complete the task undertaken by IRO and to a satisfactory degree by IRO in order to make sure that there was no interruption and no slackening of the work, the take-over must be executed as smoothly as possible. The decision as to the date of the take-over was based on Mr. King's personal declaration that dollars funds were sufficient to cover for a further six months of the international and local staff now employed and not yet even utilized and could be put at the disposal of the High Commission.

Having been acquainted with a view to studying the technicalities of the take-over, the working party visited Geneva on 24th October 1946 and visited on behalf of the Allied High Commission to express its appreciation for the work

The letter recalled that this decision had been based on the desire of both parties to complete the task undertaken by IRO and to a satisfactory degree by IRO in order to make sure that there was no interruption and no slackening of the work, the take-over must be executed as smoothly as possible. The decision as to the date of the take-over was based on Mr. King's personal declaration that dollars funds were sufficient to cover for a further six months of the international and local staff now employed and not yet even utilized and could be put at the disposal of the High Commission.

Having been acquainted with a view to studying the technicalities of the take-over, the working party visited Geneva on 24th October 1946 and visited on behalf of the Allied High Commission to express its appreciation for the work

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This work will continue as long as the ITC remains
 under ITC control. The activities mentioned under
 points (a) and (b) being likely to be carried out
 in the future. As from the date of transfer
 of the ITC to the Allied High Commission or some
 other authority, the duties specified under (a)
 will cease and have to be assumed by Civil Code
 Officers, leaving the ITC concerned primarily
 with handling Civil Control operations and pre-
 revision of documents, which functions properly
 belong to the service."

On 26th September 1950, the Director-General, Mr. Donald Kingsley met the Allied High Commissioners in Bonn and amongst other affairs pertaining to IRO discussed with them the question of the future of ITS. Thus was the Director-General able to advise the General Council at its Sixth Session on 11th October 1950 (documents GC/SR/77) "that negotiations had been successfully concluded and that the Allied High Commission in Germany were prepared to take over the activities of the International Tracing Service on or about 1st January 1951."

On 24th October a Working Party appointed by the Allied High Commission and composed of Dr. J. Meillon (French element) Chairman, Mr. Eric Hughes (US element) and Mr. Ch. Bearman-Wilson (British element) made a brief visit to ITS Headquarters in Arolsen. The working Group was in the main advised by the Director of ITS a) of the tasks still to be performed by the ITS, b) of the fact that according to the plans he had made to implement the run-down which had been ordered in March 1950, the dollar funds available with IRO for the ITS would suffice for the coverage of the costs of operations as planned by him for the quarter January-March 1951 and that the Director-General had declared himself prepared to make their funds available to HICOG.

c) of the willingness of the Director-General of IRO to donate to the Allied High Commission such office equipment and transport they would wish to keep.

In a letter dated 22nd November 1950, addressed to the Director, the Working Party stated that in reply to the proposals made by Mr. Kingsley to the High Commissioners individually, the Allied High Commission had decided to take over the ITS on principle as of 1st January 1951."

The letter recalled that this decision had been based on the desire of both parties to complete the task undertaken by UNRRA and so splendidly developed by IRO. In order to make sure that there be no interruption and no slackening of the work, the take-over must be executed as gradually as possible. The decision as to the date of the take-over was based on Mr. Kingsley's generous declaration that dollar funds, fully sufficient to cover for a quarter the salaries of the international and local staff now employed, had not yet been utilized and could be put at the disposal of the High Commission.

"Having been appointed with a view to studying the technicalities of the take-over, the Working Party visited Arolsen on 21st October 1950 and wished on behalf of the Allied High Commission to express its appreciation for the orga-

nization set up by IRO, its satisfaction for the greatness of the task already achieved and its thanks to the whole of ITS' staff for what they have done.

" The Working Party had come to the conclusion that the bulk of the processing of documents would be completed by 31st March 1951, in certain cases even by the end of 1950, while the exploitation of other information could, in spite of all efforts, only be completed after 31st March 1951.

" That being done, fundamentally the activity of the ITS would henceforth consist in classifying, preserving and consulting the documents collected which were now being sorted and carded.

" While taking over the responsibility of ITS, precisely when its activities are in full swing and so near to their conclusion, the Allied High Commission would wish to continue to have right up to the end the benefit of the help of a reduced number of international officials who, through the experience they have acquired all along the years, have become highly qualified in many specialized fields and whose replacement can therefore not be immediately envisaged. It seems that if very stringent economies on the number of positions were effected during the first months of 1951, it would be possible to keep a very reduced number of specialists beyond 31st March 1951, which would permit the completion of certain special tasks.

"The Allied High Commission hopes that the dollars funds available will permit to maintain also to a certain number of local employees the status they now enjoy, it counts that the Federal Government, at its request, will grant an efficacious help, which would make it possible to keep the indispensable indigenous personnel and avoid massive terminations. It is, however, convinced that as it is gradually transformed into a documentary library accessible both to Allied and German agencies, the ITS should see its present activities being reduced to a large extent.

"The Allied High Commission has also taken note of the generous offer of IRO who accept to leave at the disposal of ITS such office equipment, vehicles etc. as will be deemed necessary for its proper functioning on the bases planned, and it accepts this offer with gratitude.

"The Allied High Commission will also be happy to associate the

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attention set up by the Commission for the purpose of the work already
 reviewed and the status of the work of the Commission for the work done.
 The Working Party has come to the conclusion that the bulk of the
 processing of documents would be completed by March 1951 in certain cases
 even by the end of 1950, while the completion of other information would in
 spite of all efforts, only be completed after March 1951.
 The Working Party has, therefore, recommended the priority of the work
 carried in classifying, processing and consulting the documents collected which
 were now being sorted and coded.
 While taking over the responsibility of the Commission with its
 views on its full work and so far as their completion, the Allied High Com-
 mission would wish to continue to have right up to the end the benefit of the
 help of a reduced number of international officials who, through the ex-ten-
 sion of their duties along the years, have become highly specialized in many
 specialized fields and whose replacement can therefore not be immediately en-
 visaged. It seems that if very important documents on the matter of positions
 were effected during the first months of 1951, it would be possible to keep a
 very reduced number of specialists beyond March 1951, which would permit
 the completion of certain special tasks.
 The Allied High Commission hopes that the details which are available will
 permit to maintain a few to a certain number of local experts the status they
 now enjoy, it would be desirable that the Federal Government, at its request, will grant an
 extension of their status which would enable it possible to keep a few international judges
 from personnel and avoid excessive international. It is, however, considered that as
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 and German agencies, the Commission will be able to see the present activities being reduced
 to a large extent.
 The Allied High Commission has also taken note of the generous offer
 of the High Commission to have at the disposal of the High Commission such office equipment, vehicle-
 as also will be deemed necessary for the proper functioning of the Commission.
 planned and it accepts this offer with gratitude.
 The Allied High Commission will also be happy to associate the

Liaison Officers presently accredited to ITS to its functioning. Their help will all the more be appreciated that the personnel of the Allied High Commission will, of necessity, be very limited and that the very nature of certain archives maintained by the ITS require certain precautions and justify a supervision as large as possible on the part of the Allied."

Copy of this letter was sent immediately to the Director-General of IRO in Geneva.

The working Party paid a second visit to ITS/ HQs on 13th December 1950 when the Director handed to its three members a copy of memorandum which constituted a reply to their letter of 22nd November. The Director stated in this note in the main that:

a) he could not see his way to making any plan or submitting any suggestion in the direction indicated (stringent economies in international personnel during the first months of 1951) because on the one hand his plan for the ordered run-down which had been approved, provided for the maintenance of 30 such employees for the whole first quarter of 1951 and he could not possibly reduce it further and on the other hand he must first be given by IRO Geneva the exact amount of the dollar funds earmarked for and economized in the past quarters by the ITS.

b) he could, however, suggest how some \$ 12,600 could be found, without reducing the staff, which would permit to keep eight international employees for another 5 months as from 1st April 1951.

The Working Party visited in detail all Branches. Its members were given at their request, notes showing

- a) the tasks now executed and the staff assigned to each Branch;
- b) the functions to be carried out by the ITS after 1st April now planned to be completed before that date will in effect be achieved;
- c) the dollar and deutsche mark funds which the Director would ask for for the quarter April-June 1951, if ITS had remained under IRO.

As regards the needs of indigenous personnel, these papers indicated that they would amount to 615 positions until 31st August when they could be reduced to 480.

London Officers previously mentioned in the Londoning. Their reply
 will all the more be appreciated that the personnel of the Allied High Com-
 and all of necessity be very limited and that the very nature of certain
 operations maintained by the ITC require certain precautions and justify a su-
 pervision as far as possible on the part of the Allies.

Copy of this letter was sent immediately to the Director-General of ITC

The Working Party held a second visit to ITC/ HQ on 15th December 1950
 when the Director General for the same number a copy of memorandum which con-
 tained a reply to their letter of 23rd November. The Director stated in this
 case in the main that:

It would not see the way to making any plan or submitting any sugges-
 tion in the direction indicated without consulting in international personnel
 during the first months of 1951 because of the need for the plan for the ordered
 transition which had been approved, provided for the maintenance of 20 such em-
 ployees for the whole first quarter of 1951 and he could not possibly reduce it
 further and on the other hand he must first be given by ITC Geneva the exact
 number of the dollar funds earmarked for and accounted in the past quarters
 by the ITC.

It would, however, suggest how some \$ 12,000 could be found without
 reducing the staff which would permit to keep eight international employees
 for another 3 months as from 1st April 1951.

The Working Party visited in detail all branches. The numbers were given
 at their request, notes showing:

- a) the tasks now executed and the staff assigned to each branch;
- b) the functions to be carried out by the ITC after 1st April now plan-
 ned to be completed before that date will in effect be maintained;
- c) the dollar and deutsche mark funds which the Director would ask for
 for the quarter April-June 1951 as ITC had remained under ITC.

As regards the needs of indigenous personnel, these figures indicated that
 they would amount to 600 positions until 1st August when they could be reduced

Simultaneously, at Dr. Meillon's (French element, HICOG) request, the question of the taking over by the ITS of the archives and indices of the French Zonal Bureau was examined. Although the Director recognized that this material would best fit into ITS possessions, he felt that a preliminary examination should be made of the value and size of it, the personnel probably required to deal with it and of the space to be allotted to it in Arolsen.

On 27th December 1950 the Working Party addressed another letter to the Director, which reads as follows;

"Sir,

On September 26, 1950 the Council of the Allied High Commission informed the Director-General of the International Refugee Organization that "they agreed in principle to take over the activities of the International Tracing Service with the understanding that such activities could be performed by German personnel and it would suffice to second one or two persons from each element of the Allied High Commission for supervision and control of carrying out these operations."

Subsequent to the above the Sub-Committee for Refugees and Displaced Persons, through its Working Party, has conducted negotiations with this Organization with a view to assuming responsibility for the Tracing Service as from January 1, 1951.

These negotiations have revealed that the operations at Arolsen have not been reduced sufficiently to permit the transfer in accordance with the principles established by the Allied High Commission on September 28, 1950. The confidential memorandum, subject, "Taking Over of ITS by the Allied High Commission" prepared by you to the Working Party on December 13, 1950, the Draft Budget Estimate for the Quarter April-June 1951, and your letter of December 15, 1950 to Mr. Hughes of the U.S. element concerning ITS functions in the post-March 1952 period all attest to this fact.

The Sub-Committee for Refugees and Displaced Persons feels it is unable, therefore, to inform the Allied High Commission that the transfer can take place in accordance with their announced desire.

The Sub-Committee is willing, however, to recommend that the Allied High Commission should assume responsibility for the Tracing Service on April 1, 1951 provided that the IRO will retain a minimum of eight experts for a period of six months to work under the sole direction of and to be responsible exclusively to the Allied High Commission. It is felt that this can be accomplished within the funds already allocated by the IRO General Council by the immediate cessation of all field work and a reduction in the international and local staff both at Arolsen and in the field.

The Sub-Committee desires that the International Tracing Service terminate its tracing operation at once, becoming an information center only, confining itself to replying to specific enquiries, routine carding and filing, and the continued maintenance and preservation of the archives.

With respect to the displaced person and German staff, it is the opinion of the Sub-Committee that the personnel establishment proposed for the quarter April-June 1951 is too high. It is requested that the operations be reorganized so as to permit staffing for that period with a maximum of 400 employees which may be reduced gradually in order to have a maximum average of not more than 250 for the fiscal year beginning on April 1, 1951. It is also felt that where possible and with the exception of the concentration camp group and child tracing branch,

"DP and German employees should be given supervisory responsibility in the operation of the various branches.

The Sub-Committee desires to reaffirm its acceptance of IRO's generous offer to place at the disposal of the Allied High Commission such office supplies, motor transport and other IRO equipment as will be necessary to the continued operations.

In conclusion, the Sub-Committee wishes to express its appreciation it has been given while conducting the negotiations."

On the occasion of his journey to Geneva, the Director was able to express his views on this letter verbally to the Deputy Director-General of IRO. They were as follows:

a) the "principles" quoted in paragraph 1 if enunciated in Bonn on 26 September 1950 had never been mentioned to him, nor quoted by the Director-General in his announcement to the General Council in October (vide document GC/SR/77). This must have been suggested to the High Commissioners. In any case from his own contacts with the members of the Working Party he had acquired the conviction that they had quite opposite views than those expressed in these "principles". The best proof of the correctness of this assertion was that in its first letter of 22 November 1950 the Working Party had said that it was counting on dollar funds on the part of IRO and that in its second letter it was again saying its need of international staff.

b) right from the beginning and because they knew that there were enough funds for the ITS until 31st March, the view of at least the U.S. High Commissioner's office had been that there was no reason for them to accept to take over the ITS before 1st April. The reasons given in par. 3 were therefore a mere pretext to justify their preparedness to assume responsibility only as from that date;

c) the request for help as expressed in par. 5 could be met out of the 2 ITS funds which he knew were available without having to reduce the staff now;

d) field work was in no sense tracing, which had been stopped in March 1950 as ordered. Field staff consisted now only of four field representatives with some indigenous clerical staff whose main task was to complete by 31st March the recheck and location of graves which it was of paramount importance to bring to an end.

The Deputy Director-General felt that the Director-General, when consulted, might agree to the following;

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The Director-General should be given supervisory responsibility in the operation of the various branches.

The Sub-Committee desires to reaffirm its cooperation of the various branches of the Director-General of the United Nations, and also with other agencies under transport and other UN equipment as will be necessary to the continued operations.

In conclusion, the Sub-Committee wishes to express its appreciation for the assistance given by the Director-General in the various branches of the United Nations.

On the occasion of his journey to Geneva, the Director-General was also to express his views on this matter verbally to the Deputy Director-General of UNCTAD.

His views on this matter were as follows:

The "paraphrase" quoted in paragraph 7 is contained in item 23 of the letter of 22 November 1950 had never been mentioned to him, nor quoted by the Director-General in his memorandum to the General Council in October (see document GC/SR/11). This matter has been suggested to the High Commissioner in any case from his own contacts with the members of the Working Party he had organized the committee that they had given opposite views than those expressed in these "paraphrases". The best proof of the correctness of this assertion was that in the first letter of 22 November 1950 the Working Party had said that it was mounting on dollar funds on the part of UNCTAD and that in the second letter it was again asking the need of international staff.

(b) Right from the beginning and because they knew that there were enough funds for the UNCTAD staff, the view of a joint U.S. High Commissioner's office had been that there was no reason for them to accept to join our side before the April. The reason given in April was therefore a mere pretext to justify their responsibility to assume responsibility only as from that date.

(c) The request for help as expressed in paragraph 5 could be met out of the UNCTAD funds which in turn were available without having to reduce the staff post.

(d) Field work was in no sense "freezing" which had been stopped in March 1950 as ordered. Field staff consisted now only of four field representatives with some indigenous specialist staff whose main task was to complete by field work the research and location of graves which was of paramount importance to bring to an end.

The Deputy Director-General also said that the Director-General, when consulted might agree to the following:

- a) IRO would be willing to remit a lump sum in dollars to the Allied High Commission to cover the salaries of 8 International Officials during 6 months, but IRO would have nothing more to do with these employees who would cease to be under them;
- b) the Allied High Commission should assume from now on all responsibilities for the policies of ITS.

Party were advised by cables from Geneva that IRO was willing to second eight officials of the ITS international staff to the Allied High Commission for a period of six months starting on 1st April 1951. These officials, though paid by IRO as employees, would in matters of work and policies be entirely under AHCOS.

The Director, Dr. J. Thudichum, was asked by the Allied High Commission to remain himself at the head of the ITS until September 30, 1951 and to make arrangements for the seven other officials to be kept on. Having accepted personally, Dr. Thudichum was informed both by IRO and AHCOS that the arrangements he had made had been approved by them.

The take over of ITS responsibility on the part of the Allied High Commission took place on 1st April 1951. Finally at its 7th Session (April 1951, Geneva) the General Council of IRO was presented with a "Brief Review of ITS History and Activities", which the General Council approved and on 13th April 1951 it unanimously adopted the following resolution: (Document 63/220/Rev 1)

THE GENERAL COUNCIL of the International Refugee Organization,
HAVING NOTED

the Review of the History and Activities of the International Tracing Service submitted by the Director-General of the International Refugee Organization (Document 63/198);

EXPRESSES

its appreciation of this Review, which bears witness to the tremendous achievements of the Allied Authorities, National Tracing Bureaux, UNRRA and the ITS in the tracing of missing persons;

NOTES

with extreme satisfaction that the ITS, under the IRO, and continuing the work of its predecessors has obtained outstanding results, in investigating one hundred tons of documents involving over 20 million names of Allied nationals, in solving the classification of over 11,000,000 cards in the master card index of the ITS, the distribution of records to National

Tracing

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(a) The words "shall be" in the first sentence of the
 first paragraph of the Act shall be construed to mean
 that the Commission shall have the authority to
 require the production of any books, papers, or
 documents in the possession, custody, or control
 of any person who is or has been a member of the
 Commission or who is or has been an officer or
 employee of the Commission.

(b) The Commission shall have the authority to
 require the production of any books, papers, or
 documents in the possession, custody, or control
 of any person who is or has been a member of the
 Commission or who is or has been an officer or
 employee of the Commission.

On 1st February 1951 the above mentioned problems were discussed in Bonn by the Deputy Director General of IRO with the Allied High Commission.

On 7th February 1951 the members of the Working Party were advised by cable from Geneva that IRO was willing to second eight officials of the ITS International staff to the Allied High Commission for a period of six months as from the 1st April 1951. These officials, though paid by IRO as heretofore, would in matters of work and policies be entirely under HICOM.

The Director, Mr. M. Thudichum, was asked by the Allied High Commission to remain himself at the head of the ITS until September 30, 1951 and to make recommendations for the seven other officials to be kept on. Having accepted personally, Mr. Thudichum was informed both by IRO and HICOM that the nominations he had made, had been approved by them.

The take over of ITS responsibility on the part of the Allied High Commission took place on 1st April 1951. Finally at its 7th Session (April 1951, Geneva) the General Council of IRO was presented with a "Brief Review of ITS History and Activities", which the General Council approved and on 13th April 1951 it unanimously adopted the following resolution : (Document GC/220/Rev 1)

THE GENERAL COUNCIL of the International Refugee Organization,

HAVING NOTED

the Review of the History and Activities of the International Tracing Service submitted by the Director-General of the International Refugee Organization (document GC/198);

EXPRESSES

its appreciation of this Review, which bears witness to the tremendous achievements of the Allied Authorities, National Tracing Bureaux, UNRRA and the ITS in the tracing of missing persons;

NOTES

with extreme satisfaction that the ITS, under the IRO, and continuing the work of its predecessors has obtained outstanding results, in investigating one hundred tons of documents involving over 20 million names of Allied nationals, in achieving the classification of over 11,000,000 cards in the master card index of the ITS, the distribution of records to National

Tracing

On 1st February 1951 the above mentioned problems were discussed in detail by the Deputy Director General of IRO with the Allied High Commission.

On 1st February 1951 the members of the Working Party were advised by cable from Geneva that IRO was willing to accept eight officials of the ITC International staff to the Allied High Commission for a period of six months as from the 1st April 1951. These officials, though paid by IRO as consultants, would in matters of work and policies be entirely under IRO.

The Director, Mr. M. Thudoban, was asked by the Allied High Commission to remain himself at the head of the ITC until September 30, 1951 and to make necessary decisions for the other officials to be kept on. Having accepted personally, Mr. Thudoban was informed both by IRO and IACOM that the nomination he had made had been approved by them.

The take over of ITC responsibility on the part of the Allied High Commission took place on 1st April 1951. Finally at the 7th Session (April 1951, Geneva) the General Council of IRO was presented with a "Brief Review of ITC History and Activities", which the General Council approved and on 17th April 1951 it unanimously adopted the following resolution: (Document CO/253/Rev 1)

THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE INTERNATIONAL RELIEF ORGANIZATION,

HAVING CONSIDERED

the Review of the History and Activities of the International Relief Service submitted by the Director General of the International Relief Organization (document CO/253/1951);

EXPRESSES

its appreciation of this Review, which bears witness to the tremendous achievements of the Allied Authorities, National Working Groups, UNRRA and the ITC in the field of relief work;

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with extreme satisfaction that the ITC, under the IRO, and continuing the work of its predecessors has obtained outstanding results, in investigating one hundred tons of resources involving over 50 million names of Allied nationals, in compiling the classification of over 11,000,000 cards in the master card index of the ITC, the distribution of records to National

Tracing Bureaux and other tracing agencies of documents concerning nearly 17,000,000 persons, the supplying of information concerning 155,093 persons after checking up on individual graves of Allied nationals, the publication of a two-volume catalogue of the concentration and labour camps organized by the Nazis in Germany, Austria and the occupied territories, the identification of 4,808 children;

PAYS TRIBUTE

to the Director and Staff of the ITS for their unflinching devotion to these most important duties entrusted to them by the IRO,

NOTES WITH SATISFACTION

that the negotiations entered into by the Director-General with the Allied High Commission in Germany, in accordance with Resolution No. 57 adopted by the Council at its Fifth Session, have been brought to a successful conclusion;

APPROVES

the agreement concluded between the IRO and the Allied High Commission,

EXPRESSES ITS GRATITUDE

to the Allied High Commissioner for agreeing to assume the responsibilities involved in taking over the functions and the safe custody of the records of the ITS as from 1 April 1951.

BEING ANXIOUS

that the safety and preservation of the records and the master card index of the ITS should be assured in the future,

EXPRESSES THE HOPE

that the Allied High Commission, guided by this concern, will take steps to ensure that the information contained therein be fully and continuously available in the future to the Governments having a special interest in the matter in the same manner as heretofore.

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Tracing Bureau and other tracing agencies in documents concerning nearly 17,000,000 persons, the copying of information concerning 152,000 persons after checking up on individual graves of Allied materials, the publication of a two-volume catalogue of the concentration and labor camps organized by the Nazis in Germany, Austria and the occupied territories, the identification of 4,800 children;

SAYS TRISTE

to the Director and Staff of the ITS for their untiring devotion to these most important duties entrusted to them by the IRO,

NOTES WITH SATISFACTION

that the negotiations entered into by the Director-General with the Allied High Commission in Germany, in accordance with Resolution No. 27 adopted by the Council of the Fifth Session, have been brought to a successful conclusion;

APPROVES

the agreement concluded between the IRO and the Allied High Commission,

EXPRESSES ITS GRATITUDE

to the Allied High Commission for agreeing to assume the responsibilities involved in taking over the functions and the safe custody of the records of the ITS as from 1 April 1951.

BEING AWARE

that the safety and preservation of the records and the master card index of the ITS should be assured in the future,

EXPRESSES THE HOPE

that the Allied High Commission, guided by this concern, will take steps to ensure that the information contained therein be fully and continuously available in the future to the Government having a special interest in the matter in the same manner as heretofore.



