

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

agreements among the local, IS and human staff, involvement of organization
 and need of consultation, temporary difficulties after meeting in the field
 etc. The Director mentioned briefly some of the discussions and the
 - working of all countries - not provided, transfer
 of the lines into a dynamic-relationship by way, working of agencies,
 - the Institute, mentioned United States, relationship with Institute countries

Mr. Hamilton requested also on the future of the IS - especially
 as an other international body and Institute
 after some days of detailed visits and of constant and constant
 discussion, the Institute concluded that the Institute had been a
 valuable experience not only because it had brought the IS of the government
 of the IS, but also because it had allowed the Institute to discuss
 separately with the various agencies, as a result of which they would be able
 to collaborate better with the IS in the future.

TO THE INTERNATIONAL TRADING ORGANIZATION

At the end of the first session of the International Trading
 Organization in September 1953 the Director-General had been able to
 state that the International Trading Organization which was then being in January
 1953, had obtained with international organizations and agencies results.

In its preliminary report submitted on the formation of the ITO
 programs to the General Council of ITO, at its second session in March 1953
 the Director-General Dr. Frank Rowland stated that the first session had requested
 him to consider the possibility of turning over to the United Nations or
 some other non-government body, as early as may be possible, those important trading
 functions which should continue after the dissolution of the ITO. He had studied

this question in detail and having reviewed the main activities of the ITO
 he recommended that the work of the ITO should be continued under ITO until at
 least July 1955 and he suggested that it might be desirable not to terminate the
 existence of the ITO at that time, to give him the opportunity to continue to function
 for an additional short period, under the auspices of the ITO inasmuch as the
 latter organization continues to exist. At the time the International Trading

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 proposed 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 IIS should be organized as a separate unit ...

... from two separate bodies for documentary evidence as that moment in opera- ... decrease in the number of enquiries, the total volume of findings resulting ...

... in the US and British zones could not possibly be separated. For the ... British zone it had been estimated that with the help of the German Land and ...

... On the other hand the IIS was urged by the Government to study inter- ... ted in creating to prepare the outlines 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 could 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 full 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 committed 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 the Council which recommended a but not all of the previous statements.

Mr. Tomlinson called the attention of the Director-General of ITO to the fact that over four years had passed since the end of the war and that it became imperative that there should be some through trading and other documentary evidence to at least clarify the status 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 he gave the necessary advice. This would, in his opinion, be a condition put by any sponsor agency, which could then only, the main task being accomplished, take over the technical activities of ITO and for many years to come help that of the Director of those who would again require proofs of incarceration, of death, of burial, etc.

The headquarters were moved in January 1949 within British territory into the St. Barbara. This was hoped for an independent move into larger premises and it was last possible to conclude there all the documentary evidence - mostly original cards - of concentration camps as far as main-land in Belgium at the HQ of the UN War Division. It of course created considerable difficulties in practically all departments of ITO/UNRRA. 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 War Office, as well as by delegates of the GOC, the French Military Government, the ITO in the UN and British Home. The 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.

Just 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 1948 to 10 October 1952, 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 talk to 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 1953. He would be glad that the Council would examine the question of the future of the ILO in the light of his report and give him his guidance of the general policy to be followed.

The decision taken by the International Committee of the Red Cross for the takeover of ILO work is the result of a certain amount of delay was 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, and other languages, in hospitals, prisons, concentration camps, etc. It is in the hands of German authorities which is responsible 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, concentration camps, etc. The material is either processed or retained. 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 camps. Material as listed above will not only be sent out of Germany, but also to the records of the ITD as it is now in an increase in the number of the ITD is expected to be the activities indicated above. The first in the report of the National Training Bureau of the German authorities, Germany and Italy for all documents of the National or Provincial registers which relate to their nationals and which are at present held by the ITD. However, for only those cards were registered only in respect of persons not yet traced, it is not intended to have them relating also those persons who are known to the National Training Bureau concerned. This register, which is contained by the latter must be not for the purpose of identification of their records in the information given by the status of the last register, 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 German Claims law which has recently been promulgated in the American zone of Germany, which gives effect to the law which was promulgated in the British (British law will, in its present form, 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 ITD, and may be held 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

The Director-General is requested to... (mirrored text)

The Director-General is requested to... (mirrored text)

- (a) to identify those children... (mirrored text)
- (b) to identify those children... (mirrored text)
- (c) to bring them into contact with their parents or relatives (mirrored text)

The late receipt of material... (mirrored text)

The Director-General is requested... (mirrored text)

Furthermore, any action necessary... (mirrored text)

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. KANISER (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. KANISER (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 achieved.

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

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

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

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

ding 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 KANISER 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 nationality or of former Belgian nation-

ality. 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 KANISER 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

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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

the activities of the ITS to the United Nations or some other long-term body.

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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 contain some extracts within the scope of the I.C.C. This is not being
 and the object was a worthy one, as this is the I.C.C. would no longer agree
 to carry the same burden involved. He suggested that the Commission primarily
 interested in seeing activities should attempt to work out an arrangement 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. (Australia) suggested the view 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 archives
 should be transmitted to the various Governments located in their national
 were concerned. He had no intention in regard to the suggestion to trans-
 fer the activities to the I.C.C.

Mr. (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
 its form of activity. 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 Geneva in an attempt
 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 already open
 mind, but it was not proposed at the present stage to consider any transferred
 allocation of funds for the current year or to take any concurrent with respect
 to the future.

Mr. (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.

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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.

Mr. Brown (United States) invited the statements made by the
Delegates for Belgium and France.

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

Mr. Brown (United States) 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 contin-
uation 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
expenditures.

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.

Mr. Brown (United States) 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 respect to the programme, he was not con-
vinced that it should remain in the status quo, and suggestions had been made
that some of 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 of a plan might be made.

Mr. Brown (France) invited 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

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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
1. to re-examine in detail the programme and budget of the International Tracing Service, and to effect the savings possible in order 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 programme, 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 a complete re-organization 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 to point out that 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 UN High Commissioner through the Civil Affairs Division of UNHCR in November 1948. Early in December 1949 Messrs. John Hughes - Chief Internal Affairs (UNHCR) - 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, Luxembourg and Luxembourg.

(b) The retention of the form of evidence and card index of all documents received and to be made available to the Government of France, Italy, Belgium, Luxembourg and Luxembourg.

(c) The answering by reference to the Index and records only of all documents received and to be made available to the Government of France, Italy, Belgium, Luxembourg and Luxembourg.

(d) The issuing of notifications of death and certificates of death to the Government of France, Italy, Belgium, Luxembourg and Luxembourg.

On 17th March the General Council agreed that there was general agreement among the members of the Committee that the work of the ITO was most valuable and that it should continue under international auspices. On the other hand several members expressed the view that as the ITO was approaching the end of its activities it should take steps now to discontinue its work and the Government 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 ITO in the ITO 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 to provide for a well supervised 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 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 programme 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 ITO would cease on 31 July 1950, by which date all cases of children whose eligibility under the mandate of ITO 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 reasons therefor, and 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 tracing 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, field tracing 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 tracing problem, in a liaison capacity;
- (e) to inform the Allied High Commission of the concerns of the 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

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 presented to the High Commission...

It was agreed that the next step would be for the Director of ITI to submit to HICOG a memorandum on the present position of ITI, its problems and unmet needs, and also on the progress of further discussions of accounts, on the volume of incoming enquiries, on the dollar and the budget, staffing etc.

Consequently HICOG would need to be kept advised of the general state of affairs on an overall survey of ITI activities and also. This HICOG assigned to Adviser to assist Major Woodruff, Mr. Tomlinson was able to submit to HICOG a report on 20 pages on 15 June 1950.

No further steps were taken until Mr. Tomlinson again met Messrs. Swaps and Hughes on 20th July 1950 after which he reported verbally on 21st July 1950 to Messrs. Swaps and Hughes 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 between the Government and the High Commission had been successfully carried out. On the occasion of his forthcoming visit to the High Commission in Rome, the Director-General would visit Rome, to meet the final acceptance of the High Commission on the take-over of ITI. Mr. Tomlinson was again asked to contact Messrs. Swaps and Hughes and to tell them of the proposals which he had on 20th August 1950. Mr. Swaps suggested to him that the Director-General should be in a position to report as soon as possible 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 ITI affairs. 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 which were put
before at the end of September, and that even if put in writing
early in September, it was impossible for the High Commission to
question would be in a position to submit a satisfactory 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.

Members, Messrs. Gode and Hignon, stated on the Director's note that
as long as ITC had enough funds to carry out its work without
turning to Great Britain until after March 1951, there was no reason
for ITC to arrange a take-over before that date. They however
stated that the Director's opinion that March 1951 was a life-or-death
moment for ITC, the best possible solution would be for the
ITC - provided the necessary money was available - to be quickly
provided.

Concerning the distribution of funds through Government
and an increase in paragraph (a) of Resolution No. 27 of March 1950,
Members, Gode and Hignon were sure that ITC had carried it out.
Concerning paragraph (b) relating to fund raising, they felt that there
was no purpose in negotiating with the High Commission since ITC
had decided to stop it on 1st March 1951 and since ITC 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 ITC made the follow-
ing statement:

Plans for the future of the International Trading Services
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 trading partners;
- (b) To undertake negotiations with the Allied High
Commission in Germany with a view to turning
over the reserves 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 Division will be... and the British Cons 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 identification of documents; and the processing of any new material which may be found. The... Office (Consular) attached to London will be dependent on the ITB records for a comprehensive view in view of the... need for... Death Certificates.

Registration with the Allied U.S. Consular 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 British Program Meeting 1 April 1950... of the British Consular Headquarters... 21 August 1950. The work of September will... of this work between and the... of records and letters to ITB Headquarters in... a small office... staff of the International... will continue as an integral part of the ITB... The main functions of this will be:

- (a) Receiving and... for missing... these... and... of the records obtained;
- (b) Forwarding to... records... to 31 August 1950;
- (c)... (legal, medical, military, etc.)... records... under existing... records... from... are... with... records;
- (d) Forwarding... records by... to... and... for... in order to assist in the... reduction of the... case... This activity, of course, will... with... records.

"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

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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
 under ITC control. 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 dollars 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-

On 22nd October 1950, the Director-General, Sir John Galsworthy, met the Allied High Commission in Bonn and various other officials pertaining to the High Commission with the purpose of the transfer of the High Commission to the Director-General's office to assist the High Commission in its work on 1st October 1950 (document D/10/17). This agreement had been previously concluded and that the High Commission in Bonn was prepared to take over the activities of the High Commission, Germany on or about 1st January 1951.

On 22nd October a Working Party organized by the Allied High Commission and composed of Sir J. Galsworthy (British element) and Sir J. Galsworthy (French element) was set up to consider the transfer of the High Commission to the Director-General's office. The Working Party was in the main satisfied by the Director of the High Commission that it was still to be performed by the High Commission. It was noted that the High Commission had been ordered in March 1950, the latter High Commission with the High Commission for the coverage of the costs of operations as planned by him for the quarter January-March 1951 and that the Director-General had advised himself regarding to make their work available to the High Commission.

The Director-General of the High Commission of 1950 to transfer 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 Sir J. Galsworthy to the High Commission in Germany, the Allied High Commission had decided to take over the High Commission 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 Sir J. Galsworthy and to provide for the High Commission in order to make sure that there be no interruption and no change of the work, the take-over was to be executed as quickly as possible. The decision as to the date of the take-over was based on Sir J. Galsworthy's proposal that the High Commission should be transferred to cover for a quarter the salaries of the international and local staff now employed, but not yet been paid and could be put at the disposal of the High Commission.

Having been approached with a view to studying the responsibilities of the take-over, the Working Party visited Sir John Galsworthy on 22nd October 1950 and stated on behalf of the Allied High Commission to express the 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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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 be wise to make any plan or submit 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 recognition of the Director-General's role in the field of the United Nations and other international organizations and other UN equipment as well as necessary to the continued operations.

In conclusion, the Sub-Committee wishes to express its appreciation for the Director-General's efforts in carrying out the various tasks.

On the occasion of his journey to Geneva, the Director 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 21 November 1950 had never been mentioned to him 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 reported 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 21 November 1950 the Working Party had said that it was

accounting 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 least the U.S. High Commissioner's office had been that there was no reason for them to accept to join our the UNCTAD staff. The reason given in their own words was that they were not prepared to justify their responsibilities to assume responsibility only as for the staff.

(c) The request for help as expressed in paragraph 5 could be met out of the UNCTAD funds which are now 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, Mr. 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, Mr. 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;

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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

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(a) The words "to be" and "to have" are in relation to the
 Affiliated Companies to cover the affairs of a International
 Company during a month, but the words have nothing new to
 do with these companies and would seem to be under them

(b) The Affiliated Companies should receive from now on all reports
 submitted for the purposes of the

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);

EXPRESSIONS

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;

NOTES

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 prisoners, 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 TRICHTER

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 British 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.