

BAND IV
HISTORY OF THE INTERNATIONAL
TRACING SERVICE

1945-1951

SECTION II
CONTINUED
(THUDICHUM)





17 1201: Bd. 4

Documentary Evidence

The USFET Order and its implementation by the German authorities resulted in the preparation and forwarding to the U.S. Zone Bureau of two categories (II and III) of information listed under eleven forms. These forms had to be filled by the Germans in several copies, divided by nationalities. Generally speaking the forms under Category II listed Non-Germans who had lived in the Zone or still lived there, had died, married or had been born in the Zone during the war years, while Category III consisted of inventories of personal effects, medical records, judicial records, politicals, social security, employment records etc... Category I consisted of lists of documents no longer available to German authorities.

Land Bavaria officials at first misinterpreted the instructions and in August 1946 the whole operation had to begin anew. Even then the results were poor until December 1946, when it was decided that German checkers, familiar with the work, should be attached to each Land-kreis to control the returns of the local officials under the guidance of Field Personnel paid by the U.S. Zone Bureau.

Land Württemberg-Baden proceeded more rapidly by using a very simple method. The officials merely bundled up all the documents of hospitals, prisons, employment offices etc. and sent them to the Bureau which soon had some 40 or 50 tons to classify.

Land Hesse did not forward originals but proceeded to make extracts of these. There also the Order was misinterpreted and the work had eventually to be repeated.

As late as January 30, 1947 the PW and DP Division of OMGUS, realizing that the USFET Directive was not properly complied with, issued instructions to the offices of Military Government in the US Zone in which it was repeated that the US Zonal Tracing Bureau "is to be assisted in its efforts to search out individuals" and that "In the interest of uniformity it is desired that the Minister Presidents submit to this office through the Landerrat, not later than February 15, 1947 a plan for the accomplishment of the objectives contained in subject directive".

Undoubtedly

ER. MOC. 887

Background

The USPT Order and its implementation by the German authorities resulted in the organization and forwarding to the U.S. Army Bureau of Investigation (I and III) of information listed under eleven forms. These forms had to be filled by the Germans in several copies, divided by nationality. Generally speaking the forms under Category II listed Non-Germans who had lived in the Zone or still lived there, had died, married or had been born in the Zone during the war years, while Category III concerned information of personal effects, medical records, judicial records, political, social security, employment records etc. Category I consisted of lists of documents no longer available to German authorities.

Field Service officials at first misinterpreted the instructions and in August 1948 the whole operation had to begin anew. Even then the results were poor until December 1948, when it was decided that German checkers, familiar with the work, should be assigned to each hand-out to control the returns of the field officials under the guidance of field personnel paid by the U.S. Zone Government.

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As late as January 30, 1947 the IV and IV Division of OIGUS, realizing that the USPT Directive was not properly complied with, issued instructions to the offices of Military Government in the US Zone in which it was repeated that the US Army Training Bureau "is to be assisted in its efforts to search out individuals" and that "in the interest of uniformity it is desired that the Military Government submit to this office through the Director, not later than February 15, 1947 a plan for the accomplishment of the objectives contained in subject Directive".

Unsubstantiated
 R. A. ...

Undoubtedly a sincere effort was made by the higher German officials to correct the existing faults in the system of reporting and improvements were expected when a new bomb shell disrupted the ponderous operation.

In June 1947, after a meeting held in Frankfurt between representatives of OMGUS, EUCOM, the U.S. Zone Bureau and the German Officials, the Germans were told that UNRRA would cease to exist on July 1, and that IRO had not committed itself to continue Tracing Operations. They were also told to hold on to the information they gathered until further notice. As a result of this the Germans became thoroughly confused, many of the checkers were dismissed and the entire program was nearly wrecked.

The U.S. Zone Bureau and its Field Officers rushed the processing of the information already secured and catalogued all documents at hand in preparation for their return to the Germans.

After July 1, 1947, when it was known that PCIRO intended to maintain a Tracing Service, operations were resumed gradually and with some difficulty, new directives were issued by the Laender who, because they did not wish to repeat the errors of the past, this time listed by names all the sources of information, which had to report, as well as the documents they were to send to the Central collecting point in the Land.

The U.S. Zone Bureau listed then, preparatory to the checking of these returns, more than 150,000 sources and proceeded to check the information sent by each with that sent by related sources to insure its completeness and accuracy until it became practically impossible for the Germans to forget a name.

In this manner and thanks to the accurate checking and the constant reminders sent by the Bureau, the U.S. Zone Bureau and its successor, the U.S. Zone Division of ITS eventually processed and sent to ITS HQ., to the US Documents Center and to National Tracing Bureaux more than 17 million individual information.

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In June 1947, after a meeting held in Washington between representatives of GERS, IUSCH, the U.S. Zone Bureau and the German officials, the Germans were told that IUSCH would cease to exist on July 1, and that IUSCH had not completed itself to continue Traveling Operations. They were also told to hold on to the information they gathered until further notice. As a result of this the German program thoroughly collapsed, many of the checkers were dismissed and the entire program was nearly wrecked.

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required, because a number of original documents sent in 1946 and 1947 were still in the hands of ITS, it was decided that all these originals should be returned to them and that, in exchange, they would deliver to ITS U.S. Zone one 3x5 card recording the name of each person concerned, together with an indication of the type and number of documents concerning this person, which were held by German offices.

This resulted in the receipt by ITS of more than 3 1/2 million cards in duplicate which could be inserted in the Master Index of ITS HQ or forwarded to the National Tracing Bureau concerned.

Concentration Camps Records

At the liberation of the Concentration Camp of Dachau on April 29, 1945 many of the files of the camp which were kept by prisoners employed by the registration office, were hidden and saved from destruction. The files of the prisoners of this famous camp were at the disposition of the War Crime Tribunal but the personal information they contained was made available to the ex-inmates, their Government, families or friends by the prisoners, who had saved the documents and which now, with the agreement of the occupation authorities called themselves "The International Information Office". Because the funds available to the I.I.O. were limited, a number of more or less legal transactions were entered into by it which soon brought it into disrepute, and in August 1946 the organization was ordered to transfer all its documents to the U.S. Zone Tracing Bureau. In this manner the Bureau came in possession of the first set of Concentration Camp records it was to gather and exploit. A part of the original documents of Concentration Camp Buchenwald was obtained from the U.S. Document Center in Wiesbaden and added to the collection. Documents from the camp of Flossenbürg and photocopies of original death lists from Mauthausen were obtained through the Documents Center 3rd Army and the War Crime Tribunal in Dachau.

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from the U.S. Document Center at Oberursel near Frankfurt and additional Mauthausen documents were found in Munich in December 1948. In this manner the U.S. Zone Bureau obtained gradually most of the documents necessary to answer the majority of the questions which could be posed concerning the incarceration and the ultimate fate of the prisoners of all camps which had been liberated by the US Army.

These documents, when added to those already on file with the Headquarters of ITS, constituted the largest and most complete collection of original CC records in Europe. It served not only to answer thousands of questions concerning the prisoners but was to be used eventually as a basis for the issuance of Certificates of Incarceration accepted in German Courts of Redress and led to the establishment of a special German Federal Recorder's Office in Arolsen.

Graves Recheck

This third program of the US Zone Bureau resulted from the search by Field Tracers for odds and ends of documentation and bits of information which could neither be found among the documentary evidence sent by the Germans nor the concentration camp records. This search often led to graves which had not been reported by the German authorities or whose occupants could not be identified. Liaison Officers attached to the Bureau as Field Tracers were finding graves of their nationals of which the local authorities professed to have no knowledge or which were explained by the fact that thousands of Concentration Camp inmates who died during their transfer from camp to camp towards the end of the war or during their return to their homes at liberation, were hastily buried in the fields or the woods by their friends or the local inhabitants, often without any ready means of identification.

As each German community communicated the list of foreign graves in its territory, the list was passed to the Field "Tracer" of the territory concerned who, almost invariably, reported the existence of additional graves or

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As each German community examined the list of foreign graves in its territory, the list was passed to the Field Tracer of the territory concerned who, almost invariably, reported the existence of additional graves or

corrected the information given by the Germans.

In this manner each Land, each Kreis, each community was combed until all missing graves had been recorded with the result that thousands of additional graves were found and accurately located.

Personnel and Administration

The UNRRA U.S. Zone Bureau of Documents & Tracing was established in January, 1946 at the request of the U.S. Element Allied Control Commission for Germany but its function and administrative policies were delineated only on April 30, 1946 by UNRRA US Zone Administrative Order Nr. 56.

The Bureau was responsible for

- a) The tracing of Allied nationals and persecutes of the Nazi regime.
- b) Was to engage in the search for legal documentary evidence of Allied nationals.

The Bureau Director was responsible only to the UNRRA Zone Director and the US Forces were to maintain a Liaison Officer whose duty it was to supervise all other attached Liaison Officers whatever their nationality.

The Bureau had three Divisions:

- Individual Tracing Service,
- Documentary Evidence,
- Allied Government Liaison.

There was also a Child Search Branch, a function of UNRRA HQs loosely attached to the Division of Documentary Evidence, and which was entrusted with the task of extracting for UNRRA HQs from the documentation received, anything pertaining to children.

The Field Operations of the Bureau were planned to conform with the established political subdivisions of the US Zone of occupation. Each Land had a Field Office, except Bavaria which had two, North Bavaria and South Bavaria. The four field offices called Branches were located in:

- Wiesbaden for Hesse,
- Stuttgart for Württemberg-Baden,
- Ansbach for Northern Bavaria,
- Munich for Southern Bavaria.

Branch Chiefs were responsible for all activities in their

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 only on April 20, 1946 by U.S. Army Zone Administrative
 Order No. 25.

The Bureau was responsible for

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 Zone Director and the US Forces were to maintain a Liaison
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their territory, including those of the attached Allied Liaison Officers. Branches, in turn, were subdivided for working purposes in Land Divisions or Regierungsbezirke. An UNRRA employee or an attached Liaison Officer was responsible for each of these subdivisions.

This division and redivision of responsibility was not calculated to obtain the best possible results or to maintain the highest degree of discipline, particularly in view of the fact that so many of the men in charge of Subdivisions were foreign officers, some of whom gave only lip service to UNRRA and the Tracing Bureau, because they were primarily interested in the finding of their own nationals.

In March 1947 the U.S. Zone Bureau closed its branches in Munich, Stuttgart, Wiesbaden and Ansbach, leaving only processing units in Ansbach and Stuttgart. In May 1947 UNRRA Admin. Order Nr. 246 cancelled Order Nr. 56 previously mentioned, and merged the Child Search Division, a function of UNRRA Zone HQs with the Bureau of Documents and Tracing which then became the Zone HQs Tracing & Child Search Division.

At the same time it was decided that the functions of Child Search, which until then had also dealt with the care of the children found, would be limited to tracing them. This simplified the operation of the Bureau and gradually helped to reestablish good relations with officers of Military Government who had often complained of the methods used by some of the Child Search people in the field.

A new budget was then established to include personnel transferred from the Child Search Units of UNRRA HQ to the Bureau. This budget was based on a personnel establishment composed of 34 International employees, 83 class II, 21 Allied Liaison Officers, 18 voluntary agency employees plus other personnel for a total of 239 employees. On March 4, 1946 the personnel Budget for the Zone included 59 International employees paid by UNRRA. In the second quarter 1946 the Director of the Bureau had insisted that he needed 76 International Employees.

Although

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 States Officers. However, in some cases, were established
 for working purposes in land divisions or headquarters
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 was responsible for each of these subdivisions.

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 not intended to obtain the best possible results or
 to maintain the highest degree of discipline, particularly
 in view of the fact that so many of the men in charge of
 subdivisions were foreign officers, some of whom gave
 only lip service to UNRRA and the Training Bureau, because
 they were primarily interested in the leading of their
 own activities.

In March 1947 the U.S. Zone Bureau closed its branches
 in Munich, Stuttgart, Wiesbaden and Frankfurt, leaving only
 operations units in Aachen and Saarbrücken. In May 1947
 UNRRA Admin. Order No. 248 cancelled Order No. 26 previously
 mentioned, and merged the Child Search Division, a function
 of UNRRA Zone HQs with the Bureau of Immigrants and Training
 which then became the Zone HQs Training & Child Search
 Division.

At the same time it was decided that the functions of
 Child Search, which until then had been dealt with the care
 of the children found, would be limited to training them.
 This simplified the operation of the Bureau and probably
 helped to reestablish good relations with officers of the
 Military Government who had often complained of the
 methods used by some of the Child Search people in the
 field.

A new budget was then established to include personnel
 transferred from the Child Search Unit of UNRRA HQ to the
 Bureau. This budget was based on a personnel establishment
 composed of 24 International employees, 82 class II,
 27 Allied Nations Officers, 78 voluntary agency employees
 plus other personnel for a total of 239 employees. On
 March 4, 1948 the personnel budget for the Zone included
 89 International employees paid by UNRRA. In the second
 quarter 1948 the Director of the Bureau had indicated that
 he needed 75 International Employees.

Although

Although the International Tracing Service assumed control of the U.S. Zone Tracing Child Search Bureau during the closing days of 1947, it was not until the middle of April 1948 that the Chief of the new Division, Mr. A.J. Wittamer, who was until then Chief of Records Branch at ITS HQ., took charge of the U.S. Zone HQ. and the Field Teams attached to it.

Zone HQs were then in Esslingen near Stuttgart and some 20 smaller offices scattered throughout the Zone were occupied by Field Tracing Officers and their staff composed of IRO and voluntary society personnel, particularly Polish Red Cross employees.

The Division had a total of 205 employees, including those in the Field, and the Administration of HQs as well as that of the Field Teams was done by the IRO areas to which they were administratively attached. Transport facilities consisted of a few vehicles belonging to the areas concerned.

At HQ the work was divided between the Documentary Evidence Section, the Concentration Camps Section, the Tracing Section and the Child Search Branch. These branches and sections were theoretically represented in the Field but most of the work of the teams was done for the benefit of the Child Search Branch.

After the first and immediate reorganization, the Tracing Section became an integral part of the Tracing Branch at ITS HQs in Arolsen, although remaining in Esslingen until it could clear up the backlog of its cases. The Documentary Evidence and the Concentration Camps Section were amalgamated later and field personnel was instructed to give priority to Tracing Cases and Documentary Searches and to handle only Child Tracing until a new Child Search Organization could be created.

During the first month under the new management of ITS a new system of administration was developed getting its directives from ITS HQ rather than from IRO Zone HQs or areas, vehicles were obtained and the change over from an independent organization which had used its own methods for more than 2 years to a Division of ITS with new channels and procedures was completed.

The task was complicated by the transfer of certain

Although the International Tracking Service assumed control of the U.S. Zone Tracking Unit Search Bureau during the closing days of 1947, it was not until the middle of April 1948 that the Chief of the new Division, Mr. A. L. Wilcox, who was until then Chief of Records Branch at ITS HQ, took charge of the U.S. Zone HQ, and the Field Teams attached to it.

Zone HQ was then in Eastgate near Stuttgart and some 30 smaller offices scattered throughout the Zone were occupied by Field Tracking Officers and their staff composed of IHO and voluntary auxiliary personnel, particularly British Red Cross employees.

The Division had a total of 305 employees, including those in the Field, and the administration of HQ as well as that of the Field Teams was done by the IHO group to which they were administratively attached. Transport facilities consisted of a few vehicles belonging to the area concerned.

At HQ the work was divided between the Documentary Evidence Section, the Concentration Camps Section, the Tracking Section and the Child Search Branch. These branches and sections were theoretically represented in the Field but most of the work of the teams was done for the benefit of the Child Search Branch.

After the first and immediate reorganization, the Tracking Section became an integral part of the Tracking Branch at ITS HQ in Aachen, although remaining in Eastgate until it could clear up the backlog of its cases. The Documentary Evidence and the Concentration Camps Section were amalgamated later and Field personnel was instructed to give priority to Tracking Cases and Documentary Searches and to handle only Child Tracking until a new Child Search Organization could be created.

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The task was complicated by the transfer of certain

IRO responsibilities to ITS, the establishment of new lines of responsibilities or new channels of procurement and the rapid increase of the ITS personnel in the Zone due to the establishment at ITS U.S. Zone Headquarters of the new Child Search Branch which placed its own personnel in the field and attached it to the existing teams.

At the end of 1948 the Division had a staff of 207, including 151 indigenous employees of the Child Search Branch. It had 33 vehicles and a well staffed and smoothly working office in each of the seven IRO areas of the Zone as well as Branch Offices in many sub-areas.

In January 1949 the Tracing Section left for Arolsen and shipped all its cases to ITS HQ. At the same time plans were made for the transfer to Headquarters Arolsen of the entire Concentration Camps Section with its 30 tons of original concentration camps records. The transfer was actually accomplished during May and June 1949 with a minimum of difficulties and without seriously handicapping the work of the section, which at the same time transferred 30 of its employees to Arolsen.

In the Field also a number of changes had been forced on ITS because of the retrenchments made by IRO. Offices had to be consolidated or relocated, often on very short notice.

On October 1, 1949 the chief of the Division became once again Chief of Records at ITS HQs in Arolsen, dividing his time between the two offices, an arrangement which was to last one year.

At the end of 1949 the Zone Division had succeeded in maintaining itself in most of the locations it occupied in 1948, had found office space and billets for the rapidly increasing personnel of the Child Search Branch which had forced an increase in personnel from the 205 employed on April 1, 1948 at Headquarters; and in the field, to a number of 396 at Headquarters alone with an additional 104 Zone Tracing & Documents and 65 Child Search Employees in the Field, i.e. a total of 565 persons. It had a total of 64 vehicles.

The first few months of 1950 saw a gradual reduction of the personnel, as the various tasks of the Child Search Branch

were

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The responsibility for the establishment of new lines of responsibility or new channels of procurement and the rapid growth of the personnel in the zone due to the establishment of the U.S. Zone Headquarters at the new Child Search Branch which placed the two personnel in the field and assigned it to the existing status.

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On October 1, 1943 the chief of the Division became once again Chief of Records at the HQ in Berlin, dividing his time between the two offices, an arrangement which was to last one year.

At the end of 1943 the Zone Division had succeeded in maintaining itself in most of the locations it occupied in 1943, had found office space and utilities for the rapidly increasing personnel of the Child Search Branch which had forced an increase in personnel from the 202 employed on April 1, 1943 at Headquarters and in the field, to a number of 326 at Headquarters alone with an additional 104 Zone Training & Documents and 62 Child Search Employees in the field, i.e. a total of 388 persons. It had a total of 61 vehicles.

The first few months of 1944 saw a gradual reduction of the personnel, as the various tasks of the Child Search Branch

were completed or eliminated, Field Operations of Child Search were sharply curtailed and the Field employees of Tracing & Documents Branch intensified the work of graves recheck in order to complete it before October 1, 1950, the date set for the dissolution of the US Zone Division. The number of vehicles was also sharply reduced and, at the beginning of August 1950 preparations were made to recall all remaining field teams and to dispose of their equipment. On September 1st began the closure operations which meant the termination of most of the employees (except the few who could be transferred to Arolsen) the return to Headquarters of all office equipment and the crating of the approximately 30 tons of records, fixtures and supplies remaining in Esslingen. With the help of the PW & DP Division of the US Element of the High Commission for Germany a contract was entered into with a German firm of movers to transport all this material by road to Arolsen.

The move was completed before October 1st, 1950 date on which the U.S. Zone Division of ITS ceased to exist as an entity and its records and functions were amalgamated with those of the ITS HQs.

APPENDIX : Copy of USFET Order of January 8, 1946.

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 beginning of August 1950 preparations were made to recall
 all remaining field teams and to dispose of their equip-
 ment. On September 1st began the dismount operations which
 meant the termination of most of the employees (except the
 few who could be transferred to Austria) the return to
 headquarters of all office equipment and the closing of the
 approximately 30 tons of records, fixtures and supplies
 remaining in East Germany. With the help of the IV & III
 Division of the US Element of the High Commission for
 Germany a contract was entered into with a German firm
 of covers to transport all this material by road to
 Austria.

The move was completed before October 1st, 1950 date
 on which the U.S. Zone Division of ITC ceased to exist
 as an entity and its records and functions were amalga-
 mated with those of the ITC HQ.

APPENDIX : Copy of USSR Order of January 8, 1948.

R E S T R I C T E D

Headquarters
US Forces, EUROPEAN THEATER

(Main) APO 757
8. January 1946.

AG 014.12 GIC-AGO

SUBJECT : Conduct of Searches by German Authorities in
Connection with United Nations Citizens.

TO : Directors :
Office of Military Government for Greater Hesse
Office of Military Government for Württemberg-
Baden,
Office of Military Government for Bavaria
Commanding Generals :
Berlin District
Bremen Port Command (thru CG, TSFET, Main)

It is desired that you promulgate the following instructions to the appropriate German authorities within your Laender:

1. a. All German authorities within the U.S. Zone of occupation in Germany will immediately initiate appropriate action to obtain and report, within the time limits indicated, the information specified herein concerning all military and civilian personnel of the United Nations, who have entered the said zone after 2. September 1939, or who were residing therein on and after that date.
 - b. These instructions do not pertain to United Nations military and civilian personnel:
 - "(1) Who are members of occupational forces presently on duty and those who have been officially redeployed elsewhere with their units.
 - "(2) Who are residing in displaced persons assembly centers, or like installations, directly under the control and supervision of occupational forces.
 - "(3) Those deceased who are interred in cemeteries directly operated by and for occupational forces.
2. a. Information specified herein will be reported as follows:
 - "(1) CATEGORY I INFORMATION, within fifteen days
 - "(2) CATEGORY II INFORMATION, within sixty days.
 - "(3) CATEGORY III INFORMATION, within six months.
 - b. Nominative lists will be prepared as follows:
 - "(1) Lists will be submitted in quadruplicate, unless specified to the contrary.
 - "(2) Separate lists will be prepared for each nationality.
 - "(3) Names, where possible, will be arranged alphabetically by surnames, with surnames being listed first. Women who have married since 2 September 1939 will be listed under their maiden names with the husbands name in parentheses immediately thereafter.

R E S T R I C T E D

RESTRICTED

US Forces, German Theater

(Main) AIG 757
8 January 1946

AG 014.75 830-480

SUBJECT: Conduct of Searches by German Authorities in Connection with United Nations Citizens.

TO : Directors :
Office of Military Government for Greater Hesse
Office of Military Government for Württemberg-Baden
Office of Military Government for Bavaria
Commanding General :
Berlin District
German Post Command (Post CC, TSPST, Main)

It is desired that you provide the following information to the appropriate German authorities within your command:

1. All German authorities within the U.S. Zone of Occupation in Germany will immediately initiate appropriate action to obtain and report, within the time limits indicated, the information specified herein concerning all military and civilian personnel of the United Nations, who have entered the said zone after 2 September 1945, or who were residing therein on and after that date.

2. These instructions do not pertain to United Nations military and civilian personnel:
"(1) Who are members of occupational forces presently on duty and those who have been officially redeployed elsewhere with their units.

"(2) Who are residing in displaced persons assembly centers, or like installations, directly under the control and supervision of occupational forces.

"(3) Those deceased who are interred in cemeteries directly operated by and for occupational forces.

3. a. Information specified herein will be reported as follows:

- "(1) CATEGORY I INFORMATION, within fifteen days
- "(2) CATEGORY II INFORMATION, within sixty days
- "(3) CATEGORY III INFORMATION, within six months.

b. Nomative lists will be prepared as follows:

"(1) Lists will be submitted in quadruplicate, unless specified to the contrary.

"(2) Separate lists will be prepared for each nationality.

"(3) Names, where possible, will be arranged alphabetically by surname, with surnames being listed first. Women who have married since 2 September 1945 will be listed under their maiden names with the husbands name in parentheses immediately thereafter.

c. All lists and other documents will be either type-written or written in Gothic block letters, or original documents and/or photostatic copies thereof may be submitted.

3. CATEGORY I INFORMATION, comprises information pertaining to the description and present location of all documents which are no longer available to the local German authorities and which contain "CATEGORY II" and CATEGORY III" information.

4. CATEGORY II INFORMATION comprises:

a. Lists of all prisoners of war, labor and other units which were stationed in or passed through each locality. Such information will include:

- "(1) Name and number
- "(2) Type
- "(3) Strength
- "(4) Point of origin or formation
- "(5) Dates of sojourn
- "(6) Destination on departure
- "(7) Method of transport

b. Nominative lists of all persons now in residence, together with their housing address and place of employment. Children up to and including fifteen years of age will be specifically indicated.

c. Nominative lists of all persons who have died, together with the date and cause of death.

d. A list of all graves, such information to include:

"(1) The exact location with reference to the cadastral map, together with cemetery plot and grave numbers where appropriate.

"(2) The name(s) of the occupant(s) of each grave. Where the names are unknown, the number of persons interred in each grave, together with all available identifying information, will be stated.

e. True copies (in duplicate) of all records of the office of the civil Registrar or other local officer registering marriages, birth, divorces and deaths.

5. CATEGORY III INFORMATION comprises:

a. Nominative lists of all persons who were temporarily or permanently stationed in each locality but who are no longer in residence. Such information will include:

"(1) Prisoners of war, labor or other unit designation.

"(2) Dates of sojourn.

"(3) Those who died will be specifically indicated, stating cause of death.

RESTRICTED

All lists and other documents will be either typed or written in double spaced letters, or original documents and/or photographs copies thereof may be submitted.

CATEGORY I INFORMATION, comprising information pertaining to the description and present location of all documents which are no longer available to the local German authorities and which contain "CATEGORY II" and "CATEGORY III" information.

CATEGORY II INFORMATION comprises:

a. Lists of all prisoners of war, labor and other units which were stationed in or passed through each locality. Such information will include:

- "(1) Name and number
- "(2) Type
- "(3) Strength
- "(4) Point of origin or destination
- "(5) Dates of sojourn
- "(6) Destination on departure
- "(7) Method of transport

b. Nominative lists of all persons now in residence, together with their housing address and place of employment. Children up to and including fifteen years of age will be specifically indicated.

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"(1) Prisoners of war, labor or other unit destination.

"(2) Dates of sojourn.

"(3) Those who died will be specifically indicated, stating cause of death.

R E S T R I C T E D

b. Inventories (in duplicate) of all personal effects and belongings left by absent or dead persons, together with the name and address of the present custodians.

c. The original (or a true copy) of all medical and health records, whether prepared by a public or private institution or by a medical practitioner.

d. The original (or a true copy) of all judicial reports, whether prepared by a judicial authority, by the police or by a member of the bar.

e. The original (or a true copy) of all political, social security and labour employment office records, whether prepared by public authority or by an organization of individuals.

6. All reports and documents enquired under these instructions will be delivered to the U.S. Zone Tracing Bureau.

7. Should it be impossible, for any reason, to comply with any part of these instructions the responsible German authorities will immediately report the circumstances to the Office of Military Government (name of land to be inserted).

8. Any non-compliance, delay, inaccuracy of ill-will in complying with this instructions will constitute a breach of the obligations incidental to the unconditional surrender of Germany and the individuals concerned will be punished accordingly.

BY COMMAND OF GENERAL McNARNEY:

Signed: L.S. OSTRANDER
Brigadier General, U.S.A.
Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION

- 1 - G-1
- 1 - G-4
- 20 - O/Mil Gov (US Zone)
- 1 - Records
- 2 - Each addressee
- 2 - CG, TSPET
- 2 - CG, Third US Army Area
- 2 - CG, Seventh US Army Area
- 5 - O/Mil Govt for Germany (US)
- 2 - Director, Office of Mil Govt. Württemberg-Baden, for Governmental Coordinative Committee (Attn.: Dr. Pollock).
- 1 - AG Opns.

R E S T R I C T E D

RESTRICTED

- 6. Inventories (in duplicate) of all personal effects and belongings left behind or handed over, together with the name and address of the present custodian.
- 7. The original (or a true copy) of all medical and dental records, whether prepared by a public or private institution or by a medical practitioner.
- 8. The original (or a true copy) of all judicial reports, whether prepared by a judicial authority, by the police or by a member of the bar.
- 9. The original (or a true copy) of all political, social, economic and labor employment office records, whether prepared by public authority or by an organization of individuals.
- 10. All reports and documents required under these instructions will be delivered to the U.S. Army Training Bureau.
- 11. Should it be impossible, for any reason, to comply with any part of these instructions the responsible German authorities will immediately report the circumstances to the Office of Military Government (name of lead to be inserted).
- 12. Any non-compliance, delay, insubordination or willful non-compliance with this instruction will constitute a breach of the obligations incidental to the unconditional surrender of Germany and the individuals concerned will be punished accordingly.

BY COMMAND OF GENERAL MANNING

Signed: L.S. OSBORN
 Brigadier General, U.S.A.
 Adjutant General

DISTRIBUTION

- 1 - G-1
- 1 - G-4
- 20 - Civil Gov (US Zone)
- 1 - Records
- 2 - from addresses
- 2 - CG, TSTET
- 2 - CG, Third US Army Area
- 2 - CG, Seventh US Army Area
- 2 - Civil Govt for Germany (US)
- 2 - Director, Office of Mil Govt, Wurttemberg-Baden, for Governmental Co-ordinative Committee (Attn: Dr. Pollock).
- 1 - AG Ops.

RESTRICTED

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

INTERNATIONAL TRACING SERVICE, US ZONE DIVISION

Effective: 1 July 1950

32A

Office of the
Chief of Division
2 Int. Empl.

Admin Services

Office of Admin Asst.
1 Int. Empl.
9 DP Empl.

Field Operations

Records Branch

Office of Chief of
Records Branch
1 Int Empl.
1 German Empl.

Typing pool
4 DP Empl.
3 German Empl.

Admin Office
1 Local Empl.
1 DP Empl.

Controlunit W.-Baden
1 Local Empl.
3 DP Empl.

Controlunit Gr.Hesse
1 Local Empl.
10 DP Empl.

Documents Intelligence
1 Local Empl.
3 DP Empl.

German Card Index
49 DP Empl.
5 German Empl.

Processing & Library
1 Local Empl.
13 DP Empl.
2 German Empl.

Death Index
5 DP Empl.

Personnel Office
1 Int. Empl.
1 Local Empl.
1 DP Empl.

Supply & Utilities
1 Local Empl.
1 DP Empl.

Transport Office
1 Int. Empl.
1 Local Empl.
1 German Empl.
6 DP Empl.

Office of Fieldsupervisor
1 Int. Empl.
1 German Empl.
1 DP Empl.

Area Team # 1
4 Local Empl.
12 DP Empl.
8 German Empl.

Area Team # 2
1 Int. Empl.
3 Local Empl.
13 DP Empl.

Area Team # 3
4 Local Empl.
12 DP Empl.
3 German Empl.

Area Team # 5
3 Local Empl.
4 DP Empl.
4 German Empl.

Area Team # 5
1 Local Empl.
10 DP Empl.

Area Team # 7
1 Int. Empl.
1 Local Empl.
1 German Empl.

HISTORY

British Zone Division

INTRODUCTION

Any attempt to write a history of the International Tracing Service in the British Zone of Germany must be based to a large extent upon monthly and annual reports issued in the past, and must contain a summary of the events and actions leading up to the formation of the British Zone Division.

Pre-I.T.S. Period

To find the origins of tracing, the reader must be taken back to SHAEF Headquarters sometime in 1944, when it was realized that major problem facing the Allied Armies after the capitulation of the Axis Forces would be the recovery of prisoners-of-war, including the search for missing prisoners. In the British Zone this search was largely concluded by the end of 1945 as far as the bulk of p.o.w.s. was concerned. After this date, two major tasks were given to those responsible for tracing. The first task was to pursue thousands of missing relative cases, most of which originated from UK and USA. The second task was to carry out the directives of the Allied Control Council in respect of the search for civilian missing, then estimated at several millions. It was France, one of the principle countries engaged on the problem of civilian missing in Germany, who pressed in the Control Council in Berlin for a concerted action to obtain information on missing Allied civilians, by systematic research into documents and public records of all kinds. Each Zone Commander-in-Chief agreed to the plan for such research to be undertaken. In the British Zone the resultant order issued to the German Authorities was called "Zone Policy Instruction No.4"; this was in spring of 1946. The order (in English) was sent to the Germans at provincial level and they were instructed to carry it out. To go a little ahead of the narrative and to say that the results of the Z.P.I. No.4 were not good, requires some explanation of the flaws. The first mistake arose from the fact that the order was issued in English. A comparison of

- (a) Individual Tracing
- (b) Documents Search
- (c) Child Tracing

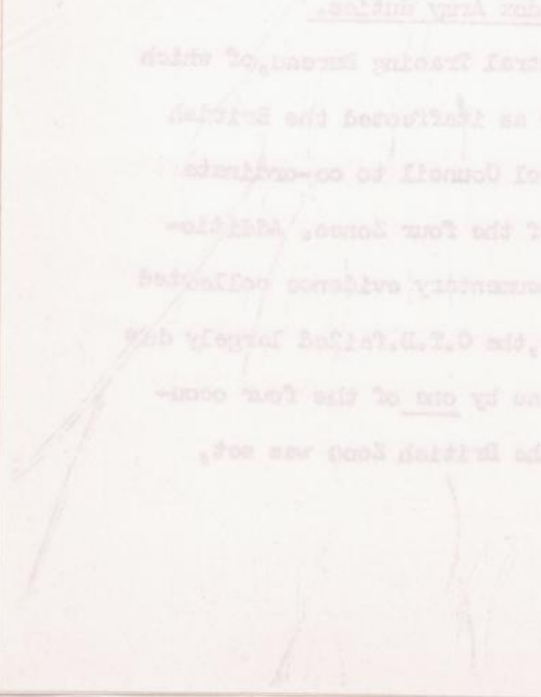
various versions in German, produced by the different leader revealed a 1-
 teration in some of the final details. The second mistake arose from the
 fact that the returns were to be handed upwards to Land level and thence
 to Military Government. This left no possibility for full checking of returns
 at Kreis level to be undertaken. The third fault lay in the deadlines dates.
 Two months were envisaged for the delivery of the first lot of returns,
 but when one considers the time taken in translation of the order into Ger-
 man and its transmittal through the German Administrative channels to the
 lowest level, it was found that in many cases harassed Buergermeister and
 their staffs were left with only 2 - 3 weeks for the completion of this
 part of the work, which was of course totally inadequate. The second stage
 of six months may be considered too long. Due to the fact that the whole
 action was placed in German hands, with little or no possibility of Allied
 supervision, the best that one can say about the results of Z.P.I.4 is that
 they were poor. The German Authorities were, in most cases overworked, in
 others unclear as to what was required, and in some cases definitely hos-
 tile to take over what was more convenient to leave covered. The load of
 individual cases carried by the Allied Search Officers was in the main
 relative-cases and not for genuine Allied missing. In any case, it left
 the officials little time to help or direct the German Authorities. Even
 had they found that time knowledge of the task and direction was lacking
 in many cases. It was unfortunate that the original foundation staff
had at this time either be transferred to the UNRRA Central Tracing Bureau
in the US Zone or been re-called to more orthodox Army duties.

It is necessary to mention the UNRRA Central Tracing Bureau, of which
 much has been written elsewhere, only in so far as it affected the British
 Zone. It was established by order of the control Council to co-ordinate
 the work of the Zonal Bureaux set-up in each of the four Zones. Additio-
 nally, it was to be the reception center of documentary evidence collected
 by the Zonal Bureaux. As a co-ordination Agency, the C.T.B. failed largely due
 to the opposition to a supervision of its Bureau by one of the four occu-
 pying Powers. However, the general pattern in the British Zone was set,
 covering:-

- (a) Individual Tracing
- (b) Documents Search
- (c) Child Tracing

various versions in Germany, produced by the different leaders revealed a 1-
 variation in some of the final details. The second mission arose from the
 fact that the reports were to be handed over to Lord Javal and those
 to Jeffrey Downman. This left no possibility for full checking of reports
 at Great Hall to be undertaken. The third (and last) in the Berlin series
 by a message was envisaged for the delivery of the first lot of reports,
 but when one considers the time taken in transmission of the other two
 and the transmission through the German administrative channels to the
 Great Hall, it was found that in many cases the time between the
 date of the report and its receipt at Great Hall was only 2 - 3 weeks for the completion of this
 part of the work, which was of course highly independent. The second stage
 of the mission may be considered too long. Due to the fact that the
 action was placed in German hands, with little or no possibility of Allied
 supervision, the best that one can say about the results of 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

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 in the US zone or been re-called to the UNRRA Army Bureau.
 It is necessary to mention the UNRRA Central Trading Bureau, of which
 much has been written elsewhere, only in so far as it followed the British
 lead. It was established by order of the Control Council to co-ordinate
 the work of the local Bureau set-up in each of the four zones. Addition-
 ally, it was to be the reception center of documentary evidence collected
 by the local Bureau. The co-ordination agency, the C.T.B., failed largely due
 to the opposition to a unification of its Bureau by one of the four coun-
 trying Powers. However, the Central system in the British zone was not



- (a) Individual Trading
- (b) Document Search
- (c) CIMA Trading

As the later was in the early period, the responsibility of UNRRA in the British Zone and not the Zonal Bureau, and as it finally came to be a semi-independent branch of the I. T. S., it can be disregarded for the purpose of this survey as it will, no doubt, be fully recorded elsewhere.

The documents furnished by the German Authorities were received in large quantities due to the policy of setting fixed deadlines for the whole Zone. First deadline material received late arrived with early material for the second deadline, and therefore the Zonal Bureau was filled to overflowing with tons of material which the limited staff could not possibly cope. Due to lack of supervision of the German Authorities at lower levels, the material was usually received in an insufficient number of copies, and the necessary copies had to be produced by the staff of the Bureau for distribution. Each interested country received one copy of the material relating to its own nationals. By order of the controlling Authorities, only information of dead was sent to Eastern European countries. The second copy of all material was sent to the general Central Tracing Bureau, and the third copy of most of the basic material (graves and death reports) remained on file in the Zonal Bureau. As soon as the copying and distribution of the majority of the material was completed, the decision was reached to close the Bureau on the grounds that its task was almost completed. Nothing was of course further from the truth. In January, 1947, the British Zonal Bureau was closed and the British Red Cross Society valiantly undertook the task of finalizing individual tracing cases and exploiting and distributing the remaining documents received under Z.P.I.4. It was considered that this would take six months. At this stage, one important change in individual tracing took place. All German relative cases were handed-over to the German Red Cross Society, allowing the British Red Cross to concentrate on the non German cases. On the side of records, the BRCS did a splendid job of work in copying and distributing the considerable amount of material on hand, but rectification of mistakes was handicapped by the complete absence of field personnel. After eight months, the BRCS ceased its services and the legacy of individual cases and records still on hand was again taken-over by the control Commission. A small staff of one official with a British Assistant and 15 Clerks were detailed to carry-on this task. It may interest the reader to note that at this time

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 British zone and not the local Bureau, and as it finally was to be a semi-
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12 months after the supposed final deadline for the receipt of Z.P.I.No.4 material, documents were still being received from Kreise. The small staff worked well under difficult conditions. A major problem was the lack of supervisory staff. The officer responsible was not able to devote his energies to the task of working on this documents continuously as his presence was required twice per month in Berlin as British Member of the Central Tracing Policy Board. The greatest problem of the winter 1947/1948 was severe electricity cuts. The scale of candle issues was one per room, and if the reader imagines 6-8 people with one candle between them trying to study closely-typed documents, there will be no doubt as to how much work was done after sunset on an average of four days per week between November, 1947 and February, 1948. As the mornings were equally dark, and as many of the staff relied upon trains and busses to bring them to work at the normal time, an earlier start offered no solution.

To summarize this period it can be said that a great effort was made to distribute the mass of material received under Z.P.I. No.4; but no action to discover or correct the many mistakes was possible. In the field of individual tracing, successes were tremendous, especially when one considers that this search for individual missing was no easy task. It was difficult in some cities to find the streets let alone the houses, given as the time last address of the missing person, registers and indices of the German civil authorities had in many cases been destroyed or removed to other parts of the country for safe keeping. Although no figures are available to us, it is known that over 70,000 individual tracing cases were handled by the British Zone in the pre-I.T.S. period.

THE BRITISH ZONE DIVISION OF THE I.T.S.

At the end of 1947 the International Refugee Organization, having taken over the former UNRRA Central Tracing Bureau at Arolsen, created the International Tracing Service. Plans for the formation of the British Zone Division of the I.T.S. were approved at a conference held in Goettingen in February 1948. It seemed that a Bureau on the scale on the one closed in January, 1947 was needed. The problem remained substantially the same and was added to by the requirements of various Authorities in connection with the expanded programme for resettlement of displaced persons and by

the Western Governments in support of claims laws. By this time, the Western Governments had opportunity to exploit the material received ^{by} from them from the British Zone. They had discovered many errors and omissions and their cries were, as might be expected, long and loud.

The British Zone Division was opened at Goettingen on 16 March, 1948.

This pleasant university city, almost undamaged by war, was not the ideal situation for a Zonal Headquarters as it was too near the Southern border of the Zone. Bad Salzungen or another central town would have been far more satisfactory from the point-of-view of communications in the Zone and, due to the presence in that town of the Allied Liaison Branch and most of the Allied Missions accredited to the Control Commission, would have been excellent for liaison purposes. However, at the time no accommodation was available. Three other factors were taken into consideration:

(a) There existed in Goettingen a trained cadre of personnel taken-over with the records from the Control Commission.

(b) Goettingen had a satisfactory road communication with Headquarters I.T.S., lying 100 kilometres distant.

(c) A certain amount of accommodation was available. A remark about accommodation will be found under the paragraph dealing with administration.

The Office policy and procedures were quickly worked-out and the Executives and Administration began to function. The two Branches the Tracing Branch (dealing with individual tracing cases) and the Records Branch were formed. It would not be fair to dwell on the problems and the struggles of this early period, for their unfair not to mention the stalwart efforts of the Officers and their German and DP Staff during this period. Without interest, keenness and devotion, the Foundation would not have been so solid. The basic procedures of work in the Division, including filing and correspondence systems, were laid-down in consultation with the Director of the I.T.S. and his Deputy, and except for minor changes have remained unaltered.

In order to summarize the main developments in the Division, it would seem best to divide his story between the Branches, and because the Records Branch has the greatest problems, we will take this Branch first.

RECORDS BRANCH

At the beginning of the operation of the I.T.S. in the Zone, a de-

The Western Government in support of which I have been the Western Government has opportunity to explain the material received from the British Government. They had discovered very many errors and omissions and their errors were as might be expected, long and loud.

The British Home Ministry was asked at Göttingen on 12 March, 1948.

This present university city, almost unharmed by war, was not the ideal situation for a local headquarters as it was too near the German border of the zone, and difficulties or another central town would have been for more satisfactory from the point-of-view of communications in the zone and, due to the presence in that town of the Allied Liaison Branch and most of the Allied Nations accredited to the Central Commission, would have been excellent for liaison purposes. However, as the time to accommodate was available, these other factors were taken into consideration.

(a) There existed in Göttingen a trained cadre of personnel familiar with the records from the Central Commission.

(b) Göttingen had a satisfactory road communication with London - 170 I.L.S. flying 100 kilometers distant.

(c) A certain amount of accommodation was available. A room about 1000 sq. ft. will be found under the paragraph dealing with administration.

The British policy and procedures were quickly worked-out and the Executive and Administration began to function. The two branches, the Training Branch (dealing with individual training cases) and the Records Branch were formed. It would not be fair to dwell on the problems and the struggles of the early period for their units, not to mention the steady efforts of the British and their German and US Staff during this period. Without the interest, keenness and devotion, the Commission would not have been so solid. The basic procedures of work in the Division, including filing and correspondence systems, were laid-down in consultation with the Director of the I.L.S. and his Deputy, and steps for minor changes have recently considered.

In order to summarize the main de-voicements in the Division, it would seem best to divide the story between the five phases, A, B, C, D, and E. The Records Branch has the greatest profile, we will take this branch first.

RECORDS BRANCH

At the beginning of the operation of the I.L.S. in the zone, a de-

terminated effort was made to clear the backlog of unprocessed material inherited from the predecessor Organisation. Distribution to National Agencies was discontinued because of complaints about the inaccuracy of the material, and because the distribution would if it was visualised, become the prerogative of HQ I.T.S.; the Zone Division remaining as collection and processing units as far as incoming documents were concerned. What then of the mistakes, errors and omissions of ZPI No.4? The Divisional staff engaged itself on two analysis. The first, a statistical analysis, and the second a detailed analysis of the results of ZPI No.4 as seen from library copies of the material in our possession. The results were some what astounding. To quote an example:-

Deaths reported by Kreise	3 7,809
Deaths found in medical and hospital records	9,398
Death certificates received	69, 496
Graves reported	313, 932

There was clearly something urgent to be done about these discrepancies - but what? The planners put their heads together and soon decided that a complete re-check of ZPI No.4 would have to be undertaken to correct the mistakes, fill in the omissions and complement the returns with material available subsequent to the ZPI No.4 period. In other words, a complete new action must be undertaken as soon as possible. The first consideration, after having studied the information and reaching this conclusion as to the intention, was to decide on the method of implementation, and this soon became clear. A new directive to the German Authorities at Land level would clearly produce similar results to those produced by the ZPI No.4. What was required was a direct approach by the I.T.S. field investigators to the lowest level of the German administration, and this on a basis of a group of Kreise at one time, so that an even flow of returns could be received by the Divisional Offices, who would hope to review it quickly and avoid the backlog experienced in the earlier action period. Clearly, the Allied Authorities would prefer an approach on the basis of single documents or cases rather than in the form of a new overall directive. In April 1948, one month after the founding of the Division, a plan was completed and forwarded to the Control Commission for approval. The I.T.S. hoped for a speedy decision. In doing so, it had overlooked one important point - this was 1948 and not 1945.

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 ... also was disappointed because of complaints about the frequency of the...
 ... because the distribution would be too slow...
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 ... of the mistakes, errors and omissions of the...
 ... on the analytical...
 ... a detailed analysis of the results of the...
 ... of the material in our possession... results were some what

3,700	Death certificates received
2,750	Deaths found in medical and hospital records
67,450	Graves reported
317,332	Graves reported

... there was clearly something urgent to be done about these discrepancies...
 ... but when the planners put their heads together and soon decided that a...
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There was talk of establishing a West German Federal Government; of giving the Germans much more freedom of action, and of reducing Allied Control at lower levels to supervisory instead of executive status as hitherto. A Senior CCG Official raised the following question when he had studied our proposals-- "If the British Kreis Officers can only recommend and advise the German Authorities and cannot give them orders to do this and that, how can the I.T.S. which is an International Agency call upon the Germans to perform all these tasks? Of course, he was 100% right. The I.T.S. had his back against the wall. Its hopes of straightening-out the Z.P.I. No.4 to the satisfaction of interested, and indeed anxious Governments seemed to be shattered. However, we maintained our standpoint in this problem as regards the job to be done and held that the way we had proposed was in fact, the only possible way of solving the problem. The decision of the Control Commission was communicated to the I.T.S. on 31 December, 1948. It was a favourable decision and the I.T.S. was then able to go ahead according to plan.

The intervening period was not wasted. A few ZPI No.4 documents still trickled into Goettingen addressed to the long non-existent "55 Search Bureau" and were attended to. The accumulation of records was slowly liquidated and transferred to Arolsen. From June onwards our Field Investigators were posted to us. They and their staffs were trained and sent out from Goettingen on trips of 1-3 weeks duration. They operated on prison targets, extracting details of war-time prisoners of all categories. This work had been barely touched before in the Zone and was very important, particularly to those countries who had formulated claims laws to allow the payment of pensions to former inmates of concentration camps and prisons. Special permission of the Control Commission was readily granted for this action, and a part from its excellent value, it proved a splendid training ground for our field staff. The prison action was continued into 1949 and resulted in the extraction of 104,220 names of non-German prisoners, including a large number of deceased reported by normal Kreis sources.

As the first step towards achieving our requirements in respect of documents, an instruction for the use of field personnel was drawn-up by the Divisional Headquarters. This instruction was issued under the code name "Operation FERRET" and was the "Plan for Conduct of field Search Operation in the British Zone of Germany" Preliminary conferences were held with the Ministries of the Interior of the Laender and later with the Regierungspraesidenten

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 continued into 1949 and resulted in the extraction of 10, 250 names of non-
 German prisoners, including a large number of Germans reported by normal Kreis
 sources.

As the first step towards achieving our requirements in respect of 50-
 counts, an instruction for the use of field personnel was drawn-up by the
 Divisional Headquarters. This instruction was issued under the code name
 "Operation KUBARK" and was the plan for conduct of field search operations in
 the British zone of Germany. Preliminary conferences were held with the Minis-
 ters of the Interior of the Länder and later with the Regierungspraesidenten

in the Regierungsbezirke. In spite of the fact that CCG approval was received on 31 December, 1948, it was not possible to hold the first conference at Kreis level until the beginning of March, 1949. This first conference was followed in turn by each of the 190 Kreise in the Zone. These conferences proved as interesting as they were valuable. According to the size of the Kreis, the delegates varied in number from 40 to 300. However, the smaller Kreis conferences were the most interesting.

They were usually held in a local, and beer and coffee seemed to be an essential part of the proceedings. By this means it was possible to have contact with all the Gemeindedirektoren (Parish Clerks) at once - this usually on market day. The I.T.S. Official was able to explain to them what was required, and results have certainly shown the great value of these conferences. In addition to the Gemeindedirektoren these meetings were attended by the heads of Kreis Offices with which the I.T.S. required contact. They included Polizei (Police), Standesamt (Registrar of births, deaths and marriages), Friedhofsverwaltung (Cemetery Administration etc.)

The work in the first Kreise proceeded, and the first returns were received in Goettingen at the end of June, 1949. When this material was reviewed, certain minor changes were found to be necessary in the original plan, and although these changes were really minor in character, they did in fact alter the time programme which had to be somewhat prolonged. Additionally, it was found necessary to introduce rigid proformas for reporting purposes including NIL returns. Eventually however, more interest was taken. Take the example of the Kreis Official who received from one of his Parishes - "Foreign graves: NIL - no foreigners buried in this parish." The Kreis Official queried - "If not, why not?" By the end of 1949, material has been received from 59 Kreise and this has been reviewed in the Divisional Offices. The following figures may be of interest to the readers:

From these 59 Kreise -

(a) 26,685 death cases were reported as compared with 20,081 reported under ZPI No. 4; an increase of 25%.

(b) Landkreis Hildesheim, which is a typical example of many Kreise in the Zone where all documentary evidence is destroyed, shows the following results. 39% of all cases were cleared when the "Operation FERRET" material was received by us, 63% of all cases were cleared as results of a follow-up by correspondence. As 208 of the uncleared cases are death cases of unknown

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in the Department of Health in 1953 approval was received
 on 15 December, 1953, it was not possible to hold the first conference at Kuala
 Lumpur until the beginning of March, 1954. This first conference was followed in
 May by each of the 150 States in the area. These conferences proved an interest-
 ing as they were valuable according to the view of the States, the delegates
 varied in number from 40 to 100. However, the smaller States conferences were
 the most interesting.

They were usually held in a local and best and often seemed to be an
 essential part of the proceedings. It was possible to have non-
 participants with all the delegates (British Colonies) at each of the meetings
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 and training have certainly shown the great value of these conferences. In the
 future to the Commonwealth these meetings will be attended by the heads of
 their Offices with which the I.C.D. reported contacts. They included Police
 (Police, Customs, Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages), Hygiene, Veteri-
 nary, (Sanitary Administration etc.).

The work in the first States proceeded and the first returns were received
 in December at the end of June, 1955. This material was reviewed, certain
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 programme which had to be somewhat prolonged. Additionally, it was found neces-
 sary to introduce right programs for reporting purposes including the returns.
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 Kuala Lumpur received from one of his Parliaments - "Foreign Growth: Hill-top Town-
 ship" was held in this position. The Kuala Lumpur Official quoted "It not only
 by the end of 1955 material have been received from 52 States and this have
 been reviewed in the Divisional Office. The following figures may be of interest
 to the reader:

- From these 52 States -
- (a) 25,088 death cases were reported as compared with 20,094 reported
 under the No. 1 on increase of 25%.
 - (b) 1,000,000 cases, which is a typical example of many States in the
 area where all documentary evidence is destroyed, show the following results:
 98% of all cases were cleared when the "OPERATIONAL" material was re-
 ceived by us, 2% of all cases were cleared as results of a follow-up by
 correspondence. As 20% of the unreported cases are 4 each case of minimum

concentration camp inmates, which can not be resolved, this sum can be deducted from the total number of unclear cases, leaving 23% to be cleared.

In addition to the Kreis action accomplished during 1949- 101,611 names including 4,260 deceased were extracted from concentration camp hospitals, mental hospitals, Auslaenderlager (foreign workers camp), concentration camp, labour, police and legal records. The main targets set for the year 1949 were achieved. The best results were obtained in Schleswig-Holstein where a 11 foreign grave locations with very few exceptions were known and where the corresponding death certificates were also at hand. All exhumations had been reported in this Land, but in many cases the exact locality of the re-internment could not be given, as the Allied Authorities transferred their dead without giving details to the Germans. In the other Laender the results, though not quite so good, were satisfactory. Several problems arose in connection with graves. It very often happened that a person who died in a Kreis was buried in another Kreis or even an other Land, and this required much follow-up work by the Divisional Offices. It was found that the tracing of grave locations of people who died in hospitals was often quite difficult and involved, as in most cases, especially in the city of Hamburg, the hospital registers did not indicate the place of burial. Again it was found necessary to check all the Standesamtzweitbuecher (second registers), and doing so, brought to light many new cases and led to a large number of late registrations. Some difficulties were experienced with this late registration, particularly in Land Niedersachsen. Only in the beginning of October, 1949 were regulations issued by the Minister of the Interior of Land Niedersachsen, and the I.T.S. had a great amount of unclear cases awaiting further investigations and possible late registration.

In the field of records, four other major targets were commenced in 1949. The first was the Gestapo files held by CCG Intelligence, Duesseldorf. These files were processed and revealed 75,000 names of non-German nationals. The second target was the treatment records of the Landeskrankenanstalt Walsrode, holding registers of treatment in reserve hospitals during the war-years; third- Personenstandsarchiv Luetgendortmund (the same as Walsdorf); fourth- the establishment of details of all camps in the Zone during the war-years together with details of nationalities, guards, general conditions, etc. These details were supplied for the I.T.S. catalogue of camps and prisons which became a work of reference placed at the disposal of all interested Authorities including Western European Government and the German Laender.

088

concentration camp inmates, which can not be resolved, this sum can be deducted from the total number of inmates, leaving 155 to be cleared.

In addition to the Kreis action accomplished during 1943-1944, names including 1,200 deceased were extracted from concentration camp hospitals, for hospitals, (foreign workers camp), concentration camp, labour, police and legal records. The main targets set for the year 1943 were achieved. The best results were obtained in Schleswig-Holstein where a 11 foreign grave locations with very few exceptions were known and where the corresponding death certificates were also at hand. All examinations had been reported in this land, but in many cases the exact locality of the re-burial could not be given, as the Allied authorities transferred their dead without giving details to the Germans. In the other lands, the results, though not quite so good, were satisfactory. Several problems arose in connection with graves. It very often happened that a person who died in a Kreis was buried in another Kreis or even in other land, and this required much follow-up work by the Divisional Offices. It was found that the tracing of grave locations of people who died in hospitals was often quite difficult and involved, as in most cases, especially in the city of Hamburg, the hospital registers did not indicate the place of burial. Again it was found necessary to check all the Stenogramm- (second registers), and going so, brought to light many new cases and led to a large number of late registrations. Some difficulties were experienced with this late registration, particularly in land Niedersachsen. Only in the beginning of October, 1943, were registrations issued by the Minister of the Interior of land Niedersachsen, and the I.T.S. had a great amount of unworked cases awaiting further investigations and possible late registration.

In the field of records, four other major targets were completed in 1943. The first was the Gestapo files held by the Landesamt für Volkswohlfahrt. These files were processed and re-verified 75,000 names of non-German nationals. The second target was the treatment records of the Landesamt für Volkswohlfahrt, holding registers of treatment in reserve hospitals during the war years, 1939-1945. The Landesamt für Volkswohlfahrt (the name as Weisheit?) (fourth-the establishment of details of all camps in the land during the war years together with details of nationalities, guards, general conditions, etc. These details were supplied to the I.T.S. catalogue of camps and prisons which became a work of reference placed at the disposal of all interested authorities including Western European Government and the German leaders.

The beginning of the year 1950 was fraught by many problems, the greatest of which was the time factor in our operations. It was not clear whether we would have to close in March, or June, or when. However we went ahead with our field operation plans and this has proved to be the correct course. It was decided that the complementary action on the "FERRET" returns would be the responsibility of the Divisional Offices and would be carried out by correspondence in all possible cases, releasing the field staff for two important tasks. The first task was to continue to examine and collect information from legal and medical records and to develop exploitation of the relatively untouched sources of industrial records to be found in the Zone. The second task was to commence the physical checking of graves. As the correct establishment of deaths was most essential to the success of "Operation FERRET", we will first give a few notes about this second category. It was proved, over and over again, that the only way to be absolutely sure of the accuracy of grave reports was to actually physically investigate all unclear or doubtful cases on the spot. Field Officers therefore began this physical graves checking in the spring of 1950. This necessitated the formation in the Divisional Offices of a Cemeteries Section within the Records Branch, whose task it was to produce a card index of every cemetery in the Zone where non German nationals were interred; to request and assemble a plan of each of these cemeteries, and to prepare, for the field Officers concerned, work programmes in respect of each cemetery indicating uncleared cases. This naturally put a strain on the already overworked Branch, which was not relieved until the close of the Child Search operations at the end of May, when the necessary staff became available. The results of the cemeteries so far checked are satisfactory, several new cases having been brought to light and most of the uncleared cases clarified. One fault in the "Operation FERRET" plan was discovered through the physical graves checking. This was the fact that "Operation FERRET" covers the period up to the end of the war, where in naturally, graves found in cemeteries extend down to the present day. This accounts for a not inconsiderable discrepancy in figures, which, of course, had to be reconciled.

On the side of records collection made during 1950, exploitation of medical and industrial records must now be referred to. The main medical records at Personenstandsarchiv Luetgendortmund and Landeskrankenanstalt Walarode have already been mentioned. The position of these two targets at the time of writing is as follows:-

(a) Personenstandsarchiv Luetgendortmund was completely finished on 12

The history of the year 1950 was brought by many factors, the greatest of which was the fact that in our operations it was not considered to have to include in detail or time, or otherwise to deal with our field operations plans and this has proved to be the correct course. It was decided that the responsibility for the "KURT" program would be the responsibility of the Divisional Offices and would be carried out by correspondence in all possible cases, retaining the field staff for two important matters. The first was to continue to examine and collect information from legal and medical records and to develop exploitation of the relatively unexplored sources of industrial records to be found in the home. The second task was to continue the physical checking of graves. As the current establishment of deaths was most essential to the success of "Operation KURT", we will first give a brief about this second category. It was proved, over and over again, that the only way to be absolutely sure of the accuracy of grave reports was to actually physically investigate all possible or doubtful cases on the spot. This Division therefore began this physical grave checking in the spring of 1950. This necessitated the formation in the Divisional Offices of a Graveyard Section within the records branch, whose task it was to produce a card index of every cemetery in the area where non-German nationals were interred; to request and assemble a plan of each of this cemeteries, and to prepare, for the field offices concerned, work programmes in respect of each cemetery including unexcavated cases. This naturally put a strain on the already overworked branch, which was not relieved until the close of the Child Search operations at the end of 1951, when the grave-keeping staff became available. The results of the cemeteries so far checked are satisfactory, several new cases having been brought to light and most of the unexcavated cases clarified. One fails in the "Operation KURT" plan was discovered through the physical grave checking. This was the fact that "Operation KURT" covers the period up to the end of the war, where, as naturally, graves found in cemeteries extend down to the present day. This accounts for a not inconsiderable discrepancy in figures, which, of course, had to be reconciled.

On the side of records collection made during 1950, exploitation of medical and industrial records must not be referred to. The main medical records at present are the records of the Luftwaffe and the Luftwaffe records have already been mentioned. The position of these two targets at the time of writing is as follows:-

(a) Luftwaffe records were completely finished on 15

August, 1950. The final results of the work on this target was an index in duplicate (one divided by nationalities and one in alphabetical order) containing 11,350 information cards including 561 death cases.

(b) Landeskrankenanstalt Walsrode-This target is expected to be finished, as far as the main work is concerned, by the sickness records from reserve hospitals all over Niedersachsen continue to be received daily in Walsrode, it will be necessary for the I.T.S. to keep one clerk at the Landeskrankenanstalt. At the time of writing, 609 hospital registers have been processed and the index contains 54,500 location cards.

A third major target of the same nature has been known to the I.T.S. since 1948. This was the Landesversicherungsanstalt, Hamburg. Due to the condition under which these records were stored, and to shortage of staff and other commitments on the part of the I.T.S. This target is only now being commenced. The French Search Mission whose technical Headquarters is at Goettingen, has offered clerical assistance on this target, which is of major interest to that mission as well as the I.T.S. No other details can be given at this stage. Work is also progressing at the Landesversicherungsanstalt, Luebeck, and at the time of writing over 3,500 names of non-German nationals have been extracted.

Industrial records are as varied in number as in size and any attempt to catalogue them would prove boring to the reader. Their main value lies in the fact, that, on the one hand they give clues for individual tracing cases, and on the other hand they are useful to various Governments in connection with compensation claims. One major industrial target with the British Zone Division has investigated should however be mentioned. This is the Ruhrknappschaft. Investigation into this target revealed that the Deutsche Kohlenbergbauleitung held records of non-German nationals working in various coal mines not only in the British Zone but also in the US Zone. Investigations so far have produced 93,770 names of non-Germans.

Several other interesting targets have come to light during 1950, which give information of the deaths of Western nationals in the East Zone of Germany and the territory at present under Polish administration. One of these targets was the Hauptstandesamt in Hamburg. Investigation of public registers of East Prussia revealed 1,111 death certificates. A few death cases from East Prussia were also discovered in the records of the Naval Documents Center at Kiel. The mention of Naval Documents must be coupled with a note that unfortunately, the task of tracing persons drowned at sea is not always easy. As an example, the ship owners

...The final results of the work on this target was an index in duplicate (one divided by nationality and one in alphabetical order) containing 1,350 individuals, including 500 death cases.

(b) Investigation of the target is expected to be finished as far as the work is concerned by the situation records from various hospitals all over Westphalia continue to be received daily in Weimar, it will be necessary for the I.S. to keep one alert at the Landeskriminalamt. As the time of writing, 500 hospital registers have been processed and the index contains 2,700 individual cards.

A third major target of the case nature has been known to the I.S. since this was the Landesversicherungsamt, Hamburg, due to the conditions under which these records were stored, and so shortly of death and other omissions on the part of the I.S. This target is only now being commenced. The French Secret Mission whose technical headquarters is at Göttingen, has offered detailed assistance on this target, which is of major interest to that mission as well as the I.S. No other details can be given at this stage. Work is also proceeding at the Landesversicherungsamt, Hamburg, and at the time of writing approximately 500 names of non-German nationals have been extracted.

Individual records are as varied in nature as in size and any attempt to categorize them would prove boring to the reader. Their data value lies in the fact that, on the one hand they give clues for individual tracing cases and on the other hand they are useful to various departments in connection with communication chains. One major industrial target which the British Zone Division has investigated should however be mentioned. This is the Industriehilfsinvestigation into this target revealed that the Industriehilfsinvestigation would records of non-German nationals working in various coal mines not only in the British Zone but also in the US Zone. Investigation so far have produced 21,710 names of non-Germans.

Several other interesting targets have been set light during 1950, which give information on the deaths of Western nationals in the East Zone of Germany and the territory at present under Polish administration. One of this targets was the Investigation in Hamburg. Investigation of public registers of last years revealed that death certificates, few death cases from East Prussia were also discovered in the records of the Naval Documents Center at Kiel. The mention of Naval Documents must be coupled with a note that unfortunately, the task of tracing persons drowned at sea is not always simple. An example, the ship owners

at Emden did not report missing ships to any official body and therefore, their own records are the only evidence available. One firm of ship owners supplied the British Zone Division with the names of 23 missing persons of which 19 sailed on ships with home station Stettin. These of course would not normally have been available to the British Zone Division, and we are now giving more attention to the records of the shipping companies, especially when, as in the case of this firm in Emden, their main office was originally in the Eastern Zone or in New Poland.

It is not easy to summarize in a few pages the work of 2½ years. However, it should be clear to the reader that the greatest attention was paid to the correct reporting of graves and deaths. There are two principal reasons for this. Firstly, to provide the necessary evidence to support legal claims in such matters as settlement of estates, re-marriage, etc. Secondly, the information assisted the various Governments in their exhumation and repatriation programmes. A glance at the statistics of the "Operation FERRET" - action at the time of writing, may be of interest.

Number of Kreise from which returns have been received (the whole of the British Zone)	190
Number of Kreise reviewed	123
Number of Kreise with whom second action (by correspondence) is in progress	109
Number of Kreise completely closed	35

From the a/m Kreise, the following statistics are to be noted:-

No of Kreise reviewed

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS

	GRAVES		DEATH CERT.		DEATH CASES		% INCREASE
	1946	1950	1946	1950	1946	1950	
123	51,504	72,547	38,866	62,908	72,263	90,880	26

Mass graves

(i.e. of bodies)

not included

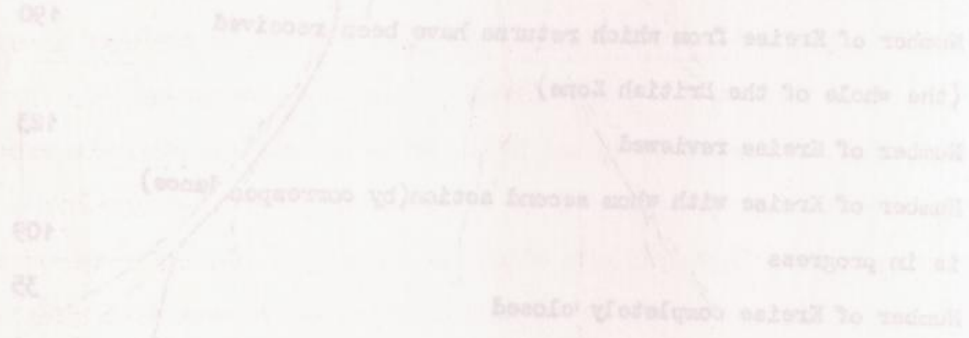
in above

totals:- 115,315 126,085

115,315 126,085

as shown in the report annexed to the official body and therefore, their
 own records are the only evidence available. One item of this nature is being
 the British Home Division with the names of 12 missing persons of which 10 are
 had on ships with home station destinations of course would not normally have
 been available to the British Home Division, and we are now giving more attention
 to the records of the shipping companies, especially when, as in the case of this
 item in London, their main office was situated in the London Home or in New
 Zealand.

It is not easy to summarize in a few pages the work of 12 years. However,
 it should be clear to the reader that the greatest attention was paid to the
 correct reporting of graves and deaths. There are two principal reasons for this.
 Firstly, to provide the necessary evidence to support legal claims in such matters
 as settlement of estates, to ensure that, secondly, the information needed for
 various governments in their examination and registration programmes. A glance
 at the statistics of the Operation Market section at the time of writing, may
 be of interest.



From the above tables, the following statistics are to be noted:-

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS				No. of Graves reviewed	
GRAVES	DEATH CERTS.	DEATH CERTS. & IN- THANCO GRAVES	1946	1950	1956
12,504	12,504	12,504	12,504	12,504	12,504
38,866	38,866	38,866	38,866	38,866	38,866
115,315	115,315	115,315	115,315	115,315	115,315

The figures given in the above table for mass graves requires some explanation. The bodies of the victims of the war-years are interred in many mass graves throughout the Zone. It will be remembered that at the time when the I.T.S. began its operation in 1948 all these bodies had been entered for a minimum of three years and therefore, identification without recourse to exhumation was impossible. The I.T.S. has not been engaged on exhumations and therefore had to rely for its information on reports received from the various Allied Missions, who themselves carried-out exhumations for the purpose of identifying or re-interring, or repatriating to their native country the bodies of the various war victims. Apart from these Allied sources many reports, of varying grades of reliability, have been received from the German Authorities. In some cases the German Authorities have themselves undertaken exhumations in order to resolve unclear cases. The latter, however, usually applied in the case of single graves and not mass graves.

There remains the problem of concentration camps. There were in the British Zone two concentration camps. Neuengamme near Hamburg had many commandos (principally in the Areas Bre men, Minden Hannover, and Braunschweig). Bergen-Belsen perhaps better known to the public than any other concentration camp, was the second in the British Zone and had no commandos. In addition to these two camps, there were in the British Zone commandos of Buchenwald and of Dora-Mittelbau. As regards the records of the commandos, these are usually non-existent due to the centralisation of records at the main camps. Of Bergen-Belsen no original camp documentation exists as it was destroyed before the camp was liberated by the Allied Armies. A number of death books of Neuengamme do exist and the information from these is available with the I.T.S. Headquarters. The whole problem of concentration camps is in any case so bound-up with that of the mass graves, that similar remarks must apply (vide-exhumations).

Earlier in this history it was stated that upon the inception of the British Zone Division of the I.T.S. the distribution of documents direct from the Division to various National Agencies was discontinued. However, in order to speed-up the process of making returns from "Operation FERRET" available as soon as possible to those nations who were themselves carrying-out field activity in the Zone, particularly in the field of exhumation, it was decided towards the end of 1949 to re-commence the lateral distribution of documents from divisional level. A second copy of each document had to be made available to the central library at the Headquarters of the Service and this of course necessitated the creation

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The bodies of the victims of the war-gases are buried in many mass graves throughout the country which were remembered at the time when the I.T.S. began its operations in 1945. All these bodies had been entered for a minimum of three years and therefore identification without recourse to examination was impossible. The I.T.S. has not been engaged on examinations and therefore had no help for its information on reports received from the various Allied Missions, who themselves carried out examinations for the purpose of identifying or re-identifying or reporting on their native country the bodies of the various war victims. Apart from these Allied sources many reports of varying grades of reliability have been received from the German authorities. In some cases the German authorities have themselves undertaken examinations in order to resolve doubts. The latter, however, usually applied in the case of single graves and not mass graves.

There remains the problem of concentration camps. There were in the British zone two concentration camps, Hagerweg near Hamburg and Westerburg (near Hagen). In the area the Westerburg and Hagerweg camps were the perhaps better known to the public than any other concentration camp, but the records in the British zone and not in Germany. In addition to these two camps there were in the British zone a number of sub-camps of Hagerweg and of Westerburg. As regards the records of the camps, these are usually non-existent due to the centralization of records at the main camp. Westerburg has no original camp documentation exists as it was destroyed before the camp was liberated by the Allied forces. A number of death books of Hagerweg do exist and the information from these is available with the I.T.S. Headquarters. The whole problem of concentration camps is in any case so bound-up with that of the mass graves, that similar remarks must apply (vice-versa).

Earlier in this history it was stated that upon the inception of the British zone Division of the I.T.S. the distribution of documents direct from the Division to various National Agencies was discontinued. However, in order to speed-up the process of making returns from "Operation BRIGHT" available as soon as possible to those nations who were themselves carrying out field activity in the zone, particularly in the field of examination, it was decided towards the end of 1945 to re-commence the lateral distribution of documents from Divisional level. A second copy of each document had to be made available to the central library at the Headquarters of the Service and this of course necessitated the creation

Of an Allied liaison Section in the Divisional Offices to meet the increase of work entailed. Similarly, it was necessary to demand of the German Authorities that all returns be made in duplicate. Unfortunately however, the returns were not always received in duplicate, and it was necessary for the divisional Offices to make the required extra copy. Now therefore, documents of all kinds are passed as rapidly as possible to the various interested Missions. Principally due to the fact, that, as was mentioned earlier, the Divisional Headquarters was not situated centrally in the Zone, it was in close touch with only one of the Missions (the French Mission). This of course has not tended to good liaison. Many minor problems could have been resolved to the mutual advantage of everyone, if all Agencies engaged upon tracing and other Allied tasks had been located in closer proximity. As an example of co-operation possible, the I.T.S. has been able to give on loan for photocopying all cemetery plans coming into its possession, to the French Mission; these being returned after photocopying. The Chief of the French Mission has stated that to have the plans from the I.T.S. has been a great help to him in the planning of his exhumation programmes. As an example of reciprocal liaison it must be stated that the regular receipt of copies of the French programmes of exhumation and repatriation of bodies have been the greatest value to us in our graves action, as we were able to cross-check the German reports indicating exhumation in the case of French nationals, and take appropriate action where the indication of exhumation was proved incorrect. Liaison with other Missions has been most cordial, particularly during 1950, but one cannot help but feel that the mutual co-operation could have been greater, had we all been accommodated in the same location.

This brief report on the work of the Records Branch and its powerful arm, the Field Tracing Staff, cannot be completed without a reference to the organization of the Branch in the Divisional Offices. The Records Branch has changed in form and size several times since its foundation and now consists of five sections, controlled by the Records Officer. The following is the composition of the Branch:-

Intelligence Section- Responsible for preparing the correspondence action which follows the review of the material received from the field. This Section keeps maps and statistics of the progress of work in the field, and is additionally responsible for the safe keeping of dormant documents held pending completion of field action. The Section maintains an index of all targets known in the Zone, including on each target card a brief history of the target.

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Of an Allied Liaison Officer to the Divisional Office to meet the interests of both countries, it was necessary to obtain the consent of the German authorities. All reports to be made in duplicate, but the reports were not always received in duplicate, and it was necessary for the Divisional Office to ask the recipient of the reports to supply the duplicate. It was found as a result of this experience that the reports were not always received in duplicate, and it was necessary for the Divisional Office to ask the recipient of the reports to supply the duplicate. It was found as a result of this experience that the reports were not always received in duplicate, and it was necessary for the Divisional Office to ask the recipient of the reports to supply the duplicate.

The French Liaison Officer, the Chief of the French Liaison Office, has stated that to have the plan from the I.S.O. has been a great help to him in the planning of his examination programme. He has stated that the regular reports of copies of the French programme of examination and registration of bottles have been the greatest value to us in our work, as we were able to crosscheck the German reports indicating education in the case of French nationals and some appropriate action where the education of examination was given. Liaison with other Liaison Officers has been most helpful, particularly during 1950, but we cannot help but feel that the actual co-operation could have been greater, had we all been accommodated in the same location.

The report on the work of the Liaison Officer and the powerful and the French Liaison Officer, cannot be compiled without a reference to the organization of the Branch in the Divisional Office. The records Branch has changed in form and since several times since the foundation and now consist of five sections, controlled by the Liaison Officer. The following is the composition of the Branch:

Intelligence Section - responsible for preparing the correspondence which follows the review of the material received from the Liaison Officer. Keeps logs and statistics of the progress of work in the field and is additionally responsible for the safe keeping of document documents held pending completion of field action. The Section maintains an index of all reports known in the field, including on each target card a brief history of the target.

Cemetery Section - Developed as a Sub-Section of the intelligence Section, the Cemetery Section is now working as an independent Sub-Unit of the Records Branch, and, as has already been mentioned, is responsible for all action in connection with the physical graves checking.

Review Section- Responsible for the review and checking of all documents received from the field. In order to try to complete the review of every Kreis by the end of 1950, this Section has been increased in strength until it is now the largest in the Branch. After the review is completed, work sheets are produced in respect of all uncleared cases. These work sheets are passed to the Intelligence Section for further action with the German Authorities, and the documents received from the field are then passed to the Liaison Section.

Liaison Section- As already mentioned, this Section is responsible for the copying and distribution of information to accredited Search Missions.

Processing Section - forms the registry plus dispatch plus typing pool of the Branch. The registry and dispatch of the Processing Section is responsible for keeping an exact check on all correspondence of the Branch as well as the general filing system employed.

The total staff employed in the records Branch at the time of writing is 80 German and DP Personnel.

As this was only an outline of the work performed by the Records Branch in the Divisional Offices and by the field, no summary is needed by the reader, but we may do well, in the midst of all these serious matters of graves and concentration camps, etc. to end upon lighter vein. One of the smaller parishes in the Zone was required to submit a cemetery plan indicating position of non-German graves. The no doubt very busy parish official liaised with the village schoolmaster. Evidently a competition involving the drawing of a picture of the cemetery resulted, and the lucky owner of the best drawing was rewarded by having his artistic "cemetery plan" sent to the I.T.S.

It is safe to say that tracing and exploitation of records, difficult though the process have been, would have been of even greater difficulty in any other country but this. The efficiency of the German, his love of registers, card indices and the like, and above all this his thoroughness, is legendary. What better example of German thoroughness can be given than this:-

Amongst the instructions given by the I.T.S. during the Kreis conferences was one that all graves must be reported and that special attention must

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General Editor - developed as a sub-section of the Intelligence Section
the General Editor is the working as an independent sub-unit of the records
branch and as such, has already been mentioned in reports for all years in con-
nection with the 7 pages given already.

General Editor - responsible for the review and checking of all documents
received from the field, in order to try to complete the review of every item
by the end of 1950, this section has been increased in strength until it is now
the largest in the branch, after the review is completed, work sheets are prepared
in terms of all completed cases, these work sheets are passed to the Intelligence
Section for further action with the German Authorities and the German Trans-
mission Unit, and then the files are transferred to the Liaison Section.

General Editor - is directly responsible for the
preparing and distribution of information to accredited Search Masters.
The Liaison Section have the registry plus dispatch files typed by
the Liaison Section and copies of the processing section is responsible
for keeping an exact check on all correspondence of the branch as well as the
General Editor's section.

The total staff assigned to the records branch at the time of writing is
50 persons and 12 horses.

As this was only an outline of the work performed by the records branch
in the Liaison Section and by the field, no attempt is made by the reader
but we may as well in the light of all these various matters of process and con-
struction, etc., to and give lighter volume of the matter outside in the
form was required to submit a new very plain intelligible version of non-German
documents, no doubt very very plain official letters with the village school-
master, obviously a very plain investigation, the drawing of a picture of the country
received, and the body cover of the book drawing was received by having the
article "country plan" sent to the I.S.A.

It is safe to say that working and expedition of records, although though
the process has been, would have been of even greater difficulty in any other
country but the efficiency of the German, his love of registers, and indices
and the fact, and above all, his thoroughness, is legendary. That latter sentence
of German thoroughness can be given that it is
amongst the instructions given by the I.S.A. during the Liaison Conference
was one that all cases must be reported and that special attention must

be given to isolated graves which, due to the war, may have been located outside cemeteries in hedge-rows, on the sides of the railway and so on. Nothing was missed in one Kreis, where the Kreis Official reported the finding of a cross bearing the name "Foul Ground". It appears that the savants agreed that this must indeed be the last resting place of the mortal remains of a British soldier, who was unlucky enough to get himself killed at that particular spot. The local registrar was summoned and the death ^{was duly registered with the usual solemnity and a} certificate was ~~death~~ issued. The I.T.S. are in possession of the death certificate. Subsequent enquiries on the part of the I.T.S. led to an exhumation. The German Authorities reported that no body could be found in the "grave" and furthermore they were unable to state by whom and to where the body had been removed.

TRACING BRANCH

At the time of the establishment of the British Zone Division in March, 1948 provision was made for the conduct of individual adult tracing. As was mentioned earlier over 70 000 individual cases were handled in the Zone up to the closing of the British Red Cross Society's Bureau. No new tracing cases were accepted by the records Sub-section of displaced Persons Division but outstanding replies were sent to enquirers as a result of reports received from the German Authorities, or from index findings.

A tracing Branch in the British Zone was organized in the latter days of March, 1948 and began to function on 1 April, 1948. Two major difficulties were experienced, the first one existing throughout the life-time of the British Zone Division. This difficulty arose through lack of field personnel. The original personnel establishment for the British Zone Division visualized the provision of class II International Staff for field tracing, the same as in the US Zone. However the Control Commission refused the appointment of any more Class II personnel in the British Zone, over-and-above those already engaged in the I.R.O. Displaced Persons Operation. The personnel establishment was therefore pruned to meet budgetary requirements and the result was that three International Officers, each with a class I clerical assistant were provided for the Division. Owing to the overriding demands of the Records Branch in connection with the correction of the Z.P.I. No. 4 returns, it was necessary to employ these officials on the various records duties to which we have already referred. This state of affairs has remained with us until the end. The second difficulty was that owing to the decision to continue Child Tracing activities, the tracing Officers appointed to the Divi-

be given to isolated cases which, due to the way they have been located and
 side connections in background on the side of the railway and on adjoining
 was missed in the search, where the British Official reported the finding of a
 cross bearing the name "John Brown". It appears that the search covered
 that date only instead of the last working place of the exact remains of a
 British soldier, who was seriously injured at that point.
 was this report with the British Official and the British Official was the
 other spot, the British Official was summoned and the British Official was the
 remaining I.R.G. and in possession of the death certificate subsequent to
 on the part of the I.R.G. led to an examination of the German authorities report
 and that no body could be found in the "grave" and furthermore they were unable
 to state by whom and to where the body had been removed.

TRAINING BRANCH

It should be noted that the establishment of the British Home Division in March,
 1948 provision was made for the conduct of individual adult training as was pro-
 vided earlier over 10,000 individual cases were handled in the home up to the
 closing of the British Red Cross Society's Bureau. The new training cases were recog-
 nized by the records department of displaced persons Division but outstanding
 replies were sent to headquarters as a result of reports received from the German
 authorities, or from other sources.

A training branch in the British Home was organized in the latter days of
 March, 1948 and began to function on 1 April, 1948. Two major difficulties were ex-
 perimented, the first one existing throughout the life-time of the British Home Di-
 vision. This difficulty arose throughout of their personnel. The original person-
 nel establishment for the British Home Division was classified the provision of class
 II International staff for field training, the same as in the US Home Division. The
 Control Commission refused the appointment of any more class II personnel in the
 British Home, over- and above those already engaged in the I.R.G. Displaced Persons
 Question. The personnel establishment was therefore limited to meet today's
 requirements and the result was that three International Officers, each with a
 class I official assistant were provided for the Division. Only to the over-
 siring demands of the Executive Branch in connection with the correction of the
 E.P.I. No. 4 returns, it was necessary to employ these officials on the various
 records duties to which we have already referred. This state of affairs has remai-
 ned with us until the end. The second difficulty was that owing to the decision
 to continue with field training activities, the training Officer appointed to the Divi-

sion had to undertake Child Tracing duties in addition to those covering adult enquiries. This state of affairs was remedied in September, 1948 when a separate Child Tracing Branch with its own staff was appointed to the Division. The work performed in the intervening months was as good as possible under the circumstances, but inevitably the system of one week of individual adult tracing and the next week of child tracing was forced upon us. It was found impracticable to undertake or to handle both types of cases together owing to the varying social and other backgrounds existing between individual and child cases. It was necessary therefore, to concentrate our efforts on the one type of case for a period and then switch to the other type of case which required completely different approach. As mentioned before the majority of tracing investigations were made by correspondence. During the first 9 months up to the end of 1948 the I.T.S. corresponded directly with all levels of the German Administration in order to solve individual adult cases. The reader will remember that during this period we were awaiting CCG to approve the right of the I.T.S. to have direct access to the German Civil Authorities. The action taken during this period was therefore, strictly speaking, done without the approval of the Occupying Power. It was known, however, that CCG had no objections in the case of individual enquiries. In order to speed-up the work as much as possible on both sides, proforma letters were drawn-up and were used in as many cases as possible. Most proformas had answer-slips attached for the convenience of the offices to which the enquiries were directed. Correspondence with German Offices was in the German language exclusively and with Allied Offices in the English language.

During the early period, test cases were carried-out to determine the time-limit necessary to allow of receiving replies from the German Authorities. The time-limit fixed eventually was 8 weeks from the time of dispatch of the enquiry from Coettingen. To operate this system effectively, a reminder Index had been in use throughout.

One of the biggest difficulties in connection with persons likely to be living in the Zone as DPs was the problem of movement between Camps. The DPs were normal human beings and no laws existed to restrain them from free personal movement. Very often a DP would move from one camp to another, either temporarily, or permanently, or even to other Zones, without informing anyone. The I.T.S. realised that it did not possess the opportunity to make an overall coverage of the Zone for each individual case. There were two methods of approaching the solution of this problem. The first method was for the I.T.S. to hold an Index of resident

also had a number of other people working during the session to those covering adult
 groups and the whole of affairs was handled in London, 1955 when a report
 (Hill) working closely with the staff was prepared by the Institute. The work
 performed in the intervening months was as good as possible under the circum-
 stances, but inevitably the system of one week of individual adult teaching and
 the next week of adult teaching was forced upon us, it was found impracticable
 to maintain on the same basis types of cases together during the working
 week and other arrangements existing between individual and adult cases.
 It was necessary therefore to concentrate our efforts on the one type of case
 for a period and then switch to the other type of case which required emphasis
 by different approaches mentioned before the majority of teaching investigations
 were made by correspondence. During the first 3 months up to the end of 1955 the
 I.T.S. corresponded closely with all levels of the German Administration in or-
 der to solve individual adult cases. The reader will remember that during this
 period we were awaiting GDR to approve the title of the I.T.S. to have direct
 access to the German (GDR) authorities. The notion when during this period was
 therefore, strictly speaking, how without the approval of the Communist Govern-
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 mental work to be done by the work as much as possible on both sides, previous
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 was had answer-like answers for the convenience of the Office to which the
 questions were directed. Arrangements with German Offices was in the German
 language, naturally and with direct Office in the British language.
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 movement. Very often a 12 month time limit was set to another, either temporarily
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 sults that it did not restrict the a possibility to raise an overall coverage of the
 law for each individual case. There were two methods of approaching the solution
 of this problem. The first method was for the I.T.S. to hold an index of residents

DPs in the Zone. This method was unattainable because of the fact that the British Authorities were unable to give the ITS such a living Index and because of the insuperable problem of keeping up-to-date with the amendments made necessary by the many official and personal moves made by the DPs. The second solution to the problem was to prepare a list for circulation to all Displaced Persons Assembly Centres and Camps, and after lengthy negotiation with the Regional Offices of Displaced Persons Division, this solution was finally agreed to. It reduced the number of single letters to be prepared by the ITS and to be answered by Displaced Persons Division units; these letters being replaced by a system of weekly lists. There were however, drawbacks to the list system. A great deal of work was thrown upon the Tracing Branch in having to prepare the weekly lists amounting to some 400 copies. The lists had to be kept down in size in order to facilitate handling by the recipients a maximum of about 100 names being put on each list. The sharp increase in intake of enquiries received from autumn, 1949 onwards gave rise to an inevitable backlog of cases awaiting their turn to be put on various lists which were distributed in sufficient copies to allow of distribution to all DP camps. It was the intention, that after having checked the lists and sent the results of their findings to the ITS, the Assembly Centre Commanders should cause the lists to be hung on camp notice boards. By this method it was hoped that some DPs reading the lists may have seen the names of some of their friends or acquaintances and would have given all information to the ITS. Unfortunately, these lists were rarely displayed in the manner we had hoped and the ITS staff was not large enough to handle the problem by ~~himself~~-itself. Again in criticism, it must be stated that whilst some Assembly Centre Commanders paid personal attention to the ITS weekly lists, others were content to leave the checkings entirely in the hands of a clerk whose interest in the cases, and in the sad story behind many of them, was negligible. The fault probably lay with the ITS whose Public Relations Staff was noticeably inactive in matters of this kind. During the course of summer of 1949 the Tracing Officer and the field Staff paid visits to all Relief Detachments of the CGC, when they were given the opportunity to explain some of the work of tracing to Assembly Centre Commanders, and at the same time to hear of their difficulties in this connection. These meetings were extremely beneficial, and as a result there was a noticeable improvement in reports received from all sources. In fairness, the reader must understand that these Assembly Centre Commanders were extremely busy people with very small clerical staffs at their disposal. The positive replies to tracing enquiries received in 1948 was 17,8 %.

The in the 1950s method was unsatisfactory because of the fact that the British
 Authorities were unable to give the ITC such a living Index and because of the
 insuperable problem of keeping up-to-date with the amendments made necessary by
 the many official and personal moves made by the ITC. The second solution to the
 problem was to prepare a list for circulation to all displaced persons assembly
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 Displaced Persons Division, this solution was finally agreed to. It reduced the
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 sed Persons Division with letters being replaced by a system of weekly
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 handling by the post office. Lists of about 100 names being put on each list.
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 liaison relations with the ITC were not necessarily as active as matters of this kind during
 the course of summer of 1955 the ITC's Field Office and the Field Staff paid visits
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 bly Centre Commanders were extremely busy people with very small clerical staffs
 at their disposal. The positive replies to ITC enquiries received in 1955

This figure rose in 1949 to 24.5%. The improvement must be largely attributed to the introduction of the weekly lists system. Regular lists were at first established for DP Division installations. Later lists were regularly sent to CMLO/CMWS (Civilian labour and Watchmans' Organization), the Yugoslav Central Advisory Council, the Relief Society for Poles, and the Amt fuer Kriegsopfer (AFKO). Special tribute must be paid to the Relief Society for Poles, for their valuable help and assistance in Polish cases and to the CMLO/CMWS. By the efforts and assistance of the latter Organization, we were able to solve many enquiries, which could not be resolved through any other channel. From the time of their introduction in the spring of 1949 until the disbandment of Assembly Centres under Allied Control and of the Tracing Branch of the British Zone Division in July, 1950, when the lists were discontinued, 206 separate lists were published carrying a total of 30,088 names of missing persons. We have already mentioned that many of our problems would have been eased or solved had we been in the possession of an Index of living DPs. The problem was specially acute when one considers the question of letters for onward transmission to enquirers. These were letters giving the results of tracing action taken by the Headquarters of the ITS on behalf of the DPs themselves. Due to the fact that the enquirers lived in Poland or the United States or countries even more remote from Germany, a long time elapsed before any replies were to hand. In the meantime the enquirer had moved his location—once, twice, thrice or even more times. To find him again, in order to transmit to him the results of the ITS investigations often proved a more tough job than many original tracing enquiries, due to the fact that the enquirer was rarely registered with the German Authorities. Unfortunately, no statistics of these categories of "case" have been kept by the British Zone Division, so no details can be presented to the reader. It can be stated, however, that these "cases" constituted a not inconsiderable part of the work of the Tracing Branch.

The reader will not wish to be bored by voluminous statistics, but the following are considered to be the vital figures:-

(a) Total number of cases received from the Headquarters, ITS, which required action in the British Zone.....	21,234
(b) Cases completed by Tracing Branch, B.Z.	
(i) cases with a death report.....	430
(ii) cases with a living report.....	234
(iii) cases with partial information indicating further action outside the British Zone.....	792
(iv) cases closed "No Trace".....	12,711
(v) cases cancelled	206
Total of cases on which action was taken	

ONE

This figure was in 1938 of 25,000. The improvement must be fairly attributed to the introduction of the weekly lists system. Regular lists were at first established for the Division in 1938. Later lists were regularly sent to DMV (German) (Gestapo) and to the German Central Advisory Council, the Polish Society for Peace, and the Red Cross (Kriegsgefangene). Special lists were sent to the Polish Society for Peace for their valuable help and assistance in Polish cases and to the DMV by the efforts and assistance of the latter organization, so were able to solve many enquiries, which could not be resolved through any other channel. From the time of their introduction in the spring of 1939 until the disbandment of the British Home Office, Allied Control and of the Trading Branch of the British Home Office in July, 1950, when the lists were discontinued, 202 separate lists were published carrying a total of 20,000 cases of missing persons. We have already mentioned that many of our problems would have been eased or solved had we been in the possession of an index of living cases. The problem was essentially made with our knowledge of the question of factors for onward transportation to emigrants. There were factors always the results of trading activities by the Headquarters of the ITC on behalf of the ITC themselves, but to the fact that the emigrants lived in Poland or the United States or countries even more remote from Germany, a long time elapsed before any replies were received. In the meantime the computer had moved his location - Warsaw, Berlin or even more distant. To find him again, in order to transmit to him the results of the ITC investigations often proved a very tough job when only original trading enquiries, but to the fact that the computer was rarely registered with the German authorities. Unfortunately, no statistics of these categories of cases have been kept by the British Home Office, so no details can be presented to the reader. It can be stated, however, that the "cases" constituted a not inconsiderable part of the work of the Trading Branch.

The reader will wish to be told by voluminous statistics, but the following are considered to be the vital figures:-

(a) Total number of cases received from the Headquarters, ITC, which required action in the British Home Office.....	25,000
(b) Cases completed by Trading Branch, ITC:	
(i) cases with a death report.....	4,300
(ii) cases with a living report.....	1,200
(iii) cases with partial information (including further sold in connection with the British Home Office).....	1,300
(iv) cases closed "as traced".....	12,100
(v) cases cancelled.....	400
Total of cases on which action was taken.....	19,300

(c) Cases returned to ITS HQ without action because of the limitation of Tracing.....6,161

The Tracing Branch continued its operation till 15 July, 1950 on which date it was disbanded and the Senior Tracing Officer was transferred to Headquarters ITS. The residual tracing operations are being carried out by a small staff in the Executive Office of the Division, and the time of writing, some 380 cases are still on hand. Whilst the case load is progressively reduced each month, the reduction is off-set by a considerable intake of cases from Headquarters ITS, which are either new to the British Zone, or are forwarded as a result of clues discovered elsewhere. Additionally, a considerable number of cases are being reopened because new information has been obtained in the meantime.

The fluctuation of staff employed by the Tracing Branch can be seen in the staff charts shown under Administration.

The major problem which has always beset the work of individual tracing has been the time-lag between the work of the Tracing Branch and the records Branch. Theoretically thousands of tracing cases should have been solved, even at Zonal level, by information available from Records. For many reasons, however, this information could not be made available in the Division. It did not become available until it was transcribed on the Index cards in the Master Index at Headquarters ITS. In the meantime, these cases had been investigated on an individual basis in the Zone and the answers supplied. It has never been easy to convince the German Authorities in this connection. Their inevitable reaction has always been to point-out that information had been supplied long before through the Records side. Our answer was always, better have done twice and been sure than not to have done at all:

In this report the other situation in Germany has allowed the replacement of a staff in the Tracing Branch with a generally very high standard. The fact that a trained officer, who had been from GCHQ and had considerable experience in tracing, was transferred to the Division of a well-trained local staff. At the commencement of operations in January, 1949 a total of 43 clerical staff were employed in Executive, 14 in Tracing, and 25 in Records - all at Westinghouse. By January, 1950 this figure had risen to 47 at Westinghouse (13 in Executive and Administrative, 14 in Tracing, and 20 in Records) and 21 in the Field Office, and a year later it had risen again to 68 at Westinghouse and 22 in the Field. This figure do not of course include staff employed in Child Search Units. The following break-down in January, 1950 may be of interest:-

- Executive Office and Administrative Branch
- Tracing Branch
- Records Branch
- Local Staff
- Local Staff
- Local Staff

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(a) - New cases referred to the Division of Investigation of the Treasury Department, July 15, 1950, on which date

The Treasury Branch continued its operations until July 15, 1950 on which date it was disbanded and the Senior Treasury Officer was transferred to Headquarters. The essential Treasury records are being carried out by a small staff in the Executive Office of the Division, and the flow of writing, cases, 180 cases are still on hand. While the case load is progressively reduced each month, the reduction is offset by a considerable intake of cases from Headquarters IRS, which are either new to the Division or are forwarded as a result of other divisions. Additionally, a considerable number of cases are being reported because new information has been obtained in the meantime.

The Division of staff engaged by the Treasury Branch can be seen in the staff charts shown under Administration.

The major problem which has always been the work of individual Treasury has been the timing between the work of the Treasury Branch and the records Branch. The essential elements of Treasury cases should have been solved even at some level, by information available from records. For many reasons, however, this information could not be made available in the Division. It did not become available until it was transferred on the index cards in the Master Index at Headquarters. In the meantime, cases were not being investigated on an individual basis in the Division and the records supplied. It has never been easy to convince the various authorities in this connection, that individual records have always been so important. That information has been supplied long before the Bureau staff knew was always better late than never and has not to have done itself.

ADMINISTRATIVE BRANCH

The reader must not be bored with too many details of Administration. This very important Branch is mainly concerned with unspectacular routine activities, which have no place in this history. However, one of the major problems which has beset the Administration in the British Zone has been insufficient office accommodation involving two moves of offices to other buildings, and the attendant organisation and execution of these moves has involved a considerable amount of work.

Transport was also a great headache for a long time until the last of our Military Jeeps were moved in the early part of 1950. One can only feel that the strain which these vehicles imposed, fell more heavily upon IRO Workshops than upon ourselves and they too must have been glad to see the last of the Military Jeeps. The Austins which supplanted them were excellent little cars for Area Field Staff, but there is no doubt that the Jeep Station Wagon has been the ideal vehicle for the Divisional Offices and for the Regional Tracing Staff. The repair facilities for transport have been excellent. The rapid services given to us by the IRO Zone Workshops at Hannover cannot be passed without comment.

The British Zone Division has been very lucky in that it has had only one serious road accident which involved injuries to personnel. Two or three other accidents have been of a minor nature without personnel injuries and with only minor damage to vehicles. This reflects in no small way upon the Administration and upon the drivers employed.

We have had a constant struggle to maintain staff of the best quality in the most suitable jobs. In this respect the labour situation in Goettingen has allowed the employment of a staff in the Divisional Offices which has been a generally very high standard. The fact that a trained cadre of personnel was taken-over from CCG who had considerable experience in tracing, contributed to the rapid build-up of a well trained local staff. At the commencement of operations in March, 1948 a total of 49 clerical staff were employed (9 in Executive, 14 in Tracing and 25 in Records) - all at Goettingen. By January, 1949 this figure has risen to 59 at Goettingen (13 in Executive and Administrative, 14 in Tracing and 29 in Records) - and 21 in the Field Offices, and a year later it had risen again, to 86 at Goettingen and 22 in the Field. This figures do not of course include staff employed on Child Search duties. The following break-down in January, 1950 may be of interest:-

- | | |
|---|------------------|
| Executive Office and
Administrative Branch | - 13 Local Staff |
| Tracing Branch | - 39 Local Staff |
| Records Branch | - 34 Local Staff |

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ADMINISTRATIVE BRANCH

The reader may not be bored with too many details of Administration. This very important branch is mainly concerned with managerial routine activities which have to place in this history. However, one of the major problems which has beset the Administration in the British zone has been insufficient office accommodation involving two moves of offices to other buildings, and the attendant expense and extension of these moves has involved a considerable amount of work.

Transport was also a great headache for a long time until the last of our Military troops were moved in the early part of 1950. One can only feel that the extent which these vehicles enjoyed, they were heavily upon the workshops from their own selves and they too must have been glad to see the last of the Military trucks. The trucks which supported them were excellent little cars for their kind, but there is no doubt that the long distance wagon has been the ideal vehicle for the Divisional Officer and for the Regional Training Staff. The regular lists for transport have been excellent, the right services given to us by the various workshops at Harrow cannot be passed without comment.

The British zone Division has been very busy in that it has had only one serious road accident which involved injuries to personnel. Two or three other accidents have been of a minor nature without personnel injuries and with only minor damage to vehicles. This reflects in no small way upon the Administration and upon the drivers employed.

We have had a constant struggle to maintain staff of the best quality in the most suitable jobs. In this respect the labour situation in Germany has allowed the employment of a staff in the Divisional Office which has been a generally very high standard. The fact that a trained cadre of personnel was taken over from GOC who had considerable experience in training, contributed to the rapid build-up of a well trained local staff. At the commencement of operations in March, 1948 a total of 43 clerical staff were employed. In Executive 12 in Training and 31 in Records. All of these staff were employed in January, 1950. This figure has risen to 53 at present (12 in Executive and Administrative, 14 in Training, and 27 in Records) and 21 in the Field Office and a year later it had risen again to 66 at Gostingen and 22 in the Field. This figure is not of course inclusive staff employed on GEMA's German duties. The following breakdown in January, 1950 may be of interest:-

- 12 Local Staff
- 39 Local Staff
- 24 Local Staff
- Executive Office and
- Administrative Branch
- Training Branch
- Records Branch

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At the time of writing the employment position is as follows:-

Executive Office (including Administrative and Tracing)	- 22 local Staff
Records Branch	- 80 local Staff

The reader will readily see that a great increase of personnel in Records Branch has taken place during 1950. This of course was done with intention of completing the reviewing of material received under operation "FERRET" before close of the Division takes place in December, 1950.

This short note on Administration must include a tribute to the I.R.O. Zonal Offices Staff and our thanks must be given to all departments with whom the I.T.S. has dealt, whether it be the Department of Operations or the Various Administrative Services including Personnel, Transport, Finance and general Administration. The courteous way ⁱⁿ which the I.T.S. staff members have been received during their various visits to Lemgo and the prompt attention given to the no doubt often exasperating requests of the I.T.S. step-child must be recorded. Without this attention from Zone Headquarters we should never have been able to progress in our duties in the way which has been possible.

A last word about the staff members. 10 nationalities of international staff have worked in this Division together with 8 DP nationalities, and a preponderance of German personnel in the local staff. That all have been able to work together in Harmony to ensure the success of the I.T.S. operations in the Zone is surely an indication of what can be achieved in the sphere of international co-operation, if there exists an objective to be reached, together with the will and the means to reach that objective.

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As the time of writing the engineer's position is as follows:

Executive Office (including Administrative and Training) Records Branch	-	25 local staff
	-	50 local staff

The reader will readily see that a great increase of personnel in records branch has taken place during 1950. This of course was done with intention of completing the reviewing of material received under operation "WALKER" before close of the Division takes place in December, 1950.

This short note on administration must include a tribute to the I.R.C. Local Office Staff and our thanks must be given to all departments with which the I.R.C. has had contact. It is the Department of Operations or the various Administrative Services including Personnel, Transport, Finance and General Administration. The numerous requests which the I.R.C. staff members have been receiving during their various visits to Tokyo and the urgent attention given to the same have often exceeding requests of the I.R.C. staff which must be recorded.

Without this attention from our headquarters we should never have been able to progress in our duties in the way which has been possible.

A last word about the staff members. 10 nationalities of international staff have worked in this Division together with 8 Japanese nationalities and a representative of German personnel in the local staff. This all has been done in very close cooperation to ensure the success of the I.R.C. operations in the area. It is a satisfaction of what can be achieved in the sphere of international cooperation if there exists an objective take towards together with the will and the desire to reach first objective.

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