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GI TRANSPORT — GERMAN FOOD



WEEKLY INFORMATION BULLETIN



UNITED STATES ZONE, GERMANY

Greater Hesse, Wuerttemberg-Baden

MILITARY GOVERNMENT



WEEKLY INFORMATION BULLETIN

OFFICE OF MILITARY GOVERNMENT FOR GERMANY, U. S.
CONTROL OFFICE APO 742 U. S. ARMY

OFFICIAL INSTRUCTIONS

Control of Fraternization	AG 014.13 GAP-AGO 5 Nov 1946, USFET
Kindergarten Program	AG 352 GAP-AGO 14 Nov 1946, USFET
Downgrading of Classified Documents	AG 312.1 AGO 15 Nov 1946, USFET
Vehicle Accidents	AG 537.5 GAP-AGO 16 Nov 1946, USFET
Project Reunion	AG 230 RYT-AGO 16 Nov 1946, USFET
Station Property	Circular No. 169 19 Nov 1946, USFET
Washington National Airport	AG 686 GAP-AGO 19 Nov 1946, USFET
Community Bulletin.	AG 461 GDS-AGO 20 Nov 1946, USFET
SOPs as of 21 Nov 1946	AG 461 AG ED 21 Nov 1946, USFET
Availability of US Applicants for Employment (Issue No. 4)	AG 201.62 22 Nov 1946, OMGUS
Reorganization of Military Government for Control of German Civil Communications and Posts	AG 311 (IA) 23 Nov 1946, OMGUS
Amendment of Revision of MGR Title 22, Reports and Histories	23 Nov 1946, OMGUS
Discipline of Civilian Employees	AG 250.1 (PO) 25 Nov 1946, OMGUS

Copies of Official Instructions listed in the **Weekly Information Bulletin** may be obtained by writing directly to the originating headquarters.



Signal Corps Photo

GI TRANSPORT — GERMAN FOOD — The picture on this week's cover shows a ten-ton truckload of vegetables being unloaded in Nuremberg. The food was donated to the Nuremberg youth kitchen by a German church organization in a nearby town. The transportation was furnished by the US Army in accordance with its current assistance program.

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

Labor Unions was prepared by the Labor Relations Branch, Manpower Division, OMGUS. The article is a summary of union activity in the US Zone since the beginning of the occupation and the aid which MG has given the labor movement.

The Public Relations Branch, Office of Military Government for Wuerttemberg-Baden, furnished the material for **Forum of the Air**. It describes the activity of Radio Stuttgart's new program which is patterned after the US's "Town Meeting of the Air."

Picture Magazine for Germans is the story of "Heute," the semi-monthly magazine published by US Military Government. It was prepared by the Office of the Director of Information Control, OMGUS.

Rhine River Commission is taken from the Monthly Report of the Military Governor No. 14.

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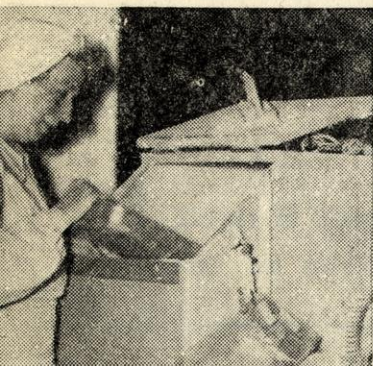
LABOR UNIONS

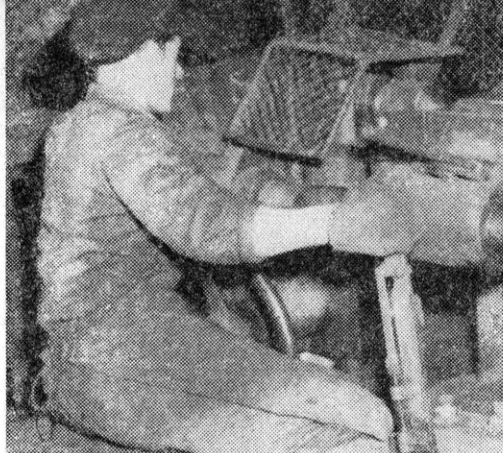
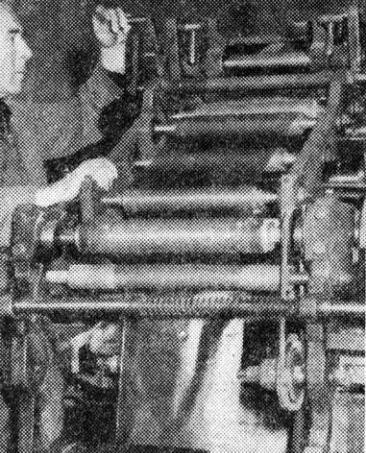
To assist in the eventual reconstruction of German political life on a democratic basis and in eventual peaceful cooperation by Germany in international life, Military Government has permitted and encouraged the formation of free, democratic trade unions and the extension and development of free collective bargaining. The establishment of these freedoms has found acceptance among the German workers, who for twelve years under Hitler had been denied all forms of democratic expression. Representatives of management have likewise accepted the new freedoms possible under free collective bargaining and offered practically no opposition to the growth of the trade unions, which since the occupation have recruited nearly one million members in the US Zone.

Prior to 1933 German unions had been divided along political and religious lines, a situation which was one of the factors contributing to their inability to resist effectively the establishment of an authori-

tarian state. Profiting by this experience, unions formed since the occupation have embraced persons of every democratic political creed and every religious faith. Partly because of this desire for unity and probably also because of the German history of highly centralized governmental institutions, there has existed and still exists a tendency to unite all workmen of every craft and every industry in one union having non-autonomous departments formed on industrial lines. This tendency has not prevailed in the US Zone but is of constant concern to MG, as it is felt that in such an organization, the individual member would find little practical opportunity to express his views or to participate in the control of the policies of his organization.

After a long internal struggle on this question, the German trade unionists have developed within each Land of the US Zone approximately 16 autonomous industrial unions, with state and city federations very





similar in general pattern to the structure which prevailed prior to 1933 and not unlike American and British labor organizations.

In the early stages of post-war union development, it was necessary to restrict the geographical scope of union operations to a very limited area, such as a kreis, owing to the disorganization of communications, transportation and industrial activities which prevailed in Germany at that time. Upon the establishment of more nearly normal transportation and communication facilities during the first part of 1946, the unions developed beyond the local level by amalgamation of similar industrial unions into the land-wide organizations which now prevail.

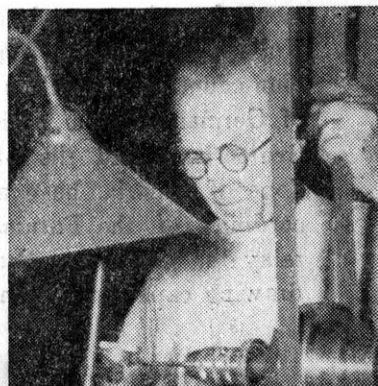
Wuerttemberg-Baden was the first to complete the organization of similar Land industrial unions and at the same time to establish a Wuerttemberg-Baden Trade Union Federation. Comparable to a State Federation of Labor in the United States, the unions completed the drawing up of their

constitutions on 1 September. In Greater Hesse and Bavaria, the union memberships are now voting on Land union constitutions. The formation of Land-wide industrial unions has influenced the transition from a single centralized union to several autonomous unions federated in municipal and state councils, as in America. This can be seen in Wuerttemberg-Baden where all industrial unions now have their own separate constitutions.

SIGNIFICANT DEMOCRATIC FORCE

Despite many initial organizational problems, the trade unions have demonstrated that they may be regarded as one of the most significant democratic forces in Germany. No other German group has more strongly supported a vigorous democratic program. Trade union representatives participate on denazification committees in individual establishments where they press for a strict enforcement of the law. The unions

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A group of Germans read a poster advertising Radio Stuttgart's Forum.

Reason, Justice, and Tolerance" are the three planks in the platform of Radio Stuttgart's *Forum*, the German version of America's *Town Meeting of the Air*. Composed of four speakers and a moderator, this new and unusual German broadcast is now in its eighth week, and on the basis of audience participation, press comment, and listener reaction, it appears to be well on the way to becoming one of the most popular post-war radio programs in Germany. Heard every Thursday from 2100 to 2200 hours, the program is under the supervision of the Radio Control Branch of ICD, OMGWB.

Fan mail, which is increasing as the program becomes more widely known, averages about 150 letters a week. Enthusiastic comments have been received from Switzerland, Holland, France, Austria, and the Scandinavian countries as well as from the four zones of Germany. Two radio stations, one in Switzerland and the other in the French Zone of Austria, have asked for either recordings of the Forums or permission to relay the programs. Present broadcasts are drawing capacity audiences who disclose an

intelligent interest for the serious nature of the issues involved. Such interest suggests a healthy trend and indicates genuine appreciation of a program as democratic and American as the corner drugstore.

STAGED BY GERMAN STAFF

Planned as an outlet for adult public opinion, the Forum is staged and recorded by specific request in the various cities and towns of Wuerttemberg-Baden on Sunday mornings and released on the air the following Thursdays. Of the first eight programs broadcast, four were recorded in Stuttgart, one in Ulm, one in Schwaebisch Gmuend, one in Esslingen, and one in Karlsruhe. Although the programs are supervised by OMGWB officials, the actual staging and preparation is done by German staff members.

In planning a broadcast, a subject of current and controversial interest is chosen. Four guest speakers are selected—two defending and two opposing the question, and the moderator is named to direct the discussion. After the subject is presented to the Forum by each of the four speakers, who

of the AIR

are limited to not more than seven minutes speaking time apiece, the audience enters into the debate. Its members are allowed two minutes each and their comments are picked up by microphones conveniently placed throughout the hall. The speakers are limited in time in order to allow as much participation as possible in the hour and thirty minutes allotted for the recording. The broadcast itself lasts one hour: 45 minutes for the Forum recording and 15 minutes for the reading of the most interesting letters received after the previous week's broadcast.

The subject selected for the initial broadcast in Stuttgart was "What is free speech?" This was purposely chosen to accustom the Germans to the Vermont town meeting atmosphere of the Forums, to show them that individuals are entitled to their own opinions, and that the opposition need not be necessa-

rily annihilated or shouted down. The success of this planning has been demonstrated in later broadcasts, for now when catcalls and bronx cheers interrupt a speaker who is attempting to make a point, cries of "Toleranz! Toleranz!" are heard and members of the audience immediately rise to rebuke the hecklers.

OTHER PROBLEMS DISCLOSED

This initial program, which drew a crowd of 300, disclosed a number of other problems. Speakers failed to restrict themselves to seven minutes, and floor participants had a tendency to give speeches rather than take part in the discussion. However, the discussions to date have been reasonably orderly. The Germans are eagerly accepting their right to disagree as they begin to understand that there are two sides to every question. Occasionally, they even concede the right of the opposition to express its opinion.

Among the many provocative subjects which have been discussed, the question, "How far can German youth be held responsible for National Socialism?" brought forth a spirited discussion and letters from

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View of the hall in Ulm where a large crowd assembled to debate the question, "Are the Nuremberg Trials Just?"



TWO Concepts of Democracy

by Hans A. Kallmann

It is widely recognized that there are many differences of concepts between the American and the German minds. It may be less obvious, however, that these differences involve basic conceptions in the psychological approach to problems by people largely conditioned by different background, temperament, education, and tradition, generally falling into that large and most undefinable category called culture.

From his practical sense, and from his lifelong education which teaches him that he has to find a way to get along with his neighbors and with other members of society in general, the American derives his inclination for a moderate, middle-of-the-road attitude. On the other hand, the German, from his metaphysical way of thinking, gets his conviction that there is only one solution to a problem that could be called right, and that any deviation from this pattern is a symptom of weakness, a shabby willingness to yield to the imperfections of life. The next consequence is a deep distrust of politicians, who apparently are professional compromisers, and a preference for extremist parties which refuse to compromise, regardless of the bitter end that so often has come over Germany.

Behind all this stands the basic difference

that the American has to find out by himself how to get along with the man next door, while in Germany it has been the state authority that regulates and supervises even such relations, if need be. The American has to be practical from childhood on, and the German need not.

MINOR VIOLATIONS OF THE LAW

There is another important example in the different concepts of the word "law." Minor violations of law do not weigh heavily on the conscience of the individual in the United States. There is scarcely a person who has not ignored speed limit regulations, or a smoker who has not smoked in a bus where smoking is "prohibited" without too much fear of his being caught. To the German, a law has to be strictly enforced and strictly obeyed, and, according to a certain school of thought, a law not sufficiently enforced is not even valid.

Although the basic difference in the German and American attitudes towards the state is generally known, its consequences, and particularly its psychological consequences, are often unknown or misunderstood. The American is sure that, by and large, he is much more individualistic than the German. Surprisingly enough, the Germans think of themselves as the real individualists and note a tendency on the part

of Americans to conform. What is the explanation?

In the United States, the very large freedom granted to the citizen by law and constitution under normal conditions of peace is voluntarily restricted by education and social rules. It could not be otherwise. If a great number of people would exploit the legally granted freedoms to the limit, there would be chaos. The people are permitted to quarrel incessantly with their neighbors, but the majority do not do that. They could denounce each other but they do not do that either. In the United States there is a tendency to conform, a certain pride in being average, and there is little inclination to be conspicuously different from one's neighbor.

UNRESTRICTED RIGHT TO DISAGREE

In Germany, what there has to be in the way of conformity was mainly brought about by law, regulation, or an appeal of the authority to the people. Conformity as the result of social restrictions is, of course, not entirely lacking, but it is much less strong and covers a much smaller field. What has not been authoritatively regulated actually constitutes the German's sphere of personal freedom. It contains even a kind of a guarantee — that which is not forbidden is actually permitted. And in this smaller sphere a great many Germans habitually and traditionally compensate themselves for the restrictions of an authoritarian government by an extreme individualism. In this sphere, Germans dislike to cooperate and love to disagree. They denounce each other. They do their best not to appear average but to be conspicuously different from their neighbors. Once called upon to act according to their individual convictions, they do so and stick to it. In the political field this may result in 35 or more parties which compete in the elections, and perhaps 18 parties which succeed in getting candidates actually elected. These parties may disagree among themselves as the individuals do. They may prefer to delegate their power to a self-created authority rather than use it themselves in compromises. This is exactly what

happened at the end of the Weimar Republic. It was logical because freedom in Germany means the unrestricted right to disagree. Since that does not work, the way out is to create somehow a new authority that leads the way by orders. "Emergency regulations" they were called under the Weimar Republic.

There are two fundamental consequences of that. Many, if not the majority, of the Germans have lived, not in one, but in two different spheres, in that of the state and that of their personal freedom. What may be right and necessary in one sphere, may be wrong in the other. A man has his convictions, but he may have to follow orders and laws compelling him to act exactly against such convictions. Both are right and go together as though it were a matter-of-course. To hate war, but to fight fanatically in war is perfectly normal. The Germans are extremely obedient in what traditionally is the sphere of the state, but may display an amazing resistance to what they think would be an encroachment on their own sphere of freedom. It is "yes" and "no" at the same time on the same issue. In terms of individual psychology it is a case of split personalities.

DEFINITIONS OF DEMOCRACY

The other consequence is again that the same words do not mean the same to an American and a German. The American being polled on the question of "democracy," thinks of the United States. The German, polled on the same question, is likely to think of a government elected at certain intervals by himself, but afterwards acting as an authoritarian regime, giving orders, showing the way, telling him what to think. A widespread popular definition of democracy in the twenties was that it represented "the best method to choose the right leaders." Or freedom may not only mean to a German the right of non-conformity, but also the loss of security and protection necessarily granted by any authoritarian regime which simply has to think and act for its subjects. An official is not the same kind of person in the

United States and in Germany. In America he is permitted to have the same shortcomings as anybody else; if he loses a minor document, such a thing can happen. If a German official loses the same document, he would not be respected, would be reported to the higher authority, and the consequences might be very unpleasant for him.

The differences are of course innumerable. A student, a university, even a house, or a car, mean different things to the Germans and the Americans. A man's suit is, to the majority of Americans, a ready-made, well-fitting suit. To the Germans it is either a badly-fitting, inexpensive, ready-made suit,

or an expensive, well-fitting suit made to order. Some of the conclusions are obvious. For example, a law that is not enforced or is turned against the law-breaker by those who have to carry it out is, in its long-range effects on the Germans, worse than no law at all. In general, those who say that Germans are the same as Americans are as wrong as those who say the Germans are completely different. A hungry stomach is a hungry stomach in both Nebraska and Bavaria, but on the less elementary level, there are great and important differences resulting from the different experiences of every-day-life over a period of hundreds of years.

MG-Civil Government Relationship

At the fifteenth meeting of the Laenderrat on 3 December, Maj. Gen. Frank A. Keating, Acting Deputy Military Governor congratulated the German people of the US Zone on the completion of their constitutional and representative elections and outlined the new relationship existing between the civil and military governments. "It should be understood," he said, "that changes shall occur not only in German government but also in the character of operation of Military Government. This evolution from your point of view is characterized largely by a tremendous increase in responsibility. Likewise, Military Government will change largely through a gradual decrease in its operating responsibilities. It would be manifestly absurd to entrust the people's government with greater responsibility if we did not intend to remove a number of Military Government controls."

The MG directive entitled "Relationships Between Military and Civil Government Subsequent to the Adoption of Land Constitutions" is now available for distribution to the Germans. Most of the restrictions contained in it which MG will continue to impose upon civil government are imperative and, for the present, will be limited to the following:

- a. All international agreements which have been or may be concluded regarding Germany;
- b. All present and future quadripartite

policies, decisions, laws and regulations;

- c. All basic policy decisions of the US-British Bipartite Board affecting the fields of central agencies;

- d. The rights of an occupying power under international law to maintain a military force within the Zone to preserve peace and order; to resume at any time full occupation powers in the event the purpose of the occupation is jeopardized;

- e. The maintenance of a democratic system of government in which:

- (1) Political power is recognized as originating with the people and subject to their control;

- (2) Political power is exercised by popularly elected representatives;

- (3) The basic rights of free men are recognized and guaranteed;

- (4) The rule of law is accepted as the individual's protection against a capricious government;

- (5) A reasonable separation of judiciary, legislature and executive control is maintained;

- (6) The powers of government are properly distributed between vital units of local government, effective state governments, and an effective but well-controlled federal organization.



PICTURE MAGAZINE FOR GERMANS

Even before the final smashing of the Nazi war machine was completed in the spring of 1945, a group of publications experts gathered at a conference table in London to plot the next phase of their work. They were members of the Publications Division of the Office of War Information and they had been helping to fight the war with their weapon — the power of the printed word.

Their new task was to create a tool to help win the peace — an illustrated magazine to be published and distributed in Germany. The aim was to bring to the German people the true facts about the world from which they had been shut off by Hitler for 13 years, and to help occupation authorities in informing the Germans of American policies and aims. Thus *Heute* — which means “Today” — was conceived and planned. It became an American illustrated maga-

zine published in the German language by the US Military Government.

After 14 months of publication, accomplishments in the magazine’s mission are evident in its widespread appeal to German readers, and in its consistent and objective presentation of the American point of view, balanced between articles and pictures. *Heute* is significantly important, not only in the democratic re-education of the German people, but also in establishing high standards for German magazines.

Projection of America is only part of the magazine’s mission. It tells of developments and events relevant to the task of creating a democratic Germany. It presents world news by words and pictures as well as opinions of leading personalities of many countries. It prints the critical views of its own readers. *Heute* also gives the German

people an opportunity to catch up on world events of the past 13 years. It provides a special appeal to women and youth through carefully chosen stories and illustrations reflecting their activities in the world at large, as well as in Germany. Articles by foreign authorities in the fields of literature, music, politics, science, and history are a steady feature. Occasionally there are articles written by Germans on relevant American policies.

HUMOR PART OF CONTENTS

Although the whole concept of *Heute's* task is predicated upon dignity and objectivity, humor is a vital part of its contents.

These principles were laid down by the Director of Information Control, OMGUS, who also stipulated that "*Heute* is to be directed to the broad reading public. Its appeal should be to the moderately intelligent and informed reader; its approach should not be narrowly specialist...."

An illustration of *Heute's* practical service to the German people was presented in its November 1st issue with a nine-page verbal and pictorial account of Germany's grave housing problem. It was the first time that the magazine had devoted as much space to any given problem in Germany, but the objectivity of the article justified its use.

VIRTUALLY SELF-SUSTAINING

Just as *Die Neue Zeitung* was born and developed in the plant of the infamous Goebbels journal, *Voelkischer Beobachter*, so *Heute* grew from the ruins of the once pretentious Munich structure. Most of the magazine's equipment is salvaged German machinery. And the sale of 400,000 copies of the magazine virtually pays *Heute's* costs, except such expenses as salaries for the small American staff and certain critically needed supplies.

Heute does not compete with licensed German magazine publishers. It primarily projects America in a vast publishing field far from saturation. It carries no advertising. It is circulated in all US occupied areas of

Germany and many copies of it are sent to the United States for official perusal.

It is the product of the Publishing Operations Branch, Information Control Division, Office of Military Government for Bavaria.

When *Heute* first appeared, it was a monthly magazine of 72 pages. With the March 1st issue, *Heute* became a semi-monthly and the number of pages was cut in half. Because of the current critical paper shortage it now has 28 pages.

Its first editor was Robert Hatch, who had published for OWI the highly successful magazines *Voir* and *Kijk* as well as other pamphlets and books used by Psychological Warfare Division of SHAEF during the war.

The magazine is now edited by Mr. Heinz Norden, a former US Army major, who has had wide experience in the magazine field, especially on the staff of the *Saturday Review of Literature*. Mr. Norden has also had newspaper reporting experience and is well known as a translator and writer. He is one of only four Americans on the *Heute* staff, supplemented by able and carefully chosen German civilians.

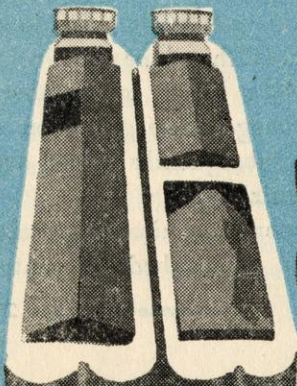
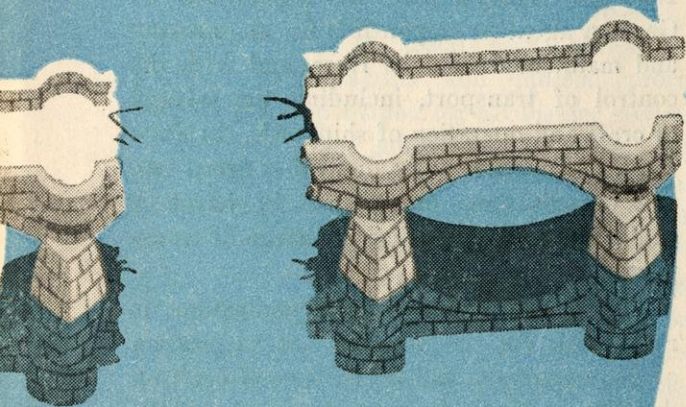
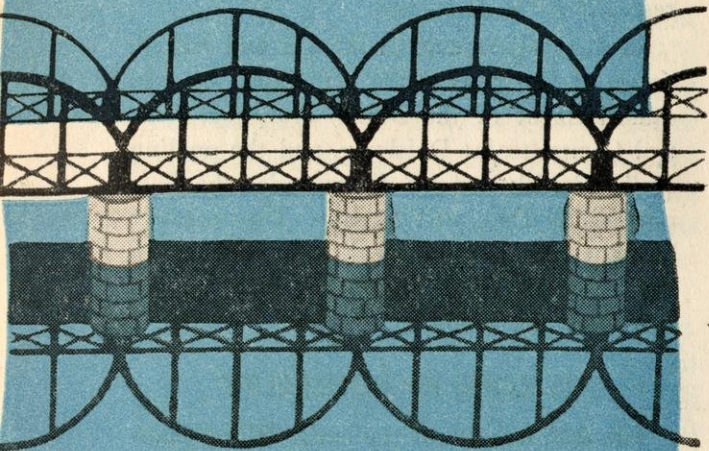
Fishing Craft

No German vessel may exceed a gross tonnage of 400 registered tons or a maximum length of 140 feet according to Allied Coordinating Committee Directive No. 44, pertaining to the Limitations of Characteristics of Fishing Craft Left to the Peace Economy of Germany. The directive provides that the top speed of any vessel in calm water while unloaded will be 12 knots or less while only vessels under 110 feet in length will be permitted to have Diesel engines.

All limitations apply to replacements for vessels now possessed by the German peace economy and to such existing vessels as the Control Council may decide. The designs and plans of all craft, bought, chartered or built, for the German fishing industry will be examined by the appropriate directorate of the Allied Control Authority, but not more than 10 vessels of more than 250 gross tons shall be built to any one design.

RHINE RIVER

COMMISSION



The Rhine River is once more ready for international navigation, ready to re-assume her historical importance in the job of rebuilding the economic prosperity of Central Europe. The barges and tugs that had lain along battered docks in May 1945 have been raised and restored to serviceable condition; the ruined cranes have been cannibalized to operate again; and wrecking crews have cut away wreckage and removed it from the river bed. Today, large transports of such products as lumber and coal move freely up and down the Rhine and Danube under the newly revived and reorganized international agencies.

PRINCIPLES ESTABLISHED IN 1814

The basic principles of freedom of navigation on the Rhine were set up in 1814 by the Congress of Vienna, which agreed that "the navigation of the Rhine shall be entirely free and shall not be forbidden in respect to commerce to anyone." During the intervening years these principles had prevailed except for brief interruptions during war periods. The Central Commission for the Rhine was established by the Mannheim Convention of 1668, and the Treaty of Versailles reconstituted and strengthened this Commission. On 14 November 1936, Germany notified the other Governments that they no longer considered the Versailles Treaty binding on German waterways, but the Commission continued to function without Germany until 1939.

It reconvened in the fall of 1945, and the United States accepted membership. The reorganized Commission consisted of delegates from France, the United Kingdom, the United States, Holland, Belgium, and Switzerland, with liaison officers from the US, British, and French Zones of Germany. The

commission had exercised a powerful influence on Rhine matters prior to the war, and soon exhibited considerable energy in regaining its position. In January, at a series of meetings in Brussels it re-examined the question of Rhine organizations and agreed to coordinate engineering with the Tripartite Engineering Committee at Eltville. Subcommittees to consider furnishing of fuel and rations to boatmen were organized and directed to meet in February.

BRITISH WORKING GROUP

In the fall of 1945, the British, realizing the need for coordination of shipping control at the principal Rhine coal ports, formed the Rhine Interim Working Committee at Duisburg. This organization was both interzonal and international in character. It had no formal interzonal status, but at the invitation of the British authorities, France, Belgium, Holland, and Switzerland sent missions to Duisburg. Representatives of these missions met with the working committee and entered into agreements relative to housing and feeding of boat crews and fueling of craft. The United States sent a permanent resident officer to Duisburg to participate in the discussions, which concerned channel capacities, the amount of freight which could be moved with available fleets, and other questions in addition to routine operations.

TRIPARTITE COMMITTEE FORMED

In October 1945, the Tripartite Engineering Committee of US, French, and British representatives was established at Eltville with authority to formulate priorities and coordinate all work pertaining to waterway construction, rehabilitation, and maintenance, and to collect and disseminate necessary data for all of the Rhine River and its tributaries lying within Germany. The chief engineer of the Interzonal Rhine Commission and the head of that commission's technical committee maintain constant liaison with the Tripartite Committee. Formal meetings are held monthly or semi-monthly, as required, and many informal meetings take place.

The Engineering Committee has achieved considerable success in the coordination of engineering work on the Rhine throughout Germany. In the US Zone, for example, the channel has been improved from the limiting clearances of 20 meters horizontal and 7 meters vertical above mean water existing on 1 January 1946 to 50 meters and 10 meters respectively as of 1 June.

In June operations in the US and British Zones of Germany were combined by the establishment of the Rhine Transport Control Committee at Duisburg, and the pooling of the British and US fleets under the German Rhine Transport Agency. This measure brought about substantial improvement in the efficiency with which the craft of the two fleets are used.

US ZONE RESPONSIBILITY

The maintenance of the entire Rhine channel from Maxau bridge (exclusive) to Bacharach is a US Zone responsibility, under the terms of an agreement signed with the French Military Authorities in Baden-Baden in September 1945. So the US Rhine Field Organization was created on 1 February 1946 and charged with the supervision of German agencies responsible for engineering and maintenance on the river, and with the control of transport, including the salvage of craft and operation of shipyards. In June 1946, its functions were divided between two new organizations, one of them in charge of engineering and the other in charge of transport.

The Rhine Engineering Organization is responsible for the clearing and restoration of the waterways and the salvage of craft on the Rhine. Under its control was placed *die Wasserstrassendirektion*, the German Engineering Organization in Eltville. Its jurisdiction at first included the Rhine and Neckar rivers and the Main river to Bamberg, though the Wuerzburg-Bamberg section of the latter river was subsequently turned over to the Danube Organization.

The Rhine Transport Organization, located in Wiesbaden, was established to control

(Continued on page 28)

Discipline of Civilian Employees

Administrative and Judicial Procedures Provided for in OMGUS Directive Listing Regulations Governing Discipline of Theater Civilian Employees

Regulations for the discipline of American, Allied, and other civilian employees in the European Theater are listed in OMGUS letter, AG 250.1 (PO), titled "Discipline of Civilian Employees" and dated 25 November 1946. Remarking that MG personnel are not thoroughly familiar with the various directives on this subject, the letter directs that this information be given wide dissemination among all MG personnel.

USFET Civilian Personnel Circular No. 14, dated 20 May 1946, with two subsequent changes, is cited as the basis of the OMGUS letter. This circular provides that all civilians in the occupied zones of Germany and Austria are subject to the jurisdiction of MG courts. In addition, civilians who are employed by US Forces in the European Theater may be within the jurisdiction of US Army courts-martial.

TYPES OF DISCIPLINARY ACTION

Two kinds of disciplinary action — administrative action and judicial procedures — are provided for all theater civilian employees. The administrative action may be informal, which is a verbal reprimand usually administered by the supervisor for minor offenses, and it may be formal, which is a written reprimand. The latter is used when a record is desired, when verbal reprimands have been ineffective, when employment is being suspended, or when removal is unavoidable. It is administered by the civilian personnel officer.

Concerning judicial procedures, policies are specified for governing the discipline of civilian employees who may commit offenses too serious to be dealt with by administrative methods. For civilians of US nationality who are subject to provisions of the Articles of War, the following are listed:

1. While generalizations as to the appli-

cability of Par (d), Article of War 2, cannot be made, civilians of US nationality employed by US Forces in the European Theater are normally subject to the jurisdiction of US Army courts-martial. Cases in which subordinate commanders may be in doubt as to the amenability of a civilian employee of US nationality of court-martial jurisdiction will be referred to USFET Headquarters.

COURT-MARTIAL FINAL RECOURSE

2. Except as noted below, every effort will be made to maintain discipline by administrative measures before recourse is had to court-martial procedure.

3. Within the discretion of local commanders, and to avoid undesirable preferential treatment of civilians over military personnel, minor offenses, except traffic violations, committed by civilians of US nationality may be tried by inferior courts-martial or may be disposed of by administrative action. Traffic violations within the US occupied zone of Germany will be handled by MG courts.

4. If, and only if, an offense is so serious that a sentence to imprisonment in excess of six months, in addition to any fine imposed, appears probable upon conviction, may trial by general court-martial be directed.

CIVILIANS OF NON-US NATIONALITY

For civilians of non-US nationality, the following points are listed:

1. Offenses committed by civilian employees of German or other enemy nationality will be referred to appropriate MG authorities for trial by MG court or for such other disposition as may be deemed advisable.

2. Offenses committed by United Nations displaced persons, or those assimilated to

them in status, in the employ of US Forces, will be referred by the officer exercising general court-martial jurisdiction to the appropriate MG authorities for trial by MG court, or such other disposition will be made as he may deem advisable, subject to existing policies governing the exercise of jurisdiction over displaced persons.

3. Offenses, except traffic violations, committed by civilian employees of Allied or neutral nationality, other than displaced persons, in occupied Germany or Austria or in the territory of an Allied government other than their own, will be referred to USFET Headquarters for instructions as to disposition. Traffic violations within the US occupied zone of Germany will be handled by MG courts.

4. Indigenous civilians employed by US Forces in the territory of an ally will be treated as subject to the exclusive juris-

dition of the tribunals of the country concerned.

5. No civilian employee of other than US nationality will be tried by US Army court-martial without authorization from USFET Headquarters.

The OMGUS letter includes the USFET directive, AG 230.741 GAP-AGQ, dated 16 September 1946, concerning the "designation of military authorities for handling of military personnel traffic cases and Military Government courts for trial of civilian traffic violations." This directive also specifies that US and Allied nationals will not be confined in a German prison.

Attached to the OMGUS letter is the "Table of Standard Penalties" as provided under War Department Civilian Personnel Regulation 60.12. For first, second, and third offenses, the penalties vary from reprimand or one-day suspension to removal.

Survey Reveals German Eating Habits

Attempting to determine the actual food intake and food consumption habits of persons in large cities, investigators of the Bavarian Ministry for Food, Agriculture, and Forests have conducted surveys in the past four months in Munich, Nuremberg, and Augsburg.

Investigators inventoried stocks of household food once each week. Housewives kept a detailed record of all incoming food-stuffs. Total food disappearance was calculated, then related to the authorized food ration to determine quantities being obtained from illegal sources. While the survey was not completely reliable, it did reveal several pertinent facts about the present food situation.

It was found in practically every case that food consumption was greatest in the first week of the ration period when consumers tended to eat more than the week's allotted rations. Food consumption decreased during the second and third week, and in the fourth week, consumption was often below the week's authorized rations.

Another interesting slant on the food problem revealed by the survey was the fact that parents with several children oftentimes do not eat enough, as they give a considerable part of their rations to the children.

Average consumption in excess of the official ration was reported to be between 100 and 150 calories per day, mostly obtained from fruits and vegetables.

Distribution of scarce items was found to be frequently unstable. It was revealed that some items were not available in all stores, and that some cities received food items which came late, or not at all, to other cities. Some working-class families were found to be unable to buy expensive American items, such as fruit juice, because their income was not great enough.

Most-frequently-heard complaint was about the low fat ration. The absence of an adequate fat supply seemed to be the single most distressing aspect of food morale.

— From *The Bavarian*



MG Adopts New Procedure For Denazification Supervision

A new procedure designed to provide a uniform system for supervision of the operation of German denazification tribunals in the US Zone was announced by Public Safety Branch, Internal Affairs and Communications Division, OMGUS.

The procedure, based on tribunal supervision worksheets, is expected to bring closer relationship between public prosecutors and Special Branch denazification officers in the field by providing for a series of regular meetings between Special Branch officers and public prosecutors. Through the new worksheets Special Branch officers will be able to keep themselves informed of action taken during each successive stage of the proceedings including investigation, charge, hearing, and finding. In this manner errors will be able to be discovered at the earliest stage and corrected prior to final decision of the tribunal.

In the new procedure public prosecutors will submit worksheets compiled from Meldebogen of suspected persons to the Special Branch Office which will prepare from it and other evidence available a tribunal supervision worksheet on which will be recorded pertinent data concerning the person charged as well as the presumptive category to which Special Branch assigns him. The supervisory worksheet will be held in suspense during tribunal proceedings, at the end of which public prosecutor charges and tribunal findings will be entered on it.

If after trial Special Branch authorities find the result of the trial erroneous, or that the accused did not present proper defense, that the tribunal made improper follower findings, or that mandatory sanctions were not imposed, the Special Branch Officer will discuss the errors with the public prosecutor and suggest changes.

In case the Special Branch Officer and the public prosecutor cannot agree on the disposition of a particular case, the case and pertinent papers will be forwarded to the Land Military Government Denazification Office. The Land Denazification Office will forward the case to the Land Minister of Political Liberation for corrective action and will retain a copy of the tribunal supervision worksheet in suspense. The Minister of Political Liberation can refer the case to a tribunal for corrective action or a new trial, but any action taken must be acceptable to Military Government within the limitations of the Law for the Liberation from National Socialism and Militarism.

This system will provide a check on every Spruchkammer or other German tribunal case tried and will assure that decisions and penalties arrived at during proceedings are acceptable to Military Government. MG officials stress that although the new system will mean a closer check on German denazification activities, it does not mean that Military Government is again assuming denazification proceedings, which will remain a German function under MG supervision.

Film Producers Licensed

Ten German films producers have received the first licenses from MG authorizing the resumption of movie production in the US Zone. Two film studios, one at Tempelhof in Berlin and the other at Geiselgasteig near Munich, will be available for movie production early in 1947 although the property is under control of MG, being former Reich property.

Film production will be limited to nine films per year by both studios because of the shortage of raw film, but synchronization of US films into the German language will continue on a large scale. At present *Suspicion* is being synchronized in Berlin

while *Keys of the Kingdom* and *You Can't Take it With You* are being worked on in Munich.

Export-Import Program

President Truman has approved the import-export program agreed upon by OMG-US and the US Commercial Company at conferences held in Berlin last month. Under the terms of the agreement, the US Commercial Company, a subsidiary of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, will make commodity advances in the amount of \$7,750,000 to Military Government for the purpose of importing needed materials for specific export programs. The import commodities will include ceramics, light machinery, optics, basic chemicals, cement and building materials, and handicraft and miscellaneous items.

Mr. Allen, a member of the Board of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, summed up results of the conferences with the statement that the new arrangement did not contemplate the making of a loan for the rehabilitation of German industry but that the facilities and services of the US Commercial Company would be available to OMGUS for the procurement of raw materials needed for the development of consumer goods and export industries in the US Zone.

Postal Service Extended

International postal service was recently extended to include international non-transactional commercial correspondence as an addition to the categories already authorized by MG.

Although introduction of non-transactional correspondence will afford a more lenient policy, certain restrictions must be observed: subject matter is limited to the exchange of information and the ascertainment of facts, the closing of business deals and contracts is prohibited, and correspondence relative to German external assets, even if only of a simple informational character, is barred.

International mail service, which was in-

augurated 1 April 1946 between Germany and all other countries excluding Japan and her dependencies, and Spain, reached a volume of more than 4,500,000 pieces during October. Correspondence is presently restricted to non-illustrated postcards and letters up to 20 grams in weight, and the content must be of a purely personal or domestic nature.

* * *

One-way air mail service from Poland to Germany was given quadripartite approval on request of the Polish Postal Administration. The Polish government plans to dispatch flights from Warsaw to Berlin on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, departing from Warsaw at 0830 hours and arriving in Berlin at 1600 hours the same date. All mail will be routed through Postamt 7 in Berlin for distribution by the Reichspost in the four occupied zones of Germany.

Xmas Sugar Ration

An extra sugar ration of 250 grams (approximately half a pound) will be issued as a Christmas present to all German children and juveniles between the ages of 1 and 20 in the US Zone. Although the issuance of an extra Christmas food ration would be impossible under present conditions, the proposed extra sugar ration can be allocated without endangering the general supply situation. Approximately 875 tons of sugar will be required to meet this extra Christmas ration.

Reduction in Prisoners

The number of prisoners in the US Zone has decreased by 787 this month, slightly alleviating the problem of overcrowded conditions in the prisons. The ratio of prison population to normal capacity has dropped by nine percent since last August when the institutions were filled to 114.5 percent of normal capacity. The special Christmas commutation of sentences by the Military Governor will further reduce the number of prisoners next month by 15 percent.

US ZONE MG ACTIVITIES

Out of approximately 900,000 acres of forest, meadow, and pasture land estimated as available for reclamation for crop use in the US Zone, about 500,000 acres have been selected by the Laenderrat for a five-year program of land conversion. About two-thirds of all cultivated land in the US Zone is in need of strip consolidation in order to maximize production. It is planned that by the end of 1951 about 10 percent of this consolidation will have been effected.

Representatives of the Inter-Governmental Committee on Refugees are making a survey of the field in Germany and Austria to determine administrative requirements in order to carry out the mission of immigration and the resettlement of displaced persons.

FOOD MOVEMENTS RESUMED

The bulk food movements which had been frozen at Bremen pending a decision as to the distribution within the US and British Zones have now been released, and food movements to the US Zone, Berlin, and the British Zone have been resumed.

In some instances, Reichsbahn rolling stock repair shops are working on Sundays, for which workers are furnished additional rations. Sunday work has proved successful under this plan, with production in several instances above average week-day work. The percentage of unserviceable freight cars remains at 26 percent and of locomotives at 60 percent. However, the percentage of unserviceable passenger cars has dropped to 45 percent of the total.

The consumption of electric power in the US Zone remains high at 122.6 million KWH. Generation from hard coal at 36 percent of the total is now double what it was eight weeks ago, while generation from brown coal remains around 10 percent. Hydrogeneration has declined to 44 percent and net imports to 10 percent.

OMGUS has obtained a 7,750,000 dollar commodity advance for a period of one year

from the US Commercial Company, which in turn received it from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. Industries for which export programs are intended are basic chemicals, light machinery and optics, construction materials, ceramics, and handicraft.

IMPORTS FROM CZECHOSLAVAKIA

A shipment of brown coal worth 113,000 dollars was bought from Czechoslovakia for December and January delivery, half for steel production and half for public utilities in plants along the US Zone border. An option was exercised to buy an additional 220,000 dollars worth of Czech coal and 224,000 dollars of clay and kaolin for the ceramics program.

Over 34 percent of all claims filed to date in the US Zone have been partially or entirely located, and of these, 76 percent have been partially or entirely delivered. Converters and transformers were returned recently to the Netherlands, lathes to Belgium, and other industrial machinery to France. Paintings, sculpture, and furniture also were returned to France, and books to Netherlands.

PARCELS FOR BERLIN DP CAMPS

Arrangements have been completed whereby displaced persons residing in DP camps within the US Sector of Berlin may receive through Army Postal System channels from the United States one gift relief parcel per week until such time as gift relief parcel post service is opened to all of Germany.

Seven US-licensed newspapers in Wuerttemberg-Baden were linked with DANA bureaus in Stuttgart, Heidelberg, and Nuremberg by teleprinters to assure news flow during the emergency caused by the destruction of the Hellschreiber transmitter at Bad Vilbel. Total circulation of the 43 licensed newspapers in the US Zone is 4,159,607.

EXCERPTS FROM OFFICIAL INSTRUCTIONS

Pertinent excerpts from official instructions are printed for the benefit of our readers. Official copies of the quoted circulars, letters, and directives may be obtained by writing to the originating headquarters.

Change in Communications

Communications personnel of the three Land Offices of Military Government were transferred to OMGUS on 1 December under provisions, AG 311 (IA), titled "Reorganization of Military Government for Control of German Civil Communications and Posts," dated 23 November 1946.

The letter says: "Effective 1 December 1946 the personnel of Communications Branch, I. A. & C. Division, OMG Bavaria; PTT Branch, Transportation Division, OMG Wuerttemberg-Baden, and PTT Division OMG Greater Hesse will be transferred to Communications Branch, I. A. & C. Division, OMGUS.

"Land Offices of Military Government will have no responsibility for control, direction, and/or supervision of any service rendered and/or activity performed by the *Deutsche Post*, except that imposed by directive to Special Branch, OMG Bavaria, and Denazification Division, OMG of the other Laender, relating to spot check of personnel of all German agencies on matters of denazification . . .

"In discharging the responsibilities for observation, inspection, and certain liaison activities Communications Branch personnel (PTT Officers) will normally be stationed at *Postdirektion* (Deutsche Post administrative area) headquarters to perform functions as specified by the Chief, Communications Branch, OMGUS . . ."

The functions include duties as consultant, adviser, liaison, observation, inspection, and reporting violations in connections with communications operations. The PTT officers in the field are to be on detached service from OMGUS headquarters.

Transfer of Expellees

Suspension of the transfer of expellees into the US Zone of Germany has been effected by cable V-10164 dated 8 November 1946 and will remain in effect until orders to the contrary.

As stated in the cable, "a complete survey has been made in the US Zone of Germany and it has been determined that it is not possible to accept German minorities in a humane and orderly manner during the winter months."

Housing Checks

In order to maintain a more positive check on the ratio of German civilians per sleeping room, USFET has issued recommendations to community commanders, as contained in a directive of that headquarters AG 620 GDS-AGO dated 16 October 1946.

The directive states, "It is desired that community commanders, in coordination with local Military Government officers, verify the ratio of German civilians per sleeping room by means of occasional spot checks. Reported overcrowding of German civilians, without verification of the reported condition, should not be taken as a bar to requisitioning additional facilities for military purposes."

Fingerprinting

German civilian police are now required to make two full sets of fingerprints of all unidentified bodies to determine the possibility of their being the bodies of American citizens in Germany. The USFET directive, AG 200.2 IA, 9 Nov., 1946, "Fingerprinting of Unidentified Bodies," further directs that if the cause of death is not readily determinable, an autopsy will be performed.

As stated in the directive, "One set of fingerprints and a report of autopsy, if performed, will be forwarded through Public Safety Branch, OMGUS, to the Theater Provost Marshal, USFET, APO 757, attention, Identification Branch."



Comment on Denazification and Food Dominate Licensed Press

The questions of food and denazification continue to be the most important topics for editorial comment in the German licensed press in the US Zone, according to an analysis by the Office of the Director of Information Control, OMGUS.

Under the title of "Things Cannot Continue Like This," the **Fraenkische Nachrichten** (Tauberbischofsheim) said: "Do you think that it can really continue like this — that shopkeepers exchange their goods among themselves, that the butcher receives shirts for meat which he received from the tobacco dealer who exchanged them for tobacco with a wine dealer who in turn received them for wine from a factory? Or do you think it can go on that the Nazis don't lift a finger to remove the debris left from their 1000-year Reich, sit around laughing behind their hands at the ridiculous penalties which they receive from the Denazification Boards with the help of character testimonials?"

Pointing to the connection between hunger and morals, the **Sueddeutsche Zeitung** (Munich) said, "It is not at all true that those who are hungry are also thieves. But where there is hunger the thieves increase. . . . Thanks to American supplementary rations, conditions in the American Zone are still far and away the best."

The **Mittelbayerische Zeitung** (Regensburg), after referring to the former German territory cut off by the Oder-Neisse line, said, "When this population was transferred to the remaining German territory all hopes collapsed that Germany would only have to survive the winter of 1945-46 and then it would go uphill. Now optimists have become scarce, and there are no longer many who dare to tell the German people that if they only hold out this winter, the situation will

improve."

Commenting on attacks on denazification and other difficulties concerning Germany made at a recent session of the Constitutional Assembly in Stuttgart, the **Fraenkische Nachrichten** said, "If the world and the Germans differ as to who was and who wasn't Nazi, then the Germans may very well be right, but the result of such mulish insistence is only too foreseeable. . . . We have the impression that the tone used at the parliamentary meeting in Stuttgart was a grave mistake with the probable result that the desired end has become remote.

"If the leaders thought that criticism by the occupation power ought to be answered by counter-criticism of a law that they themselves have signed, then their way of thinking remains incomprehensible. If one approves of the law, then one carries it out loyally. But if one regards it unsatisfactorily, then it is not honest to change the law by twisting it in execution."

Lessons from the Past

The British licensed **Telegraf** described an incident in the S-Bahn in Berlin to show that the Germans haven't learned yet from the past. According to the paper, a French woman who had formerly been in a concentration camp met in the S-Bahn a former concentration camp guard woman who was still wearing her uniform. Upon upbraiding her for this, the French woman was verbally set upon by the other people on the train.

"By siding with this former KZ guard these people showed how certain people disregard the lessons of the past," declared the paper, stating that these people consciously put themselves against the views of the majority of the Berlin population. Noting that today much is said about reaction, the paper declared: "This shameful S-Bahn incident showed an outspoken reactionary

character.”

The paper pointed out that this incident is sympathetic and that one could draw conclusions about it which would be applicable to feelings all over Germany. In conclusion the paper warned the Berliners to show more discipline and more understanding for the reasons to which they owe the present calamity, for this is the most rapid way to gain the world's confidence which is needed for Germany's future.

Constitution Draft

The *Stuttgarter Zeitung* in praising the draft of the constitution for Wuerttemberg-Baden said, “It is true that we all have troubles today which concern us more deeply than does a fine constitution. But in spite of that, it would be false, if we were to be indifferent or hostile. The constitution, it is true, cannot provide more potatoes or a warm room, but our future work and life depend on the existence of such a fundamental for our community life.”

German Peace Treaty

Speaking over the Radio Berlin's “Tribune of Democracy” program, intendant Max Seydewitz advised that the Germans have a chance to influence the peace treaty by proving they are eligible for one.

He pointed out that a Germany which is freed from Nazism and militarism and which has proved her reliable democracy and peaceful spirit will achieve a better peace treaty than one which is not denazified nor democratized. He further contended that when the great majority of Germans declare themselves for an undivided German republic, this too will have much influence on the victors.

At the same time he warned against trying to divide the Allies, for “in their interests the German people must fight any speculation on disagreement amongst the victor powers.” Seydewitz pointed out that behind such speculation stands the desire to cor-

rect the horrible results of the miserable Hitler war by a third world war.

European Socialism

In an editorial stressing the inevitability of socialization for Europe, the French-licensed *Kurier* contended that those economic branches should be socialized which have been fully developed and thereby have become the property of everyone. At the same time the paper found socialization dangerous when it is applied to those branches which are still in the process of development and must be pushed on by private initiative. The paper advocated that the railroads, postal service, and canal system be run by the state.

Citing the need for socialization of public utilities, the paper declared that mines should be treated in the same manner. The paper rejected socialization for the chemical and pharmaceutical industries and those industries which “demand good quality.” As an example of the latter the paper named textiles, paper and leather.

After outlining the means of state control of those industries it deems fit for socialization, the paper concluded the measures taken in this respect should not obstruct a uniform settlement for all of Germany.

Constitutional Elections

Following the constitutional elections in Wuerttemberg-Baden, the *Fraenkische Nachrichten* (Tauberbischofsheim) was critical of some political activities before the elections. It said: “Now that the electoral contest is passed, the press has the duty to criticize in all objectivity the destructive methods that were used, methods that not only are apt to choke off democracy and to demonstrate that the German people are not mature enough for democracy The parties have not only besmirched what is sacred to others but have disregarded the most primitive rules of mutual respect, civility, common decency The electoral battle has returned to political life the atmosphere of the immediate pre-Nazi period.”



Necessity of Economic Unity Emphasized by US Newspapers

Recent editorial comment in the US press on the German problem reiterated the need for stabilization of the German economy, and criticized the lack of progress in carrying out the Potsdam Agreement to administer all of Germany as a single economic unit. Some papers also underlined German apathy towards denazification as a danger to establishment of a peaceful democratic Germany.

The **New York Times** said in part: "While negotiations for a peace treaty with Germany still mark time, it is increasingly clear that the present Allied regime has reduced that country to a political and economic vacuum. For Germans this has meant hunger, which in turn is undermining the whole process of their democratization. For the rest of Europe it has meant continued dislocation, dangerous delay in recovery and political and economic reorientation the ultimate consequences of which cannot be foreseen. For American taxpayers it has meant an extra expenditure of about one billion dollars a year.

"How the situation might have saved itself by this time if the Potsdam Agreement to administer Germany as a single economic unit had been carried out it is difficult to say. The point is that the Potsdam Agreement has not been carried out . . .

"A military regime such as is now ruling Germany is not the best means for utilizing the energies of a people. American Military Government has frankly acknowledged this by turning as much government and authority over to the Germans as possible . . . Whether the present system of control in Germany was the best available in the circumstance is for history to judge. But the brief history of that system has already demonstrated that the only way of converting Germany from a cancer into an asset is to turn the country back to the Germans themselves — under

proper Allied supervision as long as that is necessary. The only way this can be done is to follow the program mapped out by Byrnes — to establish a German government and make peace with it."

The **Washington Post**: "The Potsdam plan has in large measure been honored only in the breach, and reexamination of problems is thus in order. First essential step must be unification of the four zones."

The **Detroit News**: "The truly fatal aspect of Allied policy up to the present hour is that it can only end by destroying itself. The more that Germany is dismantled for the sake of reparations, the less becomes the chance for German maintenance.

"No Allied spokesman has yet explained how peace can come from despair whereby we can lead a people to democracy without first giving them a decent chance for life. If recent history teaches us anything, it is that political extremism feeds on chaos and democracy progresses only where there is relative economic stabilization."

In a subsequent editorial, the **Detroit News** said: "The problem of a settlement for Germany and of establishing a rational basis for world peace are indivisible and statesmen who reject this view to serve any national end are simply piling up misery for all of humanity."

The **San Francisco Chronicle** warning that the German Military dream is not yet dead, said: "One towering folly, as the rest of the world inches along the rocky path of peace, would be to tolerate revival of any amount of relative power which would feed the German dream."

Critical of denazification progress the **Louisville Courier Journal** said: "The key to the difficulty lies in the German character. These people have been trained to follow a leader, blindly without question. They therefore admit no individual responsibility for the evil which fell upon Germany under the

Nazi regime.”

Charlotte Observer: The tendency of Germans to absolve the Nazis has cast grave doubt of the ability of the German people to govern themselves within a democratic system . . . If German tribunals will stop reinstating Nazis who have been screened out by American authorities and will go about the denazification program in earnest, they may yet win the right to self government. Actual denazification must be insisted upon by American authorities to prevent the rise of another military state in Germany.”

Purpose of UNESCO

The **Baltimore Sun** in an editorial on the opening of the first general conference of UNESCO (United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization) in Paris today, pointed to the importance of that meeting in furthering the organization's approach to peace through the promotion of greater respect and knowledge among men and nations.

The **Sun** said in part: “The purpose of UNESCO has been clearly summarized in a report of its Preparatory Commission which points out that in addition to ‘the creation of machinery to stop war when international crises arise’ — that is, the United Nations — there is another approach to peace.

“Continuous cultivation of a society in which crises are not so likely to occur, in which farsighted concern for human welfare has first priority, and mutual respect and understanding among nations are strengthened.

“The UNESCO constitution's preamble succinctly declares the view of its founders: ‘Since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defenses of peace must be constructed.’ In short, it aims at attacking the problem of peace by improving men's knowledge of each other and their various cultures, ideas and traditions. The old League of Nations also had its international committee on intellectual cooperation, set up in 1922 . . . just as the

United Nations is better, or least more strongly planned than the League so UNESCO appears to have a broader program than any the committee worked on. The Paris meeting may largely determine its future usefulness.”

World Food Relief

American newspapers, analyzing the world food relief problem after UNRRA ends its work, express differing viewpoints as to the US proposal that future food aid be handled by “simple and direct” methods rather than by a new international agency supplanting UNRRA.

They recognized the necessity for further US contributions in supplies and money, and express agreement with the statement of US delegate Adlai Stevenson before the United Nations last week that this country has always done its part in alleviating world suffering.

The **Washington Star**, in discussing the US proposal, said the plan really represents “a desire to make sure that from now on — whether our aid is extended on a national or international basis — the recipient governments will not accept it with one hand and beat us over the head with the other.”

The **Star** continued: “In short, all we seek is common decency in international relations. No matter what Mr. Gromyko or others may say, there is no question here of playing politics with the hungry. Insinuations to that effect do violence to a record eloquent of the fact that America, in keeping with its abundance, has never failed to respond promptly and generously to the cries of distress everywhere in the world.”

The **New York Times** stated that “three sound principles have emerged as a guide to future action. First, there will have to be a continuation of relief, it will have to be on a large scale and the United States, as the nation in the best position to do so, will have to carry the chief burden . . . we cannot be either safe or prosperous in a world threatened by starvation . . . the second principle

is . . . that we should not, and cannot afford to apply a political test to the distribution of American aid . . . The third principle goes hand in hand with the second . . . We cannot permit others to use aid for their own political advantage . . . American food, when it is sent abroad, is intended to feed the hungry and not to consolidate unstable governments in power.

Thus, concluded the **Times**, it is right and the duty of US to "insist that those governments which wish to receive our supplies in the future grant us in turn the opportunity to supervise the control and distribution of these supplies at every stage . . . If this can be done more efficiently — as seems likely — through direct action by an entirely American agency distributing American aid than by an international group with less clearly defined authority and responsibility, then this is an argument for the direct method."

The **New York Herald Tribune**, disapproving the "direct aid" method outlined by Stevenson, said "this step marks a reversion to national settlements in place of international cooperation . . . This method opens the US to the suspicion that its program may become, as Mr. LaGuardia puts it, one of buying loyalty with baskets of food. No denial of intention to use it for that purpose will serve wholly to allay that suspicion. We believe it is an unwise step."

Freedom of Information Media

Several newspapers and commentators, noting the action of the UN Assembly Committee in recommending by a 41-0 vote the calling of an international conference on freedom of information in the press, radio, and motion picture fields, endorsed the proposal.

"Agreement in that proposal," said the **Philadelphia Inquirer**, "is an encouraging sign that this great issue is at last getting the world attention it needs. This newspaper approves heartily of the statement in the Committee's resolution that freedom of information is 'the touchstone of all the freedoms to which the United Nations is con-

secrated.' . . . If this subject is as important as the social-cultural committee thinks it is — and there's no doubt on that point — it should be made a major project in the General Assembly's agenda."

Commentator **Cecil Brown**: "The conference is a good idea for the simple reason that there is a great need for more freedom of people to know what is going on in other countries."

Noting that the purpose of the conference would be to formulate views concerning rights, obligations, and practices which should be included in the concept of freedom of information, the **Boston Post** said in part: "So far so good. It has long been agreed among experts that full freedom of information and news between the various countries would go far toward keeping the people of each country properly informed of developments in other countries and thus would brush aside the kind of vicious propaganda which breeds distrust and subsequent wars . . ."

Unification of Armed Forces

The **Washington Post** feels that the victory of the Republican party in last month's election brings with it the hope that a Republican Congress will be able to bring about the unification of the armed forces. "Some of the bitterest foes of unification have now been displaced," the **Post** states. "Others are no longer in vital chairmanships. Thus the way is open for the Republican majority to push through the vital measure. To our way of thinking the most compelling argument for unification is not economy. Rather it is national security — how to obtain a defense now or can we obtain it under existing conditions? In a pointed Armistice Day speech, Gen. George C. Kenney, answered this with a resounding 'no!' 'From the viewpoint of national security, the present situation is not only dangerous but it invites disaster.' General Kenney asserts. 'No sound planning, no sensible policy, no consistent action is possible under the prevailing structure.' We agree."

recommend politically reliable persons to fill the places of Nazis dismissed from German public administration. Ever since the German Law of Liberation from National Socialism and Militarism has been in effect, the trade unions have continued to campaign for a thorough denazification which they believe has only partially been carried out by the German tribunals. The part which the unions have played to root out these elements which brought so much misery to Germany and the world, and which, if permitted to continue, would seriously threaten the effort to rebuild a democratic Germany, has been commended by MG.

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Recognizing the importance of the re-education of German youth, the trade unions have initiated education programs for young workers. One of the most ambitious projects to date has been the trade union leadership school near Garmisch which is supported by the Bavarian trade unions. Since its establishment seven courses of two weeks duration each have been offered. Approximately 35 young men and women, drawn from all parts of Bavaria, have attended each course and have been given an opportunity to learn about and to discuss freely the positions of trade unions in a democratic economy. Specialized courses are given by trade union leaders and officials of the German Land government. During the period of instruction, the students are remunerated for their loss of pay.

SPONSOR YOUTH GROUPS

Perhaps even more important has been the formation of youth groups sponsored by the trade union movement. At Land trade union youth conferences during October in Wuerttemberg-Baden and Greater Hesse, the delegates showed a readiness to participate in trade union work and a deep understanding of the special problems of young workers. In addition, since August trade unions have had an important medium of expression

through the three semi-monthly Land union publications which have contained articles of high quality dealing not only with trade union problems but with the democratic tasks of German society in general.

In a country where the barest minimum of food, clothing, and shelter exist, the trade unions have offered guidance to the working population. Throughout the Zone trade unions have waged vigorous campaigns to ensure the enforcement of price control. In Nuremberg, for example, committees consisting of trade union and distributor representatives have been set up in every police precinct to cooperate with the price control authorities.

Trade unions have also become the voice of labor to government and have made several proposals on social legislation. They have also initiated Works Council elections which provide all employees in individual establishments with representatives to participate in the settlement of grievances and in negotiations with employers regarding plant work rules.

WAGE STABILIZATION POLICY

In view of the threat of inflation, the Allied Control Authority has maintained wage stabilization which in effect has meant a wage freeze. Recently, however, amendments to this policy were made to permit wage adjustments necessary to correct inequalities. Under this modification trade unions may negotiate the amount of the wage increase within the range set by the ACA.

The appeal of the unions to the German workers and employees in the US Zone can be indicated by the increase in membership during the past nine months.

In determining objectives and dangers in present-day German trade unions, it is necessary to examine the part played by the unions in past history. Bismarck, for example, realized that the existing trade unions menaced the stranglehold which the Prussian Junkers and the militarists were clamping on the political throat of the

nation. Therefore, he introduced certain social reforms that were aimed at decreasing the appeal of labor unions to the working population. This has happened repeatedly in the history of the German unions, and this factor is of vital concern to those persons who are interested in the trade unions as one of the vehicles for establishing democratic processes in Germany.

After the fall of Germany in 1918, the new Weimar republic placed into its constitution guarantees designed to foster union development. From that time on, the German trade union membership became numerically one of the most powerful in the world. Due to its great numbers, it was able to ward off many of the encroachments of the Nazi Party between 1928 and 1933 when that party was rapidly gaining so many adherents among government officials, farmers, and business men.

GRAVE INHERENT DEFECT

However, the ability of the trade unions to combat Nazism was seriously hampered by a grave inherent defect. It was a case of the members and leaders of the unions placing too much faith upon presumed legal rights and their written constitutions. The average German, who relied so implicitly on law and order and authority, could not conceive that some ruthless dictator might (and did) take these very institutions and use them for their destruction. Furthermore, the labor movement at the time consisted of three major national federations which were closely identified with political parties. The emphasis which they placed on party political programs and their failure to reach agreement through democratic expression left them powerless to counteract the dangers of Nazism.

When Hitler was appointed Chancellor by von Hindenburg, the unions then were relying on a solution through legal and constitutional means. This illusion was promptly shattered by one of Hitler's tricks. It happened on May Day in 1933, for many years the traditional holiday for German workers.

The Nazis planned for big events, just as usual, and hundreds of thousands of workers came out to celebrate. This gave Hitler the opportunity to spot and arrest all labor leaders whom he considered injurious to his cause. This done, it was relatively simple for him to smash the largest of the German labor federations immediately and finish up with the rest of the movement soon afterwards.

GERMAN LABOR FRONT

In their place, he set up a new organization called the "German Labor Front" which was not a free labor union but rather an arm of the Nazi party whose function was to control German workers and to accelerate the Nazi war machine. Here was an example of a society being dispossessed of its democratic expression through a deliberately imposed program of "social welfare." The German workers were not permitted to participate in the determination of the policies or program of the Labor Front, even though Hitler saw to it that there were paid vacations and pleasure boats for those who did as they were told. Most of the outstanding labor leaders who had recognized these dangers were placed in concentration camps where they died from torture or by execution..

PROBLEMS FACING UNIONS

The problems which surround the reestablishment and growth of German trade unions are twofold. The first, the narrower problem, is concerned with developing organizations which are responsible to the wishes of their individual members. The workers must be given an opportunity to participate in determining such policies as wage scales, hours, and working conditions. The second, or broader consideration, is that of giving the unions a chance to take part in the solution of the major economic problems of Germany — those problems which are concerned with the establishment of a peaceful economy providing the minimum necessity of life and the opportunity for Germany to take a respected place among the free nations of the world.

FORUM OF THE AIR *(Continued from page 7)*

young people in all parts of Germany, when it was debated in Esslingen. The opinions expressed were both strong and varied. A part of the general opinion gathered from listener reaction held that the youth were not responsible because they had never had a chance to know any political philosophy other than National Socialism. Some said that the parents and teachers were responsible. Still others contended that the youth were responsible and that the pageantry of Nazism had blinded them to all reason.

EQUALITY FOR WOMEN?

Another question that resulted in one of the best Forums held yet was "Are women capable of holding equal positions in political life or not?" The majority of listeners seemed to feel that women are capable of holding political positions and expressed the thought that Germany must use women in government and industry to an increasingly greater degree than before. The reaction to

the Forum held in Ulm on the question "Is the Nuremberg verdict just and will it influence denazification?" was strong against the acquittals of von Papen, Fritzsche and Schacht.

ENTHUSIASM FOR FREE SPEECH

To the question of "Should all party members, without exception, be excluded from leading positions in reconstruction?" the Forum seemed generally to agree that if the persons in question had knowingly entered the party for personal gain, they should now be denied office in deference to those who knowingly stayed out. Another successful Forum question was "Do we have a moral responsibility to assimilate expellees into our communities or not?" Even though it remains to be seen exactly what the consensus of opinion is and how sincerely it has been expressed, it is a plain fact that today, in spite of themselves, the Germans are enthusiastic about free speech. It is a hopeful sign.

RHINE RIVER COMMISSION. *(Continued from page 14)*

Rhine river traffic and shipyard operations, which are actually performed by German organizations. A freight rate board for the Zone has been organized and coordinated with the price control agencies of the adjoining zones. Supplies to foreign craft are being furnished from German supply points and arrangements are made for payment in accordance with provisions of the import-export program of Germany.

During the winter of 1945—1946, there were many obstacles to satisfactory operation of water transport facilities. River clearance was not complete, and consequent interruptions to traffic were frequent. The current through demolished bridges was dangerously swift, and loading therefore had to be reduced. The use of all foreign craft ceased on 1 February 1946 for lack of means of effecting payment for services rendered. Sufficient tug power was not available to handle traffic adequately.

In spite of these problems, the Rhine was used for coal movements from the ports of Wesseling and Duisburg-Ruhrort to Karlsruhe, Mannheim, Frankfurt, Aschaffenburg, Wuerzburg and Heilbronn. German agencies were assisted in putting as many barges as possible in operation. Released prisoners of war were screened for crews. Priority was given to tug repairs.

INCREASE IN ACTIVITY

Consequently, the total number of barges in operation was increased from 313, with 294,684 tons capacity on 1 January 1946, to 591, with 597,255 tons capacity, on August 1946. During the same period, the total tug power was increased from 67 tugs with 31,433 horse power to 112 tugs with 45,050 horse power. As a result of these efforts, the movement of coal on the Rhine and its tributaries increased from 98,800 tons in January 1946 to 317,000 tons in July 1946.