The following outline and statement was prepared by UNRRA-Germany, apparently some time in October 1945.

It was distributed at the December 11th meeting of the Interim Committee of Displaced Persons of the American Council of Voluntary Agencies by Sir Michael Creagh of the Voluntary Society Liaison Unit of the European Regional Office-Unrra.

I understand Miss Owen of the A.C.V.A. that Sir Creagh stated that the data is incomplete, even as to the time that they were compiled. However, the figures of the number of workers employed by the several organizations in Germany and the statement of their functions, is nevertheless of interest. Miss Owen expects to receive similar supplements and statements and will let us have copies as and when they come.

R.P.

CC: PB  
  HKB  
  BBG  
  FFG  
  JCH  
  IHL  
  MAL  
  ML  
  BK  
  EMM  
  RL  
  NR  
  DLS  
  LHS  
  JJS  
  RLS  
  ST  
  EMMW
The Work of Voluntary Societies Cooperating
With UNRRA in Germany

I. GENERAL STATEMENT

II. RED CROSS SOCIETIES

International Red Cross, French Red Cross,
Netherlands Red Cross, Polish Red Cross,
Greek Red Cross, Italian Red Cross.

III. BRITISH VOLUNTARY SOCIETIES

British Red Cross and Order of St. John, Friends
Ambulance Unit, Friends Relief Service, Boy Scouts
Association, Girl Guides Association, Salvation Army,
Save the Children Fund, Catholic Committee for Relief
Abroad, International Voluntary Society for Peace,
Jewish Committee for Relief Abroad.

IV. AMERICAN VOLUNTARY SOCIETIES

National Catholic Welfare Conference, American
Polish War Relief, American Friends Service
Committee, American Joint Distribution Committee,
International Rescue and Relief Committee, Unitarian
Service Committee, American Christian Committee for
Refugees, World ORT Union.

V. OTHER SOCIETIES

International YMCA/YWCA, Jewish Agency for Palestine.

VI. VOLUNTARY SOCIETIES WITH WHICH UNRRA NEGOTIATIONS ARE IN PROGRESS

Hias, Vaad Hahazala, Friends Relief Service.
The work of Voluntary Societies cooperating with UNRRA in Germany

I. GENERAL STATEMENT

At the end of September twelve voluntary societies had concluded agreements with UNRRA for work in Germany and discussions were in progress with a number of others. During October UNRRA negotiated with several societies that had been working in Germany in advance of agreement with UNRRA, namely, the constituent societies of the Council of British Societies for Relief Abroad. These societies have now concluded an agreement with UNRRA.

The general principles laid down in the agreement with voluntary societies are as follows:

(a) The societies must obtain the sponsorship of their respective governments.

(b) In order to mobilize effort to the best advantage and avoid duplication, coordinating councils have been set up in Great Britain and the United States through which individual societies submit their proposals for government approval. In the United States, they are required to register with the President's War Relief Board and in the U.K. they register under the War Charities Act.

(c) Voluntary societies must agree to work among displaced persons of any nationality in the general UNRRA programme, though in fact the aid of societies qualified to assist special groups among the displaced persons will be directed towards centres in which such groups predominate.

Activities of voluntary societies fall under two headings —
(a) work among displaced persons in accordance with the general UNRRA programme, and (b) supplementary projects which are sponsored by UNRRA but are outside the scope of UNRRA'S operating programme and are, therefore, the financial responsibility of the society.

Most of the voluntary society personnel attached to UNRRA are providing specialized services including procurement and distribution of amenity supplies. Voluntary society personnel usually are not permanently attached to fixed assembly centres. As the movement of supplies contributed by these societies has not yet been organized on an official basis, the development of services that depend on supplies has been somewhat delayed.

With regard to the special problems of Jewish displaced persons, the American Joint Distribution Committee has been the recognized coordinating agency for American Jewish societies. This agency has had long experience in the field, and has qualified specialists. The Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society, Vaad Mahatzala and the World Organization for Reconstruction and Training Union have been requested to discuss their individual proposals with A.J.D.C., for incorporation into an overall plan.

In Great Britain the Jewish Committee for Relief Abroad fulfills this coordinating function for British Jewish societies which include the World Jewish Congress and the Chief Rabbi's Religious Emergency Council.

Twelve delegates of the American Jewish Committee, American Jewish Conference and the Jewish Labour Committee are proceeding to Germany to make a special survey of Jewish displaced persons problems in the American Zone.
The Work of Voluntary Societies cooperating with UNRRA in Germany.

Operational needs have changed substantially since some of the agencies started work in Germany and many of the voluntary agency personnel that had been engaged in emergency services required in earlier military operations have now been withdrawn or are being reassigned to other tasks.

There are altogether some 1,065 voluntary society personnel in the British and American Zones operating under UNRRA coordination of whom (number omitted) are members of the council of British Societies for Relief Abroad and are operating in the British zone.

II. RED CROSS SOCIETIES

I. International Red Cross

Disposition of Personnel

Total 6: Attached to Headquarters; other numbers unknown.

Nationality: Mainly Swiss

Activities

Distribution of food parcels, tracing of missing United Nations nationals, programme of tuberculosis control in assembly centres.

2. French Red Cross

Disposition of Personnel

Attached to U.S. Zone Headquarters, 2; travelling in U.S. Zone, 3;
 operating first aid post and ambulance service at Honebach, 2 teams;
at Mannheim, 1 team; at Heppenheim, 1 team.

Nationality: French

Activities

First aid, nursing and ambulance service in assembly centres, assistance in the care of displaced persons during repatriation, distribution of food and clothing in assembly centres, operation of fluoroscopic unit for UNRRA tuberculosis surveys.

3. Netherlands Red Cross

Disposition of Personnel

Total 43: In the British Zone, 37; in the U.S. Zone, 6.

Nationality: Dutch

Activities

Ambulance and medical services, visiting of sick displaced persons assistance in tracing of Dutch nationals and general care of Dutch displaced persons.
4. Polish Red Cross

Disposition of Personnel

Total 137: In the British Zone, 102, of whom 52 attached to Central Tracing Bureau; attached to U.S. Zone Headquarters, 30; attached to Eastern District Headquarters U.S. Zone, 5.

Nationality: Polish almost entirely recruited from among displaced persons and former prisoners of war.

Activities

First aid and medical services, assistance in tracing of missing Polish nationals, distribution of medical, clothing and amenity supplies, preparation for repatriation of Polish displaced persons, care during repatriation of Polish displaced persons.

5. Greek Red Cross

Disposition of Personnel

10 Nurses and drivers.

Nationality: Greek

Activities

Relief work among Greek displaced persons, distribution of food, medical and amenity supplies.

6. Italian Red Cross

Disposition of Personnel

30

Nationality: Italian

Activities

Assistance in tracing of missing Italian nationals, first aid and medical services.

III. BRITISH SOCIETIES

The following societies are constituent organizations of the Council of British Societies for Relief Abroad. The workers are all British and all operating in the British Zone.

1. British Red Cross and Order of St. John

Number of Personnel: 256

Activities

Medical and welfare services, the operation of 4 hospital sections, 13 relief sections, 1 information sub-section, 1 laboratory section, 1 mobile bath and laundry unit.
The Work of Voluntary Societies cooperating with UNRRA in Germany

2. Friends Ambulance Unit
   Number of Personnel: 118
   Activities
   The operation of 9 relief sections.

3. Friends Relief Service
   Number of Personnel: 36
   Activities
   The operation of 3 relief sections.

4. Boy Scouts Association
   Number of Personnel: 48
   Activities
   Operation of 4 relief sections.

5. Girl Guides Association
   Number of Personnel: 61
   Activities
   Operation of 2 laboratory sections, 2 relief sections, 1 hospital section, 3 kitchen and canteen sections.

6. Salvation Army
   Number of Personnel: 69
   Activities
   Operation of 5 relief sections, 3 kitchen and canteen sections.

7. Save the Children Fund
   Number of Personnel: 26
   Activities
   Operation of 1 hospital section, 1 information section.

8. Catholic Committee for Relief Abroad
   Number of Personnel: 36
   Activities
   Operation of 1 hospital section, 1 relief section.
9. International Voluntary Society for Peace

Number of Personnel: 12

Activities

Operation of 1 relief section.

10. Jewish Committee for Relief Abroad

This society, though a member organization of COBRA, has concluded a separate agreement with UNRRA for operation in Germany as the coordinating organization of British Jewish societies.

Number of Personnel: 100

Activities

Operation of 2 relief sections, 1 information sub-section, general medical and welfare services, tracing services, educational and vocational training projects.

IV: AMERICAN VOLUNTARY SOCIETIES

1. National Catholic Welfare Conference

Disposition of Personnel

Total 24: All attached to Supply Division, U.S. Zone Headquarters.

Nationality: American and Polish

Activities

Distribution of food, clothing, medical and amenity supplies, general relief work, spiritual and cultural services, educational and training programmes.

2. American Polish War Relief

Disposition of Personnel

Total 3: All attached to Supply Division, U.S. Zone Headquarters.

Nationality: American and Polish

Activities

Distribution of clothing, footwear, medical and vitamin supplies, distribution of literature and other welfare supplies, financial assistance and general relief work.

3. American Friends Service Committee

Disposition of Personnel

Total 6: All attached to Eastern District, U.S. Zone, on assignments in centres at Regensburg, Cham and Turschenreuth.
-7- The work of voluntary societies cooperating with UNRRA in Germany

Nationality: Mostly American

Activities

Public health and nursing service, cultural and civic education of children and adolescents, general welfare services.

4. American Joint Distribution Committee

Disposition of Personnel

Total 36; Attached to UNRRA Central Headquarters, 5; at Belsen, 7; at Hamburg, 2; at Neustadt, 1; attached to Eastern District, U.S. Zone, 14; attached to Western District for special services to Jews in camps at Kassel, St. Ottilien, Landsberg, Feldafing, Deggendorf, Fahlern, Salzheim, Stuttgart, 7.

Nationality: American, British, French, Polish

Activities

Tracing of Jewish displaced persons, special services to Jewish displaced persons, participation in planning resettlement of Jewish displaced persons.

5. International Rescue and Relief Committee (i)

Disposition of Personnel

Total 6

Nationality: American

Activities

Tracing services, psychiatric work among adolescents, financing of holidays for displaced persons, rehabilitation treatment.

6. Unitarian Service Committee (i)

Disposition of Personnel

Total 19: Child welfare workers, 7; doctors and nurses, 12.

Nationality: American

Activities

Child welfare and medical services.

7. American Christian Committee for Refugees (i)

Disposition of Personnel

Total 2, more to be sent if necessary

Nationality: American

Activities
The work of voluntary societies cooperating with UNRRA in Germany

Vocational guidance and instruction, economic readjustment of middle aged displaced persons.

(i) Constituent organizations of Refugee Relief Trustees (U.S.A.)

V. OTHER SOCIETIES

1. International YMCA-YWCA

Disposition of Personnel

Total 16: In British Zone, 12 including 5 attached to zone warehouse; attached to U.S. Zone Headquarters, 2; attached to Eastern District Headquarters, U.S. Zone, 1; attached to UNRRA Central Headquarters, 1.

Nationality: American, British, Swedish, Polish.

Activities

Distribution of recreational supplies and literature, spiritual care and educational services.

2. Jewish Agency for Palestine

Disposition of Personnel

12, all attached to Eastern District, U.S. Zone

Nationality: Palestinian

Activities

Nursing and medical services, tracing of individuals and re-union of families, care and education of children and general welfare services.