

Bulletin No. 4

November 22, 1946

FUNDS AND SUPPLIES
FOR QUAKER RELIEF IN GERMANY

American Friends Service Committee
20 South Twelfth Street
Philadelphia, 7, Pennsylvania

FUNDS AND SUPPLIES
- FOR QUAKER RELIEF IN GERMANY -

The American Friends Service Committee, as the receiver of moneys and goods from German-American organizations, issues this bulletin for the information of participating agencies who are cooperating in a nation-wide effort to aid the Quaker relief program for Germany. Material in this bulletin may be reprinted without permission. Contributions of news items regarding German-American activities in behalf of Quaker relief for Germany will be appreciated.

Shipments totaling 2,774,612 pounds of food and clothing to the value of \$1,234,148.42 have been sent to Germany by the American Friends Service Committee since March 1946.

Allotment of this total has been made as follows among the zones of occupation:

British	\$367,056.19 . . .	893,575 pounds
American.	819,237.23 . . .	1,830,917 "
Russian	47,855.00 . . .	50,120 "

The value of these shipments does not include the cost of ocean freight, sorting, packing and handling of the gifts of clothing, shoes and food.

PENDING ORDERS

SUPPLIES NOW ON ORDER:

American zone.....	\$53,726.21	
British zone.....	85,733.73	
French zone.....	51,889.40	
Clothing purchased abroad (all zones).....	80,000.00	\$271,349.34

MINIMUM ANTICIPATED PURCHASES THROUGH DEC. 31:

British zone.....	78,670.00	
French zone.....	61,132.68	\$139,802.68

OTHER ANTICIPATED EXPENSES THROUGH DEC. 31:

Handling and shipping costs.	40,000.00	
Personnel.....	43,175.00	
Administration.....	22,500.00	\$105,675.00

TOTAL MINIMUM ANTICIPATED EXPENSES THROUGH DEC. 31..... \$516,827.02

SHIPMENTS

The following shipments were made between October 1 and November 15:

For the British zone:

S. S. Waterwitch, loaded Oct. 29, 1946.
Margarine.....20,000 pounds
Used clothing & shoes.....45,000 "
Powdered Milk.....60,000 "

S. S. Yaka, loaded Nov. 8, 1946
Margarine.....71,370 "

For the American zone:

S. S. Yaka, loaded Nov. 8, 1946
Provic (concentrated food)..... 4,920 pounds
Used clothing, shoes, soap.....25,121 "

S. S. Waterwitch, loaded Oct. 29, 1946
Laundry soap.....60,000 "
Navy blouses..... 17 bales
Blankets..... 24 cases

REPORTS ON ARRIVAL AND USE

Contributors to the American Friends Service Committee for relief in Germany can now share in the joy and appreciation of the recipients of this food and clothing. Reports are beginning to come in that tell of the distribution of specific American Friends Service Committee shipments. The reports that follow are typical of those received. They are the first that have come giving details of the use of the goods shipped.

Word has come through the director of the Red Cross at Wuerttemberg and Baden that the first American Friends Service Committee shipment arrived safely and that part of it has been distributed. This shipment, represented by our order Number 223, left on the ANTIOCH VICTORY March 21, 1946, and arrived in Bremen April 10. It consisted of clothing received at the Commercial Museum warehouse and the American Friends Service warehouse.

A letter dated August 19 and signed by the director of the Red Cross at Wuerttemberg and Baden gives the following details of the distribution.

"The Bavarian Red Cross received the CRALOG shipment C-I (American Friends Service Committee order Number 223), consisting of 35 tons of used clothing and shoes, from the Germany Central Committee for distribution...The Bavarian Red Cross distributed this gift among the four Red Cross organizations in the American zone. The Red Cross at Wuerttemberg and Baden received 104 bales of clothing and 10 cases of shoes for distribution in North-Wuerttemberg and North-Baden.

"Immediately upon receipt of the gift in Stuttgart, the bales and cases were forwarded to the district center. The district center of the Red Cross, which received exact instructions as to the distribution, have undertaken the distribution to needy people, in the name of the foreign donor-organizations.

"The need of the refugees is carefully investigated by the refugee commissioner and the mayors, and those in direct charge of the refugees, so that actual relief of those suffering can be guaranteed. In order to avoid giving clothing twice to some refugees--intentionally or unintentionally--a note of all gifts is made in the files of the Wirtschaftsamt and in the passbook of each refugee.

"That the gift quickly gets into the hands of those for whom it is intended, is assured through the examination undertaken by the district centers of the Red Cross. Need of the recipient is considered irrespective of his party, religious or racial affiliations.

"Two bales of clothing were given to the South-German Doctors' and Sanitary Aid of the Swiss Sanitary Center for distribution among victims of national socialism. We felt that this was our duty and that it was justified, as the victims of national socialism who are frequently in need because of sickness and other emergencies, have not, up to now, received due consideration because of formal difficulties.

"There were no losses in this shipment."

BLANKETS IN THE RUSSIAN ZONE

The following letter, dated September 6 and signed by the Central Committee of the Volkssolidarität in Berlin, is an account of the receipt and distribution of 7,535 woolen blankets given by the American Friends Service Committee to the Committee for the Distribution of Foreign Gifts in the Russian zone.

"The Central Committee of the Volkssolidarität, Berlin, together with the representatives of the Volkssolidarität in the counties and provinces, thank the donors for the precious gift. The woolen blankets were distributed to the counties and provinces in the Russian zone and resettlers, returning people, children's homes and hospitals benefitted by them. The following list will give you a picture of how the gift was distributed.

1,000	blankets	for	the	Heimkehrerlager	Cronenfelde	in	Frankfurt'Oder
1,396	"	"	"	"	"	"	Furstenwalde'Brandenburg
							(these are camps for returning refugees)
40	"	"	"	Children's	Home,	Konigswusterhausen'	Brandenburg
750	"	"	"	Resettlers	Camp,	Engelsburg'	Brandenburg
500	"	"	"	Returns	Camp,	Pinow'	Brandenburg
100	"	"	"	Hospital	Klein-Machnow'	Brandenburg	
400	"	"	"	Resettler's	Camp	Dransieden'	Ruegen, Mecklenburg-Vorp.
1,200	"	"	"	Resettler's	Camp	Bergen'Ruegen'	Mecklenburg-Vorp.
200	"	"	"	Children's	Transit	Camp	Schwerin'Mecklenburg-Vorp.
150	"	"	"	Children's	Homes	in	Grahl'Müritz'Mecklenburg-Vorp.
354	"	"	"	Provinzialverband	Potsdam'	Brandenburg	
1,445	"	"	"	Resettlers'	Headquarters	Bergen'Ruegen'	Mecklenburg-Vorp.

"The above mentioned homes and camps will express their special thanks to the International Society of the Quakers."

A SYKE VACATION

Wanda Dabrasky, head of the kindergarten "Industriehafen," wrote an account of the vacation at the youth hostel of Syke, made possible by American Friends Service Committee supplies. Claude Shotts, American Friends Service Committee representative to CRALOG, sent in the account.

"The children had a wonderful time playing, going for walks in the woods, gathering berries, etc., and enjoyed the good meals they received. That this was possible, we owe on the one hand to the American donors and on the other to the Arbeiterhilfswerk who saw to it that we received some American gifts for distribution.

"Soon the six weeks will be over and the children will return home. Dr. Thölken, who is in charge of our home in Bremen as well as here, is fully satisfied with the success of the enterprise and it is felt that the parents will feel the same."

20,000 CHILDREN RECEIVE FOOD

The Arbeiter Wohlfahrt, through its secretary Fritz Ripp, made the following report:

"To the American Friends Service Committee,
Philadelphia, U. S. A.

"With gratitude we wish to extend to your committee, not only our warmest thanks for the donation allocated to us by the German Central Committee but also to give you a report of the use we made of the donation, which included the following items:

15 barrels of chocolate powder.....	1.8 tons
250 containers of powdered eggs.....	2.7 tons
4,000 containers of powdered milk.....	67.1 tons

"The German Central Committee decided in its meeting May 15, 1946, to have this shipment distributed by us. In accordance with the wishes of the donors, we distributed it in such a way that (a) only children received from this shipment and (b) we tried, after due physical examination, to choose a group of children that were the most undernourished and needed the benefit of this food donation.

"In accordance with the tradition of our organization and also in accordance with your wishes, we chose the children regardless of the present or past political convictions of their parents.

"The individual laender did not receive binding instructions from us as to how they were to carry on this distribution among their needy people, but experience has shown that the distribution was carried out in very much the same manner everywhere. In general we can say that through careful and purposeful planning, in the entire US zone (that is Bremen, Greater Hessen, Wuerttemberg'Baden and Bavaria) about 20,000 children have been provided for. In some instances these children received a breakfast in school. The helpers of the Arbeiter Wohlfahrt in the various cities gave their services voluntarily without asking for compensation. In some places kettles had to be dug out from under dirt and ashes. Much hard physical work was necessary before it was even possible to cook. This applies especially to two cities in Wuerttemberg'Baden, Heilbronn and Pforzheim which suffered most from the effects of the war. There, as reports in the community show, we reached practically all grade-school

children. In the morning, the helpers prepared either cocoa or milk, and a pudding made of powdered eggs and powdered milk to which was added a little flour from our own reserves. Cocoa and pudding had become strange names for our children in Germany. They were familiar with these things only through having heard about them.

"Through Mr. Field and Mr. Sternberg we sent you pictures of the child feeding in Pforzheim. These pictures showed that the need among the adults and the helpers is great too, but in this help action it was enough for the helpers to know that they could give the children something they had to do without so long. Great was the pleasure and surprise of old and young to find that there were still friends in the world who, in spite of 12 years of unexampled desecrating of the German name, were ready to help our children.

"Because of the great need, only certain regions or a few cities could be considered. Where we did help we wanted to help in such a way that it was purposeful.

"Our community committee for Arbeiter Wohlfahrt in Munich was the only community committee in Bavaria that could receive part of this donation. They carried out a child feeding program similar to those in Pforzheim and Heilbronn.

"Our land committee in Greater Hessen also used these shipments in the cities that were hardest hit by the war: Frankfurt, Darmstadt, Offenbach, Hanau, Giessen and Kassel. There 65,000 children were examined. Through these examinations it was ascertained that among three-year-old children there was a weight difference up to 5 kg, and an average difference of 3.5 kg. Among five-year-old children the weight difference was 4.5 kg. These figures come mainly from one community of 15,000 inhabitants (Neu-Issenburg) from where many go to work at Grossfrankfurt. It is to be noted that this community has not even all the characteristics of a city, and the conditions in the cities are of course much worse.

"Our friends in Bremen followed a somewhat different line in their distribution. With this shipment they considered, in the main, children's recreation homes, kindergartens and large families with undernourished children. Powdered eggs and powdered milk were given to the medical association in Bremen in small amounts. It is very hard for the physicians when they constantly find sickness among their patients that are caused by a lack of certain foods, such as sugar and fat, not to have some means by which they could alleviate the condition. By this assignment, the Land Bremen wanted to help the physicians.

"Our Arbeiter Wohlfahrt has the desire to give help wherever it is needed, regardless of religious affiliation or party membership. Until the coming of the American troops we were a forbidden organization robbed of its property by the Nazis. But many of our helpers remained true to us during these 12 years and did not give up the hope of a new humanitarian era in Germany. Many came back from concentration camps in 1945, many live in foreign countries, and many a good friend a victim of Nazism, now rests under the cool earth.

"In 1945 we tried to help everywhere, with our own means to alleviate the suffering. In many communities mass feeding for grown-ups was arranged. This was necessary because many thousands of families did not have an opportunity to cook. After the schools opened child feeding out of our own German reserves was attempted in some communities. In this way, for example, the city of Mannheim gave 15,000 children a bowl of warm soup daily from October 1945 to April 1946. This feeding was carried out in some instances by the Arbeiter Wohlfahrt alone; in other cases with the cooperation of other welfare organizations. These meals, of course, did not have a high caloric value, but they helped some. The Arbeiter Wohlfahrt has as its

aim to use systematically and purposefully all donations coming to us from foreign countries, especially from the U.S.A. We hope we will succeed in the U.S. Zone with your donations, especially with your milk donations, and in cooperation with other organizations to carry out child-feeding projects in our largest needy communities.

"We believe that in this way we will carry out the wishes of the donors and of your committee. We look upon these donations as a donation not of an organization but of many individual Americans imbued with the desire to help the needy children of Germany, children who cannot be blamed for what has happened these last 12 years.

"The name of the American Friends Service Committee in the U.S.A. has been known in Germany not only through this most recent help, but since the terrible years of the first world war, 1914-1918. Today, after the close of this relief project, we wish to thank you heartily in the name of 20,000 children who benefited from your donations. We hope and wish that for Germany a day will dawn when in cooperation with the relief of the world, it can work for peace and friendship and out of its own strength be able to help others."

3,500 CHILDREN RECEIVE AFSC FOOD IN HEILBRONN

Another Arbeiter Wohlfahrt representative wrote the following letter describing the Heilbronn child-feeding project:

"We were happy to receive the extremely valuable food supplies by the American Friends Service Committee, Philadelphia, which enabled us to treat our children in Heilbronn who find themselves in especially great need. From these gifts we were able to supply about 3,500 school children with cocoa or milk each morning over a period of eight weeks. We were also able to make a pudding from the chocolate powder and egg powder. This was given to the children during the course of this project.

"The selection of the children according to medical considerations was very difficult, because in a school for 500 children there were only about 32 who were not in absolute need of this additional food. For this reason, all children participated in the feeding and no child was discriminated against because of his religion or former political affiliations of his parents.

"We wish to express our warmest thanks to the donors, particularly because the suffering of the children from Heilbronn is extremely great. It needs hardly to be explained that the state of health of the children suffered particularly during the past six years due to nervous tension. Heilbronn was one of the German cities that suffered most from destruction. Even now there is scarcely a place available where people can live.

"The distribution was handled by helpers from the Arbeiter Wohlfahrt. It was very difficult to find places where cooking could be done. But our helpers enjoyed the work, approaching it with the conviction that they could help the children by doing it.

"Should it be possible for the American Friends Service Committee to let us have more such gifts, we should be very happy to serve everyone rather than just one religion or party."

MILK FOR WESERMÜNDE HOSPITALS

A report from the Wesermünde Committee relates that 7,500 children from one to six years old, received one pound each from a consignment of 300 cases of dried milk. Five Wesermünde hospitals each received 110 pounds of milk from the shipment. The same amount was given to the municipal baby hospital and to the municipal children's home. Five hundred and fifty pounds were reserved for sick and weak persons. The report added that more than 10,000 persons in all benefited from the milk.

"The population was informed of this generous relief action of the Americans," the report stated.

WITH "HEARTFELT THANKS"

Individual expressions of appreciation for the gifts from America tell the story of privation and the relief which the shipments bring to the sufferers. A few typical ones follow:

"My heartfelt thanks for the 35 cans of dried milk," the director of a girls' orphanage at Bremer-Horn wrote. "They enabled us to make the morning soup for the children more nourishing and palatable, and to provide additional food for delicate and sickly girls."

"Yesterday we received the dried milk just as a new transport of children arrived," reported the matron of a children's home at Dresden. "We are so happy about this gift that it is impossible to find suitable words to express our gratitude to the American Friends Service Committee.

"We shall use the dried milk in combination with fresh whole milk in soups and other dishes--dumplings, pancakes, etc. Thanks to the dried milk, we can give the children more milk to drink, which will undoubtedly result in greater gains in weight.

A youth in Bremen wrote:

"I am sure the people in America would like to know who gets all these gifts. Well, you can tell them about me. I have no father. He was killed in the war. My mother and my brothers and sisters now live in a garden in a shack of boards....We have very little to eat and no fuel at all. Thanks to the supplementary food from America, I have gained several pounds."

The matron of an old people's home, Diedrichshof, wrote:

"The Bremen Welfare Board informs me that you have generously made a gift of food to our Old People's Home. This made us very happy. It is difficult today to manage with scant rations, to get enough variation in the daily menus and to keep the old folks from becoming dissatisfied. So you will understand if I not only express my heartfelt thanks but also pray you to remember our home in the future."