GOSSNER EVANGELICAL – LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CHOTANAGPUR AND ASSAM

GELC ARCHIVE

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- Letter from Abroad (G.M / L.W.F)
- L.W.F, Report and Documentation.

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FLAT-FILE

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P. E. L.

t Letters from Abroad (GM/LWF)

Nos. _____ to _____

(Months) _____ to _____

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Regd. under Societies Registration act. XXI of 1860)

Director & Secretary
Rev. Dr. C. K. Paul Singh. B.D. Dr. Thel. (Berlin)

G. E. L. Church. Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 29358

Ref. Memo No 20/88/BEL - 2

The The 4th Aug. 88

Dear Rev. Hecker,

I hope this letter will find you back in your office in Berlin. After getting your letter dt. 1.7.88 and the copy of the letter to Rev. Tete of same date, I enquired the possibility of the mode of payment of my travel expenses in the office of Eastern Travels Pvt. Ltd, Main Road Ranchi, through whom I ordered Air Tickets for Ranchi - Delhi - Ranchi (separate) and Delhi - Frank - Bln and back by LUFTHANSA. As Eastern Travels are not entitled to receive Foreign money directly, I send a Telex Message to you dt. 22.7.88 to send a P T A on LUFT HANSA involving Eastern Travels Pvt. Ltd. Jamshedpur (here the tickets are issued). It seems to me that you had already left Berlin. On hearing no message from you I sent another Telex message on 2.8.88, almost repeating the same message and also adding that Miss Bhengra was arriving on 5th Aug. (before schedule of meeting). In reply to this I got a reply from your office informing me that you are out of Berlin. So I should give more details about my travel, mode of payment, ticket etc. But thinking of the Kuratorium's decision and your previous letters it was not to request for either way, thus I am writing this letter to request you to kindly send the PTA on LUFT HANSA, involving Eastern Travels. My booking has been confirmed, but Ticket not yet issued. I have got my visa, PTA has to be for DELHI - FRANK - BLN and back, Ranchi - Delhi- Ranchi has to be booked separately, and I may have to pay to be re-imbursed to me in Berlin.

I hope, it will be not too late, lest my Ticket order be cancelled.
The KSS is not yet formed and people are now becoming restless, and trying by their own ways that Rev. Tete takes steps for forming the KSS.
Other things are going on well.

With greetings,

Yours Sincerely

C. K. Paul Singh

Rev.Dr.C.K. Paul Singh
Director, BEL.

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Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No. 27/88/B.E.L.-2

The 4/4/88

Rev. Dr. Rieger

B E R L I N

D

Dear Dr. Rieger

Please excuse me that I am writing to you so late, I could not inform you while I was still in Berlin that I couldn't bring all the bottles of shampoos to be given to Rev. C.S.R. Topno. It was to big packet for my luggage as it was already full with my belongings and of some other friends, who gave me to be brought to India. It was also over weight problem as well as of custom's because so many bottles of one item was have been custom-charged. So I broke the 'Packet'and brought only one bottle and handed it over to Rev. Topno and told him also about my difficulties. The other bottles are still in Berlin along with my other things, which I could not bring along with me due to space and weight problem. I hope if I go next time to Germany I may bring some of them.

We all are doing well, with greetings.

Yours Sincerely

C. K. Paul Sgh

(Rev. Dr. C.K.Paul Singh)

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Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No. 26/88/B.E.L.

The 4/11/88

Pastor D. Hecker
Director Gossner Mission
Handjery Str. 19/20
1000 BERLIN 41

Dear Pastor Hecker,

Please excuse me that I am to late to write to you. I arrived safely and found all people at Ranchi well. I was able to meet the congregation at New-Delhi and a chance to discuss some points of important They had not yet recieved any definite letter regarding land in Delhi for 'Parish Centre'.

I had to spent a night at Lucknow with other Ranchi Passengers as our Plane could not take off from Lucknow due to some defects.

In Ranchi we had the programme of Mahila Sangh in which Ca 400 women participated just after that me had the Leadership Training Programme organised by the GURUKUL NORTH in Theological College Ranchi. We al had a Mission Festival Programme on 2nd Nov. at Ranchi. Unfortunately a bad incident mared the Mina Bazar in the afternoon. Rev. M.G. was mole sted by some miscreants he is hospitalised but is out of danger.

On 5th Nov. 88 I am leaving Ranchi for Surguja and shall be in the area till 17th of Nov. 88. The talks at calcutta between Dr. Minz and others did not take place. The formation of KSS is still uncertain.

With greetings and thanks.

Yours sincerely

C. K. Paul Singh

(Rev. Dr. CKK. Paul Singh)

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Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo No 17/88/BEL- 2

The 16-6-88

Pastor D.Hecker
Mission Director,GM
Handjery Str. 19/20
1000 BERLIN 41 (Friedenau)

Dear Pastor Hecker,

Thank you for Kind letters sent through Miss Bhengra along with the Kuratorium file, and also for the letter communicating the decision of the Kuratorium in its meeting in May 1988. At the moment I have not any comment, but to accept the decision.

At present the situation in the church is not clear to many of us, the formation of KSS is still uncertain because the parties concerned are sticking to their own points and prestige. There is a meeting of the Ad-hoc committee for finding out ways to solving the deadlock, the date is scheduled for the last week of June.

Receiving the invitation for attending Kuratoriums meeting in Sep.'88 I have applied visa. Accordingly my arrival in Frankfurt is on 7th Sep. and departure on 15th Oct. 1988. Both ways my travel shall be by Luft Hansa. But if the decision of the Kuratorium stands and the KSS is not formed even till that date my attending Kuratorium is doubtful, because I may not be able to travel by my own cost.

We may only hope that KSS may be formed by that time and GM may be obliged to remmit the funds including my travel expenses.

According to our scheduled we shall be having our seminar on Five Points Programme at Ranchi on June 21 - 24 .

We are doing well and pray that you all are also doing well with greetings.

Yours Sincerely
C. K. Paul Singh
Rev.Dr.C.K. Paul Singh
Director,BEL.

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Phone 23358

Ref. Memo No 11|88/BEL - 2

The 19-5-88

Pastor D. Hecker
Gossner Mission

Dear Pastor Hecker,

As I hope, you might have already discussed about the situation in our church as well in our country on the basis of the reports received through guests from GELC and from the Pramukh Adhyaksh.
The situation - constitutional formation - is still the same, on 14th May there was an informal meeting of the "elected" KSS members, but they also could not find any definite solution, but an adhoc committee has been formed for finding out some way out by discussing matters with the concerned Anchals and groups.

Due to UELCI meetings to which a strong delegation of 14 persons from our church in Five Points Programme with Anchal Adhyakshes, Hdmasters and Ilaka chairman has to be postponed, now we want to conduct in the latter part of June.

In April we had a tour programme in the m/f of SE Anchal and thereafter we had Refresher Course and Volunteers Training Camp at Ranchi: From next week we shall have various youth programmes and other classes in various Ilakas.

With these various tours I found that now our Jeep is not co-operating it is getting old and heavy repair cost is increasing, jeep was purchased in 1970. I therefore request and propose to find out any donor, church or agency, who may be able to donate anew jeep (Petrol) for the BEL. This is a wish from the Director BEL. This shall be discussed in our meeting when held. I wanted to sound this for you, may be to discuss in the Kuratorium. As envisaged I shall attend the meeting of Kuratorium in Sep. '88, with greetings.

Yours Sincerely

C. K. Paul Singh

Rev. Dr.C.K.Paul Singh
Director, BEL.

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Ref. Memo No. 9/88/BEL - 2

The 6-4-88

Rev.D.Hecker
Director, GM
Handjery Str. 19/20
1000 BERLIN 41

Dear Rev. Hecker,

Herewith I am sending a short report of the BEL. I am also sending the tentative programme (1988) of BEL with its Gramodya Ashray/Five points Programme.

Today I am leaving for a weeklong tour programme in SE Anchal m/f Midnapore (W.Bengal) and Mayurbhanj (Orissa).

Ranchi has already become hot, the day's temparature is almost 38 de.ce. The church matter has also taken its peak temperature. The court case filed by Dr.Minz and party in 1986 has been accepted in the court and we, of the KSS have received notices from the court on 15th ~~Feb.~~ 88. This has overshadowed the process of dialogue .

The KSS is not yet formed and it seems that it will take longer time for various clarification till the KSS is formed.

We all are doing well and send hearty greetings to you and your family as well as the staff members in GM office.

Thanking you,

Yours Sincerely

C. K. Paul Singh

Rev.Dr.C.K.Paul Singh
Director,BEL, Ranchi.

Drafted and left for tour
Asstt. to the Director,

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Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo No 26/87/BEL - 2

The 26-11-87

Rev.D. Hecker
Director,GM
Handjerystr 19/20
1000 Berlin 41

Dear Rev. Hecker,

This is to inform you that I reached Ranchi safely on the 22nd NoV. (Sunday). I waited for Rev. B. Biswas at the International Airport till 7.30 AM. as per his letter, then I proceeded to the Domestic Airport as per my letter. There I met Rev. & Mrs. Hess ready to leave for Ranchi fortunately I got a place in the plane though I was waitlisted as 25th for Ranchi. Rev. Hess could not give my letter to Rev. Biswas, he handed it over to the friends of Dr. Minz's group to be given to Rev. Biswas. I do not know whether he received the letter in time.

For Rev. and Mrs. Hess Programmes have been made in both sides. I hope Rev. Hess has not shown much of his promises to "NWGELC".
By this time you might have received a copy of the letter in which Dr. Minz offers a date for further dialogue with us. We have replied positive ly. The dialogue shall be overshadowed by a pamphlet recently distributed by the other group, a copy is herewith enclosed. In the pamphlet reference has been again given to Rev. Seeberg's Report unfortunately your Sekretarin gave me the wrong copies - not the copy of Translation of Rev. Seeberg's report, but again the copy of the resulation. Please send the Translation of Rev. Seeberg's Report in photocopies to be given to the Dialogue Committee Chairman or a copy for retyping in our office.
As you have been informed KSS could not be formed, and Rev. Tete is singly handling the matters of the Church. Rev. Suresh Toppo is urgently needed here he is expected here latest by last of Jan,88. Re-election has to be conducted in his Anchal and unless he is here it may not be possible. Financially we shall be in trouble, specially the m/f . Therefore he should come back as soon as possible.

With many greetings,

Yours Sincerely
Rev.Dr.C.K.Paul Singh
Director,BEL.

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Bihar/India
Phone 28358

Ref. Memo No 18/87/BEL - 2

The 3-8-87

Rev.D.Hecker
C/O Rev. B. Bishwas
14 Jangpura B.
Opt. Rajdoot Hotel
Mathura Road
New Delhi 14

Dear Rev. Hecker,

Welcome to India again, I hope and wish your journey to be successful. On getting the invitation to Germany for attending of Kuratorium meetings and visiting of Congregations I have applied to the consulate F.R.G. in Calcutta. They may again refer back my application, specially to find out the genuineness of the invitation letter from you. Therefore I would suggest, if you have time at Delhi, you may please contact the Embassy, FRG in New Delhi to confirm your invitation to me, so that they may tell the consulate in Calcutta.

We have not yet heard whether Dr. Minz has replied positively for the date, you have offered and are about to come to Ranchi. There are some preparations in both sides for the dialogue. I hope and pray that we may atleast clarify some of the hurdels and agree to a date for fruitful dialogue.

With greetings,

Yours Sincerely
C.K.P.S.
Rev.Dr.C.K.Paul Singh
Director,BEL.

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Phone 23358

Ref. Memo No 16/87/BEL - 2

The 22-7-87

Pastor D.Hecker
Director, GM
Handjerystr. 19/20
1000 Berlin 41 (Friedenau)

Dear Rev. Hecker,

This is to acknowledge and to thank you for the letter including copies of invitation for Oct. Kuratorium. I received this letter very late -i.e. today the 22nd July 1987. I wonder how and why this took almost five weeks. Anyhow, this time atleast it reached.

I was waiting for some statistics to complete the report about the Hos and the Karbis. I had promised in my last letter to send these reports on the request passed to me by you. Thus I did not write letters to you, as I have not completed the reports in absence of statistica.

We have come to know that you along with Prof. Dr. Grothaus will be arriving at Ranchi on 14th August, '87. I hope in this preleminary talks we may be able to open the chance of dialogue. But we are still questioning, why Dr. Minz is not replying at least for the agreed date.
I heard, that last week they had meetings, but nothing more or new news has been heard.

Here in our area monsoon is very late, but at present rain is better than North Western India. Rice transplantation is now about to be started it should have been done by this time. Erln Engelkes from Watsburg is at Ranchi. She arrived here on 19th July.

With many Greetings and thanks.

Yours Sincerely
C.K.Paul Singh
(Rev.Dr.C.K.Paul Singh)
Director,BEL.

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Ref. Memo No 11/87/BEL - 2

The 12-5-87

Rev.D.Hecker
Director,GM
Handjery Str. 19/20
1000 BERLIN 41 (Friedenau)

Dear Rev. Hecker,

Thank you very much for the telex, telegram and the invitation letter (dt.29.4.87) which I received very late I am very sorry that earlier letters dt. 23.3 and 22.4) went lost. On receiving the telegram I immediately applied for the visa, but according to new regulations the matter has to be referred back to Germany, which takes at least six weeks time (as they say). On May 7 I went to Calcutta personally to talk to the officer concerned in the consulate General of FRG in Calcutta, but I could not succeed.

I came back on the same day, both my journey were by night bus. Byt I had to send a telegram to Delhi to whom earlier I had written a letter requsting them to prepare a report on Delhi Ilaka work, especially about the progress in land purchasing and the plan and estimate for the construction work. Now I requested them to send all these informations direct to you immediately.

In the last KSS meetings dt. 23-25 April 1987 it was decided by majority vote that 1987 be the Election Year in GELC as the decision of June 1984 about the term of office for five years was not implemented due to non-circulation of the decision for the Anchals to conduct the elections accordingly. It seems that crisis may again come for the formation of KSS because the NW Anchal is still sticking to the five years term. Hence dialogue during Oct.-Nov. 87 is very inconvenient. Therefore for the first round talks July-August has to be made possible. It will be better that two delegates from Kuratorium or Germany would come, who have enough time, patience, courage, sympathy and understanding for the <u>Whole Gossner Church</u> with her all sorts of feelings, weaknesses as well as strength. It may be good if Dr.Von Stieglitz or Prof. Dr. Grothaus may be able to give time, I may also propose the name of Dr.Hummel, who was in JELC Orissa for longer time and is acquainted with some such problems in Indian context. I think, for the first round

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Ref. Memo No.....

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and preparatory talks at least three weeks time has to be given, but later stages it may require more time.

As Gossner Mission has been asked to create plateform and situation for dialogue, you have to take the initiatives for solving and negotiating the terms and conditions from both sides and also for proposing new ways and means for resolving the present situation to peace and unity of the whole Gossner church. The people concerned may be interested in their own advantage with less disadvantage for themselve but more disadvantage and less advantage for others, this has to be guaranted. I think it will be more harmful and dangerous for the whole Gossner church if particular group or persons are considered in terms of advantage and disadvantage. Both the groups have to get prepared for consensus and concessions for the greater interest of the wholw church for unity and peace. To outplay one or the other group, or to give concession or recognition only to one or the other or even both would not help, in contrary it would lead to worse or even worst. Therefore, I personally feel uttermost carefulness is required in making recommendations and decision in the Indian committee as well as in Kuratorium.

You have asked for special reports on work among Karbi Anglong and Ho. This I shall give you in my next letter. Our five points programme in m/fs is being understood and our workers as well Christians in the m/fs are aware of these facts and necessity. Im March 18-30 we had seminar in five points programme followed by volunteers Training programme. In the former 45 participants took part and in the later 21 persons participated. After evaluating our activities for five points programmes we made some new proposals for effective activities. Each congregation/ parish shall form a committee of five members a member for each activity of the programme. Each member shall be responssible to gather informations and facilities if any from their pastors/Supervisors/BEL or any other agency government or private/voluntary, and pass it to the congregation members for information as well as actions. For this seminars, workshops etc. has to be organised in parish and field level. Some of

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Phone 28358

Ref. Memo No.....

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the supervisors have already started. If you consider worthwhile that I attend the next Kuratorium meeting in Sept./Oct. Please let me know at your earliest conveniences, so that I can plan my days and also start negotiating for the visa. I hope you have received my telex which I sent on 11th May. I sent the message through telex No. 625 232 RMTI IN of Mr. Rakesh Gupta Club Shoping Complex, Main Road, Ranchi. Your telex message also came through this No. which is not of MECON. Mr. Rakesh Gupta is ready to receive your message to pass it on to us, but there shall no such message which may be objectionable by the government - I assured him that we do not send or do not receive such message which may be objectionable. I told him on your arrival here in July/August we may settle this point. For sure arrival of message I think Registered letter also would do, because telex is too costly. I am sending this letter by Registered post. We all are doing well and hope the same for you all. I hope you are able to cover all the programmes which were meant together with me.

With greetings,

Yours Sincerely

(Rev. Dr. C. K. Paul Singh)
Director, BEL

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G. E. L. Church, Ranchi
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Phone 23358

Ref. Memo No 8/87/BE - 2

The 21.4.87

Rev. Dieter Hecker
Director, GM
Handjery Str. 29/20
1000 BERLIN 41 (Fredenau)
W. GErmany

Dear Rev. Hecker,

I hope you are doing well. It seems that all my letters are getting lost. I had sent a letter on 3.3.87 informing you regarding my attending Kuratorium meeting and possible time of my stay in Germany. Later on I sent a handpost letter through Rev. S. Toppo, I hope he reached Germany, again I wrote a letter as enclosure in the letter of the Pramukh Adhyaksh on 3rd of April,'87 . I expected that your formal invitation to attend the Kuratorium would reach me at least by 20th of April, but it is not yet received by me. I heve ordered by Ticket for departure from Delhi on 13th of May at 02.30 hrs reaching Frankfurt on 13th May at 07.30 hrs. I have also booked to leave Frankfurt on 23rd June at 12.45 (noon). This time I shall be flying by LUFTHANSA .

I, therefore request you to kindly send the formal invitation at your earliest conveniences with my full name CHRIST KUMAR PAUL SINGH, in orde to enable me for securing visa and other travel documents.

I hope to get the invitation letter in time and to be able to get my travel documents also in time. We all are doing well, and send you greetings.

Thanking you,

Yours Sincerely,
Rev. Dr.C.K.Paul Singh
Director,BEL.

Pastor i.R.Helmuth Borutta
Schlüterstr.6
8500 Nürnberg 30
West Germany

Nürnberg,16.II.1987

Herrn
Dr.C.K.Paul Singh
G.E.L.Church Compound
R a n c h i Bihar INDIA

Lieber Bruder Singh!

Vor einigen Tagen habe ich mich an Bruder Grothaus gerichtet,um von ihm Material für meine Ho-Arbeit zu bekommen. Er gab mir den guten Rat,daß ich mich an Sie wenden sollte.Das tue ich hiermit und hoffe,daß ich recht bald von Ihnen Nachricht erhalten werde.

Ich brauche Material über den Verlauf der Missionsarbeit der S.P.G. unter den Hos,die 1869 begonnen hat.Der erste Missionar der englischen Mission ist Missionar Krüger gewesen,der die deutsche Mission verlassen hat.Was ist aus ihm geworden,wer waren seine Nachfolger unter den Hos?Ich bin in dem Besitz von"The Cross over Chotanagpur 1845 -1857."Der Verfasser ist Rev.S.K.Patro.Er hat einiges gebracht,leider reicht das nicht aus.Ich möchte mehr Informationen.Wenn Sie mir ein Buch,es kann auch alt sein,verschaffen könnten,würde ich mich sehr freuen.

Das Buch von Dilbar Hans habe ich.Dieses Buch bringt nichts über die Geschichte der Mission,und gerade daran bin ich sehr interessiert.Vielleicht finden Sie so ein informierendes Buch in einem Laden oder bei einem alten Pastor der S.P.G.Für die Unkosten komme ich selbsverständlich auf.Mir ist alles alte Material in Englisch,es kann auch neues über die Hos sein,sehr willkommen.

Die Jesuiten haben auch über die Hos geschrieben und über die Arbeit in Kolhan.Es ist nur schwer fast unmöglich von denen etwas zu erhalten.

Mein zweiter Wunsch ist,Informationen vom gegenwärtigen Stand, Erfolg und Ausdehnung der Arbeit unter den Hos zu erhalten.Hier könnten Sie mir helfen.Ich habe an Bruder Hans nach Chaibassa geschrieben.Antwort habe ich nicht erhalten.Da der Scheck,den ich eingelegt hatte,nicht eingelöst wurde,nehme ich an,daß der Brief verloren gegangen ist.Fordern Sie ihn doch,bitte,auf,daß er mir einmal schreibt.

Mein dritter Wunsch ist:Nennen Sie mir doch einen einflußreichen Ho,der bereit wäre auf Fragen,die sich auf Missionsarbeit unter den Hos beziehen,zu korrespondieren.

Ihren Aufsatz in dem Jubiläumsheft"150 Jahre Gossner Mission" habe ich mit innerer Anteilnahme gelesen.Hoffentlich erkennt die Gossner Mission,die Mission Goßners in Indien wieder kräftig zu unterstützen.Darüber würde ich mich sehr freuen.

Meine Frau und ich grüßen Sie und Ihre Familie sehr herzlich und wünschen Ihnen Gottes reichen Segen für Sie alle und Ihre Arbeit.

Ihr

H. Borutta

P.S. Von Bruder Grothaus hörte ich, daß Sie nach Deutschland kommen, bitte planen Sie einen Besuch in Nürnberg ein

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Ref. Memo No 5/87/BEL - 2

The 3-3-87

Rev. C. Hembrom
OSW Bochum
Girondelle - 78 b, Haus 1
4630 Bochum
(W.Germany)

Dear Rev. Hembrom,

Thank you very much for your kind letters at 24th Jan. & 16th Feb. 87. I am sorry I could not reply you soon. I was on visit programmes first in West Bengal (with a work camp and seminar), and in Assam. Thereafter I was quite busy in KSS meetings.

First of all I would like to congratulate you both for the new born son a German boy of Indian parents. Today I went to enquire about your marriage Certificate, but the Asst. Manager Mr. Ramanathan told that it is with the Consolate (FGR) in Calcutta. You have to write directly to them for the same. Mr. Ramanathan also sends his congratulations to you both.

In the KSS dt. 26.28 Feb. 87 we have agreed to have long waited dialogue with "NWGELC". Now I hope Gossner Mission would take positive actions with this regard. It seems that I have to attend the Kuratorium meetings in Mainz during May 1987. I shall be writing a letter to the Director with this regard. At Ranchi since some days it is raining, so the temperature is quite pleasing. We shall have seminar and Training programmes from 18th March here at Ranchi, evaluating our 'Five Points Programme' (FPP) for which all supervisors of M/Fs have been invited. In continuation of the seminar is the Training Programme.

In India at present common people as well as other people are discussing about the budget 1987-88 presented by our Prime Minister. Semilar in various states there are sessions for budget and in some states people

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G. E. L. Church. Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 28358

The _____

are preparing foe state celections like West Bengal and Jamu & Kashmir, with the Punjab has still the burning question of Terrorists.

With seasonal Greetings,

Yours Sincerely
C. K. Paul Singh
Rev. Dr.C.K.Paul Singh
Director, BEL.

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Regd. under Societies Registration act. XXI of 1860)

Director & Secretary
Rev. Dr. C. K. Paul Singh. B.D. Dr. Theol. (Berlin)

C. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo No 6/87/BEL - 2

The 3-3-87

Pastor D. Hecker
Mission Director, GM
Handjery Str. 19/20
1000 BERLIN 41
W. Germany

Dear Pastor Hecker,

This is my first letter to you in this year 1987. I am sorry due to various inconveniences and reasons I could not write you earlier. I was waiting for field reports after wich I could have prepared my annual reports, but the reports were delayed, longer than expected. Meanwhile I was out on tour to West Bengal m/f (with a work camp for diging a Tank for fishery in the property of GELC m/f and seminar in regard with Five Points Programme) and to Assam for participating in a Jubilee programme at Tezpur, we could not visit Karbi Anglong m/f due to non availability of place in Ferry boat to cross Bruhmaputra and also partly due to shortage of time. We had to come 4 day earlier to get ourselves prepared for the important KSS meeting scheduled for Feb. 26-28, 1987. In our KSS meeting as per agenda we took up the matter of dialogue with "NWGELC" and this took a positive decision requesting the GM to credit plateform and situation for such dialogue.
Today I also went to the travel Agent for enquiring about my possible trip to Germany for attending the Kuratorium meetings in May. Till now I have not yet received any formal notice or invitation with this regard, but as per Protokoll of Indian Auschuss I could gather that I am expected to attend the Kuratorium in Mainz. If so please send a formal invitation with this regard and also information about duration of my possible stay in Germany.

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Director & Secretary
Rev. Dr. C. K. Paul Singh. B.D. Dr. Thel. (Berlin)

Ref. Memo No.....

G. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

The .....

During last visit Kuratorium from Emden was requesting me to vivit East Friesia, please contact him for the same. I may go from Mainz to visit some of the churches/congregations in West Germany. I would like to stay 3-4 working days in Berlin. I would like to study the Biene of early dates 1845 - 55. I am not quite sure whether the friends of DDR would like to have my visit programme there, as Rev. Toppo will be there a fresh for visiting the churches. There is a possibility of my stay till Kirchen Tag in Frankfurt - time scheduled unknown to me, and fly back directly from there. I enquired about the cost of Ticket up to Frankfurt, it is Rs.9981 - but it is again Calcutta - Delhi- Frankfurt. ~~There is~~ and back to Calcutta. There is no concession ticket Ranchi - Delhi- Frankfurt. If I shal take ticket Ranchi - Delhi- Frankfurt, it costs more, along other costs it comes up to Rs.12000.-

We all are doing well. Herewith I am enclosing the Yearly Report (1988).

With greetings and thanks.

Yours Sincerely

C. K. Paul Sh

Rev. Dr.C.K.Paul Singh
Director,BEL.

BOARD OF EVANGELISM AND LITERATURE

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Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo No 6/87/BEL - 2

The 3-3-87

Pastor D. Hecker
Mission Director, GM
Handjery Str. 19/20
1000 BERLIN 41
W. Germany

Dear Pastor Hecker,

This is my first letter to you in this year 1987. I am sorry due to various inconveniences and reasons I could not write you earlier. I was waiting for field reports after wich I could have prepared my annual reports, but the reports were delayed, longer than expected. Meanwhile I was out on tour to West Bengal m/f (with a work camp for diging a Tank for fishery in the property of GELC m/f and seminar in regard with Five Points Programme) and to Assam for participating in a Jubilee programme at Tezpur, we could not visit Karbi Anglong m/f due to non availability of place in Ferry boat to cross Bruhmaputra and also partly due to shortage of time. We had to come 4 day earlier to get ourselves prepared for the important KSS meeting scheduled for Feb. 26-28, 1987. In our KSS meeting as per agenda we took up the matter of dialogue with "NWGELC" and this took a positive decision requesting the GM to credit plateform and situation for such dialogue.
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Rev. Dr. C. K. Paul Singh. B.D. Dr. Thel. (Berlin)

G. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 28358

Ref. Memo No.....

The .....

Contd 2

During last visit Kuratorium from Emden was requesting me to vivit East Friesia, please contact him for the same. I may go from Mainz to visit some of the churches/congregations in West Germany. I would like to stay 3-4 working days in Berlin. I would like to study the Biene of early dates 1845 - 55. I am not quite sure whether the friends of DDR would like to have my visit programme there, as Rev. Toppo will be there a fresh for visiting the churches. There is a possibility of my stay till Kirchen Tag in Frankfurt - time scheduled unknown to me, and fly back directly from there. I enquired about the cost of Ticket up to Frankfurt, it is Rs.9981 - but it is again Calcutta - Delhi- Frankfurt. ~~There is~~ and back to Calcutta. There is no concession ticket Ranchi - Delhi- Frankfurt. If I shal take ticket Ranchi - Delhi- Frankfurt, it costs more, along other costs it comes up to Rs.12000.-

We all are doing well. Herewith I am enclosing the Yearly Report (1985).

With greetings and thanks,

Yours Sincerely

C. K. Paul Singh

Rev. Dr.C.K.Paul Singh
Director,BEL.

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G. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo No 54/86/BEL - 2

The 17-10-86

Rev. D. Hecker
Director Gossner Mission
Handjery Str 19/20
1000 BERLIN 41
GERMANY

Dear Rev. Hecker,

Thank you very much for your kind letter dt. 2.10.86 though I know that you are leaving Berlin this day for India I am addressing this letter to you, expecting that you might have left instructions regarding my return reservation, etc.

As earlier written my ticketing is being done by the Eastern Travel, Main Road Ranchi and the tickets have been booked for Indian Air Lines and PAN AM for Cal - Ranchi - Delhi - Frankfurt - Berlin and back. Return ticket is also for the same Air Lines.

Ticket for Calcutta (Ranchi - Delhi - Frankfurt and back has the No. 026 9411725022 and ticket for Frankfurt - Berlin and back has the No. 0269 215268602.

Please take steps to make reservation from Berlin to Frankfurt on 16th Dec. '86 and from Frankfurt to Delhi on 19th Dec. all by PAN AM and from Delhi to Ranchi (not to Calcutta) on 20th Dec. 1986, by Indian Air Lines. I hope the points are clear and return reservations can be made conveniently.

With greetings and thanks.

Your Sincerely
C. K. Paul
Rev.Dr.C.K.Paul Singh
Director, BEL

BOARD OF EVANGELISM AND LITERATURE

Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church
(Regd. under Societies Registration act XXI of 1860)

Director & Secretary
Rev. Dr. C. K. Paul Singh, B. D, Dr. Theol. (Berlin)

G. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No. 5386/16·E·L·2

The 9th Oct. 1986

Pastor Gerhad Linn
CWME, WCC
150 ROUTE DE FERNEY
PO Box No. 66
1211 GENEVA 20
Switzerland

Lieber Bruder Linn !
Haben Sie herzlichen Dank für den Brief von 20.Sep. 1986.Ich freue mich sehr für die Möglichkeit und den Den in DDR in nächsten Monaten. Ich danke Ihnen sehr,daß Sie für verschiedenene Progammen eingeleitet haben.
Ich habe schon meine Flugkarte bestellt und werde ich am 13.Nov. 1986 in Berlin eintreffen.Ich habe einige Tage für Besuch in Genf eingeplant. Ich wurde hier beraten, daß ich meine Flugkarte Frankfurt-Genf und zurück in Berlin bestelle. Die Flugkarte Ranchi-Delhi-Frankfurt-Berlin und zurück kostet Rs. 12629.-
Sie können den Beitrag zu unserem Konto Nr. CD 668, GEL Church in Chotanagpur and Assam,MainRoad,Ranchi,BRANCH überwisen lassen.

Ich habe bis jetzt die genaue Tageordnung für die Tagung in Chorin bei BERLIN noch nicht bekommen.Wenn ich besonders über ein Thema zu sprechen habe ,möchte ich gerne das Thema rechrzeitig vorher bekommen. Bin ich dort als Teilnehmer oder als Resource Person eingeladen,ist mir noch nicht klar.Ich hatte einen Brief auf diesen Hinsicht schon geschrieben, aber bis jetzt habe ich keinen Na Nachricht bekommen. Ich habe auch einen Brief an Herrn Pastor Hecker geschrieb ben und gebeten daß er für mich den Nachricht mitbringt. Ich hoffe sehr,wenn er mit der Gruppe hier eintrft, brit er die Nötige auch mit.

Ich frue mich auf unser WiederSehen sehr und hoffe ich ,daß wir Zeit haben über verschiedeneSache zu diskutieren.

Mit herzlichen Dank und viele Grüße,

bin ich Ihr

C. K. Paul Sh

BOARD OF EVANGELISM AND LITERATURE

Gossner Evengelical Lutheran Church
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Director & Secretary
Rev. Dr. C. K. Paul Singh, B.D. Dr. Theol. (Berlin)

G. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo No 52/86/BEL - 2

The 6-10-86

Rev.D.Hecker,
Director, GM
Handjery Str. 19/20
1000 BERLIN 41
GERMANY

Dear Rev. Hecker,

Through your letter to the Pramukh Adhyaksh I came to know that you did not receive my letter dt. 12.9.86. In that letter I had informed you about the exact date of my arrival in Berlin.
I shall leave Delhi by PAN AM on 13th Nov. at 5.30 AM and reach BERLIN at 10.00 AM on 13th. Nov. and proceed to BERLIN by PAN AM at 11.55 and reach Berlin at 12.55 P.M. I may be able to stay back in Europe till 20/21 Dec. '86. I would like to be at home latest by 22nd Dec. Hence I may be able to make a trip to GENEVA. Today I received a letter to this effect. I may take an extra flight from Frankfurt.
Rgarding detail tour programme for guests from Germany date and places have been almost finalised I am sorry to inform you that a trip to W. Bengal m/f is not possible. The floods have damaged the roads and bridges I visited the area in the last week of Sept. '86 and came back with much difficulties. So Pramukh Adhyaksh is arranging dates and places of West Bengal in Purulia area for that group and any of the local group will be in charge of the group, as I am unable to speak Bengali language. I hope the trip for that group will be successful.

We all are doing well and hope to see you here in good health.

With thanks,

Yours Sincerely
C.K.Paul Singh
Rev.Dr.C.K.Paul Singh
Director,BEL.

BOARD OF EVANGELISM AND LITERATURE

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G. E. L. Church. Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23858

Ref. Memo No 45/86/BEL - 2

The 12-9-86

Pastor D. Hecker,
Director, GM.
Handjery Sty. 19/20
1000 BERLIN 41
GERMANY

Dear Pastor Hecker,

You might have received my letter along with the copy of Half Yearly Report. Today I am sending this letter just to inform you about my exact date of arrival in Berlin. I shall be flying by PAN AM on 13th Nov. '86 at 5.30 AM and reach FrankFurt by 10.00 A.M. on the same day and proceed to BERLIN with a PAN AM flight at 11.55 AM reaching BERLIN at 12.££ P.M. I have asked the Travel agent to leqve the return journey open. But I would take to be back in Ranchi by 21/22 Dec. '86. I do not know yet whether my trip to Geneva is possible ? Pastor Linn has not yet written difinitely regarding that. I have also not yet received a particular theme if to be spoken by me in the consultation on mission in GDR. Please contact Pastor E. Schulzgen whether he has any particular message for me to be brought by you in October 1986. or my CSR Papers.

We are looking forward to your visit of our church. Though at present situation in and around Ranchi, seems to be very tense, we are arranging programmes for your stay and visits. When we receive your detail and particular groups- interest, we shall try to arrange the Programmes accordingly.

We all are doing well and send our greetings to you and all members in GM office as well as in your family.

Yours Sincerely
C. K. Paul Sh
Rev.Dr.C.K.Paul Singh
Director, BEL

BOARD OF EVANGELISM AND LITERATURE

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G. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo No 36/86/BEL - 2

The 18-6-86

Rev.D.Hecker
Mission Director, GM
Handjery Str. 19/20
1000 BERLIN 41
GERMANY

Dear Rev. Hecker,

Thank you very much for your kind letters including fresh INVITATION CERTIFICATE and statement form for financial grant and requirements. As we have ample time for traveling preparations, to day I am here under giving the financial statement as required by you:

1- Amount of regular grant -

1984 -- Rs. 6,65,969=99
1985 -- Rs. 7,23,010=73

2- Amount needed in 1986

(1) Actual salary (m/f) and
(2) Central Budget -- Rs. 7,94,834=88
(3) New Pay Scale Implemented
June (1986) -- Rs. 1,70,000=00 (ca)
(4) Misc. -- -- Rs. 1,00,000=00

Rs. 10,64,834=88

3- Amount credited so far - Rs. 2,80,583=62

4- Acconnt : Amount for BEL has to be transferred in a/c No. CD 668 Indian Overseas Bank, GEL Church in Chotanagpur and Assam.

Since 1983 we are paying the m/f workers 27% less of the highest pay bill 1983. This deficit was met by the field income or some helps from the Anchals. From this month (June 1986) we are implementing new pay scale in the church by which church workers are benefitted Pracharaks Rs.50-65 and Pastors Rs. 125 to 200 variously including P.F. and Pen.F. contributions. Therefore the payment of BEL also shall increase.

BOARD OF EVANGELISM AND LITERATURE

Gossner Evengelical Lutheran Church
Regd. under Societies Registration act. XXI of 1860)

Director & Secretary
Rev. Dr. C. K. Paul Singh. B.D. Dr. Thel. (Berlin)

*Ref. Memo No*_____

G. E. L. Church. Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

The _____

Thus there shall be higher percentage of deduction,. By meeting these deductions we are unable to carry out other programmes in the field. I have therefore added an amount for miscellaneous expenses. I, therefore, suggest and request that higher amount possible for GM be given to BEL. It is also a point, if we get higher salary (in 1986) after a 27% cut in earlier and again less amount in following years, it is not good. We shall try to adjust ourselves as far as possible.

I hope, when we meet either in India or in Germany, we shall talk about these things.

With greetings and cordial Yishu Sahay,

Yours Sincerely

C. K. Paul Singh

Rev. Dr. C. K. Paul Singh
Director, BEL.

Gossner Mission

Handjerystraße 19–20
1000 Berlin 41 (Friedenau)
Fernsprecher: (0 30) 85 10 21

Gossner Mission · Handjerystraße 19–20 · 1000 Berlin 41 (Friedenau)

Dr. Paul Singh
Director BEL
KSS-Office
GEL Church Compound
Ranchi - 834 001
Bihar
INDIA

☐ Indien
☐ Nepal
☐ Zambia
☐ Öffentlichkeit
☐ Gemeindedienst
☐ Verwaltung

Berlin, den 29.5.1986

Dear Dr. Singh!

As you will know, Gossner Mission is in a tight position financially in the next few years. One reason for that is, that we had to buy and repair at high costs the buildings of our centre at Mainz, the other is an change in the pattern of church taxes. This makes it very difficult for our supporting churches to increase their grants to us, although we could maintain them so far. We shall be able to keep our commitments to the different institutions of G.E.L. Church and related to her in the way as we did so far, but we do have serious difficulties with the increase of our subsidies. We have offered an increase of about 20 % in 1986 compared to 1985 to your institution. Since the exchange rate of the Rupee has gone up according to the German Mark, this might bring some relief for the time being. We therefore suggest, that for this year we shall give a 20 % increase in the regular grant of the past years, if you do need it. Since there have been a few uncertainties with accounts also, we would ask you to furnish us the following informations till June of July, so that we can operate the remaining remittances for the rest of 1985 as early as possible:

1.) Amount of regular grant in Rs.
received in 1984 _____ 1985 _____

2.) Amount in Rs. needed in 1986
(upto 20 % more than 1984/85) _____

3.) Amount credited so far in 1986:

4.) Which account should be used, if any change is necessary.

Looking forward to hearing from you soon and wishing you all the best, I remain

Yours sincerely,

Dieter Hecker

Rev. Dieter Hecker

cc: Rev. Mohan M.G.

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Director & Secretary
Rev. Dr. C. K. Paul Singh. B.D. Dr. Thel. (Berlin)

G. E. L. Church. Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 29358

Ref. Memo No 35/86/BEL - 2

The 2-6-86

Dr.Satoru Kishii
Department of Church Co-operation
(L.W.F)
P.O. Box 66
CH - 1211 Geneva 20
Switzerland

Dear Dr. Kishii,

During the last week of May 1986 two separate copies of the form for statement of Expenditure "Action for Witness" 1984 and 1985 were handed over to me to be dully filled and returned to you. I am sorry to say that for 1984 I had already submitted the statement to the head office of our church along with the application for 1986 to be sent to you. Unfortunately it did not reach to your office, I am glad to send the same along with a copy of the descriptive report direct to you. For 1985 we received the amount very late (19.5.1986). Due to various reasons and uncertainties we could not conduct seminars and meetings as planned however we had three seminars. 'Refresher Courses in different places in which 94 participants (laities 76, clergy 12 and women 6) were present. Our main theme is 'Evangelisation and self-Reliance'. In the second half of the year we shall conduct some more Seminars and meetings, we have still 1/3 of the amount as balance.

I shall submit the final report later on.

With thanks and greetings,

Encl.
as stated above.

Yours Sincerely
C.K.P.S.
Rev.Dr.C.K.Paul Singh
Director,BEL

BOARD OF EVANGELISM AND LITERATURE

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G. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo No. 84/86/B.E.L.-2

The 21.Mai 1986

Hrrn Oberkirchenrat Martin Ziegler
Bund der Evangelischen Kirchen in DDR
1040 BERLIN
Augustus Str. 20

Btr.: Ihr Brief A3900-1113/86

Sehr geehrter Herr Oberkirchenrat,lieber Bruder Ziegler!
Zuerst möchte ich Ihnen für den brief und die Einladung sehr herzlich danken. Wie schon geplant,werde ich vorausichtlich zwischen Nov.20 bis Dez. 20 1986 Deutschland besuchen. So habe ich auf die Einladung der Gossner Mission,Berlin(West) schon für das Visum beantragt. Jetzt wird es etwas schwierig für mich,schon am 18.Nov. dahin zu fahren, um an die Konsultation voraussichtlich teilnehmen zu können. Ich weiß nicht, ob Sie den Termin für zwei/drei Tage später verstzen können. Ich schriebe an Herrn Missions-director in Berlin (West)und ich bitte ihn um eine Möglichkeit heraus zu finden. Je nach der Möglichkeit möchte ich meinen Besuchsdienst in der DDR frtführen.

In brüderlicher Verbundenheit
grüße ich Sie

Ihr

C. K. Paul Singh

BOARD OF EVANGELISM AND LITERATURE

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Rev. Dr. C. K. Paul Singh. B.D. Dr. Thel. (Berlin)

G. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo No 32/86/BEL- 2

The 21-5-86

Pastor D.Hecker
Director, Gossner Mission
Handjery Str. 19/20
1000 BERLIN 41

Dear Pastor Hecker,

On 13th May I sent a letter through Dr. Willibald Jacob, who went to Germany. I hope you might have received the same. Meanwhile I received a letter from Pastor Linn and Herr Martin Ziegler from Bund der Evangelischen Kirchen inviting me for a consultation on Mission to be held during Nov. 19-21, 1986. As per your invitation letter I have applied for visa from Nov. 20 to Dec. 20, 1986 with other supporting letters and documents, so it will be now in-convenient for me to be there from 19th Nov. '86. I do not know whether Brother Linn can shift the date a little later, which is perhaps not quite possible. Please contact him and try to settle the date. Other possibility is that you have to send a fresh invitation letter for me with a date Nov. 17 - Dec. 20, 1986 for applying afresh for visa. I need a day or two in the West to buy some worth clothes, speciall a winter coat. I am writing two separate letters to DDR requesting the friends to shift the date. Please send the letters to them.

Thanking you,

Yours Sincerely
C.K.P.S.
Rev.Dr.C.K.Paul Singh
Director,BEL

BOARD OF EVANGELISM AND LITERATURE

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(Regd. under Societies Registration act XXI of 1860)

Director & Secretary
Rev. Dr. C. K. Paul Singh, B. D: Dr. Theol. (Berlin)

G. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No. 33/86/13. Gen. 2

The 21.Mai 1986

Herrn Pfr.Gerhard Linn,OKR
Evangelische Konsistorium
BERLIN-BRANDENBURG
1020 Berlin
Neue Grünstraße 19-22
DDR

Lieber Bruder Linn!
Haben Sie herzlichen Dank für Ihren Brief von 6.5.1986 und die Einladung zur Konsultation vom 19 bis 22 Nov. 1986 in Kloster Chorin bei Berlin. Wie Ihnen schon mitgeteilt ,werde ich voraussichtlich zwischen Nov. 20 bis Dez.20, 1986 Deutschland besuchen. Ich hoffe ,Sie haben meinen Brief von Herrn Dr. Willibald Jakob erhalten.Ich habe schon an die Behörden von Bundes Reblik um das Visum beantragt. Es wird vielleicht schwierig für mich, schon am 17/18 Nov. dahin zu fahren,wenn das Visum nicht verändert wird. Ich weß nicht, ob Sie die Konsultation für zwei/drei Tage später versetzen können. Ich schreibe an Herrn Missionsdirektor, Gossner Mission,Berlin(West) und bitte ihn um eine Möglichkeit herauszu finden. Ich möchte auch Sie sehr herzlich bitten um mit ihm in verbindung zu setzen,so daß einen günstigen Termin herausgefunden werd werden kann.Je nach der Möglichkeit werde ich meinen besuchsdienst in DDR fortsetzen. Ich freue mich sehr, daß auf dieser Weise werdewir unsere Partnerschaft befästigen wollen.

Mit herzlichen Dank und Grüßen

Ihr

C. K. Paul Singh

BOARD OF EVANGELISM AND LITERATURE

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G. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo No 19/86/BEL - 2

The 13-5-86

Pastor D.Hecker,
Director,Gossner Mission
Handjery Str, 19/20
1000 BERLIN 41

Dear Pastor Hecker,

Thank you very much for the 2nd detail invitation for attending meetings and participation in other programmes. Though the 2nd invitation certificate is without stamp of the Gossner Mission, I hope it will do for the visa application to the General Consulate of FRG, Calcutta. I have already got my passport, now I have to get other travel clearance. To avoid all last moment rush, I am starting the process through Eastern Travel Main Road Ranchi. I enquired about the fare of AIR TICKET Ranchi- Delhi - Frankfurt - Berlin and BERLIN - FRANKFURT - DELHI - RANCHI it came to ca. Rs. 12,000/- I request you to kindly remitt the amount at your earliest conveniences.

I shall be applying for visa to visit Germany for the period Nov. 21 to Dec. 22, 1986, please arrange my programmes accordingly. These days we are getting on well, and are busy in scheduling our different programmes for seminar season bible classes and retreats etc. We had a Volunteers' Training Programmes for volunteers' from different mission fields, we had altogether 22 participants. I was planning to have another programme for seminar of Headmasters and Ilaka Chairmen, but due to accomodation problem it is still not fixed. In Theological College there are examinations till middle of June, it may still go further, I may consider for the last week of June 86 .

It is a matter of joy that home ministry has released the bank a/c, so that we can again operate our accounts and get our money.

With greetings from us all,

Yours Sincerely
C.K.P.S.
Rev.Dr.C.K.Paul Singh
Director,BEL

Gossner Mission

Handjerystraße 19–20
1000 Berlin 41 (Friedenau)
Fernsprecher: (0 30) 85 10 21

Gossner Mission · Handjerystraße 19–20 · 1000 Berlin 41 (Friedenau)

To the
G.E.L. Church
KSS-Office
G.E.L. Church Compound
Ranchi 834 001 - India

☐ Indien
☐ Nepal
☐ Zambia
☐ Öffentlichkeit
☐ Gemeindedienst
☐ Verwaltung

Berlin, den

CERTIFICATE:

This is to certify, that Gossner Mission in Berlin (West Germany) has invited Dr. C.K.Paul Singh, pastor of G.E.L. Church at Ranchi for a visit to Germany for about two months in November/December 1986 for attending a meeting of our Kuratorium and visiting different parishes and congregations.Gossner Mission will bear all the costs for his travels and his stay in Germany. This is meant to deepen the relationships between the G.E.L. Church in India and the German churches.

Berlin, 3rd March 1986

Dieter Hecker.
(Rev. Dieter Hecker)
Director Gossner Mission

From:
C. S. R. Topno
C/o. Pfr. P. Domke
Wilhelm Pieck St. 2
DDR 7832, Premnitz

The 28th Feb. 1986.

To
Rev. Dr. C. K. P. Singh
BEL (K. S. S.) Office, Ranchi.

Dear Sir,

Greetings to you in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. I took time in writing to you with a hope that I could write you in German, but unfortunately I am still far behind in framing correct sentences. Please excuse me.

After my arrival in DDR I have been already in 4 places.
(1) New Zittau – 1 week with Pfr. Martin Richter and family.
(2) Saarmund – near Potsdam, One month, with Pastor Heinz Meixner and family.
(3) Schlalach – near Treuenbrietzen, four months, with Pastor Volker Kunick and family. (4) Premnitz – with Domkes.

I felt the compulsion of German language as people even the Pastors do not understand and speak English. So I began to learn German since Sept. 19, guided by a Teacher. I have also continued it still here in Premnitz, (in Schlalach, I used to go to Treuenbrietzen every morning except Saturdays and Sundays for my Deutschunterricht).

In order to learn the Church life and administration, I normally accompany the Pastor in his daily work. I also have some special programmes, such as meeting particular group of people, or particular Church, state, or Plant authority, time to time. But every where I felt, language is the barrier in our understanding one another. I am afraid, I have not been able to learn much, due to this difficulty.

I would be glad if you could send me an information about the present situation of the Gossner Church. I am also interested to have your annual report, as often times, I am asked about the mission work of the Gossner Church.

I do not know whether the problems you raised, with regard to disparity of salaries are solved ?

I am keeping well, and remember you all in my prayers. Please convey my greetings to your wife and children. Please also convey my greetings to Rev. John Kandulna and Sri. Halam & Sons.

With kind regards,

Yours Sincerely :

C. Saben Royan & Sons.

3/8/2/86

P.S. I am in Premnitz since 14/2/86, and will be here till 3/4/86.

BOARD OF EVANGELISM AND LITERATURE

Gossner Evengelical Lutheran Church
Regd. under Societies Registration act. XXI of 1860)

Director & Secretary
Rev. Dr. C. K. Paul Singh, B.D. Dr. Thel. (Berlin)

G. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo No 14/86/BEL - 2

The 12-3-86

The Mission Director
Pastor D.Hecker
Handjery Str. 19/20
1000 Berlin 41 (Friedenau)

Dear Pastor, Hecker,

Thank you very much for your kind letter dt. 4.3.86 and the contents therein.

In view of my part time teaching in Theological College and the cold season in Nov./Dec. I had expressed my invitation intention to attend the Kuratorium meeting in April. According to my other programmes of BEL Nov./Dec. trip to Germany suite me better. Accordingly I would like to know the exact dates of my arrival in Berlin and departure to Ranchi back, so that I can also plan my other programmes, likewise I also would like the exact dates mentioned in the invitation letter/Certificate my name given as Rev. Dr. Christ Kumar Paul Singh, a minister of Religion in GEL Church, Ranchi.

This is how I have already applied for my passport, the invitation letter has to be submitted later, therefore kindly send a fresh invitation certificate/letter. I have asked the Eastern Travels, Main Road Ranchi to prepare my travel documents, Dr.Bage and others have also done through this travel agent. I hope my ticketing also will be done by them. Pramukh Adhyaksh is also contacting the same agent for your arrangements and he advised me to go there. It will be easy and better for me if you would arrange to send the price of the ticket to the Travel agency.

Rev.Dr.Bage is not yet have and therefore it is not quite sure whether he would go to Germany for attending the meetings.

We have enough time for further Correspondence in regard with my travel but as you have t plan for the programmes, so do I also. Therefore please do the things it will be fruitful our church as well as the churches in Germany.

With best wishes and thanks and seasonal greetings to you and in the Gossner Mission and your family from us all.

Please pass on the enclosed letter to Rev. CSR Topno.

Yours Sincerely
C. K. Paul Singh
(Rev.Dr.C.K.Paul Singh)
Director,BEL

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Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo No 6/86/BEL- 2

The 24 - 2 - 86

Rev.D.Hecker
Mission Director
Gossner Mission
Handjery Str. 19/20
1000 BERLIN 41

Dear Rev. Hecker,

You might have received a letter from the Pramukh Adhyaksh informing you that KSS in its last meeting (dt.Feb. 15-18, 1986) has nominated me to represent the GELChurch in the Kuratorium of the Gossner Mission.

I would like to know about the schedule of the meetings of Kuratorium in 1986 and also your suggestions and proposals as to which meeting/meetings I should attend. As I have already some programmes fixed for April, I would prefer to attend the meeting in Sep./Oct. 1986. I would like to request you to kindly send a formal invitation to this effect, So that I can apply for passport and other travel documents in due time. The validity of my passport has expired long ago and I have to apply afresh for a new passport. Your early reply may help me to finalise my programmes here and also to give sometime before or after the Kuratorium meetings.

In the said KSS meetings two young men are also nominated to visit the churches in GDR (and EGR) in April and Pramukh Adhyaksh along with Rev. C.S.R. Topno shall participate in the Jubilee programmes of Gossner Mission. This I mention specially so that my going to Germany may be meaningful and fruitful for GELC as well as for the churches in Germany.

Herewith I am sending a copy of our Yearly Report (1985) on the work of BEL and also the minute of our last BEL meeting for your information and record.

With hearty greetings to your family members and the friends in Gossner Mission.

Encl:
As stated above.

Sincerely Yours
C.K.Paul Singh
Rev.Dr.C.K.Paul Singh
Director,BEL.

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Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo No 47/85/B.E.L. - 3

The 29-8-85

Pastor D.Hecker
Director, GM
1000 BERLIN 41
Handjery Str. 19/20

Dear Pastor Hecker,

Almost a month ago I sent a letter with notes about your Report on Indian visit. I hope you might have received the same . Herewith I am sending the Half Yearly Report Jan-June 1985 for your information and record . I am also sending our article 'New Approach in Gospel-Work in GELC' as requested by you for the 'GOSSNER MISSION' bi-monthly paper. I hope it is some like you expected from me, if it is too long you may reduce it for your purpose.

The article is also written in view of a Seminar / confrence to be held in Nov. '85 in Madras, to which I suppose, Gossner Mission is also requested to send a delegate, from GELC the Pramukh Adhyaksh and my self shall be attending the confrence.

At present in Ranchi things are going well, though many uncertainties. The construction programme of the multipurpose building has to be stopped as some of our people filed an injunction - suit - in the court. I am rather worried about it, specially because in the construction list the project Leadership Training Centre is in the second pre-ference, thus if that construction is delayed, I do not know when our project is to be started.

As the situation in Ranchi with this ~~regard~~ respect seems to be very delicate I am planning some other way out to carry out and implement the five points new approach in Gospel Work. I shall be talking about these not only in our next Refresher course Classes but also in the next 'Kalisha Sangh' to be held at Ranchi on 15th - 18th Oct '85. Although the activities shall not be better even after the 'Kalisha Sangh' but atleast the planning will be known to them.

We all are doing well including my family members, and greet you all.

With thanks,

Yours Sincerely
C. K. Paul Singh
(Rev.Dr.C.K.Paul Singh)
Director,B.E.L.

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Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo No 61/84/BEL - 2

The 15.12.84

Pastor D.Hecker
Handjery Str. 19/20
1000 Berlin 41
West Germany

Dear Pastor Hecker,

After a long silence I am writing this letter to you. First of all I would like to thank you for the Book which you sent for me through Dr.M. Bage. On behalf of all the workers in m/fs under BEL I express my thanks to GM for the timely transfer of amounts meant for BEL work.

Herewith I am enclosing the latest minutes of the BEL. In it the Budget for 1985 has been given. Though we know that this is too much to be requested from GM, as the GM has its fixed amount in the Budget. At present we are paying the workers 27% less in their salary as worked out and agreed for 1983. The same amount is still continuing. In the meeting I raised the point of 'Rethinking for the work of BEL', but nothing came out concret. We hope, when you visit us some times next year, this point has to be discussed in detail and concrete.

As you might have come to know through discussions with Dr.Bage, some of our activities are not quite satisfactory. I am also not satisfied, but things can not be changed, they remain in decisions only. Rev.M.Tete has raised the point of "Rethinking" but he himself is doing otherwise. The construction work in Baghima of Madhya Anchal is running almost in the same line as that Theological college building. Thus huge amount has been already spent, no where in the m/f has been spent so much amoun and no where in the m/f construction work has been done so badly.

Due to new amendments to the foreign contribution Act, for which Registration has to be made by the receiving organisation with the Home Ministry. Inspite of my repeated reminder still nothing concrete has been done. If by 31st Dec. it is not registered no money could be transferred from 1st Jan. 85. I would like to request if it is possible please trans fer the 1st installment for BEL as early as possible. I hope by now you might have heard the result of our elections in the church. Rev.M.Tete has become the Up-Pramukh. Other officers in KSS are the same persons who were during Dr.M.Bage. I have been again co-opted to become the member in the KSS. I am still not sure whether I may be able to do the job as co-opted in the KSS for the whole term.

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The .....

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We had our Refresher Classes in Sitapur/Surguja for NW Anchal and M.Anchal, but could not go there as my wife was seriously ill and was hospitalised for almost eight days. There was arrangements that others of our Board were there. In Manoharpur there was another Refresher Class for S.E. Anchal and O. Anchal m/fs workers.

During 24th and 27th of Dec. '84 we have general election in India. There is a fear of disturbances and unwarranted incidents, adequate preparations are being made to meet the situation.

With many seasonal Greetings and Good Wishes for the Christmas,

Sincerely yours

C. K. Paul Singh

Rev.Dr.C.K.Paul Singh
Director,BEL

Copy:-
Prof. Dr.Grothaus .

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Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo No. 45/84/BEL - 2

The 18.8.84

Pastor Dieter Hecker
Mission Director, GM
Handjery Str 19/20
1000 Berlin 41

Dear Rev. Hecker,

This is my first letter since you have been elected to become the Director of Gossner Mission. I congratulate you and wish you along with your family God's blessings and guidance for your manyfold responsibilities at home and abroad, that people will be blessed abundantly through your works. I assure you my all possible co-operation with you, especially in regard with the tasks here for His glory.

Herewith I am sending an half Yearly report of Board of Evangelism and Literature. The report is very brief evaluating some of the weaknesses in our works, there are also good works done in various places, which are commendable and fruitful. However in total they are not as good as they should be. I hope you will have some time to discuss some of these points with Rev. Dr. M.Bage, while he will be in Germany in these months.

I am very much worried and concerned about the financial aspect of the work, for this I have repeatedly said and pointed out since I was appointed Director. But it has shown no progress in this direction. Now the'foreign exchange Regulation Act is to be ammended, a bill to this effect has already been tabled in the parliament and it is very likely that during this monsoon session this may be passed. On the one hand it may contribute towards helthy growth of the church, but on the other hand church may have to face many difficulties and problems. For this church has to get ready.

Here, we all including my family are doing well and hope for you also the same.

With greetings,

Yours Sincerely
C. K. Paul Singh
Rev.Dr.C.K.Paul Singh
Director, BEL.

Encl.
Half Yearly Report'84.

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Phone 23358

Ref. Memo No 11/84/BEL - 2

The 20-3-84

Pastor Erhard Mische
Gossner Mission
Handjery Str. 19/20
1000 BERLIN - 41
GERMANY

Dear Pastor Mische,

Thank you very much for your kind letter dt. 27th Feb. 1984. I am very glad to know that your first visit to India and specially to Gossner Church has given you new understandings about the life, work, problems and some plus points of our church amidst various weaknesses and diversities amidst which the church is suffering. I hope this will help you understand and find out ways and means for real partnership between the churches in Germany and Gossner Church.

I have heard the changes in the leadership of Gossner Mission in Berlin. Many people here think that a new chapter of working together shall be started so that churches in Germany and here shall be simultaneously benefitted. This has to be planned and worked out very carefully. Bilateral understandings and agreements are very necessary for successful partnership, which has been also hinted in your letter , though in different words.

In February I visited some m/f congregations of South East Anchal in Singhbhum district south of Ranchi for almost one week. In the next month (April) I shall again visit some congregations in SE Anchal m/f in different districts of Mayurbhanj and Midnapore. As I am still teaching in the Theological College I can not leave Ranchi for longer time. In May we have Bible retreats, Youth conventions in different places of Gossner Church in which youths as well as young and old participate. I have already got appoinments for some of them.

I think this letter would not reach Pastor in his office of Gossner Mission. Please convey my greetings and best wishes for his new Ministry. I am sure he shall enjoy as he enters in his ministry with these different experiences of missionfields.

With thanks and best regards,

Yours Sincerely
C.K. Paul Singh
(Rev.Dr.C.K.Paul Singh)
Director,BEL.

GOSSNER MISSION
BERLIN

1 Berlin 41
Handjerystraße 19-20

Fernsprecher, 0311 · 851 30 61 · 851 69 33
Postscheckkonto: Berlin West 520 50 · 100
Bankkonto: Berliner Bank, Kto. [redacted]
0407480700

Rev. Dr. Paul C.K. Sing
GEL Church
Ranchi - 834 oo1
Bihar / INDIA

February 27, 1984

Dear Dr. Singh,

Time is running so fast that I have hardly become aware of the fact that more than three months have already passed since we have seen us. So I want to apologize first that you did not get any sign from my side since then. But I feel much urged to thank you and your family very cordially for the wonderful hospitality and the outstanding tour together. For me those days have been so exciting and informative which have helped me to understand better your situation, the aspiration and struggling of your mission-congregations. Their life and strength, their vitality and their dedication are quite impressive for someone who is used to the life and weakness of our congregations in Berlin and Germany.

To my understanding it will be a great advantage for our relationship if we are able to develop ways of encounters between your Church and our Churches which will arrange a real sharing of life experience between both sides. We are already discussing this matter how to organize programmes that may bring us more closely together.

You certainly know already that Dieter Hecker will succeed Siegwart Kriebel who is going to leave us on the 9th of March definitely. These days he is spending his last mission week at Lübbecke on behalf of Gossner Mission together with Bärbel Barteczko. It will be his last big activity before he settles in Berlin.

After my return from India I became immediately involved in the problem of asylum seekers in Berlin. Many people are coming from Sri Lanka, Pakistan or the middle east to ask for life protection but who are not welcomed and who are pressed to return. That causes a lot of human hardships and repressions. So we are forced to rethink our nature of a mission agency what it means for us to be confronted with a social and human problem right in front of our own door. According to our own selfunderstanding we feel obliged to take this challenge as part of our Christian witness and service but you can imagine that this kind of activity does not gain us new friends at all.

Please forward my cordial regards to your family, Dr. Bage and his family, your drive, the old mission veteran Mr. Topno, and to the Christians I was privileged to meet at Ranchi and elsewhere.

In Christ,
yours

Erhard Mische

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Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo No 35/83/B.E.L. - 2

The 22-10-83

Pastor Siegwart Kriebel
Gossner Mission
Handjery Str. 19/20
1000 BERLIN 41

Dear Siegwart,

I am in receipt of your letter dt. 31.8.83. I beg your pardon that I could not write you earlier. I was busy in various programmes and activities.

From 5th Sep. we had our BEL and KSS meetings, about which, I hope our friends now visiting Germany might have already told you. In BEL specially financial matter was discussed much. It was encouraging that some fields have remarkably increased their income of the field to fill up the deficit (Sup. Rev.Hansda and Rev.Toppo) have done their for their respective fields Orissa Anchal has decreased the workers and given the congregations to the Ilakas. Till now no Anchal has come forward with any concrete financial help, while the workers are getting their salaries deducted.

The volunteers training programme was also discussed. As the church has bitter experience in regard with the co-operation of CASA, we could not agree to get to closer co-operation with CASA. Till now I have managed to save some money from the Refresher Course budget by taking registration fees from the participants. In volunteers' training we give biblical, and practical knowledge with some theological backgrounds specially in relation to mission field on the one hand and non-Christian religion on the other hand. At their places some of them are helping the pastors while others are helping the catechists , still others are working as local volunteers in various works of the mission congregations alone.

In the KSS it had been expected that something would be done in regard with the draft constitution or the amendment positively, but unfortunately nothing concrete could be ddne, as the members of the committee themselves were not quite confident what they had suggested. To me it seems that nothing would come out of this draft.

After the meeting this time I had been to Madras (after 23yrs), to participate in a seminar. On 'Luther' as a part of 500 yrs Jubilee celebration, I was quite satisfied to be there. This was from Sep. 14-17;

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Bihar/India
Phone 29358

*Ref. Memo No*_____

The _____

After coming back from there we had our Yearly Refresher Course for the co-workers of the M/fs. Sep. 20-26, 1983, we had 135 participants from all m/fs except from Assam. Main subject was'Social Problems in the M/fs and their solution!'

Our Theological College was engaged in a seminar on 'Indigenous work-shop' conducted by Gürukul (Oct. 12- 15,). From 18-21 Oct. we conducted a seminar on 'Christian Marriage' in the Theological College, organised by the college itself; ca 65 participants came from different Ilakas pastors and laymen with their own expenses. It was very interesting as well as educative. We dealt with the subject from biblical, ethical, psychological and legal point of view. It was expressed that the findings of the groups be published for general information of the other members of the church.

We are glad that Dr. Von stieglitz and pastor Mische shall be visiting us, I may not have much time with Dr.Von Stieglitz as I have planned a long tour programme for Surguja during those days, however we shall have enough time for some fruitfull discussions.

I also hope that guests shall bring informations about your successor.

With greetings to you all.

Yours Sincerely

(Rev.Dr.C.K.Paul Singh)
Director,BEL

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Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo No. 82/82/BEL - 2

The 14-12-82

Pastor Siegwart Kriebel
Gossner Mission
Handjery Str. 19/20
1000 BERLIN 41

Dear Siegwart,

This may be my last letter in this Year (1982)- Herewith I am sending the minutes of our BEL meeting held on 9th Dec.'82 and again discussed and approved by the KSS in its meeting dt. 10+11 Dec. '82. In the budget there is a proposal of Rs. 900921=32 together as it was submitted by different Anchals and including our Central office budget. But after we had approved this total amount for forwarding to KSS, there is a change of amount due to new pay scale to be implemented from 1st Jan. 1983. In the new pay scale M/F allowances of pastors and Catechists have been stopped except that of the Supervisor. This is partly due to the unhealthy growing together of workers in the Ilakas and in the M/Fs, and partly due to the financial situation in the BEL. But there is an increase of Rs.75=00 and Rs.50=00 P.M. in the new pay scale for the pastors and the non pastors (cates. etc.) respectively. The amount in the budget will have to be changed. But the principle of disbursement remains same as it was decided in the KSS.

We shall have some balances in 1982 disbursment but some amount is still with KSS, the other amounts have to be released for construction works, because we should not keep balance as it is liable to taxation. I, therefore request you to kindly send the first instalment of 1983 at your earliest conveniences.

In the last College council and the KSS meeting I have been asked to continue as Acting Principal of the Theological College. I have accepted as I do not see any other better solution for the time being. But seeing the difficulties in BEL I am not willing to continue. Either we have to change the pattern of work in BEL or I have to discontinue the work in the College. I am unable to give full attention for both works.

May be a new provision shall be made in the proposal of a new constitution which have to be prepared within three months from 15th Jan. 1983, on which a new constitution Drafting Committee shall be formed, as decided in this last KSS meeting. In this last meeting M. Anchal was fully represented, but Assam Anchal again disappointed us by being absent in the meeting inspite of

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Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No. .....

The .....

contd..... 2

their promises in the last Oct. '82.

In this last meeting major points was to pass the budget (1983) for the KSS and to arrange finance. Mr. S. Bhenra, the former Hd. accountant has been penalised in this meeting for mismanaging and misusing of the church money, till now this is only in reference to BEL amount. It goes to a tune of ca Rs.25000/- from BEL a/c of 1981/82. There are doubts that the amount may go higher if the KSS and P.F., Pen.F., Prop. Bod. a/c shall be checked.

I was very sorry not to be able to go to Mahabalipuram, not so much to miss the meeting but to miss a discussion with regarding some matters postponed for that time. Actually I wanted to discuss with you for any better pattern of BEL work with the Anchals, specially to avoid certain missappropriation of BEL-Fund by some persons concerned in the centre as well as in the Anchals. As the days are passing, we are becoming less serious in our BEL works, sometimes even politicalising the BEL work also. Thus BEL fund seems to be utilised for other purposes than it is really destined.

As the days are nearing to the end of the year we all are busy in various programmes. This time we could ~~not~~ conduct Refresher Course in Khunti only for three areas (of SE Anchal, OA, and Madhya Anchal), altogether 83 participants were present. For Surguja and Udaipur Supervisors of thes areas requested me to postpone it for next Feb. 1983.

We all doing well, and send you our seasonal Greetings of Christ's Advent.

Withbest regards,

Yours Sincerely

C. K. Paul Singh

(Rev.Dr.C.K.Paul Singh)
Director, BEL

Copy-
Chairman, Kuratorium, GM.

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Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No. 67/82/BEL - 2

The 25-8-82

Pastor Siegwart Kriebel
Gossner Mission
Handjery Str. 19/20
1000 BERLIN 41

Dear Siegwart,

Thank you very much for your kind letter of 18.8.82. I would like to clarify some of your questions in the letter.

Durang Puthi : This is an Hymnal Book used in the congregation of Mundari speaking people. It has ca 520 pages containing nearly 500 songs indigenous and translations of some Western songs.

Certificates for Correspondence Course: This year we have prepared lessons of 14 parts through which Christian teachings can be learnt by correspondence. This course is prepared by me for Christian youth, as well for enquirers. On completing 14 lessons we award certificate for the people.

College Day: This has been started newly with a view to make the Xtian people of GELC conscious of their responsibility towards this Theological College - both the College for sending students and for supporting the college financially.

Certificate for Theol. Students: Last year (1981) due to disturbance in the College, students (including 14 final years') could not appear for the Senate Examination. Hence they appeared this year (1982) and the 8 students (final year) of this current year appeared and also completed the courses, so they were awarded certificates together.

Last year 1981/82 though 14 students completed their courses their courses and were no longer in the College, due to disturbances in the College(closed in April sine die) it opened again on 15 Sep. 1981 with tensions and uncertainties.

Though this year eight students completed we could not admit more students but due to financial difficulties few students could be admitted. College Council decided with the approval of KSS that we can admit only those students who will be recommended and stipend paid by the Ilakas. So the Ilakas could not recommended all the applicants as they would not be able to pay stipend for them.

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Only few Ilakas re-commended some of the applicants (Two have been admitted to the College on their own expenses,.One is from the NELC (Santhal Church) - no new students were sent from ~~GELC~~ in M.P.) Thus there are some desiring and deserving students left out. GELC church politics is in continuation. We hope Assam would be in the ensuing KSS meetings including the Kalisha Sangh in Oct. As far as Assam is concerned it seems to be the matter of communication. But even other wise they are almost aloof, for many point responsibilities and ventures, perhaps because the situation in Assam is politically also different.

We hope, when you will be here in Ranchi during the meetings in Oct. '82 many things will be cleared.

With greetings to you all.

Yours Sincerely

(Rev.Dr.C.K.Paul Singh)
Director,BEL.

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Phone 23358

Ref. Memo No. 61/82/BEL - 2

The 23-7-82

Pastor Siegwart Kriebel
Mission Director, GM.
Handjery Str. 19/20
1000 Berlin 41

Dear Siegwart,

Recently I sent a letter from Theological College in which I mentioned about my next letter from BEL.

Today I have a little time before going to college so I started this letter. With this letter I am sending Half Yearly report (June '82) and minutes of BEL meeting so that you may have atleast some idea how things are going on. Specially finance matter (BEL) is very serious not only of Anchals but also in our KSS. Amounts of BEL have been used for other purposes and are not reimbursed in BEL a/c. But for KSS it has been promised that it will be rectified soon. Another point is that some of the Anchals are interested utilising their authority but not understanding their responsibility, and due to my involvement in College I am unable to do the work of BEL properly and fairly. During next October meet we may again discuss all these matters.

As scheduled KSS has its meeting still going on without Madhya Anchal and Assam. Madhya Anchal still boycotts the KSS and Assam is still hard to its demand of semi-autonomy. Situation in KSS as well as congregation in terms of its work and life is deteriorating.

The situation in the whole country, specially in Bihar is also not so bright, among various difficulties, drought has affected the country including our area very badly. The danger of famine is looming all over the country and specially in Bihar.

Amidst all these situation we are pulling on some how, atleast families and children are doing well.

With greetings to you and your family.

Yours Sincerely
C. K. Paul Singh
(Rev.Dr.C.K.Paul Singh)
Director,BEL

BOARD OF EVANGELISM AND LITERATURE

Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church
(Regd. under Societies Registration act XXI of 1860)

Director & Secretary
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G. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No. 61/82/BEL - 2

The 23-7-82

Pastor Siegwart Kriebel
Mission Director, GM.
Handjery Str. 19/20
1000 Berlin 41

Dear Siegwart,

Recently I sent a letter from Theological College in which I mentioned about my next letter from BEL.

Today I have a little time before going to college so I started this letter. With this letter I am sending Half Yearly report (June '82) and minutes of BEL meeting so that you may have atleast some idea how things are going on. Specially finance matter (BEL) is very serious not only of Anchals but also in our KSS. Amounts of BEL have been used for other purposes and are not reimbursed in BEL a/c. But for KSS it has been promised that it will be rectified soon. Another point is that some of the Anchals are interested utilising their authority but not understanding their responsibility, and due to my involvement in College I am unable to do the work of BEL properly and fairly. During next October meet we may again discuss all these matters.

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Yours Sincerely
C. K. Paul Singh
(Rev.Dr.C.K.Paul Singh)
Director,BEL

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G. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No 40/82/B.E.L. - 2

The 19.5.82

Pastor Siegwart Kriebel
Director, Gossner Mission
Handjery Str. 19/20
1000 Berlin 41
West Germany

Dear Siegwart,

After a long silence I am writing to you. Meanwhile many thing have taken place in the Gossner Church. Though they are not so important so as to be alarming but they may be of some interest for you and for the friends in Germany.

On 16th April we have closed Gossner Theological College for summer vocation till 22nd June 82. From 22-25 June we have announced a seminar on 'Christian Stewardship and the work of the Mandli Panch.' For this all Ilaka chairman with their Treasurer or secretary have been invited; all the members of Hd. Qrtrs. Cong, Mandli Panch, Ranchi and the laymen are also invited. This programme is co-ordinated by the College and BEL staff-members.

On 16th April 82 we gave away certificates to 14 students who finished their courses in 1980/82 session and 8 students who finished their courses in 1981/82 session. This new sesssion July 1982/83 we have selected eight students (out of 12) for new admission, we may select some two or three more students. From the side of the staff and students seems to go well, but we have many difficulties. On the one hand side we have quarters difficulties for our staff members and on the other side we have financial problems too, which seem to be still in dark. Many resolutions with this effects have been made already in Feb. 9-11, but they are still in files. Though we have good co-operation among the staff members and the students we can not solve all these problems. Many of us have still the question what's next after 31st Dec. 1982?

In the second week of May the KSS was scheduled to meet, but there was the problem of quorum. So half of the meeting was in Chaibasa. This time also Madhya Anchal did not join and at the same time Assam Anchal requested for a mini-KSS in Assam, so they did not come. Thus there are certain problems which give constitutional dead-lock and among others, financial problem of the centre is still continuing. In addition to Mr.

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C. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No.....

The.....

Bhengra there are three persons working the finance department but we are still in dark so as to say actually how much money we have, for KSS, BEL or Theological College etc. Office is still grappling with the problems.

For this May-June we have many programmes by the Youths of different Ilakas and Parishes. I should have gone out for the programmes. But our BEL jeep has been requisitioned by the government for some bye-elections work in the state. Our programmes for Matric (and above) students in Ranchi was interesting, though few attended (22-24 participants) but it was encouraging that all have expressed that such programmes should be held as often as possible. June 2-14, has been scheduldd for the volunteers Training from m/fs. This is to help the fields towards their self-support. We have planned to make this a regular feature.

We all are doing well and send our greetings to you and all other friends.

Yours Sincerely
C. K. Paul Singh
(Dr. C. K. Paul Singh)
Director, BEL

Copy:-
Prof. Dr. Hans Grothaus
Chairman, GM

Dr. C.K.Paul Singh
G.E.L.Church Compound
Maind Road
Ranchi 834 001
Bihar, India

18.8.1982

Dear Paul,

I am too lazy in answering letters. Soory for that. Thank you very much for Nos. 40, 61, 152, Minutes of BEL meeting on 20.7., and half yearly report.
I was very glad about all the successful seminars for post matric youths, for church workers, for mission workers etc. It is good that the Theol. College is serving not only the theol. students bu also the whole church by adult education and staff improvement programmes. I fully understand that students and staff would like to know what is going to happen after the end of this year. You might have to press for a timely decision. Perhaps I can talk to Dr. Bage here.
What is Durang Puthi? In your reports you often mention certain publications which are unknown to me. A short explanation would help me in such cases.
College Day is also a good idea. Was it celebrated in the past as well or is it a new thing started just now?
I was not completely clear about the certificates of GTC. You mentioned 14 Students and 8 students of two years. Were there no certificates last year, or no examinations last year? Did you refer to certificates for students who had completed all 4 years? If 22 left, why could only 8 be taken in? were there no suitable applicants? Are not so many pastors needed in the church? We can talk about the situation in October.
I am a bit puzzled about Assam Anchal, of course. I could somehow understand, why the Madhya people try to make trouble. But why Assam? Is it merely communication problems over the long distance, or is there more behind it. This may also be discussed in October.
I am looking forward to meet you again.
These days we transfer second instalments for BEL. I hope that it will not be delayed too much. It is DM 115.000.00 .
Dr. Bage wrote that BEL money was used for his ticket to Germany last year. We had sent the amount by telegramme to Ranchi even bef fore he left India for Germany. But strangely the telegraphic transfer did not work at all. We shall never do it again. It was very expensive. But we wanted to aviod difficulties, for GELC.
Greetings to you and to your family,
yours in Christ,

Siegwart Kriebel

p.s.: Die Rechnung für Int. Bull. for Miss. Research haben wir für die nächsten drei Jahre bezahlt.

LUFTPOSTLEICHTBRIEF
AEROGRAMME

Rev. Dr. C.K. Paul Singh
G.E.L.Church Compound
Main Road
Ranchi - 834 oo1
Bihar, INDIA

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G. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No. 11/82/B.E.L. - 2

The 11.2.82

Pastor Siegwart Kriebel
Director, Gossner Mission
Handjery Str. 19/20
000 BERLIN 41

Dear Siegwart,

After long silence I am writing to you this letter. You might have already received the news and development or the situation of the GELC through the letters of the Pramukh Adhyaksh.

These days 9-11 Feb. 1982 we are having meetings of the KSS including those of different Boards. This time Madhya Anchal boycotted the meetings alleging the KSS variously. Assam Anchal did not send any information for its not being able to attend the meetings.

But as the members were well enough to fulfill the quorum. So the business are being carried out. We are just in the middle of our meetings, still various points are to be discussed including the matters due to the boycott by the Madhya Anchal.

Theological College is being run in its course, however not without difficulties. As I did not receive any charge of the college handed over to me. We are facing various problems specially financial problem is very acute, in this KSS we have taken certain steps to improve the same. We have appointed some more teachers for the College, however we will be glad if Rev.Hecker will be able to be here as guest teacher for the July-Sept. term this year. I shall be writing to him soon.

Herewith I am sending the Yearly Report (1981) of the BEL for your information. I heard that you would be coming to Ranchi in March. I hope we may have time to discuss some points.

With greetings and thanks,

Your Sincerely
C.K.P. Singh
(Dr.C.K.Paul Singh)
Director,BEL

Copy
Dr.Grothaus
Chairman Kuratorium

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Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No. 11/82/B.E.L. - 2

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Handjery Str. 19/20
1000 BERLIN 41

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With greetings and thanks,

Your Sincerely
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Director,BEL

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G. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo No. 106/81/BEL - 2

The 18.12.81

Pastor Siegwart Kriebel,GM
Handjery Str. 19/20
1000 Berlin 41 (Friedenau)
West - Germany

Dear Siegwart,

After long silence I am writing this letter, May be the last letter for this year. You might have been already informed about the formation of the new KSS. We have still some problems for electing the treasurer and the Secretary for KSS, so Dr.M.Bage is functioning as the only officer along with the Up.Pramukh Adhyaksh Rev.Surendra Mohan, MG, who is the Anchal Adhyaksh from Orissa. Cases of election of officers as well as of Rev.M.Tete as Anchal Adhyaksh are pending in the court of Election Tribunal(of the church).

The problem of the Gossner Theological College is not yet solved. Rev.Tete has appealed in the High Court against all unders in the Lower Courts as well as in the KSS. Thus I am still not certain whether I continue as Acting Principal of GTC. But any how College is functioning.

In the meanwhile I had to conduct Refresher Courses for m/f workers in two places, one in Kuchinda for Orissa and SE Anchal areas, m/f workers and onother at ambikapur for Udaipur and Surguja areas. We had good attendance. This time we spoke and discussed various problems in our work of Evangelism and Diakonia with a view to make and prepare the new congregations self support and autonomous. Before and after these Refresher Courses I had short tour Programmes also of the fields.

In these days Pastor Bruno Schotstud is here at Ranchi. We have busy programmes for him within the church area, both in urban and Rural.

I have just read the information given in'Gossner Mission' (Blatt) about the Gossner Theological College. I am aware of those requirements, but I am not quite sure whether these can be really worked out in and through our College. In the last College Council meeting I have already given hints for those points.

With seasonal Greetings and good wishes for the Christmas

Your Sincerely
C.K.P. Singh
Dr.C.K.Paul Singh
Director,BEL

Copy
Dr.Grothaus
Chairman Kuratorium.

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Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No. 96/81/BEL - 2

The 18.9.81

Pastor Siegwart
Director GM
Handjery Str. 19/20

Dear Siegwart,

By this letter I wanted to inform you about some recent developments in the situation of our Church.

It was good that Dr.Bage came immediately and contacted the officers KSS and others for necessary steps to be taken. KSS has been scheduled to meet on 25+26 Sept. to discuss the situation which is arisen by the resignation of the Pramukh Adhyaksh, meanwhile Mr.Lakra the Secretary has withdrawn his resignation and he himself has issued notice for the KSS meetings. Now the bank a/cs are again functioning.

After much hitch and tensions caused by hunger strike of GTC students Resignation by the Pramukh Adhyaksh, I assumed charge of Acting Principalship of GTC on 1st Sep. 1981 in pursuance of the letter of the Pramukh Adhyaksh.

W e started the classes on 15th Sep.81. But on the same day Rev.Martin Tete Instituted a case against me (and other four students) under section 144 Cr.P.C. in the Court of Subdivisional Magistrate, Sadar Ranchi. By this section of the case I have been retrained from going over or near Gossner Theological College Campus for a period of sixty days. This may be absolute (permanent) if we do not give show cause by 29.9.81.

At present I do not know what to do, but KSS is at the door, it will, I hope, do the right thing for the college. I presume a great 'chaos' is knocking at the door. This 'chaos' may be still after everything is ruined, (spiritually, financially and administratively).

With greetings to all,

Yours Sincerely

(Dr.C.K.Paul Singh)
Director,BEL

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G. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No. 86/81/BEL - 2

The 7.9.81

Prof. Dr. Hans Grothaus
(Chairman, GM)
Norderluck 28
239 Flensburg 10
West Germany

Dear Hans,

Itm is not long ago that I sent a leeter to you regarding the situation in our church and the Gossner Theological College (GTC). By this time through telegramme and letters to the Director, GM you might have heard about the further worsening situation here. After the indefinite hunger strike of the GTC students, the negative corroborrative votes from Madhya Anchal and my arguments about taking over charge of Principalship of GTC Rev.P.D.Soreng wrote a circulation of resignation from the Post of Pramukh Adhyaksh (29.8.81). But on 30.8.81 issued a letter to Rev. Tete to handover charge of principalship to me, and if not, I was advised to assume the same. So I have assumed my work of Acting Principalship on 1.9.81, but now I cannot function without the Pramukh Adhyaksh. Rev.Tete did not give me any-thing at the same Rev.P.D.Soreng has blocked the bank and we cannot draw any money from the bank, even for the field workers. These matters can bex settled only when Dr.Bage comes back .

Therefore we hope that Dr.Bage would come as early as possible to lead and guide the church at this critical moment. You may also give advice and assurance of your (GM) help and co-operation, so that he may have the courage to do the right things.

With good wishes and greetings.

Yours Sincerely
(Dr.C.K.Paul Singh)
Director, BEL

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G. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No. 82/81/BEL - 2

The 2.9.81

Pastor Siegwart Kriebel
Missiondirector, GM
Handjery Str. 19/20
000. Berlin 41 (Friedenau)
W. Germany

Dear Siegwart,

You might have heard many things happening in the GELC as told by Dr.Bage. I am sending some of my letters and of Pramukh Adhyaksh, so that you may be informed about some developments in the College.

Earlier I was blamed that I was not willing to take over charge of the College, though the point was just the opposite. But as the situation was very grave (hunger strike of students etc.), on 29.8.81 Pramukh Adhyaksh directed M.Tete to hand over the charge to me. But he did not hand over it to me, so, on 1.9.81 I assumed the charge of Principal GTC. On the day I was sitting in the empty room before the empty table, (there were no files, a/c books, nothing:) of the Principal's office.

Meanwhile Pramukh has postponed his resignation (though all circulations, letters etc. are ready with him self) and has blocked the withdrawal of money even from BEL account No, So we are on the verge of collapse. I still do not know what do about the College, when I do not get any money how to open and run it. In due course some one may be sent to the court against me.

Under such circumstances, I think, it will be better if Dr. Bage would return to India at his earliest possibilities, that is up to him. I knew that treasurer Topno has sent a telegramm with this effect.

Before these situation arose Mr.Bhengra has also been relieved of his Hd. Accountantship.

Other things are o.k with greetings,

Yours Sincerely
C.K.P.S.
(Dr.C.K.Paul Singh)
Director,BEL.

Gossner Mission
Handjerystraße 19/20
1000 Berlin 41 (Friedenau)

Dr. C.K.Paul Singh
Gossner Theological College
G.E.L.Church
Ranchi - 834 001
Bihar, India

4.8.1981

Dear Paul,

From KSS Minutes I learned that you have been appointed Acting Principal of Gossner Theological College until the end of 1982. May I convey to you best wishes for you and for the College with regard to this appointment. May God bless your service at the College for the training of future pastors for the church. We hope that the College will enjoy again a good atmosphere of teaching and learning and that the whole church will benefit from that.

And now a matter of urgency. On 3.4.81 and again on 15.5.81 I informed Rev. Tete that Rev. Rosenstein did not get visa for teaching at the Theological College, but that he wanted to repeat his application. For that purpose he needed a new letter of appointment from Gossner Theological College, formulated in an even more urgent way than the first one. To my knowledge, we received only a copy of a new advertisement in a newspaper, but not a new letter of appointment.

Maybe, this letter of appointment was sent directly to Neuendettelsau to the Missionswerk in Bayern. If not, it may now be nearly too late for a new application. Because Rev. Rosenstein told me, that he will be available for Ranchi only until the end of this year. After that his children will be too old for going to India. I mentioned that already in my letter of 3.4.81.

Can you tell me now, what the position is at the moment? Is GELC still interested in the coming of Rev. Rosenstein? Has he got a second letter of appointment? And if not, can you send it immediately? Rev. Rosenstein should know soon, what his position is, so that he can plan accordingly. You may write directly to him c/o Evang. Missionswerk in Bayern
Hauptstr. 2
8806 Neuendettelsau

Many thanks and greetings,
yours
Siegwart Kriebel
Siegwart Kriebel

copy to: Rev. Rosenstein, Neuendettelsau
Rev. Soreng, Ranchi

LUFTPOSTLEICHTBRIEF
AEROGRAMME

Dr. C.K. Paul Singh
Gossner Theological College
G.E.L. Church
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Pastor Bruno Schottstädt

Rütiweg 104, PF 207
Ch-3072 Ostermundigen / Schweiz
Tel. (031) 51 55 72.
Switzerland.

Lieber Paul,

ich hoffe, Du kannst meine Schrift lesen. - Also: nach 14 Monaten USA und Canada sind wir nun 1/2 Jahr lang in der Schweiz. Wir lernen, lehren und predigen. Ende Oktober endet unser Programm hier. Und für die Zeit vom 15.11.-15.12. haben wir eine Einladung von Prof. Russel Chandran nach Bangalore, danach möchten wir ein paar Tage in Bombay sein, dann in Nagpur. Ist es denkbar, daß wir für die Zeit vom 5.-15. Januar 1982 in die Gopher-Kirche kommen? Und kannst Du zusammen mit der KL (Dr. Bage) eine Einladung für uns nach hier schicken? Wir möchten unsere Zeit in Indien sinnvoll füllen und hoffen auf Deine Mithilfe. Bitte grüße Dr. Mar. Bage von uns, er ist ja doch ein alter Freund! Schreib mal bitte bald und schicke uns ein Papier. - Viele herzliche Grüße - von meiner Frau auch und auch an Deine Frau - Dein Bruno

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Rev. Dr. C. K. Paul Singh, B. D; Dr. Theol. (Berlin)

C. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No 68/81/BEL - 2

The 12.8.81

Prof.Dr.Hans Grothaus
Chairman GM
Norderluck - 28
239 Flensburg - 10
West - Germany

Dear Hans,

Thank you for the letter sent through our Pastors, who visited Germany last May - June. Sorry I could not write to you earlier. I was waiting for a definite decision about the Theological College. It is still not known what was decided by the KSS afficers, who had their meeting on the 10th August '81. So you can imagine how it might be going on. Even if decided something, Pramukh Adhyaksh may undo at any moment after some talks with his friends, that is the real thing that we are not able to see or hear any progress in regard with the College, which is still closed. It should have been re-opened on or before 15th July as usual session.

Thus the Pramukh Adhyaksh with the help , advice and manipulations by his 'friends' is simply politicalising the whole situation of the College and therefore it is impossible for me to join the College as Principal or even as a staff member. Dr. Bage is also not strong enough to guide and decide the good things. So I have written a very strong letter to the Pramukh Adhyaksh, of which a copy is forwarded to you. After you have studied the situation you may forward the same to the Director, Pastor Kriebel for his record. Yesterday I received a letter from him wishing me good wishes for appointment as Principal of the Theological College. I had already prepared a letter for him,so I just jotted down my remarks. I sent an half-Yearly report with the letter so to save the postage, I did not sent this copy of the letter to him. So you may please, if you wish send this copy.

We all are doing well and wish you the same.

With many greetings.

Yours Sincerely
C K Paul Sh
(Dr.C.K.Paul Singh)
Director,BEL

BOARD OF EVANGELISM AND LITERATURE

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G. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No 67/81/BEL -2

The 11.8.81

Pastor Siegwart Kriebel
Gossner Mission
Handjery Str. 19/20
1000 BERLIN 41

Dear Siegwart,

After a long silence I am writing this letter to enclosing the half-Yearly report of BEL. Due to various reasons we could not prepare the report ear - lier.

I hope you might have heard many reports from the Pramukh Adhyaksh about the situation of our church. It is almost the same, here and there fighting among the two groups, court cases etc.The theological college is still closed, and we are not sure when and if the same will be reopened in near future. Rev.Tete is still the principal according to the latest letter of the Pramukh Adhyaksh. The KSS members as well as public are left in dark what is done and what to be done to reopen the college. From my part I am quite sure that Rev. Tete has no intimation to leave the college as well as the principalship, otherwise his accounts of finances since years will be made open by the successor.

The monsoon is quite good this year atleast for Ranchi district we have no problems of floods in this area, whereas most of the norhtern India has very badly affected. So indirectly we are also affected specially price-rise is menacing the whole country, but specially the poor people in under which we include our church members also, specially those paid according to the church payscale.

In GELChurch preparations are in full swing for the church elections. In lower level it has been already started.

We all are doing well and hope for all the same.

With greetings and regard,

Yours Sincerely

C.K.Paul Singh

Encl.
As stated above.

Dr.C.K.Paul Singh
Director,BEL

BOARD OF EVANGELISM AND LITERATURE

Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church
(Regd. under Societies Registration act XXI of 1860)

Director & Secretary
Rev. Dr. C. K. Paul Singh, B. D, Dr. Theol. (Berlin)

G. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No 40/81/BEL - 2

The 18.5.81

Pastor Siegwart Kriebel
Mission Director, GM
Handjery Str. 19/20
1000 Berlin 41

Dear Siegwart,

This is just to avail the oppurtunity when two co-workers of the Mission fields are going to Germany. I am very glad that these two Pastors can give you first hand report of our church as well as (specially) of the mission work in the fields.

At this point I would like to mention about the financial point of the BEL. After my repeated request and reminder I could not get the information from Mr. Bhengra about the actual balance of the BEL,. But through other sources I could gather that fund is almost coming short.

The amount of balance was due to the fact that even after my recommendatio the construction works were not distributed and the P.F./Pen.F. of Surguja (1980) is still with our account, so we could pull with that money till now. But by the payment of May we shall be in need of more amount therefore, as I have earlier requested you, I request again that an installment be sent as soon as possible, so that payments can be made without difficulties.

By now you have heard the situation in the church, We could not have our KSS meetings, it was cancelled. So the situation specially in Ranchi is becoming very tense and it may affect the whole future course of GELC lifestyle. Uncertainties are turning almost in parts of our Boards, Anchals KSS spheres.

In these days we are very busy with youth Bible Classes and witness compaign programmes, inspite of heat wave even in our areas.

With many greetings to all the Kuratoren.

Yours Sincerely
C. K. Paul Singh
(Dr.C.K.Paul Singh)
Director,BEL.

GOSSNER MISSION

Dr. C.K. Paul Singh
G.E.L. Church - BEL
Ranchi - 834001
Bihar, India

Neue Telefonnummer
030/85 10 21
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20.11.1980

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Bankkonto: Berliner Bank, BLZ 100 200 00
Kto.-Nr. 0407480700

Dear Dr. Singh,

today we transferred the third instalment of the 1980 subsidy for the BEL budget amounting DM 50.000,-- and another amount of DM 400,--, it is a donation from Mr. Grothaus for an harmonium for the Church in Ambikapur.

With kind regards,

sincerely yours
Heide Hohmann
(Heide Hohmann, Treasurer)

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Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No 27/81/BEL - 2

The 10-4-81

Pastor S. Kriebel
Director Gossner Mission
Handjery Str. 19/20
1000 Berlin 41
(Germany W.)

Dear Siegwart,

According to the news received here that the DM is not yet in good exchange. However it is very urgent that we need some amount for our account. Today I was told that Rs. 38,000 has been transferred to our bank a/c of the BEL, If this is for the BEL, it is alright, please confirm the same. If it is for other work, please send an instalment for BEL too.

Dr, Grothaus might have reported to you about the later development of the situation here at Ranchi. We shall have our KSS meetings May 13-15, 1981 to discuss and decide some of the issues very urgent at present, Theological College has been reopened for further classes, but examinations could not be held due to the very tense situation. As Dr. Bage is in-charge of the College and Rev. M. Tete is on one month leave.

Due such situations in Ranchi and the other church situation it is not possible to arrange for long tours, however I am programming for short tours in different areas. Specially in second half of May we shall have long tour programmes for Youth Bible Classes and Rallies.

We are all doing well and wish you all the same.
With greetings,

Yours Sincerely

C. K. Paul Singh

(Dr.C.K.Paul Singh)
Director,BEL.

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C. B. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No 12/81/BEL- 2

The 20.1.81

Pastor Siegwart Kriebel
Mission Director, Gossner Mission
Handjery Str, 19/20
1000 BERLIN 41

Dear Siegwart,

This is my first letter to you this year. First of all I would like to thank you all on behalf of the BEL and the m/fs workers for supporting us in our work and wish you for a prosperous and successful year 1981. Herewith I am sending the Yearly report (1980) for your information and needful actions. I am sorry to say that field reports could not be included, as we have not yet received them. However I would try to consolidate them when they are in our office and circulate them.

The church -situation seems to be very calm, but that may be a lull before the big storm would come. Now every one is pointing towards the Round-Table Conference. I personally have no great hope of any definite solution of the crisis in our church, unless our friends give much time, energy and patience. It may be a postponement of crisis with certain restrictions or may be beginning for more complications and bitterness. That depends how the friends would take the course and side of the problems in back-ground of their deep understanding of the problems (based on the nature and culture of the people) pinpointing without favouring one or the other side.

At present we all are very much hampered by the price in almost all commodities, specially in petrol products; which hits very badly the tour programmes of the Director. Therefore we have to rethink for the mode of our ministry in this context. We have our BEL and KSS meetings from 20th Feb. We may be able to take out some of the policies and programmes with this respect for the future. The KSS has announced Refresher Course for all Pastors in the 2nd week of lent season. I don't know the particulars, but I think you may be visited invited to stay up to that time for the classes.

With greetings to all,

Yours Sincerely

Dr.C.K.Paul Singh
Director,BEL

CC: Dr.H.Grothaus.

LWF REPORT · LWF DOCUMENTATION

A Documentation Service of the Lutheran World Federation (formerly "Lutheran World")

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1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland
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December 5, 1980

Dr. C.K. Paul Singh,
Director, Board of Evangelism and Literature,
Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church,
Main Road,
Ranchi, Bihar,
INDIA.

Dear Dr. Singh,

Thank you for your letter of November 24, 1980 concerning LWF Report and LWF Documentation.

We confirm that, in view of your difficulties, we will be pleased to keep you on our complimentary mailing list for these two publications.

Yours sincerely,

Frances Maher

Frances Maher

BOARD OF EVANGELISM AND LITERATURE

Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church
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Director & Secretary
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C. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No. 117/80/BEL- 2

The 24.11.80

LWF Publication Office
105 Route De Forney
1211 Geneva 20
Switzerland.

Dear Sirs,

Thank you for the circular regarding LWF Report and LWF Documentation which I am receiving regularly. Formerly I also received the Luther World. As a matter of fact I wish to continue to receive the same, it helps a lot in my various ministerial work. But I am sorry to say that due to Exchange Regularities of the country I am unable to send any annual subscription.

Therefore request you to kindly continue to send me the copy of LWF Report/LWF Documentation in future also, if it is possible without giving any annual subscription by me.

Thanking you,

Yours Sincerely
C.K.P.S.
(Dr.C.K.Paul Singh)
Director,BEL.

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G. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No. 106/80/BEL - 2

The 27.10.80

Pastor Siegwart Kriebel
Director, GM
Handjery Str. 19/20
1000 B E R L I N 41

Dear Siegwart,

This to inform you that after long discussions we came to an agreement to give Rev. S.Tirkey, Supervisor, NWGELC a sum of Rs. 48,000.00 (forty eight thousand Rupees) for the m/f workers of Udaipur who are with " NWGELC ". This amount covers the salaries of 17 workers with NWGELC up to June 1980. Now it is the responsibility of the GM to realise from 'NWGELC' the P.F. and Pen.F. of our workers. Many of the Pracharaks and Pastors have applied for loan from their P.F. a/c, generally they apply for purchasing land which is now available in favourable prices, and earlier many of them have been granted. But at present this a/c and amount is with the 'NWGELC', so it is very urgent to settle these amounts as early as possible. I think it will be better to realise and settle the a/c and amounts before any further amount will be paid to them. As far as I can understand 'NWGELC' ows such amount to our workers which may come to ca Rs. 80,000.00 (Eighty thousand rupees). This is accumulated with them from the beginning of Udaipur as well as Surguja.

We had our Refresher Course at Ranchi as scheduled and more than, 200 co-workers participated in the Classes, including many other participants.

The Study Tour Group from Flensburg are still here and enjoying the days. We all are doing well and send you hearty greetings.

With thanks,

Yours Sincerely
C.K.Paul Sh
(Dr.C.K.Paul Singh)
Director,BEL

Copy:-
The Chairman
Kuratorium GM.

BOARD OF EVANGELISM AND LITERATURE

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Director & Secretary
Rev. Dr. C. K. Paul Singh, B. D; Dr. Theol. (Berlin)

G. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No 84/80/BEL - 2

The 12-8-80

Pastor Siegwart Kriebel, Director
Handjery Str. 19/20
1000 Berlin 41 (Friedenau).

Dear Siegwart,

Thank you very much for your kind letter dt. 25.7.80. I shall be ready to negotiate regarding Udaipur m/f with Dr. Minz in the presence of Dr. Grothaus, when he comes during next Oct. I shall be very glad and thankful if Dr. Grothaus will be able to spare time for this long standing hitch to be solved in his presence, and it will be, great relief for me.

Today I am sending the half yearly report as prepared by me on the BEL-W Work. I am sorry that I am sending it very late. But I hope it will help you for your information and further thinking.

Day before yesterday, the 10 th Au. the Ex-Pramukh Adhyaksh Rev. S.Barla expired at Ranchi after a short illness. He was burried in Ranchi cemetry.

Due to my ill health my assignment in Serampore College has been cancelled. This was done in consultation with Dr. Bage. So I am at Ranchi preparing for our Refresher Course of all the workers from m/fs at Ranchi. It shall be held from Oct. 15-21, 1980 at Ranchi. Although it is rather expensive, but we are encouraged by workers themselves, that they are ready to bear a one way fare. Many of them have not seen Ranchi So they are eager to visit Ranchi, as if they are visiting any foreign country, we have selected the main subject ' Pray and Work: Eat and Sing' Our task in the m/f'. Some of the staff members in the Theological College are ready to help me. The KSS had decided to hold Refresher Course for all the Pastors of the GELC, but it seems it will not be held due to financial limits. The LWF suggested that the church should apply in time, so it is postponed for next year.

We all are doing well, wishing for you all our best.

Yours Sincerely
C.K.Paul Singh
(Dr.C.K.Paul Singh)
Director, BEL.

Encl;
As stated above

Gossner Mission
Handjerystraße 19/20
1000 Berlin 41 (Friedenau)

Neue Telefonnummer
030/85 10 21

Dr. C.K. Paul Singh
G.E.L.Church - BEL
Ranchi - 834001
Bihar, India

25.7.1980

Dear Paul,

These days we are transferring another instalment for missionaries' salaries for 1980, amounting to DM 50.000,-.
Hopefully this money will reach the BEL account wothout much delay. It looks to me that some banks are making a fortune by keeping money at their own disposal for quite some time. I wonder how one can stop this illegal practice.

Concerning bills from NW-GELC, I confess that the matter of claims of unsettled payments and deductions is too complecated for me from the distance. I hope that you and Dr. Minz can sit together with Dr. Grothaus when he will be in Ranchi later this year in order to clarify the situation and come to a solution.

For the meantime I hope that you will be able to do your best in order to get the salaries to the missionaries be it via the Superintendent or via NW-GELC authorities. I can understand that this is not a pleasant job for you. Nevertheless I trust in your and in KSS's co-operation.

Yours in Christ,

Siegwart Kriebel
Siegwart Kriebel

copy to: Rev. D.D. Soreng, Ranchi

Thanks for your letter No. 68, dated 16.7.80
Siegwart

LUFTPOSTLEICHTBRIEF
AEROGRAMME

Dr. C.K. Paul Singh
GEL-Church - BEL
Ranchi - 834001
Bihar, INDIA

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G. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No 68/80/BEL - 2

The 16.7.80

Pastor Siegwart Kriebel
Missiondirector
Handjery Str. 19/20
1000 BERLIN 41
GERMANY

Dear Siegwart,

Thank you very much for your information about the transfer of the amount last Dec. 1979. However our Hd. Accountant Mr. Bhengra has not yet got, confirmed this from our Bank here.

Meanwhile you might have received my letter dt. 19.6.80 Ref.No. 48/80/BEL- 2 and like-wise the letters from "the Bishop" of "NWGELC" and also from Mr. Bhengra. Just yesterday I received copy a letter from " the Bishop" addressed to you. This is no surprise for me.That's why in my last letter said so called "agreement", because it is not at all an agreement which would be kept though accepted even by the "Bishop" himself as it was reported to me. According to the "agreement" the amount should go direct to the"workers"and not to any via media, that too countersigned by a Bishop, which is not at all acceptable to us and to many, specially who do not accept a self-made-Bishop.

The deductions made in the bills may be said arbitrary by an authority which has no legal stand, but to me it is regular. We have requested the supervisor for explanations, financial statements of earlier payments, like medical amounts, constructions, P.F. and Pension a/cs etc. Which are still with the supervisor Rev.Tirkey and also with the present "NWGELC". If all the amount be paid without any financial statements, I think we encourage embezzlements of the money and we may have no moral right to ask for any financial statements and accounts from other supervisors or"church workers". If the friends have new names "new church" and "new Bishop" and by this they can escape the submission of statements then a heavy amount of P.F. and Pensions of our workers will be lost, that too under the leadership of "the Bishop".

Therefore if you will be interested in paying the " NWGELC" directly, the amounts due to our workers be settled, this may go back to the early seventies, since they have the P.F. and Pen.F. of our workers from that time too.

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C. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No.....

The.....

Contd .....

As I have already written earlier, I am personally not interested in direct or via media payment, but my concern goes 1) about the settlement of the previous accounts and amounts 2) about the fact whether the direct paid amount will fulfill your interest for ' mission work', the later cannot be even controlled or established if that is paid through BEL, this I have already mentioned in my letter dt. 19.6.80, whether money is paid directly or indirectly, it will be a cause for the church politics which one or the other party will interpret for its own gain. The interest is not so much in the work of the field but to get the strongfoot hold against the other.

Therefore you have the right and the choice to do one way or the other. There is no neutrality here. I hope, I have made my points clear.

With greetings,

Yours Sincerely

C. K. Paul Singh

(Dr.C.K.Paul Singh)
Director, BEL.

CC:
"The Bishop" SC
SC "NWGELC".

GOSSNER MISSION
BERLIN

1 Berlin 41
Handjerystraße 19-20

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Rev. Dr. C.K. Paul Singh
G.E.L.Church
Ranchi - 834 001
India

14.7.1980

Dear Paul,

Many thanks for your letter dated 19.6., No. 48/80/BEL - 2.
Did I thank you already for your previous letter No. 45, dated 9.6.80, with the Nepal report and the Bagjima report? Many thanks for them as well.

Concerning your last letter, I discussed the situation with Dr. Grothaus and we two are sure, that we did not agree with KSS that KSS should again have to decide whether payments are made or not. The agreement with KSS clearly was, that Gossner Mission instructs you to pay, and KSS would not interfere, but you would act as Gossner Mission's agent. If this again does not work, then direct payment will be unavoidable. But this is exactly was KSS wanted to prevent. KSS agreed to payment through BEL because they did not want direct payment. If they now boycott the arrangement, then direct payment will be the result.

Concerning your remarks that you cannot check the proper use of the money, my answer is, that certainly we do not expect you to check NW-GELC's books whether they have spent the money correctly or not. This would put you into an impossible situation, because NW-GELC would not allow you to do so. You are quite right there.
But what I hope from you, is, that you confirm to us whether the number of missionaries, NW-GELC includes in their bills, is correct. This you can judge very easily, because you know, how many and who of the missionaries are with BEL and who are not. You know exactly whom you are paying and whom you are not paying, because they get their money from NW-GELC.
I need you to confirm the number, because the arrangement with Gossner Mission has never been, that we pay all missionaries, whether they are 200 or 400 in number. We were paying for about 200, and we have to stick to this ceiling, because we do not have more money. I therefore have to make sure that NW-GELC and BEL do not include many new missionaries in their bills so that the number by far exceeds 200. I have to know how many missionaries of the old number of 200 are with NW-GELC and how many of them are with BEL. This is the only request I have to you concerning checking the bills from NW-GELC.

If, however you have reason to suggest that the money is not paid to the missionaries by NW-GELC, then please let me know. We shall then take up the matter with NW-GELC.

Best wishes for you,
yours in Christ
Siegward Kriebel

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G. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No 48/80/BEL - 2

The 19.6.80

Pastor Siegwart Kriebel

Director, G.M.

Handjery Str. 19/20

1000 BERLIN 41

Dear Siegwart,

Yesterday we received bills Nov.& Dec.'78 from the "Udaipur Mission" field prepared by the "Supervisor" Rev.S. Tirkey & checked by the "finance Office and countersighed by the "Bishop" of the "NW-GELC". According to the "agreement" and your instructions in your letter dt. 13.5.80, I have recommended the bills to the treasurer, KSS, who along with the Pramukh Adhyaksh shall pay the amount. I hope by this way of payment Gossner Mission will be satisfied that its amount is paid for the "work". So do I, if the workers, who engage themself in Mission work are paid their dues. However I have some doubts and reservation that I be satisfied. In your letter dt. 13.5.80 to Rev.N.Ekka you have mentioned that in Germany you could never establish whether bills (submitted by NW-GELC) are correct or not, therefore you would take the services of the BEL to pay the salaries on your behalf. I confess that in the present situation, I can not control or establish, whether the amounts in the bills are correct or are given to the "Mission-workers". Because I have no right to demand for any vouchers, or receipts or a/c books. I could not see even in the earlier days. When I demanded that the P.F. and Pen.F., Medical and construction Funds be used as per regular, i.e. P.F. and Pen.F. be deposited in right way and medical and construction Funds be used with proper receipts and account be submitted to me for verification but this was not done. Now these amounts are again in the bills. I can not deny to pay, because of the " agreement" otherwise at the Funds amount would not have been paid unless they submit the account and statements of the already given amounts.

At present situation I am also doubtful whether the amount meant for Mission work would really go to the "workers", it would go to the persons who are very much involved in church politics, in fighting only to occupy the property. How the amount of the G.M. is helping to do the " Missionwork", I am unable to understand. One can say about other workers

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G. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No.....

The.....

contd ....

also including me. But that is up to the GM to judge how far its money is going for the work, the GM is interested.

As the"Supervisor" Rev.S.Tirkey is under "NWGELC", we can not deduct any amount from their bills even if we have some receivable amounts from him. Our authority to deduct will be questioned. The "Supervisor" as well as the "NW-GELC" owe us (the workers of the fields who are with the KSS) the P.F. and Pen.F. of the past which are still with them. This is the only social security for our workers and so they are requesting and appealing to the "NWGELC" authorities for their dues, but till now they have been denied. As far as I know the NWGELC will request again for direct payment. As the "agreement" of payment through BEL" is not agreeable to them. I think you would be convinced to pay them directly, as you are interested that all the'mission workers' be paid. However I would plead with you to settle the Providend and Pension Funds of the workers of the fields, but are with loss. I hope you would be interested for the social security of all workers.

Your sentence in your letter dt. 13.5.80. to Rev. Ekka saying ' If a missionary changes from GELC to NW-GELC .... etc.,' is an encouraging sentence for changing group and for fighting against one another. I think it is a dangerous attitude, for not only GELC but for NW-GELC, i.e. we are thrown into an arena of fighting. I think <u>personally</u> to be far better if you will pay them directly - as they would now demand (after the solution of College problems through"guided agreements"), so that all "Oraon Mission Workers" would join the "NW-GELC", and also no problems of P.F. and Pen.F. adjustment would arise. Though I am not quite convinced that the amount so given by the GM would be used for the work GM is interested in, that up to the GM, how it is convinced.

I wanted to inform you all this so that you may realise the ongoing fight in the future of the church and how the GM is actively involved in it, although it is said or written that GM or the visitors from GM are not influencing the discussions in regard with the "agreement"

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C. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No .....

The .....

contd .....

or that need of a new church do arise on the arguments given by the NW-GELC leaders", As you say that you do not recognise the "new church", in action it is not the fact. Your actions and arguments encourage the NWGELC, which are coming out in forms of violence and troubles in many places. I, therefore, see that your report in "Gossner Mission" May 1980 is missleading. Thus the problems are made worse than ever, and are going to worst, even after the money meant for all workers would be given.

I hope I have made the points clear, how the GM is helping us- both groups, or making more troubles among us by " half-doing" or "half -not-doing",. I am sorry that I am expressing some of my these feelings.

With greetings

Yours Sincerely

C. K. Paul Sh.

(Dr.C.K.Paul Singh)
Director,BEL.

BOARD OF EVANGELISM AND LITERATURE

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C. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No 45/BEL/80 - 2

The 9-6-80

The Director
Pastor, Siegwart Kriebel
Handjery Str. 19/20
1000 BERLIN 41

Dear Siegwart,

Thank you very much for your kind letter dt. 13.5.1980. As I was very busy in some of the Bible classes and other meetings I could not reply your letter earlier. Herewith I am enclosing two reports of my short visits to Nepal and to the Mission field of Madhya Anchal. I prepared these reports, so that our church leaders and Anchal Adhyakshes may take up the matters seriously, though I know that they very rarely read such reports.

In the meanwhile "NW-GELC" has installed its "Bishop" through its Pramukh Adhyaksh, I hope you might have already received reports pictures etc. with this regard. I knew , now the 'Bishop' was installed though not consecreted. Now the main point would be, how a principal of the College would be accepted in two posts. However I have no special comments or opinion with this regard. I have told my friends here that the present church - situation is a great challenge to the church leaders as well as to the common christian members of our church. What positive steps are being taken in the future to strengthen the GELC ? Or are we only thinking of the negative aspects ?

Till now I have not received any bill from the Udaipur area of Rev. S. Tirkey's group.

For the proposed project at Ranchi, through BEL, we are discussing the positive and necessary steps to be taken in the work. The plot has been demarkcated by the Bd. of properties, now we have to take possession of the same, because there may some objections etc.by or"others".

I have my tour programmes till the last week of June. During July-Sept. I shall have hours of teaching in Serampore College as 'Part-Timer'.

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(Regd. under Societies Registration act XXI of 1860)

Director & Secretary
Rev. Dr. C. K. Paul Singh, B. D. Dr. Theol. (Berlin)

C. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No.....

The.....

Now the temprature is cooling down as we are having some showers of rain occasionally, though monsoon has not yet started.

With greetings,

Yours Sincerely

(Dr.C.K.Paul Singh)
Director,BEL.

Encls:
As stated above

GOSSNER MISSION
BERLIN

1 Berlin 41
Handjerystraße 19-20

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Bankkonto: Berliner Bank, Kto. 4/7480

Dr. C.K. Paul Singh
GEL Church - BEL
Ranchi - 834001
Bihar, India

13.5.1980

Dear Paul,

Many thanks for your letter 33/80/BEL-2 of 24.4.80. I am glad to hear that you returned home save and sound, and that you had an interesting sunday in Kathmandu after our departure.

It is good to know that atl least our money, which was sent in January, has been credited to the BEL account. We have now made a formal request to our bank, to trace the money of December. We shall see, what they will find out.

I am looking forward to receive your short Nepal report. We have made a report on India and one on Nepal. They were completed just in time for the Kuratorium meeting. We shall now translate them into English and then send them to India as well. This may take some more days.

I can see that your summer programme may be hampered by the requisition of the jeep. But what can we do??

From Dr. Bage and from Rev. Soreng we heard of excessive heat in your area. We hope that you do not suffer too much and that the wheather will return to normal soon. May all the bible classes be held in a good mood and may the participants be richly blessed.

Greetings to you and to your family,
yours,

Siegwart

p.s. Please find attached the sopy of a letter to Rev. Ekka. I hope, that the problem is now solved. Dr. Minz had asked to have the arrangement in writing, when we met on the morning of our departure from Ranchi to Takarma, and I promised to put it in writing.

b.

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Rev. N. Ekka
NW-GEL Church
Main Road
Ranchi, 834001
Bihar, India

13.5.1980

Dear Brother,

On a short informal meeting of Dr. N. Minz, Rev. Soreng, Dr. M. Bage, Dr. H. Grothaus and myself on 22.3.1980 in Ranchi, I mentioned the procedure of paying all missionaries, which we want to follow, after our discussions with Kss and with Dr. C.K.Paul Singh. Dr. Minz did not object to this procedure, but asked to have it confirmed in writing by us. I gladly do it hereby, apologizing for the delay. I returned to Berlin three weeks ago, but since then there was our Kuratorium meeting in Mainz and two more duty trips to West Germany for me.

Our money for the salaries of all missionaries, whether they are under GELC or under NW-GELC, will be sent to BEL for distribution to the field supervisors.

The supervisors will send their bills monthly to Dr. Singh, Director of BEL. Dr. Singh will send the money according to the monthly bills to the supervisors.

If a missionary changes from GELC to NW-GELC, or from NW-GELC to GELC, his new supervisor will include his salary into his bill for the following month.

Salaries paid in 1979 can still be claimed from BEL in 1980.

The reason for this arrangement is, that Gossner Mission needs an agent in India for endorsing the bills of the field supervisors. Here in Germany we could never establish whether such bills are correct or not. We therefore use the services of BEL to pay the salaries on our behalf.

I hope that this arrangement will now work satisfactorily.

Yours sincerely,

Siegwart Kriebel

Siegwart Kriebel

copies to : Dr. Singh, BEL, Ranchi ✓
Rev. P.D. Soreng, Ranchi

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G. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No. 33/80/BEL - 2

The 25 - 4 - 80

To

The Director, GM
Pastor S.Kriebel
Handjery Str. 19/20
1000 BERLIN 41

Dear Pastor Krebel,

After a Sunday stay at Kathmandu I came back to Ranchi safe and sound. On Sunday I attended the Nepal Church service at Jnaneshwar, Kathmandu and I had a nice talk with some of flemming Guest House went to attend to attend the church service of an Indian Congregation (Syrian church in character) on the Putli Road Kathmandu. When now I am in Ranchi I still do not find any bill from the Udaipur M/F Rev.Sunil Tirkey group, I wonder how it would go. Now the KNH hostel money has bee withheld for some of the hostels of the " NW-GELC " and this may lead to another new Turn.

For my Summer programmes I would like to participate in some of the Youth Bible Classes (Conventions) but as the assembly elections of nine state (including Bihar) has been anounced our Jeep may be requisitioned by the Government so it will be difficult to move from one Bible Class to the other, as such programmes are not well organised there are much overlaping and inconveniences arise. We are discussing, how I can participate in the Maximum Classes.

From other sources I can collect that GM grant transferred in last December has been credited to our BEL a/c, but the Hd accountant is not here so I have not yet ascertained the same. No the amount mentioned in the letter of 14-12-79 DM 30,000.- is not yet transferred to our a/c, only the amount Thank you very much that my participation in U M N Bd. Meeting was made possible by you. I am grateful for all assistances extended to me. I shall write a short report on my visit to Nepal and shall forward a copy to you also.

transferred according to the letter of 31.1.80 of DM 20,000 + 50,000 has been transferred

Yours Sincerely

With thanks and greetings.

(Dr. C.K.Paul Singh)

Director, BEL.

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Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No 16/80/BEL - 2

The 15-2-80

Pastor S.Kriebel
Director,Gossner Mission
1 Berlin 41

Dear Brother Pastor Kriebel,

In my hurry I left out some points which should have written. On 5th Feb. two ladies from Nepal Christian Fellow-ship came to Ranchi and they left this morning for Nepal via Patna. This was in accordance wi with the agreement of Gossner Mission (Through Frau Friederici and the then Mission director) that the GM would pay the travel cost. This was being tried since years. Thus I was involved in this time, though the ladies were invited by the Mahila Samiti of Ranchi GELC. Thus I have Nepal to Ranchi including their miscellaneous expenses, total Rs.1400/- (Rupees fourteen hundred) only and I request you to kindly reimbursed the same to me. You may give me the amount when you are at Ranchi.

Yesterday Rev.J.Topno, Assam Anchal Adhyaksh came, and we arranged my visit to Assam. We shall ~~have~~ leave Ranchi on 23rd Feb. and I shal retdrn from tour on 19/20 March. Thus it will be possible to meet you and Dr.Grothaus before you would leave Ranchi for home ward journey.

For my Nepal trip I am not quite clear. If my visitor membership is confirmed, I may be ready to join you for Nepal. I came to know that you have written a letter to the Pramukh Adhyaksh with this regard. But I did not enquire of the reply so that there should not be any misunderstanding that the letter was written on my request and I am pressing to give positive answer. So by this you may understand my situation in connection with Nepal trip. I hope it may be made clear, when you are here.

Thanking you with greetings,

Yours Sincerely
(Dr.C.K.Paul Singh)
Director, BEL.

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Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No 15/80/BEL - 2

The 15-2-80

Prof. Dr. Hans Grothaus
Chairman, Kuratorium, GM.
Norderluck 28
239 Fienburg

Dear Hans,

Just a day ago I have written an Aerogramme to you in reply to your letters. Today I would like send to you a copy of my Yearly report for your information and record.

Further I would like to inform that according to my pre arrangement I shall have to leave for Assam on 23rd Feb. Yesterday I had a talk with Assam Anchal Adhyaksh, who came for the KSS meetings. Accordingly I Shall be come back on 19/20th March, and I hope to see you before you leave Ranchi for home land. I am very sorry that I am going away from Ranchi, when you will be coming to Ranchi. Please write to the Pramukh Adhyaksh also about your possible arrival day, time and route, so that necessary arrangements could be made. I guessed from talk with the Pramukh Adhyaksh that you would be staying in guest -house. If I were here you could have stayed in our family. I have made all possible and necessary arrangements for your stay (for you and Ursel) when you visit Ranchi during Sep.'80. We shall talk about these again when we meet at Ranchi.

With Greetings,

Yours Sincerely,

C. K. Paul Sh

(Dr. C.K.Paul Singh)
Director, BEL.

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C. P. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 15-2-80

Ref. Memo. No 14/80/BEL - 2

The .....

Frau D.Friederici
Mainz.

Dear Frau Friederici,

Herewith I would like to inform you very gladly that two ladies from Nepal - (N C F) - visited us. Mrs. Rana and Mrs. Kaur, were here from 5 - 15 Feb. as arranged and invited by the Mahila Samiti GELC Ranchi. I had to arrange this with Mr. Sodemba, when letter of Mahila Samiti sent to Nepal was not replied. Due to very short time we could not arrange, so nice, as we would have liked. But even then we were very happy to have the two ladies, specially the Mahila Samiti of Ranchi has been blessed with this visit, so also congregations, which were visited by our guests.
As per our agreement with you, personally as well as officially (GM). I hope their travel expenses will be born by the Gossner Mission, Hospitality and visits arrangements by the Mahila Samiti. So have given for the ladies their travel and incidental expenses Rs. 1400/- (Rupees fourteen hundred only) and I hope this will be reimbursed to me. I have written a letter with this regard to Director Pastor Kriebel also.

We all are doing here well and my family too.
With greetings,

Yours Sincerely
C.K.Paul Singh
(Dr. C.K.Paul Singh)
Director,BEL.

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Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No 13/80/BEL - 2

The 14.2.80

Pastor S.Kriebel
Mission Director
Gossner Mission.

Dear Brother Pastor Kriebel,

With this letter I would like to give you a copy of our Yearly Report (1979) for your information and record.
Further I would like to inform you that the last transferred amount mentioned in your letter of Dec. (14th ?) is not yet credited to our a/c. We are still in search of explanation, why the amount is not yet credited. Somehow we are pulling on with the balance amount not yet cleared due to non-submissions of accounts, but they shall be given when this would be submitted. We have also received informations that last installment (1979) and first of 1980 has been also transferred, we hope in due time they will be credited to our a/c and we shall have no difficulty.
Our KSS meeting has been postponed from 12thFeb. on wards to 20th Feb. onwards, so as scheduled, I am not going to Assam, now when the Assam Adhyaksh would come for the meeting then only we can finalise the trip. In Assam there is still riots and other unhappy incidents and there is a great scarcity of petrol, I do not know yet whether I have to cancell the tour.

Through Pramukh Adhyaksh I came to know that you are coming with Dr. Grothaus the new chairman of the Kuratorium. He also told me about the date. If my tour to Assam will be cancelled you may see us at Ranchi. However I would like to say some few things for your information which I have also wrote to Dr. Grothaus in my friendly letter to him.

The groups, their leaders and congregations have mixed, expectations from you, Specially the "NW-GELC" congregations are being told by their leaders that the Director and Chairman are coming to finally divide and settle the present waring groups. By March/April " NW-GELC" will get ful recognition and support by Gossner Mission. So those who wanted to join KSS-told are stopped. So also is the case in Udaipur m/f. The former Supervisor is claiming and holding some workers with himself and asking

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Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No .....

The .....

Them to wait till March '80. By the time they will get full recognition. Accordingly the groups leader and also congregation members are not quite happy, that your visit would cement the division of the church, congregation and many families. While other are anxious to finalise the whole matter in your presence so that the double policy would not hang the people in the air.

By this I do not mean to say that you should not come,- though many would prefer - I only wanted to say that you have to get prepared with this respect.

With greetings,

Yours Sincerely

(Dr. C.K. Paul Singh)
Director, BEL.

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Ref. Memo. No 5/80/BEL - 2

The 15-1-80

Dear Pastor Kriebel,

This is my first letter to you in the Year 1980. Meanwhile you might have received news and views from the Pramukh Adhyaksh Rev.Soreng and may be also from Rev.N.Ekka.

Our KSS meeting is scheduled for 16-18 Feb. 1980. We had our meetings in Dec.79. We were told about your coming to Ranchi and its dates. I am scheduled for Assam, only if the situation in Assam worsens, I may have to cancell the programme. But till now I am in plan, Feb.-March. The KSS is thinking to have a Refresher Course in Ranchi for the month of April 80. I was trying to expalin how it may to be possible to have you.

In the last month we had Refresher Course for the field workers, but due to bad health I could not go. I sent my assistant and a field pastor from SEA Area. In the Refresher Course in Surguja field workers from Surguja,Udaipur and Khuria were present, altogether there were 102 participants. Some workers from Udaipur did not go, as they heard that you are giving them money directly, some of them were planning to separate themselves again from the KSS group. In some centres some of them workers who received the money from us were maltreated, some of them were driven out physically. We have paid money for all workers, but some of them do not like to take from us- our representative. We hope that this problem will be quickly solved. Rev.Tirkey who is also the member of "NW-GELC" council was asked by me to submit the statement and a/c for the amount he has received from us, but till now he had not done. He has all the P.F. and Pen.F. money of the field workers, in addition he had not distributed medical work grants for the workers similarly he has the construction amount. I am still trying to solve the matter amicably.

In your last letter you had asked about the increased family member in our family. We got her baptised on 30th Dec. 79 and she was named " Christ Renate Swasti". At present all are doing well.

Bythis time you might have already known about the political development in our country. We all are very much surprised by the Land Slide victory of Mrs. Gandhi and her party.

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Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No.....

The.....

contd...2

I was thinking on that line but not with such a vast majority. Any how we hope that she will do better. From our area Mr. N.E.Horo, of our churc is also elected to Lok Sabha.

With best of my regards,

Yours Sincerely

C.K.Paul Sh

(Dr. C.K.Paul Singh)

Director,BEL.

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Ref. Memo. No 4/80/BEL - 2

The 15-1-80

Rev.M.Gohlke
4990 Luebeke HaupfStrasse 120
West Germany

Dear Brother Gohlke,

Thank you very much for your letter and the photos you sent. We have stepped in the new Year with good hope. As the situation is changing both in politic and church.

In the same way my family is also alright, the mother and the baby are fine. We baptised the child on 30.12.79 and baby has been named 'Christ Renate Swasti'.

The political situation in our country is by now known to you :- about the land slide victory of Mrs. Gandhi. We are glad that now there would be a stable government and that she would be able to do some thing for the minorities and the poor.

The situation in the church has not changed much. But now we are able to give amounts for all workers. There are difficulties in many centres but as I could see in many places many members from Dr. Minz's group are coming back.

According to my plan I am going ahead with a Reading Rooms programme at Ranchi, in which guest rooms,library, professional guide, dispensary etc. have been planned. Similarly 'Gramoday' - Rural Development is also being planned in which adult education, rural health, agricultural assistance, Saving Scheme etc. have been planned. These scheme I am planning without outside help. Last time (in May/June 1979) I had talked with Pastor Kriebel but talks were not so much encouraging. So I have to go ahead with indigeneous resources. I may be able to give more report about this programme in a later stage. The KSS is in favour of this work and has decided to allot land in Ranchi.

I have delivered the other photo of 2nd Nov. to Rev.Burh of Hd.Qtrs. cong. Ranchi.

With all good wishes and Greetings.

Yours Sincerely
C. K. Paul Singh
(Dr. C.K. Paul Singh)
Director,BEL.

Gossner Mission

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6500 Mainz
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Mainz, 13. Sept. 1979
Gm - Pe/Hö

RUNDBRIEF ZUM ERNTEDANKFEST 1979

Liebe Freunde!

Sie werden sich schon lange gefragt haben, was aus unserem Mainzer Arbeitszentrum geworden ist. Es lebt noch! Nachdem im März 1978 Dorothea Friederici aus Berlin hierher kam und im Oktober 1978 Dr. Karl-Heinz Dejung aus Rotterdam, ist das Team seit Februar 1979 mit dem Kommen von Werner Petri aus Wiesbaden-Biebrich wieder komplett. Es gab in der Zwischenzeit noch einen Wechsel: Frau Hendek, unsere Hausmutter, hat uns Ende Juni verlassen. Es ist noch nicht sicher, ob sie in der Bundesrepublik bleibt, oder wieder in die Türkei zurückgeht. Am 1. August hat Frau Ursula André als neue Hausmutter in Mainz angefangen.

Wie die zukünftige Arbeit hier aussehen wird können wir immer noch nicht genau sagen. Es haben in der Zwischenzeit viele Besuche und Gespräche stattgefunden: Bei unseren Vorgängern, alten Freunden des Gossner-Zentrums, bei Gewerkschaften, Parteien, Behörden und Verbänden, Pfarrern und Kirchengemeinden. Wir haben versucht herauszufinden, wo im Blick auf die Zukunft die drängenden Aufgaben hier im Mainzer Bereich liegen, die wir aufgreifen sollten und wer dabei unsere Partner sein könnten. Deshalb hat in diesem Jahr jeder von uns für eine gewisse Zeit in einem Betrieb gearbeitet. Im Mai/Juni Werner Petri bei der IBM, im Zusammenhang mit dem Industriepraktikum der Marburger Theologie-Studenten Dorothea Friederici bei der MEPAG und Karl-Heinz Dejung bei Schott/Jenaer Glas.

Uns selbst schweben drei inhaltliche Schwerpunkte der zukünftigen Arbeit vor:

1. Bedeutung der Arbeit für den Menschen

   Wie beeinflussen wirtschaftliche und technologische Veränderungen und die internationale Arbeitsteilung die Bedeutung der Arbeit bei uns. Wir würden dieses Thema gerne mit unseren Partnern bearbeiten, in den drei Bereichen, die auch geographisch die Gossner-Arbeit umfasst: Bei uns in der Bundesrepublik, in der Dritten Welt und in den sozialistischen Ländern.

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2. Suche nach Alternativen

Welche Lösungsmöglichkeiten für die ans sellschaftlichen, wirtschaftlichen und politischen Zukunft erden durch die Lebensstilbewegungen, Bürgerinitiativen, ive Technologie aufgezeigt? Wie weit können wir hier v Arbeitszentrum mithelfen, sie bekannter zu machen un zu sorgen, dass die verschiedenen betroffenen gesellschaf n Gruppen sich mit ihnen auseinandersetzen?

3. Stadtentwicklung - Stadtgestaltung

Zur Zeit ist erneut ein Gespräch darüber im Gange, w bei der zukünftigen Gestaltung unserer Städte die Prioritäten iegen müssen, damit sie menschengerechte Städte bleiben oder wie r werden. Wir möchten daran mitarbeiten, dass die betroffene Bevölkerungsgruppen an dieser Prioritätenfindung und den dar s folgenden Planungen mit beteiligt werden. Wir meinen, s die Bewohner sich nur dann als voll berechtigte Bürger einer t fühlen können, wenn sie erleben, dass ihre Erfahrungen u nntnisse ernst genommen werden und in die Planung einfl en.

Wir wissen, dass das noch sehr allgemeine Formulierungen sind. Gegenwärtig versuchen wir herauszufinden, in welcher Weise sie an Ansatzpunkten in unserer Region so entfaltet werden können, dass daraus konkrete Arbeitsfelder werden.

Der Ökumenische Rat der Kirchen hat als Ziel der gesellschaftspolitischen Arbeit der Christen die Aufgabe formuliert, dass wir hinarbeiten müssen auf eine "gerechte, lebensfähige Gesellschaft, die jedem die Möglichkeit gibt, an ihrer Gestaltung aktiv mitzuarbeiten" (just, participatory, sustainable society). Wir versuchen, im Seminar für Kirchlichen Dienst in der Industriegesellschaft der Gossner Mission nach besten Kräften an dieser Aufgabe mitzuarbeiten.

Wir danken Ihnen sehr für Ihre Unterstützung dieser Arbeit, auch während der gegenwärtigen "Durststrecke"! Helfen Sie uns durch Ihre Anregungen, Ihre kritische Begleitung, Ihr Gebet und Ihren Beitrag, dass wir sie gemeinsam weiterführen können.

Mit herzlichen Grüssen

Karl-Heinz Dejung Dorothea H. Friederici Werner Petri

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Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No 94/79/BEL - 2

The 20.12.79

Prof.Dr. Hans Grothaus
239 Flensburg
Norderluck 28
West Germany

Dear Hans,

Thank you for your letter dt. 3.12.79 requesting to arrange an invitation letter for your group study tour. After discussing with Dr.Bage I have requested the principal of Serampore College to send an invitation letter to you. I hope he will soon do this. Dr. Bage also promised to write a letter to the Principal. The other detail programmes for you shall be made after your suggestion is received.

The situation in the Church is almost in the same way.Now we are paying the workers of all Mission fields including Udaipur and Surguja. But meanwhile mission director P.Kriebel has informed that he is transferring amounts for Udaipur Mission field. This has again created confusion and bitterness in the Church -among the KSS members the Mission field congregations etc. I am trying to pacify the situation, but not quite successful. I shall be writing a letter to the Mission Director with this regard.

In my family we are now almost doing well. We have now fifth members in the family, Regine and Regem got a sister. So Ohmati had some complications and I was also suffering from boils and wounds, but now I am getting well.

As now-a-days we are very busy in KSS meetings and in preparing for the Christmas Holidays. So I am not answering all the points you and Ursel have written. I hope I may do this letter on.

With seasonal Greetings,

Yours Sincerely,
C. K. Paul Singh
(Dr.C.K.Paul Singh)
Director,BEL.

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Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No 91/79/BEL - 2

The 8.12.79

Dear Pastor Kriebel,

Thank you for your kind letters, and also the copy of the letter to Rev.N.Ekka.

I was out of the station for'Refresher Course' for the m/fs workers of SEA,OA and M.Anchal in Tokad beyond Khunti. There were 74 participants from the Ilaka. We had a nice time and serious thoughts about the futur of our work in our given situation,- politically,socially, economically and otherwise. For a short period two from Surguja and Udaipur were also present.

From Dec. 10-16 we have'Refresher-Course' in Ambikapur for Udaipur, Surguja and Khuria m/fs. We are expecting nearly 150 participants, according to the calculation given by Rev.O.Toppo. Since 25th Nov. I am not doing well, I have boils and pimples round-around my mouth, it is giving much trouble. Some how I carried on the 'Refresher-Course' in Tokad, but for Ambikapur it seems quite impossible. So I am arranging with my assistant two more pastors to go and help in the Classes. But if they prefer, they may close the same and we may conduct the same sometimes next year, but this time we have to pay the Travelling expenses.

You have asked me about my trip to Nepal to visit Ampipal and other places.If the membership in UMN about me is settled I may be ready to go for the meeting and the visit.

My Assam trip is almost sure, and I shall try to enquire into the project, but actually I do not know the main points of enquiry, will you please let me know the same. By the last weeks of March I may come back and be able to meet you. I was at the same time thinking to conduct a 'Refresher-Course' of the field workers at one place, so that you may have a chance to meet the field workers. I can do this if I am in possession of your detail tour programmes etc.

Now regarding the touchy matter of your transfering of money for Rev. N.Ekka, i.e. for Udaipur m/f. The pramukh Adhyaksh has written a letter with this effect and thus

BOARD OF EVANGELISM AND LITERATURE

Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church
(Regd. under Societies Registration act XXI of 1860)

Director & Secretary
Rev. Dr. C. K. Paul Singh, B. D. Dr. Theol. (Berlin)

C. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No......

The.....

thus you know the reaction. I would like to express my feeling, that by transferring money to them the problem is not solved. Now the field would be divided into two groups and there will be fighting and quarreling in the fields also. Rev.S.Tirkey is keeping the P.F. and Pen,F. fund of the m/fs workers, and it will be now difficult for the workers to get their money from him. I would not say that you should not give them any money, only my point is that by this action you have made another knot in the church problem. I accept this action as other actions.-Like you are donating money for Zambia or Nepal, where GELC has nothing to say.

In our family by the coming of the new babe we have also new troubles. Mrs. Singh is also still sick, we have not been able to baptise the child, and till that actual names are kept secret.

With all good wishes and greetings,

Yours Sincerely

C. K. Paul Singh

(Dr.C.K.Paul Singh)

Director,BEL.

Postscheckkonto: Berlin West 520 50-100 · Bankkonto: Berliner Bank AG, BLZ 100 200 00, Konto-Nr. 0407480700

Rev. Dr. Paul Singh
GELC - BEL
Ranchi
Bihar, India

27.11.1979

Dear Dr. Singh,

Some more points, which I forgot in my last letter:
First of all I have to apologize for not remembering that you are already a proud and happy father of another child, the name of which my wife did not yet know. God's blessing for the baby and the parents and the whole family!

Secondly, Rev. Linn in East Berlin has asked me for a Hindi Grammar so that he can learn a bit before his first trip to India. I am using a grammar which I am satisfied with,

Outline of Hindi Grammar with exercises, by R.S.McGregor,
Delhi Oxford Universitiy Press, 2nd Edition 1977, 25 Rs.

Could you perhaps try to get this one or an equivalent one and send it to me one day? That would be very kind.

Thirdly I would be very thankful, if on your trip to Assam you could try to visit Bhaithabhanga and Rangagora in order to check on the proposed projects there (agricultural use of church land, and a handicraft cooperative society), get as many details of planning and inform me about them. You know from copies my correspondence with Rev. Soreng, but not much further information has been forthcoming. I would be very glad, if some of my questions could be answered by your investigations on your next visit to Assam.

Most probably we shall not meet in March, if you are in Assam then. Pity. Remembering, that you always prefered to come to Germany in May, I have proposed the same to Dr. Bage.

Many greetings,
yours
Siegwart Kriebel
Siegwart Kriebel

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Dr.Paul Singh
G.E.L. Church

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6. November 1979
Sch/Hbd
4932-1571/79 (2)

Herrn
Director Dr. Paul Singh
Board of Evangelism and Literature
Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church

Ranchi /Bihar
INDIA

Lieber Paul!

Dein Brief mit Bericht ist gut in meine Hände gekommen. Ich habe festgestellt, daß Dein Bericht auch an Gerhard Linn gegangen ist. Dieser hat ihn für unseren Arbeitskreis übersetzt und an alle Mitglieder verteilt. Ich finde das sehr schön, daß dadurch Deine Einsicht bekannt geworden ist.

Was nun meine Pläne angeht, so hoffe ich, das ganze kommende Jahr in Amerika verbringen zu können, dann in Bern, und erst Ende 1981, also Oktober/November, soll ich dann nach Asien kommen. Ich möchte schon in Indien starten und hielte es für gut, wenn wir ein bis zwei Monate in Südindien wären - da war ich bisher noch nie - und dann bei Euch in Ranchi. Vielleicht kommt da die Zeit über Weihnachten 1981 zustande, so daß wir die großen Kirchenfeste in Euren Gemeinden erleben und dann bis Februar etwa bleiben. Veranlasse doch bitte mal bei Eurer Leitung eine allgemeine Einladung für den Zeitraum November 81/Februar 1982. Und schreibe doch dazu, daß Möglichkeiten bestehen, unter Studenten und Pfarrern und in anderen Kursen mitzuarbeiten und Gemeinden mit Predigtdienst zu besuchen.

Ich hoffe, von Dir zu hören und wünsche Euch gute Gesundheit und gute Gemeinschaft.

Dein

Bruno

N.S. Es wäre schön, wenn Du mir regelmäßig Berichte schicktest und kurze Notizen mit Meldungen aus dem kirchlichen Leben. Und bitte, das ganze auch in Kopie für Dr. Blauert und Gerhard Linn.

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(Regd. under Societies Registration act XXI of 1860)

Director & Secretary
Rev. Dr. C. K. Paul Singh, B. D; Dr. Theol. (Berlin)

G. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No 80/79/BEL - 2

The 16.11.79

The Mission Director
Gossner Mission
1 BERLIN 41
Handjerystr. 19/20

Dear Rev.Kriebel,

Just in this week I wrote a letter to you regarding many points, but today I would like to inform you that the matter of Udaipur for payment is solved. Now we will be able to pay them immediately.

We could have paid today itself, but unfortunately Treasurer is in Madras for a meeting. So, workers in Udaipur Madhya Pradesh would be paid in the next week when treasurer would come and Pastor-in-charge of Udaipur would come.

Rev.O.Toppo of Ambikapur has played a great role to negotiate in this matter. Now we have to clear up the funds which are with the field, revolving funds, P.F.and Pen.F. and construction fund. But we shall pay the workers as advance for the rest months as they have been already paid up to June '79.

I hope this news will be appreciated by you, and you can answer Rev. N.Ekka and other that now we are to pay all workers immediately.

With best of my regards.

Yours Sincerely,
C.K.Paul
(Dr.C.K.Paul Singh)
Director, BEL.

Gossner Mission
Handjerystraße 19/20
1000 Berlin 41 (Friedenau)

Rev. P.D. Soreng
G.E.L.Church
Ranchi
Bihar/India

3.9.1979

Dear Brother,

After four weeks' absence from my office I found a lot of mail from your end. I am herewith acknowledging receipt and thanking you for your letter 36o/79/KKK-78 (26.7.79),Minutes of KSS Officers' Meeting on 26.7.79, copy of your letter to Dr.Moritzen 368/79/KSS-78 (31.7.79), KSS Samiti Meeting 7-9 June (Minutes), KSS Officers' Meeting on 13.3.79 (Minutes), Minutes of Full Property Board on 7-8 June.

Re. my letter of 17.7.79 with some questions with regard to the proposed development projects I am glad that you have conveyed my questions to the respective Anchals for consideration and comment. At the same time my questions were also meant for KSS in order to share with you my views on development and in order to discuss those problems. Therefore, if KSS wants to join the discussion on development questions, that would be highly appreciated.

From the Minutes of the 2 KSS Officers' Meetings I was particularly interested in the opening of an agricultural programme in Govindpur. I-f you find the time for it, I would very much like to hear more about it, some details of size and actual activities, organisation and staffing. Has Mr. Kandulna moved to Govindpur? Where does the money come from? Another interesting news was about the amalgamation with Assam Lutheran Church. How big was that church? How many members, how many pastors and congregations? How did they come about in Assam? Why was it possible now to amalgamate?

In your letter to Dr. Moritzen you mention an annual amount of Rs 25.ooo from Gossner Mission for theological education. This figures seems to be a bit low. Since we have transferred DM 11.ooo in 1978 and the same amount in 1977, the amount in Rs should have been about double as high as mentioned in your letter.

With pleasure we read in the minutes of KSS Samiti Meeting that Dr. Bage is going to attend the Augsburg Confession anniversary next year. We are looking forward to meet him in Germany.

Hopefully Rev. Tete and Dr. Singh could report to you our discussions on BEL, especially on Surguja and Udaipur mission fields. I hope that you understand that our aim is to support BEL and GELC as a whole in this matter and that the problems in this connection are solved by now.

Dr. Singh wrote to me that BEL has been given a seperate account. Please, give us the exact description and address of that BEL-account, so that we can transfer the next instalment there as soon as possible.

Still another exciting news was that about the new Bethesda Women's College. About that we would also like to hear more details: size, organisation, funds, subjects for teaching etc.

I was pleased to learn, that GELC is now looking for a teacher for Serampore College from other churches. My best wishes are with you that you will find somebody suitable.

Thank you very much once more for all the interesting information.

In two weeks' time we shall have our Kuratorium meeting, and thereafter I shall report to you.

Please pass on the letter to Rev. and Mrs. Jojo about sponsorship. I do not have their correct address in Govindpur.

Many good wishes and God's blessings to you and to the church,
yours sincerely,

Siegwart Kriebel

Kind: Dr. Singh

GOSSNER MISSION

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Bankkonto: Berliner Bank, BLZ 100 200 00
Kto.-Nr. 0407480700

An alle alten und neuen
Kuratoren und Stellvertreter

Liebe Schwestern und Brüder!

Die erste Sitzung des neuen Kuratoriums ist für die Zeit vom 17. - 2o. Januar 198o in Berlin festgelegt.

Diese Tage sollen wie folgt eingeteilt sein:

Donnerstag, 17.1., abends:	Abschied von den ausscheidenden Kuratoren und Stellvertretern, Begrüßung der neuen Kuratoren
Freitag, 18.1., ganztägig:	1. Sitzung des neuen Kuratoriums
Sonnabend, 19.1.:	evtl. Besuch bei Mitarbeitern und Kuratoren der Gossner Mission in der DDR
Sonntag, 2o.1.:	Predigtdienst in Berliner Gemeinden

Die neuen Stellvertreter, die immer einmal im Jahr zu einer Sitzung mit eingeladen werden, damit auch sie einen regelmäßigen Kontakt zum Kuratorium haben, sollen zur zweiten Sitzung nach Mainz eingeladen werden. Dort ist die Unterbringung einfacher, und vermutlich ist die erste Sitzung stark mit Formalia beschäftigt.

Wegen der schwierigen Unterbringungssituation in Berlin möchten wir Sie herzlich bitten, schon jetzt im Oktober uns mitzuteilen, von wann bis wann Sie hier sein werden.

Der Predigtdienst am Tagungsort ist eine schöne Sitte, die wir vor einigen Jahren begonnen haben. Dazu sind nicht nur Pfarrer eingeladen. Die Gemeinden erwarten von uns in erster Linie Auskunft über Mission heute am Beispiel der Arbeit der Gossner Mission.

Genaue Angaben über Ankunfts- und Abfahrtzeiten sind jetzt noch nicht notwendig. Aber die Zahl der Übernachtungen und die Beteiligung am Predigtdienst sollten wir möglichst bald wissen, auch damit wir gegebenenfalls Ihre Stellvertreter rechtzeitig einladen können.

Mit herzlichen Grüßen,
Ihr

Siegfried Kabel

Absender

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Gossner Mission
Handjerystr. 19/2o

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Antwortkarte:

Im Zusammenhang mit der Kuratoriumssitzung in Berlin im Januar 198o nehme ich an folgenden Veranstaltungen und Einsätzen teil:

Donnerstag, 17.1.	Abschiedsfeier	ja /	nein
Freitag, 18.1.	Sitzung	ja /	nein
Sonnabend, 19.1.	GM/DDR	ja /	nein
Sonntag, 2o.1.	Predigtdienst	ja /	nein

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8802788
8805771

Dr. C.K. Paul Singh
GEL Church
Ranchi / BIHAR
I n d i a

Hamburg, den 2nd October, 1979
P.Dr.T.A./he

Dear Dr. Singh,

when visiting with us during our mission festival in Breklum you were so kind as to suggest that, given the opportunity, I should spend some time in your church in India.

I am writing to you now because I will be visiting India and more specifically Jeypore Evangelical Lutheran Church from the 8th till 22nd October.

Before leaving India again via Calcutta and Madras I would have about two or three days to spend and would like to use this time taking your suggestion to visit Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church. I would plan to arrive in Ranchi by train from Rayagada on the 22nd and continue from Ranchi by plane on 25th October by IC 409.

I would not like to be a burden to you or your church. If you could book me into a simple form of accommodation I shall be grateful.

I would appreciate though if you could give me an opening so as to understand a bit the pastoral outreach and educational work done in your church.

I am writing by the same mail to Dr. Nirmal Minz because I would like to have the opportunity to meet with him.

I have not written though to your church president now because I thought you may want to introduce me there if that should be convenient.

Would you please drop me a few lines per address Jeypore Evangelical Lutheran Church, Jeypore 764 001, Koraput Dt./ORISSA, whether or not my visit is convenient. And if you do expect my coming, would you kindly confirm my departure flight with IC 409 on the 25th October to Calcutta and onwards from there with IC 265 at 14.45 hours to Madras? Thank you very much.

With kind regards and good wishes.

Yours sincerely,

Theodor Ahrens

Dr. Theodor Ahrens - India Secretary

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Director & Secretary
Rev. Dr. C. K. Paul Singh, B. D; Dr. Theol. (Berlin)

G. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No 66/79/BEL- 2

The 10-10-79

Dear Pastor Kriebel,

Thank you very much for your kind letter dt.20.9.79 along with blind copies of other letters.

As you have mentioned in some letters and also in the "Gossner Mission" (BIENE) about my not candidating for membership in the Kuratorium, I would like to clarify my stand and principle, so that you may have note of my position for any membership in any committee or board. I feel myself responsible to be member or officer in any committee, I do not understand it as my privilege or chance, therefore where ever there is a competition or voting afor taking one of the other, I voluntarily withdraw myself. Till now I have been able to keep this principle, and I have accepted only those posts, which have been unanymously decided. In reference to our particular case, I thought it to be fitting not to candidate, when the director himself has proposed another's name with good reasons and also the KSS decided to elect its own representatives perhaps with evil intention !

But I am happy that Dr. Bage has been elected and I do hope, he will accept the membership to serve the purpose on both ends. At this point I would like to say that as 'Kurator' he will automatically get the membership in the FTC Trust and also visitor membership in the UMN, Please inform him and the concerned officers with this regard.

I hope by this time the Pramukh Adhyaksh Rev.Soreng has informed you about the new Bank a/c No for BEL. In my one letter I have already informed you about the same. I am not quite clear whether I can pay all the workers even with this facility of new Bank a/c .Because the KSS has decided in its meeting that all bills must be signed by the Anchal Adhyaksh for payment by the BEL, i,e, if any field would direct1 submit its bills - like "NW, GELC," such field would not get the payment. By now all workers in Surguja are being paid up to date and it is very likely that workers of Udaipur also shall be paid very soon. The worker of Udaipur field have been paid up to June 79 - ca Rs.50,000/- from the workers' P.F. and Pen.F. account kept by the field itself. This amount

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Bihar/India
Phone 23358

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has to be accounted for when the payment from BEL will be made.

It is not true that I have ever forced the superindendents to sign any paper of loyality to Rev.Soreng before they would get their pay, on the contrary I had always tried that they should get their salaries. With this intention only I wanted to visit the fields, but they denied even my authority. The truth is that the KSS has decided that all bills should come with the signature of Anchal Adhyaksh, and accordingly I am unable to do any procedure. Meanwhile some of the workers of Surguja came to know that they have been kept under "NW - GELC" and therefore they were not getting the salaries, so along with pastors they applied for payments and also expressed their loyality to KSS, so Rev. Toppo Superintendent, joined with all workers and gets payments. This all was done when I was in Serampore. Now the workers of Udaipur are also trying to do the same - except Rev.S.Tirkey, Superintendent and some other, Rev.O.Toppo told me last week that workers of Udaipur met him for advice and it seems that they are ready to do the same as the workers of Surguja.

The whole matter is not yet quite clear. But from 15th Oct. we have the Am-Sabha- the general meeting -in which every one can participate of his own and may be allowed to put questions, specially about the "NW -GELC" and GELC matters, thereafter is the Kalisha Sangh (accordingto the constitution) - where the laymen have the voice. These two secretaries may reccommend certain things- also in regard with the "NW - GELC" matters and the KSS is to sit for this just after these two confrences to take necessary decision and I hope BEL as well KSS has to take specific decisions in regard with payments and future policies, because I have also certain plans for the mode of work of the BEL. One of them bring the use and importance of a Separate Bank a/c for BEL. Certainly this new a/c shall help to guard the BEL money so far very often used also for other purpose.

After my teaching time in Serampore I ahd 14 students with me in Chakradharpur, area Mission field and therefore after in Ranchi also for the

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Ref. Memo. No.....

The .....

Contd 3

practical Training. In this way I was busy with the students, so I could not discuss many things with the Pramukh Adhyaksh. He is also mostly out of Ranchi since 2nd Oct. he is in New Delhi. Thus I have no idea about the programmes for the German Guests. When I left for Serampore I requested Dr. Bage and Rev. Soreng to make the programme, since then I was unable totalk about the Programmes. I hope by now Frau Friederici has sent the list and names of the guests including the actual date of their stay at Ranchi. I had also written one letter to her, but till now I have not received any letter. We expect that one of the guests would gi give sermon on the 2nd Nov. 79 during the Mission festival worship.

From this week onward I shall be staying in Ranchi for meetings and its preparation (reports etc.), then for the German guests. In between I have to go for two or three days for Bible class, dedication of new constructed houses. For this I have also fixed two representatives for the field workers. One in Ambikapur and another in Tokad ca 50 Km away from Ranchi. The preparation is going on for these classes. Thus the programmes are till 17th Dec. 1979.

After our meetings at Ranchi, I hope I can give some reports on the decisions in the meetings.

With thanks and greetings,

Yours Sincerely,

C. K. Paul Singh

(Dr.C.K.Paul Singh)
Director,BEL Ranchi.

Gossner Mission

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Bank: Mainzer Volksbank (BkLZ 55 190000) Nr.7522014

65 Mainz am Rhein
Albert-Schweitzer-Straße 113/115
Telefon: 06131 - 2 04 93 / 2 45 16

2. 8. 1979
GM / Fr/Kl

Rev.
P.D. Soreng
President, GELC
GEL Church Compund
Ranchi Bihar India

Dear Reverend Soreng,

as you know we hope to visit India again with a group of friends. This time we will be 16 persons. We hope that we will have a good time of meeting.

As you know, this groups are called "Freundschaftsreise" i.e. "journey of friendship". We hope that through this German und Indian Christians will meet and become friends. - If I understand rightly the former groups visited several congregations on one day. Some of the participants felt that this was a too full programme and that they did not have enough time realy to meet with people. Therefore I suggest that we visit one village congregation for one full day. As we can splitt up into four groups this would mean that four congregations would be visited for a full day. - Please do not misunderstand. The former groups where very impressed by the friendship und kind reception they where given by the congregations. They did not complain, but suggested this change in the programme. And again I only suggest this change to you. It vertainly is up to you to make the plans.

I enclose a proposal for our programme. Could you kindly fix a programme for the group so that it will be suitable to you, to the different congregations as well as to our group.

Thank you for all your help. I enclose to this letter a copy of my letter to Rev. Ekka. This may help you to plan the programme. I suppose it would be suggestabel for two small groups on two days of our visit to visit the friends in N.W. - A copy of this letter goes to Rev. M. Tete and to Rev. P. Singh as I promised to them wehen they stayed with us at Mainz.

Lookind forward to meet you andrremaining with my best wishes.

Yours in Him

(Dorothea H. Friederici)

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C. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No 58/79/BEL - 2

The 11.9.79

Frau D. Friederici
Albert-Schweitzer-Strasze 113/115
65 Mainz am Rhein

Frau D. Friederici,

Thank you very much for your kind letter with copies of letters addressed to Rev. Soreng and Rev.E.Ekka. I am very sorry that it was a mistake on my part that I did not write a letter to you about my safe arrival at home here. I thought, I might have written to you and also to the Director. After coming back I was in quite a fix. I was very buzy in preparing my lectures for Serampore College, which I did know only after my return from Germany. Thus I missed to write to you. Now I am back from Serampore College, for a week, on 18th Sep. 79 I shall again go to join the practical work of the students, fortunately it is in our missionfield. The practical work is up to 2nd Oct. 79. As I came back I found your letters. I talked to the Pramukh Adhyaksh. I absence of your proposal supposed to enclosed with letters we are unable to make detail Programmes- actual date and time of arrival and departure is not known to us. So it is requested plesee inform the Pramukh Adhyaksh about the same.

The ladies of our church Ranchi congregation again wrote to Nepal addressed to Rev. Robert Karthak to send two ladies for visit to GELC in Feb. 1980. But till now no information has been received. I am not quite sure how had to proceed with the matter, should it go through NCF or for convenient sake direct to the Congregations in Kathmandu. I also still hope that Gossner mission would pay the travel expenses.

The situation in GELC is almost the same, and there is no sign of any big change in next months. In Oct. we have our general meeting and Confrence at Ranchi with a purpose find out a new way to solve the situation.

The Political situation in India is also very uncertain even after the mid term poll there is no hope that we shall have a

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good and reliable Government. At this juncture we are facing drought and famine situation in half of the country. So also in our part of Bihar. The Government is promising and planning for big Relief-work etc. but little hope is seen in progress. Our church is still not serious with this regard.

With greetings,

Yours Sincerely,

C K P Singh

(Dr.C.K.Paul Singh)
Director,BEL.

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BERLIN

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Dr. C.K. Paul Singh
G.E.L.Church
Ranchi
Bihar, India

3.9.1979

Dear Dr. Singh,

Again we hear about heavy fighting in Jamshedpur. Poor people there. Your letters have all arrived hear, but I was not in the office for four weeks, and therefore I can acknowledge receipt and thank you very much only now.
I got your letter 36/79/BEL-2 of 11.7., your letter from Serampore of 7.8., your letter47/79/BEL-2 of 30.7., a copy of your letter to KSS of the same day and your two reports on East and West Germany as well as your Half Yearly Report.

That was a lot of mail. Thank you very much. I was glad to hear that finally you got your separate account. Hopefully payments will not create any more difficulties. In the meantime you should be back from Serampore so that I can write to Ranchi.

We had very nice holidays high up in the Alps, nearly like in Nepal.

I am very thankful for your tour reports. What a pity that we could not discuss your comments in Mainz. Anyway, your comments are very valuable for us and for planning future programmes. We shall try to do better next time. I am discussing some of your points in our next "Biene" as you shall see.

I have noted that you do not want to stand for election for Kuratorium once more. I was not aware that we had agreed on that, I was of the opinion that you simply did not raise objections against Dr.Bage being proposed as well, and then leave it to the Kuratoium to elect one of you two. But now I have cancelled your name on the list of candidates according to your wishes. Let me thank you very much for the good co-operation we have had in the Kuratorium, and I shall always be looking forward to meet you again in Ranchi or elsewhere.

The report on East Germany has been passed on.

Your letter of 30.7. arrived just in time to stop the transfer of the next instalment. Before going on leave I had instructed Miss Hohmann to send the next instalment, but then your letter came just in time. Please instruct us when you want the money.

You were right when you wrote: We do not know how long our present government will last. It lasted for three weeks only. But what now? There will be elections, and Mrs. Gandhi will return to power?

Greetings and best wishes for you, and for your family, and for your work in the church,
yours sincerely,

Siegfried Grebel

Gossner Mission

Postscheck: Hannover 1083 05 - 308
Bank: Mainzer Volksbank (BkLZ 55 190000) Nr.7522014

65 Mainz am Rhein
Albert-Schweitzer-Straße 113/115
Telefon: 06131 - 2 04 93 / 2 45 16

15. Februar 1979
GM - Fr/Kl

Herrn
Dr. C.K. Paul Singh
G.E.L. Church
Ranchi 834001 - Bihar
Indien

Lieber Herr Dr. Singh!

Vielen Dank für Ihren Brief vom 6. Februar. Ich beantworte ihn wieder in deutsch, weil das einfach schneller geht für mich. Sie übersetzen den Brief dann bitte für Ihre Frau.

Ich habe mich riesig gefreut, dass Ihre Frau sich entschlossen hat, mit nach Nepal zu kommen. Nun habe ich an die UMN in Kathmandu geschrieben, dass man auch für Ihre Frau Unterkunft usw. besorgt. Von da aus dürfte also alles klar sein. Auch die Flugtickets in Nepal und alles andere habe ich für Ihre Frau mitbestellt. Hoffen wir also, dass wir eine gute Reise zusammen haben. Lustig wird es ganz sicher und auch nicht wenig anstrengend, aber Ihre Frau ist ja Landleben in Indien gewohnt. Sie wird es schon schaffen und mit Humor geht sowieso alles leichter. Denken Sie bitte daran, dass Sie Bedding mitbringen und bitte sehr bequeme Schuhe zum Wandern.

Die beiden Mainzer Pastoren, Herr Scheld und Herr Arlt, sind ja unterwegs in Indien. Ich habe ihnen inzwischen zweimal die Nachricht geschickt, dass Sie sie erwarten. Es dürfte also wohl ganz sicher sein, dass die beiden nach Ranchi kommen. Ich habe gerade noch einmal mit Frau Scheld telefoniert, die das auch bestätigte. - Dass das mit den beiden DDR-Freunden nicht geklappt hat, ist wirklich traurig. Die beiden DDR-Freunde selbst sind ja auch sehr traurig. Sie hatten sich auf die Reise sehr gefreut. Aber das ist ja immer so ein Problem mit diesen Reisegenehmigungen.

Und ansonsten kommen Sie ja bald wieder nach Deutschland und wir haben also in der nächsten Zeit oft Gelegenheit miteinander zu reden. Wir hoffen, dass auch die anderen oekumenischen Gäste, die aus Zambia und Nepal kommen, mit uns hier eine gute Zeit haben und der Kirchentag in Nürnberg dann wieder ein so gutes Erlebnis wird wie damals in Berlin.

Seien Sie ganz, ganz herzlich gegrüsst und Ihre Frau noch herzlicher. Ich freue mich riesig, dass sie mitkommt. Grüssen Sie auch die Kinder von

Ihrer
D. Friederici

(Dorothea Friederici)

Gossner-Mission

Postscheck: Hannover 1083 05
Bank: Mainzer Volksbank 48 34

65 Mainz am Rhein
Albert-Schweitzer-Straße 113/115
Telefon: 06131 - 2 04 93 / 2 45 16

12/8/79

2. August 1979
GM - Fr/Kl

Rev.
Dr. C.K. Paul Singh
GEL Church

Ranchi / Bihar
Indien

Lieber Dr. Singh,

beiliegend einige Briefe unsere Reise betreffend. Ich hoffe, ich habe alles richtig gemacht.

Sind Sie gut zu Hause angekommen? Und haben Sie in Delhi Ihren Teppich bekommen? Seien Sie und Ihre Familie herzlichst gegrüsst.

Ich bin - wie fast immer - in Eile.

Ihre
D. Friederici

(Dorothea Friederici)

-Anlagen-

Gossner Mission

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65 Mainz am Rhein
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Telefon: 06131 - 2 04 93 / 2 45 16

2. 8. 1979
GM - Fr/Kl

Rev. Ekka

Dear Rev. Ekka,

as you may know Gossner Mission is planning to visit the GEL-Church again with a group of friends. This time we will be 16 persons.

I suggest that we splitt up the group into four small gruoups of four each and that two ont of this four gruups will visit the N.W. Aerea on two days. I enclose a proposed programme for our visit and hope this will help you and Rev. Soreng to fix a good programme for our visit.

Thank you very much for your help. I remain with all my best wishes.

Yours in Him

(Dorothea H. Friederici)

BOARD OF EVANGELISM AND LITERATURE

Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church
(Regd. under Societies Registration act XXI of 1860)

Director & Secretary
Rev. Dr. C. K. Paul Singh, B. D; Dr. Theol. (Berlin)

C. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No 56/79/BEL - 2

The 10.9.79

Director Pastor S.Kriebel
Gossner Mission
Handjery Str. 19/20
1000 BERLIN 41

Dear Brother P.Kriebel,

After a month long stay in Serampore College I am again back in Ranchi but after a weak stay I shall go for two-weeks- practical-training with the students, the programme has been agreed for our mission field in Singhbhum district- with a camp in Chakradharpur.

The situation in our church is still almost the same. After long this and that now it seems clear that Surguja and other fields will be paid their salaries. Yesterday Rev.Toppo from Ambikapur came to me and told that he had fullfilled the conditions and shall get the amounts. I hope with same conditions Udaipur can also be paid.

Meanwhile a new Bank Account has been opened. It will be good you you would transfer the amount for BEL to this Account, it is in the same United Bank of India, its No and name is :"G.E.L. Church Gospel & Development Fund ? CD A/C NO 3589 (United Bank, Ranchi.)

Please transfer the 2nd Installment at your earliest conveniences. Inspite of my several letters to treasurer and other officers, the amounts still with Church Bank Account is not yet transferred to the new Bank a/c. I hope that now by Surguja and Udaipur the total amount will be paid.

The political situation in India became very uncertain after the desolution of the Parliament. Election has been announced but its notquite clear whether any party would come out with absolute majority. In Bihar the present Government seems to continue. We in Southern apart of Bihar - Chotanggpur are facing a severe draught, no rain, little rain, paddy is almost destroyed, thus severe famine and scarcity of essential commodities are threatening the area. However the area has not yet been declared as 'famine area' although Central is promising all possible helps for such states.

Yours Sincerely,

With greetings,

Dr.C.K.Paul Singh

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
IN CHOTANAGPUR & ASSAM.

(Regd. under Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860)

ACTING PRAMUKH ADHYAKSH
REV. DR. C. K. PAUL SINGH
SECRETARY
REV. P. D. SORENG
TREASURER
REV. M. JOJO

HEAD OFFICE
G. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone : 23358

Ref. No. .....

Date .....

Brdr Pastr S. Krisbel
Gossner Mission
Handjerystr. 19/20
1000 BERLIN. 41

Dear Brother P. Krisbel,

After a months long stay in Serampore College I am again back in Ranchi, but after a week stay I shall go for two weeks - practical - training with the students. The programme has been agreed for our Mission field in Singhbhum district - with a Camp in Chakradharpur.

The situation in our church is still almost the same. After long this and that now it seems clear that Surguja and other fields will be paid their salaries. Yesterday Rev. Toppo from Ambikapur came to me and told that he had fulfilled the conditions and shall get the amounts. I hope with same conditions Udaipur can also be paid.

Meanwhile a new Bank-Account has been opened. It will be good if you would transfer the amount for BZ to this Bank Account, if a in the same United Bank of India, its No and name is : G.E.L Church Gospel & Development Fund' CD A/C No 3589 [United Bank, Ranchi,]

Please transfer the 2nd instalment at your earliest convenience.

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

IN CHOTANAGPUR & ASSAM.

(Regd. under Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860)

ACTING PRAMUKH ADHYAKSH
REV. DR. C. K. PAUL SINGH
SECRETARY
REV. P. D. SORENG
TREASURER
REV. M. JOJO

HEAD OFFICE
G. E L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone : 23358

Ref. No. .....

Date .....

Inspite of my several letters to Treasurer & the officers, the amounts still with Church Bank Account is not yet transferred to the new Bank a/c. I hope that now by Surguja and Udaipur the total amount will be paid.

The political situation in India became very uncertain after the desolution of the parliament. Election has been announced but its not quite clear whether any party would come out with absolute majority. In Bihar the present Government seems to continue. We in Souther part of Bihar - Chhotanagpur are facing a severe draught, no rain, little rain, paddy is almost destroyed, thus severe famine and scarcity of essential commodities are threatening the area. However the area has not yet been declared as 'famine Area', although central is promising all possible helps for such states.

With Greetings,

Yours Sincerely

(Dr C.K.P. Singh)
Director BEC

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
IN CHOTANAGPUR & ASSAM.

(Regd. under Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860)

ACTING PRAMUKH ADHYAKSH
REV. DR. C. K. PAUL SINGH
SECRETARY
REV. P. D. SORENG
TREASURER
REV. M. JOJO

HEAD OFFICE
G. E L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone : 23358

Ref. No. .....

Date .....

Mr. Cyril Hembrom
Serampore College
(Theology Department)
Serampore

Dear Mr. Hebrom,

I arrived here safely. On the same day I received a letter from Dr. Bage with a detail programme. Accordingly you all have to reach CKP on 18th by noon, because after lunch ~~is rest~~ on, there is a welcome programme by Dr. Bage, who is available for 18th Sep. only. On 19th he is to leave for Madras. Therefore I will suggest that you start from Howrah by the earliest train – Upasat Express and not by the late train. So that it is sure that you reach CKP by noon. So make the necessary arrangements in consultation with Rev. Ekka. I hope students will be ready to get early for one morning.

The detail programmes will be discussed after the welcome programme on 18th Sep. The students shall be divided in three groups for their work and in the evening there will be a report at devotion.

So it seems necessary that you reach CKP by noon. Please send a letter of information to CKP. Hall to Rev. J. Soy.

Thanking you.

Yours sincerely

(Dr. C K Paul Singh)

GOSSNER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

IN CHOTANAGPUR & ASSAM.

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ACTING PRAMUKH ADHYAKSH
REV. DR. C. K. PAUL SINGH
SECRETARY
REV. P. D. SORENG
TREASURER
REV. M. JOJO

HEAD OFFICE
G. E L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone : 23358

Ref. No. .....

Date .....

Rev. J. Skiro
Serampore College
Serampore

Dear Rev, Skiro,

I arrived here safely. On the same day I received a detail programme prepared by Rev, Dr, M. Bage. Accordingly Students have to arrive on the 18th Sep. by noon. After lunch ~~rest~~ and tea there is a welcome programme for the students and it shall be conducted by Dr, Bage himself, who is also the Anchal Adhyaksh of the area ~~to~~ which we are to have the practical work. On 19th Sep. Dr, Bage is to leave ~~go~~ for Madras. So it will be ~~advis~~ necessary that the students start from Hawrah by the earliest train, and as suggested by the hosts, ~~to~~ arrive in CKP. by noon, - viz by Ispaat Express. Only there should be arrangements for the breakfast on 18th morning and ~~conyean~~ conveyance (Rickshaw) to be settled perhaps on 17th Sep. itself.

Other detail programmes for daily work is also suggested by Dr, Bage. We shall be divided in three groups and leaders, etc, this will be discussed on 18th after the welcome programme.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely
(Dr. C. K. Paul Singh)

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Director & Secretary
Rev. Dr. C. K. Paul Singh, B. D; Dr. Theol. (Berlin)

C. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. 47/79/BEL - 2

The 30-7-79

Dear Brother Kriebel,

Thank you very much for your kind letters, along with many photos of my visit to Germany. It seems that letters I sent from here is not received by you. In that letter I had informed you about my safe arrival in Ranchi and also concerning the payment to NW Anchal Missionfields in Madhya Pradesh.

Herewith I am sending three reports : (1) A short Report on my visit to FRG (2) A short Report on my visit to GDR and (3) Half Yearly Report (Jan.-June) 1979 of BEL. I am also enclosing letters and Reports for friends in GDR. Please pass them as to those friends. In these reports I have made some remarks and proposals, these are meant for our church members and leaders as well as for the friends in FRG and GDR.

I am very much concerned about the work is done in the missionfields as well as in many Anchals and Ilakas including in the Hd.Qrtrs. Ranchi. I have the feer that the BEL money is used very leisurely by the responsible persons in the Centre. Although it has been decided long ago that a separate Bank a/c be opened and all BEL amount be transferred to that a/c, but till now they have not yet done. Therefore, I would like to request you to withhold the next installment till the end of Sep. 79. So that the present amount, including the balance of 78, by non-payment to Surguja and Udaipur. The next installment be sent by the last week of Sep. and direct to the new bank a/c for BEL.

As informed in my last letter I am to go to Serampore next week for the part time teaching till the middle of Sep. 79.

The problem of payment to the Surguja and Udaipur is not yet solved though an advance has been paid to Surguja. The situation in Hd. Qrt Ranchi and in NW Anchal is very much uncertain, Dr.J.J.P.Tiga has filed a case against the new Anchal Adhyaksh and other officers of NW Anchal along with the Pramukh Adhyaksh and Mr. N.E.Horo. There ar

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C. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No .....

The .....

Contd.....

There are still more court cases specially in NW Anchal area including the old cases in the Centre.
General political situation in India is also very much uncertain. After the resignation of the former Prime Minister Mr. Desai a new Prime Minister has been installed. Accordingly the Freedom of Religion Bill in the Centre falls out outomatically. The new government may be very much friendly for the minorities, so also for the Christians, and accordingly the said Bill may not come. But we are not quite sure whether the present new government would last long. The similar chaotic situation is prevailing with the political situation in Bihar.
The monsoon in this part is not yet quite regular many parts of the country are deluged with floods, so also in Bihar. In our area rain is not sufficient, farmers are finding difficulties in transplanting rice and in other work.
In my last letter I had also informed that I am not willing to contest for the membership to the Kuratorium. This I had already expressed, when you were last time in India. That's why I did not send my short life sketch.

With kind regards and greetings,

Yours Sincerely
C. K. Paul Singh
(Dr.C.K.Paul Singh)
Director,BEL.

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Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church
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Director & Secretary
Rev. Dr. C. K. Paul Singh, B. D, Dr. Theol. (Berlin)

C. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No 48/79/BEL - 2

The 1-8-79

Pastor G.Linn
Evangl. Konsistorium
Neue Grun Str. 19
DDR 102 Berlin
GDR.

Dear Pastor Linn,

Herewith I am sending a copy of my report of my visit to the Congregations in the GDR. I also express my thanks and grattitude for invitation, hospitality and all helps to me during my stay in GDR. Please convey my thanks to all host Congregations.

I hope that in future we may have better opportunities and possibilities for our partnership. I shall put the matter in our church Council giving a short report of my visit, we shall have our meetings sometimes in Nov.'79.

With hearty greetings,

Yours Sincerely

(Dr.C.K.Paul Singh)
Director,BEL.

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C. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No 49/79/BEL - 2

The 1-8-79

Rev.Bruno Schottstaedt
OM - Z
1017 Berlin
Georgkirch str. 70
GDR

Dear Bruno !

Thank you for your kind letter. I am requesting the president and Dr.Bage to send for you an invitation you have mentioned. Herewith I am sending also a copy of my report on my visit to the Congregations in GDR. Thank you very much for your invitation to visit GDR and also for all arrangements made for my stay in your country. I hope that our partnership will grow stronger and stronger and we shall be able to work with one another.
I also hope to see you during your stay here at Ranchi.

With many greetings to all friends,

Yours Sincerely
C.K.Paul Singh
(Dr.C.K.Paul Singh)
Director,BEL.

ST. TIMOTHY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
TELEPHONE (414) 725-2622 473 SEVENTH STREET MENASHA, WISCONSIN 54952

27/8/78

August 8, 1979

Dear Dr. Singh,

I have wanted to write to you so often afrer returning to the United States and thank you for your wonderful hospitality while we visited the Lutheran Church in Ranchi. I hope that if you ever get here in the United States that you will be able to have time to visit Wisconsin and my family and myself. You and your family would be most welcomed. I am enclosing a picture I took of you at the airport which I thought the family would like to have and also a picture of our group. I am the one in the middle carrying the bag. God's blessings upon you in your ministry.

s

The Rev. James C. Plymire

India's vastness, diversity unfathomable

BY KATHY WALSH NUFER
News-Record staff writer

MENASHA — After nine weeks of absorbing India's culture and studying its institutions, Rev. James Plymire has plenty of observations to make and one ready conclusion — India, in all its vastness and diversity, is almost impossible to comprehend.

Plymire, pastor of St. Timothy Lutheran Church, was one of six clergymen from the U.S. awarded a Lutheran World Federation scholarship to India to participate in a "Discovering the Church in the World" seminar.

The seminar's purpose was to acquaint the American ministers with current social problems facing that country and Christianity's role in counteracting them. This was accomplished by having Plymire's group visit hospitals, seminaries, schools, orphanages and other institutions run by Christian churches and as a result the clergymen were on the road most of their stay, averaging five to six visits per day.

In his travels about the country Plymire discovered a fascinating array of people, terrains and lifestyles. "We were constantly confronted with new things," he says, noting that in nine weeks he determined that "there really is no one India. There are 16 major languages and each state has its own culture."

India is amazing in its extremes, he adds, from such "fabulous sights" as the Taj Mahal to the wilds as viewed from the back of an elephant, from the "most beautiful city I've ever seen," New Delhi, to the "abject poverty" of Calcutta's streetdwellers, from the remote tribes of the Orissa Mountains to the country's cities teeming with millions.

And where else, he adds, could you sleep in the queen's palace one night and a primitive hut the next, or attend church services in a modern American-looking church one day and a tent in the desert the next.

Each day for Plymire was a "new and exciting experience. All kinds of weird things happened," he says, remembering such incidents as the time his group, on a jeep trip through an isolated mountain area, emerged from the hills to find a jet engine factory. The factory's swimming pool sign read "For Russians only," and that, says Plymire, "Shook us a little."

Then there was the time he was invited into the hut of a woman to admire her son's doctorate diploma in philosophy from the University of Oklahoma hanging on the wall. Although Hindu, the son had attended the Christian mission school in the village which had sent him on to college. He is now teaching in Iran.

Plymire can tell countless stories of the Indian people. One of his first impressions of the country was the sheer number of inhabitants. "It was unbelievable. There were people everywhere. It was like being in an outdoor farmer's market — noisy, dusty, dirty and yet friendly."

He soon discovered the Indians' graciousness and warmth. "They were so open, loving and helpful to us." Plymire remembers many instances of kindness. Once, when his group was caught in a rainstorm and unable to get a taxi, a wealthy gentleman approached and instructed his chauffeur to drive the clergymen to their hotel. He was a Hindu.

Another time Plymire stopped on a street corner to ask directions and about 50 people gathered round. "If you have a flat tire people come out to either help or give advice. How many Americans would do that?"

The ministers quickly learned that Indians are as diverse as their country. Various tribes are extremely nationalistic and this, says Plymire, makes India a difficulty country to unite.

The people are proud of their democracy, he notes, take every opportunity to use the democratic process. "India is a political animal, and every Indian would make a good politician. Everyone goes to court over any little thing and they're constantly suing each other."

Everything from travel to social change requires a good deal of patience. The country is facing extreme poverty and pollution problems — "the rivers are filthy" — and a conflict whether to industrialize.

The caste system is slowly being broken by education and such economic advancement opportunities as an occupational quota system for minorities, but it still prevails. At the heart of the country's reluctance toward change is the religion of the majority, Hinduism. Hinduism, Plymire says, "is not just a religion but a whole style of life which supports the caste system and a fatalistic approach to life."

News-Record
PEOPLE
Thursday, Sept. 29, 1977 Page 4

Christians, who make up only 2% of India's population, are also "caught up in the ghettoization of the caste system" since it is the lower castes that are most receptive.

Like everything else in India the church is changing gradually, says Plymire, explaining that congregations are no longer considered missions and are run by natives. "They're autonomous sister churches now and we supply mainly the theological education and training of their pastors. This is also true of the Roman Catholics."

Looking back, Plymire feels he "came away with deeper respect for what the church can do for all of life, not just after-life. Salvation begins before death and involves the economic, political and social systems as well."

"Some tremendous things are going on," he adds, noting the work the church is doing via the many institutions it operates ranging from colleges and rehabilitation centers to hospitals and leper colonies.

He cited the Catholic nun, Mother Teresa and her organization as just one of the groups making inroads with the poor and abandoned. "Fifty per cent of the babies at her orphanage die because they get to her so late but her philosophy is that even if you can't save them you can give them some love before they die."

India expert

Rev. James Plymire, pastor of St. Timothy Lutheran Church, Menasha, traces the route he traveled during his nine-week study-tour of India with the U.S. delegation of the Lutheran World Federation. On his right is a hand-carved table with inlaid designs of bone and ivory which he picked up on the trip. Plymire, who took over 400 slides during his stay in India, is recounting his experiences weekly for his congregation. (News-Record photo)

THE LUTHERAN WORLD FEDERATION

LUTHERISCHER WELTBUND - LUTHERSKA VÄRLDSFÖRBUNDET - FÉDÉRATION LUTHÉRIENNE MONDIALE

OFFICE OF COMMUNICATION
Director

P.O. Box 66
Route de Ferney 150
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland
Telephone 33 34 00 Telex 23 423 OIK CH
Cable LUTHERWORLD GENEVA

Dear Reader,

September 1978

It has become apparent from numerous enquiries addressed to us in recent months that many people have been wondering about the Lutheran World Federation's plans in the field of publications following its decision to give up its quarterly journal, the Lutheran World (Lutherische Rundschau). Former subscribers will recall the notice included in the journal's last issue stating that certain of its functions would be "carried on through its continuation in the form of a series of documents".

We are happy to inform you that negotiations have now been completed and that the new documentation service (bilingual like the journal) will appear in two different forms, i.e. a mimeographed documentation bulletin entitled LWF Documentation (LWB-Dokumentation in German), to be issued about six times a year, and a series of booklets, published on an average of four times a year under the name LWF Report (LWB-Report).

Through these publications, which we intend to keep flexible and functional, we want to make available documents, reports, lectures, papers and similar material growing out of the life and work of the LWF and its member churches. In this way we hope to encourage the exchange of ideas and experiences among Lutheran churches, to foster a common understanding of current issues, and at the same time to give Lutheran contributions more visibility in the ongoing ecumenical debate. The enclosed "Reader on Human Rights" opening the new LWF Report series (a double issue because of its size) will serve as an example of the kind of material the new publications can make available. The first issue of LWF Documentation will follow within a few weeks with reports from LWF member churches and national committees as submitted to the Executive Committee of the Lutheran World Federation at its recent meeting in Geneva.

Both LWF Documentation and LWF Report address themselves to churches inside and outside the Lutheran constituency, to related organizations and to communicators and other interested individuals and friends of the LWF. During an initial period of twelve months, both publications will be provided free of charge to those on the subscription list of the former journal, as well as to a number of recipients of the LWF press service (LWF information - lwi). The editorial office within the LWF Office of Communication is staffed by Gertraut Hobby (editor), Frances Maher (editorial assistant) and Irmgard Boller (secretary). They will be happy to answer questions, and will welcome any comments and suggestions which will help us to make this new service effective and useful.

Yours sincerely,

Marc Chambron

(Marc Chambron)
Director

3730

GOSSNER MISSION

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Kto.-Nr. 0407480700

Berlin, July 5, 1979

To the Leaders in the
Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church
in Chotanagpur and Assam

Rev. C.B. Aind
Dr. Marsallan Bage
Rev. Niranjan Ekka
Rev. Nathaniel Kullu
Dr. Nirmal Minz
Dr. Paul Singh
Rev. P.D. Soreng
Rev. Martin Tete
Dr. J.J.P. Tiga
Rev. Junul Topno

Dear Brothers,

on July 1o, 1979 it is exactly 6o years back, that the leaders of your church decided in a very difficult situation to become an independent church. That was a decision of strong faith and hope and love, because it was not at all sure that the "Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chotanagpur and Assam" would survive as an independent church.

But the leaders of the church trusted in the help of God and they had the full support of all christians in the church. Now, 6o years later, we are full of thanks to God who has protected the G.E.L. Church in so many difficult times, who has added so many believers to the church, and who has given blessings after blessings to the church, so much so that ten years ago you took full responsibility for your church and started a formally agreed upon partnership with German churches through the assistance of Gossner Mission. We thank God for all that he has done to our beloved G.E.L. Church. And we pray to Him, that He may continue to guide and to protect and to bless your church, so that His name be honoured and His gospel be proclaimed through all christians in the G.E.L. Church. We especially pray to God that he may enlighten all leaders in the church by His Holy Spirit, in order to restore peace and love in the church, so that all people in Chotanagpur and Assam may see the miracle of peace and love among all christians and praise the Lord.

All friends of the Gossner Mission and of the Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chotanagpur and Assam greet you and all christians in the church in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ and send you best wishes for the future of the G.E.L. Church.

Sincerely yours,

Siegwart Kriebel

Siegwart Kriebel

P r o t o k o l l

der Sitzung des Verwaltungsausschusses des Kuratoriums der Gossner Mission
am 19.Juni 1979 in Berlin

Anwesend: Herr Bischof i.R. Scharf, Berlin,
Herr Landessup. i.R. Peters, Celle,
Herr P. Kriebel, Berlin

als Gast zu TOP 2 Herr Propst Kern, Darmstadt

Im Zusammenhang mit der Sitzung des Nominierungsausschusses für die Kuraotriumswahl trafen sich die anwesenden Verwaltungsausschussmitglieder und beschlossen:

1. Einstellung von Frau Gabriela Lischewsky

   Nach einem Gespräch mit Frau Lischewsky beschliesst der Verwaltungsausschuss, sie zum 1.Juli 1979 als Sekretärin in der Geschäftsstelle in Berlin-Friedenau einzustellen. Die Vergütung erfolgt nach BAT VI b.

2. Einstellung von Frau Ursula André

   Auf Grund der aus Mainz vorliegenden Unterlagen und nach telefonischen Rückfragen im Arbeitszentrum Mainz beschliesst der Verwaltungsausschuss, Frau André zum 1.August 1979 als Hausmutter im Arbeitszentrum Mainz einzustellen. Die Vergütung erfolgt nach BAT VII.

3. Einstellung von Mitarbeitern

   Der Verwaltungsausschuss stellt fest, dass mit Ausnahme der Referenten und des Missionsdirektors, die vom Kuratorium berufen werden, alle Mitarbeiter in der Berliner Geschäftsstelle und im Mainzer Arbeitszentrum vom Verwaltungsausschuss eingestellt werden.

Berlin, den 20.Jun i 1979

S. Kriebel
S. Kriebel

GOSSNER MISSION

1 Berlin 41 (Friedenau)
Handjerystraße 19-20
Fernsprecher: (030) · 851 30 61 · 851 69 33
Postscheckkonto: Berlin West 520 50-100
Bankkonto: Berliner Bank, BLZ 100 200 00
Kto.-Nr. 0407480700

Neue Telefonnummer
030/85 10 21

21. Juni 1979

Frau P. Borns-Scharf, Eschborn
Herrn P. Dröge, Bielefeld
Herrn Prof.Dr.Grothaus, Flensburg
Herrn Dipl.-Ing. Hertel, Ludwigsburg
Herrn Dr. Rammenzweig, Wuppertal
Herrn Schäfer, Stammheim
Herrn P. Schröder, Minden
Frau Dr. Seeber, Berlin
Herrn Dr. Singh, z.Zt. Mainz
Herrn Dr. Smid, Emden
Herrn P. Stickan, Hotteln-Sarstedt
Herrn Vögeli, Genf

Liebe Schwestern und Brüder!

Auf der letzten Kuratoriumssitzung ist darum gebeten worden, dass für die Kuratoriumswahl nicht nur die neuen Kandidaten, sondern auch die wieder kandidierenden bisherigen Kuratoren vorgestellt werden, da nicht jeder jeden ausreichend kennt, insbesondere die kürzlich nachgewählten Kuratoren und Stellvertreter.

Darf ich Sie darum hiermit herzlich bitten, mir möglichst bald ein paar Angaben zur Person und zu eventuellen besonderen Beziehungen zu bestimmten Arbeitsgebieten der Gossner Mission aufzuschreiben und zu schicken, damit wir hier diese Angaben rechtzeitig vor der Sitzung zusammenstellen und verschicken können.

Mit herzlichen Grüssen
I h r
Siegwart Kriebel

BOARD OF EVANGELISM AND LITERATURE

Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church
(Regd. under Societies Registration act XXI of 1860)

Director & Secretary
Rev. Dr. C. K. Paul Singh, B. D, Dr. Theol. (Berlin)

C. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. N36/79/BEL - 2

The 11 - 7 - 79

TO
Pastor S.Kriebel
Director, GM
Handjery Str. 19/20
000 Berlin 41
GERMANY

Dear Brother Kriebel,

Today I received back some of my letters sent from here and also some letters addressed to Mainz. Thank you very much for the same.
I arrived here at Ranchi on the 1st July 1979 and I am doing well with my family and other co-workers in the office. I am very sorry that we could not talk before I left Germany for home. I wanted to discuss with you many things also about my membership in the Kuratorium. The letter sent by you - dt. 21-6-79 shows that I am to candidate for the same,but as I have already communicated you verbally when you were in India. I have no more wish for the membership, so I am not sending any short life sketch.
Meanwhile you might have received a letter from the Pramukh Adhyaksh that we arein process to pay the other workers in the area of so called NWGELC. An amount as Advance has been already paid to them. But till now not quite sure of the solution. With this payment made to them the problems are not solved Some more problems are coming up- but that is our problem. I do not know whether you have already made any arrangement to pay them directly because it is already middle of July.
A separate account for BEL is not yet opened, I do not know where lies the difficulty, I am always asking for the same, but it is not yet done. I have the fear that KSS may use the BEL amount for other purposes.
I have been again asked to go to Serampore, but due to various inconveniences and also due to Surguja and other matters I am not yet ready to go.
Here it is still like summer Monsoon has started but very little rain has fallen.

With best of my regards,

Yours Sincerely,
C. K. P. Singh
(DR. C.K. P. Singh)
Director, BEL

ÖKUMENISCH-MISSIONARISCHES ZENTRUM
der Ev. Kirche der Union und der Ev. Brüder-Unität

1017 Berlin, den 1.11.78
Georgenkirchstraße 70
Fernruf 53830
4934-1874/78
Scho/Poe

Herrn
Dr.Paul Singh
G.E.L.Church Compound
Ranchi 834001 / Bihar
Indien

Lieber Paul!

Unsere Korrespondenz ist eingeschlafen, und ich bedaure das sehr. Wir werden uns Mühe geben müssen, wieder miteinander in Gang zu kommen, und ich bitte Dich höflichst, bei den Absprachen zu bleiben, auch uns Berichte, die Du für die Gossner Mission in der BRD schreibst, zuzuleiten.

Hier noch einige Punkte, die für unsere Beziehungen wichtig sind:

1. Was die partnerschaftlichen Beziehungen zur Kirche Berlin-Brandenburg angeht, so solltest Du bei Deinem alljährlichen Kommen in Europa Dich fest anmelden und bitten, daß man Dir eine offizielle Einreise beantragt. Das nächste Mal will ich das gerne für Dich tun, denn Dr.Althausen ist nicht mehr ökumenischer Referent im Konsistorium, sondern Gerhard Linn. Mit ihm werden wir uns zusammenzusprechen haben.
2. Was die Partnerbeziehungen angeht, so werden wir nach neuen Partnern Ausschau halten, damit die gemachte Stimmung für die Partnerschaft nicht verlorengeht.
3. Teile uns bitte Deinen nächsten Aufenthalt in Westeuropa mit, damit wir uns hier zeitlich einrichten können. Ich hätte Dich gern in unserem Indien-Kreis dabei, der vom 5. - 8. Juni 1979 eine Arbeitstagung durchführt zum Thema "Dialog und Mission". Wir haben Prof.Samartha geschrieben und hoffen, daß er kommen kann. Aber vielleicht kannst Du so planen, daß Du Anfang Juni hier bist und auch vor und nach der Tagung bei uns bist.
4. Und dann sei so gut und schreibe uns ein wenig Neues zur Situation in der Kirche, vor allen Dingen, wie es jetzt mit dem neuen Präsidenten geht und wie sich ~~sich~~ der NW-Anchal verhält.

Von uns erzähle ich Dir ein andermal. Du bekommst den letzten Brief der Gossner Mission/DDR und eine Ausarbeitung zur Lebensweise, die wir auch von hier verschicken.

Laß es Dir gut gehen. Grüße Deine Frau und Deine Brüder und sei selbst herzlich gegrüßt von

Deinem

Bruno

Gossner Mission

Ecumenical Institute for Urban and Industrial Mission

Eglise et Société Industrielle, Centre Oecuménique

65 Mainz am Rhein

Albert-Schweitzer-Straße 113/115

Telefon: 06131 - 2 04 93 / 2 45 16

5. September 1978
GM - Fr/Kl

Liebe Freunde!

In der Anlage sende ich Ihnen die Kopie eines Briefes, den ich aus Nepal erhielt. Ich habe mir erst überlegt, ob ich Ihnen einfach nur von der Tatsache berichte. Da aber dieser Brief ein sehr klares Bild von dem was dort geschehen ist gibt, habe ich mich entschlossen, Ihnen nun einfach die Fotokopien zu schicken.

Wir können im Augenblick nichts weiter tun als hoffen und beten, dass den Christen in Nepal nicht zu viel geschieht und dass ein gerechter Prozess gemacht wird.

Dieser Brief ist also nur eine Information. Sobald ich etwas Neues erfahre, werden Sie wieder von mir hören.

Mit herzlichen Grüssen

Ihre

D. Friederici

(Dorothea Friederici)

-Anlage-

THE UNITED MISSION TO NEPAL

Executive Secretary: Mr. G. M. Ruff
Treasurer: Mr. F. Clarkson

Telephone: 12179 or 14580
Telegrams: UMNEPAL
Location: 1/29 Thapathali
Mailing address:
POST BOX 126,
KATHMANDU, NEPAL

Eingegangen
28. AUG. 1978
Erledigt: .....

19th August, 1978

To UMN Member Bodies and Friends

Dear Dorothea,

In Butwal 17 Nepali Christians are imprisoned by the police; we ask you to pray for them. It is possible that you have heard of this through news media or by letter. In case there is any half-information of mis-information, this is an attempt to give you the facts as we know them from knowledgeable investigation.

On 5th August, the regular day of worship in Butwal, a group of about 15 people planned to go to the river near Butwal for a service of baptism. After church the people waited for the rains to stop and then went to the river. The young man to be baptised had made a strong testimony of his faith two weeks previously. He is an accountant in the Butwal Plywood Factory, comes from a prominent family in Butwal, and had resisted all efforts by family and friends not to "do this crazy thing". It is suspected that his family informed the police when he insisted that he was a believer in Christian and wanted to be baptised.

The police evidently were looking for the ceremony. The little company of believers knew this, but went ahead anyway. It is not clear whether the arrests took place just after the police had witnessed the baptism, or wehther this occurred when the group were on their way home. The next day the police took the group by bus for about 45 minutes to the court in Bhairawa. There the judge gave orders for them to be held for 25 days until the police could make their case against the accused.

Among the original group of 15 arrested were men, women and children. Subsequently the children were released, but four others have been arrested. So at present writing 17 are being held in jail in Butwal. These include the leaders of the Butwal Christian Church fellowship and their strong Christian wives. All are outspoken, zealous, courageous Christians. All were aware that they might be arrested for their faith and witness. All are bold in their testimony. In prison they mingle together under light guard, have their food sent in, sing, read and pray together, and have daily visits from their children who go out each night to be cared for by relatives. Some of the men are even permitted under light police guard to go out daily to their work in Butwal, in the industries related to BTI.

The Butwal Nepali Christian community is seeing to all of their needs and has sufficient material resources. There is no need for any contributions from any UMNers or outsiders. The Nepal Christian Fellowship is aware of all that is going on, and will be perfectly able to handle anything that may arise. All UMNers are much in prayer, and we covet your prayers also, that God will make this experience a marvellous blessing to all concerned, including the jailers. Pray that the Lord will give to them "songs in the night".

There has been a news item in the Nepali language newspaper, Gorkha Patra, and in the English language newspaper, The Rising Nepal, concerning the arrest, the latter including a number of names. There has been no UMN involvement, no expatriate has been questioned. Town rumour, of course, has free rein and the UMN expatriates in Butwal are seen as behind it all. Some of the heads of BTI-related private limited companies have been questioned about their "funds for conversion activities". The clear, unequivocal answer has been that there are none. The companies are engaged stricly in business activities. The heads of these companies are not professing Christians, and this has been a real advantage in the current questioning of their activities by the police. Perfectly correct account books of the Butwal Church have been examined.

While the accused have been in jail, their houses have been searched and a number of possibly incriminating papers have been confiscated, those relating to Christian activities in Butwal and elsewhere among Nepalis themselves. This reminds each of us of the necessity of being exceedingly cautious about what we write, where we leave papers about Christian matters. Please do not engage in correspondence about any of this with any of us in Nepal. It may only bring harm to UMN, to Nepali Christians, but more important, to the casue of Christ in this land. We will try to find ways of keeping you informed of developments. Please do not put this into print

This is not the first time Nepali Christians have been imprisoned for their faith; it likely will not be the last. Remember that the law of Nepal is that one many not change the religion of his/her father. To do so beaks the law. The police may make arrests, and the court may impose jail sentences.

While most of us can hardly put ourselves in the places of those jailed for their faith in the Living Saviour, we can thank God for the strength of character and faith of these brothers and sisters in Christ. They are educated people, strong in the Lord, courageous in their testimony. We all can pray that God will make this unpleasant experience to glorify Him. But we know that when one part of the Body of Christ suffers, all suffer. In our bond of Christian suffering and rejoicing, let us each one uphold our friends in faithful prayer. They are well known to all of our Butwal colleagues and to many UMNers elsewhere.

Join with us in re-reading Acts, chapter 15; Romans 5:1-5; and 8:18.

Cordially, in Christian affection,

Gordon

Gordon M. Ruff
Executive Secretary

P.S. This letter will be mailed outside Nepal.

DER LUTHERISCHE WELTBUND

THE LUTHERAN WORLD FEDERATION – LUTHERSKA VÄRLDSFÖRBUNDET – FÉDÉRATION LUTHÉRIENNE MONDIALE

STUDIENABTEILUNG

DER DIREKTOR

Route de Ferney 150
1211 Genf 20, Schweiz
Telephon 33 34 00 Telex 23 423 OIK CH
Telegrammadresse LUTHERWORLD GENEVA

April 27, 1973

TO ALL MEMBER CHURCHES AND NATIONAL COMMITTEES OF
THE LUTHERAN WORLD FEDERATION

Dear Friends,

Please find enclosed the English text of the basic document regarding the ecumenical methodology elaborated jointly by the staff of the Secretariat of Interconfessional Research of the Lutheran World Federation and the Strasbourg Institute of Ecumenical Research. At the same time, we would like to invite you to participate in the case study project which is described in detail in the above mentioned document.

We wish to draw your attention particularly to the third paragraph (Summary and reflections on the practical conduct of the case studies) in which hints are given for the practical conduct of the case studies. We are always at your disposal for any further information regarding the case studies and, if you want, for help in case of the organization of such a study in your church.

We need not stress that we would appreciate very much any reaction and suggestion from your side.

With kind regards and best wishes,

yours

Peder Højen
Secretary for Interconfessional Research

PS. By separate mail we are sending you for your information and study the report "Consultation on Bilateral Conversations"(Geneva, Nov. 18-20,71) and the book "Confessions in Dialogue" by Nils Ehrenström and Günther Gassmann.

Berlin, 24.1.79

Lieber Doctor Singh,
endlich finde ich mal Zeit Ihnen zu schreiben.
Rev. Kriebel sagte mir, daß er Ihnen Rs. 1000.–
übergeben hätte zum Einzahlen bei der UCB
falls mein Konto noch besteht.
Wenn nicht, sollten Sie es bitte aufbe-
wahren, bis ich Ihnen schreiben würde.
Für den Fall, daß Sie das Geld noch bei
sich haben, würde ich Sie bitten bei Gelegen-
heit den Katechist Rahman v. Chowa zu
fragen, wieviel Geld er noch für Christina
Sahn ausgegeben hätte, was ich ihm evtl.
noch nicht erstattet habe. Ich habe gehört,
daß sie bei ihm war bis ihr Onkel sie
nach Jharsuguda holte. Ich nehme an,
daß Rahman so ehrlich ist, nur das anzu-
geben, was er wirklich ausgegeben hat.
Ich bitte Sie dann, ihm das Geld zu
erstatten, gegen Quittung natürlich. Sollte
dann noch Geld übrig sein, geben Sie
es bitte an Niranjan für die Spendenkasse
in Takarma.

II. Noch etwas: Joseph Sanga schrieb mir, daß die Studenten vom Principal des Theol. Coll. einen Brief bekommen hätten, daß sie 60 kg Rice bezahlen müßten und er könnte das doch nicht. – Ich habe deswegen eben mit Frau Hertel telefoniert und sie sagte, sie hätte im Juli B. 1000.– und wohl im Nov. noch einmal ca B. 500.– auf das Konto des Collegs für Joseph geschickt und da ist ja das Essen mit dabei. Ich verstehe nicht, wieso J. dann noch extra bezahlen soll. Ich nehme an, er hat das falsch verstanden. Bitte klären Sie doch auch diese Sache.

Ich würde mich freuen, bald mal von Ihnen zu hören.

In der Hoffnung, daß es Ihnen und Ihrer Familie gut geht

grüße ich Sie herzlich
mit 'Jishu Sahay'

Ihre S. Ilse Martini

GOSSNER MISSION
BERLIN

1 Berlin 41
Handjerystraße 19-20

Fernsprecher: 0311 · 83 01 61 · 83 96 33
Postscheckkonto: Berlin West 520 50
Bankkonto: Berliner Bank, Kto. 4/7480

Rev. Dr. Paul Singh
G.E.L.Church
Ranchi, Bihar
India

23.2.1979

Dear Brother,

Many thanks for your letter dated 3o.1.79 (7/79/BEL-2), for your Annual Report 1978 and for your letter re. your visit to Germany. You may know, that Rev. Martin Tete has been nominated by KSS to visit Germany in May and June, which is roughly the same time as your visit. Does he need the same sort of invitation letter as you do? Please, let us know. So far we have sent for him the same type as for you.

From the attached copy you can see that I have requested Rev. Soreng to release the money for all mission fields. Recently we sent a first instalment for 1979 of DM 5o.ooo,- plus a last instalment for 1978 of DM 1o.ooo,-, i.e. a total of DM 6o.ooo,- for BEL. The DM 1o.ooo,- for 1978 are meant to enable you to do some urgent building work or so. At the end of the year we suddenly were in a position to grant that extra money.

Rev. Ekka has requested that we should send the money for NW-GELC mission fields directly to him. For the time being we prefer to send all the money to BEL. But this will work only if the money is paid out regularly and if it is not used for church politics.

I heard that LWF and UELCI seem to plan to separate the two churches peacefully in April, 1979. If that should be the case, then the position of BEL will probably be completely different. If that attempt fails, then it may be wise to open a separate account for BEL.
I have written to LWF and to UELCI that Gossner Mission will stick to the decision of our Kuratorium on its last meeting, i.e. that Gossner Mission will not participate in separating or re-uniting the two churches, but that we shall leave this problem entirely to our Indian friends. We shall therefore not join a meeting in April.
But we shall acknowledge what ever solution may be mutually agreed upon between the two groups.

Please find also attached a copy of the money order, by which Rev. Peters has transferred the Rs 1.ooo,- to GELC account in Ranchi.
I do hope that the money is traced soon.

So much this time.
Greetings to your wife and to your children.
Yours sincerely,

Siegwart Kriebel

Siegwart Kriebel

GOSSNER [illegible]
Postscheckkonto: Berlin West 520 50-1[illegible] · Bankkonto: Bei [illegible] AG, b[illegible] 200 00, Konto-Nr. 0407480[illegible]

Berlin, April 2nd, 1979

Dear Dr. Singh,

Herr Kriebel would be very thankful if you could bring with you when coming to Germany the following two books:

1. Karokaran, Anto, "Evangelisation and Diakonia: A Study in the Indian Perspective", Bangalore, (Dharmaram Publications) 1978, pp. 285, Rs. 19.-

2. Rajaratnam, K. and Sitompul, A.A. (eds.) "Theological Education in Today's Asia", Madras (CLS) 1979, Rs. 12.-.

If your luggage should become too heavy by these books Herr Kriebel begs to ask Mr. Tete to bring them to Germany on occasion of his flight.

Thanking you in advance,

with kind regards,
yours,

Ilse Schulz

Secretary

LUFTPOSTLEICHTBRIEF
AEROGRAMME

Post
damit
wir uns
versteh

Rev. Dr. C.K. Paul Singh
GEL Church

Ranchi/Bihar

Indien

MIT LUFTPOST
PAR AVION
BY AIR MAIL

Elepa Zweiter Falz / 2ème pliage / 2nd fold Elepa

Der Luftpostleichtbrief darf nach den Vorschriften des Weltpostvertrages keine Einlagen enthalten.
D'aprés les dispositions de la convention de l'union postale universelle l'aérogramme ne doit contenir aucun objet.
According to the provisions of the World Post Agreement, an aerogramme may not contain any enclosures.

Dritter Falz / 3ème pliage / 3rd fold

Absender:
Exp.:
Sender:

Gossner Mission
Handjerystraße 19/20
1000 BERLIN 41

Vierter Falz / 4ème pliage / 4th fold

Fünfter Falz / 5ème pliage / 5th fold

GOSSNER MISSION
BERLIN

1 Berlin 41
Handjerystraße 19-20

Fernsprecher, 0311 · 851 3061 · 851 6933
Postscheckkonto: Berlin West 52050-100
Bankkonto: Berliner Bank, Kto. [redacted]
0407480700

Registered

March 9. 1979

Rev.Dr.C.K. Paul Singh
GEL Church

Ranchi / Bihar

India

Dear Dr. Singh,

enclosed please find bank draft TT/AN 464849 drawn on the United Bank of India, Ranchi, in favour of the GEL Church amounting to Rps 1,000.-.

With kind regards,
sincerely yours,

Ilse Schulz

Secretary

Enclosure

GOSSNER MISSION Handjerystr. 19-20 · 1000 Berlin 41 (Friedenau) · Tel. (030) 851 00 61, 851 69 33
Postscheckkonto: Berlin West 520 50-100 · Bankkonto: Berliner Bank AG, BLZ 100 200 00, Nr. 0407480700

27/5/79

Berlin, March 21,1979

Dear Dr. Singh,

please be kind enough to bring with you when coming to Germany in April a small tin of mild curry powder. On occasion of your planned stay at Aurich this congregation intends to invite for an Indian meal and therefore needs this spice urgently.

Thanking you in advance, we remain,

with kind regards,
yours,

Be Schulz

Secretary

Fünfter

LUFTPOSTLEICHTBRIEF
AEROGRAMME

Post — damit Sie in Verbindung bleiben

BERLIN

Rev.
Dr.C.K.Paul Singh
GEL Church

Ranchi/Bihar

Indien

MIT LUFTPOST
PAR AVION
BY AIR MAIL

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D'aprés les dispositions de la convention de l'union postale universelle l'aérogramme ne doit contenir aucun objet.
According to the provisions of the World Post Agreement, an aerogramme may not contain any enclosures.

Dritter Falz / 3ème pliage / 3rd fold

Absender: **Gossner Mission**
Exp.: Handjerystraße 19/20
Sender: 1000 BERLIN 41

Erster Falz / 1er pliage / 1st fold

BOARD OF EVANGELISM AND LITERATURE

Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church
(Regd. under Societies Registration act XXI of 1860)

Director & Secretary
Rev. Dr. C. K. Paul Singh, B. D, Dr. Theol. (Berlin)

C. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No 19/79/BEL-2

The 5.3.79

TO
Pastor S. Kriebel,
Director Gossner Mission
Handjery Str. 19/20
1000 Berlin 41

Dear Brother Kriebel,

Thank you very much for your kind letter of 23.2.79.
As Rev. M. Tete is to travel after three years of time he would not require any 'P' form clearence. He can travel and FTS(Foreign Travel Scheme) for which he can travel without any exact indications of date and place.
Thank you very much also for the first installment and the additional grant, In the last BEL meeting itself I had requested the Board to decide that a separate bank account be opened for BEL and if has agreed and thereafter the KSS has also confirmed the same. I hope the treasurer KSS will have necessary steps to have open the bank account. The amount meant and sent for the sets of travelling equipments for the European guests remitted by Rev.Peters can be transferred to our account only when we produce the receipt which is with you, the copy sent to me shows that it is a bank draft and not a money order.
So please send the same as soon as possible to collect the money hereby producing that bank draft in the bank here. Unless we produce that cheque money shall not be transferred to our account.

I am very sorry that the matter in regard with "NW-GELC" is not yet clarified. The pramukh would write a letter with this regar

Thanking you,

Yours Sincerely,
C.K.P.S.
Dr.C.K.Paul Singh (Director,BEL)

BOARD OF EVANGELISM AND LITERATURE

Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church
(Regd. under Societies Registration act XXI of 1860)

Director & Secretary
Rev. Dr. C. K. Paul Singh, B. D; Dr. Theol. (Berlin)

C. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No 17/BEL/79-2

The 27.2.79.

To
Pastor S.Kriebel
Gossner Mission
Handjery Str. 19/20
1 Berlin 41

Dear Brother Kriebel,

In the first half of this month I wrote a letter to you regarding my participation in the Kuratorium meetings. Please send the invitation letter and the PTA by the 20th of March 1979.
As you might be already informed, we had the KSS meetings on Feb. 15-20, 1979. I was expecting that some hard liner steps would be taken in regard with the "N.W.-GELC, but nothing of the kind has been taken.

It was decided that in Madhya Pradesh Anchal and NW Anchal new Adhyakshes be elected. As Rev. M. Tete did not go to Khutitoli he automatically ceases to be Adhyaksh and Rev, Dr.Tiga is a retired pastor he can not be the Adhyaksh- hence new elections.

This time I also participated in the KSS meetings as co-opted for which I had resigned.
At present Pramukh Adhyaksh is out of station so I am also office in-charge. So I happened to read a letter from your office finance department in which transfer of amount have been informed.

In which DM 13,000 - has been indicated for "Theological College", I think it should have been meant for "Theological Education" or are you to send separate amount for Pracharak Training School and Serampore College Students. I think it will be good to expain to the Pramukh Adhyaksh to avoid any misconceptions.

With best of my regards,

Yours Sincerely
C.K.Paul Singh
Dr.C.K.Paul Singh, Director, BEL.

BOARD OF EVANGELISM AND LITERATURE

Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church
(Regd. under Societies Registration act XXI of 1860)

Director & Secretary
Rev. Dr. C. K. Paul Singh, B. D, Dr. Theol. (Berlin)

C. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No 11/79/BEL-2

The 13-2-79

TO
The Mission Director
Pastor S.Kriebel
Handjery Str. 19/20
1 Berlin 41

Dear Brother Kriebel,

Kind

Thank you very much for your letter and the invitation letter for attending the meetings with an invitation that you would inform me the exact date and plane etc. for my travel.

Herewith I would like to suggest some points to be mentioned in the invitation letter for obtaining my travel documents specially the 'P' Form clearance:

1. Exact date of travel from Ranchi to Berlin be stated in the 'invitation letter' and to start with a pre-consultation meeting on 24th/25th April, so that travel may be started on 22/23 April.
2. Exact purpose of travel also be stated in the invitation letter.
3. Flight from New Delhi be arranged with AIR INDIA, thus PTA be sent to AIR INDIA, main Road Ranchi, but AIR INDIA be asked to book the Return Flight with LUFT HANSA with a night halt, in New Delhi on the AIR LINE's cost.

According to the 1 &2 points mentioned above ~~xxfrxxsh~~ I would like to ~~requestxxx~~ you to send a fresh invitation letter as follows:

To whom it may Concern , It is herewith certified that:

Rev. Dr.C.K.Paul Singh etc... has been invited to come to Germany from April 22nd to June 30, 1979 by the Gossner Berlin, for attending meetings, visiting Congregations and participating in church programmes.

Rev. Dr. Singh being the member of ..... board. He is awaited to attend pre-consultation meetings on April 24th and 25th and thereafter the meeting of the Kuratorium, etc.....(the other may follow as it is).

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The 13-2-79

Contd.....

You may send the invitation letter between March 15-20 as I shall be away in Nepal, and the Application for 'P' Form should not be too early.

Herewith I am enclosing also the Yearly Report (1978) as have prepared.

With best of my regards

Yours Sincerely

(Dr.C.K.Paul Singh)
Director,BEL

Encl.
As stated above.

BOARD OF EVANGELISM AND LITERATURE

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Director & Secretary
Rev. Dr. C. K. Paul Singh, B. D. Dr. Theol. (Berlin)

G. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No 7/79/BEL-2

The 30.1.79

Dear Brother P.Kriebel,

Thank you very much for the reports of your visit to our GELC, at this point I am not making any comment, however, when time comes and if it will be necessary I shall make some observations. As Dr.Bage knows German and as he would my successor in the Kuratorium I have given the report to him that he may read and form his own opinion and guide the KSS and other committee members along with some suggestions acceptable to them. As you might have come to know that for the current KSS term in the pramukhship of Rev. P.D.Soreng I have withdrawn myself from KSS Bds,committee,except the BEL, so I have no time and plateform to speak out some of your suggestion, though time and again I have pronounced some unofficial statements and my opinion.

The situation in the church is almost the same, except that the Missionfields in Madhya Pradesh; i.e. Udaipur and Surguja are gone to the NW GELC. I could not conduct the Refresher Course for them, they also have not received their amount due, I did not get Bills, or any letter concerning to their payment, they also did not come. I do not know what to do, however I may visit in the first week of February and try to find out their arrangements if any. I also not know, whether they get any help directly from other sources.

According to BEL account we have still the money with us of these fields. These last days I have asked the Pramukh Adhyaksh, the Treasurer and the Hd. Accountant Mr.S.Bhengra not to use the balance money for other purpose, as in past years Kss has once done. Therefore I would like to have the account and statements of the BEL money with the KSS but till now not done. Therefore I would like to request you if you have not yet transfered the BEL amount of GM grant,you may transfer the first instalment by the end of Feb. or beginning of March with a copy of information to me also. I would also like that the grant of GM for Mission Work be sent directly to a separate account to be opened and operated by the Kss itself so that such grants cannot be chanalised for other KSS works and be a loss to the BEL. I shall bring this point in

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C. E. L. Church, Ranchi
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Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No .....

The .....

contd.....

the next BEL meeting and then to KSS during the next meetingsxxxx to be held from 15th - 18th Feb. 1979.

As I have not yet received reports I am unable to send the yearly report, though I have prepared the report for my part. In the beginning of the year I wrote a letter to Fran. Friederici about the exact date of programmes in Nepal, ~~xxx~~ i.e. when I have to ~~xxxx~~ arrive in Nepal and join the GM-Group etc, but till now I have not yet received any information I would like to have the same in order to adjust with my programmes here.

As informed by the Vice- Chairman Rev. Peters that he is sending Rs. 1000/- for buying traveling back , with its other items, but as I was told by Mr. Bhengra that it has not yet been transferred to GELC account, but as two German guests from GDR were coming -who actually did not come, I bought the travelling bags with the required articles. After waiting some more weeks I shall write to Rev. Peters also so that he may enquire about the matter.

I hope you had a good meeting in Mainz and could make some useful decisions for the future programmes and works of the GM in Germany and out side Germany.

With best of my regards

Yours Sincerely,

Dr.C.K.Paul Singh
Director,BEL.

Gossner Mission
Handjerystraße 19/20
1000 Berlin 41 (Friedenau)

Rev. N. Ekka
G.E.L.Church Compound
Main Road
Ranchi
Bihar, India

23.1.1979

Dear Brother,

From time to time we are asked by friends and congregations in Germany, whether the G.E.L.Church needs money for particular projects of special urgency of importance for the development of the church and of the life of the people.

In former times the G.E.L.Church used to send us a list of projects. If you like, we hereby invite you to set up such a list of projects according to your priorities, k so that on request we may offer them to friends here for support.

From our discussions during my visit you will remember, that self help projects on congregation level seem to be of particular importaace for the future of the church, according to my understanding, and I am sure, that you share this view with me. It is that type of projects which we would like to support, if you agree. But, of course, you are free to set your own priorities.

Normally congregations offer amounts in the range of Rs. 1o.ooo,- to Rs. 5o.ooo,-, but also smaller or bigger amounts may be collected. We do not know in advance, for how many projects we are asked, but it is helpful for us, in such a case, to have a list of some proposals available here.

In future we may have the opportunity to discuss in more detail our understanding of self help, so that we understand each other better. But already now you will not be surprised, when I say, that in my eyes the best projects are those, which are initiated by the people themselves, which create income and make the people more independent from outside help in the future, which can be implemented and managed by the people and to which the outside help only adds some material or some tools, which are beyond the financial reach of the people.

Should you be interested to send us such a list, it would be nice, if it came soon.
Thank you.

Yours sincerely,
Siegwart Kriebel

blind: Dr. Singh, Ranchi

Lieber Dr. Singh! Einen ähnlichen Brief habe ich zugleich auch an Pf. P.D.Soreng geschrieben.

G.

BOARD OF EVANGELISM AND LITERATURE

Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church
(Regd. under Societies Registration act XXI of 1860)

Director & Secretary
Rev. Dr. C. K. Paul Singh, B. D; Dr. Theol. (Berlin)

G. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No 2/79/BEL-2

The 9.1.79.

To

Frau D.Friederici
Albert Schweizer Str. 113/115
65 Mainz (a. R)
W. Germany

Dear Frau Frederiçi,

This is my first letter to Germany in 1979, therefore first of all wish you a happy New Year. According to the verbal information and a private letter written by the Rev. Peters I have to attend the meetings and Jubilee celebrations in March /April 1979. I also saw that two other Kuratorium members are to participate in the functions along with you. I understood that the team would visit some of the projects of UMN prior to the meetings and I shall have to join the team. I would like to know what is the exact date that I have to join the group, so that I may prepare and plan accordingly. I shall be thankful to receive these informations from youxx at your earliest conveniences.

In these days we are hearing about a Severe cold wave in Europe including Germany so that EMRRGENCY has been promulgated in some of the European Countries. I hope it is not so bad in Mainz area. What about your programmes in such a bad weather. You might have cancelled some of the programmes.

My family is doing well, children are getting ready for new Admissions in Schools. The weather here is normal, lowest temperature is 8centigrade. But if we get rain in these week it may be colder. Due to various plans and programmes at Ranchi in January I am staying at Ranchi. May be in the last week of Jan. I have to accompany two guests from East Germany.

I have also written to two guestsfrom Mainz who are at present in Bangalore that they are welcomed to visit Ranchi. But may be when they come to Ranchi (10-11th March). I shall be in Nepal, even then we shall make arrangements for them. I have talked to the Pramukh

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C. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No.....

The.....

contd.....

Adhyaksh and he has agreed.

Please convey my Greetings to the Director, Pastor Kriebel and other friends in Gossner Mission and the Kuratorium.

With seasonal Greetings,

Yours Sincerely

C. K. Paul Sh

(Dr. C.K.Paul Singh)
Director, BEL.

BOARD OF EVANGELISM AND LITERATURE

Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church
(Regd. under Societies Registration act XXI of 1860)

Director & Secretary
Rev. Dr. C. K. Paul Singh, B. D, Dr. Theol. (Berlin)

C. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No 70/78/BEL-2

The 26-10-78

Pastor S.Kriebel
Mission Director
Handjery Str. 19/20
1000 Berlin 41

Dear Brother Pastor Kriebel,

I hope that you have fully prepared yourself for the trip to India. We are also planning variously to make your visit of the GELC a good success.

Last week I visited the Mission Field in Assam and we had a four-days Refresher Course with the workers and the Bible class with the Christian congregationd . It was a nice experience to have such programmes for the first time in that Mission Field and I hope that the Mission Field has been benefitted with the programme. They are also expecting your visit. I am glad that you would first go to Calcutta and apply for the permit. Dr.Bage may be able to help you if you can inform him by telegramme where you would stay etc. Herewith I would like to advise youto apply for permit as private person to see some interesting places(like Tejpur Usha Hills; Tinsikia, Jorhat, Kaziranga, National Park, etc, and also to visit,some of personal friends like Messrs, G.Tiru Tezpur J.Topno im Tezpur, etc.

You may also ask the officer in-charge where you apply that he may also suggest some places.

With best of my regards,

Yours Sincerely
C. K. Paul Singh
(Dr.C.K.Paul Singh)
Director BEL.

23/10/78

Gossner Mission
Handjerystraße 19/20
1000 Berlin 41 (Friedenau)

The
Principle
Serampore College
Serampore
Hooghly-Dt., West-Bengal
India

13.1o.1978

Dear Sir,

Rev. Peters, the Vice-Chairman of the Board of Gossner Mission, and myself, the Mission Director, plan to visit India in November, 1978. We intend to spend most of our time within the Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chotanagpur and Assam.

However, we would very much like to pay a visit also to Serampore College, especially since students from the G.E.L.Church are going there for studies, and Dr. Bage is serving there as a theological teacher.

In our tour programme we could include a visit to Serampore on Sunday, 26.11.1978, or perhaps Saturday, 25.11.1978. It would be very kind of you, if you could let us know, whether we are welcome and whether the proposed date is convenient.

Since we shall be in Calcutta on Monday, 6.11.1978, we could try to contact you there. Otherwise we would be glad to receive your answer either to Berlin before the 4.11.1978, or to Ranchi, GEL Church, after that date.

Yours sincerely,

S. Kriebel
Siegwart Kriebel

copy to: Rev. Dr. Bage, Serampore
Rev. Dr. Singh, Ranchi

Gossner Mission
Handjerystraße 19/20
1000 Berlin 41 (Friedenau)

Rev. S. Barla
Pramukh Adhyaksh
G.E.L.Church
Ranchi
Bihar, India

4.1o.1978

Dear Brother,

Many thanks for your letter dated 14.9.78, and for your proposals in it.

1. Refreshers Course
We are glad that you were able to arrange for a refreshers course. We do not intend to choose the subject matter of that course. We consider ourselves to be visiters and guests on that course, but it should be the church who chooses the subject matter, because it is your course and it should encourage your pastors. Therefore you will know best, what should be discussed on the course.

Gossner Mission will bear the expenses for the course as calculated by you.

2. Assam Visit
We shall stop in Calcutta on 6.11.78 and proceed from there to Ranchi on 7.11.78, where we shall arrive at 12.55 hours by flight IC 41o.

We intend to fly to Tezpur on 27.11.78, which may mean that we have to leave Ranchi on 26.11.78 ? On 1.12.78 we shall fly from Calcutta to Kathmandu.

Do you think that a supporting letter from G.E.L.C. will help us to get the permission to visit Assam, or do you think that we rather should apply for the permission as privat people visiting privat friends? Is the official way better or the privat way?

At which office do we have to apply for the permission in Calcutta and where do we find it?

3. Split in G.E.L.Church
As we have already indicated, we want to meet all Gossner friends in India, even those who have separated themselves from G.E.L.C. Is our programme discussed with them, so that both sides have agreed on certain dates, when to meet one or the other group? It is hard for us to do this from here, therefore we do hope, that you do it there.

We are now looking forward very much to meet you all,
with love and greetings,
yours sincerely,

S. Kriebel
Siegwalt Kriebel

Kind: Dr. Singh

12/10/78

Gossner Mission
Handjerystraße 19/20
1000 Berlin 41 (Friedenau)

Rev. N. Ekka
G.E.L.Church
Main Road
Ranchi
Bihar, India

4.1o.1978

Dear Brother,

Many thanks for your letter dated 11.9.1978, and for your proposals in it.

It would be very nice to meet all the pastors at the end of November, but unfortunately we may have left Ranchi at that time already. We intend to visit Assam from 27.-3o.11.1978. If we get the permission to do so, we shall not be in Ranchi at the time of your meeting any more.

But nevertheless, we are looking forward very much to meet you and as many of your friends as possible during the time of ~~xx~~ our visit. I do hope that it will be possible for you to arrange for certain dates with the other friends in G.E.L.C., in order to avoid misunderstandings about our schedule between the two groups.

We shall arrive in Ranchi on 7.11.1978 at 12.55 hours, coming from Calcutta. And we shall leave Ranchi on 26. or 27.11.1978, in order to reach Tezpur on 27.11.1978.

With love and greetings,
yours sincerely,

S. Kriebel
Siegwart Kriebel

blind: Dr. Singh

GOSSNER MISSION
BERLIN

1 Berlin 41
Handjerystraße 19-20

Fernsprecher: 0311 · 83 01 61 · 83 96 33
Postscheckkonto: Berlin West 520 50
Bankkonto: Berliner Bank, Kto. 4/7480

Rev. Dr. Paul Singh
G.E.L.Church Compound
Ranchi
Bihar, India

6.1o.1978

Dear Brother,

Many thanks for your letter dated 12.9.78 and another letter dated 23.9.78, together with a report, minutes of BEL Executive, and 1979/8o Budget.

Just now I am only answering your questions concerning our visit. The other questions can be discussed when we are with you, I think.

Rev. Peters and I would prefer to stay in the Railway Hotel, if they have two single rooms for us. If it is not possible to stay there, we agree so stay in the Lal Bungalow.

We have now spared one day at the beginning of our tour in Calcutta in order to get permission for Assam, as you know from my letter to Rev.Barla.

It is alright, that we shall visit Serampore on our way to Assam. At that part of our visit, the programme in Chotanagpur will have to be shortened, since we shall have to leave for Calcutta on 26th November at the latest, in order to go to Serampore before leaving for Assam. We should be in Assam at least two full days, not just one day.

If you have other appointments please do not hesitate to go there. We shall be happy to meet you in Ranchi, but we fully understand, that you cannot accompany us all the time. Please, feel free to go to Madras.

These days we transfer the rest of our Grant for 1978 for Mission work, which is DM 8o.ooo,-.

We are now already excited to meet all you friends in India.
Auf Wiedersehen und Yesu sahai,

Siegwart Kriebel
Siegwart Kriebel

121/0778

GOSSNER MISSION

1 Berlin 41 (Friedenau)
Handjerystraße 19-20

Fernsprecher: (030) · 851 30 61 · 851 69 33
Postscheckkonto: Berlin West 520 50-100
Bankkonto: Berliner Bank, BLZ 100 200 00
Kto.-Nr. 0407480700

25. September 1978

Liebe Freunde!

Heute schicken wir Ihnen im Nachgang zu den Jahresberichten aus Zambia den Bericht von Elisabeth Hässler, den wir jetzt erst erhalten haben.

Ausserdem erhalten Sie ausnahmsweise auch einmal einen Kommentar der EKD zu Vorgängen in der Bundesrepublik"Sterben die Dörfer aus?". Hier wird beispielhaft deutlich, dass viele Probleme, mit denen sich Länder in der Dritten Welt herumschlagen, auch bei uns in gar keiner Weise befriedigend gelöst sind. Der vorliegende Kommentar belegt das am Beispiel Stadt-Land. Zugleich wird daraus deutlich, dass wir uns an derartigen Problemen nicht nur in Übersee engagieren sollten, sondern ebenso auch bei uns zu Hause. Die Ursachen sind überall die gleichen.

Mit freundlichen Grüssen

Siegwart Kriebel

Siegwart Kriebel

Anlagen

AKTUELLER KOMMENTAR Nr. 2

der Kammer der Evangelischen Kirche in Deutschland (EKD) für soziale Ordnung

Herausgegeben vom Rat der EKD durch die Kirchenkanzlei

Sterben die Dörfer aus?

Nachbestellungen sind an die Landeskirchenämter zu richten
oder an die Kirchenkanzlei der EKD, Postfach 21 02 20, 3000 Hannover 21.

I. Problemskizze

In den letzten Jahrzehnten sind immer wieder Versuche unternommen worden, der Verödung sich entleerender ländlicher Gebiete entgegenzuwirken. Sie sind nahezu wirkungslos geblieben. Mit einer Neubelebung der Konjunktur und einem Rückgang der Arbeitslosigkeit wird sich diese Entleerung noch verstärkt fortsetzen. Der drastische Geburtenrückgang um nahezu 50 % in 12 Jahren wird in den Verdichtungsgebieten zum Freiwerden von Wohnungen und Arbeitsplätzen führen und einen verstärkten Sog auf die sich entleerenden Räume ausüben. Jetzt schon ist das Durchschnittseinkommen in einzelnen Teilen der Bundesrepublik um ein Viertel geringer als in Verdichtungsräumen. Bildungschancen und kulturelle Angebote nehmen in den entleerten Räumen weiter ab. Viele Dörfer werden veröden oder nur noch als Ferienhäuser für Liebhaber des Landlebens zeitweise bevölkert werden.

II. kritische Fragen:

1. Im letzten Jahrzehnt wurde der Umweltschutz immer deutlicher als eine sittliche Pflicht des Menschen und als Teil seines Schöpfungsauftrags erkannt. Wird sich die drohende Entleerung ländlicher Räume von Menschen ebenso als ein sittliches Defizit erweisen wie die Störung des ökologischen Gleichgewichts durch die moderne Industriegesellschaft? Ist es möglich, wie etwa in Fragen des Umweltschutzes, in einem hohen Maße ein öffentliches Bewußtsein für diese Gefahr zu erwecken?
2. Kann von Parlamentariern einer Demokratie erwartet werden, daß sie Aufwendungen in vielfacher Milliardenhöhe beschließen, auch wenn der Erfolg solcher Maßnahmen erst in Jahrzehnten sichtbar wird?
3. Müßten – falls das nicht möglich ist – die jungen Menschen in den sich entleerenden Räumen nicht offen über die sich verringernden Berufs- und Lebenschancen aufgeklärt werden?
4. Welche Möglichkeiten hat die Kirche, um das Tabu des Schweigens zu brechen, das bisher die nachlässige Behandlung der notwendigen Raumordnung abgeschirmt hat?
5. Welche ernsten Konsequenzen ergeben sich für den kirchlichen Dienst auf dem Lande aus dem Bevölkerungsschwund in den Dörfern?

Anleitung zum Nachdenken über die Entleerung ländlicher Räume

Fragwürdige Chancengleichheit

In der Bundesrepublik Deutschland gibt es eine Vielzahl von ländlichen Räumen ganz unterschiedlicher Strukturen und Funktionen. Diese Vielfalt reicht von den locker besiedelten Randzonen der Verdichtungsgebiete bis hin zu den schwach strukturierten Räumen, die keine entwicklungsfähigen „Zentralen Orte" haben. Demzufolge sind auch die Diagnose und die Therapie ganz verschieden. Die größte Gefahr droht den wirtschaftlich schwach entwickelten Gebieten, die abseits der großen Verdichtungsräume liegen und keinen „Zentralen Ort" mit ausreichender Attraktivität haben. Zu diesen Gebieten gehören Nordschleswig, der ostniedersächsische Raum, das Emsland, die Gebiete von der Eifel über den Westerwald und den Vogelsberg bis zur Röhn, die Westpfalz, Ostbayern, das westliche Mittelfranken und weite Teile des Zonenrandgebiets.

Für die Bewertung der räumlichen Lebensverhältnisse der Menschen sind eine Reihe sogenannter Indikatoren gebräuchlich. Von diesen seien hier für die vorgenannten Gebiete nur folgende genannt:

Die Bewohner dieser Gebiete haben gemessen am Bundesdurchschnitt ein geringes Durchschnittseinkommen. Das Angebot an Arbeitsplätzen ist einseitig und unzureichend, die öffentlichen Verkehrsmittel sind ungenügend und die Kommunikationsmöglichkeiten infolge der zu überwindenden Entfernungen erschwert.

Das Bundesraumordnungsprogramm – von Bund und Ländern 1975 gemeinsam beschlossen – berichtet in bezug auf die Einkommensverhältnisse, daß der Durchschnitt der Löhne und Gehälter in der Industrie im Jahre 1973 in DM je Beschäftigten und Monat in der Gebietseinheit

Hamburg	1763,– DM
Köln	1922,– DM
Emsland	1450,– DM
Trier	1357,– DM
Regensburg-Weiden	1260,– DM

betrug. Die Einkommensabstände haben sich von 1971 bis 1973 sogar vergrößert: Während sie in der Region Hamburg um 294 DM und in der Region Köln um 309 DM stiegen, sind sie in der Region Emsland nur um 224 DM, in der Region Trier um 239 DM und in Regensburg-Weiden nur um 197 DM gestiegen. Dabei ist zu bedenken, daß die Gebietseinheiten des Bundesraumordnungsprogramms, auf die diese Zahlen bezogen sind, sehr große Räume von oft sehr unterschiedlicher Struktur umfassen. Die insgesamt auf diese Gebiete bezogenen Zahlen haben also bereits einen deutlich nivellierenden Effekt.

Es wird schlimmer statt besser

Vor allem sind diese Gebiete durch die Entwicklung von Bevölkerung und Wirtschaft bedroht, wie sie sich in den letzten Jahren abzeichnet und mit deren Fortdauer in den nächsten Jahren zu rechnen ist.

Je stärker die Bevölkerung zurückgeht und je weniger die Bevölkerung in den Verdichtungsgebieten sich selbst regeneriert, um so stärker wird die Sogkraft der Verdichtungsgebiete werden, weil hier auch dann, ja gerade dann ausreichende Wohnungen und Arbeitsplätze zur Verfügung stehen.

Für die weitere Entwicklung der Wirtschaftsstruktur der Bundesrepublik ist anzunehmen:

- ein weiterer Rückgang der in der Landwirtschaft Tätigen von 2,0 Mio. auf 1,1 Mio.
- eine Stagnation der Arbeitsplätze in der gewerblichen Wirtschaft insgesamt. Interne Verschiebungen werden zugunsten bestimmter Industriezweige mit einem hohen Anteil an qualifizierten Arbeitskräften stattfinden, bei rd. 8,4 Mio.
- eine Zunahme der Arbeitsplätze im Dienstleistungsbereich von 15,8 auf 18,8 Mio.
  (Die Zahlen sind bezogen auf den Zeitraum von 1970 bis 1985 und entstammen dem oben erwähnten Bundesraumordnungsprogramm S. 28.)

Diese wirtschaftliche Entwicklung wird ebenfalls die infrastrukturell gut ausgestatteten Verdichtungsräume begünstigen.

Nun hat sich die Bundesraumordnungspolitik in Bund und Ländern seit langem bemüht, dieses Gefälle der Lebensverhältnisse der Bürger in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland abzubauen. Sie hat dabei das Ziel, überall gleichwertige Lebensbedingungen zu schaffen. Da eine völlige Gleichheit der räumlichen Lebensbedingungen der Menschen innerhalb des Bundesgebietes nicht erreichbar ist, strebt diese Politik einen Mindeststandard an öffent-

lichen Einrichtungen in allen Teilen der Bundesrepublik Deutschland an. Diese Politik beruht letztlich auf Normen und Wertvorstellungen des Grundgesetzes.

Der Erfolg dieser Politik ist aber insgesamt enttäuschend. Das beweisen nicht nur die deutlichen Differenzen im Entwicklungsstand einzelner Gebiete, wie sie oben skizziert sind. Das beweist vor allem auch die weiter zu erwartende Entwicklung. Einzelne Verdichtungsgebiete haben bis 1985 einen hohen Wanderungsgewinn zu erwarten, so vor allem – gemessen an der Bevölkerung von 1970 und bezogen auf das Jahr 1985 –

- die Gebietseinheit München–Rosenheim in Höhe von 20 %,
- Frankfurt in Höhe von 12 %,
- Neckar–Franken in Höhe von 12 %,
- Hamburg in Höhe von 10 bis 8 %,
- Ansbach–Nürnberg in Höhe von 10 bis 8 %.

Wirtschaftlich peripher gelegene Gebiete dagegen werden Wanderungsverluste erleiden, so die Gebietseinheiten

- Saarland in Höhe von 11 bis 9 %,
- Ems in Höhe von 10 %,
- Trier in Höhe von 9 %,
- Münster in Höhe von 8 %,
- Osnabrück in Höhe von 7 %,
- Schleswig in Höhe von 6 %,
- Landshut–Passau in Höhe von 6,5 %,
- Regensburg–Weiden in Höhe von 5 %.

(Zahlen aus dem oben erwähnten Bundesraumordnungsprogramm S. 34.)

Besonders gravierend ist dabei, daß vorwiegend die jüngeren arbeitsfähigen Menschen abwandern und diejenigen Personen, die für die Entwicklung des wirtschaftlichen, sozialen und kulturellen Lebens in diesen Gebieten eine tragende Bedeutung haben. Dieser Prozeß beeinträchtigt in besonders ernsthafter Weise die Entwicklungsfähigkeiten der Gebiete auch für die Zukunft.

Bei Fortdauer dieser Entwicklung werden nicht nur die bezeichneten schwach strukturierten Gebiete weiter hinter der allgemeinen wirtschaftlichen Entwicklung zurückbleiben. Es ist vielmehr der Zeitpunkt abzusehen, in dem die Bevölkerungsdichte der betroffenen schwach strukturierten Gebiete so gering geworden ist, daß ausreichende Verdienstmöglichkeiten sowie eine ausreichende Versorgung mit öffentlichen und privaten Diensten für die Bewohner dieser Gebiete nicht mehr gewährleistet ist. Es ist dann auch kein Ansatz für eine regionale Förderungspolitik mehr vorhanden.

Angesichts des Rückganges der Bevölkerung und des sich abflachenden Wirtschaftswachstums ist die Bundesraumordnungspolitik von Bund und Ländern bemüht, dieser neuerlichen Entwicklung dadurch zu begegnen, daß sie die räumlichen Einzugsbereiche der sogenannten „Zentralen Orte" vergrößert. Außerdem sollten sogenannte Entwicklungszentren besonders gefördert werden, deren Aufgabe es ist, großräumige und innergebietliche Disparitäten für die Lebensverhältnisse der Bewohner abzubauen.

Erforderliche Maßnahmen

Gegenüber der Wirksamkeit der für eine solche Politik zur Verfügung stehenden Mittel bestehen aber nach allen bisherigen Erfahrungen berechtigte Zweifel. Sie gründen sich vor allen Dingen auf die mangelhafte Koordination der zahlreichen z. T. umfangreichen, raumwirksamen Maßnahmen der öffentlichen Hand. An wirksamer Koordination fehlt es sowohl vertikal zwischen Bund, Ländern und Gemeinden als auch horizontal, vor allem auf der Ebene des Bundes. Die Zweifel an der Wirksamkeit dieser Politik stützen sich ferner darauf, daß die öffentliche Hand wesentlich nur Anreize zur Beeinflussung der Standorte wirtschaftlicher Unternehmen geben kann. Der Beseitigung dieser verhängnisvollen Mängel würden nach Meinung von Experten u. a. folgende Maßnahmen dienlich sein:

Die Koordination von Maßnahmen der öffentlichen Hand, die der besseren Raumordnung dienen, könnte durch bindende Rechts- und Verwaltungsvorschriften effektiv gemacht werden.

Die Stellung des Raumordnungsministers im Kabinett könnte verstärkt und rechtlich abgesichert werden.

Der raumordnerische Effekt der Maßnahmen der öffentlichen Hand könnte transparent und publik gemacht werden.

Die Ansiedlung von Gewerbe und Industrie in Verdichtungsräumen könnte mit den höheren Kosten für die Infrastruktur belastet werden, die sie durch diese Ansiedlungen verursachen.

Die finanzielle Förderung zugunsten der schwach strukturierten Gebiete könnte verstärkt werden.

Die raumordnerischen Funktionen, die bestimmte Gebiete und Gemeinden haben, könnten im kommunalen Finanzausgleich honoriert werden.

Solche Reformen werden auch immer wieder versprochen. Dadurch werden bei den Bürgern der Regionen, die von der bezeichneten Entwicklung benachteiligt sind, Hoffnungen erweckt. Aber solche Reformen können nur gelingen, wenn ein ausreichender politischer Wille dahintersteht. Da es sich um langfristige strukturelle Prozesse handelt, die beeinflußt werden müßten, müßte dieser politische Wille auf lange Sicht, d. h. weit über eine vierjährige Legislaturperiode hinaus, mit ausreichender Intensität durchgehalten werden.

Ob eine solche Möglichkeit und Bereitschaft besteht, ist nicht geklärt, geschweige denn getestet. Die Skepsis gründet sich hier auf die allgemeine Beobachtung, daß langfristig zu lösende Aufgaben in der Demokratie die Stiefkinder der Politik sind. Raumordnungspolitik ist ihrer Natur nach eine langfristige Aufgabe.

Langfristig zu lösende Aufgaben, die zudem das Zusammenwirken vieler Menschen erfordern, sind aber nicht nur Stiefkinder der Politik in einer Demokratie. Sie sind auch Stiefkinder der Kirche, sofern diese nur die sittlichen Entscheidungen einzelner Menschen im Auge hat und die gemeinsamen Entscheidungen für die Zukunft der Menschheit nicht als zentrale Fragen einer christlichen Gewissensentscheidung betrachtet.

In einer Demokratie sind langfristige Aufgaben nur lösbar, sofern dazu Verständnis und verantwortungsbewußter Wille in der Bevölkerung vorhanden sind. Dazu wäre erforderlich:

- In der öffentlichen Meinung müßte Verständnis für die Aufgabe der Raumordnung geweckt werden, was durch breite und ständige Aufklärungsarbeit sicherlich zu erreichen wäre.
- Über die wichtigsten Ziele der Raumordnung müßte ein Einvernehmen hergestellt werden. Auch das kann durch schrittweises Vorgehen gelingen.
- Die grundsätzlichen Entscheidungen im politischen Raum müßten auf zentraler Ebene getroffen werden. Die Verwirklichung des grundsätzlich Gewollten müßte bei zunehmender Konkretisierung der Willensbildung zunächst auf der Ebene der Länder, dann der Gemeinden erfolgen.

So wären Ergebnisse erreichbar, die von dem Verständnis und dem Willen derer, die es am meisten angeht, getragen werden. Unter solchen Voraussetzungen würden raumordnerische Entscheidungen und Investitionen der öffentlichen Hand möglich und wirksam, die jetzt immer wieder in Halbheiten steckenbleiben. Später würden solche Entscheidungen als selbstverständliche Voraussetzung in die Regierungspraxis eingehen. Die Einübung dieses Vorgehens könnte zunächst bei Vorhaben der öffentlichen Hand erfolgen, bei denen etwa ökologische Gründe es relativ leicht machen, öffentliches Interesse zu wecken.

Mit offenen Karten spielen

Wenn solche Schritte aber nicht unternommen werden, um effektiv wirksame raumordnungspolitische Führungsentscheidungen zu treffen, dann stellen sich überaus ernste Fragen:

- Kann es verantwortet werden, den Bewohnern der Gebiete, die bei der bisher zu erwartenden Entwicklung benachteiligt sein werden, zu raten, in diesen Gebieten zu bleiben?
- Ist es sinnvoll, den Bewohnern schwach strukturierter Gebiete weiterhin regionale Förderungsmaßnahmen in Aussicht zu stellen?
- Sollte ihnen nicht ehrlicherweise eine Abwanderung nahegelegt werden?
- Können Versprechungen, die nur auf Wählerstimmen abgestellt sind, die politischen Gegebenheiten aber souverän ignorieren, weiterhin stillschweigend hingenommen werden?
- Haben die Vorstellungen der Väter unseres Grundgesetzes, nach denen jedem Bürger in seiner heimatlichen Region die Voraussetzungen für die Entfaltung seines Lebens von der öffentlichen Hand gesichert sein müssen, heute noch Bedeutung oder gelten sie nur für die Bevölkerung in den Räumen mit günstigen Entwicklungsmöglichkeiten?
- Gibt es bestimmte Gebiete, die ausschließlich auf die Erfüllung einzelner Funktionen beschränkt werden müssen, wie etwa für die Land- und Forstwirtschaft, für die Wassergewinnung oder den ökologischen Ausgleich? In der Realität bedeutet das dann für die Bewohner dieser Gebiete in vielen Fällen eine ernsthafte Einschränkung für ihr Leben. Diese Erschwernisse wären nur zum Teil durch mobile Infrastruktur auszugleichen.
- Wieweit können solche Gebiete, deren Bevölkerung weithin abgewandert ist, dann noch der Erholung suchenden Stadtbevölkerung dienen, wenn niemand mehr dort leben will, der Gastlichkeit bieten kann?

Konsequenzen für den kirchlichen Dienst

Es kann nicht Aufgabe der Kirche sein, raumordnungspolitische Grundsatzentscheidungen zu fällen; dazu ist die Klärung höchst komplexer Wirkungszusammenhänge notwendig, für die bestimmte fachliche Kenntnisse unerläßlich sind. Wohl aber können die Kirche und die Gemeinden fordern und dazu beitragen, daß die Tabuisierung der Debatte über das bezeichnete Problem aufgehoben wird, die heute im politischen Raum praktisch besteht. Die Kirchen können auf Entscheidungen drängen, die nicht Erkenntnis und politischen Entschluß durch Illusion und politische Propaganda ersetzen. Es geht um das Schicksal von Millionen Menschen, ja um eine gesunde Gliederung unseres ganzen Volkskörpers. Es geht aber auch um Existenzfragen unserer Kirche.

In den wirtschaftlich schwach entwickelten und dünn besiedelten ländlichen Räumen, abseits von großen Verdichtungszonen, wird auch zunehmend die kirchliche Versorgung der verbleibenden Bevölkerung zum Problem.

- Viele Pfarrstellen sind nicht besetzt. Jüngere Pfarrer oder andere hauptamtliche Mitarbeiter verlassen nicht selten nach wenigen Jahren wieder die Dorfgemeinde, um ihren Kindern weite Schulanfahrtswege zu ersparen. Auch sie bevorzugen größere kulturelle und kommunikative Angebote in dichter besiedelten Räumen.
- Pfarrfrauen mit akademischer Berufsausbildung suchen in diesen Regionen sehr oft vergeblich nach Halbtagsstellen. Oft legen sie auch weite Anfahrtswege zurück, um einer beruflichen Tätigkeit nachzugehen. Die Gemeinde aber hat in diesen kleineren Ortschaften kein Verständnis für eine sehr oft abwesende Pfarrfrau.
- Auch junge ehrenamtliche Mitarbeiter wandern sehr oft nach wenigen Jahren ab, weil sie zu den sozial aufstrebenden Schichten gehören und weil auf dem Lande das Angebot an attraktiven qualifizierten und von der Konjunktur unabhängigen Arbeitsplätzen nicht ausreicht.
- Gemeindeschwestern stehen weithin auch nicht mehr zur Verfügung.
- Kleinere kirchliche Kindergärten müssen als Folge des Absinkens der Geburtenziffer ihre Pforten schließen.
- Gerade in den kleineren abgelegeneren Gemeinden gingen von der Kirche nicht geringe kulturelle Impulse für das Dorfleben aus. Dies wird in entleerten Räumen erheblich erschwert. Aus diesen – nicht zuletzt aber aus seelsorgerlichen – Gründen wehrt man sich in ländlichen Problemgebieten, wenn die Kirche nicht mehr im Dorfe präsent ist, zumal die Folgen der Gebietsreform ohnehin von vielen Bewohnern dieses Raumes als negativ empfunden werden.

Da der Pfarrermangel eine vorübergehende Erscheinung der nächsten sechs bis acht Jahre ist, sollte nach Übergangslösungen Ausschau gehalten werden, ohne damit in denjenigen Dörfern falsche Hoffnungen zu wecken, deren Bevölkerungszahl weiterhin stark absinkt. Immerhin sollte man bei Richtwerten von Seelenzahlen zur Auslastung eines Pfarrers die zusätzlichen Anforderungen mit berücksichtigen, die gerade in unterentwickelten Regionen an die Kirche und ihre Mitarbeiter gestellt werden. Freilich gilt es zu bedenken, daß die Ein-Mann-Pfarrstelle – ihre Verdienste in der Vergangenheit sind bei intaktem Pfarrhaus unbestritten – selbst in dichter besiedelten ländlichen Räumen nicht mehr die sich immer weiter differenzierenden Bedürfnisse der Gemeindeglieder allein befriedigen kann.

Um im größeren Raum die Vielfalt der Gaben der Pfarrer, der kirchlichen Mitarbeiter und anderer mündiger Laienchristen in ländlichen Regionen gezielter einzusetzen und auch spezifische Zielgruppen ansprechen zu können, sollten lockere Gemeindeverbunde angestrebt werden. Das Problem der unbesetzten Pfarrstellen läßt sich auf diese Weise leichter lösen. Trotz der Zusammenarbeit und der Arbeitsteilung im Gemeindeverbund muß aber gerade in diesen kleineren Ortschaften darauf geachtet werden, daß seelsorgerliche Bezugspersonen nicht so weit entfernt wohnen. Leerstehende Pfarrhäuser sollten, wenn eben möglich, von Religionslehrern oder anderen kirchlichen Mitarbeitern bewohnt werden. Eine besondere Chance besteht in einer neuen Aktivierung und Zurüstung geeigneter Gemeindeglieder für die Wahrnehmung der verschiedensten kirchlichen Dienste, auch des Haltens von Gottesdiensten in fern gelegenen Dörfern.

Um für die Kinder unzumutbar lange Anfahrtswege durch Schließung weiterer Kindergärten zu vermeiden, sollten gesetzliche Möglichkeiten geschaffen werden, um auch ein Kindergartenverbundnetz in ländlichen Problemgebieten einrichten zu können. Eine sozialpädagogische Fachkraft müßte die Oberaufsicht über mehrere Kindergärten führen können. Auch die Schaffung von Kinderspielkreisen nach niedersächsischem Muster sollte in die Überlegungen mit einbezogen werden.

Bei einem notwendigerweise zu verbessernden Angebot sozialer Dienste – auch über die Entwicklung von Sozialstationen – kann es vor allem in diesen Gebieten zweckmäßig sein, daß die Kirche mit anderen freien und öffentlichen Trägern eng zusammenarbeitet.

Da in Abwanderungsgebieten sehr viele alte Menschen zurückbleiben, sollte gerade die Kirche ein besonderes Schwergewicht auf die Altenarbeit legen. Aber ebenso ist bekanntlich in ländlichen Problemzonen die Zahl der jugendlichen Arbeitslosen sehr groß. Diesem Tatbestand gilt es auch in der kirchlichen Jugend- und Sozialarbeit in besonderer Weise Rechnung zu tragen.

Die Kirche, ihre Werke und Einrichtungen einschließlich der ländlichen Heimvolkshochschulen, aber auch die verantwortlichen Mitarbeiter in den Ortsgemeinden sollten mehr als bisher miteinander Überlegungen anstellen, wie der seelsorgerliche und gesellschaftsdiakonische Auftrag der Kirche gerade in ländlichen Problemgebieten verwirklicht werden kann. Die dort wohnenden Menschen leiden unter ihrer Situation. Wenn die Kirche ihren ganzheitlichen Auftrag als Seel- und Leibsorge erfüllen will, dann darf sie ihre Hilfe nicht versagen.

I.J.Krisifoe
P.O.Box 11,
Sinazeze, Zambia.

21.9.1978

Dr. P.Singh
GEL.-Church Compound,
Ranchi,
India.

Dear Dr.Singh,

I hope you may still remember me during your visit to Zambia to see the Gossner Service Team.
I am one of the agriculturist dealing with our agricultural work here.

My reason to write you is that I and my wife and three children will be visiting my parents in Indonesia from 24.10.'78 till 15.9.'78.
On our way to Europe we would like to pay you a visit in Ranchi. Do you think this would be possible?
We came to the idee trough the visit of Dr.Grothaus to Zambia in July/August,lately.

I am sorry that my request is so short that there is ample time for you to reply me before I leave Zambia on the 15.10.'78.
But if possible you could reply by sending a letter to my brother's address in Jakarta, Indonesia:

I.J.Krisifoe, c/o P.Krisifu
Jln.K.H.M.Mansyur 63,
Tanah Abang,Jak.-Pusat,
Jakarta, Indonesia.

If possible we will arrive in Ranchi on 23.9.'78 from Calcutta by plane and leave again on27.9.'78.

Hoping to hear from you with kind regards, I remain,

Yours faithfully,

Izaak J.Krisifoe.

BOARD OF EVANGELISM AND LITERATURE

Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church
(Regd. under Societies Registration act XXI of 1860)

Director & Secretary
Rev. Dr. C. K. Paul Singh, B. D; Dr. Theol. (Berlin)

C. E. L. Church, Ranchi
Bihar/India
Phone 23358

Ref. Memo. No 57/78/BEL-2

The 23 - 9- 78.

PasterS.Kriebel
Mission Director
Handjery str. 19/20
1000 Berlin 41

Dear Brother Pastor Kriebel,

Though it is rather late I am herewith sending the budget oforE Evangelistic work 1980 for your consideration and actions . As the budget has been discussed in our Board I am sending the Minutes itself so thwt you can go through it and can understand the back ground of the recommendation of the total amount. There are also some notes for each item of the budget. Finally we have also mentioned that we would like to hear from you the policy of your work and grant for the GEL Church. Some of the questions are as follows:-

1. How much id the highest amount GM can give as grant or would the GM grant without limit? ie. according to our submitted amount or GM's own budget?
2. Would GM give grants for the fields even for the projects of School Development programmes like agriculture, dispensary etc.
3. What about Palamau? For this we got in past years some special grants from GM and also individuals (P.Barutta etc.). In the past it has been said that the field seems to be a diaspora work there no regular budget was included what would be your policy?

Including myself some of us know the attitude and policy of your predecessor but our Board as well as KSS would like know your also. Therefore I am sendé ing the budget and also some of these remarks so that you may be able to make yourself ready to have discussions with this regard.

Thanking you with many Greetings,

Yours Sincerely
C.K.P-Sh
(Dr.C.K.Paul Singh)
Director, BEL.

GOSSNER MISSION
BERLIN

1 Berlin 41
Handjerystraße 19-20

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4.9.1978

8/9/78

Rev. Dr. Paul Singh
G.E.L. Church Compound
Ranchi, 834001, Bihar
India

Dear Dr. Singh,

Please find attached blind copies of the letters to Rev. Barla and to Rev. Ekka.

We are very happy to have received the programme prepared by Rev. Barla. We have noted with interest that also visits to some Northwestern places have been included. The only thing which is not yet clear to us, is whether theses visits habe been agreed upon between the officers concerned of both sides. Otherwise it may create difficulties, or not?

I therefore have tried to encourage Rev. Ekka to take part in the preparation of the programme. From my answer you will learn that he did not like my proposal that you should help to prepare it. But the important thing to us is, that some joint planning should take place so that the visit can take place to the satisfaction of everybody.

Do you think that it will be possible to arrange a pastors' refresher course? I forgot to mention in my letters, that of course Gossner Mission is prepared to bear the additonal expenses connected with such a course. You can tell this to your collegues.

We consider a visit to Assam as an important gesture towards the Gossner congregations there. Therefore it would be nice, if it could take place. We are glad, that such a visit has been proposed from your end.

Now we hope that everything will go well, and that our visit will be accepted as a sign of good will.

Greetings to your wifena children,

yours sincerely,

Siegwart Kriebel

Siegwart Kriebel

p.s. thanks for the copy of the strong letter to a pastor who was lazy to report to you.

Gossner Mission
Handjerystraße 19/20
1000 Berlin 41 (Friedenau)

The
Rev. S. Barla
G.E.L.Church Compound
Ranchi 834001, Bihar
India

4.9.1978

Dear Brother Barla,

Thank you very much for your letters of 3.8.78 and 18.8.78, including a tentative programme for Rev. Peters and myself, and for the minutes of KSS Officers' Meeting on 12.7.78, re. Development Seminar etc.

We are very thankful to you for the preparation of the programme, and it will give us a good opportunity to meet many people. After some consideration we even think of a further event, and we would like to ask you whether you see a possibility to include something like that.

What we are thinking of is a pastors' refresher course in Ranchi immediately after our arrival and after your big meeting during the first days of November in Ranchi. Some of the pastors would already be in Ranchi anyway. And for us it would be a wonderful opportunity to meet so many pastors and to listen to their views in their discussions. Additionally we would not be strangers to them any more, when we then visit some of them in their congregations.

Of course, the programme would have to be shortenedd a bit. But this disadvantage would be met by the advantage of meeting even more pastors.

It would be very nice, if a short visit to Assam at the end of the tour could be arranged. We encourage you to try this.

After visiting Assam we would very much like to proceed to Kathmandu and then return to Germany. In Nepal we might spend a few days only.

In order to meet our additional wishes, we are prepared to extend the period of our journey from 3 to 4 weeks, so that we are with you in the Gossner Church for about three and a half weeks, and then about 3 days in Nepal.

Please, consider these proposals as not binding, but merely as proposals which can also be dropped if it is too difficult to arrange things accordingly. But we shall definitely return via Nepal, if we are welcome there.

We are very much looking forward to visit you.

Yours sincerely,

Siegwart Kriebel

Siegwart Kriebel

~~Kopie~~ (blind) an: Dr. Paul Singh, Ranchi

Gossner Mission
Handjerystraße 19/20
1000 Berlin 41 (Friedenau)

The
Rev. N. Ekka
G.E.L.Church
Main Road
Ranchi, 834001, Bihar
India

4.9.1978

Dear Brother,

Thank you very much for your letter of 3.8.78, which I found in my office recently after some weeks of absence. I have discussed it with Rev. Peters, and we discussed also a tentative programme sent by Rev. S. Barla.

The queation of such a programme was exactly the point, why I hoped, Dr. Singh could be of some help. Because it is quite clear, that a programme would have to be arranged jointly by G.EL.L. Church and by Northwestern G.E.L.Church, since it is meant to be a visit to all Gossner friends and Gossner Christians, and not only to one part of them. You may not know it, but Dr. Singh has always been fair towards both parties when he was here to attend Board meetings. Nvertheless, you may prefer to use other channels in order to make sure, that we meet Northwestern Gossner Christians as well.

We are sorry that obviously you misunderstood my letter of 22.6.78 in such a way, as if we intended to revive the discussions once more which took place within G.E.L.C. durung the last years. What I wanted to make clear, was just the opposite thing. Rev. Peters and I shall visit you in order to introduce to you the new Mission Director and in order to listen to you and to understand you better.

Concerning the proposed tentative programme Rev. Peters and I have made the suggestion to start our visit with a pastors' refresher course in order to meet as many pastors as possible and to listen to their discussions in order to understand them better. It would, of course, be wonderful, if such a course could include all Gossner pastors, since a refresher course is part of theological education and training, which is not necessarily organised by each and every church separately. But if a joint course should be impossible to organize at the moment, it may be possible to have two of them one after the other? What do you think about this?

I am very much looking forward to meet you again, after our short visit to Lohardaga with the group of friends in 1976.

Yours sincerely,

Siegwart Kriebel

Siegwart Kriebel

(blind) an: Dr. Paul Singh, Ranchi

Gossner Mission
Handjerystraße 19/20
1000 Berlin 41 (Friedenau)

June 22, 1978

To
Rev. S. Barla
GEL Church

Ranchi 834001, Bihar

India

To
Rev. N. Ekka
GEL Church
Ranchi 834001, Bihar

India

To
All Brothers and Sisters in the GEL Church

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

the Kuratorium of Gossner Mission has decided at the end of April, 1978, that the new Mission Director together with the Chairman of the Kuratorium shall visit the GEL Church in November, 1978. On that visit the Chairman shall introduce the new Director to all brothers and sisters in the GEL Church, and at the same time try to understand the situation in the GEL Church.

Unfortunately our Chairman, the retired Bishop Scharf, is not able to visit India at that time. He is very sad about this, and so are we. Therefore the Vice Chairman of our Kuratorium, Rev. Hans-Helmut Peters, will come to India together with me around 8th November, 1978, for about three weeks.

We are looking forward to this visit very much, and we do hope to meet as many friends as possible at all levels and of all parts of the GEL Church, in order to introduce ourselves and in order to share christian fellowship and to understand your situation.

Concerning our visit the latest letters from Rev.Barla dated 14.6.78 and 15.6.78, and from Rev. Ekka dated 27.4.78 and 12.6.78 do place us into a somewhat difficult position. We have the impression that the two main groups in the GEL Church have stopped to communicate with each other. This is sad news for us, since we still hope, that christians, even of the same denomination, the same history and the same christian and social experiences will be able to settle their disputes in an understanding, peaceful and loving way. We believe in this possibility even if separation is to take place.

You may have realised that the Gossner Mission deliberately did not interfere in your disputes during the last years, since we are sure that you are the only ones who can settle them. We want to assure you that also in future we do not intend to interfere. And this simply means that we are prepared to continue to practise christian fellowship and brotherly relations to all Gossner christians and to all Gossner congregations, be they seperated or not. But, of course, we still hope that seperation will not be your final word. Christians should never be seperated anywhere in the world.

Coming to our proposed visit in November, we hope to have the chance to meet leaders, councils, christians at all levels and in all groups of the church. And we trust, that the Indian member of our Kuratorium, Rev. Dr.C.K.P.Singh, will be of some help in preparing a programme for us.

Looking forward to meet you all,
yours in Christ,

Siegwart Kriebel

Siegwart Kriebel

cc: (blind) LSP i.R. Peters, Celle,
Rev.Dr.Singh, Ranchi

Gossner Mission

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Albert-Schweitzer-Straße 113/115
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30. 6. 1978
GM - Fr/Kl

Rev.
Dr. C.K. Paul Singh
GEL church

Ranchi / Bihar
Indien

Dear Dr. Singh!

Thank you very much for your letter of June 13th. I hope this letter will come to you with the Heckers. Just in case the German post does not work I send a copy to you by mail.

Well, this is realy bad that UMN can not acept the couple. If we would send the lady to New Delhi, knowing that she will not go to Nepal., I flar there will be 200 or more requests for scholarships quite soon. After talking to Siegwart Kriebel we both came to the resulution that we will wait for a next candidate or two who have a chance of going to Nepal. The offer of a scholarship for two nurses still stands. Sorry it can not be this one. I hope the lady will understand our reasons.

Please try to find one or two other nurses who are willing to serve in Nepal for about threee years. -

I suppose the monsoon has come here. It rains a lot and is terribly cold. We wonder if summer forgot to drop in in Germany. But never the less we try to survive, even laving to wear cardigans and sweaters all the time.

Please give my greetings to Mrs. Singh and to all friends.

Yours

D. Friederici

(Dorothea Friederici)

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Registered

July 3, 1978

Rev.Dr.C.K.Paul Singh
G.E.L. Church

Ranchi 834001 / Bihar

India

Dear Dr. Singh,
by letter of June 14th you informed us that Air India refused to pay for your nighthalt at Delhi. We immediatela contacted our touring office "Hapag-Lloyd-Reisebüro-G.m.b.H", Rheinstr. 11, D 1000 Berlin 41, and asked them to clarify the matter with the Air India office at Francfort.

I just had a telephone call from Hapag-Lloyd that Air India at Francfort is ready to pay for your nighthalt at Delhi. Please be kind enough to send the invoice of the hotel at Delhi by registered air mail to the following address: Assistant Manager Air India, Mr. Badami, Kaiserstr. 77, D 6000 Frankfurt/Main. In your letter to Mr. Badami please refer to Mr. Badami's promise given to Hapag-Lloyd, Berlin, to reimburse your costs, and note on which account the money should be transferred.

Hoping that the matter will be cleared sufficiently, I remain with many greetings from the Berlin staff - Herr Kriebel left on Saturday for Zambia and will return at the end of the month - to you and Mrs. Singh,

yours,

Ilse Schulz

secretary

BOARD OF EVANGELISM AND LITERATTURE

Ref. Memo.No. 52/78/BEL-2 Date 12-9-78.

Pastor S.Kriebel
Mission Director, Gossner Mission
Handjery sstr. 19/20
1000 Berlin - 41

Dear brother Kriebel,
Thank you very much for your kind letters and also copies of some letters written to the church leaders. As I was for the most time in past month in Serampore I could not reply you. On 9.9.78 I came back from Serampore and shall be staying now here attending my duties. So this is the first letter I am writing after coming back. Yesterday I was quite busy to sign some of the bills and talking to various persons with the problems.
I had a nice time in Serampore and it was a quite different experience with some international and interdenominational teachers with students almost from all parts of India. As pastor Kloss, who is now in Berlin is unable to come for Oct. - Dec. term the College wanted to retain me for that term also, but as I have already set programmes for here I shall not be able to stay there. Of course College would be very glad to retain me for more yeare . This I could not say, as at the present situation of our church I do not like to leave the church. Any how the matter is still open. According to the programme you are also expected to vigit Serampore on your way to Assam. The College is contacting different Missions for support. As we have plannedfor for you to vigit Assam but it will be necessary that you have to obtain permission to vigit Assam. Pastor Seeberg can tell something more about this. I would like to suggest that it will be good if you can first go direct to Calcutta and aply for the permission and from Calcutta come to Ranchi.
As per your advice we have agreed to conduct the Pastors Refresher Course from Nov.5 (arrival) to 7,1978. We have discussed the matter with the Pramukh Adhyaksh and it has been agreed upon that the invitation would go to all the pastors, including that of the "NWA-GELC".. But most probably they may not join us. As you have written to Rev. Ekka that you would like to have the Refresher Course with other pastor also, even separately. Of course they will be glad, and they may interpret it for their recognition by you (and the Gossner Mission) of their separate Church. At this point I am unable to suggest any thing. As you have almost indicated that you would help them in future also even of separated. For us the matter is rather difficult for Court-Case purpose. If they will actually separate themselves from Goss

we may not have any difficulty to corespond, sit and talk together, difficulty for us is that they are still crazy for GELC, they still attach themselves to GELC. They have prepared new constitution for themselves, but still now they do not dare to elect their officers on according to that new constitution, because they fear, with this action they may be totally out of GELC.

I hope when you will be here, you will get more clear picture. During Nov.19-25,78 I have a programme in Madras, this may require me from Nov. 16-28,78, and thus I may not be able to accompany you in your tour. Do you prefer that I should accompany you or you can manage with others also? I have a substitute also, who can go to Madras in my place, if you think that I have to accompany you in the tour programme. You may write either way after dicussing with pastor Seeberg. According to the programme you are to stay only for few days, what is your openion do you like to xstay in any hotel or in Lal Bungalow? It will be good if would express your wish so that arrangements could be made accordingly.

We are really thankful for your vigit and many are expecting that you will be able to settle the problems of our church. Though I have told the friends here that your vigit has different purpose.

Herewith I am sending our Half Yerly Report 1978 (Jan. - June) for your information and record. At this point I would like to add if the 3rd instalment of the Grant for Mission work has not yet been sent to our account , please instruct your office to do the same.

With many greetings to you all.

Yours Sincerely,

C.K.P.S.

(Dr.C.K.Paul Singh)
Director,BEL.

Enc!
As stated above .

31/7/78

BG2-2

GOSSNER MISSION

1 Berlin 41 (Friedenau)
Handjerystraße 19-20

Fernsprecher: (030) · 851 30 61 · 851 69 33
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Bankkonto: Berliner Bank, BLZ 100 200 00
Kto.-Nr. 0407480700

25. Juli 1978

Betrifft: Klausurtagung der Gossner Mission am 18./20.Januar 1979 in Mainz

Bezug: Unser Schreiben vom 9.März 1978

Liebe Schwestern und Brüder!

Ich komme heute auf mein Schreiben vom 9.März d.J. zurück, in dem ich Ihnen mitteilte, dass auf Grund eines Beschlusses des Kuratoriums der Gossner Mission eine Klausur-Tagung im Gossner-Haus in Mainz vom 17. bis 19.Januar 1979 stattfinden soll. Wir freuen uns sehr, dass wir bereits eine Reihe von Zusagen erhalten haben.

Inzwischen haben auch die Herren Professor Hollenweger, Birmingham, und Drewes von der AGKED, Stuttgart, zugesagt, die grundsätzlichen Einführungsreferate zu halten. Herr Professor Hollenweger bittet aber, wegen Terminschwierigkeiten die Klausurtagung um einen Tag zu verschieben, so dass ich Sie bitten muss, in Ihrem Termin-Kalender das neue Datum

18. - 20. Januar 1979

vorzumerken.

Wie im Schreiben vom 9.März d.J. angekündigt, wird Ihnen zu gegebener Zeit noch eine detaillierte Einladung zugehen.

Mit freundlichen Grüssen

I h r

Siegwart Kriebel

Siegwart Kriebel

31/7/78

B02-2

GOSSNER MISSION
BERLIN

1 Berlin 41
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0407480700

GEL Church
New Sitaramdara
Jamshedpur - 831 009
Bihar, India

26.7.1978

Dear brothers and sisters,

Thank you very much for your letter dated 7.7.78, concerning the planned dedication ceremony of your new church building. We are very glad to hear that after all you have now completed the building and we do hope that the preaching of the gospel in this church will be blessed and bear much fruit.

Thank you very much for your invitation to join the dedication ceremony. Pastor Peters and myself shall come to India for a visit around the 6th November this year. We have left it to the Pramukh Adhyaksh and to Dr.Singh to prepare a programme for us. It would be a great pleasure for us to be present when you open your church building officially. But on the other hand, if it should be difficult to prepare our programme accordingly, than we shall also be glad to visit Jamshedpur and see your new church at a different date.

Looking forward to meet you soon and greeting you with Yesu sahai

yours sincerely,

Siegwart Kriebel

Siegwart Kriebel

conpy to:
The Pramukh Adhyaksh, Ranchi
Dr.Paul Singh, Ranchi

BEL-2

GOSSNER MISSION
BERLIN

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0407480700

15.6.1978

Rev. Dr. C.K.Paul Singh
G.E.L.Church Compound
Ranchi, Bihar
India

Dear Brother,

Many thanks for your letter from Frankfurt Airport. We do hope that you arrived at home save and sound. Please convey our greetings to everyone in the GELChurch.

In the meantime I met Rev. Peters, and he is prepared to come to India together with me, in November this year, provided that he will be in good health at that time.

With regard to our programme in India, Rev. Peters has suggested a few points. He proposes that we should not miss the mission area to the West, and industrialised places like Jamshedpur, Rourkela, and the Bible School at Govindpur. But I am sure, that you would have planned a visit to those places anyway.

Rev. Peters and myself are both agreed that the purpose of our visit is not representation, neither do we want to represent any legal body in Germany, nor do we expect that you will arrange for official representative meetings, but rather for informal visits where we get to know each other. In this way we hope to encourage each other in the Christian witness for the Lord, to understand each other better, and perhaps to pave the way a bit for formal negotiations between the GELC and her German partners.

For your information I enclose a copy of a letter from Jan Jernaes.

With best regards
yours sincerely,

Siegwart Kriebel
Siegwart Kriebel

THE LUTHERAN WORLD FEDERATION
LUTHERISCHER WELTBUND - LUTHERSKA VÄRLDSFÖRBUNDET - FÉDÉRATION LUTHÉRIENNE MONDIALE

DEPARTMENT OF WORLD SERVICE

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICE

P. O. Box No. 66
Route de Ferney 150
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland
Telephone 33 34 00 Telex 289 200 LWS CH
Cable LUTHSERVE GENEVA

June 5, 1978

Gossner Mission
zu Hd. Pastor Kraebel
Handjerystrasse 19-20
D-1000 Berlin 41 (Friedenau)
G E R M A N Y

EINGEGANGEN
- 6. JUNI 1978
Erledigt .....

Dear Pastor Kraebel,

Following my return to Geneva, I would like to thank you, also on behalf of Dr. Olav Hodne, for your hospitality and very interesting and encouraging discussion we had together. That Dr. Sing of the Gossner Lutheran Church was able to be present at our meeting, was very encouraging and I would like to ask you to transmit to him our appreciation for his very valuable information about the different challenges and problems within his church, as well as the church's priorities in development work.

Certainly, as I also said during our meeting in your office, it is very important and encouraging to us to have this kind of meeting and thus be able to know each other better. Also, it was very interesting to have visited the head office of the Gossner Mission, of which Mission we have known for many years of its outstanding work done in Ranchi.

I would like to summarize a few points which were raised in our discussion. It was very sad to hear about the internal problems within the GELC. You informed that the Gossner Mission has been neutral towards the GELC internal problems and that the church should deal with them. In all dealings with the church you have only dealt with church officials and not individuals. However, if a new church is formed and registered, your mission still will be neutral and will deal equally with both churches. Certainly, also LWS concurs with this and will follow the same practice.

Concerning the Gossner College, I am sorry for the misunderstanding which had arisen but which was clarified during our meeting. Certainly we will wait for further action from the church and also keep you informed accordingly before proceeding further. Also, I am very happy that it was stressed that both the Gossner Mission and LWS in development work put highest priority in working on the grassroot level and helping the most poor people.

We certainly will continue to keep you informed about the LWS plans and our work together with the GELC. We are also very happy that you will provide your supporting churches with this information. Already now, please find enclosed our last annual report about our LWF work in India as well as our CDS booklet.

Again, we would like to thank you for the very positive discussion we had in your office. I would like also to welcome you to visit our offices, both in Ranchi and Calcutta during your next visit to India. Also, if you should be in Geneva or its neighbourhood, we certainly would be most pleased to see you here in our office.

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,

Jan Jernaes

Encls.

cc: Dr. Weissinger
Rev. Hahn
Dr. Laaser
Dr. Hodne

JJ:spt

BSL-2

Gossner Mission

Postscheck: Hannover 1083 05 – 308
Bank: Mainzer Volksbank (BkLZ 55 190000) Nr.7522014

65 Mainz am Rhein
Albert-Schweitzer-Straße 113/115
Telefon: 06131 - 2 04 93 / 2 45 16

14. Juni 1978
GM - Fr/Kl

Einschreiben

Rev.
Dr. C.K. Paul Singh
GEL Church

Ranchi / Bihar
Indien

Dear Dr. Singh!

I hope you arrived home safely and adjusted to the Indian climate by now. How did you manage with custams as you forgot your suitcase keys? I hope, all went well!

The week in Dortmund was a very good one. The Friday evening meeting was good and on Sunday the church was just as full as the Christ-church in Ranchi on Sunday morning. We had a good service.

Enclosed I send you one of the typical German forms. I do not know to whom to send it and so I thought either you or Mrs. Singh could kindly hand it on to the concerned person. Thank you! It would be nice if I could have the form back soon.

Please give my greetings to Mrs. Singh, the children and all friends. The sun is quite lot here now - almost like in India.

With "Jishu sahai"

I greet you,

Yours

D. Friederici

(Dorothea Friederici)

BE2-2

Gossner Mission
Handjerystraße 19/20
1000 Berlin 41 (Friedenau)

, May 24, 1978

- The Chairman -

To the
Pramukh Adhyaksh
G.E.L.Church
Rev. S. Barla

Ranchi 834001 / Bihar

India

To the
Adhyaksh of North West Anchal
G.E.L.Church
Rev. N. Ekka
at & P.O. Lohardagha, Dt.Ranchi/Bihar

India

Dear Brothers in Christ,

The Kuratorium of Gossner Mission is following the deliberations of the minutes and decisions of KSS meetings and other meetings in GEL Church with deep concern. This is especially so with regard to the minutes of some meetings which have taken place in Ranchi since January, 1978. At our Kuratorium meeting on 27./28.4.1978 in Mainz we studied and discussed all relevant information from GEL Church at length. We were particularly glad that Rev. Dr. Paul Singh was present and could inform us in detail about the actual situation in GEL Church.

We were very much relieved and full of new hope when we learned from the minutes of a meeting held on 16th January, 1978, in the presence of Mr. J.Lakra, that both sides in GELC had agreed "to continue our dialogue for a peaceful settlement in our church", and from other minutes of January, 1978, that your aim was to withdraw all pending court cases. From the minutes of the meetings under the chairmanship of two representatives of UELCI, held from 16th to 18th February, 1978, we learned that a definite effort was made to reach this goal. You may imagine how disappointed we were when it became clear from the same minutes and from the report of Rev.Dr.P.Singh, that those efforts have failed and no charges have been withdrawn.

We pray to God that HE may guide our thoughts and aims for strengthening our fellowship and that HE may show us the way how we should serve HIM in HIS church and witness for HIM amongst all people.

St.Paul urges the congregation in Corinth not to bring their quarrels and disputes to civil courts (1.Cor.6), and not to use force or threats against one another. Peace and communion in Christ are a gift of God which we should never throw away. Rather we can live only if we accept HIS grace and hold on to HIS gifts.

May we therefore once again encourage you to accept our brotherly advice and to aim at a"peaceful settlement" of the present crisis in GEL Church. We have the strong feeling that a peaceful settlement could be reached through mediation of the friends of UELCI. Therefore we encourage you to continue the negotiations under the chairmanship of representatives of UELCI.

With brotherly good wishes,
yours in Christ

tgff.

D.Kurt Scharf DD
Chairman

cc: (blind) Bischof Scharf, Berlin,
Dr.Singh, Ranchi

GOSSNER MISSION

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1000 Berlin 41 (Friedenau)

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25.4.1978

Herrn Dr. Singh

Sehr geehrter Herr Dr. Singh!

Beiliegend ein Schreiben von Frau Agnes Müller zu Ihrer Kenntnis.
Frau Müller spendet seit Oktober 1977 monatlich 100,-- DM. Diese Summe will sie bis März 79 zahlen, danach mtl. 50,-- DM. Die Spende hat sie für den Theologie-STudenten Simon Barla bestimmt.
Nach Rücksprache mit Herrn Pfarrer Seeberg soll die monatliche Spende für den Indien-Haushalt vereinnahmt werden und nicht an Herrn Barla gehen.
Herr Pfarrer Seeberg bittet darum, daß Sie oder Herr Barla der Frau Müller die Zahlung bestätigen.

Mit freundlichem Gruß

Hollmann

BER--2

November 29, 1977

Registered

To the
Pramukh Adhyaksh
GEL Church

Ranchi/Bihar

India

Dear Pramukh Adhyaksh,

this is to inform you that Gossner Mission has granted donations for church-buildings according to applications which came to us through your office.

The treasurer Gossner Mission has transferred to the account at the United Bank of India No. 1524

DM 25.000,-- = approx. Rps 83.750,--.

This amount has to be divided as follows:

1) DM 20.000,-- = approx. Rps 67.000,-- for GEL Church Jamshedpur special grant for church construction at New Sitaramdera;

2) DM 5.000,-- = approx. Rps 16.750,-- for GEL Church Sambalpur special grant for purchase of land (hoping the members of Mandly will also make some good contributions).

Gossner Mission requests the treasurer of GEL Church to transfer the amounts to the places which have been informed by copy of this letter.

Yours,faithfully,
Martin Seeberg
Martin Seeberg

cc: Dr.C.K.P.Singh, Ranchi
GEL Church Jamshedpur
GEL Church Sambalpur

B02-2

Dear Brother,

The Kuratorium of Gossner Mission at its meeting in Mainz at the end of April, 1978, has dicussed the relationship between the GELChurch and various partners in Germany at great length. The request of GELChurch for direct ecumenical partnership to three German churches has resulted in intensive considerations and discussions amongst the three churches concerned, other partner churches of GELChurch in Germany, and Gossner Mission. The Kuratorium meeting in April has shown that these discussions have not yet reached a stage where definite decisions could be taken.

But on the other hand we have the strong desire to be with you and to discuss with you all items of mutual interest. This is the desire of all your partners in Germany, including Gossner Mission.

Therefore the Kuratorium has decided that the new Mission Director should pay a personal visit to the GELChurch as soon as possible, in order to introduce himself to all of you, and possibly to pave the way for proper negotiations between Gossner Church and German partners. The Kuratorium also decided that the Mission Director should travel together with the Chairman of the Kuratorium. But unfortunately it is not yet sure that the Chairman will be able to come to India too. A number of reasons may hinder him, although he would very much like to visit the Gossner Church. But nevertheless, a member of the Kuratorium will visit you together with the Director.

Due to various circumstances the next possible date for the proposed visit is the middle of November, around 10th of November, for about three weeks. During that time we would like to see as many Church leaders and Church members as possible from KSS level right to congregation level, so that we may get an allround impression of the GELChurch and introduce ourselves to as many people as possible.

This is a proposal only and you are welcome to comment on it and to alter the proposal according to your convenience. We are looking forward to your answer.

Yours in Christ,

Siegwart Kriebel

copy to: Rev. Dr. Paul Singh

BEZ-2

Nur zum innerkirchlichen Dienstgebrauch!
ÖKUMENISCH-MISSIONARISCHES ZENTRUM 1017 Berlin, Mai 1977
Abt. II - Dienst für Katechetik Georgenkirchstr. 70

Liebe Mitarbeiter!

Herzlich willkommen zum "Tag der Begegnung". Zu Ihrer Info-rmation ein paar Hinweise zum Verlauf des Tages:

9.00-10.15 Uhr - Angebote: Führung durch die Ausstellung(9.05; 9.30; 9.55 Uhr; Skizze Nr. 11)
Singen (Skizze Nr. 1)
10.30-11.20 Uhr - Beginn (Skizze Nr. 1)
(Begrüßung der ökumenischen Gäste, Abgeben der Briefmarken, des Geldes u.a.)
11.20-11.40 Uhr - Pause (u. a. Gruppenwechsel!)
11.45-12.45 Uhr - Zusammensein mit Dr. Singh und der indischen Musikgruppe
Im Garten: Gruppen 6 - 10 (Skizze Nr. 1)
In der Bartholomäus-Kirche: Gruppen 1 - 5
(bis 13.00 Uhr: Skizze Nr. 2)
-14.15 Uhr - Mittagspause - Bockwurst (Skizze Nr. 5) und Getränke (Skizze Nr. 4)
Angebote: -Lichtbilder im Knaksaal (Nr. 12)
13.10-13.35: Zu Besuch bei einem Zauberpriester in Afrika
13.45-14.10: Zu Besuch bei Christen in Japan
-Basteln der Puppe "Miranti"(Skizze Nr.9)
-Sarilegen (Skizze Nr. 7)
-Gruppentänze (Skizze Nr. 6)
-Autogrammstände unserer Gäste (Skizze 8)
-Unterschrift unter den Brief an die Kinder in Indien (Skizze Nr. 3)
-Ausstellungsführungen (13.10;13.35; 14.00 Uhr - Skizze Nr. 11)
-Verkauf von Münzen (Skizze Nr. 10)

(Von 13.30-14.00 Uhr findet im Zimmer 59 (1.Etg.) durch Frau Kebelmann der Verkauf der "ökumenischen Weltkarte" mit Informationsheft (15,00 M) statt.)

14.15-14.30 Uhr - Singen im Garten (Skizze 1)
14.30-15.00 Uhr - Absch-luß im Garten, Ansprache, Dankesgabe, Gebet u. a. (Skizze 1)

Zur besonderen Beachtung:

1. Für alle wichtigen Anfragen bzw. Informationen stehen Ihnen unsere Ordner bzw. die Mitarbeiter in der Leitstelle (Skizze L) zur Verfügung.
2. Die Sanitätsstelle befindet sich im Gemeindeheim (Skizze S). Für die medizinische Betreuung stehen Frau Dr. Stiebel und die Schwestern Eva, Ulrike und Ursula bereit.

Einen erlebnisreichen, schönen Tag wünschen Ihnen und Ihren Kindern im Namen aller Mitarbeiter

Ihre

Elisabeth Stärke Günter Waßermann

Abz.-Nr. 0441

B82-3

GOSSNER MISSION
BERLIN

1 Berlin 41
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851 30 61
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January 16, 1978

Rev. Dr.C.K.Paul Singh
GEL Church

Ranchi/Bihar

Indien

Lieber Bruder Singh,

meine Kollegen haben eine dringende Bitte an Sie: für die nächste "Biene" brauchen wir von Ihnen einen Artikel (deutsch oder englisch) mit dem Thema 'Erfahrungen mit Nicht-Christen'. Inhaltlich können Sie das Thema abhandeln wie Sie wollen, auch in Form von Erzählungen. Nur: dass Sie die Sache möglichst bald tun, denn Ende Februar 1978 ist Redaktionsschluss.

Danke!

Herzliche Grüsse und viel Freude mit der deutschen Besuchergruppe!

I h r
Martin Seeberg
Martin Seeberg

BEZ-2

THE LUTHERAN WORLD FEDERATION

LUTHERISCHER WELTBUND - LUTHERSKA VÄRLDSFÖRBUNDET - FÉDÉRATION LUTHÉRIENNE MONDIALE

DEPARTMENT OF STUDIES

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Route de Ferney 150
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland
Telephone 33 34 00 Telex 23423 OIK CH
Cable LUTHERWORLD GENEVA

Circular Letter to:

29 August 1977

all LWF Member Churches
National Committees
Executive Committee
Lutheran Theological Seminaries,
Related faculties and institutes.

The purpose of this letter is twofold. First of all I want to thank you for your cooperation during my seven years of service as director of the Department of Studies in the LWF. For me it was a time of very important experiences. Some of them were not at all easy. Many of us realize more than ever before that discipleship of Jesus Christ leads into the struggle of the Kingdom of God with the powers of evil in one's own self, the church and the world. Where in the past seven years our department could of some service, I pray that it has been to God's glory and the benefit of His people.

At the same time I would like to ask you also to extend your cooperation to the department in the following period. Dr. Yoshiro Ishida will take over this office as of September 1st, 1977. The colleagues continuing in their responsibility for various project areas are:

Rev. Immonen - Scholarships
Dr. Lema - Christian Education and Self-Studies
Dr. Martensen - Ecumenical Affairs
Dr. Schaefer - Administration and Christian Education
Dr. Sitompul - Theological Education
Dr. Sovik - Encounter with Religions and Ideologies
Rev. Zabolai-Cseckme - Women in Church and Society

In 1978, replacements for the other areas will be made.

The second purpose of this letter is to announce to you that by separate mail, the following final reports and publications of the Department and Commission will be sent to you in addition to the Seven Years Report of the LWF, which you have received prior to the Assembly:

1. Additions to the Bibliography, which you have already received.
2. Ecclesiology Study: *The Identity of the Church and Its Service to the Whole Human Being*

   Final Volume I : Reports from 46 Member Churches
   Final Volume II: Summary, Analysis, Interpretation by a special team

./.

3. Anza Lema, *The Pedagogical and Theological Presuppositions of Education*, Geneva 1977.

4. *Theological Perspectives on Human Rights*
   Theologische Perspektiven der Menschenrechte Geneva 1977

5. David Millwood, *The Good Samaritans*. The Politics of Altruism in Voluntary Agencies (Summary of Dr. Jørgen Lissner's book *The Politics of Altruism*.

6. *The Politics of Church Aid*, Report on an LWF consultation on church agencies, fund-raising, education and advocacy, Geneva 1977.

7. *The Encounter of the Church with Movements of Social Change in Various Cultural Contexts*, Geneva 1977.

8. *Theological Reflection on the Encounter of the Church with Marxism in Various Cultural Contexts*, Report of a Workshop in Aarhus, Denmark, 1977.

The final reports of the Women's Desk, and full bibliography have been sent to you previously.)

Please note from the bibliography the following recent books recently issued by commercial publishers, which we unfortunately cannot send to you free of charge, but which you can order for special prices:

1. U. Duchrow (editor), *Zwei Reiche und Regimente*. Ideologie oder evangelische Orientierung? Internationale Fall- und Hintergrund Studien zur Theologie und Praxis lutherischer Kirchen im 20.jahrhundert, Gutersloh 1977 (DM 14,- or US$ 6.00).

   The same in English: *Lutheran Churches - Salt or Mirror of Society?* Theory and Practise of the Doctrine of the "Two Kingdoms", Geneva late 1977. (ca. US$ 5.00).

2. Cees Hamelink, *The Corporate Village*, The Role of Transnational Corporations in International Communication, IDOC Rome 1977 (US$ 6.95).

3. Jørgen Lissner, *The Politics of Altruism*. A study of the Political Behaviour of Voluntary Development Agencies, Geneva 1977 (US$ 4.00).

4. In the fall we expect the publication of Gerd Decke's Introduction and Workbook on *Christianity and Socialism/Marxism*.

For these books or any others of the bibliography, I am including an order form in case you or any department or agency in your church wishes to order copies.

Sincerely,

Ulrich Duchrow

Ulrich Duchrow

UD:mcg

Gossner Mission

Ecumenical Institute for Urban and Industrial Mission

Eglise et Société Industrielle, Centre Oecuménique

65 Mainz am Rhein
Albert-Schweitzer-Straße 113/115
Telefon: 06131 - 2 04 93 / 2 45 16

BEZ-2

Weihnachten 1976

Liebe Freunde!

Zum Weihnachtsfest grüssen wir Sie ganz herzlich. Und wir danken Ihnen für die vielfältigen Zeichen Ihrer Verbundenheit mit uns und unserer Arbeit.

Zunächst aus dem Kreis der Mitarbeiter einige Nachrichten: Nach 6 Jahren Hausmeisterdienst im Gossner-Zentrum Mainz und 15 Jahren Dienst im Jochen-Klepper-Haus musste Frau WINTER krankheitshalber vorzeitig in den Ruhestand gehen. Frau ERHARDT, die älteste Mitarbeiterin im Haus, wird uns im kommenden Frühjahr verlassen, nachdem wir im September ihr 20-jähriges Dienstjubiläum gefeiert haben. Alle, die die beiden in unserem Haus erlebt haben, wissen, was wir dadurch verlieren. Beide haben es immer wieder verstanden, die Atmosphäre zu schaffen, in der sich unsere Gäste wohlfühlen konnten. Ihnen auch an dieser Stelle unseren herzlichen Dank.

Für Frau Erhardt müssen wir noch eine Nachfolgerin suchen. Die Stelle von Frau Winter wurde von Frau HENDEK übernommen, einer Türkin, die mit ihrem Mann und ihrer 6-jährigen Tochter Ende Oktober bei uns eingezogen ist. Herr Hendek hat keine Arbeitserlaubnis in der BRD. Damit sind wir jetzt direkt konfrontiert mit der Lage der Ausländer in Deutschland, mit der Dritten in der Ersten Welt.

Erfahrungen als Vertreter der Ersten in der Dritten Welt konnte zu Beginn des Jahres ein Teammitglied machen: Herr GELLER nahm an einem Seminar des Weltkirchenrates teil, bei dem sich Industriepfarrer und Studienleiter aus 26 Ländern für 8 Wochen in Bangalore/Indien getroffen hatten, um gemeinsam über das Thema "Entwicklung" zu arbeiten. Dem Einblick in die wirtschaftliche und politische Abhängigkeit der "Entwicklungsländer" korrespondierte dabei die Einsicht, wie hilflos wir damit im Grunde auf die Probleme und Aufgaben reagieren.
Dazu der nachstehende Erfahrungsbericht.

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Am Jahresende werden wir zu selbstkritischem Rückblick auf die eigene Arbeit und ihre Grundlagen herausgefordert. Wie weit sind wir gekommen? Uns ist deutlich, dass wir wieder einmal, wie schon so oft in der Geschichte der Gossner Mission, über das Bestehende hinaus einen Schritt nach vorne machen müssen. Arbeit und Ausbildung, die Reflexion der weltweiten Zusammenhänge und die Praxis im eigenen Umfeld müssen einander entsprechen, wenn sie glaubhaft bleiben sollen. Das haben wir immer vertreten. Wir haben nun den Eindruck, dass wir uns nach einer ausserordentlich extensiven Phase unserer Arbeit in den letzten Jahren erneut darauf konzentrieren müssen, eine eigene Praxis im sozialen Konfliktfeld hier am Ort aufzubauen. Welche Konkretion das haben muss, sehen wir noch nicht sehr genau.

Aus diesem Grund nimmt Frau SPRINGE ein Studienhalbjahr wahr, um nach über 10-jährigem Engagement in Ruhe aus einer gewissen Distanz heraus an der Klärung mitarbeiten zu können. Herr MEY arbeitet für einige Monate im Betrieb, um in unmittelbarer Weise "Erfahrungen vom Fliessband" in die Reflexion des Teams einzubringen.

Wir hoffen, dass aus der Reflexion und aus der Praxis uns Antworten erwachsen werden auf die Fragen, vor die unsere Gesellschaft und unsere Kirche heute gestellt sind und wozu unser Beitrag erwartet wird. Wir hoffen aber auch auf den Fortgang des Dialogs mit Ihnen, darauf, dass Sie unsere Arbeit wie bisher in vielfältiger Weise mittragen.

Mit allen guten Wünschen für eine gesegnete Weihnachtszeit,
auch im Namen von Frau Springe und Herrn Mey,

Ihr

Wolfgang Geller
(Wolfgang Geller)

Ihr

Ernst Pohl
(Ernst Pohl)

Wolfgang Geller: Reise nach Indien

(13. Januar bis 5. April 1976)

Aus einem Bericht vor dem Kuratorium der Gossner Mission

Ich will versuchen, einige Beobachtungen zum Verhältnis der ersten zur dritten Welt zu geben und dabei bei meiner eigenen Rolle, der des Europäers in Indien anzuknüpfen. Das ist keine Expertise, sondern es sind Stichworte, mit denen ich andeuten möchte, in welcher Richtung wir gemeinsam weiterdenken sollten.

Erfahrungen mit "Indien": Man wird damit auch in elf Wochen nicht fertig,
- dass man ständig von Bettlern angegangen wird, die von den verschiedensten Krankheiten in einer Weise entstellt sind, wie man's hierzulande nicht täglich sieht;
- dass 40 %, das sind 250 Millionen Menschen unter der Armutsgrenze leben, d. h. glücklich sind, wenn sie eine Mahlzeit am Tag haben. Und sie sitzen vor den Türen der Restaurants und schauen zu, wie man da sitzt und isst;
- dass Mütter mit Säuglingen im Arm auf dem Pflaster vor dem Hotel schlafen;
- dass beim Rikscha einer vorne in der Hitze schwitzt, damit ein anderer es umso bequemer hat;
- dass Arbeitsintensivität im Dienstleistungsgewerbe eben auch heisst: Jeder Schritt, jeder selbstverständliche Handgriff wird einem abgenommen (und dies im Sinne des Geld-Abnehmens): Du sollst nicht zu Fuss gehen, damit ich, der Rikscha-Fahrer leben kann.

Selbst in der ausserordentlich grossen Gastfreundschaft zeigt sich noch der Abstand, den man als Weisser einnimmt, zeigt sich, dass man im Gegenüber von der relativ kleinen Gruppe Wohlhabender bis ausserordentlich Reicher und der grossen Masse ausserordentlich Armer zu den Reichen, den Privilegierten gehört: Allein die weisse Hautfarbe prädestiniert einen schon
- als potentiellen Bakschisch-Geber (für die "Berufsmässigen" wie für die Kinder, die's mal probieren)
- bzw. als potenten Käufer
- oder als Mann mit weltweiten Beziehungen (für den, der Indien verlassen möchte, und sei's auch nur zu einem kurzen Studienaufenthalt)
- oder als der Gebildete, der mehr weiss als man selbst, weil er aus der Kultur stammt, zu der man in seiner Schul- und Universitätserziehung Zugang suchte.

Als Ausländer begegnet man Erwartungen, auf die man sich nicht eingestellt hat, wird in Rollen gedrängt, die einem nicht angemessen zu sein scheinen. Wie verhält "man" sich?

Jeder entwickelt eigene Verarbeitungs- bzw. Verdrängungsmechanismen:

ICH übe christliche Barmherzigkeit dem Einzelnen gegenüber,
DU spielst den alles ignorierenden Herren,
ER wehrt sich mit Vorurteilen: die sind selbst an allem schuld...,
SIE isolieren sich in Superhotels, Reisebussen, teuren Geschäften und Privatstränden.

ICH fühle also Erbarmen in mir dieser missgestalteten Kreatur gegenüber und ich gebe dem, der sich mir in den Weg legt und die verkrüppelte Hand entgegenstreckt. (Lass mal schnell umrechnen: 2 DM, das ist ein ordentlicher Betrag in Deutschland, also 6 Rupies!)

Aber wenige Schritte später die gleiche Szene (Lass mal schnell überlegen: 6 Rupies sind in Indien ein guter Tagesverdienst. Und ich reduziere.)

Und beim Dritten fällt mir ein, dass der Kofferträger vorhin 1 Rupie bekam. (Also 1 Rupie!)

Und beim Vierten fällt mir die Kontraktarbeiterin einer Textilfabrik ein, die für einen harten 8-Stunden-Tag nur 1,75 Rupies bekommt (und ich reduziere erneut).

Und spätestens beim Fünften wird mir klar, dass ich nicht Pfennig-verteilend durch die Stadt gehen kann. Aber da warten noch Hunderte!

Und ich beschliesse jeden Tag einen bestimmten Geldbetrag an einen von ihnen zu vergeben und ich laufe fortan durch die Stadt und schaue sie mir an, ob sie würdig dafür sind. Wem kann ich eine Freude machen? Wem ein Stück weiterhelfen?
- dass er sich mal ordentlich satt essen kann,
- oder gar seine ganze Familie.
- Es gibt Leute in der Stadt, die haben 20 Rupies im Monat zum Leben. (Mit dem Betrag für ein Frühstück im besseren Hotel könnte ich ihm also den Monatsverdienst verdoppeln). Aber dann höre ich wieder, dass Bettler sehr oft in Banden organisiert sind, und das Geld ein Boss einstreicht, dem sie's abliefern müssen.

Also sehe ich mich nach anderen um. Doch die fragen nicht nach meinem Geld. Sei's drum: Einmal "Weihnachtsmann spielen". Glückliche Augen, ein dankbares Lächeln. Es kostet auch gar nicht viel. Man muss das nur mal umrechnen...

Ich sagte, es gibt verschiedene Weisen wie jeder diese Situation bearbeitet. Aber ich bin davon überzeugt: Was ich als ein mögliches Einzelbeispiel erzählte, gilt auch für das Verhalten unserer Gesellschaft, unserer Kirchen, der Missionsgesellschaften: Dass wir Geld haben, das ist unser Problem!

Ich habe mir vor meiner Reise nicht vorstellen können, was es heisst, dass ein Subkontinent Jahrhunderte lang systematisch ausgeplündert wurde, wirtschaftlich, aber auch geistig-kulturell: noch heute dient das indische Schulsystem weithin dem Ziel, eine Elite herauszudestillieren, die keine andere Befähigung hat als die, am westlichen Kulturgut orientiert zu sein. Und das gilt auch für breite kirchliche Kreise, vor allem die, die sich aus der Mittelschicht rekrutieren. "Braune Engländer" werden sie oft genannt. Die Männer ziehen - wenn sie Christ werden - statt des dhoti, des Hüfttuchs, Hosen an; die Frauen malen sich keinen Farbpunkt mehr auf die Stirn; statt mit den Fingern isst man nun mit Messer und Gabel, etc. Die Gotteshäuser und Gottesdienste sind weithin getreue Kopien westlicher Vorbilder (evtl. mit etwas unvermeidlicher Exotik: dass der Priester barfuss zelebriert, einen weissen Talar trägt, oder dass die Vögel in der Kirche nisten. Aber ansonsten fühlt man sich jeden Sonntag nach Europa zurückversetzt). Statt das Kastensystem zu überwinden, bilden die Kirchen so eine Kaste ausserhalb des Kastensystems, nicht in der Volkskultur verwurzelt, kosmopolitisch orientiert; und so tun sie sich schwer, ihren gesellschaftlichen Ort für die Entwicklungsaufgaben ihres Landes neu zu bestimmen.

Oft trifft man noch die alten Verhaltensmuster: Im personellen wie finanziellen Konfliktfall spielt man die "westliche Karte":

- in Süd-Indien konnte man sich nicht auf die Person des Bischofs einigen und wählte einen Weissen - aus Verlegenheit.
- Die methodistische Kirche Indiens - so hört man - hat sich dem Kirchenverband der Church of North India (CNI) nicht angeschlossen aus Furcht, dass dann die finanzielle Unterstützung gefährdet würde, die ihnen aus Amerika reichlich gewährt wird.

Die Versuchung ist riesengross, diesen Brüdern und Schwestern auf den Leim zu gehen. Es ist ja so schön und einfach zu helfen! Dazu einige Beispiele:

- Ich sprach mit einer Inderin, die übrigens auch die BRD kennt. Als Reisesekretärin der südindischen Frauenarbeit soll sie die einzelnen Gruppen besuchen. Auf ihre Anmeldung hin bekommt sie häufig Absagen. Es sei bereits ein Gast da, ein Europäer. Er bekommt stets den Vorzug, denn er bringt etwas mit, während sie von der Gruppe etwas möchte.

- Auf einem Kirchentag in Kerala traf ich ein Evangelisten-Team, das direkt aus Deutschland kam. Sechs Wochen lang wollten sie in verschiedenen Städten evangelisieren. Das war ein echter Kontrast zu unserer Gruppe, die für acht Wochen nach Indien gekommen war, um überhaupt einmal in den Blick zu bekommen, worum es hier geht. Ich habe mich noch nicht von meinem Schreck erholt, als ein indischer Pfarrer auf mich zukommt und fragt: "Bruder, wo kommst Du her? Aus Deutschland? Das ist gut. Hast Du Erfahrungen im Evangelisieren? Kannst Du vor so vielen Leuten reden?" Ich brauche mir nicht lange Gedanken zu machen, worauf das hinaus soll, denn er fährt fort: "Hättest Du nicht Lust, im nächsten Jahr zu kommen? Frag doch mal Deinen Bischof".-Er bezahlt Flugkarte und Gastgeschenk. Ein afrikanischer oder asiatischer kann das ja nicht. So überlegt man auch nicht, ob Vertreter von dort viel angemessener wären und fliegt weiterhin Europäer und Amerikaner ein.
- Ein drittes Beispiel aus einem Fischerei-Kooperativ. Ich sitze mit dem Vorstand zusammen, der fürchterlich auf den Dorfpfarrer schimpft: Er hilft uns nicht im geringsten; da müssen erst Pfarrer aus Europa kommen, damit überhaupt einer unsere Probleme mal zur Kenntnis nimmt. Natürlich schmeichelt das mir. Als ich später jedoch mit anderen rede merke ich, wie ich mitten in einen Gruppenkonflikt geraten bin und Partei nehmen sollte. Ein deutscher Priester, der im Jahr zuvor seinen Urlaub in der Nähe verbrachte, sammelte - wohl unter dem Eindruck der armseligen Verhältnisse - 40.000 DM, um eine Kindertagesstätte im Dorf zu bauen. Und da sie der Dorfgruppe, auf deren Gebiet sie steht, zum gesteigerten Prestige verhilft, ist sie wiederum heftig umstritten. Als ich mit der Sozialarbeiterin vorbeigehe, droht ein Vorrübergehender: Das Ding steht nicht mehr lange hier!

Mit diesen Beispielen wollte ich darauf hinweisen, wie schwierig für uns Europäer die Situation in einem solchen Land geworden ist. Und das gilt sicher nicht nur für Kurzbesucher. So fragt man sich in Bangalore, warum man immer noch weisse Professoren im theologischen College beschäftigt. Ihr Gehalt ist dreimal so hoch wie das der indischen Kollegen. Aber da es vom Ausland bezahlt wird, spart man Geld. Es könnten natürlich für das Geld auch drei indische Professoren angestellt werden. Es gibt genügend hochqualifizierte, die ohne Arbeit sind.

Kritische Frager dieser Art gibt es zunehmend. Ihnen gilt die Kirche als Brückenkopf westlicher Kultur, und sie hat ein tiefes Stigma aus ihrer Verbindung zu Europa und USA. Und dies umso mehr, je mehr Geld sie hat: ausländisches Geld! Missionary, ausländischer Missionar, das begegnet einem häufig als Schimpfwort, und es wird oft in Verbindung mit CIA gebracht. Auch von Christen hört man diese Kritik. Diese Christen sagen: Die Beziehung zu Europa/USA wurde von uns stets als Herrschaftsbeziehung erfahren. Und Europa wird niemals den Anspruch aufgeben im Mittelpunkt der Welt zu stehen. Ihr seid reich, wir arm. Ein deutscher Pfarrer verdient im Monat 9.000,-- Rupies - ein indischer 200,--. Und selbst der ist noch weit davon entfernt, sich - wie man in der Oekumene sagt - mit den Armen identifizieren zu können.

Keiner von Euch, der uns "helfen" will, wird Konsequenzen unterstützen, die gegen die Grundlagen des Wohlstandes in seinem eigenen Land gerichtet sind.

- Das zeigt sich z. B. - so sagen sie - an den heftigen Reaktionen zum Antirassismus-Programm. Denn hier verliert der Westen zum ersten Mal die Kontrolle über seine eigenen Mittel.
- Es zeigt sich ebenfalls in der Nairobi-Diskussion um den Dialog zwischen den Kirchen und anderen Religionen, wo die Haupteinwände aus Europa kamen, aus Ländern also, die zu 90 % christlich sind. Was es zum Beispiel heisst, mit - wie in Indien - 2,5 % christlichem Bevölkerungsanteil in einer Minderheitssituation zu leben, dazu fehlt die Einbildungskraft. Dennoch setzt sich ihr Standpunkt durch.
- Schliesslich zeige sich bei der Entwicklungshilfe der letzten 15 Jahre, wie unter der Formel "Partnerschaft" eine neue Form der Abhängigkeit geschaffen werde, die eine Selbstbefreiung zu verhindern trachte.

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Darum wird es uns nur helfen, sagen diese Christen, wenn wir uns auf uns selbst besinnen. Pointiert ausgedrückt: Der Tag muss kommen, wo man in Indien Scheren verteilt, um dann den Leuten auf der Strasse (also auch den entsprechenden Indern) die Schlipse vom Hals zu schneiden.

Hier sind wir mitten in der Moratoriums-Diskussion, und die wurde in unserem Seminar nicht nur von den Indern geführt. Wir denken und handeln immer noch ganz selbstverständlich so - meine ich nun -, dass das Verhältnis zwischen Indien z. B. und den europäischen Ländern und Kirchen das einer Einbahnstrasse finanzieller und personeller Abhängigkeit ist. Denn wer kommt auf umgekehrtem Weg? Ein paar Touristen, Reiseprediger, Austauschstudenten. Die nehmen wir gerne einmal auf. Aber das berührt alles nicht unsere Substanz. Dass die Kirchen der dritten Welt uns etwas zu bieten hätten, ohne dem die Existenz unserer Kirchen, unseres Christseins ernstlich gefährdet sein könnte: in dem Bewusstsein leben und handeln wir doch nicht! Warum also das grosse Unbehagen beim Wort Moratorium? Ist für unser westliches Christsein konstitutiv, dass wir immer noch Ärmere haben müssen, denen wir von unserem Überfluss abgeben können? Und nun merken wir, dass wir nur Geld und Personal haben, nur gelernt haben, die Stabilität der Kirche am Kirchensteuereinkommen abzulesen. Und andere exerzieren uns vor, dass man auch ohne dies als Christ leben kann, ja angemessener.

Dass wir Geld haben ist unser Problem. Einer der indischen Freunde forderte uns auf: Seht das doch endlich einmal als ein geistliches Problem! Bevor ihr nicht kommt und uns auf den Knien bittet das Geld anzunehmen, habt ihr nichts gelernt. Und ein Afrikaner sagte: Viel Geld für die dritte Welt, das durch die Kirchen in Europa gesammelt wird, kommt von armen Leuten. Sollen wir die Armen Europas ausbeuten?

Was die Christen und Kirchen in aller Welt, was die oekumenische Bewegung zusammenhalten wird, ist allein ihre geistliche Kraft, die in ihr Handeln eingebunden ist. Doch was sieht man da in Europa? Man bekommt häufig von Vertretern der dritten Welt zu hören: Ihr seid doch arm dran. Ihr habt alles im Überfluss, aber ihr wisst nicht, was ihr tun sollt. Sehr viele Seminarteilnehmer stimmten in folgendem überein: Wenn es wahr ist, dass in Asien, Süd-Amerika und Afrika ein tiefes Misstrauen gegenüber Europa besteht, dann geht es im Moratorium um die Frage: Wie bauen wir ein echtes Vertrauensverhältnis auf, wie eine neue Art und Weise gemeinsamer Verbindung. Es kann nicht der Sinn sein, unsere gemeinsame Bruderschaft zu bekämpfen, indem wir uns etwa Vorwürfe einhandeln "ihr seid nicht dankbar". Vielmehr ist das Moratorium ein Werkzeug, unsere eigenen Kirchen aus ihrer Selbstzufriedenheit und Faulheit zu treiben und eine Eigenständigkeit zu begründen. Das mag schmerzhaft sein. Und es mag schmerzhaft sein, als "Mutter-Kirche" da zusehen zu müssen. Aber sie muss akzeptieren, dass ihre "Kinder" ins Erwachsenenalter gekommen sind, wo sie eine eigenständige Existenz aufzubauen haben. Solange noch Geld aus Europa kommt - und es wird nicht ständig fliessen! - müssen wir es dazu benutzen, um auf eigenen Beinen zu stehen.

Das Treffen in Bangalore war kein Forum zur Diskussion über Richtlinien zur Vergabe von Missions- und Entwicklungsgeldern, sondern ein Seminar, um Botschafter auszubilden, die sich für einen tieferen Kontakt in der Oekumene einsetzen. Für mich ist eine beeindruckende oekumenische Erfahrung, dass nach allem was in der Vergangenheit passiert ist, die Kirchen der dritten Welt überhaupt noch mit uns in Kirchengemeinschaft verbunden sein wollen. Das dürfen wir nicht leichtfertig aufs Spiel setzen. Die Herausforderung an uns liegt meines Erachtens darin, uns stärker als bisher u n s e r e r spezifischen Bindungen und Abhängigkeiten bewusst zu werden und an unserer eigenen Befreiung zu arbeiten. Das wäre unser entscheidender Beitrag für die gemeinsame oekumenische Zukunft.

BEZ-2

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3. Januar 1978

Rev.Dr.C.K.Paul Singh
GEL Church

Ranchi/Bihar

Indien

Lieber Bruder Singh!

Herzliche und gute Wünsche für Sie und Ihre Mitarbeiter, dass das Jahr 1978 in der Gossnerkirche ein besseres werden möchte als das vorbeigegangene!

Elisabeth Pradhan, die im Sommer Purnapani verlassen hat, schrieb plötzlich aus Bombay. Sie sei krank gewesen und möchte gern nach Purnapani zurückkehren. Weder Schwester Ilse noch ich haben den Mut, ihr zu antworten, bevor wir wissen, was die Leute in Purnapani in dieser Angelegenheit denken und wünschen. Die Dispensary wird zur Zeit ja wohl geschlossen sein, und das ist sicher ein Ärgernis. Ob Elisabeth oder eine andere Schwester einen neuen Anfang macht, müssten die Verantwortlichen in Purnapani entscheiden. Bisher verantwortlich hat sich Mr.Hemrom gezeigt; jedoch ist dieser aus der Gemeinde ausgeschlossen worden. Wissen Sie jemand, mit dem Sie über dieses Problem sprechen können, - Pramukh Adhyaksh, Adhyaksh, Ilaka-Chairman?? Ob es in Purnapani ein arbeitsfähiges Dispensary-Committee gibt, möchte ich bezweifeln. Was ist also zu tun?

Viele Grüsse, auch an Ihre Frau, von

Ihrem

Martin Sachse

BEZ-2

MARTIN SEEBERG
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Im Dezember 1977

An die
Mitarbeiter(innen)
der Gossner Mission
in Übersee, in Mainz und in Berlin

sowie an die Freunde in der
Gossner Mission in der DDR

Liebe Freunde!

Mit diesem Brief verabschiede ich mich von Ihnen. Das ist für Sie nicht überraschend, weil ich bereits im März dieses Jahres - nach meiner Rückkehr aus Indien - den Vorsitzenden des Kuratoriums gebeten hatte, mich von meinem Amt zu entbinden. Diese Bitte hatte ich mit meinen Erfahrungen in Indien begründet. Ich bin davon überzeugt, dass unsere Hilfe und Einflussnahme in der indischen Gossnerkirche den dort notwendigen Prozess der Selbstverantwortung und des Wachstums erschwert, wenn nicht unmöglich macht. Ich habe vorgeschlagen, besonders die finanziellen Hilfen einzustellen, mindestens für einen vorläufigen Zeitraum. Dadurch erhoffe ich für die zerstrittene Gossnerkirche einen Freiraum für eigene Aktivitäten zu schaffen. Das würde für den Freundeskreis in Deutschland natürlich ebenfalls ein Umdenken erfordern. Die Gossner Mission hat 140 Jahre nach ihrer Gründung ihren Arbeitsschwerpunkt im eigenen Land zu suchen. Die spirituellen, politischen und wirtschaftlichen Erkenntnisse und Erfahrungen, die wir inzwischen empfangen haben durch unsere Beziehungen zu den Völkern der Dritten Welt, müssen wir unter uns und unseren Landsleuten anwenden. Erst dann kann es zu der so oft zitierten Partnerschaft kommen. In einem Satz: wir müssen uns zuerst ändern und nicht die anderen.

Um eine Neuorientierung der Gossner Mission zu erleichtern, will ich meinen Platz räumen. Das Kuratorium hat im April meinem Wunsch entsprochen und im Oktober Siegwart Kriebel als meinen Nachfolger gewählt. Am 31.12.1977 werde ich aus dem Dienst der Gossner Mission ausscheiden.

Begonnen habe ich ihn am 1.September 1962. Diese 15 Jahre haben mein Leben entscheidend geprägt. Ich habe so viele Freunde und Mitarbeiter aus vielen Ländern gefunden, dass ich über so viel Reichtum beschämt bin. Mit diesem Brief danke ich besonders Ihnen als den jetzigen Mitarbeitern für die Wegstrecke, die Sie mit mir gegangen sind. Ich hoffe, dass Sie eines Tages ebenfalls sagen können: Es hat sich gelohnt; es hat Freude gemacht. Ich habe immer gern und deutlich meine Meinung zum Ausdruck gebracht, aber nicht leidenschaftlich dafür gekämpft, meine Vorstellungen durchzusetzen. Vielleicht war das ein Fehler, den meine Freunde enttäuschend fanden. Aber ich glaube,

dass Gott seine Welt und seine Kirche - wenn auch auf Um- und Irrwegen - ans Ziel bringen wird; dieser Glaube gibt mir eine gewisse Gelassenheit. Manchmal werde ich sie auch vergessen haben und ich bitte Sie, meine lieben Mitarbeiter und Freunde, um Verzeihung, wenn ich Sie durch meinen Übereifer verletzt habe.

Natürlich gilt meine Liebe und meine Fürbitte weiterhin der Arbeit der Gossner Mission und allen Mitarbeitern. Ich werde versuchen, die Verbindung zu Ihnen aufrechtzuerhalten und bitte Sie auch darum.

Um meinen neuen Arbeitsplatz hat es in diesen Monaten einiges Hin und Her gegeben, das nicht immer erfreulich war. Ich hatte den Wunsch, ein Gemeindepfarramt zu übernehmen, und zwar in Berlin. Ab 1. Februar 1978 werde ich in der Kirchengemeinde Lichtenrade - ganz im Süden der Stadt - meinen neuen Dienst beginnen.

Ein Letztes, aber Wichtiges möchte ich Ihnen noch sagen: Übertragen Sie alles Wohlwollen, alle Freundlichkeit und Brüderlichkeit, die Sie mir erwiesen haben, ohne Zögern auf meinen Nachfolger Siegwart Kriebel, den ich in diesen Jahren als meinen Mitarbeiter so sehr schätzen gelernt habe. Seine Aufgabe ist nicht leicht, und deshalb braucht er Ihr Mitdenken und Ihr Mittragen. Darum bitte ich Sie.

Bleiben Sie Gott befohlen!

Mit herzlichen Grüssen und guten Wünschen für ein gesegnetes Jahr 1978 bin ich

I h r

Martin Seeberg

Martin Seeberg

Meine neue Anschrift ab 15.Dezember 1977:

Adolf-Scheidt-Platz 17,
1000 Berlin 42,

Telefon: 030 - 785 83 39

Gossner Mission
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xxxxxxxxxxxxxx

December 8, 1977

Registered

Drs. Walter and Anni Horo
GEL Church Hospital
P.O. Amgaon

Sambalpur/Orissa

India

Dear Horos,

this is just to confirm that the group of Gossner friends will be arriving in Amgaon on February 4th 1978 in the evening coming from Rourkela. They will stay in Amgaon till February 6th. We would appreciate very much if you could arrange a good programme for our friends. There will be 17 persons in the group and Sister Ilse Martin is the group leader.

Sending you my best wishes for a blessed Christmas and a happy new year, I am,

yours sincerely,

Dorothea H. Friederici

cc: Rev.Dr.C.K.Paul Singh, Ranchi

Gossner Mission
Handjerystraße 19/20
1000 Berlin 41 (Friedenau)

BEZ-2

851 30 61
xxxxxxxxxxxxx

Registered

December 8, 1977

To the
Pramukh Adhyaksh
GEL Church

Ranchi/Bihar

India

Dear friends,

this is just to confirm that the group of Gossner friends will be arriving in Ranchi on January 30th 1978 coming from Kathmandu. They will stay in Ranchi till February 4th and go by train to Rourkela and from there to Amgaon on the 4th. We would appreciate very much if you would arrange a good programme for our friends. There will be 17 persons in the group and Sister Ilse Martin is the group leader.

Sending you my best wishes for a blessed Christmas and a happy new year, I am,

yours sincerely,

D. Friederici

Dorothea H. Friederici

cc: Rev.Dr.C.K.Paul Singh, Ranchi

Many greetings to Mrs. Singh and the children.

Do.

BEL-2

Flensburg, d. 20.11.77

Lieber Herr Pastor Dr. Singh!

Heute möchte ich Ihnen mitteilen, daß meine Frau und ich Sie besuchen möchten. Die Indien-Reise ist festgesetzt auf 28.12.77 bis 20.1.78. Wir möchten gerne auch nach Randri u. Amgaon kommen und hoffen, daß es Ihnen paßt, daß wir gleich von New Delhi nach Randri fliegen. Wir würden also am 29.12. in Randri ankommen, am 30. bei Ihnen bleiben und möglichst auch mit Dr. Bage sprechen. Wenn es geht würden wir am 31.12. nach Amgaon fahren, wenn ein Auto zur Verfügung steht (auf unsere Kosten!). Den 1. Januar können wir in Amgaon verbringen und am 2. wieder zu Ihnen fahren. Am 3.1. würden wir nach Visakh. fliegen u. von dort nach Doliambo/Karaput Dt.. Ob diese Pläne sich mit Ihren Pflichten in Einklang bringen lassen? Wir würden uns sehr freuen, Sie besuchen zu können und auch Horos zu sehen. Bitte schreiben Sie uns sofort, wir werden die Reise hier bis Visakh. buchen.

Mit herzlichen Grüßen auch an Ihre liebe Familie

Ihr M. Johannsen

P.S. Wir haben leider nicht mehr Zeit!

alle 3 gummierten Klappen befeuchten und den Faltbrief zukleben!

2. Falz nach oben einschlagen

1. Falz nach oben einschlagen

41

LUFTPOSTLEICHTBRIEF
AEROGRAMME

Einschreiben
Recommandé

R 542 b
239 Flensburg 5

To
Rev. Dr. Paul Singh
G.E.L. Church
P.O. Ranchi / Bihar
Indien

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION
MIT LUFTPOST

Der Luftpostleichtbrief darf nach den Vorschriften des Weltpostvertrages keine Einlagen enthalten.
D'après les dispositions de la convention de l'Union postale universelle l'aérogramme ne doit contenir aucun objet.

Absender:
Exp.

Dr.med. Uwe Johannsen
239 FLENSBURG
Gorch-Fock-Weg 9 Tel. 0461/17000

W - Germany

Raum für weitere Mitteilungen

Raum für weitere Mitteilungen

B02-2

DS

den 19.11.77

Lieber Brüder! -

Dies ist nur eine sehr kleine Frage:
Luitgard und ich haben in diesen Wochen zweimal Bilder nach Chotanagpur geschickt, einmal nach Marcha, das andere Mal nach Umbulbaha. Törichterweise haben wir es unterlassen, die Sendung registered gehen zu lassen. Ob Sie gelegentlich erfahren können, ob die Sendungen eingetroffen sind? Es handelt sich um bunte Bilder von Dias, die vor vor 1o Jahren bei unserem Besuch gemacht haben. Wir dachten, es macht an beiden Stellen Freude, diese Bilder nach so langer Zeit zu sehen und vielleicht festzustellen, wie groß die Kinder jetzt sind usw. - Bei Verlust der Bilder würden wir dann noch einmal Kopien machen lassen. - Ganz kurze Na-chricht genügt.
Mit allen guten Wünschen für Sie und Ihre Familie und alle Freunde in Ranchi

Ihr
Albrecht

Ulrich SCHLOTTMANN
P.O.Box 2
SINAZEZE / via Choma
Zambia

BE2-2

Nkandabwe, im November 1977

10. Rundbrief

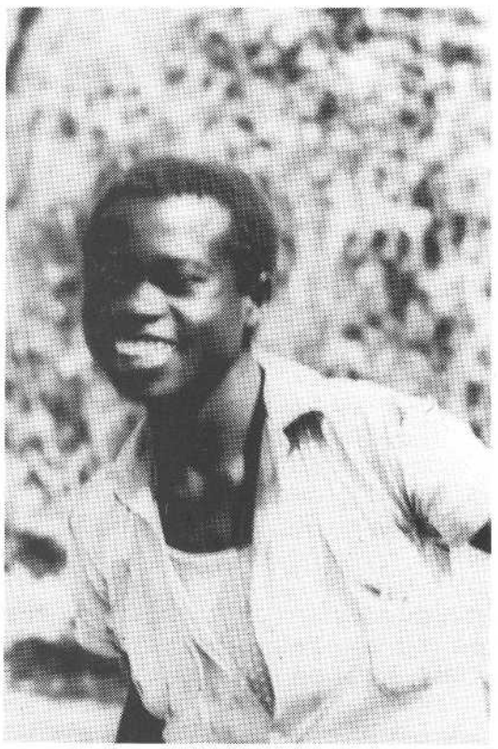
Im Oktober 1974 begann ich in Zambia meine Tätigkeit als Mitglied des Gossner Service Teams. Die heisseste Zeit des Jahres erlebe ich also zum dritten Mal. Über 40° C im Schatten zeigt das Thermometer in der Mittagszeit an. Da ich schon geraume Zeit keinen Rundbrief mehr verschickte und es nicht länger hinausschieben kann, muss ich ihn unter der Einwirkung dieser Hitze zu Papier bringen. Ursprünglich hatte ich die Absicht, von Zambia aus 12 Rundbriefe zu schreiben. In dem zusätzlichen Vertragsjahr, bis Oktober 1978, möchte ich jedoch durch persönliche Briefe den Kontakt zu Freunden und Bekannten aufrecht erhalten. Somit ist der vorliegende 10. Rundbrief zugleich der letzte.

Drei Jahre Mitarbeit in der Entwicklungsförderung gibt Anlass, einen kurzen Rückblick auf die Erfahrungen zu werfen, die wir hier im Kariba-Tal unter der Tonga-Bevölkerung machen konnten. Dabei steht sogleich der Eindruck, den ich vor drei Jahren bei der ersten Begegnung mit dem afrikanischen Kontinent hatte, im Vordergrund. Der Wechsel von Europa nach Afrika, mit vielen abenteuerlichen Erlebnissen und der Umstellung auf die völlig anderen Lebens- und Arbeitsbedingungen hat sich bei mir eingeprägt.

Die einfache und natürliche Lebensart der Tongas und die wichtige Bedeutung des Zusammenlebens in grossen Familiengemeinschaften haben mich beeindruckt. Diese Lebensweise, die in Europa mehr und mehr zerstört wird,dürfte für uns von besonderem Interesse sein.

Im November 1974 versuchten wir,den ersten Bohrbrunnen für die Grundschule unseres Wohngebietes herzustellen. Die Arbeiten waren trotz grosser Anfangsschwierigkeiten erfolgreich. Kinder und Lehrer, die das Trinkwasser bis dahin aus einem Fluss schöpfen mussten, konnten nun sauberes Wasser aus diesem Brunnen entnehmen. Dieses positive Erlebnis war dafür ausschlaggebend, dass dieses Bohrprogramm trotz vieler Hindernisse mit Nachdruck weitergeführt wurde. Sechs Zambianer, die zuvor kaum Umgang mit technischen Geräten und Maschinen hatten, führten die Arbeiten aus. Inzwischen wurden von uns 15 neue Wassergewinnungsstellen erschlossen.

Damals besuchte mich der seinerzeit elfjährige Schuljunge Maxon Mudenda. Er wollte in meinem Garten arbeiten, um sich dadurch etwas Taschengeld zu verdienen. Er hatte die Absicht, sich mit seinen Ersparnissen ein Kalb und später auch ein Fahrrad zu kaufen. Diese Ziele hat er erreicht, und er kommt auch heute noch regelmässig zu mir. Er besucht die letzte Klasse der Hauptschule und wird noch in diesem Jahr die Aufnahmeprüfung für die höhere



Schule ablegen. Sollte er sie bestehen, so wird er uns Anfang des nächsten Jahres verlassen. Dieser Abschied von ihm würde mir sehr schwer fallen. Maxon trug damals ein Amulett, das ihm umgehängt wurde, als er sehr krank war. Die Heilung der Krankheit führte er auf dieses Zaubermittel zurück, das er nun ständig tragen musste, anderenfalls befürchtete er, erneut krank zu werden. Ihm fehlte eine Hilfe, um sich von dieser falschen Abhängigkeit lösen zu können, und wir haben über das Problem der Gebundenheiten und der Zwänge, denen wir unterliegen können und über Glaubensfragen gesprochen. Es ist eine besondere Freude für mich, dass Maxon schon fast zwei Jahre kein Amulett mehr zu tragen braucht und von dieser Abhängigkeit, wie er mir sagte, frei ist.

Eine neue und für mich unerwartete Erfahrung musste ich hinsichtlich des Zusammenlebens und der Zusammenarbeit mit den übrigen Mitarbeitern der Gossner Mission in Zambia machen. Mir war vor meiner Abreise aus Deutschland bekannt, dass von mir die Mitarbeit innerhalb eines Teams erwartet wurde und ich habe auch meine Bereitschaft dazu bekundet. Der Teamgedanke als Idealform der Zusammenarbeit von Menschen mit verschiedenen Berufen ist nach meinen jetzigen Erfahrungen jedoch zugleich die schwierigste. Sie stellt an die einzelnen Mitarbeiter höchste Anforderungen, zumal erwiesen ist, dass nicht das Miteinander der europäischen "Expatriates" im Ausland, sondern das Gegeneinander der Normalfall ist. Die besonderen Lebensumstände mit dem oft ungünstigen Klima, die Meinungsverschiedenheiten über Entwicklungshilfe und deren Ansätze und die Tendenz vieler Mitarbeiter, um jeden Preis den eigenen Standpunkt durchsetzen zu wollen, sind einige Hauptursachen, die ein ungünstiges Arbeitsklima entstehen lassen. Die Teamarbeit bleibt deshalb eine Herausforderung. Sie fallen zu lassen, weil diese Form der Zusammenarbeit über kürzere oder längere Zeit nicht erreicht werden kann, würde m.E. Resignation und Rückschritt bedeuten.

Als wir von der ev. Arbeitsgemeinschaft "Dienste in Übersee" auf unsere Auslandstätigkeit vorbereitet wurden, wurde uns verdeutlicht, dass die Politik der staatlichen und kirchlichen Entwicklungshilfe in der ersten Dekade als falsch bezeichnet werden muss. Heute wird bereits festgestellt, dass auch in den darauffolgenden Jahren kein richtiger Ansatz gefunden wurde. Es muss befürchtet werden, dass dieser falsche Trend bestehen bleibt. Eine wesentliche Ursache hierfür ist m.E. die Tendenz, in den sog. unterentwickelten Ländern mit ausländischen Geldern Entwicklungen vorantreiben zu wollen. Dabei ist festzustellen, dass Eigeninteressen

der Geldgeber oder vielfach reine humanitäre Gesichtspunkte bei der Bewilligung eine ausschlaggebende Rolle spielen. In der Mehrzahl der Fälle jedoch stellt sich genau das Gegenteil von dem ein, was angestrebt wird: Nicht Förderung, sondern Verzögerung der Entwicklung wird erreicht. Darüber hinaus werden die eigenen Anstrengungen der Bevölkerung innerhalb der jeweiligen Entwicklungsländer unterdrückt. Die eigenen Anstrengungen sind es jedoch, die ein Land aus den gegenwärtigen Schwierigkeiten herausführen können. Ohne sie ist es nicht möglich, den Ansatzpunkt für eine langfristige Entwicklung zu finden. Es ist in der Tat ein Leichtes, mit ausländischem Geld und Personal verschiedene Entwicklungsprogramme durchzuführen. Ob sich jedoch bei dieser Art der Arbeit Erfolge im Sinne einer unabhängigen Weiterentwicklung tatsächlich einstellen, zeigt sich erst, wenn entweder die ausländischen Mitarbeiter aus den Projekten ausscheiden oder der fremde Geldstrom ausbleibt. Nur in Ausnahmefällen geht es ohne fremde Hilfe weiter vorwärts. Das ist eine der bitteren Erfahrungen, die Entwicklungshelfer in ihrer Arbeit machen. Auch das Gossner Service Team ist hierin eingeschlossen, da die Mehrzahl der Mitarbeiter sich bei der Erörterung des Arbeitsansatzes von humanitären Gesichtspunkten hat leiten lassen. Rationalisierung, Rentabilität und Produktivität sind Begriffe, die in vielen Programmen aus den verschiedensten Gründen vernachlässigt werden. Entwicklungshilfe ohne Berücksichtigung dieser Erfordernisse ist jedoch schlechthin unmöglich, es sei denn, man hätte sich auf die Durchführung unproduktiver Massnahmen geeinigt.

Ein weiteres Problem, das in Deutschland allgemein bekannt und viel diskutiert, jedoch in der Schärfe noch weitgehend unterschätzt wird, ist mir während meiner Tätigkeit in Zambia deutlicher ins Bewusstsein gekommen. Es handelt sich um den krassen Gegensatz zwischen dem Wohlstand der Industrieländer und der Armut der sog. Entwicklungsländer.

Wissenschaftler haben schon vor mehr als zehn Jahren nachgewiesen, dass unsere Welt einer schwer abzuschätzenden Katastrophe entgegeneilt. Die Veranlagung des Menschen, sich Besitz und Wohlstand weit über die Bedürfnisse hinaus zu erarbeiten und diese mit allen Mitteln festzuhalten, wird zu dieser möglichen Katastrophe führen. Man hat sich angewöhnt, bei der Entwicklungshilfe vom "Tropfen auf dem heissen Stein" zu sprechen. Niemand bestreitet, dass damit etwas Treffendes ausgedrückt wird. Jedoch ist nicht allein diese Tatsache erschreckend, sondern viel mehr die, dass das Umdenken der Menschen kaum erfolgt und in Bezug auf eine gerechtere Verteilung der irdischen Güter bereits schon als zu spät gilt. In dem 1971 erschienenen Buch Erhard Epplers mit dem Titel "Wenig Zeit für die Dritte Welt" heisst es: "Viele spüren, manche errechnen es, dass die Fortschreibung der Vergangenheit keine Zukunft mehr ergibt. Dies gilt nicht nur für die Entwicklungsländer, aber für sie besonders. Sie haben nur noch wenig Zeit. Wir sind vollauf mit uns selbst und unserer Gesellschaft beschäftigt. Wir haben wenig Zeit für jene fremde Welt, wo in wenigen Jahren mehr Kinder unter 15 Jahren leben

werden, als es in den Industrieländern Menschen gibt. Viele verdrängen das Thema, andere schwanken zwischen Angstvisionen, einige bieten Patentrezepte an."

Eine für mich wichtige Frage ist die Aufgabe von Christen bei dem Versuch, einen Beitrag zur Lösung dieses Problems zu leisten. Dabei ist zunächst nach den Gründen zu fragen, von denen Menschen sich bei ihrer Entscheidung, einige Jahre in Übersee zu arbeiten, leiten lassen. Idealismus, Abenteurerlust, finanzielle und sonstige persönliche Vorteile z.B. sind Gründe, die in irendeiner Form bei den Entscheidungen mehr oder weniger mitwirken.

Entscheidungen unter Berufung auf den christlichen Glauben jedoch müssen in Zweifel gestellt werden, wenn die vorgenannten Motive **ausschlaggebend sind.**

Es ist unumstritten, dass Jesus Christus auf der Seite der Menschen stand, die hungerten, weinten, keinen Erfolg, keine Macht und keine Bedeutung hatten. Das Sichklammern an Besitz und Reichtum, das Abhängigsein von Macht, Anerkennung und Erfolg waren ihm fremd. So wenig er jedoch das Betteln befürwortete, so wenig hat er auch den Reichen verurteilt. Ihm ging es zu allererst immer um den betroffenen Menschen, der der Hilfe bedurfte: um den Armen, der litt, und um den Reichen, dessen innere Freiheit durch den Reichtum bedroht war. Er sagte zu der Gruppe von Männern, die ständig bei ihm war: "Sammelt euch nicht Schätze hier auf der Erde, wo Motten oder Wurmfrass sie vernichten und wo Diebe einbrechen und stehlen! Sammelt euch vielmehr Schätze im Reiche Gottes, wo weder Motten noch Wurmfrass sie vernichten und wo keine Diebe einbrechen und stehlen! Ihr könnt nicht gleichzeitig Gott und dem irdischen Besitz dienen."

Diese Aussagen treffen auch das Gefälle zwischen dem Reichtum im Norden der Erdkugel und der Armut im Süden, wo für die meisten Menschen nicht einmal das Notwendigste zum Leben zur Verfügung steht. So wie bei Jesus Wort und Tat im Einklang standen, so haben auch die Menschen, die in seiner Nachfolge stehen, den Auftrag, Wort und Tat zur Deckung zu bringen. Christen wissen, dass sie keine Weltverbesserer sein können. Aber sie erkennen ihre Aufgabe, an der Lösung der unzähligen Probleme mitzuarbeiten. Sie wollen sich den Menschen nach besten Kräften zuwenden, die der Hilfe bedürfen. Sie nehmen damit einen Teil ihrer weit gespannten Verantwortung wahr. Es ist unverständlich, dass einige Leute die Mitarbeit in der Entwicklungsförderung hier ausklammern wollen.

Abschliessend möchte ich zum Ausdruck bringen, dass eine mehrjährige Tätigkeit in Übersee einen bedeutenden Abschnitt im Leben eines Menschen darstellt. Diese Zeit bringt viele neue Erfahrungen mit sich.

Ich hatte zuvor keinen Kontakt zu Menschen in Afrika, und meine falschen Vorstellungen von Land und Leuten wurden während dieser Zeit entscheidend korrigiert. Es ist etwas Besonderes, Freunde unter Menschen eines fernen Kontinents zu gewinnen, mit ihnen zusammenzuleben und zu arbeiten. Ich habe keinen Zweifel daran, dass mein Entschluss, in Übersee eine Zeitlang mitzuhelfen, richtig war.

Mit freundlichen Grüssen!

U. Schlottmann

Gossner Mission

Ecumenical Institute for Urban and Industrial Mission

Eglise et Société Industrielle, Centre Oecuménique

65 Mainz am Rhein

Albert-Schweitzer-Straße 113/115

Telefon: 06131 - 2 04 93 / 2 45 16

A02-2

15. August 1977

An den
Freundeskreis des
Arbeitszentrums Mainz

Liebe Freunde!

In den mehr als 10 Jahren meiner Arbeit in der Gossner Mission haben Sie so manchen Brief oder Bericht bekommen, der auch meine Unterschrift trug. Dies ist nun der letzte Brief, den ich Ihnen aus dem Arbeitszentrum der Gossner Mission in Mainz schreibe, denn ich habe zum 31. August dieses Jahres gekündigt. Die Begründung für diesen Schritt, den ich nur schweren Herzens getan habe, finden Sie in meinem Schreiben vom 21. April dieses Jahres an den Vorsitzenden des Kuratoriums, das ich beifüge.

Bis auf die letzten 15 Monate war die Arbeit in der Gossner Mission für mich eine grosse Freude. Wie ich sie mir für die Zukunft vorstelle, habe ich dem Beirat und Kuratorium im Dezember 1976 in einem Konzeptionspapier dargestellt. Das Kuratorium hat seine Leitlinien aufgegriffen und am 28./29. April 1977 beschlossen, die Arbeit in folgenden Gebieten fortzuführen:

1. Die Beteiligung an "Basisprojekten" in der Industriegesellschaft;
2. die Verbindung von UIM und URM (Urban-Industrial-Rural Mission);
3. die Vermittlung von UIRM in die EKD und BRD;
4. die gemeinsame Teilnahme der Arbeitszentren Mainz und Berlin an der Diskussion über Stellung und Auftrag von Missionsgesellschaften und regionalen Missionswerken heute.

Für diese Arbeit werden entsprechende Mitarbeiter gesucht. Den bisherigen (Pfarrer Geller, Pfarrer Mey, Dipl.-päd. Pohl) hat das Kuratorium in seiner Sitzung am 28./29. April 1977 die Kündigung zum Herbst dieses Jahres ausgesprochen.

Die Verwaltung des Arbeitszentrums Mainz hat Missionsdirektor Seeberg von Berlin aus übernommen. Am 31. Dezember dieses Jahres verlässt auch er die Gossner Mission auf eigenen Wunsch. So werden Sie bis zur Lösung der Mitarbeiterfragen nicht mit Einladungen zu Veranstaltungen und Seminaren rechnen können.

Rückblickend auf die 10 Jahre und 8 Monate meiner Tätigkeit habe ich zu danken

- den engsten Mitarbeitern im Haushalt Frau Erhardt, Frau Winter, Frau Schwaab (alle drei jetzt im Ruhestand) und Frau Pfeiffer; im Büro Frau Klein und Frau Höcke; Herrn Feldmeier in der Buchhaltung. Mit ihnen bin ich in sehr guter Zusammenarbeit und Freundschaft verbunden,
- Herrn und Frau Symanowski für ihre Vertrauensbeweise und Ratschläge, die sie mir bis zur Stunde gegeben haben,
- den Mitarbeitern des Weltkirchenrats, der Europäischen Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Kirche und Industrie, und all denen, die mich an ihren Wohn- oder Konferenzorten so freundlich in Europa, Afrika und Asien aufgenommen haben,

- 2 -

- den Mitgliedern des Beirats und des Kuratoriums, die mich gerade in den letzten Monaten gestützt haben,
- den Besuchern im Arbeitszentrum zunächst in Mainz-Kastel, dann in Mainz, den Teilnehmern an Seminaren und Veranstaltungen für ihre Anregungen und Kritik,
- und schliesslich Ihnen allen, denen ich persönlich nicht begegnet bin, von denen ich aber weiss, wie Sie die Arbeit der Gossner Mission mit Ihren Gaben und in der Fürbitte getragen haben.

Ich folge nun einem Ruf der Evangelischen Frauenarbeit der Evangelischen Kirche von Hessen und Nassau zur Mitarbeit im Leitungsteam. Dort besteht der Wunsch und die Möglichkeit, meine Erfahrungen aus der Arbeitswelt und aus der Oekumene einzubringen. Vielleicht werde ich dem einen oder anderen von Ihnen in dieser meiner neuen Tätigkeit begegnen. Darüber würde ich mich freuen.

Mit herzlichem Gruss bin ich

Ihre

Chr. Springe.

(Christa Springe)

(privat:
Am Gonsenheimer Spiess 6,
6500 Mainz,
Tel.: 06131 - 381233)

BEZ-2

GOSSNER MISSION

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1. August 1977

Liebe Freunde!

Vor kurzem kam der beigefügte erste Rundbrief von Elisabeth Hässler aus Zambia hier bei uns in Berlin an. Wie Sie leicht sehen können, ist dieser Brief am 2.1.1977 geschrieben worden und damit natürlich schon etwas überholt.

Da es aber noch immer der erste Bericht von Elisabeth Hässler ist, möchten wir ihn dennoch Ihnen allen zuschicken. Zur Vervollständigung des Bildes fügen wir Auszüge aus einem Brief vom 17.2.1977 an die Leitung der Gossner Mission bei.

Wenn ich Anfang September aus Zambia zurückkommen werde, habe ich hoffentlich neueste Nachrichten von Elisabeth Hässler im Gepäck.

Mit freundlichen Grüssen

I h r

Siegwart Kriebel

Anlage

Elisabeth Hässler
P.O. Box 4
Sinazeze via Choma
Zambia

Nkandabwe, den 2. Januar 1977

Liebe Freunde!

Eigentlich sollte Euch dieser Rundbrief noch zu Weihnachten erreichen und Euch gleichzeitig meine guten Wünsche für das neue Jahr übermitteln. Leider hat es aber dazu nicht mehr gereicht. So wünsche ich Euch also etwas verspätet noch alles Gute, und dass 1977 für uns alle ein gutes und segensreiches Jahr werden wird.

Ich muss ehrlich gestehen, dass ich in diesem Jahr ein wenig Angst vor Weihnachten hatte. War es doch das erste Mal, dass ich dieses Fest ohne meine Familie in einer völlig neuen Umgebung feiern sollte. An solchen Tagen ist man ja immer besonders anfällig für Heimweh.

Aber dann kam überhaupt keine Weihnachtsstimmung auf. Vielleicht lag es am Wetter - wir haben zur Zeit Temperaturen von etwa 40° C -, vielleicht auch am Fehlen von Reklame, Weihnachtsschmuck oder der allgemeinen Hektik, die bei uns schon so lange vor Weihnachten einsetzt. Sind wir etwa schon so abhängig von diesen äusseren Einflüssen, dass wir uns kaum noch auf den eigentlichen Sinn des Festes besinnen?

Inzwischen habe ich mich gut in Zambia eingelebt. Die ersten drei Wochen habe ich in Kabwe, im nördlichen Teil des Landes, verbracht, wo ich im berühmten "President Citizenship College" an einem Kurs über zambianisches Genossenschaftswesen teilnahm. Dieser Kurs war ein sehr guter Einstieg für mich. Ich war die einzige Weisse unter etwa 200 Teilnehmern, und als sich herumgesprochen hatte, dass ich erst seit ein paar Tagen in Zambia sei, waren alle rührend um mich besorgt. Ständig waren sie bestrebt, mich nicht allein zu lassen, damit mich ja kein Gefühl der Einsamkeit oder des Heimwehs überkommen sollte.

Seit Mitte Dezember bin ich nun im Gwembe-Tal, wo ich für die nächsten drei Jahre leben und arbeiten werde. Es liegt in der Südprovinz Zambias, an der Grenze zu Rhodesien. Wenn ich von Leuten aus Lusaka, der Hauptstadt, oder aus den nördlichen Provinzen gefragt werde, wo ich lebe, und sie die Antwort "im Gwembe-Tal" hören, so lautet der nächste Satz meistens: "Oh, but it is very hot and a little bit lost", was soviel heisst wie: das ist aber eine sehr heisse und abgelegene Gegend. Ja, es stimmt wirklich. Das Gwembe-Tal ist weit abgelegen und daher noch wenig entwickelt. Ausser einer Kohlengrube gibt es keinerlei Industrie, die Landwirtschaft ist die Existenzgrundlage der Menschen hier im Tal. Es führt nur eine einzige Teerstrasse durchs Tal, die meisten Dörfer sind nur über Schotterstrassen, die in der Regenzeit schlecht befahrbar sind, zu erreichen. Wir sind auch nicht an das Telefon- und Elektrizitätsnetz angeschlossen. Um einzukaufen, müssen wir 80 km weit fahren.

Auch die zweite Aussage stimmt. Das Gwembe-Tal ist eine der heissesten Gebiete Zambias. Besonders die Monate September, Oktober und November sind extrem heiss. Während dieser Zeit kühlt es auch nachts kaum ab. Im November setzt dann gewöhnlich die Regenzeit ein, die bis etwa Mai dauert. Als ich hier ankam, hatte man mir gesagt: "Sie haben Glück, die heisseste Zeit des Jahres ist vorbei. Durch die einsetzenden Regen kühlt es wenigstens ab und zu etwas ab. Man könnte die Zeit mit einem heissen Sommer in Deutschland vergleichen. Zwar hat auch die Regenzeit ihre kleinen Unannehmlichkeiten, etwa die feuchtklammen Betten, verschimmelte Schuhe, nicht zündende Streich-

hözer, Insekten in vielen Lebensmitteln und vor allem besonders viele Moskitos, die Überträger der Malaria. Aber wie bereits gesagt, es ist dann etwas kühler."Nun, dieses Jahr ist es leider etwas anders. Der ersehnte Regen ist ausgeblieben, wir hatten nur ein paar kleine örtliche Gewitterregen. Es ist seit November immer noch sehr heiss, wir haben manchmal tagelang Temperaturen über 40° C. Die Bauern können ihre Felder nicht pflügen, und der Mais, Hauptnahrungsmittel der Menschen hier, konnte noch nicht ausgesät werden. Wir werden dieses Jahr mit einer schweren Missernte und allen ihren schrecklichen Folgen zu rechnen haben.

Aber für alle Unbequemlichkeiten, die das Leben in so einem abgelegenen, relativ unterentwickelten und heissen Gebiet mit sich bringt, wird man hier durch viele andere Dinge wieder entschädigt. Vor allem die Freundlichkeit und Unvoreingenommenheit, mit der einem die Einheimischen begegnen, ist für mich jeden Tag ein neues glückliches Erlebnis. Es ist manchmal erstaunlich, dass diese Freundlichkeit und Liebenswürdigkeit nach allen schlechten Erfahrungen, die sie mit Weissen schon gemacht haben, immer noch vorhanden ist.

Das andere grosse Erlebnis ist die Schönheit der Landschaft. Kommt man von Lusaka her, so fällt die Hochebene in drei Stufen zum Zambesi-Tal ab.(Höhenunterschied etwa 800 m.) Während die Landschaft hier gebirgigen Charakter hat, ist sie dann im Uferbereich des Karibasees eben. Kommt man mit dem Wagen von Norden her, so sieht man in der Ferne den blauen Spiegel des Sees und dahinter die Berge von Rhodesien. Leider kann man nur an wenigen Stellen bis zum Ufer des Sees vordringen, da dieses Gebiet militärisches Sperrgebiet ist, in dem Armee-Einheiten und Freiheitskämpfer stationiert sind. (Die Mitte des Stausees bildet die Grenze zu Rhodesien). Wie schön muss es hier sein, wenn Rhodesien endlich befreit sein wird, die Grenze zu Zambia offen ist und der See wieder mit Booten befahren werden darf.

Zur Zeit wohne ich noch in einem Camp, in dem auch die meisten der anderen ausländischen Mitarbeiter wohnen, werde aber im Februar in ein Dorf ziehen. Ich glaube,dass es leichter ist, mit den Zambianern zu arbeiten, wenn man auch unter ihnen lebt. Ausserdem bin ich nicht hierher gekommen, um wieder mit Weissen zu leben.

Im Moment bin ich täglich mit den anderen Mitarbeitern des Projektes unterwegs, um deren Arbeit kennenzulernen und ein wenig mit der Umgebung vertraut zu werden. In den nächsten Tagen wird nun auch mein zambianischer Mitarbeiter, mit dem ich meine Arbeit ausführen soll,eintreffen. Über mein Arbeitsprogramm werde ich in einem der nächsten Rundbriefe ausführlich schreiben.

Im Februar wird eine Frau, die an der Universität in Lusaka im Institut für Linguistik einen Lehrstuhl hat, ins Tal kommen und mit mir einen Sprachkurs in Tonga, der einheimischen Sprache, machen. Dies ist nötig, weil die meisten der älteren Leute auf den Dörfern kein Englisch sprechen. Ausserdem freuen sich die Leute sehr, wenn man sich bemüht, ihre eigene Sprache zu lernen.

Ich habe mich inzwischen auch daran gewöhnt, dass es vieles, was für uns in Deutschland selbstverständlich ist, in Zambia nicht gibt. So kommt es immer wieder zu Versorgungsengpässen. Besonders Güter, die eingeführt werden müssen, sind immer wieder für längere Zeit nicht zu bekommen. Die schlechte wirtschaftliche Lage, besonders der Mangel an Devisen, hat die Regierung gezwungen, die Einfuhren drastisch zu drosseln. Man geht in Zambia nicht "dieses oder jenes einkaufen", sondern kauft, "was es gerade gibt". So kann es also passieren, dass man losfährt, um Butter und Salz zu kaufen, und dann mit 40 Rollen Toilettenpapier und 20 Stück Seife zurückkommt, weil es das jetzt gerade gegeben hat und erfahrungsgemäss in den nächsten paar Monaten nicht mehr geben wird.

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Da die Tongas kaum Brot essen (ihr Hauptnahrungsmittel ist ein Brei aus Maismehl), gibt es hier nirgends Brot zu kaufen, und jeder muss sein Brot selber backen. Mein erster Teig glich in etwa einer Schnellgipsmasse und das Endprodukt jenem "Ungesäuerten", das schon im Alten Testament erwähnt wird.

Am schwersten fällt uns Europäern aber wohl der Verzicht auf elektrisches Licht. Wie selbstverständlich greift man doch bei uns zum Lichtschalter. Auch ich greife jetzt noch manchmal danach. Hier stammt das Licht von einer Paraffin-Lampe oder von Kerzen. Vor allem das erfolgreiche "Anwerfen" der Paraffin-Lampe ist für mich jeden Abend wieder ein Erfolgserlebnis.

Damit möchte ich für heute schliessen. Ich brauche wohl nicht zu erwähnen, dass ich mich über jede Antwort auf diesen Brief sehr freuen würde. Auch Fragen werden gerne beantwortet. Ich werde im nächsten Brief dann ausführlich über die Gegend und die Bevölkerung des Tales schreiben.

Mit herzlichen Grüssen

Elisabeth Hässler

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Auszug aus einem Schreiben von Elisabeth Hässler an die Leitung der Gossner Mission vom 17. Februar 1977.

Nach Literaturstudium, Gesprächen mit vielen CUSA-Leuten und nach den beiden Kursen in Kabwe habe ich nun einen guten Einblick in die Arbeit von CUSA und der einzelnen Spargenossenschaften bekommen,und ich habe mich in ihr Buchhaltungssystem eingearbeitet und bin nun in der Lage, die Bücher zu prüfen und Kassierer auszubilden. Ich halte die Idee der Spargenossenschaften, wie sie in Zambia verstanden wird, für ausgezeichnet und glaube, dass diese Genossenschaften für eine Entwicklung im ländlichen Raum eine grosse Rolle spielen können. Ausserdem kostet eine solche Entwicklung das Land keinen Pfennig (und schafft auch keine Abhängigkeit von ausländischen Geldgebern), sondern ist lediglich eine Nutzbarmachung vorhandener Ressourcen. Was mir aber als der grösste Vorteil erscheint, ist die Tatsache, dass es sich wirklich um eine Entwicklung handelt, die von unten kommt und nicht von oben aufgezwungen wird. Wir stellen den Leuten die Idee der Spargenossenschaften vor, und wenn sie sie aufnehmen wollen, bekommen sie von den Beratern die nötige Unterweisung. Alle Aufgaben werden sofort von Mitgliedern der Co-op übernommen, einer wird in Kursen als Kassierer ausgebildet, sie entscheiden, wer Mitglied wird, wer ein Darlehen bekommt oder wer eine leitende Position in der Co-op übernehmen soll. Und was mir vor allem wichtig erscheint, sie entscheiden über das Tempo, in dem alles abläuft. Man hat hier viel aus den Fehlern der Vergangenheit gelernt. Die Zeiten, in denen sich jede Gruppe, die gerade Lust verspürte, als Co-op registrieren lassen konnte und dann auch prompt ein grosses Darlehen von der Regierung bekam, sind nun vorbei. Heute wird verlangt, dass jeder Registrierung eine mindestens achtmonatige "Lern-Periode" vorausgeht, in der die Mitglieder und ganz speziell die sogenannte "Gründer-Gruppe" (die später meist den "Vorstand" stellt) unterrichtet wird.

Vielleicht ist es jetzt an der Zeit, etwas über meine Beziehungen zu CUSA und über deren in mich gesetzte Erwartungen zu berichten. Ich muss sagen, dass ich den Eindruck, den Sie mir von Mr. Halubobya gegeben haben, voll bestätigt finde. Er setzt sich wirklich voll für seine Arbeit ein, er hat sehr viel Erfahrung und es macht mir Spass, mit ihm zusammenzuarbeiten. Ich kann auf der einen Seite sehr selbständig arbeiten, und so meine eigenen Ideen verwirklichen, auf der anderen Seite wird er mir aber mit Rat und Tat zur Seite stehen. Auf jeden Fall kann ich von einer Zusammenarbeit mit ihm nur profitieren (Lerneffekt). Beim letzten Kurs, der zugleich auch ein Workshop für den gesamten CUSA-Staff war (Evaluierung der Arbeit vom letzten Jahr, Programm für 1977), wurde ich zum Schriftführer gewählt und habe mit Halubobya die ganzen Resolutionen ausgearbeitet. Das klingt jetzt so ein bisschen nach Eigenlob, aber es hat mich doch sehr glücklich gemacht, dass er mit mir und dem, was ich bis jetzt gezeigt habe, zufrieden ist, ist doch wohl jeder ein wenig ängstlich und unsicher in einer solchen Situation.

Meine Aufgabe sehen wir nun darin, dass ich hier im Gwembetal versuchen soll, zwei bis drei Spargenossenschaften zu gründen. Den ersten Versuch werde ich mit den Bauern in Siatwinda und um Kanchindu starten, zumal diese in diesem "Farmers Committee" schon organisiert sind. Ausserdem hat eine Gruppe von Fischern aus Sinazongwe bei CUSA angefragt, ob sie nicht mal jemanden schicken könnten, der ihnen etwas über Spargenossenschaften erzählen könnte. Vielleicht wird das eine andere Zielgruppe werden. Ausserdem würde ich gerne noch mit den Arbeitern der Maamba-Mine arbeiten. Ich habe jetzt schon mehrfach gehört, dass sich dort einige wohlhabendere Leute einen ganz schönen Gewinn erwirtschaften, indem sie zu unglaublichen Zinsen Geld verleihen. Dies dürfte auch nicht so schwierig sein, da die Arbeiter eine homogene Gruppe darstellen und in der Gewerkschaft, die die Sache der Spargenossenschaften sehr unterstützt, auch schon organisiert sind. Und auch der Manager der Mine scheint sehr interessiert zu sein.

Am schwierigsten wird schon die Arbeit mit den Bauern werden. Sie haben kein geregeltes Einkommen und sind erfahrungsgemäss auch die Gruppe, die Neuerungen am wenigstens aufgeschlossen gegenübersteht (mit ihnen ist auch meistens schon genügend Unsinn getrieben worden, und sie gehen auch das grösste Risiko ein, wenn etwas schief geht, da sie ja kein Nebeneinkommen haben), aber diese Aufgabe reizt mich auch am meisten.

Auf das Programm mit den Bauern legt auch Halubobya besonders grossen Wert. Ich soll als Berater für Spargenossenschaften und später, wenn Darlehen ausgegeben werden, auch als Berater für die Bauern arbeiten. Das ist besonders schön für mich, da ich dann meine landwirtschaftlichen Kenntnisse doch noch einsetzen kann. Im Moment gibt es nur wenige Spargenossenschaften, die hauptsächlich von Bauern organisiert werden. Der Hauptgrund dafür ist der Mangel an Personal, das auch Kenntnisse in landwirtschaftlicher Produktionstechnik hat. Eine Mustergenossenschaft mit Bauern ist in Chikuni von einem irischen Pater gegründet worden. Ich werde nächste Woche hinfahren und mir alles mal ansehen. Und in Choma konnte CUSA einen zambianischen Bauern als Berater für Bauern-Spargenossenschaften gewinnen. Er ist Tonga, alle hier im Tal kennen ihn, hat zwei grosse Farmen (mit Produktionsergebnissen, die manchen deutschen Bauern vor Neid erblassen lassen würden) und ist sehr erfahren und hilfsbereit. Wir haben uns in Kabwe auf dem Kurs kennengelernt und sind inzwischen richtige gute Freunde geworden, und ich habe schon viele nette Stunden in seiner Familie zugebracht. Wir wollen auch gemeinsame Seminare in unserem Gebiet abhalten, und er wird bei meinem ersten grossen Meeting als Dolmetscher fungieren.

Ich finde meine Aufgabe inzwischen so interessant und glaube, dass es mir bestimmt Spass machen wird.

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Neben meiner Arbeit für die Spargenossenschaften möchte ich gerne mit jungen Leuten um Kanchindu eine Art Jugendklub starten. Die Jugendlichen hier auf den Dörfern tun mir sehr leid. Sie haben keinerlei Möglichkeit, ihre wenige Freizeit nett zu gestalten und bekommen auch keine Anregung von aussen. Diese Arbeit würde mir grosse Freude machen, und ich wäre auch bereit, einen Teil meiner Freizeit dafür zu geben. Ich dachte an verschiedene Arten von Unterhaltung (Sport, Tanz,Film), aber auch an Sachen wie einen Garten (im Bewässerungsprojekt sind noch genügend Felder frei), Haltung von Kleintieren (Geflügel, Kaninchen) oder an die Herstellung von Sachen, die verkauft werden könnten (Handarbeiten, Kuchen, Marmelade usw.).

Ich habe schon mit Pater Walsh und Schwester Alice, die als Sozialarbeiterin wirkt, gesprochen, und beide meinten, dass es sehr sinnvoll wäre.

Sie sind sicher daran interessiert zu hören, wie die Sache mit meinem Counterpart ausgegangen ist. Nun, Halubobya hat mir den jungen Mann, an den er gedacht hatte, vorgestellt, aber schon nach einem kurzen Gespräch war mir klar, dass das wohl nicht der richtige Mann für unser Programm ist. Er beklagte sich in einem fort über die "Buschsituation", das mangelnde Freizeitangebot, die fehlende Elektrizität usw. (er hatte vorher im Copperbelt gelebt). Er hat sich dann schliesslich dazu herabgelassen, etwa zwei Jahre hier zu leben, um etwas Geld zu sparen, wie er sich ausdrückte. Aber das war ja nicht der Sinn der Sache, es sollte doch jemand kommen, der länger hier bleibt, und ich möchte auch nicht die ganze Zeit mit jemandem zusammenarbeiten, der sich dauernd beklagt. Wir sind nun so verblieben, dass Halubobya weiter nach einem geeigneten Mann sucht, dass ich mich aber ebenfalls umsehe, ob wir vielleicht hier in der Gegend einen jungen Mann finden, den man ausbilden könnte.

BEL-2

THE LUTHERAN WORLD FEDERATION

LUTHERISCHER WELTBUND - LUTHERSKA VÄRLDSFÖRBUNDET - FÉDÉRATION LUTHÉRIENNE MONDIALE

DEPARTMENT OF STUDIES

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September 1977

Dear Friends,

The Executive Committee of the LWF has decided that the enclosed document should be brought to your attention as self-standing study material. It was used as a basis for discussion and action on ecumenical issues during the VIth Assembly of the Federation in Dar es Salaam. The minutes of the actions of the Assembly relating to ecumenical relations are included.

More copies are available if you have need for them.

With kind regards,

D. F. Martensen

Daniel F. Martensen
Secretary for Interconfessional Research

encl.

DFM:ab

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AEZ-2

Einschreiben

21. Juli 1977
psbg/sz

Rev. Dr.C.K.Paul Singh
GEL Church

Ranchi/Bihar

Indien

Lieber Herr Dr.Singh!

Hoffentlich sind Sie und Ihre liebe Frau wohlbehalten wieder in Ranchi eingetroffen und empfinden es in der Heimat als nicht zu warm. Wir danken Ihrer Frau und Ihnen sehr herzlich für Ihren Besuch, der uns sehr erfreut hat. Ich sage dies auch im Namen meiner Mitarbeiter, bei denen Sie wahrscheinlich gespürt haben, wie herzlich willkommen Sie beide bei uns waren.

Zu Gesprächen über Einzelfragen der Gossnerkirche sind wir kaum gekommen, aber vielleicht haben Sie nach Rückkehr einige neue Nachrichten vorgefunden, die Sie uns bei Gelegenheit einmal mitteilen.

Eigentlicher Anlass dieses Briefes sind die Formulare für die Lady Reading Health School in Neu Delhi. Wir hatten Ihnen bereits mündlich gesagt, dass die Gossner Mission bereit ist, drei indischen Mädchen aus der Gossnerkirche ein Stipendium zu geben für diese zusätzliche Ausbildung in Neu Delhi. Wir hoffen dabei - ohne uns oder die Mädchen im voraus zu verpflichten - dass die Krankenschwestern nach Abschluss der Ausbildung für einen Dienst in unserem Auftrag in Nepal eingesetzt werden können.

Die Auswahl und Entsendung der drei Stipendiaten nach Neu Delhi möchten wir Ihnen überlassen. Alle anfallenden Kosten werden von der Gossner Mission übernommen.

Mit herzlichen Grüssen

I h r

Martin Seeberg
(nach Diktat verreist)
i.A. Ilse Schulz
Sekretärin

Anlage

Abschrift

BEL-2

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21. April 1977

An den
Vorsitzenden des
Kuratoriums der Gossner Mission
Herrn Bischof D. Kurt Scharf
per Adresse:
Handjerystr. 19-20

1000 Berlin 41

Sehr verehrter Herr Bischof!

Die Arbeitsbedingungen im Arbeitszentrum Mainz seit dem Kuratoriumsbeschluss vom Januar 1977 machen mir eine weitere Mitarbeit unmöglich. Hiermit kündige ich mein Arbeitsverhältnis mit der Gossner Mission zum 31. August 1977.

10 Jahre habe ich mit Freude für die Gossner Mission gearbeitet. Es hat für mich viel bedeutet und mich bereichert, von dem Erbe Gossners und von "Mainz-Kastel" zu lernen. Gerade in diese Arbeit wollte und konnte ich meine Erfahrungen und Kenntnisse einbringen um ihr auch zu helfen, sich weiter zu entwickeln. In diesen vergangenen 10 Jahren wurde die Gossner Mission geprägt von der in Mainz-Kastel begonnenen Basis-Arbeit in der Industrie, die weiter ausgebaut werden konnte zur Urban Industrial Mission nun auch im Bereich der städtischen Ballungsgebiete. Es gelang, eine stärkere Beziehung zu den Gemeinden herzustellen. Eine neue partnerschaftliche Zusammenarbeit mit den Kirchen in Afrika und Asien begann, und die Zusammenarbeit mit der Abteilung für Weltmission und Evangelisation im Oekumenischen Rat der Kirchen in Genf wurde intensiviert. Ich durfte den Zusammenschluss der Industriemissionen in Europa mit gründen und leiten und dieses wurde immer als ein Beitrag der Gossner Mission anerkannt.

Ich bin auch dankbar für das volle Vertrauen, das mir das Kuratorium bis zum Januar 1977 entgegenbrachte. Davon getragen und durch die gute Zusammenarbeit mit Herrn Symanowski in so vielen Jahren ermutigt, versuchte ich ab 1975 ein junges Team aufzubauen,in dem ich die Vielfalt der persönlichen Anlagen und Gaben als einen Reichtum für unseren gemeinsamen Dienst bejahte und bewusst förderte. Meine Kollegen führten aber eine im politischen Raum entwickelte Konfliktstrategie im Team und im Mitarbeiterkreis ein. Diese liess für eine gemeinsame geistliche Basis, für Alternativen und eine sich ergänzende Arbeitsteilung keinen Raum mehr im Arbeitszentrum Mainz. Das Kuratorium unterstützte diese Konfliktstrategie mit seiner Entscheidung gegen die Leiterin des Arbeitszentrums, die abweicht von dem Beschluss des Beirats vom 14. Januar 1977. Damit wird das Erbe von Horst Symanowski zerstört.

Es ist für die langjährigen Mitarbeiter des Arbeitszentrums und für viele Freunde der Mainz-Kasteler-Arbeit bestürzend, dass nach einer 27-jährigen Arbeit, in der das Kuratorium nicht ein Mal mit einem Konflikt in Mainz

belastet wurde, das Kuratorium keinen anderen Weg sah, als beim ersten Konflikt und in einer kurzen Sitzung zu einer Radikallösung zu greifen. Auch ich bedaure das sehr, weil ich mich der Gossner Mission und der Mainzer Arbeit sehr tief verbunden fühle. Ich hätte meinen Dienst noch gern der Gossner Mission weiterhin zur Verfügung gestellt, kann das aber unter den jetzt vorgegebenen Bedingungen nicht mehr verantworten.

Mit freundlichen Grüssen

Ihre

gez. Christa Springe