

NEWS



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Bulletin of the International Federation of Resistance (FIR) – Association of Anti-Fascists

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Successful protest against European racist meeting in Cologne

On 20 September 2008 more than 40.000 people, among them members of the federations of the FIR, demonstrated against a planned European-wide meeting of racist and neo-fascist parties and groups in Cologne. On invitation of „pro Cologne “representatives of the Vlaams Belang (Belgium), the Freiheitliche Partei of Austria, the Front National (France), the Lega Nord (Italy) and the British national party tried to announce their racist agitation public. Against this provocation a very broad alliance were formed from trade unions, churches, social organizations and political parties in Cologne, which opposed resistance to this meeting successfully with various action forms. On the prelude demonstration at the foot of Cologne cathedral spoke in front of several 10,000 demonstrators the mayors of the city Cologne, a representative of the catholic church, a colleague of DGB and the FIR. The speech of president Michel Vanderborght, which was prevented for health reasons, was read out by Secretary-General Dr. Ulrich Schneider under large applause of the demonstrators. (The wording of the speech is to find under www.fir.at)



The flags of FIR could be seen on the crowded place of the manifestation,
Picture from Express, Cologne

Executive committee of FIR met in Berlin

In the middle of May 2008 met the executive committee of the FIR to its regular meeting in Berlin. In the centre of the consultation together with representatives of Institut des Vétérans, which had organized the Belgian course of the memory, was located an evaluation of the international youth meeting in Buchenwald April 2008. The participation from delegations approximately 20 countries, a broad press and television reporting as well as clear content wise messages - carried of the thought of anti-fascism - determined the impression of this meeting. The participation of politicians from Belgium and Germany underlined the meaning of the meeting.

In the evaluation however not only successes were seen, to self-critical went it also around weak points of the organization, the absence of some delegations and possibilities for the improvement of the internal vote. In an evaluation of the cashier also the financial aspects of the meeting were lit up. However by the FIR and its member federations means at a value of scarcely 30,000 € were applied for the realization of this meeting. The executive committee thanked expressly the Institut des Vétérans, its co-workers and the Belgian authorities for their large commitment for this meeting. Altogether the feedbacks showed from participation and member federations that the reputation of the FIR grew by this action. Besides this the meeting proved the aliveness of the FIR and their close solidarity with the today's generations.

In the further consultation two political activities stood in the year 2008 on the agenda. In September right-wing populists (pro Co-

logne, FPÖ, Vlaams Belang, front national and others) plan in Cologne a European meeting 2008 as „a congress against Islamising“. Against this right-wing marching-up calls the FIR together with a broad anti-fascist alliance in the city its member federations in Belgium, France, the Netherlands, Luxembourg and Germany to a demonstration „for anti-fascist Europe“.

As the second political emphasis the conditions of the preparation of the annual conference in the middle of October 2008 in Berlin under the slogan „60 years general declaration of the human rights of the United Nations and tasks of anti-fascism“ were discussed today “(see invitation).

Naturally also organizational problems were treated. Seriously one spoke about the financial situation of the organization and one decided to remind defaulting member federations of the payment of the contribution for 2008. To the conclusion of the consultation the Webmaster of the organization presented the Internet sites of the FIR (www.fir.at). We can register a continuous rise of the accesses to these Internet sites. Unfortunately the sides are differently current in the different languages (German, English, and French). This is above all a problem of the translation. In addition the member federations use not very often the possibility of the linking of their own Internet appearance with the FIR side. Here we have still some possibilities of the improvement.

U. Schneider

Michel Vanderborcht guest at a conference of the URAP to historical revisionism

On invitation of the „union of the anti-fascist resistance fighters of Portugal “(URAP) the president of the FIR Michel Vanderborcht as well as other representatives of veteran and resistance organizations took part at a conference to the topic: „Democracies experience of rehabilitation of fascism“. The conference took place on June 21-22 in Setubal (Portugal) and was organized

by the parliamentary group GUE/NGL in the European parliament.

The conference adopted a declaration against historical revisionism and all attempts „of the white washing“ of fascism in different European countries.

In the context of the conference also the project for the setting up to an anti-fascist memory place in Portugal was presented.

Declaration of FIR for the decision of European Court of Justice for human rights in the case Wassili Kononow

With large satisfaction the international federation of the resistance fighters - FIR – association of anti-fascists, the umbrella organisation of federations of former resistance fighters, partisans, members of the anti-Hitler coalition, pursued of the Nazi-regime and anti-fascist of today's generations out over twenty countries of Europe and Israel took knowledge to the judgement of the European Court of Justice in the case of the Latvian partisan Wassili Kononow at the end of July 2008.

Its condemnation in the year 2004 in Riga because of alleged war crimes 1944 was waived and awarded to him a compensation for suffered injustice. The judges waived thereby a judgement, which tried to criminalize over 55 years after end of World war II the liberation struggle of Latvian partisans at the side of the Soviet army. At the same time there are efforts in Latvia to rehabilitate the SS-volunteers as „fighters for the freedom of Latvia “and to glorify them.

The FIR does not only see an individual case decision in this judgement. It is a clear signal to all European states that the liberation struggle of the peoples against the fascist barbarism may not be denied and criminal-

ize. This is a correct decision, which becomes fair the meaning of the anti-fascist resistance for of peaceful Europe.



Wassili Kononow with his companions at the memorial for Latvian partisans in Draudzibas Kurgans.

The FIR congratulates Wassili Kononow and the Union of the Latvian partisan brigades and expects from the government of Latvia that it realises immediately the moral rehabilitation and in the court decision specified material compensation for partisans.

Jewish partisans ones are defamed in Lithuania as "terrorists" and "murderers"

Accompanied of appropriate hate-speeches in the media, the Lithuanian judicial authorities determine at present against Jewish resistance fighters, who fought the fascist occupation. The reproach: Crime at Lithuanians. Yitzhak Arad and Rachel Margolis living in Israel as well as Fania Brantsovsky and Sara Ginaite living in Vilnius are directly concerned. All Jews, who cooperated with communist partisans, are meant. Beginning of the yearly did not open the right-conservative supra-regional daily paper "Lietuvos Aidas" the campaign with the rhetorical question "why brings nobody Fania Brantsovsky to court?" Brantsovsky had attached itself 1943 to the "combined partisan organization" (FPO); today she works in the Jewish museum Vilnius. The sheet ac-

cuses her, she should have killed together with" Soviet terrorists "in January 1944 the inhabitants of the village Kaniukai. The accuse based of the memoirs of the former Partisan Margolis and the paper demands themselves to load Margolis as witness. Numerous media demand an accusation also against Yitzhak Arad, which as a young person in the Markov - brigade had fought (pseudonym" Tolya ") and from 1972 to 1993 he was director of the Holocaust memorial place Yad Vashem in Jerusalem. Arad writes in his books concerning attacks on Lithuanian collaboration units. Its opponents conclude razor-sharp, he murdered Lithuanians. The law took up the campaign against the Nazi opponents defamed as "murderers" and "terrorists". Brantsovsky

was requested to state as a witness against its comrades too. In May this year appeared the police several times at the second home of Rachel Margolis in Vilnius, around it "asks". Because Margolis lives however in Israel, the police expenditure asked the directress of the Jewish museum, Rachel Konstanian, instead of Margolis. Arad has still no official notification, knows however from Lithuanian sources that "anti-soviet groups" have indicated him and the authorities want him to hear. That he said to the newspaper Jewish Chronicle. After JW - information one determines also against the resistance fighter Sara Ginaite.

The crude anti-Semitic adjustment of "Lietuvos Aidas" is obvious: The campaign began just on January 27, the anniversary of the liberation of the extermination camp Auschwitz. In all seriousness the sheet explains, the "final solution" has been invented by the "100-Prozent-Juden" "Adolf Eichmann; also the Nazi heads Heydrich, Himmler, Bormann were Jews. Stalin, likewise standing under Jewish - Zionist influence, helped.

Completely it is faded out the fact that Lithuania was a centre of the Nazi collaboration. The "load witness" Margolis really reports on Kaniukai - on the attack on a "Nazi garrison". In the version of "Lietuvos Aidas" certainly concerned it simple farmers, who would have organized a "self-defence" against the "plundering by red terrorists" - that is rather exactly the linguistic usage of the Nazi period.

The fact that the law determines nevertheless witnesses from the anticommunist climate in Lithuania: Who wanted to survive as a Jew, could only in the common fight with communists and/or Red Army soldiers. The accused ones are frightened by the reproaches and reject the co-operation to the justice farce. In the "Jerusalem Post" of May 28 Arad said: "They want to write again history". The murderers of the Jews are to be explained as heroes of Lithuania and the few survivors as criminal ones. Brantsovsky stands to its participation in the resistance: "It was a question of the honour." She does not intend to emigrate from Lithuania. "I fought once, I can fight again."

Frank Brendle, Junge Welt, 2.7.2008

Obituary Guy Ducoloné **March 14, 1920 – August 25, 2008**

With deep mourning we must report the death of Guy Ducoloné, former French resistance fighter and prisoner of CC Buchenwald. He died at the age of 88 years in Paris.

Guy Ducoloné was as a communist member of the "front national pour l'indépendance de la France" and took part in the fight of the Resistance. To his tasks belonged political clearing-up work and sabotage against the fascist occupation army.

Arrested in May 1942 it was deported 1944 in the CC Buchenwald, where he participated under the direction of Marcel Paul in the illegal military organization in the self liberation of the camp.

1945 Guy Ducoloné were initial member of the FNDIRP and the Association française Buchenwald - Dora et commands. From 1964 to 1988 he was as a delegate for the communist party of France in parliaments and several years vice-president of the national assembly.

1994 he was appointed as „knight of the legion d'honneur" and 2006 the signs of a commander

„l'Ordre national de Mérite" were handed over to him.

Our deep sympathy is valid for its family and the French comrades of the FNDIRP.

Michel Vanderborght
President

Dr. Ulrich Schneider
Secretary-General





From cause of the 60th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of the human rights we publish the resolution from December 1948 in the wording. Thus becomes clear for everyone, which really constitutes the core of the human right debate. It concerns not alone liberty of opinion, but the guarantee of comprehensive social and political freedoms, which are to guarantee appropriate living conditions for all humans. It concerns peace, right to work, dwelling and education, as well as to freedoms, which make the personal development possible of each individual in the society. All these are goals and demands, for which the anti-fascist liberation struggle of the peoples entered.

Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Preamble

Whereas recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world,
Whereas disregard and contempt for human rights have resulted in barbarous acts which have outraged the conscience of mankind, and the advent of a world in which human beings shall enjoy freedom of speech and belief and freedom from fear and want has been proclaimed as the highest aspiration of the common people,
Whereas it is essential, if man is not to be compelled to have recourse, as a last resort, to rebellion against tyranny and oppression, that human rights should be protected by the rule of law,
Whereas it is essential to promote the development of friendly relations between nations,
Whereas the peoples of the United Nations have in the Charter reaffirmed their faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women and have determined to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom,
Whereas Member States have pledged themselves to achieve, in cooperation with the United Nations, the promotion of universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms,
Whereas a common understanding of these rights and freedoms is of the greatest importance for the full realization of this pledge,
Now, therefore,
The General Assembly,
Proclaims this Universal Declaration of Human Rights as a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations, to the end that every individual and every organ of society, keeping this Declaration constantly in mind, shall strive by teaching and education to promote respect for these rights and freedoms and by progressive measures, national and international, to secure their universal and effective recognition and observance, both among the peoples of Member States themselves and among the peoples of territories under their jurisdiction.

Article 1

All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.

Article 2

Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.

Furthermore, no distinction shall be made on the basis of the political, jurisdictional or international status of the country or territory to which a person belongs, whether it be independent, trust, non-self-governing or under any other limitation of sovereignty.

Article 3

Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person.

Article 4

No one shall be held in slavery or servitude; slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms.

Article 5

No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

Article 6

Everyone has the right to recognition everywhere as a person before the law.

Article 7

All are equal before the law and are entitled without any discrimination to equal protection of the law. All are entitled to equal protection against any discrimination in violation of this Declaration and against any incitement to such discrimination.

Article 8

Everyone has the right to an effective remedy by the competent national tribunals for acts violating the fundamental rights granted him by the constitution or by law.

Article 9

No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile.

Article 10

Everyone is entitled in full equality to a fair and public hearing by an independent and impartial tribunal, in the determination of his rights and obligations and of any criminal charge against him.

Article 11

1. Everyone charged with a penal offence has the right to be presumed innocent until proved guilty according to law in a public trial at which he has had all the guarantees necessary for his defence.
2. No one shall be held guilty of any penal offence on account of any act or omission which did not constitute a penal offence, under national or international law, at the time when it was committed. Nor shall a heavier penalty be imposed than the one that was applicable at the time the penal offence was committed.

Article 12

No one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence, nor to attacks upon his honour and reputation. Everyone has the right to the protection of the law against such interference or attacks.

Article 13

1. Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each State.
2. Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country.

Article 14

1. Everyone has the right to seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution.

2. This right may not be invoked in the case of prosecutions genuinely arising from non-political crimes or from acts contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations.

Article 15

1. Everyone has the right to a nationality.
2. No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his nationality nor denied the right to change his nationality.

Article 16

1. Men and women of full age, without any limitation due to race, nationality or religion, have the right to marry and to found a family. They are entitled to equal rights as to marriage, during marriage and at its dissolution.
2. Marriage shall be entered into only with the free and full consent of the intending spouses.
3. The family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society and is entitled to protection by society and the State.

Article 17

1. Everyone has the right to own property alone as well as in association with others.
2. No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his property.

Article 18

Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance.

Article 19

Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.

Article 20

1. Everyone has the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association.
2. No one may be compelled to belong to an association.

Article 21

1. Everyone has the right to take part in the government of his country, directly or through freely chosen representatives.
2. Everyone has the right to equal access to public service in his country.
3. The will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government; this will shall be expressed in periodic and genuine elections which shall be by universal and equal suffrage and shall be held by secret vote or by equivalent free voting procedures.

Article 22

Everyone, as a member of society, has the right to social security and is entitled to realization, through national effort and international co-operation and in accordance with the organization and resources of each State, of the economic, social and cultural rights indispensable for his dignity and the free development of his personality.

Article 23

1. Everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favourable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment.
2. Everyone, without any discrimination, has the right to equal pay for equal work.

3. Everyone who works has the right to just and favourable remuneration ensuring for himself and his family an existence worthy of human dignity, and supplemented, if necessary, by other means of social protection.
4. Everyone has the right to form and to join trade unions for the protection of his interests.

Article 24

Everyone has the right to rest and leisure, including reasonable limitation of working hours and periodic holidays with pay.

Article 25

1. Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control.
2. Motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care and assistance. All children, whether born in or out of wedlock, shall enjoy the same social protection.

Article 26

1. Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free, at least in the elementary and fundamental stages. Elementary education shall be compulsory. Technical and professional education shall be made generally available and higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit.
2. Education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. It shall promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations, racial or religious groups, and shall further the activities of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace.
3. Parents have a prior right to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children.

Article 27

1. Everyone has the right freely to participate in the cultural life of the community, to enjoy the arts and to share in scientific advancement and its benefits.
2. Everyone has the right to the protection of the moral and material interests resulting from any scientific, literary or artistic production of which he is the author.

Article 28

Everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration can be fully realized.

Article 29

1. Everyone has duties to the community in which alone the free and full development of his personality is possible.
2. In the exercise of his rights and freedoms, everyone shall be subject only to such limitations as are determined by law solely for the purpose of securing due recognition and respect for the rights and freedoms of others and of meeting the just requirements of morality, public order and the general welfare in a democratic society.
3. These rights and freedoms may in no case be exercised contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations.

Article 30

Nothing in this Declaration may be interpreted as implying for any State, group or person any right to engage in any activity or to perform any act aimed at the destruction of any of the rights and freedoms set forth herein.

Declaration of FIR about the judgement of the Italian Court of Justice to nazi-forced - labourers

The International federation of the Resistance fighters (FIR) – Association of anti-fascists, the international umbrella organization of federation of former resistance fighters, partisans, deported and interned and victims of the fascist crimes and anti-fascists of today's generations welcomed expressly the recent decision of the highest Italian of Court of Justice over the legal standard of the claims for damages of Nazi-forced labourers.

The German Federal Government, which aimed at this process, must recognize now that exclusion of Greek and Italian Nazi- victims from the compensation is illegitimate. At the same time the court secured the material legal claim of the pursued ones by judicial mortgages on German facilities.

This judgement is not only a moral victory for all pursued ones of the Nazi regime, it creates also for all involved right clarity. Nazi crimes - and in addition also belongs the forced labour of deported and prisoners of war - must be avenged. The forced labourer compensation foundation „memory - responsibility - future “must take up

now their work for the compensation of these groups of victims again.

The FIR thanks all involved ones, in particular the anti-fascist federations and initiatives to the historical and legal processing of the crimes in Italy and Greece, which argued in the past years with large persistence and commitment for the moral and legal acknowledgment of the victims of fascism.

FIR congratulates the federations of the survivors and her descendants, their political and legal representatives to this success. Now the FIR expects a brisk conversion of the obligations of the German Federal Government opposite the survivors and the members, who result from the judgement. Each further attempt to play on time by legal delaying tactics would be a mockery of the victims and an ignoring of the European right standard, which showed up in the Italian judgement.

Dr. Ulrich Schneider
General secretary

FIR President Michel Vanderborght in the „Golden Book“ of Weimar



On the occasion of the receipt of the city of Weimar for the official guests of the international youth meeting in Buchenwald in April 2008 Michel Vanderborght registered itself into „the golden book“ of the city as a president of the FIR together with the Belgian Ministers for defense and education as well as Ambassador Belgien. The representative of the city of Weimar underlined on this occasion expressly the great importance of the work of the FIR.

Report to the full session of International Rombergpark committee 2008 in Dortmund

In the annual convention 2008 of the International Rombergpark committee (member of the FIR) participated guests from Germany, France, the Netherlands, Ukraine and from Russia on Good Friday. Besides are again guests from other places with war final phase crimes. With them the International Rombergpark committee

developed good contacts, because the crimes at Good Friday 1945 in Dortmund were not an individual case. Three years ago the representatives of such cities were present in Dortmund at the international Rombergpark committee, which have to deplore victims of these crimes. The reports from these places were "now in summary in

the book "Murderous Finale" - To the Nazi crimes at the end of war.

From France Mrs. Brigitte Scamps participated in the conference. She is the daughter of Léon CHADIRAC, who had to perform 1945 in Lippstadt slave labour in the spring and then he was murdered in the Bittermark/Rombergpark Dortmund together with further approximately 300 anti-fascists. The International Rombergpark committee discovered an indictment of the "Volksgerichtshof" against Leon Chadirac and presented it to Mrs. Scamps. There has been written that her father help to create a group of resistance fighters. He heard and spread „hostile rushing transmissions“, operated „aiding and abetting the enemy and preparation to the high treason, military force decomposition and broadcast crime“. He stands for Pan Europe with inclusion of Soviet Russia.

Mrs. Scamps was very relieved to experience this because their father was valid in France as a renegade, who had worked after capture on the French-German front for Germany. The International Rombergpark committee expressed expectation that Leon Chadirac will finally rehabilitated now in France.

For the first time since long time also the Russian war veterans committee was represented again with a delegated one here, Vladimir Gall. He participated 1945 in the liberation of Berlin; unforgotten is his liberation act on the Spandau Zitabelle together with Konrad Wolf, the later film director ("I was 19"), in order to save the life of hundred civilians.

Ulrich Sander

Successful Federal congress of the VVN – BdA

Under the slogan "Together against dismantling of fundamental right, fascism and war" the 3rd Federal congress of the Federation of the pursued ones of the Nazi regime – Association of anti-fascists met in May 2008 in Berlin. 160 delegates from all Federal states and from camp-communities represented about 7,500 member of the biggest organization in the tradition of pursued and anti-fascism.

A great success could the VVN - BdA report, which had collected within 9 months more than 175.000 signatures for the demand of a renewed interdiction-trial against NPD. Professor Heinrich Fink evaluated the events around the G8-Meeting 2007 in Heiligendamm as a break in the history of the country. With great forces of police and military and by means of criminalisation of the democratic protest the apparatus of state started a so far not known attack on the civil rights.

A militarized foreign policy was legitimized with historical revisionism, as the prevention of a new Auschwitz was already spent 1999 as reason for war. Opposite VVN - BdA demanded: "We have to recreate both sides of the obligation 'Never again war - never again Faschismus'."

The domestic militarization of Germany and to stop the way into a monitoring-state was a further emphasis of the conference. "With the stirred up anti-terror hysteria there are eroded at broad front democratic fundamental rights in a never known measure."

In addition the congress required to terminate the German Federal Armed Forces mission in Afghanistan and make Germany nuclear weapon-free.

The compensation and social support of all victims of fascism were moved again into the focus of the activity of the VVN - BdA. A federal workinggroup social politics and compensation is to be created within the organization. Those the uncomplete compensation of the female obligation workers and forced laborers like also the necessity for the support of aged victims of the Naziregime and also the indirect victims from the second generation make intensified efforts necessary.

On the topic historical memory and memorial places the anti-fascists of the VVN - BdA want to make there voice louder, even if the numbers of the contemporary witnesses get thinner. New forms of the historical work were discussed. The VVN - BdA fights thereby against denying "singularity of the Nazi-crimes". "Who makes actors to victims, who equates fascism and socialism as extremism, plays down Hitler tyranny and favours the Neofaschismus," one explained.

On the congress also international guests could be welcomed. Michel Vanderborght brought the greetings of the organization and its member federations as a president of the FIR. Professor Ilja Kremer read out the greetings of the

chairman of the Russian war veteran federation marshal of the Air Force, Alexander Efimow. To the new chairmen of the VVN - BdA were elected Professor Heinrich Fink from Berlin and Cornelia Kerth from Hamburg. Under long strong applause Esther Bejarano (Hamburg) and Hans Lauter (Leipzig) became honorary

chairmen of the organization. For the elevenhead circle of federal speaker also Heinz Siefritz and Dr. Ulrich Schneider were elected. With the call, to win new fellow combatants for the VVN - BdA and work further at the same time successfully in broad alliances ended the congress.

International tracing service (ITS) finished digitization

Recently after the opening of archives the International Tracing Service of the Red Cross in Bad Arolsen realised a further important step for the opening of the archive for the historical research. After work for many years the digitization of forced laborer archives could be finished.

The Israeli memorial place Yad Vashem, which US-Holocaust Memorial museum in Washington

and national Institut of the memory in Warsaw has now received copies of the data.

Archives document that immigrant workers in almost all economic sectors - of the armaments industry, which agriculture and even as a domestic help - and regions in the German Reich were used and exploited.

Offer for all member federations

In the last circular we referred to the book of Lilo Petersen „Les Oubliées“ for the history of the deportation in France. It reports of the fate of German emigrant inside, which were deported in May 1940 from Vel' d'Hiv' to Gurs. The publisher makes the offer that members and federations of the FIR can receive this book to a special price. The publishing house offers

the book during direct order for the price of 15 € per copy.

Orders with reference „FIR“ should be send to:

Éditions Jacob Duvernet,
134 rue du Bac,
75007 Paris, France.

„Le drame de Tulle » - The crime of Tulle

On 9 June 1944 the SS-troop „Das Reich“ murdered in Tulle 99 civilians by hanging. This crime, which is quite comparable with the crimes in Oradour, made the Belgian Bruno Kartheuser the center of a singular documentation over the fascist occupation of Eupen - Malmédy, the crimes of the occupation - time and the legal pursuit of the criminals.

Based on a highly detailed research it completely documents the procedures, designates all well-known names of the actors. To them belonged Walter Schmal (SD) and Heinz Lammerding, commander of the SS-armoured division „Das Reich“. At the same time the author list the names and the fate of the pursued ones, with which he redeems the promise never forget the victims of Tulle.

Straight in the recently published volume „a unpunished crime“ the author makes clear that on

the background of „French-German friendship“ after the war most of the responsible persons remained undisturbed.

The four volumes document in a systematic panorama of the Nazi barbarism in a occupied country in the west.

Bibliographie:

Bruno Kartheuser, Walter, SD in Tulle, Eine Untersuchung in 4 Bänden, Edition KRAUTGARTEN,
Bd. 1 – Die 30er Jahre in Eupen-Malmédy, 25 €
Bd. 2 – Das besetzte Frankreich 1940 – 1943, 25 €
Bd. 3 – Die Erhängungen von Tulle, Der 9. Juni 1944, 40 €

Bd. 4 – Die Erhängungen von Tulle, Ein ungesühntes Verbrechen, 36 €

All volumes are published in German and French language

Advice of the cashier

Our treasurer once again reminds all member federations that the contribution for 2008 fell due. Please transfer the amount by direct debit to the following account of FIR:

Bank account: Postbank Berlin (BLZ 10010010), Account number: **543 054 107**, Owner: FIR, IBAN **DE 04 1001 0010 0543 0541 07** SWIFT-BIC: **PBNKDEFF**

Invitation to the annual conference 2008

December 10, 2008 marks the 60th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of the United Nations. This document is of crucial importance for the political development after the Second World War and it is a result of the common action of the peoples and states of the anti-Hitler coalition. They wanted to give with this declaration measures, so never again an iniquitous regime can threaten the world. This statement has emerged from the community of nations in the fight against the threat of fascist barbarity. It is an expression of the will of all peace-loving people, a new world of peace and freedom to establish, as the oath of surviving prisoners of the concentration camp Buchenwald says.

For this reason we have decided that the 2008 annual conference will be under the slogan:

"60 years Universal Declaration of Human Rights of the United Nations and anti-fascist policies today."

The conference takes place in Berlin (Germany).

Conference room will be the **European house**, Unter den Linden 78, 10117 Berlin.

The dates of the conference are **October 18 - 19, 2008**.

The arrival of the participants should be on October 17, 2008.

The conference itself takes place all the day on October 18, beginning at 9.30 o'clock.

Based of our present planning the conference will be opened by representatives of the United Nations, the European parliament and by a statement of a professor for international law.

Subsequently, we want to advise together over the meaning of the declaration of the human rights for our current and future political work. In addition not only the member federations of the FIR, but also partner federations and other political structures are invited, which want to work together with us to this topic.

On Sunday, 19 October there will be in the morning a political program, so that the departing time is possible starting from noon.

Actually there exists no possibility, to financier travel and accommodation costs of delegated ones by the FIR. Only the costs of the meeting (including the food supply) can be taken over by the organization. Therefore we ask all federations and interested participation to strive after their possibilities around conveyances for travel and accommodation costs.

Imprint :

Responsible: Dr. Ulrich Schneider,

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The International Federation of Resistant fighters (FIR) has been designated by the Secretary-General of the United Nations as a «Peace Messenger». The Federation is accepted as NGO at the UNESCO, Paris, at the UN standing committee of disarmament, Geneva and the European council, Strasbourg.

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The bulletin will be delivered free to member federations and interested.