

RECRUITMENT OF VOLUNTARY LABOR FOR
FRANCE IN UNITED STATES ZONE
OF GERMANY

Exchange of notes at Paris October 25, 1947

Entered into force October 25, 1947

Obsolete

61 Stat. 4113; Treaties and Other
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*The Secretary General of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs to the American
Ambassador*

[TRANSLATION]

FRENCH REPUBLIC
MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Directorate of Administrative
and Social Conventions

Liberty—Equality—Fraternity

PARIS, 25 October 1947

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

1. As a consequence of the exchanges of views which have taken place between the representatives of your Embassy and those of my Department relative to the recruitment for labor in France of free German workers in the United States Zone of Germany, you have informed me that the French Government will be able to proceed with the recruitment of such workers, under the authority of the Commander of the Zone, on the following conditions:

(a) Recruitment of free German workers will in no way affect the implementation of existing French commitments regarding the recruitment of displaced persons in Germany.

(b) Recruitment of free German workers under the provisions of this Agreement will be effected through the intermediary of the German labor offices on whose premises the French Recruitment Mission will question and furnish information to volunteers for labor in France.

The French Recruitment Mission will inform the appropriate United States Military Government authorities of any difficulties arising between it and the

German Labor Office in order that those authorities may take necessary action.

The provisions of the technical agreement referred to in paragraph 3 below will be reexamined at the request of the chief of the French Recruitment Mission if he considers that the recruitment of German workers for France is unsatisfactory and if, after investigation by the United States Military Government authorities, it appears that the inadequate recruitment results from obstructive practices by the German Labor Offices in the United States Zone of Germany.

(c) The families of voluntary German workers recruited for labor in France will leave for France, via the French Zone of Germany. The departure of the family will take place simultaneously with the departure of the worker, or in any case not later than one month thereafter.

(d) No recruitment will take place among workers employed in the mines.

(e) In exceptional circumstances, recruitment will be temporarily suspended at the request of the appropriate United States Military Government authorities among workers whom they consider as belonging to an occupation or being employed in areas where there exists a critical shortage of manpower.

My Government accepts these conditions.

2. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1 (c) above concerning the departure from the United States Zone of Germany of the families of voluntary German workers for France, the United States Government is disposed to examine the possibility of permitting, exceptionally, a certain number of families of those workers which may refuse or not be able to leave the United States Zone of Germany to remain in that Zone. The number of voluntary German workers who will be authorized to leave their families in the United States Zone of Germany will not exceed 10% of the total number of voluntary German workers recruited for France from the United States Zone of Germany.

This will not be done, however, until the problem of remittances from voluntary German workers is settled by the American, British and French Governments.

3. A technical agreement to implement the principles contained in this letter will be negotiated at Berlin by representatives of the American, British and French Governments.

4. All expenses incurred in the operation of the French Mission recruiting voluntary German workers in the United States Zone of Germany will be paid entirely by France. The activities of the French Recruiting Mission will be subject to the control of the United States Zone Commander.

5. Conversations will take place between representatives of the interested Governments with a view to terminating the present Agreement or modifying

its provisions at the moment when the recruitment of voluntary German workers in the United States Zone of Germany reaches a figure which may be considered by the Zone Commander as representing the maximum number of German workers, or the maximum in any given occupation, which the United States Zone in Germany can furnish to France at that time.

Please accept, Mr. Ambassador, the assurance of my high consideration.

J. CHAUVEL

His Excellency Mr. JEFFERSON CAFFERY
Ambassador of the United States
Paris

The American Ambassador to the Secretary General
of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs

EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Paris, October 25, 1947

MY DEAR MR. AMBASSADOR:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's note of October 25, 1947, which states:

[For text of U.S. note, see above.]

I have the honor to inform Your Excellency that the Government of the United States concurs in the terms of Your Excellency's note and agrees that that note together with this acknowledgment should constitute an agreement between our two Governments on the principles governing French recruitment of German labor in the United States Zone of Germany.

Please accept, Mr. Ambassador, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

JEFFERSON CAFFERY

His Excellency
M. JEAN CHAUVEL,
Secretary General of the
Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Paris