

# COUNCIL OF EUROPE CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Strasbourg, 7 March 1969

AS/Loc/Prix (20) 34 to 39

## CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY



### COMMITTEE ON LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Sub-Committee on the Europe Prize  
and the Propagation of the European Idea

### EUROPE PRIZE

<u>Applications from the municipalities of:</u>	<u>Page</u>
34 LAER (Federal Republic of Germany)	1
35 RENDSBURG (Federal Republic of Germany)	10
36 OBERURSEL (Federal Republic of Germany)	21
37 ESSLINGEN-AM-NECKAR (Federal Republic of Germany)	26
38 BERLIN-REINICKENDORF (Federal Republic of Germany)	32
39 SCHLIERBACH (Federal Republic of Germany)	35

LAHR

(FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY)

Reply to questionnaire

1. The town of Lahr has been a member of the International Union of Mayors for Franco-German understanding and European co-operation since 1959.

2. Apart from the annual contribution to the International Union of Mayors no contribution to other organisations has been made.

3. (a) Since 1962 Lahr has been "paired" with the French town of Dole/Jura. This pairing was made official by the signing and exchange of documents (see enclosed photo-copies). The signature took place on 4.2.1962 at a ceremony in the Max-Planck-Gymnasium in Lahr, in the presence of the Dole Town Pairing Committee led by the Senator-Mayor, Mr. Laurent-Thouverey, the counter signature took place in the town theatre at Dole on the occasion of the first visit of the Lahr Town Council on 28.5.1962.

(b) No.

Many meetings concerned with cultural, sporting and economic matters have so far taken place within the framework of this agreement. The promotion of permanent relations with our "paired" town has become an established part of our municipal activities. This agreement is not limited only to meetings between the municipal authorities; the town regularly arranges for, and encourages contacts between, Dole and Lahr clubs, associations and other organisations. In addition to the numerous contacts between individual families and the general promotion of relations, during the six years since this agreement came into being, meetings for various purposes listed below are worthy of mention:

1961

- 15.7 Ten Dole pupils spent three weeks in Lahr under a school exchange agreement.

1962

- 4.2 Signing of the Lahr-Dole town pairing agreement at an official ceremony in the Max-Planck-Gymnasium at Lahr. A delegation from the town of Dole was present at the ceremony.
- 17.3 A boxing match in the Lahr Market Hall between the Blau-Weiss Lahr team and the Dole team.
- 12 -  
13.4 Forty pupils from the "paired" town visited Lahr. In addition to making a tour of Lahr they were guests at the performance of the opera "Martha" in the municipal hall.
- 20.5 Counter-signature of the town pairing agreement in Dole in the presence of a delegation from Lahr (town council, administration).
- 4.7 Founding of a town-pairing committee comprising representatives of the schools, gymnastic and sporting clubs, commerce and trade, cultural associations, town youth association, town council and town administration.
- 10.7 Twenty pupils from Dole spent three weeks as guests of Lahr pupils. Thereafter seventeen Lahr pupils spent the same period in Dole.
- 20 -  
21.10 The Dole Town Council visited the town of Lahr. It inspected the municipal institutions and was informed of the problems of the town. A tour of the town was also included on the agenda for the meeting.
- December A Christmas tree with illuminated decorations was presented to the town of Dole.

1963

- 2.2 A delegation from Dole visited Lahr schools (Max-Planck-Gymnasium, trades school and agricultural school).
- 23.4 Lecture by mayor to members of the Lahr sporting groups on the history and people of the "paired" town.
- 28.4 Seven Lahr citizens took part in a blood transfusion operation at Dole.
- 16 - Thirty members of the Black Forest Club  
17.6 took part in an excursion to Dole.
- Performance of an "evening concert of religious music" by the Lahr Choir in the Basilica at Dole.
- July - Exchange of pupils involving 25 Dole and  
August 25 Lahr pupils (3 weeks in each case).
- 2 - Fifty-six Dole scouts camped in the "Altvater".  
30.8 The Mayor, Dr. Ritter, visited them; he told them about the sights of Lahr during a lecture illustrated by photographs.
- 21.9 Symphony concert given by the Dole musical circle in the main hall of the Max-Planck-Gymnasium.
- December As in the previous year, Dole was presented with a Christmas tree.

1964

- 2 - Visit by the Dole Fire Brigade to Lahr.  
3.5 During their visit the guests inspected the  
and premises of the Lahr Fire Brigade. Both  
17 - brigades took part in excursions and social  
18.5 events which helped to strengthen the  
relation between the two towns.
- 14.6 Twelve members of the Dole blood transfusion section donated blood to the hospital at Lahr.

- 15.7 Twenty-five Dole pupils came to spend three weeks in Lahr. After an excursion to the northern part of the Black Forest, they returned to Dole on 5.8 taking the Lahr pupils with them.

December As in previous years, Dole was presented with a Christmas tree.

1965

- 8.5 On that date an industrial and trade fair was opened at Dole. Lahr was represented at the opening by a delegation and had a stand at the fair.
- 15.7 Under the pupil exchange scheme, twenty-one pupils from Dole arrived in Lahr. After spending three weeks with their German partners they returned to Dole on 5.8 taking with them the Lahr pupils who also spent three weeks in Dole. During the periods in Dole and Lahr, the Mayors' offices arranged excursions for the two groups.

December At Christmas 1965, too, Dole was presented with a Christmas tree.

1966

- 14.5 Lahr artists (painters) exhibited their works in Dole. The Mayor, Dr. Ritter, opened the exhibition.
- 9.6 Forty-three senior pupils from the technical Lycée in Dole, about to take their school leaving examination, arrived to spend two days in Lahr. They visited an industrial firm in Lahr, the trade school, the terrace bathing pool and the mini-golf course.
- 22.6 Twenty-two girls from the National Lycée at Dole arrived to spend two days in Lahr. They visited their Lahr penfriends' class, used the terrace swimming pool, the mini-golf course and visited the town park.

- July Fifteen pupils from the technical Lycée at Dole worked for three weeks at the INA-Nadellager firm.
- 16.7 .. Sixty German and French pupils took part  
27.8 in the Dole/Lahr exchange of pupils which was arranged on the basis of exchanges between individual families. Firstly, the Dole pupils spent three weeks in Lahr, then they went back with the Lahr pupils who likewise spent three weeks in Dole. During the stay in Lahr, all pupils went on an excursion through the Black Forest.
- 21.8 A delegation from Lahr was present at the Franco-German junior international athletics competition which took place in Dole and in which an athlete from Lahr also took part.

1967

- 4 - A class of the Max-Planck-Gymnasium  
7.5 (32 pupils) spent four days in Dole.
- 21 - A school class from Dole (23 pupils)  
22.6 visited the class with which it was paired in Lahr for two days.
- 1.7 The town band and the Dole brass band gave a concert in the main hall of the Max-Planck-Gymnasium. It was preceded by a memorial ceremony at the monument to the 171st Regiment.
- 16 - The Lahr district council visited Dole  
17.9 for two days. The birth-place of Louis Pasteur and the technical school were among the places visited. The town of Dole gave a reception for the guests on the occasion of this visit.

July -  
August

The exchange of pupils took place in that year from 7.7 to 28.7 in Lahr and from 29.7 to 18.8.1967 in Dole. In all, 28 German and French pupils took part in that exchange. In the spring (18.3 - 8.4) 11 Lahr pupils spent a period in Dole. Both exchanges were arranged through the Offenbourg Central Exchange Office. Lahr arranged a Black Forest tour for the Dole pupils, and all pupils were enabled to visit the circus free of charge. Furthermore, the students received, as in previous years, free tickets to visit the town park, the mini-golf course, and the terrace bathing pool.

# 1968

16 -  
17.3

A delegation of Lahr stamp collectors was present at the opening of the stamp exhibition arranged by the Dole philatelic club. During that first meeting arrangements were made for the next event in the form of a stamp exhibition by Dole philatelists in Lahr on the occasion of the Lahr festival from 29.6 to 7.7.

5 -  
24.4

Twenty-five pupils from Lahr secondary schools spent twenty days in Dole.

4 -  
6.5

At the invitation of the Dole Evangelical congregation, Deacon Schröter of the Lahr Evangelical congregation visited Dole with some of the elders of his church. In addition to the already existing contacts at municipal, cultural, economic and sports level, links were now also established with the Dole Evangelical congregation. In 1968, the following further meetings have been planned:

- (a) In addition to the stamp exhibition arranged by Dole and referred to above; the folklore group from Dole (Les Pastourelles) will take part in the popular celebrations at the Lahr Festival (29.6 - 7.7.1968).
- (b) The Lahr gliding club and the Aero-Club du Jura intend to make planned flights this year. It is also intended to arrange for a youth camp for the Lahr glider pilots in Dole.
- (c) At the invitation of the Dole Football Club, there will be a further match between the Football Club of Dinglingen and the Dole Football Club during the Whitsun holidays in 1968. The Dinglingen Football Club has accepted this invitation and will send a junior team.
- (d) In the summer months of this year a number of pupils from the technical lycée in Dole will attend three to four week practical courses in Lahr industrial concerns.

4. No.

5. No.

6. Every year the Supreme Command of the French Air Force invited thirty pupils from the ECOLE DES PUPILLES at Grenoble to spend several weeks in Lahr until it evacuated Lahr last year. The town administration arranged for these young guests to be provided with partner pupils from the Lahr schools who spent their holidays together with them. This exchange was very beneficial to the pupils from both countries. They were able to improve their knowledge of the respective languages - they were also able to take part in classes - they learnt to understand one another and they became familiar with the customs in this part of the country. The last exchange took place from 27.12.1967 - 4.1.1968, in Grenoble.

./.

These meetings, which made an unforgettable impression on the pupils and also improved the friendly contacts between young people of both countries, will be continued this year with a visit by thirty pupils from the ECOLE DES PUPILLES to Lahr.

For pupil exchanges with Dole, see No. 3.

7. A "town pairing" committee was founded in Lahr in 1962 comprising a representative from the schools, the association of Lahr gymnastic and sports clubs, commerce and trade, cultural clubs, the town youth association, the municipal council, and the town administration. The Committee is supported in its activity by advice and financial help from the town of Lahr when arranging visits and ceremonies, etc. Thanks to this encouragement many welcome steps have been taken by the citizens of the town in all fields which offer themselves to contacts between the two towns.

8. (a) The town library has been subscribing since 1966 to the French cultural magazine "Revue Française".
- (b) The Lahr evening school, which in addition to arranging interesting study trips to other European countries, offers language courses in French, Italian and English, regularly receives financial support from Lahr.
- (c) Numerous artists and groups of artists from different European countries have visited Lahr in recent years within the framework of the town programme for concerts and theatre performances.

The second international vocational and further training course will take place from 8 August to 7 September 1968. In addition to Professors Gimpel and Neikrug, who had great success with their certificate classes last year, it was also possible to engage Professor Toth from Texas University (USA) this year.

./.

- (d) From 23.7 to 12.8.1961, nineteen girls and boys from Sweden, England, Holland and Germany spent their holidays doing communal work in Lahr by arrangement with the International Youth Community Service. The girls worked in the town garden and the boys helped in making alterations to a park. The working week consisted of 33 hours. In their free time they were able to visit the swimming pool free of charge. They were also shown the sights in Lahr and surrounding districts.
- (e) On several occasions youth groups in Lahr spent periods in France to tend German war graves. This was also done on a voluntary basis in France last year by a group of young police officials from the mobile police unit stationed here. As a mark of recognition for their fine example, the town offered these groups financial support. French youth groups were also involved in these operations. The common experience of this meeting made a very deep impression on those taking part. It is remarkable and welcome that thanks to such occasions close friendships have developed between young people from both countries.

9. No.

10. On the initiative of the local clubs, international sports meetings take place annually in Lahr. Some of them are visited every year by athletes from various European nations. Among the many international engagements, emphasis should be placed on the Black Forest hockey tournament and the track events.

RENDSBURG

(Federal Republic of Germany)

- (a) Letter from the Mayor
- (b) Reply to the questionnaire
- (c) Report on exchange activities since 1960

The town of Rendsburg (Federal Republic of Germany) hereby begs to submit its

Application for the award of the Europe Flag

and requests that the application be submitted to the Committee on Regional Planning and Local Authorities of the Consultative Assembly. The application is based on the fact that Rendsburg, as one of the first German towns to do so, has been working since 1954 for a united Europe and an improvement of relations between the peoples. It has official town pairing agreements with Vierzon (France) and Lancaster (United Kingdom). The meetings which resulted from these agreements are cited in the enclosed list. Friendly contacts have also been established with the town of Kuopio (Finland) with which regular student exchanges take place and the town of Aalborg (Denmark) which constituted the first link between a Danish and a German town.

Close links have also been established between Rendsburg and a number of towns in six European countries on Road E 3 (Stockholm - Lisbon). These relations were made possible because from 1955 to 1965 I was Chairman of the Road E 3 Working Party and during those ten years I was able to establish many friendly contacts with the mayors of the member towns.

Lastly, Rendsburg plays an active part in the Council of European Municipalities, the International Union of Mayors, the Europe Union and the "Road E 3" Working Party.

These efforts on behalf of the European spirit have caused Rendsburg, a medium-sized town with 38,000 inhabitants, to undertake a great deal of work, and they have required considerable financial outlay. Not only the town administration but all the citizens have taken part in this. In addition to official contacts many friendships have been established between private persons and families, between clubs, associations and other organisations which have done much to promote the idea of better understanding between peoples.

I feel that the numerous and varied efforts made by Rendsburg over a long period of time justifies recognition from outside by the award of the Europe flag, and I therefore beg to request that this application be given favourable consideration.

Hoping to receive a reply in the affirmative, I beg to remain,

Yours etc.

(Beisenkötter)

Mayor

REPLY TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE

for municipalities which are candidates for the  
Europe Prize

---

1. The town of Rendsburg is a member of the Council of European Municipalities, the International Union of Mayors, the European Union and the "Road E 3" Working Party.

2. Organisation of regional congresses of the European Union, of meetings of the governing body and of general assemblies of the "Road E 3" Working Party.

3. (a) Rendsburg is "paired" with Vierzon in France and Lancaster in England. A list of meetings and reciprocal visits is attached. (See Appendix.)

Rendsburg also made contacts with the town of Aalborg in Denmark. In 1967 a group of municipal councillors from Rendsburg visited Aalborg. That visit was followed by a visit by municipal councillors from Aalborg to Rendsburg in 1968. An exchange of young people also takes place with the town of Kuopio in Finland every two years.

4. Yes (see Appendix No. 3 (a)).

5. Yes. At regular intervals, exchange visits are made by official delegations and groups of young people, from time to time, exchange visits are made by sports groups, societies and cultural organisations and also other organisations.

6. Youth congresses, sports meetings, cultural exhibitions, music festivals.

7. On "Europe Day" Rendsburg organises a festival in which young people and adults take part. The population is made aware of Europe Day by the decoration of official buildings with the European flag.

8. Yes, special ceremonies are supported by large subsidies. Rendsburg has a youth hostel which is used by many foreigners.

9. Yes.

Yes.

10. Financial contribution to Florence after the catastrophic floods.

Yes.

### List

of meetings and visits arranged between the  
"paired" towns of Vierzon (Cher)  
and Rendsburg

#### 1960

10 to 31.7 Exchange visits by young people from Rendsburg to Vierzon

31.7 to 20.8 Group of young people from Vierzon visits Rendsburg

16 to 29.7 Visit by members of the voluntary fire brigade to Vierzon

11 to 18.9 Meeting of the Rendsburg Rotary Club and the Vierzon Rotary Club at Vierzon

15 to 19.9 Visit by a junior football team from Rendsburg to Vierzon

#### 1961

18 to 22.6 Meeting of the Rendsburg Rotary Club and the Vierzon Rotary Club at Rendsburg

20.7 to 8.8 Exchange visits by young people from Vierzon to Rendsburg

1961 (cont'd)

30.6 to                      Exchange visit by young people  
20.7                      from Rendsburg to Vierzon

1962

7 to                      Exchange visit by young people  
28.7                      from Rendsburg to Vierzon

28.7 to                      Exchange visit by young people  
17.8                      from Vierzon to Rendsburg

1963

8 to                      Visit by the Rendsburg Male  
11.6                      Choir (1842) to Vierzon

4 to                      Exchange visit by young people  
25.7                      from Rendsburg to Vierzon

25.7 to                      Exchange visit by young people  
15.8                      from Vierzon to Rendsburg

1964

1.4                      Visit by Mr. Caron to Rendsburg

5 to                      Visit by the "Fanfare Vierzonnaise"  
8.6                      to Rendsburg to take part in the  
Music Festival of the Rendsburg  
Male Voice Choir (1842)

3 to                      Exchange visit by young people  
25.7                      from Rendsburg to Vierzon

25.7 to                      Exchange visit by young people  
13.8                      from Vierzon to Rendsburg

4 to                      Visit by the Vierzon Rotary Club  
7.7                      to Rendsburg

5 to                      Visit by the Vierzon Flying Club:  
14.7                      "Les Ailes Vierzonnaises" to  
Rendsburg

1964 (cont'd)

29.9 to 30.10 Visit by the Rendsburg Flying Club to Vierzon

25 to 31.12 Visit by a football team from the Rendsburg "Concorde" Association to Vierzon for a match against the Vierzon team made up of members of three Vierzon clubs

1965

30.4 to 5.5 Visit by the Rendsburg Rotary Club to Vierzon

1 to 22.7 Exchange visit by young people from Rendsburg to Vierzon

22.7 to 9.8 Exchange visit by young people from Vierzon to Rendsburg

24.7 to 2.8 Visit by members of the Rendsburg voluntary fire-brigade to Vierzon

25 to 27.12 Visit from a Vierzon football team to Rendsburg, match between a team made up of members of three football clubs against the 1st team of the Rendsburg "Concorde" Club.

1966

4 to 8.6 Visit by the Rendsburg Male Voice Choir (1842) to Vierzon and Chateauroux

22 to 31.7 Visit by a football team from the Rendsburg "Concorde" Club for a match against a Vierzon team at Vierzon

1966 (cont'd)

1 to 22.7	Exchange visit by a group of young people from Rendsburg to Vierzon
11 to 16.7	Visit by the Bertheau family, Vierzon Flying Club, to Rendsburg
22.7 to 12.8	Exchange visit of a group of young people from Vierzon to Rendsburg
8.8 to 16.8	Visit by a group of young people from Poitiers
8 to 16.8	Visit by a group of young people from the Vierzon "Patronage Municipal" to Rendsburg
5 to 7.11	Visit by the former Mayor of Vierzon, Mr. Caron, to Rendsburg

1967

12 to 15.5	International junior football competition between Rendsburg and teams from Lancaster and Vierzon
in October	Participation of the Philatelists' Society of Rendsburg in an international stamp exhibition at Vierzon

1968

17.7 to 9.8	Exchange visit by a group of young people from Rendsburg to Vierzon
9.8 to 30.8	Exchange visit by a group of young people from Vierzon to Rendsburg

1969

in April	Visit by the Rendsburg Junior Woodwind Orchestra to Vierzon
1 to 5.5	Visit by the Philatelists' Society of Vierzon to Rendsburg for a joint stamp exhibition with the Rendsburg society
in July	Exchange visit by a group of young people from Rendsburg to Vierzon
in August	Exchange visit by a group of young people from Vierzon to Rendsburg

List

of meetings and visits arranged between the  
"paired" towns of Lancaster and Rendsburg

---

1960

18.7 to 2.8	Exchange visit by a group of young people from Rendsburg to Lancaster
3.8 to 15.8	Exchange visit by a group of young people from Lancaster to Rendsburg

1961

22.5 to 3.6	Visit by a delegation from Rendsburg to Lancaster
24 to 25.7	Visit by Mrs. M.J. Lovett-Horn, Mayor of Lancaster, to attend the inauguration of the tunnel under the Kiel canal

1962

17.7 to 1.8 Exchange visit by a group of young people from Rendsburg to Lancaster

2 to 16.8 Exchange visit by a group of young people from Lancaster to Rendsburg

1963

18 to 29.8 Visit by a delegation from Lancaster to Rendsburg

1964

18.10 Visit by the Mayor, Mr. Beisenkötter, and Senator Förster to attend the opening of the University of Lancaster

1966

18 to 28.5 Visit by a delegation from Rendsburg to Lancaster

2 to 8.6 Visit by the "Lancaster Institute" to Rendsburg

17 to 20.8 Swimming competition Lancaster v. Rendsburg at Rendsburg

1967

23 to 29.3 Visit by the "Skerton Boys' School Choir" to Rendsburg

12.5 to 15.5 International junior football competition at Rendsburg in which teams from Lancaster and Vierzon took part

25.5 to 10.6 Participation by the town of Rendsburg in the Lancaster trade and industrial fair

1967 (cont'd)

21 to 29.7 Swimming competition Lancaster v. Rendsburg at Lancaster

28.9 to 6.10 Visit by a delegation from Lancaster to Rendsburg

1968

28.3 to 11.4 Visit by the Rendsburg Woodwind Orchestra to Lancaster

20.5 to 22.5 Visit by a delegation from Rendsburg to Lancaster for the signing of the official document confirming the "pairing" of the two towns

1969

22.4 to 28.4 Visit by a delegation from Lancaster to Rendsburg for the signing of the document referred to above

26.4 to 10.5 Lancaster exhibition at Rendsburg

6 to 11.7 Visit by a student from St. Martin's College at Lancaster to Rendsburg

in the autumn Visit by a Rendsburg football team to Lancaster

..  
OBERURSEL  
(Taunus)

(Federal Republic of Germany)

LETTER OF APPLICATION

Dear Mr. Radius,

Thank you for your letter of 19.1.1968.

We make a special point of drawing the attention of our citizens to Europe Day on 5 May, the day on which the Council of Europe was founded.

1. Public buildings are bedecked with the Europe flag. The Europe flag is hoisted at international sports competitions, during the Taunus Carnival and other local festivals to which we regularly invite foreign visitors, especially from our "paired" town: Epinay-sur-Seine. We are of the opinion that the Europe flag should not only be shown on Europe Day. We have found that some of the citizens were not aware of the significance of the flag with twelve gold stars on a blue background.
2. The local newspaper "Taunus Anzeiger" reminds the population of Oberürsel on 5 May of the importance of Europe Day.
3. On that day reviews on Europe and reviews and documentation from the European organisations are placed at the disposal of the Oberürsel population free of charge in the reading-room of our town library. Literature which deals with Europe is given preference by our library when book purchases are made.
4. In principle, we arrange meetings with persons and groups from our paired town for the month of May and if possible for Europe Day. At such meetings we stress the need for European unity. The painting and drawing competition for schoolchildren launched under the slogan "town pairing - understanding between the peoples" has had particularly welcome results. Extremely wide interest was shown in this exhibition.
5. The Union for Evening Education and the evening school at Oberürsel offer every semester a seminar entitled "Hello, neighbour!" ... Attempts are made in this series of seminars, by means of lectures and conversations, to explain to our citizens the peculiarities, customs and culture of our immediate neighbours. The lecturers always come from the countries concerned. Although we charge a fee for these lectures, attendance figures are astonishingly high.

But we do not remind our citizens of the European idea only round about Europe Day; our numerous ceremonies and meetings arranged within the framework of the town "pairing" agreement with Epinay-sur-Seine produce welcome results and promote European unity. A list of the meetings arranged under the Town Pairing Agreement Oberürsel/Epinay in 1966-67 is attached hereto. Thanks to visits by German schoolchildren to France together with pupils from the English town of Jarrow, which is the "paired" town of Epinay-sur-Seine, friendly contacts have been established with young people from England.

With the support of the municipal authorities the Eintracht Oberürsel Sports Club has very close links with the sports club in Faulquemont (France) and also with Greece. Every year the "Prinzengarde" of "Frohsinn" Carneval Club takes part in the fancy dress procession in Hagenau (France). Groups from Hagenau wearing local costumes are expected to visit Oberürsel on "Homeland Day" 1968. The band of the voluntary fire brigade regularly has competitions with bands in Holland. Other clubs, too, play a considerable part in cultivating international exchanges.

In order to make the population even more aware of the importance of Europe Day we shall arrange for the following to be done in the months ahead:

1. A road in a new area of the town will be named "Europaplatz" (Europe Square) or "Europostrasse" (Europe Road).
2. The "Europa-club-hobby" which was founded with the support of the town of Oberürsel is to arrange a "Europe Day" ceremony in collaboration with the evening school at Oberürsel. One of the events at this ceremony will be a lecture by a representative of the municipality on a European topic.
3. We shall arrange important exchange meetings with groups of persons from our "paired" town on Europe Day.
4. A few weeks before 5 May, a display window in our travel agency will be decorated with European topics. Our travel agency is located near the centre of our town in the "Epinayplatz".

5. Our town library plans to open a "Europe section". This section will give visitors to the library, free of charge, information about European reviews and Europe itself throughout the whole year.

6. The headmasters of our numerous schools will be asked to inform all pupils of the meaning of Europe Day.

We hope that these ceremonies on Europe Day and our other work in connection with our "paired" town agreement will contribute to make Europe a continent without frontiers. In 1969 our town pairing agreement with Epinay-sur-Seine will have lasted for five years. We intend to apply in the coming year for a Europe Prize. In the near future a formal application will be submitted. Perhaps it would be possible to put our town forward as a candidate in 1969. The award of the Europe Prize would be the highlight of the 5th anniversary of our town pairing agreement. Oberürsel and its citizens would be extremely proud of this honour and would see in it recognition for the work they have done hitherto and an encouragement to continue yet further along this road.

It should be noted that we are a fairly small community with 25,000 inhabitants, but as you will see from the enclosed lists, we do engage in many activities in connection with our town pairing agreement. In recognition of this fact we received this year and in previous years an annual subsidy of 300 FF from Mr. Baloup, Head of the Local Authorities Division of the Council of Europe.

May we request you, Mr. President, to give favourable consideration to our application for the Europe Prize in 1969.

Thanking you in advance for your help,

I remain, etc.

ADDENDUM

Town pairing agreement between Oberürsel (Taunus)  
and Epinay-sur-Seine

For information:

Up to September 1967 about 560 people from Oberürsel visited Epinay and about 460 French guests visited Oberürsel. Many private visits are not included in these figures. The town pairing agreement has been in existence since 16.5.1964.

ESSLINGEN AM NECKAR  
(Federal Republic of Germany)

- (a) Letter of application
- (b) Reply to questionnaire

Dear Sirs,

On behalf of the town of Esslingen am Neckar, I hereby beg to submit an application for the award of the Europe Prize and the Europe Flag in 1969.

Reasons:

The town of Esslingen am Neckar is doing a great deal to further the European idea thanks to its relations with five towns in various European countries and by the activities of the Europe Union in Esslingen.

Esslingen am Neckar arranges annually youth exchanges with five European towns by means of the district youth association which it supports. These towns are Neath (Great Britain), Norrköping (Sweden), Schiedam (Netherlands), Udine (Italy) and Vienne (France). There have been contacts with Neath, Udine and Vienne since 1958. And so the town is entitled to consider the year 1968 as the tenth anniversary of its work in the field of exchange visits. Exchanges with Norrköping and Schiedam have been taking place since 1964. Even before 1958 there were connections with other French towns, firstly with Boulogne-Billancourt, near Paris, and later with Puteaux. These were broken off when contacts were established with Vienne.

Under the youth exchange scheme, a group of 10 - 15 young people from Esslingen (pupils, students and workers) goes every year during the summer holidays to each of the paired towns; a group of the same number of young people comes to Esslingen either before or after such visits. For your information we enclose with this application a programme for the visits to be made this year by foreign guests to Esslingen.

There have been no official town pairing agreements with these five towns. Every year, however, representatives of the six "paired" towns meet in one of the towns to discuss future programmes for youth exchanges.

Esslingen clubs and schools have also established contacts with these towns and, consequently, the following events have taken place, e.g.:

1. A concert tour by the Oberesslingen Gartenstadt Choir to Norrköping in 1968 and Udine in 1966.
2. Exchange of young people from the young Social Democrats Union with young people from Vienne in 1964, 1965 and 1966.
3. Visit by the Evangelical Congregation of Esslingen-Zollberg to Vienne in 1966.
4. Exchange of pupils from the girls' Gymnasium with pupils from Vienne in 1964, and also in that same year visit from the school orchestra of the Gymnasium to Vienne.
5. Exchange of pupils from the technical school with pupils from Udine in 1963.
6. Concert tour by the Esslingen Liederkrantz Choir to Schiedam in 1965.

The following foreign visitors have performed in Esslingen in concerts sponsored by the town in recent years:

- (1) Concert by the Cardiff College Choir - Wales 1967.
- (2) Concert by the Prague Students' Orchestra 1967.
- (3) Concert by the Welsh Youth Orchestra 1966.
- (4) Visit by the London Comedy Club 1964.
- (5) Concert by the "A Coeur Joie" Choir from Vienne, 1964.

The girls' Gymnasium at Esslingen has also arranged annually an exchange of pupils involving from thirty to forty girls with the town of Neuchâtel in Switzerland.

Esslingen's work in the field of intermunicipal exchanges has been supported annually in recent years by a subsidy from the Council of Europe.

The Esslingen Europe Union was also very active within the framework of Europe Action 1968. The enclosed report gives a survey of the extensive work carried out by the Europe Union.

Since Esslingen am Neckar has been doing a good deal for many years to promote the European idea and has undoubtedly surpassed by far comparable towns in its work, I should like to request that our application for the award of the Europe Prize and Europe Flag be given favourable consideration.

Yours etc.

(b)

REPLY TO

QUESTIONNAIRE

for municipalities which are candidates for the  
Europe Prize

---

1. Esslingen is a member of the Council of European Municipalities.
  2. No.
  3. See details given in our application of 23.7.68..
  4. See details in our application of 23.7.68.
  5. See details in our application of 23.7.68.
  6. (a) On 1 and 2 October 1968, the federal festival to select candidates for the European festival, "Europe looks for young talent - Chance 1968" was held in the municipal hall at Esslingen. It was arranged by the Esslingen District Youth Association and was under the patronage of the Minister of Labour, Mr. Hirrlinger, and the Lord Mayor, Mr. Klapproth. Esslingen was entrusted with this task by the European Working Party for the Encouragement of Young Artists, in the sections:
    - I. Folklore, classical music, instrumental music for solo, group and orchestra, and
    - II. Light music, beat and light music for groups and orchestras.
- (b) On 24 July 1968 the Youth Association arranged a "Europe Day" within the framework of the Esslingen Youth Exchange Days, 1968. Details are given in the enclosed newspaper cuttings.

7. See the report of the Esslingen Europe Union concerning Europe Action 1968 which has already been submitted.
8. The Esslingen Social Welfare Youth Group in collaboration with the Carl-Duisburg Society has a youth hostel in which mainly foreigners live. There is also a club for foreigners which promotes meetings between young foreigners and Germans. Esslingen supports these institutions by granting an annual subsidy.
9. The Esslingen evening school, in collaboration with the Esslingen Europe Union, promotes the European idea by lectures on suitable topics.

The Europe Union does much to encourage schools to take part in "European Schools' Day".
10. A fund for victims of natural disasters does not exist. The Municipal Council has, on a number of occasions, made funds available to help the victims of natural disasters in foreign countries. The population was encouraged at the time by the local press to support the action by making contributions in the form of clothing, etc. and money.
11. See details given in our application of 23.7.68.

BERLIN-REINICKENDORF  
(Federal Republic of Germany)

---

REPLY TO QUESTIONNAIRE

REPLY TO QUESTIONNAIRE  
FOR MUNICIPALITIES WHICH ARE CANDIDATES FOR THE  
EUROPE PRIZE  
-----

1. Yes - Reinickendorf is a member of the Council of European Municipalities.
2. The 8th European Municipalities Day took place in Berlin in 1967. In connection with this event Reinickendorf offered a reception for the German and international participants in accordance with its municipal status.
3. Yes - Reinickendorf is paired with
  1. London Borough of Greenwich - Great Britain
  2. Ville d'Antony - France

See enclosures.

4. Yes. Friendly relations exist with:
  1. Maribor - Yugoslavia
  2. Kiryat Ata - Israel.

These are relations between municipalities to promote mutual understanding.

5. Yes - see enclosures, item 3.
6. In the current year, Reinickendorf, together with three other Berlin districts, is organising a European sports meeting in which young people from Great Britain, France, Denmark, Yugoslavia, Israel will take part.
7. Proclamations from the administration draw the attention of the population every year to the importance of Europe Day. The special character of this day is underlined by bedecking the public buildings with flags.

8. These organisations and institutions cover the whole of West Berlin. Many citizens of Reinickendorf take part in this work.

International youth work is supported and promoted by financial subsidies from the Borough, within the framework of existing contacts.

9. The European idea and the work of the Council of Europe are constantly mentioned in the civics lessons given in the schools of Reinickendorf. European Schools' Day is celebrated in schools with suitable ceremonies. When journeys abroad are made by groups of pupils, as far as possible, Strasbourg and the Council of Europe are visited.

10. No.

No direct help has hitherto been given. The population is however asked to contribute individually.

SCHLIERBACH  
(Federal Republic of Germany)

REPLY TO QUESTIONNAIRE

REPLY TO QUESTIONNAIRE

for municipalities who are candidates for  
the Europe Prize

1. Yes. The municipality of Schlierbach has for many years been a member of the Council of European Municipalities.

2. Since Schlierbach is a small municipality, financial subsidies are relatively restricted. In 1961 we arranged a large-scale European festival, in which ministers, deputies, representatives of European municipalities and mayors, from France, Belgium and Germany took part. In 1962 we presented the Belgium section with 200 DM.

In addition to this, the municipality of Schlierbach sets aside annually in its budget a sum of between 1,500 DM and 2,500 DM for European meetings and congresses (meetings between representatives from "paired" towns, etc.).

3. We are paired with the municipalities of Laronxe - St. Clément, Meurthe et Moselle, France, and with Warzée, Liège district, Belgium. We meet representatives of the municipalities (between 40 and 70 people) once in Berlin and once in their town every year. On such days important ceremonies are arranged in the municipality concerned. The local associations arrange these ceremonies in collaboration with the municipalities. Football matches are arranged, social evenings take place, etc. All the participants are found accommodation in every case in private homes. Consequently a number of close friendships have been formed in recent years between families. It is by no means unusual for visits to take place in addition to the official meetings.

Besides these ceremonies, one or two exchanges of young people are organised each year. In such cases 15 - 30 young people meet for about one to two weeks.

4. As can be seen from our answer to No. 3, these relations do exist. Documents on the town pairing agreements have been exchanged.

In addition to meetings between representatives of municipalities, the fire brigades, the sports clubs, and the local history and conservation societies have close relations.

5. Yes. Regular exchanges; see also answers to 3 and 4.

6. Yes, regular meetings between the young people in Lanronxe - St. Clément and Schlierbach, cultural events in Lanronxe - Warzée and Schlierbach, football matches in Lanronxe-Warzée and Schlierbach, folksong and folk-dancing teams which also meet in the three municipalities.

7. Yes. The public buildings are bedecked with the Europe flag and the flags of France, Belgium and Germany. Placards are displayed and there are ceremonies in the schools.

8. The municipality itself represents the local interests of the European organisations. As already mentioned it sets aside annually 1,500 - 2,500 DM for this purpose.

9. Interested citizens are offered regular courses in the local evening school. The aim of these courses is to teach the French language.

The municipality of Schlierbach was the first municipality in our area to become "paired" with a French and Belgium municipality. It did much to bring about further town pairings which subsequently took place in our area. Moreover, it succeeded in bringing about the town pairing agreements between Badonviller - France, and Michelbach - Hessen.

The European idea has been frequently referred to in many articles in the local press.

10. Yes. On the occasion of the flood disasters in France, Italy and Hamburg. In each case the municipal authorities contributed as much as their financial resources allowed.

11. Further town pairings are planned with municipalities in other European countries. Visits have already been made to Italy. The meetings of the Council of the European Municipalities are regularly attended, and also Europe Day in Nancy. We have fitted out a "Europe Room" in our town hall.

It would indeed give us great pleasure if a small community, which has really been extremely active on behalf of the European idea, were awarded a Europe Prize.