

BESSARABIAN RESETTLEMENT MINUTES OF 1940

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INTRODUCTION TO THE MINUTES

At the beginning of World War I, the country of Romania associated itself with the Central Powers, consisting of Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria, Germany and the Ottoman Empire.. However, in 1916, Romanian left the Central Powers and joined up with the Allied Forces. When the war came to an end in 1918, Romania was rewarded by receiving some territory beyond its border. Bessarabia was one territory which Romania was granted the right to administer, territory which Russia had to give up to Germany when it signed the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk on 3 March, 1918.

In September of 1939, Germany began its aggression into various nations, starting World War II. By 1940, it had conquered much of western Europe and was moving south and east into eastern Europe. German troops occupied Romania by October of 1940 and Romania joined the German side in the war. At the same time, the Russians were moving westward into Bessarabia in order to reclaim land they had once ruled. This set the stage for a confrontation between Germany and Russia within Bessarabia.

The following pages are a documentation of sessions held between German and Soviet military authorities from mid-September to mid-November of 1940. Meetings were held and minutes were recorded. These Minutes give an insight into what was going on within officialdom while thousands of ethnic Germans were experiencing the presence of armed forces, the confiscation of possessions, and the hurried selling of goods in preparation for an evacuation. Not just a temporary evacuation from their villages until the dust of war settled, but being permanently uprooted from Bessarabia in order to be relocated further west into more "secure" German held territory.

The material is a translation of DAI National Archives Microcopy T-81; VOMI 920; Record Group 1035; Film Roll 317; Series 535. Microfilm Frames 2447124-2447265 dealt with the logistics and reports for relocating ethnic Germans from Bukovina and Bessarabia. Immediately following those microfilm frames comes what I have chosen to call the *Bessarabian Resettlement Minutes of 1940*. A special word of thanks to Helmut Straeuli, a German speaking South African, who helped in wading through German military S.S. "official speak" recorded in Minute format.

Subject: Minutes of 15 September, 1940

Transcript

Tarutino, 15 September, 1940

Minutes

In reference to the 15 Sept. 1940 conversation with Major Weretennikow

The following had to be clarified:

The First Lieutenant [*Oberleutnant*] of the Soviets, who led the Mannsburg convoy, came today at 9 AM to the Quarters of the Senior Detachment Leader [*Oberstaffelfuehrer*] Gutsche and requested from Gutsche, that the convoy had to leave immediately. Gutsche did not know about any agreement that the convoy was supposed to get rolling at 9 AM. In this sense, he also informed the First Lieutenant and asked at the same time for permission to tow two heavy vehicles that were left behind. The First Lieutenant replied that this was none of his business, but he would have the trucks towed.

At 10:15 AM, we headed toward the assembly point of the convoy. In the meantime, the First Lieutenant had decided that he would inform his superior about this and that Detachment Leader Gutsche should report to his superior. Then Detachment Leader Gutsche headed to Regiment Leader [*Standartenfuehrer*] Hoffmeyer. The Regiment Leader gave Senior Company Commander [*Obersturmefuehrer*] Knuth the following items which he had to clarify with Major Weretennikow:

1. That nothing is known about an agreement that the convoy should depart at 9 AM.
2. The appointment of someone to accompany the towing of the two trucks.

Concerning Point 1: Senior Company Commander Knuth presented the content of point one to Major Weretennikow. Right from the beginning, Major W. was upset and spoke in a very emotional tone, throwing pencils and complained about the undisciplined behavior of some men of the Kommando, especially the Mannsburg convoy leader: Troop Leader [*NSKK-Scharfuehrer*] Grewenitz. He had refused to give his name to the First Lieutenant. He would have to select Grewenitz' document from all the carbon-copies of the Russian documents. He requested that the German main person in charge should take up the issue, otherwise he would have to report this incident to his government. Senior Company Commander Knuth confronted Grewenitz about this and Grewenitz denied decisively that such a question had ever been put before him. He requested, on his behalf, a clarification of the matter.

Concerning Point 2: When Point 2 was presented, it was immediately promised to get a Soviet person who would be assigned (to accompany the trucks). Within a few minutes the person entered and presented himself.

In addition, Major Weretennikow complained that two local authorities [*Ortsbevollmaechtigten*], Dr. Bongs and Dr. Kuebauch, drove to their districts without being accompanied by Soviets. I promised him that this matter would be investigated.

After leaving the Soviet building, Senior Company Commander Knuth met Regional Authority [*Gebietsbevollmaechtigten*] Warasak and presented the matter to him. GB Karasek knew about this matter and said that his area representative [*Gebietsvertreter*] and local soviets [*Ortssowjets*], from both places, were informed by his interpreter Loeb sack that both local authorities should only unload their baggage at the right place and at 1 PM report again to the Beresina District Office. GB Karasek immediately went to Major Weretennikow and the case was considered to be resolved.

At 1:30 PM, Senior Company Commander Knuth received the assignment from the German supreme officer, Regiment Leader Hoffmeyer, to relay to Major Weretennikow that the German superior officer requested him to come to a meeting at the German High School, at 4 PM. At the same time, it was requested whether the baggage of the Kommando in Tarutino might be distributed by means of one of their own vehicles. Major W. was still in a

meeting. The points were presented to the second in command, Captain [*Hauptmann*] Dobkin. He relayed them to Major W. , together with the assent that the whole soviet delegation would comply with the request of the supreme officer, and would be present at the German High School at 4 PM. The Soviet delegation arrived today and wanted to participate in the consultation.

Subject: Minutes of 15 September, 1940

Minutes

About the consultation on 15 September, 1940 at 4 PM. Between Staf. Hoffmeyer, his second-in-command Stubaf. Dr. Siebert, the members of the German delegation and the members of the Soviet-Russian delegation, under the chairmanship of President Wasjukow, as well as the main representative of the USSR, Major Weretennikow.

Staf. Hoffmeyer emphasized emphatically that, according to the agreement, enough rooms have to be allotted to him. The assigned rooms in the Boys High School building in Tarutino were not enough for the 39 men of the German Kommando. After the resettlement of the ethnic Germans, it would be desirable that the Kommando be allotted common living quarters which should be in the same building as the offices. Highest priority was given that the offices be located in one place and separated from everything else. This joining of work and living quarters would also make it easier for the Soviets to guard them.

The local authority of Tarutino would have to be quartered in another building.

President Wasjukow agrees to put more rooms at our disposal, which could be cleared out in the next few days. This involves 5 rooms on the ground floor. However, there would be some difficulties in clearing out these rooms. The question of the living quarters could be set aside for a while until living together becomes necessary.

Staf. Hoffmeyer emphasized emphatically that he believes that he can demand his own office building. The Area Command in Tarutino would be prepared to place their building at the disposal of the headquarter staff [*Hauptstaub*].

The president declared that, except for the Boys High School, there is no other building in Tarutino suitable for that purpose. It had been very difficult to clear the High School because the school was supposed to open the first of September. The question of relocating the offices would greatly delay the beginning of the actual work. In addition, it would be important, in the spirit of friendly cooperation, that both delegations were housed in the same building. The German headquarter staff is separated from the Russian delegation by a corridor. Of course, the rooms of the German headquarter staff would be considered as German territory.

From the German side, the following proposal was made: The headquarter staff shall be allocated [1.] the big hall, [2.] the rooms left of the main entrance, [3.] the 5 rooms on the ground floor. The headquarter staff shall be separated from the Russian delegation by a door that has to be installed.

The inspection of the rooms followed. The following arrangement was agreed upon: The headquarter staff gets the six rooms on the right of the main entrance and the five rooms on the ground floor, with an extra entrance. These rooms are to be separated from the rooms of the Soviet delegation by a door yet to be installed. In addition, the room next to the Big Hall (stage room) is to be put at the disposal of the headquarter staff as a storage room. [footnote: At the same time, this room shall be used as an archive and, to avoid misunderstandings, it shall be sealed.] If it has to be, Staf. Hoffmeyer would give up his claim to the Big Hall even though it would be desirable as a dining and common room. Major Weretennikow injected that the Soviet delegation would not need the Hall. President Wasjukow spoke against this by saying that, irrespective of the purpose that the Soviet delegation would have for the Hall, they have a right to it because the Soviet delegation had just as many members as the German headquarter staff, and they had the right to claim sufficient rooms. Therefore, the question about allocating the Hall remains open. The rooms, left of the main entrance, are allocated to the Soviet delegation.

Captain Dobkin informs Staf. Hoffmeyer that the 5 million Rubles have not yet arrived. However, the Soviet delegation would be in a position to put the money at the disposal of Staf. Hoffmeyer as an advance.

Staf. Hoffmeyer expresses his joy and gratitude about this.

President Wasjukow asks if he could get the 300 printed copies of the contract which were promised to him by General Consul Dr. Noeldeke, in Moscow. The 300 copies can be handed over immediately. Reference was made to some insignificant typing errors which President Wasjukow will correct.

Source: National Archives Microcopy T-81; VOMI 920; Record Group 1035; Film Roll 317; Series 535
Frames 2447441-2447442

Subject: Minutes of 16 September, 1940

Minutes

Concerning the conversation between the Head Authority [*Hauptbevollmaechtige-HB*] and the second-in-command of the Main Government Representative [*Stellvertreter Hauptregierungsvertreter--HRV*] Captain Dobkin.

Monday, 16 September, 1940

Began: 11:45 AM Ended: 12:45 PM

1. Complaint of the HB concerning the treatment of the German Truck convoy upon entering the areas. Complaint denied because Dobkin is personally involved in this matter. Advised to make it in writing.
2. Complaint about the arrest of two ethnic Germans from Wittenberg, immediate investigation and halting such actions is promised. In the meantime, they have been released.
3. Question of prisoners. HRV is notified that, according to the documentation up to now, five ethnic Germans have been imprisoned. Notification about this will come from the HB in writing by means of listing the individual cases. Promise that the agreed upon release will be carried out.
4. Complaint by the HB about unjustified demands of the Soviet authorities against ethnic Germans. It has to do with the exacting of taxes. Soviet authorities demand wheat deliveries that exceed the existing amount of wheat on hand.

The HRV refers to the fact that it has to do with the Soviet laws and that the Soviet laws must not be violated. Consequently, their exacting of monetary taxes is legitimate. HB responds that a change of the law is not intended, but that through the Relocation Treaty with the Soviet Union, certain laws of the Soviet Union make allowance for certain amendments during the time of relocation. HB points out that he feels responsible for the local ethnic Germans. He has to insist on the immediate halting of unjustified demands, especially the threats.

Written notification, with supporting documents, will follow as soon as possible.

Investigation of the cases and putting a stop to (unjustified demands) was promised.

5. Regarding the working of the fields, HB is of the opinion that as long as the Resettlers are still in their colonies, they have the obligation to work their fields. This duty comes to an end as soon as the Resettlers get so occupied with the preparations of their resettlement, that they are not able to work their fields anymore.
6. Clarification of taking cash along, in Lei, according to the Treaty. Agreement achieved.
7. Complaint that crew members [2 men] on a tug, lying before Kilia, will be arrested. At the same time, requesting to leave the tug in Kilia because, in rainy weather, it offers shelter for 600 people. HRV does not believe that he is authorized to make a decision. He asks Mr. With to consult with the specialist in charge of transportation on the Soviet side, Major Sinetschenko; to go together with him to Kilia; to resolve the matter then and there.

Signed: Hoffmeyer

Subject: Minutes of 16 September, 1940

Addendum

To the minutes concerning the consultation between the Supreme Authority and the second-in-command of the Main Government Representative, Captain Dobkin, on Monday, 16 September, 1940

The HB expresses his amazement that the agreement of the day before, regarding the Hall, is not adhered to. The Hall is absolutely needed because the rooms that are available to them are very small.

Captain Dobkin declares that such an agreement regarding the Hall had never been made. Only a room adjacent to the Hall was to have been made available to the German Kommando for keeping files. This room was supposed to be locked and sealed by the German delegation.

The HB points out that his co-workers had also heard about agreement that the Hall should be made available to the German Kommando. During the consultations, the HB is said to have agreed, at first, to a division of the rooms by a separating wall which made the Hall available to the Soviet delegation. But after Major Weretennikow relinquished the claim to the Hall, the HB considered the Hall to belong to the German Kommando. In the evening, this was also expressed by the Adjutant of Major Weretennikow.

Mr. Dobkin said again, that this agreement was not made. He was not alone, but a large number of members of the Russian delegation were present at the consultation. He emphasized that he could not relinquish the Hall because, according to the Treaty, the Soviet delegation has to have the same number of staff that is granted to the German delegation.

Therefore, the HB relinquishes the Hall in view of the fact that he had offered the Hall to the Russian delegation on the previous day. But he emphasized explicitly that, in principle, he and his co-worker were right. In order to facilitate peaceful continuation of the work, he withdraws his claim to the Hall. He emphasizes that the work is only possible on the basis of mutual trust.

Captain Dobkin noted that in the first Resettlement, the work went on without friction, and hopes that in this Resettlement, the work will turn out to be even better.

Further points were also discussed:

HB had received a message that two Resettlers from Wittenberg were arrested and brought here to Tarutino. The name of the one is already known, the second name is yet to be reported.

Captain Dobkin notes for himself the name Baisch, and promises to get the necessary information from the Soviet authorities in charge.

Furthermore, the HB notes that four more German Resettlers are being held in custody in Tarutino. Also, in this case, Captain Dobkin promises to make the necessary arrangements.

According to a phone message from Kilia, the Soviet authorities there are giving trouble because of the German tug that arrived there, and because of the two sailors on board, who were offered as operating staff by the DDSG.

Captain Dobkin refers to a consultation that took place between him and O'Stuf. Knuth a few days ago. He had informed O'Stuf. Knuth that barges for Kilia would not be necessary. He had agreed that, for Reni only, one barge convoy [*ein Schleppe*] would be offered from the German side. In Kilia, he had made an inspection and concluded that the transport there could be carried out without friction.

Stubaf. Dr. Siebert refers to the fact that this barge convoy was supposed to serve as an emergency shelter for the ethnic Germans, as protection from rain for the Resettlers.

Captain Dobkin declares that a shelter for 200 settlers has been built in Kilia. That would be sufficient since the Resettlement would not happen all at once. The barge convey could not function as a shelter for the Resettlers because, after passing through the border control, they are supposed to be evacuated immediately by the steamship. After passing through the border control, the Resettlers are subject to the border authorities and not any more to the Russian Resettlement Commission.

For questions related to transportation , a special manager was installed by the Russian delegation. This is Major Sincjenko. Major Sincjenko is immediately available to O'Stuf. With for consultations about questions concerning transportation. The HB expressed his thanks for this ruling and requests the shelving of the questions regarding the barge convoy in Kilia until both transport managers have come up with a ruling. In any case, the two sailors of the barge convoy must be guaranteed immunity.

Furthermore, HB informs Captain Dobkin that the German Resettlers should supply wheat to the Soviet authorities. Here he refers to the treaty in which the Soviet government guarantees the security of the German Resettlers' property up to their resettlement.

Captain Dobkin declares in response that the wheat-tax is based on general laws of the USSR and that the German Resettlers had to be seen as citizens of the USSR. As such, they are subject to the laws of the USSR.

The HB points out that in the Treaty, ratified on a friendly basis in Moscow, contains several points which contradict the general laws of the USSR. One instance in point, USSR citizens are released from the Russian Union.

Captain Dobkin emphasizes again that it is not within his power to change the laws of the USSR.

The HB declares that he fully understands that laws must be observed. However, it has come to his notice that the German Resettlers only have a little wheat at their disposal because of the extremely cold winter. The responsible Soviet authorities, however, are demanding certain amounts of wheat under the threat of reprisal.

Captain Dobkin remarks, concerning this, that he has been in Tarutino for a long period of time, that he had traveled through the German colonies without witnessing any such cases. He requests that these cases should therefore be submitted in writing so that he could investigate the matter and take the necessary steps.

The HB informs that all car trips outside Tarutino are reported to the Russian delegation in writing so that they can receive an escort.

The HB, furthermore, refers to Article 3 of paragraph 5a. According to this Article, all cash amounts arising from the sale of real estate and other property are released [so that it can be] taken out of the country. The only proof needed for these cash amounts are the appropriate receipts. Only the amounts which the Resettlers possess in cash, at the moment, must be handed over to the bank.

The HB requests Captain Dobkin to find out whether a phone connection with Galatz, concerning the newly built bridge, is possible, because this would be of great importance for the work of resettling. Captain Dobkin will try to get the necessary information. As far as he know, this will cause problems.

The HB mentions that the question of setting up of two radio stations had been discussed at the completion of the treaty in Moscow. Captain Dobkin regrets not being able to provide any information concerning this matter.

The HB expresses his regrets about the fact that he was unable to reach the German Consulate in Moscow, and the phone conversations with Kischinev, and other places, were barely audible. Captain Dobin responds to this that phone conversations in the evenings, or at night, have a better reception.

The manager of the transport section of the USSR, Major Sintschenko is introduced to Mr. With. The HB greets Major Sintschenko and emphasizes that Major Sintschenko has a responsible part in the historical task of the Resettlement.

Source: National Archives Microcopy T-81; VOMI 920; Record Group 1035; Film Roll 317; Series 535
Frames 2447437-2447440

Subject: Minutes #3

Concerning the discussion between Messrs. Talalaijewski and Elisarenko and SS Company Commander Knuth on 16 September, 1940.

Re: Providing the German Kommandos with gasoline and making provision for Soviet escorts for trips outside Tarutino.

Following points need to be clarified with Mr. Talalaijewski:

1. Providing gasoline
2. Making provision for Soviet escorts

Re 1: Mr. Talalaijewski promised us 20 tonnes of gasoline. The vouchers for them may be obtained today, 16 September, 1940 at 7:00 PM.

Re 2: The Soviet escorts are to be requested, either by telephone or in writing, from Mr. Talalaijewski, Phone #26. It was agreed with Mr. Talalaijewski that the escorts would report to the transport section of the Staff Headquarters.

Re 1 at 7:00 PM: Present were Mr. Talalaijewski and Mr. Elizarenko.

Firstly, we were given a voucher for 20 tonnes, which equals 20,000 liters, of gasoline for the gasoline depot at Beresina. At the same time, Mr. Elizarenko informed us about the existence of the following filling stations:

For Tarutino: Tarutino Station
For Mannsburg: Ackermann Station (distance approx. 50 km)
For Beresina: Beresina Station
For Albota: Bolgrad Station (distance approx. 20 km)
For Kischinev: Kischinev Station
For Kilia: Kilia Station
For Reni: Reni Station

The possibility of more filling stations was mentioned. The filling stations are open from 9:00 AM until 6:00 PM. The price of the gasoline is 90 kopek per liter. Immediate payment is not necessary. The invoices are to be collected and presented for payment. Besides this, in cases of emergency, bills are issued upon receiving smaller amounts of 5 to 10 liters, etc.

Tarutino, 16 September, 1940

Subject: Minutes [#5]

Concerning the discussion between the German Head Authority [HB] and Captain Dobkin on 17 September, 1940, 11:00 AM until noon.

1. Captain Dobkin's complaint about two members of the staff who allegedly photographed military installations. Major unpleasantness with the local military authorities who wanted to arrest the two staff members. Those in question are Scheirer and Moebius, who were then detained by Captain Dobkin.

As a result of this incident, the HB issued an order to all area authorities and shipping authorities. The order is read out loud. Everybody who opposes this regulation will be excluded from the Kommando and sent back across the border.

2. Concerning the question discussed on the previous day, about the two arrested from the Mannsburg column, Captain Dobkin noted that they, in fact, had not been arrested. The local Soviet authorities had only checked their [two men] documents and sent them back to their designated place, Klein-Jaroslaw.

The HB is informed about the settlement of this matter.

3. The question about the German barge convoy in Kilia is postponed until Major Weretennikow has responded to the HB's letter concerning this matter.

4. Question of tax payments about which negotiations already took place the previous day. Captain Dobkin says that this question can not be solved either by Major Weretennikow, or by him, or by the German HB because this is an absolutely fundamental matter. The HB points out repeatedly that he does not oppose the payment of tax but only that more is demanded of the ethnic Germans than they can afford. Such cases have occurred repeatedly and will be recorded in writing and reported. At present, there are 40 such cases in which ethnic Germans are required to hand over wheat which they don't have.

Should it be that this question can not be resolved by the Soviet representative, the HB would be compelled to request a clarification from either Moscow or Berlin.

Captain Dobkin requests a written listing of the individual cases. He himself will conduct the investigation.

5. Dr. Bestvater posed a question to Captain Dobkin about a medical train which was supposedly to be made available for the transport of sick people. Dobkin explained that a medical train was not available, but only a train with light cars. Each car could carry 16 sick people. 20 cars are needed.

6. Dr. Bestvater requests permission that the nurses, who accompanied the transport of the sick to Reni, be returned to their home towns by German buses for further service. If necessary, these nurses are to be issued with work documents for ethnic Germans.

Captain Dobkin has no objection, but the nurses must first be registered as Resettlers.

7. Captain Dobkin calls attention to a number of cases of fire damage which occurred in Beresina, Tarutino and other places, and always among ethnic Germans. In particular, grain, straw, etc. are burned. Such fires were not in the interest of either the Soviet side, or the German side. Therefore, Captain Dobkin requested that the German side would also do all that was necessary to prevent such incidences.

The HB agreed to send strict orders to the district authorities, local authorities and also to the Peoples' Groups [*Volksgruppe*], but also requests a careful investigation of these acts of sabotage which would be carried out only by an element that had an interest in breaking down the good cooperation between the German and Soviet side. The HB could not accept that the ethnic Germans were blamed of acts of sabotage before the cases were solved.

Captain Dobkin emphasizes that he had not spoken of acts of sabotage, but only of individual cases. He would take precautions to prevent any more such cases and requests the HB to do the same.

8. The HB mentions the poor telephone connections to other places. Captain Dobkin will see to it.

9. The HB requests final clarification about the money question. Ten days ago, the HB had already received a written communication from the Foreign Office that the money had been sent off weeks ago and was available to him. It is embarrassment to the HB and the German Commission not to have any money and having to approach the Soviets for every little thing.

In regard to this, Captain Dobkin points out that President Wasjukow, Arkadjef and Weretennikow have already departed. A draft of 20,000 Rubles has already been issued.

10. The HB wants to know the position concerning life insurance policies which ethnic Germans are in possession of, which were taken out with German insurance companies.

Captain Dobkin is convinced that the solution to this problem should not give any problems.

11. The ethnic Germans have made a request to conduct Memorial Services in their congregations next Sunday. Captain Dobkin can't give a definite answer. He will discuss the question with Major Weretennikow and then submit it to the concerned Local Soviet Authorities.

12. About a question by the HB concerning the electrical light, Captain Dobkin informs that the inadequate lighting is due to the fact that there is only a very small engine here, and furthermore, there isn't enough fuel. Captain Dobkin has already requisitioned fuel and hope that this question will be solved satisfactorily in the near future.

Minutes #6

Concerning the discussion between Major Sintschenko and Mr. With on 16 September, 1940, from 6:00 to 7:00 PM.

Present: Major Sintschenko
Mr. With
Mr. Doerk
Mr. Hasat
Translator Luithle

1. Major Sintschenko informs that, for the time being, the barge convoy [*Standtschlepp*] in Kilia, including the crew, may remain in Kilia until 18 September, 1940. After the return of Major Weretennikow, the question whether the transport may remain in Kilia, with or without its crew, is to be finally discussed. After this discussion with Weretennikow, it is proposed that Messrs. Sintschenko and With travel together to Kilia for the purpose of discussing questions about border control and emergency accommodation.
2. Major Sintschenko was informed that a special transport from Section III, with approximately 300 seriously ill patients from Arzis, Sarata and Beresina, is to take place on 25 September, 1940. On handing over the written notification, the provision of 20 light rail cars was requested. The transport will be accompanied by 30 to 40 nurses and orderlies, as well as a transport leader [Dr. Franke]. After arrival at Reni, the accompanying personnel, having transferred the sick onto the [barges], are to be returned to their bases by two buses. Major Sintschenko gives his approval for the use of the train. This train can be inspected by Section III in Sarata 48 hours before departure. Details are to be immediately discussed between Section III and Major Sintschenko. Alternatively, with the Senior Doctor of the Soviet side.
3. Then Major Sintschenko was informed about the basic requests for implementing the transport. He was informed that:
 - a. From Bukovina, 37 trains to travel via Stanislau, Stryj, Sambor, Olchowce, Novy-agorsa to Sanck. It is requested that provision of warm beverages be available for sale at the stations of Stanislau, Stryj and Sambor.
 - b. In addition, it is pointed out to Major Sintschenko that it is planned to have a transport of 150 horses [reference to the German/Soviet Agreement]. In addition, it was requested to give each Resettler train 2 to 3 additional baggage cars for the loading of baggage.

Because of the poor condition of the track between Tarutino and Tzernowitz, we proposed from our side that the Transport Directives for Bukovina should not be taken directly by the Head Authority, or by the Chief Deputy. However, it would be appropriate if the Area Authority at Tzernowitz were to notify Captain Moskalenko, who together with the Rail Authority at Tzernowitz, is directly responsible for the preparation of the trains. Major Sintschenko proposed to travel to Tzernowitz, together with the undersigned, in a few days time to deal with transport questions on site.

- a. Bessarabia. Major Sintschenko was informed about the different types of transport which are:
 1. Truck transports
 2. Trek transports
 3. Rail transports

Re 1: Major Sintschenko was informed about the approximate division of truck transports for the harbors of Kilia and Reni and for the Pruth River crossing. Concerning the clearance at the Pruth crossing we proposed that the arriving Resettlers for border clearance be allowed to stay on their trucks. The arriving truck columns from Galatz to be directed to Soviet territory, there to change drivers so that the drivers, who possess a Soviet visa, can travel to the next settlement with the trucks arriving from Galatz, from where, on the next day, the transports can be processed. Thereby, the Resettlers will not have to change trucks and the drivers employed in the Soviet territory

can leave sooner. From his side, Major Sintschenko had no objections to these proposals with the proviso that it would be approved by the Soviet Border Command.

Re 2: An approximate overview of the proposed treks and the handing over of a list containing the proposed plans for overnight stops, especially also the places where fodder replenishment was to take place, was promised for 17 September, 1940. Major Sintschenko offered, from his side, to make the arrangements for hot beverages. During the next days, we, from our side, must work toward obtaining Soviet permission for the establishment of trek guards which are to consist of ethnic German emergency Kommando.

The fodder replenishment and preparing of hot beverages is to be carried out by this organization as a way of self-help. The fodder replenishment is to be restricted to the taking of fodder from the ethnic German settlement which has been designated for replenishment. The transport of fodder from outlying areas will probably not be permitted by the Soviets.

Minutes #7

Concerning the discussion between the HB and Captain Dobkin on 18 September, 1940, at 1:00 PM and 3:30 PM.

The HB points out that a number of points are to be clarified which can hardly be clarified in the absence of Major Weretennikow.

Captain Dobkin points out that Major W. will only return on the night of 19 September and requests that these points be discussed with himself beforehand.

1. The money question, which is becoming evermore urgent. This question is being discussed at Kishinev at the moment.
2. The question concerning tax payments. The HB is urgently awaiting a response to his letter in which he put forward proposals to the Soviet side in this regard.
3. The question about preparing the fields. Some farmers could not come to register because they were being forced to do field work. In addition, they need time to prepare for the Resettling. Also, the assessment of their property can not take place in their absence.

Captain Dobkin declares that he is unable to instruct the Soviet powers to discontinue the field work. This lies outside the jurisdiction of the Resettlement Commission. In any case, there is no mention in the treaty prohibiting the requisitioning of farmers for field work.

The HB responds that there is also nothing in the treaty requiring it.

4. The farmers are not getting receipts from the buyers for their sales. Even some military establishments have refused to issue such receipts. On this issue, the HB must register his opposition that in the treaty these receipts are required

Captain Dobkin observes that private parties can not be forced to issue such receipts. Before making such sales, the farmers should come to such an understanding [with the buyers]. Certainly, the HB can not name any cases where the receipts were issued and not stamped by the local Soviet authorities.

Such cases are known to the HB and proof of will be handed over to the Soviet side.

Continuation of the discussions at 3:30 PM

Captain Dobkin asks whether the receipts, for which payment was refused, were for Lei or Ruble. He proposes that the leadership of the Ethnic Group [*Volksgruppe*] issue a directive: that they should agree on the issuing of receipts before the sale has been finalized.

Receipts are only necessary for sales in Lei-transactions, as Ruble transactions have to be deposited at banks, in any case.

5. In some cases, radios were confiscated from ethnic Germans. In one case, a typewriter was to be confiscated. It is requested that appropriate directives be given to the Soviet authorities.
6. Question concerning diplomas, masters certificates, etc., which, according to Romanian law, had to be filed with the District Court. These individual cases are to be consolidated and handed over to the Soviet Commission as one, with the request to issue these documents to the people concerned upon written application.

7. The OB of Wittenberg makes it known that the Soviet Local Representative does not have an official seal.

Captain Dobkin responds that Soviet Local Representatives did not have seals, but that the work would not suffer as a result.

8. Permission is requested to allow ambulances, each with four seriously ill persons, to pass across the border without prior notice. The question of notice would not have caused problems if, as had been promised by Moscow, the telephones were in working order. The HB still has no telephone connection to the Reich. Somehow the connection must be established as far as to Reni. Captain Dobkin points out that a telephone connection with Mannsburg has already been established and that they are striving for a connection to Reni.

9. There have been a number of cases in which the Local Authority, while accompanying the Soviet Local Representative to the homes of ethnic Germans, to assess the property, were denied entry because soldiers of the Red Army were quartered there. According to the agreement, it has been established that an OB has the right, at all times, to enter the homes of ethnic German Resettlers.

Captain Dobkin says that an OB will not be denied entry into the home of a Resettler for the purpose of assessing property if he is accompanied by a Soviet Local Representative, according to the agreement. Except in such special cases, the OB has no business entering the homes of Resettlers. In any case, the Soviet Resettlement Commission has no right to issue directives to Red Army, as it does not belong to the Red Army or the Soviet Forces.

The HB directs the question to Captain Dobkin whether the Resettlement Agreement is an agreement between the two resettlement commission or between the two States. The Agreement should be fully binding also for the Red Army. It is obvious that such an agreement makes things possible which otherwise are forbidden by law.

Captain Dobkin injects that on the side of the Soviet delegation not a single point of the Agreement has been broken. The Soviet side keeps strictly to the stipulations as laid down by the Agreement. It is possible to interpret the single points of the Agreement differently; however, the Soviet side keeps strictly to the stipulations.

The HB once again states, even though the other question has not been clarified beforehand, that the OB, accompanied by the Soviet Local Representative, has the right to enter the home of a Resettler for the purpose of assessing the property even if members of the Red Army have been quartered in that house.

Captain Dobkin agrees. He himself will travel to Wittenberg to give the appropriate instruction there once more.

10. In Wittenberg, a hunting rifle was confiscated from a Resettler. According to Paragraph 5g, Art. 3, it is permitted to keep a hunting rifle. Should the rifle not be returned, he must be compensated for it.

Captain Dobkin agrees to this question.

11. Problems have arisen with the quartering of the Kommando of the vehicle columns. There is a directive from Captain Dobkin according to which Germans can not be accommodated in houses in which the Red Army has been quartered.

Captain Dobkin points out that he is unable to give such directives as there is a military authority in the place which supercedes him. They have informed him of such a directive. The accommodation of the Kommando should, in such a case, not pose any problems.

12. The HB makes a request that he would like to visit the city commander of Tarutino.

Captain Dobkin says that a meeting with the city commander, either officially or at the occasion of a banquet, will be made possible.

Minutes #8

Concerning the discussion of 19 September, 1940 from 4:00-6:15 PM

Present:	German Side:	Soviet Side:
	Staf. Hoffmeyer	Major Weretennikow
	Stubaf. Dr. Siebert	Delegation Secretary
	Stubaf. Dr. Bestvater	
	O'Stuf. Knuth	
	Mrs. Finkenauer	

The HB expresses his delight that he can meet with Major Weretennikow personally to clear up the basic difficult questions which need to be resolved.

1. As a condition of the roads is very poor, especially on the route Reni to Tarutino, permission is requested that ethnic German workers may repair that route. They are to be transported to the designated work places by bus, with an escort of one or two Soviet escorts. The place and time are to be announced in writing when this work is to take place.

There is no opposition from the Soviet side.

2. The question of insufficient phone connections is raised once again. It is a particularly unpleasant question in view of the fact that treks will shortly be reporting at the border crossings.

President Wasjukow is negotiating in Kischinev concerning this matter.

3. Moskolenko, the Area Representative for Bukovina, was of the opinion that the local German representative of the Head Authority [HB] had no right to contact the German Consulate.

Major Weretennikow has already been informed and he has given Moskolenko his orders and informed him that his opinion is wrong.

4. As a result of the insufficient telephone connections, the transport trains for Bukovina can not be reported here. The HB proposes that his representative for Bukovina, Mr. Muller notifies Mr. Moskolenko about the trains.

Major Weretennikow agrees to this.

5. The question concerning the barge convoy in Kilia. Because of the preparations of the landing pier by the Soviets, the barge convoy is no longer necessary. Out of purely humanitarian reasons, the HB requests for permission to leave the barge convoy in Kilia so that it may serve as an emergency accommodation for ethnic Germans who have already passed through the border controls. The two sailors are needed as service personnel on the convoy. Under no conditions may they leave the convoy. The proposal is made that Mr. With negotiate the question, about these two sailors staying there, with the Soviet expert, Mr. Sintschenko, on site.

Major Weretennikow gives permission for the convoy to remain in Kilia. As far as the two sailors are concerned, he believes that the Soviet border authorities will deny permission.

The question is postponed until Mr. With and Mr. Sintschenko return from Kilia.

6. Very seriously ill patients, from outlying villages, are to be transported, three to four at a time, per ambulance, over the Pruth Bridge to the sick bay in Galatz. The border authorities may be notified by telegram about the ambulances on the evening before.

Major Weretennikow says that this goes against the stipulations of the treaty and, for this reason, would not be allowed by the border authorities. It is decided that these ambulances should be attached to the treks. However, at the border they are to be given priority clearance so as to spare the patients the long wait at the border.

7. The first medical train is to be dispatched on 25 September. It is not possible to hand in a complete transport list beforehand because the registration and listing of the assets of the patients is too complicated a process. The procedure is that the OBs set up the lists of the sick in their locality which are then handed over to the transport leader of the medical train when the patients are put on the train. As the patients need to be distributed in various coaches according to medical condition, a new list will be set up during the journey to the border which will correspond to the distribution of the patients in the coaches. The checks at the border control will be done according to the lists of the coaches. On the general lists, which must be forwarded to the border by car, the corresponding coach numbers are to be listed.

8. The question of taxes. The HB has presented his proposals to the Soviets in writing and requests their response.

Because Major Weretennikow was absent for a number of days, he was not able to give closer attention to the questions put forward by the HB and to negotiate with the relevant Soviet authorities. He hopes that he will be able to come up with the final solution to this question in the next two days.

9. The question about the field work. Some of the farmers are required to transport their grain 50-100 km and do not find the time to carry out the necessary preparations for Resettlement. It is requested that there be a quick decision in this regard.

Major W. says that this question is so closely linked to the question of the taxes that they need to be considered together.

10. The HB requests a decision on the question of the valuation of the assets, which already proved to be the most difficult question at the previous Resettlement. It was not right that the harvest still standing in the fields was not included in the valuation, also wooden houses, etc. The Soviet representatives, in principle, only estimated 10% of the value, which the German experts listed. It was agreed in Moscow, in cases of doubt, to use the fire insurance policies [to arrive at the evaluation figure]. In most cases, however, there were none. The HB proposes that the experts of both sides should discuss these matters thoroughly so that uniform guidelines could be passed on to the GB's, OB's and the corresponding Soviet representative. According to the reports received, it seems that in most cases there is hardly any agreement. For example, it should not be possible that a good milk cow should be valued at only 40 rbl., and that wells, which cost great sums to construct, were not valued at all.

Major W. admits that such cases were unacceptable. He had already given his area and local representatives directives. He requested written documentation of cases in which such unacceptable valuations took place. He said that it is not possible to solve these questions theoretically [am grünen Tisch]. Rather, the cases should be resolved individually. Major W wants to discuss this question with his specialists and then give a final verdict. He expresses the hope that, also in this case, agreement can be reached.

11. The HB once again points out that the Local Soviet Representatives do not have official stamps and requests that, as a result, delays should not be allowed to take place.

12. The HB has received various reports that young unmarried farmers are not recognized as "individual units" and, furthermore, that marriages which took place after the annexation to Bessarabia to the Soviet Union are not recognized, the reason given being that these marriages only took place for economic advantage.

Major Weretennikow states that it is not always clear in such cases whether it is a question of economic advantage or not. In any case, one will have to deal with similar cases individually and agreement will be found.

13. At his return to Tarutino, Major Weretennikow was informed that film recordings were made on the German side without commission of the Soviet authorities. This is contrary to the treaty and he requests the HB to take the necessary steps to prevent similar occurrences.

The HB expresses his regrets concerning the case and has already given strict directives to the GBs. Mr. Dobkin has received a copy of this directive.

14. Major Weretennikow states that numerous cases have been reported to him which GBs, OBs, etc. have left their place of residence without a Soviet escort. Such cases were reported from Mannburg, Reni, Albota, etc.

The HB has informed his GBs of these occurrences and given stern directives not to leave the place without Soviet escorts. This matter will not cause any further complaints.

15. Major W. points out that no lists of ethnic German helpers, who have been brought in to help in the headquarters and in the area commands, have been presented to the Soviet side.

The HB had already told Mr. Dobkins, on the previous day, that the lists of Resettlers brought in as helpers would be handed over today. The Area Commands have received the corresponding instructions.

The HB asks whether the two ethnic Germans, who are not specifically detailed to help out, but only do telephone duty at night, should be included in the quota of the 20 ethnic Germans permitted as helpers. Major W. says that the German Headquarters have been given a quota of 20 ethnic German helpers and the Soviet side was not interested in their assignment.

The HB expresses his appreciation that these difficult questions could be dealt with in such an objective manner by Major Weretennikow.

Minutes #9

Concerning the discussion of 22 September, 1940, from 5:00 to 7:00 PM

Present:	German Side:	Soviet Side:
	Staf. Hoffmeyer	Major Weretennikow
	Staubaf. Dr. Siebert	Captain Dobkin
	Translator Lambert	Captain Solotuchin
	Mrs. Finkenauer	Delegation secretary

1. On 23 September, at 7:00 AM, the first truck column is to be set in motion. Major Sintschenko has been informed. The Soviet local representative has, however, not received notification and refuses to let the column proceed.

Major Weretennikow says that his second deputy, Captain Martenoff, has already left to clear up this misunderstanding.

2. As Major Weretennikow has not read the document which was handed over earlier in the afternoon of 22 September, the HB once again takes a detailed look into the three points: a) Listing of assets, b) Question about taxation, c) Field preparation. He emphatically stresses that some of the cases mentioned in the letter of actions on the Soviet side are clear transgressions of the stipulations of the treaty. The HB expresses the hope that an agreement can be reached between him and Major W. Otherwise, he would be forced to come up with another arrangement.

Major W. shares the view that the registration and listing of assets should take place at the same time. In the cases where the representatives of the German Kommando were prevented from entering the homes of ethnic Germans is due to the fact that the German representatives, at times, tried to enter houses, in which the Red Army was quartered, in the absence of Soviet officers or their wives. In addition, Soviet military authorities have reported that, in a number of occasions, GB and OB have been stopped, while photographing in places where Soviet military troop detachments are camped. That is a further reason why the military authorities are preventing entry into ethnic German homes in which Soviets have been quartered.

The HB emphasizes once more that he would hold any men of his Kommando accountable who act in an undisciplined manner and who photograph the Soviet side without permission. He requests a listing of the individual cases and that the confiscated cameras be returned. These will not be handed over to the owners, but will remain in charge of the HB.

Major W. raises a complaint that twenty minutes ago Mr. Moebius was seen in Tarutino, carrying a camera, without Soviet accompaniment. He had no permit allowing him to take pictures. The HB points out that Mr. Moebius received permission from Captain Solotuchin to take pictures at a wedding celebration at 5:00 PM. Mr. Moebius was on his way to the duty station to get the permit and to go with the designated Soviet escort to the wedding celebration. Except for this one case, where Moebius took pictures a few days ago without permission, in which case the camera was opened and the film was ruined. The HB emphatically emphasizes that no further similar cases are known to him. Furthermore, he requests a written list from Major W. of the other known cases. Should cases be brought to his attention of violations of his explicit order, he will hold the men accountable.

The question about the preparation of the fields and of taxes can not be resolved by the Soviet Commission as it does not fall into their realm of concern. These questions were put before the Area Soviets in the various areas, with the requests to resolve them quickly. Major W. hopes that this will be cleared up in one to two days.

The HB emphasizes that he must demand the resolution of these questions by Tuesday evening, because cases have been brought to his attention in which any further delays in resolving them is unacceptable. Should a resolution not

take place by that time, the HB will have to request the representative of the AA, Dr. Kleist to present this issue in Moscow. The HB wants to call his GB to Tarutino as soon as possible to give them his instructions.

Major W. can not guarantee that the deadline will be met because it is not within his authority to give directives to the Republican Soviet authorities. He wants to phone Kiev to get a response. This response will be conveyed immediately to the German HB. He was constantly trying to avoid unpleasantness. For example, after examining the case, he directed Mr. Solotuchin to call to account the citizen who had behaved so badly at the wedding. He would not allow that the Resettlers be subjected to any threatening behavior from the Soviets.

Regretfully, the HB feels compelled to give a written report concerning a number of such cases to Major W. in which Soviet officials abused their position to obtain private advantage. The HB requests a decision about the question concerning the requisition of horses, which the German farmers need for the treks.

To clear up the cases of horse requisitioning, Major W. sent Mr. Rosowski to the places where such cases were reported.

The HB had reported cases in which Soviet military personnel, who had traveled to the villages to buy household goods from the Resettlers, were prevented from entering the villages. Already in Moscow, the HB had pointed out that it would be difficult for the Resettlers to sell their household goods, their cattle, etc., and that it would be better to prevent any sales from taking place. What has happened has proved him right. He would compile the cases and report them to his superiors.

Major W. emphasizes that he and his commander take great pains to observe the treaty and guarantee that it is carried out to the letter.

The HB requests a final and clear decision about the question of the valuation of assets to which he once again referred to in his today's documentation.

Major W. states that President Wasjukow is discussing this question with his specialists in Czernowitz and, after arriving in Tarutino tomorrow or the next day, will give the HB the decision.

Major W. promises a resolution of the question of the preparation of the fields, as well as the other two fundamental questions.

Major W. requests that the notification of the transports be presented in good time because the transport lists must be handed over to the border authorities two to three days in advance.

Responding to the objection by the HB that he was not in the position, and not required by the treaty, and furthermore, at the previous Resettlement, the presenting of the transport lists in advance had not been required. Major W. and Captain Dobkin stated that at the previous Resettlement the transports lists had been presented two to three days in advance and that it was expressly noted in the treaty.

The HB points out that he had emphatically emphasized in Moscow that the transport lists could not be drawn up so early and, for this reason, it was included in the treaty that the notification of the transports should take place two to three days in advance, but the transport lists did not need to be handed over at the same time. This was impossible for the simple reason that the telephone connection to Reni and other places did not work and too few cars were available to get the lists to the border on time. In these cases, the Soviet authorities should be required to receive the lists. Even the telegraph connection is unreliable because, for example, conveying urgent state telegrams over a distance of 80-100 km had taken over 24 hours. Because of the condition of the roads and the inadequate means of communication, this demand can not be met. Precisely for that reason, this wording was adopted in the treaty.

This question is to be discussed once more tomorrow morning with the Soviet Commission.

The HB has received directives from the Reich [German government] to send the brother of Mr. Broneske, in Kischinev, with his family, in the first transport to Germany since he will be appointed to the task of taking care of the Resettlement Camps. Mr. Broneske, from Tarutino, is also to be resettled to the Reich as soon as possible so that

he can help out there. There have been reports from Kischinev that problems have been raised against Mr. Broneske's departure. He has been repeatedly questioned at Kischinev. For this reason, also, an immediate departure would be desirable.

Major W. declares that nothing is standing in the way to prevent this. Captain Dobkin will convey this directive to Mr. Scharapurin. Mr. Broneske may travel with the first transport of the sick on 25 September.

The HB requests that the following case be resolved. At the nationalizing of his business of the ethnic German, Artus Steinke, two teams of horses were also confiscated, although they did not belong to the business but were kept by him for his personal use. Major W. consents that the case should be looked into with the local Soviets.

The deputy HB, Mueller, at Czernowitz, has reported that his transport escorts, who are to accompany the transports to Sanok, have no multiple re-entry permits as a result of a mistake on the part of the Germans. The HB requests special concession in this case.

Major W. will negotiate this questions with General Osokin.

The HB requests that the promised advance of the money which still has not arrived be given to him. A telegram from Narkomindal, Sobilew has already arrived, stating that the money has been allocated.

Major W. promises that 75,000 may be picked up on 23 September, at 11 AM.

The HB asks whether he may take Major W. along in his car for the clearance of the first transport at Kilia.

Major W. hopes that he will find the time to fit in this trip.

Minutes #10

Concerning the discussion on 24 September, 1940, from 9:00 to 11:30 PM

Present:	German Side:	Soviet Side:
	Staf. Hoffmeyer	Major Weretennikow
	Stubaf. Dr. Siebert	Miss Nikiforowa
	Stubaf. Dr. Bestvater	
	Dr. Wolfrum	
	O'Stuf. Knuth	
	Senior Country Squire [<i>Oberjunker</i>] Jensen	
	Translator Lambert	
	Mrs. Finkenauer	

Dr. Bestvater raises [*anschnneiden*] the question of transport lists. These are to be handed over to the Transport Leader and, at the border, to be handed over to the Border Commander. This concerns the two trains transporting the sick, the first of which is to leave on the 25 September and the second shortly thereafter. The lists of the transports for 25 September have been completed, except a few which the responsible Soviet Area Representatives have refused to sign. This is the case in Sarata.

Major W. has directed the Soviet representative, Friedmann, to sign the list. Where the Soviet representatives have correctly understood the directive, the lists were signed. In the other cases, the Soviet representatives believed that the Soviet Transport Leader should sign the lists. This misunderstanding has been cleared up. In summary, at the places where the sick were registered and gathered, the lists are prepared. The Soviet representative signs it and stamps it. The result of this is that there will be a number of lists. The lists are handed over to the Transport Train Leader at each gathering point and, at the border crossing point, they are handed over to the Border Commander. To speed up the process at the border, the Transport Leader is to draw up a list of cars and to add the number of the car next to the name of the person, on the transport list, who is lying in that car.

Dr. Bestvater requests that the loading times for the sick transport train be adhered to strictly in order to avoid delays. Two trains are coming from different directions and are to meet at Bessarabska. Both trains are to arrive at Bessarabska at the same time.

Agreement was reached that in cases of emergency, these ambulances be allowed to cross individually. The Soviet Area Representatives refuse to sign the transport lists in such cases. It is requested that a general ruling be made, that in emergencies, that sick people be permitted to be taken from Albota to Galatz, where the closest hospital is located.

Major W. believes that in serious emergencies exceptions can always be made. It would be better, however, to combine ambulance columns because the border officials are causing problems. If that is not possible, the ambulances should link up with vehicle columns that are crossing the border. In that case, the only requirement would be that a Soviet escort would travel with the ambulance up to the border. At the border, the ambulances would be the first in the vehicle column to be processed.

The HB will discuss this issue once more with Dr. Bestvater and then come up with suggestions how best the ambulances can be linked up to the vehicle columns. Concerning the setting up of the transport lists, agreement has already been reached.

The HB requests a report whether a decision has been made concerning the three fundamental issues.

Major W. reports that President Wasjukow has returned from his journey, but that he will be traveling to Akkermann on 25 September, where he will contact the relevant organizations to clear up the issues. Toward evening, on 25 September, the results of his negotiations will be made known.

The HB has the impression that the situation for the German Commission has deteriorated considerably during the last 24 hours. Things have happened which have really sabotaged their work. The threats that German Resettlers may not sell their goods have increased. In Dennewitz, a case has come up which has really touched the HB. There, all the craftsmen of Arzis were ordered to report at the Finance Office. The Deputy President said to them: Why do you want to go to Germany? You are needed here and can make a good living. In Germany, you will go hungry. You only get 100 g of meat a week and 8 kg of bread a month. The deputy President required a list of the German craft businesses to be established. The craftsmen are required to hand over their photos [*Lichtbilder*] and surrender their Resettlement numbers. They were called upon to submit a written petition to that office by 1 October, that they would withdraw from the Resettlement and pay a fee of 10 Rubles. Should the cut-off time not be observed, they were threatened with a fine of 500 Rubles.

Furthermore, there is an increase of cases where sales, which had been closed some time ago, were suddenly cancelled. For example, in Tarutino, Captain Smeeff bought furniture, under the authority of the local staff, from the ethnic German Paul Renz, and even gave him a receipt. On 2 September, Captain Smeeff appeared again and emphasized again that the articles were not to be sold because they belonged to the staff. He promised to pay the purchase price in three days time. Now, Captain Smeeff suddenly says that he has to cancel the purchase. In another case, a military authority bought a pair of horses from an ethnic German for 100,000 Lei. Sometime later, a representative of this military authority showed up and said that the price had been too high. He demanded that 20,000 Lei be returned. The ethnic German allowed himself to be intimidated and returned the 20,000 Lei. In Friedenstal, an expert from Arzis arrived and demanded that all grain be delivered. When our representative declared that he needed to wait for instructions, the man in question declared to the German representative, in a very unfriendly manner, that he would demand his immediate dismissal. During the nationalization there of mills, dairies, etc., private items of the Resettlers such as clothing, boots, etc. were confiscated and have not yet been returned. Furthermore, horses were also confiscated here which are needed for the Trek. All these cases are to be handed in to the HB, once more, in writing.

At Alt-Posttal, the following case: A Bulgarian, who had worked for and lived with an ethnic German as a hired man, expressed the desire, according to the treaty, to also Resettle. He was registered in the German list. The Soviet representative, however, refused to enter this man in his register. It has so happened that both have sent on their registrations with a difference of one number. The German GB requested that the number be left open until the case has been resolved, but the Soviet representative refused this, too. Now, the Resettlement total keeps on differing by one number.

Yesterday, an ethnic German was forced to hand over his motorcycle to the militia. He was refused a receipt.

All these cases have been recorded and the names, places, etc. have been noted and handed over to the Soviet side. A whole number of cases have come up which show that there exists a certain uniformity in the interpretation that the sale of furniture and household items is deliberately obstructed, although the ethnic Germans have the right to sell their household items. This has become so common that the HB can no longer tolerate it. Moreover, exactly the same problems still exist which were mentioned in the previous discussion. These have to do, more or less, with things connected to the three fundamental issues. The HB urges that these issues be resolved as quickly as possible in order to avoid delays during the Resettlement. The HB emphasizes his willingness to conduct this task in a friendly manner, but he does not have the impression that this willingness exists on the other side. He has no doubts about Major W., but the Soviet representatives seem to think differently.

The question concerning the accommodation of the German Kommando, after the departure of the ethnic Germans, needs to be resolved. Proposal: Three houses are identified which are close together and which can accommodate the entire Kommando. A common mess area should also be organized. Major W. proposes to organize the mess area in the building in which the banquet took place recently. The Russian delegation would also eat there, the time schedule can be agreed upon. There is no opposition to the HB's proposal to retain some ethnic German girls, who need to be registered beforehand, as waitresses until the departure of the Kommando.

Concerning all the other matters, Major W. wishes to note that Mr. Hoffmeyer is aware of his feelings about friendly cooperation. He will take measures to remove the disagreements which have been noted as quickly as possible. He

will not accept the deliberate sabotaging of the friendly cooperation. Both the delegation, as well as the government agencies, share the views of Mr. Hoffmeyer. The general desire is to complete the Resettlement as soon as possible.

In the case concerning Alt-Posttal, both sides share the blame. The OB and the Soviet Local Representative were required to submit such a case to the high authority. An assistant of Major W. will travel there on 25 September to resolve the question at that place.

Major W. considers that the nationalizing of private property is terrible and is not to be justified by any means. He requests written notification of the names and any further information. He also requests particulars concerning the agricultural expert. The case in Dennewitz goes beyond the authority of Major W. He will check the particulars and will have the Deputy President in question brought to justice by the relevant agency.

The HB promises to that he will give a written report of all the cases that have been discussed and to hand it over to the Soviet side. He expresses the hope that the questions will be resolved toward the evening of 25 September.

The HB informs Major W. that Dr. Wolfrum has been nominated as a member of the delegation, in place of Weishaupt, who has taken over the position of an Area Delegate for a comrade who has fallen ill.

From the Soviet side, there was no opposition to this.

Minutes #11

Concerning a discussion that took place on 26 September, 1940 from 1:00PM to 2:45 PM between

One Side:

Major Simtschenko
Captain Martinow

Other Side:

Senior Company Commander With
Translator Luithle

1. Major Simtschenko is requested to confirm receipt of the communication from Section 4 dated 17 September, 1940. This communication gave information concerning the trek routes, overnight stops and fodder replenishment places. - A long discussion took place concerning fodder replenishment. Captain Martinow points out that the provisions had already been included in the property lists and needed to be cancelled there. As this was too complicated, I proposed that the fodder on our side be bought by the Soviets from ethnic German inventory. The Local Authority is to confirm the sale and the amount taken and hand over the document to the Local Representative, who in turn passes it on to the Head Representative. After it has been presented to the Head Authority, the good will be paid for. Final resolution is left open. Counter proposal to travel to the villages, which have been designated for fodder replenishment, on Friday, to discuss these questions on location and to get an overview of the available supplies.

Senior Company Commander Doerk will make the first journey to Sarata, Dennewitz, Wittenberg, Borodino, with an escort, designated by Major Sintschenko, on Friday, 27 September, at 8:00 AM. A second journey is planned for Winschniowka, Alexanderfeld, Neu-Dennewitz, Jekaterionowka.

2. It was proposed by our side to transport ethnic Germans, from places close to the harbor town of Kilia, with ethnic German horse and wagons in order to ease the work-load on the truck transports. It was agreed that list of these places would be handed over to the Soviet side, by today, from which such transports were envisioned. After these lists have been handed over, Soviet agreement is anticipated. The lists will be drawn up by Section 4 (Klinter) today and will be sent--addressed to Major Sintschenko.

3. The question is once again discussed that ethnic German farmers, volunteering to do the necessary road repairs for the truck transports and the treks, may do so. No negative response from the Soviet side. It was requested to hand over a list of the routes and places where such work is necessary. Section 4 (Hasart) is given the task of setting up the list which is to be addressed to and handed over to Major Sintschenko.

4. The request was presented that truck transports be accompanied by ethnic Germans who knew the routes so as to save time. After completion of the transport, they are to return to their places. No negative response from the Soviet side.

5. It was pointed out by our side that, because of the poor road conditions, our motor vehicles were unable to take along the trailers for taking on the baggage. This has led to the position where a great deal of hand baggage, which was agreed to in the treaty, was left behind. Our proposal is that this baggage be brought to the border by trek wagons. The owners of the trek wagons are required to leave behind other Resettlement goods, such as bags of flour, etc. It was requested, by the Soviet side, that in these cases the Local Authority, in conjunction with the Soviet Local Representative, would set up a list in which it would be noted what the baggage amounts were of each individual transport which had to be left behind. In addition to the number of baggage pieces, the lists must also contain the names of the owners. The lists are to be made out in duplicate, signed by the Local Authority, and the Local Representative and then forwarded. The first copy is to be forwarded to the Head (unclear), who then, on his part, sends the list to the Border Commander at Pruth. This should avoid difficulties if, for example, there are two

fur coats (Pelz), belonging to different people on one wagon. Section 4 (Doerk) has been directed to send a circular in this regard to the Regional Authorities.

6. Major Sintschenko was informed that tomorrow he would receive a list of the planned rail transports which would take place every second day and a second list of daily transports. It was agreed that Major Sintschenko and Senior Company Commander With would travel to the Rail Authority at Kischinev with these lists, on Saturday, 28 September, 1940, to get direct approval for the daily trains.

Section 4 (Klinter) will complete the required lists by 12:00 PM on 27 September, 1940.

Tarutino, 26 September, 1940

Signed: With

Minutes #13

Concerning the discussion on 27 September, 1940, from 9:00PM to 2:30AM

Attending:	German Side:	Soviet Side:
	Staf. Hoffmeyer	President Wasjukow
	Stbaf. Dr. Siebert	Major Weretinnikow
	Translator Lambert	Mr. Arkadjew
	Mrs. Finkenauer	Miss Nikiforowa

The HB states that the agreement, on the basis of the proposals Major Weretinnikow made in his letter of 27 September, could not be reached.

1. Question concerning field work.

The Soviet authorities are forcing Resettlers to do field work, under a threat of fines. In one case, the Resettlers were even held back from registering.

President Wasjukow states that the Soviet side does not want to force Resettlers to do field work. On the other hand, it would be appropriate if the most pressing work could be done, especially the harvesting. This would also be in the interest of the Resettlers since what has been harvested would be included in the list of property.

The HB confirms that the field work, as far as time allows, will be carried out. However, in most cases, there will not be enough time.

2. Concerning the valuation of the harvest still in the field, the HB requested a written opinion from Major Weretinnikow on 22 September, but has not yet received a reply. The treaty does not exclude the possibility of assessing the harvest still in the field. As the Soviet side holds an opposing opinion, the question is left hanging. The HB wants to confer with Berlin.

3. Handing over of grain and taxation question.

The president explains that, in the USSR, after each harvest, it is established how much grain is to be handed over, depending on the size of the individual or collective operation, as well as the yield. This handing over of grain is compensated for according to a strict formula. At the same time, an agricultural tax is collected after each harvest which also depends on the yield and the size of the operation. This tax, as well as the handing over of the grain, is applied in the entire territory of the USSR during September of each year. Every Soviet citizen, and equally each citizen of another country living in the territory of the USSR, is subject to this law.

The HB says that the proposal Major Weretennikow made in his letter is acceptable according to which a receipt is to be given at the handing over of grain, but only as far as the circumstances of the individual farmer permits. Should the type of grain being demanded not be available, this tax can be met by the handing over of another type of grain. The ratio of individual types of grain to each other must still be determined. The receipts are to be included in the property lists, or should be paid into the total settlement amount. The carbon copies of the receipts are to be attached to the property lists by the GB.

4. Sales in Rubles and payment in Rubles to the banks.

The HB expressly points out that the treaty does not include an article prohibiting the sales of household goods, cattle, etc. in Rubles. On the contrary, the calculation of amounts in Rubles is clearly provided for. An accusation of breaking the treaty in this point, to which Major Weretennikow points out in his letter, is vehemently rejected by the German HB.

The Soviet side points out that while the sale of things in Rubles is not expressly prohibited, there is just as little mention of it being permitted. Should the Soviet side be accommodating and allow the sale in Rubles, certain limits would have to be established to prevent sales at exorbitant prices. Generally, at normal prices, no sale can realize more than 200-250 Rubles per family. Especially, considering the fact that during the entire month of August, sales had taken place in Lei. According to the treaty, two possibilities exist: (a) Sales in Lei and the transfer of these Lei amounts; (b) Taking along, in kind, what is left over. For the transport of these things, the Soviet side would be so accommodating (this is again expressly emphasized) as to provide wagons. This is happening because the HB pointed out that Moscow had approved too few trucks for this purpose. The ruble amounts may only be the final amount [*Restbetrag*] or a carry-over amount [*Uebergangsbetrag*]. From this point of view, the Soviet side believes that 200-250 is entirely sufficient.

The German side can not agree to this since the sale in Rubles is not prohibited. The breaking of the treaty is not on the German side, but on the Soviet side, since even highly placed Soviet officials are hindering sales also in Lei.

According to the letter of the treaty, sales are provided for and permitted only in Lei. The permission the Soviets have given to pay in, 200-250 Rubles, is a generous concession on the part of the Soviets.

The HB does not believe that it is a concession because the sale in Rubles is not prohibited. This is clearly laid down in the treaty as also the deposit of ruble amounts in the banks. The treaty has no item which restricts the ruble amounts which may be deposited at the banks. As the interpretations are so fundamentally divergent, the HB sees no other possibility than to refer the matter to the government of Germany, with the request of bringing it to the attention of Moscow.

Mr. Arkadjew proposes to put the ruble amounts to Soviet Credit facilities for "safe-keeping".

As not each family would deposit 200-250 Rubles, the possibility exists that other families could then pay in greater amounts of Rubles. The Soviet side's only concern is that the final amount of deposited of Rubles should not be too high. Maybe the HB could have it established what the approximate amounts of the deposits would come to.

The HB replies that he has no idea what the amount is. This issue had been quite clear to him so that he had not considered it. He will look into it.

5. Property Estimation.

The HB states that the property evaluation should be undertaken on the basis of prices as of 1 July, 1940—according to the stipulations of the treaty. The HB requests that such a price list be drawn up. The HB made repeated requests that the experts from both sides be given the opportunity to discuss this question and achieve some consensus. The stereotypical response from the Soviet side was that this was not necessary as this question could not be dealt with theoretically. But the best evaluations always took place on site. The Soviet representatives had been directed to be objective in their evaluations. They are not bound to set parameters. For an example, the houses are actually a liability to the Soviet government and do not have a real value.

The HB is familiar with this view from Moscow, however, he states that this solution was deliberately come by in Moscow because the houses represent the most important part of the wealth of the Resettlers. The HB requests once more that the experts discuss the matter and fix the pricing parameters.

The lords [Herren] on the Soviet side believe that such a solution would only make the work of evaluating more difficult. A better solution would be to accept the fire insurance policies as a basis for the valuations, as provided for in the treaty.

In most cases, there are no fire insurances. The HB states that here also agreement appears not to be possible and that his proposal that the experts be given an opportunity to discuss the matter apparently has been declined. Without such discussion, this question will not be resolved as if born out by the fact that up to now only 3% of the evaluation lists have been signed.

Mr. Arkadjew is of the opinion that the difficulties have arisen because the German authorized agents are bound to fixed pricing parameters, while the Soviet representatives evaluate objectively.

The HB does not accept this. His authorized agents are able to hold their own against any "objective" evaluation.

The Soviet side proposes that the evaluations be carried out by the regional authorities and the Soviet representatives, whereby both representatives be given a free hand. Where the differences prove to be too great, the fire insurance policy can be taken as a basis. Cases, where there is no insurance, can be handled in a similar manner [comparable to that where fire insurance rates exist]. According to the treaty, insurance is required, by which evaluations are to be made.

As agreement between the GBs and Soviet representatives has until now only been arrived at in the fewest cases; conversely, in Romania, apparently no compulsory insurance existed and therefore, only a small portion of the farmers have been insured. The HB makes an urgent request to give the experts on both sides an opportunity to discuss the matter. Until now, this matter has not been dealt with verbally. The HB has only written to Major Weretennikow in this regard, yet did not receive an answer.

The letter was not answered because the proposals made in it were totally unacceptable to the Soviet side. President Wasjukow suggests that they determine whether compulsory insurance was required in Romania. Should this prove to be the case, they can do the assessment accordingly. Should it not be the case, the initiative must be left to the GBs and the Soviet representatives.

The HB emphasizes once again that he places great value on a discussion between the experts on both sides, because this is the only way to reach agreement in this matter.

The Soviet side raises an entirely new question, whether there should be a general assessment of cattle, or priced individually. They stand on the view that where mass sales on this scale take place, only general prices should be accepted. Their price proposals for horses, cattle, etc., must be declined as not being open for discussion.

As agreement also can not be reached here, what remains then is that the matter of the insurance in Romania needs to be clarified and, after that, further negotiations can take place.

6. Touching on the matter of Dennewitz, the HB strongly points out that the cooperation with various Soviet departments is becoming increasingly difficult. In many cases, the only conclusion is that the friendly cooperation is being sabotaged, as in the case of Dennewitz.

The president confirms once more that the guilty parties will be brought to justice. However, there were also cases on the German side where breaches of the treaty were known. For example, in the case of a Jewish husband of a German Resettler woman, whose registration on the list was refused by the German OB.

The HB points out that it would be more advantageous for this person to remain in the USSR as he would not be given the opportunity to start a new life in Germany. Should he insist on Resettlement, nothing stands in the way of his registering.

7. On the wishes of his government, the HB still has one request to put forward. According to the treaty, it is possible that five sheep per herd may be exported, which would amount to approximately 50,000 sheep. The Reich would like to export the total herd. The HB expresses his willingness to limit the number of sheep to take along to approximately 7,000? [unclear 2,000?], on the condition that it is possible to bring out a whole herd of 150 sheep [Karakul sheep]. The HB requests that the matter be examined and decided upon.

8. Furthermore, a courier service between Reni, Kilia, and Tarutino needs to be established because the telephone and telegraph connections are not in service in spite of promises from the Soviet side. For this purpose, and also to accompany the vehicle columns, the German side has an urgent need of six cars [PKW]. There is no need for additional drivers or fuel to be requisitioned. The HB requests that this matter also be looked at and decided upon.

Minutes #14

And report concerning a trip by car [PKW] to Kischinev

Departure: 28 September, 1940, at 8:00 AM; Return: 29 September, at 3:30 PM

Participants: With, Translator Luithle, NSKK-Driver Wilms, Major Sintschenko.

Objective of the trip:

1. Arranging rail transports with the Soviet Rail Administration.
2. Arranging transport with Regional staff Kischinev

1. Meeting at the Soviet Rail Administration at 3:00 PM with the Deputy President. The roster, set up on 26 September, for the period 2nd to 26th October, which makes provision for 19 passenger trains, was handed over to this administration responsible for this entire area of Bessarabia. Notice had been given previously of a further Resettlement train, as well as two special trains for the transport of seriously ill.

After discussion, the Deputy Rail Agent Gardeljan declared his willingness to replace the every second day train with a daily transport of 1,000 Resettlers. It was agreed that the trains should arrive at Reni before mid-day and it was requested that a roster be set up and handed over. The roster was promised for Sunday 10 AM.

2. Discussion Sunday 10 AM.

The Soviet Rail Agent handed over a roster which was in accordance with our demands for departure stations, the number of trains and their capacity as well as the arrival time at Reni. Altogether, 4 different rail car combinations will be used with the following set up.

Combination I.

Consisting of:	15 passenger cars each 50 persons	= 750 persons
	10 freight cars with plank beds	= 250 persons
	5 baggage cars	
	Total	<u>1,000 persons</u>

Combination II.

Consisting of:	10 Pullman cars each 50 persons	= 500 persons
	20 freight cars with plank beds each 25	= 500 persons
	5 baggage cars	
	Total	<u>1,000 persons</u>

Combination III.

Consisting of:	3 passenger cars each 60 persons	= 180 persons
	31 freight cars with plank beds each 25	= 825 persons
	5 baggage cars	
	Total	<u>1,005 persons</u>

Combination IV.

Set-up same as II.

Combinations I and II will be used mainly in southern Bessarabia, in other words, in the main Resettlement area.

Combination III will be used mainly on the Kischinev-Wulboaka route. Combination IV will start at Balti.

On 2 October, 1940, on the occasion of the departure of the train from Beresina, a list was handed over to us by a representative of the Kischinev Rail Administration, detailing which of the above mentioned rail combinations was used for each individual train. At the proper time, the Local Authority can be informed by the Headquarter Staff concerning the setting up of the appropriate list of persons per rail car.

Beginning of the loading.

So all trains will be brought to the stations of departure on time so that loading can start at 10 AM.

Arrival at Reni.

All train transports will arrive at Reni at 8:28 AM.

After discussion with the shipping office [Leitstelle], ship departures, which had originally been set for noon, have now been set for 6 PM. So, all Resettlers arriving at Reni, by train transport, will always continue their journey on the same day.

Return of the empty trains.

The trains arriving at Reni at 8:28 AM, will go back empty at 11 AM. The transport leaders may use these empty trains to travel back to their areas.

Sequence of the cars:

Locomotive, 5 baggage cars, passenger cars, freight cars with plank beds.

Cleaning of trains.

I emphasized that each train was to be cleaned by the Soviet side before the start of a new transport. Furthermore, it was requested that each freight car with plank beds should be supplied with a [toilet] bucket.

It is not permitted to cover the plank beds with straw as this is against the Soviet safety regulation. The Resettlers are to be advised to take along blankets, pillows and mattresses. The latter is especially important for the long transports from the northern communities of the Kischinev District.

3. Transport discussion at the Kischinev Area Staff Headquarters.

Following this, a total of ten rail transports, for the transport of 10,000 Resettlers out of the Kishinev District, was discussed with Deputy Area Authority Preusse and Chief Transport Official Greve. In conjunction with this, 7 treks, or partial treks, were arranged.

In addition to these above mentioned finalized transports, truck and trek transports are yet to be arranged for the Kischinev District, for communities Ki 2, Ki 4, Ki 5, Ki 8. These will be arranged only after the reports of departure readiness have been turned in. In total, it is estimated that 18,000 people will have to be transported out of the Kischinev District. Verbal instructions were given to the Transport Official and the Transport Leader for transport clearances, transport lists, transport check lists, health documents, method of loading truck and rail transports.

Signed: With

Minutes #16

Concerning the discussion on 1 October, 1940, at 2:00 PM.

Present: German Side:	Soviet Side:
Staf. Hoffmeyer	President Wasjukow
Stubaf. Dr. Siebert	Major Weretennikow
Dr. Kleist	Miss Nikiforowa
Translator Lambert	
Mrs. Finkenauer	

Property Assessment. According to the investigation, it was discovered that compulsory insurance was not required in Romania. As such, the proposed basis for property assessment in the treaty did not exist.

After examining the proposals of the HB, President Wasjukow concludes that the proposal to set up a valuation guideline for houses is acceptable only that the prices mentioned in the proposal are unacceptable. He requests two to three days time and hopes to be in the position to give a final decision by then.

Reacting to the repeated proposal by the HB to allow experts to confer on this matter, the president states that this question is more a political than an economic one and would, therefore, go beyond the realm of the experts. On the other hand, according to the president, the assessment of cattle can begin immediately. Here the prices have also been set too high by the German side. The prices set by the Soviet side were in accordance with local authorities, whereby, the official market price as of 1 July was also taken into consideration.

The HB has a price list of amounts paid here in Bessarabia as of 1 July. On the German side, 40% was deducted from these prices and these were then used as the basis for the assessment.

The president states that he also used the local prices as a starting point and that if both sides showed good will a basis could be found.

Deposit of Rubles. In the previous discussion, the HB put forward his viewpoint very clearly, but, in the meantime, he has been informed that a directive was given to the Soviet representatives not to accept more than 250 Rubles per family. As a result, the HB felt compelled to take steps in Berlin and request intervention in Moscow as he sees a violation of the treaty in this regard. An answer from Berlin is expected in the next few days.

The president emphasizes that the Soviet side also had not changed their position since the previous discussion.

The HB requests clarification why in practically 50% of all cases the sale of the Resettlers property is not allowed. In most cases, this is done by official representatives of the authorities. President Wasjukow replies that, to his knowledge, action was only taken against speculation, but not against normal sales.

The HB expressly emphasizes that he rejects the idea that speculation is taking place, and that he does not accept responsibility for it. However, the HB has documents in which names and details have been noted where sales were not allowed and that, in some cases, even an official prohibition of the sale of Resettler goods was ordered.

The HB had complaints brought to his attention that, in a number of cases, the issuing of receipts for grain deliveries was refused. Furthermore, 6-7 kg of grain per Pud were not included at delivery, the reason given that this was factored in as a risk for the grain which could be lost during transport. There were also cases of farmers being repeatedly sent back with their grain because it had supposedly not been cleaned. This intolerance of the Soviet authorities strained the relationship unnecessarily. The Soviet Kommando representatives occasionally tried to change the mind of the Soviet authorities, but in most cases they were not successful. The cooperation with the headquarter staff is friendly, however, what happens in the irresponsible places no longer reflects the friendly cooperation between the two countries. HB makes an urgent request to give directives to the authorities to change

their conduct. The complaints received now already surpass the entire amount of complaints during the previous Resettlement by 20 times. The HB has put together a number of these complaints in a memorandum which he will hand over.

The president promises that all these cases will be investigated and resolved. Should guilty persons be discovered, they will be made to give an account. The Soviet side has also had reports which do not indicate a friendly disposition on the part of the Germans.

The HB responds to this that it is totally understandable after all the incidents which have been caused by the Soviet side.

Taxation Question. The HB states that the German Resettlers, more than any other Soviet citizens, are put at a disadvantage in this question in that they were required to pay taxes to Romania until 1941, but now they are suddenly expected to pay the tax on the harvest of 1940, although the actual date for this payment is not until 1 November and 1 December. Furthermore, 60% of the harvest is still in the fields....which they are not able to bring in, since the resettlement is fully underway....each day a rail transport departs....the treks have already started...etc. The HB suggests, since the tax amounts are very high, to give the Resettlers a 50% discount. This matter must be decided in Moscow.

The president will take the necessary steps in Moscow, however, he does not believe that he will receive a positive response.

The president raises the question as to why the border crossing points of Ungeni and Wachianeschti, which were provided for in the treaty, are not being used. The HB responds that the transports are routed through Kilia and Reni because the previously promised trains from the countries they pass through were refused. Furthermore, Galatz has the only camp capable of receiving large numbers of people. Mr. With has already informed Major Sintschenko in this regard.

The president requests to be informed concerning the Ruble amount which will be repaid by the Resettlers. The HB is unable to give details since only a few deposits have taken place, as a result of the Soviet side refusing to accept more than 250 Rubles per family. In a number of cases even deposits in Lei were refused if the Resettler in question was unable to prove where it came from.

President Wasjukow confirms that this is forbidden.

He requests that a transport roster for the entire resettlement be handed over.

The HB states that the transport roster, until 4 October, was already handed over to Major Sintschenko by Mr. With. At present, there is also a roster until 10 October. The roster for the entire period of resettlement is being drawn up. Only for the vehicle columns is it impossible to give precise time frames as they are influenced by the weather, the condition of roads, etc..

Concerning the request of the HB to bring in six more vehicles [PKW], the president replies that, on his own responsibility, he has resolved this question in such a way that four more vehicles may be brought in.

The HB accepts. The vehicles will be brought in over the Pruth Bridge. The exact time still to be confirmed.

The HB wishes to discuss a few further questions with Major Weretennikow. A date is set for the morning of 2 October.

Minutes #17

Concerning the discussion on 2 October, 1940, at 11:30 AM.

Present:	German Side:	Soviet Side:
	Staf. Hoffmeyer	Major Weretennikow
	Stubaf. Dr. Siebert	Captain Dobkin
	Translator Lambert	Captain Martenoff
	Mrs. Finkenauer	Miss Nikoferowa

The German HB feels compelled, as representative of the German Reich, to request Major Weretennikow to clear up the following cases immediately and to prevent similar occurrences in the future. Should the cases not be cleared up immediately, and the guilty parties be called to give an account, the HB would have to send a report to the German government.

In the village of Hirtenheim, District Kischinev, the swastika flag and the picture of the Fuehrer were removed from the church. The flag was burned and the picture of the Fuehrer was torn in pieces. The person who did this claims that he acted on the orders of the village soviet. This already happened on 25 September, but, as a result of the poor messenger service, it only arrived at the headquarters on 2 October.

The second case concerns the arrest and unheard of treatment of the driver Horst Guenther, belonging to the German Kommando, on the charge of spying. The charges brought against him were just pulled out of the air.

A full written report of these two cases will be presented with the request that they be cleared up immediately and a written response be given. The HB again points out that the members of the German Kommando in no way be treated in this manner, which is nothing more than what they should expect as members of a friendly power.

Yesterday, an ambulance driver was searched at the border—his record player in his suitcase, and various other things, were taken from him. The HB requests that these confiscated goods be returned immediately.

The HB is aware that the Soviet side also has a number of complaints concerning members of the German Kommando. He has had the cases investigated and the explanations are available. Until now, the HB has avoided raising unimportant complains, but if unfounded complaints are raised against his staff, as in the case of OB Rauser where it was demanded that he be recalled, he would be compelled to also raise complaints which, until now, he had intentionally not brought up.

Major Weretennikow considers the first two reported cases disgraceful and illegal. He requests a written report concerning them so that his representatives can clear up these cases right there. Mr. Hoffmeyer will be informed immediately about the measures the Soviet side has taken. Concerning the cooperation between the representatives of the two sides in Mannsburg, Major Weretennikow considers relations to be abnormal. He proposes to send the two representatives there to investigate the matter.

The HB is afraid that the unresolved questions of tax payments could delay the departures. The authorized local representatives occasionally refuse to let the transports leave before the taxes have been paid. In order not to hold up the Resettlement process, the HB makes the following proposal:

The German OBs collect all the money belonging to the Resettlers [the communal deposits can only take place after the Ruble issue has been settled] and the taxation information will also be sent to them. The farmers will be able to leave their villages because the Soviet side, through the assurances of the HB, can be certain that, in case Moscow gives a negative response to the proposal made yesterday by the HB, the taxes will be paid from the collected money.

Major Weretennikow will submit this proposal to the authorized Local Soviet Representatives and will make his decision known sometime on 3 October.

The HB has a report from Friedensthal that the Local Soviet Representative refused to enter into the Resettlers list two non-Germans who had been living together with German Resettlers.

Major W. will try to resolve the question this very day.

The HB requests that the border authorities be directed to return the confiscated items taken from the ambulance drivers so that he can bring them back to Galatz.

Captain Dobkin has received the following report about this case. The driver had taken the record player along to sell it here. Furthermore, he had wanted to take across the border suit material disguised as a blanket.

The HB will once again question the driver. Should the claims of the border official be true, the driver will be severely punished. On the other hand, the driver made a completely different statement: he claims that the record player is his personal property. And furthermore, he had only wished to take along a radio battery, from Galatz, which had been requested of him by a Soviet officer. He claims that he had directed to buy the children's clothing, which had been confiscated, for needy ethnic German children. Concerning this case, the HB wishes to negotiate at the border himself.

He also requests that the cameras taken from Kommando member Pleiser be returned.

The cameras will be returned, this afternoon, after the films have been removed.

Minutes #18

Concerning the discussion on 5 October, 1940, from 7:00-9:00 PM

Present: German Side:	Soviet Side:
Staf. Hoffmeyer	President Wasjukow
Translator Lambert	Secretary
	Captain Dobkin

The HB states that there is, unfortunately, still no decision concerning the three important main questions – assessment, Ruble question, taxation question. Since the German side wants to bring about, by all means, the departure of the Resettlers before the start of the bad weather, the final resolution of these questions is of great importance.

President Wasjukow reveals that he has just returned from a journey but that he has discussed the question of assessment in depth with the Soviet delegation during the last few days. The Soviet government is deciding what their decision will be on this question and suitable guidelines will be issued to the Local Representatives immediately.

The HB requests that he be informed concerning these guidelines so that he can issue suitable instructions to his OBs.

The president states that these guidelines have been set up according to the information received about prevailing prices in this area in July of 1940. Concerning cattle and agricultural products, suitable instructions have already been issued to the Local Representatives. Concerning houses, the preparations will only be concluded tomorrow and suitable instructions will be given to the Local Representatives. He repeats once more that, should the German assessors show some flexibility, an agreement will be reached on site, following an objective appraisal of the object. As he has repeatedly stated, he sees a new problem in the setting up of a valuation guideline by the Senior Staff on both sides...the classifying of the object in question.

The HB asks which guidelines were used by the Soviet delegation when the prices were set.

The president replies that, in this regard, all the material available to the Soviet delegation was taken into consideration. He is convinced that agreement will definitely be reached. He requests the HB once again to issue suitable instructions to the OBs to again start the process of assessing, but on the basis on prices which may not be as high as those mentioned in the letter to Major Weretennikow.

Responding to the question of the HB, how big the difference is between the prices set by the Soviet delegation and those set by the German side in the letter to Major Weretennikow, the president replies that he cannot tell what this difference is since the valuation takes place on site after an objective assessment of the object in question. In a number of cases, he could establish a price differential of 40-50%. In spite of these difference, the Local Representatives have been instructed to reach agreement as much as possible with the German OBs.

In the question of valuation of the houses, suitable guidelines will be issued by tomorrow on the basis of a fixed price per square meter.

The HB agrees that the process of assessing should be restarted and will issue suitable instructions to his OBs.

Ruble & Taxation Question. President Wasjukow responds to the inquiry of the HB that he is expecting directives in this regard from Moscow which will hopefully arrive tomorrow.

The HB says that he is also expecting directives in this regard from Berlin.

The HB says that, apart from Bukovina, approximately 33,000 Resettlers have crossed over the border and hopes that the Resettlement will be completed before the established deadline. He points out that, during the first Resettlement, things went smoother and that all the problems connected to this Resettlement just were not there in the first Resettlement.

Captain Dobkin mentions in this regard, that, on the Soviet side, everything had been better prepared for this Resettlement and the work connected with this Resettlement seems a lot easier than with the previous one. Only at the border crossing are there bottlenecks.

The HB blames these bottlenecks on the border control delays and says to Captain Dobkin that on the German side this Resettlement is seen as being a lot more difficult.

7 large and 21 smaller steamships have been chartered, the larger ones will only be able to return in 2 days and the smaller ones in 3-4 days from the ships' departure harbors of Semlin and Prahovo. In spite of this, all possible measures have been taken by the German side: In Galatz a camp for 10,000 Resettlers has been established; barracks have been made available; 2 trains leave for Germany on a daily basis.

The problems which were caused to the German side in this Resettlement were always immediately presented to Major Weretennikow. These cases are piling up daily at headquarters. A complaint about the nationalizing of farms has been submitted at this point in time.

The president notes that farming concerns can be nationalized according to the Soviet law in cases where the owners have other forms of income or where the business belongs to a number of owners.

In this regard, the HB will have the submitted cases looked into.

The president returns to the Ruble Question and requests the HB to inform them as to approximately how big the total deposits could be.

The HB says that he is unable to even give an approximate figure. He has been informed that in one local precinct approximately 80,000 Rubles were deposited. In another, approximately 180,000.

Captain Dobkin has been informed that the deposits up-to-date amount to 4 million Rubles at the (CasBank). President Wasjukow states once more that the decision on the Ruble and Taxation Question is expected by tomorrow.

Minutes #19

Concerning the discussion on 6 October, 1940, at 11:00 AM

Present:	German Side	Soviet Side:
	Legation Secretary Dr. Kleist	President Wasjukow
	Translator Lambert	Secretary (female)

Legation Secretary, Dr. Kleist, in his capacity as representative of the Foreign Office for the Resettlement Question and as delegate of the German Foreign Affairs Minister von Ribbentrop, makes a courtesy call on President Wasjukow. He observes that the cooperation between the two delegations is quite satisfactory. Unfortunately, the provisions made by the treaty for various ways of facilitating the Resettlement did not cover everything. In the planning stage (am Gruenen und am Roten Tisch) it is not possible to foresee and resolve all the problems which come up in the course of the practical implementation. He expresses the hope that, in questions which are still pending, especially the question of assessment, a mutually agreeable settlement will be found.

President Wasjukow notes that, in the question of assessments, a consensus was already reached with the HB on the previous day which was that both sides would issue instructions to the individual OBs and OV's to redo the assessments according to the new guidelines.

Dr. Kleist has also been authorized to discuss the question of prisoners with President Wasjukow.

The president states that the response of the (Narkomindel) to the diplomatic note handed over to the (Narkomindel), by the German Consulate in Moscow, is that the prisoners be freed according to the list submitted. Only the method of freeing has been altered to some extent. An interview of the OBS with the prisoners is not permissible, and also not necessary, as the prisoners will be released anyway.

Dr. Kleist takes note of this and states that he will be traveling to Berlin for a short period of time. He hopes that everything will be completed by the established deadline. He has been instructed to express appreciation for the hospitable reception in Moscow which, unfortunately, he was unable to do personally because he had to leave prematurely.

Minutes #20

Concerning the discussion on 7 October, 1940, at 5:00 PM

Present:	German Side:	Soviet Side:
	O'Stuf. With	Major Weretennikow
	Dr. Wolfrum	Miss Nikiforowa
	Translator Lambert	
	Mrs. Finkenauer	

In the absence of the HB, O'Stuf. With has been authorized to discuss a number of urgent matters with Major Weretennikow.

1. The Arrest of Boris Hoffmann. On 5 October, a memorandum was handed over to Major W. concerning this matter. The GB of Beresina reveals that a release has not yet taken place. Information is being requested about what has been done concerning this matter.

Major Weretennikow only returned last night from a trip. Captain Dobkin has been authorized to clear up this matter in Akkerman. Major W. is displeased with the actions of the authorities and gives the assurance that similar cases will not happen again.

2. Matter of the Factory Owner Alfred Jesse from Teplitz. On 4 October a memorandum in this regard was sent to Major W.

Major W. is of the same opinion as the German side that a Resettler, whose stocks and factory have been nationalized, cannot be given an account for these stocks. As Jesse is to appear before the Peoples' Court in this matter on 7 October, Major W. will get into contact with the Peoples' Court immediately and hopes to have a final response by tomorrow.

3. One of the 7 Houses which have been provided for the Kommando is the house of Friedrich Bierwag which had been ear-marked as the quarters for General Lorenz. The house has been confiscated by the NKWD. It is requested that this confiscation be rescinded. The house of the school care-taker Boettcher has also been confiscated. It is possible to exchange this one for another.

Major W. will attempt to have the house for General Lorenz returned. Furthermore, he states that the question of the 7 houses has in no way been settled. The German Kommando should not make the mistake of presuming a positive response to requests which the Soviet side has not yet responded to. Although a thorough discussion of this matter had taken place with the HB, a final position of the Soviet side was not yet available. The Major promises to have an answer to the request of Mr. With by 12 o'clock tomorrow.

4. The electricity has been cut off in a number of houses in which members of the German Kommando are staying. With reference to the memorandum from the HB in this regard, Mr. With requests once more that the electricity be re-connected for these houses.

Major W. promises to give the appropriate directive yet this evening.

5. Anatol and Calceva Trek Guards. For the two trek guards, whose tasks are known to the Major, provision has been made for an ethnic translator for each...for Anatol: Hiller, and for Calceva: Kraeenbring. Approval is requested. It is also proposed that these two ethnic Germans be provided with identification documents and counter-signed by Major W.

On the Soviet side, the posts for Anatol and Calceva have been filled. The identification documents will be signed immediately.

6. Major Train Delays. O'Stuf. With sites a number of examples and states that the congestion, which Captain Dobkin has observed at Reni, are mainly due to these train delays. The German side had intentionally provided for the train transport to arrive in the mornings and the truck transports to arrive in the afternoons, so that both transports would arrive at the processing points without any delays. It is requested that a meeting with the Rail Authority at Kischinev be arranged to achieve a more punctual arrival of trains.

The Major shares Mr. With's view and requests written details of the individual cases so that he can enter into negotiations with the Rail Authority. He will supply Mr. Gustschin, who has special powers in this regard, with a copy.

7. Each farmer is allowed to take across the border 5 sheep and a certain number of poultry. However, the setting up of a transport list for these animals has obviously not been provided for in the treaty. The border commanders appear not to have been given clear instructions about this arrangement since 180 Marino sheep were held back at the border yesterday. Mr. With requests that the border commanders be informed of the agreement.

Major W. says that there must be some misunderstanding. Each farmer is allowed to take 5 sheep. Should a transport consist of 100 wagons crossing the border, 500 sheep may accompany this transport. He will have the case looked into and will provide a definite reply.

8. Border Control Implementation. It appears that the Office of Customs are not well informed about the treaty since they follow very closely the existing Soviet taxation laws. The German viewpoint is that, as a result of the agreement of 5 September, the Soviet taxation laws are suspended in some points because the agreement contains stipulations which are a departure from those laws. The presence of a member of the German Kommando, when the border control is implemented, is not only necessary but warranted since the German side has great interest in establishing whether the Resettlers have taken along any forbidden items, and, at the same time, establishing which items are subject to confiscation. At the previous Resettlement, the Soviet Office of Customs cooperated very closely and on a friendly basis with members of the German Kommando. Mr. With planned to appoint two members of the Kommando who would serve as permanent border guards at the Pruth bridge during the processing of the Resettlers. Proposed is the present OB of Neu-Elft, Scharschmidt, together with translator Greife and a driver with a vehicle.

Major W., concerning this question, must first get in touch with the Office of Customs since there are laws which stipulate that, at a border or custom control, only a Soviet customs official and the owner of the baggage may be present. He has no objection in principles to the above named people.

9. Baggage Left Behind. Arrangements were made that baggage which was left behind, due to insufficient transport during the transporting of ethnic German Resettlers to the ports of departure, should be forwarded at the time of the trek transports. At that time, the authorization of the chief Soviet representative had been obtained for the hire of wagons to transport the left behind baggage to the Pruth bridge. In the past few days, a fairly large volume of left behind baggage was also sent to the ports of departure of Kilia and Reni. For example, left behind baggage from Teplitz to Kilia. The border Commando there refuses to allow these 607 items of baggage to be loaded onto the German steamships. There is absolutely no doubt that these items are not illegal additional baggage, contrary to the terms of the agreement, but are in accordance with the stipulations of the agreement of either 50kg or 35kg of baggage. The responsible Soviet Local Representatives, who were personally present at the loading of the transports, can testify that this is no more than normal Resettlement baggage. It is requested to direct the Soviet border Commando at Kilia to allow the loading of that stored baggage. In addition, Major W. is asked to agree that left behind baggage may be gathered by the German side, using trucks, to be taken either to the Pruth bridge or one of the ports. The chief representative is requested to direct the OVs to supply documentation that these are legitimate Resettlement goods. The individual items are to bear Resettlement numbers in order to enable easy checking.

The transport director has made the border control aware of the fact that some of the Resettlers are crossing the border with a small amount of luggage while the major portion is to follow. Mr. With has also informed Major Sintschenko of this. He requests that this matter be solved in an unbureaucratic, practical and generous manner.

Major W. says that he was not aware that the Soviet side had been bureaucratic up to now. However, he foresees problems in sending on baggage of the Resettlers that have already crossed the border. He is unable to give an answer to this question at the moment. President Wasjukow will be returning in approximately two days, when this matter can be resolved promptly and unbureaucratically.

11. (sic) Overnight and Fodder Replenishment Stop at Wischniowka. Due to anthrax, the GB of Albota has made known that the town of Wischniowka has been quarantined. In its place, it is proposed to use Jargara as an overnight and fodder replenishment stop.

Major W. will direct Major Sintschenko to investigate the matter and make a decision.

Mariowka has also been quarantined as the result of anthrax.

As precautionary information in case the quarantine has not been lifted by the trek departure date, so that they are able to make use of the provision in the treaty to carry out the trek with trucks instead of wagons. The same goods which were to be transported by wagons, which amount to 20 Zentner [1 Zentner = 50kg], would then be transported by truck.

Major W. agrees to this.

12. The radio installations on German steamships, in Kilia and Reni, have been sealed repeatedly by Soviet authorities. However, these installations had been installed for a reason and are really necessary to maintain order on the steamships. Mr. With wants to know why the Soviet authorities carry out official functions on the German steamships which are German territory.

Major W. says that he is unable to give an answer until he has been in contact with the border officials.

13. On behalf of Dr. Bestvater, Mr. With raises one more question.

The sick are transported from various town to gathering points for the sick, which have been specially set up. From there, if possible, they are attached to a rail transport. For this purpose, a transport list is drawn up. In a number of cases, the OV's refused to sign the lists since the Resettlers come from different places.

Major W. proposes: The individual OBs and OV's are to provide the sick, who are transported to the gathering points, some documentation which are signed by both, verifying that the sick person comes from a certain place and has been registered with a given Resettlement number. On the strength of this documentation, the OBs and OV's, at the gathering points (for the sick), then draw up their transport lists. Reacting to Mr. With's protest that such a directive will take a number of days to reach the OBs, Major W. says that he will direct the OV's, at the places where the gathering points are, to sign the transport lists for the next 2-3 days even without this documentation, until the new regulations are in force.

Major W. hopes that the three basic questions, which are still unresolved, will be cleared up in the next few days. Mr. Arkadjew will be leaving Moscow on 8 October, after having discussed these questions there.

Minutes #21

Concerning the discussion on 11 October, 1940, at 5:00 PM

Present:	German Side:	Soviet Side:
	Staf. Hoffmeyer	President Wasjukow
	Stubaf. Dr. Siebert	Oberltn. Solstuchin
	Translator Lambert	Secretary
	Mrs. Finkenauer	

The HB asks whether there are any answers to the basic questions.

1. Question concerning the Ruble. The president is aware that the German emissaries in Moscow have written a note to the Narkomindel. He is not aware whether a decision has come down yet. However, he is of the opinion that his government will share its just viewpoint as it was put forward in Major Weretennikow's note.

The HB is aware that the German envoy wanted to arrange a meeting with Molotow concerning this and other questions. In the question concerning the Ruble, he has also not changed his opinion, but he does not want to discuss this question because he wants to leave the decision to his government.

They agree to await the decisions from Berlin and Moscow.

2. Property Assessment. Directives have been sent to the OBs to resume negotiations and to accommodate the Soviet side as much as possible. However, in a number of places, the prices set by the Soviet representatives have been so low that the negotiations had to be broken off once more. It is not acceptable to only be offered drinking money [tips]! Better results have been reported from a number of other places. The HB proposes to wait a few days to get a better picture of the assessments.

President Wasjukow has issued a directive to continue the negotiations on the basis of the prices as of 1 July and to negotiate objectively and conscientiously. He considers that the description, that the Soviet side offers "drinking money" [tips], is somewhat insulting since they are really conscientious in their assessments and rejects the accusation. He will, however, look into how his directives are being carried out. He does not doubt but that agreement will still be reached concerning this question.

The assessment of the grain has brought up problems since it is not possible to weigh all the grain of the individual farms. The HB proposes to take random samples.

Reacting to the presidents' proposal to assess per square meter, as the method proposed by the HB, leaves too much to chance, the HB says that the calculation by square meter will be impossible to implement.

The president wishes to discuss this question with his staff and will give his decision on the evening of 12 October.

The HB sees a problems in the face that Resettlers, to a degree, have already been shipped out. It is no longer possible to establish which cattle belong to which farm. The HB responds to the president's protest, that the condition of the animals was assessed in the lists and that the assessment can be carried out according to them, by saying that, in this case, he will also rely on the assurance of the president that his people [*Herren*] have received directives to reach agreement with the German side in a sensible way.

Concerning the valuation of houses, the Soviet side has decided to standardize houses in various ways. Furthermore, assessment is to be done according to the squared measurement of the structure, and also the type of house, the building materials used, etc., the outstanding debt are taken into consideration.

3. Question concerning taxation. The government of the USSR has decided to reduce taxation on the harvest on the German Resettlers by 20%.

The HB will inform Berlin about this decision on 12 October.

4. Karakul Sheep Herd. The government of the USSR has agreed that a complete herd of 150 Karakul sheep may be exported. As a result of a misunderstanding, the president did not inform his government that the German side wanted to take along 2000 sheep in total, consisting of 150 Karakul sheep constituting one herd, and the rest made up of ordinary sheep with 5 sheep per sheep farm. Since the HB says that probably not more than 600 sheep in total will be taken along, the president wants to think about whether he can decide this on his own, or whether he needs to refer back to his government again. He will inform the HB about this sometime on 12 October.

5. The president protests against the disloyal actions of the OB Rauser in the question concerning taxation.

The HB responds that he knows about this. His deputy, Dr. Ziebert, together with Major Uraloff and Captain Martenoff, have resolved the case on site. Dr. Ziebert confirms that this case has been definitely resolved and that Rauser is without fault. The HB demands that any such accusations be proven. Should the guilt of any his subordinates be proven, he is always ready to call them to account. In this case, this does not apply.

The president says that he has eye witnesses to prove this case. However, his concern is that the HB takes steps to prevent similar cases from happening in the future.

The HB says that his subordinates have received instructions to adhere to the rules that apply to this area.

President Wasjukow adds that OB Rauser hit a Soviet guard on the night of 9 October because he would not allow him to pass through at some place. Furthermore, a German tax official hit the guard of a granary.

The HB is unaware of both these cases. He will have them carefully investigated. The HB conveys his sincere apologies that such a thing happened. However, he emphasizes that occasionally actions, on the part of Soviet representatives, severely test the patience of the members of the German Kommando. The HB is quite aware that the president and Major Weretennikow have done their best to prevent these kinds of problems which are perpetrated by Soviet officials and that the Soviet delegation can not be held responsible for the actions of those officials. The HB believes that the major problems have now been removed. The technical aspects of the Resettlement are proceeding well. Approximately 60,000 people have already been transported from Bessarabia and approximately 15,000 from Bukovina. However, there have been a number of problems recently. For example, if the owner of a trek wagon fall ill, another Resettler has to drive it in his place. This must be noted in the Transport List and be confirmed by the Soviet OV with his signature. Major Weretennikow has agreed that there is no problem in doing things in this way. In some cases, however, problems are encountered. The HB would appreciate if the Soviet Command would once again give instructions in this regard.

Furthermore, at Reni, a new representative of the Border Commander, Captain Feingut, has arrived on the scene, who causes lots of problems at the baggage control, although the cooperation at Reni has been very congenial until now. In one case, a truck column of 14,000 Resettlers had to remain at the border overnight because Mr. Feingut had instituted a new form of baggage control. He requests that the necessary measures be taken to prevent such delays with baggage control and that this be done as in the past.

The president will have the case investigated.

6. Presence of a German Representative at the Border Control. Major Weretennikow has stated that a positive decision can be made for this question. During the previous Resettlement, the method of having representatives from both sides at the Border Control proved very successful.

The president has not heard about these negotiations. He will consult about them and then give a response.

7. The president points out that it appears that the Resettlers are not sufficiently informed about the regulations of the treaty. He gives an example of a woman who attempted to smuggle across the border 10,000 paper Lei, which

had been sewn into a dress. She should have known that this was unnecessary because the money would have, in any case, been given back to her in Germany.

The HB is aware of all these cases. He has given strict directives to prevent similar occurrences. He has received reports that, since the last few days, such occurrences have not taken place.

The president refers to still more cases: A woman had sewn about 3 meters of material into a blanket. She should have been aware that, since this was part of her personal allowance, she could have taken this material across the border unhindered. A Resettler had hidden silver coins in a container of butter that had melted.

The HB replies that the Resettlers have been informed of the treaty. However, such minor incidences cannot be avoided.

8. The HB points out that, on 11 October, the Soviet side unexpectedly deleted a name from the completed List of Registration and Transport. However, the lists had already been signed by the Soviet OB, so that no more changes were permitted. The HB will hand over this case in writing.

The president will have this case cleared up.

9. The HB requests a decision regarding the taking along of the Bulgarian at Alt-Posttal. The registration numbers between the German and Soviet lists differ by one number because the Soviet side refused to register the Bulgarian on their list although the German OB had already registered the Bulgarian. Since the trek is to depart soon, a quick decision is necessary.

10. The HB wants to know how the question of prisoners is to be worked out.

The president says that the stipulations of the treaty ought to be followed here, too. The German side is to hand over a list of prisoners which will be checked by Major Weretennikow, who will then determine the release of the prisoners with the local authorities. As the registers have already been handed to Major Weretennikow, it is to be assumed that the release will take place in the next few days.

11. Major Weretennikow has been given a list indicating 62 horse-drawn wagons from Tarutino whose departure has been prevented by the Soviet side. Major Sintschenko has indicated that the case has been cleared up. The HB has, however, received reports that, although the OV has been informed of this, he has not yet received any official directive. Since the trek is to leave on 13 October, the matter is urgent.

The president says that Major Sintschenko will return again on 12 October and the question will be cleared up then.

12. General Lorenz, who was due to arrive at Tarutino on 10 October, is only able to arrive by 13 October. He would appreciate the opportunity for a meeting with President Wasjukow. The HB will contact President Wasjukow, in due time, to arrange the time for a meeting. Probably the best time for this meeting would be on Monday.

13. The HB shows the president the statistics, from the German side, concerning the Resettlement. The Soviet side will be provided with a copy.

Minutes #22

Concerning the discussion on 13 October, 1940, at 3:15 PM.

Present:	German Side:	Soviet Side:
	Stubaf. Dr. Siebert	Major Weretennikow
	Translator Lambert	Miss Nikiforowa
	Mrs. Finkenauer	

Already in his discussion with President Wasjukow, the HB pointed out that there were disturbances at the border processing at Reni and the Pruth crossing, as a result of the introduction of new methods by Major Feinguth for customs clearance.

Major Weretennikow has received reports, in this regard, from the border stations, that the delays in the processing were the result of the following circumstances.

The member of the German Kommando, at Reni, Mr. Salzmänn, is very touchy. For example, the Germans have written to Major Gratschow, at Ismail, concerning the occurrences at Reni, making a complaint against Major Feinguth. Major Gratschow responded by phoning and giving a telephone-gram. Since nobody else was present at the border station, the telephone-gram was accepted by Mr. Feinguth. Mr. Salzmänn categorically refused to accept the telephone-gram, because it was signed by Mr. Feinguth. Mr. Salzmänn appears to have come to the conclusion that, by his signature, Mr. Feinguth accepts responsibility for the content of the telephone-gram, namely, to the response concerning a complaint about himself. However, that is not the case. By calm discussion, this case could have been cleared up quickly and easily.

Another case. Recently, five ethnic Germans were called to the border, of whom some information was needed. Instead of requesting clarification from the Soviet representatives as to why these measures were necessary, etc., Mr. Salzmänn, in the presence of the ethnic Germans and the border authorities, made a big scene by shouting that the ethnic Germans should not even think of carrying out this order.

Furthermore, the German Headquarters should be aware that an 11 year old girl was unlawfully transported across the border by car. The border post had to discontinue their duties until the girl had been brought back again. This incident is a clear infringement of the stipulations of the treaty.

Recently, a German driver attempted to smuggle two boys, approximately 14-16 years old, from Galatz, across the border, to the USSR. After they had been discovered, the driver maintained that he knew nothing about the presence of the two boys.

The German transport and trek leaders collected money from the Resettlers while they were on the road and attempted to get the [money] on-board the steam ships in brief cases. In other words, to take it across the border. A driver responded to the question as to the whereabouts of his brief case, that it had been stolen. After it was pointed out to him that he had taken it on-board the ship, it suddenly re-appeared. The money found in it has been confiscated. Similar cases have also occurred at Kilia. One driver was even discovered with money in the engine of his truck, which was then confiscated.

These incidents complicate matters and cause tensions between the German and Soviet representatives, but they could be resolved in a calmer and more peaceful way than currently is the case. The Soviet side has given directives to the border posts to continue matters in a friendly manner. Major W. requests that the German side also give appropriate directives so that such conflicts are avoided in the future.

The German representatives, at Reni, have sent a telegram to the German Headquarters. The Major has not been informed about the content, but requests that the content be revealed to him so that he can take a position on the questions raised.

Stubaf. Dr. Siebert requests that the incidents at the border are written down. They will then be looked into by the German side and the German point of view will be made known to the Soviet side.

As for the money of the Resettlers, it is to be collected by German and Soviet representatives, while on the road, and be deposited. The appropriate directives have already been given. Some of the inexperienced transport or trek leaders have misunderstood this regulation. It is hoped that, on the basis of the directives, such cases will not happen again.

Dr. Siebert has one more question concerning the embarking. The customs authorities must be directed to allow the German representatives to be present at the customs control.

Major Weretennikow has not yet received an answer to this question concerning the customs authorities. Actually it is like this that, for each incident that occurs, the German representatives are automatically involved. However, as soon as an answer is received he will inform the German side of it.

Dr. Siebert asks whether the directives have already been sent to the border posts to start border controls earlier in the morning than has been done previously. President Wasjukow had made this proposal.

Major Weretennikow will send a representative to Reni, today, to give the border authorities the appropriate directives. He believes that this question can be agreed upon as the border posts, in fact, have for some time exceeded the agreed upon working hours.

Horse matters in Tarutino. Major Sintschenko received a submission from the German side with the request for an affirmative decision. Dr. Siebert asks whether the directive which had been promised by Major Sintschenko has already been sent to the OV.

Major Weretennikow has been informed. There will be a discussion this evening with Major Sintschenko and the OV. The decision will be announced on the afternoon of 14 October.

Issue of Reinhold Goetz, in Tarutino, whose 82 sheep were nationalized. The case is still to be handed to the Soviet side in writing.

Major Weretennikow agrees to investigate the case.

Deletion of Resettlers from the Registration and Transport Lists. In Eichendorff, two girls were deleted from the lists. Very urgent is the case of the Bulgarian in Alt-Posttal, who is to leave with the transport on 14 October but whose inclusion on the lists was denied by the Soviet OV.

Major Weretennikow has issued a directive in principle that no deletion is to take place without the consent of the German OB. At 11 AM on 14 October, the GVs [Regional Authorities] will be coming together for a discussion. Major W. attempt to clear up the cases in their presence.

Arrest of Boris Hoffmann. Major Repinski agreed to look into it. Dr. Siebert requests information as to whether a release has taken place, yet.

Major W. responds that Hoffmann is still in detention. In the question concerning the detained, the Soviet side has drawn up lists and handed them over to the Commission of Investigation. Immediately after the investigation, during the following days, the detainees will be released.

Major W. has received a memorandum in which the handing over of the ethnic Germans' carpets was requested. The carpets can be delivered at any time.

Dr. Siebert asks on behalf of the HB that Major W. he helps him out in the following question. The German ethnic group has a number of libraries which contain mainly National Socialist literature. The German side requests that they be permitted to take these books along which are worthless to the USSR.

The major requests a written submission. He will contact the proper authority and come to a decision.

The HB still has a personal request for Major W. Dr. Karl Stumpp, a member of the headquarter staff, has an old mother in Alexanderhlf, Post Liebenthal, 9 km to the east of the Dnjestr border. The HB requests that the old lady be given the opportunity to join the Resettlement.

Major Weretennikow states that the Soviet delegation does not have the authority to decide on this matter. He proposes the following approach: The HB is to submit a request to President Wasjukow concerning this matter. Major W. will persuade the president to forward this submission to the Narkomindel, in Moscow. It is to be hoped that the Narkomindel will offer the old lady the opportunity to resettle.

Major W. asks about the quarters for General Lorenz and, at the same time, makes the requests that the houses, which have been designated for the German Kommando, be occupied as soon as possible and that they be placed under German supervision, so that the Soviet authorities no longer carry out official functions there. Furthermore, he requests that it be ensured that the houses be constantly occupied.

Responding to the objection by Dr. Siebert, that the Soviet authorities want to start a kindergarten in the Gerstenberger house, the major says that the Soviet authorities will not confiscate the house if it is already occupied by the German Kommando.

Minutes #23

Concerning the discussion on 13 October, 1940, at 3:15 PM.

Present:	German Side:	Soviet Side:
	Staf. Hoffmeyer	Major Weretennikow
	Stubaf. Dr. Siebert	Miss Nikiforowa
	Dr. Wolfrum	
	Mr. Lambert	

Point 1: The regiment leader [Standartenfuehrer] asks the pressing question concerning the trek to depart from Tarutino tomorrow, of which the Soviet side struck 52 teams (104 horses). He said that he had assigned the task to Dr. Wolfrum to resolve the details in this regard, who, as a result, then gave more details. Dr. Wolfrum related that the register, which the German farmers previously had made available to the Soviets, only contained the horses necessary for the completion of field work. The list the farmers drew up contains:

1. Not all horses
2. Not all horse owners
3. All horse owners were omitted who had sufficient horses
4. The 4 horse owners who had no farms were omitted from the list

The regiment leader handed over a sworn statement by the farmers, who had drawn up the list at that time, in which they declared that the list of 21 July had not contained all the horses because of the above mentioned reasons.

Major Weretennikow takes the opposite view, stating that this list had been drawn up by German farmers at that time and, for this reason, he had to accept it as being true. Under different circumstances, this matter would have raised doubts with him. W. agrees to a further investigation of the matter.

Point 2: The HB expresses his thanks for the letters of response to various questions received during the last few days, which led to a resolution of the points concerned. He referred especially to the letter concerning the vehicle accidents and gave a detailed explanation to the relevant points. Furthermore, he promised that the drivers would be informed and given strict directives. The HB expressed his willingness to pay the costs which had arisen.

Major Weretennikow stated that the aim of his letter had not been a question about money, but the desire for careful driving in the settled areas.

Point 3: The HB expresses his thanks for the letter concerning authorization for export of a whole [*geschlossene*] herd of Karakul sheep. He had only had in mind the Goetz herd. With the export of this herd, any further exports should come to an end. However, if things should change, he would inform them.

Major Weretennikow stated that he had already given directives, in this regard, for the necessary steps to be taken with the authorities and that he would forward the response to us.

The HB said that, in general, the cooperation with the Soviet headquarters was on a very friendly basis and that, in the future, the friction which might arise in the urban areas must no longer be put in writing, but could be resolved verbally in the course of a daily discussion. Major W. agreed.

Point 4: Concerning the question of prisoners, which had been raised by the HB, Major Weretennikow responded that he had handed over a register to the relevant authorities concerning the release of the prisoners. After he had received a second copy of the register of prisoners, he asked whether he could compare the first list with the second one, and that the release of the outstanding prisoners be a separate request. The chairman of the Board of People's Commissioners, Molotov, has issued the order to release the prisoners, and there is no one in the entire Soviet Union who would oppose this order.

The HB asks for a deadline when the approximate release of the prisoners can be expected, and whether they would reach the embarking transport during the Resettlement.

Major Weretennikow affirms that the release will take place during the Resettlement period. He gave a deadline of approximately three days, during which time he expected a reply from the authorities.

Point 5: The HB raises the main question: Property Evaluation. Major Weretennikow said, in this regard, that he had just had an interview with President Wasjukow and that President Wasjukow wished to speak with the HB about it on Saturday, 19 October. Exactly as in the ruble question, he had received directives from Moscow. He would probably be leaving tomorrow, or the day after. Should he be able to delay his departure to Moscow until Sunday, the consultation could take place on Sunday. Should this not be possible, a consultation would take place on Sunday with the deputy of the HB, Dr. Siebert.

Point 6: Major Weretennikow returns to the letter of the HB concerning the mother of the Kommando member, Dr. Stumpp and says that he had forwarded the letter to President Wasjukow and that he would take it along to Moscow, to the Foreign Affairs Commission, and speak in support of it. The HB thanked the Soviet chief representative for his efforts.

Point 7: The HB said that the nine houses, made available to us for accommodation of our Kommando members, unfortunately, were insufficient. Through the arrival of the truck column, we have, in addition, had to make use of the Fredrich house so that the men did not have to sleep out in the open. Major Weretennikow obviously understands and agrees with the occupation of the Fredrich house. Retrospect authorization would be forwarded to us.

Session closed at 3:10 PM.

Minutes #24

Concerning the discussion on 19 October, 1940, at 5:00 PM.

Present:	German Side:	Soviet Side:
	Dr. Wolfrum	Captain Dobkin
	O.B. Dankert	Local Cell Soviet
	Translator Lambert	Area Representative
	Mrs. Finkenauer	

Under debate was the matter of the horses at Tarutino. The discussion takes place according to the listed points.

No. 1. The Selsoviet asserts that Gustav Hiller had not had any horses before 23 July, 1940. The version, that he had bought a replacement horse for one which had been requisitioned by the Romanians, is something new.

OB Dankert states that he had shown the documentation, concerning this, to the OV. The OV did not want to take these along because he claimed that his own notes were sufficient. The document was drawn up on 3 October.

Dobkin is of the opinion that even the list drawn up by the farmers does not show any horses for Hiller. Responding to the objection that this list was no document, as it was not even signed or have a date, Dobkin replies that the people don't deny having written the list, so it was valid. The sworn declaration by the German farmers, which had been presented by the German side, also confirms that these farmers had drawn up the list.

Dobkin cut short the discussion concerning this list with a demand that he be given a document signed by the local authority (Selsoviet) that the horse had been bought between 10-15 August, otherwise he could not release the horse. During the Romanian time, and especially after the Soviets had taken power, buying or selling was only possible with permission from the authorities. For self-reared horses, the Soviet would have had to issue a document in Russian.

Dr. Wolfrum states that he absolutely rejects this as it doesn't agree with the facts.

Captain Dobkin requests proof for this statement. Furthermore, he insists that the required document be handed over. Responding to the pretext by Dr. Wolfrum that he would produce the document, Dobkin says that this had to be signed by a local authority. This authorities is represented here by the chairman and members of the Selsoviet. He does not believe that they would sign this document. So he doesn't understand what kind of document Dr. Wolfrum wants to produce.

Dr. Wolfrum wants to consult with the farmers in this matter.

No. 2. To this, Dobkin states that the horses belong to father Hirschhorn, who had already departed with a pair of horses. To the objection of Dr. Wolfrum, that the Hirschhorns had 4 horses since 1930, of which 2 had been requisitioned by the Romanians, and that, apart from this, they had separate farms, Dobkin declares that he requires that the farms were separate- a act of separation. Dr. Wolfrum says that the separate listing of the property list is proof of the fact that the farms had been divided. This Dobkin will not allow to stand. He demands the act of separation and declares that such Acts had also been drawn up during the Romanian time. To the proposal by Dr. Wolfrum, to draw up evidence to the contrary, that the farms had not been divided, Dobkin answers that he requires documentation. He could not accept statements made by individuals. The necessary documentation could be obtained from the Primarie.

Dr. Wolfrum interjects that the list of horses should then also be at the Primarie. These would be shining proof of the German claims.

A representative of the Selsoviet says that it would take a month to find any lists as the archives in the attic are in total disorder. Dr. Wolfrum responds that he would then also be unable to find the documentation that Mr. Dobkin requires. The documentation of the Selsoviet cannot possibly be complete if the Romanians brought the archives into a state of chaos. The Selsoviet states that their documentation is based on the declarations of the local population and also the horse list drawn up by the 14 Germans.

Dr. Wolfrum rejects this basis, as the Resettlers swear that this list is not in order.

Dobkin declares that he will not depart from his point of view and must demand a valid document. Furthermore, already too many horses have crossed the border, but he doesn't want to speak about that any further.

Dr. Wolfrum takes note of this- he will inform the HB concerning this statement by Captain Dobkin.

No. 3. Emil Hinz, of whom it is claimed that he never owned any horses, has submitted a bill of sale and tax declaration for the horses.

Dobkin states the following: The tax declaration is drawn up according to the statement of the farmer as to how many horses he owns. The financial officer goes to the farm and checks how many horses there are. The bill of sale is not a proof that he had bought the horse by 23 July. The bill of sale is not recognized as a document. Dr. Wolfrum says that the tax declaration has been issued for two horses, so if Hinz bought the horses after 23 July that Selsoviet must be able to produce a document in this regard.

A representative of the Selsoviet notes that Hinz may have bought the horses at another location.

Dobkin furthermore insists that documents be produced which prove the right of Hinz to take the horse along.

Dr. Wolfrum would like to know what documents are actually being insisted on and would be recognized, if a tax declaration and a bill of sale are apparently not enough. Since he does not recognize, as an official document, the list drawn up by the German farms, he must insist on his part that the Selsoviet prove that the horses were only bought after 23 July.

Dobkin replies to that not the Selsoviet, but the farmers are being resettled. So it is the farmers who need to strive to submit the necessary documents. Moreover, Hinz is a store keeper and doesn't own a farm.

Dr. Wolfrum states that, according to the treaty, this does not bar him from exporting horses. Moreover, he states that on this point no unanimity can be reached.

No. 9. A bill of sale is submitted. Dobkin does not recognize this as it was issued on 17 June by the Selsoviet when the Soviet power did not yet rule in Bessarabia. The Selsoviet affirms that documents are never issued with retrospective dates. Apart from this, the stamp is Romanian. At this point, Seib appears to have been a member of the Romanian army. Dobkin requests a more convincing proof.

Dr. Wolfrum states that he for his part considers this proof to be more convincing than Captain Dobkin's Horse List.

Captain Dobkin remarks that each person can think what he wants.

No. 19. Dobkin states that the horses were nationalized together with the factory. As the nationalization is not dependant on him, the case is closed.

Dr. Wolfrum responds that the nationalization of the factory is not being contested, but that the horses were left in the possession of Scherible to this day.

Dobkin maintains that this was done so as not to cause Scherible any problems until his departure.

Dr. Wolfrum does not accept this statement. At the time of nationalization, lists were drawn up.

A representative of the Selsoviet indicates that a number of things were forgotten in the drawing up process. Moreover, it does not matter whether the horses were part of the inventory list or not, since the stipulations concerning the nationalization demand the nationalization of these horses.

Dr. Wolfrum notes that Scherible was not informed about the nationalization of the horses. On the contrary, he continued to pay taxes for them.

It is not the duty of the Soviet authorities to inform the existing owners of nationalization. It was only a matter of good will on the Soviet side to allow Scherible the right to use the horses until departure. The laws concerning nationalization were known to all citizens, Dobkin states.

Dr. Wolfrum confirms that he is also aware of these laws in as much as they were published in the "Izvestia" of 15 August. But, as Scherible was not aware of the nationalization, he could also have sold the horses. Furthermore, Scherible was also a farmer and part of his farm, which was not nationalized, consisted of horses, poultry, etc. Thereupon, Dobkin responds that the local authorities had acted poorly by leaving the horses with Scherible up to the present. Stipulations exist which demand the nationalization of the horses.

Dr. Wolfrum requests that these stipulations be produced.

Dobkin demands the proof that these horses were lawfully bought, in other words, not by means of factory proceeds.

Dr. Wolfrum states that these horses belong to a small farm which was not nationalized.

Dobkin will provide a document concerning the nationalization of horses.

Dr. Wolfrum once more requests a copy of the law in question.

Dobkin expresses his willingness to provide a regulation by the district [*Bezirk*] committee.

Dr. Wolfrum states that he is willing to abide by the laws which have been issued by the People's Commission in Moscow, to which Dobkin notes that the local Soviets also do not indulge themselves with illegal practices.

Dr. Wolfrum feels that agreement will not be able to be reached with Mr. Dobkin. He will once more submit the matter to the HB.

No. 23. Dobkin maintains that Boettcher did not own any horses until 23 July.

Dr. Wolfrum exhibits 2 bills of sale and, furthermore, documentation by the Romanian military, that Boettcher was required to have two horses at all time.

Dobkin feels that this bill of sale could also refer to the father of Boettcher. Or Boettcher could be a 5 year old child. He will once more have the matter looked into and leave the decision to the OV. Everywhere attempts are being made to take horses across the border illegally.

Dr. Wolfrum states that, according to the allegation of Dobkin, he is now making the attempt to illegally smuggle horses.

Dobkin observes that he had not made such a statement and that he requested Dr. Wolfrum not to make such statements. He had to go by the available documentation.

Dr. Wolfrum, thereupon, requests Captain Dobkin to not allow any uncertainty to arise by the use of such generalized statements. After all, Dobkin had said that if the correct documents can be provided, he would make an immediate decision. In the present case, these are available.

Dobkin does not contest the correctness of the documents. After examining the documents, Dobkin decides that Boettcher's horses can be exported.

No. 35. It is claimed that Kittler never owned any horses.

Dobkin states that two horses have already been taken out of the country from this household. There is no separation document for the two households. Furthermore, a representative from the Selsoviet says that, according to the documents, the one horse should be 7 years old, but that the horse Kittler owns is only three years old. So the horse that was bought remained with the Romanian army, and the one he has now is a different horse.

Dr. Wolfrum declares that also this case has not yet been resolved.

No. 20. Dobkin states that the horses were nationalized with the factory. Furthermore, Wildermuth is a brother-in-law of Sherible. Dr. Wolfrum says that he was a bookkeeper in the factory, not a co-owner. He had a knitting shop. He has owned the one horse since 1934, and served with it in the Romanian Cavalary.

Dobkin decides that the horses may be released.

No. 32. Dobkin claims that the horses of Artur Steinke were nationalized together with the factory.

Dankert says that Artur Steinke was not a co-owner of the factory. The horses of Karl Steinke, which belonged to the factory, were nationalized.

The Selsoviet declares that he is in possession a Will, according to which the factory belongs to the heirs of the old Steinke, which also includes Artur St. It is claimed that everything was nationalized except the personal possessions of the Steinkes and their families.

Dr. Wolfrum wants to report to the HB that the farm of Artur St. has also been nationalized. This interpretation of the law that, where a factory is nationalized the farm is also nationalized, was news to Dr. Wolfrum.

No. 51. For the horses belonging to Flaig, two bills of sale were presented. Dobkin decides that the two horses can be released.

No. 48. It was established that Wilhelm Priebe, Resettlement #130 393, has handed over his farm to his son and, therefore, has the right, together with his son, to take out a pair of horses.

Furthermore, Katharina Priebe, Resettlement #130 376, may, with her son, also take out a pair of horses.

The continuation of the discussion is set for 20 October, 1940, at 10:00 AM.

Minutes #25

Discussion on 20 October, 1940, at 11:00 AM (Continuation of the discussions of 19 October, 1940, at 5:00PM).

Present:	German Side:	Soviet Side:
	Dr. Wolfrum	Captain Dobkin
	O.B. Dankert	O.V.
	Translator Lambert	Selsoviet
	Mrs. Finkenauer	

Dr. Wolfrum regrets that the meeting is starting an hour late because he has a prior appointment with President Wasjukow and must again recess the meeting at noon.

No. 6. It is claimed that Dr. Baier never had any horses.

OB Dankert states, and makes a sworn statement, that he had been presented with a certificate of ownership and 2 breeding (*Deckzeugnisse*), or birth certificates but which Dr. Baier has taken along.

The Selsoviet maintains that he has documents which prove that the horses belonged to the hospital and were maintained by it. Since the hospital has been nationalized, the horses have also been nationalized.

OB Dankert requests documentary proof that the horses belonged to the hospital. Once again it is the same question as came up yesterday concerning the nationalization without the appropriate basis.

Dobkin declares that he is not in the position to deliver a general lecture on nationalization.

Dr. Wolfrum protests, as a member of the German delegation, about this kind of conduct. He doesn't want a lecture, but rather he wishes to negotiate objectively.

Dobkin replies that he will present the documents which are issued, when nationalization takes place.

Dr. Wolfrum requests that he then also be presented with the documents concerning the nationalization of the horses of Sherible. Yesterday, it was said that such documents were not necessary.

Dobkin wishes to adjourn the meeting until these documents have been produced.

Dr. Wolfrum states once more that, for a fact, a horse belongs to the person who feeds and cares for it. So the horses of Sherible still belong to him because he has maintained them up to the present.

Dobkin asks Dr. Wolfrum to keep such remarks to himself. They are uncalled for. Sherible maintained the horses because he used them up to the end.

Dr. Wolfrum once again protests about the tone of the proceedings. He need not hold back any remarks if they are relevant to the matter.

Dobkin also says that he has the right to freely speak his mind. He will be forced to call an end to the proceedings because of the intolerant manner in which the meeting is taking place, since they will be unable to come to an agreement.

Dr. Wolfrum states that he was only making a logical conclusion. Either a matter is examined objectively, or the meeting is over.

Dobkin maintains that he examines each case very objectively.

Dr. Wolfrum hopes that, where there is such an objective viewpoint, negotiations will be able to go forward. He states that the decision, in the case of Baier, is not recognized by the German side.

Dobkin declares that Dr. Wolfrum has a right to his opinion. But the horses will not be allowed to leave.

No. 24. Dobkin claims that the horses of Otto Rudolf Friedrich's father were taken out of the country. Since there is no deed of separation of the households, it must be viewed as a combined household. He wants to continue with the next point, immediately.

Dr. Wolfrum states that he does not know on which basis the negotiations are to be continued. It is required to produce documents. When such documents are produced, they are not recognized. Titles of Separation are not available because the archive of the mayor [Primarie] is in a state of disorder. Instead of this, deeds of ownership are presented.

Dobkin claims that if separate households actually existed those concerned would have the Title of Separation. Responding to Dr. Wolfrum's protest that, in this case, the families were living in two separate houses, which were in the same yard, Dobkin says that it was useless to negotiate about this since no Title of Separation was presented.

Concerning the question raised by Dr. Wolfrum, where in the treaty there is a point which demands the presentation of titles of separation and deeds of ownership, Dobkin responds with a question of his own: In which point of the treaty is it allowed that 4 horses may be taken out of the country from one farm yard? The Selsoviet maintains that father and son, Friedrich, lived and worked together.

Dr. Wolfrum demands that the Selsoviet prove this statement. In this regard, he demands once more the official list of horses from the major's office.

Dobkin announces that the Selsoviet will draw up and present a document.

Dr. Wolfrum stands firm on his demands to view the Romanian horse list which had been accurately kept.

In response to this, Dobkin responds that the Soviet side is in possession of a horse lists which had been drawn up by the Settlers themselves. He considered these sufficient evidence, since he had no reason not to believe the Resettlers.

Dr. Wolfrum repeated that this was a false [falsch] document. It was declared under oath that it wasn't even a (legal) document.

When translator Lambert translated the words as "not legal document" ["ne prawilnyj dokument"], a member of the Selsoviet interjected that the translation should have been "falsified" document ["falschiwyj"], whereupon Dobkin declared that he was breaking off the negotiations because the German side maintained that the Soviet side was using falsified documents. He was not going to permit the Soviet delegation to be insulted, especially not in the presence of the representatives of the Local Administrative Authority and will suspend the negotiations until the German delegation comes up with an objective negotiating partner.

Dr. Wolfrum declares, with raised voice, that he, as a member of the delegation, was not willing to be insulted in this manner and that he had nothing more to say to Captain Dobkin.

Minutes #26

Concerning the discussion on 20 October, 1940, at 12 noon.

Present:	German Side:	Soviet Side:
	Dr. Siebert	President Wasjukow
	Dr. Kleist	Mr. Arkadjew
	Translator Lambert	Major Weretennikow
	Mrs. Finkenauer	

Dr. Siebert is pleased about good progress of the Resettlement. More than 100,000 have already been transported. Unfortunately, a report has been received from Bukovina that, since 17 October, the train transports have been halted. Major Weretennikow explains that this due to the adaptation of the tracks, which will be completed in a few days. Rail transport is to resume on 21 October.

The president is sorry that the valuation process is not moving ahead. On the Soviet side, everything possible has been done in this regard. The prices which were valid before 1 July were closely examined and the Soviet representatives were given directives, a long time ago, to arrive at an objective evaluation. To make absolutely sure and to guarantee total objectivity, the Soviet side has called for new experts from Moscow who could approach the evaluation in an unbiased manner and discovered that the prices accepted by the Soviet side were too high in some cases. The German Authorized Representatives are still putting forward prices which are grossly over-evaluated.

The German headquarters has received widely differing reports concerning the evaluation process. Where Soviet experts were involved, it was possible to evaluate the grain with out any further problems. Unfortunately, the experts were already withdrawn after 2-3 days.

The evaluation of houses causes the greatest problems. The amortization, set by the Soviet side, is too high. Of course, the amortization of clay-brick houses is higher than it is for stone houses. The German houses, south of the line: to the north of Tarutino and from west to east, up to the Black Sea, are mostly made of stone. Only to the north of this line, are there a greater number of clay-brick houses. The German Authorized Representatives have, in a number of cases, even decided to evaluate entire villages.

President Wasjukow has authorized the implementation of this method. However, it has been found, especially in Paris, that even by using this method the prices differ greatly. Arkadjeff commented that in a number of cases the difference between prices had been narrowed down when suddenly the German Authorized Representative raised his own evaluation by nine times, as it happened in Hoffnungstal.

Dr. Siebert will have this case looked into. He is aware of other cases where the Soviet representatives, who had already fixed a price, lowered it considerably when they became aware that their price was approximately the same as the one set by the German Authorized Representatives. A raising of the prices was not undertaken by the German side, rather the German Authorized Representatives were directed to reach a settlement. The HB is in Galatz to obtain precise information from Berlin in this regard. Dr. Siebert does not believe that a settlement will be reached on the present basis, since both sides claim that they are acting objectively.

Mr. Arkadjeff states that the Soviet side wanted to use this discussion to inform themselves on how together to find a way to resolve this question, thereby speeding up the process.

During the discussion, Arkadjeff states that the German evaluators do not want to start the evaluation process. They claimed that they had to first draw up property lists, etc.

Dr. Siebert responds that he doubts that the evaluators do not want to begin their work. It is likely that they will need the property lists as the basis for their evaluations. This will be necessary, especially in the cases where the number of cattle was established by both sides. However, after the ethnic Germans had left, it was established by

the Soviet side that a portion of the cattle was missing and claimed them to have been sold. In such cases, the German Authorized Representative must first prove that the cattle have been driven off by unknown elements from neighboring villages. This obviously slows down the entire process. Responding to the objection of Mr. Arkadjeff, in which he stated that he was aware of cases where a portion of the cattle, already listed in the property lists, have then either been slaughtered, or sold by the Germans, Dr. Siebert said that in such cases the OBs were given strict directives to strike the cattle from the property lists. The case referred to, in which the cattle had been driven off, did not really present any problems but only a delay.

President Wasjukow asks once more which position the German side takes in the question of the evaluation. Does Dr. Siebert believe that an agreement is possible?

Dr. Siebert believes that it will happen. The HB will bring along final directives from Galatz.

The president plans to travel to Moscow today. In case he does not return, Mr. Arkadjeff will act as his deputy. He will stay in contact with him. It would be desirable to set out to finally resolve the main question tomorrow, as soon as the HB has returned. Except for the ruble question, this question is the only unresolved matter. As far as the president is aware, concerning the ruble question, the Narkomindel has already sent an answer to the German legation that the limit has been raised to approximately 300 Rubles (per family) if the Resettlers could prove, by way of receipts, that they received the money from the sale of the delivered grain. This decision is in accordance to the wishes of the Soviet side and is also entirely acceptable to the German side.

Dr. Siebert presumes that the HB will also bring along this response from Galatz. Major Weretennikow wanted to have the prisoner lists examined by the responsible authorities and, over the course of 5 days, set the prisoners free. In this question, some progress has been made. It is possible that the prisoners will be set free in the next few days.

Dr. Siebert has one more question concerning the mother of one of the headquarter staff, Dr. Stumpp, who lived in the vicinity of Odessa.

President Wasjukow has received the letter in this regard. This question must be resolved by following the normal route. The president will forward the letter to the Narkomindel, but proposes that the German legation, on their side, send a note to the Narkomindel with the request that this citizen be permitted to emigrate.

Dr. Siebert will have this done and thanks him for the advise.

The question concerning the Bulgarian from Alt Posttal is raised once more.

Major Weretennikow has established that this Bulgarian has only been living with the German farmer for the past two and one-half years. Before that, he had been in the service of other people. OB Menn allowed the Bulgarian to be registered without the approval of the OV. When he found out that the OV was not pursuing the registration, he chased the Soviet citizen, who was carrying out the registration, out of the place [*Lokal*]. The OV had proposed not to register the Bulgarian until the headquarters of both sides had come to a decision. Furthermore, relatives of the Bulgarian have requested the Soviet side not to allow him to emigrate. It is to be hoped that this question will be able to be resolved tomorrow, whether he travels or not. Furthermore, OB Menn is pursuing a policy which is not necessary.

Dr. Siebert is unaware of this. If Menn really chased the Soviet citizen out of the place [*Lokal*], this should have been reported immediately. An incident like this must surely have influenced the manner in which they worked together.

Major Weretennikow responds that he, first of all, had wanted to investigate the matter. This had now been done. The Soviet OVs are a patient bunch of people. They do not complain to the HB about each incident immediately. It is attempted in such cases to resolve the conflict then and there. Since this type of conduct was shown on more than one occasion by OB Menn, Major W. must officially hand over this matter now.

Major W. wants to make use of the presence of the president and his deputy, as well as the deputy of the A.A., Dr. Kleist, to present the case of the doctor, Mrs. Schumjaskaja, concerning which he has already given a written report. He must categorically demand the removal of driver Kolz.

Dr. Siebert responds that the case is being looked into and the decision will be communicated to the Soviet side as soon as the case has been resolved.

Once again, the Major has cases to report of beatings of Soviet citizens, which he will hand over in writing.

Dr. Siebert comments that the HB has decided to severely punish each case where his instructions have been disobeyed.

As a result of the discussion concerning the horses from Tarutino, an incident occurred because of an unclear translation from German to Russian.

Major W. says that Dobkin has already informed him. He is most unhappy about Dr. Wolfrum's conduct, whereby he acted in an untactful manner toward Mr. Dobkin. Dr. Wolfrum had the courage to say that some of the documents presented by the Soviet side were falsified. The representatives of the Soviet authorities, who were present, were very upset. Yesterday, Dr. Wolfrum once again was guilty of an insult toward Mr. Dobkin. He had greeted Major W. with a hand-shake, but had not offered his hand to Mr. Dobkin. When taking leave, the translator first of all had to remind Dr. Wolfrum that he should offer his hand to Dobkin, also. Even though conflicts between individuals could arise, this does not give anyone the right to be rude. Major W. hopes that Dr. Siebert will take all possible measures to direct Dr. Wolfrum to behave a little more tactfully.

Dr. Siebert responds that he will question Dr. Wolfrum concerning the circumstances. He wants to bring up a complaint concerning the following case: the German translator translated: "the document that was presented by the Soviet side was not correct." The second member of the Village Soviet came up with his own arbitrary translation by translating the word with "falsified". Dr. Siebert points out that only the German translator is authorized to do the translation.

Major W. notes this.

Dr. Kleist will be traveling to Berlin in the next few days. However, he does not wish to start his journey until the prisoners have been freed.

Major W. promises to speak, once again, to the relative authorities yet today to find out how soon one could expect the prisoners to be freed.

Dr. Siebert expresses the hope that the president would be able to return one more time when the work is finished.

Minutes #27

Concerning the discussion on 22 October, 1940, from 9:00PM to 11:00 PM.

Present:	German Side:	Soviet Side:
	Staf. Hoffmeyer	Major Weretennikow
	Stubaf. Dr. Siebert	Captain Dobkin
	Translator Lambert	Oberleutnant Solotuchin
	Mrs. Finkenauer	Miss Nikiforowa

The HB states that the horses, concerning which negotiations had not been completed because of conflicting witness statements, had been confiscated. The document, which has not been recognized by the German side, is quoted as the basis for this course of action. The HB responds to the objection of Major W. against the claim of a member of the German delegation that this document was falsified [falschiwyj] (after a study of dictionaries, he was convinced that this was the true translation). The HB said he strongly protests against such an interpretation since there was never any talk about a falsified document. A false (inaccurate) document is one, as in the case before them, in which the correctness of statement could not be verified, as it had been made as a result of a false assumption.

Major W. maintains the correctness of his interpretation and says that the general conduct of Dr. Wolfrum is proof that he wanted to make use of the term "falsified" and that Captain Dobkin was not prepared to take such an insult.

Dr. Siebert once again raises the objection which was voiced at the meeting of 20 October, that the German side was not prepared to accept arbitrary translations by unauthorized people since only the German translator was authorized to translate.

Major W. holds to his position just as the HB does. After some time, he remarks that he does not doubt the good intentions of the HB to clear up all problems, but he is led to believe that the directives of the HB are just not followed by some members of the German Commission. Once more, he quotes the case of the ambulance driver and the Soviet woman doctor, Schumjzskaja. He maintains that the driver had driven faster than allowed and had acted in an insulting manner to the doctor. The result is that the doctor was crippled.

The HB must state here also that is a case of conflicting witness statements, as only the two people concerned were present at the accident and no other witnesses. With a great volume of traffic, and the poor condition of the roads in Bessarabia, accident are bound to happen without evil intent.

Once more Major W. refers to the accidents of Mr. Romaschko, Gorbatschow and Miss Reinhardt. In addition, the case concerning Knuth, who is claimed to have ridden over a person on the sidewalk. If these had been Soviet citizens, who had caused such accidents, Major W. would have handed them over to the court. But, after all, one does not take such measures with guests and friends.

Dr. Siebert presents the case of the ambulance driver Kolz, which Kolz had described in a credible manner.

Major Weretennikow keeps on returning to his accusations until the HB breaks off the discussion concerning these incidents and refers to the case of Wittenberg. In his written deposition concerning this matter, he had referred to a discussion with Captain Dobkin, which had taken place at the start of the Resettlement, in which the German side had been indirectly accused of arson. He had not come back to this conversation since he had believed the case to be resolved. But, since Captain Dobkin had made new statements concerning OB Menn, he feels compelled to do so.

Major W. explains that Menn had not understood Captain Dobkin correctly. Captain Dobkin had never made statements as indicated by Menn. There is no doubt that arson took place in Wittenberg, but it would not have occurred to them to accuse the guests and friends of it. What happened in Wittenberg is that men demanded a Soviet escort for a trip to Tarutino, but he had been refused by Captain Dobkin who said that the fire which was

threatening to spread had to first of all be put out. Major W. believes that the entire conflict had arisen because both men and Dobkin were somewhat temperamental and had become agitated and may, as a result, insulted each other. Major W. has on various occasions observed that Mr. Menn has a short fuse [*aufbrausend*]. He believes that Menn has seen the error of his ways and for him the case was settled.

The HB objects to the fact that the German side is always accused when something goes wrong. This time it concerns statements which are indirectly connected to a statement which had been made by Captain Dobkin once before. Captain Dobkin had said then that any suspicions concerning the German side are far removed. But the way in which Dobkin had reported the fire led to the conclusion that he implicated the German side with the causes of these incidents.

The major does not respond to this statement, but simply remarks that there had been a number of cases in which he had found Soviet citizens guilty and had punished them accordingly. He refers to another case which had taken place at the fire mishap in Beresina. A drum had been driven to a well to fetch water. A German Resettler had locked up the well and said that there was no water. This case has been documented. On the other hand, in Wittenberg, the inhabitants took an active part in the fighting of the fire. Mr. Menn had no reason to say that Dobkin had made such an accusation.

The HB points out that Captain Dobkin had made similar statements to the tax assessor at Wittenberg.

Major W. requests Dobkin to explain his actions.

Dobkin explains the happenings at Wittenberg in a completely different way than OB Menn had. He categorically denied the accusation that he had accused Menn, or his people, of arson. He had not spoken to the tax assessor at all. He had been angry with the actions of Menn who, while the fire was burning at its fiercest and threatened to spread over the entire village, had been taking photos from the roof of a house instead of helping.

Major W. raises a further complaint that Menn claimed in one case to act with the permission of Major W., while this was not so. For this reason, he could not quite believe the words of Mr. Menn.

It is stated that there was a misunderstanding in this case, in that translator Lambert understood a remark of Major W. as implying consent and had informed OB Menn accordingly. Thereupon, he stated, in good faith, that he was acting with the consent of Major W.

Notwithstanding, Major W. states once more that he must protest against members of the German Kommando claiming to act on his behalf, where this is not the case. Mr. Weber appears to have acted on behalf of the Major at Reni, when he gave his Soviet escorts the directive to travel back by train while returning by car in an illegal fashion without a Soviet escort.

The HB agrees that actions of this sort are not permissible.

The HB states that the Resettlement would be ended by 22 October. Early on 24 October, the last trek transport will cross the border. It is understandable, considering the high work tempo, that frictions occur. The greatest problem lies in the question of the evaluation, for which the HB sees no possibility for agreement. The HB proposes to finalize the evaluation lists differently than it was first planned. Not to conduct an evaluation of houses, but only to take inventory of items of value, to be confirmed by signatures from both sides, whereby the condition of the houses is also to be taken into account. Where agreement has been reached concerning livestock, finalization can take place. Of course, this proposal must first be ratified by the German Government. Major W. concedes that agreement in the house evaluation has so far not been attained anywhere. In relation to this, he raises yet another case against OB Dr. Menn: On 20 October, OB Menn wished to appraise a house, together with OV Reibanow. Menn set a value of 140,000 Lei for the house. After 15 minutes of bargaining, he reduced this sum to 60,000 Lei. This goes to prove that Menn acted inadvisably by setting such a high value for the house.

Concerning the HB's proposal, Major W. will inform his government. With regard to the livestock, he requests the HB to give directives to the OBs to take the valuations more seriously.

To this, the HB states the fundamental basis, that, for example, in some cases the Soviet and German side had taken valuations independently of each other and had arrived at approximately the same results. However, when the Soviet side heard of the German valuation results, they reduced their valuation by 60%. The reproach, that the German side was not taking the valuation seriously enough, is rejected by the HB. He is aware of a number of cases where the Soviet valuers refused to work more than three hours a day, or where they simply drove away and abandoned the valuation. With regard to livestock, the HB makes the following proposal: The livestock be divided into three categories: good, medium, bad. The "good" livestock must naturally be assessed much higher than the "medium" or "bad". In general, one should strive to find an average of the total livestock in one place and so agreement will be reached much more easily. The HB wants to consider his proposals once more and will then put them into writing and put them before the Soviet side.

In the question about the ruble, it is established that the response from Moscow contains the decision that each Resettler may pay in 300 Rubles, instead of 250 Rubles, and, in addition, unlimited amounts, where receipts have been presented from the sale of grain.

The HB states that he has not received any new directives from Berlin and, therefore, will not change his position. Since, in addition, the Resettlers with their receipts for the sale of grain are no longer in the country, it is not clear how to carry out this directive in a technical and practical manner.

President Wasjukow has traveled to Moscow and will seek more precise instruction there.

The HB hopes that exact directives from Berlin and Moscow will arrive as soon as possible as he would then be able to wrap up the Resettlement process in 4-5 days. Only from the area of Czernowitz, not all Resettlers have not been moved out because of the rail transport problems known to all.

Captain Dobkin will contact Czernowitz via Kischinev and will immediately report whether the rail transports are running again.

The Major emphasizes and emphatically states, in his personal capacity and on behalf of his Kommando, that, in spite of the problems and incidents which occasionally arose, the friendly relations between the members of both Kommandos were in no way undermined. The HB endorses this on behalf of his Kommando.

In the question of prisoners, Captain Martinoff will travel to Odessa on 23 October so that, via Moscow and Kiev, a speedy resolution of this question is reached.

On the question concerning horses, the HB states once more that the horses were confiscated. In the case of the Resettler Priebe, his farmyard was occupied by the militia so that he is unable to enter his yard to pack his wagon. The HB requests that Priebe is not harassed because an old rusty hunting rifle was found in his bed during a search, of which he does not know how it got there.

Major W. will give an immediate directive to clarify the case and hopes there will be a speedy resolution.

Major W. sees no problem in the fact that a great number of horses of the remaining Resettlers have been confiscated.

A meeting concerning the question of horses is set for 1:00 PM of 23 October.

The HB requests clarification on the following matter: It was agreed in Moscow (Minutes of Meeting #18) that steamships were to pay the full harbor fees when docking for the first time. The each following entry into the harbor should be free of any fees. By means of the account, the HB has now established that the steamships are to pay the full fees on first entry into the harbor. On entering the second time, the full fee reduced by 10%. And for each further entry the full fee reduced by 25%.

Major W. proposes to send for representatives of Inflat, at Reni, to clear up this question.

The HB asks for their indulgence, in this regard, that the payment of the account be delayed until the final clarification of this question.

Minutes #28

Statement by OB Menn concerning the assertions made by the Soviet Commission.

Re: Minutes #27 of 22 October, 1940

Concerning the remarks of the Soviet Commission according to the Minutes of 22 October, 1940, I state the following:

1. Page 2-3 of the Minutes. My description of Captain Dobkin's conduct during the fire at Wittenberg, which I submitted to the staff headquarter in writing, is an accurate account of the matter. I had given both Assessor Partes and the ethnic German translator, Mr. Unterseher the strictest directive only to record what had in fact been told them. In response to my repeated rebukes both have confirmed their assertions once again.

2. Page 3 of the Minutes. The assertion of Mr. Dobkin that, while the fire was most intense and threatened to envelop the entire village, I had stood on the roof of a house and photographed instead of helping, is a lie and he knows it.

I have already declared that, after the sounding of the fire bell, I was one of the first at the site of the fire (As was also the case with the fire at Alt-Posttal), and immediately took part intensively in dousing the flames, with the result, on the basis of my commands and my active involvement (I directed the hose from the roof myself), the source of the fire was localized. As a result of the thick smoke, I experienced a light case of inhalation of smoke and, because I felt very ill, I had to return to my quarters. While being relieved from the fire hose, I took one photo from the ground during a short breather. That I should have climbed onto the roof and to take photos in a provocative is nonsense. I must therefore strongly reject this insinuation which has risen from the fact that my photographing, which I was permitted to do, has been interpreted in such an underhanded manner. As a result of the cutting remark by Mr. Dobkin, which was made during the second fire, and which insulted my involvement during the first fire, and where, on top of that, he labeled me of being an arsonist, I may have categorically stated to my Soviet Local Representative that I would not lift another finger again even if the entire village was to burn down.

3. Page 4 of the Minutes. The attempt to cast doubt on my credibility, because I based my actions on a decision by Major Weretennikow, which had been transmitted by telephone to Translator Lambert, is a much too transparent maneuver to be taken seriously. It is nothing more than an attempt by my Soviet Local Representative so save his honor, because he was once again less informed than I was (why else did we travel to the staff headquarter in this regard than to be given a decision, the carrying out of which he apparently lacked the courage).

4. Concerning Page 4 of the Minutes. In the same way as stated above, an attempt was made to discredit me by means of a further ridiculous lie. A lie which by its bluntness and impudence takes on the appearance of being true. The assessment in question (the price of 60,000 Lei for a house, which is referred to, I did not speak about it anywhere else) took place during a conversation while on a trip to Tarutino. As a result of the generally good mood, following the completion of the assessment of livestock inventory, a light-hearted conversation followed about the agreement which still needed to be reached about the houses, which we had been unable to arrive at so far.

(The point of contention is a specific normal average house in Alt-Posttal with a value of between 70-80,000 Lei. This is the amount my assessor Partes mentioned. At the time, I had fruitless negotiations with the Soviets concerning this amount. Soviet assessment: 10,000 Lei. I stated on various occasions that the German assessment was a conscientious and realistic assessment of my assessor. I, for my part, am well aware that they, as Soviet representatives, did not wish to acknowledge this value and that we, therefore, had to come up with a negotiable value. As the Soviets showed no inclination, at that time, to negotiate in any way, the assessment process was discontinued, as was the case everywhere else.)

The Soviet Deputy Local Representative, Lewin, asked me, in a laughing manner during the trip, whether I was prepared to assess. I responded that the Soviets were unwilling to depart from their position. Lewin continued in a light-hearted manner by saying that if he had the authority that he would increase it from 10 to 30,000 Lei. Whereupon, I declared that I was also prepared to reduce it from 70-80,000 to 60,000. In a joking manner, we once again concluded that there was no consensus and the 15 minute conversation ended on a light-hearted note. These are the facts of the matter.

An amount of 140,000 Lei was never mentioned by me. This is an out-right lie. – Neither did I speak with Captain Reibanow, who did nothing more than sit in the right hand side of the car and smilingly follow our conversation.

5. Concerning Page 5 of the Minutes. The remark by Major Weretennikow, that I had acknowledged my mistakes and that he had therefore believed that the matter was settled, is based on the following:

Translator Lambert requested of me, a few days ago, when the decision concerning the departure of the Bulgarian was very urgent, and when I had not yet received an answer from the German Headquarters, to personally call on Weretennikow. Responding to my question, how I should conduct myself towards Weretennikow so as to convey my request in a manner the headquarters would approve of, Lambert advised me to be yielding and modest, since there had been numerous complaints about my temperament. I was, therefore, under the impression that they wished my case was to be resolved in this manner. This is how Weretennikow's remark is to be understood.

For my part, I can not declare that I had acknowledged my mistakes since I am unaware of having made a mistake, as the Soviets claimed.

Minutes #29

Concerning the discussion on 31 October, 1940, in Czernowitz, from 12 noon to 3:00 PM.

Present: Head Authority (*Hauptbevollmaechtigter*) Hoffmeyer
Deputy (*Stellvertreterbevollmaechtigter*) Dr. Siebert
Regional Authority (*Gebietsbevollmaechtigter*) Mueller
Deputy Regional Authority (*Stellvertreterbevollmaechtigter*) Professor Meyer
Chief Assessor (*Haupttaxator*) Schleicher
Area Assessor (*Gebietstaxator*) Langtaler
Translator Zeemann

Chief Representative (*Hauptvertreter*) Major Weretennikow
Area Representative (*Gebietsvertreter*) Captain Moskalenko

1. The question of the availability of trains was discussed.

The constant disruption of the normal running of the trains made this question, which actually was an area concern, so important that it was also to be discussed between the Chief Authorized Agent and the Chief Representative. Major Weretennikow promised that he would come up with a decision—if, when and how many trains would run per day. If necessary, Captain Moskalenko will hand over the decision to the Area Representative.

At the moment, 5 trains, each with capacity for 1,000 passengers, and 1 train with 600 passenger capacity, are available. Captain Moskalenko wants to increase the last named on 1 November so that it has a capacity for 1,000 passengers. Captain Moskalenko intends to complete all transports by, at the latest, 14 November with these trains which are available. He has already taken measures to get two more entire trains.

The Soviet side will present a firm transport plan by 4 November, 1940.

2. Question Concerning Prisoners.

On the following day, 1 November, 1940, the first 46 prisoners at Czernowitz are to be handed over to the German Authorized Agent, while the remainder are to follow immediately in the days to follow. It was agreed between the Chief Representative and the Chief Authorized Agent that the Deputy Area Agent Meyer, or in his absence, Dr. Wagner, be present at the registration of the prisoners.

3. Accounts.

The accounts from the Rail Management will be handed over in Tarutino and will be paid by the headquarters at Tarutino. The accounts have already arrive at Tarutino.

4. Departure of Kommando Members Wittneven, Reichel, Vialla via Przemysl and Bock via Reni.

As the above named only have entrance and exit permits via Reni, or in the other case via Przemysl, but as a result of being commandeered to other service areas, which have other closer border crossing, the German side requests that they be given permission to cross the border at these closer border crossings. Major Weretennikow will discuss this with the border posts and give notification.

5. Fuel Provision.

The area staff at Bukovina needs a further 5,600 liters of gasoline. The Soviet side approves the provision of the amount requested.

6. Case of Anna Marie Bahner, a German Resettler.

The Area Agent presents the consent (form) of the parents for the resettlement of their daughter. The accusation that the German side had kidnapped the daughter was rejected, since: (1) the German Kommando was not in possession of powers, (2) the above named person placed herself under the protection of the Kommando because her reception into the transport list had been refused by the Soviet side. Although the case was totally clear according to the treaty, and the Resettler could not be refused her right to Resettlement, the Soviet side still raises an objection against the departure and the Chief Representative says that he had to investigate the case once more.

7. Questions concerning Property.

The Regional Authority states that the valuation in German Mark (Reichsmark), in the border area of Bukovina, is being prevented by the Area Representative. The Head Authority raises objections to this and states that valuation in German Mark has been carried out throughout all of Bessarabia. The Area Representative states that he had prevented this to begin with in order to arrive at the point where the valuation and agreement concerning it had first been concluded.

Responding to this the Regional Authority and the Area Assessor stated that the German side felt compelled to go resort to this valuation in German Marks, since this was only used for the purpose of resettlement within Germany. For the valuations were carried out mainly in a one-sided manner by the German side, since the Soviet side very often did not turn up for a combined effort, and, when they did turn up, agreement was seldom reached because the Soviet proposals were much too low. The Area Representative said that negotiations had to take place until agreement was reached, but it was an almost impossible state of affairs that the German assessors were ordered to only go to a certain limit, and when agreement was not reached to simply stop negotiations. The Head Authority said in this regard that he had given the order concerning the lowest limit to which the German side would go and, when this was not recognized, to break off negotiations, since the German side could not be forced to accept prices which were unacceptable to them.

Area Assessor Langtaler explains that as soon as they went to evaluate, together with the Soviets, at least to make the effort to evaluate 3 to 4 objects and to reach agreement. Should no agreement be reached on these 4 objects, to avoid unnecessary work, they obviously had refused to evaluate any further objects which were of the same value. In addition, the German side emphasized that if agreement was not reached the setting up of an inventory list had to take place so as to determine, in a binding way for both sides, what the objects of value were that were left behind by the German Resettlers. The Area Representative then raised 5 points, in his usual propagandistic manner, which he believed were necessary for the Soviet and German side to conclude their work. These are:

a. The Area Representative and the Regional Authority are both to send out experts into the communities who are to find a settlement in the differing valuations which exist between the Local Authority and the Local Representative.

b. A unilateral order by the German side to all Local Authorities and Assessors, that the valuations are to take place in the area itself and not later on in Moscow after the completion of the Resettlement.

c. A directive by the German and the Soviet side to the Local Authorities and the Local Representatives, that both sides make concessions in their valuations in order to reach agreement.

d. That the German side be careful not to give directives to unilaterally sign lists and that preventing the reaching of consensus not become the order of the day.

e. That carrying out assessment in German Mark only take place after the assessment in Lei.

The points (a) and (c) are unacceptable and that, concerning (c), it is pointed out that the German side has already made adequate concessions and had reached the lowest tolerable limit.

Concerning (b) and (d), as already mentioned, the Head Authority himself had given the directives to unilateral signing (of the lists) in the cases where the Germans felt that agreement was not possible.

Ultimately, in cases of non-agreement, the resolution of these questions was only possible through negotiations in Moscow.

Concerning (e), the German side stressed that obviously the valuation in Lei be carried out as far as reaching agreement was possible, but that the assessment in German Mark should run concurrently, simply for practical reasons (use the time well).

8. Refugee Camp in Barinesti.

The Regional Authority states that it appears that ethnic Germans are in this refugee camp, whose names are not known to the office (*Gebiet*). The Head Authority requested the Chief Representative to have the camp investigated with the view to find ethnic Germans. The Chief Representative agrees to this.

9. According to information from the Regional Authority, already registered Resettlers in Rosch are being summoned by the Soviet side to have the validity of their documents verified. The Area Representative justified these actions by saying that he was acting in the interest of both sides when he was attempting to weed out the people who had false documents. It could only be to the advantage to the German side if impostors were, in this way, excluded from the Resettlement. The German side takes the fundamental view that it is a breach of the treaty if previously registered people are once again subjected to verification procedure, since by the registration those concerned had already been given the right of resettlement by both sides, which had been confirmed by the signing of the registration list.

Signed: The German Head Authority

Minutes #30

Concerning the discussion on 4 November, 1940, at 6:45 PM.

Present:	German Side:	Soviet Side:
	Staf. Hoffmeyer	President Wasjukow
	Stubaf. Dr. Siebert	Major Weretennikow
	Dr. Schleicher	Captain Dobkin
	Translator Lambert	Obltn. Solotuchin
	Mrs. Finkenauer	One Officer
		Miss Nikiforowa

1. The HB returns once more to the proposal he made concerning the valuation of property to close the property lists with the comment that agreement could not be reached and inventory lists are drawn up without including the values and that this be confirmed by signatures from both sides. The Soviet side obviously has the right to point out during the finalization that the prices for building, offered by the Soviet side, are in fact the prices current before 1 July, 1940 in Bessarabia – the HB will only accept this declaration under protest since he sees it differently.

The valuation of the livestock inventory and provisions ran smoothly until a few days ago, when suddenly, on the part of the Soviet representative, doubt was cast on the quantity of grain. Agreement is reached in as much as it is decided to once again take sample measurements of the grain which had already been assessed.

It is the goal of the HB that the German and Soviet headquarters both issue similar directives to use these stock and valuation lists as a basis for the joint effort. Should this take place, the work could be completed within three days.

Dr. Schleicher, as expert for assessment questions, presents his viewpoint extensively and explains the necessity for the newly drawn up stock and valuation lists which are to be attached to the unilaterally completed property lists. These lists have already been issued to the OBs and were perceived and gratefully accepted as a big help by both the German authorities, as well as the Soviet representatives. As a result of this new basis, agreement has been reached, to a large extent, and all it now needs is a directive from the Soviet Chief Representative to sign and conclude this task within three days. Where agreement had been reached beforehand, it is unnecessary to once again include these matters in the new lists. However, these cases are few. Both sides may include their valuations in the property lists. At the finalization of this question, these results can be compared with a final figure and then an adjustment can be arrived at concerning the entire amount. The assessment results of both sides may be included in the property lists with the comment that no agreement could be reached. The problem in this regard is that the Soviet representatives, to some degree, have not carried out any assessments at all, and finding and assessing the houses to be evaluated is almost impossible now, after the departure of the ethnic Germans, and would take at least 14 days.

Responding to the objection by Major Weretennikow, that the German assessors tried by all means to carry out the assessment in the absence of the Soviet Representative and always set out to do the German Mark assessment first, Dr. Schleicher says that the German Mark assessment was necessary for the resettlement of the Resettlers in Germany and had to be carried out first. They did this to make use of the available time when they had concluded, after a few days, that agreement with the Soviet assessors was not possible.

The HB underscores what Dr. Schleicher had presented and requests once more that immediate directives be given to the Soviet Representatives in line with this proposal.

President Wasjukow wishes to consult with his staff. Should this German proposal prove to be a big help for their task, it will be accepted. President Wasjukow will make his decision known on the morning of 5 November.

2. Concerning the Ruble question, the HB states that he has been directed by the German government, should the Soviet side continue to refuse to accept the entire amount, to deposit the Ruble amounts (which had been paid in at

the German Headquarters) at the German Consulate at Czernowitz to be at the disposal of the German Embassy in Moscow.

Responding to the president as to the total amount in question, the HB replies that he has not been authorized to state the amount if the Soviet side has not first stated its willingness to receive it (the money).

President Wasjukow says that it is obviously a different matter if the difference between the Soviet limit and the amount at the disposal of the German Headquarters is between 100-200,000 Rubles, than if the difference were to be in the millions. The Soviet side is prepared to accept an amount which is the result of multiplying the number of resettled households by 300 (=the permitted amount for each household), in addition to the ruble amounts which the Resettlers received in cash for the delivery of grain. Furthermore, the Soviet side has demands for the German Commission concerning the unpaid taxes of the Resettlers.

The HB emphasizes once more that the German government shares his view that the Soviet side is compelled by treaty to accept an unlimited amount of deposits in Rubles.

Responding to the statement of the president, that agreement in this matter seemed unlikely, the HB says that he had handed over these ruble amounts to the representative of the Department of Foreign Affairs and would see to it that this amount would be sent to Czernowitz on 5 November.

3. Concerning the question of prisoners, Major Weretennikow has agreed that the prisoners will be freed while the German Kommando was still present in the USSR. However, by 4 November, only 1/3 of the prisoners on the German lists had been released.

Major Weretennikow is only able to request the prisoners from the relevant authorities and, after their release, to hand them over to the German representatives. It is also his wish to finally resolve this matter as quickly as possible.

4. The question of the trains for North Bukovina, the Narkomindel informed, via the Department of Foreign Affairs, that a decision had been made to make an additional train available every second day.

Major W. informs that President Wasjukow has sent a telegram to Moscow with the request to make an additional train available every day, so that two trains depart each day.

5. The HB had the account for trains and steamships paid on 4 November. He requests that the account for the North Bukovina trains be sent to GB Mueller, in Czernowitz, who has received the directive to pay it immediately.

6. The matter of the Goetz's Karakul sheep herd has not yet been resolved. This has to do with 27 sheep, which had been nationalized, but, according to the decision of Major W., are to be exported. The HB will give a written report of the exact number of Karakul sheep which are permitted to be exported. Major W. is to look into this matter.

7. Since the diplomatic courier has fallen ill, the HB requests a directive from the Soviet Headquarters to the Border Post that another member of the German Kommando be permitted to carry the sealed official mail across the border.

Major W. promised to contact the relevant authorities and to inform them concerning the response by 8:00 PM today.

9. The HB returns once more to the memorandum by Dr. Siebert, dated 3 November, in which the question of the 5 prisoners from Akkerman was brought up, of whom only 4 were released. Furthermore, 3 other prisoners were taken into the interior of the USSR.

Major W. has already inquired at Akkerman and will, on receipt of the response, let them know immediately.

10. The HB requests President Wasjukow, Major W. and the members of the Soviet Headquarter staff to attend the banquet on 5 November.

Minutes #31

Concerning the discussion on 5 November, 1940, at 11:30 AM.

Present:	German Side:	Soviet Side:
	Staf. Hoffmeyer	President Wasjukow
	Stubaf. Dr. Siebert	Major Weretennikow
	Dr. Schleicher	Captain Dobkin
	Translator Lambert	Miss Nikiforowa
	Mrs. Finkenauer	

President Wasjukow states that the proposal made by the German side yesterday, concerning valuation lists for inventory and provisions, have been accepted by the Soviet side in the form that is now before them, and that this list is to be attached to Property List I.

The designation of the second list must be altered and, for each individual village, must be put together as a compiled document. The list is to contain a brief description of the buildings and is to be signed by both sides. During the finalization sessions, an immediate review of these lists is possible by means of Property List I on which the type of building, year constructed and materials used, etc. have been noted. The nationalized farms are not evaluated. The buildings already evaluated will not be included in this list.

The livestock and grain valuation are proceeding smoothly and, according to the president, will be completed in the next few days. The only difference is in the assessment of the amounts of grain, which, as already decided, is to be reconciled by taking random weight checks. The Soviet side believes that these differences came about mainly because the German assessors carried out their valuation 3-4 weeks before the departure of the Resettlers, while the Soviet assessors only did so just before the departure.

The HB objects strongly to the fact that the German side is constantly singled out for blame although this is absolutely unjustified.

The HB sees a further difficulty that agreement will once again be impossible concerning the description of buildings. He believes that it will once again result in separate German and Soviet lists, whereby, on the Soviet list there may be only 10 houses in good condition, while on the German list there may be 20 good houses.

Furthermore, the question concerning the nationalization of farms is still unresolved. The HB states that he will not simply accept the promised list of nationalized farms, but that he will receive it under protest since the HB will no longer be in the position to investigate the individual cases. He has had the experience in countless cases that the nationalization of farms was withdrawn after his protest because they had been carried out randomly. In one case, an OB had reported to him that in his area approximately 60% of the nationalization had been illegal and had been withdrawn again. The HB will provide the Soviet side with the documentation when available.

The president responds that the list of nationalizations, which Major Weretennikow will hand over, will be approved by the appropriate higher authorities and, therefore, will have binding power. In any case, the question of nationalization supercedes the authority of the Soviet Resettlement delegation. Captain Dobkin comments that the decision of the Local Authorities, in this question, does not have any binding power.

The HB wishes to discuss the question of the evaluation of building with his staff and make the decision known by 3:30 PM. Should an agreement be reached, the HB requests that joint instructions be issued by both headquarters which will make things absolutely clear to the OBs and the OV's with regard to these questions.

The president is in agreement with this, but also requests that the German OBs should be given appropriate instructions for the evaluation of cattle and grain.

It was agreed to have a further discussion at 4:00 PM to receive the decision of the German Commission.

Minutes #32

Concerning the discussion on 5 November, 1940, at 4:00 PM.

Present:	German Side:	Soviet Side:
	Staf. Hoffmeyer	President Wasjukow
	Stubaf. Dr. Siebert	Major Weretennikow
	Dr. Schleicher	Captain Dobkin
	Translator Lambert	Obltn. Solotuchin
	Mrs. Finkenauer	Miss Nikiforowa

The HB states that, after a thorough discussion with his staff, and a careful examination of the proposal by the president, concerning the evaluation of buildings, he had come to the conclusion that this list was not suitable to eliminate the present difficulties. Reason:

1. An evaluation of the houses under consideration has not taken place so far because agreement concerning the quality of the houses could not be reached.
2. The discussion which took place that morning showed that the buildings or farms, which had been listed as being nationalized by the Selsoviets, were in no way to be viewed as being nationalized until the appropriate higher authorities had confirmed the nationalization, and not until the HB had received the list to be handed over by Major Weretennikow.
3. The reports received from almost all the districts show that agreement has already been reached, as much as 70-80%, on the basis of the inventory list proposed by the German side and that it only needs a directive by the Soviet Headquarters for the Soviet Representatives to countersign this list.

Should any alteration to this inventory list take place, it would lead to serious delay in the process.

President Wasjukow states that, for example, nationalized farms cannot be included in the inventory lists since, according to the treaty, only non-nationalized farms are subject to evaluation. The description of the quality of the buildings is necessary and the way in which this is to take place can be explained more precisely in the instructions to be jointly issued to the OBs and OVs. In his opinion, this process can be completed by 9 November.

The HB counters that nationalizations, which have been declared by the Selsoviet, according to information by Captain Dobkin, need not be approved by the appropriate higher authorities. Therefore, it is possible that, in the inventory list, the houses and farms nationalized by the Selsoviet are not included, but it later becomes apparent that the nationalization of these farms is not approved by the highest authority. An example is quoted that at Tereblesctie, in the Czernowitz District, 32 farms were nationalized by the Selsoviet. After careful examination by both sides, it was found that only four farms subject to nationalization. Furthermore, the HB sees no possibility for agreement concerning the quality of the farms.

President Wasjukow declares that it is absolutely inadmissible that in the case, as at Terebleschie, "both sides" decide concerning the legality of the nationalizations, since this decision lies only with the Soviet authorities. He will report this case to his government.

The HB will draw up a list of similar cases and hand it over to the Soviet Headquarters.

As a further example, the HB points out that, in the community of Lichtental and Friedenstal, the evaluation of various structures, such as walls, free-standing cellars and among others also wells and cisterns, were not accepted by the Soviet side. Also agreement of the harvest still in the fields – which, according to precise evaluation, amounts to approximately 10 million Rubles – has still not been reached.

The president points to the handling of the question of the harvest which took place about a month ago, when he declared that only finished agricultural products be evaluated, but not the harvests still in the fields. This has been laid down in the treaty in Art. 3 #5 and #9. The treaty also does not mention the evaluation of wells, etc. The structures to be evaluated are listed in detail.

The HB emphasizes that he holds an opposing view and must object to this interpretation of the treaty.

President Wasjukow refers to the negotiations in Moscow, concerning these questions, where, after an extended struggle, the leader of the German delegation backed off from evaluating these structures.

The HB is aware of this. The leader of the German delegation was concerned about reaching the widest possible agreement without haggling over minor matters. Furthermore, the reference to "miscellaneous" is included under the listing of structures to be evaluated. He states that the German Commission has been presented only with difficulties in the question of property evaluation, since day one of their work in Bessarabia. In cases where agreement indeed was reached with the OB and the OV, this was obstructed by the Soviet Headquarters. A typical case presents itself in Leipzig where the German OB, contrary to the wishes of the German Headquarters, agreed to livestock prices which the HB is unable to approve. This matter was immediately used by the headquarters to recommend these ridiculously low prices as the standard for the Soviet OVs, in contravention to the agreement (proof for this case, a photocopy [*Fotokopie*] of the directive to the OVs is available and will be presented). The HB makes an official declaration that, under these circumstances, he is not willing to continue working on such a basis.

President Wasjukow claims that he adheres strictly to the treaty, while the German side, in a number of cases, may have attempted to go beyond the limits of the treaty. For these reasons, he considers the allegations made against the Soviet side totally unjustified.

The HB states that he is well aware that the German side is always made responsible for all mistakes. As a counter-argument, he refers to a number of cases.

Major Weretennikow regrets that the HB accuses the Soviet Headquarters of not working in the interest of the joint effort and, on his part, refers to a number of cases in which the German authorized agents were guilty of mistakes. Among others, the case of OB Menn is once again pointed out in which he had assessed the house at 140,000 Lei and, after ten minutes, had reduced the price to 60,000 Lei.

In a lengthy exposition, Dr. Siebert refutes this allegation on the basis of OB Menn's statement. Major Weretennikow responds by making it very clear that he does not believe this statement.

The HB asks why List I is not used in the question concerning buildings.

The president says that he agrees to take List I as the basis and adds the following commentary: No special descriptions are to be made of the buildings, but one is to be limited to making use of Form I. On this form, the year of construction, construction material, height, width, length, etc. are listed and the forms are to be signed and stamped by the German and Soviet OB and OV respectively, and it is to be noted that the assessment of the buildings did not take place. The Soviet and the German assessment may also be included.

It is established that this proposal agrees with the one made by the German side yesterday. Since the German and Soviet unilateral assessments have already been made, according to the statements of both sides, the lists need only be reconciled, signed and stamped, which can be done between the two leaders of the delegations. That means that the presidents of the two delegations draw up a protocol that state, with respect to the Lei assessment of the buildings, an agreement was not reached. The assessment values on the German and the Soviet side, on which no agreement was possible, are included in the lists.

It is decided to delete the second page of Property List I (livestock and provisions) and to include in the minutes the fact that this second page is invalid, and instead of this second page, to add to the Property List the "evaluation list" for livestock and provisions, and to sign it. The signatures for the first page of Property List I are to be placed on page one, below the listing of the individual non-agreed upon evaluation results, together with the official stamp.

Working out the technical details of the joint instructions of the two headquarters, for the OB and OV, is delegated to Dr. Schleicher and Captain Dobkin, who present these at 8:00 PM.

At 8:00 PM, there is another discussion between the German and Soviet delegations, during which a few corrections are made to the text drawn up by Dr. Schleicher and Captain Dobkin.

Dr. Schleicher points out that the task of filling out these lists, in his judgment, would take 10-14 days, since the Soviet assessors, in 50% of all cases, have done no evaluations.

Thereupon, President Wasjukow proposes to fix the time limit for completion of this task. It is agreed to set 10 November, at midnight, as the date for completion of the task.

The instructions will be duplicated by the German Headquarters in German as well as Russian at 130 copies each. Following this, they are to be signed and stamped by both sides. Each OB and OV is to receive the instructions in both German and Russian.

The draft of the protocol, discussed by the presidents of the two delegations, is handed over to the Soviet side.

Signed: Hoffmeyer

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Minutes #33

Concerning the discussion on 12 November, 1940, at 5:00 PM.

Present:	German Side:	Soviet Side:
	Staf. Hoffmeyer	President Wasjukow
	Stubaf. Dr. Siebert	Captain Martinoff
	Dr. Kleist	
	Dr. Schleicher	
	Translator Lambert	
	Mrs. Finkenauer	

The protocol document, concerning Property List I, is discussed once more. After negotiations lasting an hour, agreement is reached concerning the text. After they have been signed, the protocol documents are to be exchanged.

The Soviet side emphasizes once more that, in their opinion, agreement is still possible concerning property evaluations, since their valuations are objective and they ask according to which methods the evaluations will be carried out in the closing sessions in Moscow, by which agreement is to be reached.

The HB disputes the supposed objective evaluations of Soviets and says that agreement will not be reached under any circumstances, since the differences were too great. For example, the Soviet evaluation of houses amount to only 12-14% of the German evaluation. In the closing sessions in Moscow, the HB will approach the evaluation with the same method as before. In a number of case, the Soviet side attached a higher value to the contents than they did to the entire house.

Dr. Schleicher adds that at Czernowitz, with the agreement of the Soviets, new evaluation parameters were set up, but, in spite of this, agreement was reached in only 50% of all cases.

President Wasjukow emphasized again that the Soviet side used the objective prices, as of 1 July, 1940, as a guideline for the evaluations. In any case, this matter has been deferred to the closing sessions.

The HB does not see any chance for agreement in Moscow, but he adds that that is not important right now.

The president says that documentary material, concerning the prevailing prices before 1 July, 1940, should be included.

The HB requests that discussion of this question be ended...the president is well aware of his views on this matter. He can prove that the prices, given by the German side, actually were being paid before 1 July, 1940.

President W. maintains that, for example, a price of 5,000 Lei for horses corresponds to prices before 1 July, 1940.

On the basis of his records, the HB states that quite different prices were being paid. In cases where evaluation of cattle and grain agreement was reached at all, if was only possible, on the basis of the minimum prices set on the German side.

The HB refers to a case where a foal was killed in an accident by a German vehicle. The Soviets demanded a price which was ten times higher than the their evaluations for horses.

The president remarks, concerning the appraisal of houses, he had repeatedly stated that the houses in Bessarabia, which were to a greater extend of lighter construction, mostly of clay, and had no value for the Soviets.

The HB remarks to this that he was not aware of this fact. In Tarutino, for example, all houses had to be considered as being of good construction. If, on the Soviet side, this form of construction is characterized as "bad", then the Germans must be very backward!

The HB objects once more to the fact that the grain, still standing in the fields, is not included in the Property List.

The HB once asks for the promised list of nationalized objects and regrets that his proposal, concerning the inclusion of the nationalized buildings into the Property List, was not accepted. Since the list of nationalizations is still not in his hands, he cannot have it checked as to whether the objects nationalized by the Selsoviets are in fact subject to nationalization, because, as has been repeatedly established, the higher authorities, and not the Selsoviets, have the last word concerning the nationalizations.

The president promises that the list will be handed over today.

President W. was in Akkermann in person with regard to clarification of the question of prisoners. He claims that, with 2-3 exceptions, all prisoners of German extraction have already been released. The question of the release of non-German prisoners has not yet been decided by the relevant authorities.

The HB is aware of significantly more cases in which detained people of pure German heritage, and with pure German names, have not been released. At the request of the German government, he has specifically commission to inquire about Boris Hoffmann.

The president promises to do all within his power to bring about the release of the prisoners. No decision has been made concerning Boris Hoffmann. The relevant authorities must determine that. It appears that these authorities have reasons to defer the resolution of this question.

The HB emphatically states that Molotov promised that the question of prisoners was to lie in the realm of the Soviet Resettlement Delegation and that this question would be decided in a positive manner. Now the HB must conclude from the words of the president that the prisoners will not be released while the German Kommando was still in Bessarabia. By his reckoning, the number of prisoners comes to at least 35 people of pure German heritage, and with pure German names.

The president states once again that he is unable to act independently in the question of prisoners. According to the directive of Molotov, he may only request the release of the prisoners from the relevant authorities.

The HB emphasizes that it was laid down that this question should belong to the realm of the Soviet delegation. President W. declares that this never laid down.

Reacting to the objection of the HB, that this had been promised by Molotov and, also, the reference of the HB to the exchange of the memoranda which had taken place between the two governments, the president maintained that the Soviet delegation had done everything in their power. With 2-3 exceptions, all prisoners of German nationality had been released.

From the list of prisoners, the HB reads a number of pure German names of people who had not yet been released. There are at least 30-35 people still imprisoned in Bukovina alone.

The president promises to personally step in so that these prisoners may be released.

The HB thanks the president for this effort. For his part, he must insist on the release of the prisoners. He had no intention of blaming the president or the chief representative.

The president emphasizes once again that he will undertake all necessary steps, however, he cannot promise that these measures would be so effective that the prisoners would be released immediately.

Dr. Kleist declares that one should not only use the name to determine nationality of the people in question, since, for example, there had been many famous Russian statesmen with German names and the other way around.

Furthermore, he maintains that not only people who belong to the ethnic German group, but people of different origins, who were subject to the Resettlement, also had to be released. In a number of cases, the wife and children have already been resettled, while the father of a different origin was still be held in prison. In most cases, the detention is due to illegal border crossing. The prisoners have in no way any political importance to the USSR.

President W. will do as much as he possibly can, but he is unable to resolve the question on his own since it is a matter for the relevant authorities.

Minutes #34

Concerning the discussion on 13 November, 1940, at 11:00 AM.

Present:	German Side	Soviet Side
	Staf. Hoffmeyer	President Wasjukow
	Translator Lambert	Miss Nikiforowa

The text of the Protocol Document is read both in German and Russian and it is determined that both documents agree with each other. The signing and exchange of the Protocol Document follows.

President Wasjukow informs the German HB that, according to a telegram just received from Moscow, all prisoners of German heritage are to be released. Also among these is Boris Hoffmann. Since the Resettlement Kommando will be departing for Germany in a few hours, the president proposes that the released prisoners be brought to Czernowitz, from where they can travel to Germany with the North Bukovina Kommando, which will be departing later.

The HB thanks the president for the work done by the Soviet delegation during the Resettlement in Bessarabia, and especially for his personal intervention in the question concerning prisoners.

President Wasjukow invites the German delegation to a farewell breakfast at 3:00 o'clock.

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