

PEACEKEEPING AND PEACEMAKING MINUTES

Soldier of Peace, Beatrice Roberts

Canadian nurse Beatrice Roberts, a graduate of the University of Toronto's School of Nursing and Public Health, was appointed a hospital supervisor in the American occupation zone. She was responsible for the health of 6,000 displaced persons in five camps at Dillingen, Germany. She found terrible conditions especially in overcrowded nurseries. In one instance a girl dying of tuberculosis was in danger of infecting the infants. She eventually took over the supervision of Augsburg Hospital as well as the camps at Dilligen.

Roberts described difficult liaison work with the military who were screening the DPs and with the German medical staff who frequently caused terror among holocaust-scarred survivors. Nevertheless Roberts proved to be a brave soldier of peace, bringing order and hope to the post WWII scene in Europe.

- Canada was the third largest contributor of supplies for UNRRA's efforts
- Canadian diplomat Lester B. Pearson was Chairman of the UNRAA Supplies Committee