

PROPERTY OF  
ACTION  
LIBRARY

## 374 VOLUNTEERS OVERSEAS IN WIDE-RANGING PROJECTS

With the Peace Corps program less than six months old, 374 Volunteers already are overseas.

By the end of January, this number will total almost 700, as all PCV groups now in training Stateside will be abroad.

Twelve countries have 17 Peace Corps projects, with assignments for volunteers ranging from teaching to roadbuilding.

Many more project requests are being weighed. In January, just as the last wave of Stateside Volunteers departs for overseas, some 250 new candidates will begin training.

Here is the October score:

OVERSEAS . . . . . VOLUNTEERS	
GHANA . . . . .	51
TANGANYIKA . . . . .	35
PHILIPPINES I . . . . .	128
COLOMBIA . . . . .	62
ST. LUCIA . . . . .	16
CHILE . . . . .	45
NIGERIA (Harvard group) . . . . .	37
IN TRAINING . . . . . VOLUNTEERS	
PHILIPPINES II & III . . . . .	63
WEST PAKISTAN . . . . .	32
EAST PAKISTAN . . . . .	32
NIGERIA (Michigan State) . . . . .	33
NIGERIA (UCLA) . . . . .	47
INDIA . . . . .	32
THAILAND . . . . .	46*
MALAYA . . . . .	41*
SIERRA LEONE . . . . .	51*

\* Approximate

### TESTING

The next general testing of Peace Corps Volunteers will be held November 28-29 at Civil Service Commission testing centers throughout the United States.

## CONGRESS GIVES FIRM APPROVAL TO PEACE CORPS

Congress has given the Peace Corps an overwhelming endorsement.

Legislation necessary to make the Corps a permanent agency received solid approval in both the House and Senate.

President Kennedy, who launched the pilot program by Executive Order last March, signed the bill into law September 22.

The measure authorizes a budget of \$30 million for the first year of the Peace Corps program.

Here are the key provisions of the Peace Corps Act:

—Volunteers will be protected by workmen's compensation, Civil Service retirement and Social Security laws.

—Volunteers will receive allowances sufficient to enable them to live at approximately the level of their

*Continued on page 5*



## STATESIDE REPORT:

### NIGERIA

#### HARVARD, M.S.U., U.C.L.A.

Peace Corps Volunteers have gone to three American university campuses to train for teaching assignments in Nigeria.

At Harvard University, their special studies have been completed and the 37 candidates selected are already overseas receiving additional orientation.

They will begin teaching in Nigerian secondary schools at the opening of the school year in late January.

At Michigan State University in East Lansing, 33 candidates are nearing the end of their stateside training. They are preparing for teaching assignments at the new University of Nigeria in Nsukka. When they depart for Nsukka late in November, it will mark the first time an entire Peace Corps group has been assigned to a university abroad.

Each Volunteer chosen for the Nsukka assignment will serve as a teaching or research assistant.

A third Nigerian teaching project is underway at the University of California at Los Angeles where 47 candidates began specialized studies September 20.

They will complete their work at UCLA about mid-December. After a leave for the Christmas holidays, they will depart for Nigeria in early January to work as teachers in the secondary schools.

Nigeria, a populous nation of many resources, has been held back by a shortage of trained citizens.

### THAILAND

#### U. OF MICHIGAN

On the campus of the University of Michigan are 46 PCVs training for assignments in the heart of the Indo-Chinese peninsula—Thailand.

Candidates began study October 9. Their curriculum includes intensive instruction in the Thai language and culture, the teaching of English as a foreign language, physical education, personal health and hygiene and American cultural institutions.

Purpose of the Thai project is to assist that country's



*Photo courtesy The New York Times*

Toughening up for Tanganyika, a Peace Corps Volunteer soars through the treetops via a rope pulley at the Field Training Center in Puerto Rico. The center, set up last summer with the cooperation of the Puerto Rican government, tests the ability of Volunteers to withstand the stresses of a vastly different environment.

education and public health programs. Thai schools and colleges are understaffed. A nationwide campaign to eradicate malaria is in need of entomologists and laboratory technicians.

Volunteers selected for Thai assignments will depart for Bangkok in mid-January for four weeks further training.

In the provinces they will work as English-language instructors at teacher training colleges, as vocational instructors in technical and trade schools and as teaching assistants in science, English, economics and sociology at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok.

Volunteers trained as entomologists and laboratory technicians will work in regional health centers, assisting Thai health officials in the battle against malaria.

## MALAYA

### NORTHERN ILLINOIS U.

An eight-week training program is now underway at Northern Illinois University in De Kalb for 41 Volunteers aiming for assignments in Malaya.

This project will deal with health, education and rural development. About 25 of the Volunteers will be nurses and laboratory technicians who will work in district hospitals. The rest will serve as teachers of physics, chemistry, biology and mathematics; as apprenticeship instructors of technical trades; as rural development workers helping to build roads and to analyze soils.

The project resulted from conversations between officials of the Federation of Malaya and Sargent Shriver, Director of the Peace Corps. It is geared to that country's second five-year plan (1961-65) which needs middle-level technicians to insure its success.

Director Shriver cited Northern Illinois University as an ideal choice for the training center because of its geographical location and its expanding program in Malayan studies.

Training began October 16 and will conclude December 15. Candidates selected for service abroad will receive about two weeks home leave, then proceed to Malaya. They will receive four more weeks of intensive training there—mostly in the Malay language—before beginning their assignments.

## INDIA

### OHIO STATE U.

Thirty-two Volunteers from all over the Nation gathered at Ohio State University in Columbus early this month to begin 10 weeks training for assignments in the Punjab State of India.

Those ultimately selected for service abroad will work primarily in the field of agriculture.

This project is directed at the most important development objective in India: an increase in food production to meet the needs of some 440 million people, expanding by some eight million annually.

### *Everyone Watching . . .*

Interest in the Peace Corps is world-wide.

For example, the German magazine "Revue," with a circulation of 1.4 million, recently dispatched reporter-camera teams to Bogota, Colombia and St. Lucia to observe Peace Corps Volunteers in action.

A "Revue" spokesman credited part of his magazine's motivation to the fact "we're so terribly glutted with news of war and the military. This should be refreshing."

Both the Government of India and the Government of the Punjab State have requested PCVs to assist in agricultural extension, demonstrating the various ways to use cultivation, irrigation, fertilizers and modern implements.

Volunteers will work with trained Indian extension agents and with instructors at the Agricultural College of the Punjab State.

The training at Ohio State, which includes intensive study of the Punjabi language, and Indian culture, will end December 9. After a leave for the Christmas holidays, the Volunteers will depart for India December 31.

## SIERRA LEONE

### PUERTO RICO

In Puerto Rico, some 50 Peace Corps candidates are working into shape for Project Sierra Leone.

This group of 35 men and 14 women is preparing for secondary-school teaching assignments in the new West African nation. The Sierra Leone Government last spring expressed a need for teachers in the fields of English, social sciences and vocational training, as well as in general science and mathematics.

Candidates for the project reported October 10 to the Peace Corps Field Training Center in Puerto Rico for physical conditioning. From November 6 to December 23 they will participate in a seven-week training program at a Stateside university. Those selected for Sierra Leone will enjoy a 10-day Christmas leave before departing.

This project is geared to the current International Cooperation Administration educational program in Sierra Leone.

The Volunteers will work closely with Sierra Leonean teachers. University training in the United States will include instruction in teaching methods; the history, culture, economy and government of Sierra Leone; American history and institutions; preventive medicine and hygiene and a special course in Krio, language of the Sierra Leone hinterland.

## PAKISTAN

### COLORADO STATE U.

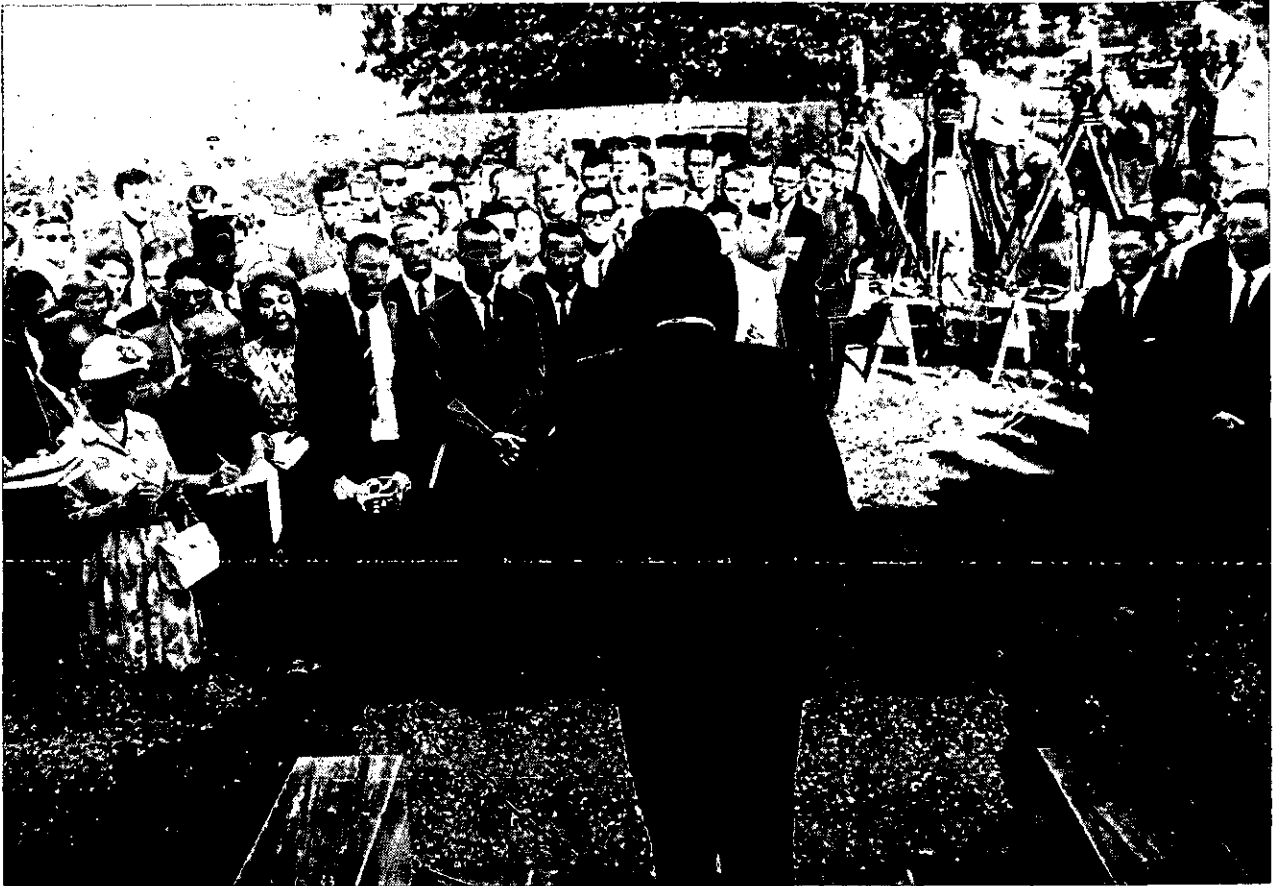
Pakistan is a nation separated into two "wings" by a thousand miles of India. Soon, both "wings" will play host to Peace Corpsmen.

A multi-purpose project for East Pakistan is furthest along. Some 32 Volunteers have already completed an eight-week training program at the headquarters of the Experiment in International Living at Putney, Vt.

Overseas training began November 1.

This is the date that 32 PCVs at Colorado State

*Continued on page 8*



*'Good Luck' from the President*

## White House Reception for PCVs

Eighty Ghana and Tanganyika Peace Corps Volunteers, the first to be assigned overseas, were given a personal sendoff by President Kennedy.

In a short talk in the rose garden of the White House, Mr. Kennedy praised the group for their sense of service, and said they had a great opportunity to help their country.

"There are a good many hundreds of millions of people scattered throughout the world and you will come in contact with only a few," he said, "but the great impression of what kind of country we have and what kind of people we are will depend on their judgment in these countries of you."

"You will be the personification of a special group of young Americans, and if you impress them with your commitment to freedom, to your pride in your country and its best traditions and what it stands for, the influence may be far-reaching and will go far beyond the immediate day-to-day task that you may do in the months that are ahead."

The President told the Ghana group their work would be "important and valuable" because one of the new African nations' greatest problems was a lack of "experienced, educated leaders during these first days of their independence."

The engineers, surveyors and geologists assigned to the Tanganyika roads project were told that they were particularly needed to help "open the back land."

---

"The Peace Corps is the most original, stimulating and promising foreign affairs project thus far appearing on the New Frontier . . . If America is to be better and more favorably understood abroad, it is imperative that more Americans live abroad and work with the less privileged people."

Dr. Jim Dan Hill, president,  
Wisconsin State College

# Shriver Asks Employers: 'Give Leave'

Director Shriver's request that two-year leaves of absence be granted employees who join the Peace Corps is receiving positive response.

Illinois Governor Otto Kerner issued an executive order last month declaring that any State employee volunteering for service in the Peace Corps "will be considered on leave of absence only and eligible to return to his job."

"It is my desire that the State of Illinois support the ideals and programs of the Peace Corps to the fullest extent possible," Governor Kerner said.

It was in a commencement address last June at DePaul University that Director Shriver first broached the matter.

"I hope American businesses and industries will provide two-year leaves of absence, without pay, but with reemployment benefits for their employees—

whether top-level administrators or secretaries—who can meet a critical need abroad."

He asked organized labor's help too.

"I am hopeful that labor—like business—will grant its people who enter the Peace Corps the re-employment rights that have been accorded up to now only to veterans of war."

Success of the Corps depends, he said, upon a "total response" from all Americans.

## Congress Approves . . .

*Continued from page 1*

counterpart workers in the host country, but in all events, sufficient to maintain their health and effectiveness.

—Transportation and health needs will be provided for.

—Upon conclusion of service, Volunteers will be entitled to a termination payment equal to \$75 for each month of service. A limited number of "Volunteer Leaders" will receive \$125-a-month termination pay, and in special circumstances will be permitted to take their families with them overseas.

Several provisions reflecting concern that the Peace Corps be secure against Communist infiltration were added by Congress security investigation procedures, which the Corps had undertaken administratively, were made a statutory requirement.

Under a second provision Volunteers will take an oath to support and defend the Constitution and will disavow overthrow of our Government. But by statute, training programs must continue to include a component dealing with Communism.

Congress also added a provision making clear that service in the Peace Corps would not exempt any Volunteer from military service.

However, Volunteers are covered by a provision of the Universal Military Training and Service Act deferring registrants who perform functions in the national health, safety or interest. Upon return to the States, Peace Corpsmen can qualify for further deferment if engaged in activities "vital to the national interest."

## WHAT CONGRESS MEANT IN PEACE CORPS ACT

Congress explained the purpose of the Peace Corps Act in Section 2 of the Act itself:

" . . . to promote world peace and friendship through a Peace Corps, which shall make available to interested countries and areas men and women of the United States qualified for service abroad and willing to serve, under conditions of hardship if necessary, to help the peoples of such countries in meeting their needs for trained manpower, and to help promote a better understanding of the American people on the part of the people served and a better understanding of other peoples on the part of the American people."

## STILL IN SCHOOL?

# The Peace Corps & You

By John J. Simons  
Office of University Relations

*"Dear Sir:*

*I am interested in learning more about the Peace Corps, its purpose, and the duties and qualifications of its Volunteers. I am entering a university this fall and would like to know what courses I might take and what extra-curricular activities I might get into which would be beneficial to a person interested in Peace Corps work. . . ."*

So many letters like this have been received that Peace Corps Headquarters is preparing a pamphlet for college and university students who hope to join it as Volunteers.

For the benefit of all who receive the Peace Corps News, here are some pointers which will be developed more fully in the forthcoming pamphlet:

Peace Corps Volunteers will learn, as a result of their experiences, languages seldom taught in U.S. schools. They will learn the problems and hopes of people in remote parts of the world. They will learn how to get things done with people who come from different cultures.

These are rare skills. Recently, the Under Secretary of State for Education and Cultural Affairs, Mr. Philip Coombs, told the American Council on Education that there was an urgent need for people who spoke the languages of Africa and Asia, who knew how to work with people who live in these areas. There will be many opportunities for rewarding careers for Peace Corps alumni.

Students planning to enter graduate school or to continue formal studies after service with the Peace Corps should discuss the possible value of their work with the institution they propose to enter when they come back. They should ask the school if it will accord any recognition to the training and service they will get from and give to the Peace Corps.

There are certain courses which may help prepare a student for Peace Corps Service. Students should study a foreign language. Any language study increases the ability to learn another language. The Peace Corps needs Volunteers who can speak French,



Spanish, Portuguese, Hindi, Punjabi, Bengali, Urdu, Malay, Twi and other esoteric tongues.

Courses about the United States—history, social institutions, diplomacy, economics and culture—will be useful aids to a Volunteer.

Students will be helped if they have some background in area studies. They should join organizations with large numbers of foreign students as members.

Most of the work that the Peace Corps will do overseas will be of a service nature. If Volunteers can join service organizations and get some experience in working with ethnic groups in their neighborhood or underprivileged people anywhere around the campus, they will begin to discover what it is like to work overseas.

Thousands of students visit foreign countries each summer. The college student who undertakes such a journey is equipping himself well in the eyes of the Peace Corps. There are many such groups about which information can be had from the Council on Student Travel, 179 Broadway, New York 7, N. Y.

Finally, students can prepare themselves for service in the Peace Corps by reading books about Americans living and working overseas. Through such reading the student can understand much about what it means to live and work in a foreign country as a Peace Corps Volunteer.

Many career possibilities will open for the college student who alerts himself now to service in the Peace Corps.

Such service provides the student with an apprenticeship to a career abroad.

# Touching All Bases

## Philippines:

The largest single group overseas is the first Philippine contingent, numbering 128, currently in training at the University of the Philippines in Los Banos. This phase will end November 30 and they will begin assignments as teachers of English and general science in the elementary grades.

## Chile:

At the Institute of Rural Education Training Center in Lo Vasquez, Chile, are 45 Volunteers preparing to join young Chileans in community development work in the provinces.

As part of their on-the-job field training, Volunteers will work with staff members of the Institute in the regional centers to which they are assigned.

## St. Lucia:

Sixteen Peace Corps Volunteers are at work on a rural development project on the island of St. Lucia.

They are helping to increase livestock and vegetable production, to establish modern irrigation systems, to introduce modern soil conservation practices and to develop a farm youth organization on the island. This program is designed to serve as a pilot project for other islands in the West Indies Federation.

## Colombia:

Sixty-two PCVs have received assignments with the Colombia project, jointly administered by the Peace Corps and CARE, Inc.

Goals of this project are to increase farm productivity, improve village health and education, raise rural living standards and assist Colombia in achieving economic and social stability in its rural areas.

This group was trained at Rutgers University and the Tibaitata Institute near Bogota.

## Ghana:

Fifty-one Volunteers are now teaching mathematics, history, chemistry, physics, biology, general science, English, French and other subjects for the secondary schools of Ghana.

They were trained at the University of California at Berkeley and the University of Ghana at Legon.

## Tanganyika:

Thirty-five engineers, surveyors and geologists make up a Peace Corps team helping to open up Tanganyika's back country. Their primary tasks are to survey and build roads into the hinterland and to make preliminary geological mapping for exploration of mineral resources. They trained at the University of California, in Puerto Rico and in Tanganyika.

## Peace Corps Q & A

*Do Volunteers stay together overseas?*

The general practice is for Volunteers to serve in teams. In most cases, small groups will live together even though their daily tasks take them apart. In some situations a Volunteer may live and work alone.

• • •

*What is the Volunteer provided while in training?*

Meals, housing, all necessary training materials and \$2 a day expense money.

• • •

*Who pays for transportation costs?*

The Peace Corps pays for all travel, both in the United States and abroad.

• • •

*What privileges does a Volunteer have abroad?*

Volunteers are treated like their counterparts in the host country. In other words, they do not have diplomatic passports, special privileges or immunity from arrest.

• • •

*What are career possibilities for Peace Corps alumni?*

Many new opportunities will open to men and women with actual experience abroad—careers in government, industry, labor and education. Returning Volunteers will know the language, culture, traditions and people of a particular area; their contributions to any number of fields can be significant.



*Continued from page 3*

## PAKISTAN

University in Fort Collins completed their special studies for a project in West Pakistan.

In East Pakistan, each Volunteer will spend approximately three weeks living with a Pakistani family. There also will be additional instruction in the Bengali language at the Pakistan Academy for Village Development in Comilla.

In December, they will move to their assignment. They will work in the fields of irrigation, farm production, town planning, medicine, sanitation, engineering, carpentry, bricklaying, youth work, university teaching, library administration and communications.

The West Pakistan group will be divided into two sections. An educational team will be assigned to Lahore, the capital of West Pakistan. The other, men and women skilled in agriculture, nursing and college instruction, will be assigned to Lyallpur, a city about 75 miles southwest of Lahore.

As part of their training, the West Pakistan group will spend 26 days, from November 3 through 29, at the Peace Corps Field Training Center in Puerto Rico. They will leave for Pakistan in mid-December.

## What They're Saying

In a recent editorial, the Glen Falls (N.Y.) Post Star took to task well-meaning critics who "really like" the Peace Corps idea, but are certain—as a practical matter—it can't succeed.

These critics look upon the highly skilled and specially trained Volunteers as "poor young innocents."

### Comments the Post Star:

"It is strange. If there is a war to be fought, we draft men into uniform and send them off fully confident that victory will be their reward. We resort to every morale-building device we can think of, never sparing the expense. The draft army goes forth willingly or otherwise but often without any clear understanding of why, or what it is to do other than kill the enemy and thus defend the country.

"What is it that makes an army a noble thing and the Peace Corps an object of pity? Why does a conscript soldier merit cheers and a volunteer in the cause of peace draw contempt? A selectee who may not be able to read or write falls into the classification of 'the cream of our young manhood,' but a Peace Corpsman with skills to pass on is viewed as a predestined washout. What is the sense of values that arrives at such conclusions?

"There is, believe us, no reflection upon our military forces intended. They are representative of all our people. The baffling thing is the willingness to criticize youths for their shortcomings and yet regard them as idiots if they display ideals."