

MAJOR EXPANSION ALL SET FOR JUNE

The 337 men and women who entered training in the first week of April—the largest number in any one week to date—represent a kind of preliminary stretch to a massive expansion of the Peace Corps scheduled for June.

The first month of summer will see almost 2200 men and women enter training for 44 projects in 28 countries. It will be the first project for 16 of these countries.

This thick training schedule, which will increase the ranks of Volunteers by about 150 per cent, will

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Big Test Turnout

A near-record 3105 men and women took the Peace Corps Placement Test on Saturday, April 21.

This was the highest number of applicants since 3600 persons took the first tests in May 1961.

Sargent Shriver, Peace Corps Director, attributed the heavy turnout to the successful performances of Volunteers now in the field. "This has proved a magnet to other qualified Americans here at home," he said.

The next round of tests will be given June. 9.

West Indies Island Welcomes

GEESE CORPS

Twenty white China geese left their Rockville, Maryland farm four months ago to serve with the Peace Corps in St. Lucia.

These were job-rated geese.

Hardy, adaptable birds, selected for their fitness.

How are they doing?

Thriving.

Their primary task is egg-laying. But these knot-headed honkers have other endearing qualities too. For one, they forage for their own food. For another, they chomp down the weeds on the banana plantations.

St. Lucia, in the British West Indies, is the site of a Peace Corps agricultural and rural community development project. Assisting in the St. Lucia program is Heifer Inc., a U.S. organization that distributes livestock and poultry to needy farmers.

After reading of the St. Lucia project last winter, Maryland farmer Harold Weisberg donated his prize flock of China geese. Incubators, donated by a Maryland hatchery, will enable these birds to multiply, thus helping to meet the need for food and better nutrition throughout the island.

In the photograph at left, Merlin Skretvedt, a Peace Corps Volunteer from Minnesota, and his St. Lucian co-worker, keep a keen watch on this first Geese Corps contingent as it passes majestically in review.





New Authorization Passes Both House and Senate

Both the Senate and House have voted to authorize \$63.75 million for the Peace Corps' 1963 fiscal year budget—the full amount requested by President Kennedy.

The bill received bipartisan support. A number of Congressmen who voted against establishing the Peace Corps a year ago said the Corps had "proved its worth" and voted for expansion.

The 1961 House vote was 288-97; this year's was 317-70.

Among those who changed from opposition to support of the Peace Corps was Representative Howard W. Smith (Democrat-Virginia), conservative chairman of the Rules Committee. "I think they have done a good job," he said.

Last year, the Senate and House authorized a budget of \$40 million for the Peace Corps, but only \$30 million was appropriated. The appropriations hearings for this year had not yet been concluded when this issue of the Peace Corps News went to press.

Fishermen Wanted

Fishermen—the commercial variety; no fly casters, please—are the subject of requests from nations in West Africa and Latin America.

The West African requests are still under discussion, but the proposals concern experts at organizing fishing cooperatives, at teaching better fishing and fish processing techniques and at supervising fish cultivation in fresh-water lakes.

A second request from a West African nation will probably ask for skilled outboard motor repairmen who can organize a motor "bank" to keep fishermen operating after their motors have had a breakdown.

Fisheries technicians have been requested by Venezuela. These Volunteers will teach warm-water fishing at the Practical School of Fisheries in Cumana. This request also asks for a Volunteer to demonstrate oyster farming methods at Venezuela's Oceanographic Institute and another to instruct fishermen in the construction and repair of small boats.

Brazil wants three Volunteers for a fresh-water fisheries station in the Sao Francisco River Valley area. They will be asked to study and report on species, analyze fish behavior and advise on fishery possibilities.

The Peace Corps is accepting applications—for these jobs and for others that will undoubtedly be developed in the future—from persons with commercial fishing or fisheries experience.

No Upper Age Limit

Men and women in their 40's, 50's and 60's are helping correct a misconception that the Peace Corps has a maximum age limit.

Anyone who can meet the physical requirements and who possesses the needed skills is eligible for Peace Corps service.

Already two dozen Americans over 50, seven of whom are over 60, have taken leave from businesses or postponed their retirement in order to pursue meaningful careers in the Peace Corps.

Nor does this jeopardize their retirement benefits, for Volunteers can continue to receive the full amount of any pension to which they are entitled.

"Peace Corps service," says recruitment chief Richard Graham, "can open up new horizons for older Volunteers. This segment of our population constitutes a reservoir of experience and wisdom that will be of unusual benefit to developing nations around the world."

Typical of the older couples who are responding to the Peace Corps concept are Mr. and Mrs. John C. Kennedy of Oberlin, Ohio.

Mr. Kennedy, 57, retired from the administrative staff of Oberlin College after 30 years. Mrs. Kennedy, 54, has taught kindergarten and sixth grade.

Wiggins' Parents

VOLUNTEER

Warren W. Wiggins, an associate director of the Peace Corps, has long shared the view of his chief, Sargent Shriver, that more retired Americans should lend their experience and skills to projects of the corps overseas.

This week, Mr. Wiggins, 39 years old, could report some especially satisfying progress in this field. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Chester N. Wiggins, aged 64 and 63, of San Bruno, Calif., have just been signed on as rank-and-file trainees for an urban rehabilitation project in Arequipa, Peru. They are the oldest couple accepted by the Peace Corps to date, and are anxious to get started . . .

"I didn't ask Warren's advice," said Mr. Wiggins in a telephone interview. "We decided on this ourselves."

. . . On May 31, the day after his 65th birthday, Mr. Wiggins reaches mandatory retirement as supervisor of United Air Lines' repair plant in San Francisco. He has had 181 employees and a \$1.7 million annual budget to worry about . . .

"I don't see how I can go to bed on May 31 with a useful job and next morning I'm not worth anything," he said.

Mrs. Wiggins does not have to retire. For the last few years, she has been spending four days a week as a substitute teacher in the Bay Area schools . . .—*The New York Times*, April 30.

MEMORIAL SERVICES were held in their home towns Sunday, May 6, for Volunteers Lawrence Radley, 22, of Chicago, and David Crozier, 22, of West Plains, Mo., who were killed in an airplane accident in Colombia April 22.

Radley and Crozier were returning to their community development work after spending Easter week-end in Bahia Solano when their DC-3 airliner with 30 persons aboard crashed into a mountain near the west coast. There were no survivors.

Joint services were also held in Colombia on May 3, and President Alberto Lleras Camargo of Colombia sent a personal message of condolence to President Kennedy on behalf of the people of Colombia.

In the words of a Colombian newspaper, "David and Lawrence have bequeathed to us a legacy in the form of their tangible work, in which will always live their image and their wisdom."

Friends of the two Volunteers plan to establish some kind of memorial in Colombia which will directly benefit the campesinos with whom Radley and Crozier lived and worked for seven months.

June Expansion

Continued from page 1

be conducted by universities throughout the nation. The specific institutions will be identified later, after contracts are signed.

The process of enrolling this immense roster of Volunteer-candidates has driven the Selection Division into a state of emergency, with selection officers working nights and week ends. In the heat of the emergency, Selection took over the board room at 806 Connecticut Avenue and assisted by Program staffers converted it temporarily into a blizzard of paper work.

May represents a kind of breather before the deluge. Only one project is scheduled to go into training. This, set to begin May 2, is in answer to a request from Venezuela for 42 4-H agricultural extensionists to work with the 5-V, the Venezuelan equivalent to the 4-H.

The result is a May 1 box score of 1399 Volunteers at work at, or in training for, 32 projects in 22 countries. The 1000th Volunteer to be sent overseas, incidentally, should be someone in the Jamaica project.

The Tunisia training program will be the first one to be administered, in part at least, by private industry. The Caterpillar Tractor Company's Training Center in Peoria, Ill., will give the candidates six weeks of instruction before they go on to the University of Indiana. Two more Tunisia projects, involving 50 Volunteers, are scheduled to start in June.

The June crush will also see the training start for two projects in Togo involving 60 Volunteers, a contingent of 12 Volunteers for Afghanistan, 42 for Ceylon, 47 for Iran, 79 for three projects in Nepal, 65 for two projects in India, 102 for three projects in North Borneo and Sarawak, 144 for four projects in Peru and 300 for four additional projects in the Philippines.

Also commencing training in June will be 28 candidates for a project in Honduras, 55 for a project in the Cameroon Republic, 123 for three projects in Ecuador, 74 for two projects in Thailand, 100 for two projects in Liberia, 115 for two projects in Ghana, 72 for three additional projects in Bolivia.

Seventy men and women will start training for a new project in Sierra Leone, 45 for the Ivory Coast, eight for Niger and six for Senegal (preliminary contingents for larger projects in both places), 40 for British Honduras, 300 for Ethiopia and 32 nurses for a new project in Tanganyika.

The grand total after the June push will reach a figure of about 3500 Volunteers at work at or in training for 76 projects in 38 countries.

New Union Rulings

Trade unions are cooperating with the Peace Corps.

In Los Angeles, Local 78 of the plumbers union declared that a plumber now in training for the Bolivian project will receive full apprenticeship credit for his Peace Corps service.

The union ruled that Ray Morris' overseas duty with the Peace Corps was at least equal to two years practice of his trade skill in the United States.

And in Milwaukee, Local 438 of the Auto Workers negotiated a special leave of absence provision in his contract with General Motors so that an assembly line employee could join the Peace Corps.

THE BOX SCORE (as of May 1, 1962)

PROJECT	PCV'S	STATUS
Chile	45	Overseas
Colombia	62	Overseas
Ghana	51	Overseas
Nigeria	108	Overseas
East Pakistan	29	Overseas
West Pakistan	28	Overseas
Philippines	222	Overseas
St. Lucia	15	Overseas
Tanganyika	35	Overseas
India	26	Overseas
Sierra Leone	37	Overseas
Malaya	36	Overseas
Thailand	45	Overseas
Brazil	43	Overseas

TOTAL OVERSEAS 782

El Salvador	25	In Training
Colombia II	49	In Training
Malaya II	33	In Training
Philippines IV	63	In Training
Chile II	23	In Training
Venezuela	29	In Training
Jamaica	41	In Training
Ecuador	72	In Training
Peru	27	In Training
Dominican Republic	21	In Training
Bolivia	55	In Training
Tunisia	30	In Training
Peru II	57	In Training
Somali Republic	50	In Training
Venezuela II	54*	May 2, 1962#

TOTAL IN

TRAINING 617

GRAND TOTAL .. 1399

* Approximate — # Begins Training

With Volunteers Around the World

A Colombian farmer has tripled the value of his crop because of the efforts of Michael O. Willson, 23, Peace Corps Volunteer from Chicago.

Onions, though a popular item in the Colombian diet, are scarce in the rural village of Tengo, near Bogota, where Willson has been working since September.

When he suggested that a farmer switch over to onions, the farmer replied that he knew nothing of onions and had never planted them.

Willson has never done any farming. But he travelled to Bogota and learned about onions.

He returned with onion seeds, which he planted and nursed along according to the instructions he'd obtained from the ministry of agriculture.

Now the town of Tengo has a bumper onion crop.

★ ★ ★

William F. Woudenberg, 31, of Paterson, N. J., Peace Corp Volunteer in Colombia, has devised a loom for weaving bamboo, which is then used in cheap housing construction.

Strips of bamboo are woven into latticework; then two of these mats, placed a few inches apart, form the skeleton of a cement wall. No other reinforcement is needed, and all types of buildings can be made cheaply and quickly.

Woudenberg recently constructed an experimental latrine using his new process. Total cost was less than \$10.

★ ★ ★

In East Pakistan, Robert W. Taylor, 23, of Oakdale, California, has invented a machine to parboil rice cheaply and efficiently.

East Pakistan has a rice economy. Husked rice commands a much higher market price than unhusked rice. Rice is difficult to husk unless it has been parboiled first. The problem is fuel.

Taylor's ingeniously simple machine uses the rice

husks themselves as fuel. Husks are fed into a blower which shoots them over charcoal. The husks burn in mid-air under the pan of rice, creating enough heat to boil the water. The rice in the pan is then husked, and the husks used to boil a new batch.

The machine is inexpensive to make and can be operated by two or three men.

★ ★ ★

Lloyd Goodson, 20, at the Academy for Village Development in Comilla, East Pakistan, was credited with averting an unpleasant situation recently.

On his second night on the job—he's in charge of keeping the Academy equipment running—a tractor rolled over an embankment while ploughing. Goodson rushed to the scene, carried the unconscious driver back and gave him his own bed for the night. Early next morning he went out with a fresh tractor and righted the overturned vehicle.

"Had the tractor been allowed to lie on its side," said Academy Director Akhter Hameed Khan, "it would have attracted hundreds of villagers, and the word would have gotten around that the Academy's tractors lie mostly on their sides with their wheels in the air."

★ ★ ★

After a song-fest in Dacca, East Pakistan, in which PCV's and Pakistanis traded folk-songs back and forth for several hours, the headman thanked the Peace Corps group for coming, and said, "This is the first time in five years that the people in my village have gotten together in this way."

★ ★ ★

Jim Duncan of Casper, Wyo., and Jim Fitzgerald of Chicago, recently helped a Chilean farmer sell his lettuce in the market. The Indian would yell "lettuce of American quality" and point at Fitzgerald. Everyone was so surprised that the Indians had lettuce to sell and that they had a "gringo" with them that all the lettuce was sold easily.

★ ★ ★

William Guth of Pittsburgh, recently spent a week making a documentary movie on exotic St. Martin's Island, located ten miles off the coast of Burma in the Bay of Bengal. A member of the East Pakistan group, Guth filmed the island's geology, marine biology, and people. He was assisted by Volunteer Robert B. Saint of Bakersfield, California.

★ ★ ★

Helen Rupp of Baltimore, at the University of Nigeria in Nsukka, is undertaking the Nigerianization of all her textbooks. The references in existing books are to American people and places. This rings a bell with Westerners, but doesn't mean much to Nigerians. So Helen is rewriting them all, substituting Nigerian people, places and situations.

★ ★ ★

James Bausch of New Brunswick, New Jersey, bandaged a Pakistani laborer's cut finger one day recently. The next evening two injured Pakistanis appeared at the house where Bausch and six other Volunteers live. The following night there were four. Soon the house became known as the "American Hospital," and

Volunteer Taylor's Pakistan invention

Photo Courtesy The New York Times





Peace Corps Volunteer Jerry Mullins, 23, of Manitowoc, Wisc., conducts a lesson in phonetics to third graders at the San Fernando Elementary School in the Philippines town of Sto. Domingo, Albay province, on the island of Luzon.

now men, women and children come every evening to be treated for a variety of ills.

★ ★ ★

Anne Labarre of Georgetown, Conn., writes from the Philippines: "I think we are generally accepted now. While in the market last week a man threw a dead fish at me which hit me in the back of the neck, at the same time calling me a white The people around grabbed him and he was arrested immediately. I had him released right away and surprised everyone when I shook his hand and congratulated him on his individuality. I prefer his type to those who hate silently."

★ ★ ★

Evelyn Mittman, of Wheaton, Ill., Pat Joslyn, of River Forest, Ill., Sandra Williams, of El Paso, Texas, and Barbara Mitchell, of Souderton, Pa., share a house in the Philippine village of Milaor, where they teach school.

But their work doesn't end with the last school bell.

Every evening from 5 until 7 their house becomes a public library, the only one in town. Pat Joslyn describes the scene:

"Soon the sala is full of children crammed two and three in a chair, sprawled on the floor, sitting on the doorsill—and they are all reading!

"True, the fare is primarily Classic Comics, but more and more of these young students are reading the captions and even telling their neighbors about it with an excited nudge. Later on some teen-agers may

come in, and while they read the comics with similarly rapt attention, they also browse through the adult shelves and borrow those books that look interesting."

★ ★ ★

"Why did you volunteer for the Peace Corps?" is the question most frequently asked of David Ziegenhagen, 25, of Hopkins, Minn.

"I am happy I still cannot answer that question," Ziegenhagen writes. "Whatever my original motivation was, it has long since been pushed aside by the Peace Corps experience itself, and not even hindsight can recover it. Every day I discover at least a dozen reasons why I should have volunteered."

★ ★ ★

Harvey November of Brooklyn, N.Y., educational aide in Dao, Antique, Philippines, has devised a baking oven which can be made from a used kerosene can.

★ ★ ★

Lone Castillo of Galveston, Texas, has started a non-profit pig-raising venture called Livestock for Progress in the Philippines town of Murcia where he is an educational aide.

The organization buys a pig for a youngster to raise, helping in the care according to the best scientific methods. When the pig is sold, the child keeps half the money, and the rest goes to the organization, to be used for buying more animals.

"By summer's end we hope to have enough to begin a school piggery," Castillo says. "The whole thing will be run by Murcia people. My job was getting it started and finding the capital."

A Two-Way Street

"The Peace Corps is proving itself an impressive, and inspiring, example of American idealism in action.

"Yet its benefits flow both ways. Backward countries are getting help that they need. At the same time, the United States is building a pool of experienced manpower which can be a valuable national resource.

"Peace Corps teachers are learning, too, and in the years ahead the United States is going to need the services of many more persons with first-hand knowledge of the people, places and problems to which the Peace Corpsmen are being exposed."

—an excerpt from a recent editorial
in the New York Herald Tribune

Genius and Determination

"The Peace Corps is by far the bounciest and most promising baby yet spawned on the New Frontier . . .

"It is difficult not to become excited about its potential. A year ago it sounded to skeptics like an operation on Cloud Nine, highly impracticable and loaded with dangers of international incidents involving soft young American innocents equipped with rose-colored glasses and no experience.

"But except for a mild misunderstanding over a wistfully sincere postcard from Nigeria the record is almost unblemished.

"With what must be called a touch of genius and a truckload of determination, Director Shriver and his small staff have recruited a Corps with such a blend of tender idealism and tough practicality that it fairly quivers with esprit and ingenuity.

"It is as if they had tapped some new source of energy, like the discovery of radium."

• • •
"The Peace Corps is not some magic potion which will banish famine, fear or war in a trice.

"But it could and may cause a fundamental change in American ideas about the world and the world's ideas about us.

"From this reorientation, great things could flow. What is happening is the harnessing of youth's boundless energies and hopes, which have been there all the time, and, before they are pressed into old brittle patterns, letting their freshness play through the purposefulness of teaching and learning in genuine, earthy contacts from people to people.

"It is working so well that 60 countries have asked for Volunteers; U.S. communities with Volunteers abroad are getting new ideas back in direct communications from them.

"Secretary of State Rusk is so impressed that he has indicated, unofficially, that here may be a tremendously valuable new manpower pool for future foreign service officers . . ."

• • •
"Measures are now being discussed by which men and women of the Peace Corps may join the foreign service as a permanent career.

"If it works out, diplomacy may receive the

COMMENT

... from Home and Abroad

greatest shot in the arm since the abolition of wigs and kneebreeches."

—Edward P. Morgan, in his radio newscast
for the American Broadcasting Company

'Saints in Multitudes'

—From the magazine "Schweizer Rundschau," a distinguished Swiss journal of opinion. This is an excerpt of an article by Raimund Germann entitled "Kennedy's Peace Corps."

The opinion is certainly correct that the ideology, philosophy and economic system of either the East or the West should not be forced on the people of underdeveloped nations, and that they should be left free to choose and establish their own future.

Hunger, undernourishment and sickness are not, to be sure, a proper foundation for free choice and development. Such things offer instead a fertile field for demagogues, provocateurs and dangerously extreme solutions.

First of all, it is necessary to break through the vicious circle of hunger and poverty in underdeveloped lands. This calls for help from outside.

The great problem of our time is how to make such help effective. The reasonable idea is "Hilfe zur Selbsthilfe" corresponding to the American adage: To help them to help themselves.

To accomplish this requires not only capital, machines, engineers, but also a new attitude toward labor among the peoples of underdeveloped lands.

In many places, a kind of apathy toward life, a lack of the will to work and create, have developed through decades of privation and gnawing illness.

It isn't enough to try to conquer this passivity with long speeches and fancy words. Genuine progress requires that the inhabitants of underdeveloped lands be influenced vitally through what they share with all mankind through a personal operation which will implant in them a new work ethos.

This is what the Peace Corps does when young Americans till the hard earth shoulder to shoulder with these people, when they build schools with them and minister to illness.

The Corps is meant to fulfill a further function: People in foreign lands have conceived a certain picture of Americans, of overbearing tourists, of "bumptious diplomats" who operate with dollars and slogans and who obviously don't understand a single word of the local language.

This picture is doomed to fade. Into its place is moving the picture of the Peace Corps American who knows the language and customs of the host country, who dresses in work clothes and who is ready to render every service.

• • •
The Peace Corps is a shock phenomenon. The New York Times called it "a completely new, official gamble by the United States." Still, it is something which ought to stimulate our speculative capabilities.

In this one political expedient, the most powerful and most fascinating state of the western world, the United States of America, decided not only to bring brave soldiers and dedicated public servants into action, but also "saints".

Saints, indeed—people who are prepared to treat with the utmost seriousness the Christian doctrine of charity. The

state needs "saints." And not only isolated specimens such as Brother Klaus or Joanne of Arc. Saints are sought in multitudes.

I would like to conclude this discussion with a cry for a European Peace Corps. America has challenged Europe to throw a similar pride and a similar resoluteness into the powerful struggle for peace and freedom.

Europe must accept this challenge or sink into insignificance.

The View from Cuba

What do Communists think of the Peace Corps? Some Volunteers have already been the targets of Communist propaganda in the field. Generally speaking, Peace Corps effectiveness can partly be measured by Communist annoyance, as witness this peculiar article printed in Cuba's Prensa Latina. Director Sargent Shriver, incidentally, has had an active career, but he has never belonged to the CIA.

"The director general of the so-called Peace Corps of the United States, Sargent Shriver, arrived today in San Juan in order to negotiate agreements with three Puerto Rican universities for the training of North American volunteers in political penetration activities in the nations of Latin America and other regions of the world.

"Shriver, brother-in-law of President Kennedy and former member of the Central Intelligence Agency, stated that one year after its creation the so-called Peace Corps has 800 members in 13 nations.

"However, the attempt to introduce this CIA espionage organization has been the target of criticism in various nations, including Puerto Rico, where the director of the University of Puerto Rico, Jaime Benitez, came out against the recruiting of Puerto Rican youths, during Shriver's first visit to this island last year.

"At the same time, the aforementioned CIA peace corps has been rejected in various African and Asiatic nations, where they are considered 'instruments of neocolonialism' at the service of the United States. Recently one thousand Nigerian students demanded the expulsion of the Peace Corps stationed in that country, after a protest which had worldwide repercussions regarding the subversive nature of the activities of the spies who are members of the corps.

"An equally notorious rejection occurred in India, where the press of this nation protested the attempt to introduce 'the Trojan Horse of President Kennedy, financed with money from the mutual security fund, which covers expenditures related with imperialist subversive activities throughout the world.'"

"Meanwhile, in several Latin American nations, in some of which the North American agents are already at work, popular protests have arisen because of the meddling by this branch of the State Department and of the Central Intelligence Agency in its internal affairs.

"Together with the so-called Peace Corps, a report disclosed yesterday, reveals that Bishop Ernest J. Primeau of New York, is undertaking the organization of a new penetration and espionage agency, sponsored by Kennedy, called 'papal volunteers for Latin America.'"

** This quotation, from another Communist paper, indicates how Communist papers spend their time talking to each other. India was one of the first nations to ask for—and receive—a Peace Corps project.*

Welcome to Peru

One of the most notable characteristics of our century is, without a doubt, the creation of a spirit of social solidarity, of mutual help and of concern for the peoples and countries which have not achieved a high state of development. This concern does not remain static in the texts of declarations of international and Foreign Ministers Conferences. One of the best examples of its dynamics is the so-called Peace Corps, created in the United States and made up of volunteers who really desire to serve human communities and to work for the solution of their problems.



While the sturdily growing Peace Corps was the subject of press comment throughout the world, Volunteer geologist Richard Van Loenen (right) quietly chipped away at a rock on a mountainside in Tanganyika.

In Washington, the Peace Corps just announced that 100 of its recently recruited members will come to work in different fields of activity in the Latin American countries.

The Peace Corps was created under eminently practical principles and is already giving excellent results.

—Editorial in *La Prensa*, published in Lima, Peru

And Bemvenido in Brazil

We are glad to welcome 45 Peace Corps Volunteers who arrive today in Rio sent by the United States to collaborate in the social and economic development of Brazil's rural groups through the 4-S (4-H) Clubs.

It is interesting to note—to show their type of initiative—that the Volunteers will not remain on the Carioca sidewalks (in Rio). After a few weeks at the Rural University at kilometer 47, in an intensive study of Portuguese, they will be sent out to the local and regional offices of the Rural Extension Service in various States of Brazil, working in direct contact with youth and passing on to them the benefit of their experience in agricultural matters.

In this manner the United States, in accordance with the program of President Kennedy, will lend effective assistance to Brazil through the work of these young people, who, giving up the comfort of their homes, will dedicate themselves in foreign lands to a task allied to the principles of continental solidarity.

—O Jornal do Brasil

A 'Different' American Gets Rousing Reception

Jeremiah Parson, of 258 Livingston Avenue, Albany, N. Y., is a Volunteer who is now on a survey crew at Morogoro in Tanganyika, where the hot coastal plain strikes the edge of the African uplands. He is the only American Negro among the 35 Volunteers now at work on the Tanganyika project. In a letter home, the 24-year-old Parson told how he was received in Africa.

"It wasn't until we arrived in Nairobi that I first really began to wonder how I would fit into African life. Well, as they say on the block, I'm in solid.

"When we first arrived in Nairobi, we had a snack at the airport. One of the waiters spoke to me in Swahili, and was quite taken aback to learn (after asking about half the other PCVs) that I was an American Negro. If you've ever had to carry the baton, yo'i can imagine how I felt. Virtually not an African in the terminal who could sneak a glimpse at me failed to do so, and it was a race to carry my bags.

"After the initial shock of being a different kind of American, I became a bit used to the long stares and mental (sometimes oral) comparisons between the African and American Negro.

"While at Tengeru, I began to go into town and meet people. The people were as shocked as the waiter in the terminal that a real American Negro was here. (There is a Negro Catholic Missionary there, but I was really different.) I seemed to them the missing link, and whatever they could do for me was not enough.

"Surprisingly enough, there were but two questions asked of me on racial conditions in America. I was repeatedly asked—Why don't Negroes return home to help their brothers? Why doesn't the United States send more Negroes to Africa?"

"All this has really seemed quite amazing to me and, at the same time, most gratifying. Where else can I go anywhere and be singled out of a group of persons



Parson (left) sights through a survey instrument

of the same physical characteristics? Who else in two months here has been offered a shamba, a wife (without paying bride price) and just general security?"

Parents of 36 Peace Corps Volunteers were honored Friday, May 4, at a dinner in Philadelphia.

The day had been proclaimed "Peace Corps Day in Philadelphia."

Speakers at the dinner included the Honorable J. H. J. Tate, Mayor of Philadelphia, and Sargent Shriver, Director of the Peace Corps.

The parents honored are all residents of the Philadelphia area.

CUT OR TEAR HERE

I am interested in serving in the Peace Corps as a (farmer, teacher, home economist, carpenter, nurse, mechanic, health worker, etc.—please list the skill you can perform abroad). (Please Print)

I do not have a special skill but am interested in serving in the Peace Corps

Please send information

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