

GHANA: ONE YEAR IN THE FIELD

Members of the Ghana project—the first Peace Corps Volunteers to go into the field—celebrated their first anniversary overseas on Friday, August 31, 1962.

On the same day, the second group of Ghana Volunteers was scheduled to arrive in Accra to begin their overseas assignments.

The first program was born in April, 1961, after a meeting in Accra between President Kwame Nkrumah and Sargent Shriver. Nkrumah called the Peace Corps “a bold and splendid idea,” and a request was made through his Minister of Education for 50 to 75 secondary school teachers.

On the week end of July 4, 1961, the men and women selected for Ghana arrived at the University of California in Berkeley for six weeks of intensive training. The effectiveness of the Berkeley program was made plain when the Volunteers debarked in Accra—they stepped from the plane and sang a Ghanaian song in Twi, the national language. It was a gesture which resulted in an extremely favorable atmosphere.

The Volunteers spent the next two weeks at the University of Ghana in Legon, seven miles from the capital, where they had classes and lectures sponsored by Ghana's Ministry of Education, and adjusted to the climate and the food.

At the end of the Legon training, they were assigned to schools throughout the nation. Although most of them were sent to Ghana's southern areas where schools and living conditions were comparatively modern, some Volunteers were sent into areas still untouched by modern conveniences.

One year ago, Director Sargent Shriver expressed a bon voyage to the Ghana-bound Volunteers with these words:

“You are very much on trial in Ghana. You will make or break the Peace Corps. The payoff will come out there where you're working. The President is counting on you. It's up to you to prove that the concepts and ideals of the American Revolution are still alive.”

What has been said of the Volunteers after they have been “out there” one year?

In Ghana, Minister of Education A. J. Dowuona-Hammond told them: “Thanks to your good sense, open-mindedness and the freshness of your approach to the challenge offered you as Peace Corpsmen, I am happy to learn that you have all settled down

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Kenneth Baer listens to a young student recite in Ghana.

Shriver Tours The Far East

“No social engagements, please,” was Sargent Shriver's request when the Director departed August 8 on a long tour of Peace Corps projects in the Far East.

This meant that Shriver planned to visit with Volunteers and meet with any government officials who wanted to talk to him—and that he didn't figure he would have time for anything else.

A tight schedule called for seven days in the Philippines (August 11-17), five days in Thailand (August 17-21), three days in Malaya (August 21-23), three in Sarawak (August 24-26) and three in North Borneo (August 26-28).

The last time the Director visited this part of the world, a little over a year ago, it was to talk with government officials only—because there weren't any Volunteers there yet.

Now, there are 67 Volunteers in Malaya, 271 in the Philippines and 45 in Thailand, with the first contingent headed for North Borneo and Sarawak expected to arrive there about the same time that Shriver makes his call.

Accompanying the director were William Kelly, Director of the Division of Contracts and Logistics;

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STATESIDE REPORT:

Eight new groups went overseas this month.

Forty-nine Volunteers left August 8 for a community development project in Ecuador. The group, which trained at Inter-American University in Puerto Rico, has finished in-country training and is now on duty.

Sixty-five experts in the fields of mechanics, physical education and architecture left August 14 for Tunisia after training at the University of Indiana. Included in this group is the Peace Corps' oldest Volunteer, 70-year-old Oscar Haugen.

About 45 Volunteers who trained at the University of Hawaii left August 21 for North Borneo and Sarawak, where they will work in the areas of health, education and rural development. Because of the distance of the training site, these Volunteers were given "home leave" in Hawaii.

Some 90 men and women left August 23 for Liberia, where they will teach in secondary schools and work in rural development. They trained at the University of Pittsburgh.

About 30 teachers arrived in British Honduras August 27 after completing training at the University of Maryland.

Three countries where the Peace Corps is now at work received additional Volunteers. Thirty-one 4-H workers left for Venezuela August 12, and on August 30 some 55 secondary teachers left for Sierra Leone and about 75 secondary and vocational teachers departed for Ghana.

The Venezuela group trained at the 4-H foundation, the Sierra Leone Volunteers at New York State College in New Paltz, and the Ghana group at the University of California at Berkeley.

★ ★ ★

The country's leading physical education organization will join forces with the Peace Corps in a new project for Colombia.

The 31,000 member American Association for Health, Physical Education and Recreation (AAHPER) will be co-administrator of a project that will send some 50 baseball, basketball, swimming, track and gymnastic coaches to work in Colombian universities, high schools, and recreation leagues.

A department of the National Education Association, AAHPER works through affiliates in every state to strengthen and improve school and community programs in the areas of health, physical education and recreation.

AAHPER has worked with the U.S. State Department in sending physical education experts to many countries, including Colombia, as well as with Colombian sports specialists visiting the U.S. under the exchange program.

Though interest in sports in Colombia is high,

THE BOX SCORE

As of August 31, 1962

| OVERSEAS | | | |
|-------------------|------|----------------|------|
| Chile | 63 | Chile II | 46 |
| Colombia | 101 | Venezuela II | 15 |
| Ghana | 125* | Ecuador | 152 |
| Nigeria | 108 | Peru II | 217 |
| East Pakistan | 29 | Dominican Rep. | 45 |
| West Pakistan | 28 | Bolivia | 46 |
| Philippines | 271 | Ceylon | 43 |
| St. Lucia | 15 | Iran | 48 |
| Tanganyika | 35 | Afghanistan | 10 |
| India | 26 | Nepal | 76 |
| Sierra Leone | 92* | Honduras | 27 |
| Malaya | 67 | Nigeria | 86 |
| Thailand | 45 | Tanganyika | 27 |
| Brazil | 43 | India | 50 |
| Venezuela | 52 | Sierra Leone | 38 |
| El Salvador | 24 | Thailand | 63 |
| Jamaica | 38 | Ivory Coast | 34 |
| Somali Republic | 45 | Niger | 6 |
| Bolivia | 36 | Senegal | 4 |
| Dominican Rep. | 21 | Togo | 50 |
| Liberia | 90* | Cyprus | 25 |
| Tunisia | 65 | Turkey | 46 |
| N. Borneo/Sarawak | 55* | Cameroon Rep. | 46 |
| British Honduras | 30* | Pakistan | 80 |
| Ecuador | 49 | Ethiopia | 299 |
| | | Malaya | 61 |
| TOTAL OVERSEAS | 1513 | Colombia | 91 |
| | | Brazil | 124 |
| | | TOTAL TRAINING | 2119 |
| | | | |
| IN TRAINING | | | |
| Philippines IV-V | 266 | | |

GRAND TOTAL 3632

* Approximate

qualified instructors are scarce. The Peace Corps project aims to boost Colombia's sports program by working directly with Colombian youth and by training Colombian instructors to take over after the Volunteers leave.

Candidates for the project, all of whom must have strong backgrounds in sports and physical education, will start training October 15.

★ ★ ★

The Tennessee Valley Authority will become the first Government agency outside the State Department to participate in a Peace Corps program when it takes over training of 106 Volunteers headed for the Sao Francisco Valley project in Brazil. The trainees will move from the University of Oklahoma, which will maintain primary training responsibility, to a trailer camp near Muscle Shoals, Ala., on September 16 for four weeks of familiarization with TVA's operations. The camp, prepared just for Peace Corps use, is near the huge Wilson dam on a mid-way point of the Tennessee River. TVA officials will offer instruction not only in the specific operation of their own program but also in problems likely to be faced in any large-scale valley development program.



After his talk, the President chatted with trainees.

President Kennedy Greets The Washington Trainees

Summer rain, clattering down through the Washington skies at 2 p.m. on August 9, threatened to cancel a presidential talk to over 600 Washington-area trainees scheduled for 4 p.m.

The site of the talk was outdoors on the south lawn of the White House. The skies cleared by 3 p.m. and the buses started rolling with trainees from Georgetown (309 training for Ethiopia), the University of Maryland (115 for Turkey, British Hon-

Mr. Kennedy spoke on the south lawn of the White House.

duras, Ecuador and Venezuela) and Howard University (102 for Cyprus, Togo, Niger, Senegal and Sierra Leone). George Washington University trainees (76 for Nepal) were close enough to the White House to walk.

The crowd gathered, one block wide and four persons deep, in time to hear a few introductory remarks by Warren Wiggins, Acting Director in Sargent Shriver's absence, who introduced the President to the trainees.

Promptly at 4, President Kennedy strode out of the ground-floor entrance to the executive mansion, mounted a temporary rostrum, greeted the trainees and urged them to consider joining Government service, particularly the foreign service, after the completion of their tours of duty with the Peace Corps.

The President then asked for a show of hands from each group preparing to depart. As he called out the names of the countries, the hands went up accompanied, at first, by subdued and scattered cheers, and then stronger cheers as the trainees whipped up their enthusiasm.

Mr. Kennedy then stepped off the rostrum, moved forward to the ranks of the trainees and shook hands and chatted all up and down the line. He concluded by inviting his listeners to take a quick walk through the White House—which they did.

The Text of Mr. Kennedy's Talk

This is what President Kennedy had to say in his informal talk to the Washington-area trainees:

Ladies and gentlemen, we are very glad to welcome you here to the White House.

This occasion gives me a particular sense of satisfaction to welcome 600 Americans from all parts of the country who have committed themselves to a

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Michael Shea, 23, of Eau Claire, Wis., jogs off to the football field with two friends at his school in Kibi.

Ghana: First Anniversary

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very well and feel quite at home in your new surroundings. In general, the heads of your institutions have spoken in glowing terms of your helpfulness and enthusiasm."

In Washington, former Ambassador to Ghana Francis H. Russell reported: "It was my privilege to welcome in Ghana the first Peace Corps Volunteers to set foot abroad. We were all aware that history was in the making. There was a sense of purpose and an awareness that uncharted ground was being explored. In this undertaking, America was splendidly represented.

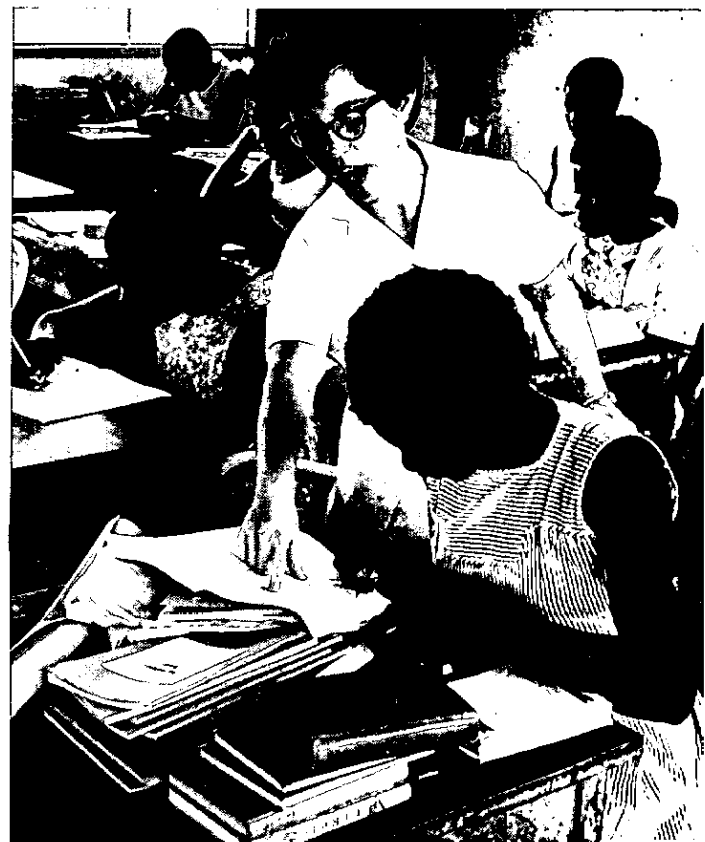
"In the year that has followed, every hope has been fulfilled. There were 51 members of the first group

Darlene Malcolm teaches science in Kumasi (right).

Carol Waymire enters a "mammy wagon" (below)

and requests have since been made for 85 more. The Volunteers have not only established warm and lasting relationships with the students in their classes but with other people in the towns and villages where they live. They have taken part in the life of their communities. The educational process has worked in both directions. The Volunteers have found, as we all have found, that living in Ghana is an immensely enriching experience.

"I congratulate the Peace Corps upon the continuing success it has achieved in its first year of operation, and voice my own gratification at having been indirectly associated with it."



A New Volunteer Expresses The Sentiments of Ghana II

The second group of Ghana-bound Volunteers are curious, anxious and determined according to the following sentiments expressed by one of their members, J. Blair Butterworth, 24, of New Orleans:

"I think it is safe to say," writes Butterworth, "that next to our great curiosity to see Ghana, we want to meet the first Peace Corps Volunteers. All through training we have read bits and pieces of their letters, we have seen their pictures, and have heard stories of their successes and failures.

"In lectures we are reminded that due to their experiences we have more of this and less of that. Now that our training is over, and we are ready to go we can say that we have the greatest professional respect for the first group.

"Joining the Peace Corps was for them an act of faith; faith in the *idea* of the Peace Corps, faith in promises of a political campaign, faith in Shriver, and most importantly faith in the right sort of people joining and being accepted. They all believed that the best of America would join and work and make a success of the idea. And they did just that. They did work hard, they did make the Peace Corps possible for all of us because they did it right.

"So we are anxious to meet them. We know they are nervous about our coming. They are afraid that we will do something that will ruin what their patience, good judgment and hard efforts have achieved. We will not. We are full of admiration for them and for all the work they have done, but we will not sit and idealize them. We have come to do a job, too, and we will do it."



Ghana II's Belva Borgquist and Blair Butterworth.



Dorothy Vellenga demonstrates in her Accra chem lab.

Donald Groff chats with Ghanaian merchants while wandering through the market making his weekly purchases.



COMMENT

The following article appeared in the June 30 Tanganyika Standard under the headline, "A.N.C. Opposes U.S. 'Peace' Men":

The Tanganyika African National Congress, which now claims a membership of over 10,000, is starting a campaign against American Peace Corps personnel being allowed into the Territory. This was announced in Dar es Salaam yesterday by the Congress publicity secretary, Mr. J. E. Omido.

He said the Peace Corps men were being sent under the guise of technicians to independent African states to plan subversion and allow America to step in and establish neo-colonialism.

Mr. Omido said the Congress would urge the people of Tanganyika to oppose the acceptance of Peace Corps men.

"They are also agents and spies of NATO powers," he said. "They are intent on establishing NATO agencies everywhere and will not hesitate to do anything to wreck a country's government if it suits American imperialism.

"They work to divide a people by bringing religion into politics and use millions of dollars to bribe their sub-agents to commit acts of treason against their own country.

"The very fact that these imperialist spies offer to come out without any salaries proves the determination which they have to work for the imperialist cause.

"We do not trust them and we do not think our future in Tanganyika will be created by American Peace Corps. In fact, if there is a danger to our future, that danger is these corps. America should let us swim or sink by our own efforts."

Mr. Omido denied that the Congress views on the purpose of the Peace Corps came from behind the Iron Curtain.

Asked how Congress felt about Negro members of the Peace Corps, Mr. Omido replied, "An imperialist can be any colour."

He said the Congress had evidence of trouble stirred up by Americans in the Congo and Zanzibar. In Zanzibar, Americans had tried to get people of their choice into power so they could continue to have their "rocket base" on the island, he alleged.

On July 4, the Tanganyika Standard published a letter signed by B. S. Kajunjumele under the heading, "Peace Corps Volunteers Are Needed":

Sir—

The challenge of the African National Congress to the idea of inviting American Peace Corps volunteers to come to Tanganyika, which is based on the assumption that the volunteers would act as agents for neo-colonialism, is, to say the least, childish.

Of the 30 volunteers who have been invited, 20 are surveyors, six are geologists and four are engineers. All are highly trained young men and therefore their contribution cannot be regarded as a mere makeshift.

They are genuine national volunteers—they will not be given any salaries but they will get "posho" only for their livelihood. They are highly disciplined, therefore, in their contact with us, they are likely to cultivate a dignity consistent with their mental grade of culture and national understanding.

Being young university graduates, they are bound to be tolerant to our shortcomings, cautious in their approach, rational and keen to help us in every aspect. They will work under the administration of our Ministers just like any other civil services and they will have nothing to do with politics. They do not expect the Flemming award or Kubla Khan privileges. What is more, their experience with us here will contribute in no small measure to the sound shaping of Afro-American relationship.

I cannot imagine that any politically mature nationalist would associate such an invaluable humanitarian venture with neo-colonialism. President Kennedy deserves our hearty congratulations on his success in realizing his Biblical vision. Let us not stultify our "uhuru" (independence) success by cynicism and political imbecility.

The fulcrum of our national economy is agriculture. We need the Peace Corps volunteers for surveying feeder roads which will open up our intensive agricultural areas. These volunteers would also speed up Africanisation because they are bound to teach us better than some of the expatriate officers who have an axe to grind or who have been upset by Mr. Macmillan's wind of change.

Vice President Lyndon Johnson and his wife, Lady Bird Johnson, presided over graduation ceremonies at Inter-American University in Barranquitas, Puerto Rico, for the first Ecuador-bound Volunteers. They also visited the new Camp Radley, and this is taken from an article by Mrs. Johnson which was published in the Washington Post:

The days are purposely rugged at Camp Radley. At 6 a.m. a booming voice yells through the trees, "Get up!" In five minutes, trainees appear, dressed in blue jeans and ready to take on whatever their day's assignment might be: learning to swim with their clothes on, learning to scale high rocks, learning to spend a night alone in the woods.

Mother nature provides the camp's only extravagance—its exquisite setting of dense fern and hibiscus, coffee plants and bananas, and floating clouds above, hanging low over the folded mountains.

Housed in the sturdy camp buildings below—for what must be the most exciting period of their lives—are the human beings who are providing the United States with what might also be the most exciting period of our collective lives.

Lyndon put it well. He told the Volunteers he wouldn't repeat the question they are asked over and over, "Why did you join the Peace Corps?" And they applauded loudly and laughingly. Instead, he suggested we might—as a country—reverse the question and ask ourselves: "Why didn't we do this before? Why did we wait so long to give young people a chance to win the peace as so often they have won our wars?"

President Addresses Trainees

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great adventure, I think, for our country and more than our country, for really all people.

I think that by the end of this year we will have more than 5000 Peace Corpsmen, men and women of all ages, serving abroad in all parts of the world, in countries about which most Americans knew little ten years ago, countries which we did not even know existed 20 years ago.

This is an extraordinary action by this country and I know that you are proud to take part in it. I must say that it gives me the greatest satisfaction that it is taking place at this time. (The President then asked for a show of hands from each group present.)

Well, I must say that I wish all Americans could hear that litany of countries you are going to, your willingness to do it, and I hope that when you get back, that we can persuade you to come and serve in the United States Government in other areas, particularly the Foreign Service, because I think the United States is so heavily involved in so many parts of the world, we are so in need of dedicated men and women of talent and experience, that I can think of no better recruiting ground than the Peace Corps for our future Foreign Service Officers, for those who represent our information services and aid agencies abroad, so that I hope you will regard this as the first installment in a long life of service in the most exciting career in the most exciting time.

The White House belongs to all the people, but I think it particularly belongs to you.

TIGER BROTHERS

Two formidable basketball teams met last month in the finals of the Lahore Basketball Tournament—the West Pakistan Peace Corps Volunteers and the Pakistani Tiger Brothers. The Brothers handed the Volunteers their first defeat of the tournament.

The twelve men of the Peace Corps team, who wore blue jerseys lettered in white by the feminine members of the Pakistan project, won their first games in the competition ladder and went on to take the semi-finals.

The team—whose members include co-captains James McKay and Harold Hill and players James Chapman, Freeman McKindra, Willie Douglas, James Landmesser, Philip Rupel, Timothy Sullivan, Boyd

Volunteers in blue shirts put up a tough struggle in the tournament only to succumb to the white shirted Pakistanis.



Sargent Shriver took a back seat when his Girls Nation replacement for a day moved into his office on August 3. The one-day Director of the Peace Corps (or is it Directress?) was Mary Jane Doherty, 17, a senior at Mount St. Joseph Academy in Brighton, Massachusetts. She hopes to become a doctor via Harvard Medical School.

TAKE THE FINALS

Mundhenke and Robert Morris—began with informal games between students from the Agricultural University and the Government Men's College in Lyallpur. A Pakistani sports patron spotted the Peace Corps group in one of their "get-up" games and invited them to participate in the Lahore Tournament.

In awarding certificates to the Volunteers and a trophy to the Tiger Brothers, the Director of Industries declared: "This Tournament showed how the Peace Corps was here to share in many ways, in work, in sports, and Pakistani life generally." Thereupon, the Brothers and the Volunteers shook hands and expressed a desire to carry on their friendships formed on the basketball courts and to meet again, next year.





Philip Rupel (center) shares in a mat-level conference with Pakistanis about community action in their village.

Shriver Tours The Far East

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Richard Graham, Deputy Associate Director for Public Affairs, and Douglas Kiker, Chief of the Division of Public Information. The trip offered these staff members their first opportunity to visit Volunteers in the field.

Before his departure, Shriver remarked that his duties "have kept me in Washington. Although it was necessary that I remain there, I still felt hampered by my inability to get out into the field—see how the Volunteers are making out on the job. It is essential for me, as Director, to see personally how our men and women are doing."

In the Director's absence, Warren Wiggins, Associate Director for Program Development and Operation, took over as Acting Director.

Quick, Doctor, The Fetish!

THIS brave old world keeps progressing in spite of everything. Latest progress report comes from Nigeria. A British-trained psychiatrist there has wedded psychoanalysis and African witchcraft.

For mentally disturbed natives, Dr. Adeoye Lambo prescribes dances, rituals, and animal sacrifices. The native understands this medicine and it cures him; an analyst's couch would only puzzle him.

Dr. Lambo, a Nigerian, says, "This is really only an adaptation of modern psychiatry, but one that has been practiced much longer than the sophisticated methods of the West." It's perfectly logical when you think about it. Gaining the patient's confidence is half the cure, and witchcraft is what these patients believe in.

Dr. Lambo's practice has gained world-wide notice among medical men, and now two Peace Corps workers have been assigned to his hospital as physiotherapists.

Their grandchildren will never believe it.

"What did you do in the Peace Corps, grandpa?"

"Well, I was a therapist, and an assistant witch doctor, and . . ."

—Editorial from the
Wichita (Kansas) Eagle

PEACE CORPS PLACEMENT TEST

The next Peace Corps Placement Test will be given on September 29, 1962 at 8:30 a.m. in Civil Service Commission Testing Centers throughout the United States.

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

I am available after _____ (month, day, year)

Present occupation _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

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