Peace Corps Lists 4 Steps to Service Abroad

By BONNIE MARSH
of the Minnesota Daily

In the Peace Corps Washington offices—where there seems to be more hustle than around a catalogue mail order desk—it appears impossible that prospective Volunteers could receive individual attention. But they do...

Some say that it is this emphasis on the individual that keeps the Peace Corps alive and growing, and forestalls the bureaucracy which plagues other government agencies. With up to 7,000 requests for information coming in each week and 3,600 Questionnaires a month, how does the Peace Corps even begin to place a person in a program and see that he stays happy and effective while on the job? In other words, how does a person who is interested in working for the Peace Corps overseas go about getting there?

Application

The answer is simple, in the words of one staff member: “Apply!”

To do this, an applicant must fill out a Questionnaire, available at his local post office. This is not a test, but a probe into such things as citizenship and marital status, medical information, and especially test skills and schooling. It also asks for farm, trade, foreign travel and teaching experience, and in addition lists 201 skills from which the applicant is to choose three as his major interests. College students indicate how many credits they have in certain areas.

Applicants are given a page to answer the question, “What do you hope to accomplish by serving with the Peace Corps?” This answer is regarded as important because it indicates the motivation of the applicant.

(Sketch Steps, page 2)

Peace Corps’ Future Bright, Shriver Says

Sees Challenge For New PCVs

By ROGER EBERT of the Daily Illini

The fundamental challenge facing the Peace Corps at the start of its third year, according to Director R. Sargent Shriver, can be stated simply:

“As young Americans realize how unglamorous and unromantic the work of developing nations can be, will they be tricked into believing it is also unimportant?”

Shriver said in an interview that new waves of Peace Corps Volunteers will be called upon to remain persevering and determined—despite the fact that service is not quite as romantic as it first appeared to be.

He said Volunteers actually have harder jobs now, and are faced with more meaningful challenges. “The first Volunteers could afford to make mistakes, simply because they were the first,” Shriver said. “But now the work is mapped out for us and we have a fine tradition of two years of service which we must maintain.”

According to Shriver, the first two years of the Peace Corps experience have provided a clear-cut answer for cynics who asked, “How can you expect to accomplish anything when even experts have failed?”

“As the first returns from Peace Corps projects are studied,” he said, “we are becoming more and more aware that Americans of 23, 24, 25 and 26 years of age not only can match the work of the experts—but are, in fact, often better.”

Shriver said experts require excessive equipment and often are capable of working only in sharply limited areas. On the other hand, young people who are creative and adaptable, and who can work with the tools they have, often achieve better results in an underdeveloped society.

The Bolivian ambassador recently warned us, in fact, not to select ourselves out of business,” the Peace Corps director said. “He pointed out that most of the people Volunteers work with do not have extensive educations, and can often be reached most effectively by Volunteers who are capable of consistent, determined effort over long periods of time—regardless of education.”

Another challenge facing the Peace Corps, Shriver said, is the need to recognize that progress is often slow and discouraging in developing nations.

“Volunteers sometimes grow discouraged when, so to speak, they succeed in moving the ball only from the 50-yard line to the 49-yard line,” Shriver said. “They fail to realize that, in many cases, it may be the first time the ball has ever moved at all.”

7,000 PCV’s To Be Selected

By Next Fall...

By next fall 7,000 new Peace Corps Volunteers will be serving overseas, many filling completely new assignments in the 48 countries requesting additional Volunteers. Applications are now being received from students eligible to enter training in January and June for these programs.

Projects will begin training on a monthly basis beginning in February, although the major in-put will be in the summer months. Students who apply now will be notified within one month if they will be accepted.

Liberal arts majors will fill most of the new assignments in teaching and community development work. Teacher-training courses will be included in the training program for teacher training projects. Prior teaching experience is not required for Volunteers assigned to elementary and secondary classrooms.

More than half of the Volunteers serving overseas are engaged in some type of teaching. Many of these Volunteers did not major or minor in education.

The most frequent request from the Peace Corps’ Future Bright, Shriver Says

The most frequent request from host country governments is for Volunteers who can teach in the public schools. Government officials are aware that no lasting progress can be made through technical advancements until the populace reaches an adequate educational level.

Some university-level assignments will require teaching, but years of social, educational and health problems.

By spring, the 7,000 new Volunteers will also be doctors, nurses, medical technologists, vocational teachers, physical education workers, foresters and agricultural specialists.

Spring programs will utilize 650 Volunteers in community development work. Countries include Armenia, Malta, Thailand, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Panama, Venezuela and Nigeria.

Teachers and health workers will serve in these countries, as well as Ecuador, Nepal, India, Togo, Iran and Tanganakuya.

For a complete listing of opportunities by skill and country with training dates, write the Office of Public Affairs, Peace Corps, Washington, D. C. 20525.

The Editors

This special Peace Corps college supplement—distributed by the nation’s college newspapers to nearly a million college students as a public service—was written and edited for the Peace Corps by four college editors.

The four, who spent a week at Peace Corps Washington headquarters and spoke with dozens of Corps officials, were:

Roger Ebert, editor of The Daily Illini (University of Illinois); Steven V. Roberts, feature editor of The Harvard Crimson; Bonnie Marsh, editor of The Minnesota Daily; and Richard Simmons, editor of the Western Washington State Collegian.

The supplement, a Peace Corps Publication, is being distributed to hundreds of college papers in cooperation with the newspapers, the U.S. Student Press Association and the Associated Collegiate Press.
Co留意 Volunteeers Complement AID Work

By RICHARD SIMMONS
of The Western Washington State Collegel

Taxpayers have leveled criticism at the Peace Corps and the Agency for International Development for duplicating each other in United States foreign service projects in other countries. But Frank Coffin, Deputy Director of AID, which spends about $44 billion annually on 2,700 projects throughout the world, feels that the two organizations comple-
ment rather than duplicate each other's work.

AID tries to give technical training assistance, Coffin said, "while the Peace Corps Volunteer goes in and works on an individual level with the people.

Often the Peace Corps does the first technical work of surveying for schools or hospitals and then AID comes in with the funds to construct the buildings and set up training programs, he said.

When we can't afford to put the individual into the field to work with the people, the Peace Corps comes thru very well with volunteers," Coffin noted.

Peace Corps News

Liberal arts graduates sometimes feel insecure— that the Peace Corps requires only Volunteers with specific skills.

"It's wrong because two of the major areas of Peace Corps work are tailor-made for the liberal arts grads: teaching and community development.

The Corps opportunities for liberal arts grads are outlined in a new information booklet, "College and University Programs." The booklet is available at no cost from the Peace Corps, Office of Public Affairs, Washington, D.C. 20525.

A new 15-minute documentary sound film on the Peace Corps is available, free for showing by colleges and university groups.

The black-and-white production, "The Peace Corps Volunteer; a Near American Campus," which was narrated by Dave Garro XVI, and is available at no cost from the Peace Corps, Office of Public Affairs, Washington, D.C. 20525.


How can the Peace Corps use your particular skills in its overseas projects?

For more potential Volunteers, this question is answered by one or more special leaflets now available at no cost from the Peace Corps.

Leaflets cover these specific topics: engineering, registered nurses, trade and technical school gradu-
ates, junior college graduates, library science, librarians, health professions, labor, and high school support groups.

More than 2,000 liaison officers are in the field throughout the Peace Corps and American college campuses.

Appointed by the university president, liaison officers keep contact with Volunteer alumni serving overseas. They are available at no cost to the Peace Corps, Office of Public Affairs, Washington, D.C. 20525.

There are liaison officers on nearly every American campus. To locate the officer on your campus, call the president's office.

The "Peace Corps Volunteer," a 24-page monthly, keeps Volunteers in touch with their friends at home and with the Peace Corps all over the world briefed.

The "Volunteer" searches out unusual volunteer interest areas to supplement complete coverage of Corps projects and problems abroad.

The "Volunteer" is available in every college library in the nation. It can also be found in public libraries and in the offices of campus Peace Corps liaison officers.

One of the favorite pastimes of Peace Corps Volunteers is reading, but in many project locations books are lacking.

To counter this problem, the Peace Corps has started a unique book exchange program. Books containing 300 paperbacks are shipped overseas to Volunteers who use them for reading material as well as for training of local library material.

The titles, chosen from among American paperback publishing groups, are outlined in a "Moby Dick" to an annual crossword puzzle collection.

Steps to Service...

The applicant is then asked to furnish at least six references, and college professors, teachers, or friends. In college, students at least three of these should be professors or administrative members. In addition, applicants are asked to indicate the name and address of the person who knows them best. It may be a relative.

Selection

This is one of the indefinite areas in the Peace Corps. When a person applies, he has no way of knowing if he will be accepted. Only one person in six is accepted for training, but these statistics do not give a fair picture, especially to college students. For instance, after a recruiting program at the University of Wisconsin one of two applicants was finally selected. The Peace Corps cannot be definite about selection procedures, for it is dealing with abstracts such as attitude, and motivation, skill and dedication.

The weed-out process starts when a Volunteer has been approved by the Washington office. Information from applicants passing a citizenship, health and marital status check is coded on IBM cards. Skills and experience are coded ready for grouping.

At the same time references are being checked. Reference forms are sent to the persons the applicant has mentioned asking him to rate the applicant on job competence, emotional stability and relations with other people.

One bad reference cannot exclude a candidate.

All this information, together with any further medical information required, is put in a folder, the applicant's permanent record. Then when a request comes in from a country for a group of Volunteers with certain qualifications, the IBM cards are run through until all the people who could teach geography are sorted out, for example.

Selection for training is done by checking the Questionnaire and comparing such things as all-round experience and motivation.

Training

Selection is not complete until a Volunteer has finally been chosen to go overseas. During training the applicant is in a goldfish bowl. He is observed by faculty members at the university where he is training, and by other Volunteers in the Peace Corps.

Training is devoted to providing each trainee with skills necessary overseas, and understanding of the U.S. and contemporary affairs.

Twice during training a selection board views all the information about a trainee and recommends whether or not he should be sent overseas. A background check by the Civil Service Commission and a psychological assessment is also made.

Overview

The Division of Volunteer Support is responsible for physical support of the Volunteer once he begins training, and for more support once he is overseas.

The liaison branch of the division looks after the Volunteer as an individual. This is a new branch of the organization which handles any requests or suggestions from the field and any problems that may arise.

In short, the Volunteer is more than a number to the Peace Corps. There is time saved in the office for individual attention to requests and applications. The Volunteer and prospective Volunteer are the core of the organization.

Peace Corps News

AUTUMN, 1965
After the Peace Corps: A New Self-Knowledge

By STEVEN V. ROBERTS
of the Harvard Crimson

Reticence is not a trait particularly characteristic of most Peace Corps Volunteers. Words are hardly ever a scarce commodity, even when a Volunteer is 300 miles off a dirt road away from the nearest supply of cement or textbooks. One evening Georgianna Shine, a Volunteer teaching English in Ghana, was talking to her Ghanaian schoolmaster. They discussed their families, their villages ("His village is Ougadougou, Upper Volta; my village is New Britain, Pennsylvania," she began). They talked about their work, their education.

Mumooney, the watchman, said to the American girl who had recently taught English, "This be best way to know other man's way, other tribes, see white man's way, see other people and how they live. You learn to accept things without taking it for you and your people. You go back your village, talk to the children, you tell them other man's way. Then they know how be, then they be better people.

Educational Adventure

Those words, simple as they are, come close to describing what happens to a Volunteer during his term of service. The Peace Corps is a profound educational adventure, an extension of the individual's sphere of experience in ways hardly possible at home. Having seen "Mother's way" for two years, 700 Peace Corps Volunteers will return by the end of December. They will come back to their "villages," and "talk to the children." What these Volunteers have learned, and what others will learn from them, could, as their numbers grow, have a significant effect on how Americans view the world.

After talking to several of these returning Volunteers it is clear few fail to learn from their Peace Corps experience, or avoid being changed by it. Many of the changes are obvious. Georgianna Shine wanted to study English in graduate school. But after teaching in Colombia, she had completely shifted her goals. When she returns she will study Latin American history and politics.

Eugene Schreiber, a graduate of Purdue, and a Volunteer in Tanganyika, instructs a student in proper surveying techniques.

A significant effect on how Americans view the world is clear. The Volunteers are the first to admit that the world is not limited to a single country, to a single culture, to a single religion. The Peace Corps Volunteers now return by the end of December. They will come back to their "villages," and "talk to the children." What these Volunteers have learned, and what others will learn from them, could, as their numbers grow, have a significant effect on how Americans view the world.

High-Level Responsibility

While some Volunteers felt they had had the opportunity to be on their own in college, all noted that the intensity of their Peace Corps experience was incomparable with any other. In a Questionnaire answered by returning Corpsmen the question "What did you like best about your service?" most often drew the following general answer: "Discharging a high level of responsibility with a great deal of freedom and initiative.

Dr. Colmen, who is currently compiling the results of the tests administered to returning Volunteers, said that the individual Corpsman was subjected to far more severe challenges than he had faced in college, or that a person of his age would meet in the United States. The result of all this is that the average Volunteer grows up very quickly, develops a sense of self-reliance seldom found in people of his age.

But it is a quiet self-confidence, that does not manifest itself in bravado. Many Volunteers are actually embarrassed by press coverage which makes them out to be a collection of geniuses or supermen. "Sometimes I feel like a phony when I read stories about us," Georgianna Shine said. Their attitude is best described as self-assurance tempered by a humility built up after two years of almost unmitting frustration. The challenges of their job were so severe, that after two years many feel they can handle just about anything that comes along. But they also understand, as Ralph Thomas points out, that everything cannot be done at once or, ever, and that one has to learn to settle for the possible. Everyone has grand visions when they set out, but for most, like Miss Shine, "success becomes making your students understand the past tense."

Perhaps education is, in the end, getting to know oneself. And this, above all, happens to Peace Corps Volunteers. In facing the tests and challenges of their jobs they come to know their own capabilities and limitations, and from this self-knowledge springs their self-confidence. And it is this opportunity for self-knowledge that most of them found lacking in their college careers. "College is a shell, a half-life," says Georgianna Shine, because one really knows things intellectually, not through experience.

Eugene Schreiber, a graduate of Purdue, and a Volunteer in Tanganyika, instructs a student in proper surveying techniques.

The Peace Corps Volunteers now returning have, like Mumooney the watchman, been learning the "other man's way," and thus have come to understand themselves and their country with deeper insight. Thus too, they will be better teachers of their children, and better citizens of a wider and more humane nation.

Chuckles from the Mailbag

The following excerpts are from application forms and from references of Volunteers and would-be Volunteers received by the Peace Corps Division of Selection:

Job Description: "Connector of steel girders."

"I've never had a fiscal examination."

"First, I thought you had to be an English major to teach English; then I learned different.

"About emotion, he can take it or leave it."

"And when he was in the mental hospital with T.B. . . ."

Area preferences: "Europe — Rome, Germany, London, Hawaii. I would prefer these countries because of the world's great cultures and more scenic travel areas."

What do you want to accomplish? "Need, want, and must have a job."

"Hasn't been arrested as yet."

Primary skills: "I don't remember."
At Least in Part

PEACE CORPS: A Woman's World?

By BONNIE MARSH
Of The Minnesota Daily

Is it really a woman's world—
as they say?
Women are in the Peace Corps have had a unique opportunity to test the worldwide aspect of this American adventure, and they report that women do, indeed, wield even more influence around the world than is commonly suspected.

This makes the woman in the Peace Corps more important than is commonly suspected, according to Nan McCloy, deputy director of Africa programs, and one of the Corps' "leading ladies."

Almost one-third of the Volunteers in most projects are women, she explained, "because women round out the picture on a project. For example, women can bring hygienic practices into the home where they are most important. A registered dietitian or a nurse can bring imagination into washing dishes."

In short, women seem to have a unique role abroad, a role secondary to the main assignment which can be summed up as combination home economics teacher—4-H Club leader—hygiene consultant—interior decorator—child care consultant—dietitian.

Women Needed

The Peace Corps needs qualified women. "In fact, I would say that if every qualified woman in the United States were to apply to the Peace Corps, we could use her," Mrs. McCloy said.

But what does "qualified" mean? Here, as in all Peace Corps selection criteria, complexities enter. One country may ask for 15 registered nurses who speak French, for example, and this limits the field. However, on projects such as community development, qualifications may be less limiting, and this is the opportunity for a woman with no particular skill.

"A little knowledge about many things is obviously useful," Mrs. McCloy said. The key word in Volunteer selection is "suitable," and the adventurous, versatile woman can be an asset in situations that require imagination and a host of ideas.

Some women are especially trained by the Peace Corps to teach

How to Join

1. Fill out the application questionnaire. You can get one from your liaison officer on campus, from your post office or by mailing the coupon in this paper.
2. Next, take the new non-computerized placement test (two hours) on campus or at a nearby Civil Service Office. Ask your liaison officer to write the Peace Corps for a full list of addresses and the date of the next exam.
3. Your application data, your test and your references help to determine the kind of assignment for which you are best qualified. If your training or experience match that of a request from abroad, you will receive an invitation to training. You may accept, decline or state a preference for another assignment.

PEACE CORPS WOMEN have proven their ability to adapt. Malinda Ann DuBose, a graduate of Florida State University, scours around as a public health nurse on St. Lucia.

In the Philippines, living conditions were no problem for the women, but what about other parts of the world? Generally women Volunteers are not sent to places where it would be too difficult for them to live, but on the other hand, Volunteers are not usually excluded anywhere on the basis of sex alone.

Charlotte Hough, a Volunteer who has recently returned from a teaching assignment in the Philippines, tells this anecdote about setting an example. The women in the settlement where she lived had no furniture in their homes—simply bare floors.

When Miss Hough arrived, she arranged her home as attractively as she could while still maintaining the Peace Corps ideal of simple, modest living. She planted flowers around her house, furnished it in bamboo, and then built a fence around it. A bamboo bed cost her $1 (American money) in a furniture store in a nearby village.

The Filipino women were curious, of course, about her home. After Miss Hough became acquainted in the community, they began to visit her. One woman, after many visits, came one day and asked how much the bed had cost. "Five pesos." So the woman pulled out five pesos and asked Miss Hough to buy a bed the next time she went to the village on the bus.

Soon all the women in the town wanted beds, and Miss Hough had no use a Peace Corps truck to carry all the beds back to the settlement. It is difficult for men to establish this kind of rapport with women. Miss Hough said. American women are prepared by their experience to set examples of clean homes, personal cleanliness and creativity.

Although the people in the community accused her of "working like a man," actually the men did not resent her bringing these new ideas to their women. Miss Hough said. The women are often very powerful in the Philippines because they control the purse strings and run the household while the men fish. Therefore, the men welcome devices which make their women more efficient.

In the first place, women are sent only where there are jobs for them to do—and jobs do not include clearing the jungle.

Secondly, most societies are very protective toward women. The classic example is the community that became so worried about the safety of a woman Volunteer (in their opinion neglected by the Peace Corps) that they paid a special 24-hour-a-day guards by her house so no guest could get in without her permission. "Guests" included the Volunteer's own visitors.

In Africa, where most job requests are for teachers, the governments are eager to provide good housing for all their teachers, and Peace Corps Volunteers therefore have quite adequate facilities, with few exceptions.

It is evident from the fact that only one-third of the Peace Corps Volunteers are women that the Peace Corps is not a woman's world. It is evident, too, that there are many places the Peace Corps goes and many things it does that women simply cannot help with. But there is a new realization of the importance of American women abroad in Volunteer capacities, and it is this realization which leads the Corps to seek qualified, versatile women for overseas duty.

HER MUSICAL SKILL serves Volunteer Merry Lee Corwin, who organizes community singing at her rural home on Leyte Island in the Philippines. Miss Corwin, a teacher, graduated from Connecticut College for Women.

VOLUNTEER MARY JO WEERS, a teacher at Mile Ten, a remote village in North Borneo, has organized her students into a Girl Guide unit. Mary Jo, 23, is a graduate of Southern Methodist University.