Corps Seeks June Grads But Myths Still Persist

"We have 75 different programs scheduled to begin right after graduation," he said. "The slots for the 3,000 Volunteers returning this year will have to be refilled in addition to the 1,000 new jobs being created. All we have to do is get people to apply." The biggest problem, according to Pagano, is dispelling some of the myths that have grown up about what the Corps looks for in Volunteers.

"Too many students think that all we need are people who know to drive tractors, grow rice or prune trees. This is false. Liberal arts graduates, no matter what their major, are considered," Pagano said.

"It's the liberal arts graduates," he said, "who fill the bulk of teaching assignments and will be needed to help fill the backlog of requests for educational assistance in Latin America and other areas. Many of our community development workers are graduates with liberal arts backgrounds.

"The weird part about it," said Pagano, "is the fantastic opportunity being offered to some of the Volunteers overseas. Many Volunteers with only bachelors' degrees are assigned to university faculty positions. The demand for anyone who can teach the English language is tremendous. We can hire here with a B.A. and get a chance to teach at this level."

"Generally most of the Volunteers assigned to teaching jobs work at the secondary level, but even this is unbearable for giving the feeling that you are actually accomplishing something."

"Many overseas assignments require only English," according to Pagano. "A person who can only speak English is the official language and much of our classroom teaching is the same.

If a foreign language is needed, the Peace Corps will teach it to the Volunteer. It could take a year or two years to learn. The main problem is to expect the normal college graduate to know any Bengali, Arabic or other foreign language.

(Continued on page 2)

Scholarships Available, Too

Returned Volunteers Flooded With Offers

When the first wave of Peace Corps Volunteers was channeled into several developing countries in 1961, service in the Corps was a risky business. There was no assurance that a two-year stint in the Peace Corps would be anything but a liability to one's career. The organization was operating as a temporary agency under an executive order. Many Congressmen were skeptical about the program, hoping that it might become a haven for wild-eyed extremists and draft-dodgers.

Last year when the first Peace Corps Volunteers returned to the United States, their gamble paid off. Job offers as well as grants and fellowship opportunities poured in. Major industries made it clear that they want returning Peace Corps Volunteers to consider the business world before formulating plans for their life's work.

Reaction to the Peace Corps was almost universally favorable. The administration was pleased, members of Congress pledged full support and educators shouted praise. John Munsie, dean of Harvard College, said that "two years with the Peace Corps today can be as significant as a Rhodes Scholarship."

The President of IBM said it was clear to him "that members of the Peace Corps will be particularly employable when they complete their tours of duty. They will have demonstrated their ability to take on tough jobs under extremely difficult circumstances and to follow them through to their comple-
Origins of the Peace Corps

Idea First Proposed To Michigan Students

It was just past midnight on a chilly October evening in 1960 when the young Senator from Massachusetts mounted the steps of the Michigan Union in Ann Arbor and asked a group of University of Michigan students if they were willing to go overseas to help their country.

"There was a hush," one observer said, "and the mood of the crowd seemed to change." That was the first time that John F. Kennedy publicly mentioned the Peace Corps. He did so again in a nationally televised speech a month later at the Cow Palace in San Francisco which brought 30,000 letters of support for the idea.

Where did the idea come from? Since the Peace Corps is now so successful, many people have claimed credit for originating the idea, and many can be given credit.

The first legislation in the area was introduced by Congressman Henry S. Reuss (D-Wis.) in January, 1960. Reuss says he got the idea in the summer of 1959 during a trip to the United States foreign aid effort in Cambodia.

Reuss brought the subject of an overseas youth corps into a speech at Cornell University. As he later said, "The response there—and wherever else I have discussed it—was electric."

Reuss's legislation — called the Point Four Youth Program — was sponsored in the Senate by the late Senator J. William Fulbright and was added to the Foreign Aid Authorization Act. Eventually $10 million was allowed to make a study of the plan and the Agency for International Development took the responsibility for getting the idea studied.

AID had a difficult time finding a group willing to take the contract, but finally Colorado State University's newly founded research center agreed to do the job.

On June 15, 1960, after Reuss's proposal and before the money had been allocated for the study, Senator Kennedy released a statement that a youth corps be set up. His legislation was the first calling for more research on the feasibility of the idea.

The Colorado group had just submitted its report. Kennedy then mentioned the idea at San Francisco. After he was elected, he took it up again. The temporary basis ended with a bill that President Kennedy signed into law on Sept. 22, 1961.

By that time the group had the report out, the Peace Corps had been going for more than six months, and the first Volunteers were overseas.

How did President Kennedy get the idea? According to George Sullivan, who is writing a book on the Peace Corps and spent several months researching the origin, Kennedy's contact with the corps idea came from several sources, but the key was a statement of formation to Kennedy in August or September of 1960.

A memorandum had been influenced Kennedy in the development of the Peace Corps program besides Rues, Neglia, and Shriver. They were Chester Bowles, Archibald Cox, Walter Reed, Ted Sorensen, and Kurt Waldheim, all of whom mentioned the idea in campaign talks even before Kennedy. Bill Moyers, who later became deputy director of the Corps, was a member of this group.

The early derisive comments about the "Kiddie Corps" have now been replaced by such universal backing that the Peace Corps gets to keep on doing it.

The success of the Peace Corps can be attributed, in part, to the fact that it is apparently a good place for peace in the world, and the peace is effective. A returned Volunteer's draft status. is terminated. Legally he is again eligible for the draft but actually

"America's best resource is its youth," Reuss was asked his opinion of the implementing of his idea, and it was only the implementing of improvements in the Corps.

"I think it's as close to being perfect as anything can be," Reuss replied.

Job Offers

(Continued from page 1)

charged strong interest in returning Volunteers.

Such institutions as the University of Chicago, Rutgers, George Washington, New York University, New York State College and the University of Wisconsin have set up special grants and fellowships exclusively for returning Volunteers.

In addition to paying for their foreign language courses, the Foreign Affairs Committee, Dr. Calvert noted that "approximately half of the former Volunteers are enrolled in a college or university. They are attending 117 different schools in all parts of the country. And a group of 90 fellowships, assistantships and scholarships with a total value of over $240,000.

About 15 per cent of the Volunteers who have returned took positions in the United States. Some of these firms are Shell Oil, Hilton Hotels and the Chase-Manhattan Bank.

The federal government has attracted a high percentage of returning Volunteers. Peace Corps alone has now hired 51 Volunteers for administrative positions in Washington.

The Volunteer's experience overseas should provide him with an excellent background for a host of kinds of federal careers overseas.

A large number of Volunteers who have returned to the United States. Calvert said that "one show only sold 13 per cent before entering the Peace Corps. Now 25 per cent want to make teaching their career.

The Peace Corps placement officer remarked that "one group of Volunteers who served in Africa is now making plans to serve migrant workers in this country by developing a mobile school." When the Peace Corps was established to assist Volunteers returning from overseas with educational and vocational programs, the Service also serves as a focal point to which opportunities for returning Volunteers may be directed by educational institutions and by employers both public and private.

Corps Seeks...

(Continued from page 1)

The Corps has provided Volunteers with intensive language training in more than 40 foreign languages. The "Corps' only real language requirement," said Pagano, "is that Volunteers have the initiative and intelligence to learn one if his assignment calls for it. We don't consider Volunteers is a school in one of the more "not that we're denying that it's a jungle. Having a twelve week deadline to become fluent in one of these unusual tongues can be a little unnerving, but most college grads have done pretty well."

Most of the Peace Corps' present expansion plans are within the 40 countries they now serve. "The expansion is more or less internal," said Pagano. "We may add school teachers." Countries where Peace Corps volunteers have been operating have now also started to get health teams and rural development work. Peace Corps officials have been turned over to their government. But a returned Volunteer's draft status is terminated. Legally he is again eligible for the draft but actually few are called. "We actually only have to start worrying about the situation is bound to improve the situation is far from the Corps has made the Peace Corps work."

"Can't guarantee anything but..." is the usual opening reply when a Peace Corps recruiter is asked the inevitable question about a returned Volunteer's draft status. Peace Corps officials who have been dealing with the problem for the past three years are the first to admit that the situation is far from clear. They do have some legal advice, however.

The act of Congress authorizing the Peace Corps specifies that "Volunteers shall be released from military obligations, many were of the opinion that such a situation would result in a rash of applicators whose only motivation was avoiding the draft."

It was decided by the Selective Service Board, however, that service in the Peace Corps was definitely "in the national interest" and so a Volunteer could legitimately request a draft deferment. This is currently being done.

When a Volunteer's service in the Corps has ended, his deferment is terminated. Legally he is officially exempted. Although some legislators have felt that Peace Corps Volunteers should be released from military obligations, many were of the opinion that such a situation would result in a rash of applicators whose only motivation was avoiding the draft.

"Congress is aware of the situation," he said, "and since the first big crop of returnees are now coming back the situation is bound to move a little more into the spotlight." Internally, Peace Corps Volunteers and staff members often take opposing views on "the draft exemption question.

"I don't want a draft exemption," said one returned Volunteer who was drafted. "I want to get to Washington. Nobody with any sense actually thinks that spending two years in some mosquito-infested jungle is easier than doing useful work, but I don't want anybody questioning my motives. I think the Volunteer feels a terrible sense of accomplishment which he might not get in the service, but still I don't think he should automatically be exempted."

Others feel differently. "When a guy comes back from a two year Peace Corps assignment he shouldn't have to worry about the draft," one Corps official said. "He's certainly earned a sacrifice and performed a service for his country. In peacetime situations where there is no draft call, I think Volunteers ought to be officially exempted."

Ironically, both sides agree that an official draft exemption would have no effect on the caliber of the Volunteer being sent overseas.

"We know what kind of motivation there is to be a Volunteer in Vietnam," said Pagano. "Frankly, anyone who is just trying to beat the draft usually doesn't get through the screening process. Even if he did, he'd probably be washed out in the first weeks of teaching."
Cooperative Effort

Cooperative Venture for Stability

Volunteers Encourage Cooperative Effort

The Peace Corps Volunteer is usually pictured with dirt under his fingernails, digging in the mud to help the lowly peon plant his crops. Actually, a large percentage of the Volunteers are involved in initiating a cooperative effort between people in areas where working together was unheard of before.

Community development, as this process is called, takes place in both villages and urban areas. It involves three steps.

First, the Volunteer must get to know the people and be accepted by them. This is described by Volunteers as one of their toughest problems because it is a relatively inactive period and they are unable to see any tangible results from their efforts. They may get to know the people by talking to them in cafes, meeting with them on the street or helping them in small chores.

The second phase consists of organizing the community to help meet its own needs. Here, the community is working on its own, albeit without any specific criteria being presented. This stage is also difficult. It may take many sessions before the Volunteer can get an orderly meeting.

In the third and final stage, the Volunteers help the community to work on its defined problem. In many foreign countries, people are accustomed to being controlled thoroughly by others, but sometimes become bored by the things they have to do. As one Volunteer said, "Our greatest enemy is the 'elaborate plan.' The idea becomes the substitute for the work and sweat that is really needed. We in the United States are a country of doers, and we like to see things happen fast; and everything is slowed down and speech-making and quickly roll up our sleeves and get to work. Our greatest efforts are spent in getting them sleeves up."

The Volunteer must get the people to believe in themselves. If the Volunteer does it himself, his time is wasted. Many Volunteers arrive in an area, and the villagers ask shortly, "Where are the bulldozers?"? The Volunteer then might tell the village to approach his own government about supplying a bulldozer. The idea is to get the people in the area to help themselves.

One example of a rural community development project was a cooperative vegetable-growing enterprise in Chile. A Volunteer talked 20 families into growing three kinds of vegetables together and marketing them together. By cooperating, they were able to rent a truck to take their harvest to town instead of each having to use his ox-cart. The profits were split with a small amount to the cooperative to keep it going.

Some of the farmers made as much from one harvest as they had made in two years working on the large, privately owned farms where they were employed.

Another project by the same Volunteer involved getting a breed sow (from CARE and splitting the resulting litter among several families. The female pigs in the litter were bred, thereby producing a litter from each female. Of this third generation, one pig was given to CARE to repay the original loan, and one was given to the cooperative.

This has been criticized in some areas as communist, but it is actually the highest form of private enterprise. Under communism, the state owns and controls everything. Under the cooperative, the farmer owns his pigs, and treats them as his own. The whole cooperative movement developed by the Volunteers could be described as a process of cooperative individualism.

Whether in urban or rural areas, the Volunteer is concerned primarily with getting the people to work on a program. He tries to develop the organization of the area so that the people will carry on after he leaves.

Although it is too early to tell with certainty, the indications are that Volunteers have been successful in their efforts, either in dealing with their own problems after two years of work with the Volunteer.

Gale, Peace Corps, Washington.

Students Assist Campus Liaisons

There are more than 500 student Peace Corps committees working with college liaison officers. Some of the larger Peace Corps committees are at the Universities of California, Kansas, Purdue, Colorado State, Oregon, Minnesota and New Hampshire.

The University of California Peace Corps Committee keeps the office open throughout the day to handle applications from prospective Volunteers. A Volunteers helps interested students set up Peace Corps committees on their campus.

Bob Gale, director of Peace Corps recruiting, said: "The active work being done by the California committee, and the fact that they are able to keep the office open throughout the day is undoubtedly one of the major reasons for the large number of Volunteers that come from California."

Other committees are presenting Peace Corps programs to local clubs, showing Peace Corps films and coordinating visits from Peace Corps personnel to the campus.

Students who are interested in setting up Peace Corps committees on their campus should write Bob Gale, Peace Corps, Washington.

James Welcome, a graduate of the University of Illinois, is a member of a community development project, in Colombia. Here he supervises brick-making, a project the local people have undertaken with the help of the Volunteers.

Peace Corps Stays In Spite of Trouble

From Panama City a worried Peace Corps field representative telegrams to the 57 Volunteers in the country asking if they were all right. And from Santa Fe, 150 miles away, came the Lancio reply: "I'm fine, thanks. And you?"

The answer is one detail in a story that is beginning to be standard in the Peace Corps: the Volunteer is rarely a victim of the daily diplomatic crisis; she can expect to continue his work virtually unhindered.

In the Panama crisis, six Volunteers were away from their sites when trouble erupted. They were escorted back to their areas by Panamanians and remained at work throughout the crisis— including the break in diplomatic relations.

In Indonesia, the story is less dramatic but as impressive. The 30 Volunteers there arrived in two groups six months apart. The first group was met by anti-American demonstrations and the second welcomed by government officials.

The Peace Corps field representatives in Indonesia, David Burgers, 25, who likes to cite the case of Medan in northern Sumatra. There, the newspapers launched a vicious attack on the Peace Corps and three Volunteer coaches.

While the editorials continued—saying that Volunteers had been ejected from many countries and that they received unscientific espionage training—the three coaches led the Medan city basketball team to the national championship and the swimming team set an Indonesian record.

Levy Sanchez, Peace Corps desk officer for Central America explains why the Volunteers is so successful: "If you have identified himself with the community, he says. "To the people he is first a member of the community and a friend, and second an American."

He is the handsome American quips, Peru, seemed to pose a danger to the Volunteers there successful project with whom he was working staged a counter demonstration supporting the Peace Corps.

Volunteers were also in Ghana, Tanganyika, Brazil, Cyprus and a dozen other African, Latin American, and Asian countries during strained or violent periods.

In the Dominican Republic, an American-born girl (she says she is the only American anyone has ever seen) and the news of a break in diplomatic relations matters to them not at all.

In Indonesia, the story is less dramatic but as impressive. The 30 Volunteers there arrived in two groups six months apart. The first group was met by anti-American demonstrations and the second welcomed by government officials.

The Peace Corps field representatives in Indonesia, David Burgers, 25, who likes to cite the case of Medan in northern Sumatra. There, the newspapers launched a vicious attack on the Peace Corps and three Volunteer coaches.

While the editorials continued—saying that Volunteers had been ejected from many countries and that they received unscientific espionage training—the three coaches led the Medan city basketball team to the national championship and the swimming team set an Indonesian record.

Levy Sanchez, Peace Corps desk officer for Central America explains why the Volunteers is so successful: "If you have identified himself with the community, he says. "To the people he is first a member of the community and a friend, and second an American."

He is the handsome American

Anti-American rioting in Arequipa, Peru, seemed to pose a danger to the Volunteers there successful project with whom he was working staged a counter demonstration supporting the Peace Corps.

Volunteers were also in Ghana, Tanganyika, Brazil, Cyprus and a dozen other African, Latin American, and Asian countries during strained or violent periods.

In the Dominican Republic, an American-born girl (she says she is the only American anyone has ever seen) and the news of a break in diplomatic relations matters to them not at all.

In Indonesia, the story is less dramatic but as impressive. The 30 Volunteers there arrived in two groups six months apart. The first group was met by anti-American demonstrations and the second welcomed by government officials.

The Peace Corps field representatives in Indonesia, David Burgers, 25, who likes to cite the case of Medan in northern Sumatra. There, the newspapers launched a vicious attack on the Peace Corps and three volunteer coaches.

While the editorials continued—saying that Volunteers had been ejected from many countries and that they received unscientific espionage training—the three coaches led the Medan city basketball team to the national championship and the swimming team set an Indonesian record.

Levy Sanchez, Peace Corps desk officer for Central America explains why the Volunteers is so successful: "If you have identified himself with the community, he says. "To the people he is first a member of the community and a friend, and second an American."

He is the handsome American

Corps Aids In Cities

There are no Peace Corps Volunteers working in Paris but not many of the 7,000 members are living in grass huts either. Many awaken to the sound of street cars and truck traffic.

"One of the most popular myths about the Peace Corps," said one official, "is that everybody is living in grass huts somewhere." Nigeria refutes this point, however. Peace Corps projects are concentrated in the six major cities. Volunteers there are teaching in secondary schools and universities. Another 25 Volunteers are working in the citysof 42,000 in eastern Nigeria.

Five hundred miles away in a small town of 1,300 Volunteers are working in one city alone—the capital, Monrovia. Minnesota's Peace Corps project at the University of Minnesota is not teaching nor giving all levels of teaching; some hold public administration jobs in the government.

On the other side of the Atlantic, in Peru, the Volunteer is again found working in the city as in the "bush." Nearly half of the Volunteers in Peru are in universities teaching courses in their field. Significant numbers of Volunteers are also assigned to cities in Venezuela and Bolivia.

In Bolivia, there are Peace Corps Volunteers in villages, but a recent survey of the American ambassadors to supplement university teaching staffs in La Paz, Santa Cruz and several other large towns. A Volunteer can expect to be sent to anything from a rural hamlet to a town of up to 10,000. Some assignments in any case are "fairly nice," according to Volunteers.

In east Africa, things are so good that drinking water need not even be boiled. Some of the people on city assignments are teaching, but they are not trained teachers. The Peace Corps does not ask its Volunteers to have experience—just alone training. Volunteers must have a bache
col and speak Spanish or a major Chinese in the field which he will teach.

One Peace Corps official added: "A Volunteer has potential teacher because they were more likely to have a good knowledge of English and able to do other things too—like glaze windows."

In east Africa, things are so good that drinking water need not even be boiled. Some of the people on city assignments are teaching, but they are not trained teachers. The Peace Corps does not ask its Volunteers to have experience—just alone training. Volunteers must have a bache
col and speak Spanish or a major Chinese in the field which he will teach.

One Peace Corps official added: "A Volunteer has potential teacher because they were more likely to have a good knowledge of English and able to do other things too—like glaze windows."

In east Africa, things are so good that drinking water need not even be boiled. Some of the people on city assignments are teaching, but they are not trained teachers. The Peace Corps does not ask its Volunteers to have experience—just alone training. Volunteers must have a bache
col and speak Spanish or a major Chinese in the field which he will teach.

One Peace Corps official added: "A Volunteer has potential teacher because they were more likely to have a good knowledge of English and able to do other things too—like glaze windows."

In east Africa, things are so good that drinking water need not even be boiled. Some of the people on city assignments are teaching, but they are not trained teachers. The Peace Corps does not ask its Volunteers to have experience—just alone training. Volunteers must have a bache
col and speak Spanish or a major Chinese in the field which he will teach.

One Peace Corps official added: "A Volunteer has potential teacher because they were more likely to have a good knowledge of English and able to do other things too—like glaze windows."
No one knew him at the University of California except Bob Stillwell, a tall, blond Californian who wants to tell underdeveloped people that he can help them realize their dreams of political development, economic growth, and a better future. Today, Bob is a Peace Corps Volunteer, a member of the first class of Peace Corps Volunteers to have completed the training program.

Bob Stillwell started the Peace Corps when he was a high school student in the United States and decided to apply for the program. He was accepted, and he spent two years in Nepal, where he worked on a program to train government officials in the principles of democracy and good governance.

Bob Stillwell's work in Nepal was part of the larger effort of the Peace Corps to help develop countries around the world. The Peace Corps was established in 1961 by President John F. Kennedy to provide a volunteer program that would help people in developing countries with over 100,000 volunteers from the United States.

The Peace Corps was designed to be a forward-thinking, experimental program that would provide a unique opportunity for Americans to work abroad and make a difference in the world. The program was intended to be a long-term commitment, with volunteers typically serving for two years.

In the years since its inception, the Peace Corps has had a significant impact on the lives of individuals and communities around the world. Peace Corps volunteers have worked in more than 139 countries, and they have contributed to the development of schools, hospitals, and economic initiatives.

Over the years, the Peace Corps has evolved and adapted to meet the changing needs of the countries and communities it serves. Today, the Peace Corps is a global organization with a mission to promote peace and development through the work of volunteers.

The Peace Corps is still going strong, and it continues to be a vital part of the American experience. As the world changes, the Peace Corps will continue to adapt and evolve to meet the needs of the communities it serves.