



# steer

PROPERTY OF  
ACTION  
LIBRARY

Peru  
Six  
Months  
After

# Volunteer

THE PEACE CORPS VOL IX NOS 1-2 JAN-FEB 1971

Property of  
PEACE CORPS  
LIBRARY

## Correspondents:

**Bolivia:**  
William Buzenburg.  
**British Honduras:**  
Randall Morgan.  
**Chad:**  
Richard Henkle.  
**Chile:**  
Richard Feinberg  
**Dahomey:**  
John McDonald.  
**Eastern Caribbean:**  
Philip Ternahan.  
James Retter  
**Fiji:**  
Jeff Thigpen.  
**Gambia:**  
Paul Gordon.  
**Ghana:**  
Lawrence Grobel.  
**Guinea:**  
Charles T. Creecy.  
**Guyana:**  
John Coleman  
**Honduras:**  
Paul Lux.  
**Iran:**  
H. David Hoovler.  
**Ivory Coast:**  
Greg Stanton.  
**Jamaica:**  
Andrew Theokas  
**Kenya:**  
Richard Beatty.  
**Korea:**  
Aaron Gurwitz.  
**Malawi:**  
T. D. McCloskey, Jr.,  
John Shannon.  
**Mauritius:**  
Joseph B. Sander  
**Morocco:**  
Kenneth Agata,  
Roberta Prees.  
**Nepal:**  
Gordon Murray.  
**Nigeria:**  
Bob Larson.  
**Peru:**  
Lucy Conger,  
Karl Lorenz.  
**Senegal:**  
Irwin Arieff.  
**Swaziland:**  
Mike Ascolese.  
**Thailand:**  
Mike Schmucker.  
**Tonga:**  
Andre Neu.  
**Uganda:**  
Vicky Riback.  
**Uruguay:**  
William Purdy.  
**Western Samoa:**  
Dennis Tepler

## Cover

Ruined buildings in the town of Huaraz, high in the Andes, where two Volunteers were killed in the May 31 Peru earthquake.

## 6 Peru: Six Months After

by Lucy Conger

An in-depth report on Peace Corps relief and reconstruction work in that country by a Volunteer who served there.

## 14 I Was Thinking About Time: Three Poems

by Tom Spanbauer

Reflections on time by an agriculture extensionist in Kenya's Masailand.

## Departments

- 3 Letters
- 16 News
- 20 Switchboard
- 22 Survival

## Photo Credits

Bob Mathes, p. 9 (top)

James Pickerell, pp. 1, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12-13

Note: No issues of the *Volunteer* were published in November or December. This issue begins Volume IX and includes Nos. 1 and 2.

Published monthly by the Office of Public Affairs to describe, discuss and support the work of the Peace Corps.  
Peace Corps  
Washington, D.C. 20525  
John Osborn, Editor

# letters

## To the Volunteer:

I was dismayed, though sadly not surprised, at the letter from Nancy Sheehan lamenting the lack of official Peace Corps support for liberal demonstrations and causes. (*Volunteer*, May-June, 1970). It is significant that she points to no real reason why the Peace Corps should take a stand (what good would such a stand do or undo?), but only insults its staff by such name calling as "well-paid bureaucrats," "silent as . . . fat cats" who "support murder."

Except by its very existence, the Peace Corps as an organization neither formulates nor executes foreign policy. Herein lies its strength, for it is largely because of this that countries have given us the opportunity and privilege of working with their people. But now Miss Sheehan wants to make the Peace Corps an agitator for foreign policy or foreign policy change, which is the same thing. Perhaps Thailand would not welcome a Peace Corps which advocates victory for the Viet Cong. Perhaps many South American countries would not welcome a statement categorically condemning dictators. Perhaps countries of the Middle East would not welcome a Peace Corps policy statement supporting Israel. Similarly, other countries might not welcome a Peace Corps which supports the United States role in Viet Nam. The point is, the Peace Corps has a mandate to help people through education, rural and urban development, and the like. When and if it strays from this course, we may find ourselves no longer welcome, and justly so, in any capacity. I think PCV's and RPCV groups should keep this in mind.

Further, I wish to caution Miss Sheehan that if she insists too loud and too long for the Peace Corps to become politically vocal, she may find that it's voice may not always advocate her own ideals. If the Peace Corps becomes a pawn in any political movement, its service to this country and to the world will not long survive.

Edward W. Chapman  
Senior Volunteer  
Simantec, Conn.

## To The Volunteer:

In his interview with Mr. Osborn (see May-June *Volunteer*, pp. 5-13), the Director stated that the first all black

group of Volunteers was sent to Kenya last fall. Actually, of the 78 Volunteers who were selected and came to Kenya, only 16 were black.

Kenneth R. Susman  
Kapsabet, Kenya

## To The Volunteer:

I was very pleased to hear Mr. Blatchford speak out on the importance of proper planning of Peace Corps programs. I feel fortunate in belonging to a program that was fairly well planned; it has given me an opportunity to get something done within the system. On the other hand, I have met other PCVs who are having bitter experiences, not due to their own incompetence, but due to poorly-planned programs. Throwing PCVs into almost impossible situations is unfair. Complaints arising from these conditions are certainly legitimate and should be regarded as natural reactions. Not only does a poorly planned program result in frustrated PCVs, but may also damage any enthusiasm the host country nationals have concerning the development of their country. Host countries will never take Peace Corps seriously unless Volunteers are placed in workable programs which fulfill high priority needs.

Chuck Knutson  
Bhagalpur, Bihar  
India

## To Dr. Bristol:

You stated in the *Volunteer* that early terminations "(mean) a weakened program, unfilled explicit and implicit promises, and frustration for the host country government and its citizens".

I would submit that this rather devastating effect expresses rather the cause of the early termination. In far too many cases the reason for the termination is a weak program, unfilled explicit and implicit promises of both the enthusiastic Peace Corps planners and their host country counterparts and frustration on the part of nearly everyone. Often the early terminnee leaves behind no "disappointed students", his own "shattered expectations" and a position unfilled because it is in reality nonexistent.

I agree that the Peace Corps must be "capable of long-term planning and commitments" in its relations with other countries. This failure is exactly the

reason for many early terminations. I suggest the Peace Corps study more carefully the reason for the termination in order to avoid the same failures in the future. This would be infinitely better than treating the early terminnee as a failure, dooming him to serious self-doubts and regrets.

You expressed my sentiments almost exactly, "not to keep a contract is a 'failure' for the Peace Corps" to the individual who Volunteers as well as to the host country. There is a two-way road here that you seem to have overlooked.

Toni Sue Owen  
Aracaju, Sergipe  
Brasil

## To The Volunteer:

Once again it appears that Peace Corps has called upon its professional psychiatric staff not for the purpose of rendering useful psychiatric counseling, but to administer the organization an enema. As usual the material to be expelled from the body politic was a human being, complete with thoughts, feelings, and emotions. I refer to the letter of Glenn N. Powers Jr. in the May-June issue on his early termination (see pg. 3—Ed.)

Mr. Powers committed what appears to be an unpardonable sin in the view of Peace Corps. In the main, he rationalized his Peace Corps experience, including his early termination, as a meaningful, positive experience. This he did instead of expressing a death wish, cursing the day he was born, or walking about with an abject expression to conceal the "mark of Cain" upon his forehead that Peace Corps attitudes often place there, especially on the early terminnee.

Is Dr. Bristol unaware of the reality of why so many Volunteers fail? One of the reasons is clear and simple. It is because the Peace Corps administration fails. An early terminnee cannot possibly leave behind disappointed students, shattered expectations, and an unfilled position where none existed in the first place. Many so-called programs are the work of zealous directors, deputies, and training officers who get a wild scheme, sell it in-country to some poor bureaucrat, and persuade Peace Corps Washington, which also seeks to perpetuate itself,

that they have just what Country X needs to better itself.

Dr. Bristol says, "To establish a credibility and to become a sophisticated organization committed to meaningful binational work on serious programs in the developing countries, we must be capable of long-term planning and commitments."

I agree wholeheartedly, and can only hope that Peace Corps will gain this capability in the near future, for the sake of its Volunteers as well as the underdeveloped nations we are supposed to be aiding.

Bob McMahon  
Lima, Peru

#### To The Volunteer:

As I am responsible for liaison with Peace Corps Volunteers working with the Fiji Department of Agriculture, I read the letter from Glenn Powers, Jr. in your May-June issue with considerable interest.

I don't have any comments on Glenn's personal view of his service here except to say that we were sorry to lose him. Yet, I would like to add to his remarks that, from a host country's point of view, the Volunteer who recognizes for whatever reason that he is not going to be happy and productive and decides to opt out is far preferable to the Volunteer who is miserable and misplaced but insists on 'sticking it out' in the false belief that he might let someone down by terminating.

Derek J. Robinson  
Senior Agricultural Officer  
Department of Agriculture  
Suva, Fiji Islands

#### To The Volunteer:

A true testament to the distance between the Volunteer staff in Washington and the field can be found in the Survival column of the July-August issue. How can the Volunteer attest to its credibility when it comes up with gems for survival like the following:

1. "Wear a seat belt anytime you are traveling in a motor vehicle: there is now clear evidence that seat-belts prevent death, even in collisions at speeds in excess of 60 miles per hour."

Where and in what does your author

think Volunteers are traveling? Down Pennsylvania Avenue in a 1970 Continental? Seat belts are just beginning to be introduced in European cars, let alone in the monuments to endurance that travel the roads of West Africa. As a Volunteer travels along, sandwiched between 100 lb. rice bags, banana stalks, goats, chickens, and as many occupants as a driver can squeeze in a typical money bus or lorry (the main source of transportation for the people and Volunteers in West Africa), where would your author suggest a Volunteer look for a seat belt? Attached to the wooden bench upon which one is precariously lodged? In our stay in Liberia, plus extensive travel throughout West Africa, we cannot testify to the existence of one seat belt.

2. "Make sure that vehicles you use are properly maintained: there is a strong suspicion among many in Washington that Peace Corps vehicles . . . are not getting regular and proper servicing."

Who are you kidding? Excepting the Peace Corps vehicle that is under three weeks of age, we have yet to see a vehicle that would be seriously considered by a junk dealer for parts, let alone pass a state highway patrol inspection. When one is two days away from the nearest source of parts and supplies, one is only too glad that the scotch tape, string, cardboard, and vasoline allow the vehicle to run . . . let alone stop or steer.

Come on. You can do better than that.  
Edwin and Susan Falkman  
Former Volunteers  
Chicago, Ill.

#### Dr. Clapp comments:

I hope our Volunteers in the field read "Survival" as carefully as Ed and Sue read it in Chicago.

We recognize that our people are not driving down Pennsylvania Avenue in Continentals. We also recognize that it is not possible to make everyone safe. We don't think much of posters or slogans. What we really want is for people to notice and think about accident prevention, and that is exactly what Ed and Sue did.

Roger W. Clapp, M.D.  
Director, Office of Medical Programs

#### To The Volunteer:

Recently a questionnaire came to me as an RPCV. It was from the Office of Medical Programs under the signature of Thomas R. Powers, M.D., Chief Medical Officer.

This questionnaire has apparently been mailed to all RPCVs. It represents a stupid waste of time and money. In fact it is disgusting. We hear much of bureaucracy in the Peace Corps that detracts from the organization's mandate. This is a perfect example of bureaucrat irrelevant make-work.

Medical care available to Volunteers is excellent. A simple memo or an article in the Volunteer to former Volunteers would have done as much to uncover individuals eligible for post-service assistance.

There is no money to provide adequate readjustment allowance for terminating Volunteers. But there is money to collect an enormous volume of near worthless data. Why?

Bob Echele  
Former Volunteer

#### Dr. Powers replies:

While it is true that during Volunteer assignment, medical care is readily available to most PCV's we tend to lose track of what happens to them after they terminate. We do know about a small number of former Volunteers who have had serious medical problems related to their Peace Corps service up to 18 months after termination. They weren't in every case aware of their entitlement to compensation through the provisions of the Federal Employees Compensation Act (Bureau of Employees Compensation, U.S. Department of Labor).

So we've decided to find out, by using a statistically valid questionnaire, about how many people have been having problems which we were not aware of. It is essential for us to know, for example, how much tuberculosis or schistosomiasis has occurred in returned Volunteers—even though these probably amount to only a handful in number. The important part of the whole survey is to identify "unknown" illnesses in RPCV's and to make sure that if due to Peace Corps service, they are aware of their prerogative to file a claim with BEC. Perhaps it does seem to be

"bureaucratic make-work," but it's hardly irrelevant. This is our responsibility—to keep Volunteers healthy while they are overseas, and to see that they return home healthy as when they left.

The response to the questionnaire has been good. We have already identified about 20 people with health problems which they didn't know were related to their overseas living or for which they did not realize they could claim compensation.

One of the more humorous responses just came in recently. It consisted of a completed answer sheet and a note (typewritten in "computerese" on the reverse of a standard IBM punch-card. "Sirs," it read, "I removed the number. I am ever anxious to help Peace Corps, but I am also ever anxious about computerized data and its real privacy."

Well, so are we; your privacy will be maintained. But we are also concerned about your health and our ability to do something about problems related to living and working overseas. So please, let's hear from you—number or no!

Thomas Powers, M.D.  
Former Acting Director  
Office of Medical Programs

#### To The Volunteer:

I read with great interest Isaac Sam's article "Binationalism in Ghana" in the July-August issue of the *Volunteer*. In his article Mr. Sam expressed many personal feelings that I maintain with regard to Peace Corps' potential for promoting mutual understanding and for providing mutual exposure and transfer of new skills in program design and execution—recruiting, training, and supervision of Volunteers included—through a complete binational approach.

Mr. Sam states that the desire of most countries is that control and direction of what affects national destinies be in some way in the hands of nationals. He concludes with the question: "Is this too much to ask?"

I feel he has not asked for enough. Mr. Sam's appeal for binational involvement in the Peace Corps at the executive staff level does not go far enough in influencing national destinies. Binational involvement must be taken one step further and nationals of the countries in which Peace Corps is involved

must also be recruited along with Americans to serve as Volunteers.

Americans have no patent on "volunteerism". Let the ideals upon which Peace Corps was founded serve in creating programs that will continue to grow and be expanded upon long after Peace Corps as an institution disappears. Let Peace Corps continue to discern the currents of what is to come and initiate not only binational direction of its operations but also binational implementation.

James A. Kilmurray  
San Salvador, El Salvador

#### To The Volunteer:

Outsight! What a fantastic rap you editorial dudes put on. You really dig where it's at. I mean, you use such hip terms as "rap", "making it" and even current rock phrases as, "With a little help from our friends". Outsight, man!

Unfortunately, this blanket of hipness covers a corpus that seems to be an attempt to cross *Ramparts* with *Boys Life*. The product is a magazine with the punch of *Presbyterian Life*. The article, "With a Little Help From Our Friends" reads like a sophomore term paper and even ends that way—telling us "... where the action is certain to be". Shades of Dick Clark.

The story, "To Bear Witness as a Man", billed as a "classic cross-culture encounter" (sic) is as pretentious as it is poorly written. It is unnecessary in a magazine directed to current and former Volunteers. All of us have experienced numerous such encounters and know and feel what Mr. Dalby is trying to say better than he says it. The story should have been sent to President Nixon rather than the *Volunteer*.

In the "Letters" section we find two instances where the editor had to apologize for the misstatement of facts. In both cases the misrepresentations had significant bearing on the crucial question of the PCV's role as a social-political activist. The very fact these errors got into print indicates a biased editorial perspective which can only cause more despair among concerned Peace Corps people, activists or otherwise.

With such articles as "Binationalism in Ghana" there seems to be a strong note of defensiveness running through

the magazine. Despite your hip veneer of being "with it", the *Volunteer* is anything but that. Rather, it seems to have become the front defensive line for present Peace Corps policy. At this time, it is not a publication which aggressively meets and offers for consideration the gut questions of what the Peace Corps is and who should make its basic policy decisions.

Many of us feel the Peace Corps is moving gradually, yet perceptibly, from the concept of a "people to-people" organization to that of a "government to government" agency. Many of us also feel the Peace Corps administration's proper role is that of support rather than direction. Policy should most fittingly be made at the bottom of the pyramid, by the Volunteers and the people with whom they are working, only to be evaluated and suitably structured at the top. We also wonder if much reliance or faith can be put on the host country governments. These governments are often more corrupt and less responsive than our own. The idea of binational administration is good, but aren't many of them people who have been employed by their governments, whose greatest interests lie in the maintenance of the *status quo*?

These are issues we meet as Volunteers and citizens of the United States. The *Volunteer* should squarely face our deepest doubts and questions. It should examine them from all perspectives rather than provide what often seems to be a one-sided forum in defense of current policies.

There is an expression among young black people which describes whites trying to be hip and not making it: "They talk the talk but don't walk the walk". The *Volunteer* does not walk the walk. If the magazine is going to continue to present us with a gloss of hip talk and poster sketches, avoiding confrontation with the truly substantive issues, then I say, "Off the *Volunteer*".

Peer T. Lykke  
Former Volunteer  
Chicago, Illinois

# PERU

Six Months After



by Lucy Conger

Six months have passed since a devastating earthquake struck this mountainous Latin American nation in late May, but Peru continues to receive assistance from neighbors and friends throughout the world.

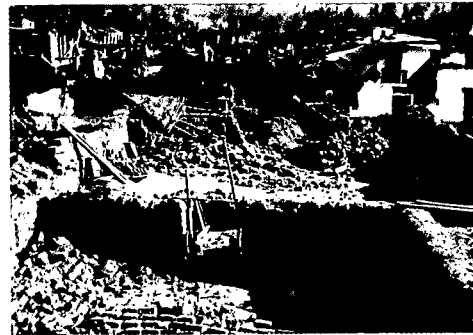
The need for immediate emergency relief has passed, but the longer, more arduous task of reconstruction has just begun. And with seasonal rains pouring down into the high, cold Andean valleys of Peru's earthquake zone, the important job of providing temporary housing for more than 500,000 homeless families is more urgent than ever.

So far the international response to the disaster has been, in the words of Volunteers here, "excellent and incredible." Medicine, blankets, food, doctors, geologists and engineers all came to Peru immediately from South Africa, West Germany, Japan, France, Russia and the United States. And the Latin American countries were especially quick to respond.

Brazil and Argentina sent planes and pilots to help carry assistance into mountain towns, some of which remained inaccessible by land for as long as two weeks following the quake. Four Argentine pilots were killed flying a relief mission into the Callejón, a narrow treacherous valley filled with tricky air currents and fenced in by chains of high Andean peaks.

Chile, which suffers periodic quakes itself, proved an especially helpful *país hermano* (brother country). A week following the disaster, the Chilean representative to the United Nations, José Pinera, asked Secretary General U Thant to call an extraordinary session of the Plenary Committee of the Economic Commission for Latin America (CEPAL) to plan emergency assistance. Three days later, on June 10, he also called a meeting of Latin American delegates to the United Nations to plan for the anticipated CEPAL meeting. As a result of these immediate gestures, the United Nations acted quickly to grant the largest assistance package ever given to a disaster-stricken country.

Chile also sent food and set up a fully-equipped field hospital in the coastal town of Casma. Chileans organized a national collection for earthquake victims, air dropping leaflets over Santiago publicizing the campaign and recessing



*Damage to towns and cities in the quake zone was extensive. In Huaraz (above), capital of the stricken Callejón de Huaylas in the Andes, 90 per cent of the buildings were destroyed. At left, villagers in a settlement not far from Huaraz install new metal roofing over their homes.*

all public schools for a day to allow children to solicit funds.

Other countries, of course, also helped out. The Organization of American States (OAS) donated \$250,000. The United States pitched in with \$10 million. The Inter-American Development Bank approved a \$35 million loan to help cover reconstruction work over the next three years. The Russians sent three helicopters and a field hospital. And food poured in from donors throughout the Western hemisphere.

#### **Unprecedented Support**

There were also unprecedented symbolic expressions of support. Mrs. Richard Nixon and Director Joseph Blatchford visited the mountain areas in June, bringing with them tons of food stockpiled on the West Coast by returned Volunteers and other helpers from the Los Angeles area. And Sra. Karen de Figueres, wife of the President of Costa Rica, flew into Peru in mid-September to personally deliver material relief supplies from her country.

Like other international agencies which maintain on-going programs in Peru, the Peace Corps was on the scene and able to respond almost immediately when the disaster struck. On the second day after the quake, Lima Volunteers began running a shuttle between the capital and damaged coastal towns, all of which were still accessible by land despite damage to the Pan-American Highway. Working closely with Peruvian Ministries and agencies like Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and Church World Service (CWS), the Volunteers were able to transport radios and Peruvian ham operators into Casma, Chimbote and Huaramey—several of the hardest hit coastal centers. They also carried at least 10 carloads of food supplies to the damaged zone. Volunteer Lorene Cook, working with Catholic Relief, set up four field kitchens in Casma and other coastal centers beginning June 5. Since that time, she and Lima Volunteer Colette Schulte have traversed the entire damaged zone investigating potential projects—such as production cooperatives and agricultural works—which could be financed through United States donations.

Rick Frohmader, Peru Director of Church World Service, says that the Peace Corps did a "tremendous job" of coordinating and helped make the work of other voluntary agencies more effective.

Furthermore, says Frohmader, the Peace Corps "proved that it was a field-oriented, competent and flexible organization."

With the arrival of the first of 23 ex-Volunteer nurses who came from the States in mid-June, and the purchase of 10 pick-up trucks, the Peace Corps initiated a more concerted assistance campaign. Volunteers were mobilized from all over Peru, and divided into four-man teams composed of a driver, a nurse, a social worker and a generalist. The teams were sent out to penetrate the upper reaches of the coastal valleys and mountain areas. Their mission was to vaccinate people against typhoid, transfer the wounded to hospitals, census the damage suffered by remote *pueblos*, report community needs to the Peace Corps Disaster Office, and otherwise assist the stricken towns. Some of these teams were helicoptered into inaccessible Andean areas.

An additional Peace Corps program swung into operation in mid-July when 11 physical and occupational therapists arrived from the States to work at the well-equipped, but crowded, National Rehabilitation Institute opened on June 30 outside Lima to treat amputees and disabled victims.

#### **Emergency Housing**

By then most of the nurses and the 46 Peru Volunteers mobilized for immediate assistance programs had retired from the earthquake zone. At that point, the Peace Corps' efforts—along with those of Peruvian and international agencies—began to center almost exclusively on housing construction. Thirty former Volunteers—engineers, architects and constructionists—arrived to work for two to four months in reconstruction programs. Nine Volunteers, also constructionists, came from Colombia, Ecuador, Venezuela and Chile to complete their two-year terms working in the disaster zone. With several Peru Volunteers, these construction technicians have been working with *Cooperación Popular* (COOPOP), a division of the Peruvian Housing Ministry created in 1964 to service the infrastructure development of rural areas. Under the "disaster plan" of the government's Commission of Reconstruction and Rehabilitation of the Affected Zones (CRYRZA), COOPOP has been assigned the responsibility of providing emergency shelters and of

mounting reconstruction programs in the stricken rural areas.

Marco Campos, a civil engineer and coordinator of Peace Corps architect and engineer programs in Peru, has been working with CRYRZA since the disaster, and is impressed with the "openness and willingness to listen" of the Ministerial-level Commission.

Margaret Lorber, head of the Council of International Voluntary Agencies in Peru, is equally complementary. "The Peruvian agencies have done a fantastic job of laying the groundwork for reconstruction," she told me in September after visiting the Callejón. "They have taken censuses in communities, surveyed damages and prepared extensive reports, and now the agencies running reconstruction programs know where to send the incoming technical, material and financial assistance."

#### **Operación Techo**

Virtually all of the construction Volunteers in Peru have been working to promote the government's *Operación Techo* (Operation Room), a program aimed to provide technical assistance and 20 square meters of roofing material to families in rural areas who are rebuilding their homes. Most of the new housing is being made of *adobe*, as before. Although other materials, such as wood, are more resistant, and therefore preferable for seismic zones, they are either not available or prohibitively expensive.

Collapsed corners are one of the most frequently observed structural failures among houses built of *adobe*. So COOPOP engineers, working with Volunteer builders, are attempting to teach the technique of fixing wooden beams atop the walls and around the corners of houses now being rebuilt in the disaster area. These beams would act to hold the roof together in the event a corner collapsed in a future quake.

In addition, building supervisors are also encouraging people to install wood columns fixed in concrete foundations for added security, and to use light, corrugated metal sheets for roofing—*calaminas*—instead of the traditional fired tiles which have covered homes for centuries.

Bill Daley, a civil engineer and former Volunteer, worked for three months in Huaylas as a consultant to the Peace Corps. In September, he told me that "Things are under control, and houses



are going up in the Callejón."

But the huge problem, he added, was that of "not having the necessary materials," particularly *calaminas*. Although tons of aluminum roofing arrived in Lima in October from Australia, Japan, Germany and the United States, it must now be sent over rain-soaked roads to the Callejón and distributed to people there. And that will take time.

Supervision of construction is proceeding at a rapid pace in the small, dispersed farming settlements which dot the fertile Andean slopes of the Callejón and other inland regions. During his two months of reconstruction work in the Huaraz area, Bill Rossignol, a former Peru Volunteer, was able to assist in the construction of 750 *adobe* homes which did receive *calaminas*. He also helped build many other houses which still await roofing materials. As a temporary measure, the roofless homes are being covered with eucalyptus branches and porous *maguay* leaves, which are the only available plants for making thatch covers.

In Huaraz, capital and largest city in the Callejón, the reconstruction picture is different. A town of 30,000 inhabitants before the quake, Huaraz was 90 percent destroyed. It is a city which has suffered numerous natural disasters. As recently as 1941, a small section of the town was relocated nearby after having been leveled by an avalanche. Although in the past, disaster-stricken towns have been rebuilt on their original sites, this pattern is now being broken. No reconstruction work is being undertaken in Huaraz—or in any of the destroyed large population centers—until the government's CRYRZA, advised by geologists studying soil conditions, seismic conditions and the like, decide where the new Huaraz and other cities can be safely located.

#### Tents and Prefabs

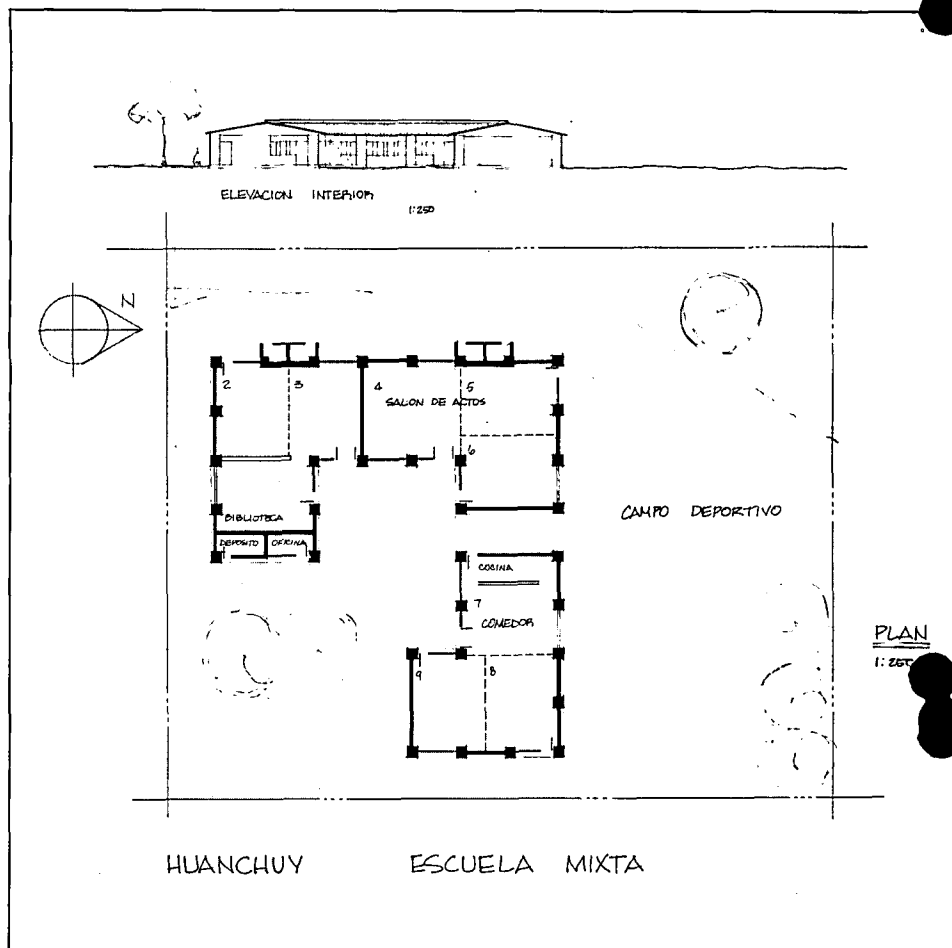
Fortunately, the residents of Huaraz, Caraz and other large mountain communities received a sufficient number of tents to provide their residents with makeshift shelter. But the tents do not provide adequate protection from the wind, and many of them leak at the seams. The Housing Ministry has already built temporary, steel-frame, multi-family lodges with pasteboard walls and metal roofs intended to last for two years in Huaraz and other cities. Once this



Active and former Volunteers worked on numerous projects throughout Peru in the months following the quake. Mary Austen, top, of Seattle, was one of several physical therapists sent to Lima rehabilitation centers by the Peace Corps to help treat victims. Other Volunteers, like Eugene Nutt, left, have been working with local officials to plan new towns. And some, like Phillip Jones, above, who served with the Peace Corps for three years in Guatemala, are erecting prefabricated, temporary lodges in semi-rural settlements to provide shelter through the winter.

need for temporary lodging in mountain regions is met, the Ministry will build similar housing facilities in the coastal cities of Chimbote, Casma and Huarney. But Peru's President, General Juan Velasco Alvarado, estimates that will take at least two years.

While shelter is needed immediately, reconstruction efforts are not limited to housing. The clearing and reconstruction of roads has been and remains one of the most important and urgent activities in the area. The entire infrastructure of the coastal and mountain regions has been affected. Irrigation systems, vital to farming communities and cities alike, have been interrupted or blocked by earth slippage and openings. Approximately 50,000 *hectáreas* (roughly 125,000 acres) of the coast were left without water for periods of up to 60 days after the quake, destroying 2,000 metric tons of rice. Corn production was disrupted, causing a shortage of chicken feed. Other important staple and cash crops were damaged or ruined. Some of the installations for processing sugar cane, a major coast export, were



John O'Brien's basic design for an easy-to-build school complex provides for three large classrooms, an administration office, and a storage room (see drawing above).

But the applications of the design are unlimited.

"I see it as a very flexible thing, O'Brien says.

"Envision (the building) as a steel cage where you can plug in doors, windows, and walls anywhere, and you can make it into anything you want," says O'Brien.

"The structure has an eight-meter span," he adds, "so that within the frame you can

accommodate any form of municipal building except a large auditorium."

In towns where all facilities have been destroyed, the pre-fabricated module could easily be adopted for use as a health center, city hall or an office. Two modules can be joined in at least six different ways, and the combination of additional modules allows for even greater variations in the structure.

Prospects are good that the design will be used for structures other than schools. COOPOP, the Housing Ministry, and Church World Service have all expressed an interest in using the plan for their projects.

*The disaster's legacy: thousands of injured and orphaned children. In the days following the quake, many were sent to a converted recreation center on the outskirts of Lima for treatment.*

amaged, slowing not only production but also the government's one-year-old agrarian reform program.

At the Huallanca electric station, which supplies power to all of the Callejón and to the population centers on the coast, the dam was broken by the earthquake. All electricity is now provided by motors. Chimbote's steel plant—the only one in the country—is seriously damaged. The fish meal industry centered in Chimbote, the largest fishing port in the world, has suffered a serious setback due to damages to its processing plants. Public buildings are down. In Chimbote, 90 percent of the schools are unusable, in Trujillo, 150 classrooms must be rebuilt, and in other communities the needs are as great.

Bob Tatgenhorst, Lima education Volunteer, and John O'Brien, architect and ex-Peru Volunteer, are working to meet some of the demand for new schools. Since the earthquake struck, Bob has been working full-time on the eastern side of the Cordillera Negra, the coastal mountain chain, visiting small, farming communities to investigate possible school partnership sites. To date, seven projects have been approved. Most of the school sites are agricultural settlements of about 700 inhabitants. Three of the approved schools will be constructed on *hacienda* land donated by the proprietor.

"A precedent is being set here in the construction of these new buildings," says Tatgenhorst. "For the first time, the *hacendados* (big land owners) are normalizing the transferral of their land to the Ministry of Education."

"In the past," he says, "*hacendados* permitted their agricultural workers to build schools on *hacienda* land, but the property never officially passed to school authorities through the legal channels."

#### **Schools for Today**

In order to enable school construction to proceed quickly, John O'Brien has designed a structure containing 440 square meters (about 4600 sq. ft.) of floor space (See drawing on pg. 10). O'Brien's specifications call for the building to be constructed of *adobe* walls and a number of pre-fabricated components—a basic steel frame to be added support to the *adobe*, a metal roof, window frames and wooden doors. All of these elements, says O'Brien, can be purchased in Lima for about \$1300 and shipped to a construc-

tion site as a package. Communities can then clear their own school sites, make *adobe* brick, assemble the prefabricated package, erect brick walls and lay a floor. The brick walls in O'Brien's plan do not give any support to the building. That is provided by the steel frame. The walls serve merely as curtains, or room dividers.

"I'm developing the module as a system," O'Brien says, "to provide flexibility, economy and ease of supervision. Since the structure has a fixed budget, administrative work for the school projects will be cut to a minimum. The community contribution will be purely material, as opposed to financial, making the design highly economical for the damaged towns. And the ease and speed with which the module can be built will enable me to work on more sites than would ordinarily be possible."

The time factor is very important to the affected communities. While schools are urgently needed, community residents cannot dedicate themselves to long-term construction because they must also build houses, restore irrigation canals and work their fields. The pre-fab structure is ideally suited to their situation.

At the moment, the approved monies for Tatgenhorst's projects have come from the Peace Corps' School Partnership funds. A Peace Corps Relief fund of \$4,000—most of which was raised by Peru PCVs Herb Payne, and Paul and Joyce Killebrew, whose families and friends made donations—will be used in the mountain town of Corongo for rebuilding its National School, using four modules in an open plan.

"Our work in building schools will be the best of all our projects," predicts Marco Campos, staff coordinator of Peace Corps construction programs in Peru, "due to the plans and interest of COOPOP and the Ministry of Education." And it is probable, he adds, that the United States-based Peru Earthquake Relief Committee (PERC) will contribute heavily to School Partnership funds, enabling the Peace Corps to play an even more significant role in rebuilding schools.

The work of another former Volunteer, Russell Ogawa, a city planner, has also been important in Peru's coastal reconstruction effort. For the past two months, Ogawa has been working with the Ministry of Vivienda in Trujillo. He has pre-



*A major problem in the rebuilding effort is the distribution of tons of materials donated by foreign governments to remote villages. Above, Peruvians in the Callejón who have picked up metal roofing sheets at a government supply point in Raquia, carry them over steep and narrow mountain paths to their home sites. On next page, the final product: new quake-proof buildings in the village of Mayao.*

pared a design for the new city of Virú, an agricultural town near Trujillo which was totally destroyed by the quake, and it has been declared a model for other cities by the government's CRYRZA.

City planners will be very much in demand in the next several years in Peru. On September 23, CRYRZA announced a \$79 million plan to relocate the city of Chimbote 10 kilometers south of its present site. The plan is to move 150,000 persons—virtually the entire population—to the new location. Installation of infrastructure facilities and reconstruction of the city is planned to last five years. The steel plant and fish meal factories, Chimbote's major industries, will remain at their present sites, but all residential and public facilities will be moved. The reconstruction site is an area which can accommodate a million persons—the estimated population of Chimbote by the year 2000.

At present, nine Volunteers are working on a special, urgent COOPOP program in the Callejón and nearby mountain areas, installing prefabricated lodges for 2,800 families in various semi-rural settlements. The COOPOP goal is to complete construction of this housing within the next six weeks. The Volunteers have been asked to organize the communities, distribute construction tasks among town residents and supervise the construction of thirty to fifty lodges at each site. Due to the short-term nature of this project, Peace Corps was able to meet COOPOP's request for personnel by temporarily placing with COOPOP six Volunteers sent to Peru on September 21 to work with cooperatives.

The long-range thrust of Peace Corps' work in the disaster zone will be in the area of reconstruction. At present, 24 Volunteers—four architects, four civil engineers and 16 carpenter-constructionists—are training in the Virgin Islands for two-year assignment with COOPOP. According to Marco Campos, the Peace Corps plans to bring many more such technicians to Peru in the months ahead.

The new group is scheduled to arrive on site in mid-January, at the height of the rainy season. "This will be the great lesson," says Campos. "We want them to arrive while it is raining heavily so that they will understand the problem of the rain, and apply this knowledge to their design and supervision of construction."





Since building activity is not feasible at this time, the Volunteers will be able to get to know their colleagues and area without losing construction time. The construction group will be divided into five teams. Each of the architects will be assigned to a zonal COOPOP office to design buildings and infrastructure facilities. The civil engineers will work over a large area, and will carry out on-site supervision of the construction of roads, culverts, irrigation canals, bridges and the like. The carpenter-constructionists will work in a single small town of about 5,000 inhabitants. They will organize people and supervise community participation in the construction of buildings and other facilities at their site. The civil engineers and architects will be expected to assist this community-level work when necessary, and the constructionists will provide their introduction to the towns. Campos expects that, "over a two-year period, the constructionists should be able to work in two or three small towns, passing to a new site when the reconstruction of one has been completed."

Despite the incredibly extensive damage and destruction suffered throughout northwest Peru, Bill Daley feels that, in the long run, it can be a good thing.

"Part of the effort being made at the national level," he says, "is to upgrade the quality of infrastructure and services to the disaster area so that, at the end of the reconstruction period—within five years—there will have been an improvement in these facilities."

A great many nations, agencies and individuals—Peace Corps among them—will be working for the next several years to improve the quality of services to the earthquake victims. It is a sincere hope that their efforts will, somehow, make things up to the amputee whose sole remark to a priest inquiring about pain in his leg was, "I lost all of my harvest."

*Lucy Conger served for two years as a rural community development and agriculture extension worker in Peru. She also worked on that country's Council of International Voluntary Agencies.*

*During the days following the May 31 earthquake, Lucy joined vaccination teams working in the stricken Calléjon Valley.*

*She terminated her service with the Peace Corps in November, 1970.*



**Was Thinking  
About Time:  
Three Poems**  
by Tom Spanbauer

June 1969  
Walden, USA

I will leave when goodbye  
    rolls her leg against mine  
With each breath I feel her moving  
    nearer tic toc tic toc  
I advance  
    apprehensive wanting needing I seek  
    her siren variety  
    yet fearing ignorant I clutch  
    the safe familiar  
Soon though  
    she will touch me with her sundial hands  
    and the sands  
    of the hourglass will sift my being  
    through the wrinkled hours between  
    seconds.

January 28, 1970  
Hunter's Lodge, Kenya

I was thinking about time  
    how long it was  
    what is it  
    why is it  
    where is it  
        out there?  
        in here?  
    conscious  
    unconscious  
    felt not  
    comprehended  
Maybe time is me or  
    I am time  
        old  
        young  
        middle-aged  
Now then always  
never after before  
during  
    is  
    was  
        will be  
I was thinking about time  
    my clock says 9:30  
    it's high time  
    my how the time flies  
    what time is it  
    once upon a time  
    wait a minute  
    a second  
    minute  
        hour  
        day  
        week  
        month

year  
 two  
 ten  
 hundred  
 How many hours must one have  
 to be old  
 Who knows the secret  
 of the second  
 Is an hour of pain  
                                  longer  
 than an hour without  
 a moment of joy  
 a life of sorrow  
                                  relative or  
                                  absolute  
 A watched pot never boils  
  
 was thinking about time  
 and I turned to  
                                  wise        men  
 beauty of the hour  
 a heartbeat  
 position of the earth  
 struts and frets his hour  
 $E = mc^2$   
 a child  
 a boy  
 a man  
                                  father  
                                  grand  
                                  great and  
 birth  
 sex  
 life  
 sex  
 death  
 sex  
 infinity  
                                  time

                                 what is it?  
 Then a man (instant)  
                                  a singing man  
                                  a loudly singing man  
 I heard approaching  
                                  he grew louder  
                                  he came nearer  
                                  decade  
                                  loudest  
                                  nearest  
                                  century  
                                  fainter  
                                  leaving  
                                  aeon  
                                  it's silent  
                                  now  
                                  he's gone  
  
 Infinity and Eternity are always punctual.

February 9, 1970  
 Kiboko, Kenya  
  
 I sit here with the oily-fingered flies  
                                  swatting away the hours  
                                  salving my mind with  
                                  buzzing poetry and illusion  
 I stick here to my skin  
                                  pinching ticks  
                                  smashing bugs  
                                  greasy gobs of goo  
                                  scratching my last night's  
                                  remnants of relief  
 Me and my thumbnail  
                                  bite and pull  
                                  chastise and tear at  
                                  the bloody stumps of time  
                                  and  
                                  I give myself the comfort  
                                  of remember when  
                                  and maybe someday  
 controlling the need to run  
                                  as I trudge across  
                                  the starchy marsh merkin  
                                  called  
                                  today.

# news

## **Nixon Will Ask Merger of VISTA, Peace Corps in New Volunteer Agency**

In an open speech to American youth, President Nixon has said he will ask the 92nd Congress to establish a new "volunteer service corps" agency in Washington, combining the administrative operations of the Peace Corps, VISTA, and other existing federal volunteer programs.

He also said he will ask present Peace Corps Director Joseph H. Blatchford, "one of the ablest young men I have ever known," to head the new organization.

Announcement of the merger proposal came in a talk by the President at the University of Nebraska on Jan. 14.

In his speech, the President said there could no longer be a generation gap in the United States.

"There has been too much emphasis on the differences between generations," he said. "There has been too much of a tendency (by) my generation to blame all of your generation for the excesses of a few."

Nixon called for the building of "an alliance between generations," pledged to fight problems of overpopulation, education, technological displacement, racial bias, and environmental pollution. And he said his Administration would search for ways to "enlist the dedication and idealism of young Americans who want to serve their fellow man."

It was at this point that Nixon revealed his plan for a merger of Volunteer agencies (see opposite page).

He said such a merger would give young Americans "an expanded opportunity for the service they want to give—and it will give them what they do not now have offered them—a chance to transfer between service abroad and service at home."

"As we free young Americans from the requirements of the draft and the war," Nixon continued, "let us open the door to voluntary service."

The exact details of the planned merger will not be known for sometime. Officials close to Blatchford are known to be working closely with the White House on a proposal for the new agency, but no date for its announcement has

yet been set.

In a special memo to staff members and Volunteers, however, Blatchford applauded the announcement as "another step in the effort to bring the American citizen into the solution of public problems through long-term service."

"We can look on this decision as an opportunity for the Volunteers of the Peace Corps to enter one more country—their own," the director added. And, without spelling out what their role might be, Blatchford said the returning Volunteer would "be called upon for a leading contribution in the new effort."

"As this country disengages from a nightmare war" he said, "it is fitting that peacetime service to mankind receive new respect and our unqualified dedication."

President Nixon now has the choice of creating the new agency by either executive reorganization or congressional legislation. The prior course gives Congress only the option of vetoing the plan within 60 days, while the latter gives legislators an opportunity to debate and revise its various provisions. No one yet knows which alternative will be chosen.

What does all this mean for the Peace Corps?

For the moment, business as usual.

Current Volunteer programs will continue unchanged. The same goes for current training programs. The agency's drive to recruit trainees for the spring and summer is well underway. Programming is proceeding along established lines for the fall and for 1972.

What about the future?

It is impossible to speculate. Obviously there will be changes. But close questioning of high agency officials by the *Volunteer* produced only the following statement:

"There is no doubt in my mind," said a senior staff member, "that the special overseas identity of the Peace Corps and the Peace Corps Volunteer will be maintained."

### **UN Votes to Establish Volunteer Development Corps**

After months of planning and debate, the United Nations General Assembly has voted to establish an international corps

of men and women to work in developing countries.

The vote was 91-0, with 12 abstentions. Operation of the new agency is scheduled to begin immediately.

The UN action, which came in mid-December, is the fulfillment of a dream long dreamed by many who have been involved in the volunteer movement since its earliest days. Though much remains to be done in the months ahead, we asked Fran Macy, head of the Peace Corps' Office of International and Special Programs in Washington, to summarize the state of the organization as of mid-January. Here is his report:

The new agency authorized by the General Assembly in December will be called United Nations Volunteers (UNVs).

A provisional UNV office was opened in New York in January. And the agency plans to begin recruiting Volunteers in April and May.

For at least the first year, most volunteers will be assigned to existing United Nations projects in the developing world. The UN supported Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is expected to make use of the largest numbers of workers during this time. The FAO has already employed more than 600 volunteers from many nations in on-going agricultural projects over the past few years.

Other agencies, such as UNESCO, UNICEF and the International Labor Organization (ILO), have also said they would like to use volunteers in their own projects.

In 1971, the UNV hopes to place about 200 volunteers overseas in eight countries. These figures could double by 1972.

A strong effort will be made to associate UN Volunteers with domestic volunteers in their countries of assignment. Many of us hope that the presence of UN Volunteers overseas will encourage the growth of national service and volunteer programs in many developing countries.

United Nations Volunteers will be programmed by host government agencies with the advice of United Nations experts. To help make best use of these workers, an advisory committee will be established in each country composed of representatives from each active national



volunteer agency and from domestic volunteer groups. The committee will advise the Resident Representative of the United Nations. But we also hope the committee will provide a forum for greater cooperation among all existing Volunteer organizations.

United Nations Volunteers will be recruited thru the International Secretariat for Volunteer Service (ISVS) and the Coordinating Committee for Volunteer Service (CoCo). The Peace Corps and its counterparts in European and Asian governments are members of ISVS, while CoCo comprises 130 privately supported volunteer and youth programs.

The United Nations will require "sponsoring organizations"—like the Peace Corps—to cover the external costs of UNVs, such as the costs of recruiting, selecting, and staging and transporting them to their country of assignment and back home. The United Nations and the host government will pay the allowances of Volunteers during their tours.

The United Nations plans to have a broad geographic representation in the volunteer agency. The Peace Corps has strongly urged that an opportunity to join the United Nations Volunteers be given to people from developing countries as well as from the more industrialized nations.

To encourage a wide distribution of nationalities in the organization, the United States will probably not provide more than 20 or 25 per cent of the volunteers. These will be recruited by the Peace Corps and by other private volunteer organizations which can afford to finance them. To help finance Volunteers from developing countries, the Peace Corps will also contribute to a specific fund established for this purpose, and will encourage other nations to do the same.

Some returned Volunteers may be eligible and qualified for service in the United Nations Volunteers, but applications cannot be submitted, reports Macy, until after April 1.

At that time, those interested should write:

Francis Macy, Director  
Office of International and Special  
Programs  
Peace Corps Washington, D.C. 20525

## Nixon: "So much is in your hands now."



*Following are excerpts from a transcript of President Nixon's speech of Jan. 14, at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln, as recorded by the New York Times through the facilities of A.B.C. News...*

—Editor

There's been too much emphasis on the differences between the generations in America. There's been too much of a tendency of many of my generation to blame all of your generation for the excesses of the violent few.

• • •

Consider the problems of overpopulation, the problems of education, the problems brought about by technology, the problems of achieving full and equal opportunity for all of our people, and health; the problems of prosperity itself, of poverty in the land of plenty. Those are just a few of the challenges that face us.

We must face them together. There can be no generation gap in America. The destiny of this nation is not divided into yours and ours—it is one destiny. We share it together, we are responsible for it together and, in the way we respond, history will judge us together.

• • •

My generation has invested all that it has, not only its love but its hope and its faith, in yours. I believe you will redeem that faith and justify that hope. I believe that, as our generations work together, as

we strive together, as we aspire together, we can achieve together, achieve great things for America and the world.

And so, let us forge an alliance of the generations. Let us work together to seek out those ways by which the commitment and the compassion of one generation can be linked to the will and the experience of another, so that we can serve America better, and America can better serve mankind.

Our priorities are really the same. Together we can achieve them. I pledge to you that, as you have faith in our intentions, we will do our best to keep faith with your hopes.

Let me cite one of the ways in which I propose to give substance to this alliance between the generations.

One thing government must do is to find more effective ways of enlisting the dedication and idealism of those young Americans who want to serve their fellow man. Therefore, I will send a special message to the 92d Congress asking that the Peace Corps, VISTA, a number of other agencies now scattered throughout the Federal Government be brought together into a new agency—a new volunteer service corps that will give young Americans an expanded opportunity for the service they want to give—and it will give them what they do not now have offered to them, a chance to transfer between service abroad and service at home.

continued

I intend to place this new agency under the dynamic leadership of one of the ablest young men I have ever known, the Peace Corps director, Joe Blatchford. And I intend to make it an agency through which those willing to give their lives and their energy can work at cleaning up the environment, combat illiteracy, malnutrition, suffering and blight either abroad or at home.

To the extent that young people respond to this opportunity, I will recommend that it be expanded to new fields, new endeavors. For I believe that government has a responsibility to ensure that the idealism and willingness to contribute of our dedicated young people can be put to constructive use.

As we free young Americans from the requirements of the draft and of the war, from the requirements of forced service, let us open the doors to voluntary service. And, for those who want to serve but cannot devote their full time, the new center for voluntary action will open new opportunities for millions of Americans of all ages, to the extent they wish to contribute their time, their talents, their hearts to building better communities, a better America, a better world.

The whole history of democracy in this country is a chronicle of the constant broadening of the power to participate. Each new group receiving the franchise has had a beneficial effect on the course of America. Each new group has given freshness and vitality to the purposes of government. And now it's your turn to do the same.

So much is in your hands now. To those who have believed the system would not be moved, I say try it. To those who have thought that the system was impenetrable, I say there's no longer a need to penetrate—that door is open.

### **New Reorganization Plan Brings Changes to Washington Staff**

Desks are rolling through the halls of Washington headquarters again in the wake of a new staff reorganization and cutback.

Two large offices have been eliminated and their functions distributed elsewhere. And 75 members of staff have been laid off, with further reductions expected before June 30.

The new plan is the result of a special task force headed by NANESA Regional Director Bill Dyal and convened last fall after reports from abroad indicated Peace Corps countries were still not getting adequate support from Washington.

The group presented a final report to Deputy Director Tom Houser in November, and a new reorganization plan followed December 3.

The cut-back in personnel, however, came after the Task Force had presented its report, and was occasioned by a lower appropriation from Congress than had been anticipated by agency officials (see story below, "Congress Approves \$90 Million for Peace Corps.")

Basically, the new Washington structure gives greater authority to the agency's four regional offices—Africa, Latin America, East Asia and the Pacific, and North Africa, the Near East and South Asia.

The two offices eliminated are: Program Development, Evaluation and Research (PDER) and Training Support (OTS).

A new Office of Evaluation reporting directly to Joe Blatchford has been established to "objectively review" the effectiveness of Peace Corps work at home and abroad.

Other functions handled previously by the abolished offices have been assigned to the regions.

Each region will now have a Division of Operations—comprising the country desk officers—and a new Division of Programs and Training, staffed by assistants "who will have . . . development, review and approval responsibilities for the programs, projects and training for several countries. . . ."

Other changes:

\*A *Program and Training Council* is established, reporting to the Deputy Director and responsible for counseling him on "program directions, program issues, the priority ranking of projects, and the allocation of scarce skills throughout the Peace Corps."

\*A *Language Council* is established, charged to develop agency-wide language policies and practices.

\*The *Division of Information Resources*, (IRD), which has done so much to provide technical support to Volunteers over

the years, is shifted to the Program and Training Council. Its assigned function is to "maintain an available supply of books, pamphlets, films and materials for the support of the program and training functions (of the council)."

\*A *Policy and Planning Board* is established, reporting to the Director, to do long-range planning for the Peace Corps as it encounters new problems and opportunities in the coming years.

In his memo to staff members announcing the reorganization, Tom Houser acknowledged the changes would mean "personal hardship" for some. But he said the changes would do much to "improve the performance of Peace Corps Washington" and enable the agency to better support "the overseas staff and Volunteers' work" in Peace Corps-served countries around the world.

### **Congress Approves \$90 Million for Peace Corps**

In the closing weeks of the 91st Congress, the Senate and House both acted to approve a \$90 million appropriation to cover Peace Corps expenditures in FY1971 (July 1, 1970 through June 30, 1971).

The amount is \$8.8 million below the initial request sent to the Hill by President Nixon in January, 1970, and \$4.5 million below a revised request submitted to the Senate Appropriations Committee by Deputy Director Tom Houser in July.

The final appropriation includes \$30 million to cover administrative expenses and \$300,000 for the support of international and multi-national volunteer programs.

The immediate impact of the reduced funding has been to force cutbacks in personnel and administrative expenditures in Washington.

But that will have no effect on Peace Corps programs overseas, agency officials say.

### **Houser Moves to FCC**

Thomas J. Houser, who served as Deputy Director of the Peace Corps for nearly two years, has been appointed to the five-member Federal Communications Commission (FCC) by President Nixon.

He began work at his new job on Jan. 5.

During his 20 months at the Peace Corps, the 40-year-old Chicago lawyer was known as a tough administrator. He presided over a substantial reorganization of the agency's Washington offices in the months following his June, 1969 appointment. He traveled widely visiting many Volunteer countries, and, more recently, backed further administrative changes in Washington designed to give greater support to Peace Corps programs abroad.

He always regarded himself as a "practical idealist," a term recalling the earliest days of the Peace Corps.

In the final memo to the staff, Houser wrote: "... an idea, a concept, in and of itself, is not enough."

"At times," he said, "I have found among us a certain disdain for the practical or efficient approach."

But he added: "The Peace Corps is the most successful volunteer organization created by any people at any time. I feel privileged to be among you. . . . Only as I leave would I dare tell you what a great group of people you are."

A successor to Houser has not yet been appointed, though the list of candidates is reportedly long.

In the interim, Kevin O'Donnell, a former Korea country director and current chief of the agency's Office of Administration and Finance, will serve as Acting Deputy.

### Three New Regional Directors Named

New directors for three of the regional offices in Washington have been appointed by Director Blatchford. They are:

- \*Hank Raullerson, former Kenya country director, appointed to head the Africa region.
- \*Ron Dunton, former special assistant to Blatchford who helped coordinate Peace Corps relief to Peru, to head Latin America.
- \*Phil Waddington, former Philippines country director, to head the East Asia and Pacific offices.

Former regional directors Walter Carrington of Africa and Caleb Roehrig of Latin America have accepted new jobs outside of the Peace Corps. Former East Asia and Pacific Director Joe Kennedy will remain at Peace Corps for a few months as a special assistant for higher education.

## Photo Contest: You Can Still Win

The Tenth Anniversary Volunteer Photo Contest announced in the last issue of this magazine (see Sept.-Oct. *Volunteer*, pg. 26) has now been extended until the end of April, according to contest coordinator Susan Biddle.

The contest is open to all active and former Peace Corps Volunteers, and is planned as part of the agency's Tenth Anniversary celebrations scheduled for next Spring.

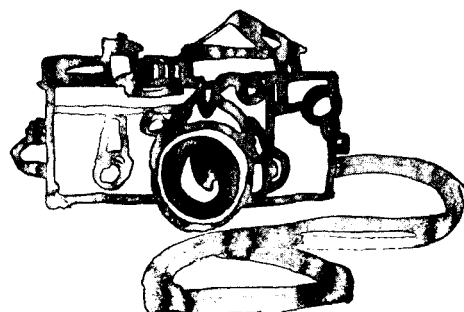
Although the dates have been changed, Miss Biddle tells us, the rules and guidelines remain the same as before.

Judges will be announced in a future issue of the *Volunteer*, along with a list of prizes. Among the prizes donated privately to the contest to date are a Nikkormat camera with 50 mm. lens, a light meter, a slide viewer and mounted prints of a winner's negatives.

All entries should be packed carefully between sheets of cardboard and—under the revised deadlines—must be mailed to reach Washington headquarters on or before April 30, 1971. Judging will now be done in May and the winning entries will be enlarged and mounted for exhibition throughout the United States. All finalists and winners will retain full rights to their photo entries.

For those of you who missed them last time, here are the contest rules:

- All photo entries must reflect in some way your Peace Corps experience and must have been taken during your term of service overseas. Only Peace Corps Volunteers and returned Volunteers are eligible.
- Photos may be submitted in either or



both of the following categories:

### I. Black and White.

- 8 x 10-inch prints must be submitted.
- Your name, address, and the date and place your photo was taken must appear on the back of each entry.
- Photo entries may be developed and printed by a photofinisher or the entrant. No composite pictures—such as multiple printing or montages—are eligible. No artwork or retouching of prints or negatives is permitted.
- Negatives should not be submitted. Prints will be returned. Winners' negatives will be borrowed for preparation of a photo exhibit.

### II. Color.

- Color transparencies or prints may be submitted as color photos.
- Transparencies must be originals and must be mounted between cardboard, plastic or metal frames.
- Color prints must measure approximately 8 x 10 in.
- Your name, address and date and place the photo was shot, must appear on the back of each print or cardboard mount.
- Prints and transparencies will be returned.

### III. Other Information.

- Each contestant may submit a maximum of 15 photographs.
- All entries must reach Washington headquarters on or before April 30, 1971. They should be addressed to: Miss Susan Biddle  
10th Anniversary Photo Contest  
Office of Public Affairs  
Peace Corps  
Washington, D.C. 20525 USA

# switchboard

*A couple of helpful letters this month. The first is from Allan Deutsch, a former Pakistan Volunteer and present head of the Information Services of Oregon State's International Plant Protection Center (IPPC).*

Your recent photo essay on Colombia and new "Switchboard" section (see July-August *Volunteer*, pp. 15-23 and 26-28) combined to stimulate a thought.

An AID-sponsored project on weed control research operates in Latin America; and one of your agriculture Volunteers in Colombia is cooperating directly with it. IPPC coordinates with the AID project itself, and perhaps there are other Volunteers in other countries who would welcome specific information and data on weed control. We would be pleased to field inquiries and supply whatever information we could.

One of the publications in the works at IPPC is a manual of plant protection for the "smallholder." We hope to have it out in 1971, and, again, it might be useful to Volunteers doing agriculture work overseas.

Finally, I have a request for information. I am interested in hearing from active and former Volunteers who have studied tractor use in developing countries. Specifically, I am looking for answers to the following questions:

- What size unit is most ideal?
- What sizes are currently available?
- What features would be most desirable; what features are *not* desirable?
- What is a realistic cost range?

I would be most interested in information relating to any of these questions, as well as other information Volunteers might think relevant.

*Allan has agreed to summarize his tractor findings for us in a future issue of the Volunteer.*

*Any of you interested in corresponding with him should write to:*

Allan Deutsch  
Information Services  
International Plant Protection Center  
Oregon State University  
Corvallis, Oregon 97331

*Our second letter is from Rocco T. Campanelli, an Assistant Professor at the General Motors Design Institute in Flint, Mich. Here it is:*

As an instructor in freshman and sophomore design courses . . . the thought occurred that the Peace Corps would be an excellent avenue for design projects.

Specific areas we could handle are:

- *Equipment:* Simple power transfer, agricultural and maintenance.
  - *Housing:* Tools and other equipment that could be used without much training.
  - *Education:* Display models for classroom use in basic science instruction.
- If you have need for solutions to problems in these, or any other areas, the students have indicated a definite interest in such projects.

Write:

General Motors Institute  
Rocco T. Campanelli  
Assistant Professor  
1700 W. Third Ave.  
Flint, Mich. 48502

*We've had some queries about The Group, mentioned in last month's "Switchboard" (see September-October Volunteer, pg. 25, column 2). So we invited them to introduce themselves.*

(The Group) is a three-year old, small, unstructured association of returned volunteers, most of whom worked in Africa through the Peace Corps or through the British Volunteer Service Overseas. Others in the association include returned volunteers from the United States, Britain, and Europe who worked elsewhere—and many friends who are interested in the problems and progress of the Third World.

(The Group) publishes a newsletter called *Nkwantabisa*, which is a word in Twi that asks—liberally translated—what is *really* happening. *Nkwantabisa* attempts to keep returned volunteers informed about Third World news, especially from Africa. Also covered are reliable subterranean items dealing with racism, war, foreign policy, environment, and politics. The aims of *Nkwantabisa* are to supplement the extremely poor news coverage about Africa by the standard media—and to challenge the returned volunteer to keep active, involved and aware of developments, both at home and abroad.

(The Group) has done a number of interesting things besides the newsletter. It has prepared a widely distributed one and one-half hour tape, recorded by an American ex-GI now in Sweden; it helped send relief supplies to war and colonized areas; it has petitioned the government on many issues; and it has made available an information file and a large number of books and materials that can be borrowed by mail. (The Group) is in the process of establishing Third World Imports, a non-profit branch which will utilize returned volunteers in their home communities to push crafts and materials from grass-root sources in the Third World.

Since its beginning, the coordinator of (The Group) and editor of *Nkwantabisa* has been John David, RPCV-Ghana, who is presently a Ph.D. candidate in Economics at West Virginia University. The financial secretary is Paula Kuczenski, RPCV-Ghana, who is a mathematics and African studies instructor at Caldwell High School in New Jersey. Other staff people, who have also once been volunteers, are located in London, Stockholm, and Accra.

Returned volunteers and active volunteers who would like to receive a sample copy of *Nkwantabisa* or ask questions are invited to drop a note to (The Group), 511 Clark Street, Morgantown, W.Va. 26505, USA.

VITA (Volunteers for International Technical Assistance, Inc.) is a non-profit association of volunteers from more than 70 countries.

For the past eleven years, the organization has been providing technical support to self-help projects around the world. Many Peace Corps Volunteers have used their facilities, and to date VITA has answered more than 1500 of their requests.

A year ago, VITA founded a domestic division—VITA-USA—to supply technical guidance to self-help projects within the United States. Now they are looking for returned Peace Corps Volunteers with professional and technical skills who might be willing to donate spare time to community action projects here.

Here is an example of how the

organization operates:

A year ago, the Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation near Lame Deer, Montana asked VITA to advise them on starting a transportation cooperative.

The per capita annual income on the reservation is less than \$1000. Fifty per cent of the families there were receiving some form of public assistance. Few residents could afford cars, and with no cars, most were not able to visit employment centers beyond the grounds of the reservation.

So VITA provided three consultants. One, a cooperative specialist from the University of Wisconsin, talked and corresponded extensively with reservation leaders via telephone and letter. The other two, managers of transportation systems in Fond-du-Lac, Wisconsin, and Boone, North Carolina, went to the reservation and consulted directly with Indian leaders.

With the advice of all three men, the reservation founded a bus service. At present, two buses traverse the reservation. In a few months there will be four. And the value in increased wages to the Indians, and decreased welfare costs to the State of Montana, could rise as high as \$1 million per year.

Requests to VITA-USA vary widely. Some call for a few hours of Volunteer time. Others call for periodic assistance over several months.

If you are a returned Volunteer and would like to do volunteer consulting work, VITA would like to hear from you. For more information and a resume form write to:

VITA  
College Campus  
Schenectady, N.Y. 12308

Whatever happened to *Tech Notes*?  
Well, it died about a year ago.

The magazine's very competent editor Lester Goodin, who also headed the agency's old Technical Resources Division, left the Peace Corps for graduate study in October, 1969.

He was never replaced. The magazine was never revived. And the Information Resources Division (IRD) in the Office of Program Development, Evaluation and Research picked up his support duties.

Back copies of the three issues which

were published (July, 1968; January, 1969; and August, 1969) are still available from Washington.

Write to:

Ellen Perna  
Information Resources Division  
Peace Corps  
Washington, D.C. 20525

But you better write soon.  
Cutbacks are "in" these days. And we all know what gets cut first.

---

The Board of National Missions of the United Presbyterian Church has published a comprehensive listing of planned 1971 community and individual service projects.

Copies are available by writing:  
Division of Voluntary Service  
Board of National Missions  
The United Presbyterian Church  
in the USA  
475 Riverside Drive  
New York, N.Y. 10027

---

*We don't really want to get into advertising, but here's a recent letter which might be of interest to some of you. It comes from Louis Pugnetti of Avianca Airlines.*

---

We have a group of former Volunteers planning a reunion in Colombia in 1971. My thoughts are to get cost information to other former Volunteers who have served in Latin America and might be interested in a similar reunion.

A group fare of 15 or more passengers costs \$115 per person round trip from Miami, or \$190 round trip from New York.

A complete package, including hotels, breakfast, sightseeing and transfers for seven days and six nights costs \$224 per person from Miami, or \$299 from New York.

This type of air fare or package can be applied to other Latin American countries in which Volunteers have served.

For groups of 15 or more, one ticket is free.

More information is available through a local Avianca agent.

---

Vicky Thoma, a staff member assigned to the School Partnership Project, recently handed us a list

of organizations which distribute gift books to libraries overseas.

"Learn the lesson of others," she advised us. "Do not ask friends at home to collect and send used books. The cost is prohibitive. Try these instead."

The list was prepared by the International Relations Office of the American Library Association. Some of the included organizations act as clearinghouses, serving to put potential donors in touch with institutions abroad. A few collect, screen and ship books overseas themselves. Others provide only shipping.

The complete list, which also includes details about each organization, is available from the American Library Association. Write to:  
International Relations Office  
American Library Association  
50 E. Huron St.  
Chicago, Ill. 60611

In the meantime, for those of you who can't afford the stamp, here is a partial list of organizations:

Books for Asian Students  
451 Sixth Street  
San Francisco, Calif. 94103

CARE Inc.  
660 First Ave.  
New York, N.Y. 10016

Darien Book Aid Plan, Inc.  
1926 Post Road  
Darien, Conn. 06820

Mr. Peter Romilly  
The English-Speaking Union of the United States  
16 East 69th St.  
New York, N.Y. 10012

Harriet D. Van Meter  
Executive Director  
International Book Project  
17 Mentelle Park  
Lexington, Ky. 40502

Kay Croissant, President  
Magazines for Friendship  
35 South Raymond Ave.  
Pasadena, Calif. 91101

Mrs. Elizabeth Cunliffe  
Rutgers University Press  
New Brunswick, N.J. 08903

International Exchange Service  
The Smithsonian Institution  
Washington, D.C. 20560

#### Gift Coupons

##### UNESCO

Place de Fontenoy  
Paris 7, France

U.S. Book Exchange, Inc.  
3335 V Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20018

U.S. Navy Project Handclasp  
East Coast Director: Project Handclasp  
c/o Navy Supply Center  
Norfolk, Virginia

or  
West Coast Director: Project Handclasp  
c/o Commandant,  
Eleventh Naval District  
San Diego, Calif. 92130

The Navy project provides free transport of materials from a U.S. port to a foreign port, an arrangement which saves you sea fare.

Donors and recipients using this arrangement must bear all shipping and packaging costs involved in getting the book or magazine parcels to a U.S. port and from a foreign port to recipient institution.

Mankind Incorporated, a new Chicago-based activist group, is interested in contacting present and former Volunteers who might be interested in working to promote understanding of the following basic concepts:

- that all men share a common humanity and a desire for self-preservation;
- that the problems which threaten human survival are global problems rather than individual, group or national problems;
- that the disunity which exists among peoples of the world is the greatest obstacle to our solution of these problems;
- that an understanding of the universal interdependence of mankind must become a guiding force in the conduct of world affairs if mankind is to survive.

The organization has domestic and foreign programs designed to carry these concepts into living rooms, meeting halls, classrooms—wherever people gather. Its activities are presently directed towards "the vast number of educated, affluent, yet

culturally deprived Americans" who live in this country.

Mankind Incorporated is looking for people to work full or part-time on a salaried basis to meet and talk with diverse groups of people, to develop educational materials, and to research information relevant to the organization's goals.

One week training seminars will be held in Chicago in January, February and March.

For further information, write:  
Mankind Incorporated.  
P.O. Box 6926  
Chicago, Ill. 60680

Eric Renner, an assistant professor of design at Alfred University's College of Ceramics, is preparing a booklet on primitive human waste sewage systems, particularly those which "recycle" the waste products in some useful way.

"By recycle," he writes, "I mean ways in which the waste is used for crop fertilizer and so on."

He would like to correspond with Volunteers who have experience or information relating to the subject. And we have asked him to contribute a follow-up piece when the results of his work are known.

If you are interested, write:

Eric Renner  
Assistant Professor of Design  
College of Ceramics at Alfred  
University  
Alfred, N.Y. 14802

# survival

Suppose you have no refrigerator. You live in a village in which meat is available roughly once a week—or less. The weather is hot and possibly humid, and meat spoils quickly. How can you make it last longer to stretch your meagre supply over three or four days?

Well, for the past nine years Volunteers have been hanging it in their showers, putting it out to dry, boiling it in salt water, or cooking it up in one huge stew good for two or three one-course meals.

Since little specific information on the subject is available in most cooking books, *Survival* decided to search out proven methods of short-term meat preservation which might be useful to Volunteers caught without refrigerators or a steady meat supply.

To get our information we queried returned Volunteers in Washington, D.C. rummaged through the library, and corresponded with a few VITA consultants.

#### Clean, Cold and Dry

Here is what we discovered:

Meat spoilage is caused by the growth of bacteria (aerobic and anaerobic) which feed on animal protein and fats.

Your job is to find ways to slow bacterial growth. And you can do this by taking steps to keep your meat *clean, cold, and dry*.

The AID *Village Technology Handbook* suggests a careful wiping and cleaning of fresh meat as soon as you get it home. You should wrap it in clean paper or cloth to protect it from insects (particularly flies) and airborne bacteria. The *Handbook* also recommends storing meat to allow air to circulate around it freely.

Cooling your meat in a hot climate without refrigeration is more difficult. The *Village Technology Handbook* and the *Remote Areas Development Manual* of the Virginia-based Community Development Counselling Service (CDCS) both contain plans for coolers which work by evaporation. These are useful in dry or breezy locations and you might give them a try.

To be effective, a cooler should be able to keep meat at a temperature below 50°F (10°C). A temperature higher than that will not make too much difference.

Fresh meat should be kept intact when it is stored. Do not chop or grind your cuts. This merely increases the surface area exposed to the air, and that can speed up spoilage since bacterial growth is largely a surface phenomenon.

You might also want to try coating the surface of your meat with salt. This can be done by rubbing salt directly into your cut, or by coating it with a strong brine solution (saltwater). Some Volunteers have been known to *boil* their meat in salt water and then to prepare a heavily spiced spaghetti or chili sauce for use over the next two or three days.

None of these various methods, however, can help you keep meat beyond three to five days in a hot climate. Eventually spoilage will set in, indicated by a foul odor and discoloration on the surface or inside of your meat. You must cut out spoiled sections as they appear. If they get the upper hand, do not try to eat the remaining meat.

But what about keeping meats for longer periods of time?

Well, there are methods available. They take more time and patience; they alter the character of your meat. And they don't always work.

The four recommended to us by various consultants are: Drying, curing, smoking and canning.

Of these, the simplest method is drying. The American Indians did it. South Africans still do it. And so do Brazilians.

### **Dry Climate; Dry Meat**

If you live in a fairly dry climate, you can do it too.

The Indians, according to our sources, simply hung their meat to dry without seasoning of any kind. Nowadays, however, salt and pepper are commonly used.

Take your meat and cut it into sections about one foot long and one-half to one inch thick. Lay the strips in a pan and cover them with salt. You can also add spices like pepper and chilies, and perhaps a pinch of salt peter (potassium nitrate) which acts as a mild preservative and gives the meat a nice red color.

Only a pinch of salt peter, though. The proportions given us by a Washington consultant are six pounds of salt to two ounces of salt peter per 100 pounds of

meat. You can scale that down accordingly).

Let the meat sit for a couple of hours or overnight. Salt absorbs water. So when you check your strips in the morning, you will find a great deal of liquid has oozed out. The liquid should be drained off.

### **Hang It Up**

Now you are ready to hang up your meat.

A book published by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)—*Meat Handling in Underdeveloped Countries*—recommends the strips be hung over galvanized wire. A 1916 book titled *Camping and Woodcraft* by Horace Kephart says you can use wooden poles. You can figure out your own system. But remember, cleanliness is important.

Here is what else the FAO book says about drying:

"It is important that one strip does not touch another and so impede the essential circulation of free air.

"After one day's drying, the strips should be taken off the wire, straightened out and hung with the other side uppermost.

"The time required for drying depends entirely on the weather. The (dried meat) is ready when a piece broken or cut off shows a uniform structure. When attempts are made to dry too large pieces of meat or when the weather is unsuitable (i.e., too moist or too hot) bacterial decomposition begins inside the meat strips, resulting in soft or spongy meat with an offensive odor. *Such meat should not be eaten.*"

After the meat is dried, the manual says, "small amounts may be stored in plastic bags or in a sack hanging on a wire."

Meat (beef, that is) is roughly 61 per cent water. The product of your drying will be a tough, strong-flavored, and highly-concentrated hunk of protein which should last for several weeks, under proper conditions.

But the key element in the whole process is *dry air*. If your climate is cool and dry, you can hang your meat out in the sun. If your climate is hot and dry, it is best to hang your strips in the shade. And if your climate is wet or in its wet season, you can't hang your meat up at all.

So then what?

A couple of our consultants suggested you salt and dry your strips of meat in an oven. The Army did it in World War II, they say. But the Army also used large ovens with air blowers to insure free circulation of air around the drying meat.

One consultant suggested cooking meat in a kettle in the presence of salt.

Still another possibility is slow drying over a hot bed of coals (not to be confused with smoking your meat).

No matter which procedure you use, you must *keep* your meat dry after you have finished. And you must also keep it protected from insects.

How do you eat it?

Well, you can chew on it as is.

Or you could soak it in water before use to reconstitute it and get rid of some of the salt flavor. Then make a stew.

Or you can pound it into a meat powder and use it to make soup. Kephart claims it is pretty tasty this way.

Obviously, what we have said here is not the last word. If you are living in a dry climate, chances are the people living around you already have their own ways of preserving meat. It would be useful to find out for yourself how they do it.

Also, the procedures we have given are usually used for beef or game meat (deer, goats, elk, buffalo). We are told they should work for poultry and lamb, or pork but we found no one who had tried drying these meats. And, frankly, we would be somewhat reluctant to try it ourselves.

### **What Do You Know?**

We would be interested in hearing from our readers on the subject.

What methods are available?

And what else can one do in a wet, humid, hot climate?

Dr. William Sulzbacher, Chief of the Department of Agriculture's Meat Preservation Laboratory in Beltsville, Md. has agreed to review any suggestions you make and help *Survival* answer your questions.

Write:

*Survival: Meat*  
Volunteer Magazine  
Room 622  
Peace Corps  
Washington, D.C. 20525 USA

