

Hon. William R. Norwood
High Commissioner of the Trust Territory
of the Pacific Islands
Saipan, Mariana Islands

SEP 27 1966

Dear Mr. Norwood:

We have discussed the Florida Peace Corps training program with both Governor Lee and Jack Taylor, each of whom recently visited at the Peace Corps' invitation. By now you doubtless have received Jack Taylor's memorandum of September 15 and Governor Lee's of September 16.

Their comments seem to us to point up our concern that your primary responsibilities in the Trust Territory must be emphasized and in a timely fashion; otherwise great difficulties are likely to arise. I don't want to belabor the point, but it does seem to us, after reading both Dr. Taylor's and Governor Lee's reports and after having talked to both of them about their experiences, that the volunteers are being left with the idea that the administration is going to be obstructionist at worst and uncooperative and indifferent at best. Many of the volunteers seem to be judging the Trust Territory Government harshly and, we feel, unjustly. Neither the Peace Corps nor Westinghouse seems to make the point that the total effort should be directed through the administration; rather the converse seems to be true.

Equally of concern to us, many of the volunteers seem unclear as to just what we (the United States) have been trying to accomplish in the Trust Territory and as to just what kinds of Americans are now in the area. We did on more than one occasion discuss this point with Mr. Pritchard only to be met with the response that the volunteers cannot "propagandise." This is not, of course, what we meant to suggest and the Peace Corps and Westinghouse training material seem to be "propagandising" in an "apartheid" manner. Both refer to the "host country" concept, minimize any other American concern in the area, and seek an identity quite different from any American administration in the area.

Governor Lee's suggestion that you undertake your own "training" of the volunteers before they are dispatched to their several assignments is intriguing but we fear that it is impractical. It may even be too late. An encouraging feature is that the only district staff director

who visited us seemed fully aware of the need to project a single American "image" in the Trust Territory and seemed to be fully determined to work through administrative channels in his district. Perhaps, the next-best alternative to a session with the Volunteers would be your conducting a training session for the PC staff people who will be in the Trust Territory.

To the extent that you can accomplish your own short-term Orientation and Training of PCV's, and/or the staff, by meeting with them, the better off we are likely to be.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd.) Mrs. Ruth G. Van Cleve

Mrs. Ruth G. Van Cleve
Director

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9/27/66