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This year, based on its original request of \$118,700,000, the Peace Corps proposed to have 17,150 volunteers in 53 countries by the end of the fiscal year. Because of the cut in the authorization by \$3 million, the number of trainees will be reduced by about 1,100 volunteers or about 10 percent of the total number programmed. I would hope, even in the interest of economy, that this reduction would not go further.

Based on its past record, Peace Corps officials, unlike many other agencies of the Government, can be expected to return unobligated balances if they are not able to be efficiently used. As an example, the Peace Corps returned \$5 million to the general funds of the Treasury at June 30, 1967, because there was a lag in its training and recruiting program. In the event that this were to occur again, I think that you can count on similar returns. If you look at the record, you will find that any year that the Peace Corps was not able to use the funds made available to it, it returned them.

I would therefore make an urgent request that we continue to support the program on the basis of the bill before you.

The Peace Corps has been able to reduce the average cost per volunteer since the inception of the program; for example, based again on the original legislation, the cost per volunteer in 1961 was \$9,650. From 1965 to 1967 it was reduced from \$7,867 to \$7,392, a sizable reduction. Peace Corps officials testified that they expect this cost will be reduced further in fiscal year 1968.

Mr. Chairman, I believe the success of the Peace Corps speaks for itself. Therefore, it is needless for me to make a long defense in connection with the request for this authorization. I would hope that it would pass, on its merit, without amendment and be forwarded to the President for signature without delay.

Mr. HALEY. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. MORGAN. I yield to the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. HALEY. Turning to page 3 of the report, under the heading "Peace Corps Program in Micronesia," I note that there is to be allocated to the Department of the Interior \$4,433,000 for Micronesia and \$840,000 for Western Samoa.

Let me ask the gentleman this question: The Peace Corps, as I understood the legislation, was a program to operate in foreign countries. Yet here we find in this report approximately \$5.5 million which I presume will be reimbursed to the Peace Corps. I might say to the gentleman that it looks to me like here is an outfit, if you want to put it that way, a department of the Government that is going around to the back door, so to speak, and obtaining approximately \$5 million which will not show in their requested appropriation.

I believe that they received something around \$19 million last year. They have requested appropriations for about \$35 million for the fiscal year 1968. Will the reimbursement of these funds to the Peace Corps come from the Department of the Interior budget or will it come from the group in Micronesia or the mandated islands?

Mr. MORGAN. I do not understand that there is going to be any reimbursement. The funds will come from the Peace Corps appropriation. I wish to inform the gentleman that this question came up during the hearings on the Peace Corps. As the gentleman knows, this is not a program just starting this year. Last year a communication came to the Congress requesting that this program be initiated. Mr. Vaughn was questioned when he appeared before the committee about this program because some of the members of the Committee on Foreign Affairs have expressed views similar to those of the gentleman from Florida. On page 25 of the hearings the following appears:

Mr. Morse. I notice that you have a program in Micronesia of the trust territories. The trust territories are administered by the Office of Territories in the Department of the Interior.

Shouldn't the Department of Interior have the responsibility for discharging the functions that you are pursuing in Micronesia in the trust territories?

Mr. Vaughn. This is an in-between case. We recognize that. We checked this with the Congress. We advised them of our intention. We seemed to have consent. We were requested by the President of the United States, with the concurrence of Secretary Udall and Ambassador Goldberg, to send volunteers there specifically because the Department of the Interior was not able to meet the needs of these people.

Mr. Morse. Does the Department of the Interior reimburse you for what you do in Micronesia?

Mr. Vaughn. They have not reimbursed us, but have provided certain facilities and services for the volunteers.

This information was brought out in the hearings. If the gentleman will read the supplemental views appearing at the end of the committee report, he will see that there were some members who signed these views who were concerned with this situation.

Mr. ADAIR. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. MORGAN. I yield to the gentleman from Indiana.

Mr. ADAIR. In response to the question asked by the gentleman from Florida, I would invite his attention to the statement on page 64 of the hearings entitled "Funding of the Peace Corps Program in Micronesia." That statement gives the executive position. I do not say that I agree with it. I do not wholly. But at least it sets forth the executive position upon this question.

Mr. HALEY. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. MORGAN. I yield to the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. HALEY. Mr. Chairman, it seems to me here we have a program that was not supposed in the original intention to be a domestic program. Yet we are funding the Peace Corps, or reimbursing it, for the amount of cost of the program down there.

I wonder how far this thing is going to go? Are we going to make this a domestic program and forget about the original legislation? I wonder what justification we have suddenly to change the direction?

I might say to the gentleman from Pennsylvania I think this has been a fairly good program. But I just cannot

see the wisdom of taking a foreign program and beginning to fund it through domestic channels. It seems to me we have lost the entire thrust.

Mr. MORGAN. Mr. Chairman, I can assure the gentleman I share some of his alarm. The fact that the program was started last year and is already in operation this year was considered by the committee and I believe that it was the consensus of the committee that next year this matter should be fully explored and a determination made as to where the funds to finance the operations in Micronesia should come from.

Mr. HALEY. Mr. Chairman, I hope the gentleman and his committee next year will take a good hard look at this kind of operation. I do not think, when it passed the original program, that Congress intended it should be a domestic program.

Mr. MORGAN. Mr. Chairman, I assure the gentleman that we will give it a good hard look.

Mr. ADAIR. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield further?

Mr. MORGAN. I yield to the gentleman from Indiana.

Mr. ADAIR. Mr. Chairman, I want to underscore something the chairman said a moment ago, that an amendment with respect to this was before the committee and was discussed at length. It was withdrawn for the reason the chairman has already indicated, that we felt that next year, based upon our findings this year, we wanted to go into the matter in a great deal more detail.

I can join the chairman in assuring the gentleman from Florida we will take a very hard look at this.

Mr. MORGAN. Mr. Chairman, also I want to assure the gentleman from Florida we have been in touch with with the chairman of the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, the gentleman from Colorado [Mr. ASPINALL], and his staff on this issue. I think they are satisfied that next year we will try to work out something that is acceptable to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.

Mr. ADAIR. Mr. Chairman, if the gentleman will yield further, I would say to the gentleman from Florida additionally that some of us who signed supplemental views did express concern about this, as indicated on page 6 of the report in the second paragraph, which the gentleman from Florida may find of interest.

The CHAIRMAN. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Ohio [Mrs. BOLTON].

Mrs. BOLTON. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of this bill.

After 6 years of service, the Peace Corps continues to fulfill its purpose and earn commendation from host countries. We still receive requests for additional volunteers and benefits from the experience gained by returning volunteers assuming positions in our own country. Its unique contribution is that it provides communication between average Americans and grassroots foreigners well beyond and below the direct impact of formal international relations. Peace Corps volunteers, by living with the people, eating their food, and speaking

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