

Peace Corps  
Kolonias, Ponape  
E.C.I. 96941  
23 April 1969

*Handwritten signature and initials*  
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Mr. Don Hartsock, Deputy Director  
Peace Corps Micronesia  
Saipan, Marianas 96950

Dear Mr. Hartsock:

Transportation problems prevented me from getting to the Legal Education Workshop, and due to subsequent communication failure I did not receive any report of the conference until April. I consider the conclusions reached and the program undertaken to be of the utmost importance to PC lawverdom and to the TT, however, and I should like to help in any way I can. I'll start with an attempt to answer your March 24 memorandum.

I suppose legal education encompasses ad hoc advising of local legal personnel; this I do very frequently upon request, though I find it frustrating. In theory the immediacy of a problem should make education even more meaningful; in fact I often find it hard to isolate a problem, because it arises in a whole constellation of misunderstandings and misconceptions, many of which are too firmly entrenched to be resolved in the face of an urgent situation. Thus, although I have a good working relationship with Clerk, Judges, Public Defender, and Acting Prosecutor, I suspect my ad hoc advice is not very useful as an educational supplement. More useful is a survey and lengthy discussion of legal forms with the legal personnel; I have recently used this approach and I suspect it may have more lasting results. Their interest and daily practice in the law is closely related to the forms they use, hardly at all to the Code and to the abstractions in which trained lawyers revel. Another approach which should work but doesn't seem to: group discussion of an isolated but sizable area of the law, such as sentencing or arrest warrants.

I find it very hard to evaluate the effectiveness of formal courses. Student practice work and class response shows<sup>6</sup> me that people can feed back what I tell them; it remains to be seen whether it will be remembered or will change hoary precedent as a guide to practice. I have an unsupported hope that the broad view offered by a sustained course may afford greater understanding and lead to greater acceptance than spot explanations. In any case I have tried formal courses, plan to try some more, and believe that the MILE packaged course plan is the most efficient approach to the most basic problems of TT legal education for personnel presently manning the legal apparatus. To contribute my brief experience to setting up the courses for MILE I have summarized separately my two courses to date. See accompanying.

I have been invited to teach Community Law and Basic Commercial Law at an OEO-sponsored leadership training program at Ponape Agricultural and Trade School (PATS) this June. These 30+ hour courses will be attended by about 40 selected community up-and-comers from all over the District. I would be very happy to arrange a trade; if you can send me any materials, outlines, or sample forms used in these areas previously, I'll send back whatever comes out of the course. I'll send the latter in any case, but I'd appreciate any help

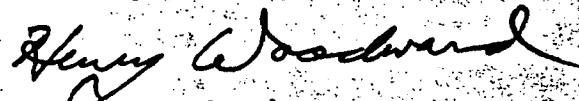
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you can offer in preparation, since I'm very short on reference materials here. I believe that PATS might be able to supply printing and duplicating services, but I'm hard up for the substance to be taught.

I do have two people in Kusaie who are looking for legal scholarships. One is Linus George, Assistant Public Defender, who speaks good English, has a surprising basic knowledge of law, but only a High School education (PICS /Truk). He is tied with family and land here but is particularly interested in correspondence law schools. Second prospect: Akiyusi Palsis, who is about to graduate high in his class from Kusaie High School and is hoping to get a teacher training scholarship unless some legal education possibility opens up. This brief information is probably of little use to you or them, but I'll be happy to pass on more complete information about available legal scholarship opportunities and get a concrete expression of interest, if this seems warranted by the above.

Let me know if I can furnish any further information about past educational experiences or can assist in preparing courses for MILE.

Sincerely yours,



Henry L. Woodward  
PCV Kusaie