

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 27, 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. W. W. ROSTOW

Walt --

The Peace Corps-Interior special Trust Territory project is under way. I am attaching a memorandum Ross Pritchard gave me today that will fill you in on the specific action steps being contemplated for the next few weeks.

The important thing is that Jack Vaughn and Stewart Udall are going to request an appointment with the President early next week to brief him on the joint program the two agencies have developed and will request his support and the issuance later in the week of a Presidential proclamation that will be the public kickoff of the program and a call for 500 volunteers to work in the Trust Territory.

The Presidential proclamation and statement are in preparation in cooperation with the State Department and I will shoot them along to you when I receive them.

Udall and Vaughn are directly in touch with Bill Moyers to set up the appointment but you may wish to add your voice and support to the proposed scenario.

I am working closely with Pritchard and bringing in the Bureau of the Budget and others as the need develops. Interior and the Bureau are going to have to handle the Congressional problem of ensuring that the Peace Corps campaign will not displace any of the new Interior programs being requested this year and that there will be no legislative limitations that would prevent the Peace Corps from working in the Trust Territory.

For your information the proclamation is going to bear down heavily on the point that the President takes pleasure in calling on young Americans to serve overseas in the cause of peaceful development in an area for which the U. S. bears a great and unique responsibility. The entire enterprise looks like a natural to me and I hope that the President shares our view that it is worthy of a real effort.


Charles E. Johnson

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PEACE CORPS

Washington, D. C. 20525

April 25, 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. C. E. Johnson
THE WHITE HOUSE

FROM: Ross Pritchard 

In this memorandum I would like to bring you up-to-date on the discussions in Honolulu of the Peace Corps program in the Trust Territory and outline the next step of announcing the program which in our view will require the assistance of Mr. Rostow and the Office of the President. I would also like to review our programming and recruiting schedules as we see them at the present time.

(1) Honolulu Discussions: In Honolulu I met with the High Commissioner, Jim Hawkins, the Assistant Commissioner for Health, Education and Community Development, Howard Waite, the Chief Engineer for the Trust Territory, and Bob Vaughan, Deputy Assistant Secretary (Interior), Public Land Management.

Our discussions went well and there was general agreement on all phases of the Peace Corps proposal outlined in my memorandum to Under Secretary Carver, dated March 29, 1966.

Specifically, there was agreement that the first phase of the Peace Corps program, outlined on pages 1-5 of Appendix A, should include 200 elementary teachers/community development workers, 100 health workers, and 75 Volunteers for public works which would include surveyors, architects, draftsmen, engineers, and construction workers. A low-cost housing program was also discussed.

It was the consensus of the group in Honolulu that a Peace Corps programming team should be dispatched immediately to the Trust Territory in order to discuss program specifics and to write guidelines for a training program. The discussions in Honolulu also included agreement on the desirability of getting a request for the Peace Corps from Micronesian officials. Commissioner Goding felt that it would be possible to secure from Micronesian leaders in each district and from prominent members of the Micronesian Congress a request for Peace Corps Volunteers to serve in Micronesia. The Commissioner indicated that he would solicit this request and relay it to Washington by May 1. This expression of Micronesian interest, which has been expressed heretofore many times, would be the basis for an announcement of the Peace Corps program in the Trust Territory. ✓

- (2) The Announcement of the Program: As I indicated in my memorandum to Under Secretary Carver, this special effort in the Trust Territory will require as much help as we can get from the White House, indeed, from the President himself. My suggestion is that on or about May 7, the President issue a special proclamation and/or a press conference statement that he is calling for a special Peace Corps effort in the Trust Territory, in response to the request of Micronesian officials. The President could briefly point out that the time has come for the United States to make a concentrated effort to bring the people of Micronesia to that point of economic and social development which would serve as the basis for their ultimate self-governing status. My suggestion is that the Trust Territory program, dispatching young Americans overseas to the Trust Territory for the peaceful and constructive purposes of assisting the Micronesians in their economic and social

development could be presented in contrast to the President's responsibility of sending other Americans overseas in endeavors that are not quite so peaceful. I have heard the President on one or two occasions state that the responsibilities of sending troops overseas weighed heavily upon him and that he would much rather send young Americans overseas in the type of effort the Peace Corps is noted for.

Attached is a scenario of the steps which would serve us best in mounting a special recruiting effort for 500 Volunteers in the Trust Territory. In due time, we will also submit wording for the proclamation and suggested wording for a press announcement. I hope you will be able to advise and assist us in carrying out this scenario. The assistance of the White House is of critical importance to this whole effort. Without it, I doubt that we will get very far off the ground.

- (3) Recruiting: Once the Presidential proclamation and statement, are issued, we can then mount a special recruiting effort. Secretary Udall and Jack Vaughn could issue letters of invitation to every terminating Peace Corps Volunteer requesting their two-year re-enrollment in the Trust Territory. A similar letter could be sent to every terminated Volunteer, making the same request. We would request Governor Burns of Hawaii to issue a supplementary proclamation calling for a contingent of 100 or more Volunteers from Hawaii. Since the entire group for the Trust Territory will be trained by the University of Hawaii and draw heavily upon the competence and resources in Hawaii, our feeling is that we will get a good response. In addition, the appointment of Bill Norwood, who is well known in Hawaii, should enhance this effort. We will then proceed from Hawaii to the West Coast carrying out our special recruiting effort at

approximately 15 or 20 universities. Taking advantage of both Secretary Udall's and Jack Vaughn's enthusiasm and the weight of the President's proclamation, we should be able to enlist the assistance of the Volunteers we need in the first phase of programming.

- (4) Programming: On or about May 3, we will dispatch to the Trust Territory four or five experienced programmers who, in consultation with both Micronesian officials and members of the Commissioner's staff, will draw up the details of the program and formulate the guidelines for training. Our present expectation is that we will be able to begin training sometime late in July or early August, leading toward an October arrival of Volunteers in the Trust Territory.

SCENARIO FOR PEACE CORPS PROGRAM IN THE

TRUST TERRITORY

May 1 - Receipt of cable from Trust Territory expressing interest of Micronesian officials in Peace Corps program. Volunteers would serve initially in fields of education, health, public works, and low-cost housing.

May 2 or 3 - Secretary Udall and Mr. Vaughn meet with the President for a brief discussion of Peace Corps program in Micronesia. ✓

May 3 - Four or five-man programming team, under direction of Kevin Delany, Peace Corps Deputy Director for the Far East, leaves for two to three week programming exercise in the Trust Territory. Programming team will also be responsible for writing guidelines for Peace Corps training program which will be conducted by the University of Hawaii.

May 7 - Presidential proclamation and announcement of the Peace Corps program in the Trust Territory.

May 9 through May 31 - Special team recruiting for Volunteers beginning in Hawaii and continuing in major West Coast universities, including those in Arizona. This special recruiting effort will require the personal participation of Secretary Udall.

Team recruiting will involve:

VISIT TO 63 CLASS A SCHOOLS

1 Day Advance - 2 Days Recruiting = 3 people per team

Total of 42 Recruiters needed for 2-week period (10 Recruiting Days):

West - 18 Schools - 4 teams; Midwest - 19 Schools - 4 teams; South - 12 Schools - 3 Teams; Northeast - 14 Schools - 3 Teams.

"Name" Personalities Must Be Available for At Least 2 Continuous Days Each:

West - 4 "Names"; Midwest - 5; South - 5; Northeast - 4.

By May 5: 10,000 Trust Territory Brochures -
63 A School Ads in Student Paper

3,000 Trust Territory Posters -
155 B and C School Ads (with Coupon)*
, *Far East Division will Respond
to Inquiries.

By May 20: 5,000 Trust Territory Brochures To Be
Included in Mailing to RPCVs.

CONDITIONS:

1. Letter from President or Vice President and Vaughn to College Presidents of Class A Schools.
2. Special short application form.
3. Eliminate PC Placement Test.
4. Applicants will be notified by phone within 10 days of applying.

NOTE: This will necessitate the Recruiter's mailing (Air Mail, Special Delivery) application form to Special Task Force in Selection Division--who shall call required number of references.

5. Imperative that recruiting program begin May 9 -- in order to avoid final exams.
6. All recruiting techniques (i.e., TV coverage, Governor or Mayor proclamations, campus contacts connected with recruiting, etc.,) must be approved in advance and administered through the Director of Recruiting.
7. Additional secretarial help if needed must be provided by Far East Division plus any additional recruiters from PC/W which cannot be supplied by Division of Recruiting.

May 9 - Personal letter will be sent to all terminating Volunteers, signed by Secretary Udall and Jack Vaughn. ✓

May 16 - Similar letter will be sent to all Volunteers who have terminated.

May 25 - Delany and Athos Revelle (member of programming team), joined by Alex Shakow, will meet with University of Hawaii officials in Honolulu to discuss training program.

June 1 through July 1 - Special recruiting effort will continue.

July 15 to October 15 - Peace Corps training of Trust Territory Volunteers.

October 15 through November 1 - Arrival of Peace Corps Volunteers in three stages---(1) teachers; (2) health workers; (3) public works contingent.