

was indicated in Sargent Shriver's prepared statement, the Peace Corps took advantage of expert recommendations from the field of psychology and psychiatry, the disciplines most experienced, I believe, in evaluating emotional maturity and mental health. As one part of the overall evaluation process it was determined, it was decided that personality inventories could play a limited but significant contribution to this overall evaluation. It was recognized that in some respects taking these kinds of tests are uncomfortable and are not pleasant. However, it was felt and we still feel that the benefits derived from the proper use of these instruments certainly justify the discomfort to the individual. And I think the proof, in a sense, of our use of these tests is that in fact we do have what I think is a very successful selection process. Less than 1 percent of the volunteers who go overseas have returned for psychiatric reasons. This is a remarkable record. I would not maintain that this is due solely to the use of psychological inventories or any one psychological test. But I think it is due to the sincere, conscientious, dedicated individuals and processes which we have set up, to which psychological testing does indeed contribute.

Thank you.

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Josephson?

Mr. JOSEPHSON. Mr. Chairman, I would only request that Dr. Carp's statement be put in the record in its entirety.

Mr. GALLAGHER. Yes, without objection it is so ordered.
(The prepared text follows:)

STATEMENT OF DR. ABRAHAM CARP, DIRECTOR OF SELECTION OF THE PEACE CORPS

Mr. Chairman, in 1961 the Congress made clear, in the Peace Corps Act, its concern with the qualifications of Peace Corps volunteers. It directed that the Peace Corps make available to interested countries "men and women of the United States qualified for service abroad and willing to serve, under conditions of hardship if necessary." The President was authorized to enroll in the Peace Corps only "qualified citizens and nationals of the United States."

In 1961 both the Senate and House Peace Corps bill reports specified that Peace Corps volunteers should be "emotionally mature" and "in excellent * * * mental health."

This concern is understandable. A Peace Corps volunteer does not live the life of the typical U.S. Government employee overseas. He must demonstrate his technical competence in what is often a technically primitive environment. Often he must communicate in a new and difficult language. He must live with and work for people whose background, culture, and way of life contrast dramatically with that to which he has been accustomed. Through all this, he must maintain his own physical and psychological well-being in essential isolation from his own culture.

An emotionally immature and mentally unstable volunteer could do serious damage to the United States and the Peace Corps overseas.

But not only the United States' and the Peace Corps' interests are at stake. The individual volunteer has an obvious stake in his mental health. If the Peace Corps sent overseas a volunteer who was not qualified in this regard, it could be responsible for seriously and even permanently damaging his mental health.

Mr. Shriver has already described generally the Peace Corps' selection process. Let me turn to the use of personality inventories.

The selection of people is a young science. No one selection tool even begins to approach perfection. That is why Peace Corps' selection is deliberately structured to bring to bear many different selection tools. As Mr. Shriver says in his statement, no one element of this process is determinative but each makes a definite and distinctive contribution to the process.

In our judgment, the Peace Corps would be derelict in its responsibilities if its selection process deliberately failed to employ any one element of that process, including personality inventories properly used by qualified persons. Indeed, in