

Mr. BERLEW. We also publish a Peace Corps Handbook which is distributed to all persons who join the Peace Corps. We can include in the handbook a statement to this effect and would include in the handbook a statement to this effect.

Following is a copy of the language relating to psychological testing to be included in the revised version of the Peace Corps Handbook distributed to all Peace Corps trainees at the outset of training. That section is now in final draft and should be sent to the printer within the next 6 weeks for final printing. It reads:

"During training the training institution field assessment officers will give some psychological tests and personality inventories. You are not required to answer any of the test questions if to do so would be contrary to your personal convictions. Failure to answer any or all of them will not prejudice consideration of your potential for overseas service, and in no instance are these tests and inventories used as the exclusive basis for judging you. In fact no one element of the selection process is used to decide whether you qualify. Each element makes a distinctive contribution of its own. It is the total picture that counts."

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Rosenthal.

Mr. ROSENTHAL. I would like to withhold judgment, Mr. Chairman, until we can hear from Dr. Carp as to why these questions were in if they were not counted, or if we can have some explanation as to whether the type of questions, other than those the chairman referred to, are going to be eliminated.

Another thing I would like to add is I think your attitude is commendable, and somewhat different from other witnesses we have had before the committee, which prompted some of us to take more direct action.

I still solicit Dr. Carp's help in explaining to us some of these problems we have had.

Dr. CARP. The developers of the test identified 566 items which they thought would be potentially useful in differentiating between people with various psychiatric problems and those who are normal.

In the scales that have been developed to date, only 371 items have turned out to in fact be useful in differentiating between psychiatric normals and abnormals. The other items are in there primarily for research purposes, to lead to the development of future scales which might in fact prove useful.

Since, however, the Peace Corps is engaged in a sense in the operational job of applying the scales and instruments that have already been developed, we see no need for administering items which are not in fact going to be used in decisions about this particular individual volunteer. So that there is no need for the Peace Corps to administer these items which are not interpreted, which do not contribute to the test profile that the psychologist uses.

The items that are not scored do not particularly differ in kind or degree of subject matter from the ones that are scored. They are the ones that I guess you would say just did not turn out to be differentiating, so they are not in fact scored.

Mr. ROSENTHAL. Can we draw the same inference that when this test was used by other Federal agencies, they, too, were unable to score these 185 items? I would assume that to be the case.

Dr. CARP. There are many other scales available for use with the MMPI that are not what are called the clinical scales, and since the Peace Corps is using the MMPI primarily to assist in identifying people with psychiatric abnormalities, it does not fit our purposes to use these other scales.