

Dr. Carp and his associates have told us—and I have no reason to disbelieve them—that neither the results of the MMPI nor the results of the psychiatric interview, nor the performance during training, are as good a way of determining whether the person is likely to have psychotic tendencies as the three of those combined. I just use those three for an example. They each build on the other, and each complements the other. Therefore, if we are trying to make the effort to find the best way of making this type of judgment, we feel we ought to use all of these procedures, within reason. That is what we have done.

Mr. REUSS. To make my position clear, as I have said, I have no particular difficulty with that third category of using the MMPI as an additional piece of litmus paper after and above those other tests. But what I am still not convinced of is that it is worthwhile giving it to 19,000 people in order to discover case history No. 5 and some four or five other case histories. I am not at all sure that it justifies the universal use of the test which you have been doing.

Mr. BERLEW. I want to be perfectly clear that Dr. Carp's position here is understood. These represent a very small sampling—very small sampling. How many total cases did you look at?

Dr. CARP. I don't know the number; I am probably not going to be popular at the Peace Corps, but I will be popular with myself. If this were the only case that we had ever identified with the MMPI, I would feel it was worth it.

Mr. GALLAGHER. Well, Mr. Berlew, I would like to say that statistically you are bound to get some hits. Even the Mets get a few once in a while. But the thing that I worry about is the inverse ratio of qualified people who may well be prevented from serving in the Peace Corps as a result of this margin of error that you allow or accept under the test. If you take 10 or 11 percent factor, as we brought out before, it may well be there are 4,600 people or so.

Dr. CARP. May I discuss that point just a bit, sir?

Mr. GALLAGHER. Yes, sir.

Dr. CARP. The Peace Corps procedures are set up deliberately to minimize the likelihood that a false positive, an individual getting a poor score or profile on the MMPI, would unjustly or unfairly or unreasonably be eliminated. That likelihood is very, very, very, very, very small, because of all the other elements in the selection process, because such decisions are not based on one individual's opinion, and because the selection process is consecutive, sequential, and deliberative. For example, if I felt that for everyone we identified like case 5 we also prevented 5, 10, or 20 qualified people from going overseas, I would by no means take the position that I do. But if an individual's performance on the test looks deviant, he is interviewed by a psychologist, he is interviewed by a psychiatrist, his behavior and training are very carefully gone into, and there is very little likelihood of this kind of false positive occurring with the Peace Corps' use of the MMPI.

I would like to convince the committee that this is in fact so.

Mr. GALLAGHER. We are very happy to hear your statement. Of course, there has been some expertise involved in challenging this statement you have just made.

Dr. CARP. What I have read in the papers, at least, and the testimony I have had access to, does not really refer to the Peace Corps' use of the MMPI.