

DESERET NEWS

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NORMAN R. BOWEN
CITY EDITOR

Mr. W. P. Kelly
Acting Director
Job Corps

March 10, 1967

Dear Mr. Kelly,

I think the best way I can answer your recent query is to refer you to the enclosed series of articles which we ran in February.

We assigned one of our most able young reporters to live with the Job Corpsmen in the three Utah centers and give us a depth report.

It was well worth the three week's time which reporter Paul Winegar spent on the story.

If, after you've read our report, you would still like further information, I will be happy to assist.

Sincerely yours,

Norman R. Bowen
Norman R. Bowen

Corps Offers Success In Small Doses

By PAUL WINEGAR
Deseret News Staff Writer

PRICE — For Job Corps officials, success comes in small doses.

"We take a young fellow who has never completed anything in his life and put him to work building a sidewalk. In two days he's walking on it, and you can see a change in him. For the first time he sees a goal."

The words are those of Mr. Gurr, a tough ex-Marine who runs the Castle Valley Conservation Center for the Bureau of Land Management.

Unfortunately, even dedicated men like Mr. Gurr cannot reach all the boys, and despite the fact that this center is recognized as one of the nation's best, it has failed with more than one-third of its enrollees.

STAFF TOTAL

Since its activation in July, 1965, the center has received 275 corpsmen. Of that number, 88 have resigned from the program; 14 have been given involuntary discharges; 24 have gone AWOL; four have been sent home at the request of parents, and five have been medically discharged.

On the other side of the coin, five have transferred to other conservation centers; 11

have gone to urban centers; approximately 10 have joined the armed forces; and 15 have taken jobs before completing the program.

As of last week, there were 157 boys still enrolled at the camp, and the number of actual graduations from the center stood at 11.

The Castle Valley Center is Utah's oldest Job Corps operation. It began as a 10-man center, and was recently authorized to expand to a 20-man center.

Like its sister-center, the Clearfield Urban Job Corps Center, the center is located in a remote area.

Unfortunately, even dedicated men like Mr. Gurr cannot reach all the boys, and despite the fact that this center is recognized as one of the nation's best, it has failed with more than one-third of its enrollees.

The camp is run by a staff of 32, which includes instructors, work leaders, supervisors, cooks, a medic and secretaries.

It draws about 50 per cent of its corpsmen from what is called the Kansas City region, which includes Utah, Missouri, Kansas, Wyoming, Colorado and North Dakota. The other 50 per cent comes from other states.

Mr. Gurr said the camp has a choice of five vocational clusters including medical aides, ranch assistants and technical training.

Here, the corpsmen have a choice of five vocational clusters including medical aides, ranch assistants and technical training.

Government, Business Join At Job Center

By PAUL WINEGAR
Deseret News Staff Writer

CLEARFIELD — The Clearfield Urban Job Corps Center is operated by a partnership of big government and big business.

It is run by Thiokol Chemical Corp., under contract with the U.S. Office of Economic Opportunity. Cost for the first 15-months of operation will be \$12.6 million.

The government, as it does at all Job Corps centers, picks up the tab for all operational expenses, supplies, equipment, salaries, lease costs, rehabilitation of facilities, plus the cost of feeding, clothing, housing and paying the corpsmen.

Thiokol gets a fixed fee of \$500,000 for the 15-month period, and has to renegotiate with the OEO when the contract expires.

BETTER EDUCATED

The center, generally, gets better educated boys than the ones sent to conservation camps, and offers more technical training.

Here, the corpsmen have a choice of five vocational clusters including medical aides, ranch assistants and technical training.

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engine repair; food processing; chemical and plastic laboratory technicians, and heating and air conditioning.

They also receive enough basic education to advance them to the ninth-grade level in reading and math.

The facilities are located on the Fireport Center, which was once the Clearfield Naval Supply Depot.

WAREHOUSE REUSING

Corpsmen are housed in huge warehouses which were remodeled by dormitories. The dorms are divided into small five-man rooms, and each man has a private bunk and locker. There is also a day room in each dorm and an office for counselors.

The vocational training area is also located in a remodeled warehouse and is fitted with \$1.2 million worth of equipment.

Total investment in capital improvements in the property was \$2,000,000, including construction of an \$800,000 gymnasium and swimming pool.

At present it's costing about \$2,500 to train a corpsman for 15-months at Clearfield. Officials are quick to argue that the cost would be considerably less if it were amortized over a 10-year period.