

Mr. CROOK. I would say now that we have 10 percent of our volunteers from the ranks of the poor although we have no way to get salary levels. We don't ask the people who join VISTA if they come from the poor. I would say we have approximately 10 percent from the poor.

Mr. DELLENBACK. Is this among the ranks of the volunteers or among the ranks of the Citizens' Corps?

Mr. CROOK. The volunteers. In our associate program, 33 percent of the 2,400 summer associates will be taken from the ranks of the poor. In Puerto Rico we have 200 people serving in a program called VESTRA, all of them taken from the ranks of the poor, trained, and sent back to do very, very effective work.

Mr. DELLENBACK. You do not look upon the VISTA program so far as the constituency of it is concerned as a direct service to the poor, do you? Isn't this an indirect service?

Mr. CROOK. It is an indirect service.

Mr. DELLENBACK. Are you making an effort to have the poor involved in the initial instance in the volunteers and, secondly, is the Citizens' Corps directly recruited from the ranks of the poor?

Mr. CROOK. Yes.

Mr. DELLENBACK. You intend to move from this direction having as many as 10 percent?

Mr. CROOK. Yes.

Mr. DELLENBACK. This comes as a surprise to me because it is so out of line with 22-percent high school and 70-percent college statistics.

Mr. CROOK. This is something we stumbled on when we visited among the poor and among our volunteers. The volunteers were saying, "Look, we are having difficulty in communicating; we have a good guy here who is 19, he is stable, he is bright; if he were a volunteer he could help us."

Mr. DELLENBACK. Are you in the process of making any changes of significance so far as the assignments of your people are concerned? Somewhere in the background I recall having heard testimony about shifting toward local assignment. Mr. Goodell, I think, asked a question on this. I do not feel that the answer that you gave was really responsive. It did not come clear to me that you were really answering the question. You made a response in the area of Citizens' Corps and he thought that is what you were talking about. The Citizens' Corps is somewhat different, I assume, than the local assignment of volunteers. Is it not?

Mr. CROOK. All volunteers are assigned locally. They are assigned by us to local sponsors. The sponsor, in turn, assigns the volunteer to the particular part of the block of the community or the project where he wants them to work.

Mr. DELLENBACK. I am talking about source of volunteer and assignment of volunteer. Are you taking many Californians putting them in New Jersey? Are you taking many Minnesotans putting them in Tampa? Is there any effort being made by VISTA to take them from a community from which they volunteer and put them in a community about which presumptively they know best?

Mr. CROOK. I doubt that VISTA would go all the way on that and put volunteers in their very own community. Reorganization, which has taken place in VISTA, is more or less keeping the recruits—the volunteers—within the region where they volunteered, but we find that