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P.M.'s

SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY'S REMARKS

Rm 513

ON THE SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF THE PEACE CORPS

Office of the Director of the Peace Corps  
9:30 a.m., October 31, 1963

I am deeply pleased to be with you on this second anniversary of the Peace Corps. There is no program of the U.S. government of which I am more proud, both as a Senator and as an American. It is an honor for me to give you my congratulations on this anniversary.

Two years ago some Americans had misgivings about the program.  
At least they adopted a "wait and see" attitude. Long since that attitude has been wiped out. Regardless of party, regardless of section, America is proud of what the Peace Corps has done and how it has done it.

Unstinting satisfaction has been expressed from abroad. No single achievement in years has done so much to create good will for America. No other program of America today carries so much of the spirit - the true spirit if you will - of America as does the Peace Corps. In country after country, the picture of Americans - some young and some older - working in all kinds of conditions - and for the people, not for profit - is magnetic. Peace Corpsmen live with the people, work with the people, join with them in a

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common cause of construction. They practice the arts which make peace meaningful. They demonstrate brotherhood in action.

Success of the Peace Corps has required remarkably efficient and dedicated management here at home; and an equally dedicated group of Americans - willing and able to go out virtually on their own to all of the far places of the earth.

When the Peace Corps began, Sargent Shriver said simply: "It has to be good." He has seen to it that it was good. Candidates have been well screened and chosen. They have been well trained. The projects have been carefully selected.

Above all, the ethic has been clear: one does good with people, not to people.

So the Peace Corps men and women have gone out to make a remarkable record. Every country to which they have gone has praised them and wants more of them. Here is one place where the slogan, "Ask the man who has one", really applies. Indeed, "Ask the country who has one."

The Peace Corps is one of the President's finest programs. The country had been in a somewhat cynical, jaded, rather impotent frame of mind about the prospects for peace before the Peace Corps was launched. Here was a pick-up we needed. Here was the concept of a positive non-military policy. Here was the idea of throwing our energies into something more than military might alone.

More than anything else the Peace Corps caught the spirit of the President's Inaugural address, and has given it life. It embodies

*Ask not*

the "get the country moving" theme -- in this case in the cause of peace. Even more, it embodies the "Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country."

I understand, universally, when things break down or go awry, a Peace Corpsman simply shrugs his shoulders and says "Ask not." Then he gets on with the job.

Such is the true spirit of America. As we project it, we can face the future with confidence.

I do not come here to flatter you. The Peace Corps did not respond to that kind of thing in the first place. It is not what keeps you going. I do come to express my appreciation for the inspiration to us all that the Peace Corps is, for what it is doing and for the people who are carrying out its objectives.

Keep up your good work -- until all of America, all the world, becomes gripped by the same spirit of self-dedication and self-sacrifice for the good of the humble, the unlearned, the sick, the deprived, and the hungry everywhere.



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