

# Viet programs expand

Therapy and rehabilitation team working in Quang Ngai Provincial Hospital. Shop begins making artificial limbs. Young volunteers sharing life of Vietnamese.

A hospital-based program of therapy and rehabilitation, and a workshop to make artificial limbs and train Vietnamese to make them, have been added to the AFSC's program in Quang Ngai, South Vietnam.

The therapy and rehabilitation program began operation in July. The initial thought was that it should include facilities for making artificial limbs just for local use. But when prosthesis-maker Joseph Clark surveyed the possibilities for the Committee, he felt that it was feasible to turn out 150 to 200 limbs a month and train 25 Vietnamese workers every nine months. Clark was asked to head the project, and he began work in July.

## Thirty thousand amputees

The National Rehabilitation Institute in Saigon estimates that there are 30,000 amputees in Vietnam at present, and more are being created faster than artificial limbs are being produced. Children, who number perhaps one-fifth of

the amputees, require re-fitting every six months because of their continuing growth.

The therapy and rehabilitation program provides care on both an in-patient and an out-patient basis and includes nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy and medical social work. There is great need for this kind of service, as many patients lose the function of their limbs through inactivity during convalescence, while others who are partially incapacitated never regain maximum function because of lack of proper care. A review of the Quang Ngai Hospital records showed that almost half the surgical patients, 80 to 85 per cent of whom are civilian war casualties, and almost all the burn and orthopedic cases require rehabilitation if they are to be able to care for themselves and earn a living.

A team of ten people is working in the hospital—professional physical and occupational therapists and a medical social worker assisted by nurses and

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## President Johnson told of discrimination in Federal programs

"Quakers Charge Housing Stall" said one newspaper headline. "VA, FHA Race Policy Blasted" said another.

The story broke May 23rd when the Service Committee made public a report to President Johnson on implementation of the Executive Order on Equal Opportunity in Housing. The AFSC charged that the Federal Housing Administration and the Veterans Administration have been at best ineffective and at worst subversive in implementing the Executive Order, which prohibits discrimination in new housing provided with Federal aid, including insurance of loans, and in housing owned by the Government.

## FHA & VA lack understanding

"AFSC has found in FHA and VA a lack of candor, a reluctance to engage fully in mutual problem solving, and a serious lack of understanding of equal opportunity problems and the methods required to cope with them," stated the report. "The inadequacies which we have found rest on a dual foundation: the entrenched attitudes and working methods of government officials and members of the housing industry, and the blindness of both groups to some of the most urgent problems of modern society."

The criticisms made the headlines, but the real meat of the report was a list of recommendations for methods of handling Federally assisted housing and the sale of Government-owned houses on a non-discriminatory basis. These included methods for achieving an affirmative compliance program, effective complaint procedures, the proper utilization of equal opportunity personnel, the selection of brokers and a public announcement program.

## Case histories given

The second part of the AFSC report gave thirteen case histories of housing discrimination, illustrating discriminatory tactics by builders, salesmen and FHA brokers in Maryland, New Jersey, California, Virginia, Illinois, Pennsylvania and the District of Columbia.

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War in the Middle East—again. A three-man exploratory mission visited the area in June and July to assess needs and discuss possible roles for the AFSC. Although details are still being worked out, there will be programs in Jerusalem, the Gaza Strip, and in Amman, Jordan. The photograph, taken in 1948, shows refugee women and children at Rafah, in the Gaza Strip, lined up for water. The AFSC administered relief for the United Nations to 250,000 refugees in the Gaza Strip.

*Photo courtesy of United Nations*

# To Russia with love

## American teachers visit Russian schools in two-month exchange

"We represented a link between our nations they could trust, a link that was alive," reported Myrtle McCallin, one of three American teachers to visit schools in Moscow last spring. "Our days were filled with exclamation points marking generosity, affection, and concern for our personal comfort and pleasure. I have never experienced anything like it."

The exchange of teachers was sponsored by AFSC's School Affiliation Service and represented the second half of a reciprocal exchange. During their two months Thomas Forsythe, Joseph Glus and Myrtle McCallin taught and observed in special English schools, dictated tapes for English classes, helped with English pronunciation and usage, and spoke to groups about life and education in the United States. They also checked textbooks on the United States for errors in facts and interpretation. "The Russian teachers were enthusiastic about the idea of our being able to correct these errors in each other's textbooks," Tom said.

The welcome by children and teachers at their individual schools was overwhelming. Tom came home the first day with a small bunch of flowers in his hand and a broad grin on his face. Joe was surrounded by children from the moment he entered a school. Both Joe and Tom speak fluent Russian.

### At home among friends

Outside the classroom their expansive hosts took them to the puppet theater, to see the famous Russian circus, the ballet, art galleries, concerts and plays. They were frequently entertained by the Russian teachers in their homes. Meals were sumptuous and spectacular, "but the food could not overshadow the people," Myrtle said. "We felt we were indeed at home among friends, close friends."

Political topics of all sorts were avoided by the Russians, it was reported. There was a great deal of interest expressed in American history, literature and geography, and a warm feeling for the American people.

All three teachers commented that Russian schools are highly individual. Each bears the stamp of its director and develops its own unique programs. Everywhere classes are small and a teacher often stays with one class for several grades. There is a very personal relationship between pupils and teachers. "Not only does the student have respect for the teacher, the teacher has respect for the child," said Myrtle.

Russian teachers occupy a very important place in the Soviet life. They are among the best paid and most influential groups.

### Farewell luncheons gay

As their assignments came to a close the different schools entertained the Americans with farewell luncheons gay with speeches, songs, flowers and gifts. "The over-all feeling was one of good will, gratefulness and the sincere wish to strengthen the bond between our two countries," Myrtle said.

Thomas Forsythe teaches at Roosevelt University in Chicago, Joseph Glus in the Baltimore County schools in Maryland, and Myrtle McCallin, director of the School Affiliation Service, taught in Swarthmore, Pennsylvania, before she came to the AFSC.

## FHA and VA *continued from page 1*

The case histories told of a Negro home-seeker who visited an FHA broker's office after making an appointment with a salesman by telephone. The front office was empty, but she found two men in an inner office. One told her that the salesman "might be across the street, having a bite to eat," and went out to look for him. After a while, a secretary came downstairs and told her that the salesman was downtown and had probably been detained.

The home-seeker then asked the remaining man if he could help her. He told her that he was not a salesman. The telephone rang and he answered it. After hanging up he told her that the salesman had called to say he was tied-up in court and would call her at home later in the day. She left the office.

Half an hour later she returned to the broker's office and found the same man at the front desk. He finally admitted that he was the salesman with whom she had made the appointment.

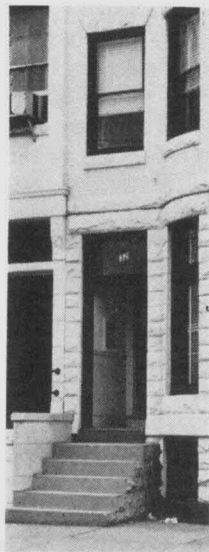
### Lawyer needed to buy house

In another case a Negro attempted to buy a house in a development advertising FHA and VA financing. In spite of the assistance of Service Committee staff members, who met with officials of the FHA and VA, it was necessary to make 69 telephone calls, attend 13 meetings, write 10 letters and obtain the services of a lawyer before he could buy a house in the development.



Bihar, India—this free kitchen run by the Bihar Relief Committee is one of about a thousand which, with other food distribution activities, prevented wide-spread starvation this summer. An AFSC mission found that state and national governments in India were cooperating effectively with other governments and private agencies to fight off famine, and contributed \$8,000 toward improvements in irrigation.

# Vietnam disturbs Baltimore citizens



A short while ago a policeman walked into the AFSC peace education office in Baltimore. To the surprise of the staff the policeman was not there on official business; he had come for draft counseling. He had served with the Marine Corps in Vietnam and was now about to finish his term in the reserves. He told the peace education secretary,

Allan Brick, that he was so appalled by the war in Vietnam that he wanted to resign from the reserves. Allan counseled him not to attempt to resign but to find other ways of objecting to the war. The policeman volunteered to undertake speaking engagements for the peace movement.

The peace education office of the Middle Atlantic Region is always open to visitors seeking advice, offering help or buying books from the wide selection of peace literature available. Allan Brick runs one of the most active centers of peace work with the help of an assistant—Trudi Schutz—an interne, a secretary, a couple of subsistence-paid volunteers, and many, many unpaid volunteers. In the office there is a feeling of being at the hub of a wheel as volunteers

ing to the peace movement for help. These people are not pacifists: the policeman saw a clear distinction between the use of side arms in his job and war as it is carried on in Vietnam. Allan Brick is seizing the opportunity created by the reaction to Government policies in Vietnam to lead those who are disturbed to consider the implications of their rejection of the war. If this war is wrong, what kind of war could be right? Is there a workable alternative to war? What does it mean to be a pacifist? What would a world without war look like? To meet the demand from various groups for speakers on war and peace, Allan and Trudi have trained thirty volunteers.

When people begin to show concern about Vietnam, Allan Brick likes to involve them with a group where they can further explore their new position—such as the summer peace institute at Pinebrook—or with an action group. The Baltimore office has cooperated completely with Vietnam Summer—an effort to mobilize local communities in oppo-



*Trudi Schutz goes leafletting on her lunch hour.*

sition to the war in Vietnam. Trudi used role playing to help volunteers learn how to knock on doors and question people about their views. This door-to-door questioning found people who are unhappy with Government policy and encouraged them to speak up, have coffee party discussions in their homes and organize support for Congressmen returning to their districts to hold open hearings on the war.

Trudi had earlier experience in helping isolated individuals find others who think as they do and then to organize. Last February forty-nine secondary school teachers came in freezing weather

to a camp near Annapolis to talk about "Vietnam in the Classroom." Despite the weather the conference was a great success—and "Teachers Concerned" groups were formed in Baltimore and Washington, D.C. Another member of the Middle Atlantic Region peace staff is David Easter, peace interne in Syracuse, N.Y. He has also been very active in organizing opposition to the war in Vietnam—many of the draft resistance groups formed in that area owe their existence to the groundwork done by David.

Allan Brick says that one of the strongest signs of opposition to the war



*Allan Brick counsels a conscientious objector on draft alternatives.*

is the increase in the number of men coming for draft counseling. His office was counseling four to five a day at the end of the last school year—and this pattern is reported by other AFSC offices.

Despite the increase in young men coming to the office for draft counseling, they are a small minority. Allan Brick, Trudi Schutz and their peace committee decided to reach beyond those already in the peace fold. They approached a number of school principals for permission to post draft information on the school notice boards. Permission was refused, so staff and committee members went leafletting during lunch hour and just after school hours. This way they brought draft information to four Baltimore high schools on four consecutive weeks.

These demonstrations have opened doors to the students and to student newspapers. The Baltimore office intends to leaflet again, taking pains to follow up all opportunities that open for dialogue and information. This is peace education.



*Shouting posters arrest the attention of visitors.*

rush in and out, co-ordinating, choosing books to sell at meetings or to use in draft counseling.

The policeman is a dramatic example of a new group of people who are look-

## Vietnam *continued from page 1*

aides with less specialized training. Richard and Cynthia Johnson have replaced David and Mary Stickney, who started the program, as directors of all AFSC work at Quang Ngai.

The AFSC plans to bring therapy and rehabilitation to other locations and to begin training Vietnamese to carry on their own programs. Efforts to extend medical aid to North Vietnam have been unsuccessful so far, but will continue.

## Volunteers work in other places

Ten AFSC volunteers are now working in individual assignments with Vietnamese organizations and institutions such as an orphanage, a hospital and a farmers' cooperative. They speak Vietnamese, work under Vietnamese supervision and live simply, outside the guns and sandbags of the official U.S. establishment.

One girl works in a refugee village that has grown up alongside an American military base, where the villagers earn a living washing laundry and shining shoes for the soldiers. She is one of a team sent there by a Vietnamese youth organization. They attempt to maintain a tradition of self-respect in the village and to develop a sense of community in spite of the cultural disruption caused by the military presence.

She finds the GI's very curious, and respectful of her humanitarian motives in being in Vietnam, but little aware of the hostility of the Vietnamese for the Americans. To her, living among the

Vietnamese, this hostility has been an obstacle difficult to overcome. At first children pelted her with stones and taunted her as she walked through the streets, while their mothers laughed from behind doorways. She says, "at six or eight or so, they know why the foreign men want their mothers and sisters. They know how to light a cigarette peddling a bicycle . . . It must be frightening to the old people because the children learn so fast." One day an old woman smiled at

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## Pulitzer Prize turned over to AFSC

Justin Kaplan, winner of the 1967 Pulitzer Prize for biography, has donated his prize money to the Service Committee.

On learning that the trustees of Columbia University had awarded him the prize for his book, *Mr. Clemens and Mark Twain*, he stated:

*"I am grateful for this honor. I wish in turn to honor the American tradition of constructive dissent Mark Twain served so nobly, to voice my distress over the course we are following in Vietnam, and to express also my faith and hope that we are capable of devising positive alternatives to that course. Accordingly I will make over the Pulitzer Prize money to the American Friends Service Committee."*

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her and she stopped in pleased surprise, only to have the woman open her hand to beg for some piastres.

Gradually she has won acceptance, starting with the children. She has told them she hates the war, and they have seen that she doesn't wear Western clothes or buy things in the PX, and that she eats fried rice and fish soup in the restaurants where the cab drivers eat. They have joined her in singing songs in the street, and finally they are inviting her into their homes to eat with them.

## Sweat, laughter and friendship

She has walked through the countryside with the Vietnamese students of her team and gone swimming in a mountain stream. They've gotten sweaty and dirty pouring concrete and laughed at jokes, at each other and at themselves. And they've sat at the fire poking in pine cones and talking about philosophies of life, about the realities of Vietnam, about the little things that make friendships. She writes:

"These are the people we confide in, to whom we look for direction—not because they might help end the war (because that is not in their power), but because they are working out of a faith in their own people and culture . . . They see beyond the war and they will be ready for the peace when it comes—with communities and individuals who believe in themselves, who know how to communicate and cooperate with each other, and who know their own resources because they have been exercising them."

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