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Guide to MS668 UTEP Peace Corps collection

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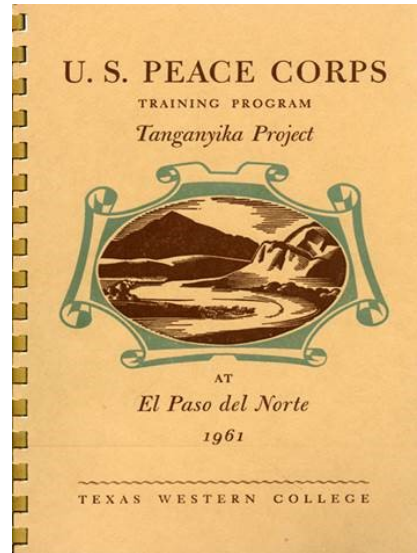
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Guide to
MS 668
UTEP Peace Corps
collection

Span Dates, 1961 – 1966, 2015, 2018
Bulk Dates, 1961 – 1966

0.5 inches (linear)



Processed by Abbie Weiser
October 17, 2018

Donated by Arthur Young, October 2018.

Citation: UTEP Peace Corps collection, MS668, C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department. The University of Texas at El Paso Library.

C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department
University of Texas at El Paso

Historical Sketch

Created by President John F. Kennedy, the U.S. Peace Corps program began in 1961. The program trained U.S. volunteers to serve in developing countries around the world in order to promote peace and positive international relations. The Peace Corps program at Texas Western College (now UTEP) was one of the first training units created.

At Texas Western College, the first cohort of Peace Corps volunteers trained for surveying, geology, and civil engineering-related projects in Tanganyika (now Tanzania). Texas Western professors Dr. Clyde Kelsey, Dr. William Strain, and Dr. W.H. Timmons were involved in training Peace Corps members. The Tanganyika Project group graduated from Peace Corps training on August 20, 1961. The Peace Corps credits the Texas Western College group as the first to complete its training. After graduation at Texas Western, Tanganyika Project Peace Corps members were sent to Puerto Rico for additional training. They also completed training once they were in Tanganyika.

Arthur Eugene Young was one of the first dozen men selected to participate in the U.S. Peace Corps program. Young was a native of Schwenksville, Pennsylvania. After earning a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Pennsylvania State University in 1955, Young served in the U.S. Air Force and then worked for the U.S. Forest Service in Missoula, Montana. In June 1961, at age 28, Young was accepted into the Peace Corps and started training at Texas Western College (now UTEP) as part of its Tanganyika Project. During his time in the Peace Corps, Young helped design and construct roads in Tanganyika (now Tanzania). He also met and married his wife, Anna Quink Young (a Peace Corps volunteer nurse), in Tanzania in 1966 while serving with the Peace Corps.

[Sources: UTEP Peace Corps collection, MS668; "Texas Western College and the Peace Corps: Part I", *Transformations* blog post by Bryan Winter, May 31, 2012]

Series Description or Arrangement

The collection is arranged chronologically and by type of material.

Scope and Content Notes

The UTEP Peace Corps collection dates 1961 – 1966, 2015, 2018. Types of materials include copies of articles, photos, and correspondence. The collection also contains original training schedules, acceptance lists, guidelines, a Texas Western College

Peace Corps graduation program, and other items. These records help document the UTEP Peace Corps and its inaugural Tanganyika project during the early 1960s. Some items also contain biographical information about UTEP Peace Corps member Arthur E. Young.

Provenance Statement

Donated by Arthur Young, October 2018.

Restrictions

No deed of gift. No rights to collection.

Literary Rights Statement

Permission to publish material from the UTEP Peace Corps collection must be obtained from the C. L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library. Citation should read UTEP Peace Corps collection. L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library.

Notes to the Researcher

See also

William Strain papers, MS080

UTEP collection, MS001

Container List

Box #	Folder #	Title	Date
1	1	Peace Corps graduation exercises program, Texas Western College	August 20, 1961
1	2	Tanganyika Project materials [list of faculty, area studies, acceptances, food guidelines, training schedule]	1961
1	3	Articles and photos about Arthur Young [copies]; letter and telegram from Robert Sargent Shriver to Arthur Young about his Peace Corps program acceptance and training completion	1961 – 1966?
1	4	Articles about Tanganyika project; <i>Peace Corps News</i> [newsletter]	October 11, 1962; June 1963; undated
1	5	“What Program was the First Peace Corps Project?” [article from <i>Peacecorps Worldwide</i> blog by John Coyne]	September 21, 2015
1	6	<i>The Tanganyika Peace Corps Project, 1961</i> [project overview]	July 2018