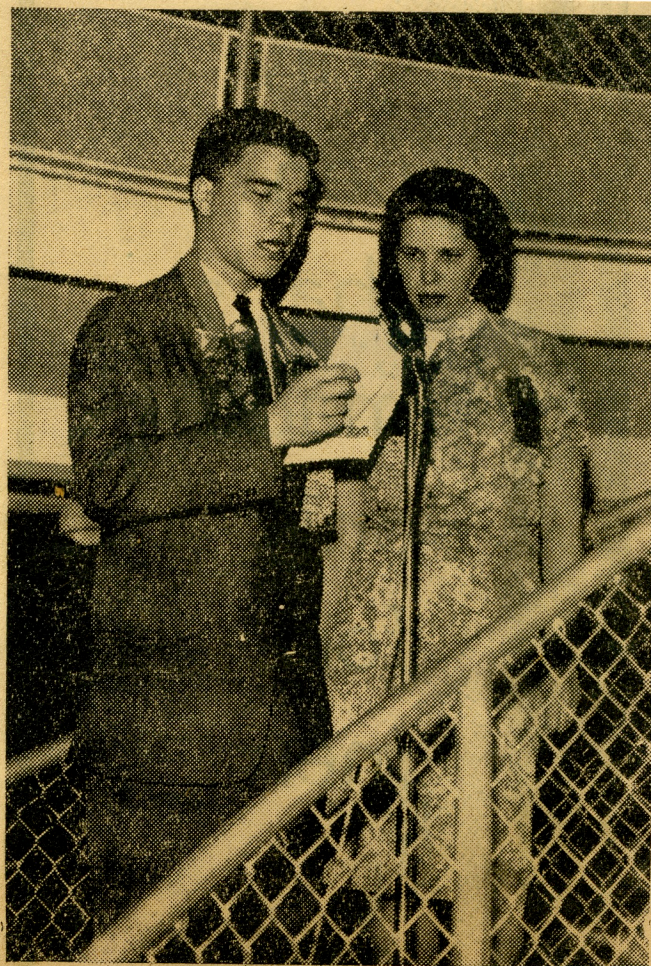


BANGKOK WORLD

News Of The World And The Community

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World Photo by Tavorn
Arthur Crisfield and Peggy Bruton make short arrival address in Thai at Don Muang airport as spokesmen for 45 U.S. Peace Corps volunteers who arrived last night.

U.S. Peace Corps Volunteers Arrive

The first U.S. Peace Corps group to Thailand arrived here last night and pledged "to serve to strengthen the firm bonds between the Thai people and Americans".

They made the pledge in Thai.

The 45 volunteers, 30 men and 15 women, landed at 10 p.m. after a trip that took them from Detroit to Bangkok by way of San Francisco, Honolulu, Tokyo, and Hong-kong.

They seemed a little tired, but happy to get to the land of their assignment.

They were greeted at the airport by Mr. Boonchana Atthakorn, Deputy Secretary General of the National Economic Development Board, U.S. Ambassador Kenneth Todd Young, and others.

The volunteers, wearing garlands given to them by a welcoming committee at planeside, gathered at the airport outdoor lounge for a brief arrival ceremony.

Ambassador Young expressed great admiration for their "sense of dedication". He reminded them that the success of the Peace Corps in Thailand "depends on you." The Ambassador also greeted them in Thai.

Mr. Boonchana, also speaking in Thai, greeted the volunteers on behalf of His Majesty's Government.

He said, "I am very glad that you are now here with us,

and, on behalf of His Majesty's Government, I welcome you to Thailand.

"I would like you to know that your leaders, particularly Mr. J. Sargent Shriver and your chief officer in Thailand, Mr. Glen W. Ferguson, who is with us here tonight, have taken great care to see that this new dimension of our mutual assistance program gets a good start so it may end well and to our mutual benefit.

"I am quite sure you will see that we of Thailand reciprocate this kind and cordial thought. Your choice of your own free will to come in itself is an eloquent demonstration of the feeling of friendship that exists between our two countries from time immemorial.

"The night is getting late and you have come a long way from home. We shall see more of each other in the next few days. I should not detain you any longer, but let me say again that you are welcome."

Two of the volunteers, Arthur Crisfield, 23, and Peggy Bruton, 26, chosen as spokesmen for the group, replied to the greetings in Thai and said, "We are coming with great respect for Thai culture and we expect to learn a lot from living and working with the Thai people."

They brought greetings from Thai students at the University of Michigan who helped them during their 13-week training program.

They said they have come to teach English, science, professional arts and to work in malaria eradication.