

ADDITIONS, INTEGRATIONS, CORRECTIONS AND SUPPLEMENTS TO THE BIBLIOGRAPHY OF ARNOLD JOSEPH TOYNBEE*

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Addition and Integration to Part I, Works by Arnold J. Toynbee

1961-1962

177) John Molleson, *Peace Corps Plan Lauded by Toynbee. Hopes Young People will Wed Foreigners*, in «The New York Herald Tribune», February 20, 1961.

«Arnold J. Toynbee, British historian, yesterday applauded President Kennedy's plan for a Peace Corps of young people to serve in foreign lands.

He said it was important that they should live the life of the people among whom they work "eating the same food, wearing the same clothes and sharing the same living conditions".

"I hope that some of the young people will even marry the local people, especially if they are of a different race, because that wins their hearts", Mr. Toynbee said. Ambassador Adlai E. Stevenson, appearing on the same panel, described this as "procreative diplomacy" and drew a laugh.

"I note that there is no suggestion that the brightest young people of Britain be siphoned off, and turned into a forced-labor battalion to go native all over the world, and lose all their inherited, national and individual morals and traditions!".

"Do Americans want their children sent out to eat the food, wear the clothes (or no clothes!), and share the living conditions of every underdeveloped nation and tribe that some do-gooders and internationalists, who have long since abandoned all individual and national principles, decide need their assistance? This is leveling down with a vengeance!"».

178) Item 2288 – A.J. Toynbee [*Peace Corps*], in «The Volunteer. A Newsletter by and for the Volunteers of the Peace Corps», I, 4 (April, 1962), pp. 1, 5, – was introduced by the Editors as follows:

«In February, the eminent historian and author, Arnold Toynbee, and his wife, were in Puerto Rico where he delivered a series of lectures at the University of Puerto Rico. Professor

* *A Bibliography of Arnold J. Toynbee*, compiled by S. Fiona Morton, with a Foreword by Veronica M. Toynbee, Oxford, Oxford University Press, 1980.

Toynbee was one of the original supporters of the idea of the Peace Corps. In Puerto Rico, the Toynbees asked to see the camp and in the process to meet their first Volunteers. The Toynbees arrived at the camp before lunch on a Sunday, in time to greet the El Salvador group, just then returning from their four-day field trip. After lunch and a long talk with individual Volunteers, Professor Toynbee addressed the group briefly. We asked Professor Toynbee if he would write a brief article for «The Volunteer». He graciously agreed and shortly after his return to England, we received the following article» (ivi, p. 1).

THE PEACE CORPS

By Arnold J. Toynbee

I was in the United States in the spring of 1961 when the decision to establish the Peace Corps was announced. Ten months later, I was visiting the camp in Puerto Rico where Peace Corps teams, bound for tropical countries, take part of their training. The team that I had the pleasure of meeting there was going to El Salvador. A dozen teams are already at work in the field in various parts of the World. So a project that seemed almost too good to be true has come into action quicker than one could have dared to hope.

The effective establishment of the Peace Corps is a particularly cheering and encouraging event, because it exactly meets one of the World's present crying needs. In the Atomic Age all the long-separated branches of the human race have to learn, and learn quickly, to live together like a single family. We must do this if we are to save ourselves from committing mass suicide. The need is urgent, but the enterprise is difficult. For thousands of years we have been divided from each other by barriers of prejudice arising from the local difference in our manners and customs; and this habit of mutual aloofness can be overcome only by some great pioneering effort of idealism. During the five years before the Peace Corps was set up, I had been travelling in a number of Asian countries, and I had come away discouraged by what I had seen of the relations between the Asian peoples and the Westerners who were working among them. Many, perhaps most, of these Westerners were doing valuable work in a disinterested spirit, but they were like people living in a state of siege. They were working for their Asian fellow human beings without sharing their life. They were living in closed communities, not mixing with their Asian neighbors socially; not eating the same food; not living in the same houses. They were conscious expatriates; and therefore the effect of their presence on human relations was negative.

This is why the launching of the Peace Corps has raised my spirits. Here is a movement whose express purpose is to overcome the disastrous barriers that have hitherto segregated the affluent Western Minority of the human race from the majority of their fellow men and women. And the initiative in this has come from the country that is now the recognized leader of the Western World. Service in the Peace Corps is not an easy option. It calls for

adventurousness, adaptability, human feeling, and, above all, self-sacrifice. There is something in human nature that responds to a challenge like this. I believe that, in the Peace Corps, the non-Western majority of mankind is going to meet a sample of Western Man at his best.