

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, July 10, 1995.

Hon. JOHN KASICH,
Chairman, Committee on the Budget,
U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to section 308(b) and in aid of section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act, as amended, this letter and supporting detail provide an up-to-date tabulation of the on-budget current levels of new budget authority, estimated outlays, and estimated revenues for fiscal year 1995. These estimates are compared to the appropriate levels for those items contained in the 1995 Concurrent Resolution on the Budget (H. Con. Res. 218), and are current through June 30, 1995. A summary of this tabulation follows:

(In millions of dollars)

	House current level	Budget resolution (H. Con. Res. 218)	Current level +/- resolution
Budget authority	1,233,103	1,238,705	- 5,602
Outlays	1,216,173	1,217,605	- 1,432
Revenues:			
1995	978,218	977,700	518
1995-1999	5,383,557	5,415,200	- 31,643

Since my last report, dated June 8, 1995, there has been no action to change the current level of budget authority, outlays or revenues.

Sincerely,

JUNE E. O'NEILL,
Director.

PARLIAMENTARIAN STATUS REPORT, 104TH CONGRESS,
1ST SESSION, HOUSE ON-BUDGET SUPPORTING DETAIL
FOR FISCAL YEAR 1995 AS OF CLOSE OF BUSINESS
JUNE 30, 1995

(In millions of dollars)

	Budget authority	Outlays	Revenues
ENACTED IN PREVIOUS SESSIONS			
Revenues			978,466
Permanents and other spending			
legislation	750,343	706,271	
Appropriation legislation	738,096	757,783	
Offsetting receipts	- 250,027	- 250,027	
Total previously enacted	1,238,412	1,214,027	978,466
ENACTED THIS SESSION			
1995 Emergency Supplementals and Rescissions Act (P.L. 104-6)	- 3,386	- 1,008	
Self-Employed Health Insurance Act (P.L. 104-7)			- 248
Total enacted this session	- 3,386	- 1,008	- 248
ENTITLEMENTS AND MANDATORIES			
Budget resolution baseline estimates of appropriated entitlements and other mandatory programs not yet enacted	- 1,923	3,154	
Total Current Level ¹	1,233,103	1,216,173	978,218
Total Budget Resolution	1,238,705	1,217,605	977,700
Amount remaining:			
Under Budget Resolution	5,602	1,432	
Over Budget Resolution			518

¹In accordance with the Budget Enforcement Act, the total does not include \$3,905 million in budget authority and \$7,442 million in outlays for funding of emergencies that have been designated as such by the President and the Congress, and \$841 million in budget authority and \$917 million in outlays for emergencies that would be available only upon an official budget request from the President designating the entire amount requested as an emergency requirement.

VALUE AND IMPORTANCE OF THE PEACE CORPS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California [Mr. FARR] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleagues who will be on the floor a little bit later tonight to dis-

cuss the value and the importance of the Peace Corps and how the corps is affected by this year's budget.

As with most other Federal programs, the Peace Corps is facing cuts. The current budget for the Peace Corps is \$231 million. Let me repeat that. The current budget for the Peace Corps is \$231 million. That is a very little amount of money in light of what we have been discussing here today in relevance to the history that the Peace Corps has played for this country.

But today the House only appropriated \$224 million, a cut of \$7 million from the current budget. This cut is going to have a profound effect on the Peace Corps operations. It will cut at least 500 volunteers who could be serving, who would be sent overseas next year. There are approximately 6,500 currently serving this country in countries all over the world. Given the enormous contributions just a few of the volunteers can provide, this means major loss of aid for thousands of needy people.

I am a former Peace Corps volunteer, now serving in Congress. There are six of us in this House, and we are very proud of that service. We remember the vital programs that served the countries that we were invited by those countries to serve in, Programs will be ended entirely in many countries, several countries, in addition to the programs in Nigeria and the Cook Islands, which are already scheduled to be closed.

What my colleagues and I are here to discuss today is the valuable and effective Peace Corps experience, that experience that is shown everywhere around the world, and how we will need to guarantee a stable budget for the Peace Corps in the future, not to go on a roller coaster road that this Congress is starting on.

Let me give you just a few examples of what makes the Peace Corps so unique and effective. Then I will yield time to my colleagues who have also served in the Peace Corps.

In Lesotho, wells and rain catchment systems built by volunteers provide drinking water for 32,000 people. In Benin, volunteers trained 400 people from 1,700 villages in parasite eradication, and worm cases in those areas fell by some 64 percent. In Ghana, volunteers created locally staffed vaccination clinics in 20 villages, which today serve nearly 50,000 people.

Now, I would like to remind the viewers and my other colleagues who will be here in a minute, and particularly Mr. SHAYS, who served in the Peace Corps in Fiji and has been a strong supporter of the Peace Corps, and Mr. WARD, who served in Gambia as a Peace Corps volunteer.

Cuts in the Peace Corps are going to hurt States with large populations, and I represent one of those, California, with 32 million people. Our State has more volunteers serving than any other State in the Union, 827 this year alone. A recent study by the University

of Maryland found that 85 percent of the public support maintaining or increasing Peace Corps's budget.

The Peace Corps consumes only \$1.50 of every \$10,000 spent by the Federal Government. These dollars are well and cost-effectively spent. In Kazakhstan, volunteers are teaching English to 3,000 primary, secondary, and university students; in Armenia the first independent radio station in the country was established with help from the volunteers; in Cameroon, volunteers helped to develop a textbook for teaching AIDS prevention. The result is there are 5,000 students learning how to prevent AIDS. In Ghana, over 1 million seedlings are planted each year to help volunteers helping in the prevention of erosion.

Mr. Speaker, let me conclude by just saying that the Peace Corps has had over 30 years of bipartisan support. It has earned this support because everyone knows that the Peace Corps works. Just ask the villager who learned how to irrigate his farm, or the hundreds of people who did not die from parasites because their doctors were taught how to prevent them, or the thousands of students around the world that now speak English because of the Peace Corps teaching them English.

We need to continue this valuable and cost-effective program. Let us not let our budget cutting frenzy cut merely for the sake of cutting. The Peace Corps is probably one of America's proudest symbols of how we, living in this affluent country, can reach out and help countries around the world. I cannot think of a more cost-effective program in the Federal Government. I would urge my colleagues to reconsider the cuts that were made.

COST EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PEACE CORPS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Connecticut [Mr. SHAYS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I just want to be here tonight to say that the Peace Corps changed my life in an extraordinary way, as it did my wife, but I get my greatest satisfaction in thinking about what volunteers have done through the course of the past 30 years to change the lives of so many people around the world.

Joining with my colleague to just express the tremendous satisfaction I have in knowing that Peace Corps volunteers are not those fancy consultants, high priced consultants going to countries, staying for a month or two and writing a report, the thing about a Peace Corps volunteer is that they are actually living in the communities. They are riding the buses that the indigenous people ride, they are living in the same communities, in the huts that they live in, eating the food and speaking their language.

While I am not here to criticize the 4-percent reduction in cuts to the Peace

Corps, given the other cuts that are taking place throughout our budget, I am here to just caution my colleagues to make sure that we recognize that the Peace Corps is one of the most cost-effective organizations that you could possibly have. The real fact is that you cannot ask for an organization that has done more to help people in Third World countries than this organization begun by President Kennedy and continued by Presidents of both parties.

At this time I would like to yield to the gentleman from California [Mr. FARR] and just thank him for his willingness to speak out on this issue.

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman very much.

Mr. Speaker, we wanted to show tonight that there is a bipartisan support for the Peace Corps, that this is not an issue that has ever been just a one party effort.

I would just caution my colleagues in the House that as the world grows smaller and as we need to have more effort to sort of hypereducate the world population, there is not a more cost effective way of doing that than allowing young Americans and old alike, because there is no limit on serving in the Peace Corps, to be able to volunteer. They get paid, we got paid a small amount when we were in the Peace Corps, a stipend.

Mr. SHAYS. Reclaiming my time, it was not quite the minimum wage, but it sure met our needs.

I notice our colleague from Kentucky, and we have very little time left. I would love to yield time to my colleague.

Mr. WARD. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman yielding that time. I have a 5-minute opportunity coming up, and we can continue this discussion, because I think it is important to recognize and to emphasize that this is a bipartisan effort.

Mr. Speaker, there are six former Peace Corps volunteers who serve in the House of Representatives, and it is evenly divided, three Democrats and three Republicans. I think that speaks to the fact that all sorts of folks have made the commitment, have been willing to spend the time and go far afield from where they grew up to give a little back and to learn a lot, because one thing that I often tell people about my time in the Peace Corps is that I benefited far more than the people I was there helping.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I just would say to my colleague, I think about this experience, remembering being in a Fijian hut and seeing a picture of President Kennedy, and how much the Third World reached out to this President who was reaching out to the Third World, and thinking about a great African leader who visited President Kennedy, and President Kennedy, who was sensitive to the culture of the African community, instead of inviting him into the East Room or the Green Room or the Blue Room, invited him

up into his own personal living quarters. And volunteers know the symbolism and the significance of when we were visiting a neighbor, if they would actually bring us into the most personal part of their own home, it was a great honor. That electrified the Third World, that he had shown such respect to a great African leader by inviting him into his own personal quarters.

Becoming sensitive to the concerns and the ways that people live in other countries was just a definite part of this whole Peace Corps experience. Candidly, this has brought a tremendous ability for me to interact with people of all income levels and all different social economic circumstances, all educational levels, and realize that behind that income level or that education is an extraordinarily real person that I am about to interact with.

IMPORTANCE OF THE PEACE CORPS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kentucky [Mr. WARD] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WARD. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. FARR. I thank the gentleman from Kentucky.

Mr. Speaker, I was commenting that one of the unique feelings we all had was that each of us had the ability to live in a minority in another land and learn another language and learn another culture, and essentially be able to really understand what it is like to be outside of our own culture and our own values, because I think in order to educate people and bring them into changing behavior patterns that may have been in existence for hundreds of years, behavior patterns that might not have been good health, sanitary conditions, or nutritional habits, that you really have to be a part of them in order to bring that about. That learning that other culture, that other language, and the language I learned in Spanish, they say with every language comes a second soul.

Mr. SHAYS. I notice that the gentleman from New York [Mr. SOLOMON] is here, who has been so active in support of the veterans and what they have done. In Fiji, Mr. SOLOMON, the impact that Americans had during World War II had such an incredible result to the people of Fiji, because this was a British colony and yet the Americans went and just comfortably lived with the Fijians where they lived and went in the same buses they did.

In fact, there is a wonderful story of an American soldier being driven by an Indian in Fiji, because there are a lot of Indians around the world as we know, and when he came to this British hotel, the Indian was not allowed in. And the American soldier said the hell with that, and just brought his Indian taxicab driver in to stay with him. But this kind of interaction, this one on one on the street, living as they

live, has a tremendous benefit to helping us understand their culture, but also having them appreciate Americans. So it is not just the Peace Corps, but it was our American soldiers who were there before us.

Mr. WARD. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time for a moment, that was one of the things that was most striking to me, as an American in Gambia, West Africa, which was also a former British colony. And when I would meet folks, meet Gambians and begin to talk to them, I would find there was in the country a certain negative feeling about Europeans, as you might expect, in a former colony.

But I found that the minute I said I was a Peace Corps volunteer, a Peace Corps, the "s" was pronounced, although I was pronouncing the "s" before I got in it, the minute I said that though I found that barriers fell, just as the gentleman from Connecticut says. I found that people became more open, more willing to listen.

Then as the gentleman from California said, when I began to speak Woloff, which is the language of the Ollif people, there may be 1.5 million people in Western Africa who speak Woloff, when I began to speak the language, certainly not with the ability to discuss nuclear physics, but with an ability to go through a number of greetings and to ask after family and friends and, to get to the point, we discussed about the total familiarity of saying "Summa harit, sa harit," "My house is your house."

□ 2045

That was the phrase that really tended to bring people together and to bond us, as humans, as people who populate the Earth. I think that there is no better way for America to be represented. That is why I was very discouraged when I heard proposals which have since been dropped but proposals that would have made the Peace Corps part of the State Department. I feel very strongly that the Peace Corps needs to remain an independent entity so that there is no question of its allegiance, of its goals, of its motives.

Mr. SHAYS. When I was in the Peace Corps, one experience you are talking about, we were visiting with a whole number of villagers. We were landing on the moon. And I can remember the aura that my villagers had with the fact that Americans were on the moon and the pride that I had as an American. But to be able to sit with them in their environment and to talk about what we were actually doing was quite an experience for me.

Mr. WARD. Of course, as I would remind the gentleman, I was in high school that year. Sorry. But that is the kind of reaction that you got. When I was up country one time to go to a little tiny store, literally 200 miles in the interior of Africa and there is a picture of Mohammed Ali, another great American who is probably the most famous person in the world, along with President Kennedy. And I said that he was