

WORLD PEACE BRIGADE

218 E. 18th St.  
New York 3, N.Y.

September 26, 1962

Dear Friend:

As long promised, we are sending you a copy of the application form for service with the World Peace Brigade. Recent events in Central and Southern Africa confirm our earlier sense of fateful urgency about this area.

We are happy to have helped to try and swing the struggle into a non-violent one. And should the occasion demand, WPB is committed to move into the situation with as much force as we can muster.

Applications are being accepted for review from a variety of persons. A comparative few will be able at present to be chosen for Brigade service. Others may be directed to some form of further training. Some will be unable to meet Brigade standards for service.

But all persons we reach will be able to support the Brigade, to help in getting informational material about WPB to the people they know, and in the vital job of fundraising.

If you can volunteer at any level, please specify your ability by responding, today.

Sincerely,  
For the North American Regional Council



Theodore Olson  
Administrative Secretary

Encl:  
Brochure  
Application  
Principles

# THE WORLD PEACE BRIGADE

... for non-violent action



"To bring the liberating and transforming power of non-violence to bear more effectively on our world."\*

THE WORLD PEACE BRIGADE, a people's force of non-violent volunteers, has been established. After years of discussion and experimentation in Africa, Asia and in the West, the Brigade, sponsored by eminent men from many nations, was brought into being on January 1, 1962.

Its aims are:

- "1) To organize, train and keep available a brigade for non-violent action:
  - A. in situations of potential or actual conflict, internal and international;
  - B. against all war, preparations for war, and the continuing development of weapons of mass destruction.
  
- 2) To activate people everywhere to become a responsible and positive force to meet the menace of modern war by inspiring and stimulating confidence in non-violent alternatives.
  
- 3) To revolutionize the concept of revolution itself by infusing into the methods of resisting injustice the qualities which insure the preservation of human life and dignity and to create the conditions necessary for peace."\*

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\*From "Statement of Principles and Aims," available on request.

SO GREAT IS THE NEED for ways out of the trap of violence that before the Brigade was more than a paper organization, it was called upon by leaders of South and Central African political movements to supply training, discipline and leadership for the struggles of their emerging nations.

These national freedom movement leaders have faced in acute form the questions which trouble all thoughtful men in a world dominated by the deadly dynamic of violence:

- . . . How can even the simplest needs of life -- or the growing hunger for freedom, justice and human dignity, for reconciliation and peace -- any longer be met, so long as individuals, governments and peoples are imprisoned in the habits, ideologies and institutions of violence which they themselves have devised and built?
- . . . How can means for absolute and total destruction, in the service of hostile social and political systems, produce anything but a human wasteland?
- . . . Where lies the direction out of this trap, and where is the initiative and power to begin to find the way out?

The answer of men of many faiths and many nations has come to be that the initiative must come from where the real power is: from the people themselves -- people acting out of their own self-reliant power. The only power capable of breaking the vicious cycle of violence and counter-violence is that of disciplined, trained and realistic non-violent action.

# ORGANIZATION

The Brigade is presently constituted in three regions, each of which recruits from within its area persons experienced in non-violent direct action. Some of these volunteers make up the Emergency Force, ready to drop their affairs and go anywhere in the world on 24 hours' notice. Others hold themselves in a Ready Reserve, committed to consider every action call. All Brigade volunteers will undergo training in local units or in the regional training center. One such Brigade center is now operating in Tanganyika.

## CONSTRUCTIVE PROGRAM

In addition to experience in non-violent action, there is great need in the Brigade for persons with skills necessary in social reconstruction: medicine, carpentry, sanitation, communications, etc. Many kinds of action will be required of Brigade volunteers to help open the way to solutions of highly complex problems.

It should be emphasized that constructive program in Brigade projects for self-determination, freedom and release from war takes place in a context of rejection of the false and destructive dilemmas propounded by the cold war antagonists.

## PROJECTS

While World Peace Brigade projects involve people from all over the world, Brigade action is designed to help local people in the trouble spot take initiative to find their own solutions. The Brigade enters tension situations in the light of many factors as evaluated by its executive committee, including other projects, invitations from governments, agencies and responsible individuals, and whether the Brigade can make a significant contribution in this situation to constructive solution and reconciliation. It preserves its own identity, discipline and methods, but will work in closest cooperation with those local groups or persons ready to commit themselves to non-violence in order to achieve and maintain freedom and justice.

## RECRUITMENT

Experienced volunteers are needed. It is imperative to maintain the general roster of volunteers at a high level, both for the Emergency Force and for the Ready Reserves. Others will wish to be directed to a local non-violent group, in order to become experienced enough to apply to the Brigade itself at a later time.

Qualifications for volunteers include physical stamina, experience in non-violent action, willingness to undergo risk of loss of life, and a commitment to non-violence as a way to bring about peace, freedom and justice in our age.

## SUPPORT

The Brigade is financed from non-governmental sources, in order to assure its independence from political control and because it should be supported by its own source of strength: the freely-given support of the people. Great sacrifice is required of Brigade volunteers. We have therefore no hesitation in asking for financial sacrifice from those who wish to see disciplined men and women, armed with non-violence, prepared to move in and help change a world which continues to produce partition riots, Hungarys, Cubas, Sharpevilles, Katangas and Berlins.

## INFORMATION

If you wish information about enlisting in the World Peace Brigade, about being trained in your own country, or if you are ready to help support the Brigade financially, write or make checks payable to

**WORLD PEACE BRIGADE**

Co-chairmen

Michael Scott, A.J. Muste, Jayaprakash Narayan

ASIAN  
REGIONAL COUNCIL

All India Sarva Seva Sangh  
Rajghat, Varanasi  
INDIA

EUROPEAN  
REGIONAL COUNCIL

6 Endsleigh Street  
London W.C. 1  
GREAT BRITAIN

NORTH AMERICAN  
REGIONAL COUNCIL

218 East 18th Street  
New York 3, N.Y.  
UNITED STATES



8. AVAILABILITY FOR BRIGADE SERVICE

- a. Classification E -- Emergency Force, available on 24-hour notice for a minimum of two months' service anywhere \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Classification R -- Ready Reserve, trained and committed to consider every call, without being on on emergency call \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Other -- \_\_\_\_\_

9. HEALTH -- If accepted for Brigade service, you will be sent a detailed health form, to be filled out by a physician.

- a. Describe any physical disabilities or handicaps you have \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Describe any additional factors, physical or psychological, that might affect your participation in Brigade projects \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Vegetarian or other diet \_\_\_\_\_
- d. Allergies \_\_\_\_\_

10. Person to be notified in emergency

	name	relation to you
address	telephone	

11. EDUCATION

- a. Years of elementary and secondary education, total \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_  
 Year of conclusion \_\_\_\_\_ Apprenticeship in a trade? \_\_\_\_\_ Indicate which \_\_\_\_\_

b. College or university education

<u>name of institution</u>	<u>location</u>	<u>years attended</u>	<u>certificate or degree</u>	<u>major study</u>

12. WORK AND SPECIAL SKILLS

- a. Describe the last four positions you have held.
- | <u>description of job</u> | <u>employer</u> | <u>address</u> | <u>years employed</u><br>(from--- to---) |
|---------------------------|-----------------|----------------|--|
|                           |                 |                |  |
|                           |                 |                |  |
|                           |                 |                |  |

b. Special skills -- Mark those in which you have experience; double mark those in which you can direct others:

Automotive

- Driving
  - passenger cars
  - light trucks
  - heavy trucks
  - international license
- Maintenance
- Complex repair

Aviation

- Licensed pilot
  - light planes
  - multi-engine
- Maintenance and repair

Maritime

- Sailing
- Seaman rating: \_\_\_\_\_
- Construction
- Repair
  - gasoline
  - diesel
  - steam
- Other; explain below

Medical

- First aid
- Nursing
- Other; explain below

Music

- Singing
  - lead group singing
- Play instrument
  - Which? \_\_\_\_\_
- Office skills
- Typing ; wds. per min.: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Kind of keyboard: \_\_\_\_\_
- Shorthand
  - wds. per min.: \_\_\_\_\_
- Other; explain below

Public Speaking

- Discussion group leadership
- Story-telling
- Other; explain below

Radio and Communications =

- Telegraph
  - repair and maintenance
- Radiophone
  - repair and maintenance
- Other; explain below

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- Carpentry
- Child care
- Cooking
  - for groups
- Dramatics
- Electrical work
- Farming
- Forest conservation

- Folk Dancing
- Gardening
- General construction and building
- Handicrafts; explain below
- Hiking
- Masonry and stonework
- Mechanical and machine work; explain below
- Mountaineering
- Painting
- Photography
  - developing
- Play ground supervision
- Plumbing
- Printing
  - mimeo
  - letterpress
  - offset
- Sign painting and construction
- Swimming
- Lifesaving
- Teaching in a classroom situation;
  - subject? \_\_\_\_\_
- Technician; explain below
- Woodworking
- Writing

Others and explanations \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

c. What experience in organizing and group leadership have you had beyond that indicated in a. above? Include any military responsibility above the basic rank. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

d. List any hobbies or avocations. \_\_\_\_\_

e. In what countries have you traveled? Give dates. \_\_\_\_\_

f. Languages -- Mark as follows: A -- fluent; B -- fair; C -- studied; little fluency

	speak	read	write
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- Spanish \_\_\_\_\_
- French \_\_\_\_\_
- German \_\_\_\_\_
- English \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

g. List special interest and social organizations to which you belong. \_\_\_\_\_

### 13. PROJECT EXPERIENCE

a. List all non-violent action projects or demonstrations in which you have taken part, indicating your role in the action. Use a separate sheet if necessary. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

b. List all constructive program, peace corps-type activities, social service and peace work in which you have taken part, indicating your role. Use a separate sheet if necessary. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

c. What groups are you affiliated with which engage in non-violent direct action and/or constructive program?  
name address years belonged and positions held

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### 14. TRAINING AND DISCIPLINE

a. Are you prepared to participate in individual and group non-violent training under the direction of Brigade staff? \_\_\_\_\_

b. In project situations it is often necessary to accept direction and to carry out tasks without demurr. In World Peace Brigade projects this is especially necessary. Are you ready to accept the limitations of group living and non-violent discipline? \_\_\_\_\_

15. List three persons able to evaluate your general qualifications and your work in direct action. If possible, these should be persons known to the Brigade.  
name address position

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

16. Are you agreed to the provision that WPB cannot assume legal responsibility for loss or injury sustained in its service? \_\_\_\_\_

17. On a separate sheet, tell where you obtained this application and why you are making this application.

I have read the Statement of Principles and Aims of the World Peace Brigade and I accept them.

\_\_\_\_\_  
your signature

When you have completed this form and attached a recent photograph of yourself, mail it to the nearest office of the Brigade, as listed below:

ASIAN REGIONAL COUNCIL  
WORLD PEACE BRIGADE  
c/o All-India Sarva Seva Sangh  
Rajghat, Varanasi  
India

EUROPEAN REGIONAL COUNCIL  
WORLD PEACE BRIGADE  
6 Endsleigh St.  
London W.C. 1  
Great Britain

NORTH AMERICAN REGIONAL  
COUNCIL  
WORLD PEACE BRIGADE  
218 East 18th Street  
New York 3, N.Y.  
U.S.A.



WORLD PEACE BRIGADE  
for non-violent action

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES AND AIMS

In virtually all relationships of life, men and societies are undergoing a severe crisis and are tempted either to hopelessness or to violent solutions of their problems.

Ours is a world of hunger -- hunger for the simple needs of life, hunger for freedom, justice and human dignity, hunger for reconciliation and peace.

Ours is a world superbly equipped with the means to satisfy these hungers. We have the technical skills, the expanding awareness of the meaning of freedom, and the intellectual and spiritual heritage which can enable us to be free of bondage, want and war.

The tragedy is that our vision is distorted by outworn ideas which prevent us from seeing the world as it really is in the nuclear era. Individuals, governments, peoples are imprisoned in the habits, ideologies and institutions of violence which they themselves have devised and built.

Common sense, political wisdom and profoundest moral imperatives compel us to break out of this condition: the very survival of civilization, and perhaps of the race, depend upon this emancipation. Men must find, and must be ready to experiment with, an alternative way. This alternative is non-violence. It is, we firmly believe, the way to help free mankind and to release the minds and energies of men for creative achievements.

World Community can replace the institution of war.

Liberty and Equality can replace colonialism and other tyrannies.

Human dignity can replace human degradation and destruction.

Non-violence is the way to such goals. We are resolved to devote ourselves to this way, knowing that this will require severe effort of thought, experimentation, toil, perseverance, dedication. We call on our fellows in all lands to join in this venture.

The world Peace Brigade is constituted to band together those who respond to this call and seek to bring the liberating and transforming power of non-violence to bear more effectively on our world.

The Aims are:

- I. To organize, train, and keep available a brigade for non-violent action:
  - A. in situations of potential or actual conflict, international and internal;
  - B. against all war, preparations for war, and the continuing development of weapons of mass destruction.
2. To activate people everywhere to become a responsible and positive force to meet the menace of modern war by inspiring and stimulating confidence in non-violent alternatives.
3. To revolutionize the concept of revolution itself by infusing into the methods of resisting injustice the qualities which insure the preservation of human life and dignity and to create the conditions necessary for peace.
4. To join with people in their non-violent struggle for self-determination and social reconstruction.
5. To establish national units in countries where there are no organizations cooperating with WPB.
6. To cooperate to the utmost with existing organizations for peace, liberation and human service and to act where needed as a coordinating and information center for non-violent activities throughout the world.
7. To encourage and undertake research in fields relevant to the work of the brigade.

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