

International Voluntary Services, INC.



1555 CONNECTICUT AVE, N.W. • WASHINGTON, D. C. 20036
TELEPHONE DUPONT 7-5533

CABLE: VOLSERV

February 15, 1968

Larry Woodson, AGOP
U.S. Embassy (IVS/ED)
APO San Francisco 96352

Dear Larry,

It was good to hear from you. I understand what you mean about "short timers" looking for another job. That's the position I'm in now but mine is trying to decide between the possibilities that are open already and not so much trying to find new ones. IVS/Laos, ADO, Calabrian (Thai), or retiring to some little greenhouse in an Iowa town are among the possibilities. There is a tremendous demand for aggies these days. At most of the schools I'm going to these days, graduates with a BS in Ag. are going for an average of \$6,400. That's a little higher than when I graduated.

I am also considering the possibility of CDI although I haven't sent them a resume yet. I understand they are looking for aggies and that Steve Green is with them now, (among other IVS alumni). Their name is Community Development International and they are located at 1730 Rhode Island NW, Washington, D.C. 20036.

Concerning the recruiting job, Rod said that he wrote you a week or so ago about his job. I think that Rod's position would be more suited to you. Although there isn't as much travel involved, it does involve more administration and personnel management which you have some experience with. I will, though, briefly describe my recruiting job. Since the middle of October I have traveled 13 out of 19 weeks (and that doesn't include a trip home for Christmas). This constant traveling does get a little tiring at times but I'm sure you realize this in your short trips in Laos. I do as a whole enjoy the job. It is a little different from what I had expected. I had thought it would give me a good chance to see the U.S. Well, most of the time is spent in interviews or trying to make contact with various professors on campus. Much of the time between stops is involved in waiting at airports or on planes. What does make the job interesting, to me, is the meeting people. From students to placement directors to professors to college deans and presidents. Some are convinced of the value of IVS type programs others I must sell on the programs while others are against AID of any sort. From conservative Kansans to liberal Californians I enjoy talking to them.

Of course one of the major difficulties of the job is making a final decision whether a person is suited to IVS. Then how do I convince the Washington office and the field. As you know little flaws in a person's personality which would not have much affect here in the U.S., can use

much greater problems in the field. These must be dug out and judged as to the problems they will cause. As a whole it is interesting and enjoyable.

I was at Kansas State during my last trip and talked to a number of people you might know. Several mentioned that they knew you. Vernon Geissler, who is placement director (assistant that is) was very helpful in introducing me to several faculty members. Dr. Bohannon, of International Agriculture, also was very helpful in showing me around campus and introducing me to Dr. Hess the Dean of Ag. I also met Dr. Dewey McCormick who is teaching in the department of International Ag.

I only talked to five students on a formal basis and was able to talk one into IVS. I didn't care for that individual though so the trip wasn't too fruitful.

Its time to get back to work so I'll say good bye for now.

Sincerely,

John R. Esser

John R. Esser
Recruiting Officer

*PS: Please excuse the typewriter
for all the errors.*