

FOR YOUR BACKGROUND INFORMATION

December 16, 1971

MRS. NIXON'S ACTIVITIES AS FIRST LADY FOR THE CAUSE OF VOLUNTEERISM

1969

June 16-20

Mrs. Nixon took a four-day trip to Portland and Forest Grove, Oregon, and Los Angeles, California, to view outstanding examples of local programs solving local problems through voluntary action. She visited:

- I. Portland, Oregon
 - A. Portland Adult Literacy Project (PAL) - This project provides tutoring for adults.
 - B. FISH - Citizens who give emergency help whenever and in whatever manner it is needed.
 - C. Green Fingers - A city block of condemned land temporarily planted with vegetables for those in the community.
 - D. Albina Art Center - All forms of the arts are taught.
- II. Forest Grove, Oregon
 - A. West Tuality Day Care Center - For children of migratory laborers.
 - B. Temple Beth Israel Sisterhood Services to the Blind - Trains volunteer braillists to teach and transcribe books for the blind.
- III. Los Angeles, California
 - A. The Wesley Social Service Center - Teach skills in crafts and athletics, take youngsters on trips, tutor and run day and summer camps.
 - B. The Los Angeles City Schools Volunteer Program - Volunteers assist teachers.
 - C. The Foundation for the Junior Blind - Offers a year-around program of special education, recreation and social development to blind children.
 - D. Los Angeles Voluntary Bureau - Recruits and refers volunteers.

July 22 - August 3

Mrs. Nixon accompanied the President on an around the world tour and saw volunteers at work on the following projects:

- I. Hawaii - The International Student Center at the University of Hawaii.

- II. Guam - A training center for the mentally retarded.
- III. Phillipines - Two orphanages, one for school-age children and one for infants.
- IV. Indonesia - A school for the mentally retarded and an orphanage.
- V. Thailand - A school for the blind and a hospital.
- VI. Vietnam - Military hospitals.
- VII. India - A home for unwed mothers and a day care center for children of construction workers.
- VIII. Pakistan - Mrs. Nixon visited Lahore headquarters of the All-Pakistan Women's Association which she had first contacted during her Karachi stay in 1953. Mrs. Nixon found the APWA had come a long way in their stated purpose: "The uplift and education of women and children so that they may play full part in the national life" and was pleased with their progress. The Association is now running schools, health and family planning clinics, adult literacy centers and social welfare training centers.
- IX. Rumania - Pioneer Palace, a center for Pioneers, a voluntary youth organization.

October 10

Mrs. Nixon, as Honorary Chairman of the Day Care and Child Development Council of America, Inc., (a national voluntary organization that promotes child development programs) visited three Washington day care centers:

- I. Peoples Neighborhood House Day Care Center
- II. Labor Department Day Care Center
- III. The Jeffery Terrace Day Care Center

A number of volunteers work at each center.

November 10

Mrs. Nixon released the book College Volunteers by James R. Tanck, a publication of the National Program for Voluntary Action, written to encourage and stimulate voluntary action among young people.

December 4

Mrs. Nixon hosted a reception honoring the 1969 winners of the Lane Bryant Volunteer Award Program. The program honors outstanding volunteer effort.

1970

January 16

Mrs. Nixon, as Honorary President of the Girl Scouts of America, presented a plaque to one of the Girl Scout

representatives who would be attending a World Conference of Girl Scouts and Girl Guides in India.

January 26

As National Honorary Heart Sunday Chairman, Mrs. Nixon honored Mrs. Dwight D. Eisenhower, recipient of the Associations Distinguished Volunteer Service Award, and Mr. Owen R. Cheatham, recipient of the Association's Heart-of-the-Year Award, in a White House meeting to mark the opening of the 1970 Heart Fund Campaign.

February 4

Mrs. Nixon visited the National Headquarters of the Girl Scouts of the U. S. A., where she was installed as Honorary National President of the organization, the largest voluntary organization for girls in the world.

February 5

Mrs. Nixon accompanied the President to Indianapolis and visited two places where volunteers are at work:

- I. Noble School for Retarded Children - A training program for retarded children.
- II. Christamore House Community Center - Provides a variety of social services and helps people help themselves.

While visiting Christamore House, Mrs. Nixon presented an award for her outstanding work to a woman who has been an active volunteer for over 30 years.

March 2-6

Mrs. Nixon visited college volunteer programs.

- I. Lansing, Michigan - Michigan State University Office of Volunteer Programs
 - A. Michigan School for the Blind
 - B. Marvin E. Beekman Center for Trainable Children
 - C. Holt Home, Inc. - Nursing home.
 - D. The Grand River School - Building where CCC (Campus Community Commission) performs its volunteer activities.
- II. Lexington, Kentucky - University of Kentucky Human Relations Center
 - A. Kentucky Village Treatment Center for juvenile delinquents
 - B. Eastern State Mental Hospital

- III. Cincinnati, Ohio - University of Cincinnati
SCIP - Student Community Involvement Program
 - A. Fairview Community Center - Provides after school activities.
 - B. Convalescent Hospital for Children - Volunteers aid as well as entertain.
 - C. Meeting with student volunteer groups
 - 1. SOAP - Students Organized Against Pollution
 - 2. SCIP
 - 3. Cincinnati Experience - College volunteers
 - 4. Connection 956 - Cooperative neighborhood improvement office.
 - 5. 20th Century Lanes Bowling Alley Activity
 - a. SCIP volunteers
 - b. PALS - Police Athletic League
- IV. Boulder, Colorado - University of Colorado Clearing House
 - A. Lafayette, Colorado - Follow through Center
An enriched kindergarten program.
 - B. Boulder Manor - Nursing home.
 - C. Boulder Day Nursery
 - D. Carmel - Home for mentally retarded adults.
- V. Point Lookout, Missouri - School of the Ozarks
A non-profit institution. Students work and go to school, as well as serve in the community.

June 4

Mrs. Nixon hosted a tea for the Urban Service Corps volunteers of Washington, D. C. public schools.

June 22

As Honorary Chairman of Operation Clean Waters 1970, Mrs. Nixon saw Federal and local governmental agencies work with youths who were unemployed for the summer and local volunteer groups for the prevention, as well as the abatement of pollution, when she visited:

- I. U.S. Army Corps of Engineer's dock in Washington
- II. Naval Air Station

June 23

Mrs. Nixon greeted the two 1970 National Epilepsy Foundation of America Poster Children. The Foundation is the national voluntary health agency concerned with epilepsy.

June 28-30

Mrs. Nixon traveled to Peru with earthquake relief supplies contributed by private volunteer groups throughout the United States.

She visited sites where Peruvian and international volunteers worked to alleviate critical situations created by the disastrous earthquake which occurred May 31.

July 24

Mrs. Nixon and Tricia accompanied the President to Fargo, North Dakota, and visited two volunteer projects.

- I. Project Anticipation - Indian children are taught remedial subjects by college students.
- II. The Group--1970 - Formed by VCS (Volunteers for Community Service). They do volunteer work in the area.

August 3

Mrs. Nixon accompanied the President to Denver, Colorado, where she visited the Inter-Faith Task Force for Community Service, Inc. This is an organization coordinating community volunteer efforts in the area of social welfare.

August 13

Mrs. Nixon visited two local Maryland programs where the military is fully utilizing its facilities and personnel to aid communities in need and to help solve some problems of disadvantaged children.

- I. U.S. Naval Training Station - Bainbridge, Maryland
Camp Concern - A day camp for some of Baltimore's inner city children.
- II. D. C. Recreation Camp - Scotland, Maryland
This is a weekly resident camp for children selected by welfare organizations within the District of Columbia.

August 14

Mrs. Nixon made a trip to New Orleans, Louisiana, where she viewed volunteers aiding at Kingsley House, a neighborhood settlement house, day care center and recreation center.

September 11

Mrs. Nixon hosted a reception for the members of the National Reading Council which is a volunteer group of distinguished citizens from various fields who work with private and public organizations as well as professional educators to strengthen existing reading programs and to foster innovation in this field.

- September 15 Mrs. Nixon greeted members of the Board of Directors of the General Federation of Women's Clubs. These women serve the organization as state presidents, department and division chairmen and volunteer leaders from every state.
- September 15 Mrs. Nixon met with inner-city teenagers, members of the Model's Guild and ten volunteers who participated in the "We Care" program. Volunteers who are professional models coached the girls in manners, dress and speech.
- September 17 Mrs. Nixon accompanied the President to Chicago, where she visited:
- I. The Chicago Postal Street Academy - Postal workers volunteer as tutors for high school dropouts and work toward motivating, educating and training them.
 - II. The Chicago Boys Clubs at Adler Planetarium. - Mrs. Nixon was given an orientation on the volunteer aspects of the Club.
- September 18 Mrs. Nixon received the members of the Peru Earthquake Voluntary Assistance Group at the Department of State. She presented certificates of appreciation to the members for their participation in the Peru Voluntary Assistance Group during the emergency period following the earthquake May 31.
- September 27 -
October 5 Accompanying the President to Europe, Mrs. Nixon observed volunteer projects in two cities.
- I. Rome, Italy
 - A. Boys' Town of Rome - This is part of Boys' Town of Italy, Inc. and is a home for orphaned or partially orphaned boys. The "town" is self governing, produces most of its own food and provides schooling and extra-curricular activities. The town's staff is assisted by a number of volunteers.
 - B. Illiteracy Project - Volunteers assist in evening reading programs.
 - II. Belgrade, Yugoslavia - Mrs. Nixon visited the Pioneer Center. The Federation of Pioneers is a voluntary organization of children somewhat similar to Boy and Girl Scouts.

November 6

Mrs. Nixon was the Guest of Honor at a luncheon sponsored by Rehabilitation International at the Palmer House in Chicago, Illinois, and met with the 1971 Easter Seal Child.

She was presented with the first Annual Award in recognition of her "outstanding contributions to the cause of volunteer activities."

Rehabilitation International encompasses 100 organizations in 60 countries. One of the largest members is the National Easter Seal Society.

December 3

Mrs. Nixon attended a ceremony honoring Volunteers in The Parks Program in the Custis-Lee Mansion. She presented certificates to volunteers who have extended their services to the program.

1971

January 19

Mrs. Nixon presented Mercedes McCambridge with a certificate in recognition for her outstanding volunteer work on behalf of the National Council on Alcoholism.

Miss McCambridge, an actress and recovered alcoholic, is honorary National Chairman of the National Council on Alcoholism.

February 3

As Honorary Chairman of the Pakistan Relief Committee, Mrs. Nixon greeted members of the Committee and the volunteer staff which has worked to raise funds for rehabilitation work in East Pakistan.

February 11

Mrs. Nixon was Guest of Honor at the Annual Heart Valentine Luncheon and Fashion Show. On Heart Sunday, February 21, volunteers visit neighbors and solicit funds for research and education and community services of the Washington Heart Association.

February 23

Mrs. Nixon presented awards to the winners of the National Clean Up Congress at the Statler Hilton.

The National Clean Up - Paint Up - Fix Up Bureau annually sponsors a competition among the nation's cities to identify those which have made the best record in cleaning

and beautifying their community. One of the major aspects of the contest is the emphasis placed on voluntary action, stressing the involvement of both the public and private sectors of a community.

February 25

Mrs. Nixon met with Directors of the National Postal Street Academy Program and six directors of the Street Academies.

The Program is designed to recruit, motivate, educate and train high school dropouts. Postal workers volunteer as tutors.

April 27

Mrs. Nixon held a reception for the National Center for Voluntary Action.

May 13

Mrs. Nixon visited Tulsa, Oklahoma, and attended a luncheon in her honor at the Civic Center given by the Tulsa Chapter of the American Red Cross.

She presented awards to Red Cross volunteers in recognition of their many years of service in helping others.

She also attended the Snowball Youth Symphony Concert in her honor and listened to the President of the Women's Association for the Tulsa Philharmonic Society speak about the Society's volunteers, citing their outstanding achievement in support of the Tulsa Philharmonic.

June 29

Mrs. Nixon received the highest decoration of the Peruvian Government -- the Grand Cross of the Order of the Sun - in a ceremony at the Peruvian Embassy.

The decoration, presented by the Ambassador of Peru with Mrs. Velasco, wife of the President of Peru, in attendance, was a gesture of appreciation for Mrs. Nixon's trip to Peru in June of 1970, where she found it would take the combined efforts of voluntary and private organizations throughout the world to provide the necessary assistance.

September 10

Mrs. Nixon made a television appearance with the President for the United Way Fund Drive.

Millions of Americans volunteer their time for United Way.

September 21

Mrs. Nixon viewed the premier showing of the film "The Right to Read" at the American Film Institute Theater in Washington, D. C. The film includes an introduction by Mrs. Nixon who is Honorary Chairman of the National Reading Council. It illustrates the tragedy of functional illiteracy in America and demonstrates how some of the reading problems are being solved with the help of parents, teachers, volunteers and children working together.

November 10

As a member of the National Committee for the annual Scouting Keep America Beautiful Day, Mrs. Nixon met with representatives who outlined this year's plans for the clean up drive on April 29, 1972.

Members of numerous business, labor, youth, conservation and government organizations participate in the national event.

December 16

Mrs. Nixon visited the National Center for Voluntary Action in Washington, D. C. , to attend an orientation meeting to hear a progress report of the Center's activities both locally and nationally.

She also visited the Barry Farm Dwellings, a low income housing project in Washington where volunteer efforts on the part of Barry Farm tenants and community workers from nearby Southeast Neighborhood House are underway to improve the looks of Barry Farms.

Mrs. Nixon also went to the YM-YWCA Community Center which was opened in October, 1970, in response to requests by area residents when community services were almost non-existent. The center is open to all age groups, making it possible for volunteers to help strengthen family life and improve community services.