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ASUNCION, PARAGUAY

PEACE CORPS/PARAGUAY

DESCRIPTION OF PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEER SERVICE

Steven R. Smucker - Vol.No.

Steven R. Smucker trained as a beekeeper in Guarambare, Paraguay for three months prior to his Peace Corps service as a beekeeper in the field. He had been trained in First Aid and CPR and in Emergency Medical Techniques through the Red Cross and Providence Hospital, respectively, in Portland, Oregon prior to joining the Peace Corps.

He was trained in Spanish and Guarani.

In April of 1985, he was assigned to a rural site. Steven R. Smucker organized a group of farmers who had expressed interest in beekeeping into a regularly meeting body of beekeepers. He lectured the group in Spanish and Guarani on beekeeping basics, demonstrated how to capture wild hives of African bees, taught hive construction, management techniques, and marketing strategies. There were 20 farmers in the group. The group captured more than fifty hives.

In addition to this group, Steven R. Smucker taught beekeeping classes to the children of the farmers. They learned the basics, built hives out of easily affordable apple crates, and captured their own hives. There were 12 children in this group. Each child participated in at least one capture.

Steven R. Smucker conducted First Aid classes in the town of Ybytymi and in its satellite villages. He participated in the national Polio vaccine programs in 1985 and 1986. He also conducted inoculation campaigns against tetanus, small pox, yellow fever, and diphtheria. He taught the mothers of two club footed children how to apply and change corrective casts. He counseled against putting deer urine on snake bites, mint toothpaste on third degree burns, and the blood of a freshly killed chicken on spider bites.

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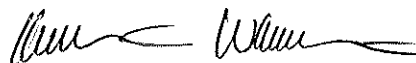
Steven R. Smucker was the high school's track coach. He taught athletes basic dietary practices and held talks and performed plays in the high school and grade school on the subject of nutrition. He provided the seeds for and coordinated the construction of garden plots at both schools in Ybytymi and in several schools in the satellite villages.

Steven R. Smucker was involved with his local counterpart in a national pig vaccine program in 1985 and in a local reforestation project in 1986. Steven R. Smucker maintained a tree nursery in his private garden plot and transplanted those trees to the homes of villagers towards the end of 1986.

Pursuant to section 5(f) of the Peace Corps Act, 22 U.S.C. 2504(f), as amended, any former Volunteer employed by the United States Government following his Peace Corps Volunteer service is entitled to have any period of satisfactory Peace Corps Volunteer service credited for purposes of retirement, seniority, reduction in force, leave and other privileges based on length of Government service. Peace Corps service shall not be credited toward completion of the probationary or trial period or completion of any service requirement for career appointment.

This is to certify in accordance with Executive Order No.11103 of April 10, 1963, that Steven R. Smucker served satisfactorily as a Peace Corps Volunteer. His service ended on January 10, 1987. He is therefore eligible to be appointed as career-conditional employee in the competitive civil service on a non-competitive basis. This benefit under the Executive Order entitlement extends for a period of one year, except that the employing agency may extend the period for up to three years for a former Volunteer who enters military service, pursues studies at a recognized institution of higher learning or engages in other activities which in the view of the appointing authority warrants extension of the period.

January 10, 1987



Kathryn Wheatley
Peace Corps Acting Director
Paraguay