

# PEACE CORPS

Box 880  
Apia, Western Samoa

## DESCRIPTION OF PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEER SERVICE

Gene Feldman - Volunteer Number 387338 - Western Samoa

Mr. Gene Feldman entered Peace Corps training on July 14, 1974 in Western Samoa and completed an intensive ten-week training program. Included in the subjects studied were Samoan language, cross-cultural studies, governmental development proposals and planning. He was enrolled in Peace Corps on September 15, 1974.

As a Peace Corps Volunteer and a Marine Biologist he was assigned to the Division of Fisheries which at the time of his entry into Peace Corps service was under the responsibility of the Department of Agriculture, Forestries and Fisheries but which was later brought under the supervision of the Department of Economic Development.

During his first two years of service his main activities were:

### Turtle Hatchery:

Evaluation of the possibilities for turtle farming utilizing local sea turtle stocks, improvement of methods of collecting turtle eggs from offshore nesting islands, along with the hatching and rearing carried out at the Fisheries Division Hatchery. Initiated a tagging program to determine the size of the nesting population.

### Outboard Engine Workshop:

Responsibility for the design, including the initial plans and working drawings, plus the supervision of construction of the first workshop for the repair and maintenance of outboard motor on the outlying island of Savaii.

### Baitfish Culture:

Selection of suitable site, design of ponds, supervision and participation in the hand excavation of the ponds, stocking of ponds with local specie P. Mexicana, growth experiments, design of automatic feeding and water circulation systems, design and construction of workshed, preparation of progress reports, and the planning of a project expansion with additional ponds to permit a baitfish production of five tons per year.

To complete work on ongoing projects, Mr. Feldman extended his service for an additional year. During this time in conjunction with his



work on the Baitfish Culture project he also worked on the following:

Fishing Trials of Baitfish:

Was responsible for the fitting out of a 28 foot catamaran with 25 horse power outboard motor for small scale trials of the baitfish. This included the design and construction of the baitwell, circulation and spray systems. He also participated in all of the sea trials.

Fish Marketing:

Assistance in the establishment of a Fish Marketing Scheme including the construction of freezer and ice making facilities, and three weekly trips of outlying villages to purchase fish and for the selling of ice.

In addition to his regular assignment in Western Samoa, he travelled several times to American Samoa to work in collaboration with the Division of Marine Resources to assist in the coordination of efforts to develop a live bait tuna fishery based on cultivated baitfish.

Mr. Feldman also participated in regular conferences with government officials to discuss fisheries development, and to plan out courses of action to be taken.

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 service credited for purpose of retirement, seniority, reduction in force, leave and other privileges based on length of Government service.

This is to certify in accordance with Executive Order No. 11103 of April 10, 1963, that Mr. Gene Feldman served satisfactorily as a Peace Corps Volunteer. His service ended on October 17, 1977. His benefits under the Executive Order entitlement extend for a period of one year after termination of Volunteer service, except that the employing agency may extend the period for up to three years for a former Volunteer who enters military service or pursues studies at a recognized institution of higher learning.

Oct. 7, 1977  
(Date)

R. Cahoon  
Richard A. Cahoon, Director  
Peace Corps/Western Samoa