

REASON FOR WANTING
TO JOIN
THE FOREIGN SERVICE

My reason for wanting to join the Foreign Service is my belief that work as a Foreign Service Officer can be very satisfying. In my opinion, satisfaction in work comes with the knowledge that I am employed in the field of my interest and in a capacity for which my background prepares me.

I have been interested in joining the Foreign Service ever since I was a senior in high school. At that time I decided that my foreign birth and background, my knowledge of languages and travel at an early age, together with my American upbringing and education gave me at least a beginning for a career in Foreign Service. Since graduating from high school I have tried to build towards this goal - through education, through travel and through work experience.

My education, which I have largely financed myself, has from the beginning been shaped towards the Foreign Service. My academic record and the opinion of my teachers have encouraged me to think that I could serve creditably as a beginning Foreign Service Officer. My choice of this career was confirmed by a period of travel and employment in Europe during which I added a knowledge of Italian to that of my other languages. Recently, I have taken a job at a Latin American Embassy in order to gain more insight into Foreign Service work.

I am aware that as a woman there may be some question as to my adaptability and tenure. On the first point, I am confident that an American girl of my experience can work effectively in a wide range of employment. As to the second point, I have no marriage plans at present; however, I have been aware of the policy of the Foreign Service on this point. Moreover, I have been aware of this policy during my period of studies and have not allowed a negative attitude to deter me. Should the situation arise I can only say that I will give serious consideration to my obligations to the Foreign Service.

I wish to join the Foreign Service, therefore, because I feel that it will give me an opportunity to participate in work in which I have a genuine interest and towards which I have a natural inclination and for which I have tried to prepare myself so as to give good service if accepted.

AUTOBIOGRAPHY

Foreign languages and foreign customs have been part of the environment in which I have lived for most of my life. This is due to the fact that my parents are multi-lingual and that travel was part of my early life. However, although I was not born a citizen of the United States, I was raised an American, and I have a deep loyalty and love for the country which has adopted both my family and me.

My early upbringing took place in various countries. From Estonia, the country of my birth, my parents moved to Germany and thence to the United States; four years later we moved to Mexico, and after another four year period, returned to the United States. Elementary school, therefore, saw me through a transition, first, from German to English in California, then to Spanish in Mexico and back to English in New York. Thus, a tendency to absorb languages came from my early training by usage in the school I was attending at the time. Later on in high school I studied French for three years, and this language came easily enough for me to maintain a straight "A" average. While traveling in Europe, 1953-1955, I learned Italian well enough to be employed eventually as a secretary in an office in Milan.

This background of languages and travel together with a desire to fulfill my personal ideals, led me to decide, in my senior year in high school, on a career in the Foreign Service. I would have liked to enroll at the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University upon graduating from high school in Santa Monica, California. But this was financially impossible, and I therefore accepted a competitive scholarship which I had won to Mt. St. Mary's College in Los Angeles. I never intended to finish at this College, but only wanted to take my lower division work there in a program similar to that which I would have been studying had I been attending Georgetown. For this reason, I decided on an economics major and a history minor.

After completing my two years, I left Mt. St. Mary's, in spite of the scholarship, and went to business school; shortly thereafter I took employment in a firm in Santa Monica, California. My purpose was to raise sufficient funds in order to get to Washington, D.C. and at least initiate the second half of my undergraduate work.

The opportunity for foreign travel came when I was accepted at a synchronized swimming audition at the Hollywood Athletic Club to take part in a water show that was being

formed to tour Europe. I grasped at this chance to add more experience of living in foreign countries as an asset to my future education and career plans. The work was more remunerative and I hoped to take up studies in Washington, D.C. at the end of the tour. After touring in Europe for eight months, however, the show ended in bankruptcy, and it was not until a year later that I finally arrived in Washington.

On my return from Europe I enrolled at the Foreign Service School at Georgetown University, where I took the "Diplomatic and Consular" major. I was fortunate enough to qualify for a half-tuition scholarship, and I met the rest of my expenses by working while I was attending the University. In September of 1955 I completed my work at Georgetown with a "Cum Laude".

The following month I returned to California to visit my family whom I had not seen in several years. During my stay in California, I applied for and was awarded a fellowship at Boston University and a scholarship at Northwestern University, both these awards being in the African Studies Program at these universities. I accepted the award at Northwestern University which was to begin in September of 1957.

I returned to Washington last June in order to participate in the formal graduation exercises at Georgetown University. For the summer only, I accepted a temporary job at the Embassy of Bolivia, with the understanding that I was to leave in the middle of September in order to begin my studies at Northwestern. However, the "temporary" nature of the work that I am doing was underestimated. A sudden increase in the pressure of the work and a difficulty in finding my replacement on such short notice, led the Ambassador to suggest that I take my studies at the Graduate School of Georgetown University, and continue in my work at the Embassy. I turned down my award at Northwestern, and am now working towards an M.A. in political science under a Latin American area study at Georgetown.

SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET
ON
QUESTION # 16

Supervisor: Barney Cohen
Dates: September, 1954 to January, 1955

Title: Secretary
Salary: 90,000 Lire per month
Place: Indicatore Commerciale

Via Orefici # 2
Milan, Italy

Supervisor: Signora Antonietta Poli

Description: Dictation and typing; general secretarial duties; handling English correspondence for the firm; assist the accountant when necessary.

Reason for leaving: To return to the U.S.A.

6. Dates: April, 1954 to September, 1954

Title: Choreographer-Swimmer

Salary: \$100.00 per week

Place: Agenzia Spettacoli Teatrali

Via Meravigli # 7

Milan, Italy

Supervisor: Comm. Antonio Sbisà

Reason for leaving: To accept the more stable employment in #5

Description:

I left the United States under a contract with the above-mentioned A.S.T. of Milan to act in the capacity of choreographer-swimmer in the production of the water show "Niagara Follies".

7. Dates: July, 1953 to February, 1954

Title: Swimmer

Salary: \$95 per week

Place: Superproduzioni Teatrali

Via Meravigli # 7

Milan, Italy

(touring in Italy, Germany & Switzerland)

Reason for leaving: Financial collapse of the show.

Description: Swimmer in "Aqua Parade of 1953"

8. Dates: May - July, 1953

Title: Swimmer-Dancer

Salary: \$85.00 per week

Place: Desert Inn

Las Vegas, Nevada

Supervisor: Frank Sennes

Reason for leaving: End of contract

Description: Swimmer and dancer in "Aqua Fair"

9. Dates: July, 1952 - April, 1953

Title: Inventory Control

Salary: \$50 per week

Place: Roger S. Marshall

1556 Lincoln Blvd.

Santa Monica, Calif.

Supervisor: Mrs. Marie Abbott

Reason for leaving: To accept employment described in #8

Description: I set up a perpetual inventory on automotive parts; accounts receivable bookkeeping; typing; PBX

10. Dates: Fall, 1951 - Spring (?), 1952

(over)

SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET

Title: Cashier
Salary: \$0.95 an hour
Place: Bay Pharmacy
151500 Sunset Blvd.
Pacific Palisades, Calif.

ON
QUESTION # 16

Supervisor: Barney Cohen

Reason for leaving: Conflicted with the demands of college studies.

Description: This was an evening job that I took in order to help meet my expenses at college. My duties were to act as cashier, wait on customers and assist in ordering supplies for my department.

Supervisor: Signora Antonietta Poli

Milan, Italy

Description: Dictation and typing; general secretarial duties; handling English correspondence for the firm; assist the accountant when necessary.

Reason for leaving: To return to the U.S.A.

6. Dates: April, 1954 to September, 1954

Title: Chorographer-Swimmer

Salary: \$100.00 per week

Place: Agenzia Spettacoli Teatrale

Via Metavigli # 7

Milan, Italy

Supervisor: Comm. Antonio Spiga

Reason for leaving: To accept the more stable employment in #5

Description:

I left the United States under a contract with the above-mentioned A.S.T. of Milan to act in the capacity of chorographer-swimmer in the production of the water show "Niagara Falls".

7. Dates: July, 1953 to February, 1954

Title: Swimmer

Salary: \$95 per week

Place: Superproduzioni Teatrale

Via Metavigli # 7

Milan, Italy

(touring in Italy, Germany & Switzerland)

Reason for leaving: Financial collapse of the show.

Description: Swimmer in "Apus Parade of 1953"

8. Dates: May - July, 1953

Title: Swimmer-Dancer

Salary: \$85.00 per week

Place: Desert Inn

Las Vegas, Nevada

Supervisor: Frank Sannes

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Reason for leaving: To accept employment described in #8

Description: I set up a perpetual inventory on automotive parts;

accounts receivable bookkeeping; typing; PBX

10. Dates: Fall, 1951 - Spring (7), 1952

(over)