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Record Item Title

**Letter to Maurice Pate re Central America, economic, social problems, UN Agencies, long-term plans, UNICEF aided programs; Report for week of**

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Notes

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7 Oct to 14, 1953 from MarieGilstrap re work in El Salvador  
WU\_Staff:  
Correspondent:

Print Name of Person Submit Images

Signature of Person Submit

Number of images without cover

JOHN MANFREDI

John Manfredi

1

Copy of Handwritten  
Original

New York  
5 February 1960

CF/NYH/C WEST 11995-098

Dear Maurice:

CF/RAI/USAA/OBOI/HS/1995-0098

Before entering into the last weeks of my home leave, I wish to acknowledge your letter of 20 November. I was happy to know that this inquiry had been addressed to the field personnel, not only because of the confidence it shows but also because it is a challenge to us all. No doubt during our day to day activities we experience times when we have ideas we wish we could think through and discuss more fully, but then in the rush of seemingly more important matters these thoughts never get put down or shared. Because of this I suspect that others, like myself do not therefore consciously analyze the matter as we ought to do and as one attempts to do when invited to share our thinking.

I would like to make some general comments as a preface to more specific answers to the five questions you raised.

There is a framework of realities within which our work takes place and I would like to refer to these first since our work requires that we be realistic.

The governments with which we work, whether individually, or as a group in a region, such as Central America, have their trends in the political, economical and social aspects and these trends influence very much what governments do or will consider in terms of programs such as those assisted by UNICEF.

Putting it briefly, Central America is at present at a period of considerable political unrest and uncertainty. Almost all of the governments with the possible exceptions of Salvador and to some extent Costa Rica, are very weak and fearful of their own positions. Most of these fears arise