

Special to The Herald-Tribune

For Release: At will

A New College student flies to Peru Sunday to begin a month-long work project teaching underprivileged youngsters in Lima.

Elizabeth Stephens, whose home is in Mexico City, will work in one of the underdeveloped areas of the Peruvian capital in cooperation with the Peace Corps.

"I'll be teaching in a special summer school," she said, explaining that in Peru the seasons are opposite of those here.

Elizabeth, called Liz by everyone, is usually spotted on campus by her nearly waist-length blonde hair and by her delightful English, slightly accented by Spanish.

She credits Patty Plano of Bradenton with helping her to make arrangements for the work and study project. Miss Plano had just returned to Bradenton after finishing her Peace Corps work term in Peru. Liz read about this work and contacted Miss Plano, who wrote to another Peace Corps worker, Mary Jane Current, seeking to set up a project for Liz in Lima.

This contact was followed up by a letter from Mrs. John Elmendorf, wife of the New College president, to Sam Guarnaccia, director of the Peace Corps in Lima. Mrs. Elmendorf, who had initiated this work project and also similar ones for six other students with the Peace Corps in Guatemala, received a confirmation of Liz' project from Guarnaccia.

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Language will be no problem for the first year New College student. Although born in New York City, Liz grew up in Mexico City and for her first nine years of school spent half the day in a Spanish-speaking class, the other half in an English-speaking one.

"Spanish is really my first language," she says, although she is completely bilingual. At New College she is working in both French and Russian and plans to use languages as a basis for study in political science.

In Lima she will have a chance also to study the native dialect, Quecha, spoken by many of the people who have come down from the mountains to settle in the Barriada, a section of the city where many of the poorer people live.

Liz will live with Miss Current in the Barriada during her four week stay. Her visit also will be a chance for a reunion with her brother Charles, an official with the Junta Para Asistencia Tecnica, an agency of the United Nations in Lima.

Although Lima is on the west coast of South America Liz will have to fly not only southward to reach this country but east. Because of this she said it will take longer to reach there going from Mexico City than from Miami.

She leaves for Lima two days after Christmas and returns to Campus January 23, in time for the second term of classes. On her return she will have to complete the writing of the report which describes her work period.