

OCT 3 1945

RA-SS 4530

GRANT IN AID to the University of Chicago to meet the costs of a conference on the problems arising from the destructive application of atomic energy and other recent scientific discoveries to be held September nineteenth to twenty-second.

UNIVERSITY *2165*
OF *Univ.*
CHICAGO *Chicago*
Atomic Energy

AMOUNT: \$5,000

ACCOUNT: To be charged to
RF 44145 leaving a balance
of \$28,183

PREVIOUS INTEREST: None.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: The recent applications of new scientific developments in military use have revealed unprecedented possibilities of destruction, and there are many who see the possible death of civilization in the use of atomic energy. The University of Chicago, in view of the role it played in the developments involving the use of atomic energy, keenly feels its responsibility in discovering and making available to mankind effective means of protection from the destructive use of these new instruments. The University is therefore taking the initiative in arranging a conference to bring together about twenty-five or thirty physical scientists, social scientists, public officials and other citizens. It will seek to clarify the issues which have arisen from these technological developments and to provide guidance for the formation of public policy. The discussions, which will be unattended by publicity, will (1) analyze the dangers created by the destructive potentialities of these weapons and (2) examine alternative institutional arrangements proposed for meeting this danger. There will be a pre-conference circulation of memoranda which will cover such topics as schemes for national and international control of the study and use of atomic energy, the significance and possibilities of secrecy in scientific research and international relations, means of restricting the damage-potential of the bombs, etc. At the end of the conference a statement of the conclusions reached and the supporting evidence and arguments will be drawn up for circulation and further discussion.

A grant of \$5,000, or as much thereof as may be necessary, to the University of Chicago for expenses of a conference on problems arising from the destructive application of atomic energy is hereby approved, to be available during the period ending December 31, 1945.

Joseph H. Willits
Director for the Social Sciences

Comptroller
RBA

APPROVED: SEP 19 45

Vice President