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YALE UNIVERSITY - RESEARCH IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

\$100,000 - RF 35079 July 1, 1935 - June 30, 1940  
(extended to June 30, 1941)

Objectives: To aid in establishing research in international relations as a permanent program at Yale University.

RF funds were to provide for research, publication, and administrative expenses over a five year period at the end of which time Yale expected to absorb these expenses into its regular budget.

Background: In May 1934 Prof. Nicholas J. Spykman, Chairman of the Department of International Relations, Yale University applied to RF for funds to initiate a program of research. At that time, as a result of an eight year period of development, international studies were already firmly established in the University. A four-year undergraduate course featuring international relations, and graduate courses leading to advanced degrees were being offered; and a Department of International Relations to integrate advanced work had been organized as a separate administrative unit of the Graduate School. Furthermore, over \$800,000 in endowments had been secured by the University to strengthen the work and a number of new appointments, including those of Prof. Arnold Wolfers (formerly of the Deutsche Hochschule fur Politik), Prof. Samuel F. Bemis, Prof. Frederick S. Dunn, and Prof. James G. Rogers (former Assistant Secretary of State) had been made since 1931.

The program outlined by Prof. Spykman involved collaboration of Department specialists in the fields of history, economics, law and politics on specific international problems with a view to providing results which might be of practical use in the formulation of international policy. To conduct this research, an Institute of International Studies, staffed by personnel of the Department, was to be established. The initial undertaking planned by the Institute was an investigation of the whole range of methods employed by nations to preserve peace. It was expected that the results of the investigation would be published in approximately twelve volumes.

In view of conditions favoring the development of such a program at Yale, RF appropriated \$100,000 over a five year period, available as follows: \$15,000 in 1935-1936; \$25,000 in 1936-1937; \$30,000 in 1937-1938; \$20,000 in 1938-1939; and \$10,000 in 1939-1940.

Fulfillment: Organization

September 1939 The Institute of International Studies was organized in 1935 as the Research Division of the Department of International Relations in the Graduate School. The Institute's Executive Committee consisted of three professors who also comprised the planning board of the Department's teaching organization: F.S. Dunn, N.J. Spykman\* and A. Wolfers. The Staff of the Institute included Prof. Spykman, Director, an executive Secretary, a Secretary, and from five to seven research Associates and Assistants from the Department.

\*In 1939 for reasons of ill-health Prof. Spykman was obliged to resign as Director of the Institute. He was succeeded by Prof. A. Wolfers

### Research Program

The Institute originally proposed to undertake a broad investigation of the strategy of peace, but in the light of developments in Europe and Asia indicating increasing trends toward nationalism, it was decided that studies which would help to clarify problems of American foreign policy would be of greater usefulness. Such a program was therefore undertaken. Following is a list of the research accomplishments under this new program from 1936 to July 1, 1939:

#### Study I The Conduct of American Foreign Relations

Rapporteur - Prof. F.S. Dunn

This study was to result in the preparation and publication of three volumes by October 1, 1939: Vol. I, an analysis of the conduct of American foreign relations in terms of governmental machinery existing for this purpose; Vol. II, comparative studies in the conduct of foreign relations in other countries; and Vol. III, problems of administration of foreign relations and proposals for reorganizations. Preparation of Vol. I was delayed in 1936-1937 by Prof. Dunn's preoccupation with a special study for the ISC, and in 1937-1938 by his illness. Research was completed in the summer of 1939 and publication was expected in April 1940.\* \*\*Cost \$13,946.10. Vol. II was indefinitely postponed after an expenditure of \$1,000 on collection of materials because it was adjudged outside of the Institute's program on American foreign policies; Vol. III no work was done.

#### Study II United States in World Affairs

Rapporteur - Prof. N.J. Spykman

This study, an analysis of factors influencing American foreign policy, was expected to result in a "master" analysis to be used by the Institute as a basis for its work on American foreign policy. Publication was planned for June 1939. Illness of Prof. Spykman during 1937 and 1938, delayed the work and publication is not expected before June 1940\* Cost -- \$13,445.

#### Study III Regional Approach to US Foreign Policy (in three parts)

IIIa The United States and the Far East

Rapporteur Vol. I -- Prof. N.J. Spykman

Rapporteur Vol. II -- Dr. A.W. Griswold (research associate)

Two volumes were to be published by June 1938. Illness of Prof. Spykman delayed work on Vol. I so that by June 1939 the work was only in its second phase, i.e. collecting additional material and writing first draft; publication was expected by October 1941. No expenses. Vol. II, History of US Diplomacy in the Far East, was published in November 1938. Cost -- \$6,741.15.

\*No record of publication June 1940.

\*\*Costs of projects as of July 1, 1939 take into account expenditures for substitute professors, research and secretarial assistants, travelling, publication research materials, and miscellaneous expenses.

IIIb The United States and the Western Hemisphere

Rapporteur Vol. I --

Rapporteur Vol. II -- Prof. S.F. Bemis

Because of a special series of studies on Canadian-American relations planned by the Carnegie Foundation, the Institute planned that its two volumes should deal chiefly with Latin American relations. Work on Vol. I was postponed indefinitely. No expenses. Volume II was begun in 1939; publication expected by January 1942. Cost--\$433.38.

IIIc The United States and Europe

Rapporteur Vol. I -- Prof. A. Wolfers

Rapporteur Vol. II -- Dr. A.W. Griswold

Rapporteur Vol. III -- Prof. A. Wolfers

Three volumes were to result from this study. Most of the material for Vol. I was collected in Europe by Prof. Wolfers and a research assistant in the summer of 1937, but no further work was done. Cost -- \$3,348.00 Work on Vol. II was begun in 1939 to make this a companion volume to Dr. Griswold's study on Far East (see IIIa). Publication is expected in October 1942. No expenses. Volume III, entitled Britain and France Between Two Wars, discusses the actual peace policies of France and Great Britain during the twenty years following Versailles, and was written especially to aid in placing on a sounder basis discussions of the advisability of American participation in European peace efforts. Published May 1940. Cost -- approximately \$11,600.

Study IV Cooperation with Specific Powers (two parts)

IVa British-American Cooperation

Rapporteur -- Prof. N.J. Spykman

Three volumes were planned, Vol. I, The Position of United States in World Affairs; Vol. II, The Position of Great Britain in World Affairs; and Vol. III, Adjustment and Cooperation. A survey of the implications involved conducted by an advanced seminar in applied politics (8 students) indicated the wisdom of abandoning this study until other more basic studies in the research program were completed. No expenses.

IVb Japanese-American Cooperation

It was decided that this study could be treated in Study IIIa. No expenses.

Study V General Policies

Rapporteur Vol. I -- Dr. G.T. Davis (research associate)

Rapporteur Vol. II -- Dr. Helen Moats (research associate)

It was originally expected that this study would contain four parts, a) Disarmament, b) Neutrality, c) Collective Security, and d) Revision, but instead two volumes were undertaken as follows: Vol. I, The History of U.S. Naval Policy, started in 1938 and published in spring of 1940. Cost -- \$2,180.00; Vol. II U.S. Foreign Communications and the Public Interest, begun in 1939 and expected to be completed by 1941, no expenses.



Study VI Economic Policies for the United States (three parts)

Via Commercial Policy

Vib Investment Policy

Vic Monetary Policy

Special Study for the ISC

Rapporteur -- Prof. F.S. Dunn

This study, undertaken by Prof. Dunn in 1937 at the request of the American Coordinating Committee of the ISC, resulted in a volume, Peaceful Change: A Study in International Procedures, published by the Council on Foreign Relations and distributed at the ISC in June 1937. Cost -- \$1,607.50.

Thus, although the 1936 plan called for publication of 12 or 13 volumes, by July 1939 only three actually had appeared. Several reasons for the failure to publish more volumes within this period were given by Director Spykman as follows: (1) interruptions caused by illness of Professors Spykman, Wolfers, and Dunn (2) conflict between research program and teaching schedules of professors (3) underestimates of time needed to complete the type of studies envisaged in the plan (4) limitations as to the amount of help research assistants could give to the professors in charge of the projects.

Research Program and the Department

In addition to the above research activities certain benefits accrued to the Department because of the RF grant. In the first place, the methods of collective research enabled members of the Department to become acquainted with one another's points of view and methods of work and established the habit of analyzing together not only problems of international relations, but also problems of research and teaching. This helped to integrate the work of the Department and to transform what was simply a list of courses into a coordinated working unit.

In the second place, active participation in research on the part of individual instructors injected new vigor into their teaching and the bringing of substitutes to replace those engaged in research introduced new points of view, new types of approach, and an opportunity to test ideas and compare notes about teaching methods and research technique. All of this added variety and life to the Department's teaching program and refreshed its work.

Finances

In 1939 the future of the Institute was uncertain as the University had not been able to raise funds for special endowment or to provide additional funds from its own budget to support the research. Difficulty in securing funds was due partly to lingering effect of the depression, and partly to Yale's inability to create sufficiently widespread interest in its work in international relations. Originally the Department had at its disposal a sum of \$50,000 which it had hoped to utilize to bring its work in international relations before the public, but this was wiped out by the depression. The Director had hoped to demonstrate to potential contributors the significance of the Institute's work by publication of the above listed series of studies, but production had proved to be considerably slower than anticipated.

In September 1939 Prof. Spykman reported that a balance of \$15,000 would remain unexpended at the end of the period of the RF grant (June 30, 1940). He therefore requested that the term of the grant be extended to June 30, 1941 in order to bring the unfinished studies to conclusion. Informal officers' action extending the grant was taken on June 10, 1940. Prof. Spykman intimated that request would probably be made to the RF for additional grants to continue the program of research.

Source material:

Letters:

3/17/34 N.J. Spykman to EED  
5/17/34 Pres. Angell to EED  
3/12/35 N.J. Spykman to SHW  
4/9/35 SHW to N.J. Spykman  
4/14/38 N.J. Spykman to SHW  
4/2/40 GJB to T.W. Farnam

Interviews:

1/28/35 SHW  
9/20/39 SHW

Reports:

Research in International Relations at Yale University  
Yale Institute of International Studies, reports for the years  
1935-36, 1936-37, 1937-38, 1938-39.

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