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Columbia Univ
Russian Inst.

Excerpt from JHW memo to DR

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The Russian Institute of Columbia University

RF has been supporting the Russian Institute at Columbia since its founding in 1946 and has granted a total of \$796,500. Of this, \$745,000 has been in the form of term grants. I do not need to stress the importance in today's circumstances of this one of the two leading Russian Institutes in this country. The Russian Institute at Columbia is under excellent leadership. The SSRC reports that it has provided more personnel for the Government, journalism, universities, and certain other public services than all other Russian centers combined.

I have in mind a capital grant of about \$1,000,000. This would terminate RF responsibilities and would be available to be conserved for the general purposes of the Institute for as long as it would last. I would like to have DSS authorized to explore this matter with Columbia University officials.

The possibility of Ford Foundation interest in this field does not diminish my belief that RF should consider such a grant. The Institute needs Ford funds, but free funds from RF would protect it against the Ford tendency to impose its pattern and would thus enable the Institute to accept the Ford funds safely.

The Russian Institute has been our "baby", and I would like to see us "button it up".