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MEMORANDUM

Subject: The Cultural Relations Program

From: Wilma Fairbank

Date: Chungking, July 15, 1945

The Name. The cultural program is devoted to promoting educational and professional relations between the United States and China. The content of those relations is as broad as education and the professions themselves. It is not limited to the narrow meaning of the word "culture", namely, literature and the fine arts.

The nature of the program. Educational and professional exchanges between China and the United States are, like their commercial exchanges, determined by the demand in each country for the other's products. The urgency of the need in the buying country and the quality and availability of the product in the selling country are primary factors. China needs modern knowledge to enable her to modernize her backward, undeveloped country. Her most urgent need is for that cultural commodity in which America leads the world, modern technical and scientific know-how.

American know-how can be conveyed to China, and has been for many years, by the following means: by sending Chinese to America to study, by sending Americans to China to teach, by adult education in China in the form of American advisors, by sending American books and periodicals to China, and by such other tools for conveying ideas as the movies and the radio.

In America the demand for Chinese cultural contributions has been far less. However, in the last fifteen years over a dozen centers of Chinese studies have been set up at leading universities, several scholarly periodicals devoted to the same purpose have been started, American universities have invited numerous Chinese scholars to lecture and conduct researches, and, particularly since the war, a relatively large number of Americans have been learning Chinese by improved teaching methods.

The department believes it to be in the interests of the American people to promote these cultural exchanges in both directions.

Why promote cultural relations? China and America have never been at war with one another. On the contrary, for the 100 years since China was opened to the West, Chinese-American relations have grown increasingly closer until at the present time it can be said that no

foreign

foreign country with the possible exception of Canada has closer ties with the United States than China. In large measure this is due to the educational and professional relations between the two countries over these 100 years.

The many colleges, universities, middle and primary schools founded and maintained by American missionaries in China have been the backbone of Chinese-American cultural relations. It was at the suggestion of a missionary that the Boxer Indemnity Fellowships were inaugurated, providing an American introduction to modern knowledge for hundreds of China's leaders during the last thirty years. Missionaries and students in America, missionaries and returned students in China have, in the first instance, knit the many ties which constitute Chinese-American traditional friendship.

Some results of these educational and professional relations have been: English is the second language of China (middle school students are required to study it five hours a week for six years); the majority of China's leaders in all professions including politics are American-trained and able to deal with us without language barrier; more Chinese students are now in America than ever before (2000 against about 200 in England) and additional hundreds are going annually for technical training; American advisors have supplanted those of other nationalities in the Chinese government; American publications, movies, medicines, and technical and industrial equipment are in great and constant demand.

The Department's program of cultural relations with China was started in January of 1942 on grant from the President's Emergency Fund. The primary purpose of the program was to maintain even on a very small scale the cultural contacts which had been built up over the years and which were now disrupted by the war. It was directed particularly into fields of educational and professional relations which were of immediate importance to the war. At the request of the Chinese government, and work with the various ministries on problems of agriculture, engineering, industrial production, and public health. Chinese students in America were aided to complete their studies, a small number of Chinese professors were brought to America to study and lecture, translations and other publications were sponsored, books and technical journals were sent to China.

The Department, as the agency of the United States government charged with conducting foreign relations, obviously inaugurated this program because it believed that the promotion and maintenance of cultural relations with China was an important means of implementing our foreign policy.

Cultural Relations and the Embassy. As I understand it, our present policy towards China is: to work as allies with the Chinese in the speedy prosecution of the war against Japan, and to do what can be done to build up a

strong,

strong, united, democratic China, friendly to ourselves, as a bulwark of peace in the Far East. The cultural relations program is directed specifically at implementing these two aims of our foreign policy. It must be, therefore, fully integrated with the other operations of the Embassy and given full Embassy support.

Wilma Fairbank  
Cultural Relations Officer

WF/myh

Mr. Briggs  
July 16, 1945.

MEMORANDUM

Cultural Program

It is important that the Cultural Program be closely integrated with the general policy and objectives of the Embassy, and the Cultural Relations Office is accordingly established as an integral part of the Political Section. The following procedure will apply with respect to the subjects in question:

1. General Direction:

The Cultural Program will be developed under the general direction of Mr. Paxton and Mrs. Fairbank of the Cultural Relations Office of the Political Section. On matters of day to day development they will keep in touch with Mr. Smyth.

2. Despatches and Reports:

Despatches and reports prepared in the Cultural Relations Office will be cleared through and initialled in the first instance by Mr. Smyth, who will be responsible for determining whether to send them to Mr. Robertson (in the event that a given despatch or report has to do with economic or financial matters) or to Mr. Briggs. Since both officers are desirous of familiarizing themselves with the details of the Cultural Program it is anticipated that for the present a substantial proportion of such despatches and reports should be so routed.

3. American citizens assigned to China under the Cultural Program:

All personnel arriving under the program will call at the Embassy and will be received by the Ambassador, as well as Mr. Briggs and/or Mr. Robertson and Mr. Smyth. They will be given ample opportunity to explain their terms of reference, the scope of their work, and the source or nature of their directives from the State Department. They should of course feel free to consult at any time with any of the officials of the Embassy.

4. Public Speeches:

As a general rule all public speeches which American citizens assigned to China under the Cultural Program propose to make should be cleared with the Chancery in advance, Mr. Briggs and/or Mr. Smyth for the Political Section and Mr. Robertson for the Economic Section. This is in accordance with standard practice with respect to all civilian officials of the American Government serving abroad. It is the desire of the Embassy to collaborate in this matter and it is not intended by this provision to place any obstacle in the way of the most effective use of American visitors under the Cultural Program. Obviously it will not be necessary having cleared one speech to clear a second of the

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same general content or to restrict the making of speeches outside the capital, provided their terms are understood and approved by the Chancery in advance.

5. Reports to the Chinese Government:

These should be submitted officially to the Embassy by the officer concerned, with a covering letter summarizing the contents of the report and indicating the branch or ministry of the Chinese Government to which it is proposed to have the report submitted. The actual submission will however be done by the Embassy on behalf of the writer of the report.

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In all the foregoing it is the purpose of the Embassy to link the Cultural Program with the over-all objectives of the American Government in China, in order that the program may be so effective as possible. The Ambassador is deeply interested in the success of the Cultural Program and he must be fully informed in order that his support may be given to the best advantage.

EOB/len

E.O.B.

REPLY to Donald V.  
Arrived Chungking: January 13, 1944  
Departed Chungking:  
Director, Bureau of Science, Office of Science Administration. Assigned as specialist in industrial standards to the National Research Commission.

REPLY to Donald V.  
Arrived Chungking: January 13, 1944  
Departed Chungking:  
M.S. in Agriculture and during past seven years in United States Soil Conservation Service. Assigned as soil erosion control specialist to Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

REPLY to Col John T.  
Arrived Chungking: June 25, 1944.  
Departed Chungking:  
Of the United States Army Sanitary Corps and, prior to his service in the U.S. Army in 1942, Director of the Biological Laboratories of the National Department of Health. Assigned as bacteriological specialist to National Health Administration.

American Technical Specialists  
in China under The Cultural  
Cooperation Program, Department  
of State, July 1945.

✓ ALEXANDERSON, Mr. George H.

Arrived Chungking: Nov. 6, 1943

Departed Chungking:

New York Times photographer. Assigned as specialist  
news photography to Ministry of Information.

✓ HAWORTH, Captain (MC, USNR, M.D.)

Arrived Chungking: March 18, 1945

Departed Chungking:

Specialist in radiology assigned to assist National  
Health Administration.

LOUGKS, Dr. (MD) Harold H.

Arrived Chungking: December 11, 1944

Departed Chungking:

Professor of Surgery, PUMC. Assigned as visiting  
professor of Military Surgery to Commission on Medical  
Education, Chinese Ministry of Education.

✓ MORRILL, Colonel Arthur B.

Arrived Chungking: February 13, 1945

Departed Chungking:

Formerly member of Haas mission, Assigned as  
specialist in sanitation and public health to the  
National Health Administration.

✓ RECK, Mr. Dickson

Arrived Chungking: December 11, 1944.

Departed Chungking:

Director Standards Division, Office of Price  
Administration. Assigned as specialist in industrial  
standards to the National Resources Commission.

SHUHART, Dr. Donald V.

Arrived Chungking: January 18, 1944

Departed Chungking:

Ph.D. in horticulture and during past seven years  
in United States Soil Conservation Service. Assigned  
as soil erosion control specialist to Ministry of  
Agriculture and Forestry.

✓ TRIPP, Lt. Col John T.

Arrived Chungking: June 28, 1944.

Departed Chungking:

Of the United States Army Sanitary Corps and,  
prior to his entrance in the U.S. Army in 1942,  
director of the biological laboratories of the  
Michigan Department of Health. Assigned as  
bacteriological specialist to National Health  
Administration.