

SECURITY INFORMATION

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17 December 1951

For your information, herewith copy of sub-project proposal forwarded to CFA by us in connection with Harvard Seminar, as discussed.

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PROJECT COVER SHEET

PROJECT NUMBER _____

DESIGNATION Harvard Seminar

Developed by: Sponsor

December 14, 1951
(Date)

Recommendations:

Exec. V. P. for Operations

(Date)

Budgeted by:

Exec. V. P. for Admin.

(Date)

APPROVED, for and on behalf of the Executive Committee:

President

(Date)

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Paul
PROPOSED PROJECT

SECURITY INFORMATION

FOR A

FOREIGN STUDENT SEMINAR AT HARVARD UNIVERSITY

1. The Proposal

It is proposed that CFA provide financial support overtly for a foreign student seminar consisting of twenty Asian and twenty European candidate students under the auspices of the Harvard summer school for the period approximately June 30 to August 24, 1952.

2. Justification

During the summer of 1951, sponsors covertly financed a foreign students project for Western Europeans at Harvard. Those selected were young men of ability, in the 25 - 35 age group who had completed their formal education and had demonstrated their competence and capacity for leadership in such fields as law, journalism, politics and teaching. They were exposed as a group to seminars and lectures on American institutions and culture and participated freely in discussions of major problems confronting both Western Europe and the U. S. The group was under the constant supervision of a cleared sponsor consultant, who was able through the close association with the group to form a considered judgment as to the ability and future utility to the sponsor of each individual.

The response of the personnel who attended last year was enthusiastic and a publication to keep them in touch with one another is being planned which will help to insure the wide dissemination of their favorable impressions. Plans are also well underway to capitalize on their potential value to the sponsors. This type of program appears to be of even more immediate benefit as a means of gaining the active support of potential leaders in Asia and the middle east. The program provides a method of reducing the widespread misconceptions concerning American life that prevail in the thin stratum of educated young men in Asia and of permitting close observation of these selected for potential use by the sponsors as witting or unwitting agents on their return to their own countries. Also the personnel at Harvard who monitored the project are more than willing to have the emphasis of the program shifted to Asia. It appears advisable for cover purposes to at least for the 1952 seminar, include a number of Western Europeans.

It is therefore proposed that twenty Asians, including countries in both Far East and Near East, and twenty Europeans be included in the program for the 1952 seminar.

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3. Staff Required to Support This Project

CFA will not be required to provide personnel to support this project. Cleared sponsors, consultants, from Harvard will provide necessary staff. However, CFA will be encouraged to have representatives attend any or all seminar meetings. CFA should also have a voice in the selection of candidates and in the agenda of the seminar.

4. Budget Estimates

Budget Estimates are \$60,000. A breakdown of the budget is attached.

5. Selection Process

The potential utility of the project depends largely on the care with which selection of candidates is made. The following procedures are recommended:

1. CFA, sponsors and Harvard representatives will attempt to secure by January 10, 1952 a list of prospective candidates who meet the following criteria.

- a) They must speak and understand English.
- b) They should be within the age limits of 25 to 40.
- c) They should have completed their formal education and have demonstrated their competence and capacity for leadership in the fields of law, journalism, politics, teaching, labor ~~and~~ religion.
- d) They must be anti-Communist. However, it is desirable where possible to encourage the attendance of outstanding young leaders who may be somewhat anti-U. S. as well as anti-Communist in order that we may influence them toward friendship to the United States. In other words "fringe" personnel should be encouraged to attend providing they meet other criteria above.
- e) In order to conduct a preliminary security check, it will be necessary to secure the complete names, addresses and brief biographic descriptions of each candidate.

2. After a review of all candidates by CFA sponsors and Harvard, invitations to nominees to submit their applications by January 30, 1952. These invitations will state that the name of the nominee has been recommended by CFA and the Institute for International Education.

3. On the basis of applications received by March 15, final selection of candidates will be made by March 30th and invitations send out as of that date.

4. Mechanics for issuing the invitations, publishing^{city} and other details will be worked out to the satisfaction of all concerned.

6. Cover

It is vitally important that the sponsor's hand not be shown in this sub-project and that CFA's cover be preserved in its relationship with Harvard so that no official Government interest in the seminar is revealed to the participants. In as much as the two individuals at Harvard have been cleared for the seminar project, all covert arrangements with Harvard should be conducted through sponsors.

7. Recommendations

It is recommended that: (a) The Executive Committee approve the undertaking of this project and approve the appropriation of the funds indicated in the attached budget. (b) The approval by the Executive Committee of this sub-project on a covert basis will then make possible the entering into of negotiations overtly by CFA and Harvard. (c) CFA should compile a list of prospective candidates who meet the criteria set forth above and forward same to sponsors in time to meet the January 10th deadline for preliminary investigation of candidates. (d) CFA should indicate subjects which they would like to have included in the agenda of the seminar for further discussion.