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April 20, 1956

MEMORANDUM

Subject: Japan Visit of the Brookhaven Survey Group. June 3, 1956.

1. General

The purpose of this memorandum is to outline background information regarding the visit from about June 3 to June 11 of a survey group of private American scientists. The group is composed of ten persons who are now studying the peaceful application of atomic energy as it relates to the economic development of Colombo Plan countries. The survey group was assembled by the Brookhaven National Laboratory at the request of the International Cooperation Administration and with the technical guidance of the Atomic Energy Commission and support of the Department of State.

2. Origin of the Brookhaven Survey

It will be recalled that in October 1955, at Singapore, an offer was made by Mr. John B. Hollister, Director of the ICA, during the annual conference of the Colombo powers to the effect that the United States was willing to provide facilities to equip an Asian Nuclear Research Center. The U.S. contribution to the center would consist of funds for the training of students from Asian countries and for laboratory facilities and equipment for such training. In particular the U.S. would provide a reactor suitable for research and training.

The U.S. Government hopes that plans for the Asian Nuclear Research Center can take fully into account the views of scientific leaders in Colombo Plan countries can participate in the work of the Asian Nuclear Research Center after its establishment in the Philippines.

To obtain suggestions in this connection, the Brookhaven Survey Group was selected in March 1956 and departed from the United States in early April for a three-month visit to fourteen countries: Pakistan, India, Ceylon, Nepal, Burma, Thailand, Indonesia, Malaya, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Hong kong, Philippines and Japan.

The group plans to remain in Japan for one week, from June 3 to June 11. It hopes to consult with leading Japanese scientists and authorities and obtain suggestions whereby the Asian Nuclear Research Center can best serve the needs of Japan as well as other Asian countries. After returning to the United States, the Brookhaven group will submit recommendations to the U.S. Government as the basis for detailed proposals to the Colombo powers at the October 1956 meeting in Wellington, New Zealand.

3. Composition of the Brookhaven Survey Group

The survey group was selected by the Brookhaven National Laboratory, a major private research institution devoted to peaceful application of Atomic Energy. The Brookhaven National Laboratory is administered by nine American universities: Yale, Harvard, Princeton, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Columbia, Johns Hopkins, Pennsylvania, Cornell and Rochester. The laboratory is located on Long Island, N.Y.

The Brookhaven Survey Group is headed by Dr. Marvin Fox, Senior Physicist and Chairman of the Reactor Department of the Brookhaven National Laboratory. Others included in the group are Dr. Victor Bond, Physician, Medical Department, Brookhaven National Laboratory; Mr. John F. Herton, Project Manager of the Engineering Division of the Vitro Corporation of America; Dr. Harold H. Smith, Professor, Department of Plant Breeding, Cornell University and Visiting senior Plant Geneticist, Biology Department, Brookhaven National Laboratory; Dr. Harold B. Tukey, Professor and Head of the Department of Horticulture, Michigan State University; Dr. Amry Vandenbosch, Professor and Head of the Department of Political Science, University of Kentucky; Dr. Frederick C. Vonder Lage, Director of Educational Division and School of Reactor Technology, Oak Ridge National Laboratory. U.S. Government economists Mr. Solomon H. Chafkin and Mr. H. A. Smith, together with Mr. Ralph Strom of the Atomic Energy Commission, will accompany the scientists.

4. Objectives of the Brookhaven Survey Group in Japan

The objective of the group while in Japan will be to consult with the Japanese Government officials and private individuals concerned on the Asian Nuclear Center and in particular possible relationships between the Center and Japan's program for peaceful application of atomic energy. The group is seeking suggestions on such points as:

- a) Specific purposes which the Asian Nuclear Research Center should serve.
- b) The relationship of the Center to the governments and institutions of the Colombo Plan countries.
- c) The physical facilities which would be most useful for research and training at the Center.
- d) Technical equipment for the Center and the order in which equipment should be installed.
- e) Staffing and administration of the Center.
- f) Personnel selection and training for the Center.
- g) Measures needed to make the Center of maximum benefit to the countries of the region and to secure their assistance.

5. Preparatory Action Being Taken for the visit

The U.S. Government is seeking to arrange a schedule of calls, seminars, and various other contacts where by the Brookhaven group can readily associate with their colleagues who are working in fields related to the peaceful application of atomic energy as such, as well as the corollary applied fields of electric power, agriculture and health. It is hoped that the contacts to be made by the group will include scientific leaders in private and Government institutions as well as appropriate Government officials concerned with Colombo Plan affairs.

In order to assist in coordinating the schedule of contacts for the group, the Ambassador has appointed as Project Manager, Mr. Sylvester I. Olson, Assistant Director for Operations of the USOM (48-7141, Extension 201).

Mr. Olson will be prepared to assist in every way possible Japanese individuals or groups who may want to establish contact with members of the Brookhaven Survey Group. Mr. Olson has also been asked to seek suggestions from Japanese agencies concerned so as to make optimum use of the visitors' limited time.

The team requests that insofar as feasible about half of its available time be reserved for scheduling after its arrival in Tokyo.