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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INFO : AMCONGEN, SAO PAULO

AMEMBASSY, RIO DE JANEIRO

October 19, 1964

South America Fisk University Infrared Spectroscopy
Institute (AID project).
TOAID A-491, October 15, 1964; AIDTO 659, Sept. 22;
Embassy A-1410, May 29; TOAID 1772, May 28.

JOINT EMBASSY/AID MESSAGE.

Pursuant to the announcement contained in reference Deptel, Dr. Fuson, Director of Fisk University Infrared Spectroscopy Institute (FIRI), arrived in São Paulo from Buenos Aires on September 23, where he was met by University of São Paulo representatives.

Since the Scientific Attaché could not proceed to São Paulo at that time because of existing commitments, he requested the AID representative of the Consulate, Mr. Richard C. Desmond, to assist Dr. Fuson in any way he could. It will be recalled that Mr. Desmond had made a thorough report on this matter earlier this year, including the interest of the University of São Paulo in sponsoring SAFIRI (see Embassy A-1410 of May 29, 1964). Dr. Fuson expressed appreciation for the assistance provided to him by Mr. Desmond in São Paulo.

On September 30, Dr. Fuson arrived in Rio de Janeiro, and the Scientific Attaché and AID representatives collaborated in the development of plans for the Infrared Spectroscopy Institute. This reporting officer escorted Dr. Fuson on visits to a number of Brazilian institutions, including the following: National Research Council of Brazil (CNPq), Brazilian Center of Physics Research (CBPF), Institute of Chemistry, Institute for Research on Natural Products and Institute of Biophysics, all of University of Brazil, Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro (PUC), and the Brazilian Academy of Sciences.

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POL:LCKilday (in draft)

USAID:JDPeabody (in draft)

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According to prior instructions (see AIDTO 400 of August 19, 1964), USAID and the Scientific Attaché were to prepare a draft PIO/T covering the course, which is to be regional in nature, and forward same to Washington after discussion with Dr. Fuson and Brazilian authorities.

The AID Mission has now forwarded documentation for final action by AID/W (TOAID A-491).

The plan calls for the course to be given in São Paulo February 1 to 20, 1965. The staff will be mixed, some 6 to 8 professors from the United States, one from Brazil, one from Argentina and one from Mexico. Participants, some 50 in number, will be from Brazil, Argentina and Chile, according to present plans. Quarters will be provided at the University of São Paulo.

Insofar as scientific equipment is concerned, Fisk University plans on sending adequate supplies of auxiliary items and expendable supplies. The number of spectrophotometers needed, however, presents something of a problem, now on the way to solution.

The course authorities estimate that 8 infrared spectrophotometers will be required, since the course directors plan on devoting the morning to lectures and the afternoon and early evening to laboratory demonstrations. In the latter instances, some 4 to 5 students will be placed with each professor. It is anticipated that 3 or 4 of the total number (8) of spectrophotometers are available in São Paulo. U.S. Instrument Manufacturers have offered to make the additional spectrophotometers available and would plan on sending this equipment down at their own expense for the course. It would be immediately returned to the United States. This equipment is valued at some \$6,000 to \$10,000 per unit, and the total transportation estimated at some \$1,200 to \$1,500 per unit.

In order to eliminate this heavy expense of transportation, and to avoid possible delay through customs in receipt of the same, together with ever present danger of damage in shipment, the possibility is being explored of obtaining other spectrophotometers already existing in Brazil on a loan basis for the course. The local Instrument Manufacturers' representative (Kowalsky) has supplied this reporting officer with a listing of those companies and research institutions which have the needed equipment, and the National Research Council of Brazil is requesting these to make the equipment available under certain guaranties. The February timing of the course is fortunate, for this is the vacation period for Brazilian universities and the equipment in their possession will not normally be in use.

It is believed that success will attend these efforts, but it is too early to have formal commitments.

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One by-product, however, is already discernible: the institutions which now have spectrophotometers have already made known their desire to send members of their staff for the special course in São Paulo. This is exactly the effect desired. An additional by-product lies in this: instruments located at certain institutions have been found to be inoperative because of need of repair, adjustment, or spare parts. The Sales Manager for Latin America of one of the principal U.S. Instrument Manufacturers, Enrique A. Quino, of the Perkin Elmer Corporation, who took part in some of the discussions with Dr. Fuson, has offered, informally, subject to confirmation by his home office, to help recondition this equipment if it is made available on loan to the course.

As will be seen from the budget submitted with the PIO/T, the Instrument Manufacturers plan to send one or more of their company engineers to assist in this preparatory work, as well as to help keep the instruments operating during the course. Since they have existing commitments all over the world, they are now endeavoring to program the time necessary for their technicians to be here in the January-February period.

It is further worth noting that the number of universities, research institutions and commercial companies currently using spectrophotometers greatly exceeds the Mission's earlier expectations. It is becoming increasingly obvious, therefore, that this intensive course in São Paulo, if successfully carried out, can be a means of contributing effectively to the economic development of the country by showing to an even wider range of Brazilian research institutions and industry the advantages of using this scientific research tool.

It can be reported that Brazilian scientific and industrial circles are deeply interested in the planned intensive training course. The reaction of some even may be described as enthusiastic, both in São Paulo and Rio. The Brazilian sponsoring agencies, namely the Fundação de Amparo à Pesquisa do Estado de São Paulo (FAPESP), the University of São Paulo and the Brazilian National Research Council have confirmed their respective commitments and offered full cooperation. It is understood that the OAS has also confirmed its participation.

The total investment of the respective interested parties and sponsoring agencies is estimated by Dr. Fuson to be in the neighborhood of \$100,000. The AID funding of this total is approximately \$30,000. In view of this relatively modest percentage, the Embassy suggests that, should the final figure for AID be a few percentage points higher than the flat figure quoted, the effort be made to cover this difference.

Dr. Fuson was well received wherever he went, and the Mission officers, who had to deal with him, have an excellent impression of his

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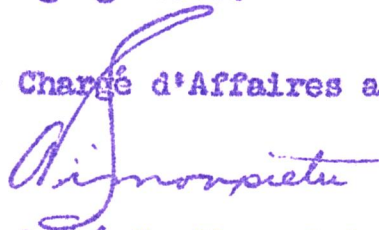
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obvious authority in the subject matter, his orderly thinking, and his dedication to the concept of making a contribution to the economic development of Latin America in his field of specialization. He spent long hours drafting various supporting documents which were needed for Mission and AID/W consideration, and left with the Mission a complete record of his conversations in São Paulo and Rio, pinpointing the responsibilities of the respective sponsoring agencies.

For the *Chargé* d'Affaires a.i.:



André C. Simonpietri
Scientific Attaché

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