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SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT OF RESEARCH ACTIVITIES OF
CENTER FOR RESEARCH
IN SOCIAL CHANGE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (U)

By Edward Norbeck, Director
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STATEMENT NO. I

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Semi-Annual Report of Research Activities of

Center for Research
in Social Change and Economic Development

Rice University
Houston, Texas 77001

(ARPA order number 738; program code number NR 177-909;
contract number N00014-67-A-0145-0001)

1. Organization

The Center for Research in Social Change and Economic Development was established at Rice University in the fall of 1966, and operates under a governing body, called the Council, composed of eight faculty members, including representatives of each of the behavioral sciences, the Chancellor of the university, and the Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences.

2. Research Projects

Research conducted under the auspices of the Center concerns social change, and emphasizes social change associated with economic development. Research projects are planned by social scientists, most of whom are faculty members of Rice University, and applications for funds to support such projects are formally submitted for consideration to the Council of the Center. Projects approved by the Council for the period from the beginning of the contract (September, 1966) to June, 1968 are shown on the attached list.

Four of these projects are now well under way, and we give below brief reports of their progress.

THE IMPACT OF INDUSTRIALIZATION ON VALUES IN THE MIDDLE EAST: This project is the largest of those presently being conducted, and involves several senior social scientists and a corps of assistants, most of whom are employed as interviewers. The project aims to determine the nature and extent of changes in values and attitudes that have come about in Islamic nations as the result of industrialization and urbanization. Research is being conducted in Lebanon, Libya, Jordan, and Egypt. Samples of 2,000 males of ages 20 to 40 have been selected in each nation for intensive interviews on attitudes and values concerning familial relationships, the role of women, religious beliefs and practices, ideas about birth control, and "almost every conceivable aspect of human values except the touchy subject of politics." Individuals included in the samples represent a cross-section of the population of each nation, and thus include people from urban and rural communities, nomadic bedouins, new migrants from rural to urban centers, and men in various occupations and at various economic and social levels.

Research is proceeding satisfactorily. To date, approximately 3,000 interviews, each requiring about five hours, have been conducted in the native languages by trained interviewers. It is expected that 8,000 interviews will be completed by August, 1967. Interviews are being coded at American University, Beirut, for statistical reports and later interpretation.

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CHANGE IN JAPAN: Data have already been collected in Japan by the principal investigator on sociocultural changes that have taken place in Japan during the past century. These changes include extensive alterations in the family and other social groups including social classes, in religion, and in most aspects of daily life. These great changes, all related to industrialization and modernization, have occurred without any serious social disturbance. This research aims to present an account of the changes and an interpretation of the processes by which they have come about, pointing up factors that have contributed to the speed and success of the changes. Included among the subjects of investigation is the question of motivation, how and why the Japanese have progressed so rapidly and efficiently to a place of prominence among industrialized nations of the world. Library research on theories of motivation and processes of social and economic change in developing nations remains to be completed. It is expected that a book-length manuscript will be finished by June, 1968.

HOUSTONIANS OF MEXICAN ANCESTRY: Data on familial relations and ways of life are being collected by the principal investigator and several student assistants by means of interviews and by collecting biographies. To date fifty families have been interviewed and two detailed life histories have been nearly completed. Interviewing will be conducted more intensively during the summer of 1967. In addition to its ethnographic value, this research is useful in developing techniques of gathering information. The study is probably the first of its kind that concerns Mexican-Americans in an urban setting. Data collected in this study are valuable in connection with theories concerning acculturation, motivation toward achievement, social mobility, enculturation, and the formation of personality.

NEGRO SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY IN THE UNITED STATES: This project seeks to understand how and why Negroes make collective responses to stress in different ways--by mass violence, through "normal" political action, or by "collective bargaining" with civic authorities. Interviews have been conducted in various cities before, during, and after incidents of violence. As of March, 1967, about 5,000 interviews had been completed that concern basic attitudes of Negroes on a number of issues. The project is nearing completion and a manuscript reporting the results will be ready for publication (Oxford University Press) by early fall. The unique contribution of this study lies in its methodological innovations. One of these is the use of "listening posts," interviewers who are professional barbers, bartenders, storekeepers and the like, and who periodically report on conversations which they hold with their clients. Another innovation is the extensive collection of information by "natural dialogue" collected by interviewers who strike up conversations with fellow Negroes in such places as bars and hospital waiting rooms. These

techniques have yielded information on attitudes that appears to be more reliable than information gathered by White interviewers or under more formal conditions of interviewing.

3. Personnel

Names of personnel on salaries or stipends who are professionally trained in the social sciences appear on the attached list of research projects. All senior investigators hold the Ph.D. in one of the social sciences; ten have faculty appointments at Rice University; and nine hold regular appointments on the staffs of other institutions. In addition, a large and variable number of students in the social sciences are employed in research, usually part-time. Administrative and clerical personnel consist of one full-time Executive Assistant and a variable number of part-time clerks and typists.

4. Consultants

No change from previous report.

5. Future Plans

Plans for research during the coming year are as indicated on the attached list of approved grants in aid and as reported under item number 2 of this report. Application is currently being made for a grant that will allow continued operation of the Center during the year 1968-69.

6. Problems Encountered

No serious problems have been encountered. Political circumstances in the Middle East continue to be unstable, but no problems that interfere seriously with research have been encountered in this connection.

7. Fiscal Status

A total of \$89,735.94 has been expended from the ARPA contract during the period of this semi-annual report.

We shall be glad to furnish abstracts describing research projects or any other information that is desired.

Yours sincerely,


Edward Norbeck
Director

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Center for Research
In Social Change and Economic Development
Rice University, Houston, Texas

April 24, 1967

RESEARCH PROJECTS

<u>Project Title</u>	<u>Principal Investigator</u>	<u>Beginning date</u>
(Unless otherwise indicated, principal investigators are faculty members of Rice University.)		
1. The impact of industrialization on values in the Middle East.	William McFord, Fox Professor of Sociology Abdullah Lutfiyya (Chairman, Department of Anthropology and Sociology, American University in Cairo), <u>Senior Research Associate in Sociology</u> Ahmed Nasir (Chairman, Department of Sociology, University of Jordan) Charles Churchill (Associate Professor of Sociology, American University in Beirut)	Sept., 1966 - June, 1968
2. The American response to the rise of the large corporation: a study in social change.	Louis Galambos, Associate Professor of History	Dec., 1966 - June, 1968
3. Houstonians of Mexican ancestry: an urban ethnography.	Mary Ellen Goodman, Professor of Anthropology and Sociology	Sept., 1966 - June, 1968
4. Social change in an American immigrant community.	Wayne Wheeler, Professor of Sociology	June, 1967 - Sept., 1967
5. Negro social psychology in America.	William McFord, Fox Professor of Sociology Douglass Price-Williams, Chairman, Department of Psychology Blair Justice, <u>Research Associate in Behavioral Science</u> John Howard (Assistant Professor of Sociology, University of Oregon), <u>Research Associate in Sociology</u> Chandler Davidson, <u>Lecturer in Psychology and Sociology</u> Edwin Harwood, Assistant Professor of Sociology	Sept., 1966 - June, 1968

<u>Project Title</u>	<u>Principal Investigator</u>	<u>Beginning date</u>
6. Social change and welfare policy.	Gaston V. Rimlinger, Chairman, Department of Economics	June, 1967 - Sept., 1967
7. Social and economic change in Japan.	Edward Norbeck, Chairman, Department of Anthropology and Sociology	June, 1967 - June, 1968
8. A cross-cultural study of psychological differentiation.	Douglas Price-Williams, Chairman, Department of Psychology Manuel Ramirez (Assistant Professor of Psychology, Sacramento State College), <u>Research Associate in Behavioral Science</u> Jacques M. van Meehl (Psychological Institute, University of Leiden) Mario Bertini (Istituto Di Psicologia, Universita Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Rome) Bjorn Christensen (Chairman, Department of Psychology, University of Bergen, Norway) Douglas Irving, graduate student in Behavioral Science	June, 1967 - June, 1968
9. Comparative study of political intellectuals and their ideologies in three Spanish-speaking countries.	Juan Marsal (Instituto Torcuato Di Tella, Centro de Sociologia Comparada, Buenos Aires), <u>Research Associate in Behavioral Science</u>	Sept., 1967 - June, 1968