

FILE UNDER: *Education*

I N D E X S H E E T

DATE: *28 Oct '47*

FROM: *O. J. Hauge* TO: —

SUBJECT: *M/R -*

*Scientific Advisory Group - Report  
(Formation of a Commission on Higher Education and  
Research etc - P 3-b.)*

DOCUMENT FILED UNDER:

CLASSIFIED FILE:

*Memos for the Record*



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WFM/JNO'B/lt

091.112(7 Oct 47)ESS/ST  
ESS

Scientific Advisory Group - Report  
GS

7 October 1947

GOVT SEC

OK  
K

1. Forwarded herewith is one (1) copy of the Report of the National Academy of Sciences Advisory Group. Accompanying it is a Summary of the recommendations in this Report, together with a Brief of the Statements made; both documents having been prepared by this Section.
2. Your comments on the matters covered by the Report are invited. Upon receipt of these comments from all interested Sections, a conference will be requested for the purpose of securing agreement to any recommendations that may be submitted concerning the report.
3. The report and accompanying papers have been classified "restricted" pending decision on recommendations arising out of the action proposed in paragraph 2 above.
4. The Japanese Renewal Committee is currently in session on the same general subject as covered by the report. It is, therefore, desirable that GHQ views be determined as soon as possible. It would be appreciated that, if practicable, your comments be forwarded to this office within 18 days.

1 Incl

1. Report

W.F.M.

GW/GIK/ef

From: GS

To: ESS

Date: 28 Oct 47

1. This Section does not concur in part but supports the major objectives.
2. The limitation on the power of the Prime Minister to appoint the Commission on Higher Education and Research only from a list nominated by a non-governmental body constitutes an undue interference with the executive power vested in the Cabinet under Article 65 of the Constitution. Moreover, the election of the Advisory Council from vocational groups, by vocationally qualified electors, for positions administering vocational activities is a discrimination in political and economic relations inconsistent with the spirit of equalitarianism embodied in Article 14 of the Constitution. Finally, the assumption by the Advisory Council of the conduct of foreign relations in the field of science would encroach upon the functions of the Cabinet as the organ of the government for the management of foreign affairs under Article 73 of the Constitution.

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3. Although the provisions adversely commented upon in paragraph 2 hereof may seem innocuous in themselves when applied to the particular problem, such provisions, if allowed to become enacted into law, might serve as an undesirable precedent for the establishment of similar patterns in other than scientific fields of endeavor and might even lead eventually to the reorganization of the House of Councillors on the pattern of fascist chambers of corporations.

4. This Section strongly recommends that the report, with modifications conforming to the above, be approved and implemented as rapidly as possible. The reorganization of science and technology in Japan, as defined in the Scientific Advisory group's report, is highly desirable and called for by the present situation in the Japanese bureaucracy.

----- C. W. -----

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GENERAL HEADQUARTERS  
SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS  
Government Section

28 October 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

SUBJECT: Scientific Advisory Group - Report

1. Reference is made to the Report of the Scientific Advisory Group of the United States National Academy of Sciences, dated 1 October 1947.

2. The Report suggests for Japan a comprehensive system of scientific reorganization in its broadest sense, to include the social as well as the natural sciences, "in such a way as to aid as much as possible in the speedy mobilization and fruitful and peaceful development of scientific effort." The Scientific Advisory Group made its recommendations after considering many Japanese proposals for the formation of an over-all "deliberative organ" composed of leaders in or representatives of science in Japan, -- of which the outstanding proposed objective is to "rationalize" or "coordinate" scientific research and technology.

3. Two major steps in the general reorganization of science and its administration in Japan are suggested in the subject Report:

a. The establishment of an Advisory Council on Higher Education and Research, a non-governmental organization with membership elected by qualified persons and representatives of all responsible groups, both by geographical areas and types of scientific activity.

This Council would have the principal functions of (1) advising governmental organizations as to objectives, policies, and principles in higher education and research, and (2) nominating lists of candidates for a governmental organization to be charged with the administration of higher education and research.

b. The formation of a Commission on Higher Education and Research to be composed of a small number of full-time members appointed by the Prime Minister from among a slate of candidates nominated by the Advisory Council on Higher Education and Research.

This Commission would be an arm of the national government: it would be responsible to the Prime Minister; it would present its budget to the office of the Prime Minister and thence through the usual channels. The Commission would absorb certain existing functions of the Ministry of Education; its major functions would be:

- (1) To assume jurisdiction over all public institutions of higher education and publicly-sponsored research institutions;
- (2) To distribute as it deems wisest for the welfare of the country such research funds as are made available to it; and
- (3) To advise the Prime Minister and through him the Cabinet and the Diet on coordination and integration of research activities.

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Memo for the Record, subj: "Scientific Advisory Group - Report", dtd  
28 October 1947.

4. It is apparent that the foregoing proposals would remove certain outstanding responsibilities from the traditionally bureaucratic Ministry of Education. It is the opinion of the Scientific Advisory Group that "instruction in the sciences cannot properly be divorced from research in the sciences." Furthermore, the proposals also involve the transformation of the Imperial Academy of Sciences into a self-supporting honorary society with routine functions of publishing papers of distinction and awarding honors.

However, in the process of mobilizing scientific activity in Japan the Commission itself will come to assume undue powers and dominating influence which, in turn, will react as injuriously to free scientific research and intellectual pursuits as the former bureaucratic and tradition-bound institutions which the Report undertakes to attack. The Commission's centralization of authority may be observed in the following objectives; it would exercise full control over all funds of the central government spent in furtherance of education at its highest level; it would directly control all central government funds destined to be expended for research purposes by agencies other than the ministerial departments; and it would advise upon the use of, but would not directly control, all public funds for research conducted by Ministries of the central government. It is believed that the discharge of these powers on the part of the Commission constitutes more than the setting up of a "central clearing house on research activities."

5. In view of these observations, therefore, it is evident that the proposals presented in the subject Report constitute exorbitant delegation of powers. Without entering into a discussion of the benefits which may accrue from the development on a broad basis of scientific enquiry and technical understanding, as envisaged by the Report, both the centralizing effects and the assumption of undue authority over disbursement of public funds by a system as proposed in the subject Report would probably impede the development of free institutions in Japan. In the long view, the political and financial implications inherent in the proposals would mean undue interference with free scientific investigation and intellectual pursuits, the consequences of which would be dangerous in any country, but especially in Japan where "thought control" and regimentation of scientific enquiry were part of a long tradition.

Prepared by:

Marcel Grilli

O. I. HAUGH  
Chief, Special Projects Div.

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SERIAL NO.	ITEM			
		G-2	CCS	
I.	Comments on Report in General	Analysis is accurate and recommendations essential for proper development.	Generally agree with plans outlined.	Generally certain b outside r
II.	Establishment of non-Governmental Advisory Council for Higher Education and Research	Concur as corollary of serial No. I above.	Concur as corollary of serial No. I. Suggest election to give overlapping periods of office. Suggest electorate through scientific societies is difficult for some period and propose utilizing roster of scientists for electors. Suggest executive members receive payment for services.	Non-concur native pr CIE.
III.	Establishment of Commission for Higher Education and Research	Concur as corollary of serial No. I above.	Concur as corollary of serial No. I above. Proposal for the clarification of functions and suggests Prime Minister appoint one or two independent members such as government or business representatives.	Non-concur native pr CI&E.
IV.	Removal of Responsibility for Higher Education from Education Ministry	Yes		Non-concur consult CI able to co knowledge.
V.	Reorganization of Imperial Academy to Become an Honorary Society			
VI.	National Research Council and JSPS			
VII.	Development of Professional Societies		Refer serial No. II re difficulty of immediately utilizing societies as an electorate.	



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## TABULAR SUMMARY OF STAFF SECTION COMMENTS ON THE REPORT OF THE SCIENTIFIC ADVISOR

### STAFF SECTIONS

CCS	CI&E	GS	N
Generally agree with plans outlined.	Generally non-concur in Report as certain basic recommendations outside responsibility of Group.	Strongly recommends Report with modifications be implemented forthwith.	Generally concur with proposals except in case of social sciences.
Concur as corollary of serial No. I. Suggest election to give overlapping periods of office. Suggest electorate through scientific societies is difficult for some period and propose utilizing roster of scientists for electors. Suggest executive members receive payment for services.	Non-concur as corollary of alternative program being supported by CI&E.	Yes - with electorate in conformity with constitution.	Concur (see serial No. I) but consider commendation undesirable of power.
Concur as corollary of serial No. I above. Proposal for the clarification of functions and suggests the Minister appoint one or two independent members such as government or business representatives.	Non-concur as corollary of alternative program being supported by CI&E.	Concur - provided constitutional powers of P.M. in selection of personnel are retained.	Concur. Concur with serial No. II, above.
	Non-concurrence. Group did not consult CI&E sufficiently to be able to comment with sufficient knowledge.	Yes - highly desirable and called for by present situation in Japan bureaucracy.	Yes - for other reasons and cultural
		Concur as corollary of serial No. I above.	Yes.
		Yes - as corollary of serial No. I.	Yes.
For serial No. II re difficulty of immediately organizing societies as an electorate.		Yes - as corollary of serial No. I.	Yes.



THE SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY GROUP

	NRS	PH&W	ESS
ends Report ons be in- with.	Generally concur with pro- posals except for inclu- sion of social and cultural sciences.	Heartily subscribes to Report and concur in it as a basis for study.	Generally concur.
orate in constitu-	Concur (see XI-a below) but considers present re- commendations provide undesirable concentration of power.	Concur - well considered and advisable.	Concur. Stress need for appropriate safeguards to ensure (a) continued demo- cratic operation (b) practical application of results for rehabi- litation
ed consti- of P.M. personnel	Concur. Comment as for II, above.	Concur - an ideal and daring project of great potential value. Details and further investigation should be made by Renewal Committee.	Concur. Comment as for II, above.
irable by present an bu-	Yes - for other than social and cultural sciences.	Yes - medical education greatly hampered under pre- sent system. Believes grave defects due to basic educa- tional system in its effect on higher education in sci- entific fields.	Yes.
ary of ve.	Yes.		Yes.
ary of	Yes.		Yes.
ary of	Yes.		Yes.



VIII.	Encouragement of Development of Private Universities	Yes, with safeguards against expansion of government control through medium of grants being part of annual budget of schools.		
IX.	Establishment of International Relations			
X.	Improvement in Coordination of Science with Industry			
XI.	Other Comments		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Proposes variation in detail regarding the Electro-technical Lab.</li> <li>b. Requests clarification as to opinions of Group on use of university facilities by industry.</li> <li>c. Proposes that labs maintained by Ministries form a separate group of scientific facilities.</li> </ul>	Reorganization is not a Committee.

Incl 3



		Yes - as corollary of serial No. I.	Yes.
		Conduct of foreign relations by Council opposed to Constitution.	Yes.
			Yes.
poses variation in mail regarding the electro-technical lab. requests clarification to opinions of Group use of university facilities by industry. poses that labs maintained by Ministries form a separate group of scientific facilities.	Reorganization of higher education is not a matter for Renewal Committee.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Suggests limitation of "science minate social a sciences.</li> <li>b. Considers quest. laying final re until properly investigation b social sciences.</li> <li>c. Concurs that Ren ttee is as satis presently possib</li> <li>d. Renewal Committe the size of the Council and the</li> <li>e. Organization of should be on a g basis.</li> <li>f. Disagreement is with a fev state being factually but these c not basic issues ab</li> </ul>

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ry of	Yes.		Yes.
gn rela- opposed	Yes.		Yes.
	Yes.		Yes.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Suggests limiting definition of "science" to eliminate social and cultural sciences.</li> <li>b. Considers question of delaying final recommendations until properly equipped investigation be made of social sciences.</li> <li>c. Concurs that Renewal Committee is as satisfactory as presently possible.</li> <li>d. Renewal Committee should fix the size of the Advisory Council and the Commission.</li> <li>e. Organization of electorate should be on a geographical basis.</li> <li>f. Disagreement is expressed with a few statements as being factually in error but these do not affect the basic issues above.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Extent of application of "science" is principally a matter for Japanese decision. Its extent is qualifying rather than affecting basic principles.</li> <li>b. Under present conditions, any new organization for scientific activity must be achieved without increase in total budget appropriations.</li> </ul>