

November 19, 1952

Memorandum for the Committee on Policy  
from the Director of Studies

Subject: Use of "The United States in World Affairs" in colleges and universities, public libraries, and newspaper offices.

1. Colleges and Universities

Twenty-four teachers of International Relations in American colleges and universities were asked the following questions regarding "The United States in World Affairs:"

- a. Do you use it yourself in writing?
- b. Do you use it in preparing lectures and classroom exercises?
- c. Do you assign pages from this book as required reading for students?
- d. Do you include it in lists of supplementary reading for your course?

Answers have been received from <sup>22</sup>~~20~~ who are teaching in the following institutions:

Columbia University	Northwestern University
City College of New York	U.C.L.A.
U. S. Military Academy (2)	Wellesley College
Tulane University	University of Indiana
University of Washington	M.I.T. (2)
Yale University	University of Kentucky
University of Denver	Dartmouth College
Stanford University	University of Utah
Tufts College	University of Southern California
University of Chicago	<i>Baldwin - Wallace College</i>

An analysis of their replies shows:

- That <sup>15</sup>~~17~~ of the respondents used it in writing;
- That <sup>15</sup>~~17~~ used it in preparing lectures;
- That <sup>15</sup>~~13~~ included it in supplementary reading lists;
- Only <sup>5</sup>~~4~~ of the respondents assigned pages from the book as required reading.

-2-

Some general comments on the book follow:

Leland Goodrich, Columbia: "I might say that I think the survey is extremely well done, that it serves a very useful purpose as far as I am concerned, and that I would find it extremely difficult to get along without it, as evidenced by the fact that certainly hardly a week goes by without my making extensive use of one or more of the volumes in the series."

Charles Martin, University of Washington: "I have found the series on the United States and world affairs to be dependable and worthwhile."

G. A. Lincoln and Herman Beukema, West Point: "We think this is a very good and useful book."

Richard Leopold, Northwestern University: "I do not have any suggestions for improving the series. As a reference work and as a first draft of history it is invaluable as it stands."

Margaret Ball, Wellesley College: "I have always thought that the Council was doing a real service in publishing this material."

Henry Mason, Tulane University: "Very useful as systematic survey of recent international relations."

Norman J. Padelford, M. I. T.: "I have used the successive issues of The United States in World Affairs in a variety of ways. It has been recommended each year for general reading in connection with our undergraduate course on International Relations. Specific report assignments have been made to it at various times in my graduate seminar on Major Problems of United States Foreign Policy. Finally, I have made extensive use of the volumes in writing a textbook on International Relations which I hope to complete for publication in the near future.

"This is perhaps a modest indication that I find the recurring issues of the book one of the most valuable tools for teaching foreign affairs and world politics. It is thoroughly readable, and in this respect much better than some materials on the market. It gives an excellent synopsis of the principal topics which have been before the Government and an adequate guide to source materials."

Amry Vandenbosch, University of Kentucky: "It is a very useful volume for collateral reading in a number of courses but I find it difficult to use as a textbook or as a book all students should obtain for supplementary reading. The difficulty is that the contents cut across several courses. Whether it is a course in Far Eastern governments and politics or the United Nations,

-3-

only one or two chapters are relevant to the particular course. About the only course for which I would be justified in asking the students to buy a copy is in American Foreign Policy, but here I run into the fact that it covers only the developments within a year.

"It is an excellent, an indispensable reference book for a number of courses but cannot very well be used as a textbook or as a supplementary text in any."

John Pelenyi, Dartmouth College: "I consider this publication invaluable for references and research purposes. I have made excellent use of it for many years. It serves admirably the difficult task of summarizing comprehensively the background of very recent developments. The teaching profession as well as students have all reason to be most grateful to the Council for supplying year by year this most valuable contribution to the study of international relations."

Suggestions for increasing the usefulness of the book:

Walter Sharp, Yale University: "In examining the latest survey I was particularly pleased to note the somewhat greater use of maps and charts than had previously been the case. I hope that this practice will be continued and perhaps even expanded."

Jerome Cohen, The City College: "As an economist, I should, of course, like to see more economic background and fact provided in the coverage of certain topics such as Middle East oil, Britain's balance of payments problems and the Japanese trade dilemma.

"I think a list of questions at the end of each chapter or a separate little pamphlet of questions would be most helpful for teaching purposes."

Norman J. Padelford, M. I. T.: "Three thoughts for furthering its usefulness in connection with teaching have occurred to me: (1) the addition of a brief section at the end of each chapter setting down what appear to be the most important on-going policy issues for the ensuing period; (2) the issuance of a modest length, inexpensive, compilation of official statements and documents covering the year in point and paralleling the topics treated; (3) publication of a less expensively bound edition for classroom use so that teachers and students can combine purchase of this with other needed materials.

"Most teachers can certainly provide a framework for studying the on going issues, as well as filling up the background of events in preceding years. But I believe that your

-4-

editor is in the best position to suggest to teachers and students what appear to him to emerge as the most significant things to watch for and consider in the current period of foreign relations.

"Many of us like to have our students do some work with original documents to form their own interpretations. I believe you could enhance the usefulness of your volumes by a small collection of documents. They need not be as voluminous as the World Peace Foundation collection, but they should be up to date covering the period treated."

Andrew Gyorgy, M. I. T.: "In general, I am very well satisfied with The United States in World Affairs and find it extremely useful to the teaching profession.... The recent volume is written in a lively and interesting style and suits the purpose of popular appeal very well."

## 2. Libraries

Miss Savord has written to 24 librarians asking them about the use of "The United States in World Affairs" as a reference work and also regarding its circulation outside the library. Replies have been received to date from 23 libraries as follows:

### Public Libraries - 6:

Ashtabula Public Library  
Cleveland Public Library  
The Ferguson Library - Stamford, Conn.  
Enoch Pratt Free Library - Baltimore  
Greenville Public Library - Greenville, S.C.  
Brooklyn Public Library

### College and University Libraries - 16:

Columbia College Library	Harvard College Library
Barnard College Library	Washington Square Library - N.Y.U.
Burgess Library - Columbia University	Duke University Library
International Law Library - Columbia	Mount Holyoke College Library
University of Notre Dame Library	Dartmouth College Library
Princeton University Library	Queens College Library
University of California Library	Oberlin College Library
University of Denver Library	Vassar College Library

### Special Libraries - 1:

Library of International Relations  
Chicago, Illinois

-5-

Use for Reference Purposes

The answers indicated that in 13 of the 23 libraries, the book was used for reference:

- 5 reported it was used frequently;
- 5 reported it was used occasionally;
- 3 reported it was used only seldom;
- 7 libraries did not keep it on their reference shelves;
- 3 libraries maintained no reference department.

Comments on the use of the books as a reference source:

Librarian, Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore: "We all recognize it as a standard, authoritative publication and use it 'occasionally' in reference work. We found it useful in suggesting topics for term papers, discussion groups and generally when more than factual information is required. I used it with great profit in preparing reading lists for informal courses on current affairs given at the McCoy College, Johns Hopkins University."

Librarian, Greenville Public Library, Greenville, S.C.: "I would say it is used mainly by students. While doing reference I had occasion to refer to it a number of times, but I cannot be more definite than that. The present reference librarian seems not to have used it at all."

Librarian, International Law Library, Columbia University: "Certain students find it extremely useful."

Circulation

19 out of the 23 libraries reported that "The United States in World Affairs" circulated.

7 reported that the book was used frequently for this purpose: Duke University, Oberlin College, Harvard University, University of Denver, Ashtabula Public Library, Stamford, Conn. Public Library and University of Notre Dame.

At Duke University, each volume was charged out on the average 11 to 12 times.

In the Stamford, Connecticut Public Library, the 1950 volume has now been charged out 11 times. Records of this library, over the past ten years, show that the previous volumes have been charged out from 4 to 25 times.

-6-

Ashtabula, Ohio reports that "both copies are circulating and have been used extensively with the history classes doing research work. We have found them useful for many assignments and have made use of the maps and charts contained in them."

The University of Denver reports that the faculty of the Social Science Foundation regard it as "one of the best and most constantly used volumes on our foreign policy."

The Director of the Notre Dame Library wrote, "It is found necessary to restrict the latest volume to use in the library because of heavy demand. The volumes preceding the current volume are often in circulation, and some volumes may circulate as high as ten times a year."

The Brooklyn Public Library reports that "the book is seldom requested by title but when called to the readers attention it is well received."

#### Use in College Libraries as "Supplementary Reading"

In addition to questions on reference and circulation, the librarians of 14 colleges and universities were asked whether "The United States in World Affairs" was included in lists of supplementary reading and placed on reserve.

8 librarians replied in the affirmative.

The University of California librarian reports that the students "do not seem to be too enthusiastic about reading these volumes. Their criticism is, too wordy, and not enough documentation."

The Princeton University Library reports that they "receive two copies of your publication for each year and every one of the recent copies has been on reserve at least once, usually two or three times."

The librarian of Columbia College wrote, "When on reserve for the course on "American Foreign Policy," the books are heavily used; and the Library has bought as many as five additional copies of the title reserved."

### 3. Newspapers

Miss Savord telephoned the librarians of the New York Times and the New York Herald Tribune to inquire what use, if any, was made of "The United States in World Affairs" by the staff of those newspapers. She received the following replies.

#### New York Times

The chronology is particularly useful.

-7-

Reference is often made to the various volumes to get a capsule summary of some particular topic.

The editors and those writing on foreign affairs use it; also, the staff of the Sunday magazine use it.

The staff of the Times does not want it to disappear.

New York Herald Tribune

Mr. Robert Grayson took the 1951 volume to a lot of people, asking if they should continue to get "The United States in World Affairs." The answer was emphatically "yes." Mr. Millis said, "How would I write my editorial?"

The librarian and staff insist that they need it.