

ANTHROPOLOGISTS TO CLARIFY ETHICS

Plan Guide for Scholars Who Work on U.S. Contracts

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PITTSBURGH, Nov. 20—The

American Anthropological Association ended its 65th annual meeting here today after agreeing to elaborate a set of "ethical guidelines" for scholars who work on Government contracts.

Differences over the whole range of Government relations with the academic community and a sharp clash over a resolution on the Vietnam War made it the most turbulent annual gathering of the association in the memory of its senior members.

The guidelines are expected to recommend that, except in the case of war, academic institutions not undertake research projects that are subject to security restrictions.

The decision to tighten the ethical code of anthropologists came in a response to a report by Dr. Ralph L. Beals, a former president of the association. The report strongly criticized attempts by Government intelligence agencies to use social scientists for undercover work, especially in foreign countries.

Recommendations Tabled (bold)
However, the association's 1,100-member Council of Fellows voted last night to table a series of recommendations prepared by Dr. Beals. Some members wanted stronger language, and others found it too strong.

The association's executive board interpreted the action today as giving it a mandate to rewrite the recommendations as "ethical guidelines" and put them to a mail vote before or shortly after Christmas.

The board met to clarify a number of resolutions adopted amid the confusion of last night's council session.

It was learned that in the course of the council session, which was closed to the press and public, Dr. Beals had urged swift action by the association, saying that the majority of members now favored safeguards to protect "the independence and integrity" of anthropology.

Dr. Beals, a professor of anthropology at the University of California at Los Angeles, prefaced his recommendations with the following warning:

"Constraint, deception and secrecy have no place in science. Actions which compromise the intellectual integrity and autonomy of research scholars and institutions not only weaken those international understandings essential to our

also threaten any contribution anthropology might make to our own society and to the general interests of human welfare."

Study Lasted a Year

Dr. Beals' conclusions were based on a year-long study during which he traveled 35,000 miles in Latin America and the Middle East. The study was requested by the association after Operation Camelot caused a furor in the academic community in June, 1965.

Operation Camelot was an Army-financed project undertaken by The American University of Washington to determine the potential for "insurgency and counter-insurgency" in Chile. Although it was canceled by the State Department a month later, the project produced sharp criticism of American scholars throughout Latin America.

One of Dr. Beals' recommendations that was generally accepted held that with the exception of a "Congressional declaration of war," contracts in the social sciences which are not related to their normal functions of teaching, research and public service.

The reference to a "Congressional declaration of war" was added during last night's council meeting and reflected the general reluctance of the anthropologists to accept the Vietnam conflict as a national emergency that would allow scientists to engage in secret defense work under the proposed guidelines.

An attempt by a group of younger members of the council to pass a resolution sharply condemning the Johnson Administration's Vietnam policy was thwarted last night by several moderates, including Dr. Margaret Mead of New York and Philip Nash, a former Commissioner of Indian Affairs and aide to President Truman.

Nevertheless, the Administration critics scored an unexpected victory when the meeting voted down the council's president, Mr. Frederica de Laguna of Bryn Mawr College, who had ruled the resolution out of order.

It was at this point that Dr. Mead, a small forceful figure brandishing a black-lacquered staff, was instrumental in securing the adoption of a toned-down resolution condemning "the use of napalm" and "bombing" anywhere in the world.

Although the resolution obviously referred to Vietnam, the implied attack on President Johnson that had been contained in the original draft was omitted.

The final draft, which was adopted by an overwhelming vote, also called on all governments to "proceed as rapidly as possible to a peaceful settlement of the war in Vietnam."

The paper read this morning, Prof. Bernice A. Kaplan of Wayne State University pre-

study of annual conventions of anthropologists and sociologists. Professor Kaplan reports that while students attended meetings mainly to hear papers, older members of the profession seemed more interested in renewing friendships. The four-day meeting had a record attendance of 2,300.

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