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FEDERAL ASSISTANCE TO LANGUAGE AND AREA PROGRAMS TO BE REDUCED

The following paragraph is an extract from a release by the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare of February 4, 1970. It will be of immediate and vital concern to Directors of NDEA Centers, since if funding is reduced or eliminated under Title VI of the Act, both Centers and National Defense Foreign Language Fellowships will be affected. Directors may wish to confer with the Presidents of their institutions to plan action they may wish to undertake in the light of this announcement. Center Directors will be receiving fuller information on the planned cutback from Professor George Beckman of the Slavic Studies Institute, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington.

The Higher Education budget request reflects the effort to cut back outdated and less productive programs. The categorical grants program for Foreign Language and Area Studies, originally authorized in 1958 for example, has been reduced to a funding level of \$6 million--one-third of the 1969 level. The program would be phased out in its entirety by 1972. Another outmoded categorical grant program, that of aid to land-grant colleges (first authorized in 1935) has been eliminated. This decrease will be partially offset by an increase in funds to aid needy Negro colleges under the Developing Institutions program.

SUGGESTIONS INVITED FOR 1970 ANNUAL MEETING PROGRAM

The Program Chairman, Joseph Harris, wishes to announce that the program for the 1970 ASA Annual Meeting in New Orleans is taking shape. He invites suggestions for topics and participants and promises that a tentative program will be published soon, with a more detailed one to follow in the late spring. By September, as usual, the program should be rather firm and will appear in the Newsletter.

Suggestions should be sent to Professor Harris, Department of History, Williams College, Williamstown, Massachusetts.

HERSKOVITS AWARD NOMINATIONS

Members of the Association who wish to make nominations for the Herskovits Award for 1970 may send their nominations to the Executive Office of the Association. The Award will be given to the author of a distinguished scholarly book on Africa published in 1969. Edited works, symposia, reference books, and new editions of previously published books are not eligible. The decision of the Herskovits Award Committee will be announced at the Annual Meeting in October.