

1:11

National Science Foundation

1980

83/115

C

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20550

MAR 3 1980

Dr. Rosalie H. Wax
Department of Anthropology
Washington University
St. Louis, MO 63130

80-04874

Dear Dr. Wax:

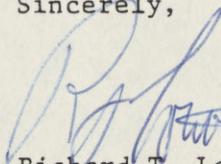
We regret that the National Science Foundation is unable to support your proposed project. In evaluating each proposal submitted to the Foundation, several factors are considered, of which scientific merit is the most important. The relation of the proposal to contemporary research in the field and the distribution of limited funds among fields of science are also important. Budget constraints are such, however, that many meritorious proposals cannot be funded.

In order to select the best projects for support, written reviews are solicited from scientists throughout the country with special expertise in your area of science and from members of an advisory panel which discusses the proposals. Copies of the reviews of your proposal are enclosed in order to aid you in understanding the Foundation's action and in preparing future proposals. They are for your personal use and are not available to other parties.

Further inquiries should be addressed to Dr. Anne Fleuret, Anthropology Program, National Science Foundation, Washington, DC 20550.

Although we were unable to support this proposal, we would be pleased to consider future proposals that you might wish to submit.

Sincerely,



Richard T. Louttit
Director, Division of
Behavioral and Neural Sciences

Copy (without enclosures) to: Dr. H.S. Leahey
Grant & Contract
Administrator

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20550

Panel Summary

BNS8004874 Wax, Washington University

The panel agreed that the data collected by Dr. Wax are unique and an interesting resource, but it is difficult to see the importance or nature of the analysis to be undertaken. The implications of the information are not clear, and the reviews seem to imply that the nature of the research project itself should be made clearer in the proposal.

The panel did not recommend the project for support.

PROPOSAL NO. BNS-8004874	INSTITUTION WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY	PLEASE RETURN BY
PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR WAX	ROSA LIE H	NSF PROGRAM ANTHROPOLOGY PROGRAM

TITLE
LOYALTIES AND TERRORISM AT TULE LAKE SEGREGATION CENTER:
1943-45

COMMENTS (CONTINUE ON ADDITIONAL SHEET(S) AS NECESSARY)

The proposed research project focuses on the processing of data to make them available social scientist for analysis. The field note contents are invaluable first because they are unavailable in any repository in the country and perhaps more important, the interview materials are centered largely on the sentiments and attitudes of those loyal (to U.S.) in a Japanese RElocation Center for persons of Japanese ancestry who had opted to return to their homeland. The processed notes would make it possible for the principal investigator or others to ~~be~~ publish that part of the history which has been so far neglected. Anthropologists have generally considered field notes private and without annotation and clarification of context the meanings of the contents cannot be understood. The Principal Investigator proposes to undertake this task,

The Principal Investigator is wellqualified to undertake the task. A researcher of Japanese extraction would not have been able to secure data because of the suspicion that information would be communicated to the authorities and then in turn to terrorists. Furthermore, the native researcher himself would hesitate to make inquiries because of his fears of being beaten as an informer (inu). The PI ~~has~~ subsequently had published materials from the field notes but the bulk is yet to be tapped. Not only is the PI a first rate field worker, but is widely published. I do not think that her qualifications can be challenged.

Regarding the budget I am not competent to make an evaluation. However, the amount of work to be accomplished in transcribing and typing to complete the task indicates to me that she should probably add to the secretarial and clerical budget.

RATING: EXCELLENT VERY GOOD GOOD FAIR POOR

Verbatim but anonymous copies of reviews will be sent only to the principal investigator/project director. Subject to this NSF policy and applicable laws, including the Freedom of Information Act, 5 USC 552 and formal requests from Chairpersons of Congressional committees having responsibility for NSF, reviewers' comments will be given maximum protection from disclosure.

PROPOSAL NO. BNS-8004874	INSTITUTION WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY	PLEASE RETURN BY
PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR WAX	ROSAIE H	NSF PROGRAM ANTHROPOLOGY PROGRAM
TITLE LOYALTIES AND TERRORISM AT TULE LAKE SEGREGATION CENTER: 1943-45		

COMMENTS (CONTINUE ON ADDITIONAL SHEET(S) AS NECESSARY)

Quality of the Research

The Japanese relocation was a singular experience in our history, and information concerning it is important in continuing research into group responses to disasters, the genesis of terrorism, and group responses and restraints to terrorists. Obviously, no final judgement may now be made on the significance of the data without having first examined the body of material, but this project appears to be an inexpensive way to recover the data from its present state. Any field worker, especially anyone who has collected data in an atmosphere of intrigue and suspicion, knows how unintelligible old notes may be to anyone other than the collector. The computer editing and storage are appropriate techniques to annotate and make readily available the final product.

In general, professionals do not expect to be paid to organize their field material. This is a special case of an old set of data on an important series of events that a retiring professional will work on if given some assistance. The basic question is whether the NSF wishes to fund this type of activity. If NSF does, this is a worthwhile proposal.

Qualifications of Principal Investigator

The investigator is not an inexperienced beginner but an established professional who wants support funds for half a year to organize and annotate a large body of existent field notes. Based on her record she is perfectly capable of performing the task.

RATING: EXCELLENT VERY GOOD GOOD FAIR POOR

Verbatim but anonymous copies of reviews will be sent only to the principal investigator/project director. Subject to this NSF policy and applicable laws, including the Freedom of Information Act, 5 USC 552 and formal requests from Chairpersons of Congressional committees having responsibility for NSF, reviewers' comments will be given maximum protection from disclosure.

PROPOSAL NO. BNS-8004874	INSTITUTION WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY	PLEASE RETURN BY
PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR WAX	ROSA LIE H	NSF PROGRAM ANTHROPOLOGY PROGRAM
TITLE LOYALTIES AND TERRORISM AT TULE LAKE SEGREGATION CENTER: 1943-45		

COMMENTS (CONTINUE ON ADDITIONAL SHEET(S) AS NECESSARY)

Description

The applicant wishes to spend nine months putting her field notes into a format usable by other scholars. The notes were obtained in 1944-45 at Tule, a "relocation" camp for Japanese during WWII. The dramatic events of the period resulting from the rejection of Japanese by American authorities led to intense conflict within the camp and a counter-rejection of the U.S. by Japanese.

A number of publications have come out of this experience; one by Thomas and Nichimoto made extensive use of PI's notes; others were based on research by other connected to the project. Material collected by many others has been deposited in the Bancroft Library of the University of California. For reasons unknown these notes, although submitted, are not in that collection. According to PI, the book using her material left out much of the factional material (on anti-terrorist groups). Thus much of the possible value of the data for both theory and policy evaluation has not been fully utilized.

PI wishes to clarify the field notes taken under conditions of "crisis, tension, and suspicion." Passages are often cryptic and would be unclear to anyone other than the author. PI will insert parenthetical inserts and footnotes for explanatory purposes, some of which will require longer discussions and interpretations, all labelled as such. Short biographies of major respondents will also be added and a brief historical account of the events from October 1943 to January 1944 before field work began. Data are to be entered into a computer tape for easy editing and retrieval in a number of forms: original, machine readable, or microfiche.

Critique

The bulk of the proposal is a recounting of events at the field work site along with sample field notes. Direct observation of conditions such as those in the Japanese relocation camps of WWII do provide a unique record of behavior. The applicant's argument that the material will not be usable until annotated and interpreted seems valid and persuasive.

On the other hand, the scientific uniqueness and merit of the document is unclear. No indexing is mentioned. No scientific theorizing, no research design, or seeking of patterns or explanation is proposed or planned. That task is left to others unfamiliar with her material.

There remains its archival value. And this point is also somewhat up in the air because the applicant does not state what unique or additional data on the camps (cont'd)

RATING: EXCELLENT VERY GOOD GOOD FAIR POOR

Verbatim but anonymous copies of reviews will be sent only to the principal investigator/project director. Subject to this NSF policy and applicable laws, including the Freedom of Information Act, 5 USC 552 and formal requests from Chairpersons of Congressional committees having responsibility for NSF, reviewers' comments will be given maximum protection from disclosure.

are provided when these materials are compared to those already available in the U. C. Berkeley library (from the field notes of other workers on the project).

These points must be clarified before full evaluation of this project can be made.

PROPOSAL NO. BNS-8004874	INSTITUTION WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY	PLEASE RETURN BY
PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR WAX	ROSAIE H	NSF PROGRAM ANTHROPOLOGY PROGRAM
TITLE LOYALTIES AND TERRORISM AT TULE LAKE SEGREGATION CENTER: 1943-45		

I assume that the notes were not added to the Bancroft Library because they were not considered impartial. There is the implication by the PI that the data would embarrass the U.S. Government and hence was omitted. I agree that if this is the case it is unfortunate.

My guess is that the notes would make an interesting study but maybe this is what NSF should finance rather than the editing of the notes.

RATING: EXCELLENT VERY GOOD GOOD FAIR POOR

PROPOSAL NO. BNS80-04874	INSTITUTION WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY	PLEASE RETURN BY January 24, 1980
PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR WAX, Rosalie	NSF PROGRAM Anthropology	

TITLE

LOYALTIES & TERRORISM AT TULE LAKE SEGREGATION CENTER: 1943-45

COMMENTS (CONTINUE ON ADDITIONAL SHEET(S) AS NECESSARY)

The applicant simply does not know the extensive literature on the Tule Lake Center. She cites a few items by Dr. M. K. Opler and largely leaves out a very large number of his works on the Japanese-Americans, like Michi Wegman, who uses his voluminous records and writings. Additions of the former issues are in both the National Archives, the University of California repository, and in libraries everywhere.

Her account of Tule Lake Center is very inaccurate in very many other details. Her court affidavit against Japanese-Americans in California court is notoriously famous among social scientists. Why support a personal budget (extravagant budget) in NSF!

RATING: EXCELLENT VERY GOOD GOOD FAIR POOR

Verbatim but anonymous copies of reviews will be sent only to the principal investigator/project director. Subject to this NSF policy and applicable laws, including the Freedom of Information Act, 5 USC 552 and formal requests from Chairpersons of Congressional committees having responsibility for NSF, reviewers' comments will be given maximum protection from disclosure.

Department of Anthropology



March 10, 1980

Dr. Richard T. Louttit, Director
Division of Behavioral and Neural Sciences
National Science Foundation
Washington, DC 20550

Dear Dr. Louttit:

Reference is made to the remarks in the enclosed copy of "Proposal Evaluation Form," Proposal No. BNS80-04874, Anthropology Program, NSF.

The second sentence in the second paragraph is untrue, libelous, and defamatory. I never filed a court affidavit in a California court in any case concerning Japanese Americans. Possibly the author of this evaluation made an innocent error, in which case I ask that he or she check their records, and then file an appropriate correction with your office. Possibly, there is some other basis for misinterpretation, in which case I ask the author to utilize your office to transmit documentation concerning the charge.

Otherwise, I challenge the author of this evaluation to advance this charge in a learned or public medium, brought to my attention, so that I may have the opportunity to respond.

Yours truly,

Rosalie H. Wax
Professor

mp