

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Chief, Language and Area School

DATE: 23 July 1959

FROM : Deputy for Language Training

SUBJECT: Weekly Activities Report

A. SIGNIFICANT ITEMS

None to report.

B. OTHER ACTIVITIES

25X1 1. [] met with [] Deputy Chief, SR, to discuss
25X1 SR's intentions concerning Russian language training. [] reaffirmed
SR's continuing interest in training its personnel in Russian but
referred to the difficulty of releasing people for full-time training.
He expressed the hope that, in the future, it would be possible to
release a comparatively small number of SR personnel each year for
full-time Russian. In the course of the conversation it was learned
25X1 that the majority of SR graduates of LAS full-time Russian courses
25X1 are now in jobs which call for the use of Russian. [] indicated
a wish to maintain close contact with LAS in the matter of language
training and designated [] as the SR official with
whom we are to work. Incidentally, we have received only one application
25X1 from SR for the full-time Russian course which is to begin in September.

2. [] held a special
meeting to discuss the improvement of our Basic Russian Reading Course,
which attracts the largest number of students of any East European
language offering. It was decided to continue using the present grammar,
but to add recognition-type exercises and graded reading material to
each lesson. It was felt that the amount of reading practice afforded
in this course was insufficient.

3. The part-time Arabic reading course which began last fall is
ending this week. Five students have completed the whole course, and
several of these expect to continue their Arabic training in the Workshop
next fall.

25X1 4. Two names were added to the potential instruction list in
25X1 French. With a little luck and the cooperation of Security, a replace-
ment for [] should be found by 1 September.

25X1 5. [] conferred with [] on the possibility of including
some FSI students in a FT Romanian course, since LAS has only one
application on hand but is in an excellent position to give this course.