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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Acting Chief, Language and Area School

DATE: 10 June 1959

FROM : Deputy for Language Training

SUBJECT: Weekly Activities Report

A. SIGNIFICANT ITEMS

25X1 We have been informed by [redacted] TLO of NE Division,
25X1 that the Division proposes to begin a full-time training program
25X1 in Arabic next Fall. [redacted] met with [redacted] last week
25X1 to discuss the general nature of the program we might offer in-
25X1 ternally. [redacted] said that NE was prepared to send eight students
25X1 next fall for a full-time course of about forty weeks and, probably,
25X1 others regularly thereafter. We told him that we were prepared,
25X1 assuming suitable instructors can be found and hired, to run a
25X1 course for as few as four people or as many as ten or twelve in two
25X1 sections. It appears that [redacted] has played a very commendable
25X1 role in pointing out the Division's linguistic needs and urging a
25X1 training program to fulfill them.

B. OTHER ACTIVITIES

25X1 1. The Intermediate Full-time German class spent the first
25X1 four days of last week at [redacted]. Three of the seven students
25X1 were unable to attend the [redacted] exercise because of urgent
25X1 commitments elsewhere. The four students were accompanied at
25X1 various times by [redacted]

[redacted] of EE Division acted as a visiting instructor.
[redacted] of LAS acted as chaperones.

2. The VIIP inaugurated three hours of supervised laboratory
beginning 2 June for all students wishing to enter 102 and 201
classes in the fall under the new 21-week term system.

25X1 3. A total of 12 of a projected 16 chapters have been completed
25X1 of an Intermediate Russian text. [redacted] a former journalist, is
25X1 devoting each of these to a different aspect of Soviet reality, such
25X1 as "Life in a kolkhoz", "Going to a hospital" or "medpunkt", "Schools
25X1 and Education". Although written in the form of narratives, they
25X1 contain a great deal of dialog and stress contemporary vocabulary
25X1 and phraseology, and the patterns of Russian as spoken today in the
25X1 USSR. [redacted] is supplying vocabularies for each chapter, as well
25X1 as exercises, including "situation" drills. To our knowledge, no
25X1 such text is available for this level of Russian study.

25 YEAR
RE-REVIEW

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4. are making extensive use of Novoye Russkoye Slovo, a Russian-language newspaper published in New York, and Ogonek, a Moscow weekly similar to Life magazine in the Advanced Russian (RSW) class. Student interest appears to be high in this course, being offered for the first time by LAS. Acquisitions Branch of CIA Library is furnishing each of the students with individual copies of the above periodicals. About 20 percent of class time is devoted to practice in writing in Russian, in which most students have had little experience.

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