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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Chief, Language and Area School

DATE: 3 June 1959

FROM : Deputy for Language Training

SUBJECT: Weekly Activities Report

A. SIGNIFICANT ITEMS

None to report.

B. OTHER ACTIVITIES

25X1 1. [] briefed LeRoy Benoit of USIA on the major aspects of our Language Awards Program on Monday. Mr. Benoit is on a fact-finding mission as preparation for a proposed awards program for his agency.

25X1 2. [] has returned from his TDY in Europe, but only for a few weeks to allow him to serve his period of active military duty. Thereafter he must return to Europe, but should be back here for duty again by 1 September.

25X1 3. [] left IAS this week to resume her role as a full-time wife and mother. We are all sorry to see her leave. She has done much to enliven the French classes she taught and has constantly enriched her natural qualities as a teacher, always listening to advice in seeking more effective teaching methods. Her absence will be deeply felt.

25X1 4. [] is encountering increasing difficulties in finding 25X1 qualified native speakers from outside IAS to assist in the 25X1 [] exercises. This might be a temporary condition due to the great number of employees who are on vacation, TDY, etc.

25X1 5. As a result of new applications, enrollments in Russian seminars conducted by [] are as follows: Lower Intermediate, 6; High Intermediate, 8. Seminars are felt by many Agency employees to satisfy the need for a "minimal program," permitting them to keep active their spoken control of a foreign language, and to advance somewhat in it.

25X1 6. [] wife of a contract employee of SR, has 25X1 begun to type the Polish Area Reader for lithoprinting. Despite her 25X1 name, she is a native of Kielce, Poland, and an accomplished typist 25X1 in four languages: English, German, Polish and Russian. [] 25X1 is doing the typing under special arrangement and her work does not add to the "slots" in our TO.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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B. OTHER ACTIVITIES

1. In extension of my previous report on the new inter-agency roundtable on area training, NSA will not take part, while Army's FAST Program (Foreign Area Specialist Training) will. Lt. Col. Seay, Chief of Instruction Department at SIA, proposed the idea of FAST's participation and made the initial contact for me. SIS now has an Area Studies and Language Department, with Lt. Col. Augustus Kursar as Chief, whose interest in the roundtable is equal to Lt. Col. Seay's.
2. I have now completed separate briefing guides for two of the new AAO sessions which I will inaugurate in AAC [redacted] #12, running the week of 22 June. They are titled "How to Make the Most of Your Everyday Contacts with _____s" and "How to Make the Most of Your Job Contacts with _____s", respectively, and both carry the sub-title "Developing Effective Interpersonal Relations." The Area Staff believes these papers will serve as useful starting points in the preparation of specific briefings tailored for a particular country. I shall see DC/EE [redacted] on the 4th to ask EE's help in giving the second of these briefings [redacted] and will emphasize that we wish especially to fill a present gap in the training of DDS rather than DDP personnel.
3. The "Saturday Special" scheduled for 27 June has been shifted to the 22nd in view of the small potential enrollment at this season and the considerable griping by WE staff who were directed to attend the last Saturday running. We have found that the total number of employees and dependents scheduled at any given time for their first assignment in Western Europe (or Latin America) is not sufficient to justify separate briefings.

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4. My hands are now free to draft a formal report on the first Senior Area Seminar, which was run in March, and to work out specific directives and suggestions for handling the two such seminars scheduled for the fall. Toward this end, I have almost completed a series of interviews with the individuals in the first group, which has been most productive. They have commented usefully on our tabulation of the group's critiques and on my emerging concepts of how the course should be modified.
5. Tuesday's session of [] Eastern Europe course was highlighted by an excellent panel presentation on cultural trends and their political implications. Drs. Horecky and Grzybowski of the Library of Congress analyzed very effectively recent developments in Czech and Polish literature and fine arts as related to the Communist regimes. Leo Teholiz added an interesting account of Polish folk art and its place within the Communist system.
6. Reports on and reactions to the CEP course continue to be highly favorable. In an effort to tailor the course as far as possible to consumer needs, [] stays in close touch with the DDP desks concerned and also is setting up a number of informal luncheon meetings with three or four students at a time.

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