

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Chief, Language and Area School

DATE: 8 April 1959

FROM : Deputy Chief, Area Training

SUBJECT: Weekly Activities Report

A. SIGNIFICANT ITEMS

1. The Area Training Program's first senior-level seminar on critical strategic problems of a given world region was completed on 27 March by 14 of the 16 registrants (GS-14 and above), whose critiques of the course have now been analyzed. This course was intended to freshen and sharpen the thinking of the participants on two or three fundamental themes which have long-term bearing on United States Government policy concerning Free Europe. In this case, implications of nuclear weapons strategies as well as economic and political integration steps in Free Europe were analyzed and discussed. Directed readings and talks by nationally known specialists were followed by oral presentations and defense of personal conclusions and points of view by the Agency participants. We were fortunate to have Paul Nitze and Arnold Zurcher as guest speakers at this offering of the course, and have a promise from Livingston Merchant that he will join us on another occasion when Europe presents less of a crisis. Eleven of the fourteen participants feel that the benefits they derived definitely outweighed the sacrifice of six half-days of duty time, though several repeated the familiar complaint that enrollment in part-time training while carrying a full-time job means a realization of far less than the full potential benefit from such training. Two or three similar seminars, including a repeat on Free Europe and one on Afro-Asia, are planned for the new fiscal year.

B. OTHER ACTIVITIES

1. AAO running each afternoon next week, has 36 registrants as of today, compared to 16 in January and less than the minimum last September. The "Saturday Special" set for the 18th, handling personnel and dependents destined for any part of Western Europe or Latin America, has 29 registrants, compared to 18 in January. This total does not yet

25X1

25 YEAR
RE-REVIEW

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

25X1 include any from WE, which has consistently failed to patronize
our AAO's. [] has repeatedly obtained expressions of keen
25X1 interest at branch chief and staff levels in WE, but has found
the TO completely ineffective in lining up registrants. The
new DC, [] is apparently interested and promises to can-
vass the situation.

2. RS - East Asia: A Comparative Analysis, will begin on 20 April and run for 10 weeks. Current registered enrollment is 13, with a probable final registration between 15 and 20. All those registered are GS-10 through 13's, with several GS-14's and 15's. The enrollment appears to represent a rather even balance between DDP and DDI with some DDS. The Department of State has expressed an interest in the course, and in addition to those already enrolled or expected from the Agency, we may have two or three from State.

The selection of personnel to man the individual panels required for the presentation of the course is well advanced, though not yet complete. In all save two instances, those so far selected are Agency staff members. SIC, OCI and ORR have been cooperative in making personnel available.

- 25X1 3. [] has been working on the RS - Czechoslovakia, East Germany,
25X1 and Poland, (CEP) course, and to date has assurances of 9
registrants. EE Division's TO, [] advised that the
Division is opposed to our admitting candidates from other
agencies in view of the sensitive positions behind the Iron
Curtain to which some EE candidates are destined, and we are
glad to defer to their wishes.

