Office Memorandum • United States Government

to : Chief, Language and Area School

DATE: 18 February 1959

FROM : Deputy Chief, Area Training

subject: Weekly Activities Report

A. SIGNIFICANT ITEMS

None

B. OTHER ACTIVITIES

1. I have hopes of obtaining one additional recruit for the dry run of the Personal Effectiveness Abroad course - from IO, which shows a special interest in training for persons who must operate alone in the foreign society. TO has promised to have the division's answer for me this week. Of the three DDP commitments already reported to you, the identity of only the FE candidates remain to be established, and this is expected to be accomplished in a day or two. This should give us a total of 6-8 participant-critics for the dry run.

2. Strongest enthusiasm for this effort has been encountered in WE, where my contact though unable to participate himself, is one of the division's most experienced operators and mounted a one-man crusade in our behalf. WE's candidate

3. My most frustrating experience concerning the new program was a session with DC/WH who appears to confuse training for understanding better the problems of dealing effectively with foreigners, with training in actually adopting the customs and values of the host people. He feels we are making too big a "production" out of our training proposal, that essentially all we need do is to impress on personnel the necessity of "behaving" properly away from home, and that, in any event, our proposed course is too long.

4. First full meeting of the Current Problems Seminar on Free Europe will be held this week on Thursday. This will be an "exploratory" session on the nuclear weapons strategy theme, for the purpose of establishing a common understanding of technical terms and substantive problems among the 16 participants. C/SR will drop in to give his personal

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impressions of the Geneva talks broken off in January. Komer (DD/I's office) kindly furnished us highly useful papers from the January Princeton Conference on NATO strategy.

5. OCR has just filled our requirement for a short reading list on Latin America for the "Saturday Special" briefings. This 15-page list (Bibliography 6-59) reflects good judgment in the choice of geographic and subject headings and in the selection of many materials directed toward dependents.

6.

7. I am giving an assist again in organizing portions of the forthcoming full-time Intermediate French course. My role is to arrange for the use of certain teaching aids, obtain weekly guest discussion leaders on area themes, and join three hours a week for the handling of French history.

8. is in George Washington University Hospital for two weeks with a lung abscess, and will be out about a month. This misfortune points up the hazards of trying to put on too many activities simultaneously in the area program. He was helping substantially with the Current Problems Seminar and was shifting into high gear with preparations for the new Regional Survey on Czechoslovakia, East Germany, and Poland (CEP), which he is to run by himself beginning in mid-April.

9. Tuesdays at 5:00 I am "tuning in" on France under de Gaulle, in French, at a private series of talks being given by Jean Canu, veteran Georgetown lecturer. Canu spends about two months in France each year, and I find him extremely well informed on not only de Gaulle but current French thinking about the new regime.

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