

WCR

File

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM

8 April 1948

TO: TRS

FROM:

[Redacted]

SUBJECT: Russian Course, Foreign Service Institute

1. I have learned today from Dr. Henry L. Smith, Director of the Language Division of the Foreign Service Institute, that on 15 May 1948, the Language Division will begin a full-time, intensive all-day course on Russian language and background. This course is for beginners. It will continue until 15 September with a maximum of five students. Four students from the Department of State are already enrolled.

2. We have been invited to enroll one full-time student. A part-time student is not acceptable. Dr. Smith believes that the course has value only if taken as a whole. In addition to language instruction, students will be taught Russian history, culture, anthropology, etc. A distinguished scholar on Russia from the University of Oklahoma will be in charge of the course. Linguistic scientists and native speakers will assist.

3. I suggest that a promising younger member of the Training Staff be sent through this course. Upon completion of this course, such an instructor could be placed in charge of our one-week Staff course on Communism. In this way, our demands on FES will be decreased on overt Russian materials which will thus permit FES to give more time to their development of the one-week course on the Russian Intelligence Service.

4. As you, [Redacted] and I have discussed, [Redacted] is suggested as a candidate for this course subject to COPS' approval.

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[Redacted]
Deputy Chief, TRS

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