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21 May 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Training

SUBJECT : Weekly Activities Report - Language School
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1. In anticipation of the joint meeting next Thursday, 27 May, at FSI of the Language and Area Roundtables, I have discussed the Language School's position with [redacted] and will further discuss it with [redacted] on Monday. Our position is that in fact in the later stages of language training we do concern ourselves with the realities of the foreign culture and students prepare presentations and engage in discussions on many aspects of the foreign culture. We do not and feel that we do not have the capability to sensitize people who are going abroad for the first time to the problems of living abroad. This is, as I understand it, a socio-psychological-philosophical approach which we feel can best be accomplished in English.

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[redacted]

2. [redacted] the Personnel Officer for DOD, called and asked advice on the training of several of their field personnel. In one instance the officer wished to keep his level of French up to the 3 level and needed to know what expenditure of time and money was required for this purpose. Of the options open to him, we recommended an Alliance Francaise course. In the case of people in [redacted] who wanted to study Italian and who have no knowledge of the language, we recommended study in local universities rather than commercial language schools. I presume that ISS/AIR will be receiving requests for external training in these cases.

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[redacted]

3. On Friday morning, 21 May, Mrs. [redacted] one of our Spanish teachers had received word from one of her students that he had contracted infectious hepatitis. His doctor advised that all persons who had been in close contact should immediately get gamma globulin shots. Involved were the five other students and three

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instructors. We first asked OMS if there were some way that these persons could get the shots or be reimbursed for shots received from their private doctors, and were rebuffed. After pursuing this matter through other bureaucratic channels, we were finally informed on Friday afternoon that OMS would administer the shots.

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4. In view of the fact that we will lose the services of [redacted] in August when her husband goes overseas [redacted] I interviewed [redacted] as a possible replacement. [redacted] worked for the Language School in the past and has an excellent reputation among her former colleagues as a very intelligent woman and a good teacher with good academic credentials. After receipt of her papers, I intend to recommend hiring her under a five-hour, part-time contract.

5. The Chinese Department ran a 2½-day [redacted] session with a single student. We considered asking at least one other Chinese speaker to accompany us but decided against it because the available candidates were all far in advance of the proficiency of the student who has been with us for less than five months. It was felt that a more advanced Chinese speaker would detract from the amount of attention given to the student. The experiment was a qualified success. The student felt that he was not ready for total immersion, but this is part of the rationale: to make him start talking before he thinks he is ready. Previous Chinese [redacted] exercises have been quite unstructured, and this has been very successful with groups of students. However, with a single student, the planning for what is to be done at any given time could profitably be scheduled in some detail.

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6. [redacted] is attending a tape software conference sponsored by DLI at their Anacostia headquarters. He reported last evening that a good deal in information is forthcoming in the conference. He will return [redacted] on Monday, and we will include a full report on the conference in the next weekly.

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7. [redacted] of Retirement Division has agreed to address interested members of the Language School faculty on 17 June on the ins and outs of the Civil Service Retirement System. This will give our people who are eligible some idea of the benefits available to them.

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8. Language School Statistics:

Students and Classes as of the week of 10 - 14 May 1971:

<u>Students</u>	<u>Classes</u>
Full-time - 76	Full-time - 37
Part-time - <u>141</u> (44 BAHLT) (45 Hqs.)	Part-time - <u>51</u> (8 BAHLT) (10 Hqs.)
TOTAL.....217	TOTAL.....88

Laboratory hours for the week of 10 - 14 May 1971:

Language School - 187
Headquarters - 51

There were 20 proficiency tests given during the week of 10 - 14 May 1971.

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Acting Chief, Language School

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