

MINUTES OF THE GEOGRAPHIC AREA STAFF MEETING, 14 MARCH 1955

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PRESENT:

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1. [redacted] requested that the names of all persons who will attend the Association of American Geographer's meetings in Memphis be submitted to Ch/G by March 16th.

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2. [redacted] commented on the display in R&S Building for the BOC on 15 March 1955 from 9:30 A.M. to 12:00 Noon. The AD/RR has suggested that a number of ORR people should visit this exhibit and see the displays of various components of CIA. [redacted] suggested that a few people from each Division should visit the exhibits.

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3. [redacted] reported on a recent discussion between himself, [redacted] of OTR and [redacted] concerning the value of external courses in management as well as the possibilities of establishing a special course for ORR. It appears that a special CIA course would probably be of greater benefit than would be the various university courses available. [redacted] anticipates that he can start planning about July for the special course in management and that it may be established by October, aimed primarily at the Division Chief level and above. In anticipation of this the training requirements for the Geographic Area for FY 1956 include requirements for external courses in management for each Division Chief with a footnote stating that, "these requirements for outside courses in management may be eliminated if an acceptable specialized OTR course can be developed, along the lines discussed by representatives of ORR with [redacted] of OTR.

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4. [redacted] reported that conflicts with the Economic Area have developed over routing of intelligence documents within ORR, and it appears that the Geographic Area requirements for the ORR Reading Panel are inadequate. It was decided to establish a Working Group to revise these requirements, with [redacted] as Chairman. The other Divisions will participate so that the needs of each Division will be represented, and all the Division Chiefs will review the final product.

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5. [redacted] handed out copies of a statement on "Career Development in the Geographic Area", and the group discussed this paper and several revisions were made. A final revision of this paper will be prepared this week by the Chief of Geographic Research and will be distributed to every supervisor in the Geographic Area, to be read and initialed by every employee within the Geographic Area.

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6. [redacted] read aloud a memorandum from [redacted], SA/RR, concerning attendance of language training courses in which particular stress was placed on the failure to meet course requirements in the language laboratory. [redacted] said, "I cannot over stress the importance of planning training to assure the individual adequate time to fulfill the course without conflict with research duties." This means specifically that requests to take OTR language courses should not be submitted unless the individual can be given adequate time to meet all requirements of the course, including required language laboratory attendance. [redacted] commented on the problem this involves since some OTR language courses require so much class and laboratory time that the student would be away from his job up to 50 percent of the time. These requirements are excessive from the point of view of the Geographic Area, and it is hoped that special language courses can be arranged that will not require such an inordinate amount of time away from the job.

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7. [redacted] reported on his recent recruiting trip during which he visited Boston University, Clark University, Wellesley and Mount Holyoke. [redacted] participated in the interviews. Twelve people were interviewed and six were recruited.

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8. The question was discussed of whether or not a Recruiting Officer should attend the AAG meeting at Memphis in order to assist the Geographic Area Division Chiefs in their recruiting. It was decided that it would be desirable for a recruiter to be available during one day of the meetings preferably Wednesday, April the 15th. [redacted] will contact Personnel about this.

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9. [redacted] reported that the ASP-ACSM consecutive meetings were very successful with 1,825 people registered and 60 exhibitors.

10. The Zeiss Company has opened a shop in Arlington near the USGS Office in Clarendon, according to [redacted].

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12. [redacted] reported that he will be on two weeks active military duty in June and that [redacted] will be on active duty for two weeks in May.

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13. [redacted] commented that G-2 is interested in setting up a Photo Intelligence Unit.

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*16. [REDACTED] commented that he has received a letter from [REDACTED] and that it may still be possible to hire [REDACTED].

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([REDACTED] had a meeting later, & decided to continue the overtime for D/GC.)