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23 September 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Current Status of the Foreign Service Institute of the Department of State

1. On Friday, September 11, 1953 [redacted] of the Office of Training conferred with Norman Burns, Robert Freeman and Howard Sollenberger at the Foreign Service Institute in order to determine the extent to which current reorganizations within the Department of State and specifically the Foreign Service Institute, have affected, or are likely to affect, the capabilities of the Foreign Service Institute to conduct training services that have been provided in the past and projected for the future. 25X1

2. In essence, it appears that the capabilities of the Institute to provide the training services in which the Office of Training has an interest have been little affected. Reduction-in-force of the Institute's staff, with one exception, has affected personnel involved in activities of little concern to the Agency. Except for release of the Institute's Russian instructor, Mr. Trager, the staff of the Language Training Branch has not been affected. Since most of the training services provided CIA by the Institute have been in the language field, the Institute's capabilities, at least as of this date, remain fundamentally unchanged.

3. With reference to the possibility of any future reductions-in-force that might affect the Institute, Mr. Burns, the Director, feels confident that any reductions imposed upon the Institute will not be reflected in language

[redacted] 25X1

4. In conclusion, it seems reasonable to presume that the capability of the Foreign Service Institute to continue services of concern to the Agency has not changed, and is not likely to change. It is intended, therefore, within the next few weeks, to develop an agreement for the current fiscal year whereby the Institute will be able to continue current training of Agency employees and to provide additional training in languages.

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