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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Acting Chief, Language and Area School DATE: 24 June 1959

FROM : Deputy for Language Training

SUBJECT: Weekly Activities Report

A. SIGNIFICANT ITEMS

None to report.

B. OTHER ACTIVITIES

1. A Qualifications Review Panel is meeting this Friday to act on the applications of four men for full-time Chinese training.

2. Interest has been expressed by two TSS men in an Arabic familiarization course. They have been asked to make a request by memo to LAS.

25X1 3. [] met with representatives from St. Timothy's Academy on Friday to discuss modern language teaching techniques, especially the use of audio-visual aids. A lively discussion of problems in language teaching was followed by a demonstration of the use of tape recordings in the "I" Building laboratory. They were given literature on the use of the language laboratory and information on sources of further information.

25X1 4. [] met with Dr. Lee Hamilton of FSI to discuss the State Department's reply to the letter from Senator Jackson. State made an interim reply expressing interest in the proposal for a NATO effort in behalf of language training in African and Asian languages. Dr. Hamilton believes that the proposal will be given to the Language School for further study and suggested that our detailed ideas on the plan be coordinated at a later time, if the occasion arises to submit detailed comments.

25X1 5. Final examinations have been given to the Basic Polish Reading (I) course, conducted by [] Four students, all analysts from the DDI, completed this phase. There were no drop-outs.

25X1 6. Steady progress is being made in the preparation of teaching materials for Central Asian languages. [] has almost completed a descriptive grammar of Uzbek, based on the Tashkent dialect. The printer also reports that [] Uzbek Newspaper Reader will come out in the near future. This text is supplied with an end vocabulary of all items appearing in the reading selections.

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RE-REVIEW

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7. Two of our VLTP classes in the more unusual languages, Finnish and Persian, just completed the elementary cycle in the 104 class this past trimester. None of the students had any previous knowledge of the language. The three students in Finnish and the two students in Persian recently took the Agency's Proficiency test and did very well indeed, all being given awards for achievement. Four of the five students had at least elementary in all of the five categories of proficiency. One of the students in Persian achieved high in reading and was awarded \$400 - for specialized achievement. As far as we know this is the highest single award for achievement given to any VLTP student. The other Persian student and all three of the Finnish students achieved intermediate in reading.

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8. The two Basic Part-Time French classes passed without interruption from Phase I to Phase II. One student dropped out and was replaced by a new student of equal level keeping the number of students at four for each section.

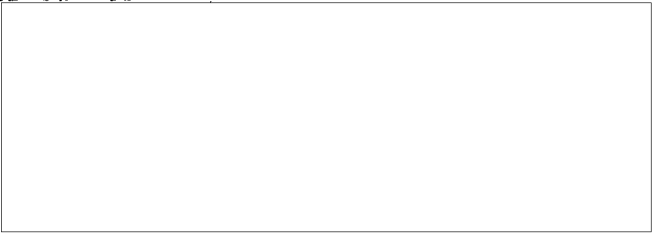
9. The personnel picture in the French department has changed considerably. [redacted] will be leaving for overseas about 15 August. The clerical help now includes [redacted] on loan from Reproduction, and [redacted] summer employee.

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10. [redacted] of the Romance Languages department have started summer courses in Linguistics at the Georgetown Institute. [redacted] is being sent to the course as a directed assignment and [redacted] is taking a course on her own time.



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