


18 June 1959

STATINTL

MEMORANDUM TO: 

Bill,

My impromptu comments on Senator Jackson's letter and the attached report and recommendations of the Study Group on Asian and African Languages are as follows, and I hope may be helpful to you:

1. As a citizen concerned with the need for "considerably greater understanding of the peoples and cultures" of Asia and Africa and as an officer responsible for developing this understanding, I strongly endorse, in principle, the proposed endeavor, including the three recommendations upon which Senator Jackson invites comments, as well as the recommendations in the concluding paragraph of the report.
2. While I know that languages alone are important, they are only a part of culture and emphasis on languages should not reduce concern for total culture to an unavoidable minimum. While the discussion is in terms of "language and area," inferentially language seems to over-shadow "area," or culture in the broad sense. (Maybe I am reading in an erroneous interpretation, and this is only a caution).
3. Two additional actions not specified herein perhaps should be considered:
 - a. Creation of a coordinating working group for administration, resources research and planning, in addition to the "Language and Area Advisor" and the "NATO Language and Area Advisory Committee."
 - b. Survey of human and institutional resources in addition to the guide to teaching materials recommended on page 4.
4. I have prepared these comments without either extended reflection or the benefit of views that  might have, neither of which is possible today.

Attachment: 

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Honorable Henry M. Jackson, United States Senate, Washington 25, D. C.

ORIGINATED BY:

Director of Training

Date

CONCURRENCE:

Deputy Director (Support)

Date

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