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6762

Approved For Release 2000/08/16 : CIA-RDP81-00755R000200120146-9

Authorizations
10 March 1948

MEMORANDUM

TO : Chief, Administration and Services
FROM : Chief Foreign Branch T.
SUBJECT: Request for Authorization for Language Lessons

1. Vouchers, claiming reimbursement for language lessons taken in the field, have been submitted by FBT stations because:

a. The speed required in manning Latin American posts necessitated the employment of personnel who did not have language qualifications.

b. After arrival at their posts, personnel found the language barrier a severe handicap, since they could not adequately receive visitors, answer telephones, or translate documents.

c. In order to accomplish their mission, personnel hired instructors, studied the language, and submitted vouchers claiming reimbursement. Personnel regarded language lessons as a justifiable operational expense, and had not been informed before departure that such lessons would be disallowed. [REDACTED] for this item.

d. Since 1 September, 1947, no further vouchers on language lessons have been submitted. In the future, prior approval will be requested before contracting for foreign language instruction.

2. This Branch is not recommending approval for all submitted vouchers. In the case of the following operational and reports officers, reimbursement is requested:

25X1C

25X1A9a

\$153.75

[REDACTED] Intelligence Officer Staff, [REDACTED]

25X1A6a

Originally employed as Deputy Chief of FBT, Washington, subject had no language qualifications for the field. However, on the instructions of the Assistant Director

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for Special Operations, he was assigned to the number two position in [redacted] This required an immediate acquisition of Spanish. Present operational demands have required continued study. 25X1A6a

153.76

25X1A9a [redacted] Intelligence Officer Reports, [redacted] 25X1A6a

Subject was urgently needed to open the [redacted] office, 25X1A6a had no opportunity to take lessons in Washington, but because of her study of Spanish in the field, is performing the duties of intelligence officer reports.

13.76

25X1A9a [redacted] Chief, [redacted] 25X1A6a

Can only be dated 3 May 40.

Fluent knowledge of Spanish is essential for efficient operations at this station, and the refresher lessons represented an important time-saving factor in initiating the operations of the post, for which he was an emergency volunteer. 25X1A

13.76

25X1A9a [redacted] Chief, [redacted] 25X1A6a

Chief of Station required refresher lessons in order to immediately begin the operational mission in [redacted] In his two months intelligence training in Washington, he had no time for a refresher course. 25X1A6a

23.00

25X1A9a [redacted], Chief, [redacted] 25X1A6a

25X1A6a

A review of the language, under capable direction, was necessary to obtain the complete fluency required in the operational duties of the Chief of Station. He was originally to be assigned as second officer at [redacted] but was sent out as Chief of Station at [redacted] when the officer who was to take that post declined appointment. 25X1A6a

25X1A6a

3. The Chief of Station in [redacted] understood that station funds could be used to pay for language lessons, when in the judgment of the Chief, a knowledge of [redacted] would contribute substantially to the usefulness of the employee. A knowledge of the language is essential for operational and top administrative personnel, and it is extremely difficult to recruit suitable personnel with a workable knowledge of [redacted] In the case of [redacted] 25X1A9a

25X1A6a
25X1A9a

25X1A6a

[redacted] subject is assisting the principal local agent daily, and is handling many reports and documents written in [redacted] in addition to his communications' duties.

30.71
69.66
43.15
76.74

25X1A9a [redacted] Intelligence Officer Sta
[redacted] Intelligence Officer O
[redacted] Administrative Officer,
[redacted] Intelligence Officer R [redacted]

25X1A6a

Approved For Release 2000/08/16 : CIA-RDP81-00755R000200120146-9

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\$ 83.98
58.96

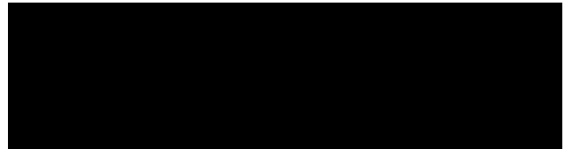
25X1A6a



TOTAL: \$721.22

4. Recommend that approval be given for reimbursement of the above sums, expended by FBT personnel for language lessons.

25X1A9a



Chief Foreign Branch T.

*3/16/47
Approved in view
of the security and
speed necessary and
initiate a [unclear] to*



25X1A9a

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