

The Director of Central Intelligence
Washington, D.C. 20505

Foreign Language
Training Committee

FLTC 008-82
11 August 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

FROM:

[REDACTED]

Chairman

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SUBJECT:

FLTC Monthly Report -- July 1982

1. On 14 July, [REDACTED] Director, Office of Planning, Intelligence Community Staff, briefed the FLTC on Long Range Planning for the Intelligence Community. In his discussion of manpower and training, [REDACTED] emphasized the fact that the lack of foreign language and area expertise is a national problem, not one limited to the intelligence and foreign affairs communities, and that its solution must depend upon cooperation between government and academia. The Chairman assured Mr. [REDACTED] that the FLTC shared his views and would do whatever it could to assist him in his Community planning responsibilities.

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2. At the same meeting [REDACTED] briefed the Committee on the status of the DIA's Defense Language and Area Studies Program (DALASP) and the Defense Academic Research Program (DARSP). He emphasized that these programs were both in their infancy, that they were intended to concentrate on third world areas and low density languages and that the future of the programs would be determined by the success of the pilot programs now being initiated. All research would be unclassified and made available to the public at large as well as to academia and the foreign intelligence and policy communities. He would keep the Committee informed of the programs' progress.

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3. The Chairman, along with other Chairmen of DCI Committees, met with the DDCI on 3 August and briefed him on the status of the Foreign Language Training Committee (FLTC). In response to a request from the DDCI, a brief report on the status of the use of Machine Translations in the Intelligence Community is being prepared and will be forwarded to the DDCI via the Secretary to the NFIB/NFIC.

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4. The Executive Secretary was briefed by Dr. Judith Daly of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) Request for Proposals (RFP) for research to define "new and effective approach(es) for teaching foreign language understanding", and to "develop low cost, portable devices for teaching foreign language understanding and for maintaining the skill". Such devices might be based on "microsonics, videodiscs, speak 'n' spell chips, voice recognition, and bar codes". Finally proposals are sought for designing, developing, testing, and evaluating a "telephone-based system to maintain language skills." Although the DARPA work was initiated at the request of DoD/C³I, primarily in support of NSA, such research is of potential value to other components of the Intelligence Community. Dr. Daly has been invited to brief the FLTC on the more interesting proposals submitted to DARPA in response to its RFP.



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