

MEMORANDUM

May 18, 1970

TO: O/FSI - Mr. Howard E. Sollenberger
FROM: O/FSI/VTC - Ogden Williams

Attached is an agenda containing the items raised by Mr. Creedon in his discussions with VTC staff (Williams, Jones, Quaid) on May 15. It gives some idea of what AID/A/PM is thinking about.

At the outset of the meeting, I emphasized the importance of VTC training for CORDS/Viet-Nam, and specifically pointed out that money for VTC should not be considered fungible with all other funds appropriated by AID. I said that AID was, in reality, a trustee of certain funds for VTC, by direction of the White House several years back. So when AID finds itself under budgetary restraints and must cut back across-the-board, any decision to cut VTC should nevertheless be made at policy levels outside AID.

Items 2, 3, 4 and 8 were matters of primary concern to the School of Languages. As AID seeks to recoup from the military for training of military officers, it should remember that the same principle would in theory apply to State trainees, or those of USIA or others. When the White House originally told AID to fund VTC, there was no mention of any principle of reimbursement by anybody. If AID should now try to spread the burden to all agencies, this would represent a new policy departure.

Regarding item 6, the change-over from AID/VN to AID/A/PM was discussed and appropriate opposite numbers were identified.

Creedon was interested in the whole proposition of the forthcoming interagency meeting and agreed that the entire question of VTC should be looked at afresh at that time.

Attachment

O/FSI/VTC:OWilliams:d

PROBLEM AREAS - VTC/AID

1. AID/STATE unable to provide VTC with timely, meaningful projections of student input. Same problem exists with USIA and OPS.
2. Ratio of tutors to students is too high (1:4 average)
3. Ratio of linguists to tutors is too high (Ratio is 1:5)
4. Military reimbursement for language training is too low.
(or STATE, Park)
5. No military reimbursement to AID for training other than language.
6. Changes in operating procedures, curriculum, etc., have not been discussed with A/PM/MD prior to the time they have been instituted.
7. Proposal to put PSA/DPSA positions at a 50% military/50% civilian will require AID to increase input now from new-hire, RTPs or State candidates.
8. VTC staff (presently 72 on board) is out of proportion to the number of students in training at any one time.
9. Clearing of prospective trainees should be tightened up. The interview process at present does not seem to be adequate.

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33 operations
39 language