

Subj: Lang Div

cc: Students, Corres.

TO/FROM/RE

O/FSI/VTC - Dr. Howard S. Levy

February 17, 1970

O/FSI/VTC - Ogden Williams, Coordinator

James W. Echle and Susan A. Beauvais, CORDS XXII

This memorandum is to confirm conversations with the above students and with members of your staff this morning.

1. James W. Echle. This AID officer would like to go to Viet-Nam in May along with Class XIX. He wants to attend the session in Taiwan. I had earlier learned that Echle is not doing well in his language training, and therefore I believe that his request to leave early is in the best interest of everybody. The question is: How early? If the Language Division feels Echle can usefully remain here until May, then there is no problem. If the Language Division feels it is useless to keep Echle here until May, then I believe he should be sent forward to the field sooner. I have requested the advice from your Division on this question in order to be able to make a decision as to what to recommend to AID.

2. Susan A. Beauvais. This AID officer also wishes to leave for Viet-Nam in May. Unlike Echle she is a good language student. I told her that, particularly in refugee work, being able to speak to the refugees would make her assignment much more useful and interesting. She agrees, but thinks she can have adequate speaking capability by May so as to do the job. She feels that the last four months (until Class XXII graduates in any case) would be largely devoted to reading Vietnamese, and this she feels would not be essential in her proposed job. I tend to agree with her conclusion, although I do not know whether the last four months of the program are, in fact, largely devoted to developing a reading capability. Could you advise me as to whether Miss Beauvais' plan--to develop an adequate oral capability by May--makes sense.

O/FSI/VTC:OWilliams:pak