

MEMORANDUM

November 18, 1970

TO: O/FSI - Mr. Howard E. Sollenberger  
FROM: O/FSI/VTC - Ogden Williams  
SUBJECT: Reversal of PSA and DSA Programs

Attached is an initial study on subject problem which we have conducted within VTC. We have already been in contact with the Department of the Army and have discussed this problem in detail with their representatives, and have also briefed the Secretary of the Army, Stanley Resor, during his visit to the Viet-Nam Training Center on November 13. I also wrote to Ambassador Colby about this, and his reply is attached.

Essential practical problems which we must solve in order to effect the desired reversal of training programs include the following:

1. Increased budgetary implications for both A.I.D. and Army.
2. The possibility that Army would withdraw from VTC if they had to absorb the increased cost of language training in their own budget. This problem may be surfaced shortly in any case, since we understand that A.I.D. will push for a complete reimbursement by the military (and possibly by all other agencies concerned) in the FY 72 budget.
3. The morale factors involved in depriving the DSA candidates of the per diem which they have heretofore been accorded under the present 18-week program. We have already explored with the School of Language Studies whether the military DSA candidate could receive 15 weeks language training at Fort Bliss prior to arrival at VTC. This would mean that DSA's would receive 600 hours of language in two separate TDY assignments. Dr. Frith has thus far indicated that he doubts whether it would be feasible to blend DLI and FSI language training.

One possible solution is to get CORDS/Viet-Nam to pick up the entire cost of language training for all PSA and DSA candidates. This must be explored with the field.

Attachments

O/FSI/VTC:OWilliams:d