

EXECUTIVE

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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

International Geographical
Codes Committee

September 11, 1970

Dear Mr. Lee:

We have your August 24 letter to the President requesting approval of French-language training in connection with your representation of the United States in various activities of the Universal Postal Union.

While we understand that the UPU is a bilingual organization, with documents and proceedings in both French and English, we agree that a knowledge of French might facilitate your role in that organization, and hereby approve the use of Postal Service training funds for this purpose.

Sincerely,



Jeanne W. Davis
Staff Secretary

Mr. Ronald B. Lee
Post Office Department
Assistant Postmaster General
Bureau of Planning and Marketing
Washington, D. C. 20260

RECEIVED
SEP 14 1970
CENTRAL FILES

MICROFILM	DATA
DO ☒	INIT ☒
	DATE 9/14
ORIG)	NSC
TO)	PAF ☒
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Dispatched 9/11/70

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

September 8, 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR LARRY HIGBY

SUBJECT: Mr. Lee's French Lessons

As I indicated to you in our recent truncated phone conversation, Assistant PG Lee has now written the President asking for approval of his French lessons (Tab B). He cites his role in the Universal Postal Union as the reason.

The UPU is a bilingual organization. Its documents are printed in both French and English and there is simultaneous interpretation of all of its deliberations. However, there is certainly no reason from our point of view why Mr. Lee should not take French if he believes it would facilitate his activities and if the Postal Service can pay for it, as he indicates.

We have prepared a letter for your signature along that line (Tab A).



Jeanne W. Davis
Staff Secretary

Attachment

Jeanne
This is a decision
that should be
made by the NSC
staff.
C.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Dear Mr. Lee:

We have your August 24 letter to the President requesting approval of French-language training in connection with your representation of the United States in various activities of the Universal Postal Union.

While we understand that the UPU is a bilingual organization, with documents and proceedings in both French and English, we agree that a knowledge of French might facilitate your role in that organization, and hereby approve the use of Postal Service training funds for this purpose.

Sincerely,

Mr. Ronald B. Lee
Post Office Department
Assistant Postmaster General
Bureau of Planning and Marketing
Washington, D. C. 20260

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT
ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL
BUREAU OF PLANNING AND MARKETING

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20260

August 24, 1970

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

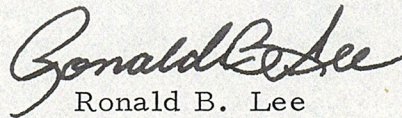
This letter is to request that I be given authorization to study French under Title 5 USC, Chapter 41, Section 4102. Sub-paragraph (a)(2)(b) specifically requires presidential designation of individuals who may receive government-sponsored training when such individuals are presidential appointees. Several non-appointed individuals have received language training for, in my opinion, lesser reasons.

I have been selected Chairman of the International Geographical Codes Committee of the Universal Postal Union (UPU). The United States is gaining in reputation among the 134 members of the second oldest international organization and being asked to chair the committee is a high honor. The chairmanship lasts for five years.

The official language of the UPU is French. I have some familiarity with French but lack recent conversational practice. I am proposing that I be allowed, at government expense, to take advantage of a special Berlitz course designed specifically for my needs. This course would entail two half hours of instruction five days per week in the early morning, evenings or weekends according to my availability. This instruction would continue for only four weeks (September 1970) prior to the October conference and four weeks afterward. The total cost of materials, instructor's time, etc., would be less than \$1500. There are training funds available in the budget of the Postal Service.

At a time when America's international integrity is being challenged, it appears less than intelligent for appointees to be denied training from which the whole country benefits. Additionally, other countries have full-time representatives assigned to UPU. These representatives, almost without exception, are linguistically proficient in several of the languages of the member countries. Americans are notoriously non-linguistic. I feel that a significant opportunity exists to dispel that impression in at least this instance.

Respectfully,


Ronald B. Lee

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE ROUTING AND CONTROL PROFILE

NUMBER MO DA HR

21830 09 08 70

TO: PRES _____ FROM: ELIOT _____ CLASSIF: U ☒ EXDIS
HAK _____ ROGERS _____ C _____ NODIS
DOC DATE: 09/08/70 *Davis* LAIRD _____ LOU _____ EYES ONLY
S _____ RES DATA
TS _____ CODEWORD
SENSITIVE
PARIS MTG
NO FORN

SUBJECT: Letter to P. J. Lee OKing his French lessons as training for his role as US rep to the UPU

ENCLOSURES: () () NOT XEROXED FOR SUSPENSE FILE

INTERNAL ROUTING AND DISTRIBUTION

NAME:

	ACTION	INFO	RCD CY FOR:
ADVANCE CYS TO HAK/HAIG			
STAFF SECRETARY			
DIR, SECRETARIAT			
SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA			
NR EAST/NORTH AFRICA			
EUROPE/CANADA			
LATIN AMERICA			
UNITED NATIONS			
ECONOMIC			
SCIENTIFIC			
PLANNING GROUP			
PROGRAM ANALYSIS			

ACTION REQUIRED

MEMO FOR HAK ()
MEMO TO PRESIDENT ()
REPLY FOR HAK SIGNATURE ()
REPLY FOR PRES SIGNATURE ()
MEMO TO ()
RECOMMENDATIONS ()
JOINT MEMO ()
APPROPRIATE ACTION ()
ANY ACTION NECESSARY ()
CONCURRENCE ()
DUE DATE:

COMMENTS: (Including Special Instructions)

Log in Log out

DATE FROM TO ACTION REQUIRED

09/08/70 *Davis* *Highly* *sign ltr to Lee*

MICROFILM DATA	
DO ☒	INIT <i>8/5/70</i>
	DATE <i>9/1/70</i>
cy	
ORIG) NSC	
TO) PAF	
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DISPATCH: LETTER/MEMO

NOTIFY:

COPIES: (AS MARKED ABOVE)

NSC _____ STAFF APPROVAL
PAF _____ HAK APP'L
WHC ☒ HAK MARGINALIA
SUBF _____ ☒ NS3 FORM REQUIRED