



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY INSTITUTE FOR MILITARY ASSISTANCE
FORT BRAGG, NORTH CAROLINA 28307

ATSU-SIS

FEB 01 1980

Dear General Meyer:

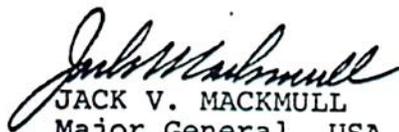
During the period 31 March - 3 April 1980, 57 officers from our Foreign Area Officer (FAO) Course and accompanying faculty and staff members of the Institute for Military Assistance will be in Washington on our semiannual Inter-departmental Agency Field Trip. This trip is an integral part of the program of instruction and is designed to acquaint the officers with the operations of selected governmental agencies that have an interface with the Foreign Area Officer Specialty.

It will be our privilege if you can meet with the FAO class in the Pentagon, Monday, 31 March, or any other day during the week the class will be in Washington. If previous commitments preclude your personal participation, we will be pleased to meet with your designated representative.

We plan to have an informal cocktail party at the Fort Myer Officers' Open Mess the evening of 1 April from 1900-2100 hours. We will be honored if you and Mrs. Meyer can join the students and their wives, staff and faculty, and other Washington area friends of the Institute.

I am inclosing a course precis and class profile to give you a better idea of the group. Major Herbert Kerner, AUTOVON 236-9106 will be happy to respond to your office for further information.

Sincerely,


JACK V. MACKMULL
Major General, USA
Commandant

2 Incl
as

General Edward C. Meyer
Chief of Staff, US Army
Room 3E668, The Pentagon
Washington, DC 20310

THE FOREIGN AREA OFFICER SPECIALTY AND FAO COURSE

January 1980

THE FAO SPECIALTY

The Foreign Area Officer Specialty produces officers qualified for assignment to positions requiring politico-military awareness, a language proficiency, and detailed knowledge of foreign areas. Foreign Area Officers serve in positions which require specialized knowledge in fields such as politico-military affairs, plans and operations, attache duty, service school instructor, special warfare, intelligence, and security assistance.

The training of a Foreign Area Officer is programmed to include any or all of the following: an advanced degree in area studies or another FAO specialty-related discipline at selected universities in the United States or overseas; the Foreign Area Officer Course at the Institute for Military Assistance at Fort Bragg; language training; and 1-to-2 years of travel, research and study in the individual's overseas area of specialization.

Upon completion of training, Foreign Area Officers will serve in a wide variety of assignments dealing with the formulation and execution of politico-military policy and doctrine.

THE FAO COURSE

The 21-week/1-day Foreign Area Officer Course must be understood in terms of producing a Foreign Area Officer as opposed to a specific area specialist. The course is designed to provide the FAO with the necessary tools to analyze military problems as they are affected by political, economic and sociological events in a geographical region.

The course is divided into four phases:

PHASE I: The World Environment. This phase consists of 103 hours of instruction reinforced by 23 hours of guest speaker presentations. The student will attend three 20-hour area orientation seminars which provide an introduction to geography, demography, history, cultures, religions, political dynamics, economic systems, external relations, military affairs, and external pressures in three to five geographical areas of the world (Sub-Sahara Africa, Latin America, Asia, Europe, Middle East); instruction in the disciplines of political science,

economics, and sociology insofar as the concepts and methodologies of these disciplines contribute to understanding the process of modernization and change.

PHASE II: Policy Process. This phase consists of 166 hours of instruction reinforced by 34 hours of guest speaker presentations and seminars. The instruction provides an introduction to the geopolitical environment within which the Foreign Area Officer will be expected to work, as well as defining the role the Foreign Area Officer may expect to assume in that environment. An additional 40-hour seminar introduction in area orientation provides a more detailed study in one of the five geographical areas not covered in previous instruction. Students participate in a practical exercise in which each regional seminar makes an assessment of potential for internal conflict in their respective areas.

PHASE III: US Domestic and International Issues. This phase consists of 172 hours of instruction and seminars reinforced by 25 hours of guest speaker presentations which acquaint the student with crisis management, civil-military operations and international terrorism. Previous classroom instruction is reinforced by use of a lengthy Security Assistance Planning Exercise, as well as by a case study of non-US assistance programs. An additional 40-hour seminar introduction in area orientation provides a more detailed study in the last geographical area not covered by previous instruction.

The Washington Interdepartmental Agency Field Trip. A week-long field trip to Washington is scheduled midway through the course. This trip permits students to visit and confer with representatives from government and private agencies in the Washington area who are concerned with US international relations and international security assistance programs and objectives.

PHASE IV: Symposium. An international affairs symposium culminates the course with presentations of professional papers and workshop discussions. Military and civilian experts, FAO students, USAIMA staff and faculty, and others participate in the 3-day symposium. Students participate in a 12 hour diplomatic exercise designed to tie together and reinforce all previous instruction.

Participation By Dependents in FAO Course Instruction. Wives of Foreign Area Officer Course personnel are welcome to participate in unclassified FAO instruction, especially area studies instruction and guest speaker presentations. Wives are also invited to participate in the Washington Interdepartmental Agency Field Trip.

Recommendation for Accreditation. In June 1977, the Commission on Accreditation of Service Experience (CASE) of the American Council on Education evaluated the FAO Course and recommended it as equivalent to 6-hours graduate work and 20 hours of undergraduate work. Since that date, a significant number of major universities have provided FAO graduates with such credit as they have pursued further civil schooling.

ATSU-TMS-RT/AR

PROFILE
FOREIGN AREA OFFICER COURSE, 1-80
7 JANUARY - 5 JUNE 1980

22 JANUARY 1980
(UPDATED)

RANK: LTC MAJ CPT 1LT
5 16 27 1

CLASS TOTAL: 49

SOURCE OF COMMISSION: ROTC OCS USMA DIRECT
26 12 10 1

YEARS SERVICE: HIGH LOW AVERAGE
25 4 11

BRANCH: IN MI AR TC FA EN AD QM AG SC
18 10 6 1 5 1 3 2 2 1

COMPONENT: RA USAR INDEF
39 10

COMBAT EXPERIENCE: RVN KOREA CAMBODIA
(Months) 382 13 7

ADVISORY EXPERIENCE: RVN THAILAND/BOLIVIA/CHILE TURKEY CAMBODIA EL SALVADORE UK
(Months) 113 Unknown 11 9 36 36

MILITARY EDUCATION: BASIC BRANCH CAREER OFF CRS C&GSC SENIOR SVC SCH
2 36 11 0

LANGUAGES: NONE GERMAN HUNGARIAN THAI FRENCH SPANISH PERSIAN TURKISH
19 14 1 2 6 12 1 1

PORTUGUESE EUROPEAN PORTUGUESE KOREAN ITALIAN SWEDISH
3 1 1 2 1

SPANISH CASTILIAN
3

MARITAL STATUS: MARRIED SINGLE
42 7

AGE: HIGH LOW AVERAGE
45 26 33

CIVILIAN EDUCATION: PhD MED MAIR MPA MS MA BS BA BGS AB
1 1 1 1 2 12 12 11 1 1

MAJORS: PhD - INT LAW

BA - POLITICAL SCIENCE(4)
FRENCH
HISTORY (4)
INTL STUDIES
INTL AFFAIRS

MED - EDUCATION
MAIR - INT'L RELATIONS
MPA - MANPOWER ADMIN
MS - LOGISTICS MGMT
INT'L RELATIONS

BGS - BUSINESS

MA - FOREIGN AFFAIRS
ASIAN STUDIES
INTL RELATIONS (6)
POLITICAL SCIENCE (3)

AB - POLITICAL SCIENCE

BRANCH: IN MI AR TC FA EN AD OM AG SC
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MA - FOREIGN AFFAIRS
ASIAN STUDIES
INTL RELATIONS (6)
POLITICAL SCIENCE (3)
NATL SECURITY AFFAIRS
ENGLISH LITERATURE
ADMIN OF JUSTICE
PSYCHOLOGY (2)
INTL ECONOMICS
PUBLIC ADMIN
BS - ENGINEERING
UNKNOWN (5)
SCIENCE
ECONOMICS
BUSINESS MGMT
ACCOUNTING
GENERAL ENGINEERING
POLITICAL SCIENCE

BGS - BUSINESS

AB - POLITICAL SCIENCE