

# GL 75 BE

YEARS

SUMMER 2016



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## FRONT COVER

Pvt. Ayana Griffin from Middle East III School gets prepared for her school's performance at Language Capital of the World Cultural Festival in Monterey. (Photo by Amber K. Whittington)

## BACK COVER

Join us for the 75th anniversary of DLIFLC on Nov. 4 & 5, 2016.

Events will kick off with the induction of new DLIFLC Hall of Fame members on Nov. 4, 2016. On Saturday Nov. 5, the DLI Foundation will be co-hosting the DLIFLC's 75th Anniversary Ball at the Hyatt Regency in Monterey from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m.

More about this event at:  
[www.DLI-Foundation.org](http://www.DLI-Foundation.org)

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Gen. David Perkins, the commanding general of the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command at Fort Eustis, Virginia, speaks to students studying Arabic at the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center at the Presidio of Monterey, California, Feb. 9. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

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Col. Phillip J. Deppert

## FROM THE TOP

As I read through the pages of this Globe edition, I am struck by the sheer range of activities we undertake here at the institute, not only through our main mission of teaching basic, intermediate, and advanced foreign language courses, but our worldwide reach.

Not only do we attract visitors who come to see and experience the uniqueness of the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center, but our reputation precedes us and we recently opened a new Language Training Detachment in Vilseck, Germany, where we will be meeting the needs of the services in the field.

I would like to highlight the exceptional capabilities of our instructors who come from 93 countries around the world and work tirelessly to train our service members to reach higher levels of proficiency in order to better perform in their follow-on assignments. As evidence of the incredible efforts of our instructors, you are able to read stories about linguists in action in Indonesia and Japan, or students winning contests against world renowned universities such as Stanford and Berkeley. The quality of the teaching methodology and content at this institute is so successful that we have recently entered into an agreement with another university for our

students to receive credit toward an online bachelor's degree in Arabic, while we plan similar arrangements with other universities.

Perhaps the best indicator of how well we are progressing academically is the fact that the Combined Arms Center, our higher headquarters charged with creating and implementing an Army University system that leads to Soldiers receiving credit for their military education, considers DLIFLC a model for achieving that goal. We have been accredited since 2002 and have thus far granted more than 12,500 Associate of Arts degrees in foreign language to graduates.

While pressing forward with our plans to reach higher levels of foreign language proficiency for our students, we must not forget that our service members are put under an enormous amount of pressure to succeed. With the goal of improving the resiliency of service members I have asked the commanders of all four branches here at DLIFLC to work on their programs to specifically address those challenges.

As testament to DLIFLC's ability to serve as DOD's premier provider of foreign language instruction since 1941, the institute is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year.

To mark this event we will induct several individuals into our Hall of Fame on Nov. 4, and celebrate the event on Nov. 5, at the DLIFLC 75th Anniversary Ball.

I sincerely hope that all who read these pages will be able to attend and help us celebrate. For those who cannot, I encourage you to reflect on your own experiences here whether staff, faculty, student or military.

*"As testament to DLIFLC's ability to serve as DOD's premier provider of foreign language instruction since 1941, the institute is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year."*

*Phillip J. Deppert*  
Col. Phillip J. Deppert  
Commandant

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Command Sgt. Maj. Ryan J. Ramsey

For the past 75 years DLIFLC has been considered a national treasure for the defense of the United States. DLIFLC graduates have made history with their foreign language ability, cultural understanding, military discipline and for building bridges between cultures and people to solve problems. DLIFLC graduates have participated on many combat missions to defend and preserve freedom for people across the globe.

Our graduates have helped build schools, hospitals, roads, negotiate between different ethnic groups, train military personnel, and give hope to children around the world. DLIFLC graduates have served from the islands in the Pacific to the mountain ridges of Afghanistan. They have served across the oceans to the jungle caves and covered the skies above. I have personally seen their dedication and commitment during my combat tours in Iraq, Afghanistan, and the Horn of Africa.

I have seen the courage of our Soldiers, Marines, Sailors, and Airmen firsthand in the 5th Group Special Forces, Combined Joint Special Operations Task Forces, FBI

Counterterrorism Center, Naval Support Activities, air missions, while I served next to the Marines in Al Kut and other locations in Iraq. Our graduates are the most gifted and talented linguists and warriors in any military across the globe.

The language education at DLIFLC is essential to our graduate's future missions and success around the globe. Our language training at DLIFLC is second to none. Our DLIFLC graduates are capable of accomplishing complex missions, and they can be a game changer on tactical or strategic missions. We are fortunate to have the best civilian and military language faculty and instructors in one organization. We also have the most dedicated staff to help our students focus and master their craft which will prepare them for their follow-on assignments.

The investments we make in our young service members today will pay dividends for many years to come. Every word or phrase they learn; every cultural norm or value they master; every historical event or cultural movement they comprehend, will have great impact on their missions in the future and lives of people around the globe.

I'm proud and honored to be the DLIFLC Command Sergeant Major. I will take the time to listen to our students, faculty, and staff with their ideas on how to improve DLIFLC for the next generation.

*Ryan J. Ramsey*  
Command Sgt. Maj.  
Ryan J. Ramsey

*"Our graduates have helped build schools, hospitals, roads, negotiate between different ethnic groups; train military personnel, and give hope to children across the globe."*



Col. Phil Deppert hands the sword, symbolizing the responsibilities of command to Command Sgt. Maj. Ryan Ramsey, DLIFLC's 11th Command Sergeant Major.

# CHANGE OF RESPONSIBILITY

Story by Natela Cutter  
Photos by Amber K. Whittington

After serving successfully at the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language

Center for two years, Command Sgt. Maj. Matildo Coppi relinquished his role as the institute's most senior enlisted leader to Command Sgt. Maj. Ramsey on Soldier Field at the Presidio of Monterey, California, June 3.

"You are our nation's future... and you will continue to thrive because of the unity of services," said Coppi in his final remarks to students standing in formation before him, Soldiers, Sailors, Airman and Marines.

The change of responsibility ceremony was presided over by

*"You are our nation's future... & you will continue to thrive because of unity of services."  
~ Command Sgt. Maj. Coppi*

Col. Phil Deppert, commandant of DLIFLC.

"Senior enlisted leaders are important because we command together, drive positive change together and lead together," said Deppert about serving with Coppi. Making references to Hollywood movies that featured strong leadership personalities, he said "For America, the sergeant is the Army."

Several of Coppi's achievements during his two-year tenure included the improvement of Non-Commissioned Officer development, the

augmentation of a number of Military Language Instructors in the schools, and efforts toward allowing service members to choose

the foreign language they want to study.

Coppi will move on to the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy at Fort Bliss, Texas, where he was selected to attend a special master's program in education for a year, after which he will teach at the academy.

Ramsey arrived in Monterey after serving as the G2 sergeant major for 5th Theater Signal Command, Clay Kaserne in Wiesbaden, Germany.

"I know what you are capable of accomplishing," said Ramsey, who has served at DLIFLC three times in the past and has been trained in Arabic, Persian Dari, and Persian-Farsi. "I look forward to working with you in the future."



Command Sgt. Maj. Matildo Coppi relinquishes his role at DLIFLC by ceremoniously passing the sword to DLIFLC's commandant, Col. Phil Deppert during the change of responsibility ceremony.

# MEET THE STAFF & FACULTY

COL. GREG EBNER - CE ACTING ASSOCIATE PROVOST



Col. Greg Ebner is the head of the Department of Foreign Languages at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point where he also teaches Arabic. For summer 2016, he is on a 90-day developmental assignment to DLIFLC with the expectation of cross-sharing institutional expertise. "I get the benefit of seeing another part of the Army and it gives me the opportunity to help out where I am assigned," said Ebner, who is working with the Continuing Education Directorate as acting Associate Provost and is helping with the institute's 2+/2+ proficiency initiative. Ebner previously served as a Foreign Area Officer and graduated DLIFLC from the Arabic program in 1997. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

DR. SCOTT MCGINNIS - DLI-WASHINGTON INSTRUCTOR

Dr. Scott McGinnis, pictured on the right receives the A. Ronald Walton Award, presented during the National Council of Organizations of Less Commonly Taught Languages annual conference held on April 23, in Atlanta. McGinnis is DLI-Washington's academic specialist and a Chinese Mandarin speaker. The Award is given in recognition of a career of distinguished service on behalf of the National Council of Organizations of Less Commonly Taught Languages. The award was presented by NCOLCTL president Dr. Jacques du Plessis.

(Photo courtesy Scott McGinnis)



DR. NATALIE FRYBERGER - DIRECTOR OF OSAE



Dr. Natalie Fryberger is currently the director of the Office of Standardization and Academic Excellence, or OSAE, where she serves as advisor to the Provost Organization and Command Group on academic leadership, quality assurance and standardization of best classroom, academic program and support practices in all provost organizations. She earned her doctorate in Organizational Leadership at the University of La Verne, completing a dissertation on the topic of emergent leadership in multi-national teams. Dr. Fryberger came back to DLIFLC last fall to offer her expertise, after having taught and worked in several leadership positions at the institute. (Photo by Amber K. Whittington)

SOUZY GUIRGIUS - ARABIC INSTRUCTOR

Souzy Guirgius is an Arabic instructor in the Middle East III School. She came to the U.S. 13 years ago from Egypt, with her husband and daughter. Guirgius has been a team leader for seven years and leads five instructors, who teach both Modern Standard Arabic reading and writing, while concentrating on the Egyptian dialect for speaking. Sharing her thoughts about teaching she says, "I feel responsible for the message I convey to the students. Language without culture is nothing. If I give you a proverb without the cultural context, you will only understand the words and not really the meaning of that proverb," explains Guirgius. "And that is the importance of the messenger." (Photo by Amber K. Whittington)



CARMEN DAVIS - CHIEF OF PROTOCOL



Carmen Davis is DLIFLC's new chief of Protocol who came to the institute from U.S. Africa Command, Stuttgart, Germany, in April 2015, where she worked under three commanding generals since the inception of the command in 2008. From her experiences abroad, Davis said there were a few things that stuck in her mind such as learning how to pour a "proper cup of tea at Buckingham Palace to hot-gluing the broken heel of a U.S. Ambassador." In the fall of 2016, Davis will be hosting a "Protocol Boot Camp," and says she is looking forward to mentoring the next generation of protocol professionals.

(Photo courtesy Carmen Davis)



Gen. David Perkins, the commanding general of the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command speaks to students studying Arabic in Middle East School I.

## DLIFLC IS AN EXAMPLE FOR ARMY UNIVERSITY

Story & photos by Patrick Bray

The Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center welcomed Gen. David Perkins, the commanding general of the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command to the Presidio of Monterey, California, Feb. 9.

Perkins visited a classroom in the institute's Middle East I school where he interacted with some of the students who are learning Arabic. Afterwards, he spoke about DLIFLC as an example in the Army University, which is a premier learning institution that prepares Soldiers and civilians to win in the future security environment.

"Something we are trying to increase and propagate in the Army is that we want you to continue your education and your level of self-development," said Perkins. "For the rest of your life we want you to build tools to stay connected to the community of learning, and I think DLIFLC is really setting a great example of how we do that."

Since 2002, service members attending the institute have been able to earn an accredited Associate of Arts degree in foreign language upon successful graduation from their program. More than 12,500 associate degrees have been awarded since DLIFLC became accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. The Army has succeeded in making it possible for students to receive the two-year college degree with 45 DLIFLC credits and 18

units transferred from other accredited institutions or authorized sources.

"In many ways, DLIFLC is a part of an example we want to proliferate throughout the rest of the Army in that they get accredited courses here and they are recognized around the world," said Perkins.

The Army continues to modernize its professional military education in order to improve the quality of professional training, development and schooling that its Soldiers and civilians receive. Perkins spoke further about how he expects Army University, which encompasses all 37 TRADOC schools including DLIFLC, to be a game changer in the education of both Soldiers and civilians.

"From an Army University point of view, not only does it allow us to credential and accredit courses that our Soldiers take, but it raises everyone's game to a higher level," said Perkins. "If you want to be accredited you've got to have well-developed faculty, great resource tools, and the students have to perform at a high level."

Accreditation through Army University will also allow Army schools to partner with other colleges and universities, the same way DLIFLC did with MIT, for example, to develop tools for students to access in and out of the classroom.

"Because DLIFLC has a recognized level of expertise and excellence, that makes MIT want to work with them because they are a well-known entity," said Perkins. "That is exactly what we want to do within other organizations, TRADOC

and the Army."

Dr. Branka Sarac, director of technology integration, and Dr. Tamas Marius, director of language technology evaluation and assessment, showed the general some of the language training products produced by DLIFLC that are available online for pre-deployment training, deployment use or refresher training.

"Some of the technology that I just saw – the web access, voice recognition, self-paced distance learning – I think that is going to be key so that people other than just professionally-trained linguists have at least a minimum background in language and culture," said Perkins.

Through technology, Perkins said he would like to see language and culture training provided to the total force as he spoke about the ever-changing role of training in the military.

"I think what we're going to find in the future is that it is not enough. When we send a unit to a particular region for regional alignment, we are going to want a level of language and cultural proficiency throughout the formation and we can't send them all to DLIFLC," said Perkins, reemphasizing how the institute's online language

products could assist in the training of the larger force.

"The world is going to get more and more complex," Perkins said. "No matter what mission we give our Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines they are going to be in an environment with multiple cultures, multiple languages, and multiple backgrounds, all simultaneously interacting with each other. This is a level of complexity that we are not used to."

*"No matter what mission we give our Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines they are going to be in an environment with multiple cultures, and multiple languages."  
~ Gen. Perkins*



Col. Phil Deppert led his first Commandant's Run at DLIFLC with about 3,000 service members from the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force in February. The local JROTC units were invited to participate in the run from Seaside High School, Marina High School (Marina, California) and Monterey High School (Monterey, California). The run began at the Price Fitness Center athletic field and wound its way through the Presidio of Monterey to the bottom of the installation on Soldier Field. Deppert addressed the JROTC students, thanking them for their participation and encouraging them to come to similar events and share the camaraderie with their counterparts in the military.

# COMMANDANT'S RUN

Photos by Amber K. Whittington & Patrick Bray

The commander of the Air Education and Training Command, Lt. Gen. Darryl Roberson and Command Chief Master Sgt. David Staton visited Airmen at DLIFLC as a part of a tour of one of the 10 major installations that he oversees in five states.



Lt. Gen. Darryl Roberson shakes hands with Staff Sgt. Nicholas Babian, from the 314th Training Squadron.



## AETC COMMANDER VISITS LINGUISTS IN MONTEREY

Story by Natela Cutter  
Photos by Amber K. Whittington

The commander of the Air Education and Training Command visited Airmen at the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center March 29, as a part of a tour of one of the 23 major units he oversees in 14 states.

"I am very impressed with what you are doing here with these young Airmen," said Lt. Gen. Darryl Roberson, AETC commander, to Air Force leaders of the 517th Training Group at the Presidio of Monterey.

There are currently more than 1,000 Airmen studying at DLIFLC, many of whom are first-term Airmen.

Roberson, accompanied by Chief Master Sgt. David Staton and his wife, Cheryl, received a command brief from DLIFLC Assistant Commandant Col. Keith Logeman. He gave details of the type and

rigor of foreign language training Airmen receive in the 26 to 64 week courses, depending on the difficulty of the foreign language. "Our goal is to have motivated Airmen and give them the language of their choice (whenever possible)," he said.

"Currently, we have eight undergraduate schools and our instructors are mainly foreign-born," said Logeman. He explained that more than 60 percent of the

Language Instructor, Staff Sgt. Donisha Lewis, a logistics specialist, and Capt. Kamisha Reeb, associate dean of the European and Latin American School, all received recognition by receiving a commander's coin.

In a commander's all call, Roberson had the opportunity to compare the significance of the military cryptologic linguists to the symbolic monument of the Berlin Wall, three pieces of which adorn the

*"You will find ways to fill in the gaps, like the [Berlin] wall, to deliver that vital intelligence to the rest of the Air Force."  
~ Lt. Gen. Roberson*

Airmen go through a military headstart program upon arrival, that refreshes their English grammar, teaches them study techniques, and offers an introduction of culture for the language they will learn.

Roberson had the opportunity to visit with the 311th and 314th Training Squadrons where he met with essential staff and presented several Airmen with coins. Staff Sgt. Ryan Best, a Chinese Military

central campus area.

"You will find ways to fill in the gaps, like the wall, to deliver that vital intelligence to the rest of the Air Force," said Roberson, referring to the spaces between the Berlin panels on display at the Presidio. "I love the history of the Berlin Wall. It is inspiring to me and represents what you do for us and the nation."

# COMMANDANT WELCOMES NEW ARMY LIEUTENANTS AT BERKELEY COMMISSIONING

Story & photos  
by Patrick Bray



*"You are about to take your place in an ancient and honorable calling. Serving in the Army isn't just a job, but a profession," said Col. Phil Deppert, at an Army ROTC commissioning ceremony, May 14.*

The commandant of the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center, Col. Phil Deppert, was the guest speaker at an Army ROTC commissioning ceremony for recent graduates at the University of California, Berkeley, May 14.

The ROTC battalion at Berkeley also commissioned cadets studying at California State University, East Bay, in Hayward, California.

"No ceremony is more symbolic and memorable than a commissioning ceremony at the start of an officer's career," said Deppert, beginning his remarks.

"You are about to take your place in an ancient and honorable calling. Serving in the Army isn't just a job, but a profession, more specifically a profession of arms that requires expertise, trust, development and value-based ethics," Deppert continued.

Nine ROTC cadets commissioned as second lieutenants into the U.S. Army Reserve and National Guard who will go on to serve as officers in the armor, military intelligence, air defense artillery, field artillery, infantry and military police corps.

"Although this profession comes with an enormous responsibility, understand that a career of an Army officer is a wonderful experience," said Deppert.

Deppert is an Army ROTC alumnus having commissioned through the program at Ripon College, Wisconsin, in 1990.

"You will learn every day in the Army, but don't forget to have fun. It is about balance," said Deppert. "Even after 26 years, I am still having fun every single day."

This year marks the 100th anniversary of Army ROTC. Since then, more than 600,000 officers have commissioned through ROTC.

Army ROTC started with 35 initial programs in 1916 that included the University of California, Berkeley, said

Lt. Col. Stephen Suhr, the professor of military science, in his opening remarks.

"We celebrate 100 years of ROTC by commissioning one of the largest classes in the past 30 years. By the end of this fiscal year we expect to have commissioned 16 new second lieutenants," said Suhr.

Historically, Berkeley has been commissioning U.S. Army officers as far back as 1870. The Army ROTC program of today came into being with the passage of the National Defense Act of 1916.

The training and experience gained in ROTC was the foundation for six Chiefs of Staff of the Army, two chairmen of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, a justice of the Supreme Court, as well as other leaders in government, business, entertainment, science and sports.



*DLIFLC Commandant Col. Phil Deppert (center) signs an articulation agreement between the institute and the California University of Pennsylvania in his office at the Presidio of Monterey. Standing behind him are (L-R) Accreditation Assistant and Institutional Researcher Dr. Jack Franke, Associate Provost for Academic Support Detlev Kesten, and DLIFLC Provost Dr. Betty Lou Leaver.*

Executive Director of Graduate Admissions and Global Online Stephanie L. Franks-Helwich. "This is the very first time (DLIFLC) has articulated Arabic with an accredited university."

The online program, established in fall 2011, accompanies more than 40 other degree and non-degree options in Cal U.'s nationally recognized Global Online program.

"When we look at new programs, we consider two things – do the students want to enroll in that specific program? And, if students graduate with a degree from a certain program, will they find jobs? Those are the criteria, and that was the reason the Arabic program was developed," said Cal U. spokeswoman Christine Kindl.

"In general, we found that there was a demand for people to speak and understand the culture of Arabic. There are a growing number of Arabic speakers in the United States, and there was a demand among employers from the government, military and the private sector."

The acceptance of these credits will not only allow students the ability to earn their bachelor's degree in the Arabic Language and Culture program in two years, it continues the university's growth in reaching more students globally in all demographics.

"We wanted to provide another platform option for students who couldn't physically be here," said Franks-Helwich. "The goal was to provide a quality education on a platform that was conducive while balancing a life."

A balanced lifestyle remains the vital asset of online programs, as many of Cal U.'s 2,000 online students are primarily adults looking for career advancement or enhancement.

"With Global Online, if someone is an active duty member and gets orders to report to training or go for active duty, they can continue their studies in all those locations," said Franks-Helwich. "We have people doing their work while they are overseas. We have people doing their work in the Middle East. Our online program is perfect for people's lives with that kind of uncertainty."

According to Dr. Razak Abedalla, program director of Arabic Language and Culture at Cal U., the importance of understanding the Arabic philosophy heightened since the Gulf War.

"Arabic is considered one of the most critical languages and has been important in the United States since the 1990s," said Abedalla.

DLIFLC, which currently has 850 students enrolled in its Arabic program, teaches more than 20 different languages and awarded more than 12,000 degrees. It also provides language and cultural training to the Defense Department and other federal agencies.

"An agreement like this is critical for the Defense Language Institute for multiple reasons," said DLIFLC Commandant Col. Phil Deppert. "It ensures continued recognition, validity and acknowledgment of the quality and effectiveness of our foreign language instruction by the wide U.S. and international academic communities. Subsequent to that, these agreements also ensure that no matter how long a service member stays in uniform, their hard work and success is verified, recognized and transferable to civilian institutions."

According to Deppert, the agreement with Cal U. might be one of many introduced by the DLIFLC, but the Global Online program separated itself from many within the United States.

"Arabic isn't offered in many schools," said Franks-Helwich. "In most cases, there are maybe only one or two levels that will earn you an associate's degree or some type of certification. From our knowledge, we are the only 100 percent online Arabic bachelor's degree program."

## CREDIT TOWARD ONLINE ARABIC BA DEGREE

Story by Luke Campbell  
Courtesy of the Reporter-Observer

In the first action of its kind since it became an accredited institution in 2002, The Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center approved an agreement with California University of Pennsylvania, which will accept all academic credits for a foreign language program.

The five-year articulation agreement, signed by the commandant of DLIFLC May 3, allows students who earn an associate's degree in modern standard Arabic from the institution in Monterey, Calif., to transfer 45 credits toward Cal U.'s Arabic Language and Culture bachelor of arts program.

"We have spent the last four years working with this particular institute to develop this partnership," said Cal U.



*Lt. Col. Stephen Suhr, the professor of military science at the University of California, Berkeley, administers the Oath of Office commissioning nine new second lieutenants into the U.S. Army at Berkeley.*

# MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY

**D**LIFLC observed Memorial Day during a ceremony on Soldier Field at the Presidio of Monterey, California, May 26. The annual ceremony consists of a formation of troops in their dress uniforms representing all four service detachments, ceremonial cannon fire and the playing of taps.

Retired U.S. Air Force Col. William "Terry" Bare, former assistant commandant at DLIFLC from 2008 to 2011 and guest speaker, encouraged attendees to observe the Memorial Day holiday as a day of reflection and remembrance and not just a long weekend.

"So here's my challenge to you. Think about, on Memorial Day, those Americans from the late 1770s to the current day, those 1.5 million veterans, who gave their lives for all," said Bare.

Bare is the executive director of the Monterey County Veterans Transition Center

Story by Natela Cutter  
Photos by Amber K. Whittington



Mr. Ben De La Selva (left) and Col. Phil Deppert (right) unveiled the plaque of institute graduates who lost their lives in the Global War on Terrorism.



and serves on a program that helps veterans in need.

"I believe as a nation and a community we owe them our best effort," said Bare.

Following the remarks, Col. Phil Depert, commandant, and Ben De La Selva, founder of the DLI Alumni Association, unveiled the plaque of the institute's graduates who lost their lives in the Global War on Terrorism. This year, there were no names to add to the plaque, a list which includes 330 DLIFLC graduates who gave their lives for their nation since 1963, when official documentation began.

Memorial Day dates back to the end of the Civil War as towns across America honored those who died in the war. The tradition continued as the U.S. fought in other wars, and it became an official federal holiday in 1971 as a special day for Americans to honor and remember all who have died while serving in the armed forces.



Cmdr. Andy Newsome, Commanding Officer, Center for Information Dominance Unit, and Sailors in formation salute during this years Memorial Day Ceremony.



Retired U.S. Air Force Col. William "Terry" Bare was the guest speaker at the Memorial Day Ceremony on Soldier Field at the Presidio of Monterey.

# VILSECK LTD OPENS



**T**he Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center, headquartered in Monterey, California, opened a new language training facility at the Combined Arms Training Center, or CATC, in Vilseck, Germany on April 7.

The official name of the facility is the Combined Arms Language Training Center. The addition of foreign language training at this site will augment the current 67 courses taught at CATC and will provide military and civilian linguists throughout the U.S. European and U.S. Africa Commands the opportunity to receive foreign language training closer to home.

# FOR TROOPS IN EUROPE

Story & photos by Natela Cutter

Left: DLIFLC Assistant Commandant Col. Keith Logeman cuts the ceremonial ribbon with Col. Thomas Metsel April 7, marking the official opening of the DLIFLC Language Training Detachment at the Combined Arms Training Center in Vilseck, Germany.



Soldiers participating in a medical emergency exercise show their skills to visitors at the Combined Arms Training Center in Vilseck, Germany.



DLIFLC Iraqi instructor, Bushra Khanji, works with students at the new Language Training Detachment.

Story & photo by Patrick Bray

# DEFENSE ATTACHÉS VIEW CLASSROOMS



**T**he Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center hosted 45 foreign defense attachés May 6. The institute's commandant, Col. Phil Deppert, welcomed the attachés and gave them an overview of how the armed services military trains and qualifies its linguists. The attachés visited classrooms in the European and Latin American school to get a firsthand look at just a fraction of the languages offered at the institute. Attachés serve as military advisers to ambassadors or other heads of their country's diplomatic mission, with most working in Washington, D.C.

"The leadership understands there is a need for growth in our language professionals. They also understand that, in this region, the best way to develop partnerships is through cultural and language understanding," said Col. Keith M. Logeman, DLIFLC assistant commandant, referring to talks he conducted with USEUCOM and USAFRI-COM leaders.

"This effort was a true definition of teamwork," said Lt. Col. Jeffery Hollamon, the CATC director. "It took less than a year to put this entire project together. CATC coordinates and provides individual training

and professional education for U.S. Army Europe Soldiers, Department of Army and host nation civilians, as well as multinational partners with readiness training before deployment.

Though several sites throughout Europe had been considered for the language training needs, CATC had ideal conditions for student attendance, including dormitories and dining facilities. One of the big advantages of the Vilseck location is that the entire facility is already dedicated to military training activities for civilians, military and multinational students.

With more than 17,000 individuals trained at Vilseck in FY15, the center is well known for its Command and Leader Development, Medical, Training and Management and Combat Skills courses.

"A lot of NATO countries do not have the facilities we do, especially in the medical field. We have, for example a dummy that has a pulse and reacts to hot and cold or the use of wrong procedures," said Capt. Jack Salyer, the executive officer at CATC.

"The advantage for foreign language students attending DLI here will be that they

will be able to have hands-on, almost immersive training whether it has to do with medical terminology or predeployment training," said Hollamon.

In the past, DLIFLC has been supporting the needs of the services by providing small unit-level training in Europe by sending instructor Mobile Training Teams on location for language instruction.

Today, foreign language students will be able to learn and or maintain their skills in Russian, Arabic, French and other languages without returning to the United States.

# MAINTAINING PROFICIENCY FOR REAL-WORLD OPERATIONS

Story by Patrick Bray  
Contributed by Cpl. Michael Calistro

Cpl. Michael Calistro, a 2011 Indonesian language graduate of the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center, knows firsthand that maintaining proficiency after graduation is very important.

Calistro now serves at Fort Shafter, Hawaii, with the 205th Military Intelligence Battalion, 500th Military Intelligence Brigade, and is working closely with his command to improve training for its linguists.

“The 205th MI recognizes that we have to have the right people for the job and is willing to invest the time into training, to include immersion opportunities. In the end, everything pays off for everybody,” said Calistro, whose eventual training would be followed by a deployment.

The brigade’s policy is to support linguists by allocating eight ours per week for language maintenance studies, in addition to providing more opportunities for them to experience immersion training.

Calistro specifically sought more immersion-focused opportunities and, in 2014, identified the U.S. Department of State’s

60-day immersive Critical Language Scholarship as a program that could be employed by the battalion’s Indonesian linguists.

Outside of DLIFLC, language immersion opportunities for military linguists are a rarity. In a time of

*“The people are warm and welcoming & even more so when they hear us speak their language”*

taught languages, which includes Indonesian.

For Calistro, who met all of the qualifications, this was not a hard sell to his already-supportive command, and the 205th MI successfully sent Calistro to the Universitas Negeri Malang (the State University of Malang) in Indonesia in 2014.

“While studying, I received excellent

tightening budgets, these experiences are often too expensive for individual units to utilize, but the CLS is entirely funded by the U.S. Department of State to encourage the mastering of 14 less-commonly

language instruction from a dedicated teaching staff and from two program-assigned Indonesian university students who worked as private tutors,” said Calistro. “I lived with an Indonesian host family, which permitted me to absorb Indonesian language and culture during my off hours.”

A week after completing the CLS program and returning to Hawaii, Calistro found himself returning to Indonesia to East Java for Garuda Shield, a bilateral military exercise hosted by the Indonesian Armed Forces.

Calistro primarily served as the interpreter for a force-protection team, but also provided linguistic services to other U.S. Army elements in the field, including a Judge Advocate General, forward surgical team, air cavalry unit, and Explosives and Ordnance Disposal.

“These duties required a diverse vocab-

Deputy Commanding General, Brig. Gen. Bryan Fenton (left), 25th Infantry Division, speaks with Army Maj. Gen. Mulyono (right), commander Indonesia Strategic Reserve Command, while Cpl. Michael Calistro (back) interprets during bilateral exercise Garuda Shield 2014. (Photo by U.S. Army Sgt. Brooks Fletcher, 16th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment)



Furthermore, Calistro says that having language skills is important in enhancing relationships. When not participating in the exercise, Soldiers took part in many local activities during their short Indonesia tour.

Training is part of the culture of the U.S. Army and the most critical training is conducted at the unit level by unit leaders. Following Garuda Shield, the 205th MI returned to Hawaii where Calistro and other linguists continued to help the unit improve its training.

The 205th MI received support from the CLS’s Alumni Development Fund, matched with funding from the 500th MI Brigade Command Language Program Manager fund, for further language study. The unit used this to create a 13-week-long language training program for its Indonesian linguists.

“Having learned the value of developing a diverse, mission-oriented vocabulary, I assisted in creating a curriculum to prepare the unit’s linguists for translation work in mission settings,” said Calistro, about the 13-week-long program.

When not deployed, the Department of the Army often tasks the 205th MI with translating documents and other materials in support of U.S. Army initiatives

involving Indonesia, part of the reason for the unit’s push to maintain high standards in Indonesian language proficiency.

“As the U.S. continues to rebalance towards the Asia-Pacific, military linguists must look to improve their language abilities in preparation to meet new challenges,” said Calistro.

Building on a foundation of language and cultural knowledge is a concept taught at DLIFLC and the institute has found that immersions aid in language improvement and also allow military linguists to travel the world to receive a more in depth experience in the language.

“Both experiences, the critical language scholarship and subsequent deployment to Garuda Shield, were a fantastic opportunity to test what I learned at DLIFLC. I got to see what I was good at, where the holes were and what needed to be improved,” said Calistro.

The U.S. Department of State CLS features programs at host nation universities which are taught by locals with strong academic backgrounds. Upon graduation, the scholarship alumni receive U.S. academic credit. The scholarship is a high-visibility program with a lengthy and competitive application process. Applicants must be dedicated linguists, working toward a college degree, and possess letters of recommendation from several sources.

Exercise Garuda Shield is a continuation of ongoing efforts by U.S. Army Pacific to engage with the Indonesian Armed Forces on peace support training capacity and stability operations.

ulary and the ability to work around seldom-used words. My experience with the Critical Language Scholarship greatly diversified my vocabulary and gave me the confidence to work around words I did not know,” said Calistro.

Throughout the exercise, Calistro credits linguists for making a huge difference in local opinion of the U.S. military.

“Indonesia is a very diverse country. It’s a very large country with many diverse cultures, but the one thing that ties Indonesia together is the language,” said Calistro. “The people are warm and welcoming and even more so when they hear us speak their language.”

Right: Soldiers from the Indonesian Armed Forces and the U.S. Army’s 2nd Infantry Division ruck march through villages in Situbondo, Indonesia, during the annual Garuda Shield exercise. Approximately 1,200 personnel from U.S. Army and Indonesian Armed Forces conducted a series of training events focused on peace support operations. (Photo by U.S. Army Sgt. Brooks Fletcher, 16th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment)



# KOREAN SPEECH CONTEST

# ROCKS

Story & photos by Patrick Bray

A fun time was had by all at Asian School II as it held the 14th Annual Korean Speech Contest June 23 at the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center.

The contest provides students with an opportunity to showcase their Korean language ability and cultural awareness competence.

U.S. Army Spc. Andre Abassi won first place for his speech "My angel, Yaelim Kim," about a popular singer and his new-found devotion to Korean music.

Abassi began his speech by talking about how his girlfriend broke up with him while he was studying at DLIFLC.

"I decided to study Korean fervently instead of having a girlfriend and I hoped I could heal the wound in my heart with Korean. At that time, I found Korean music," said Abassi in his speech.

Building on a foundation of language with cultural knowledge is a concept taught at DLIFLC which the institute has found essential for better foreign language acquisition.

Meanwhile, Abassi was cheered on by his classmates in the audience, who held up colorful signs in Korean and changed his name.

"The lyrics of the songs that Yaelim Kim sings are so moving that when I first heard them I nearly cried," Abassi continued.

Afterwards, Abassi said it was an unreal experience to win first place since he had only been at the institute for about six months.

"My motivation to learn Korean before was 110 percent. Now it is 120 percent," said Abassi.

After the speeches and while the judges were determining the winner, students performed various Korean pop songs on stage. Students who study Korean are not only encouraged to learn about traditional songs but also modern music such as those performed during the contest.

"We always talk about reaching higher proficiency goals," said Detlev Kesten, associate provost for academic support. "After today's event I have no doubt we'll get there."



## MAY 13 LANGUAGE DAY 2016

Story by Patrick Bray  
Photos by Amber K. Whittington

The Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center held its annual Language Day at the Presidio of Monterey, California, May 13 to promote and encourage cultural understanding and customs from around the world.

Approximately 5,000 people attended the event, which featured cultural displays and activities as well as ethnic foods served by local international vendors on the Presidio's Soldier Field.

"This is a total team effort, a phenomenal event and a unique experience," said Col. Phil Deppert, commandant of the institute, as he addressed the crowd. "We exist here because of you and our partnerships outside these gates."

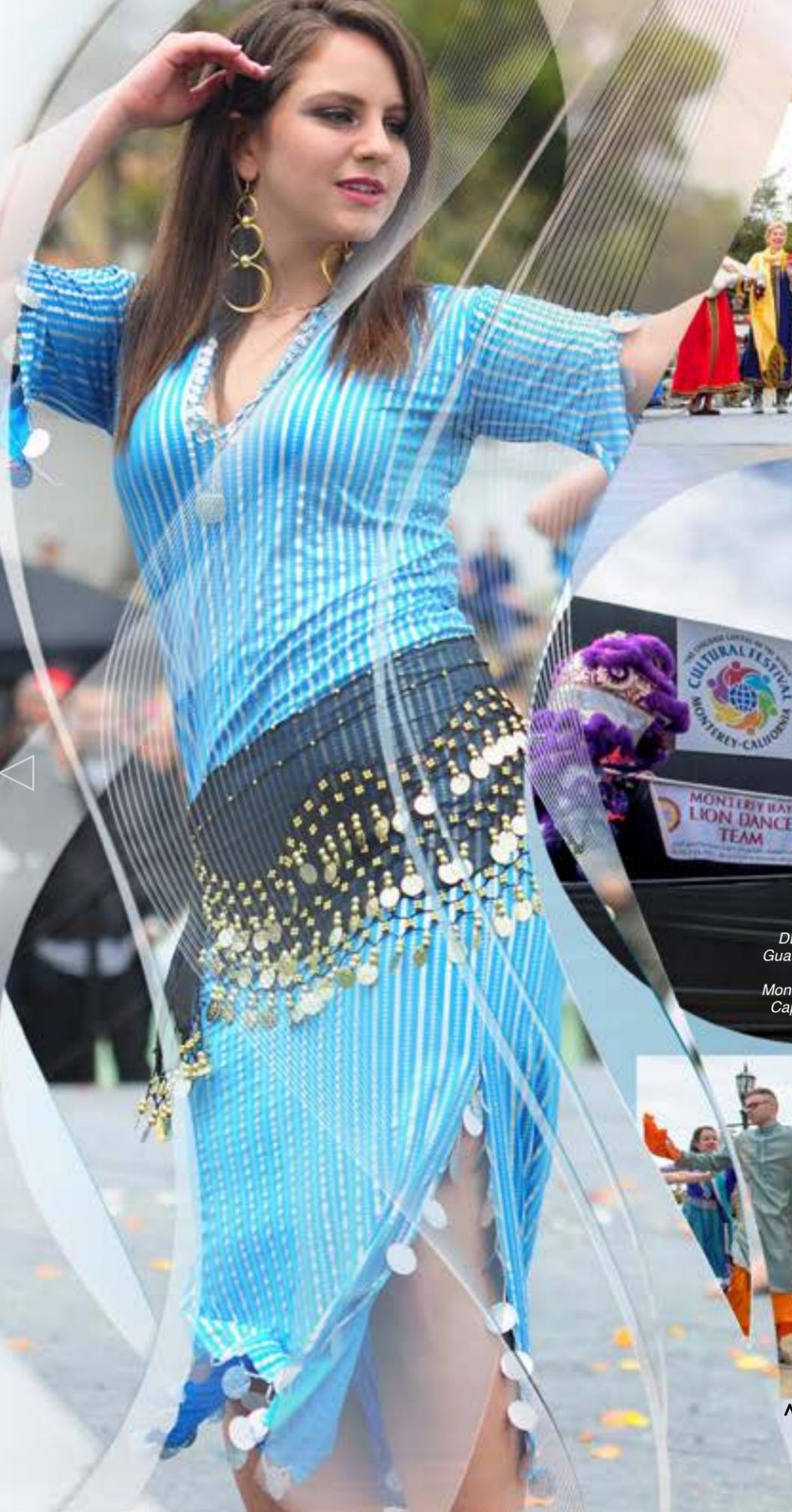
The following day, DLIFLC partnered with the City of Monterey to host the Language Capital of the World Cultural Festival May 14. The city's festival featured music, flags, international crafts and food, dancers from many diverse cultures and a whole array of

exhibits to celebrate the diverse culture of Monterey. The city modeled their event after DLIFLC's Language Day.

Language Day is an open house that showcases the institute's excellence in foreign language study and the diversity of its faculty and students. Performances representing the 23 languages taught by the institute were provided by students and faculty members on the main stage area situated on Soldier Field. Cultural displays for visitors to see first-hand how language is taught at the institute were held in the classrooms adjacent to the festivities.

The tradition of hosting an annual Language Day at the Presidio has been ongoing for more than 60 years and every year it gets larger with more visitors and more cultural events. It is the one day a year visitors can enjoy access to the Presidio of Monterey and catch a glimpse of the daily life of service members who are striving to learn a foreign language.





Students floating in air during the Russian folk song medley.



Photo by Steven Shepard



Students perform a traditional Arabic dance.

Hyun-kyung Kim waits before the Vietnamese wedding performance "Dam Cui Nha Binh."



Photo by Patrick Bray



DLIFLC Joint Color Guard post the colors at the opening of Monterey's Language Capital of the World, Culture Festival.



Photo by Steven Shepard

Garrison commander, Col. Paul Fellingner thanks Vietnam Veterans for their service.



In a fundraising event for the Army Ball, DLIFLC Commandant, Col. Phil Deppert volunteered to be pined.



Students perform a traditional Urdu dance at the Language Capital of the World Festival in downtown Monterey.



Students show off international costumes in a fashion show.

Students perform a Pashto Afghan national dance.



Two students perform the Filipino dance, "Sayaw sa Bangko."



< Japanese martial arts demonstration  
Students perform a Turkish dance.



Instructors wearing traditional Hindi dress.



Military students put Henna on guests.

Soldiers and Sailors salute during opening ceremony.



< Students perform the Chinese Dragon Dance.



< Students enjoying the day.



< Spanish dance, "Los Viejitos"



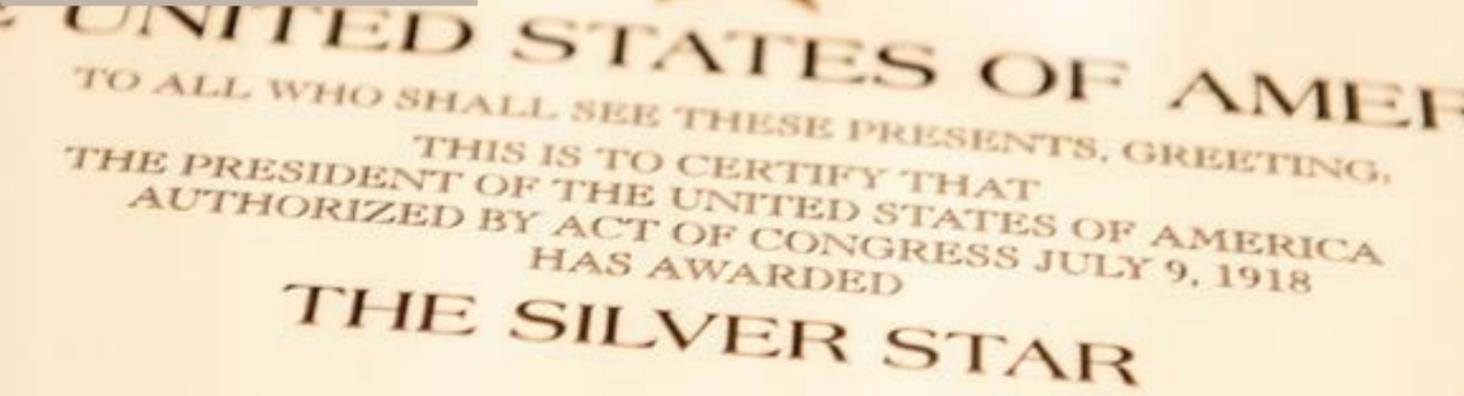
Korean Fan Dance



Arabic Calligraphy



^ Pakistani cultural dance



U.S. Rep. Sam Farr pins the Silver Star Medal on retired Army Col. William Reeder Jr. (top left) and retired Chief Warrant Officer Four Daniel Jones, (top right).

## VIETNAM VETERANS RECEIVE HIGH HONORS AT PRESIDIO

Story & photos by Amber K. Whittington

After 44 years, and the persistence of an Army major, two Vietnam veterans received the Silver Star Medal on March 8, at the Presidio of Monterey in the historic Weckerling Center.

Retired Col. William Reeder Jr. and retired Chief Warrant Officer 4 Daniel Jones, both Army helicopter pilots during the Vietnam War, were presented with the nation's third highest award for combat valor by U.S. Rep. Sam Farr.

The award was initiated by retired Army Maj. John Duffy from Santa Cruz, California, whom the two saved during their heroic actions in Vietnam during one of the more famous battles in Vietnam, in Kontum Province, at the

Battle for Charlie. During the fight, ground forces were heavily outnumbered and under attack by heavy artillery and small arms fire. Reeder and Jones destroyed several enemy guns, all the while under intense fire from multiple anti-aircraft positions.

After leaving the battle to rearm and refuel, Reeder and Jones' team volunteered to return to engage the enemy, when they faced even worse conditions with low clouds, smoke, haze and darkness fully setting in.

The heroic contributions of the two pilots lead to the escape of a dozen friendly forces and Maj. John Duffy, who was an advisor to the South Vietnamese Army.

Reeder thanked everyone who came

to honor him and Jones at the ceremony, but gave an emotional word of gratitude to his special guest for the event, Ke Nghiem.

"As we are being thanked for what we did, I need to thank Ke for what he did, to save my life," said Reeder to the crowd.

After the Battle for Charlie, Reeder was taken prisoner of war, where he met Nghiem. Reeder thanked the South Vietnamese soldier for saving his life during a forced march down the Ho Chi Minh Trail.

Along with both awardees families, also present were the commanding officers during the Battle for Charlie, former South Vietnamese Army officers Lt. Col. Me Van Le and Maj. Hai Doan.



Illustration courtesy of Vladimir Sorokin

Story & photos by Patrick Bray

# RENOWNED RUSSIAN AUTHOR HOLDS LECTURE AT DLIFLC



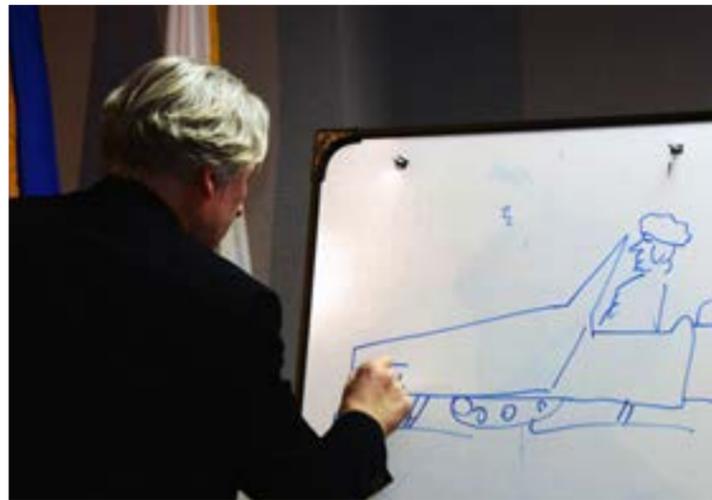
Students and faculty had a rare opportunity to meet world renowned Russian author Vladimir Sorokin who presented his most recent work, the *Blizzard*.

Students of advanced Russian had a rare opportunity to experience a lecture Jan. 22 given by world-renowned Russian author Vladimir Sorokin who presented his most recent work, the *Blizzard*, at the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center's Continuing Education Directorate in Seaside, California.

"It was just an amazing experience to have the opportunity to listen to such beautiful language," said Irene Krasner, a professor of Russian language at DLIFLC, referring to the author's most recent novel. "Sorokin is one of Russia's most celebrated writers and we are thrilled to have had the chance to hear him speak."

For the students, who are part of the Defense Threat Reduction Agency Interpreting Course, this was an opportunity to practice interpretation for non-Russian speaking participants. To make the task even more difficult, interpreters had to translate metaphors into plain speech, a feat in and of itself, as Russian literature is well known for its intricate literary expressions.

Considered by many to be Russia's leading postmodern author and dramatist, Sorokin described his book as full of metaphysical concepts related to time and space and in the midst of his presentation jumped up to draw a snowmobile to illustrate his points.



"A snowmobile is a transportation device, but in Russia in the winter it can also be used for time travel," said Vladimir Sorokin in Russian.

"A snowmobile is a transportation device, but in Russia in the winter it can also be used for time travel," said Sorokin in Russian.

Sorokin said the idea for the book came to him as a result of a childhood experience when visiting his grandfather. One day, they traveled out of the village and into the forest when they became stuck in a blizzard. They broke down their sled for wood and burned it to keep warm through the night. The next day, when the blizzard had passed, they could see the village right before them.

"That is the danger of a blizzard," said Sorokin, who characterizes the feeling of being lost, stalled or stuck metaphorically through the blizzard.

There are three main characters in the book and each is in some way affected by the blizzard. Garin, a doctor, is attempting to reach a village plagued by an epidemic, but he is slowed and stopped extensively throughout his journey by the blizzard, all of which should have been no longer than a couple of hours.

Sorokin is one of Russia's leading post-Soviet authors who has sought to redefine Russian literature, having developed as an artist, illustrator and writer as part of the Moscow underground art and literary scene of the 1980s. His earliest works were banned during the Soviet period, but his articles were published abroad. By the 1990's, Sorokin's short

stories began appearing in Russian magazines and he began winning recognition.

Well known as a critic of the regime of Russian President Vladimir Putin, Sorokin had one of his books banned in 2002. Many of his books have been translated into as many as 25 languages, the author said.

Sorokin admits that he is unsure about what direction Russian literature will move next. He took questions from students and faculty, mostly about how Russian literature is changing.

"Life moves faster than literature," said Sorokin. "For example, *War and Peace* was written 50 years after the war," he said, referring to Leo Tolstoy's epic novel written in 1869 which is often characterized as realist fiction, something that Sorokin is also known for.

"Russia is always changing. It always has," said Sorokin.

The DTRA Interpreting Course trains Russian linguists to be interpreters to potentially assist on issues related to arms reduction treaties between the U.S. and Russia.

After World War II and the dawn of the Cold War, DLIFLC added Russian to the curriculum and it has been taught ever since.

Today, DLIFLC provides resident instruction in 23 languages with the capacity to instruct another 65 in Washington, D.C., graduating more than 230,000 linguists since 1941.



Continuing Education Associate Provost, Dr. Christine Campbell asks for an autograph from Russian author Vladimir Sorokin.



Retired Korean Maj. Gen. Lee Seo-young poses for a group photo with Foreign Area Officers at DLIFLC.

## RETIRED KOREAN GENERAL TALKS US-KOREA ALLIANCE

Story & photos by Patrick Bray

Retired Korean Maj. Gen. Lee Seo-young, now a professor at the Korea National Defense University, spoke about the alliance between the U.S. and Korea to students at the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center Feb. 10.

Lee gave his presentation, titled the “Republic of Korea – U.S. Alliance: Past, Present and Future,” to students at the institute’s Asian School II in Korean and then again later in English to Foreign Area Officers attending the institute.

Speaking to the FAOs, “You are the experts between the U.S. and the country in which you serve,” said Lee, who served as a defense attaché for Korea in Washington, D.C., where he often worked on issues related to the alliance.

Korea and the U.S. have maintained a bilateral alliance for more than 60 years. Born out of the Korean War, the

alliance grew stronger, both during and after the Cold War. Today, both nations “go together,” as their slogan suggests, to meet the security challenges of Northeast Asia.

Beginning his presentation, Lee spoke about what he learned while researching alliances.

“Most alliances last no more than 10 years,” said Lee. “The Republic of Korea – U.S. Alliance has lasted for 60.”

In the first stage of the alliance during the 1950-1953 Korean War under the United Nations Command, Gen. Douglas MacArthur commanded all U.N. forces fighting in Korea. Afterwards, Seoul and Washington signed a mutual defense treaty authorizing further stationing of U.S. troops in Korea. In 1978, Korea and the U.S. established the Combined Forces

Command, thereby taking over from the U.N. Command.

As a part of mutual defense, Korea and the U.S. work together on East Asia security issues and the U.S. rebalance to the Asia/Pacific region. Korea also supported the U.S. in Vietnam, the Gulf War, Afghanistan and Iraq. Lee served in Baghdad in 2004.

A major focus for the alliance is still North Korea as the alliance has faced thousands of North Korea armistice violations over the past six decades.

The continuing U.S. relationship with Korea is vital to both nations, according to Lee. While the alliance is meeting the security challenges it faces today, it is evolving to ensure it can meet any potential challenge in the future.

Retired Korean Maj. Gen. Lee Seo-young interacts with students in the classroom.



## RECORD ATTENDANCE AT JFAOC ON THE PRESIDIO

Story by Natela Cutter  
Photos by Amber K. Whittington

More than 200 officers attended the Joint Foreign Area Officer Course held at the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center June 6-10 at the Weckerling Center on the Presidio of Monterey.

“I have come all the way from Romania to attend this course,” said Lt. Cmdr. John Amiral, who currently works as the director of the Joint Visitor Bureau at the U.S. Aegis Ashore Missile Defense System Romania. “This is a great opportunity to learn about our profession, but also to meet people and network.”

The five-day course that included spouses, is held biannually at the Presidio of Monterey and is meant to prepare newly minted FAOs for their careers where they are expected to serve as defense attachés, security cooperation officers and political-military planners worldwide. As a part of this training, many FAOs

attend a language course at the Presidio and/or attend the neighboring Naval Postgraduate School to obtain highly specialized master degrees.

“Some day you will get a call from a four star (general or admiral) who will ask you for your opinion,” regarding a political situation,” said keynote speaker Rear Adm. David Manero who is going to be the next defense attaché at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow.

Sharing his experiences as a seasoned FAO, Manero told the audience to “Get out there and mingle with people who are not necessarily part of the military,” referring to living abroad on assignment. “Use ‘direct osmosis’ and move about the society... don’t put the (foreign) language away but read and know the current events and history.”

Brig. Gen. Joseph Rank, a DLIFLC graduate of Hebrew



DLIFLC Commandant Col. Phil Deppert (left), speaks with guest speaker Brig. Gen. Joseph Rank (right) at the Weckerling Center at the JFAOC, as FAO Director Col. Roger Bowman looks on. Rank is currently serving as the senior defense attaché in the United Arab Emirates.

and Arabic, currently assigned to the United Arab Emirates as the senior defense attaché, spoke to FAOs about their future roles when attached to U.S. Embassies around the world.

“My FAOs are worth two or three non-FAOs because they have language and culture expertise and effectively know how to communicate. It is like having a first year medical student versus having a M.D. on your staff. The level of understanding they bring clearly leads to results.”

While many FAOs will reach high level positions later in their careers, the path toward reaching these goals are full of incredible opportunities.

Key note speaker Rear Adm. David Manero, who is slated to be the next defense attaché at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow, addresses some 200 FAOs and their spouses.



“Just last month we had an inaugural ribbon cutting for our facility and welcomed the NATO secretary general, the president of Romania, the foreign minister, etc.,” said Amiral, referring to the May 12 event he participated in.

The Aegis Ashore Missile Defense System received its operational certification which is considered a key milestone in the development of a NATO ballistic missile defense system in Europe.

The concept of equipping military officers with regional expertise, language skills, and knowledge of U.S. and foreign political-military relationships dates back to 1889 when the U.S. sent permanent military attaches to London, England, Paris, France, Vienna, Austria and Saint Petersburg, Russia.



Story & photos by Patrick Bray

# STUDENTS WIN BIG IN MANDARIN SPEECH CONTEST



Service members studying Mandarin Chinese at the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center participated in the 41st Annual Mandarin Speech Contest in San Francisco April 23, with 36 DLIFLC students winning awards.

This year, 451 registered contestants from Northern California schools and universities such as Stanford, Berkeley, San Francisco State University, the University of San Francisco, and the University of California – Davis, competed in the contest.

Teachers in DLIFLC’s Chinese department encourage their students to participate in the annual contest, which many of them see as a measure of both faculty and student success.

“With Asian School I leadership’s continuous strong support, DLI students have

been participating in this speech contest for many years, which has become an effective driving force in promoting student proficiency,” said Dr. Liwei Gao, assistant dean of DLIFLC’s Asian School I.

Sixty eight Chinese Mandarin students at DLIFLC registered for the contest and won a total of 36 prizes that included six first place winners, 10 second place winners, four third place winners and 16 honorable mentions.

“These are the best results we have had so far. DLI students outperformed their rivals from all other participating colleges and universities,” said Gao.

During the contest, students delivered a three to five-minute speech which they wrote, memorized, and presented, on any topic of their choice, appropriate to his or her level of training.

Teachers at DLIFLC such as Kevin Yang and Yunhua Zhang also participated as judges in the contest, though they did not judge their own students.

“Kevin and I were taking care of a combination group during the contest. Students in our group either had no Chinese background or had some experience with dialects other than Mandarin. They all did a great job, which made being a judge even more challenging,” said Zhang.

Yang has judged the contest for three years and is pleased to see the improvements students make as they return from year to year.

“Both Yunhua and I were so thrilled to see two talented contestants without any Chinese family background achieving 100 and 98 points, perfect and near perfect scores,” said Yang. “This tells young people that American students can not only learn Chinese well, but that they can also learn it better than the kids from Chinese families.”

Zhang had similar thoughts about the contestants.

“To see a growing influence of my language and culture on more and more young people always makes me feel proud of what I am doing and motivates me to do a better job,” Zhang said. “I was very impressed by a girl this year. Her speech performance was flawless. Her story about a summer camp with a local Chinese broadcast company was amazing.”

The day-long competition, the largest of its kind outside of China, is sponsored by the Chinese Language Teachers Association of California with the purpose of fostering good language skills in Mandarin.

“In recent years, usually between 400 and 700 kindergarten-through-college students participate in the contest every year. It has become a major gala in foreign language education in the Bay Area,” said Gao, who explained that schools consider participation a big honor and sometimes start to prepare their students even a half a year in advance.

Daniel Eizenga, a doctoral candidate at the University of Florida and a researcher with Sahel Research Group, shared his understanding of Boko Haram with Foreign Area Officers in language training at the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center May 19.

Eizenga spoke as part of the FAO program’s monthly Officer Professional Development Program, which is a critical part of FAO training at DLIFLC.

“The point I want to drive home is that some will argue

terrorist organization and Nigeria sees it as an insurgency and Jihadi organization. More recently, Boko Haram has pledged its allegiance to and adopted the black flag of ISIL, which has plagued parts of Iraq, Syria and even Libya.

Approximately 2.5 million people have been displaced by Boko Haram, which has created a huge humanitarian crisis and destroyed entire villages by massacring populations.

“Despite all of this, Boko Haram gains a lot of support and recruitment because it plays itself as the victim, someone

A California National Guard Special Forces Soldier reviews a sand table map with a Nigerian soldier in June 2014. (Photo courtesy of the California National Guard)



# EXPERT SPEAKS ON BOKO HARAM

Story by Patrick Bray

this is a Nigeria specific problem, but Boko Haram is a regional phenomenon,” said Eizenga.

Eizenga began with the history and geography of the ethnically, religiously and linguistically diverse region where Boko Haram has gained influence. The Francophone Sahel, as it is referred to in the academic community, is on the crossroads between North Africa and sub-Saharan Africa and was previously colonized by the French.

According to Boko Haram, colonization introduced by Western nations in Africa also brought corruption, contended Eizenga.

Boko Haram emerged in the 1990s as an extension of Al Qaeda to overthrow Western influence. It operates in north-eastern Nigeria and parts of Niger, Chad and Cameroon. The U.S. State Department classifies Boko Haram as a

who has been persecuted by the Nigerian government,” said Eizenga.

Boko Haram gained international attention in 2014 when it kidnapped more than 250 schoolgirls from a government secondary school in Chibok, Nigeria. Boko Haram is actually a nickname, which the organization has accepted, and usually translates to “Western education is forbidden.” According to the group, the schoolgirls needed to be saved from non-Muslim education.

Today, Nigeria claims that Boko Haram has been defeated but the group is still conducting terrorist attacks in the region. However, unlike ISIL, Boko Haram is not trying to set up a state and holds no territory today. Instead, it wants to purge the region of Western influence and renounce all those whom it views as non-devout Muslims.

Eizenga’s recommendation for a best course of action for



Foreign Area Officers listen as Daniel Eizenga speaks about Boko Haram with FAOs in language training at DLIFLC May 19. (Photo by Patrick Bray)

the U.S. is to continue with humanitarian assistance in the region because it counters the perception that U.S. support is based solely on force.

The U.S. currently conducts

military-to-military cooperation with Nigeria in which U.S. troops help train Nigerian forces.

# TAGALOG TEACHER COMES TO DLIFLC AFTER MEETING LINGUISTS

Story by Patrick Bray



Photo by Amber K. Whittington

**O**n an unseasonably hot day in April on the Presidio of Monterey, California, Marites Castro's students are jumping off desks.

The Tagalog language teacher does not discourage them. She shouts praises and encourages them to keep going.

"Last year we did a bamboo traditional Singkil dance originating from the Lanao provinces located in Mindanao, southern Philippines, but this year we will do the bench dance. It will be very good. You'll see," said Castro, with a broad smile.

Though foreign language instruction at the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center normally does not include jumping off tables, teaching the culture of the languages is an integral part of instruction, which includes preparing students for events such as the institute's annual open house in May, called Language Day.

"These students are new, but on Language Day they'll be ready," said Castro, full of confidence.

Castro, who is from Manila's metropolitan area, loves teaching so much that she left her home and her close-knit family in the Philippines for the U.S. so that she could teach Tagalog, one of the most commonly spoken languages in the region.

"My parents were very into education. They valued it and no matter how meager their means were, they wanted us to go to college," said Castro, who has a Bachelor of Arts and a law degree from the University of Santo Tomas in Manila. At the time of applying to work at DLIFLC, she was working on her thesis for a Master of Arts in Special Education at the University of the Philippines.

"In the Philippines helping one another is an important (cultural) value," Castro added. "When I graduated, I helped some of my siblings to go to school." Castro has seven siblings, of whom she is the second oldest.

"I did not really plan to be a language instructor. I was studying law when my father asked if I would like to try teaching," said Castro. "I tried and I loved it."

Approximately 57 million people speak Tagalog worldwide. The population of the Philippines is more than 100 million people, creating a lot of opportunities for Tagalog language teaching.

Left: Students play a traditional Filipino game, *Sungka*, in class. Marites Castro, came to the institute after meeting U.S. military linguists in the Philippines. Castro's encounter inspired her to seek employment at the institute.

Right: Castro celebrates the 35th anniversary of teaching Tagalog at DLIFLC with students and faculty. (Photos courtesy Marites Castro)



Castro taught Tagalog to adults, which she found challenging at times. Some of her students were immigrants or spoke an indigenous language from rural areas. When she moved from one language school to another, she met U.S. military linguists, all graduates of DLIFLC in Tagalog, who were on an immersion trip to the Philippines.

"The language those students produced was very romantic to me because they spoke like they were reciting a poem," said Castro. "I said 'this is really good,' and I was wondering where the U.S. school is that can teach students like this."

Much of spoken Tagalog in the Philippines is saturated with English and Spanish loan words. One of the linguists recognized Castro's passion for language teaching and encouraged her to apply to DLIFLC. "I said 'Wow. This is very grand.' It's a very beautiful school and it's a military school. The values, the training, the discipline – I said, Lord I feel like

going there," said Castro.

In the early to mid-2000s, many Filipinos came to the U.S. for special education teaching jobs or nursing careers. Outside of that, immigration options were limited.

"The only job I wanted to do was teach my language," said Castro. "If I could not teach Tagalog, I would not go."

Castro submitted her application to DLIFLC in 2007, but it was the beginning of the worldwide recession. The year passed without a word. Castro continued with a previous ongoing interview for a teaching position in Indonesia.

"I went to Indonesia to check out where I would be working if I went there. I was introduced to the students," said Castro.

Later, she called home.

"My sister told me on the phone to come back. DLI just called," said Castro. "They wanted to know why I was in Indonesia... They wanted to talk."

In 2010, Castro settled in Marina,

California, as one of DLIFLC's newest teachers. Now, she has a teaching career in a profession that she really loves.

"I did not really have a hard time adjusting because this is my professional work. The students are really very good. They have discipline and they learn."

"I never get tired of waking up every morning to teach at DLIFLC," said Castro. Every time I look back, I realize that the long wait was meant to build character ... all my waiting finally paid off."

Castro poses with some of her former students during Language Day at DLIFLC. (Photo courtesy Marites Castro)



# RUSSIAN ESSAY CONTEST AWARDS

Story by Senior Chief Petty  
Officer Ted Hellene  
Photos by  
Patrick Bray



Staff Sgt. Anna Lyubarskaya received honorable mention in Category C, Level 4 (Students who speak Russian with their families, and who attended school for fewer than five years in Russia or the former Soviet Union and may have had to relearn reading and writing skills after emigration, and who have had fewer than 60 contact hours of instruction in college).

Petty Officer 2nd Class Julia Shkunda won a gold medal in category B, Level 4 (Heritage speakers of a Slavic Language

Eight Russian language students at DLIFLC received awards on May 31, from the American Council of Teachers of Russian for their entries in the 17th Annual National Post-Secondary Russian Essay Contest.

Sgt. Van Walther received a bronze medal in Category A, Level 3 (Students who do not and did not ever speak Russian or any other Slavic language at home and have had more than 250 contact hours, but fewer than 400 contact hours of instruction in Russian).

Staff Sgt. Olga Messier received a silver medal in Category C, Level 5 (Students who speak Russian with their families, and who attended school for five or more years in Russia or the former Soviet Union and have not had to relearn reading and writing skills.

other than Russian, who have had more than 400 contact hours of instruction.) Petty Officer 1st Class Gheorghe Cormos received honorable mention in Category A, Level 4 and 5 (Students who do not and did not ever speak Russian or any other Slavic Language at home, who have had more than 400 contact hours.)

Meanwhile, three winners who have already graduated the course in February, also received awards.

Staff Sgt. Andrew Spaulding received honorable mention, Category A, Level 4 and 5. Sgt. Evgeniy Pilikin received honorable mention, Category C, Level 5 and Spc. Elena Pilikina received a silver medal, Category C, Level 5.

More than 1,400 essays were submitted for the Russian essay contest from 79 universities, colleges, and institutions across the nation. The essays were reviewed by three judges at Moscow State University.



# LINGUISTS IN ACTION

Japan earthquake relief

Story courtesy of U.S. Army Japan



*“Maj. Hearne is one of my former students whom I am very proud of.”  
~ Kayo Littlefield*

(From left at table) Morgan, Neal, Hearne and Col. Masahiro Sugawara, from the Japan Staff Council. Not pictured is U.S. Air Force Maj. Jack Beene, also a Japanese linguist, who assessed damage at the local airport and ensured it could handle U.S. aircraft bringing in supplies for disaster victims. All of these DLIFLC-trained linguists kept the information flowing between U.S. and Japanese forces.



When a magnitude 6.2 earthquake struck Kumamoto Prefecture in southern Japan April 14, followed by a 7.0 earthquake two days later, four U.S. military Japanese linguists immediately began coordination with the Japan Ground Self-Defense Force for eventual U.S. military support.

U.S. Army Maj. Jacqueline Hearne, U.S. Marine Corps Maj. Chris Neal, Army Maj. Marcus Morgan and U.S. Air Force Maj. Jack Beene studied Japanese at the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center as part of their Foreign Area Officer training. Some of their teachers still remember them as students and are proud of the help they provided to Japan.

“Maj. Hearne is one of my former students whom I am very proud of. She always studied in our Japanese course enthusiastically and was the top student. She’s kindhearted and helped her classmates in any way she could,” said Kayo Littlefield, a Japanese instructor at the institute.

Hearne was serving as a public affairs officer in Japan when both earthquakes hit. She worked closely with Beene, who assessed damage at the local airport and ensured it could handle U.S. aircraft bringing in supplies for disaster victims.

Neal was a student at Japan’s Command and General Staff College when the quakes hit, but he was able to travel to the area to lend his assistance along with his fellow FAOs.

“Toward the end of the Japanese course (at DLIFLC), it became clear that Maj.

Neal would be able to carry out any assigned duties using the target language as soon as he stepped on Japanese soil. He always exceeded our expectations,” said Junko Matsuda, another Japanese instructor.

Because of their linguistic efforts, the U.S. military was better able to conduct relief operations.

# COMMANDER'S



# CUP

Photos by  
Amber K. Whittington & Patrick Bray

The U.S. Army team at the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center won the Commander's Cup two-mile race competition at the Presidio of Monterey June 15. The race consisted of eight laps around the 400-meter track at Price Fitness Center by both the male and female teams of all

services for a two-mile total. The Marine Corps took second place, the Air Force third, followed by the Navy. Following the Commander's Cup, each of the four services conducted Resiliency Day to promote wellness, safety, team-building, unit morale, and esprit de corps among service members.

DLIFLC Assistant Commandant, Col. Keith Logeman, Provost Dr. Betty Lou Leaver and Associate Provost Detlev Kesten participated in the Bureau for International Language Coordination seminar held in Riga, Latvia, from 22-26 May. Some 25 NATO and Partnership for Peace countries participate each year in the annual professional seminar during which nations address topics pertaining to foreign language proficiency, training and education. This year BILC is celebrating its 50th anniversary.



*BILC Conference 2016  
MAY 2016  
Riga, Latvia*



## DLIFLC RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS TEACHING AWARD

Story & photo by Natela Cutter

The American Association of University Administrators, or AAUA, awarded the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center the prestigious Nikolai N. Khaladjan International Award for Innovation on June 11, during an annual leadership seminar held in San Antonio, Texas.

Founded in 1970 in Buffalo, New York, as a non-profit educational organization, the AAUA's mission is to develop and advance superior standards for the profession of higher education administration. This year, 60 practicing administrators from around the world attended, while the topic addressed was "Enterprise Risk Management" associated with universities and colleges.

"Each year we recognize one or two (institutions). From our perspective, foreign language education in American

higher education is one of those disciplines that absolutely is critical to the advancement of our national interests and is also a discipline in higher education that needs attention and innovation," said Dr. Dan King, president and CEO of the AAUA.

The award, for outstanding foreign language teaching methodology, was received by DLIFLC Provost Dr. Betty Lou Leaver on behalf of the institute faculty, composed of some 1,700 foreign language instructors, 95 percent of whom are native speakers of the languages they teach.

"The selection of DLIFLC from among 13 other competing universities means that our pedagogy is unique and strong enough to qualify, even though we do not necessarily have a traditional international relations program, commonly found at civilian colleges," said Leaver.



# DLIFLC: ON THE CROSSROADS OF THE WORLD

Excellence in Foreign Language Teaching since 1941

**< 1700 highly motivated faculty**

- 95 % Native speakers of the languages they teach, from 93 countries
- 25% BA Degrees
- 56% MA Degrees
- 16% Ph.D. Degrees
- 87 % Reside in Monterey Bay area



**What's new?**

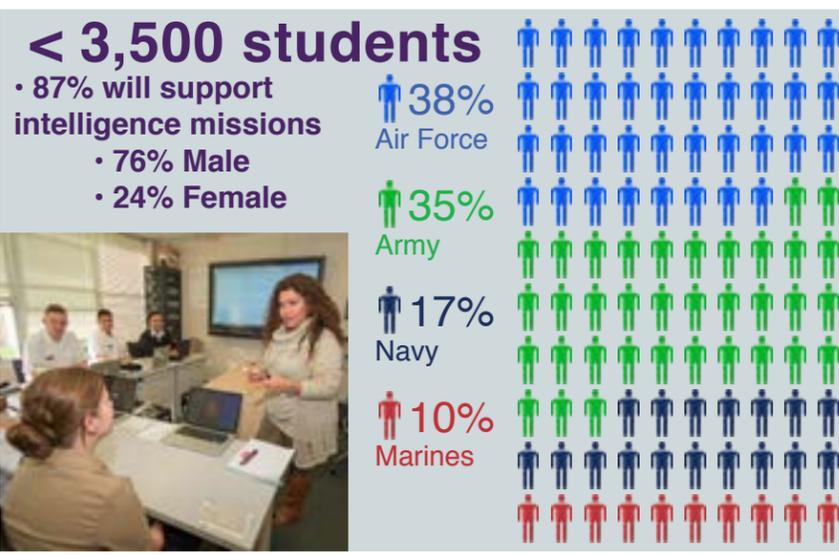
**Short Courses**

- 19 week Intermediate & Advanced
- 10 week expansion of Spanish & French

**Advanced CLPM Workshop**

- Sept. 27-29, 2016

**New DLIFLC Pamphlet 350-10**



**DLIFLC Facts:**

**The Army Language School was established in 1941**

- In 1963 DOD consolidated all language schools into DLI
- Renamed to DLIFLC in 1974

**DLIFLC has trained more than 220,000 linguist since 1941**

**DLIFLC's crest serves as the official institute logo**

**MORE THAN 12,500 AA DEGREES IN FOREIGN LANGUAGE AWARDED TO DLIFLC GRADS**



The Presidio of Monterey observed Sexual Assault Prevention Month in April with a full calendar of awareness-raising events. Teal flags planted inside Bolio Gate represented victims of sexual assaults reported within DOD, The Clothesline Project encouraged community members to focus on invisible wounds, while Denim Day asked individuals to focus blame on those who commit assaults, rather than second guessing the actions or appearance of his or her victim.



# *75th Anniversary*

*Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center*

*Nov. 4, 2016*

*DLIFLC Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony*

*Weckerling Center*

*Special Presentation*

*Black Daggers Parachute*

*Demonstration Team*

*Soldier Field*

*Nov. 5, 2016*

## *75th Anniversary Ball*

*Hyatt Regency, Monterey*

*from 6 to 11 p.m.*

*Tickets are available for purchase via the DLI Foundation website at*

*[www.DLI-Foundation.org](http://www.DLI-Foundation.org)*

*Students ..... \$35*

*Faculty ..... \$45*

*Guests..... \$75*