



# THE LANGUAGE & CULTURE WEEKLY

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## [CURRENT NEWS 15 MARCH 2012](#)

### [DLNSEO HIGHLIGHT](#)

#### [The FAO Hall of Fame and Display in the Pentagon](#)

*(FAOA)...*Col Humberto Rodriguez

At the request of the FAOA President, the Defense Language and National Security Office (DLNSEO) began looking into the possibility of a FAO display in the Pentagon. With DLNSEO sponsoring and funding the display, COL Rodriguez, Dave Edwards and COL Marisa met with one of the Pentagon curators and located a space in the Pentagon for this display. We will need for FAOA members to look for items they might have in boxes that they acquired while serving as FAOs would be museum worthy and that you are willing to give up for this display. We are also going to need FAOs to write up significant events and stories (unclassified) of FAOs in action and lastly, we will rely on FAOA members for FAO Hall of Fame nominations and selections.

### [DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE](#)

#### [Marines read so children can succeed](#)

*(Army.mil)...*Steven L. Shepard

A select group of Marines from the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center along



with other community volunteers assisted students at Monterey's Foothill Elementary to celebrate the 108th anniversary of Dr. Seuss's birthday by participating in Read Across America March 1.

#### [U.S. military struggles to teach troops to respect Koran](#)

*(LA Times)...*Ian Duncan

North Atlantic Treaty Organization troops last week started mandatory refresher training on how to handle the Koran. Lt. Col. George Robinson is a senior officer in the Marine Corps' language and culture training programs and has seen the new training documents issued last month. "It's probably a little too simplistic to suggest that it's a simple matter of do's and don'ts," he said. "It's more a matter of why is the Koran important." Mahir Ibrahimov, a top Army advisor on culture and language, is working to update and standardize the service's approach. He said the Koran burnings could affect the Army's training. "If that's the result of a lack of cultural training, of course we need to keep that in mind for the future," he said.

#### [Marine Award Tied to SDSU Extended Studies Language Program](#)

*(San Diego State University)...*Steve Dolan

Marine Cpl. Simon Butusov, a former student from San Diego State University's Language Acquisition



Resource Center, has earned a Navy-Marine Corps Commendation Medal for his role as an interpreter during his deployment to Afghanistan. Butusov is one of more than 300 Marines and soldiers who have trained at the Center to learn Pashto before deploying to Afghanistan since 2009.

#### [Advanced Network Project for Armed Forces Wins CENIC's 2012 Innovations in Networking Award for Educational Applications](#)

*(WSJ - MarketWatch)*

The Naval Postgraduate School of Monterey, CA and the US Army's Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center have been honored by the Corporation for Education Network Initiatives in California (CENIC) as recipients of the 2012 Innovations in Networking Awards for Educational Applications.

## DOMESTIC

### The "Chinese Bridge Summer Camp for American High School

*(Commercial Appeal)*

The "Chinese Bridge Summer Camp for American High School Students" is sponsored by the Office of Chinese Language Council International (Hanban) and the Confucius Institute Headquarters in Beijing in cooperation with various Confucius Institutes across the United States. The goal of the program is for American high school students to experience the Chinese language and culture in a hands-on, culturally immersed environment.

## INTERNATIONAL

### Specialist language teachers 'urgently required'

*(BBC)*...Hannah Richardson

England's teacher training agency is urgently recruiting modern foreign language teachers to cope with a surge demand for the subject at GCSE.



The number of pupils set to sit language GCSEs next year has increased by 22% to 52%, it

said.

### Software Turns Sign Language into Text

*(Wall Street Journal)*...Nick Clayton

Researchers at Aberdeen University in Scotland are developing technology that will translate sign language into text. It could have a profound impact on the way people with hearing and speech impairments are able to communicate. The Portable Sign Language Translator (PSLT) has been developed by computing scientists at



Technabling, a spin-out from Aberdeen University. The PSLT recognizes sign language using a

small camera which can be integrated in most mobile devices, such as smartphones, tablet Pcs and netbooks, and then renders it as text displayed on the device's main screen.