

Defense Language Institute English Language Center

I. Introduction

The Department of Defense (DoD) English Language Program is conducted by the Defense Language Institute English Language Center (DLIELC). DLIELC consists of the resident and nonresident English language programs. The resident English Language Program, conducted at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, provides training for international military and civilian personnel and US Army pre-basic trainees. The nonresident program provides managerial, instructional and material support to allied nations through the Security Assistance Training Program (SATP). In addition, DLIELC supports an overseas Regional Center and other selected DoD institutions within the US. In FY06, 2,278 international military and civilian students sponsored by host-country ministries and 558 US military students, whose primary language is not English, attended classes on the resident campus.

II. Direct Support

DLIELC continued to monitor all approved US military nonresident English Language Programs in the US and overseas. Teams were deployed to administer Oral Proficiency Interviews for Puerto Rican ROTC programs in support of the DLIELC Language Training Detachment (LTD). LTDs were also assigned to the US Navy Ship Repair Facility (SRF) at Yokosuka, Japan and the SRF Detachment at Sasebo, Japan.

In support of US international affairs, DLIELC provided LTD support to chair the Foreign Language Training Center-Europe and an LTD Senior English-as-a-Foreign-Language (EFL) Specialist to manage the English and German Language Departments at the George C. Marshall Center for Security Studies in Garmisch, Germany. DLIELC also provided extended assistance to Albania, Bulgaria, Macedonia, and the United Arab Emirates, as well as Monterey, California (Naval Post Graduate School), Pensacola, Florida (Naval Air Station) and Washington, DC (National Defense University). Mobile training teams were deployed on temporary assignments to Afghanistan, Albania, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Burundi, Cambodia, Czech Republic, Djibouti, East Timor, El Salvador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Estonia, Germany, Hungary, Iraq, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Thailand, the United Arab Emirates, Uruguay and Vietnam.

III. Curriculum and Testing Support

DLIELC continued to maintain courses of interest to NATO/Partnership for Peace countries' English language training programs. The English Skills for Staff Officers in Multinational Operations Course is a nonresident package that includes self-study materials, classroom instructional materials, and an instructor package. The American Military English Course deals with various military topics and consists of five books: General Military Topics, Air Force Topics, Navy Topics, and Army Topics (two books).

Curriculum also maintained the Maritime Operational Language Seminar materials, a joint project with the USN Surface Warfare Officers School sponsored by NATO Allied Command Transformation.

DLIELC supported the English language testing efforts of 102 CONUS sites, and 121 overseas locations. This effort included the screening of personnel participating in joint exercises with US military commands, the administration of telephonic Oral Proficiency Interviews (OPIs), the training of NATO nations' testing specialists, and the administration of OPIs and English Language Proficiency Tests (ELPTs) overseas. To assist countries engaged in meeting NATO Standardization Agreement (STANAG) 6001 testing requirements, DLIELC deployed a testing specialist to Lithuania to conduct a formal workshop on the development of speaking proficiency tests. In-country Language Training Detachments and Mobile Training Teams in Germany (at the Marshall Center) and the Czech Republic administered the English Language Proficiency Tests of listening and reading, which render STANAG-equivalent ratings, in addition to conducting OPIs and writing proficiency assessments for NATO and Partner nations' defense personnel. OPI teams were also sent to the UAE and Puerto Rico. DLIELC provided a facilitator for the BILC Language Testing Seminar conducted in Oct 05, and participated in the BILC Working Group on Testing and Assessment to develop a model test to help bring some uniformity to STANAG 6001 testing.

DLIELC personnel continued to provide support to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) in their efforts to establish and implement, by 2008, minimum English language proficiency standards for international air traffic controllers and pilots flying on international routes. In conjunction with this, the Policy, Plans and Programs officer participated in a meeting of the ICAO study group in Montreal, Quebec, April 2006, to clarify the requirements for training and testing personnel and to determine the requirements for minimum test design for each proficiency level.