

advanced professional levels, students generally need practical experience, he says.

The school also maintains an extensive field program, and develops programs to meet the specific needs of military personnel in the field. Last year, the DLI provided 20,000 hours of instruction in far-flung locations, broadcast from the Monterey campus.

LONG-STANDING PROBLEMS

Most of the attention on language skills shortfalls has centered on Arabic and languages used in and around Afghanistan, but just as worrisome for Defense officials is the shortage of personnel with language and regional expertise in Asia.

In a recent study of the Defense Department's preparedness for dealing with emerging security issues in Asia, researchers at DFI International, a Washington research and consulting firm, found that language training outside the intelligence field was a low priority in the military services, mainly because of limited resources. Compounding the problem is the absence of a Defense strategy for identifying critical language requirements and providing top-down guidance to the services on meeting those needs. Instead, each service independently defines its language requirements and determines its policy for rewarding language skills with bonus pay. The payments generally are not high enough to provide troops with sufficient incentive for the difficult task of maintaining language skills. Also, most services don't differentiate between critical languages in which the services are experiencing shortages, and those more commonly spoken, such as Spanish and French.

Only the Army has embraced the concept of training regional specialists. Through its career-track Foreign Area Officer Program, officers develop regional expertise and language skills. DFI noted that the Air Force and Navy FAO programs are underdeveloped and ineffective, which is of particular concern in Asia, where those services predominate.

In its final report Sept. 30, "Focusing the Department of Defense on Asia," DFI also noted that only a small percentage of regional policy positions at the U.S. Pacific Command were filled with qualified personnel. Navy and Air Force regional headquarters offices each have five "country desk" billets in their policy and planning directorates, but "only one of the five incumbent officers in these billets has any regional experience or expertise." The Marine Corps had only a single desk officer for the entire Asia-Pacific area. "As security challenges in the Asia-Pacific theater rise, so do intelligence requirements. However, a shortfall of properly trained analysts and Asian linguists is creating backlogs in the analysis of gathered [intelligence]," according to the DFI report. "China poses a particular problem: Officials at the Joint Intelligence Center Pacific noted that, even if they dedicated all of their all-source intelligence analysts to China, they would still not have enough analysts to handle China intel/analytical requirements alone."

The shortage of language-qualified personnel in government and its harmful effects on national security are not new—nor is concern about language deficits. DLI's Clifford says the United States has a long history of ambivalence about the value of foreign languages: In 1923, the U.S. Supreme Court had to overturn laws restricting the teaching of foreign languages in 22 states. In 1940, a national report on high schools determined that "overly academic" programs were causing too many students to fail. The report recommended eliminating foreign language instruction. By the late 1950s, however, concern about being outpaced by the Soviet Union resulted in the 1958 National Defense Education Act, which, among other things, was designed to produce more foreign lan-

guage teachers and programs. But enthusiasm was short-lived. The 1979 Presidential Commission on Foreign Language and International Studies found that "Americans' incompetence in foreign languages is nothing short of scandalous, and it is becoming worse."

In many ways, the problems of federal agencies with recruiting and training language-competent employees reflect the failure of our public education system. According to data compiled by the Center for Applied Linguistics, the vast majority of elementary schools don't teach foreign languages, and while 86 percent of high schools offer foreign languages, few high schools offer instruction in languages beyond Spanish or French. According to 1998 survey data from the Modern Language Association, a New York-based professional group, about 8 percent of college students are enrolled in foreign language classes. And as anyone who has studied a language in high school or college knows, taking classes does not necessarily result in proficiency.

"To build the kind of expertise the government needs in intelligence and defense and economics, we have to recognize that language learning is long-term, serious, and difficult," David Edwards, executive director for the Joint National Committee for Languages, said at a January briefing on language and national security sponsored by the National Foreign Language Center and the National Security Education Program.

"As most other nations of the world already know, we have to begin the process in the elementary schools and continue it the whole way through graduate school if we're to do it well," Edwards said.

"We cannot address the government's language needs without addressing the nation's language needs," Edwards added.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2001

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Madam President, I rise today to speak about hate crimes legislation I introduced with Senator KENNEDY in March of last year. The Local Law Enforcement Act of 2001 would add new categories to current hate crimes legislation sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society.

I would like to describe a terrible crime that occurred June 11, 2000 in New York, NY. Four Hasidic Jewish men were stabbed on the Coney Island boardwalk after a confrontation with a group of Latino men. Police said that anti-Semitic slurs were used during the attack, and were investigating the incident as a possible bias crime.

I believe that government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act of 2001 is now a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation and changing current law, we can change hearts and minds as well.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF UNL BASEBALL

• Mr. NELSON of Nebraska. Madam President, Nebraska is a state that has long been known for its great college football teams. However, with a second consecutive trip to the College World

Series, the Nebraska Cornhuskers baseball team is on its way to establishing a tradition of excellence just as strong as their counterparts on the gridiron.

While I am certain that my disappointment at the Huskers early exit from the tournament this year is shared by many of my fellow Nebraskans, we should remember that this team has given us many things of which to be proud.

First, it seems as though the Huskers have set a record for record setting this year. Second baseman Will Bolt set or tied 7 career school records. Outfielder Daniel Bruce set a dubious record by being hit by a pitch 26 times this season and the team set a record with 95 Husker hitters plunked this season. Catcher Jed Morris set or tied 3 school records and became only the second Husker to be named the Big 12 Player of the Year.

Seven players also received recognition for their academic accomplishments, applying the dedication they learned on the field to the classroom.

Record numbers of fans came out to support the Huskers this year and season ticket sales soared 400 percent as the new Hawks Field at Haymarket Park in Lincoln opened.

However, all of these achievements would not be possible without teamwork. The diverse Husker team, with players from 15 different states, worked together to produce an impressive 47-21 season.

These accomplishments give us reason to be proud of our Huskers. And while the College World Series may not have turned out how we had wished, we can all look forward to next year and hope the Husker baseball team continues its winning ways.●

35TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE METROPOLITAN CHORUS

• Mr. ALLEN. Madam President, I want to recognize the Metropolitan Chorus of Arlington County, VA. Tonight the Metropolitan Chorus will complete its 35th anniversary season with a performance at Lubber Run Amphitheater in Arlington, VA.

The 90-voice chorus offers residents the opportunity to perform and hear the great choral works. Concerts feature music of great variety and scope that spans the period from the Renaissance to the 21st century with a strong emphasis on American composers.

The chorus has performed throughout the Washington, DC, metropolitan area, including the Kennedy Center, Constitution Hall, The National Building Museum, the Smithsonian Institution, and the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall. In addition to the formal concert season, the chorus presents several informal free concerts each season as a special service to the community. The chorus has also performed internationally, traveling to Italy; Sydney; Australia; New Zealand; Austria; Finland; Russia and Brazil to compete.

I congratulate the Metropolitan Chorus on its 35th anniversary and wish