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## **DLO DAILY MEDIA UPDATE**

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### **CURRENT NEWS 13 DECEMBER 2011**

#### **U.S. Central Command has Facebook page in Farsi**

*(Stars & Stripes)*...Jeff Schogol

U.S. Central Command has a new [Facebook page written in Farsi](#), the official language of Iran. The [U.S. military command in Iraq](#) posted a link to the Facebook page on Friday along with this message: "We are making an effort to reach the Farsi-speaking audience in particular and increased 'like's on our page will help pull in even more of the target audience. We need your help to reach this important audience, particularly from Iran, so we appreciate your comments, suggestions, and help in getting the word out about CENTCOM's Farsi page."

#### **Navy linguist discharged under policy banning gays is reinstated**

*(Los Angeles Times)*...Tony Perry

A Navy linguist discharged under the now-repealed policy banning gays from serving openly has been reinstated and will report soon to the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, his attorneys announced. Petty Officer 2nd Class Jase Daniels, 29, was discharged in 2007 after he was featured in a story in the Stars & Stripes newspaper about gay military personnel. He was sworn back into the Navy on Monday. Daniels, a Hebrew linguist, served a year in Kuwait before being discharged. He will study Farsi — spoken in Iran and Afghanistan — at the Defense Language Institute.

#### **Female Engagement Team teaches Sangin district police combat lifesaving**

*(ISAF)*...Cpl. Katherine Keleher

Ten Afghan Uniformed Policemen graduated from the Combat Lifesaver Course aboard Forward Operating Base Jackson, Sangin district, Helmand province on December 3. The course, which was instructed by both Female Engagement Team 8 and corpsmen from the Provincial Mentor Team, was seven days long and taught the AUP troops everything they need to know for emergency medical situations in the field. Their lifesaving course went over nearly one dozen topics, including everything from how to properly use a tourniquet to how to patch up a bullet wound.

#### **Sturgis native retires from Army National Guard**

*(Rapid City Journal)*

Army Maj. Gen. Raymond Carpenter, a Sturgis native, is saying goodbye to the Army National Guard after 29 months of service as the acting director of the Army National Guard and more than 44 years of military service. Carpenter's career began in 1967 when he enlisted with the South Dakota Army National Guard. Shortly after, he joined the U.S. Navy, where he attended the Defense Language Institute to study Vietnamese for 48 weeks. After serving a combat tour in Danang, South Vietnam, he returned to South Dakota where he was commissioned in 1974 in the Army National Guard.

#### **Exchange students look back on a Sooner semester**

*(The Oklahoma Daily)*...Coco Courtois

"I wished I would have stayed the whole year," Anaïs Furtade, a French foreign language student said. Like many of the exchange students who stay only a semester, she is sad to leave OU. Furtade said she's going to miss living on campus, meeting people from so many different countries and everything that made her time in Norman a uniquely American experience. "You meet so many people you learn a lot about the others and about yourself," Musial said. "When you have plenty of time with yourself, away from home, you take a step back and have a more global picture of your life. I know that this is worth the trip."

## PREVIOUS NEWS

### [A Counterinsurgency Behind The Burka](#)

*(Los Angeles Times)*...David Zucchino

After a U.S. special operations force secured a compound outside Kandahar recently, Army 1st Lt. Ashley White was sent in to search and interview Afghan women. Just after she arrived, a homemade bomb exploded, killing her and two Army Rangers. White, 24, was the first female soldier to die in combat while performing a unique new role for the Army. She was part of an elite cultural support team, first sent to Afghanistan in January in an attempt to overcome daunting cultural barriers in the deeply conservative Islamic country. Trained in Afghan culture and customs, they build relationships with women while also ferreting out information unavailable to male troops.

### [Airman makes career out of Turkish](#)

*(Af.mil)*...Kathryn Gustafson

Lt. Col. Stephen W. Meginniss, a force support officer, has pursued language, region and culture opportunities throughout his career and even more so for the past nine years. This pursuit has led to assignments that Meginniss said he considers the "best thing that happened in my career." "You have to take care of yourself and take advantage of every opportunity out there," he said. "If you never apply or put your name in the hat, it won't happen. I am in a 38F position, but I found an opening in Turkey." In 2002, while working with the recruiting squadron in Montgomery, Ala., Meginniss was asked if he was interested in becoming an exchange officer in Turkey. After one year of foreign language training at the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center in Monterey, Calif., Meginniss deployed to Turkey, where he served as an exchange officer in the Turkish Air Force Training Command.

### [Everyone Speaks Text Message](#)

*(New York Times)*...Tina Rosenberg

When Ibrahima Traore takes his sons to a park in Montclair, N.J., he often sits on a bench and reads. He reads English, French and Arabic, but most of the time he reads N'Ko, a language few speakers of those languages would recognize. N'Ko is the standardized writing system for Mande languages, a family of closely related tongues — among them Traore's language of Mandinka, but also Jula, Bamana, Koyaga, Marka — spoken, for the most part, in eight West African countries, by some 35 million people. N'Ko looks like a cross between Arabic and ancient Norse runes, written from right to left in a blocky script with the letters connected underneath.

### [The war culture won](#)

*(The Times of India)*

It was Bengali language and culture - suppressed by rulers in [Islamabad](#) who saw it as a threat to the idea of Pakistan - that was at the root of the revolt, writes Mahfuz Anam. No wonder that Bangladeshis have tried to build their new identity through art, music, books and films I still remember the day. On December 16, 1971, I was in Murti, a training camp north of Siliguri in West Bengal. It was run by the Indian Army both for ordinary freedom fighters and officers of the regular army. We were just a couple of weeks short of being deployed to various sectors after passing out as commissioned officers when the Pakistani army surrendered.

### [Airman Helps Troops With Language Skills](#)

*(Military.com)*...Master Sgt. Chance Babin

A deployed supply Airman here is not only ensuring Airmen at the 380th Air Expeditionary Wing have the protective equipment they need; he is using his rich heritage to equip them with language skills as well. Airman 1st Class Miad Maleki, a native of Tehran, Iran, is a material management journeyman for the 380th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron. He issues, stores and maintains individual protective equipment and is volunteering in his off time to teach a free Farsi class for the deployed troops here. "I'm teaching a class of 18 students here," he said. "My students are really interested and all have plans to test for the language and either cross train or bring their new skill to the plate."

### **Chinese state TV unveils global expansion plan**

*(The Guardian)*...Tania Branigan

"Global competition nowadays is not just political and economic, but cultural ... Countries that take the dominant position in cultural development and own strong cultural soft power are the ones that gain the initiative in fierce international competition," argued an essay in Chinese journal [Leadership Decision-Making Information](#) last month. Beijing has created almost 300 Confucius institutes around the world, teaching Chinese language and culture, and spent a reported £4bn on expanding state media. It has created a new English language newspaper, Russian and Arabic TV channels and a 24-hour [English news station](#) run by the Xinhua state news agency.

### **Utah's Dual Immersion Program Builds Bilingual Utah Youth**

*(Utah Pulse)*

Utah's Dual Immersion program offers a rich bilingual experience for young learners when their minds are developmentally best able to acquire a second language. Instruction is divided between two high quality, creative classrooms: one English and one in the Second Language (Chinese, German, French, Portuguese or Spanish). Proven benefits: second language skills, improved performance on standardized tests, enhanced cognitive skills, increased cultural sensitivity, and long term benefits.

### **Colorado College wins \$509,000 grant for language projects**

*(Colorado Springs Gazette)*...Kristina Iodice

Colorado College plans to build on success. The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation recently awarded the college a two-year, \$509,000 grant to encourage the language faculty to create new approaches for teaching languages and to develop placement and proficiency tests. The grant also will support faculty members from across the disciplines who want to achieve greater proficiency and incorporate language study into their courses.

### **Students favor Japanese as second foreign language**

*(China Post)*

The Japanese language emerged as the most popular choice of local high school students studying a second foreign language, according to enrollment data compiled by the Ministry of Education (MOE) yesterday. Out of all the languages offered, local high school students showed an overwhelming preference for Japanese, followed by French. Other options include German, Spanish, Korean, Latin, Italian, Russian, Vietnamese and Indonesian.

### **"Pleasure reading" key to second language learning**

*(Scoop)*...Press Release

Victoria University of Wellington PhD graduate Gillian Claridge says the task of learning to read in another language could be made a lot easier. Dr Claridge's research investigated the perceptions of learners, teachers and publishers involved in second language learner reading, and found that learners often try to read at an inappropriately difficult level. "Learners, teachers and publishers tend to believe that the harder the text, the greater the learning benefits will be. However, the evidence from this study suggests that devoting time to reading easy texts for pleasure, alongside the traditional approach of examining difficult texts, would benefit learners in developing fluency."