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WAR DEPARTMENT  
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*Effective until 17 March 1949 unless sooner rescinded or superseded*

## PROGRAM OF LANGUAGE AND LANGUAGE AND AREA TRAINING

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**I. GENERAL.**—1. **Mission.**—A comprehensive program is hereby established to provide for the training of selected military personnel in foreign languages and in the intelligence aspects of specific areas in order to create qualified linguists and area specialists to meet the requirements incident to occupation of foreign countries, military missions, foreign liaison, and the collection and evaluation of intelligence.

2. **Scope.**—*a.* Languages for which training will be provided are Russian, Japanese, Chinese, Turkish, Greek, Persian, Arabic, Korean, Spanish, Portuguese, and French. From time to time this list may be augmented to meet special requirements.

*b.* Courses will be varied in length in accordance with the difficulty of the language. Straight language courses will vary from 4 months for the Romance languages to approximately 1 year for the more difficult languages.

*c.* Language and area training will be provided for selected officers and will extend up to 4 years in length. Normally 1 to 2 years will be spent at institutions within the United States and 1 to 2 years overseas.

3. **Composition.**—Language and/or language and area training will be provided at the following schools:

- a.* Army Language School, Monterey, California.
- b.* Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut.
- c.* Columbia University, New York City.
- d.* Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey.
- e.* Detachment "S", Tokyo, Japan.
- f.* War Department Language School, Peiping, China.
- g.* European Command Intelligence School (Detachment "R"), Oberammergau, Germany.
- h.* American University, Beirut, Lebanon.

4. **Control.**—*a.* The Director, Intelligence Division, War Department General Staff, will be responsible for—

- (1) Supervising the operation and administration of the Army Language School.
- (2) Establishment of eligibility criteria for individuals to be selected for language or language and area training.
- (3) The allocation of quotas to the Army Air Forces, War Department agencies, and the administrative and technical services.
- (4) Supervision and review of curricula at those civilian universities, overseas schools, and detachments listed in paragraph 3.

b. The commanders of those organizations which are shown in the charts in paragraph 7 will be responsible for the selection of officers to fill their allotted quotas.

c. The administration of student officers will be in accordance with the provisions of WD Circular 187, 1947.

**II. CLASSES AND COURSES.—5. General.**—Classes and courses will be characterized by considerable flexibility. Courses and curricula will be varied in accordance with the students' capabilities and background so as to insure receipt of proper training in the minimum time. In accordance with this policy, length of courses will be variable and new classes will be commenced whenever circumstances may warrant; furthermore, for language and area students, no fixed sequence of training will be established for their duty abroad and at institutions within the United States. All language courses will be intensive in nature.

**6. Types.**—The following type courses will be presented:

*a. Language and area course.*—This type course will be presented to selected Russian, Japanese, Chinese, Greek, Persian, Turkish, and Arabic language students only. It will involve 3 to 4 years study, with the first year's study being devoted almost entirely to obtaining fluency in the language, whereas subsequent years will stress the political, economic, sociological, and topographical aspects of the area being studied and areas contiguous thereto. It is contemplated that—

- (1) The first year's instruction will be conducted at the Army Language School in all seven languages.
- (2) Japanese language and area course students will proceed immediately following their first year's instruction to Tokyo, Japan, with assignment to Detachment "S."
- (3) For their second year's instruction, students in Russian will normally be ordered to Columbia University and students of Chinese to Yale University. These courses commence in September of each year.
- (4) Subsequent to their university training, Russian language and area students will be ordered to Detachment "R," European Command Intelligence School, Oberammergau, Germany, for their area training, while the students of Chinese will be ordered to the War Department Language School, Peiping, China, for such training.
- (5) Language and area students in Turkish, Persian, and Arabic will probably receive their second year's training at Princeton and thereafter be ordered to the American University, Beirut, Lebanon.
- (6) Information as to area training for students of Greek will be furnished at a later date.
- (7) Selected language and area students will take the 4 months' course presented by the Strategic Intelligence School in the War Department.
- (8) Students who will commence language and area training in Russian and Japanese in 1947 have been selected.

*b. Language training.*—In this type course, instruction in the following languages will be presented in the period shown with commencement dates as indicated:

Language	ALS	Date course commences	Remarks
Russian	1 year	8 Sep 1947	Thereafter new courses will commence at approximately 2-month intervals.
Japanese	do	15 Sep 1947	Thereafter one class approximately each 6 months.
Chinese	do	1 Nov 1947	Do.
Turkish	do	do	Do.
Arabic	do	do	Do.
Greek	do	do	Do.
Persian	do	do	Do.
Korean	do	do	Do.
Spanish	4 months	do	New students acceptable any date.
Portuguese	do	1 Nov 1947	New class will be started each 2 months.
French	do	do	Do.

**7. Quotas.**—Quotas for language courses and for the language and area courses will be in general allocated on the basis: Army Air Forces, 40 percent; Army Ground Forces, 50 percent; and technical services, 10 percent; and will be as presented in the following tables:

*a. Language course quotas for fiscal year 1948.*

Language	AAF	WD agencies			Quartermaster Corps	Signal Corps	Surgeon General	Transportation Corps	Provost Marshal General	Far Eastern Command
		Intelligence Division	P & A Division	P & O Division						
Russian	40	43	20		1	0	0	2	1	
Japanese	15	6			0	0	0	0	0	
Chinese	15	15			0	0	0	0	1	
Turkish	2	9			0	0	0	1	0	
Greek	0	12			0	0	0	0	0	
Persian	0	8			0	0	0	1	0	
Arabic	5	12			0	0	0	0	0	
Spanish	30	18		30	0	0	0	0	1	
Portuguese	11	4		10	0	0	0	0	0	
French	27	12			0	0	0	0	1	
Korean	5	5	5		0	0	0	0	0	
Nisei Japanese										250

*b. Language and area course quotas for fiscal year 1948.*

Language	AAF	Intelligence Division
Greek.....	4	4
Russian.....	5	5
Persian.....	4	4
Chinese.....	4	4
Turkish.....	3	4
Japanese.....	4	4
Arabic.....	3	4

8. Qualifications of students.—*a.* The following eligibility qualifications are established for—

*(1) Language and area students.*

- (a)* Volunteer for this type training.
- (b)* Fully qualified in basic arm.
- (c)* Adapted or qualified for general staff duties.
- (d)* Has not reached 31st birthday at time application is submitted.
- (e)* Proven general aptitude for languages.
- (f)* Regular Army officer.
- (g)* Efficiency rating sufficient to indicate high performance of duty in future assignments.

*(2) Language students.*

- (a)* Efficiency rating sufficient to indicate high performance of duty in future assignments.
- (b)* Has not reached 36th birthday at time application is submitted.
- (c)* Proven general aptitude for languages.
- (d)* Regular Army or Category I officer.

*b.* The Director of Intelligence may waive any of the above requirements if exceptional circumstances so indicate for officers other than those of the Army Air Forces.

*c.* The Commanding General, Army Air Forces, may waive any of the above requirements for officers of the Army Air Forces.

**III. APPLICATION.**—9. Military personnel, other than those assigned to the Army Air Forces, desiring to apply for language or language and area training, will submit their application through channels to the commander of their major force or chief of administrative or technical service, who will then forward the application to the Director of Personnel and Administration, War Department General Staff, (ATTN: Career Management Branch), with a statement as to the officer's availability for the assignment and whether or not the officer's assignment will be applied to their allotted quota.

10. Personnel assigned to Army Air Forces will submit their application through channels to Headquarters Army Air Forces.

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11. A commander, at regimental, group, or similar level, receiving an application will indicate by indorsement that the applicant has been informed by a senior field grade officer of the results the War Department expects to achieve through the implementation of this training program.

12. Officers, on assignment overseas, will not be returned for the purpose of taking language and language and area training prior to the normal expiration of their tour of duty. Officers on foreign duty who desire such training should apply for this type training not earlier than 2 months prior to their departure for the United States.

13. Each application will include the following information:

*a.* True copy of WD AGO Form 66.

*b.* Education giving high schools and colleges attended, approximate class standings, average grades, scholastic honors, scholarships, and degrees.

*c.* Language studies, approximate grades, fluency attained in speaking, reading, writing (excellent, good, fair, poor).

*d.* Reasons, requested training is desired.

14. Separate instructions will be issued regarding the submission of applications for refresher language training.

**IV. RESCISSION.**—15. Section V, WD Circular 250, 1946, is rescinded. [AG 350.03 (12 Sep 47)]

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR:

Official:

EDWARD F. WITSELL  
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