DFL Weekly SITREP (1 June 11)

Current Week **HIGHLIGHTS**:

1. **International Cadet Participation in Cadet Summer Training:**

   a. Twenty International cadets are currently participating in West Point’s Cadet Leader Development Training as part of the academy’s summer military training at Camp Buckner. The Department of Foreign Languages continues to play an integral role in their day to day activities. DFL coordinators from Chinese, Russian, and Spanish language sections are in daily communication with the cadet sponsors to ensure the international cadets are well and have everything they require for training. Additionally, DFL coordinators are responsible for all follow on coordination such as meals, lodging, and travel plans, either to another US Army school or back to their home station. The cadets currently visiting represent Taiwan, Spain, and Kazakhstan. Due to the enormous efforts of the Taiwan Military Academy, the Washington DC attaché offices and the Chinese section, this is the first year that Taiwan has been able to expand its participation in West Point’s cadet summer military training to include Cadet Leader Development Training.

   b. Preparations are currently underway for the second wave of twenty eight visiting cadets to arrive to attend CFT and US Army Airborne and Air Assault schools. The countries represented in this group will include Chile, Ecuador, France, Georgia, Brazil, and Taiwan. DFL coordinators from Chinese, Russian, Portuguese, French and Spanish sections are working to ensure each international visitor has an appropriate sponsor and that all travel coordination, physicals, meals, lodging, and equipment issues take place in time for a smooth transition once they arrive.

2. **Faculty participation in language and cultural immersion trips:**

   a. Currently, the Arabic section is leading a group of four cadets on a summer Academic Individual Advanced Development (AIAD) trip to Marrakech, Morocco that will continue to 9 June. The cadets are spending this week in intensive language instruction at Al Alamia Language Institute. They spend five hours a day in language instruction and two to three hours in the evening in cultural exchanges in the local area. This weekend, the cadets will participate in a second cultural immersion trip to the Atlas Mountains.
Cadets take a photo at the base of a waterfall in the Atlas Mountains, Morocco.

b. Currently, LTC Brady Crosier from the Chinese section is leading a group of fourteen cadets on a summer AIAD trip to Taiwan that will continue to 11 June. The cadets are spending one week at the Taiwan Military Academy in Kaohsiung and have arrived for their two weeks of intensive Chinese language and culture study at Fu Jen University in Taipei, Taiwan. During their free time, LTC Brady Crosier will introduce the cadets to Chinese culture and famous cultural sites in and around Kaohsiung and Taipei.

Cadets pause to take a photo at the Fo Guang Shan Temple in Taiwan.
c. Currently, CPT Gallardo from the Spanish section is leading a group of six cadets on a summer AIAD trip to Peru that will continue to 14 June. Cadets will visit significant military commands, as well as study national politics, economics, history and geography in an immersion setting as they travel to various cities and regions. Cadets will speak Spanish at all times during this AIAD.

d. Currently, the French section is leading a group of three cadets on a summer AIAD trip to Djibouti that will continue to 18 June. Cadets are spending three and a half weeks with the 13eme DBLE, Djibouti. Cadets will be integrated into their host units and thereby become completely immersed in the language and culture of the French Foreign Legion in Djibouti. Cadets will gain significant exposure to Sub-Saharan Africa.

e. Currently, the French section is leading a group of three cadets on a summer AIAD trip to Gabon that will continue to 17 June. Cadets will be integrated into their host units and thereby becoming completely immersed in the language and culture of the French Army in Gabon. Cadets will gain a significant exposure to Sub-Saharan Africa. Tactical military training will be included.

f. Currently, the French section is leading a group of ten cadets on a summer AIAD trip to Rochefort, France that will continue to 10 June. The School, run by France’s paramilitary police, gives instruction in the French Language to foreign military members, and also gives French military personnel foreign language instruction prior to their overseas deployments. As such, the cadets will supplement their language instruction with in-depth mil-to-mil contacts with members of all of France’s Armed Services. Seventeen other cadets will be attending the Rochefort language school later this summer. With a total of twenty-seven participants, it is the largest of the Academic Individual Advanced Development (AIAD) offered by West Point.

g. Currently, MAJ Tobias and the Russian section are leading a group of five cadets on a summer AIAD trip to Russia that will continue to 11 June. Cadets are spending three weeks of intensive language programs at Voronezh State University designed to increase Russian language proficiency and enhance their regional expertise and promote cultural awareness. Cadets will tour historically and culturally significant sites in the Voronezh area as well as in Moscow and St. Petersburg, interacting with the local population in day-to-day situations.

h. Currently, the German Section is leading a group of six cadets on a summer AIAD trip to various Bundeswehr units. Cadets are spending three weeks in intensive cross-cultural program of physical, marksmanship, field training, and garrison operations with a combat or combat support unit of the Bundeswehr. The cadets gain knowledge of Germany and German Army operations. Cadets will improve their competence in speaking, listening and comprehension of German. The program is designed to enhance cultural knowledge through interaction with military counterparts and the local populace, and immersion in day-to-day life situations.
i. Currently, MAJ Fagergren and Dr. Chris Lewis of the Portuguese section are leading a group of ten cadets on a summer AIAD trip to Brazil that will continue to 10 June. This annual trip is planned with the support of the Brazilian Army that accompanies the cadets for cultural tours and briefings at many important Commands in Brazil. Some of these include the Amazon Command and Jungle School, the Brazilian Military Academy in Resend, the Military Institute of Engineering in Rio, and the ROTC-equivalent program in Sao Paulo.


Four faculty members from the Chinese office pause to take a photo with Mr. Cen Jianjun, Education Counselor of the Chinese Consulate in New York. From left to right: Ms. Can Wang, Dr. Yuanman Liu, Counselor Cen Jianjun, Dr. Martha Gallagher and Dr. Hongyu Huang.

3. Upcoming key events:

a. From 6 June to 9 August, the Persian section will lead a summer AIAD trip to Tajikistan. The cadets will be in an eight week intensive study of the Persian language and culture in Dushanbe, Tajikistan. The program is offered by the American Councils for International Education.

b. From 13 June to 1 July, MAJ Mark Whiteman and the Arabic section will lead a group of seven cadets on a summer AIAD trip to Morocco. The cadets will spend 4 days/week in intensive Arabic and Spoken Moroccan coursework at the Al Alamia Language Institute in Marrakech and will participate in cultural and language immersion trips for the remaining 3 days/week.

c. From 13 June to 2 July, Dr. Hongyu Huang will lead a group of 5 cadets to China on a summer AIAD trip to Changchun, China. The cadets will spend two and a half
weeks of intensive Chinese language and culture study at Jilin University in Changchun, China. During their free time in the last half week of the trip, Dr. Hongyu Huang will introduce the cadets to Chinese culture and famous cultural sites in and around Changchun and Beijing, China.

d. From 13 June to 2 July, Dr. Qun Ao from the Chinese section will lead a group of eight cadets to Xi’an, China on Major General Loeffke’s Friendship Fund summer AIAD trip. The cadets will spend two and a half weeks of Chinese language and culture study at Jiaotong University in Xi’an, China and will perform their international community service teaching English and preventative medicine classes to Chinese elementary school students in the local area. During their free time and the last half week of the trip, Dr. Qun Ao will introduce the cadets to Chinese culture and famous cultural sites in and around Xi’an and Beijing, China.

e. From 13 June to 2 July, the Russian section will lead a summer AIAD trip to Kazakhstan. The cadets will be in a three week intensive language and cultural program designed to increase proficiency and confidence in the Russian language, enhance regional expertise and promote cultural awareness. Cadets will spend two weeks in the Kazakh military academy.

f. From 16 June to 7 July, the Spanish section will lead a summer AIAD trip to Chile. Cadets will spend three weeks in Chile as guests of the Chilean Armed Forces and the Chilean Military Academy. Cadets will visit significant military commands, as well as study national politics, economics, history, and geography in an immersion setting as they travel for at least two weeks to various cities and regions in Chile.