

F.A.O. JOURNAL —

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The Door is Opening

DoD Recognizes FAO

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PURPOSE: To publish a journal for disseminating professional knowledge and furnishing information that will promote understanding between U.S. regional specialists around the world and improve their effectiveness in advising decision-makers. It is intended to forge a closer bond between the active, reserve, and retired FAO communities.

SUBSCRIPTIONS / ASSOCIATION

MEMBERSHIP: Subscription to the journal comes with membership in the association. Membership information may be obtained through FAOA, P.O. Box 523226, Springfield, VA. 22152. The office Telephone/ Fax number is (703) 913-1356. E-Mail Address is: FAOA@EROLS.COM For those only interested in subscribing, cost is \$15.00/year and may be requested at the above address.

SUBMISSIONS: The Association is a totally voluntary enterprise. For the Journal to succeed, we need articles, letters to the editor, etc. Contributors should mail articles to the above address or to the FAO Proponent Office, ODCSOPS-DA (DAMO-SSF), Pentagon, Washington, D.C. 20310-0400. Articles are subject to editing by the FAO Journal Staff, to ensure that space constraints of the publication are met.

FAO JOURNAL

Regional Specialists

SEPTEMBER 1997

VOLUME 1, NO. 4

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EDITORIAL**KUDOS TO OPMS XXI !**

Some of our readers have suggested that my first two editorials were too negative. In response, I believe that the Association owes it to our membership to be objective even when that objectivity causes some unhappiness. But I also agree that my editorials need to show the good as well as the bad.

In line with this, I want to take my hat off to the officers who made up the OPMS XXI Task Force and who have done yeomen's work coming to grips with the future personnel needs for the U.S. Army of the next century. Their efforts formed a key element in the reformation process of our Army to make it a weapon truly fit to meet the challenges of a new era. Much of what they have done flies in the face of conventional wisdom and will almost certainly be resisted by traditionalists. We FAOs, retired and active, need to step forward and support the efforts of OPMS XXI. There is a danger that the slow implementation process established for the new system renders it particularly vulnerable to the "nay sayers" and therefore now, more than ever, it requires our support.

Will OPMS XXI help FAO? When it is fully implemented, the answer is a resounding yes. Even if it is only partially implemented, the new system will be a positive force for change. Further, it will also help many of the other lower density specialties critical to the success of our army in the next century.

The fact is that we owe our two representatives, LTC Dees (48G) and MAJ Szentkiralyi (48C), on the task force a real vote of thanks for their work on behalf of the entire FAO community. Now we need to band together to build on what these officers have helped create and pour our efforts into molding new generations of better, more qualified strategic scouts, soldier diplomats, and FAO pointmen of the greatest force projection army of next century.

Thanks to a visionary Chief of Staff (GEN Reimer), the leadership of MG Ohle at the OPMS XXI Task Force, and the work of the outstanding task force team, the U.S. Army has a window of opportunity to become the most efficient combat force in American history. KUDOS TO ALL for another step in leading the U.S. Army into the 21st century!!

Joseph D. Tullbane, III.
President, FAOA

From the Field

STAYING GREEN . . .

Just a note ... found the article by Colonel Boevers to be right to the point of the FAO issue. Staying green is an absolute necessity, but it means that a good FAO must walk a tight-rope, because by staying with troops too long he loses his value as a regional specialist. It worries me that I may go back to a key FAO job and have lost the skills that I need to be successful. Language is especially hard to maintain while with troops. It is too bad that the Army doesn't have some sort of formal method to keep us language refreshed. Is there some way that we can get refresher materials from DLI to help young FAOs overcome this obstacle?

S-3 FAO at Ft. Hood

Editor's Note: I asked the Proponent Office your question about help in language refresher. They said that it was available from DLI. I still do not have the actual instructions on how to get this material, but as soon as I get it I will publish the instructions in the Journal. -jdt-

Editorial on Advanced Civil Schooling . . .

Gentlemen,

Just read LTC(R) Tullbane's editorial on Advanced Civil Schooling (ACS), in the latest FAO Journal. I found it very interesting. The question of the "right kind of ACS" has another issue attached to it: "Which University Should I Attend?"

This is an area where there is little or no guidance given. The FAO (I am a 48B) is given a list of schools and told to pick one. Not the best course of action. Why?

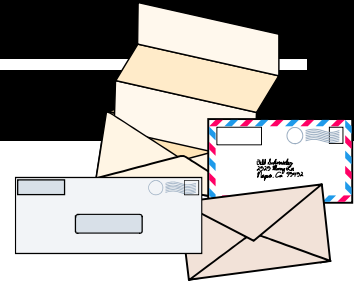
My brother is a Professor of Economics. He and his fellow professors will tell you that not all programs are created equal. Some are better (read regarded) than others.

The type of school you get your Master's degree from, determines where you are initially rank ordered within the academic community. The military has a similar concept in that we judge fellow officers by the units, schools, and types of jobs that they have been in.

Is there any one who can tell me what the top

Latin American/international studies university programs are? . . .

Robert G. Fausti
CPT, 48B



Editor's Note: The Proponent tries not to make distinctions between the various programs, probably in order to maintain good relations with all. What they do do is determine if the programs under consideration can fulfill the minimum requirements for FAO training. However, there are ways for you to answer your questions on your own. The public library has ratings of schools, by program, done by both university accrediting groups and by the Department of Education. These should give you what you want. -jdt-

OPMS XXI Article . . .

Editor's Note: What follows are a number of excerpts form E-Mails sent in reference this article. -jdt-

"Seems that anyone who dual tracks is putting themselves in the same bind as we are now -- competing in a command track world, as a dual tracker."

"Not sure that I signed up for single-tracking when I joined the Army. Wish we could be grandfathered, so we could still compete for command."

"Shouldn't we be in the Information Operations Career Field?"

"Sounds like this change to OPMS XXI may actually fix many of the problems with FAO."

"Great Plan! Hope this gets fully put in place."

"Why can't the new system be put in place quicker? . . .
By 2002 the Army leadership will have a completely new

horse to flog.”

On the Journal in General . . .

Good work . . . but how about having some suggestions for professional reading in our regions. . . also wish that there was more articles that had to do with political, military, or economic issues dealing with our regions . . . not trying to throw stones, just want to make a good pub better . . .

Name withheld by Request

This is a quantum improvement over the old FAO Proponent Newsletter. How are you connected to the Proponent? Is this really a “private” publication?

Bill Smith, FAO Retiree

Glad to see the Regional Spotlights segment in the Journal. Finally some information to use to plan our careers. I always wondered how I was supposed to run my career without knowing where I can be assigned. When are you doing North East Asia? Soon, I hope.

No Name Given

Editor’s Note: Thanks to you all for the positive comments. We are a completely private association that is recognized by the Army as the FAO professional association. We communicate daily with the Proponent and PERSCOM to try and answer your professional questions. As far as the ideas on how to improve the Journal go -- keep them coming -- we can only improve the publication. I wish that we could produce up-to-date information on positions/slots for all the regions quickly, but we are really limited to one “tear out section” per issue. Our December Issue should have both 48F and 48H in it. Others will follow. -jdt-

We DO NOT sell membership Lists to other companies or Associations

However, if you want to get a message to another FAO or ex-FAO let us know, and we will as a service to you (our members) get the word through to that individual.

Your privacy is one of our key concerns!

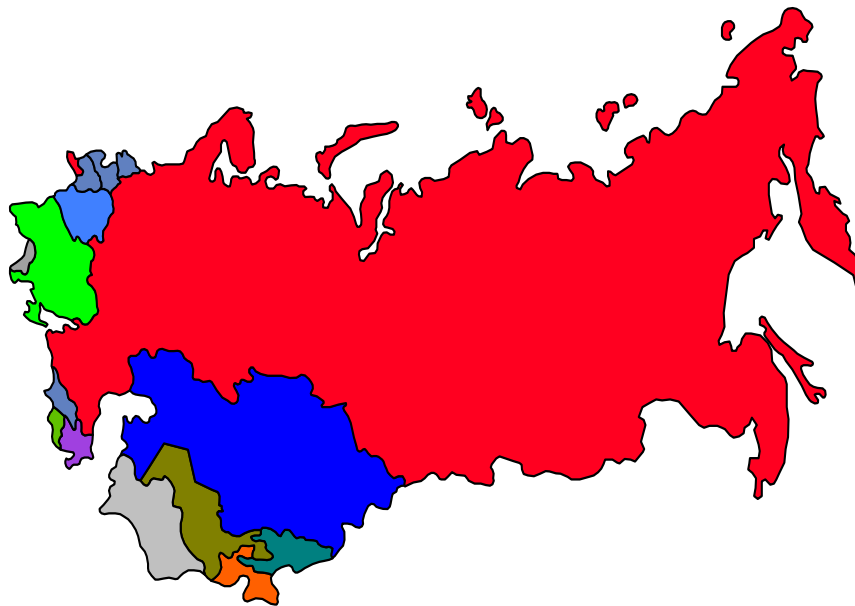
The Door is Opening

by Major Alex J. Vega, IV.

As we sat around the dinner table eating, drinking, and discussing the lighter aspects of life common to all, I realized that except for language, this meeting could have taken place at a private home anywhere in the United States. The food was excellent, the wine was superb, and our host and hostess were extremely courteous and gracious to us. As the evening continued I marveled in amazement as my host opened his photo album for me. I glanced at page after page of pictures revealing his past military service while he sat there surprised at the curiosity and interest of his American guest. Then, one particular group of pictures caught my interest. I had to look twice to make sure I comprehended what it was I was looking at. There they were, all laid out in a row, with their weapons piled high into different stacks. They were dead Afghani Mujahedin. Behind the dead bodies stood the victorious hunters, proud and satisfied with their day's success. In the middle of the group stood my host, tanned and quite healthy, Senior Lieutenant Yevgeniy Sulyga, Soviet Spetznatz, Afghanistan, 1985. Perhaps, up until then I had not quite grasped the significance of what was taking place that evening, but after reviewing the photo album it was now absolutely clear. Our discussion, and in fact our entire evening together, was unthinkable just a few short years ago. Yet, there we were at his private home in Minsk, Belarus, as his invited guests. We were discussing in the Russian language the fates of Prisoners of War and Missing in Action servicemen, American and Soviet.

I am Major Alex J. Vega IV, United States Army,

and this article is about my experience and training as a Eurasian Foreign Area Officer (FAO) while serving on temporary duty in Moscow, Russia. My basic branch is Corps of Engineers and I have twelve years of active duty with eight years as a Combat Engineer leader in three maneuver divisions. After completing Company Command, I began my functional area training as a FAO in the Summer of 1993. I have since completed Russian language training, graduate school, and the Institute for Eurasian Studies, George C. Marshall Center for European Security Studies. As part of the training and education at the Institute, FAOs have the opportunity to serve in a variety of in-country internships throughout the former Soviet Union. These tours of duty can range from two weeks to nine months. I was honored to serve at the US Embassy in Moscow, Russia from January to April, and October to December 1996, on the US-Russia Joint Commission on Prisoners of War and Missing in Action.



The American side of the commission, located in Washington D.C. and in Moscow, is known as the Joint Commission Support Directorate (JCSD), and was formerly known as Task Force Russia.

The mission of the JCSD-Moscow is to achieve the fullest possible accounting for all Americans unaccounted for in the territory of the former Soviet Union: the return of live Americans; the recovery and identification of remains; or convincing information as to why neither is possible. The Moscow office is manned with a semi-permanent staff of three officers and one non-commissioned officer. They are also augmented with two to three interns from the Institute on rotating temporary duty throughout the year. While I was assigned to the office, a portion of my duties and responsibilities included the planning, organization, and execution of trips throughout the territory of the former Soviet Union to research, interview, and investigate reports of missing Americans. Thus, it was on one of these trips that Major Robert Bishop (US Army, permanently assigned) and I, found ourselves in the home of Yevgeniy Petrovich

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Sulyga, now, assistant editor and journalist for the Minsk newspaper “*Sovietskaya Belarus*”.

While in Minsk, Belarus, from 14-21 February 1996, we conducted over twenty interviews of former Soviet veterans of the wars in Korea and Vietnam, and we in turn gave interviews for radio broadcast and newspaper distribution nationwide. Our interviews appealed to Soviet veterans to come forward and help the commission by providing any information at all concerning possible contact or knowledge of American POW’s and MIA’s during the tenure of their service. The primary reason for traveling to Minsk is the large number of Soviet military retirees who have settled in and around the city. Minsk was and is still home to one of the largest Air Defense training centers in the former Soviet Union. Therefore, since Air Defense played such a prominent role in the Korean and Vietnam wars against US aircraft, a large portion of the military retirees in this area have experience fighting against US forces.

The interviews of the veterans usually varied in length, location, and in results. Many times they were willing to come directly to us, and other times they were not. Nevertheless, wherever they were located we would find them, interview them, and sometimes even receive a dinner invitation. The results of an interview could not always be measured by the amount of concrete physical evidence gathered, like obtaining an MIA’s dog tags or an identification card. Rather, the compilation of eyewitness testimony from various different veteran sources helped to fill in the gaps of information on individual cases. Although, on one previous trip to Minsk, Major Bishop was actually successful in obtaining a photograph of an identification card and witness testimony concerning the fate of a USAF officer missing in action since the war in

“... we were successful in recovering the high school or sweetheart ring of an American pilot killed in World War II.”

Vietnam. Some veterans however, flatly denied ever having knowledge of American POW’s or MIA’s, and at most would simply provide the names of other comrades who also served with them. Nevertheless, other veterans sometimes would provide more important and concrete information. On another visit and interview in St. Petersburg, Russia, we were successful in recovering the high school, or sweetheart ring of an American pilot killed in World War II. This American pilot and the wreckage of his fighter aircraft were found by Red Army soldiers. The

pilot’s remains were immediately buried, and his belongings were forwarded to higher authorities. Nevertheless, after more than fifty years, one Russian veteran came forward to not only provide us testimony concerning the event, but to also give us the ring. The investigation concerning the pilot’s identity and the location of his remains continues.

While this article in no way attempts to present a public accounting for each and every one of our missing servicemen, I include the above examples to show that positive results are indeed possible. Although they often come at the end of long, tedious, and sometimes fruitless investigative work. The lesson learned of course is to never give up and to never quit! The next door knocked, the next interview conducted, the next telephone call made, could be the very one that provides the information needed to determine the fate of a missing American. And, to even possibly locate him and bring him back home, as was successfully done in September 1994, with the recovery and return of the remains of US Air Force Captain John Dunham from the Russian Far East.

“... what made the plaque was that it was made out of the metal from a downed US aircraft.”

Of course, much credit must be given to the improvement in relations between the people of the United States and the people of the former Soviet Union over the past few years. I use the word “people” distinctively as opposed to the word “governments” for a reason. In addition to formal governmental contact and cooperation, all veteran interviews are voluntary. I was surprised to find elderly, dignified, and professional, retired officers and servicemen that came forth to offer help in any way they knew how without asking for, or expecting anything in return. Most claimed that their information was probably worthless, but just maybe there was something they knew which might help. To a man, each asked us to pass on to American servicemen, veterans, and retirees, that they bear our country no ill-will, and in fact have a tremendous amount of respect for the United States because of the extent taken to resolve the fate of even one soldier, sailor, marine, or airman. In addition, these veterans sympathize with the American families of our POW’s and MIA’s. Many of these men lost their own fathers during their patriotic war against Nazi Germany in World War II, and thus know exactly what it means to suffer such a loss.

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Nevertheless, I must admit that sometimes I did find our encounters somewhat ironic. One evening we conducted an interview at the home of a retired Soviet Army Officer with service in Korea and Vietnam. During the middle of the interview I glanced up at his bookshelf and noticed a plaque. This plaque was in the shape of Vietnam. As I got up and took a closer look I realized that what made this plaque unique was the fact that it was made out of the metal from a downed US aircraft. I could even see a US manufacturer's part serial number still visible on the memento itself. I couldn't help but think of my father at this time. This officer and my father served against one another in Southeast Asia at about the same time, 1967-1968. While my father was posted at an Air Force base on the Laotian border at Nakhon Phanom, Thailand, the Soviet officer served as an Air Defense instructor at various missile sites in North Vietnam. I also couldn't help but remember my father's service photographs. I remember him pointing out to me his buddies who were shot down and killed or who were missing in Laos and North Vietnam. Still, I often find it hard to believe that almost thirty years later, the task has fallen to the next generation to try and close all those open loops of our nation's previous wars that are yet to be resolved. Therefore I would like to return to the Afghan veteran and journalist Yevgeniy Sulyga. In getting to know him a little, I came to realize just how human our former adversaries truly are. When we discussed his experiences living and fighting in Afghanistan, he wanted to make several points absolutely clear. At the time of his service in 1985, he himself understood little of the political situation or reasoning for the involvement of the USSR in Afghanistan. To him, the concept of service there was very simple. Either he did his duty as ordered and served, or he went to prison. Once he arrived to his Spetznatz unit in Afghanistan, the next major task was also very basic. Either he wanted to live or he didn't. In order to live, he had to kill others or he himself would have been killed. To him, this was a very big test which has changed him forever. After witnessing many of his friends and subordinates killed in action, he now has a much greater respect and value for life, and a deeper understanding of his own mortality. Today, after he has lived with the terror, fear, hardship, and suffering of war, he has absolutely no desire to ever go back. He has written an article for a Minsk publication entitled "*And So We Were Killing Each Other*", published in June 1994. This article describes his experiences and impressions about his service in Afghanistan, and about his first encounter with the Americans on the POW/MIA

commission on a previous trip to Minsk. The article is translated from Russian into English and is attached to mine with his permission. It provides a fresh insight into the similarities and contrasts of American and Soviet military and civilian experience, and the benefits of open contact with people of other countries.

In conclusion, this experience taught me that the esteem and respect held by veterans of other countries for the US Military, is not only based on our ability to properly execute a mission. It is also based on the extent that our nation is willing to go to account for the life of even one serviceman or woman, long after the mission is complete. Therefore, a more detailed account of the recovery of US Air Force Captain John Dunham, and the commission's work in general are available via the internet, at:

US-Russia Joint Commission on POW/MIA
Moscow home page:

<http://www/glasnet.ru/powmia>

Lastly, the opportunity to have served on such a noble mission was for me a great honor, and one I'll not soon forget.

EDITOR'S NOTE: MAJ Vega's article and the next article by Yevgeniy Sulyga, Ex-Soviet soldier, are related.

In August of 1985, I was with a group of a hundred newly recruited internationalist soldiers just arrived from the Soviet Union. I was sweating at the Kabul Distribution Point expecting for my fate to be decided. By day we were killing time in card games or dozing on dirty mattresses. At night, when the heat subsided, the camp came alive. Most people gathered where movies were being shown. A couple of times they ran old Soviet films "Chapayev" and "Battleship Potemkin." But one day they brought in a movie about the Vietnam War. Obviously, the propaganda officer in charge of our camp wanted this movie to arouse our hatred toward the so-called American imperialism and its Afghan puppets, whom we had been sent to fight by the Soviet nation. But it was perceived by the viewers differently. When an American helicopter appeared on the screen generously showering fire on the "Ho Chi Minh Motel," the Soviet Internationalist Soldiers started cheering as one, "bash the Mujahedins, wipe them out!"

During the whole movie, they were like soccer

And So We Were Killing Each Other

by Yevgeniy Petrovich Sulyga

fans, booing at the actions of their Vietnamese brethren, and worrying about the fate of the American GI's. As a matter of fact, there was nothing surprising about it. True, in 1985, we were still like the rabbits in [the modern Russian writer] Fazil Iskander's novel, who do not even dare to move their ears when boa constrictors are swallowing them. However, one had to be very stupid not to understand that the Vietnam and the Afghan wars were horses of the same color. The only difference consisting in that behind the back of the Viet Cong there loomed the silhouette of the Kremlin, and behind the Mujahedins there stood Uncle Sam.

Therefore, we naturally associated ourselves with the American Rangers from the nameless movie about the Vietnam War. All of us were destined to drink grief from the bottle opened by the GI's in Vietnam; we received that bottle as a legacy in Kabul. However, the understanding of a common soldiers' lot did not influence our attitude toward the Americans, the Germans, and the French whom we met in Afghanistan. On the warpath, all soldiers have the same mentality and preach the same gospel: "I am fighting to stay alive. If I want to survive, I have to kill." And so we were killing each other. At a Byelorussian cemetery near Minsk, there lies buried a soldier who died in a clash with American military specialists who were helping Mujahedins fight us. In November 1985, on a wall in a village near Kabul, which was fired upon at close range by Soviet artillery, I found graffiti in German: "We are from Dortmund. Damn You, Russian Swines." The ground floor was covered with empty cartridges and blood stained rags. I do not know whether the Germans managed to escape alive from this slaughterhouse. I hope they did.

The French journalist Jacques Abouchard was taken prisoner by Soviet special forces troops. The American Charles Thornton perished when he found himself in an ambush. Senior Lieutenant Sergeyenko became disabled as a result of the following operation. American "soldiers of fortune" who flew to Afghanistan in order to share their battle experience with field commanders, forced Sergeyenko's column of fuel service

men into a gorge, and burned them alive. Sr. Lt. Sergeyenko and his comrades in arms played the role of visual aids.

Oh Lord, the number of skulls we have driven into the pocket of graves. How many are missing or died in captivity? When our fathers and grandfathers met on the Elbe, they hoped that World War II was the last war. Alas, not even in a nightmare could my MIA grandfather, Private Yegor Dorenskiy, have imagined that in 1985 his grandson would be fighting Germans in ... Afghanistan. It's terrible! Wait a minute, is it true that it's all over now. Can we be sure that at least from now on we will never fire at each other? A feminist writer once said that war is men's favorite game, which they will hardly ever give up. As for me, I am irritated even when I hear a toy Kalashnikov submachine gun bark.

For me, it is much more fun to have a Coke with American Majors in a Byelarus Hotel room than to take aim at them with a real Kalashnikov gun. Indeed, what sort of enemies for me are James Bishop and Ron Maynard, who have come to Minsk to look for perished and MIA GI's. Instead, I must be their ready assistant because my grandfather is buried in the globe, god knows where, unidentified in a mass grave. And me, too, I have savored war. This may be the reason why my interviewing of James and Ron was transformed into a friendly chat. Instead of asking the planned questions, I was racking my brain for information of interest to them.

When I was a military correspondent, I met on numerous occasions with officers who had fought in Vietnam, Korea, Angola, and the Sinai Peninsula. I remember a professor of the Minsk Higher Engineering Anti-Aircraft Missile school recalling Vietnam. He told me of the gentleman like behavior of American pilots. He said they used to throw down leaflets in Russian, warning Soviet anti-aircraft defense experts about an upcoming bombardment of a facility, and suggesting them to abandon a doomed area. "Once," recalled the same professor, "We were a group of a dozen or so military advisers bathing in a bay. Suddenly, American airplanes appeared in the sky. They were flying in at a very low altitude and the pilots could clearly see us, as well as our weapons and uniforms lying on the white sand of a war-littered beach. They could have easily shot us down, or dropped a bomb on us, but instead, they waved their wings in salutation and flew on along the coast and destroyed the facility, that was protected by our anti-aircraft missiles."

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By the way, among former professors of the Minsk school, Mr. Bishop and Mr. Maynard did find someone who knew something of what interested the two Americans. They obtained a photocopy of the ID card of a U.S. pilot downed in Vietnam. Also, a person from the Diatlovsky District, Grodenskaya Province has told them of a burial site of American WWII pilots in Germany. This person was a concentration camp prisoner. At the end of the war, the town closest to the camp was often bombed by the Americans. Once, a plane was shot down near a lake. The prisoner participated in a search for the pilot's remains, and then his burial. He had written a letter to Major Bishop and offered to show the place where the U.S. pilot died.

Regrettably, my memory only contained information about the death of the Arizona Republic reporter Charles Thornton. He had been trapped in an ambush set by a reconnaissance group of the third special-mission detachment in the Kandagar province. But, on the eve of the 50th anniversary of the liberation of Byelarus, I wandered around the Minsk military cemetery and discovered the grave of an American citizen, Ms. Ruth S. Waller, who was born August 19, 1921, in California and died (it is unknown how and why) in August of 1946 in Minsk. I hurried to tell James and Ron. Major Bishop suggested taking a taxi and going right away to the military cemetery. But not a single cab was in sight by the Byelarus hotel. I suggested taking a tram. The Americans did not object. So, through the backyard of the fashionable Byelarus hotel, we went to the tram stop. When we were getting on tram # 3, my brain hit me: "Oh my, is it right to take them somewhere in a tram? What if it's prohibited?" I swear, this thought did cross my mind. In the next instant, I was aware that it is not 1937 [the year generally considered as the peak of Stalinist repression.-- Translator's note.] and not even 1985 [when Gorbachev's reforms started]. Who cares? It's not a big deal that two American Majors ride tram # 3 looking through a dirty window at a dilapidated wall of a brewery and a gloomy stone wall of a hospital. Just to think how they have intimidated us by the all-seeing eye of the [Communist] Party, striking terror into our hearts. To this day we look around suspicious of being watched.

In short, the tram took us to the place. The military cemetery was quiet and sad as usual. We found the grave of Ruth Waller, member of UNRRA mission [as the tombstone read]. Ron explained that UNRRA is an organization assisting countries which have suffered in a war or a disaster in rebuilding their economies. Thus,

there were Americans among those who assisted in rebuilding Minsk after the war. Who remembers about it today? Who knows the name of Ruth Waller, an unknown American woman who died (or perished?) reviving Minsk? The cold war has struck the good deeds of UNRRA mission members out of our memory. And the capital of Byelarus risen from the ruin, gave home to Lee Harvey Oswald. Regrettably, so it was.

We walked along the paths of the cemetery reading tombstone inscriptions and looking at the pictures of the deceased framed by cold granite. We stopped for some time at the resting place of the Byelorussian bards Yanka Kupala and Yakub Kolas, then entered the temple and placed candles for the repose of the souls of all the dead in wars. We stood in silence at the foot of a crucifix before returning to bustling worldly life. On the other side of the cemetery fence, trams were thundering; people were waiting in a crowded line to buy vodka. We were walking along the hot, July, streets of Minsk, yesterday's enemies and today's friends. Now believing strongly that no force in the world will ever make us look at each other through weapon sights, or sweat at a Saigon, or a Kabul. We are not rabbits any more; life has taught us to move our ears.

CONGRATULATIONS

To three new FAO selectees to Brigadier General:

COL Keith Dayton, 48E, assigned to JCS as an executive assistant to the director. He will be the next Defense Attache to Moscow.

COL Karl Eikenberry, 48F, assigned to OSD as a senior country director for China. He will be the next Defense Attache to Beijing.

COL Eric Olson, 48C, currently assigned to ODCSOPS, DA, as the Chief of Strategy, Plans, and Policy Division. Future assignment still to be determined.

SPOTLIGHT ON EURASIA



THE WORLD OF THE

48E

THE REGION. The Eurasian FAO (48E) geographical region encompasses 15 countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Estonia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan. The Central European countries were apart of this regional specialty until 1992, and senior FAO positions in these countries are still manned by Eurasian FAO (while European FAO are being trained).

TRAINING. Training for Eurasian FAOs follows a standard pattern — one year of language at the Defense Language Institute (DLI), 18 months of graduate schooling at a recognized Eurasian studies program, and 18 months of in-country training (ICT) at the George C. Marshall Center in Germany. During training at the Marshall Center, officers have the opportunity to serve as interns with a variety of U.S. government organizations for 2-4 months at a time. Other less standard FAO training options exist for Eurasian FAOs — some officers have entered two year graduate programs, that offer significant “semesters abroad,” after a year of language at DLI.

Note: The FAO Proponent is currently in the process of creating an in-country training site at the General Staff College in Ukraine, in place of Marshall Center ICT.

CURRENT POSITIONS

The following information provides an overview of all currently listed 48E positions in the former Soviet Union. Keep in mind that, at present, a significant number of positions are being re-coded into or out of FA48E by the Army's OPMS XXI Task Force. The first chart provides a breakdown of the positions into army and joint slots, and gives you an idea of the large number of joint requirements that must be met. The subsequent list of 48E positions is grouped by grade and provides the command or agency and a basic description of each slot. When available, geographic location is also provided.

Normally, only about one-third of all FAO requisitions come open for fill in a given year. The determination of which 48E slots are or are not filled varies by length of tour. Because of a continuing shortage of 48Es in the Army an Officer Distribution Plan or ODP determines which positions within the field are filled.

ABBREVIATIONS

A/ARMA - ASSISTANT ARMY ATTACHE	MAAG - MILITARY ASST ARMY GP
ARMA - ARMY ATTACHE	MLO - MILITARY LIAISON OFFICE
CAC - COMBINED ARMS CENTER	NAPA - US ARMY NATIONAL ASST PLANNING ACTIVITY
CHF - CHIEF	NDU - NATIONAL DEFENSE UNIVERSITY
DAS - DEFENSE ATTACHE SYSTEM	ODC - OFFICE OF DEFENSE COOPERATION
DATT - DEFENSE ATTACHE	OSIA - ON-SITE INSPECTION AGENCY
DCSINT - DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF FOR INTELLIGENCE	SAO - SECURITY ASSISTANCE OFFICER
DCSOPS - DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF FOR OPS & PLANS	EUCOM - EUROPEAN COMMAND
DIA - DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY	SMA - SENIOR MILITARY ANALYST
DSAA - DEFENSE SECURITY ASST AGENCY	SMIO - SENIOR MILITARY INTELLIGENCE ANALYST
DUSA-IA - DEP UNDERSECRETARY OF THE ARMY FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS	TRADOC - TNG & DOCTRINE CMD HQ
GCMC - GEORGE C. MARSHALL CENTER	USAREUR - UNITED STATES ARMY, EUROPE

O6 / COL JOINT

DAS	BELARUS	DATT / ARMA
DAS	KAZAHKSTAN	DATT / ARMA
DAS	RUSSIA	ARMA
DAS	UKRAINE	ARMA
GCMC	GERMANY	DEAN OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
NATO SCHOOL	GERMANY	CHF, ARMY ELE/DEPARTMENT HEAD
OSD	PENTAGON	DIRECTOR, DEMIL PROGRAM
OSD	PENTAGON	DEPUTY DIRECTOR REGIONAL AFFAIRS (RUE)
OSD	PENTAGON	ASSISTANT FOR MILITARY ISSUES
OSD	PENTAGON	COUNTRY DIRECTOR - RUSSIA
OSIA	VIRGINIA	CHIEF OF STAFF
OSIA	VIRGINIA	CDR, MONITORING OPERATIONS
OSIA	GERMANY	CDR, EUROPEAN OPERATIONS
OSIA	VIRGINIA	CHF, START
SHAPE	BELGIUM	CHF, PARTNERSHIP COORD CELL

O5 / LTC ARMY

CAC	KANSAS	INSTRUCTOR, STRATEGIC DIVISION
DCSINT	PENTAGON	SR RUSSIAN ANALYST
DCSOPS	PENTAGON	REGIONAL STAFF OFFICER
DUSA	PENTAGON	REGIONAL STAFF OFFICER
USAREUR	GERMANY	CHF, INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES
USAREUR	GERMANY	TM CHF, FOR INTEL

JOINT

DAS	ARMENIA	DATT/ARMA
DAS	KAZAKHSTAN	AARMA
DAS	LITHUANIA	DATT/ARMA
DAS	MOLDOVA	ARMA
DAS	RUSSIA	AARMA
DAS	RUSSIA	AARMA
DAS	TURKMENISTAN	DATT/ARMA
DAS	UZBEKISTAN	DATT/ARMA
DIA-DHS	VIRGINIA	DH02 (RUSSIAN DESK OFF)
DEF SPT ACTIVITY	VIRGINIA	SUPERVISOR, IO (RDO)
DEF MIL SPT DET	MARYLAND	CHF, ATTACHE SPT DET
DIA	WASHINGTON	CHF, EURASIA BRANCH
DIA	WASHINGTON	SMIO
DIA	WASHINGTON	CHF, MILITARY CAPACITY (RU)

EUCOM	GERMANY	E. EUR AO, NATO BR
EUCOM	GERMANY	ARMS CONTROL OFFICER, CDE
EUCOM	LITHUANIA	ARMY AUGMENTEE, ODC
EUCOM	KIEV	ARMY AUGMENTEE, ODC
GCMC	GERMANY	CHF, FAO DIVISION
GCMC	GERMANY	CHF, FOREIGN LANGUAGE TNG CTR-EUROPE
JICEUR	ENGLAND	CHF, CURRENT INTELLIGENCE BR
OJCS	PENTAGON	CHF, MOLINK
OJCS	PENTAGON	PRESIDENTIAL TRANSLATOR
OJCS	PENTAGON	XO, J5
OJCS	PENTAGON	POL-MIL PLANNER (J5-RUE)
OJCS	PENTAGON	POL-MIL PLANNER (J5-RUE)
OJCS	PENTAGON	POL-MIL PLANNER (J5-RUE)
OSD	PENTAGON	ASST, RUS/E. EUR, ASD (STRAT & RES)
OSIA	VIRGINIA	REGIONAL PLANNER
OSIA	VIRGINIA	REGIONAL MISSION COMMANDER
OSIA	VIRGINIA	REGIONAL MISSION COMMANDER
OSIA	VIRGINIA	REGIONAL MISSION COMMANDER
OSIA	VIRGINIA	REGIONAL MISSION COMMANDER
OSIA	VIRGINIA	REGIONAL MISSION COMMANDER
OSIA	VIRGINIA	REGIONAL MISSION COMMANDER
OSIA	VIRGINIA	REGIONAL MISSION COMMANDER
OSIA	VIRGINIA	REGIONAL SITE COMMANDER
OSIA	VIRGINIA	REGIONAL SITE COMMANDER
OSIA	VIRGINIA	REGIONAL SITE COMMANDER
OSIA	VIRGINIA	REGIONAL SITE COMMANDER
OSIA	VIRGINIA	REGIONAL SITE COMMANDER
OSIA	VIRGINIA	REGIONAL SITE COMMANDER
OSIA	VIRGINIA	REGIONAL TEAM CHIEF
OSIA	VIRGINIA	REGIONAL TEAM CHIEF
OSIA	VIRGINIA	REGIONAL TEAM CHIEF
OSIA	VIRGINIA	REGIONAL LIAISON OFFICER
OSIA	VIRGINIA	REGIONAL CHIEF
SHAPE	BELGIUM	CHF, CAEE SPEC YTA
SHAPE	BELGIUM	CHF, EURASIAN SPEC YTA
SHAPE	BELGIUM	REGIONAL CAEE SPEC YTA

MAJ / 04
ARMY

TRADOC	VIRGINIA	MILITARY ANALYST
USAREUR	GERMANY	FORWARD AREA INTEL ANALYST
USAREUR	GERMANY	FORWARD AREA INTEL ANALYST
USAREUR	GERMANY	MILITARY PROGRAM MANAGER
USAREUR	GERMANY	MILITARY PROGRAM MANAGER
USAREUR	GERMANY	COMBAT FOREIGN AREA OFFICER
HHC, 1ST ID	GERMANY	G2 PLANS OFFICER
HHC, 1ST ID	GERMANY	G3 PLANS OFFICER
NAT GND INT CTR	VIRGINIA	ANALYST
NAT GND INT CTR	VIRGINIA	ANALYST
NAT GND INT CTR	VIRGINIA	ANALYST
NAT GND INT CTR	VIRGINIA	ANALYST
NAT GND INT CTR	VIRGINIA	ANALYST
NAT GND INT CTR	VIRGINIA	ANALYST
NAT GND INT CTR	VIRGINIA	ANALYST
NAT GND INT CTR	VIRGINIA	ANALYST
NAT GND INT CTR	VIRGINIA	ANALYST
DCSINT	PENTAGON	ANALYST
USMA	WEST POINT	INSTRUCTOR
USMA	WEST POINT	INSTRUCTOR
USMA	WEST POINT	INSTRUCTOR
USMA	WEST POINT	INSTRUCTOR
USMA	WEST POINT	INSTRUCTOR
USMA	WEST POINT	INSTRUCTOR
USMA	WEST POINT	INSTRUCTOR

JOINT

AF ACADEMY	COLORADO	INSTRUCTOR
AF ACADEMY	COLORADO	INSTRUCTOR
AFCENT	NETHERLANDS	REGIONAL STAFF OFFICER
DIA-DHS	VIRGINIA	REGIONAL DESK OFFICER
DIA-DHS	VIRGINIA	REGIONAL DESK OFFICER
DAS	RUSSIA	AARMA
DAS	RUSSIA	AARMA
DAS	TAJKISTAN	DATT/ARMA
DAS	UKRAINE	AARMA
DIA	WASHINGTON	INTELLIGENCE OFFICER
DIA	WASHINGTON	INTELLIGENCE OFFICER
DIA	WASHINGTON	INTELLIGENCE OFFICER
DIA	WASHINGTON	INTELLIGENCE OFFICER
DIA	WASHINGTON	SMA (ARMS CONTROL)
DIA	WASHINGTON	SMA (ARMS CONTROL)
DIA	WASHINGTON	SMA (ARMS CONTROL)
DIA	WASHINGTON	SMA (ARMS CONTROL)
DIA	WASHINGTON	INTELLIGENCE OFFICER (ARMS CONTROL)
DIA	WASHINGTON	SMIO (MIL CAP)
DIA	WASHINGTON	SMIO (MIL CAP)
DIA	WASHINGTON	SMA (MIL CAP)
DIA	WASHINGTON	SMA (MIL CAP)
DIA	WASHINGTON	SMA (MIL CAP)
DIA	WASHINGTON	SMA (MIL CAP)
DLI/FLC	CALIFORNIA	FAO PROPONENT LIAISON OFFICER
EUCOM	GERMANY	FORWARD AREA INTELLIGENCE ANALYST
EUCOM	ESTONIA	ARMY AUGMENTEE, ODC
EUCOM	LATVIA	ARMY AUGMENTEE, ODC
GCMC	GERMANY	SECTION CHIEF
GCMC	GERMANY	SECTION CHIEF
GCMC	GERMANY	INSTRUCTOR
GCMC	GERMANY	RESEARCHER
JIC-CENTCOM	FLORIDA	GROUND ANALYST
JIC-EUCOM	ENGLAND	GROUND ANALYST
JIC-EUCOM	ENGLAND	GROUND ANALYST
OJCS	PENTAGON	PRESIDENTIAL TRANSLATOR (MOLINK)
OSIA	VIRGINIA	REGIONAL ASST PLANNER
OSIA	VIRGINIA	REGIONAL DEPUTY TEAM CHIEF
OSIA	VIRGINIA	REGIONAL DEPUTY TEAM CHIEF
OSIA	VIRGINIA	REGIONAL DEPUTY SITE COMMANDER
OSIA	VIRGINIA	REGIONAL DEPUTY SITE COMMANDER
OSIA	VIRGINIA	REGIONAL DEPUTY SITE COMMANDER
OSIA	VIRGINIA	REGIONAL DEPUTY SITE COMMANDER
OSIA	VIRGINIA	REGIONAL DEPUTY SITE COMMANDER
OSIA	VIRGINIA	REGIONAL DEPUTY SITE COMMANDER
OSIA	VIRGINIA	REGIONAL DEPUTY SITE COMMANDER
OSIA	VIRGINIA	REGIONAL DEPUTY SITE COMMANDER
OSIA	VIRGINIA	REGIONAL DEPUTY SITE COMMANDER
OSIA	VIRGINIA	REGIONAL DEPUTY CHIEF, OPERATIONS
OSIA	VIRGINIA	REGIONAL DEPUTY TEAM CHIEF
OSIA	VIRGINIA	REGIONAL DEPUTY TEAM CHIEF
PACOM	HAWAII	RUSSIAN GROUND ANALYST

This is the third in a series of regional highlights provided for the interest of the membership. As the staff is notified of changes in possible assignments we will get them out to you in the form of errata sheets. Once every two years we will publish a completely new segment on your region.

ASSOCIATION NEWS

We Are Officially Tax Exempt!!

Finally! After almost a year we have received the Internal Revenue Service's approval of our organization's status as a non-profit, tax exempt group. We applied for status under section 501 (C) (3) figuring that it would be easier to attain that more general status than one as a military association under section 501 (c) (19). As it turned out, the IRS agreed that we really should be carried as a military association.

Why belabor the issue of our tax-exempt status — the reason is that it now allows us to apply for discounted postal rates for the Journal, to gain state tax and county tax exempt status, and to reduce costs in everything we do. For example, this action will reduce the cost of publishing and sending the Journal, from \$1700 to \$1000 per issue. It also allows members to donate money or material to the organization and get a tax credit for their efforts.

Membership Renewals Coming Back In Record Numbers

One of the results of the Association being more than a year old is that we have been sending out renewal notices to our original one-year members. We sent approximately 40 renewal notices in May, 30 in June, 40 in July, and more than 60 this month. We thought that our renewal rate was pretty good — 36 from May, 28 from June and so far, 29 from July — until we spoke with some of the membership heads of other national professional associations. Apparently, we are DOING FANTASTICALLY! These other gentlemen stated that we must have a very devoted following to get renewals in those large percentages. So, first, a THANK YOU to you the membership of FAOA is in order.

How could this renewal effort be even better?

Two ideas come to mind immediately — first, if you are renewing and believe in the FAOA, renew for more than one year. The work involved in processing renewals and sending out multiple renewal notices is significant for our tiny staff of volunteers, to say nothing of the cost of sending the mailers out again and again. Remember its your money we're spending. Second, if you think that the association is good enough to

rejoin, then send us some names of your friends that might not be members yet. One of the few ways that we can grow is through word of mouth and personal recommendations. This is especially true of our retired membership — we are totally reliant on you to get new retired members in the organization.



New Sections in the Journal

The FAO Association is getting ready to welcome its first Navy FAO members and as of the next issue will add a NAVY FAO NOTES segment. Also you may have noticed that we continue to experiment with new segments and drop old ideas — if there are some you really like let us know!

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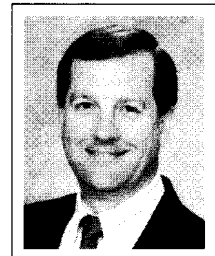
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BILL ALEWINE
 Soldier Statesman, Ret.
 REALTOR® CRS, GRI

The Cyprus Problem: An American View

by
COL Andonios Neroulis, ISAR (R)

The Cyprus problem can be resolved if we can answer the question: which came first, the chicken or the egg? We constantly hear about oppression, atrocities and mistakes committed by both sides, but who started them and who caused them first can be argued ad infinitum. What good will it do to debate these issues? What purposes will it serve?

Rather than forget the past (atrocities and oppression included), but use the lessons learned from past misdeeds to build a viable solution and a bright new future.

This is possible only if both sides want a solution whereby the two communities will come to live together again, with some iron-clad protections, so that “misdeeds” will not be committed by anyone, and if they are committed, the guilty parties will be severely punished.

The sad fact is that when the Greek Cypriots had the upper hand in the early 1970's, a solution could have been reached, but focusing on minute rather than substantive matters, a solution was not reached. The Greek-instigated coup, followed by the Turkish invasion to “restore constitutional order” in Cyprus has resulted in the current dismal state of affairs.

Now that the Turkish Cypriot side has the upper hand, we see the same mentality and stupidity that the Greek Cypriots displayed in pre-1974 period.

At a time when borders are being eliminated throughout Europe, it is absurd to have barbed wire separating two peoples, who, except for their different religions, are very much alike in the way they think, behave, live and feel, in family values, etc.

Walls and guns do not guarantee freedom and security, for the time will come when your opponent will have bigger and more sophisticated weapons to destroy you. It's a vicious cycle. An attempt is being made in Bosnia to resolve a similar ethnic problem — can this serve as a model for a solution to the Cyprus problem? Switzerland has a diverse ethnic population but has no strife — could this be the model to follow?

Cyprus is an independent country and the sooner the Greek and Turkish Cypriots accept this fact, the easier it will be for a solution to be reached. Although some would consider this necessary and well-intentioned, the presence of Greece and Turkey has complicated matters, been a hindrance to a solution

and has caused the present problem. There is a Cypriot flag — let's have a Cypriot national anthem. The two communities can have their own cultural identities, but let's work on a national identity as well.

Let's admit that mistakes have been made and let each side take its share of the responsibility for them. Let's put an end to inflammatory rhetoric whose main purpose is to promote political careers. Each side has to stop blaming the other for its faults and shortcomings and must start thinking with its brain, not with its heart. If we can do this, we can find a solution.

Cyprus does not have oil. It used to produce the finest mules for pack animals, but these are no longer important in modern warfare. However, Cyprus is blessed with an excellent location and with people that are more capable than their counterparts in Greece and Turkey; it can become the economic center of the Middle East, and its people can prosper. The Soviet Union was not defeated militarily, but economically, and the Turkish Cypriot side needs to keep this in mind.

The Greek Cypriot side has to differentiate between Hellenism and Helladism. There are Hellenes throughout the world and Greece is not a vital or necessary ingredient for their survival. The same analogy applies to the Turkish Cypriots. The best examples of the two people working in harmony and prospering can be seen in America, the UK, etc.

So, going back to the original question: Which came first the chicken or the egg? The answer, in this case, is: It's irrelevant. What is important is that we must have chickens and eggs; both are necessary and one cannot exist without the other.

Let's get Mr. Clerides and Mr. Denktash (think of them as the chicken and the egg or visa versa) locked in a room and say to them: “You cannot leave until you have solved this issue.” They had almost solved it before in 1973, but the Greek Cypriots (Makarios' forces vs. Grivas' forces) were more preoccupied in fighting each other than in focusing on the overall solution to the Cyprus question. Leave Greece and Turkey out of the negotiations and use the good offices of an internationally recognized, impartial, but strong mediator that both parties will respect and who will be expected to keep the talks moving. The mediator must understand Middle Eastern reasoning and be capable of imposing Western logic and pragmatism in resolving this problem.

The irony of the conflicts between the two groups is that there are plenty of Turks with Greek blood flowing in their veins and plenty of Greeks with Turkish blood in theirs. Instead of spending time, money, efforts, etc., to keep old wounds open and to aggravate relations, why not devote the same resources and energy to building bridges, that improve living conditions, instead of spending it on military hardware. Israel has come to realize that a continuous state of siege and war is detrimental to its nationhood, to its survival — can Greece and Turkey come to the same conclusion? The Turkish generals, the guardians of

(Continued on page 17)

(Continued from page 16)

Ataturk's secular legacy, do not need to maintain a state of confrontation in order to maintain their privileged status. If better relations exist with Greece, Turkey has more to gain than to lose.

Look at the domestic, economic, political and social problems of each country. Isn't it more important to attack these issues rather than spend hard-earned money to prepare to attack each other?

Did Greek and Turkish Cypriots live together in peace during the British Colonial period prior to the EOKA year? The answer is yes. If it were possible then, it logically should be possible now. It is not an easy task to turn back the clock, to bring people together that have lived apart, and to erase past acts of hatred, but perpetuating the *status quo* will eventually lead to another bloody confrontation and conflict.

Greece, Turkey, and the Greek and Turkish Cypriots are condemned to be neighbors. Neither one will go away. If each side accepts this fact of life, then it become obvious that it would benefit all of their peoples to promote and develop good neighbor relations for the future. You do not have to forget the past, only learn from it, and to look ahead not behind.

There have been enough UN resolutions, fact-finding missions, special envoys to Cyprus, etc. It is time for the local parties to adopt a solution that would form the foundation upon which a national Cypriot identity could be build. But as things stand now, the two sides cannot arrive at a solution by themselves. The time is now for the European Union and the United States to work together to bring about a solution to this long existing problem.

Col Neroulias, USAR (Ret) worked as a linguist/ editor for FBIS 1970-1978, and was stationed in Greece (1975-76) and Cyprus (1976-78). From 1985-1996, he worked as the IMA as Reserve Assistant Army Attache to USDAO, Nicosia, Cyprus.

BOOK REVIEW

Book Name: *The Crisis in Kashmir: Portents of War — Hopes of Peace*

Author: Sumit Ganguly

Published by The Woodrow Wilson Center Press and Cambridge University Press, 1996, 171 pages. ISBN: 0-521-59066-3, hardback.

India and Pakistan have fought three wars since independence from the British. Two of these wars were over the former princely state of Kashmir. This book traces the origins, and provides a very complete account of the insurgency that has racked the Indian controlled portion of Jammu and Kashmir since 1989. Using extensive sources, Ganguly's main argument is that the insurgency was fostered by an increase in political mobilization which coincided with extreme institutional decay.

In order to convince the Kashmiris that their lives could be bettered by remaining part of India, the national level Indian authorities in New Delhi invested in expanding literacy, improving the local mass media, and encouraging higher education in Jammu and Kashmir. This produced a generation of well educated, politically astute Kashmiris.

However, at the same time, the government, ever wary of secessionist activities among the Kashmiris, conscientiously and systemically stunted the development of political institutions within the state. Since they were now unable to express dissent in an institutional context, this new generation of educated, aware Kashmiris resorted to violence as their only method of political expression.

This book is a must for South Asian FAOs, as well as for those who wish to learn more about this critical arena of world conflict.

— **Reviewer:** Major Scot W. Zurschmit

EDITOR'S NOTE: The Journal will printed relevant book reviews of professionally interesting material. We encourage our members to "spread the word" when they come across such material.

Department of Defense Recognizes the Value of the “Purple” Foreign Area Officer

by Frank McCluskey (DIA/DHP-1B)

Senior DoD officials have long recognized the value of regional/area knowledge and language training in the development of officers for key positions in OSD, the Joint Staff, Unified Command staffs, the Defense Intelligence Agency and the Defense Security Assistance Agency. The approval of DoD Directive 1315.17, “Service Foreign Area Officer (FAO) Programs,” on 22 February 1997 reinforced senior leadership’s support for this key program by directing each Service to develop a FAO program.

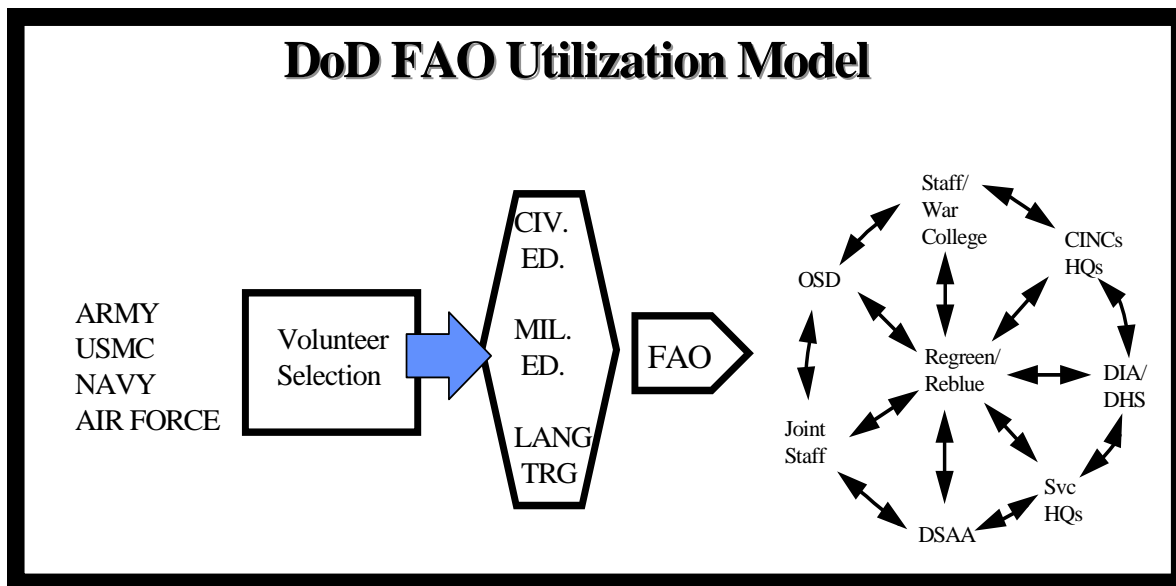
Now officers in the Navy and Air Force can join those of the Army and Marine Corps in receiving formal FAO training and experience. The final form of Service FAO programs has not been set; however, we anticipate that utilization would be similar to that depicted in this diagram.

While FAO programs will differ somewhat

For interested officers, the following is a brief synopsis of Service-specific FAO status:

Army FAO Program: DA Pam 600-3, Chapter 40; Proponent telephone: DSN 227-6927. Continues to provide highly qualified officers who possess the regional expertise necessary in many joint and defense assignments. The OPMS XXI Task Force Study included the Army FAO Program. Recommendations by this Study have been accepted by the CSA, Army, and will fix some of the personnel problems experienced by the Army program in the recent past. Currently, the Army FAO population is 1,290 (at all ranks -- Major through Colonel), plus an additional 810 trainees (Captains).

Marine Corps FAO Program: USMC Order 1520.11D; Proponent telephone: DSN 224-4223. The existing Marine Corps FAO Program, like its Army counterpart, has provided well qualified personnel to fill Defense Attache positions around the world. The current program, consisting of language and one year in-country training, has recently expanded to include graduate school for all FAO trainees. The Corps has also created a separate program -- Regional Affairs Officer Program -- geared to training more personnel for Defense Attache System (DAS) assignments. This program consists of a twelve to eighteen month graduate area studies program



initially, followed by required language training enroute to an assignment. While this latter program will allow officers to get back more frequently to troops, it is limited to the “soft

between the Services, you -- as serving FAOs -- should encourage likely candidates to apply for their Service’s FAO program. Likewise, officers who have obtained FAO qualifications (language and area expertise) through previous assignments and study can request to be designated as FAOs.

languages” (Spanish, French, Italian, etc.). Training for regions that require hard languages remains in the standard FAO training system. At this time, Marine Corps FAO managers are conducting a force-wide review to identify more positions for their FAO population.

Navy FAO Program: OPNAV Instruction

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1301.10; Proponent telephone: DSN 224-6166. On March 7, 1997, CNO sent a message to all Navy commands announcing the new program. Navy officials have identified 280 billets to be coded for FAOs. The Navy's first FAO selection board met the wee of 14 July 1997 to consider the initial 480 applicants. While graduate school is in the cards, program managers have not agreed to provide one-year in-country training, but will try for regional assignments to give their officers similar experience. The Navy's target FAO population is 700, with an additional 200 officers in training at any one time.

Air Force FAO Program: Regulation/ Instruction still to be published; Proponent telephone: DSN 223-8555. Air Force senior leadership met in mid-June 1997 to discuss the DoD Directive and to map out the Air Force FAO Program. The leadership identified 600 potential FAO positions/billets. These positions/billets still need to be validated. The Air Force regulation/ Instruction covering the program is due to be published in January 1998 (action SAF-IAX). Using the Air Force personnel ration of 5:1 people to positions, the Service may develop a FAO population of up to 3,000.

There is no doubt that early FAO training and follow-on assignments develop the type of military diplomats need to serve in the DAS. Historically, it is the FAO, with his/her prior knowledge of the region and language, who have served superbly in the DAS. Other officers, although entering the DAS through a rigorous selection process, require extensive language training and frequently never attain the same levels of language fluency and local regional knowledge as their FAO counterparts. Experience has shown that language ability and region expertise are the two most important contributing factors to success as military diplomats.

Military attaches face challenging and unique tours of duty. They continually exercise their role as DoD's on-the-scene eyes and ears. Again and again, Unified Commanders and National-level officials have singled out the attaches' key role in crisis situations. From diverse locations such as Haiti, Bosnia, Somalia, Liberia, and the great lakes region of Africa (Rwanda, Uganda, Burundi, and the Democratic Republic of Congo) attaches have provided the insight, critical analysis, and reporting essential to successful contingency planning and execution.

With new and expanding Service FAO programs coming on board to train area specialists, now is the time to recommend this career field to friends who have the

aptitude and interest in this challenging operational arena. We need to start training FAOs today in order to have tomorrow's soldier-diplomats to meet the significant challenges of the future.

EDITOR'S NOTE: FAO Journal estimates that the current increases in Navy, Marine, and Air Force FAO Programs will only partly offset the growth in the "Purple" requirement for the FAO expertise worldwide. The Army program will continue to experience a slight growth over the next ten years.

News For Reserve FAOs

by COL Ron West, USAR, Dep Chf, FAO Div

Personnel management at ARPERCEN presently being handled by teams based on the individuals home address will soon return to being handled according to branch assignment. The FAO personnel manager is currently a part of the OCONUS team. This team will no longer exist under the new system. At this time, it is expected that the FAO personnel manager will be a part of the MI branch management team. Look for further information on this from ARPERCEN in the near future.

Downsizing of the IMA program will result in the loss of IMA FAO assets. However, in addition to the traditional IMA program, The Chief, Army Reserve established a second program, Individual Ready Reserve Augmentee, to help support wartime staffing requirements. Many of the positions designated for IRR attachment were previously identified as IMA positions. Converting IMA soldiers to IRR Augmentees will retain these trained personnel. The IRR Augmentee will be attached to designated MOBTDA positions rather than assigned to them.

FAO personnel whose IMA position has been deleted and have been identified by the agency for realignment to an IRR Augmentee position will have an opportunity to volunteer for the IRR Augmentation program. Soldiers must understand a voluntary move to an IRR Augmentee position will nullify their eligibility for Selected Reserve Transition Benefits. However, without volunteering to move to the IRR, soldiers may not be attached to an IRR Augmentation position. Implementation of the IRR Augmentee program will commence on 1 Oct. 97.

The Good / Bad News *About Promotions* ARMY MAJORS & LTC BOARD RESULTS

On 17 September, both the Army LTC and MAJ Promotion Board results were released. Generally speaking, there was lots of good news for FAOs and our selection rates remain competitive with the rest of the Army. A review of the results follows.

FY 97 MAJ Board Results.

For the MAJ's selection board we continued the trend of above-the-Army-average selection results. The Army average in the Primary Zone (PZ) was 74.2%. 108 of 132 FAOs were selected for a rate of 81.8%, 7.6% above the Army average. Of the 32 officers who were not selected, the breakdown by AOC is: 3 - 48B; 11 - 48C; 1 - 48D; 2 - 48E; 0 - 48F; 4 - 48G; 1 - 48H; 1 - 48I; 1 - 48J. Also, 11 FAOs were selected Below the Zone (BZ), up from 4 last year. None of the 4 FAOs in the Above the Zone (AZ) category were selected. Over the past 17 years, since Year Group (YG) 72, the FAO selection rate in the Primary Zone to Major averages 7.2% above the Army average. Only YG 83, five years ago, was below the Army average, (-)0.4%.

FY 97 LTC Board Results.

The FY 97 FAO selection rate was 57% compared with the Army average of 59.9%. Due to the relatively small number of FAOs in the PZ, a total of 100, the difference between the Army average is 3 FAOs. The total number of FAOs selected was 1 of 29 AZ, 57 of 100 PZ, and 1 of 89 BZ. Directed floors by Area of Concentration (AOC): 48E - 7; 48G - 4; 48H - 5; 48I - 3. All floors were exceeded. A review of ORBs of selected officers revealed that 79% had served at least one 48 utilization tour prior to the board, 67% served as BN XO/S3, and 93% had commanded at the company level. Since YG 68, the FAO selection rate in the PZ to LTC averages 5.5% above the Army average. Only two Year Groups, YG 78 (-)0.2% and this year's group, YG 81 (-)2.9%, were below the Army average.

Floors.

In determining the need to establish a floor, DCSPER compares the total requirements for a grade and AOC against the inventory of officers who hold that AOC. If, based on the ratio of inventory to positions, an imbalance exists then a floor is generated. However, the lowest density AOCs almost never put enough officers in a promotion zone to even qualify for consideration for a floor (for example, Boards cannot be directed to promote 100% of an AOC, and if only 1 officer is in the zone . . .).

Summary.

While there have been occasional dips in our selection rates, a look at the total picture shows that FAOs are statistically being promoted at or above the Army average to MAJ and LTC.

Problems that remain are FAO selection for CGSC, SSC and promotion to O-6. OPMS XXI should solve the schooling issues with universal MEL 4 training for all MAJs and MEL 1 for all COLs.

The issue of promotion to COL has also been addressed by GEN Reimer in his guidance for OPMS XXI. The FAO 8 year average for selection to COL is (-) 5.5%. In the development of OPMS XXI, the CSA directed that FAOs be promoted at or above the DOPMA average. This, combined with the directive to build MAJ/LTC inventories to meet COL requirements as well as the implementation of single-tracking in the Operations Support career path for FAOs, should correct the the lower-than-Army-average COL promotion rate.

NEW FAO TRAINING SITES OPEN!

Manila, Philippines opens to a Southeast Asian FAO trainee in September 1997. The Officer trainee will attend the Philippine Joint Service Staff College as part of his/her In-country Training.

Similarly, Zagreb, Croatia should open up in October 1997 to a European FAO trainee. That trainee will attend the Croatian Staff College.

In Sub-Saharan Africa, the training site in Botswana has added one more FAO trainee slot.

Regional desk officers at the FAO Proponent are actively search for a few new FAO training site, to expand the Army FAO training capacity from 90 officers to 115 officers, overall.

Regional Conferences

Trends in World Politics," First Annual Postgraduate Conference, Centre of Globalisation, Warwick University, United Kingdom.

October 1997

31 Oct-1 Nov 97 "Non-State Actors and Authority in the Global System," Centre for the Study of Globalisation and Regionalisation, Warwick University, U.K.

November 1997

12-15 Nov 97 Columbus Ohio, African Studies Association Annual Meeting, POC: (404) 329-6410.

14-16 Nov 97 "Peace and War Issues: Gender, Race, Identity, and Citizenship," Peace History Society, University of Texas, San Antonio, TX, POC: Scott L. Bills, Department of History, Stephen F. Austin State University, TX 75962.
E-mail: SBills@sfasu.edu.

20-23 Nov 97 American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies National Convention, Seattle, WA, POC: Wendy Walker (617) 495-0677.

December 1997

10-11 Dec 97 "Globalisation versus Regionalisation: New

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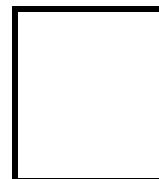
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