

DFL Weekly SITREP (15 June 11)

Current Week **HIGHLIGHTS:**

1. International Cadet and Officer Participation in Cadet Summer Training:
 - a. Participants from Kazakhstan, Spain and Taiwan in West Point's Cadet Leader Development Training as part of the academy's summer military training at Camp Buckner have safely departed. Major Thomas Lampersberger of the Austrian Army completed an exchange serving as a Platoon trainer. He departed on Sunday in route for the Theresan Military Academy.
 - 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 training:
 - a. Major Doug Willig, Instructor in German, arrived in Dresden, Germany on 13 Jun is participating in a Tactic and Logistics Course at the Officer's School of the German Army. The course is 5 weeks and will be a great asset to him in teaching cadets about our allied forces. Several other international officers from various countries are participating as well.
3. Faculty participation in language and cultural immersion trips:
 - a. Currently, the Arabic section is leading a group of seven cadets on a summer Academic Individual Advanced Development (AIAD) trip to Marrakech, Morocco that will continue to 1 July. The cadets arrived safely in Marrakech on Tuesday and will begin their intensive language instruction at Al Alamia Language Institute for five hours a day and then two to three hours in the evening in cultural exchanges in the local area. The cadets will participate in a cultural immersion trip this weekend.

Below are photos from the AIAD participants in group 1 to Morocco who safely returned last Sunday.



In photo 1: LTC Baskerville, Academy Professor of Arabic and CDTs Kenney, Oeschger, Fatool, and Ryan pose with Al Alamia instructors in Marrakech, Morocco.

In photo 2: CDTs Ryan, Fatool, Kenney, and Oeschger sample the local cuisine of sheep brain, stomach, and tongue.

b. Currently, Dr. Hongyu Huang from the Chinese section is leading a group of five cadets on a summer AIAD trip to Changchun, China that will continue to 3 July. The cadets are spending 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.

c. Currently, Dr. Qun Ao from the Chinese section is leading a group of eight cadets to Xi'an, China on Major General Loeffke's Friendship Fund summer AIAD trip that will continue to 3 July. 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.

Below are photos from the AIAD participants to the Taiwan Military Academy in Kaohsiung who safely returned last Saturday.



In photo 1: West Point CDTs Eric Fan, Margaret Jones, Ryan Healy, Caleb Johnson, Damon Paulo, and Alexander Cheng learn the ancient art of Chinese calligraphy during their AIAD trip to Fu Jen University

In photo 2: CDTs Alexander Cheng and Christine Youn teach students at a local Taipei elementary school how to perform the West Point rocket.

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 spent three and a half weeks with the 13eme DBLE, Djibouti. Cadets were integrated into their host units and became completely immersed in the language and culture of the French Foreign Legion in Djibouti. Cadets are gaining significant exposure to Sub-Saharan Africa. The cadets are in final preparations to return home this week.

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 were integrated into their host units and thereby became completely immersed in the language and culture of the French Army in Gabon. Cadets are gaining significant exposure to Sub-Saharan Africa. Tactical military training will be included. The cadets are in final preparations to return home this week.

f. Currently, the German section is leading a group of 3 cadets on a summer AIAD trip to various Bundeswehr units in Saarlouis, Fussen, and Gotha, Germany that will continue to 3 July. The cadets arrived safely on Tuesday. Cadets will spend 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 will 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.

Below is a photo from the AIAD participants to Germany who safely returned last Sunday.



In this photo: CDTs Zach Silvis and Nate Einfeldt with their German hosts on top of the mountain Zwiesel in Bavaria, Germany.

g. Currently, the Persian section is leading one cadet on a summer AIAD trip to Tajikistan that will continue to 8 August. He will participate in an eight week intensive study of Persian language and culture in Dushanbe, Tajikistan. This program is offered by the American Councils for International Education. He will be assigned to live with a Tajiki family for cultural immersion.

h. Currently, Major Tobias and the Russian section is leading eight cadets a summer AIAD trip to Kazakhstan that will continue to 9 July. 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.

4. Upcoming key events:

a. From 19 June to 9 July, the French section will lead a summer AIAD trip to Rochefort, France. 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 supplemented their language instruction with in-depth mil-to-mil contacts with members of all of France's Armed Services. With a total of twenty-seven participants, it is the largest of the Academic Individual Advanced Development (AIAD) offered by West Point.

b. From 20 June to 3 July, the German section will lead 2 cadets on a summer AIAD trip to various Bundeswehr units in Oberviechtach and Fussen, Germany. Cadets will

spend 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 will 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.

c. From 19 June to 10 July, Dr. Rebecca Jones-Kellogg, Mr. Antonio Igrejas, MAJ Jordan Francis, and the Portuguese section will lead a group of 6 cadets on a summer AIAD trip to Mozambique for cultural and language immersion. During the trip, the cadets will accompany US AMB Rowe to Boquisso for a military demining exercise, spend 3 days at the Mozambican Military Academy in Nampula, travel to Lake Niassa to engage with a local community “eco-tourism” project, travel to Metangula to view USAID efforts in conjunction with the Mozambican Navy in the area, then return to Maputo for the 4th of July Reception at the US Embassy before ending the trip at the Bazaruto Arquipelago just north of Maputo.

d. 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 to various cities and regions in Chile.

e. From 17 June to 7 July, the Spanish section will lead a summer AIAD trip to Mexico. Cadets will spend three weeks visiting 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 in Mexico.

f. From 18 July to 22 July, Drs. Martha Gallagher and Hongyu Huang will represent West Point and participate in the first Yale Beijing Conference in Beijing, China. Yale and its related universities will host a Global Alumni Leadership Conference in Beijing which will include West Point and seven Chinese universities including Hong Kong. This conference will help increase contact between Yale and West Point and their ongoing activities related to China.