



**COMMANDER, U.S. PACIFIC COMMAND
(USPACOM)
CAMP H.M. SMITH, HAWAII 96861-4028**

7 Dec 12

From: Colonel Jonathan C. Goff, USMC, Chief of Strategic Plans, US Pacific Command
To: Strategy and Plans Division (PLU), Plans, Policies, and Operations, HQMC

Subj: LANGUAGE TRAINING AFTER ACTION REPORT

1. I am currently executing language training at my duty station in Hawaii in preparation for becoming the Marine Attaché (MARA) in Tokyo, Japan. Training began in August 2012 and will continue into 2013. I am taking one hour of private, one-on-one instruction per week with daily self-study. My instructor, a native speaker, is a Japanese language instructor at a private middle school in Hawaii.
2. Expenses totaling \$2,660.00 included:
 - a. Instruction for 33 weeks @ \$60.00 per hour: \$2460.00
 - b. Materials: \$200.00
3. There is only one language training school in Honolulu, HI that accepts government contract payments. Configuring language training money so that the officer-student administers payments, instead of contracting, opened up options for all private language tutors in my area. Private Japanese lessons in Hawaii range between \$30 and \$60 per hour.
4. My instructor is Mrs. Reiko Iijima, who teaches middle school at Le Jardin Academy, Kailua, HI. She can be reached at riijima@lejardinacademy.org.
5. After approximately 20 weeks of instruction, I took the DLPT-5 for Japanese at MCBH Kaneohe Bay. I received a score of **Listening: 2+, Reading: 3**. On the previous version of the test, DLPT-4, which I took after completing the Japan Ministry of Defense National Institute for Defense Studies in 2007, I received a score of Listening: 3, Reading: 2+. On taking the DLPT-5 for the first time in 2009, with no preparation, I received a score of Listening: 2, Reading: 2+.
6. The language sustainment program is a valuable resource for FAO/RAOs. In my case, it also saved the Marine Corps tens of thousands of dollars in Permanent Change of Station (PCS) moving costs. My family of five was slated to move to the Washington, D.C. area in conjunction with my selection as the Tokyo MARA. As I have a daughter who is a senior in high school and, as I have spent more than two, formal years in various language schools in addition to foreign PME, I did not want to go back to school to refresh my language. The language sustainment program allowed me to do this and continue my regular assignment as Plans Chief.
7. Please contact me at (808) 445-4207 or goffjc@gmail.com with any questions (my PACOM contact info will be invalid after 15 Dec 12).


J.C. Goff