

ELNA UPDATE

Esperanto League for North America, Inc. • Box 1129, El Cerrito, CA 94530 • (510) 653-0998

Issue 1, 1992

WORLD LANGUAGE & WORLD LANGUAGE PROBLEMS

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR LANGUAGE STUDY

The American government has created a trust fund to promote the study of foreign languages and cultures. The fund was established in Dec. 1991 when President Bush signed the National Security Education Act, which was created because of fears that too few Americans study foreign languages and cultures, posing a threat to the nation. The Act creates a \$150 million trust fund to provide scholarships to college students who study foreign languages. "We can no longer define our national security in military terms alone," said Senator David Boren (D., OK) who heads the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, where the Act originated. "Our ignorance of world cultures and world languages represents a threat to our ability to remain a world leader," Boren said.

The fund will help students to learn languages and to study abroad in countries which are considered important allies or enemies of the U.S.

Currently less than 1 percent of American college students study abroad, and 77% of those study in Western Europe, said Norman Peterson of the Liaison Group for International Educational Exchange. These figures "will not meet our needs for international enterprise," he said. (San Francisco *Chronicle*, Dec. 12, 1991)

GERMANS WANT GREATER ROLE FOR THEIR LANGUAGE

Germany has asked the European Community (EC) to increase the status of the German language in its official deliberations. Chancellor Helmut Kohl wants the EC to put German on an equal basis with French and English in the organization's documents and meetings.

A Kohl spokesman said German is not used as much as French and English in EC documents. "We have always had a problem that English and French have been first when it comes to (publi-

cation of) EC documents. "Naturally, we want German to be appropriately acknowledged."

Unification of West and East Germany has made Germany the most widely spoken language in the EC countries. The end of Soviet domination of Eastern Europe has also meant a revival of German cultural and linguistic ties in those countries.

As a sign of the increased role that the German hope to give to their language, German diplomats in the EC and other international organizations now make a point of delivering speeches and papers in German rather than in English.

"We have the size and the importance now to work in our own language," said a German diplomat. (San Francisco *Chronicle*, Jan. 3, 1991)

ENGLISH AS SHE IS SPOKE

- "Looking forward of having the issue of international affairs as their growth along with the advanced type of activities they experience throughout their flights to be a "the Flights of International Guests" instead of a "Flights of our Own", up until today." (From an article about Korean Air Lines titled "The 'KAL'! The One Forever Bluish Upon Worldly Sky" in *New Life* magazine (May, 1987), published by the Korean Community Services, Inc. Sent by Jimmie Osburn)

- "If Mozart finding himself in 1990 listened to a music kaleidoscope for a while he would fall into great depression for sure.

"Not because he would be shocked with primitiveness and monotony of music created by offsprings. On the contrary he would be frightened for a moment with all his life passed in vain as he could never learn so much about the wonderful world of music, and just in a minute he would start working." From English-language version of promotional brochure for Soviet jazz group Orlan. (San Francisco *Chronicle*, Aug. 27, 1991)

FORMER SOVIET REPUBLICS TO CHOOSE NEW ALPHABET

Six former republics in Central Asia have scrapped use of the Cyrillic alphabet, which was

imposed on them by Joseph Stalin. The six former republics—Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Tadzhikistan, Kirghizia and Kazakhstan—have a combined population of 55 million. They are predominately Moslem, while most of the languages spoken there are Turkic.

The six former republics are now deciding whether to use the Arabic or Latin alphabet. Neighboring Turkey is encouraging the former Soviet republics to select the Latin alphabet, as Turkey did when it switched from the Arabic alphabet to the Latin in 1928. Turkish diplomats are pointing to Turkey's rapid development and integration into the world market as a reason for adoption of Latin script. "We are telling these republics that if they want to integrate into the world community and the world economy, then they have to adopt the Latin characters," said Bilal Simsir, a Turkish diplomat who has made official visits to the Moslem republics.

Turkey's influence in the six republics would likely increase if Latin script were adopted. But Iran and Saudia Arabia are pushing hard for the adoption of Arabic script, as they too try to increase their influence in the Moslem republics. "The Arabs and the Persians are trying to sell them on the Arabic alphabet," Simsir said. "They tell them the Koran was written in Arabic and their true history is in Arabic." (*Chicago Tribune*, Nov. 24, 1991. Sent by Mike Jones)

INTERNATIONAL ESPERANTO NEWS

NEW ESPERANTO PUBLICATION

Monda Merkato (World Market) is a new Esperanto publication. At least one new Esperanto periodical appears every week, but what makes this one unique is that it is a compendium of advertisements and announcements by various business and individuals who are linked together by their use of Esperanto. The magazine, which has readers in over 70 countries, lists various industrial products and services which companies offer, as well as "positions wanted" announcements, etc. The magazine plans to go to quarterly publication by 1994.

ESPERANTO IN CHINA

China ranks first in the number of Esperanto speakers and students. Here are some facts about the current status of Esperanto in China.

- In January 1992 *El Popola Ĉinio* (From People's China) published its 400th issue. This monthly illustrated magazine is one of the most popular in the Esperanto world. It began publication in May, 1950.

- Radio Beijing has been broadcasting in Esperanto since 1964 to Europe, Latin America, East Asia and the South Pacific region. It ranks first among stations broadcasting in Esperanto.

- At least 500,000 Chinese have learned Esperanto over the past four decades, according to *China Daily News*. The figure may be higher because of last year's nationwide television lessons in Esperanto. (*El Popola Ĉinio*, Jan. 1992, *China Daily News*, Dec. 12, 1991. Sent by Fr. Arthur Rutledge)

NATIONAL ESPERANTO NEWS

ELNA GETS 800 NUMBER

The Esperanto League for North America (ELNA) recently set up an 800 telephone number for information requestors. Callers who leave their name and address receive an information packet about Esperanto.

ELNA has already noted an increase in information requests because of the 800 number. Articles about Esperanto in the *Chicago Tribune* and the *Mensa Bulletin* which mentioned the 800 number resulted in over 200 calls.

If you or someone you know would like to receive information about Esperanto, call 1-800-828-5944. This number is *only* for information requestors. Anyone who has questions about Esperanto or business to transact with ELNA's Central Office should call ELNA's regular business number, (510) 653-0998.

U.S. ESPERANTO CONFERENCES AND CLASSES - 1992

- April 10 -12, 1992. All-California Esperanto Conference. The Vagabond Hotel, Sacramento, CA. Theme: The Use of Esperanto in the New World Order/Strategies for the Esperantization of the World. For more information contact:

Esperanto-Societo de Sacramento, c/o John Mathews, P.O. Box 60860, Sacramento, CA 95860.

• June 15 - 26, 1992. Beginning and intermediate Esperanto classes. Gaston College, Gastonia, NC. Teacher certification credit available. For more information contact: Dr. Stanley Drake, c/o International Society of Friendship and Goodwill, 211 W. 4th St., P.O. Box 2637, Gastonia, NC 28053-2637 (708) 864-7906.

• June 22 - 26, 1992. Esperanto classes. Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI. For more information contact: Steve Brewer, 1940 Howard St. #439, Kalamazoo, MI 49008 (616) 387-7638, brewer @ cs.wmich.edu.

• June 23 - July 17, 1992. San Francisco State University's 23rd annual summer Esperanto workshop. Held on the campus of SFSU. Five levels of instruction. Some fellowships available. Weekend hospitality parties scheduled. For more information contact: Cathy Schulze, 410 Darrell Rd., Hillsborough, CA 94010 (415) 342-1796.

• July 6 - 17, 1992. Beginning and intermediate Esperanto classes. Meredith College, Raleigh, NC. Teacher certification credit available. For more information contact: Dr. Stanley Drake, c/o International Society of Friendship and Goodwill, 211 W. 4th St., P.O. Box 2637, Gastonia, NC 28053-2637 (708) 864-7906.

• July 13 - 18, 1992. Beginning, intermediate and intermediate/advanced Esperanto classes. Some stipends are available. Evening events, speakers also. For more information contact: Hilda Grossman, Office of Summer Programs, University of Hartford, 200 Bloomfield Ave., West Hartford, CT 06117 (800) 234-4412 or (203) 768-4401.

• July 18 - 22, 1992. 40th annual convention of the Esperanto League for North America. Location: University of California at Berkeley. ELNA members will receive descriptive brochure and registration form with upcoming issue of *esperanto usa*. Non-members may contact: Esperanto League for North America, P.O. Box 1129, El Cerrito, CA 94530 (510) 653-0998.

• July 20 - 31, 1992. Beginning and intermediate Esperanto classes. Mary Baldwin College, Staunton, VA. Teacher certification credit avail-

able. For more information contact: Dr. Stanley Drake, c/o International Society of Friendship and Goodwill, 211 W. 4th St., P.O. Box 2637, Gastonia, NC 28053-2637 (708) 864-7906.

• Aug. 3 - 14, 1992. Beginning and intermediate Esperanto classes. Illinois State University, Normal, IL. Teacher certification credit available. For more information contact: Dr. Stanley Drake, c/o International Society of Friendship and Goodwill, 211 W. 4th St., P.O. Box 2637, Gastonia, NC 28053-2637 (708) 864-7906.

PLEASE NOTE: *ELNA Update* provides information on classes as a service to its readers. Neither *ELNA Update* nor ELNA are responsible for class cancellations or changes.

CORRECTION: In *ELNA Update* #4, 1991, Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville was inadvertently left out of the list of colleges and universities where Esperanto is taught. If you know of any other colleges which should be listed, please write to: *ELNA Update*, P.O. Box 1129, El Cerrito, CA 94530.

1992 ELNA BOOK SERVICE CATALOG

This 28-page catalog details every item available from the ELNA Book Service.

Books and materials are conveniently grouped by category. The Book Service catalog is sent to members and "Friends of Esperanto" at no cost. Non-members should send \$2.00 (check or money order, please) payable to ELNA. Those purchasing the catalog will receive a coupon worth \$2.00 off their next order.

Send Payment to:

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P.O. Box 1129
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ELNA Membership Benefits

- ❖ A bi-monthly newsletter keeping you up to date on issues of importance to Esperantists.
- ❖ The ELNA Book and Tape Service catalogs and the ELNA Membership List
- ❖ Discounts on most items carried by the ELNA Book and Tape Services
- ❖ The quarterly *ELNA Update* with information on the world language problem and Esperanto as its solution
- ❖ The satisfaction of contributing materially to the propagation of Esperanto in the U.S.A.

**Non-Member
 "Friend of Esperanto"**

A "Friend of Esperanto" is not a dues-paying member of ELNA and therefore not eligible for the regular membership benefits. Instead, a "Friend" offers encouragement to the Esperanto movement by providing financial support. A "Friend" receives:

- ❖ Four issues of the *ELNA Update* via first-class mail. *ELNA Update* keeps you abreast of the world language problem and Esperanto as its solution.
- ❖ A copy of the year's ELNA Book Service Catalog.

ELNA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please show the type of membership or support by an X in the appropriate brackets. All memberships are on a calendar year basis, January 1 - December 31. For items marked (*) we must have your birthdate.

NOTE: Your address, telephone number, and computer network address will be published in the yearly membership list unless you indicate otherwise here:

Do NOT publish address phone network address.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Birthdate: _____

Amateur Radio Call: _____

Computer Network Address: _____

**1991 ELNA
 Membership Categories**

- [] Individual\$30.00
- [] Sustaining\$60.00
- [] Life (*)\$600.00
- [] Youth (*Under 27)\$15.00
- [] Limited Income\$15.00
- [] Family\$45.00

Other Forms of Support

- [] Friend of Esperanto\$10.00
 (non-member)
- [] Donation _____

Return this form with payment to:
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