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24 April 2009 CLArion

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1. More Japanese Music

(Editor's Note: Here is another Sunday Japanese music performance item (see below for the previous one)--new item courtesy of [REDACTED])

Sunday the 26th:

JAPANESE KOTO CONCERT, by Kako Nishi and M. Nishihama.

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3 p.m., the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St., Alexandria. Free. 301-754-3842.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 963-4253.

The Sounds of Japan: Sunday, 26 April, at 2 p.m., at the University of MD (College Park) in the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center (Gildenhorn Recital Hall). Annual recital of traditional Japanese Koto, Shamisen, & Shakuhachi music performed in traditional Japanese kimono. Compositions from 1811 to contemporary times will be performed. Participants: Washington Toho Koto Society and the U. of MD

Koto Ensemble. Free!

2. Presidential Language Trivia

Which president in his old age regretted never having learned the Semitic tongues in order to read their ancient texts?

- A. Abraham Lincoln
- B. Millard Fillmore
- C. John Adams
- D. James Buchanan
- E. Theodore Roosevelt

Answer at the end of the issue

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3. Strengthen Our Languages

(Editor's Note: There is one left for April)

(U) Strengthen Our Nation: Discover Languages

(U) April 2009 Language Events

(U) Korean Mini-Immersion (in Korean)

Wednesday, 29 April 2009

[REDACTED]
1300-1400

(U//~~FOUO~~) Korean language analysts wanted! [REDACTED] Korean instructor, will conduct our first mini-immersion hour in Korean. If you are at least a level 1+ Korean speaker, please join her for a unique and fun opportunity to experience a variety of interactive hands-on activities, sure to awaken your active speaking skills. Michelle has several games planned, and participants are encouraged to wear their favorite Korean costume! Be prepared to vote on the Most Entertaining Player, too.

(U) To view this VTC broadcast live from your desktop, as well as to view it there after the event, type "go language" in your web browser and click on "EVENTS" or visit:

[REDACTED]
(U) For Newsmagazine viewing:

[REDACTED]

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(U//~~FOUO~~) Enterprise sites may access the broadcast by contacting the VTC office at 963-4026, e-mailing [REDACTED] or accessing:

[REDACTED]

and click on "Join VTC." If you do not know your NEWSMAGAZINE Access Code, please call 963-6600 and generate a trouble ticket at least three days prior to broadcast.

(U//~~FOUO~~) POC: Office of the Senior Language Authority [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
(U) AGENCY-SPONSORED EVENTS: Employees attending these events, with supervisory approval, will be carried in a duty status. However, employees are not eligible to earn credit hours, compensatory time or overtime for attendance beyond their regularly scheduled duty day.

(U) FRAGRANCE NOTICE: The Agency is committed to being a model employer. In order to be mindful of those employees whose sensitivity to fragrances may be heightened, we are encouraging participants at Agency-sponsored events to refrain from wearing, or reduce their use of scented products (e.g., perfume, cologne, etc.).
DERIVED FROM: NSA/CSSM 1-52

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DATED: 8 January 2007
DECLASSIFY ON: ~~20090408~~

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[redacted]
NSA/CSS Sr. Language Authority Office, Outreach Officer
ADET's [redacted] Culture and Regional Studies, Liaison to Language and Intelligence Analysis Skill
Communities
[redacted]

4. Websites and Cobwebs

(Item courtesy of [redacted])

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For ESL books, please go to:

[redacted]

For course announcements and other resources, please visit:

[redacted]

If you want to know what the JOINT LANGUAGE UNIVERSITY (maybe a "first heard" for you!)
has to offer, try:

<http://jlu.wbtrain.com/> or jlu_admin@wbtrain.com or Leigha Janic

If you want to see the Interagency Language Roundtable (ILR) home page, try:

<http://www.govtilr.org/>

Speaking of the ILR, here is its link to LCTLs (less commonly taught languages):

http://www.govtilr.org/Web_LCTL/index.htm

Here's one for STARTALK (if you don't know what it is):

<http://www.startalk.umd.edu/>

Ever heard of the National Capital Language Resource Center? Try this link to satisfy your
curiosity:

<http://www.nclrc.org>

5. Washington Post Press Item

(Item courtesy of [redacted] --my apologies for it being a tad bit outdated)

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U.N. Launches Library Of World's Knowledge
Source: WP - The Washington Post (Full Coverage, Daily)
Apr 21 04:03

Byline: Edward Cody

Section: A Section

Page: A10

A globe-spanning U.N. digital library seeking to display and explain the wealth of all human cultures has gone into operation on the Internet, serving up mankind's accumulated knowledge in seven languages for students around the world.

James H. Billington, the librarian of Congress who launched the project four years ago, said the ambition was to make available on an easy-to-navigate site, free for scholars and other curious people anywhere, a collection of primary documents and authoritative explanations from the planet's leading libraries.

The site (www.wdl.org) has put up the Japanese work that is considered the first novel in history, for instance, along with the Aztecs' first mention of the Christ child in the New World and the works of ancient Arab scholars piercing the mysteries of algebra, each entry flanked by learned commentary. "There are many one-of-a-kind documents," Billington said in an interview.

The World Digital Library, which officially will be inaugurated Tuesday at the Paris headquarters of UNESCO, the U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, has started small, with about 1,200 documents and their explanations from scholars in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Portuguese, Spanish and Russian. But it is designed to accommodate an unlimited number of such texts, charts and illustrations from as many countries and libraries as want to contribute.

"There is no limit," Billington said. "Everybody is welcome."

The main target is children, he added, building on the success among young people of the U.S. National Digital Library Program, which has been in operation at the Library of Congress since the mid-1990s. That program, at its American Memory site, has made available 15 million U.S. historical records, including recorded interviews with former slaves, the first moving pictures and the Declaration of Independence. Billington predicted that children around the world, like their U.S. counterparts, will turn naturally to the Internet for answers to questions, provided they have access to computers and high-speed connections. "This is designed to use the newest technology to reach the youngest people," he said.

The site was developed by a team at the Library of Congress in Washington with technical assistance from the Bibliotheca Alexandrina in Egypt. The digital library's main server is also in Washington, but officials said plans are underway for regional servers around the world.

Development costs of more than \$10 million were financed by private donors, including Google, Microsoft, the Qatar Foundation, King Abdullah University in Saudi Arabia and the Carnegie Corporation of New York. By comparison, the American Memory project cost about \$60 million, suggesting that more funds will have to be raised as the World Digital Library expands.

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In addition to UNESCO and the Library of Congress, 26 other libraries and institutions in 19 countries have contributed to the project. Their offerings include rubbings of oracle bones from the National Library of China, delicate drawings of court life from the National Diet Library of Japan and a 13th-century "Devil's Bible" from the National Library of Sweden. Each is accompanied by a brief explanation of its content and significance. The documents have been scanned onto the site directly, in their original languages, but the explanations appear in all seven of the site's official languages.

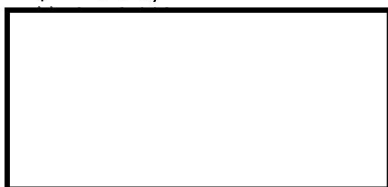
"All of this is dependable, authoritative comment," Billington said.

Users can sort through the information in several ways. They can ask what was going on anywhere in the world in, say, science or literature during the 4th century B.C., for instance. They can look up the history of a certain topic over the centuries in China alone, or in China and North America. By cross-referencing, a user can see how one area of the world compared with another at any given time.

Billington acknowledged that national sensitivities could generate problems as the store of documents expands to include episodes in more recent history that some governments may want to hide or distort. But deliberate omissions may prove difficult to maintain, he said, because the site is open to contributions from all sides.

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6. Latest NML Program

Informal Language Learning In & Around DC: Families Welcome!

Speakers: Kaaren Agnez, Petit Centre Francophone & Minilinguists.com AND Mashinke/Marcia Gruss Levinsohn, Jewish Educational Workshop

Saturday 16 May 2009 1300-1600

The National Museum of Language
7100 Baltimore Avenue Suite 202
College Park, MD, 20740
www.languagemuseum.org

Open to the public

Admission is free

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Which president in his old age regretted never having learned the Semitic tongues in order to read their ancient texts?

- A. Abraham Lincoln
- B. Millard Fillmore
- ANSWER C. John Adams (2nd President, 1797-1801)
- D. James Buchanan
- E. Theodore Roosevelt

It's possible that others above had similiar regrets but Adams' is documented. He also regretted never having learned Chinese for the same reason.

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