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U.S. PUBLIC DIPLOMACY—TIME TO GET BACK IN THE GAME

A Report to Members

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UNITED STATES SENATE

John F. Kerry, Chairman

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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

UNITED STATES SENATE,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS,
Washington, DC, February 13, 2009.

DEAR COLLEAGUE: Recent polling suggests that support for the United States throughout the world is on a slight increase but remains well below the fifty percent mark in many countries, even among those nations normally considered strong allies. This less-than-positive attitude towards our nation has impacts ranging from national security threats, to lost trade opportunities, to a significant drop in tourism, to parents overseas refusing to allow their children to be educated in U.S. universities.

The sources of this problem are many. Some of these include honest disagreements with our policies and our actions. But many are based on misrepresentations of our goals, values and motives targeted at those prepared to believe the worst about us. Yet, in spite of recent actions to counter these misperceptions, our efforts to present our point of view have not been getting through. It is time to re-think how we conduct our Public Diplomacy.

With this in mind, I sent Paul Foldi of my Senate Foreign Relations Committee staff to travel to the Middle East and Latin America in December 2008 to discuss U.S. Public Diplomacy efforts with our Embassy and local officials. His report focuses on the need for greater direct U.S. engagement with average citizens overseas who now have virtually no contact with Americans. In order to overcome years of mistrust, this re-engagement should be on the same scope and scale as currently conducted by the British, French and German governments, all of which currently offer language instruction and information about their countries in their own government-run facilities throughout the world. Iran is also dramatically increasing its outreach efforts through its network of Cultural Centers in Africa, Asia and the Middle East, many of which are located in the very locations where we are reducing our public presence.

The United States used to have a similar worldwide program through its "American Centers," which taught English, housed libraries and hosted U.S. film series, and featured exhibitions and lectures by visiting American authors, scientists, human rights lawyers, and other speakers. The consolidation of the United States Information Agency into the State Department along with security concerns resulted in the demise of almost all the Centers (the excellent American Centers in Alexandria, New Delhi and Rangoon are among the few exceptions) and led to their rebirth as Information Resource Centers (or "IRCs") most often housed *inside* our new Embassies. These Embassy compounds place a premium on pro-

tecting our diplomats and often convey an atmosphere ill-suited to encouraging the casual visitor, with almost half of the 177 IRCs operating on a "by appointment only" basis. Additionally, usage figures demonstrate that our IRCs in the Middle East which are located *inside* our Embassies receive six times *fewer* visitors than similar facilities in the region located outside our compounds.

This lack of easily accessible facilities, where foreigners can read about United States history and government and access newspapers and the Internet in an environment free from their own government's censorship has hurt us—particularly when over 80% of the world's population is listed by Freedom House as having a press that is either "Not Free" or only "Partly Free."

Where once we were seen as the world's leader in intellectual discourse and debate, we are now viewed as withdrawn and unconcerned with any views other than our own. While the re-creation of the U.S. Information Agency (USIA) is not realistic, a program to re-establish the American Centers that uses the teaching of English to offset operating costs would go far to demonstrate that we are committed to re-engaging in a dialogue with the world.

Such a program would entail re-locating a small number of Embassy officials outside our diplomatic compounds in those locations where the security climate permits and where we are able to provide them with appropriately secure facilities. If we hope to change opinions towards us, we must be able to interact with the world. We have learned much in recent years about keeping our personnel overseas safe; as such, increased accessibility need not come at the cost of security.

Mr. Foldi's report provides important insights into the current state of our Public Diplomacy and offers valuable recommendations based on his travels and years of work in the field. As the title of his report suggests, we have been too long on the sidelines of Public Diplomacy in recent years, and it is indeed time for the United States to "Get Back In The Game." I hope that you find this report helpful as Congress works with the new administration to strengthen our Public Diplomacy efforts and look forward to continuing to work with you on these issues.

Sincerely,

RICHARD G. LUGAR,
Ranking Member.

U.S. PUBLIC DIPLOMACY—TIME TO GET BACK IN THE GAME

On behalf of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, minority staff traveled to Egypt, Jordan, Mexico and the Dominican Republic from December 1–12, 2008. The purpose of the trip was to examine U.S. Public Diplomacy facilities as platforms for engagement with foreign audiences, including the role of English language instruction as a vehicle to facilitate greater access to information about the United States and interaction with core American values.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

It is no secret that support for the United States has dropped precipitously throughout the world in recent years.[1] Many experts believe this is due not only to various U.S. foreign policy developments but also to the method in which we conduct our Public Diplomacy. Public Diplomacy requires our diplomats to interact not only with Foreign Ministry officials but with local journalists, authors, scientists, artists, athletes, experts and academics as well the average citizen.

The entity created within the U.S. government to deal with Public Diplomacy and to communicate with the rest of the world—the United States Information Agency (USIA)—was abolished in 1999. While the Department of State absorbed USIA's personnel and maintained some of its programs, most agree that U.S. focus on Public Diplomacy began to diminish from this point on. (Nonetheless, re-creating USIA, or something similar, is neither feasible nor affordable in today's budgetary environment.)

This lack of focus was also partly due to the belief that, with the collapse of the Soviet Union, we had won the "War of Ideas"—a belief that 9/11 quickly shattered. We now find ourselves having to focus our Public Diplomacy efforts not only on those who "hate us," but also on many former friends and allies who now mistrust our motives and actions.

In order to improve the situation we must address the difficulties we now face in conducting people-to-people interactions and providing access to information about the United States—the core of U.S. Public Diplomacy policy. Both aspects of this policy served as the foundations of our best Public Diplomacy platforms—the "American Center"—which housed libraries, reading rooms, taught English and conducted countless outreach programs, book groups, film series, and lectures that enabled foreigners to meet with

[1] A February 6, 2009 BBC World Service Poll of more than 13,000 respondents in 21 countries still showed the United States with a 40% positive-43% negative rating. *http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/7873050.stm*.

Americans of all walks of life and vocations and hold conversations on issues of mutual interest.

These free-standing American Centers were drastically downsized and re-cast as "Information Resource Centers" (IRCs), most of which were then removed from easily accessible downtown locations due to security concerns following the attacks on our embassies in Kenya and Tanzania in 1998. Those IRCs that were relocated to our Embassy compounds have seen significant reductions in visitors—IRCs in the Middle East that are located *off* our compounds receive six times *fewer* visitors per month as those located *on* our compounds. Thus we have created a vicious cycle: frustrated by our inability to connect with audiences overseas who no longer trust us, we have in fact *weakened* our efforts at Public Diplomacy by denying them access to both American officials as well as uncensored information about us.

The State Department—working with Congress and host governments—needs to re-create the American Center system in secure facilities outside our Embassy compounds from which we can provide foreign audiences with greater access to information about the United States through libraries, periodicals and an uncensored Internet. At the same time, much as the British, French and Germans all offer classes overseas in their mother tongues, we must use the teaching English both as a draw to bring individuals back into our Centers and as a source of funding by using tuition fees to offset the costs of running them.

RECOMMENDATIONS

• Congressional support is needed for the Department of State to create more accessible Public Diplomacy platforms by pushing Information Resource Centers (IRCs) out of remote Embassy compounds and allowing them to be re-built as stand-alone American Centers in more centrally located areas. In order to accomplish this, the so-called "co-location requirement" should be re-visited to allow these new Centers to be established as well as to permit those few facilities still off-compound to remain as such, as long as appropriate security measures are in place.

• IRCs and American Centers should operate six days a week and ensure that hours of operation maximize usage by local publics.

• The Department of State should engage in the teaching of English using American or American-trained teachers hired directly by the Embassy, not sub-contractors, and using standardized techs appropriate for each region/culture. This will ensure that the Department has full control over the content and quality of the education, and will go far to advancing our Public Diplomacy efforts.

• Charging for this English instruction is appropriate and logical in these budgetary times.

• If the security situation in an area deteriorates to the point that a stand-alone American Center must be closed for a prolonged period of time, the facility should be preserved, perhaps re-cast for other use, but not permanently closed. These Centers serve as high-profile symbols of America's desire for direct engagement with local populations as well as our commitment to education and ac-

cess to uncensored information; abandoning them indicates we have given up on advancing these ideals.

• In Latin America, rather than create competing institutions that offer English language and cultural programming, the State Department should examine cost and policy implications of formally re-establishing U.S. government links with the network of Bi-National Centers (BNCs) in the region. BNCs were originally created by the United States but are now wholly run by independent local boards.

• American *Corners*—smaller versions of IRCs—are housed in local university or public office buildings. At a cost of $35,000 each, and with over 400 already established worldwide, the Department of State should take a careful look at any requests for additional American Corners to ensure the need is truly justified. American Corners are appropriate for remote locations that lack any other U.S. presence but should not be used as substitutes in capitals for American *Centers*, particularly as American Corners are run by local staffs who are neither employed nor managed by U.S. Embassy officials and thus represent a literal out-sourcing of American Public Diplomacy.

• In those capitals where an American Corner does exist, its collection should be combined with the Embassy's IRC to form the nucleus of the new American Center's resources.

• The State Department's Arabic book translation program is crucial to providing information in local texts and should be strongly supported until free-market forces step in. The Department should examine potential cost savings by consolidating Cairo and Amman operations as long as both are able to continue to provide input into the translation selection process.

• The term Information Resource Center is cumbersome and, for most foreigners, confusing. A return to the simpler "Library" seems appropriate for those IRCs that must remain on embassy compounds.

• Given the disparity between the 11,000 graduates of the English language focused Access Microscholarships targeted mainly at under-served Muslim youth, and the 300 slots available for the State Department's YES exchange program which sends Muslim youth to spend a year in American High Schools, the State Department needs to ensure that adequate funding is available for follow-on programming to keep the vast majority Access graduates engaged and using the skills that have been invested in them, even if this requires a reduction of the portion of the Access program's budget and fewer annual graduates.

• The State Department should re-engage with the U.S. Motion Picture Licensing Corporation to allow greater public awareness of Embassy-run American film series than permitted under the current, overly restrictive, Licensing Agreement negotiated between the two.

INTRODUCTION

Public Diplomacy is the conduct of diplomacy beyond the boundaries and venues of traditional foreign ministries and halls of power of a nation and requires interacting directly with the citizens, community leaders, journalists and policy experts who are the

future leaders and current opinion shapers of their country. Public Diplomacy also seeks to create a better understanding of our nation with a foreign populace as a whole by providing them access to American culture, history, law, society, art and music that might not otherwise be available through standard local media outlets that often provide biased reporting about the United States and our involvement in the world.

Visitor exchange programs are an important component of Public Diplomacy. These State Department exchanges send experts from the U.S. to countries throughout the world and, equally important, bring foreigners to the United States to meet with their counterparts here. The contacts and professional relationships fostered in these programs are one of the hallmarks of our people-to-people diplomacy, but they are not alone. The Peace Corps and Fulbright Scholarships are equally vital to providing long-term access to Americans and America. The Voice of America and its affiliates are also a crucial element in our policy.

In spite of these efforts, the fact that U.S. Public Diplomacy policy is in disarray is neither a secret nor a surprise. The U.S. Government Accountability Office, in its November 6, 2008 list of thirteen urgent issues demanding the next administration's attention to ensure the nation's security, placed "improving the U.S. image abroad" fifth.[2] Study after study[3] points to our difficulties in explaining our foreign policy to skeptical publics overseas. In short, the U.S. "brand" has not been doing well in the marketplace of world ideas.

This is partly a result of honest disagreements that some audiences have with our policies. It is also due to a skewed vision that many in the world receive about the U.S. either from biased reporting and/or because they are denied access to Internet sites that are blocked or heavily filtered.[4] Denied this information, even with our excellent exchange programs, the average citizen also has limited or no contact with Americans. Offering greater access to our ideas, citizens and officials will provide an important antidote to these ills.

THE AMERICAN CENTER—PUBLIC DIPLOMACY PLATFORMS PAR EXCELLENCE

For years, our premier overseas Public Diplomacy platforms were the American Centers, operated by the United States Information Agency as stand-alone facilities located downtown in capital cities. The Centers offered reading rooms with the latest American and

[2] *http://www.gao.gov/transition_2009/urgent/*.

[3] These include: Arndt, Richard. The First Resort of Kings: American Cultural Diplomacy in the Twentieth Century. New York: Potomac Books, Inc., 2007; Kiesling, John Brady. Diplomacy Lessons: Realism for an Unloved Superpower. Washington, D.C. Potomac Books, Inc., 2006; Peterson, Peter G. Finding America's Voice: A Strategy for Reinvigorating US Public Diplomacy (Report of An Independent Task Force Sponsored by the Council on Foreign Relations). New York: Council On Foreign Relations, Inc., 2003; Rosen, Brian and Charles Wolf, Jr. Public Diplomacy: How to Think About and Improve It. Santa Monica: RAND Corporation, 2004; Rugh, William A. American Encounters With Arabs: The Soft Power of US Public Diplomacy in the Middle East. London: Praeger Security International, 2006.

[4] Recent revelations have surfaced that China has again begun to deny access to various Internet sites it had stopped blocking during the 2008 Olympic games (see: *http://www.nytimes.com/2008/12/17/world/asia/17china.html?hp*). U.S. facilities with filter-free Internet provide a natural magnet for the public in many locations where repressive governments try to deny information to their citizens.

foreign newspapers and housed libraries with collections of American history, economics, legal, scientific and classic literature.[5] Center staff coordinated book discussion groups, lectures by visiting American experts, and model United Nations and American Congress programs with local youth. Centers ran American film series programs and served as venues for visiting American artists and musicians. English language instruction was also a staple of most Centers. Importantly, access to these facilities was free of charge and buildings were situated in the most vibrant part of city centers. All of these services are critical in countries either too poor or too repressive to provide any such institutions to their own publics.

Americans long accustomed to our daily newspapers, 24-hour television news cycle and unfettered access to the Internet sometimes forget that many societies still live with state control of radio and TV, Internet censorship and no right to freedom of speech.[6] At the same time, many of these same governments use their control of the media to espouse distorted stories and unbalanced images of the United States. American Centers offered a neutral[7] space for foreigners to access information without interference or oversight from repressive host governments as well as a welcoming environment more conducive to engagement with American officials. Yet, despite the significant Public Diplomacy value of these Centers to project America's ideas and images, several events occurred that led to the rapid demise of all but a handful.

FROM "AMERICAN CENTERS" TO "IRCS"

The American Centers program closed as a result of a confluence of several events, including: the end of the Cold War, the rise of the Internet, and the absorption of the U.S. Information Agency (USIA) into the Department of State. The first created the false impression that the great debate was over regarding the primacy of democratically elected governments. The second created the false belief that we could conduct Public Diplomacy primarily through an electronic medium. The third resulted in Public Diplomacy officers more focused on localized issues related to their Embassy and Ambassador rather than global U.S. Public Diplomacy policy. As a result, most Centers were significantly downsized in terms of material and staff and relocated into Embassies in their truncated forms as Information Resource Center (IRCs), many of which are now open only by appointment or have hours of operation that limit public use. (See chart below.)

[5] As a result of our extensive collections, many foreigners had their first exposure to serious research and uncensored information in an American Center's library—one reason why the Centers are most commonly referred to overseas as the "American Library," in spite of the entirety of a Center's offerings.

[6] Freedom House's 2008 Global Press Freedom report counts 66% (123) of the world's nations as having either a Not Free or only Partly Free press. These 123 countries represent over 80% of the world's population. *http://www.freedomhouse.org/uploads/fop08/FOTP2008_Charts.pdf.*

[7] "Neutral" in the sense of a less formal setting than a U.S. Embassy, but by no means free from risk as many repressive governments, to this day, monitor and track all visitors to U.S. facilities.

INFORMATION RESOURCE CENTERS—LOCATIONS AND ACCESS [8]

Region	IRC total	IRCs located on embassy compound	IRCs with public access by appointment only	IRCs with no access to the public
Africa	37	21 (57%)	9 (24%)	0
East Asia	28	18 (64%)	15 (54%)	3 (Sydney, Singapore, Hong Kong)
Europe	55	43 (78%)	30 (55%)	11 (Brussels, Baku, Berlin, Copenhagen, Nicosia, Paris, Tallinn, The Hague, Moscow, Yekaterinburg, Stockholm)
Middle East	16	12 (75%)	6 (50%)	2 (Sana'a, Yemen; Beirut, Lebanon)
South and Central Asia	16	8 (50%)	8 (50%)	2 (Karachi and Lahore, Pakistan)
Latin America	25	20 (80%)	19 (76%)	1 (Bogota, Colombia)
Total	177	122 (69%)	87 (49%)	19 (11%)

[8] Figures provided by the Department of State for 2008.

The collapse of the Soviet Union and the end of the Cold War suggested to many policy makers that the continued need to make the case for American democratic values was finally over. As a result of this "victory," funding cuts in Public Diplomacy efforts were considered part of a logical "peace dividend," and Centers began to see their programming budgets reduced and funding for book programs slashed. The attacks of 9/11 and subsequent events demonstrate that work in this field is far from over, as even in Europe many "natural" allies now regard the United States with distrust.

The rise of the Internet led many to conclude that more and more Public Diplomacy outreach could be conducted just as easily through websites and local Internet Cafes as through more costly U.S. brick and mortar facilities. There is no question that book purchase and shipping expenses are not insignificant given the far-flung nature of many of our Embassies. Definite cost savings can be achieved through uploading information on the Internet. In fact, many IRCs now subscribe to vast legal and scientific database services which can be accessed at users' homes via many IRCs' websites. Such data is no doubt valuable for foreign researchers and generates a certain recognition of the U.S. as leader in education and freedom of information. However, if enhanced people-to-people interactions are judged to be a key component for improving our Public Diplomacy efforts, cutting out the interaction with Americans seems counterintuitive.

The 1999 dissolution [9] of the United States Information Agency (USIA), which ran the American Centers, and the absorption of USIA's personnel and some of its programs into the State Department, continued to chip away at the Centers and overall Public Diplomacy funding in light of what State viewed as Congressional pressures to continue to reduce spending overseas.[10] USIA officers were re-cast as Public Diplomacy (PD) "coned" officers in the State Department.[11] As Foreign Service Officers, PD officials in the field report not to the Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy in Wash-

[9] See the Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998 in Division G of the FY2008 Omnibus Appropriations legislation (PL105–277), which begins on p. 761. *http://frwebgate.ccess.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=105_cong_public_laws&docid= f:publ277.105.pdf.*

[10] See public diplomacy funding figures in CSIS Appendix to Armitage-Nye April 24, 2008 Senate testimony; *http://www.csis.org/media/csis/congress/ts0804024Armitage-Nye_Appendix.pdf.*

[11] Foreign Service Officers are career-tracked in one of five "cones"—Consular, Economic, Management, Political or (since the absorption of USIA into the State Department in 1999)—Public Diplomacy.

ington but to their Ambassador at post. Quite naturally, many PD officers are more concerned with supporting his or her Ambassador's immediate press needs rather than worrying if their Ambassador's initiatives track with overall U.S. Public Diplomacy priorities.

In the ten years since the Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act took effect, it is clear that the abolishment of USIA failed to improve our Public Diplomacy efforts significantly. In spite of the wishes of many, however, there is neither the political will nor budgetary outlays available to recreate USIA, or any other similar stand-alone entity.[12]

IMPACT OF SECURITY CONCERNS ON PUBLIC DIPLOMACY

At the same time that budgetary and bureaucratic pressures were impinging on public diplomacy efforts, the Department of State was reeling from the 1998 bombings of our Embassies in Kenya and Tanzania. Responding quickly, Congress provided, and continues to provide, the Department of State hundreds of millions of dollars annually for Embassy construction to replace chancery buildings.[13] In order to build facilities that can withstand blasts such as those that struck Nairobi and Dar es Salaam, new embassy buildings must have a one hundred foot set-back from the perimeter fence in order to dissipate the shock waves of an explosion.

Sites with sufficient acreage to meet these new set-back requirements can only be found miles away from the previously convenient downtown locations of our original Embassies. Such sites by definition tend to be in remote areas poorly served by public transportation. These relocations have resulted in decreases in both the ease and frequency of locals visiting American officials and vice versa—creating a veritable diplomatic lethargy in many locations. Equally impacted has been the foot-traffic in IRCs that are located on Embassy compounds. At the same time, new security architecture has created structures that project a Fortress America environment that seems to say anything but "Welcome"[14] which has led to a similar inertia in our Public Diplomacy efforts in many of these locations.

The same Act that creates these new Embassy construction standards also requires that, "In selecting sites for new United States diplomatic facilities abroad, all personnel of United States

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[12] See for example the proposed creations of: "USA-World Trust" in the Brookings report "Voices of America" *http://www.brookings.edu//media/Files/rc/reports/2008/11_public_diplomacy_lord/11_public_diplomacy_lord.pdf*; the Defense Science Boards "Center for Global Engagement" *http://www.acq.osd.mil/dsb/reports/2008-01-Strategic_Communication.pdf*; Meridian International Center for the Study of the Presidency's call for a "Foundation for International Understanding" *http://www.thepresidency.org/FIU/fiu.html;* Business for Diplomatic Action's "Corporation for Public Diplomacy" *http://www.businessfordiplomaticaction.org/action/a_business_perspective_on_public_diplomacy_10_2007_approvedfinal.pdf;* Heritage Foundation's "Independent Public Opinion Research Center" *http://www.heritage.org/Research/PublicDiplomacy/bg1875.cfm;* Public Diplomacy Council—"U.S. Agency for Public Diplomacy" *www.pdi.gwu.edu.*

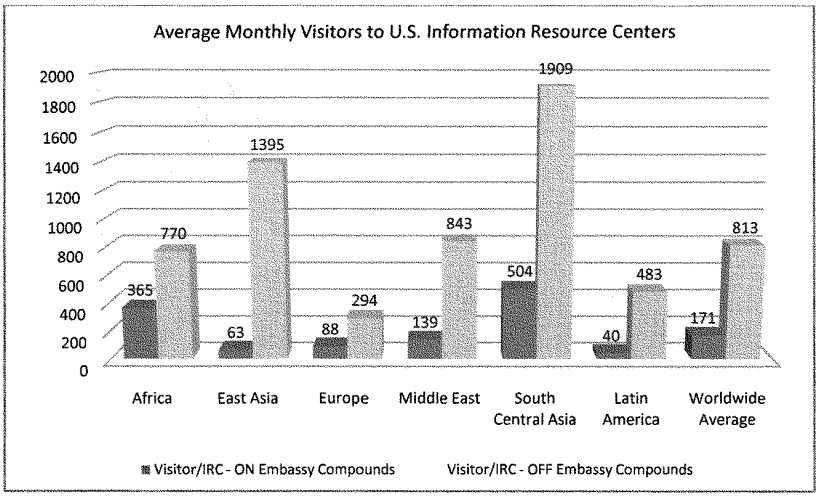
[13] See Secure Embassy Construction and Counterterrorism Act of 1999, found in Title VI of Division A of the FY2000 Omnibus Appropriations Act (PL106–113), starting on p. 451; *http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=106_cong_public_laws&docid=f:publ113.106.pdf.*

[14] Visiting an IRC in a new US Embassy was likened to "going to jail or getting into Fort Knox" according to one interviewee in the State Department's 2003 "Changing Minds Winning Peace: A Strategic Direction for U.S. Public Diplomacy in the Arab and Muslim World." *http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/24882.pdf.*

Government agencies except those under the command of a United States area military commander shall be located on the same compound." This portion of the Act is known as the "co-location" requirement and is most often cited as the mandate for the closure of stand-alone American Centers and their subsequent absorption into Embassy facilities as truncated IRCs. There is a waiver for this requirement, but it has rarely been adopted and only on a case-by-case basis. The only blanket exception is for the Peace Corps, which was given a Congressional exemption (see Appendix).

According to data provided by the State Department, those IRCs located off the compound receive significantly *more* visitors than those located on the compound. As the chart below illustrates, in the Middle East—perhaps our area most in need of outreach—with 12 IRCs on Embassy compounds and 4 located off, those off the compound received almost six times as many visitors per month (843) as those on the compound (139). IRCs in Latin America, East Asia, South Central Asia have even greater disparities.

Average Number of Visitors/IRC On/Off Embassy Compound



THE COMPETITION

Where is the best place to learn French?
The Alliance Française run by the French Embassy.
Where is the best place to learn English?
The British Council.[15]

As American Centers began to disappear, our involvement in the direct teaching of English declined at the same time, and the British have been more than willing to step into the breach. Just as American college graduates are often fiercely loyal to their alma maters, graduates of the Alliance or British Councils form a bond with those nations that lasts a lifetime based on their years of ex-

[15] Staff conversations with several interlocutors in both Egypt and Jordan, all of which produced identical results.

posure to those countries through the educational advantages they gained through study in each. Having virtually ceased to offer the same educational opportunities, the United States is missing out on creating similarly supportive lifelong linkages.

The British Council has locations in some 110 countries with over 7,900 staff. A standard British Council facility will have 15 or more classrooms that teach English from the morning to night. While some funding comes directly from the British government, much of their operating budget must come from fees generated locally through teaching as well as providing space and proctoring of international testing such as the UK equivalent of the U.S. "TOEFL" (Test of English as a Foreign Language) exam that is required of all potential immigrants to Great Britain. Additionally, local multinational firms either contract with the Council for special training sessions on site, or bring instructors to their institutions. To date, tuition for British Council language instruction is considered prohibitively expensive by most locals, resulting in a clientele of primarily the economic and social elite.

As with American Centers, British Councils house library facilities with computers hooked to the Internet. The Councils are modern, spacious, well-staffed and, importantly, open six days a week to maximize attendance and outreach opportunities. Additionally, and uniquely, they provide a well-stocked section of children's books which starts the "bonding" experience with the UK at an even earlier age. Like France's Alliance Française centers, British Councils routinely contract with a local caterer to establish a cafeteria which not only adds to students' convenience, and therefore market share, but in some countries provides the only common area where members of different social groups can interact without fear of arousing the suspicions of local political or religious authorities. Both French and British facilities maintain sufficient public space to host their own cultural events or art shows—some even act as galleries and retain a certain percentage of each sale. Their facilities also offer sufficient multipurpose rooms/auditoriums for film showings or lectures. Except for the oldest and most established of our Centers, American IRCs rarely have either large conference rooms or dedicated auditoriums due to the constant pressure within Embassies for the limited chancery space available.

British Council Cairo, Egypt—complete with Henry Moore sculpture.

Entrance to library portion of the building above, including latest pop CDs to draw in local youths.

BI-NATIONAL CENTERS

Latin America is the one exception to British Council dominance in English language instruction. In this region, Bi-National Centers (BNCs) are considered the premiere institution in this field. BNCs are, however, a legacy of earlier, closer bilateral engagement between those nations and the United States. A typical BNC was

very similar in structure to current British Councils—English Language programs were used to fund programmatic and library activities and were initially U.S. government facilities run by USIA officers.

However, as budgetary constraints took hold and later, as USIA was absorbed into the State Department, the U.S. government began to disengage from day-to-day operations to the point that, now, BNCs are *completely independent* of U.S. operational and budgetary support, oversight, and programmatic direction. Few locals, however, seem to realize this and still consider BNCs to be part of our Embassies. Fortunately, most BNCs are well-funded because of their tuition base, and many put the local Department of State IRC to shame.

IRANIAN CULTURAL CENTERS [16]

Not only are our allies engaged in expansive Public Diplomacy efforts. Tellingly, Iran is now conducting an active outreach program particularly in those predominantly Muslim African and Asian countries. Iranian Cultural Centers offer Persian language classes and extensive library resources. These Centers serve Iran as a mouthpiece to promote anti-American propaganda and have been alleged in local media to be extremist recruitment centers and covers for intelligence operatives. In over half of the locations listed below, the American Embassy's Information Resource Center is either not open to the public or open by appointment only, which begs the question, how can we possibly expect our ideas to compete in these critical marketplaces if the average citizen cannot easily access them?

IRANIAN CULTURAL CENTERS

Asia	Africa	Europe	Middle East	South Central Asia
Bangladesh	Ethiopia	Armenia	Egypt	Afghanistan
China	Ghana	Austria	Kuwait	India (2 Centers)
Indonesia	Kenya	Azerbaijan	Lebanon	Kazakhstan Pakistan (8 Centers)
Japan	Nigeria	Bosnia & Herzegovina	Qatar	
Thailand	Sierra Leone	Bulgaria	Saudi Arabia	Sri Lanka
	South Africa	Croatia	Syria	Tajikistan
	Sudan	France	Tunis	Turkmenistan
	Tanzania	Germany	United Arab Emirates	Uzbekistan
	Uganda	Greece	Yemen	
	Zambia	Italy		
	Zimbabwe	Russia		
		Serbia		
		Spain		
		Turkey (2 Centers)		

OTHER U.S. GOVERNMENT EFFORTS [17]

The United States has not been completely idle in Public Diplomacy or in the use of English language instruction to further those goals:

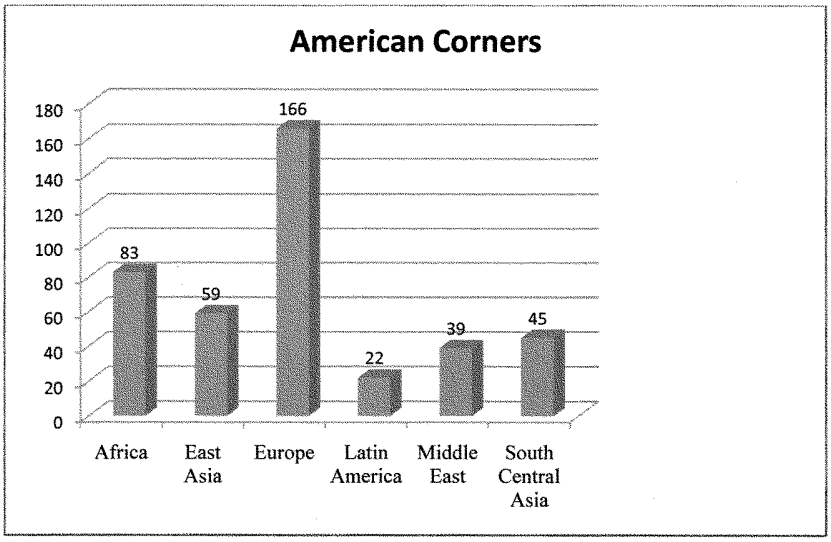
[16] Iranian Cultural Center information can be found at *http://culturebase.icro.ir/*.
[17] Further discussions of each of these elements can be found in the Appendix.

• Some 20 *Regional English Language Officers* are sprinkled throughout American Embassies, but travel is expensive and many RELOs are too constrained by duties at their home embassies to engage in sufficient regional visits and thus have limited impact.

• There are currently 136 *English Language Fellows* in 76 countries. Fellows work with specific institutions on issues ranging from teacher training classes for English instructors to teaching English directly. These initiatives provide unprecedented pedagogical opportunities for the United States to impact Education Ministry policies throughout the world, but they are largely invisible to the general population of each country.

• The *Peace Corps* is also heavily involved in this area as almost 20% of Peace Corps Volunteers (PCVs) have "Teaching English" as their primary task in the field. PCVs are one of the most effective examples of people-to-people Public Diplomacy, and they invariably depart after their two years leaving nothing but a positive impression. PCVs are, however, are only in some 60 countries throughout the world and generally located in more remote locations in their countries.

• As part of a reaction to the closing of American Centers, the Bush Administration began a program of establishing *American Corners* throughout the world. To date there are over 400 Corners in municipal buildings, university libraries or other public buildings in regions that often have no other U.S. diplomatic presence. Books related to the United States and computers are supplied to each location, but the operation, maintenance and programming offered by each Corner is in the hands of a foreign national who is neither paid nor overseen by U.S. Embassy officials and thus amount to nothing less than an outsourcing of U.S. Public Diplomacy. The results in terms of U.S. Public Diplomacy are therefore mixed; some Corners are vital hubs of information, others dusty relics that offered little more than a photo-op for an ambassador at their opening. None offers direct access to Americans. While appropriate for remote regions where the U.S. has no diplomatic presence, Corners are too small to take the place of American Centers in a capital city.



• *Access Microscholarship* grants are awarded primarily in the Muslim world to lower-income youth to provide access to U.S.-sponsored English classes. The classes are run by local contractors and vary according to local markets. Some offer not only English lessons but research on the United States in English on computers at their facilities and emphasize critical thinking as part of their curriculum. The intent of the scholarships is not only to reach the best and brightest of a non-traditional audience, but to provide them with sufficient language skills so they may successfully compete in the State Department's Youth Exchange and Study (YES) program that brings Muslim high school age students to the U.S. for a year of study. (Prior to Access scholarships, too many YES participants were from the elite strata of society, most of whom already had exposure to the U.S. through tourist visits.) Some 11,000 Access students graduate each year, but many are concerned that there is no further follow-up programming to keep them engaged.[18]

None of these options has the Public Diplomacy impact of a stand-alone American Center located in the heart of a nation's capital. Such Centers are true flagships not only of American outreach but also represent our vital and *visible* commitment to the freedom of information, thought and discussion. As such, occasionally, they can even play a direct role in the democratic aspirations of a repressed nation.

[18] See a recent review of the program in the New York Times which quotes one 15 year old Egyptian girl: "We don't want it to be two years that just passed and then it's over." *http://www.nytimes.com/2009/02/06/world/middleeast/06cairo.html?_r=1&scp=2&sq=access&st=cse.*

THE AMERICAN CENTER IN BURMA

A recent article in The New Yorker magazine[19] provides ample evidence of the role a U.S.-run facility in fostering democratic ideas and actions. As discussed in his well-documented August 25, 2008 piece, journalist George Packer describes the vital role the U.S. American Center in Rangoon[20]—with its James Baldwin Library and Ella Fitzgerald Auditorium—played in the cultural and political lives of the Burmese people. Mr. Packer discusses how U.S. diplomatic officials used the facility to meet with average citizens to discuss everything from literature and performing arts to both local and U.S. politics.

Embassy Public Diplomacy personnel who ran the Center purchased thousands of new books for the Library, and now have over 13,000 titles. As a result of outreach efforts, membership for the Center tripled. Book clubs sprang up that enabled older Burmese dissidents to discuss their past activities with younger activists bent on reform. Operating six days a week provided additional opportunities for average citizens to use the Center and take part in the discussions. Twelve Internet stations offered access to information unavailable to even those few non-government Burmese who have a computer at home. The Center became one of the main focal points for dissidents and organizers of the fall 2007 protests against the Burmese military dictatorship.

Portraying our Centers as potential instruments for democratic regime change is perhaps the shortest way to ensure their closure, but, to date, the Center in Rangoon remains open and active. With well over 10,000 visitors a month—making it easily our most visited Public Diplomacy facility in the world—our Center in Rangoon demonstrates that if people are given the opportunity to access ideas and information about democracy, the desire for freedom can thrive in even the most repressive of regimes.

CONCLUSION

There is no question that our standing in the world is nowhere near where it should be. This may change in the short term as the new administration pursues alternative foreign policy practices, but what may prove more difficult to overcome in the long term is the lingering suspicion that we no longer seek to collaborate and cooperate.

Such doubts about our motives and intentions peaked just as America was seen as closing itself off, which only added to this climate of mistrust. It mattered little to the world that much of this was the result of terrorist attacks against the United States, nor that these attacks produced in our own country a similar degree of mistrust towards much of the world. This led to a foreign policy environment which seemed to put security above all other considerations.

These security concerns, in turn, brought about the closure of many American Centers with English classes terminated and truncated remains of their library collections brought inside our new Embassy compounds as Information Resources Centers. At the

[19] *http://www.newyorker.com/reporting/2008/08/25/080825fa_fact_packer/.*
[20] *http://burma.usembassy.gov/the_american_center.html.*

same time foreign audiences, used to convenience and the freedom of access to American Centers, were loathe to submit to what they believe are cumbersome appointment schedule requirements, hostile security environments and reduced resources. As such, not surprisingly, IRC foot-traffic is significantly lower for those situated inside our chancery compounds.

Thus, we have succeeded in sidelining some of the greatest assets we have in the field of Public Diplomacy by restricting access to the very information and individuals needed to educate international audiences about who we really are as a nation, rather than the images that our detractors continue to use to portray us. It is, indeed, time for us to get back in the game.

A new Public Diplomacy approach designed to re-engage with the rest of the world is crucial to improving our standing in the world. Care must be taken to ensure that any new programs are viewed not as mere short-term public relations campaigns designed to "sell" the image of the United States. Sophisticated foreign publics have become suspicious of recent attempts to paint the United States in too rosy a picture—what some would argue is a classic case of confusing "Public Relations" with "Public Diplomacy." True Public Diplomacy changes will involve long-range efforts to demonstrate a renewed willingness on our part to discuss rather than to dictate.

Reinvigorating the American Centers will go far to providing this by offering a more neutral location for our diplomats and visiting scholars to begin to repair the breach that has been created. Ambassadors continue to hear from foreign leaders and opinion makers who fondly recall learning about the United States and the world outside in our Centers. They equally loudly lament the closure of our facilities and ask how we can be surprised by downturns in public opinion towards us when their citizens have nowhere to go to obtain unbiased information. It is now time to turn this argument on its head and work with these same governments to provide us with appropriate, secure, and hopefully donated space in order to re-establish American Centers in centrally located areas, using the literary and staffing resources of the Embassy's IRC along with the books and computers from any existing American Corner in that capital to form the nucleus of the new American Center's offerings.

In the years that have elapsed since the tragic bombings of our Embassies, we have developed the security technologies needed to keep our diplomats safe and must ensure as many measures as possible are properly in place before moving forward. To assist in this, Congress needs to provide the State Department a clear signal of support for such actions modeled on the legislation (see Appendix) used to allow the Peace Corps to maintain its offices off U.S. Embassy compounds.

Equally important in these tight budget times, the Department should immediately begin to explore how to recommence the teaching of English in order to create the needed "pull" to bring skeptics of the United States into the Centers as well as use the revenues generated to partially offset operating costs. English has become the common language of not only commerce, but science, industry, and most importantly—the Internet. Teaching English will not only

provide a marketable skill required for advancement in our international marketplace, but it will also allow us to re-introduce America and American values to much of a world that still views us with suspicion.

None of this offers a quick-fix; rather it portends a long-term reorientation of Public Diplomacy requiring years of dedication, funding and oversight. But if the United States hopes to regain the trust of the world as the leader in freedom of information, education excellence, and democratic values, such a commitment is essential.

SITE VISITS

EGYPT

The United States has two major Public Diplomacy resources in Egypt, the free-standing American Center in Alexandria and the IRC inside the Embassy in Cairo.

Of the two, the American Center is by far the more impressive for reasons of access, scale, programming space, and overall facilities. A former American Consulate, the Center in Alexandria is in some respects a true jewel, with a library stocked with books in English and Arabic as well as a computer center with a dozen stations used for Internet research. English instruction is provided by the NGO AmidEast in classrooms situated on third floor. Visitors to the Center are screened by local guards first at the gate and then through a second metal detector at the door of the Center; however, AmidEast students are directed up an exterior staircase to the third floor and never enter the Center.

Interior views of the exceptional American Center in Alexandria.

Embassy Cairo's IRC is housed inside our well-guarded Embassy which is part of a diplomatic enclave that is blocked off to vehicular traffic. Walk-ins are welcome during the Embassy workweek Sunday thru Thursday 10 am–4 pm, with late closing at 7 pm on Mondays and Wednesdays. The IRC is well stocked with books on the United States and has an extensive audio and visual library for use on site but acknowledges that its location on the compound serves as deterrence to attracting more visitors. Data provided by the Department of State notes that the American Center in Alexandria, a city of some 4 million, receives on average 1,600 visitors a month while Cairo—a city of at least twice that size—receives less than an 1,000. Embassy officials who recognize the need to provide a more accessible outreach program have begun to look at various properties outside the compound but still within the enclave that provide both appropriate space and security.

JORDAN

Our embassy in Amman boasts what could easily be mistaken for an American Center. The Embassy's American Language Center (ALC) has been in operation since 1989. It currently teaches some 2,400 students per year in 14 classrooms, but unlike the American Center in Alexandria which out-sources the teaching to a contractor—AmidEast—ALC instructors are contracted directly by the Embassy, thus saving on the "middle man" overhead costs implicit in all sub-contracting arrangement.

The ALC[21] is a stand-alone building located off a major street in downtown Amman, and students are screened twice before entering. As pictured below, there is no American flag on the front nor a great seal of the Department of State; in fact the word "American" is not even displayed, only the initials "ALC." Also il-

[21] *http://www.alc.edu.jo/web/.*

lustrated below is the excellent library located in the basement of the building which houses several thousand volumes, computer terminals, serves as a Wi-Fi hot-spot, and boasts a flat screen TV with Digital Video Conference capability. This modern, state-of-the-art facility, however, is virtually unused as Embassy security officials will not allow general public access; only students registered with the ALC may use the facility.

The top photo above shows the very discreet American Language Center (ALC); its completely empty and unused library is shown in the photo below it.

MEXICO

The Ben Franklin Library[22] has been in operation in downtown Mexico City since 1942 and is a mainstay of our Public Diplomacy efforts. In addition to providing an impressive collection of 23,000 books on America, U.S. law and economics (primarily in English but also Spanish), it boasts 130 periodicals and over 600 videos on American history and culture. It is one of the better-known landmarks in the city and projects an impressive image of the United States. A significant draw to the library is the "Education USA"[23] section that counsels Mexican students on selecting and applying to American universities. This service is a function of the Department of State and is contracted out to different NGOs; the Institute of International Education runs the program in Mexico while AmidEast does so in Egypt. Some contend that this represents another example of "out-sourcing" Public Diplomacy, while others argue that such activities are peripheral activities that would distract or dilute PD officers' attention from more "core" programmatic activities.

An active conference schedule included discussions of recently published books, films about American history and lectures on the American political process and the recent election. The library itself occupies the ground floor of a building shared with the U.S. Foreign Commercial Service on a busy downtown street. The State Department estimates that some 1,200 users visit the library every month.

View of the landmark Ben Franklin Library in Mexico City before opening hours.

SANTO DOMINGO

The Dominican Republic presents a more typical situation in the Western Hemisphere. The Embassy runs a small IRC known as the

[22] *http://www.usembassy-mexico.gov/bbf/biblioteca.htm.*
[23] *http://www.educationusa.state.gov/.*

"Ben Franklin Center," which offers limited resources (some 2,400 titles) and is housed in a single room in a small, off the beaten path, bungalow that serves as the Embassy's Public Affairs Section. To address their small size, the staff has aggressively compiled an impressive list of on-line databases[24] that members of the IRC—which have included Dominican Presidents and Cabinet members—use with great frequency. The push to more and more on-line services is understandable as overall costs are minimal when compared to publications. However, from a Public Diplomacy perspective, this trend is troubling. If true Public Diplomacy work most effectively involves interactions between Americans and foreign nationals, then relegating "contact" to a mere Internet portal to U.S. government documents, however useful, eliminates the "public" in Public Diplomacy.

At the same time, the IRC must compete with Santo Domingo's well-established Bi-National Center[25] which offers both a private K–12 school as well as separate English classes for ages 5 to adult. The BNC's library offers a collection of 13,000 titles in English and Spanish, and boasts a gallery and auditorium that seats 300. The BNC is located on a major thoroughfare and a few blocks from a major university.

[24] *http://www.usemb.gov.do/IRC/IRCindex.htm.*
[25] *http://www.dominicoamericano.edu.do/english/index.asp.*

In the first photo above, Embassy Santo Domingo IRC's library of 2,400 titles; in the bottom photo, a small portion of Santo Domingo's Bi-national Center's 13,000 titles.

An excellent example of low-cost, high impact Public Diplomacy is the Public Affairs Section's partnership with the National Museum of Natural History.

The ViewSpace exhibit in Santo Domingo's Museum of Natural History. The flat-screen TV in the darkened room depicts photos and video of outer space courtesy of NASA. Underneath the NASA insignia a sign in Spanish reads "Courtesy of the Franklin Center of the United States Embassy."

Using a service provided by NASA and for less than $200 a year, the Embassy provides a "ViewSpace" exhibit which offers museum visitors a constant stream of recent and historic images from American space missions and from satellites such as the Hubble Space Telescope. This demonstration of U.S. technology, scientific edu-

cation and space exploration is one of the most popular exhibits in the museum.

APPENDIX

AMERICAN CORNERS

In part to counter the restricted access of IRCs located on Embassy compounds, the Bush Administration established the "American Corners" program. Corners are created in partnership with local municipalities or universities to provide space, sometimes literally a *corner* in a room, in which the Embassy supplies, at a start-up cost of $35,000, half a dozen computers connected to the Internet and a collection of some 800 books. Approximately a third of the titles are American fiction with the rest distributed between reference, How-To-For-Dummies type guidebooks, biographies, and English teaching material.

If viewed not as a *substitute* for a formal American Center facility but rather as a *supplement,* the Corners do in fact provide Public Diplomacy platforms for U.S. programming to have a home—particularly in the more remote areas of larger countries where the U.S. lacks any formal diplomatic facility. For example in Russia, outside of our Embassy in Moscow, the U.S. has consulates in only St. Petersburg, Yekaterinburg, and Vladivostok, but there are 33 Corners throughout the country. Belarus has 12 Corners; Indonesia has 11 Corners, the Philippines—14, Afghanistan—7.

However, because the Corners are not staffed with nor overseen by U.S. officials, they lack the same Public Diplomacy impact of a dedicated, stand-alone brick and mortar facility in a country's capital. Some are excellent projections of American Public Diplomacy with dedicated and motivated staffs, others, can wither on the vine depending on the level of local interest and resources in providing staff willing to push the programming boundaries that may be at odds with officials in more remote locations. Again, without direct Embassy oversight and financial backing, Corners can be too inconsistent in their operations. As of February 2009, American Corners can be found in the following 414 locations.

AMERICAN CORNERS

Country	City
AFRICA: 83 In Operation 6 Underway	
Angola	Luanda
Benin	Abomey-Calavi
Benin	Grand-Popo
Benin	Parakou
Benin	Porto-Novo
Botswana	Gaborone
Burkina Faso	Bobo-Dioulasso
Burkina Faso	Fada N'gourma
Burkina Faso	Zorgho
Cameroon	Bertoua
Cameroon	Buea
Cameroon	Garoua

AMERICAN CORNERS—Continued

Country	City
Cape Verde	Fogo Island
Comoros	Moroni
Congo	Pointe-Noire
Democratic Republic Congo	Kinshasa
Democratic Republic Congo	Lumbumbashi
Cote d'Ivoire	Abidjan
Cote d'Ivoire	Tiassale
Cote d'Ivoire	Yamoussoukro
Equatorial Guinea	Bata (Underway)
Equatorial Guinea	Malabo (Underway)
Eritrea	Dekemhare
Eritrea	Keren
Eritrea	Massawa
Ethiopia	Bahir Dar
Ethiopia	Dire Dawa
Ethiopia	Harar
Ethiopia	Jimma
Gambia, The	Banjul
Ghana	Accra
Ghana	Tamale
Guinea	Kankan
Kenya	Lamu
Kenya	Mombasa
Kenya	Nairobi (Underway)
Liberia	Buchanan
Liberia	Kakata
Liberia	Monrovia
Liberia	Virginia Township
Liberia	Zwedru
Madagascar	Antananarivo
Madagascar	Antsiranana
Madagascar	Mahajanga (Underway)
Malawi	Blantyre
Malawi	Mzuzu
Malawi	Zomba
Mali	Gao
Mauritania	Nouakchott
Mauritania	Nouakchott (ISERI)
Mozambique	Maputo
Mozambique	Nampula
Namibia	Keetmanshoop
Namibia	Oshakati (MOU not renewed in 2008)
Namibia	Walvis Bay
Niger	Agadez
Niger	Maradi
Niger	Zinder
Nigeria	Abeokuta
Nigeria	Abuja
Nigeria	Bauchi
Nigeria	Calabar
Nigeria	Enugu
Nigeria	Ibadan
Nigeria	Jos
Nigeria	Kaduna
Nigeria	Kano
Nigeria	Maiduguri
Nigeria	Port Harcourt
Nigeria	Sokoto
Rwanda	Butare
Rwanda	Kigali
Rwanda	Kigali
Senegal	Louga
Senegal	Ziguinchor

AMERICAN CORNERS—Continued

Country	City
Somalia	Mogadishu (Underway)
Sierra Leone	Bo
South Africa	Bloemfontain
South Africa	Pietermaritzburg
Sudan	Juba (Underway)
Swaziland	Nhlangano
Tanzania	Pemba
Tanzania	Zanzibar
Togo	Lome
Uganda	Fort Portal
Uganda	Mbale
Zambia	Kitwe
Zimbabwe	Bulawayo
Zimbabwe	Mutare
EAST ASIA: 59 In Operation	
Burma	Rangoon
Cambodia	Battambang
Cambodian	Kampong Cham Town
Cambodia	Phnom Penh
Fiji	Lautoka
Hong Kong	Macau, Hong Kong
Indonesia	Bandung
Indonesia	Depok
Indonesia	Jakarta
Indonesia	Makassar
Indonesia	Malang
Indonesia	Medan (at IAIN)
Indonesia	Medan (at USU)
Indonesia	Semarang
Indonesia	Surabaya
Indonesia	Yogyakarta (at UGM)
Indonesia	Yogyakarta (at UMY)
Japan	Nago, Okinawa
Japan	Urasoe, Okinawa
Laos	Luang Prabang
Laos	Vientiane
Malaysia	Alor Setar, Kedah
Malaysia	Kota Bahru
Malaysia	Kuala Lumpur
Malaysia	Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu
Malaysia	Melaka
Malaysia	Sabah
Malaysia	Sarawak
Mongolia	Khovd
Mongolia	Ulaanbaatar
Philippines	Bacolod City
Philippines	Baguio
Philippines	Batac
Philippines	Cagayan De Oro
Philippines	Cebu
Philippines	Cotabato
Philippines	Davao City
Philippines	Dumaguete
Philippines	Iloilo City
Philippines	Jolo
Philippines	Manila
Philippines	Marawi City
Philippines	Tawi-Tawi
Philippines	Zamboanga
Singapore	Singapore
Singapore	Singapore
Singapore	Singapore
South Korea	Busan

AMERICAN CORNERS—Continued

Country	City
South Korea	Daegu
South Korea	Gwangju
Taiwan	Taichung
Thailand	Chiang Mai
Thailand	Khon Kaen
Thailand	Nakhon Si Thammarat
Thailand	Pattani
Thailand	Yala
Vietnam	Can Tho
Vietnam	Danang
Vietnam	Haiphong
EUROPE: 166 in Operation: 1 Underway	
Albania	Kukes
Albania	Tirana
Albania	Vlora
Armenia	Gyumri
Armenia	Kapan
Armenia	Vanadzor
Armenia	Yerevan
Austria	Innsbruck
Azerbaijan	Baku
Azerbaijan	Ganja
Azerbaijan	Khachmaz
Azerbaijan	Kurdemir
Azerbaijan	Lenkoran
Azerbaijan	Salyan
Belarus	Baranovichi
Belarus	Bobruisk
Belarus	Brest
Belarus	Gomel
Belarus	Grodno
Belarus	Minsk
Belarus	Mogilev
Belarus	Molodechno
Belarus	Mozyr
Belarus	Pinsk
Belarus	Polotsk
Belarus	Vitebsk
Bosnia & Herzegovina	Banja Luka
Bosnia & Herzegovina	Bihac
Bosnia & Herzegovina	Doboj
Bosnia & Herzegovina	Mostar
Bosnia & Herzegovina	Sarajevo
Bosnia & Herzegovina	Tuzla
Bosnia & Herzegovina	Zenica
Bulgaria	Sofia
Bulgaria	Varna
Bulgaria	Veliko Turnovo
Croatia	Osijek
Croatia	Rijeka
Croatia	Zadar
Croatia	Zagreb
Cyprus	Famagusta
Cyprus	Nicosia
Czech Republic	Brno
Czech Republic	Pilzen
Denmark (Greenland)	Nuuk
Estonia	Kuressaaare
Estonia	Narva
Estonia	Viljandi
Georgia	Akhaltsikhe
Georgia	Batumi
Georgia	Gori

AMERICAN CORNERS—Continued

Country	City
Georgia	Khashuri
Georgia	Rustavi
Georgia	Tblisi (at State Univ.)
Georgia	Tblisi
Georgia	Telavi
Georgia	Zugdidi
Greece	Athens
Greece	Corfu
Greece	Nea Philadelphia
Greece	Sparta
Greece	Veroia
Greece	Xanthi
Hungary	Debrecen
Hungary	Pecs
Hungary	Veszprem
Italy	Trieste
Kosovo	Mitrovica
Kosovo	Pristina
Kosovo	Prizren
Latvia	Daugavpils
Latvia	Liepaja
Lithuania	Siauliai
Macedonia	Bitola
Macedonia	Skopje
Macedonia	Tetovo
Moldova	Balti
Moldova	Ceadir Lunga
Moldova	Ungheni
Montenegro	Podgorica
Norway	Stavanger
Poland	Gdansk (Underway)
Poland	Lodz
Poland	Wroclaw
Romania	Bacau
Romania	Baia Mare
Romania	Bucharest
Romania	Cluj Napoca
Romania	Constanta
Romania	Craiova
Romania	Iasi
Romania	Timosoara
Russia	Arkhangelsk
Russia	Bryansk
Russia	Chelyabinsk
Russia	Irkutsk
Russia	Kaliningrad
Russia	Kazan
Russia	Khabarovsk
Russia	Moscow (Library of Foreign Literature)
Russia	Moscow (Parliamentary Library)
Russia	Moscow (State Children's Library)
Russia	Murmansk
Russia	Nizhniy Novgorod
Russia	Novgorod Velikiy
Russia	Novosibirsk
Russia	Omsk
Russia	Perm
Russia	Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskiy
Russia	Petrozavodsk
Russia	Pskov
Russia	Rostov-on-Don
Russia	Samara
Russia	Saratov

AMERICAN CORNERS—Continued

Country	City
Russia	St. Petersburg (City Library)
Russia	St. Petersburg (Youth Library)
Russia	Togliatti
Russia	Tomsk
Russia	Tyumen
Russia	Ufa
Russia	Vladivostok
Russia	Volgograd
Russia	Vologda
Russia	Yekaterinburg
Russia	Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk
Serbia	Belgrade
Serbia	Bujanovac
Serbia	Kragujevac
Serbia	Nis
Serbia	Novi Sad
Serbia	Subotica
Serbia	Vranje
Slovakia	Banska Bystrica
Slovakia	Bratislava
Slovakia	Kosice
Slovenia	Koper
Turkey	Bursa
Turkey	Gaziantep
Turkey	Izmir
Turkey	Kayseri
Ukraine	Chernihiv
Ukraine	Chernivtsi
Ukraine	Dnipropetrovsk
Ukraine	Donetsk
Ukraine	Ivano-Frankivsk
Ukraine	Kharkiv
Ukraine	Kherson (Children's Library)
Ukraine	Kherson (Research Library)
Ukraine	Kirovohrad
Ukraine	Kyiv (Mohyla Academy)
Ukraine	Kyiv (Public Library)
Ukraine	Luhansk
Ukraine	Lutsk
Ukraine	Lviv
Ukraine	Mykolaiv (Children's Library)
Ukraine	Mykolaiv (Research Library)
Ukraine	Odessa
Ukraine	Poltava
Ukraine	Rivne
Ukraine	Sevastopol
Ukraine	Simferopol
Ukraine	Sumy
Ukraine	Ternopil (Research Library)
Ukraine	Ternopil (Youth Library)
Ukraine	Uzhgorod
Ukraine	Vinnytsya
Ukraine	Zhytomyr
LATIN AMERICA: 22 in Operation; 2 Underway	
Brazil	Brasilia
Brazil	Fortaleza
Brazil	Salvador, Bahia
Chile	Arica
Chile	Punta Arenas
Chile	Santiago (at University)
Chile	Santiago (University of Talca)
Chile	Valdivia
Costa Rica	Limon

AMERICAN CORNERS—Continued

Country	City
Ecuador	Quito
Haiti	Port-au-Prince (Underway)
Honduras	Puerto Lempira
Honduras	Tegucigalpa
Nicaragua	Managua
Panama	Panama City
Paraguay	Asuncion
Suriname	Paramaribo
Trinidad and Tobago	Scarborough
Venezuela	Barquisimeto
Venezuela	La Asuncion
Venezuela	Lecheria
Venezuela	Maracay
Venezuela	Maturin
Venezuela	Valera (Underway)
MIDDLE EAST: 39 in Operation; 3 Underway	
Algeria	Algiers
Algeria	Constantine (Underway)
Algeria	Oran (Underway)
Iraq	6 ACs
Israel	Beersheva
Israel	Karmiel
Israel	Nazareth (Underway)
Israel	Yaffo
Jordan	Amman
Jordan	Zarqa
Kuwait	Kuwait City (at University)
Kuwait	Kuwait City (Gulf University)
Kuwait	Kuwait City (American University)
Lebanon	Baakleen
Lebanon	Nabatiyeh
Lebanon	Rashaya
Lebanon	Zahle
Morocco	Marrakech
Morocco	Oujda
Oman	Bureimi
Oman	Muscat (College of Bus & Sci)
Oman	Muscat (College of Technology)
Oman	Rustaq
Oman	Salalah
Oman	Sohar
Palestinian Territories	Gaza City
Palestinian Territories	Jericho
Qatar	Doha
Saudi Arabia	Jeddah
Syria	Damascus
Syria	Suweida
Tunisia	Tunis
United Arab Emirates	Al Ain
United Arab Emirates	Fujairah
Yemen	Dhamar
Yemen	Hadhramout
Yemen	Sana'a
SOUTH CENTRAL ASIA: 45 in Operation 4 Underway	
Afghanistan	Bamyan
Afghanistan	Gandez (Underway)
Afghanistan	Herat
Afghanistan	Jalalabad
Afghanistan	Kabul (at University)
Afghanistan	Kabul (Institute of Diplomacy)
Afghanistan	Khost (Underway)
Afghanistan	Kunduz (Underway)
Afghanistan	Mazar-E-Sharif

AMERICAN CORNERS—Continued

Country	City
Bangladesh	Chittagong
Bangladesh	Jessore
Bangladesh	Sylhet
India	Ahmedabad
India	Bhubaneswar
India	Bangalore
India	Chandigarh
India	Patna, Bihar
Kazakhstan	Aktobe
Kazakhstan	Almaty
Kazakhstan	Atyrau
Kazakhstan	Karaganda
Kazakhstan	Kostanai
Kazakhstan	Petropavlovsk
Kazakhstan	Shymkent
Kazakhstan	Uralsk
Kazakhstan	Ust'-Kamenogorsk
Kyrgyzstan	Batken
Kyrgyzstan	Jalalabat
Kyrgyzstan	Kant
Kyrgyzstan	Karakol
Kyrgyzstan	Talas
Maldives	Male'
Nepal	Bhairahawa
Nepal	Biratnagar
Nepal	Birgunj
Nepal	Pokhara
Pakistan	Islamabad
Pakistan	Karachi
Pakistan	Lahore (Underway)
Pakistan	Muzaffarabad
Pakistan	Peshawar
Sri Lanka	Kandy
Sri Lanka	Oluvil
Tajikistan	Dushanbe
Tajikistan	Khujand
Tajikistan	Kulob
Turkmenistan	Dashoguz
Turkmenistan	Mary
Turkmenistan	Turkmenabat

ARABIC BOOK TRANSLATION PROGRAM

"The figures for translated books are also discouraging. The Arab world translates about 330 books annually, one fifth of the number that Greece translates. The cumulative total of translated books since the Caliph Maa'moun's time (the ninth century) is about 100,000, almost the average that Spain translates in one year." (UNDP 2002 Arab Human Development Report[26])

The 2003 Congressionally-mandated report "Changing Minds and Winning Peace—A New Direction for U.S. Public Diplomacy in the Arab and Muslim World"[27] referenced the UNDP's translation statistics and called for a massive increase in our translation efforts—up to 1,000 titles a year. This effort was viewed as part of an

[26] Found on page 78 of *http://www.nakbaonline.org/download/UNDP/EnglishVersion/Ar-Human-Dev-2002.pdf.*

[27] The so-called "Djerejian Report" after the former U.S. Ambassador who chaired the effort *http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/24882.pdf.*

"American Knowledge Library Initiative" that would locate the translations in American Corners and local libraries throughout the Muslim world; however, funding constraints have prevented any such a large-scale Initiative. Instead, the U.S. government has relied on translation programs run out of the U.S. Embassies in Cairo, Egypt and Amman, Jordan.

The Cairo Arabic Book Program[28] has existed at the U.S Embassy in Cairo since the 1950s and currently translates 8–10 books a year using a budget of approximately $50,000 from the International Information Programs (IIP) section of the bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. This funding covers the costs of copyrights fees, translation and purchased copies.

The Program works with local publishers to select American books across a broad range of topics that are of mutual interest. Some 3,000 copies per title are published, of which the Program purchases 1,000–1,500 copies for local and regional distribution while the publisher sells the remaining copies in commercial outlets and regional book fairs. The publisher submits a draft of the translation which is reviewed by translators contracted by the Embassy. The Program and the Embassy's IRC send free copies of the books to public and university libraries, key contacts, NGOs, and other institutions. The Program does not regularly provide copies to local school libraries; however, when the Ambassador or other high level dignitaries visit a school, they take a quantity of age-appropriate books. Until two years ago the program received an extra $7,500 for shipping fees but currently regional posts either fully pay or split the shipping fees with the Program. This loss of shipping funds affects some posts' ability to procure books.

The program sends an annual e-mail within the mission and to regional posts to solicit suggestions for new titles. The e-mail also contains a tentative list of titles compiled by the program officers asking for further recommendation or comments. Based on these recommendations the Public Affairs Officer and Cultural Affairs Officer and their staffs meet to decide on the list of titles to be translated. After securing necessary copyrights, the program and the local publisher agree to go ahead on the translation of the book. The process of acquiring the copyrights, translating, editing and printing one book takes between 8–18 months.

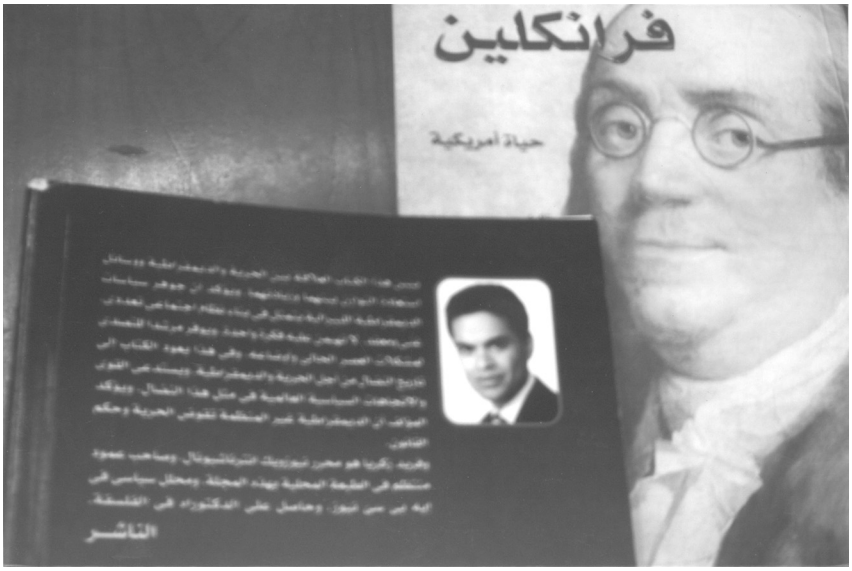
The translation program run by the U.S. Embassy in Amman, Jordan[29] is very similar in scope and $50,000 budget, but with slightly smaller print runs of some six books annually, usually printed in Amman or Beirut. The publisher sells 1,750 copies of the 2,500 printed to the public throughout its retail shops in the region and the regional and international book fairs they attend. 750 copies are retained by the embassy for its own distribution to universities, schools, local institutions, American Corners and posts in the region.

Cairo has organized Digital Video Conferences for Joyce Hanson, author of the Captive and collaborated with Embassy Amman to program Amy Tan, the author of the Joy Luck Club. Cairo also

[28] A list of books translated by the U.S. Embassy in Cairo: *http://cairo.usembassy.gov/pa/rbo.htm.*

[29] A list of books translated by the U.S. Embassy in Amman: *http://jordan.usembassy.gov/abp_titles_in_stock.html.*

brought the following authors for speaking events in Egypt: Walter Russell Mead, author of *Special Providence: How American Foreign Policy Has Changed the World*, Robert Putnam, author of *Making Democracy Work*, and Geneive Abdo, author of *Mecca and Main Street* whose Arabic version is due shortly. Embassy Amman also hosted a DVC with Mohamed Nimer, author of the book *Non-violence and Peace Building in Islam*.



U.S. government translations of Walter Isaacson's 2003 biography of Benjamin Franklin and The Future of Freedom by Fareed Zakaria from the American Center library in Alexandria, Egypt.

English Language Fellow Program [30]

The State Department's bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) English Language Fellow Program currently supports 136 U.S. fellows on exchanges in 76 counties worldwide. The EL Fellow Program provides foreign academic institutions with American professional expertise in Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) by sending highly trained American educators abroad on ten-month fellowships. The program also affords American TEFL professionals a unique professional development opportunity that contributes to their knowledge as educators upon their return to the U.S. Fellows work on projects and provide training in areas such as the English Access Microscholarship Program, TEFL classroom teaching, teacher training, in-service and pre-service training, curriculum development, workshop and seminar design, testing, program evaluation, needs assessment, and English for Specific Purposes.

[30] According to the State Department, 136 English Language Fellows are currently assigned as follows: Africa: 17; East Asia: 28; Europe: 33; Middle East 21; South Central Asia: 13; Latin America: 24.

If the goal is to maximize the number of English speakers throughout the world, then this is an excellent program as the multiplier effect of American education specialists assisting in the preparation of another country's English curriculum should result in vastly more students learning English, at much less cost, than our Access scholarships. The long-term public diplomacy value for such efforts, however, is debatable. Some say that the teachers who receive the attention, skills, materials and respect from their American counterparts will result in these same teachers acting as goodwill ambassadors for the United States for years to come, with the number of students they are able to influence and reach vastly outpacing direct, U.S.-sponsored classes.

Others note that the Program amounts to almost "invisible" Public Diplomacy as few in the public ever hear of these efforts due to the fact that the fellows work from *within* foreign educational systems. If a core component of public diplomacy is for a nation to "get the credit" for its efforts, this may not be the most effective program, but as a low-cost pedagogical tool, it is invaluable.

REGIONAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE OFFICES

In addition to English Language Fellows, the Department of State also supports a network of 18 Regional English Language Offices (RELOs) located in Embassies around the world that operate under the supervision of ECA's Office of English Language Programs in Washington. Each RELO is a specialist Foreign Service Officer with an advanced degree in Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL)—many, in fact are former English Language Fellows.

In collaboration with U.S. Embassies, RELOs oversee the English Access Microscholarship Program, organize teacher training seminars and workshops; consult with host-country ministry, university, and teacher-training officials. They also oversee ECA's other English language activities, such as the English Language Specialists, English Language Fellow, and E-Teacher Scholarship Programs. As the attached table of Regional English Language Offices and the countries they cover suggests, RELOs are over-burdened in the extreme.

REGIONAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE OFFICES

Region	Post	Countries Covered
Africa	Dakar	Benin, Burkina-Faso, Cameroon, Republic of Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Cote D'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo
	Pretoria	Angola, Botswana, Burundi, Comoros, Democratic Republic of Congo, Republic of Congo, Republic of Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, Seychelles, Somalia, Republic of South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe
East Asia	Beijing	People's Republic of China, Hong Kong, Mongolia
	Bangkok	Burma, Cambodia, Laos, Taiwan, Thailand, Vietnam

REGIONAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE OFFICES—Continued

Region	Post	Countries Covered
	Jakarta	Brunei, Fiji, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Singapore, Timor-Leste
Europe	Ankara	Turkey
	Budapest	Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Kosovo, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Montenegro, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia
	Kyiv	Armenia, Azerbaijan, Republic of Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine
	Moscow	Russia
Middle East	Amman	Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, West Bank/Gaza
	Cairo	Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Yemen
	Manama	Bahrain, State of Kuwait, State of Oman, Qatar, United Arab Emirates
	Rabat	Algeria, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia
South Central Asia	New Delhi	Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Pakistan
	Astana	Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan
Latin America	Mexico City	Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama
	Lima	Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela
	Santiago	Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, Uruguay
	Branch Chief DC	Bahamas, Barbados, Cuba, Denmark/Greenland, Dominican Republic, French Guiana, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Italy, Jamaica, Netherlands Antilles, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago
	Branch Chief DC	Materials Development

ACCESS MICROSCHOLARSHIPS

The Department of State has developed a two-year scholarship intended to provide English language skills primarily to Muslim youths aged 14 to 18 who would otherwise have little access to such classes. These so-called Access Microscholarships grew out of the difficulty the Department had in finding non-elite Muslim youths with sufficient English language proficiency to participate successfully in its Youth Exchange and Study (YES) Program. (YES students spend a full high school year in the United States living with a host family.)

According to the Department, since 2004, some 44,000 students have participated in the Access program in 55 countries. Funding for Access comes from both the State Department's bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) and Middle East Peace Partnership Initiative (MEPI) and has consistently risen:

FY2006	$8.75 million
FY2007	$13.5 million
FY2008	$17.4 million

According to the State Department, more than 22,000 English Access Micro-scholarship students in over 55 countries are cur-

rently studying under the Program. Approximately half of the students are in their first year. Access students can be found in the following:

- *Africa* (1,841 students): Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mauritania, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, Togo
- *East Asia* (2,077 students): Burma, Cambodia, China, East Timor, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mongolia, Philippines, Thailand
- *Europe* (1,606 students): Albania, Azerbaijan, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Cyprus, Kosovo, Russia, Turkey, Ukraine
- *Middle East* (11,070 students): Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Gaza, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Syria (suspended in FY06), Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, West Bank, Yemen
- *South Central Asia* (4,813 students): Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan
- *Latin America* (749 students): Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Mexico, Peru, Uruguay

Public Diplomacy officials offer high praise for the Access program as it gives the United States inroads into communities that have often been traditionally hostile towards the United States. However, comments from Access parents such as "our own government doesn't care about educating our children, but the United States does" are not unusual as children with normally very little hope of advancement in their societies are suddenly offered a language which will greatly enhance their future employment opportunities. In addition, many receive computer training, intellectual discipline, and research skills that their other schoolmates will likely never receive.

In Alexandria, Egypt Access classes are co-educational and students are encouraged to question and challenge far beyond the boundaries for normal Egyptian students. In spite of concerns of parental backlash against traditional teaching methods, only one student has been withdrawn by her parents to date. Rather, parents are clamoring for their children to be enrolled in the program because they appreciate the benefits offered.

Valid concerns about the program abound, however. In Alexandria, the NGO AmidEast (which runs Access in Egypt) runs the program for approximately $2,000 per student for the full two years. Classrooms are modern, computers are plentiful, and English instruction is conducted by American expatriates living in the city. However, this is not always the case as in other locations, locally hired instructors lack sufficient English skills and are not always sufficiently familiar with American culture and teaching methodologies to impart effectively these crucial aspects of the program.

Of equal concern is the lack of follow-on programming for Access graduates. With only 300 YES slots available each year and some 11,000 Access graduates, failure to keep the majority of Access graduates engaged with programs related to the their studies risks losing the ground gained, particularly as many will return to edu-

cational systems likely hostile to these new-found ideas of academic freedom. Failure to keep Access graduates engaged through low-cost, follow-on local U.S. programs risks seeing our investments in the education of so many wither on the vine and could even create a backlash as students once selected for their intellectual abilities and achievements feel abandoned by our government.

PEACE CORPS EXEMPTION TO CO-LOCATION REQUIREMENT [31]

SEC. 691. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING THE LOCATION OF PEACE CORPS OFFICES ABROAD.

It is the sense of the Congress that, to the degree permitted by security considerations, the Secretary should give favorable consideration to requests by the Director of the Peace Corps that the Secretary exercise his authority under section 606(a)(2)(B) of the Secure Embassy Construction and Counterterrorism Act of 1999 (22 U.S.C. 4865(a)(2)(B)) to waive certain requirements of that Act in order to permit the Peace Corps to maintain offices in foreign countries at locations separate from the United States Embassy.

FILM SERIES RESTRICTIONS

One of the strongest assets in U.S. Public Diplomacy is the use of films to tell America's story to the rest of the world. Particularly, films with historical and political themes and plots are often the best demonstrations of America's values of freedom of expression. They also demonstrate a willingness to debate sensitive topics through such a public medium. As such American Centers and IRCs typically run film series with follow-on discussions.

However, rather than encourage the widest possible broadcast of such showings to the largest audience possible, the Licensing Agreement recently negotiated between the State Department and the Motion Picture Licensing Corporation suggests otherwise. Paragraph 20 of the State Department's message regarding the MOU to Embassies worldwide expressly notes the following were agreed to:

> "The films may be screened for audiences of up to 100 people per screening. They may not be screened for larger audiences.
>
> "No advertising is permitted. No specific titles or characters from such titles or producers' names may be advertised or publicized to the general public."

Embassy officials report they have been contacted by the MPLC when films are announced on the Internet. To avoid this, many now simply post the movie showing on a bulletin board in their facilities—a perfectly painful example of how, in the age of text messaging, our government is forced to operate in methods no different from the 19th century.

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[31] See Section 691 (page 1415) of Public Law 107–228 *http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=107_cong_public_laws&docid=f:publ228.107.pdf.*

In keeping with the MOU that prohibits advertising, the American Center in Alexandria, Egypt is forced to restrict the announcement of upcoming film viewings and discussions to its outdoor bulletin board—in this case the 1994 film "Little Women" in the upper right.

STATE DEPARTMENT CABLE OF AGREEMENT WITH MOTION PICTURE LICENSING CORPORATION

UNCLASSIFIED STATE 00046191

P 011508Z MAY 08
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

FOR PAS

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: KPAO, OEXC, SCUL
SUBJECT: THEMATIC FEATURE FILM PROGRAMMING FOR EXPANDED MPLC-LICENSED PUBLIC PERFORMANCE SCREENINGS

1. SUMMARY: ECA IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE IT HAS DEVELOPED THEMATIC FEATURE FILM CATEGORIES WITH SUGGESTED FILM TITLES TO ASSIST POSTS WITH ELECTION YEAR AND OTHER SUBJECT AND CONTENT-BASED PROGRAMMING OF FEATURE FILMS ON DVD OR VIDEOTAPE FORMATS. AMONG OTHERS, THE CATEGORIES INCLUDE POLITICS AND THE PRESIDENCY, THE ENVIRONMENT, WOMEN'S RIGHTS, IMMIGRATION, AND DIVERSITY. ALL FILMS LISTED HERE ARE APPROVED FOR USE UNDER THE GUIDELINES OF THE EXPANDED MPLC LICENSE ON PUBLIC PERFORMANCE SCREENING RIGHTS NEGOTIATED BY ECA AND FUNDED BY THE "R" BUREAU. THE NEWLY EXPANDED LICENSE PERMITS CONDITIONAL, NON-THEATRICAL OFF-SITE SCREENINGS IN ADDITION TO SCREENINGS AT U.S. EMBASSIES, CONSULATES AND AMERICAN CORNERS. END SUMMARY.

THEMATIC FILM CATEGORIES AND SUBJECTS
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2. THEMATIC CATEGORIES WERE SELECTED BASED ON TOPICS RECURRINGLY REQUESTED BY POSTS AND/OR AN ASSESSMENT OF THE THEMES AND FILMS SUITABLE FOR PROGRAMMING TO ADDRESS CURRENT EVENTS [U.S. AND WORLDWIDE] AND/OR TO PROVIDE AN INSIGHT INTO U.S. SOCIETY AND CULTURE. STILL OTHERS PROVIDE A WINDOW INTO A PARTICULAR ERA IN U.S. HISTORY.

THE FILMS RUN THE GAMUT FROM OLDER CLASSIC TITLES TO MOVIES OF MORE RECENT VINTAGE.

TOPICS INCLUDED HERE ARE: POLITICS AND THE PRESIDENCY; THE ENVIRONMENT; FREEDOM OF THE PRESS/MEDIA; INDEPENDENT JUDICIARY/RULE OF LAW; THE POWER OF THE INDIVIDUAL IN A FREE SOCIETY; IMMIGRATION AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY; WOMEN'S ISSUES; WESTERNS WITH A MORAL; THE AMERICAN DREAM FROM RAGS TO RICHES; AMERICAN VALUES; FAMILY LIFE; THE IMPORTANCE OF EDUCATION, AND; OVERCOMING DISABILITIES.

ADDITIONAL THEMES OR PROGRAM CATEGORIES SUCH AS SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MEDICINE, BLACK HISTORY MONTH, BIOGRAPHIES, MUSICALS, FILM NOIR, CLASSIC COMEDIES, ANIMATION, AND CHILDREN'S FILMS WILL BE AVAILABLE SHORTLY IN THE PD BEST PRACTICES SITE OF THE INTRANET, AS WILL A FULL TITLE LIST IN PDF FORMAT.

3. AUDIENCES WILL BENEFIT TREMENDOUSLY IF POSTS PROVIDE SUBJECT AND HISTORICAL CONTEXT FOR THE FILMS. WHILE SYNOPSES CAN BE FOUND AT MANY WEBSITES, ECA SUGGESTS TWO IN PARTICULAR WHICH ALSO OFFER RUNNING TIMES AND FILM RATINGS: WWW.IMDB.COM AND WWW.AMAZON.COM.

IF A FILM POST SEEKS IS NOT LISTED HERE, PLEASE CONTACT ECA/PE/C/CU-SUSAN COHEN AT COHENSL@STATE.GOV TO DETERMINE IF IT IS COVERED BY THE MPLC LICENSE.

4. POSTS MAY ORDER DVDS AND VIDEOTAPES DIRECTLY ON-LINE AT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING WEBSITES:

-- HTTP://WWW.AMAZON.COM/ <HTTP://WWW.AMAZON.COM/-->
-- <HTTP://WWW.AMAZON.COM/--> HTTP://WWW.SUNCOAST.COM/
<HTTP://WWW.SUNCOAST.COM/-->
-- <HTTP://WWW.SUNCOAST.COM/--> HTTP://WWW.DVALIBRARY.COM//ABOUTUS.ASPX
<HTTP://WWW.DVALIBRARY.COM/ABOUTUS.ASPX-->
-- <HTTP://WWW.DVALIBRARY.COM/ABOUTUS.ASPX-->
HTTP://WWW.MOVIESUNLIMITED.COM/MUSITE/DEFAULT.ASP?
<HTTP://WWW.MOVIESUNLIMITED.COM/MUSITE/DEFAULT.ASP?-->
-- <HTTP://WWW.MOVIESUNLIMITED.COM/MUSITE/DEFAULT.ASP?-->
HTTP://WWW.CDUNIVERSE.COM/DEFAULT.ASP?STYLE=MOVIE

MPLC LICENSE - BRIEF GUIDELINES
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5. ALL FILMS LISTED BELOW ARE ON THE MPLC APPROVED SCREENING LIST. UNDER THE RENEWED AND EXPANDED COLLECTIVE LICENSING AGREEMENT WITH THE MOTION PICTURE LICENSING CORPORATION, POSTS MAY:

-- HOLD PUBLIC PERFORMANCE SCREENINGS OF FEATURE FILMS ON VIDEOTAPE AND DVD FOR AUDIENCES UP TO 100 PEOPLE AT U.S. EMBASSIES, CONSULATES AND AMERICAN CORNERS.

-- HOLD PUBLIC PERFORMANCE SCREENINGS OF FEATURE FILMS ON VIDEOTAPE AND DVD FOR AUDIENCES UP TO 100 PEOPLE AT OFF-SITE VENUES SUCH AS UNIVERSITIES, MUSEUMS, ETC. ON CONDITION THAT THE SCREENINGS BE HELD UNDER THE SPONSORSHIP, OPERATION AND DIRECT CONTROL OF U.S. EMBASSY OR CONSULAR OFFICER, OR OFFICIAL U.S. MISSION POST. THIS INCLUDES SCREENINGS AT BINATIONAL CENTERS AND OTHER LOCAL INSTITUTIONS OVERSEAS THAT HAVE ARRANGEMENTS AND/OR UNDERSTANDINGS WITH U.S. MISSIONS GOVERNING COOPERATIVE CULTURAL PROGRAMS.

-- NO ADMISSION MAY BE CHARGED AND ADVERTISING IS NOT/NOT PERMITTED.

-- FEATURE FILMS ON VIDEOTAPE OR DVD CANNOT BE SHOWN AT THEATRICAL VENUES, NON-STATE DEPARTMENT SPONSORED/ORGANIZED FILM FESTIVALS, OR AT NOON-USG SPONSORED UNIVERSITY EXHIBITIONS.

PLEASE SEE PARA. 19 FOR COMPLETE DETAILS ON THE MPLC LICENSE. FULLER DETAILS, INCLUDING INFORMATION ON HOW TO LEGALLY PROMOTE YOUR FILM SCREENING WILL BE AVAILABLE SOON ON THE PD BEST PRACTICES INTRANET SITE.

FILM THEME: POLITICS AND THE PRESIDENCY
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6. SUB-THEME: THE CAMPAIGN, DEAL-MAKING, POLITICAL MACHINES:
-
"THE GREAT MCGINTY" 1940
"ALL THE KING'S MEN" 1949
"ADVICE AND CONSENT" 1962
"THE BEST MAN" 1964
"THE CANDIDATE" 1972
"ALL THE PRESIDENT'S MEN" 1976
"THE SEDUCTION OF JOE TYNAN" 1979
"PRIMARY COLORS" 1992
"THE CONTENDER" 2000
"ALL THE KING'S MEN" 2006
--
SUB-THEME: THE POWER OF THE MEDIA:
"A FACE IN THE CROWD" 1957
"THE LAST HURRAH" 1958
"ALL THE PRESIDENT'S MEN" 1976
"NETWORK" 1976
"GOOD NIGHT AND GOOD LUCK" 2005
--
SUB-THEME - POLITICS AND INTEGRITY:
"GABRIEL OVER THE WHITE HOUSE" 1933
"MR. SMITH GOES TO WASHINGTON" 1939
"MEET JOHN DOE" 1941
"STATE OF THE UNION" 1948
"BORN YESTERDAY" 1950
"BORN YESTERDAY" 1993
"DAVE" 1993
--
SUB-THEME - SATIRES:
"THE GREAT MCGINTY" 1940
"KISSES FOR MY PRESIDENT" 1964
"WRONG IS RIGHT" 1982
"BOB ROBERTS" 1992
"DISTINGUISHED GENTLEMAN" 1992
"DAVE" 1993
"BULWORTH" 1998
"WAG THE DOG" 1997
"ELECTION" 1999
"MAN OF THE YEAR" 2006
--
SUB-THEME - ABOUT THE PRESIDENT:
"YOUNG MR. LINCOLN" 1939
"ABE LINCOLN IN ILLINOIS" 1940
"WILSON" 1944
"THE PRESIDENT'S LADY" 1953
"SUNRISE AT CAMPOBELLO" 1960
"JFK" 1991
"NIXON" 1995
"JEFFERSON IN PARIS" 1995
"THIRTEEN DAYS" 2000
--
SUB-THEME- CAUTIONERY TALES:
"THE MANCHURIAN CANDIDATE" 1962
"DR. STRANGELOVE" 1963
"SEVEN DAYS IN MAY" 1964

"FAIL SAFE" 1964
"THE PARALLAX VIEW" 1974
"THIRTEEN DAYS" 2000
--
FICTICIOUS PRESIDENTS:
"THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT" 1995
"INDEPENDENCE DAY" 1996
"AIR FORCE ONE" 1997
--
MISC:
"CITIZEN KANE" 1941
"MEDIUM COOL" 1969

THEME: THE ENVIRONMENT
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7. SUB-THEMES: GLOBAL WARMING, NUCLEAR POWER, POLLUTION:
"SILENT RUNNING" 1972
"SOYLENT GREEN" 1973
"THE CHINA SYNDROME" 1979
"KOYAANISQATSI" 1982
"SILKWOOD" 1983
"POWAQQATSI" 1988
"ANIMA MUNDI" 1992
"FERNGULLY:THE LAST RAINFOREST" 1992
"ON DEADLY GROUND" 1994
"WATERWORLD" 1995
"FIRE DOWN BELOW" 1997
"A CIVIL ACTION" 1998
"ERIN BROCKOVICH" 2000
"THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW" 2004
"AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH" 2006
--
SUB-THEME : ANIMALS
"BORN FREE" 1966
"NEVER CRY WOLF" 1983
"GORILLAS IN THE MIST" 1988
"FREE WILLY" 1993
"FLY AWAY HOME" 1996
"MARCH OF THE PENGUINS" 2005
--
SUB-THEME: ECO-HORROR
"THEM" 1954
"THE INCREDIBLE SHRINKING MAN" 1957
"THE BEGINNING OF THE END" 1957
"THE BIRDS" 1963
"FROGS" 1972

THEME: FREEDOM OF THE PRESS/THE MEDIA
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8. "HIS GIRL FRIDAY" 1940
"CITIZEN KANE" 1941
"THE PAPER" 1964

"MEDIUM COOL" 1969
"ALL THE PRESIDENT'S MEN" 1976
"NETWORK" 1976
"BEING THERE" 1979
"ABSENCE OF MALICE" 1981
"BROADCAST NEWS" 1987
"THE INSIDER" 1999
"GOOD NIGHT AND GOOD LUCK" 2005

THEME: INDEPENDENT JUDICIARY / RULE OF LAW
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9. "TWELVE ANGRY MEN" 1957
"ANATOMY OF A MURDER" 1959
"INHERIT THE WIND" 1960
"TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD" 1962
"AND JUSTICE FOR ALL" 1979
"THE VERDICT" 1982
"CLASS ACTION" 1991
"PHILADELPHIA" 1993
"AMISTAD" 1997
"A CIVIL ACTION" 1998
"ERIN BROCKOVICH" 2000

THEME: THE POWER OF THE INDIVIDUAL IN A FREE SOCIETY
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10. "MR. SMITH GOES TO WASHINGTON" 1939
"THE GRAPES OF WRATH" 1940
"IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE" 1946
"HIGH NOON" 1952
"ON THE WATERFRONT" 1954
"THE SPIRIT OF ST.LOUIS" 1957
"ROCKY" 1976
"NORMA RAE" 1979
"FORREST GUMP" 1994
"ERIN BROCKOVICH" 2000
"NORTH COUNTRY" 2005
"ROCKEY BALBOA" 2006

THEME: IMMIGRATION AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY
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11. "GENTLEMAN'S AGREEMENT" 1947
"THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER" 1947
"WEST SIDE STORY" 1961
"NOTHING BUT A MAN" 1964
"THE LEARNING TREE" 1969
"THE MOLLY MAGUIRES"1970
"THE GODFATHER" 1972
"SOUNDER" 1972
"HESTER STREET" 1975
"EL NORTE" 1983

"MOSCOW ON THE HUDSON" 1984
"WITNESS" 1985
"LA BAMBA" 1987
"MATEWAN" 1987
"MOONSTRUCK" 1987
"MILAGRO BEANFIELD WAR" 1988
"STAND AND DELIVER" 1988
"POWWOW HIGHWAY" 1989
"DO THE RIGHT THING" 1989
"AVALON" 1990
"GREEN CARD" 1990
"MISSISSIPPI MASALA" 1991
"BOYZ 'N THE HOOD" 1991
"FAR AND AWAY" 1992
"THE JOY LUCK CLUB" 1993
"CROOKLYN" 1994
"THE BROTHERS MCMULLEN" 1995
"LONE STAR" 1996
"SOUL FOOD" 1997
"SELENA" 1997
"SMOKE SIGNALS" 1998
"BARBERSHOP" 2002
"GANGS OF NEW YORK" 2002
"MY BIG FAT GREEK WEDDING" 2002
"WINDTALKERS" 2002
"THE NAMESAKE" 2006

THEME: WOMEN'S ISSUES
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12. "CHRISTOPHER STRONG" 1933
"JEZEBEL" 1938
"THE WOMEN" 1939
"NOW VOYAGER" 1942
"WOMAN OF THE YEAR" 1942
"DOUBLE INDEMNITY" 1944
"SPELLBOUND" 1945
"MILDRED PIERCE" 1945
"ADAM'S RIB" 1949
"ALL ABOUT EVE" 1950
"THE COUNTRY GIRL" 1954
"OKLAHOMA CRUDE" 1973
"ALICE DOESN'T LIVE HERE ANYMORE" 1974
"HESTER STREET" 1975
"THE TURNING POINT" 1977
"NORMA RAE" 1979
"KRAMER VS KRAMER" 1979
"ALIEN" 1979
"BODY HEAT" 1981
"TOOTSIE" 1982
"SILKWOOD" 1983
"TERMS OF ENDEARMENT" 1983
"BABY BOOM" 1987
"BULL DURHAM" 1988
"THE ACCUSED" 1988

"WORKING GIRL" 1988
"STEEL MAGNOLIAS" 1989
"WHITE PALACE" 1990
"FRIED GREEN TOMATOES" 1991
"THELMA AND LOUISE" 1991
"A LEAGUE OF THEIR OWN" 1992
"THE BALLAD OF LITTLE JO" 1993
"SLEEPLESS IN SEATTLE" 1993
"JOY LUCK CLUB" 1993
"LITTLE WOMEN" 1994
"THE BRIDGES OF MADISON COUNTY" 1995
"BOYS ON THE SIDE" 1995
"WAITING TO EXHALE" 1995
"COURAGE UNDER FIRE" 1996
"THE FIRST WIVES CLUB" 1996
"FARGO" 1996
"THE ASSOCIATE" 1996
"JACKIE BROWN" 1997
"PARADISE ROAD" 1997
"G.I. JANE" 1997
"ONE TRUE THING" 1998
"GIRL INTERRUPTED" 1999
"YOU CAN COUNT ON ME" 2000
"MILLION DOLLAR BABY" 2004
"MARIA FULL OF GRACE" 2004
"NORTH COUNTRY" 2005
"A MIGHTY HEART" 2007

THEME: CLASSIC WESTERNS WITH A MORAL
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13. "THE OX-BOW INCIDENT" 1943
"MY DARLING CLEMENTINE" 1946
"RED RIVER" 1948
"TREASURE OF THE SIERRA MADRE" 1948
"SHE WORE A YELLOW RIBBON" 1949
"HIGH NOON" 1952
"SHANE" 1953
"THE SEARCHERS" 1956
"GUNFIGHT AT OK CORRAL" 1957
"3:10 TO YUMA" 1957
"THE MAGNIFICANT SEVEN" 1960
"THE MAN WHO SHOT LIBERTY VALANCE" 1962

THEME: THE AMERICAN DREAM FROM RAGS TO RICHES
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14. "BOUND FOR GLORY" 1976
"LEADBELLY" 1976
"COAL MINER'S DAUGHTER" 1980
"LA BAMBA" 1987
"TENDER MERCIES" 1983
"WALK THE LINE" 2005

THEME: AMERICAN VALUES
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15. "THE WIZARD OF OZ" 1939
"PENNY SERENADE" 1941
"PRIDE OF THE YANKEES" 1942
"MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS" 1944
"THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES" 1946
"IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE" 1946
"PEOPLE WILL TALK" 1951
"HIGH NOON" 1952
"SHANE" 1953
"OKLAHOMA!" 1955
"INHERIT THE WIND" 1960
"TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD" 1962
"THE MUSIC MAN" 1962
"ROCKY" 1976
"THE RIGHT STUFF" 1983
"PLACES IN THE HEART" 1984
"HOOSIERS" 1986
"STEEL MAGNOLIAS" 1989
"FIELD OF DREAMS" 1989
"DRIVING MISS DAISY" 1989
"THE LONG WALK HOME" 1990
"LITTLE WOMEN" 1994
"FORREST GUMP" 1994
"OCTOBER SKY" 1999
"APOLLO 13" 1995
"SHREK" 2001
"CINDERELLA MAN" 2005
"AKEELAH AND THE BEE" 2006
"THE PURSUIT OF HAPPYNESS" 2006

THEME: FAMILY LIFE
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16. "IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE" 1946
"FRIENDLY PERSUASION" 1956
"ON GOLDEN POND" 1981
"TERMS OF ENDEARMENT" 1983
"PLACES IN THE HEART" 1984
"MOONSTRUCK" 1987
"STEEL MAGNOLIAS" 1989
"AVALON" 1990
"THE JOY LUCK CLUB" 1993
"CROOKLYN" 1994
"THE STRAIGHT STORY" 1999
"MY BIG FAT GREEK WEDDING" 2002
"ABOUT SCHMIDT" 2002
"LITTLE MISS SUNSHINE" 2006
"THE PURSUIT OF HAPPYNESS" 2006

THEME: THE IMPORTANCE OF EDUCATION

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17. "THE MIRACLE WORKER" 1962
"STAND AND DELIVER" 1988
"LEAN ON ME" 1989
"DEAD POET'S SOCIETY" 1989
"MR. HOLLAND'S OPUS" 1995
"MUSIC OF THE HEART" 1999
"PAY IT FORWARD" 2000
"COACH CARTER" 2005
"THE PURSUIT OF HAPPYNESS" 2006
"FREEDOM WRITERS 2007

THEME: OVERCOMING ADVERSITY
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18. "BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES" 1946
"JOHNNY BELINDA" 1948
"BRIGHT VICTORY" 1951
"THREE FACES OF EVE" 1957
"SUNRISE AT CAMPOBELLO" 1960
"DAVID AND LISA" 1962
"THE MIRACLE WORKER" 1962
"WAIT UNTIL DARK" 1967
"BANG THE DRUM SLOWLY" 1973
"THE OTHER SIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN" 1975
"ORDINARY PEOPLE" 1980
"CHILDREN OF A LESSER GOD" 1986
"RAIN MAN" 1988
"THE WATERDANCE" 1992
"PHILADELPHIA" 1993
"FORREST GUMP" 1994
"THE SHAWSHANK REDEMPTION" 1994
"SLING BLADE" 1996
"GOOD WILL HUNTING" 1997
"GIRL INTERRUPTED" 1999
"REMEMBER THE TITANS" 2000
"I AM SAM" 2001
"ANTWONE FISHER" 2002
"WE ARE MARSHALL" 2006
"GLORY ROAD" 2006

DETAILS OF 2008 EXPANDED COLLECTIVE LICENSING AGREEMENT WITH THE MOTION PICTURE LICENSING CORPORATION [MPLC]
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19. THE RENEWED AND EXPANDED LICENSING AGREEMENT THAT ECA NEGOTIATED WITH THE MPLC PERMITS WIDER FLEXIBILITY IN THE USE OF FILM AS A MAJOR POST PROGRAMMING TOOL. THE LICENSE IS FUNDED FOR THE SECOND YEAR BY THE OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS. IT PERMITS CONTINUED PUBLIC PERFORMANCE SCREENINGS OF FEATURE FILMS ON VIDEOTAPE AND DVD AT U.S. EMBASSIES, CONSULATES AND AMERICAN CORNERS.

THIS YEAR'S EXPANDED RIGHTS ALSO PERMIT NON-THEATRICAL OFF-SITE SCREENINGS ON CONDITION THAT THOSE SCREENINGS MUST ALWAYS BE HELD UNDER THE SPONSORSHIP, OPERATION, AND DIRECT CONTROL OF U.S. EMBASSY OR CONSULAR OFFICIALS.

THUS, SCREENINGS MAY NOW BE HELD AT BINATIONAL CENTERS, SCHOOLS, COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES IF IN CONNECTION WITH A USG-ORGANIZED CULTURAL PROGRAM AND UNDER THE SPONSORSHIP, OPERATION AND DIRECT CONTROL OF U.S. EMBASSY OR CONSULAR OFFICIALS.

20. OTHER MPLC REGULATIONS:

- THE FILMS MAY BE SCREENED FOR AUDIENCES OF UP TO 100 PEOPLE PER SCREENING. THEY MAY NOT BE SCREENED FOR LARGER AUDIENCES.

- NO ADMISSION MAY BE CHARGED.

- NO ADVERTISING IS PERMITTED. NO SPECIFIC TITLES, OR CHARACTERS FROM SUCH TITLES, OR PRODUCERS' NAMES MAY BE ADVERTISED OR PUBLICIZED TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

- THE TAPES OR DVDS MUST BE LEGALLY OBTAINED FROM A LEGITIMATE SOURCE.

- USG MISSIONS AND AMERICAN CORNERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR OBTAINING THEIR OWN VIDEOCASSETTES AND DVDS.

- USG MISSIONS AND AMERICAN CORNERS MAY NOT DUPLICATE, EDIT OR IN ANY WAY MODIFY THE VIDEOTAPES AND DVDS OBTAINED FOR PUBLIC PERFORMANCE USE.

- IMPORTANT: BECAUSE OF RIGHTS RESTRICTIONS, COPYRIGHT AND ROYALTY ISSUES, FEATURE FILMS ON VIDEOTAPE OR DVD CANNOT/CANNOT BE SHOWN AT THEATRICAL VENUES, NON-STATE DEPARTMENT SPONSORED OR ORGANIZED FILM FESTIVALS, OR AT NON-USG SPONSORED UNIVERSITY EXHIBITIONS.

21. THE COLLECTIVE MPLC LICENSE HAS LONG BEEN A PROGRAM TOOL TO AUGMENT ECA/PE/C/CU'S 35MM FEATURE FILM PROGRAM.
DETAILS OF THAT PROGRAM WILL BE ANNOUNCED VIA SEPTEL.
PLEASE ADDRESS ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE 35MM FILM PROGRAM OR ABOUT THE PUBLIC PERFORMANCE COLLECTIVE LICENSE TO ECA/PE/C/CU-SUSAN COHEN, COPY TO LAFAYE PROCTOR.

FILMS COVERED UNDER THE MPLC
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22. THE TITLES THAT MAY BE PUBLICLY PRESENTED UNDER THIS LICENSE ARE MOTION PICTURES THAT HAVE BEEN PRODUCED AND/OR DISTRIBUTED BY THE MOTION PICTURE COMPANIES LISTED BELOW, PROVIDED THAT THE SPECIFIC TITLES COVERED UNDER THIS AGREEMENT ARE EITHER:

[A] AVAILABLE IN HOME VIDEO OR DVD RELEASE IN THE COUNTRY IN WHICH THE EXHIBITION WILL OCCUR; OR

[B] AT LEAST SIX [6] MONTHS OR NINE [9] MONTHS HAVE PASSED SINCE THE U.S. THEATRICAL RELEASE; WHICHEVER IS EARLIER [SEE BELOW]

THE MOTION PICTURE COMPANIES COVERED UNDER THE MPLC ARE THE FOLLOWING: ALLEY CAT FILMS, AMERICAN PORTRAIT FILMS, BEDFORD ENTERTAINMENT,BEST FILM & VIDEO,

BIG IDEA, INC., BILLY GRAHAM EVANGELISTIC ASSOCIATION/WORLD WIDE PICTURES, BRIDGESTONE MULTIMEDIA/ALPHA OMEGA PUBLISHING, BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY, BRUDER RELEASING, INC., BUENA VISTA PICTURES*, CANNON PICTURES, CAREY FILMS LTD., CASTLE HILL PRODUCTIONS, CDR COMMUNICATIONS, CENTRAL PARK MEDIA, CHOICES, INC., CHRISTIAN CINEMA.COM, CHRISTIAN TELEVISION ASSOCIATION, CINEMATHEQUE COLLECTION, CLASSIC MEDIA/GOLDEN BOOKS ENTERTAINMENT, COLUMBIA PICTURES*, CROWN VIDEO, DAVE CHRISTIANO FILMS, DREAM, LLC, DREAMWORKS ANIMATION SKG*, DREAMWORKS PICTURES*, EO INTERNATIONAL, ERF CHRISTIAN RADIO & TELEVISION, ERIC VELU PRODUCTIONS, FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT LIBRARY, FANGORIA VIDEO, FOCUS FEATURES*, FOX 2000 FILMS*, FOX SEARCHLIGHT PICTURES*, GATEWAY FILMS/VISION VIDEO, GOSPEL COMMUNICATIONS INTERNATIONAL/GOSPEL FILMS, GRACE PRODUCTS/EVANGELICAL FILMS, GRIZZLY ADAMS PRODUCTIONS, GRIZZLY ADAMS/TOTAL LIVING PRODUCTIONS, HANNA-BARBERA**, HARBINGER COMMUNICATIONS, HARVEST PRODUCTIONS, HARVEY ENTERTAINMENT, HOLLYWOOD PICTURES*, INSPIRED STUDIOS, INSPIRED WELLNESS VIDEO, INTERCOMM, INC., INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN COMMUNICATIONS [ICC], INTERNATIONAL FILM FORUM, INTERNATIONAL FILMS, JEREMIAH FILMS, KALON MEDIA, INC., LANTERN FILM AND VIDEO, LEARNING CORPORATION OF AMERICA**, LINN PRODUCTIONS, LORIMAR TELEPICTURES**, MAHONEY MEDIA GROUP, INC., MARALEE DAWN MINISTRIES, MC DOUGAL FILMS, MC GRAW-HILL, MEDIASERF GERMANY, MESSENGER FILMS, METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER [PRE-1986 TITLES]**, METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER [MGM] STUDIOS, MILLENNIUM FILMS, NEW WORLD PICTURES, NU IMAGE, INC., OCTOBER FILMS*, OPEN DOOR INTERNATIONAL, ORION PICTURES, PARAMOUNT CLASSICS*, PARAMOUNT PICTURES*, PARAMOUNT VANTAGE, PEACE ARCH ENTERTAINMENT GROUP, INC., PETER PAN VIDEO, POLYGRAM FILMED ENTERTAINMENT*, PRAISE HOME VIDEO, PROVIDENCE ENTERTAINMENT, REPUBLIC PICTURES*, RKO PICTURES**, RUSS DOUGHTEN FILMS, SCHOLASTIC ENTERTAINMENT, SCREEN GEMS*, SIDE BY SIDE FILMS, SIGNAL HILL PICTURES, SONY PICTURES CLASSICS*, SONY PICTURES ENTERTAINMENT*, SPARK PRODUCTIONS, LTD., STUDIO CANAL, TEENERGY PRODUCTIONS, THINKFILM COMPANY, INC., TOMMY NELSON, TOTAL LIVING VIDEO CURRICULUM, TOUCHSTONE PICTURES*, TRANS ATLANTIC PICTURES, TRISTAR PICTURES*, TRIUMPH FILMS**, TURNER HOME ENTERTAINMENT**, TVA/QUIGLEY'S VILLAGE, TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX FILM CORP.*, UNITED ARTISTS PICTURES, UNIVERSAL PICTURES*, USA FILMS*, VIDA ENTERTAINMENT, WALT DISNEY PICTURES*, WARNER BROS.**,WARNER INDEPENDENT PICTURES**, WORLD ALMANAC VIDEO, AND XENON HOME VIDEO.

* SIX [6] MONTHS
** NINE [9] MONTHS

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