



NEWS RELEASE

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September 7, 2004
Release No. 040907003

(FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE)

ARMY OFFERING \$7,000 ENLISTMENT BONUS FOR TRANSLATORS

Ft. Snelling, MN. - Individuals who speak certain Middle-Eastern languages may be eligible to enlist as translator aides in the U.S. Army Individual Ready Reserve (IRR), with a \$7,000 enlistment bonus.

Candidates must be between the ages of 18 and 40 and be citizens or lawfully admitted permanent residents of the United States. All applicants will be tested on their ability to speak Middle-Eastern languages such as Iraqi, Pushtu (Pashto and Pachtu), Pushtu-Afghan, Pushtu-Peshawari, Persian-Afghan (Dari), Kurdish, Farsi and Turkish.

Recruits receive nine weeks of basic training, advanced training for their specific job as a translator aide, and in some cases they will be sent to school for improving their English skills. All translator aides qualify for advanced rank and may also be eligible for expedited U.S. citizenship. Following training, Soldiers enter the IRR - an unpaid status - until they receive an assignment to a unit.

The translator aide program is part of the U.S. Army's effort to enlist and train people to help with rebuilding efforts in the Middle East. The primary role of translator aides is to translate written and spoken foreign language material into and from English. These skills are instrumental in the daily operations and rebuilding efforts in which the Army is participating in the Middle East.

Individuals who would like more information on becoming a translator aide in the IRR may visit their local Army Reserve recruiter, call the Army's Arabic recruiting specialist toll-free at (866) 635-8450 or (877) 535-6387 or log on at <http://arabic.goarmy.com>.