



(U) CAPT Joseph Rochefort Career Language Award Winners

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(U) Yesterday we told you about the winners of the Jaffe Career Language Awards. Today we spotlight the winners of the CAPT Joseph Rochefort Award for military linguists:

(S//SI//REL) The winner of the **Rochefort Award, Mid-Career**, is [REDACTED], **USAF**, of the Russian Tactical Air Team (J35A2) at the Medina Regional Security Operations Center (MRSOC). After only five years in the military, [REDACTED] has demonstrated the highest level of Russian language capability and applied those skills with professionalism against the Russian Air Defense target.

(S//SI) While assigned to the Defense Language Institute (DLI), [REDACTED] received the "Provost Award for Academic Excellence" and graduated with a 4.0 grade point average, a unique accomplishment for a non-native speaker. He also graduated at the top of his class at the Cryptologic Linguistic Apprentice course at Goodfellow Air Force Base and at a language immersion course at Moscow State University. [REDACTED] also undertook a self-study program to learn Ukrainian, to help fill a critical need for linguists in that language.

(S//SI) At MRSOC, [REDACTED] emerged as a leader within his section. He recommended improvements to MRSOC's collection procedures, producing a 110% increase in the collection of reportable material. He was appointed Deputy Team Chief of the 18-member Air Combat Team and performed quality control for all of their reports. He has reported on a variety of topics, including Russian operations in Chechnya and Kosovo, and single-handedly published a comprehensive report detailing Russian fighter tactics, capabilities and pilot training levels. He has been credited with producing reporting that resulted in changes in U.S. and allied combat tactics.

(S//SI//REL) The winner of the **Rochefort Award, Long-Term**, is [REDACTED] **USAF**, of the Iran Division, Target Enhancement Branch, at the Ft Gordon Regional Security Operations Center (GRSOC). [REDACTED] is one of the SIGINT community's "go to" Persian language experts on the Iranian military, working closely with NSA and Second Parties.

(TS//SI) Certified as one of the very few military Persian language analysts, [REDACTED] has served in several capacities, including tours at NSA, Menwith Hill Station (MHS), the Defense Language Institute (DLI), and the GRSOC. His work at MHS during Operation DESERT SHIELD reaped great benefits for the intelligence community and operational commanders by providing valuable intelligence on the situation in Iran and reflections of the conflict in neighboring Iraq. At DLI, [REDACTED] mentored a department of over 120 military and civilian students, and received high praise from the Persian language department for his efforts.

(TS//SI) [REDACTED] led the transfer of the Iranian military mission to the GRSOC in 1997. He worked closely with management and senior linguists at NSA to coordinate the successful transition of the target from NSA and MHS to the GRSOC. Since that time, he has effectively tripled the scope of the mission, helping to increase the level of tactical support to U.S. and coalition forces in the Persian Gulf region. His target development work has helped lead to the exploitation of new sources of collection that account for over 60% of the GRSOC's Iran Target Division's production. [REDACTED] recognized the need for a target development team in the division, and trained a 5-member team that has had success against the GRSOC military target set. He has received several awards, including the Keystone Award and Szymanowski Award, for his contributions.

(U) These are only some of the achievements of the Rochefort Award winners. We wish them our hearty congratulations!

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