



Translation and Terrorism

A Town Hall Meeting

Friday November 8

6:00 -7:30 PM

43rd Annual Conference of the American Translators Association

Hyatt Regency Hotel, Atlanta

Could the events of 9-11 have been prevented if the U.S. intelligence community had possessed sufficient translation resources? Is a critical shortage of translators severely hampering the War on Terrorism? What actions and programs have been implemented by the U.S. government since Sept 11th to redress this shortfall?

Join an expert panel representing the highest levels of the FBI, Pentagon, CIA and the media to learn the facts, current activities and future plans for translation and its role in the War on Terrorism. This Town Hall Meeting represents the first time senior representatives of the U.S. law enforcement and intelligence community have appeared before the professional translation community to address these critical issues, discuss current programs and activities and propose future solutions.



"As a band of trained terrorists plotted to blow up the World Trade Center, clues to the devastation ahead lay under the nose of law enforcement officials. There was one problem: They were in Arabic. Nobody who understood Arabic listened to them until after the explosion at the World Trade Center on February 26, 1993." – The New York Times

"We are actively seeking and recruiting English-speaking individuals with professional-level proficiency in Arabic and Farsi" – FBI Director Robert Mueller, September 17, 2001

"The Committee believes that the most pressing need is for greater numbers of foreign language-capable intelligence personnel with increased fluency in specific and multiple languages" – House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence

Translation & Terrorism Panel

- Margaret Gulotta, Chief of Language Services, Federal Bureau of Investigation
- Glenn H. Nordin, Assistant Director (Language), Office of the Secretary of Defense
- Executive Staff Officer, National Intelligence Council/Central Intelligence Agency
- Dr. Richard Brecht, Director, National Foreign Language Center
- Dr. Ronald Wolfe, Arabic Language Expert/JTG Inc., CNN Arabic language consultant
- Moderator: Kevin S. Hendzel, COO, ASET International (Russian language expert on counterproliferation and WMD programs/former Presidential Hotline translator)

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