



photos by Bruce Foreman

Master Sgt. Joe Aquino reviews a lesson with Airman 1st Class Sabrina King. The class is conducted using the Voice Processing Training System, the largest computer-aided instructional system in the Department of Defense.

## Serbo-Croatian course graduates first class

by Tech. Sgt. Mike Briggs  
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A dozen graduates from a new intelligence course at Goodfellow will have a direct impact on the nation's support of operations when they arrive at their field assignments.

The 12 Air Force and Navy students who graduated here in January were the first to complete the new Apprentice Serbo-Croatian Cryptologic Linguist Specialist Course conducted by the 316th Training Squadron.

The new 80-day course teaches common core knowledge and skills all cryptologic linguist require, as well as technical subjects specific to the Serbo-Croatian career field, said Master Sgt. Joe Aquino, course supervisor for the Serbian-Croatian course.

Before the new course began, Serbo-Croatian cryptologic linguists completed only the fundamentals of the curriculum in technical training and learned career field specifics on the job.

The guest speaker at the graduation gave the junior enlisted students a few tips on how to handle themselves in the field.

Chief Master Sgt. Marc Aldaz, operations superintendent for the 67th Operations Support Squadron at Kelly Air Force Base, Texas and a Serbo-Croatian cryptologic linguist, talked about some of his experiences.

His advice to the graduates heading for new assignments focused on excellence, courage and sacrifice.

"Each of you at some point in your career, maybe very soon, will be called upon by your country, your service and your organization to make a difference," said Aldaz.

He also reminded the graduates that a career in the military involves

personal sacrifices, long hours at work, duty on the weekends, shift work and family separations.

"Those unwilling to subordinate themselves to the mission will not survive in the military of the future. Always remember, sacrifice is what separates us from our civilian counterparts, giving of ourselves for the sake of our nation's defense and prosperity," said Aldaz.

The 316th TRS will continue training Serbo-Croatian cryptologic linguists in support of worldwide operational requirements as long as necessary, said Aquino. ■



Master Sgt. Joe Aquino conducts a lesson with the first class to attend the new Serbo-Croatian cryptologic linguist class being taught at Goodfellow Air Force Base, Texas.