PROBLEM TITLE
Translation on Demand

CHALLENGE
Linguist soldiers need a way to more efficiently and consistently translate foreign texts, including highly technical and specialized language, in order to increase soldiers' ability to support complex missions that require intelligence translation.

BACKGROUND
The soldiers within the 341st Military Intelligence Battalion linguistic unit are often tasked with translating classified and unclassified documents to English in a very short period, often within a few hours. Such tasks include a linguistic commander translating emergency warnings for local non-English speaking civilians that contain specific technical or topic-related terms. Additionally, many soldiers within the battalion are non-native speakers of the foreign language and may not understand specific nuances or highly specialized vocabulary in these unplanned scenarios.

The size of the documents can vary based on mission; however, in some cases, it is impossible for a single person to complete the task within the given time frame. There is also a shortage of security-cleared soldiers with the necessary skills to meet real-time needs for emergency translation and analysis, and there are no tools to support the soldiers who are attempting to complete this work in the field. Thus, soldiers are left unable to meet tight mission deadlines and act on intelligence quickly enough.

OPERATIONAL CONSTRAINTS
•	Must be able to operate in remote or deployed locations
•	Must not require an increase in soldiers with a security clearance
•	Must be able to produce translated text with near-native level proficiency

PROBLEM SPONSOR
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PROBLEM SPONSOR LOCATION
Joint Base Lewis-McChord, WA

SENIOR LEADER
Battalion Commander Lieutenant Colonel Teresa Wenner, 341st Military Intelligence Battalion, Washington National Guard