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Thursday, Sep. 29, 2016 – A celebration of Hispanic-American cultural took place today in the Letort View Community Center from noon to 1:30 p.m. today for all members, family members, and neighbors of the Army War College and Carlisle Barracks community. The event educated and entertained with food samplings and a cultural displays .

Col. Lyles answers a question posed to him from Maj. Gen. Rapp during the question and answer portion of

Hispanic-American celebration, Letort View Community Center, Sep 29.

Commandant Maj. Gen. Bill Rapp opened the event followed by guest speakers Army Col. Ian Lyles, USAWC faculty, and Army Lt. Col. Luis Fuchu, USAWC student, with a question-and-answer session moderated by Army Lt. Col. Chuck Matallana. International fellows from Chile, Colombia, El Salvador and Peru offered items included in the cultural display for event attendees to enjoy while sampling a variety of Latin America-inspired food choices.

“This is an important opportunity to pause and reflect on our shared history as Americans, of the many cultures that have created this mosaic of a people that we are today” said Maj. Gen. Rapp. “These cultures together have built this country, they have secured our country and they have made this nation,” he said.

Lyles talked about the significance of Latin American countries to US national security interests. An Army War College faculty instructor, Lyles is a Latin American Foreign Area Officer with a doctorate degree in Latin American History and a master's in Latin American Studies.

Col. Luis Fuchs speaks to members of the Carlisle Community about his

experiences in the Army during the Hispanic-American celebration, Letort View Community Center, Sep 29.



Fuchs offered personal insights about the Hispanic-American experience. He is a current Army War College student, a Latin American Foreign Area Officer and a native of Puerto Rico.

“Hispanic-Americans do not hesitate to show their allegiance to our great nation in many ways, especially in military service,” said Col. Fuchs. “Latino contributions to our all-volunteer Army have been at a steady increase providing the Army the strength and diversity to reflect our contemporary environment,” he said.

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