Office of the Commandant

Congratulations! Your selection for the U.S. Army War College confirms your strong leadership achievements and potential for progressively more-complex assignments. You are now an integral part of the U.S. Army War College mission—to enhance national and global security by developing ideas and educating U.S. and international leaders to serve and lead at the strategic-enterprise level.

You are about to embark on a journey of discovery, reflection, and growth that will prepare you for future strategic leadership positions. This will not be a "year off." In the next year, you will be challenged to stretch cognitively, honing your strategic thinking and communication skills. Guided by a skilled faculty team, a refined curriculum, and exposure to an extraordinary network of leaders and experts, you will prepare to:

- Think strategically and skillfully develop strategies to achieve national security objectives;

- Provide strategic context and perspective to inform and advise national level leaders, providing sound, nuanced, and thoughtful military advice;

- Apply intellectual rigor and adaptive problem solving to multi-domain, joint warfighting, and enterprise level challenges;

- Lead teams with expert knowledge and collaborate with others to provide innovative solutions to complex, unstructured problems;

- Exercise moral judgment and promote the values and ethics of the profession of arms; and

- Convey complex information and communicate effectively and persuasively to any audience.

This installation is well postured to help you—and your family—succeed. Carlisle Barracks, a post with a rich military history and traditions, is a student-centric campus offering a wide range of academic, social, family, sports, fitness, spiritual, and travel opportunities for you and your family. Student spouses may decide to participate in the U.S. Army War College certificate program in executive leadership offered by the Military Family Program.
To prepare for your arrival, please review the following guidance and complete the recommended actions:

- Today when you receive an email from LTC Michael McVay, my G1/Personnel Officer, follow his directions and use the personalized token or code you will receive to enter the Online In-Processing website to register and access the forms and information that will be critical to your immediate success here.

- Visit www.armywarcollege.edu/experience for advance information on the academic calendar, the curriculum, and opportunities for customizing your education. You will also find helpful planning information that includes an arrival checklist, housing options, programs and activities for spouses and families, guidance on youth school and sports physicals, and connections to our School Liaison Officer and Pennsylvania education policies. Review the website for immediate need-to-know information and revisit the Experience website in July to orient yourself on what your first 30 days here will look like.

- Shortly, look for a separate email from me with a reading assignment and preparatory material for completion prior to your arrival.

While the upcoming year will be challenging for you (we purposely designed it that way), it will also be a year when you will develop significant, enduring relationships and the heightened skill set needed to become intellectually prepared to preserve peace, deter aggression, compete below the threshold of armed conflict, and achieve victory in war.

STRENGTH & WISDOM!

[Signature]

John S. Kem
Major General, U.S. Army
Commandant