

# National Security Seminar members enhance War College experience: Learning from one another

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June 5, 2015 -- You are important for our Army War College students, said Commandant Maj. Gen. Bill Rapp



Monday as he welcomed almost 160 American citizens with no military ties, to spend a week in seminar. These new seminar members mingled with the 385 colonels, lieutenant colonels and senior civilians of federal agencies who would complete the 10-mon graduate-level studies Friday.

James Wilson, Chief of Police Hope, AR. Sits with his military escort Col. Christopher A. Burns, during the Army War College National Security

Seminar, Root Hall, June 1-4.

The new members of Army War College seminars traveled from 36 states, D.C. and overseas to learn and, more importantly to challenge and guide the student-officers in understanding the views of fellow Americans. "*We shall learn from one another*" is the theme that underpins the seminar structure here. For 10 months, the 385 students have tested assumptions, shared expertise, and developed critical thinking skills and sophisticated understanding of national security issues because each seminar includes representatives of all military Services, several foreign countries, and interagency partners.

This week, leaders in academia, charity, labor, business, politics, law, religion, entertainment, private foundations,



and multiple other fields raised the ability to *'learn from one another'* to a new height.

Lt. Col. Charles B. Dockery escorts Mr. Kenneth Lewis, Attorney (left) to



Bliss Hall while Lt. Col. Curtis W. King converses with Jon Knouse of Catalytic Holdings during the 61st Annual National Security Seminar, June 1-4.

In one seminar, 16 students were joined by seven new members -- a mayor, a hospital marketing executive, two corporate owners, a city public services director, and a state supreme court judge – to explore topics ranging from public opinion, use of economic levers on the world scene, empowering and leading millennials, comparisons of diplomacy in the Cold War and today, the lens of power and of religion with respect to ISIL, fault-lines and extremists. Discussions were marked by different opinions and shared perspectives, respectful dialogue, questions, and a sharing of expertise. The new members considered their own views through the words of a Special Operations officer; they discussed cyber threats with the perspective of intelligence and signal officers; they heard about China and Boko Haram from international officers from the Pacific region and from Africa.

A sophisticated level of discussion matched the theme of the week – exploring United States' ability to integrate its national elements of power: diplomatic, informational, military and economic. Students have studied the role and application of DIME power throughout the year. Experts commented on DIME policy and power throughout the week – inspiring the seminar discussions.

Lt. Col. Clayton E. Kuetemeyer looks to have begun in-depth discussions with Rick Fredericksen an Iowa Public Radio Reporter during the 61st Annual National Security Seminar,





June 1-4 .



DIPLOMACY: Dr. James Steinberg is former

Deputy Secretary of State, and currently the dean and professor of Social Science, International Affairs and Law at Syracuse University's Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs. He characterized three levels of diplomatic problems. He described 21<sup>st</sup> century problems related to an increasingly-globalized community, and unilateralism emerging as a unique way to bring together the smallest possible number of countries needed to have the largest possible impact on a particular problem.

In contrast, 19<sup>th</sup> century problems are those of state-on-state interactions in competition over territory and resources. He called "a-sensitive problems" those where traditional diplomacy does not apply, as with radical ideological terror groups, and for these social media become means to convey messages to areas where diplomats cannot enter or media is controlled.

INFORMATION: Retired Navy Vice Admiral Mike McConnell served as the director of NSA from 1992-96 and as Director of National Intelligence from 2007 to 2009, under Presidents George W. Bush and Barack Obama. His message was simple, that there's no computer system in the world that can't be broken with adequate sophistication and persistence. His discussion of the government's efforts to coordinate and cooperate across all federal agencies and Congress was rich with anecdotes and insights about the effects of intelligence-sharing regulations.



McConnell referred to the ability of the Goldwater-Nichols Act to require closer inter-Service, or joint, coordination and suggested that the U.S. needs a fundamental initiative like Goldwater-Nichols to force change in how we share information.

Col. Joseph S. Peterson (left) meets Cedar City, Utah, Mayor Maile Wilson during the 61st Annual National Security Seminar, June 1-4.

MILITARY: Recently-retired Gen. Charles Jacoby drew from his experience as commander of NORAD/USNORTHCOM to focus his argument that

military power must be integrated with other tools of power. His examples reflected that the United States is good at this integrated approach but not nearly good enough. To explain the concept, he suggested that ISIS does leverage all instruments of power.

Strong, trusted partnerships and integrated whole-of-government approaches comprise the lynchpin for our nation's security, Jacoby suggested, and that homeland defense will depend on our ability to integrate approaches, be a reliable partner, and hone our strategic agility.

ECONOMIC: He learned as the US trade representative that trade was one approach to international relations that worked in collaboration with military and other strategies, said Amb. Ron Kirk, former US Trade Representative from March 2009 to March 2013. We ought to have an economic relationship in the Asia-Pacific to match the military investments in the region, he said. Given that 40 percent of the world's consumers will be in this region, we will want to be anchored in this region, he suggested.

Marine Lt. Col. Thomas H. Campbell and community guest Whitney Grespin, of Sloan Manor Consulting, converse as they walk in the hall of flags.

A smart trade policy gets us rooted in other countries, he said, discussing investment in other nations' nuclear energy



industry, as example. We're exporting more than just goods and service, he said, we're exporting our values because of the civilian non-proliferation standards that can be incorporated into our industry partners.

Social opportunities and a Gettysburg Battlefield Staff Ride rounded out the week for the NSS members. Four USAWC faculty-historians led the staff ride, giving the Army War College perspective on the Civil War generals' decision making.

Mutual of America and the Army War College Foundation sponsor the National Security Seminar.



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