

# CNO outlines key issues, reminds students to stay connected

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(December 8, 2010) – Increased presence around the globe and striving towards additional interoperability for humanitarian aid worldwide were just some of the issues Adm. Gary Roughead, Chief of Naval Operations, addressed during his presentation to students this week.

Roughead addressed the Army War College class Dec. 8, outlining key responsibilities of the Navy and what he believes will be issues to keep an eye on as the military moves into the future.

*Roughead spoke about the Navy's strong presence in Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as in Djibouti, and highlighted some of the increased efforts in endeavors other than combat missions, including humanitarian assistance. (Photo by Megan Zeller)*



“We come from a culture of provide aid and sort out the political situation later and the tsunami of 2004 changed all our mentalities,” he said. “We realized that if we worked with other organizations and other navies our response would be faster. Since then, we have taken a proactive role in humanitarian assistance. From the beginning of 2005, we have treated as many as 500,000 patients aboard our ships.”

Roughead also spoke about initiatives to continue to attract top talent to the services. “I envy you all because you have the means to stay connected that other generations did not have,” he said while speaking about the military’s use of communication technology such as social media. “I encourage you to reach out and talk to a friend from the war college about things. That is going to become extremely important as you move forward.”

“For the Chief of Naval Operations to take the time to come talk to us, right after speaking to the Naval War College was fantastic,” said student Lt. Col. Rob Hanley. “I think he was very candid with us and

he gave us great insight into what the Navy has going on and is looking at for the future. He spoke about strategic issues which are at the forefront of our minds since that is what we are studying and it was valuable to have him go over strategic issues with us.”



*A moment of levity also highlighted the talk when Roughead was momentarily interrupted by Gen. George Casey, Chief of Staff of the Army, who appeared live via video teleconference to wish Army War College students happy holidays and cheer on the Army for Saturday’s Army-Navy game in Philadelphia. (Photo by Megan Zeller)*

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