

First Decade of the 21st Century at the U.S. Army War College

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(Jan. 12, 2011) -- Jan. 1, 2001 dawned peacefully at the U.S. Army War College. Maj. Gen. Robert Ivany was serving as the college's 43rd commandant and America was about to inaugurate a new president. The mission of the War College was to prepare our nation's most senior officers for service at the highest levels of command. We were, after all, operating in the post-Cold War era. We still fought, and trained our senior leadership to fight traditional armies.

As we began the first decade of the 21st Century Bill Clinton was preparing to hand of the presidency to George W. Bush. As we begin the second decade of the 21st Century, Barack Obama is half way through his first term in office.

Ten years later much is still the same. Students still roam the halls honing the skills that will enable them to further develop as strategic leaders, hardworking men and women work behind the scene supporting Carlisle Barracks and Army War College programs. Families come here for a chance to reconnect and strengthen their hearts, minds and bodies.

But it is also different. As a military we have evolved from an Army preparing to fight a traditional war, to one that fights terrorism in an uncertain world. To prepare the military's leadership for this "brave new world" the Army War College has also evolved. The new mission is one that is committed to "develop, inspire and serve strategic leaders for the wise and effective application of national power."

Here is my 100 percent guaranteed prediction for Jan 1, 2021: The USAWC will continue to be the "world's best institution for developing strategic leaders and thought."

SOME THINGS CHANGE:

- In 2001, current Army War College Commandant Maj. Gen. Martin, then Lt. Col. Martin was assigned to the War College as an instructor.
- In 2001 there were 175 enlisted Soldiers stationed at Carlisle Barracks, today there are 58.
- In 2001, 51 percent of Army War College students were veterans of the Southwest Asia

campaigns of 1990-91, In 2010 66 percent were veterans of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

- In 2001 301 distance education students graduated, in 2010 there were 350.
- In 2001 42 International Fellows, representing 42 countries were attending the War College, there are 50 Fellows representing 49 countries in the class of 2011.
- In 2001 you could still download music for free, and Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg was a high school junior.
- In 2001 a gallon of gas went for about \$1, in 2010 it cost approximately \$3.

SOME THINGS REMAIN THE SAME:

- In 2001 there were 334 members of the resident class, in 2010 there were 337.
- In 2001 we were stationed in Kuwait, we are still there.
- Carlisle, Pa. is a great place to live.
- The U.S. Army War College remains a critical player in preparing senior leaders to become strategic practitioners.

MILESTONES:

2001

Jan. The Army War College marked the 10th Anniversary of the beginning of the air war against Jan. 16, 2001.

Feb. The War College celebrated 100 years as the senior educational institution of the U.S. Army and 50 years of being located at Carlisle Barracks.

June The class of 2001 became the first class to be awarded the Master of Strategic Studies degree.

June Army adapts black beret for all Soldiers.

Sept. The Army War College and Dickenson College enter a new partnership by creating the Omar Bradley Chair, a shared chair in strategic leadership.

Sept. Nation, post cope with the, “nightmare of Sept. 11.” Lt. Col. Canfield D. “Bud” Boone, a USAWC distance education student, died in the attack.

Oct. The 988th MP platoon from Ft. Benning, Ga., arrived to augment Carlisle Barracks security.

Nov. The Soldier Show comes to Carlisle Barracks as part of the USAWC Centennial Celebration.

2002

Jan. Civilian guards begin manning the gates at Carlisle Barracks.

Feb. Lt. Col. Thomas Smith, post garrison commander, announced that diverted troops would no longer man Carlisle Barracks gates.

March USAWC focuses on Homeland Security for the first time during the annual Strategic Crisis Exercise.

June Lt. Col. John Koivisto becomes garrison commander.

Aug. Shughart Hall, the new enlisted barracks open at Carlisle Barracks.

Oct. Carlisle Barracks begins housing privatization process.

2003

March It is announced that the Army War College will join other Army schools under TRADOC.

March Command Sgt. Maj. David Roman becomes garrison Sergeant Major.

March Operation Iraqi Freedom begins.

April The Carlisle Barracks DOIM completes an A-76 evaluation as Remtech, Metro Productions and Cordev, assume duties formerly held by government workers.

April Thorpe Gym reopens after renovations that restored it to the way it looked during the days of the Carlisle Indian Industrial School.

July Maj. Gen. Robert Ivany, commandant USAWC, retires.

July Dr. William Johnsen named Dean of Academics.

Aug. Maj. Gen. David H. Huntoon Jr. becomes the 46th USAWC commandant.

Nov. Command Sgt. Maj. Kenneth O. Preston was named 13th sergeant major of the Army.

Dec. Members of the 4th Infantry Division and Taskforce Ironhorse capture Saddam Hussein.

2004

April Post traffic patterns change as Ashburn Drive gate opens for DoD decal entrance only.

April The Army War College loses Jim Thorpe Sports Day.

May President George W. Bush becomes the first sitting president since Washington to visit Carlisle Barracks.

July Command Sgt. Major David Roman bids farewell to Carlisle Barracks.

July Carlisle Barracks welcomes Lt. Col. Ty McPhillips as the new garrison commander.

Sept. The U.S. Military History Institute at Ridgeway Hall opens.

Dec. Command Sgt. Maj. Franklin A. Saunders assumes the duties as the Command Sergeant Major of the USAWC.

2005

Jan. Congress approves the Carlisle Barracks Residential Community Initiative to privatize post housing.

Feb. Department of the Army police officers assume MP duties at Carlisle Barracks

Feb. Retired Ukrainian Col. Leonid Polyakov, a 1995 graduate of the USAWC, is named the Ukrainian 1st Deputy Defense Minister.

June The Moore Child Development Center was awarded the nation's first STAR certification by the Environmental Protection Agency.

July Suicide bombers kill 52 people and wound 700 others in an attack on London's public transportation system.

Aug. The Heritage Trail opens at the Army Heritage and Education Center.

Sept. Bouquet Hall, the former garrison headquarters, is demolished.

Oct. Stanwix apartments close after 55 years.

Nov. Post Command Sgt. Maj. Franklin Saunders says goodbye to Carlisle Barracks.

Dec. Carlisle Barracks host the 50th Annual Senior Citizens Holiday Social.

2006

- Jan. Army adapts new Army Combat Uniform.
- Jan. Carlisle Barracks welcomes Command Sgt. Maj. Raymond Houston as post command sergeant major.
- March Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld speaks to students and faculty at the USAWC.
- May USAWC establishes new Strategic and Theater Intelligence Chair
- June USAWC graduates students from Iraq and Afghanistan.
- July Post welcomes new garrison commander, Lt. Col. Sergio Dickerson.
- Nov. “Army Strong” becomes the new Army slogan.

2007

- Jan. Carlisle Barracks celebrates 250th anniversary.
- April Gen. George W. Casey Jr. becomes the 36th Chief of Staff of the Army.
- July New and improved Young Hall opens for residents.
- Sept. USAWC becomes the first Army school to offer wireless internet access.
- Oct. Carlisle Barracks wins the 2007 Army Lodging of the Year (Small Category).
- Oct. Carlisle Barracks team wins first place at the Army Ten-Miler.

2008

- March Command Sgt. Maj. Ted Lopez becomes post sergeant major.
- Aug. “The Meadows” housing units open.
- Sept. Army announces new “Army Service Uniform.”
- Sept. Command Sgt. Maj. Jose Powell becomes post sergeant major.

Dec. President George W. Bush visits USAWC for the second time during his presidency.

2009

Jan. 2009 named “Year of the NCO.”

Feb. Delaney Field Clubhouse opens.

April Defense Secretary Robert Gates speaks to War College students.

June USAWC lunches Facebook site.

July Lt. Col. Janet Holliday assumes command of garrison.

Aug. Class of 2010 welcomes 50 international fellows.

Nov. Maj. Nidal Malik Hasan kills 13 people during a shooting at Fort Hood.

2010

Jan. Army War College lunches YouTube site, which features USAWC expertise and guest speakers.

March Dr. Leonard Wong and Dr. Stephen Gerras publish, [The Effects of Multiple Deployments on Army Adolescents.](#)

Aug. Maj. Gen. Gregg Martin becomes 48th Commandant, USAWC.

Aug. Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Blakey becomes post sergeant major.