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Recognizes four outstanding alumni for service to nation

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The U.S. Army War College leadership, faculty, staff and students celebrated the institution's 114 years of education excellence, Nov. 16 2015, in Bliss Hall by honoring four Outstanding USAWC Alumni whose exceptional service following retirement reflects the values and strategic vision fostered by the Army War College education. The outstanding alumni reflect both the resident and distance education programs of the Army's senior level college

The Outstanding Alumni Program started in 1996 and has selected 31 USAWC graduates for recognition of their substantial contributions made after retirement from government service, accomplished through community or volunteer service. This year's selectees are:

Retired Gen. John R. Galvin (posth.) accepted by his daughter Erin Scranton and Doctor Bob Sorely made remarks on behalf of the family.



After retirement from the U.S. Army in 1992, the Washington Post described Gen. Galvin as "without peer among living generals" Immediately after retirement Galvin headed back to West Point as the John Olin distinguished Professor of National Security Studies. One the conditions of employment was that he be assigned quarters on post so that he could interact cadet outside the classroom, after a highly successful first year he was asked to stay on for a second. At this time he also had membership in organizations such as: American Council of Germany, Center for Creative Leadership and Institute for Defense Analyses. He also accompany Henry Kissinger on diplomatic trips to such place as Moscow and Beijing.



“It was my privilege to be a friend of Jack Galvan’s for over fifty years, if he could have been here today I know he would have spoken with gratitude and modesty about receiving this recognition from the Army War College,” said Doctor Sorely. “Beyond that though he would not have talked about himself, rather he would have described his admiration for you and for the Soldiers that have led and are leading and for all your families. For the incredible devotion and confidence for which you and they have endured deployment after deployment, hardship upon hardship, over the past decade and more.”

“And he would have thanked you for that service, observed that it was all the more remarkable coming to the last man and women from those that volunteered in trouble times to serve their country in the cause of freedom,” he said.

As a member of the Department of State Contact Group Galvin was sworn in as an envoy and was given the mission to try to persuade military leaders of Croats and Muslims in Bosnia to cooperate for their mutual benefit. After 36 hours of negotiations the frame work for the creation Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina was accomplished.

After a very eventful West Point assignment Galvin accepted an appointment at the Ohio State University as the Distinguished visiting Policy Analyst. But, Galvan’s preeminent academic opportunity was when he was named Dean of the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University, a post he held for five years. While at Tufts he continued to participate in Global Strategy Seminars in Washington D.C. and take trips to Bosnia.

Retired Lt. Gen. David E. Grange: As with Gen. Galvin, Grange did not put his feet up to rest, after retirement he was immediately appointed by the Secretary of Defense to administer the establishment of U.S. Special Operations Command and Joint Special Operations Command that included the modernization programs of Special Operation Forces. Simultaneously he was appointed by the Secretary of the Army to direct, mentor and report on all aspects of the recruitment, selection and assessment, and training of the Ranger Regiment, Army special mission units and Army Special force. Grange was a significant and senior fellow at the Army’s Battle command Training Program leading and mentoring senior Army leaders.



“I learned a lot about what Generals have learned here and how important it was, you don’t realize it while you are here in the class,” Grange said. “But when I

went through here there was only two National Guardsmen, you have 24 today, 24 reservist in this class. "There is only one Army, seamless, Reserve, National Guard and active a lot of that is done right here."

"I want to say God bless to the Class of 2016, I know you will do well, you have your work cut out for you on graduation day. When you get that diploma and head out that gate, I know you are up to the task and I thank God that there are people like you protecting us," said Grange.

Since moving to Pennsylvania Grange has coached and mentored numerous Brigade and Division commanders of the 28th Infantry division PAARNG and in 2013 he was recognized by the Senate of the Pennsylvania and inducted into the Department of Military Veteran Affairs Hall of Fame for service to the State of Pennsylvania. In May 2014 he received the First Region AUSA Mary G. Roebling Distinguished Service Award in recognition of his continual support to the U.S. Army.

Grange's lasting legacy to the U.S. Army is the David E. Grange Jr. Best Ranger Competition. Late 1981 the Ranger Department was requested to design and conduct a "ranger military Olympics" so that the Army can identify the best two-man Ranger team. Since then the competition has grown from just Rangers to teams representing organizations throughout the Army to include National Guard teams and has become an Army event supported by the entire Army.



Chaplain retired Maj. Gen. Kermit D. Johnson: could not attend due to health reasons, Maj. Gen. Robert C. Gaskill accepted the honor on Johnson's behalf and read Johnson's remarks.

Following retirement Chaplain retired Maj. Gen. Kermit D. Johnson served as the Associate director of the Washington Office of the Presbyterian Church and was a member of the Central America Working Group. He also represented the humanitarian organization Air Serv International that provides air transportation exclusively to the global humanitarian community in Africa.

Johnson devoted much of his time to subjects of war.

Speaking and writing on nuclear war issues, peace, pastoral teamwork and other military leadership issues. Writing two books on these issues and authored many articles on military ethics and pastoral concerns. He advised the Army's Office of the Chief of Chaplains and was a consultant in the establishment of a Global Peace Force and served as a member of the Exploratory Project on the Condition of Peace a forum to explore the conditions needed for sustainable peace.

Ambassador Robert M. Kimmitt: “You have all demonstrated the ability to deliver in depth that is what got you into this hall,” said Ambassador Robert M. Kimmitt. “What starts now is your preparation to develop a broader perspective that breathes of strategic perspective that will guide what you do the rest of your military career and the careers that follow.”

“When I take a look at the environment which you have served, and particularly this constant warfare that we have been in since 2001,” he said. “We still need you to deliver in depth particularly when you lead those brave men and women that are today’s Soldiers. But in your studies here and the assignments to follow, make sure you also continue to develop that strategic perspective that is going to be so important for your contribution to our country both in uniform and beyond,” Kimmitt said.



Kimmitt since retired from USAR as a Maj. Gen. in 2004 has served as Deputy Secretary of the Treasury; U.S. Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany and Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs. He has received the Distinguished Graduate Award by the Association of Graduates of the U.S. Military Academy, a recipient of the President’s Citizens Medal and the Order of Merit, Germany’s highest civilian decoration.

Kimmett is a founding member and current member of the Board of Directors of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund that built the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. Is the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the American Council on Germany, Atlantic Council and USA Rugby.

The Ambassador is also a member of the International Advisory Board of the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation and trustee of the Arthur F. Burns Fellowship. He is a lifetime member of the Council on Foreign Relations and American Academy of Diplomacy and Trilateral Commission. For seven years he was also a member of the Director of Central Intelligence’s National Security Advisory Panel.