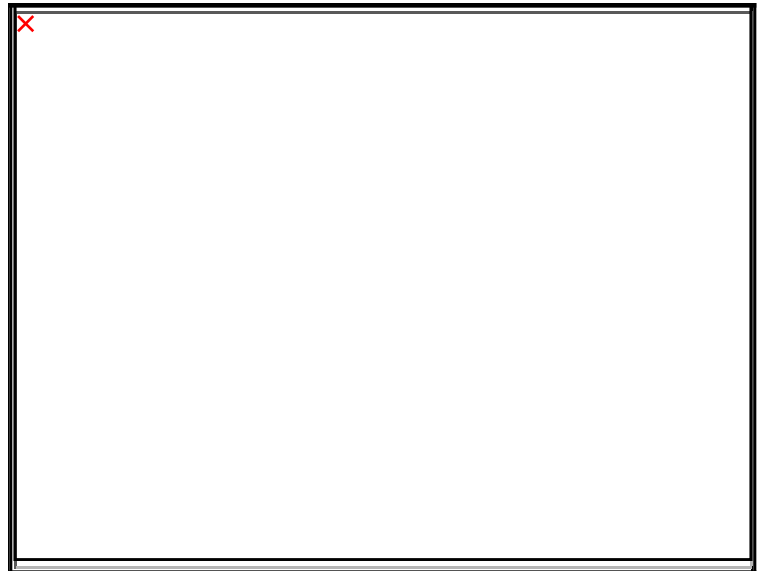


# **PKSOI, USAWC staff examine military-interagency links in Joint Humanitarian Operations Course**

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## *Joint Humanitarian Operations Course surveys best practices for international disaster response*

More than 30 participants in the Joint Humanitarian Operations Course included students and staff from the United States Institute for Peace, U.S. Military Academy, Dickinson College, and the Army war College. The educational event created



understanding about supporting humanitarian operation and operating in a joint, interagency, intergovernmental and multinational, or IIIM, environment.

PKSOI hosted the course in order to strengthen the expertise within PKSOI, and to provide that same service to others in the PKSOI network, said Col. 'Bo' Balcavage, PKSOI. JHOC helps our PKSOI staff to be able to describe the actions of the interagency and non-governmental agencies in the conduct of

The War College curriculum for strategic leaders.

A two-day course presented by the US Agency for International Development introduced roles and interactions among the multiple actors in a foreign humanitarian assistance or disaster relief operation. A collaboration between The War College's Peacekeeping and Stability Operations Institute and the U.S. Agency for International Development, the course at Carlisle Barracks, Pa., was motivated by a request from the Defense Department to prepare DoD civilians, officers and NCOS working in operations, logistics, communications, medical, planning and civil affairs.

***USAID's Foreign Disaster Assistance training team guided students to examine a case study of the OFDA response for the earthquake in Gujarat, India in February 2001. The team presented a two-day course, hosted by the Peacekeeping and Stability Operations Institute, Carlisle, Pa.***

"Being able to gain a perspective for where the military does or does not fit in, who do we engage for information, and how do we access tools or resources is critical for commanders and staff members to understand prior to the HA/DR event for cohesive and complementary execution," said Lt. Col. Anna Haberzettl, USAWC G1.

"The JHOC provided a unique opportunity to interface with USAID personnel and experienced class members on the roles and responsibilities of government and non-government agencies and the military in humanitarian assistance- disaster relief efforts," she added.

Through case studies and small group workshops, the training team of the USAID's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance, or USAID-OFDA, addressed disaster response timelines; regional risks and hazards; and, disaster response methodology. Participants learn --

- o roles and responsibilities and structure of US government international disaster response
- o lessons in coordination and cooperation between USG civilian agencies and the US military
- o the international disaster response system -- and roles of the host nation, international organizations, non-governmental organizations and U.N. agencies.