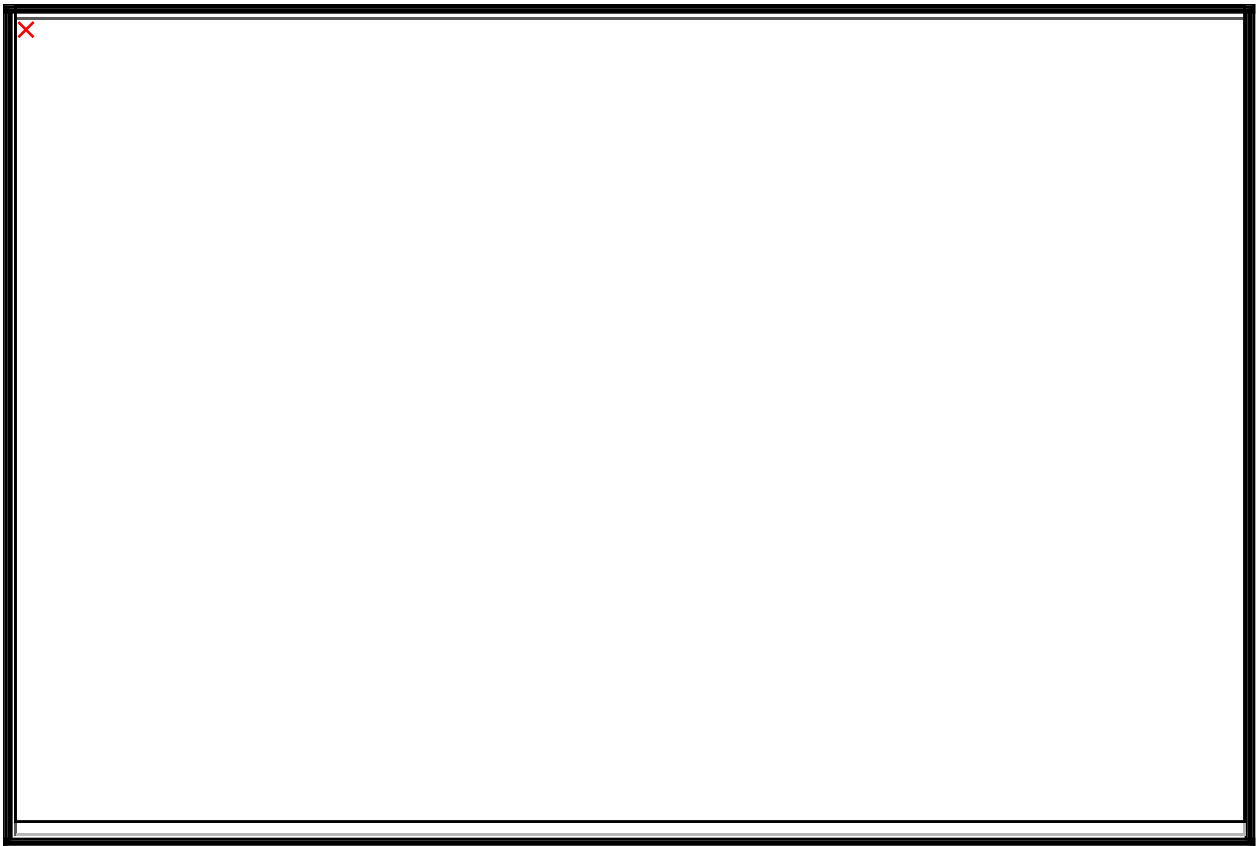


# **USSOCOM Commander engages USAWC students about SOF, partners, global networks**

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Feb. 20, 2014 -- Army War College student Col. Michael Hertzendorff opened the Bliss Hall presentation by introducing the commander of U.S. Special Operations Command as a strategic thinker and a leader in global application of landpower.

For the next hour, Admiral William McRaven laid out for the USAWC student body the philosophy and strategies of building the global network of SOF partners and partner nations to combat enemy networks. He shared extensive leadership insights about the USSOCOM vision for 2020 and

underscored important strategies in working with conventional forces and interagency partners. He offered a 'picture' of a SOF soldier as one who thinks through complex problems rather than muscling through.

His remarks prompted several student questions and, later, he met with a couple dozen students who engaged the admiral in a round-robin discussion.

"Admiral McRaven helped us understand how SOCOM and the Army mutually support one another around the world in support of our national interests and strategy, said Army student Col. Robert Borcharding. "Greater cooperation and integration going forward will benefit us both."

"Having the opportunity to hear from and talk to a Functional Combatant Commander helps significantly round out the Army War College learning experience," said Army student Lt. Col. Keith Phillips. "The fact that it was the SOCOM commander, given SOCOM's integral role in landpower, made it additionally valuable."

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