Patriot Day Ceremony 2014 at USAWC remembered alumni

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Sept. 11, 2014 marked the 13th year since the terrorist attacks on this nation's soil which took 2,977 lives in all. On Sept. 11, 2011, three of the 2977 lost lives were Army War College alumni, Lt. Gen. Timothy J. Maude, Col. Canfield D. Boone, and Col C. Richard Rescorla. Since then an additional four alumni, Lt. Gen. Parami Kulatunga, Col. Brian D. Allgood, Col. John M. Mc Hugh, and most recently

Maj. Gen. Harold J. Greene perished in conflicts associated with the War on Terror.

"Our lives have not been the same since," said Maj. Gen. Bill Rapp, Commandant of the Army War College. "This has been a long fight and the specter of radical groups like ISIS show us that we have much to do



to keep America and our interests safe," he said.

The people of Pennsylvania and the Army War College at Carlisle Barracks, Pa. have a unique relationship to this tragedy. The crew and passengers of United Flight 40 knew the nation was under attack when they fought for control of the plane that crashed into a field in Shanksville, Pa. on that day in 2001. Their selfless actions may have saved countless more lives, said guest speaker Pa. Senator Patricia Vance.

The Army War College Patriot Day Ceremony attracted many in the community who came to pay their respects and remember the tragedy that sparked America's involvement in its longest war in our history.

"...in the final crash right here in this commonwealth, our response to the terrorism began. Much has been said about the 40 crew members and passengers who fought back against evil," said Vance. "They

understood our country was under attack," added Vance.

Representing the fire fighters, Soldiers, police, emergency medical services, and civilians who inspired us with their acts of courage on September 11 were Vigilant Hose Company chief emeritus Charles Myers, Staff Sgt. Rodney Joseph, Middlesex Township police Chief Barry Sherman, West Shore EMS Chief Duane Nieves and Army War College Civilian of the Year Dr. Michael Lynch who each rang the bell to commemorate the five critical moments that occurred between 8:46 a.m. and 10:28 a.m. on September 11, 2001.

Representatives of the Pennsylvania delegation to Congress, the Pennsylvania legislature, County and Carlisle Borough were in attendance. Guests this year included representing U.S. Congressman Lou Barletta, Leah Kithkart; Pennsylvania State Representative Stephen Bloom; retired Maj. Gen. William Davies; Carlisle Borough council members, Ms. Linda Cecconello and Mr. Donald Grell.

In 2001, Congress designated September 11 of each year as "Patriot Day," and by Public Law 111-13, approved April 21, 2009, the Congress has requested the observance of September 11 as an annually recognized "National Day of Service and Remembrance."

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