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*Navy
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commander, U.S. Cyber Command and director, National Security Agency/Chief, Central Security Service, speaks in Bliss Hall May 4.

Navy Admiral Mike Rogers, commander, U.S. Cyber Command and director, National Security Agency/Chief, Central Security Service, spoke to the Army War College Class of 2015 in a packed Bliss Hall May 4 about some of the issues and challenges facing the force, specifically in the cyber arena.

“If you think cyber is something only your 6’s are going to deal with, you are sadly mistaken,” he said. “Cyber, I believe, is foundational to the future.” He said that knowing your cyber structure and its strengths and weakness would be keys to remaining successful.

Rogers compared having a working knowledge of cyber to a ship commander that understands how the power plant in his ship is vital to its operations.

The advent and proliferation of technology down to the individual user level has made command and control easier, but more vulnerable, he said.

“Increasingly cyber offers our opponents the opportunity to take away the command and control systems that we’ve been using,” said Rogers. “We have gotten used to operating in an area where access to information is unlimited. I think the future is going to be a little different.”

He went on to explain that potential adversaries are catching up quickly in terms of abilities and reach due to globalization and technology. The dominance that the U.S. and its allies has had for decades will be challenged and proper training and education of leaders at all levels is necessary to help minimize vulnerabilities, according to Rogers.

Since becoming a flag officer in 2007, Rogers has also served as the director for Intelligence for both the Joint Chiefs of Staff and U.S. Pacific Command, and most recently as commander, U.S. Fleet Cyber Command/U.S. 10th Fleet. Rogers assumed his present duties in March 2014.