Opening ceremony kicks off year for class of '10

Thomas Zimmerman, Army War College Public Affairs Office

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The Opening Ceremony for the Army War College Class of 2010 took place Aug. 7 on Indian Field and featured performances by the U.S. Army 3rd Infantry Regiments (The Old Guard) Fife and Drum Corps, the U.S. Army Drill Team and the U.S. Army Band (Pershing's Own) and a Pass and Review, and Retreat ceremony during the hour-long event. Photo by Lizzie Poster.

Aug. 7, 2009 -- The Army War College year for the 340-member Class of 2010 officially kicked off today as the opening ceremonies were held on Indian Field.

With the formal opening ceremony, the students begin a 10-month curriculum which prepares them to assume strategic leadership responsibilities in the joint,

interagency, intergovernmental, and multinational environment.

"I'm hoping to get a greater understanding of joint forces in a strategic environment," said Lt. Col. Carla Campbell, student. "I want to better understand how the U.S. military takes all the pieces of the policy puzzle and makes them fit together in hope to achieve peace."

The class includes officers from all military branches, both active and reserve, 27 government civilians and 50 foreign officers.

"This is a great opportunity for myself and my classmates to learn from not only each other, representing different services, but also from our international partners," said Navy Cmdr. Tim Riegle, student. "I hope to professionally enhance my knowledge, think more strategically, and build working relationships for the future."

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The Class of 2010 will be in residence from August 2009 through graduation on June 12, 2010, when the students earn a USAWC diploma and Master of Strategic Studies degree.

The U.S. Army War College Class of 2010 consists of 340 students, which include 199 Army (includes Reserve and Guard); 32 Air Force (includes Reserve and Guard); 14 Navy; 17 Marines (includes Reserve); and one Coast Guard Officer.

Twenty-seven civilians from the Department of the Army, the Defense Senior Leader Development Program,

Department of State, National Security Agency, and Department of Homeland Security, are also in attendance, as well

as 50 International Fellows, foreign officers from Albania, Australia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, El Salvador, Finland, Georgia, Germany, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Korea, Macedonia, Malaysia, Mali, Moldova, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan (2), Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Republic of Congo, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Taiwan, Tanzania, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom and Yemen.

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