

Resilience is just one key to Army leader success

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Resilience and balance are keys to Army leader success

(October 21, 2009)—U.S. Army War College students were given a glimpse into the future of the Army during a presentation by Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. George W. Casey, Jr. in Bliss Hall, Oct. 21.

Casey described the Army at present as one of the most resilient forces and that the role of land forces will include active engagement in helping other nations.

Students called Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. George Casey, Jr.'s presentation an example of his messages of clear and direct communication. Photo by Megan Clugh.

One of the key components to success for senior leaders in the Army, Casey said, is communication.

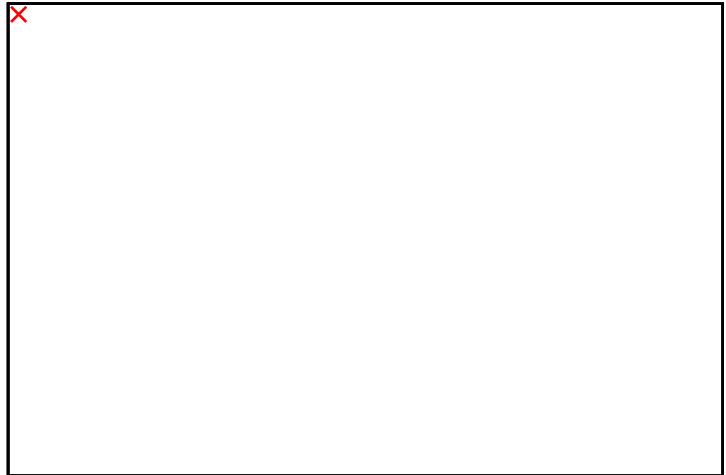
"His communication with the audience was clear and transparent and since he was explaining how strategic leaders need to be able to communicate clearly, he was a great example," said Col. Abdallah Alhabarneh of Jordan. "It was good for us to hear that from him and to see it from him as well."

Col. Drazen Bartolac of Croatia agreed.

"Gen. Casey had so much respect and friendship with the audience," he said. "It was so helpful for me to hear him speaking about so many different things. But his demeanor with the audience was something that is new for me."

By asking what is to be accomplished, leaders can clearly identify their objectives, Casey explained.

"Gen. Casey provided clear vision on where we need to go and used the Army enterprise to work through the details of the goals for that vision," recounted Col. Mark Migaledi.



When asked if he thought strategic leadership education for senior level officers was necessary, Casey recounted his own educational experiences, calling them some of the most broadening experiences.

Col. Frank Zachar said Casey's remarks reinforced many of his beliefs about today's Army.

"I thought what he was saying was positive and I agreed with him that the Army is not hollow," Zachar said after the presentation. "I also agreed with the idea of balance in the Army both operationally and institutionally, I think that is a great ideal. I am hopeful that events in the world allow us and enable our leadership to do just that."

Casey also emphasized balance in leaders' lives, telling students to find the right balance between their personal and professional lives by taking time off to spend it with family.

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