

Roosevelt lecture focuses on NATO, current ops

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General Sir Peter Wall, United Kingdom Commander of Land Forces, addressed the students as part of the annual Kermit Roosevelt Lecture Exchange Series. The lecture series is an annual exchange of British and American military lecturers. Photo by Megan Clugh.

Oct. 22, 2009 – The role of NATO and the continued progress in Iraq and Afghanistan were the main theme of the 2009 Kermit

Roosevelt Lecture Oct. 29 in Bliss Hall.

General Sir Peter Wall, United Kingdom Commander of Land Forces, addressed the students as part of the annual lecture series.

When asked whether NATO is still relevant, Wall said that's its ability to respond to multiple conflicts across the spectrum of operations and capabilities make it unmatched in the world. He stated that relationship between the United Kingdom and the U.S. remains strong but common issues like impatience at the strategic level are possible roadblocks to progress.

Wall also said that relationships are the keys to building and sustaining successful coalitions. He remarked that the International Fellows program at the Army War College was a great initiative in this direction.

Wall Background

Wall was commissioned into the Royal Engineers in 1974, and following studied Engineering at Cambridge University. His early service was spent in Belize and Rhodesia, and as a platoon instructor

at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst. He has commanded the 9th Parachute Squadron, Royal Engineers; the 32d Engineer Regiment in Germany; the 16th Air Assault BDE in United Kingdom; and Commander 1st (UK) Armoured DIV, responsible for the security of Basra, Iraq in 2003.

Lecture series background

The Kermit Roosevelt Lecture Exchange Series began in 1947, and honors Major Kermit Roosevelt, son of President Theodore Roosevelt. Roosevelt served in both the American and British army's during World Wars I and II. The Kermit Roosevelt Lecture Exchange Series is an annual exchange of British and American military lecturers.

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