

# TRADOC Commander makes visit to War College

*Thomas Zimmerman, Army War College Public Affairs Office*

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*During a visit of the Army War College March 25, Gen. Martin Dempsey, TRADOC Commander, addressed the USAWC Resident Class of 2009, gave a presentation at the Combined/Joint Forces Land Component Commander Course in Collins Hall, sat in on "Leading and Managing Change" elective class and toured the Army Heritage and Education Center. Photo by Thomas*

*Zimmerman.*

March 25, 2009 -- The new commanding general of the Training and Doctrine Command got up close and personal with many of the educational programs and opportunities at the Army War College during a visit March 25.

"It's not practice that makes perfect; rather, its perfect practice that makes perfect," has said **Gen. Martin Dempsey**, TRADOC Commander. "It is, after all, the seemingly small disciplines and commitment to high standards that makes us who we are and binds us together as a force, an Army, in peace and in war. That's what we're committed to at TRADOC."

During his visit, Dempsey addressed the USAWC Resident Class of 2009, gave a presentation at the Combined/Joint Forces Land Component Commander Course in Collins Hall, participated in an elective, and toured the Army Heritage and Education Center.

While speaking to the student body, Dempsey focused on the importance of leadership and leader development. TRADOC operates 32 schools and centers at 16 Army installations. TRADOC schools conduct 2,734 courses (81 directly in support of mobilization) and 373 language courses. The 2,734 courses include 503,164 seats for 434,424 Soldiers; 34,675 other-service personnel; 7,824 international

Soldiers; and 26,241 civilians. The Army War College is a TRADOC school.

Dempsey spoke about how TRADOC needs to adapt to the changing environments to make sure that they are enabling graduates with the skills they will need in the future.

"He has a daunting task ... his number one job is leader development, which is what you students are involved in right now," said **Maj. Gen. Robert Williams**, USAWC Commandant. "This is no small task when the Army must focus on winning the fight."

Dempsey thanked the International Fellows in the audience and the important role they play into today's environment.

"I value our partnerships deeply. You play a vital role," he said. "I'm glad you are all here working side-by-side with this class."

After his talk, Dempsey took questions from the students. Topics included TRADOC reorganization, Army Force Generation, junior officer training and FM 3.0.

Dempsey also reminded the students that leadership is important at all level when spoke about Sgt. 1st Class Brian Eisch, the TRADOC NCO of the Year.

"As you know, it is the year of the NCO and you should thank them for what they do," he said. "Spend any time with them and you can see that they are truly the backbone of the Army."

*Dempsey spoke with Army War College students, staff and faculty in Bliss Hall during his visit. Photo by Spc. Jennifer Rick.*

Later, Dempsey experienced first-hand the educational programs at the Army War College with the "Leading and Managing Change" elective class.



Before departing Carlisle Barracks, Dempsey addressed 14 general officers on "Operational Art and Doctrine" as part of the Combined / Joint Force Land Component Commander Course.

## **C/JFLCC background**

The C/JFLCC is a senior-officer level professional education course conducted at the Army War College, under the direction TRADOC that prepares senior officers to function effectively as Land Component Commanders for theater-level operations conducted in a joint, multinational, and interagency environment. The course helps prepare attendees to formulate and execute complex land operations that provide Combatant Commanders with a full spectrum of rapid, decisive and sustained land dominance capabilities that are critical to effective national policy accomplishment.

The one-week long course is conducted three times each year at Carlisle Barracks. The course brings together 14 General Officers from all services in the grades of Brigadier through Lieutenant General.

### **Gen. Dempsey bio**

Dempsey assumed the duties of Commander, United States Army Training and Doctrine Command on December 8, 2008 after serving as Acting Commander U.S. Central Command.

Dempsey graduated from the United States Military Academy and was commissioned as an Armor officer in June 1974. His first duty assignment was in the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment, where he served as a Scout and Support Platoon Leader and Squadron Adjutant. In January 1979, after completing the Armor Officer Advanced Course, Dempsey became the Motor Officer for 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry, at Fort Carson, Colo. Later, he commanded Alpha and Headquarters Troops, 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry, as well as serving as the Squadron Operations Officer.

In August 1982, Dempsey began studies at Duke University, earning a Master's Degree in English, and upon completion in 1984 was assigned to the English Department at West Point. He performed duties as an instructor, and later assistant professor, in the department until summer 1987, when he was assigned to the Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., where he earned a Master's Degree in Military Art and Science. In July 1988, Dempsey reported to the 3rd Armored Division in Friedburg, Germany, where he served as the Executive Officer of 4th Battalion, 67th Armor Regiment, and then became Operations Officer and later Executive Officer for 3rd Brigade, 3rd Armored Division, deploying in support of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. In July 1991, Dempsey assumed command of the 4th Battalion, 67th Armored Regiment, 1st Armored Division.

In summer 1993, after five years in Germany, Dempsey was assigned as Chief of the Armor Branch at U.S. Total Army Personnel Command. He then continued his studies at the National War College in 1995, earning a Master's Degree in National Security and Strategic Studies. In July 1996, Dempsey returned to Fort Carson, taking command of the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment. Following this assignment, he served as the Assistant Deputy Director for Politico-Military Affairs Europe and Africa J5 and Special Assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Washington, D.C., from July 1998

through September 2001. From September 2001 to June 2003, Dempsey served as Program Manager, Saudi Arabian National Guard Modernization Program, Saudi Arabia. General Dempsey left Saudi Arabia in June 2003 to take command of the 1st Armored Division and deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

After completing 14 months in Iraq, Dempsey redeployed the division to Germany and completed his command tour in July 2005. In August 2005, Dempsey returned to Iraq and assumed command of the Multi-National Security Transition Command-Iraq until summer 2007, when he departed for his next assignment as Deputy Commander of U.S. Central Command. In August 2007, Dempsey assumed the position of Deputy Commander, U.S. Central Command, and served as Acting Commander, U.S. Central Command, from March 28, 2008 to Oct. 30, 2008.

Dempsey's awards and decorations include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Distinguished Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit with two Oak Leaf Clusters, the Bronze Star Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster and "V" Device, the Meritorious Service Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Combat Action Badge, Parachutist Badge, and the Joint Chiefs of Staff Identification Badge.