

Let us remember...9/11 2020

By Maj. Gen. Steve Maranian, Commandant 10 September 2020



Maj. Gen. Steve Maranian, USAWC Commandant and Dickinson College President Margee Ensign laid a wreath at the flag pole on the campus of Dickinson College in honor of all those who lost their lives on 9/11.

It's been 19 years since terrorists hijacked commercial planes over the United States and turned them into missiles targeting the United States. Our nation changed that day, as did the world.

Everyday life changed for every American and for our Allies and partners. From how we travel, to how we think about personal security, to how we design buildings, to how we protect our vital national interests around the globe.

A generation of Americans has grown up in the "post- 9/11" world. For many of us who were in uniform back in 2001 it is hard to fathom that many of today's recruits and young Soldiers were born after that fateful day. A generation of military leaders has been trained, deployed, and

operated in the post-9/11 world.

Like 9-11-01, the year 2020 has brought significant change to our lives. For many, 19-year-old memories seem distant compared to the daily manifestations of the COVID pandemic. Despite the overwhelming impact of the current health crisis, it is right to take time this week to remember the sacrifices made by the victims, first responders, and service members and their families throughout our war on terror.

We remember – in order to say that we respect and will never forget those who made the ultimate sacrifice, those who bear the visible and invisible scars of war, and those who love them whose lives were forever changed.

We remember – in order to acknowledge the national sense of courage, resolve and resilience engendered by the attack, and the enduring dedication of those who have persevered to safeguard their fellow citizens from similar attacks.

We remember – to reflect on the purpose of the Armed Forces, and the purpose of the Army War College where we prepare already proven leaders for greater responsibility. Where we arm our students with the thinking, planning, decision-making, communication, and collaboration skills that will be needed in future conflict and competition.

Today, let us remember. Let us pray and hope that our nation, our world, will never face another “9-11-like” experience. Let us also recommit ourselves to lean into our responsibilities as military professionals in memory of our fellow citizens. Through Strength – Peace!

VR,

MG Stephen J. Maranian

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"Strength & Wisdom"