

Graduation - Army War College Distance Class of 2019

By Public Affairs Staff 17 July 2019



The USAWC will graduate 368 members of the joint, interagency, intergovernmental, and multinational Distance Class of 2019, July 26.

Graduation speaker for the Army War College Distance Class of 2019 is Gen. Joseph L. Lengyel, 28th Chief of the National Guard Bureau and member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff -- Friday, July 26 at 9 a.m. on the historic Carlisle Barracks parade field.

The U.S. Army War College Class of 2019 will be joined by family, friends, faculty to celebrate graduation from the two-year Distance Education Program, for which earn the Master's degree in Strategic Studies. In a nod to the high proportion of Reserve Component officers in the graduating class, the guest speaker is Gen. Joseph L. Lengyel, the 28th Chief of the National Guard Bureau and member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. The ceremony is scheduled for Friday, July 26 at 9 a.m. on the historic parade field of Carlisle Barracks.

Lengyel serves as a military adviser to the President, Secretary of Defense, National Security Council, and is the Department of Defense's official channel of communication to the Governors and State Adjutants General on all matters pertaining to the National Guard and more than 453 thousand Army and Air National Guard personnel. An F-16 Instructor Pilot and Weapons Officer, Lengyel is a 2001 graduate of the Air War College, by correspondence. Since then, he commanded the 455th Expeditionary Operations Group, Afghanistan; served as Air National Guard Advisor to the Commander of US Air Force Europe; commanded the Air National Guard Readiness Center, Andrews AFB. He served as Military Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Strategic Plans and Programs, HQAF; as Vice Commander of Air Force/Air Forces Northern Senior U.S. Defense Official Cairo, USCENTCOM; and as Vice Chief of the National Guard Bureau before assuming his present position.

The graduating student body includes officers of the U.S. Army, Marine Corps, Navy and Air Force – predominately representing the exclusively from the Army National Guard, and Army Reserve. The educational experience is enhanced by learning from others: senior international officers from Rwanda, Germany, Netherlands, and Lithuania; 38 civilians from U.S. departments of Defense, State, Homeland Security, Justice, Army, Navy, Air Force, intelligence agencies, and Congressional staff offices.

WHAT TO EXPECT AT GRADUATION

The graduation event is open to the public. Visitors should enter the Claremont Visitors Gate and follow Special Event signs to parking. An on-base bus will shuttle students and guests from parking areas to the parade ground, from 8:30 to 8:4 a.m. Those with disabilities/unable to walk distances can be dropped off at Quarters 2; parking attendants will direct the driver to the handicapped lot.

Bags are subject to security checks at the entry to the parade field. No smoking, no selfie sticks, no backpacks, coolers or pets at the ceremony.

Water will be provided on site. Restrooms are available (Thorpe Gym or porta johns). Sunscreen and/or hats are recommended for the sunny parade ground.

Military guests can plan for a no-headgear-required graduation area.

NOTE: The ceremony begins with an honorary cannon salute by the Pennsylvania Army National Guard, on Indian Field (across from Root

Hall). USAWC Prof. Bert Tussing will sing the National Anthem. And, faculty will be present to congratulate the new graduates as they depart the stage.

PHOTOS

Family and friends are welcome to take photos in the photo area near the stage. Once the commencement speaker's address is complete, Every student will cross the stage by seminar; please await your student's seminar before moving to the front of the photo area.

NOTE: Professional photos of every student, and many candid shots, will be available at www.flickr.com/photos/usawc

A highlights video will be posted on graduation day to www.youtube.com/usarmywarcollege; with a full ceremony video to be posted the following Monday.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

A weather call will be made no later than 7 a.m. on graduation day – and communicated on the large digital signs at base entrances, on the prerecorded line at 717.245.3400, and: www.facebook.com/usawc.

If weather moves the event indoors, the ceremony will take place in Bliss Hall Auditorium which has capacity for students only. All guests will be able to watch on large screens in seminar rooms and other selected rooms; students will guide guests to the assigned location.

The ceremony will be streamed online as it occurs: Watch from any location on post or remote: www.armywarcollege.edu/live.