

USAWC Change of Command, July 30

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At the 2013 USAWC graduation, then-Colonel Stephen J. Maranian, 3rd from left, class president, and Indian Army Brig. Shashank Upasani, vice president for International Fellows, present the class painting to Army Chief of Staff Gen. Ray Odierno.

Maj. Gen. Stephen J. Maranian will become 52nd Commandant of the U.S. Army War College and commanding general of Carlisle Barracks in a formal change of command ceremony with the 51st Commandant, Maj. Gen. John Kem, July 30.

Maj. Gen. John Kem will formally pass leadership of the U.S. Army War College and Carlisle Barracks to incoming Commandant Maj. Gen. Stephen J. Maranian in a traditional Army Change of Command Ceremony

to be officiated by Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. James C. McConville. The Bliss Hall ceremony will be attended in person by a limited, physically-distanced audience of friends and family. ALL are invited to view the ceremony at www.armywarcollege.edu/live Thursday, July 30 at 10 a.m.

Kem has served as the 51st Commandant of the United States Army War College since June 2017. His formal retirement ceremony is scheduled that afternoon, celebrating a 35-year Army career since his commissioning as a Army Engineer 2nd Lieutenant at the U.S. Military Academy .

Maj. Gen. Stephen J. Maranian recently departed his last assignment at Fort Leavenworth where he served concurrently as Combined Arms Center Deputy Commanding General for Education, Command and General Staff College Deputy Commandant, and Army University Provost.

Maranian has many ties to the Army War College and to Pennsylvania. A graduate of the USAWC Resident Class of 2013, he served as president of his class. He is a graduate of two courses of the USAWC Army Strategic Education Program -- the ASEP-B basic course for brigadier generals and the ASEP-A advance course for major generals. He received his commission as an Army Field Artillery officer in 1988 at Bucknell University in Lewisburg, Pa.

As class president, Maranian spoke to his fellow students during the 2013 Convocation, marking the formal beginning of that academic year. "We are indeed fortunate for this opportunity to step away from the operational force for a year. Fortunate to trade our blackberries and staff meetings for kindles and seminars.... The decisions we take and advice we give in the years following graduation will have direct impact on the lives of our nations' most precious resource."

Prior to his assignment at the Combined Arms Center, Maranian served as Deputy Commanding General - Maneuver for the 2nd Infantry Division -- Combined Republic/US Division at Camp Casey, Korea. Recent responsibilities include Commandant of the U.S. Army Field Artillery School and director of the Long-Range Precision Fires Cross-Functional Team at Fort Sill, Okla.; Chief of Staff for US Army Africa/Southern European Task Force in Vicenza, Italy; and Executive Officer for the Commanding General, US Army Europe.

Maranian commanded the 4th Battalion, 319th Airborne Field Artillery Regiment, 173rd Airborne Brigade in Bamberg Germany and in

Alghaniistan. He commanded twice at battery level -- Battery C, 21st Battalion, 82nd Field Artillery, 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood, Texas, and in Kuwait; and Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, Division Artillery, 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood.

Maranian earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration at Bucknell University, a Master of Arts in Human Resources Development from Webster University, and the Master of Arts in Strategic Studies from the Army War College. He completed a senior post-graduate research fellowship at the NATO Defense College in Rome. He is a Defense Language Institute-trained Greek linguist.

His decorations include multiple awards each of the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, and Army Achievement Medal; and the NATO Meritorious Service Medal. He is a senior rated jumpmaster and has been awarded the parachutist qualification badge of Canada. A native of Natick, Mass., Maranian is married to Cynthia Hall Maranian of Stedman, North Carolina.