

With ‘fire is his heart’, Chachibaia becomes 66th Hall of Famer

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Maj. Gen. John Kem the Commandant of the Army War College walks down the hall of flags with Maj. Gen. Vladimer Chachibaia after his induction into the International Fellows hall of fame, Carlisle Barrcks, Nov. 17.

Students, staff and faculty welcomed Maj. Gen. Vladimer Chachibaia to the Army War College for induction into the USAWC International Fellows Hall in Bliss Hall here today.

“This year is about friendship. It’s about knowledge you receive in this great institution,” said Chachibaia. “We have to read because when we read, we think; when we think, we analyze. While we analyze, we can predict and lay out trends and this is very helpful for our decision making process,” he said.

“The knowledge you gave us gave us this spark that ignited a fire in our hearts,” said Chachibaia to the faculty and leadership in the audience.

A member of the USAWC class of 2008, Chachibaia has served as the Chief of the General Staff of the Georgian Armed Forces since December, 2016.

“The friendship and brotherhood that I established here at the War College help me a lot,” said Chachibaia. “The people-to-people relationship that we establish here, this big club, helped me to be successful,” he said.



Maj. Gen. Vladimer Chachibaia speaks with members of seminar 6 before his induction into the International Fellows hall of fame, Root Hall, Nov. 17.

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Chachibaia started his military service as a private and rose to NCO rank in the USSR Air Forces. He was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Georgian Armed Forces in 1994 after graduating from the United Military Academy, Tbilisi, Georgia. He continued his military studies in the United States at the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, 2002 – 2003, and the U.S. Army War College, 2007 - 2008.

Chachibaia served in several command and leadership positions: command of the 3rd Infantry Brigade, Georgian Military Contingent in Iraq; Deputy Chief of the Joint Staff of the Georgian Armed Forces; Chief of Staff of Land Forces; First Deputy Minister of Defense. He also served as a Senior Military Advisor in the UN Assistance Mission Afghanistan, UNAMA.

He is married to Bela Gargieva-Chachibaia, with whom he has three children, Giorgi, Anastasia, and Nino.

The International Fellows Program was established to advance mutual understanding and effective working relationships among senior U.S. officers and senior officers of select foreign countries by offering opportunity for senior military officers from allied and friendly countries to study, research, and write about subjects of significance to the security interest of the their own and allied nations. Further, the International Fellows in the Army War College enrich the educational environment for all students, and enables firsthand knowledge of U.S. culture and institutions through study and travel in the United States.