

USAF General speaks to students about War College experience and leadership skills

By John Goulette - USAWC Public Affairs 02 December 2022



Air Force Gen. Mike Minihan, class of 2007, speaks to students about leadership skills and what he learned while at the War College.

Air Force Gen. Mike Minihan spoke to War College students on Dec. 1 about the importance of a war college education, leadership strategies, and the potential issues they will face as strategic leaders.

Gen. Minihan, a 2007 graduate of the War College, emphasized how important the different perspectives he received from the War College are to him still. As the Commander of Air Mobility Command, Scott Air Force Base, Illinois, Minihan often works in tandem with senior leaders from other military branches. Scott Air Force base is home to U.S. Transportation Command, a Unified Combatant Command that coordinates transportation across all the services.

According to Minihan, he appreciates the diverse demographics of the War College, the perspectives of the civilians, the perspectives of the other officers. Minihan says that what he didn't know was that he was getting a

Ph.D. in the joint world. The diverse perspectives and friendships he got here still exist today, says Minihan.

As a four-star general, Minihan discussed from experience how important it is to be accountable as a strategic leader, even at the lower levels, and why it is necessary to always be ready for action. In his current role, Gen. Minihan focuses on the importance of readiness and believes that it is important to continue to build and improve the Air Force's ability to respond.

According to Minihan, he is convinced that when the military does exercises, they have up-front decided that we will be at their best. When you have a commander own what they're doing and how they're doing it, there's a whole lot of goodness there, says Minihan.

Minihan has been the Commander of the Air Mobility Command since July 2021. This command serves as U.S. Transportation Command's air component, executing the air mobility mission in support of the joint force, allies and partners with a fleet of nearly 1,100 aircraft. The command encompasses Eighteenth Air Force, the U.S. Air Force Expeditionary Center, the 618th Air Operations Center, 17 wings and two groups, which provide rapid global mobility from more than 100 locations worldwide.