



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

West Point, New York 10996

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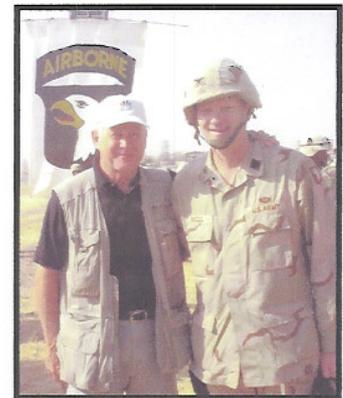
Department of Social Sciences

August 8, 2007

Dear Friends,

Greetings from West Point. I cannot begin this letter without mentioning that we start this academic season with heavy hearts. We sorely miss General Downing as does our Nation and our military. For us, he was a mentor who always took time to share ideas and was genuinely interested in our professional and personal lives. Both in and out of uniform, he inspired selfless service. GEN Downing was a true hero who loved cadets, pushed our thinking to new heights, and literally guided our Combating Terrorism Center to national prominence. While we miss him, we also know that we were truly blessed to have him here with us, and his legacy lives within each and every one of us. We will continue to keep you updated on the short and long term arrangements in his honor.

One of my favorite pictures is the one attached of COL Mike Meese and GEN Downing from 2003 when both were in Iraq. In fact, as you all know, Mike has been in Iraq since June 2007. He is helping to write the ultimate Sosh paper as GEN Petraeus returns for his Congressional testimony. The "Sosh run" to Congress should take place by mid-September. Mike continues to run into dozens of Department alumni in nearly every brigade, headquarters, and station throughout Iraq. In countless ways, Social Sciences Department members—past and present—as well as the cadets they have taught and the soldiers that they lead are making a huge difference for our Nation and for Iraq. We are all proud of Mike, and look forward to his safe return and sharing a beer with him on his porch during the Reunion!



Back on the banks of the Hudson, the Class of 2011 is winding down its Beast (although nothing ever winds down) and getting ready for the academic year. And the Yearlings are wrapping up the best summer of their lives at Buckner. We have ten officers serving as mentors and trainers at Beast and Buckner. It is always good for cadets to see their instructors out in the field helping with patrolling, IED-detection, and working with civilians, refugees, and media on the battlefield. The training is excellent, and even incorporates Iraqi translators. In fact, one DMI faculty member told me that the training is better than JRTC! Meanwhile, we launched New Instructor Orientation with a great new cohort of faculty, all arriving from the best graduate school programs with tremendous operational backgrounds. We continue to attract the best faculty members, even while the Army is pressed. Included in the new group are our State Department Foreign Service Officer, Dr. J. Brinton Rowdybush, MAJ Tania Chacho as the new Academy Professor directing our Comparative Politics program, and our new office supervisor, Ms. Marianne Daniello. For those of you in the D.C. area, look for LTC Ike Wilson who is the USMA fellow at the National War College this year. Also, Dr. Don Snider will be spending a fall semester sabbatical at the Army War College.

We celebrated academic excellence at the Department's Awards Ceremony in May with several special presenters, including: Mr. Robert A. Whitfield, COL (Ret) Dana Mead, BG (Ret) Thomas E. Carpenter III, Ms. Trudy Pojman, Mr. Robert Blatz, and Mrs. Karen Houghton-Matthews. We also had graduating firstie, Forest Pierce, present an award with his grandfather in honor of his father, Kerry Pierce; Forest was an award winner this year himself. We continued to present the George Osborn Comparative Politics award thanks to Bill Murdy, the SCUSA leadership award thanks to BG (Ret)

and Mrs. Jordan, and the excellence in terrorism studies award thanks to BG (Ret) and Mrs. Howard. We ended the ceremony by recognizing four outstanding instructors as winners of the William Murdy Award for Teaching Excellence in the Department of Social Sciences: Majors Mike Shekleton, Matthew Sheffer, William Skimmyhorn, and Scott Taylor. We greatly appreciate Bill Murdy's generous support of this award that continues to highlight teaching, which is the core of everything we do.

In addition to the many achievements of our cadets, three members of our extremely talented departing junior faculty last year won prestigious honors. Majors Rick Wrona and Brad Bowman won Council on Foreign Relations International Affairs Fellowships, and Major John Gallagher was selected as a White House Fellow for 2007-2008. We are extremely proud of their accomplishments!

The West Point Model United Nations team, led by Scott Silverstone, once again finished its season with the best record of any university, including winning "best delegation" at Yale, Georgetown, Princeton, and the University of California at Berkeley, and earning second place at McGill University and Harvard Nationals. With the generous financial support of Mr. and Mrs. Roland Smith, the team traveled to Geneva, Switzerland in March for the 2007 World competition, where they took second place. Cadet Kerney Scott, the team's president, was awarded the first annual Professor Louis P. Pojman Award for excellence in Model UN. This award was made possible by a gift from Mrs. Trudy Pojman, in memory of her husband, Dr. Louis Pojman, a former philosophy professor at the Academy. During the 2006-2007 season, over 10,000 college students from around the world – future leaders in their own right – were able to observe our amazing Model UN cadets in action. Model UN continues to be the best "public diplomacy" tool we have to impress other college students with the teamwork, intelligence, confidence, and work ethic of the Army's future leaders.

The Army Debate Team had a truly historic year in 2006-2007. Led by MAJ Joe Scrocca, who was named CEDA East Regional Program Director of the Year, the team finished the season ranked 4th in the nation in the team standings of CEDA and 3rd in the standings of NDT Debate. According to Mike Meese, this is the highest ranking since at least 1992 (which, coincidentally, was when he was Debate Director). The team beat powerhouses such as Harvard, Northwestern, Dartmouth, and of course, Navy. USMA also finished first in the CEDA Northeast Regional Sweepstakes award, and five different teams won tournament championships, including the Novice National Championship and the CEDA East Regional Junior Varsity Championship. Also, our top varsity team finished 17th at the CEDA National Debate Tournament. Finally, the team won the 52nd Annual USMA-RMC Debate Competition and reclaimed the coveted Cannon Trophy for West Point.

The USMA Scholarship Program, which mentors the Academy's top cadets with leadership and tremendous support provided by Department faculty and staff, has had another extremely successful year. During AY 2007, 16 cadets earned scholarships, including one Rhodes, three Marshall, two Fulbright, one Gates, one Truman, one Churchill, one Rotary, four East-West, and two Mitchell Scholarships. With each candidate receiving one-on-one mentorship from a Department member, and with such widespread support from alumni (serving as guest speakers and hosts for trip sections and receptions), it was truly a community effort! This year MAJ Bill Bundy will replace MAJ John Gallagher as the executive secretary of the scholarship committee. We look forward to another rewarding year of mentorship and leader development in this important program for the Academy and Army.

This year's Senior Conference had the theme, "American Civil-Military Relations: Fifty Years After *The Soldier and the State*." Given the current salience of civil-military relations issues to U.S. national security, conference participants were very engaged! Ably run by MAJ Dave Dudas, the conference executive secretary, and Ms. Joy Pasquazi, administrative coordinator, the research project

underpinning the conference was co-directed by Dr. Don Snider and LTC Suzanne Nielsen. Keynote speeches were given by: Dr. Peter Feaver of Duke, GEN (Ret) Eric Shinseki, and Congressman Steve Israel (D-NY). Among the 65 distinguished participants were two former Department Heads, BG (Ret) Jim Golden and BG (Ret) Dan Kaufman, as well as alumni including: MAJ Tania Chacho, Dr. Joe Collins, MAJ Jason Dempsey, MAJ Darrell Driver, GEN (Ret) Wayne Downing, LTC Kim Field, COL Chris Gibson, COL (Ret) Bob McClure, COL Richard Lacquement, BG Gregg Martin, Dr. Jeff McCausland, LTG (Ret) Bill Odom, Dr. Jay Parker, and LTC Paul Yingling. An edited volume will be produced from the conference; for more information in the meantime please see:

www.seniorconference.usma.edu.

The CTC continues growing as an international center of excellence for terrorism education, research, and policy analysis. Terrorism studies course enrollment increased substantially again this year, and a parade of guest speakers (practitioners, policymakers and academics) have enhanced cadet and faculty education. This fall we will add a new course offering on WMD and terrorism and continue working with the FBI to teach seminars for Joint Terrorism Task Forces around the country and to educate new FBI agents at Quantico. The CTC continues to produce new insightful reports in support of the global counterterrorism effort. Select highlights include the *Militant Ideology Atlas* (the first comprehensive study to highlight the most influential thinkers in the Salafi-Jihadi movement); several reports on Iraq; an assessment of the Combatant Status Review Tribunals at Guantanamo Bay, a new SOCOM-sponsored report using recently declassified documents; "Al-Qaeda's Mis-Adventures in the Horn of Africa"; and, two other studies of Al-Qaeda's operations and influence in Africa—all of which are available on the Center's website (<http://ctc.usma.edu>). In addition, faculty in the CTC have produced a course reader on terrorism and political Islam for the FBI's New Agent Training program at Quantico, as well as a new textbook, *Weapons of Mass Destruction and Terrorism* (published by McGraw-Hill), and the 3-volume *Countering Terrorism and Insurgency in the 21st Century: International Perspectives* (published by Praeger). LTC Joe Felter and Dr. Jarret Brachman testified before both House and Senate committees on terrorism-related issues and the CTC to advise senior military and decision-makers across multiple commands and agencies. Because of its accomplishments in education, research, and policy analysis, the CTC continues to generate tremendous positive visibility in the media for the Department, the Academy, and the Army.

The Office of Economic and Manpower Analysis (OEMA) continues to be the analytical arm of choice for the Army and is leading the way in several programs. Through the Officer Career Incentive Program, West Point and ROTC cadets can exchange three years of additional service obligation to obtain their branch of choice, post of choice, or a guarantee of fully-funded graduate school. In just two years, this program has gained nearly 10,000 additional years of obligated service for the Army. The Army Game Project continues to be one of the biggest success stories for Army recruiting since the inception of the all-volunteer force. A recent modification of the Game, known as the Virtual Army Experience (VAE), provides a football-field-size space for potential recruits to take the Army for a test drive. Stop by one of the venues listed below to see the Army (and OEMA) in action:

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| 1-3 Sept | Cleveland Air Show, Cleveland OH |
| 7-8 Sept | NASCAR, Richmond International Raceway, Richmond VA |
| 6-8 Sept | NAS Oceana Air Show, Virginia Beach VA |
| 21-23 Sept | NASCAR, Dover International Speedway, Dover DE |
| 22-23 Sept | Mid South Air Show, Millington TN |
| 29-30 Sept | NASCAR, Kansas City KS |
| 6-7 Oct | Wings Over Houston, Houston TX |
| 13-14 Oct | Miramar Air Show, San Diego CA |
| 20-21 Oct | Fort Worth Air Show, Fort Worth TX |
| 27-28 Oct | Oklahoma Air Show, Muskogee OK |
| 3-4 Nov | NASCAR, Dallas TX |
| 3-4 Nov | Randolph AFB Air Show, San Antonio TX |
| 16-18 Nov | NASCAR, Homestead-Miami Speedway, Miami FL |

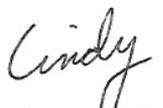
Of course, Department members have the hardship of going TDY to these events—if they can do it without missing class!

This summer, we definitely lived up to our motto, “The Sun Never Sets on Sosh.” Members of the Department once again spent their “summer vacations” all over the world. MAJ Jon Dunn did field research in Central Asia after leading a cadet trip through Eastern Europe; MAJ Stephanie Ahern interned with the State Department; MAJ Andrew Dekever interned with the Joint Staff J-5; Dr. Thom Sherlock did field work in Russia; MAJ Eric Bjorklund led a cadet trip section to Jordan; and, MAJ Kris Colwell, MAJ Abi Linnington, and CPT Tommy Sowers traveled to Croatia to help with the Marshall Center’s PFP conference. Thanks to the generous support of MacArthur Foundation, we started our Conflict and Human Security Studies (CHSS) program, led by Dr. Ruth Beitler. This program sent 28 cadets overseas working with NGOs, including Habitat for Humanity and Journeys Within Our Communities. These trips included: Capt Amanda Gookins leading cadets through Kyrgyzstan; MAJ Lorenzo Rios heading the group in Chile; MAJ Thad Underwood working with cadets in South Africa; and, CDT Kevin Broderick serving as CIC for cadets working in a school in Cambodia. We had a total of 125 cadets deployed both domestically and worldwide lending their talents to embassies in Australia, Korea, Singapore, India, and Panama; to organizations in Jordan, Japan, China, Greece, Croatia, Rwanda, and the Czech Republic; to Crossroads Africa in The Gambia, Ghana, and Rwanda. At home, cadets worked on projects throughout the Nation, with the largest group of cadets spending time in Washington, D.C. Many worked in the Pentagon, with other government agencies, with the Army and Air Force Mutual Aid Association, and with RAND. Several dozen worked on Capitol Hill, while others worked with the NYPD and Homeland Security on counterterrorism issues. Senator Jack Reed, once again, hosted an exceptional reception for all cadets in D.C., which was attended by several senators and representatives, members of the Army leadership, and department alumni. These outstanding opportunities are only possible because of the support of General Brent Scowcroft, the Olmsted Foundation, Robert Baldwin, Dana Mead, Ken Hicks, Walt Lincoln, Rob Andy at Washington Penn Plastics, RAND, Rupert Johnson, Patrick and Anna Cudahy, the Compton Foundation, and the MacArthur Foundation.

Mike and Ramona have graciously offered their home again for this year’s Department Fall Reunion and Tailgate, which will be on September 29th when Army beats Temple. ESPN is covering the game, so we have included a tentative schedule. As you know, TV times are subject to change, so please check on the website two weeks prior to the game or call our reunion hotline for recorded information at 845-938-0214. We’ll begin the day with an Open House in Lincoln Hall and then tailgate until shortly before game time. See the enclosed flyer for all of the details, or try our website at <http://www.dean.usma.edu/departments/sosh/Alumni/Index.htm>; please sign up by September 15th. If you have questions about the reunion, please contact Ms. Joy Pasquazi at 845-938-6401 or joy.pasquazi@usma.edu.

We sincerely hope you will be able to join us at the Fall Reunion.

Best regards,


Cindy Jebb
Not-Head