U.S. Army War College Commandant Visits USAWOCC

USAWOCC NEWS

By CW5 James Rathburn Chief, Academic Instruction Division

On 17 January 2014, Major General Anthony A. Cucolo III, the 49th Commandant of the United States Army War College (USAWC), visited the US Army Warrant Officer Career College (USAWOCC). This was his initial visit and coordinating effort in support of the Army Leader Development Initiative: Review the Warrant Officer Senior Staff Course (WOSSC) for curricula depth. He was accompanied by his Chief of Staff (CoS), COL Galli; Assistant CoS, CSM Parrish; G3 Operations, Mr. Norris; and Professors Allen and Kaufman.

Some of the major outcomes of the USAWOCC briefing and dialogue among MG Cucolo, his team, and the USAWOCC included a greater awareness and understanding of the following:

- The unique missions and goals of the two institutions.
- The Warrant Officer target audience.
- The senior-level Warrant Officer curriculum.

At the end of the visit, MG Cucolo summarized his position on the way ahead as follows:

- The USAWOCC's role as an important part of the shared "educational community of practice" will continue to expand and receive its due recognition from other members of that community of practice.
- USAWOCC cadre members will be afforded opportunities for participation in USAWC faculty development opportunities, such as courses and seminars.
- USAWOCC access to USAWC courses and coordination with USAWC departments for curriculum development, to include scenario and exercise development, will continue at an accelerated pace.
- Sharing of instructors via VTC or resident instruction.

Based on the fact that the Secretary of the Army, the Honorable John McHugh; the Army Chief of Staff, General Raymond T. Odierno; and now the Commandant of the US Army War College have visited the US Army Warrant Officer Career College within the past 12 months, there is no doubt that the Army recognizes the value of Warrant Officers in its formation and the need for evolving Warrant Officer professional military education, to ensure our senior-level Warrant Officers receive the training and education they must have to effectively support our joint strategic leaders.

The visit was yet another example of the USA-WOCC being proactive in ensuring that Warrant Officers who complete their Professional Military Education (PME) at the USAWOCC receive the most current and relevant professional military education. Close on the heels of this productive coordinating effort, Mr. Joe Craig, USAWOCC Director of Education and Training/ Quality Assurance and CW5 Rich Ayers, Department Head, Leadership & Professional Development, will be leading a team of instructors from the five USAWOCC academic departments (Communications & Management Systems; Leadership & Professional Development; Military History; International Strategic Studies; and Joint, Interagency and Multinational Operations) that will thoroughly review the course content USA-WOCC delivers to its students. The effort will build on the results of the USAWC team's visit and help ensure that the USAWOCC remains responsive and adaptive to the needs of the senior officers that Warrant Officers support.

MG Cucolo's visit to the USAWOCC was definitely a "leaning forward" step in the Army Leader Development Initiative process – the fruits of his and his team members' visit will pay dividends for many years in the future, in terms of enhanced leader development for the US Army's Warrant Officers.

