On September 9th, Colonel Mohammed Alyami (CTF 2009) visited CISA to discuss potential cooperation between NDU and Saudi Arabian National Guard Command and General Staff College (CGSC). This academic visit, which was supported by the College’s Commander, Major General Ahmed Almufarh, was designed to build cooperation amongst educational institutions like CISA.

COL Alyami, the Assistant Dean of CGSC, is not the only CISA graduate to play a role in the establishment of the CGSC. In fact, there are three other CISA graduates from the...
Meet CISA’s New Leaders!

Vice Chancellor Ensher Brings Experience in Complex Operations and Diplomacy in Middle East

Dear CISA Comrades,

It is with great pleasure that I announce Ambassador Henry Ensher joined the CISA faculty and leadership team this week as our new Vice Chancellor. Ambassador Ensher joins CISA from Algiers, having served as U.S. Ambassador to Algeria since 2011.

As I am sure you’ll quickly recognize, Ambassador Ensher is a seasoned and courageous diplomat who will bring a great deal to the team and our missions. In addition to Algiers, in his 31 years in the Foreign Service, Henry Ensher has served in diplomatic posts Mexico, Muscat, Tunis, Damascus, Jeddah, and Tel Aviv. But there is more...

As all of us consider the lessons of the so-called “decade of war” (and the integration of the diplomacy and development into complex security campaigns and efforts) Ambassador Ensher will be invaluable. He was: Governance Coordinator in Iraq’s Qadisiyah Province in 2003-4 under the Coalition Provisional Authority; Deputy Political Counselor in Baghdad in 2004-5; in the Department’s Office of Iraq, Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs in 2005-6; chair of the Department of Near East and North Africa Area Studies at the State Department’s Foreign Service Institute from 2006-7 (and Coordinator for Iraq and Afghanistan Provincial Reconstruction Team training); Political Adviser to the Combatant Commander, US Central Command in 2007-8; Director of the Office of Afghanistan Affairs from 2008-10; and Senior Civilian Representative-South at Kandahar Air Field, Afghanistan in 2010-11. I must also highlight that he received the Department of State Award for Heroism.

We are indeed uniquely privileged to have Ambassador Henry Ensher join the CISA team!

MICHAEL S. BELL, PhD
Chancellor, CISA

Interview with CISA’s new Academic Dean, Dr. Chuck Cushman

Q: You’ve been here about four months, how does CISA compare to working at Georgetown and George Washington University?
Every university is a complicated place, yet NDU is unique due to its history. The fact that the National War College and Eisenhower School (ICAF) existed before the formation of NDU creates an interesting dynamic. At the same time, CISA’s rapid growth is exciting and it has greatly changed the character of NDU.

Q: Many CISA graduates return to teach at their respective war college or staff college. What advice would you give them?
The first thing I’d say is to remember that you’re not alone. All of your former advisors and professors are here to help you think through the tough challenges. Reach out to your mentors at home for their advice too. If you can take the theories you learned at CISA and apply them to your own mission, you’ll do great.

Q: What do you see as the major issue facing U.S. Professional Military Education institutions?
The biggest challenge we face in the U.S. is the federal budget. For institutions like CISA to thrive and succeed, we need to do two things. First, we have to produce success in the classroom. This means ensuring that our teaching reflects the best thinking about the challenges confronting the country today. Second, we need to demonstrate to stakeholders how we are effective in accomplishing their mission—particularly in supporting the warfighter.

To contact Dr. Cushman, email him at: charles.b.cushman.civ@ndu.edu

A Note from the Chancellor

Amb. Henry Ensher
CISA’s Vice Chancellor

Dr. Chuck Cushman,
CISA Academic Dean

Dr. Cushman joins CISA after a decade at George Washington University and Georgetown University.

Click here to view his bio
Armed Groups: The 21st Century Threat by Peter G. Thompson

In this age of asymmetric warfare, battles are fought increasingly against armed groups of terrorists, insurgents, or transnational criminal organizations. Drawing on international case studies and histories, this text is the first to categorize armed groups and analyze their characteristics in a systematic way to provide a thorough overview of all types of armed groups and the defining role that they play in today’s security environment.

The Challenge of Nation-Building: Implementing Effective Innovation in the U.S. Army from World War II to the Iraq War by Rebecca D. Patterson

This text examines the conditions that affect the U.S. Army’s ability to innovate during nation-building operations. Using military effectiveness as the measure of innovative success, the book analyzes several U.S. cases, including post-War World War II Germany, South Korea from 1945-1950, the Vietnam War, and Operation Iraqi Freedom. By doing so, it considers the conditions that enabled innovation in Germany while explaining factors that hindered the U.S. Army’s creativity in other cases.

Nuclear Energy Safety and International Cooperation: Closing the World's Most Dangerous Reactors by Spencer B. Meredith III

This book examines why five countries operating dangerous reactors first signed international agreements to close them within a few years, then instead delayed for almost two decades. The book questions the efficacy of Western governments’ efforts to convince Eastern counterparts of the dangers they faced, and establishes a causal relationship between political stability and compliance behavior.

Iraq after America: Strongmen, Sectarians, Resistance by Joel Rayburn

Iraq after America examines the government and the sectarian and secular factions that emerged in Iraq since the U.S. invasion of 2003, presenting the interrelations among the various elements in the Iraqi political scene. The book traces the origins of key trends in recent Iraqi history to explain the political and social forces that produced them, particularly during the intense period of civil war between 2003 and 2009.
On 3 September 2014, Major General Kenrick Maharaj, who currently serves as the Chief of Defense Staff for Trinidad and Tobago, became the first CISA (SNSEE) graduate to be inducted into the NDU International Hall of Fame.

In his acceptance speech, Maharaj said, “I consider the NDU experience a strategic professional intervention. It constituted a trigger point that carried me from the operational level thinking to the strategic level.”

Maharaj also stressed that CISA taught him the fundamentals of the global security environment and how to find solutions through the sharing of ideas.

In fact, Maharaj was able to see an immediate impact from what he learned at CISA – upon returning home, he was selected to lead the planning and execution of the Regional Security Plan for the 2007 Cricket World Cup in the Caribbean.

In addition to Maharaj, the ceremony also honored José Santiago Valdés Álvarez, the former Chief of General Staff of the Mexican Navy and a graduate from the ICAF Class of 1995.

"When the guy next to me said that I had to go up on stage, I thought that he was kidding!" said Dr. Tom Marks, CISA Professor and Head of the War and Conflict Studies department.

While he was attending SOUTHCOM’s regional threats meeting in Colombia during the July Fuerzas Comando 2014 symposium, Marks was awarded a medal by the Colombian military for his support in the war against the FARC. The medal (“Faith in the Cause”), which is an honor normally reserved for Colombian military officers and NCOs, was a “total shock” to Marks.

"Tom has always been linked as a friend and unofficial advisor since the hard days—even in the field," said GEN (ret.) Carlos Ospina Ovalle, the former Commander of Colombian Armed Forces and now a Distinguished Professor of Practice at CISA.

Several Colombian alumni were in attendance including Admiral Hernando Wills (Class of 2008), who is now Chief of the Navy, and Colonel Rodrigo Contreras (Class of 2011), a SOF Battalion Commander.

Dr. Tom Marks Receives Medal from the Colombian Military for “Faith in the Cause”
Q: What was the “untold battle”?
Ospina: In 1981, Cuba supported an invasion by a Colombian insurgent group named M19. The Cubans trained, armed, and deployed two guerrilla “columns” to Colombia, which added 400 fighters to the existing M19 force of 600-700 in Colombia. Thankfully, Colombian intelligence detected the columns upon their arrival to the western coast. After bitter fighting, we defeated the M19 group and killed or captured 90 percent of enemy forces. Colombia consequently cut off diplomatic relations with Cuba.

Q: You say that this is a historical memoir?
Ospina: Yes, the book largely focuses on the operational and tactical level as well as my experience fighting M19. It begins by describing the political context of the Cold War in Latin America and describes the various insurgent groups operating in Colombia through Soviet sponsorship and Cuban intervention. Many people forget that in 1981, M19 had taken refuge in Ecuador. They were expelled from Ecuador after pressure from Colombia and they responded with a threat to kill the President of Ecuador and other defense leaders. The President was later killed in a mysterious plane crash, and M19 has denied involvement to this day.

Q: Why did you write the book?
Ospina: Many people do not remember this moment in history despite its importance in defining the relations between Cuba and Colombia. Following their defeat, M19 fighters received amnesty and several were elected to political offices including a mayor of Bogota, a senator, and a congressman.
Papers Published by Graduates

“Collaborative Spectrum Management” by SFC Nicholas A. Perez-Santalla (JSOMA 2014)

The electromagnetic spectrum must be properly managed to benefit the military and society as a whole. Antiquated command-and-control governance and utilization of the spectrum must end. Over the past two decades, spectrum managers have begun converting restricted use frequencies from government agency to commercial because of shifting economic, political and strategic considerations. A framework for a more collaborative approach is required to successfully meet the needs of both the federal government within the national security environment and commercial industries.

“Trafficking Nuclear and Radiological Materials and the Risk Analysis of Transnational Criminal Organization Involvement” by Matthew R. Kershner (CTF 2012)

This study analyzes past trends of illicit smuggling of nuclear and radiological material to examine the validity and accuracy of information suggesting whether transnational criminal organizations are or are not connected to the transfer of this special material to terrorist organizations. The author suggests that the U.S. government consider policy changes to shift from a strategy of deterrence to one of dissuasion, attempting to change the risk calculation of those criminal organizations rather than to threaten retribution against these perpetrators.

“Recommitting to a Shared Mission Against Terrorism” by Shaida M. Abdali (CTF 2009)

In this article in Foreign Policy magazine, Ambassador Abdali discusses the necessity that both India and Afghanistan have in combating terrorism. Both countries receive terrorist threats emanating from Pakistan and need to work together to address these issues. Abdali suggests that if the international community does not work together in fighting the Taliban and al Qaeda, more attacks may occur. The Ambassador also recently was presented the High State Medal of Wazir Akbar Khan. He received award for his commitment and dedication to strengthening the Indo-Afghan bilateral relations over the two years of his tenure.
Recently-promoted **Brigadier Ehsan Khan, CTF 2010**, poses in front of a helicopter in the "world’s highest battleground" in northern Pakistan.

During a recent trip to the Republic of Georgia, Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel is welcomed by **David Nardea (right), CTF 2011**. As the Division Chief for Transatlantic Relations of the Georgian Ministry of Defense, Nardea coordinated the visit to enhance defense cooperation between the two countries. You can read more [here](#).

**Colonel Hira Joshi (left), CTF 2007**, escorts USPACOM Commander Admiral Samuel J. Locklear III through the Birendra Peace Operations Training Centre in Kathmandu, Nepal. Until this summer, Joshi served as the Commandant of the Centre, which trains approximately 6,000 Nepali soldiers annually for worldwide deployments under the United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations.

Read more about the Center here: [www.bpotc.mil.np/](http://www.bpotc.mil.np/)

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**We Want YOU on CISA’s Photo Wall!**

The winner of the photo contest will received a copy of GEN (ret.) Stanley McChrystal’s memoir *My Share of the Task*!

We are looking for the best photo of you “in the field” to hang in CISA’s hallways! The photo should be a hi-res image that tells the story of what CISA’s graduates do upon their return home. Please include a short caption to explain the photo as well. Please send any photos to cisa_alumni@ndu.edu

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Have an update for CISA? Send it to the CISA alumni office at cisa_alumni@ndu.edu
Above: BG Dushan Rajaguru (CTF 3-05) assumes command of the Sri Lankan Military Academy in October.

Above: COL Adil Ashraf, CTF 2012 (right), graduates from the Pakistan NDU.

Above: NDU’s Alumni Reunion in Vienna. Many CT Fellows traveled to attend the program and reunited with their classmates and those from the sister schools.

Below: Rhoderick, Karmin, Pong, and Hassan (CTF 2010 graduation) - a Facebook “rewind”!

Left: Jonathan and Suwanchai (2014) link up in Thailand after graduation.
New NDU President, Major General Frederick Padilla, USMC, to Arrive in November

GEN Dempsey, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, has selected MajGen Fred Padilla (USMC) to be the next President of NDU. MajGen Padilla will use the remainder of October to close out his present duties as Director of Operations, Plans, and Policies at Headquarters Marine Corps and will join NDU in mid-November. Below is his official bio:

Major General Padilla was born in April 1959 in Torrejon, Spain, to a career Air Force officer. He is a 1982 graduate of East Carolina University and was commissioned in 1983.

Major General Padilla’s assignments in the operating forces include Platoon Commander, Company Commander and Battalion Adjutant, 3rd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment; Rifle and Weapons Company Commander, 3rd Battalion, 9th Marine Regiment; Inspector-Instructor, Weapons Company, 2nd Battalion, 23rd Marine Regiment; G-3 Operations Officer, 1st Marine Division; Commanding officer, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines and Commanding General, 3d Marine Division.

Other assignments include Command Adjutant, Marine Aircraft Group-42, Detachment A, 4th Marine Aircraft Wing; Commanding Officer, Marine Detachment, USS CANOPUS (AS-34); Commanding Officer, School of Infantry-West; and Chief of Staff, Marine Corps Combat Development Command. His joint assignments include Plans Officer, J3/5 and Secretary of the Joint Staff, Joint Task Force Six; and Branch Chief for the Joint Requirements Oversight Council (J8) on the Joint Staff in the Pentagon. Major General Padilla’s first General Officer assignment was as the Commanding General Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Eastern Recruiting Region, Parris Island, South Carolina.

Major General Padilla was promoted to his present rank in July 2013. He is currently the Director of Operations with Plans, Policies and Operations, Headquarters Marine Corps.

Major General Padilla is a graduate of the Marine Corps Amphibious Warfare School, Air Command and Staff College, Armed Forces Staff College and Naval War College. He has a B.A. in Geography and an M.A. in National Security and Strategic Studies.

His personal decorations include the Legion of Merit (with Combat V and two gold stars), Defense Meritorious Service Medal (with oak leaf), the Meritorious Service Medal, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (with gold star), the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (with gold star), and the Combat Action Ribbon (with gold star).

For more information and alumni links, click here to visit the CISA Alumni webpage.

To request a transcript, fill out a request form on the NDU Registrar’s office page.

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The College of International Security Affairs.
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Have an update for CISA? Send it to the CISA alumni office at cisa_alumni@ndu.edu.