

For Immediate Release  
NDU Release No. 12-014  
July 11, 2012

### **Martin Becomes 14th National Defense University President**

(Washington, DC) Major General Gregg F. Martin, USA, assumed the duties as the 14th President of the National Defense University (NDU) from Ambassador Nancy McEldowney in a Change of Presidency ceremony on the university campus at historic Fort Lesley J. McNair.

General Martin E. Dempsey, USA, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, presided over the [Change of Presidency ceremony](#).

Ambassador Nancy McEldowney, the Senior Vice President of the National Defense University, has served as Interim NDU President since mid-April.

Ambassador McEldowney became the Senior Vice President of the National Defense University on August 1, 2011. Prior to this, she served as Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary in the Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs, with oversight responsibility for 49 countries in Europe and Eurasia, as well as the NATO alliance, the European Union, and the Organization for Security Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).

Previously, she served as the U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Bulgaria, as well as Deputy Chief of Mission in Ankara, Turkey and Baku, Azerbaijan.

She was Director of European Affairs on the National Security Council staff.

Ambassador McEldowney has been granted the State Department's Superior Honor Award on five occasions, and is also a recipient of the Sinclair Linguistic Award. She is a member of the Senior Foreign Service.

Major General Gregg F. Martin previously served as 48th Commandant of the Army War College from 2010-12.

A 1979 West Point graduate, he is a career engineer officer who has served globally in peace and war from Platoon Leader to Commanding General (CG).

As a company grade officer, he served from 1980-85 in the Cold War defense of Europe in the 94th and 79th Engineers, 18th Engineer Brigade. Following company command, he earned master's degrees in Civil Engineering and Technology Policy at MIT from 1986-88.

After serving as a Recruiting and Admissions Officer at West Point from 1988-91, he earned a Masters in National Security Studies at the Naval War College, and also completed his Ph.D. at MIT in Engineering Management and Public Policy with a dissertation on strategic leadership and organizational change (1991-92).

At Fort Lewis, WA, from 1992-95, he served in I Corps and the 864th Engineers and deployed on a short tour with JTF-Bravo in Central America, conducting stability and humanitarian support operations.

Assigned to the Department of Social Sciences at West Point, he taught American Politics, International Relations and National Security Studies from 1995-97.

He commanded the Fightin' 5th Engineer Battalion at Fort Leonard Wood, MO, from 1997-99, where his Sapper-Scouts supported the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment (Brave Rifles!).

After earning a Masters of Strategic Studies at the Army War College, he joined the faculty and taught leadership and management from 2000-02.

He commanded the 130th Engineer Brigade (Sappers In!), in support of V Corps and CJTF-7 from 2002-04, which included deploying the Brigade from Germany to Kuwait, the ground offensive from Kuwait to Baghdad, and leading a 13,000-man joint-multinational brigade during the first year of the Iraq War.

He then served as Deputy G-3/5/7, of 7th Army and US Army Europe from 2004-05.

Next he served as CG of the Northwest Division, Army Corps of Engineers from 2005-07, which included civil works, disaster response, military construction and environmental programs across a 12-state region from Washington to Missouri, as well as service on the Mississippi River Commission as a Presidential appointee.

From 2007-08, he served as Commandant of the US Army Engineer School and Regiment, and then as CG of the US Army Maneuver Support Center of Excellence and Fort Leonard Wood, from 2008-10, educating, training and developing leaders; as well as capability and force development.

He deployed to Kuwait in January 2010 where he served as Deputy CG of 3rd Army and U.S. Army Central in support of operations in Afghanistan and Iraq, and throughout the CENTCOM AOR.

His awards and decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit (3 awards), Bronze Star, Combat Action Badge, Ranger Tab and Airborne Wings. He received the 2003 "Award of Excellence" from Engineering News Record as the Engineering Profession's Person of the Year for his leadership role in Operation Iraqi Freedom, a testament to our amazing Troops.

Major General Martin and his bride Maggie (Ryan) have been blessed with three terrific sons. All are Eagle Scouts. Two are college graduates, Soldiers and combat veterans; and one is an artist, graduate of the National Outdoor Leadership School, and a college student.

National Defense University supports the joint warfighter by providing rigorous Joint Professional Military Education to members of the U.S. Armed Forces and select others in order

to develop leaders who have the ability to operate and creatively think in an unpredictable and complex world.

To achieve this mission, NDU is committed to excellence in joint, interagency, and international security education; in enhancing the capacity of our students for strategic leadership and decision making in national and international security; and to sustaining our nation's leadership position within the global community.

For additional information, please contact: Dave Thomas, Public Affairs Officer, at 202-685-3140 or [ThomasD2@ndu.edu](mailto:ThomasD2@ndu.edu); or visit [www.ndu.edu](http://www.ndu.edu).

-NDU-