

**National Defense University News Release**  
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**National Defense University Inducts Freers and Diawara into International Fellows  
Hall of Fame**

Washington, DC (September 23, 2010) – The National Defense University today recognized the outstanding achievements of Lieutenant General Werner Freers, Chief of Staff of the German Army, and Colonel Mouhamadou Diawara, former Chief of Staff of the Air Force of Senegal, by inducting them into the university's International Fellows Hall of Fame.

Lieutenant General Freers is a 2001 graduate of the university's National War College.

Colonel Diawara is a 2002 graduate of the university's Industrial College of the Armed Forces.

The International Fellows Hall of Fame program provides a prestigious and visible means of honoring National Defense University graduates who rise to senior leadership positions in their country, solely as a result of merit, and who contribute to national, regional and international peace and stability.

Lieutenant General Freers joined the Army Aviation Corps of the Bundeswehr in 1973. He began his career as a helicopter pilot and served in a number of assignments within Germany and internationally including Iraq and Afghanistan. In addition to his Masters degree from the National Defense University, he is a graduate of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, holds a Master of Science in Education from the University of the Bundeswehr, and a Master of Arts in History from the University of Hannover. He is married to Mrs. Petra Freers and they have three children.

Colonel Diawara was commissioned as an officer in 1974 and served in numerous prestigious duties, such as Chief of the Air Force Logistics Division, Deputy Chief of Staff of the Air Force and, finally, Chief of Staff of the Air Force. He is a graduate of the French Air Force Academy School. He has a Bachelor of Science and Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering. He also earned Masters degrees in mathematics and solar energy. He earned a Masters of Science in National Security Resources Strategy from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces in 2002. He is married to Houma Magne Mbaye and they have five children.

Vice Admiral Ann E. Rondeau, USN, President of the National Defense University noted in her remarks that the International Fellows program “extends and deepens the professional qualifications of military leaders of allied and friendly nations.” She stated that “most importantly it establishes enduring friendships, mutual trust and strong confidence between the U.S. and all participating nations.”

The National Defense University is the nation's premier center for joint professional military education. The university is an accredited graduate-level institution that provides an educational and research environment to prepare future leaders of the armed forces and other civilian agencies for high-level policy, command, and staff responsibilities.

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