FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Release No. 12-012 May 30, 2012 202-685-3140 Contact: Dave Thomas Director of Public Affairs National Defense University ThomasD2@ndu.edu

National Defense University Graduation to be Held June 7th

(Washington DC) The National Defense University's Graduation exercises will be held on Thursday, June 7th, at 10:00 a.m., at Fort Lesley J. McNair in southwest Washington, DC. A total of 686 students from the College of International Security Affairs (130), the National War College (221), the Industrial College of the Armed Forces (320), and the Information Resources Management College (iCollege) (15) will participate in the ceremony held in front of historic Roosevelt Hall.

General Martin E. Dempsey, US Army, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, will be the graduation speaker. He is the 18th Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. In this capacity, he serves as the principal military adviser to the President, the Secretary of Defense and the National Security Council. By law, he is the nation's highest-ranking military officer. Prior to becoming Chairman, the general served as the Army's 37th Chief of Staff.

Approximately 50 percent of the graduates are senior officers from the U.S. armed services. Federal government civilians, private sector civilians, and international students from more than 60 countries make up the other 50 percent.

Students in the College of International Security Affairs will receive a Master of Arts degree in Strategic Security Studies with a Concentration in Combating Terrorism. Industrial College of the Armed Forces students completing degree requirements receive a Master of Science degree in National Resource Strategy. National War College students receive a Master of Science degree in National Security Strategy. iCollege graduates receive a Master of Science degree in Government Information Leadership.

The National Defense University is the nation's premier center for joint professional military education. The University is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education as a graduate-level institution that prepares future leaders of the armed forces and other civilian agencies for high-level policy, command, and staff responsibilities.

Media organizations interested in covering the Graduation ceremony should contact Dave Thomas, NDU Director of Public Affairs, at (202) 685-3140 or <u>ThomasD2@ndu.edu</u> to make arrangements to do so.

There will be a delayed broadcast of the ceremony at 1400 at <u>http://www.livestream.com/ndustreampremium</u>. The Twitter hashtag for the event is #ndugrad.

-NDU