



# COUNTERINSURGENCY LEADERSHIP SEMINAR

## INFORMATION PAPER

*The importance of military leadership remains constant in peacetime, war, or a counterinsurgency operation. To develop better leaders for the current counterinsurgency fight, let us look back at two highly successful leaders of the past. T.E. Lawrence, always a controversial figure, lived the life of an insurgent when he was posted as an advisor to the Arab forces fighting the Turkish Army during the Arab revolt of 1916-1918. General Sir Gerald Templer possessed the ideal leadership qualities necessary to defeat an insurgency and thus was able to shift the balance of power in favor of the British during the Malaya Emergency. Although both were great leaders, the two figures could not be more opposite. Lawrence was the eccentric misfit and Templer the essence of a proper British officer. Both, however, possessed a timeless trait our current leaders need in order to win in a counterinsurgency environment--bold leadership.*

- Michael Sullivan, *Military Review*

**Introduction.** Counterinsurgency involves prominent, and in some cases unique, leadership and ethical imperatives. The dynamic and ambiguous environment of modern counterinsurgency places a premium on leadership at every level, from sergeant to general. Combat in counterinsurgency is frequently a small-unit leader's fight; however, commanders' actions at battalion, regiment, brigade and division levels remain critical. Senior leaders set the conditions and the tone for all actions by subordinates. Today's Soldiers, Marines, Sailors, Airmen and Coast Guardsmen are required to be competent in a broad array of warfighting, development, and counterinsurgency tasks. The same is true for civilian interagency partners, coalition partners and the host nation forces we are training, advising, and assisting. Leaders at all levels must adapt rapidly, cognitively and emotionally to perplexing counterinsurgency challenges and master new competencies as well as new contexts. Those in leadership positions must provide the moral compass for their subordinates as they navigate this complex environment. Underscoring these imperatives is the fact that exercising leadership in the midst of ambiguity requires intense, discriminating professional judgment.

**Counterinsurgency (COIN) Leadership Seminar.** On 8 December 2008 the US Marine Corps Center for Irregular Warfare (CIW) will host a Counterinsurgency Leadership Seminar at Little Hall (Base Theater), Marine Corps Base, Quantico, Virginia, featuring Colonel Stephen Davis (USMC), Colonel David Maxwell (USA) and Lieutenant Colonel Paul Yingling. This seminar is cosponsored by CIW, US Joint Forces Command Irregular Warfare Center (IWC), the US Army and Marine Corps Counterinsurgency Center (COIN Center) and *Small Wars Journal* (SWJ).

**Seminar Panel Members.** *Colonel Stephen Davis, USMC.* Col Davis is currently the Deputy Commander of Marine Corps Special Operations Command. Previously, Col Davis commanded Regimental Combat Team 2 in Iraq. *Colonel David Maxwell, USA.* COL Maxwell is currently the G-3 (Operations Officer) of the US Army Special Operations Command. Previously he commanded the Joint Special Operations Task Force-Philippines. *Lieutenant Colonel Paul Yingling, USA.* LTC Yingling is the Commander of 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 21<sup>st</sup> Field Artillery and is currently deployed to Iraq performing detainee operations. He has served two previous tours in Iraq, and has also deployed to Bosnia and Operation Desert Storm.

**Moderator.** *Colonel Daniel Kelly, USMC.* Col Kelly is the Director of the US Marine Corps Center for Irregular Warfare. He has held a wide variety of command and staff billets and participated in numerous operations to include Operations Restore Hope / Continue Hope (Somalia), Operations Allied Force / Joint Guardian, (Kosovo) and Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF I and II).

### Agenda

0815 – 0900 - Check-in / Seating / Meet and Greet  
0900 – 0910 – Welcoming Remarks  
0910 – 0945 – Moderated Panel Presentation  
0945 – 1000 – Break  
1000 – 1130 – Moderated Question and Answer

**RSVP - Not Required**



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## Contact for Additional Information

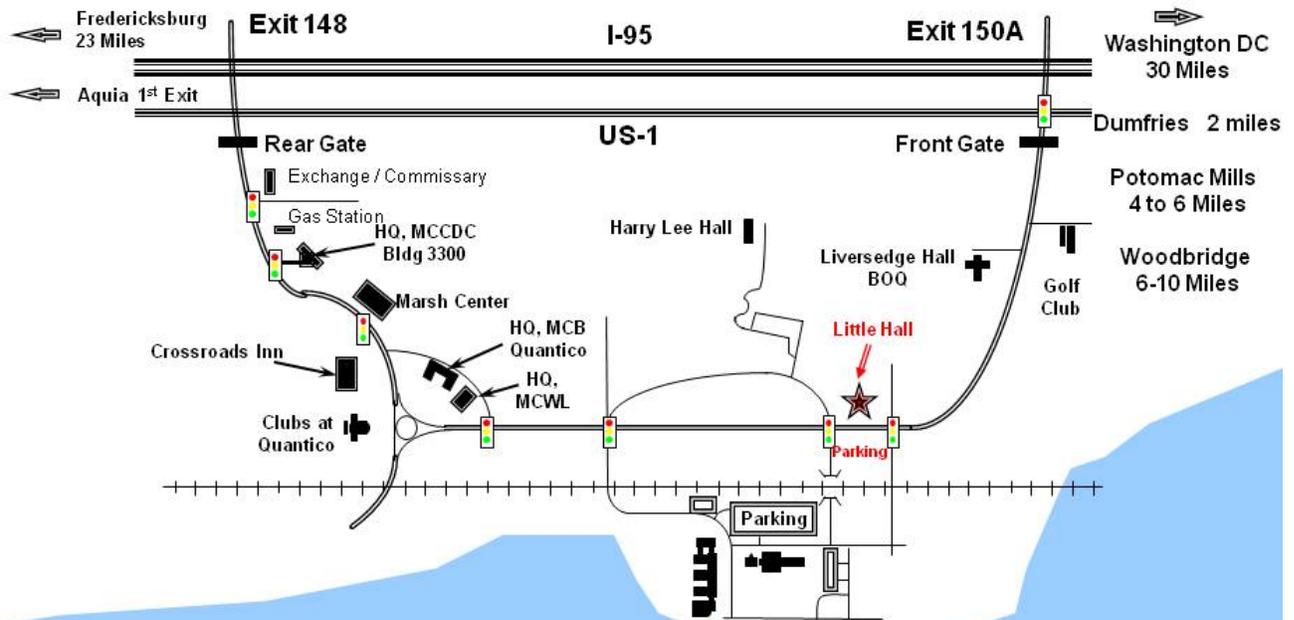
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## Location



## COIN Leadership Seminar

0900 – 1130, Monday, 8 December 2008

Little Hall (Base Theater)