



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**BRIG. GEN. (S) MARK SCHISLER, DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR
THE WAR ON TERROR, JOINT CHIEF OF STAFF:
'THE WAR ON TERRORISM: THE LONG WAR'**

HOUSTON (Sept. 18, 2006) — Brig. Gen. (S)* Mark O. Schissler, deputy director for the War on Terrorism Office Joint Chief of Staff, will address this world-wide threat at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 10, in Jones Hall, 3910 Yoakum, on the University of St. Thomas campus.

“Violent terrorism is not right and it cannot be justified,” Schissler said. “Many voices have been heard, but they are drowned out by the violence. Our challenge in 2006 is to stand up and be heard. We stand for life and for hope.”

Schissler, a University of St. Thomas alumnus, will speak on “The War on Terrorism: The Long War,” sponsored by the UST Center for International Studies. (He will also make a quick trip to Houston on Sept. 24 to represent the U.S. Air Force during the Texans/Redskins pre-game activities.)

Brig. Gen. Mark O. Schissler presently serves as the deputy director for the War on Terrorism in the Joint Staff, Strategic Plans and Policy Directorate (J-5) in Washington, D.C. He is responsible for all aspects of developing, coordinating, refining, and assessing the U.S. military and national strategies related to the global war on terrorism. He routinely advises the chairman and represents the Joint Staff and the U.S. military at government interagency meetings on a broad scope of issues. Prior to his assignment to the Joint Staff, he served as commander, 374th Airlift Wing at Yokota Air Base, Japan.

*(S) indicates that Schissler has been selected for promotion but has not yet been officially “pinned.” This formality will occur on Sept. 22.

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Schissler has served in a variety of operational and staff assignments around the world. He has flown more than 3,500 hours in the C-130 Hercules aircraft, including more than 150 combat and combat support hours and more than 500 hours in combat theater operations. He's commanded at the squadron, group and wing levels, including two expeditionary wing command tours. Schissler also has extensive staff experience on the Air Staff and Joint Staff, including a tour as the assistant executive officer to the Chief of Staff, U.S. Air Force.

Schissler was born in Walnut Creek, Calif. and graduated cum laude from the University of St. Thomas in Houston. He completed officer training school in 1981 and began a military career that has taken him to various locations in the United States, Germany, Japan and the Middle East.

Schissler earned a B.A. at the University of St. Thomas (1977), an M.A. in human resource development from Webster University, an M.A. in national security and strategic Studies from the Naval War College, and an M.A. in pastoral studies (1998) from the University of St. Thomas. He was selected as a 1998 National Security Fellow at John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University.

Schissler is married to Marcia Deacon Schissler; they have two children, Melissa and Mark, Jr. They won the prestigious 2005 General & Mrs. Jerome F. O'Malley award, recognizing them for exceptional team leadership while in wing command.

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