

INTRODUCTION

The readings included in this guide are designed to prepare cadets to make the most of their Washington experience. Additionally, they will provide a common intellectual framework, as Civic Leadership Academy cadets come from different educational levels. The readings illustrate civic virtue by profiling great moments in our nation's history. Most selections go beyond mere civic mechanics – the “how” part of government. Instead, the readings have been carefully chosen to illustrate timeless ideals about leadership in a democratic society.

PROCEDURE

1. Read the introduction and discussion questions that are found in this guide.
2. Read the assigned texts, keeping the discussion questions in mind.
3. After reading the text, complete the discussion questions. Your answers need not be long; one or two paragraphs should suffice (approximately 75-125 words per question).

Cadets are expected to read the articles by the deadline listed below, and answer in writing the related discussion questions, as shown above. To access the readings, see capmembers.com/civics. Email completed assignments to Lt Col Brockman at brockmanzoo47@hotmail.com. If an extension is needed, contact Lt Col Brockman before the deadline.

Assignment 5. Due 17 February, 2010

“Albright on Communication, Information, & Negotiation”

Review the Federal Budget Proposal and the Primer on Federal Budget

PL-20 CONVEYING CAP'S MESSAGE

“ALBRIGHT ON COMMUNICATION, INFORMATION, & NEGOTIATION”

By Abbie Lundberg and Meridith Levinson, from CIO.com, February 2005

During this short article, Madeline Albright reflects on the leadership challenges she faced as Secretary of State. She discusses the communication process and the importance of managing information so that it gets into the hands of people who make decisions.

1. What did Secretary Albright mean when she said, “Information is just a product, and the policy maker is a consumer”?
2. What are some of Albright's strategies for presenting ideas to people who may be hesitant about agreeing with them? Do you agree with her approach?