2006 Army Deployment Excellence Award Program Winners

By Mr. Charles K. Ledebuhr

The 2006 competitive year proved to be another success for the Deployment Excellence Award (DEA) Program, with great units and installations setting the pace in deployment operations. The Army's operational tempo, coupled with increased awareness of the DEA Program, combined to result in the largest level of participation ever. The program experienced significant gains, particularly in the operational, supporting, and installation categories.

This year's award ceremony was held on 18 May 2006 at the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center in Alexandria, Virginia. Army Deputy Chief of Staff, G-4 (Logistics), Lieutenant General Ann E. Dunwoody, presented the DEA awards to the honored units. The Army Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3 (Operations and Plans), Major General Michael W. Symanski, and the Commanding General of the U.S. Army Transportation Center and Fort Eustis, Virginia, Brigadier General Mark E. Scheid, assisted with the award presentations. An awards banquet capped the day of recognition. General Benjamin S. Griffin, Commanding General of the U.S. Army Materiel Command, provided remarks at the banquet and challenged units and installations to maintain their high deployment standards. Prior to the ceremony and banquet, unit representatives had the opportunity to tour the Pentagon, the Capitol, and the National Mall.

In the DEA Program, Army units competed by component (Active Army, Reserve, and National Guard) in large-unit (battalion and above); small-unit (company and below); supporting-unit; all-Army installation; and all-Army, operational-deployment categories. The operational-deployment category was open to Army units that deployed on operational missions, including the Global War on Terrorism and peacekeeping operations (in the large-unit and small-unit categories). The Army's up-tempo and strong major command (MACOM) involvement brought a number of new units and installations into the competition.

The winner in the installation category for the second year running was Fort Hood, Texas. Its outstanding support to nine overlapping deployments, coupled with the challenges of dealing with Hurricanes Rita and Katrina, resulted in an extremely strong showing. Congratulations to the terrific installation deployment team serving Fort Hood!

In a very close competition, a newcomer, Fort Bragg, North Carolina, was the runner-up in the installation category. The Fort Bragg installation team received strong endorsements from its diverse customer base and demonstrated its outstanding capabilities to support scheduled and no-notice deployments.

The Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command swept the Active Army, supporting-unit category. The 832d Transportation Battalion from the Port of Jacksonville, Florida, won the category; and the 838th Transportation Battalion from the Port of Rotterdam, Netherlands, came in a close second.

The Eighth U.S. Army, Korea, a winner last year in the operational-deployment category, continued to excel in 2006. The 305th Quartermaster Company from Yongsan won the Active Army, small-unit category; and the 728th Military Police Battalion from Daegu was the runner-up in the Active Army, large-unit category.

The U.S. Army Network Enterprise Technology Command was a first-time winner with the 40th Signal Battalion from Fort Huachuca, Arizona, winning the Active Army, large-unit category.

The Army Reserve had a number of outstanding entries, including the winner of the Reserve, supporting-unit category—Headquarters and Headquarters Command (HHC), U.S. Army Civil Affairs and Psychological Operations Command, Fort Bragg. The command formed movement support teams with internal assets and supported a complex operation involving 19 different special operations units, 1,200 Soldiers, and 160 short tons of cargo. The teams ensured that deploying Army Special Operations Forces met deployment timelines, prepared timely and accurate movement data, and properly used transportation assets.

2006 DEA Award Recipients	
Active Army, large-unit	40th Signal Battalion, Fort Huachuca, Arizona Runner-up: 728th Military Police Battalion, Daegu, Korea
Active Army, small-unit	305th Quartermaster Company, Yongsan, Korea Runner-up: HHC, 5th Special Forces Group, Fort Campbell, Kentucky
Active Army, supporting-unit	832d Transportation Battalion, Jacksonville, Florida Runner-up: 838th Transportation Battalion, Rotterdam, Netherlands
Reserve, large-unit	483d Transportation Battalion, Vallejo, California Runner-up: 1190th Deployment Support Brigade, Baton Rouge, Louisiana
Reserve, small-unit	828th Quartermaster Company, Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania Runner-up: 401st Transportation Company, Battle Creek, Michigan
Reserve, supporting-unit	HHC, U.S. Army Civil Affairs and Psychological Operations Command, Fort Bragg, North Carolina Runner-up: 643d Area Support Group, Fort Polk, Louisiana
National Guard, large-unit	1st Battalion, 151st Infantry Regiment, Indianapolis, Indiana Runner-up: 224th Engineer Battalion, Fairfield, Iowa
National Guard, small-unit	D Company, 113th Aviation Regiment, Reno, Nevada Runner-up: 41st Adjutant General Company, Salem, Oregon
National Guard, supporting-unit	Joint Force Headquarters, Florida National Guard, St. Augustine, Florida Runner-up: Camp Atterbury, Edinburgh, Indiana
All-Army installation	Fort Hood, Texas Runner-up: Fort Bragg, North Carolina
All-Army, operational-deployment, large-unit	426th Brigade Support Battalion, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), Fort Campbell, Kentucky
All-Army, operational-deployment, small-unit	B Company, 1-35 Armor Battalion, 1st Armored Division, Baumholder, Germany

The National Guard also had some standout units, including the Florida Joint Force Headquarters, the winner of the National Guard, supporting-unit category. The headquarters supported the deployment of 29 units and 1,800 Soldiers in the Global War on Terrorism, while simultaneously conducting military support to civil authorities during four major hurricane recovery operations.

For information on competing in the 2007 DEA Program, contact your MACOM DEA Program point of contact (listed on page 46) or the DEA Program Manager, Mr. Henry Johnson. Program guidance and evaluation criteria are also available on the DEA Web site *<http://www.deploy.eustis.army.mil/Default.html>*.

Mr. Ledebuhr is Chief of Operations at the Deployment Process Modernization Office.

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