



## **Chemical Corps Dedicates First Lieutenant Terry Training Facility**

*By Mr. Christian DeLuca*

On 26 June 2007, the U.S. Army Chemical School showcased its state-of-the-art training facility to fellow Corps members, friends, and family with a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the First Lieutenant Terry Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN) Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) Response Training Facility. The ceremony celebrated the completion of the facility and honored its namesake with speeches, presentations, and a tour of the main building. The Terry Facility occupies more than 40 acres at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, and will be used by Army National Guard civil support teams, Army Chemical units with homeland security missions, Department of Defense emergency response teams, and other Dragon Soldiers to train personnel on CBRN response readiness.

Brigadier General Thomas Spoehr, Chief of Chemical and Commandant of the U.S. Army Chemical School, said that the new \$15 million facility will increase the Nation's readiness to defend itself from CBRN accidents and attacks. "On June 28, 2005, we celebrated the groundbreaking of this facility. Today, two years later, we're here to cut the ribbon. . . . [This facility is an indication] of the seriousness the United States of America places on protecting its citizens from a CBRN attack," he said.

From the initial design through the various stages of design reviews, the completed facility depicts a CBRN WMD Response Training Facility that will meet the emerging needs of a Nation at war and help combat the threat of terrorist attacks. The Terry Facility contains—

- A main building with classrooms, office space, training bays, a sensor and detector lab, and five training areas.
- An urban training area with four buildings connected by tunnels. This area will be used for group and individual training on CBRN scenarios.
- An intermodal container training area with a collection of International Maritime Organization intermodal shipping containers. This area will be used for individual and group training on site characterization and search, survey, and sampling procedures to identify possible harmful substances entering the United States on cargo ships.

- A vehicular training area with a concrete road intersection. This area will be used to train CBRN responders on controlling tanker truck spills.
- A railcar training area with 200 feet of rail and four types of railcars. This area will be used to conduct training on CBRN attack and spill scenarios.
- A cave complex that will be used for CBRN identification and response training.

During the ceremony, Brigadier General Walter Chahanovich, Deputy Commanding General for Mobilization and Training, U.S. Army Reserve, said that the new facility and the world-class training it will provide should bestow a sense of pride in the people who were involved in making it a reality. "This is a great day for [Brigadier] General Spoehr, the Army, the Army Reserve, and the Nation," he said.

The Terry Facility was named after First Lieutenant Joseph Terry, a World War II veteran and Distinguished Service Cross recipient. First Lieutenant Terry, who passed away in 1999, received the award for heroic actions that saved the lives of six Soldiers during a prolonged hostile artillery barrage. Terry was one of only nine Chemical Corps Soldiers to receive the Distinguished Service Cross during World War II. A plaque was dedicated in his honor during the ceremony, and a duplicate of the plaque was presented to his family. 🎉🎉

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*Mr. DeLuca is a reporter for the Fort Leonard Wood Guidon.*



**Ribbon-cutting ceremony**