

Michael J. Lally, United States Army. The Olympic Lodge, Naval Base Kitsap, Bremerton provided the setting for the ceremony rich in Naval traditions.

Upon conclusion of the General's remarks, CDR Mato read his orders which concluded with, "When directed by reporting senior, detach from Defense Distribution Depot Puget Sound Washington and transfer to the retired list." CDR Bailey continued by reading his assumption orders and then the official party moved into formation and passed the organization's colors, whereby, CDR Bailey received command of DDPW.

Bailey addressed the audience and members of his new organization, "I am looking forward to taking care of our customers and supporting the members of the DDPW team, as well as, to the future of DDPW and my time at the helm of this expanding and evolving organization. Bailey continued, "No doubt we will face obstacles and challenges as we grow into our newly-assigned role, but I will rely on the



*BG Lally charges CDR Bailey with command of DDPW.*

immortal words of Rear Admiral David Glasgow Farragut as my guide, 'Damn the torpedoes! Full speed ahead!'"

As the change of command ceremony commenced, the retirement ceremony began as BG Lally returned to the podium and highlighted Mato's 22-year Naval career to include winning several awards, "Nick served as the Supply Officer on board the USS DENVER, where his Supply Department was awarded the Supply Blue E Award for exceptional performance."

Upon conclusion of his remarks, BG Lally presented CDR Mato with the Legion of Merit Award for service to his country. Lally also presented CDR Mato and his family members with Certificates of Appreciation for their support and dedication to Mato and his Naval career. Mato then received his Certificate of Retirement.

Susan Earle, DDPW Deputy Commander, presented on behalf of the men and women of DDPW the colors of our Nation, which were flown over the DDC on Memorial Day, in a Shadow Box displaying Mato's many medals, bringing CDR Nicholas K. K. Mato's Naval career to a close.

In his final speech, Mato paid tribute to his parents for his successes in life. "Mom and Pop—they provided me with a solid foundation to build my life on. They modeled what it meant to do the right thing. They gave me love when I didn't deserve it and shared with me wisdom when I did not want to hear it." Mato continued, "They disciplined me when I definitely did not want any part of that. Thank you Mom, and if Pop were here today, I'd thank him in person."

Mato also thanked the men and women of DDPW, "I am amazed that each day I was given the opportunity to be the commander of an organization filled with highly professional and truly wonderful people. Thank you for your effort and dedication in support of America's Warfighters."



*A final salute to a 22-year Naval career.*

## Qua Welcomed Aboard to DDNV, Howard takes position at NAVAIR

*By Polly Charbonneau, DDC Command Affairs*

Under a blue Norfolk sky with breezes blowing from the Chesapeake Bay, CAPT John Qua, SC, USN, assumed command of Defense Distribution Depot Norfolk, VA (DDNV). CAPT Robert L. Howard relinquished command of DDNV to CAPT Qua in a ceremony officiated by BG Mike Lally, USA, Commander, Defense Distribution Center (DDC) on July 19, 2005.

Several members of CAPT Howard's family attended and were recognized by BG Lally. "I have to tell you that Bob comes from a family that is committed to service. Bob's mother Arlene is a World War II Navy Veteran; his sister Geri-Ann, brother Timothy, and brother-in-law David, all served and retired from the Air Force. His brother Patrick is on the New York City Police force and his nephew Christopher is with the New York City Fire Department. His daughter Pamela is in the Secret Service and her husband Richard is on the Federal Reserve Board police force.

"One member of the Howard family whose service is missed, his brother George," BG Lally said. "He was serving his country as a New York City Fire Fighter on 9-11 and made the ultimate sacrifice for us.

"I want to thank the entire Howard Family for your service to our country," BG Lally said.

For his service at DDNV, CAPT Howard was awarded the Defense Superior Service Medal by Secretary of Defense, Donald Rumsfeld.

"This award is the result of all the hard work the DDNV gang has accomplished during these last two years," CAPT Howard said. "Without their efforts, this would not have been possible. Thank you, guys.

“I would now like to address the DDNV workforce,” CAPT Howard said, “for the last time, in the same traditional manner as I did at the All Hands, truck stops, and Captain’s Calls, ‘Hey, how ya doin’? Can you hear me in the back row? Got a couple of things we need to discuss:

“I think you are true professionals and when it comes to your accomplishments you are a proud group, but you simply move on to the next task and take it on” CAPT Howard said. “When I look at the roster of names I see things such as Dedicated, Industrious, Caring, Responsive, Talented, Skillful, and Patriotic.

“As I leave, I ask of you a few things: Do not quit. Challenge the hurdles. Maintain your desire. Energize your drive. Do your best to take care of the kids who are flying airplanes off of that hot-steel deck in 145 degree heat or wearing that helmet or flak vest as they engage the enemy on his soil.



*BG Lally pins on CAPT Howard's Defense Superior Service Medal.*

They deserve only the best from you and I trust you will provide no less.”

With that, the DDNV workforce in attendance gave CAPT Howard a standing ovation.

After symbolically relinquishing command by passing the DDC flag to BG Lally, CAPT Howard announced, “I stand relieved.”

CAPT Qua accepted the flag from BG Lally and stated, “Sir, I assume the duties and responsibilities of Commander, Defense Distribution Depot Norfolk, Virginia.”

Judy Qua, CAPT Qua’s wife, then pinned the Command Ashore Insignia to CAPT Qua’s uniform.

“Our noble mission is to reduce the risk for our Sailors and Soldiers at the pointy end of the sword all over the world,” CAPT Qua said. “We reduce their risk by



*CAPT Howard passes the DDC flag to BG Lally, symbolically relinquishing command of DDNV.*

expeditiously providing them the materials necessary to keep vital equipment up and running. The parts we deliver keep aircraft flying, ships steaming, and vehicles running safely, allowing our Sailors and Soldiers to complete their missions.”

“John comes to DDNV after having served as Chief, Acquisition Division at the Defense Logistics Agency Headquarters,” BG Lally said. Where he provided policy direction and oversight and ensured the integrity of DLA procurement systems and operations for Defense Supply Centers, Defense National Stockpile, Defense Reutilization and Marketing Service, and DDC.



*Judy Qua pins on CAPT Qua's Command Ashore pin.*

## Mother Nature Doesn't Stop DDYJ's Change of Command

*By Stacy L. Umstead, DDC Command Affairs Office*

As United States Navy Supply Corps CDR F. Kent Vredenburgh was relinquishing command of the Defense Distribution Depot Yokosuka, Japan (DDYJ), an uninvited guest, typhoon “Banyan,” was racing toward the Fleet Activities at Yokosuka.

The change of command between CDR Vredenburgh and CDR Will A. Clarke, SC, USN, took place on Tuesday, July 26, 2005, at the Fleet Activities Theater on the Naval Base at Yokosuka. Phyllis C. Campbell, SES, Deputy Commander, Defense Distribution Center (DDC), presided over the ceremony.

Addressing the more than 100 attendees who braved the potential



*U.S. Naval Hospital, Yokosuka, Japan Color Guard presents the National and Japanese Flags at the DDYJ Change of Command Ceremony.*

bad weather to attend the ceremony, Campbell praised CDR Vredenburgh and his DDYJ workforce for the work they accomplished during his two-year tenure, “Kent established a powerhouse inventory management team consisting of the Accountable Officer and Division Chiefs. Process improvements, more effective cross-division communication and cooperation and increased employee involvement and empowerment were the cornerstones of this effort. This resulted in significant improvements in inventory integrity... in a program which was already one of DDC’s best!”

Campbell continued, “DDYJ exceeded goal in all four categories of the semi-annual statistical sample inventory, in all four inventories conducted during his tenure.”