

# DDC Commander's Column

By BG Lynn Collyar, United States Army

As you read this, I will be in Southwest Asia, or SWA, leading a team evaluating mapping and the strategic and operational distribution process to determine if it can be streamlined. This continuous process improvement is vital to our Warfighters in theater.

To accomplish this mission, DDC is leading a team that includes DLA Headquarters, the U.S. Transportation Command, the Joint Staff, the Army Staff, and the Army Materiel Command.

Our goal is to optimize theater distribution in the Central Command Area of Responsibility. We will conduct an analysis of major theater receipt, storage, and distribution nodes and processes in the CENTCOMAOR. We want to develop an implementation plan to consolidate and optimize operations, reduce the logistics footprint and cost, increase reliability, and improve the supply chain and customer support.

As we gather information, the team will work with CENTCOM to consolidate cargo streams from multiple sources and reduce transportations assets required to deliver the cargo. Ultimately, this will reduce handling and cost. We all want to deliver the right cargo to the right customer as quickly as possible.

Retrograde continues to be a challenge in the AOR. We need to improve the flow and identification of retrograde so that reusable materiel efficiently re-enters our wholesale system and we dispose of unusable materiel appropriately.

While we face a continually changing world, DDC has had a change of its own. All of you are aware that Phyllis C. Campbell, SES, retired after forty years of dedicated government service. She will be missed.

We are fortunate to have Twila Gonzales, SES, assume the role of Deputy Commander. Twila most recently served as DDC's Director of Distribution Re-engineering, overseeing one of our biggest challenges – the transitions required across DDC's storage and distribution network as a result of the

Base Realignment and Closure Act of 2005.

Another big challenge for DDC is the Defense Transportation Coordination Initiative. DDC continues to work with TRANSCOM as they aggressively pursue DTCI implementation. Centralizing management of DOD freight movements within the U.S. makes good business sense – current industry best business practices show this is achieved through partnership with a world-class services provider.

DTCI implementation will be conducted in three phases with the first phase being 18 of our distribution centers. The DTCI Program Management Office is working closely with DDC and the Services to conduct effective transition planning. The DTCI contract award is expected this summer.

At DLA Headquarters, Army Lt. Gen. Robert Dail, Director, is leaning forward to extend the enterprise. DLA and DDC are getting closer to the customer, continuously working to build trust, improve planning, and leverage our existing infrastructure. Using BRAC, we will capitalize on opportunities to improve Warfighter readiness at less total cost to DOD.

As leaders in DOD's logistics transformation, DLA and DDC want to deliver supply chain excellence everyday – forging end-to-end logistics support solutions that support the Warfighter by striking a balance between effectiveness, reliability, speed, visibility and cost.

The work you do each day is critical to that excellence. You are doing great things! But I challenge you to lean forward to explore new opportunities for excellence in Warfighter support. With 16 distribution center changes of command this summer, I look forward to meeting you and seeing your accomplishments first hand.

As always, I want to stress the importance of safety and healthy lifestyles. Safety is everyone's business. DDC cannot be its best without you, so we need you to think about health and safety every day.

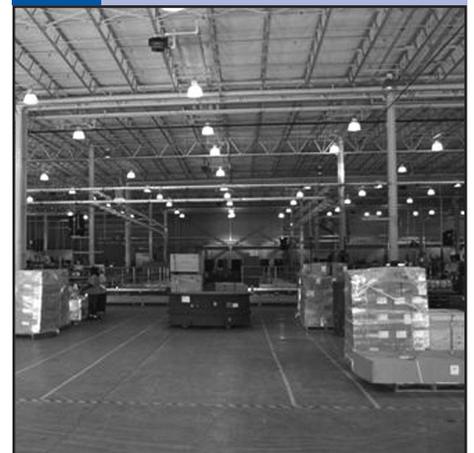
Keep up the good work!



16 Campbell Retires



22 Log Ops Support in Kuwait



27 Lean at DDRT