

Col Sarah Smith assumes command of DDHU

Col Raymond Corcoran bids farewell after one-year tour

By Stacy L. Umstead, DDC Command Affairs Office

Col Raymond Corcoran, USAF, relinquished command of Defense Distribution Depot Hill, Utah (DDHU), to Col Sarah Smith, USAF, June 26, 2006, in an official ceremony held at DDHU's Deployable Medical (DEPMED) Operations. Defense Distribution Center (DDC) Commander BG Michael J. Lally, USA, presided.

With one of DDHU's DEPMED containers serving as the stage, BG Lally welcomed attendees to the ceremony and highlighted DDHU's accomplishments during Col Corcoran's tour as commander. "Ray and the DDHU team responded well to challenges, partnering with United States Army Medical Maintenance Agency (USAMMA) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to provide a custom field hospital capable of servicing 3,000 to 5,000 injured during stateside disasters," said BG Lally.

"Another example of responsive support was when Team DDHU assembled 5,000 combat lifesaver kits in less than five days for immediate issue in Iraq – 3,000 in support of the tsunami relief; and 2,000 kits were prepared in just three days in support of Hurricane Katrina relief efforts," BG Lally continued.

Col Corcoran thanked the DDHU workforce and logistics partners EG&G for their support and gave a special thank you to his deputy commander, Gary Boerens, for his knowledge and expertise.



Col Sarah Smith, USAF.

Col Corcoran's next assignment will be as Commander of the 319th Maintenance Group, Grand Forks Air Force Base, N.D.

With more than 27 years of military experience, Col Smith comes to DDHU after having served as the Deputy to the Assistant

Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (ADUSD) for Materiel Readiness and Maintenance Policy. Col Smith served as the principal advisor to the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and

Logistics on all aviation maintenance issues and was the principal military advisor to ADUSD. She was responsible for the development and the implementation of Department of Defense (DOD) policy on weapons systems and equipment issues. Col Smith was the lead for Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) projects Condition Based Maintenance Plus and the DOD Continuous Process Improvement Transformation Guidebook and OSD Policy.

Col Smith thanked everyone for her welcoming to Hill, Utah, and reflected on her previous assignment. "When I was at OSD, I would hear about the F-16s performing their mission and I would comment to my colleagues, 'My depot supports those F-16s.' "

Col Smith continued by addressing DDHU's important mission of providing lifesaver kits to the Warfighter. "You support those wounded Soldiers, Sailors, Airman and Marines by providing them that 'Golden Hour of Life' that is so critical. I am honored to be your Commander."