

Collyar assumes command of DDC **Lally heads to 3rd CSC**

By Polly Charbonneau, DDC Command Affairs

Under a clear blue August sky, BG Michael J. Lally, USA, relinquished command of the Defense Distribution Center (DDC), New Cumberland, Pa., to COL Lynn A. Collyar, USA, Aug. 22, in a ceremony officiated by Maj Gen Loren M. Reno, USAF, Vice Director, Defense Logistics Agency (DLA).

“I am happy to pay tribute to Mike Lally,” Maj Gen Reno said, “and the many accomplishments of DDC’s outstanding team of professionals who performed exceptionally under difficult circumstances when the results could not have mattered more.

“While continuing to support Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom, DDC processed more than 50 million lines in record time – your best performance ever! You did this while improving your cultural index and while you responded to 65,000 requests for support after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita,” Maj Gen Reno said. “You also developed a deployable distribution center capability that is ready to deploy inside the continental U.S. within 72 hours.”

“During the last two years, you also led groundbreaking initiatives with customers by establishing new overseas distribution centers in Guam, Korea, and Kuwait,” Maj Gen Reno said. “These new overseas sites have in just two years achieved cost avoidances expected over five years.

“I am proud of your accomplishments and I applaud all of you,” said Maj Gen Reno.



Maj Gen Loren Reno, USAF (left), officiated at the DDC change of command ceremony Aug. 22 when COL Lynn Collyar, USA (center) assumed command from BG Mike Lally, USA.



COL Collyar presents his remarks to the audience at the ceremony.

When it came time to present BG Lally with an award, Maj Gen Reno stepped aside. VADM Keith Lippert, SC, USN, former Director DLA, presented BG Lally with the Defense Superior Service Medal, saying, “The Warfighter and taxpayer got a better deal out of DDC with Mike Lally in charge.”

BG Lally was presented the award for unsurpassed and exceptionally dedicated service as Commander, Defense Distribution Center from August 2004 to August 2006. During this period, BG Lally’s leadership resulted in significant contributions to the national security and readiness of our armed forces. DDC provided unprecedented timely and quality distribution support to the Global War on Terror and our own citizens in domestic disaster relief efforts, while leveraging the best technology to improve distribution.

“The centerpiece of DDC is the workforce – the hardworking civilian, military, government and foreign national employees around the world,” BG Lally said. “For years to come I will brag about your dedication, professionalism, and most of all, your ability to get the job done.”

“I challenge you to keep it up and the way ahead is through continuous process improvement,” BG Lally said.

BG Lally’s next assignment is as Commanding General, 3rd Corps Support Command, Weisbaden, Germany.

“COL Lynn Collyar is the right choice for this job,” Maj Gen Reno said. “I know he will continue the outstanding leadership of Mike Lally.

His experience in all areas of Logistics will serve him well as he leads DDC.

“DDC is a critical part of the logistics chain, Maj Gen Reno said, “and Lynn has an opportunity to make a difference here.”

“It is an honor and a pleasure for me to be given the opportunity to be a part of this great command,” COL Collyar said. “The reputation DLA and DDC have established is superb.

“Where I come from, DDC’s support has been critical in the Army’s successful execution of the Global War on Terrorism. I am personally grateful for the opportunity to continue to serve and have an impact on our Soldiers, Marines, Sailors, and Airmen deployed around the world, often in harms way,” COL Collyar said. “Thank you. All the way!”

COL Collyar’s previous assignment was as the Chief, Focused Logistics Division, Force Development, Headquarters Department of the Army, G-8. His previous key assignments include Deputy Commander, 82nd Airborne Division Support and Commander 189th Corps Support Battalion, 1st Corps Support Command, Fort Bragg, North Carolina. He served in Nicaragua as Joint Logistics Task Force Commander in Operation Strong Support and as Commander, 29th Support Group, 21st Theater Support Command, Germany.



VADM Keith Lippert, SC, USN, and BG Lally pause after the DDC ceremony.