

## DDYJ Master Chief awarded Bronze Star

By Kevin McNulty, DDYJ Public Affairs

Master Chief Storekeeper Danny Schneider was awarded the nation's fourth highest military award Nov. 22 for "exceptionally meritorious service" during a six-month tour supporting the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force in Iraq.

Master Chief Schneider, the senior enlisted advisor at the Defense Distribution Depot Yokosuka, Japan (DDYJ), was presented with the Bronze Star Medal by DDYJ Commanding Officer CDR Will A. Clarke, SC, USN, during a command-wide awards ceremony.

Charged with keeping critical repair parts and supplies flowing to the Marines in the Sunni Triangle, Master Chief Schneider's "logistics expertise was essential to the successful combat operations of the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force and resulted in a 10 percent increase and sustainment of their unit readiness," according to the citation signed by MG Paul E. Mock, USA, Commander of the Army's 377 Theater Support Command (TSC) Forward.

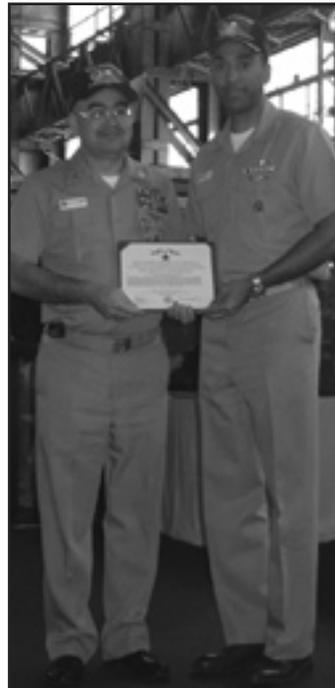
The forward TSC, based at a camp near Fallujah, was supporting the Marines there. Master Chief Schneider was embedded in their camp as a DLA Customer Service Representative, tracking and expediting repair parts, fuel, and supplies needed to keep the force fighting.

"I never thought I'd be in

the Navy and on the ground in Iraq," said Master Chief Schneider. "It was an eye-opener. I got there, and a week later I was on a convoy mission to Ramadi!"

Keeping the trucks and tanks operational was a real challenge. Master Chief Schneider said that the harsh conditions and the weight of extra armor, added for protection against roadside bombs, often caused the vehicles to break down. "It was very satisfying when I could shake loose a part that got a tank back up and running," he said.

Master Chief Schneider volunteered for the duty despite nearing the end of his 30-year career. "Before I left, I didn't have any white in my mustache," he laughed, noting it is now almost completely gray.



Master Chief Storekeeper Danny Schneider (left) receives the award from DDYJ Commanding Officer CDR Will A. Clarke, SC, USN.

The Bronze Star Medal was created in 1944 to honor combat valor or exceptionally meritorious service in support of operations against the enemy. During his career, Master Chief Schneider has also earned three Navy Commendation Medals, four Navy Achievement Medals, and participated in Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

Master Chief Schneider is especially proud of his Iraqi campaign ribbon. "It shows I was there with them," he said. "I wasn't in the foxholes, but I was on the convoys. It was an experience I'll never forget."

Master Chief Schneider is scheduled to retire in August 2006 after more than 31 years of service.

## Safety model and model citizen

By Lori Spiegel, DDC Command Affairs

During a recent safety meeting, Defense Distribution Center Richmond, Va. (DDRV), safety monitors were asked to select an employee from their work area to be recognized for supporting the DDRV Safety Program.

Criteria for selection of the of the DDRV Safety Employee of the Year Award included consistent demonstration of safe work practices, contributions to the safety of their coworkers, and making safety recommendations or improvements to their work areas.

As the safety monitors discussed nominees, one name kept coming to the forefront as an individual who continuously



DDRV Safety Monitors recognized Glenn Jones, as a safety role model. Jones is currently a packer in Less-Than-Truckload Packing. For his exemplary safety record, Jones was awarded DDRV's Safety Employee of the Year in a recent Town Hall.

focused on safety: Glenn Jones.

Jones has been a federal employee for 29 years and has worked in several areas of DDRV including DDRV's hazardous material warehouses. He is currently a packer in Less-Than-Truckload Packing.

Safety Specialist Gary Ringstaff was among those in the meeting who said that Jones always keeps his area, as well as other areas, clean. The safety monitors agreed that Jones demonstrates his safety awareness every day and that he does not compromise safety or quality.

Jones is always willing to help others with lifting when moving stock—often saying "Hey, don't lift that by yourself, let me help you," and is a good example of getting the job done safely and on time.

"He is a role model for the other employees and always lends a helping hand to co-workers when processing a heavy load," said DDRV Support Service Specialist and alternate Security and Safety Specialist Penny Holcomb.

Jones was presented a \$75 WaWa Gift Certificate for being DDRV's Safety Employee of the Year at a recent DDRV Town Hall. When presented with the gift certificate, Jones