

Pennsylvania's Adjutant General and DDSP's 92R Parachute Riggers Participate in Airborne Operations

By Stacy L. Umstead, DDC Command Affairs

On May 17, 2002, Major General William B. Lynch, Pennsylvania's Adjutant General and Commander of the Pennsylvania National Guard, along with the DDSP 92R Parachute Riggers, performed Airborne Operations at Defense Distribution Depot Susquehanna, Pennsylvania (DDSP).

The "Jump," which had been rescheduled numerous times due to inclement weather, went off without a hitch. A total of 18 jumpers from both DDSP and the Pennsylvania National Guard performed routine tandem jumps, which are necessary in order to maintain "Jump Status."

General Lynch was appointed by former Pennsylvania Governor Tom Ridge as the 49th Adjutant General and Commander of the Pennsylvania National Guard, headquartered at Fort Indiantown Gap. He is responsible for the command, control and supervision of all Air and Army National Guard units allocated to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, six state-owned veterans' homes, Scotland School for Veterans' Children and programs for Pennsylvania's 1.3 million veterans.

SFC Kristian Anthony, DDSP comments on "Jump Status": "Once you graduate from Airborne School in Ft. Benning, Georgia, which is 30 days of training, you are a Paratrooper on jump status. To maintain jump status, the minimum requirement is one jump every three months thereafter. Airborne Riggers

have to maintain jump status in order to stay current as a Rigger. The Airborne Rigger is the only Military Occupation Specialty (MOS) in the Army in which you have to stay current and on airborne status in order to keep your position. Airborne Riggers will go beyond the minimum standard of once a quarter to at least once a month or more to ensure they stay current in airborne operations. Lives depend on our expertise in an airborne operation. That is why our motto is, "I Will Be Sure Always!"

The Riggers are assigned to DDSP's Air Delivery and Textile Branch. Their mission: "To provide the customer with the highest quality product, in a timely manner, and at a competitive price. To ensure all equipment issued is correct (in quantity and type) and mission ready upon receipt. To warehouse all 1670 class items to include cargo parachute contingency stocks." Their capabilities include repair, convert and/or modify air delivery items; fabricate centerlines and other textile components, and store, inspect, and repack cargo parachute contingency stock.

The DDSP 92R Parachute Riggers are an elite group of individuals who provide technical knowledge of all airborne units and equipment. They are the only group of 92R Parachute Riggers assigned to the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA).



DDSP's 92R Parachute Riggers from Left to Right: SFC Kristian Anthony, SSG Juan Dolz, SSG Nathaniel Potts, SGT Kevin Brown, SGT Matthew Hanrahan, CW3 Cortez Frazier, SSG Donald Brenner, SSG Jimmy Jones, and SSG Steven Brittan.

CW3 Cortez Frazier and MSG Miguel Rivera converse with MG William Lynch and his team.



DDSP's Drop Zone (DZ).



MG William Lynch and DDSP Rigger SSG Donald Brenner.