

DDRT's Peek named one of DDXX's team leaders

By Stacy L. Umstead, DDC Command Affairs Office

Willard Peek, Distribution Facilities Specialist, will lead the Defense Distribution Depot Red River, Texas (DDRT), team of the Deployable Distribution Center, or DDXX.

Peek, a native of Clarksville, Texas, is a graduate of Paris Junior College where he received an Associate's Degree in Agricultural Sciences. In addition to attending Paris Junior College, Peek attended Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, Texas, where he eventually delayed his education to volunteer for military service.

Enlisting in the United States Marine Corps in September 1971, Peek began his four-year military service in San Diego, Calif., where he attended Boot Camp. Peek served at Memphis Naval Station receiving specialized training on the CG-47 helicopter and transferred to Jacksonville, N.C., serving with the HNN-162 Squadron attaining crew chief status of the CH-47 helicopter.

After leaving the military in 1973, Peek managed the Oladko Cattle Company in Tyler, Texas, until 1978. He then accepted a position with the



Willard Peek

Texas Agriculture Commission as a packinghouse inspector where he served for five years.

Peek began his Civil Service Career at the Red River Army Depot in February 1983 serving in the Packing and Shipping Branch. In 1988, Peek moved into the Receiving Branch. In 1996, he reported to the Warehousing Branch working his way up to Distribution Facilities Manager.

Peek was selected to serve as the DDRT Team Lead for the DDC's Deployable Depot in May.

"The opportunity to co-lead the DDXX team with Donny Hernandez of the Defense Distribution Depot San Joaquin, Calif. (DDJC), is certainly an honor. This gives me the chance to help others. DDXX will be ready when called upon," said Peek.

Peek is an active member at the Calvary Tabernacle where he serves as an usher and is involved in helping with the Mike Barber Prison Ministry.

DDXX is DDC's deployable and scalable distribution operation that can receive, store, issue, transship, and maintain in-transit visibility for items needed for relief efforts, like food, water, and construction material. DDXX can be deployed when approved by the Secretary of Defense in response to a request from a federal agency such as the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Team DDXX completes first training exercise

By Stacy L. Umstead, DDC Command Affairs Office

Members of the team met at the Defense Distribution Depot Red River, Texas (DDRT), in Texarkana the week of June 5 for their first training exercise.

Merely an idea written on a napkin just a few months ago, the Defense Distribution Center's (DDC) Deployable Distribution Center (DDXX), a deployable and scalable distribution center prepared to respond to disaster relief efforts CONUS wide, officially stood up June 1.

The team, comprised of employees from DDC's distribution facilities in San Joaquin, Calif.; Red River, Texas; and DDC headquarters in New Cumberland, Pa.; were welcomed by the first DDXX Commander and current DDRT Commander LTC Betty J. Yarbrough, USA.

The training exercise included an overview of the DDXX mission and concept of operations, the chain of command, deployment planning, team building, media relations, first aid, and demonstrations of communications that will be used when deployed.

LTC Clayton Newton, USA, of the DDC Strategic Plans Directorate, and Marv Salsman, DDC Logistics Operations, co-leads for the stand up of the DDXX, facilitated the first day's orientation.

According to LTC Newton, DDXX, when called upon, will send an initial assessment team to the designated site of deployment within 24 hours. The assessment team will determine the number of people needed to deploy and the equipment necessary to do the job. The main body of the deployable team arrives within 96 hours of being called upon.

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DDC's Deployable Distribution Center 2006.