

Deployable Distribution Center performs Exercise Quick Deliver at DDCT

By Stacy L. Umstead, DDC Command Affairs

The Defense Distribution Center’s (DDC) Deployable Distribution Center was at the Defense Distribution Depot Corpus Christi, Texas (DDCT), in September performing Exercise Quick Deliver, an exercise to validate wholesale distribution support concepts following a disaster in the continental United States.

The objectives of the exercise: to validate Deployable Distribution Center deployment, reception, staging and onward integration and redeployment concepts; conduct assessment team operations; establish a Tactical Operations Center (TOC); perform mission in support of mock disaster relief efforts; and, on order, redeploy to home stations and reconstitute for future missions.

“The exercise, carried out as a real life situation in support of mock relief efforts after the devastation of mock ‘Hurricane Cody,’ allowed Deployable Distribution Center to test deployment from start to finish,” said current Deployable Distribution Center Commander and Commander of Defense Distribution Depot Anniston, Ala. (DDAA), LTC Rick Harney, USA.

The first phase of deployment occurred on Sept. 13 and included notifying the Deployable Distribution Center team leads Donnie Hernandez of Defense Distribution Depot San Joaquin, Calif. (DDJC), and Willard Peek of Defense Distribution Depot Red River, Texas (DDRT). The team leads, in turn, notified their team members of the pending deployment. Upon notification, team members secured travel arrangements and began packing their bags of the items listed

on the Deployable Distribution Center deployment checklist.

The Deployable Distribution Center Commander and key Deployable Distribution Center staff performed an analysis of the situation and advised the assessment team to deploy September 15. The assessment team, a small cadre of personnel deployed to the site prior to the arrival of the main body of the Deployable Distribution Center, conducted assessments to include



Deployable Distribution Center Commander LTC Rick Harney, USA, briefs the Deployable Distribution Center team on their mission.



TOC Battle Captain Geno Maier and Deployable Distribution Center Supply Systems Analyst Leticia Jones prepare their update for the Commander.



Members of Deployable Distribution Center (Red River team) paint lines on a DDCT lot as part of the re-warehousing process.

number of personnel needed and type of equipment needed to accomplish the task. Other duties of the assessment team included ensuring life support for the Deployable Distribution Center personnel – housing, food services and transportation. The assessment team reported their findings to the Deployable Distribution Center Commander and key staff for further deployment actions.

During this exercise, assessment team lead LTC Betty Yarbrough, USA, DDRT Commander and former Deployable Distribution Center Commander, worked with her team to come up with a model for the advanced party, or ADVON, team.

The functions of the ADVON team include receiving the equipment needed to perform the mission, setting up the Technical Operations Center (TOC) and ensuring it is operational and communications are working properly, and receiving the main body of Deployable Distribution Center personnel.

“The ADVON team will be comprised of about 17 members (including the assessment team) with certain skill sets needed on the ground to set up Deployable Distribution Center and receive the rest of the Deployable Distribution Center members,” said LTC Yarbrough.

On Sept. 18, Deployable Distribution Center team members arrived for the exercise. The following day, after the team members were briefed on the situation and the mission, the 75-member team began to go into action.

The mission tasks for the purpose of this exercise included separating empty reusable containers by stock number, opening and inspecting drums for reuse, re-warehousing and establishing new locations for stock, consolidating and stacking rotor containers and moving and stacking engines to allow additional space for incoming stock.

Deployable Distribution Center working conditions and the environment were true to life as well. “Our team members had to deal with all of the elements including 98-degree heat and 95 percent humidity, mosquitoes, and



The Deployable Distribution Center Tactical Operations Center.



Red River's Jeremy Potts consolidates helicopter rotors.



Vincent Garcia and Pete Ramirez stack containers, apply stretch wrap, and prepare for onward shipment.

dirt, but they worked extremely hard and completed the tasks," said Hernandez.

Inside the TOC, teams were developed to support the mission. Replicating an Army operation, two TOC Battle Captains were established to cover the 24/7 mission. In addition, Transportation, Operations and Support Teams were developed. Twice a day, briefings took place to update the Deployable Distribution Center Commander on the mission status.

"It is important to realize that when we are in a 24/7 mode, communication becomes key. Deployable Distribution Center will need to provide updates to the DDC's Command Control Center during an actual deployment. The briefings set the tone for the way we'll need to operate to keep the communication flowing to home base," said LTC Harney.

On the final day of the exercise, members of the team broke down the TOC and prepared the equipment for redeployment. All members returned to the conference room to conduct an after action report of the exercise.

"This deployment gave us an opportunity to exercise all facets of the Deployable Distribution Center. We have lessons learned that we will take back to the table with us and work before our next training event," said LTC Tim Orner, USA, Commander of DDCT, host of the exercise and incoming Deployable Distribution Center Commander.

Deployable Distribution Center team member Sharon Hensel of DDRT commented on the exercise,

DDC Commander visits his distribution facility in Southeast Texas

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Corpus Christi, Texas, in September brought 98-degree weather and a visit from the Defense Distribution Center's (DDC) sixth Commander, BG Lynn Collyar to the Defense Distribution Depot, Corpus Christi, Texas (DDCT).

During the visit, DDCT Commander and Deputy Commander, LTC Tim Orner, USA, and Bob Rosarius, provided a walking tour of the DDCT campus.

This was the BG Collyar's first visit to DDCT since taking command of DDC in August 2006.



BG Collyar presents Ruben "Poncherello" Abrego with a DDC Commander's coin.

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