Tobyhanna commander relinquishes command, retires

By Scott Woosley, DDC Public Affairs

Lt. Col. Yvonne B. MacNamara passed the reigns of command of Defense Distribution Depot Tobyhanna, Pa., to Lt. Col. Michael J. Talley in a ceremony July 17.

After relinquishing command, MacNamara retired after 21 years of service in the United States Army.

"I am excited today, but I also have mixed emotions," MacNamara said. "Today is the last official military ceremony for me and because of that it is (an) especially sentimental one."

MacNamara thanked her family, especially her father and husband who are also retired soldiers, for their support of her career over the years. She also thanked the employees of DDTP for their hard work and dedication to the mission.

Brig. Gen. Lynn A. Collyar, commander, Defense Distribution Center, presided over the ceremony and praised MacNamara's accomplishments while in command of DDTP and throughout her career.

"It is clearly evident that Yvonne has been committed to excellence throughout her career," Collyar said just prior to the retirement ceremony. "On Yvonne's retirement, we express our appreciation on behalf of the Army and bid farewell to an Army officer who has served her country faithfully and honorably for more than 21 years."

Brig. Gen. Lynn A. Collyar, left, commander, Defense Distribution Center, presents the Legion of Merit to Lt. Col. Yvonne B. MacNamara during a change of command and retirement ceremony at Defense Distribution Depot Tobyhanna, Pa. July 17.

Collyar presented MacNamara with the Legion of Merit medal, recognizing her extraordinary achievements during her career. He also presented her with a certificate of appreciation from President George W. Bush, thanking her for her service and her retirement certificate.

During MacNamara's tenure at DDTP, she worked to develop a cooperative atmosphere with Tobyhanna Army Depot and Collyar praised her for her success.

"The ones that really benefit from that teamwork are our Soldiers and Marines fighting the war on terrorism," Collyar said. "Our troops count on this distribution center."

Talley, who comes to Tobyhanna from the Joint Readiness Training Center, Fort Polk, La., was excited to assume command.

He arrived at DDTP two weeks prior to the ceremony for a command turnover with MacNamara and had the opportunity to meet the employees.

He was impressed.

"I am proud, and deeply humbled, to be the newest member pf the DDTP team," he said. "The atmosphere and the spirit of this organization, is absolutely phenomenal."

Brig. Gen. Lynn A. Collyar, left, commander, Defense Distribution Center, passes the colors to Lt. Col. Michael J. Talley, right. Talley assumed command of Defense Distribution Depot Tobyhanna, Pa. in a ceremony July 17.

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