

CDR Pearson, SC, USN, Assumes Command of DDMA



CDR John Pearson, SC, USN

CDR John Pearson, SC, USN, assumed command of Defense Distribution Depot Mapping Agency (DDMA) January 9, 2004, at a ceremony officiated by BG Kathleen Gainey, USA, Commander, Defense Distribution Center (DDC).

DDMA is responsible for the worldwide physical distribution of all maps, charts, and other geodetic material produced by the National Imagery and Mapping Agency, as well as those produced by other U.S. government agencies and foreign countries. The primary distribution facility is located in Richmond, Virginia.

"Together with the great workforce, your customers who depend on you each and every day are in good hands," BG Gainey said of CDR Pearson. "DDMA has a proven ability to manage and it is the cornerstone of your success in support of OPERATIONS ENDURING FREEDOM and IRAQI FREEDOM and winning the Global War on Terrorism. I am confident that

you will continue to provide the outstanding support that this depot has always provided our Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, and Marines. It is the great men and women of the Defense Distribution Mapping Activity that make me proud to serve!"

CDR Pearson's most recent assignment was at another part of DLA, the Defense Energy Support Center (DESC) at Fort Belvoir, as the Assistant Chief, Contracting Division, Bulk Fuels Commodity Business Unit.

CDR Pearson earned his Bachelor of Business Administration Degree in Finance from Baylor University, a Master in Business Administration from Hawaii Pacific University and a Master in Science from the Naval Postgraduate School. Commissioned through the Naval Reserve Direct Commission Officer Program in 1987, CDR Pearson entered active duty in 1988 and attended the Navy Supply Corps School before reporting on board his first tour as the Assistant Supply Officer of USS MCCLOY (FF-1038). An additional afloat tour included the USS PLATTE (AO-186) as Supply Officer. He participated in Operation Desert Storm and Provide Comfort on board the USS PLATTE and achieved his initial warfare qualification.

CDR Pearson's shore tour assignments include Petroleum Intern at Fleet and Industrial Supply Center in Norfolk, VA; Petroleum Plans Officer at U.S. Pacific Command, Camp H. M. Smith, HI; Business Financial Manager for the F-14 "Tomcat" and later the E-2C, "Hawkeye" Program Offices at Naval Air Systems Command in Patuxent River, MD.

CDR Pearson's personal decorations include the Navy Achievement Medal, the Joint Service Achievement Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster, the Navy Commendation Medal with one Gold Star, the Meritorious Service Medal, and the Defense Meritorious Service Medal.

John Stroup, DDMA Deputy Commander, was the Acting Commander of DDMA from October 2003 to January 2004.

David Gambrell, DDMA Operations Officer, was awarded the DLA Superior Civilian Service Award for his outstanding support to DDMA January 2002 to August 2003 during the ceremony. Through Gambrell's efforts, the Distribution Standard System (DSS), DDC's warehouse and transportation management system, was installed and activated at DDMA with no degradation to customer support. During the DSS installation DDMA not only continued to meet all operating goals, but increased output capability by 30 percent while decreasing costs of basic operations and dramatically improving inventory accountability.