



News Release

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DEFENSE DISTRIBUTION CENTER

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DEFENSE DISTRIBUTION DEPOT SUSQUEHANNA, PA CHANGE OF COMMAND CEREMONY

NEW CUMBERLAND, PENN – Captain Robert J. Ritchie, Supply Corps, United States Navy, will relinquish command of the Defense Distribution Depot Susquehanna, Penn. (DDSP) to Captain James P. Naber, Supply Corps, United States Navy, in an official ceremony on Thursday, July 22, 2004 at 9:00 a.m. The ceremony will take place at the Parade Grounds on the New Cumberland Installation. Officiating at the ceremony will be Brigadier General Kathleen M. Gainey, United States Army, Commander, Defense Distribution Center, New Cumberland, Penn. Captain Ritchie has been DDSP's Commander since July 2000.

Captain Naber is a native of Philadelphia, Penn. He graduated from Swarthmore College in 1979 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in International Relations and Spanish Literature. He received his commission from Navy Officer Candidate School in March 1980, and completed his basic Supply Officer training at the Naval Supply Corps School in Athens, Ga. in August 1980. Captain Naber earned his Masters in Management from the Navy Post Graduate School in Monterey, Ca. in 1989, completed the Senior War College Program at the Army War College in 1999, and graduated from the Senior Executive Institute of the Kenan-Flagler Business School of the University of North Carolina in 2002.

Captain Naber's sea duty tours include Supply Officer, USS WHALE (SSN-638); Stores Officer, USS PROTEUS (AS-19), Supply Officer, USS MONTEREY (CG-61); and Supply Officer, USS WASP (LHD-1).

His shore tours include Navy Acquisition Contracting Officer Intern at Naval Sea Systems Command; Logistics Support Director, Fleet and Industrial Supply Center, Jacksonville; Nuclear Reactors Logistics Support Director, Navy Inventory Control Point Mechanicsburg, PA; and Executive Officer, Navy Supply Information Systems Command, Mechanicsburg, PA.

Captain Naber's awards include three Navy Meritorious Service Medals, three Navy Commendation Medals, and two Navy Achievement Medals. He holds qualifications in surface supply, submarine supply and is a member of the Defense Acquisition Workforce.

DDSP is home to the largest distribution facility in the Department of Defense (DoD), the Eastern Distribution Center (EDC), located at New Cumberland. The mechanized facilities within the EDC provide state-of-the-art processing in world-class fashion.

Container consolidation points for both the Army and the Air Force are operated at DDSP, consolidating materiel from U.S. facilities into sea van containers and Air Force 463L Air Line of Communication pallets for overseas shipments. DDSP supports the fielding of new weapons systems for the Army through the assembly of repair parts, tools and technical manuals at the Unit Materiel Fielding Point and manages the Navy's Publications and Forms mission. Medical Set Assembly is also a key operation. DDSP is also one of two sites in the DDC where Unitized Rations are built, which are used in the field feeding systems for the Army and Marine Corps.

DDSP is the host for the New Cumberland installation and is responsible for the day-to-day operations and maintenance of the small city within its gates. Included in those responsibilities are providing a full range of quality of life services to military members, their families and civilian employees including child care, a fitness center, golf course, bowling center, and a pool. Over 25 tenant activities are based at New Cumberland and include a Clinic, and a Shopette/Gas Station.

The Defense Distribution Center is headquartered in Fairview Township, York County, Penn. and is responsible for receiving, storing and issuing more than four million military items annually in support of Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and other federal agencies operations worldwide. DDC is comprised of more than 8,000 military and civilian personnel in 23 centers located throughout the continental United States, Hawaii, Germany, Italy, and Japan.

Defense Distribution Center, New Cumberland, Penn., is the Defense Logistics Agency's Lead Center for Distribution. DLA provides supply support and technical and logistics services to the military services and to several civilian agencies. Headquartered at Fort Belvoir, Va., DLA is the one source for nearly every consumable item, whether for combat readiness, emergency preparedness or day-to-day operations.