

# Defense Distribution Depot Corpus Christi, Texas

## DDCT Athletes Run Beach to Bay

The 25th annual 'Armed Forces Day Beach to Bay' Relay Marathon, one of the largest races of its kind in the United States was run Saturday, 20 May 2000 in Corpus Christi, Texas. This year's race attracted a record 1,310 six member teams. Among them, were two teams from the Defense Distribution Depot Corpus Christi. Depot team members; Team 1—Bob and Frances Rosarius, Duke and Carolyn Earwood, Art Gutierrez and Glenn Rogers; Team 2—Robert Andrade, Joe Vela, Johnny Contreras, Ricky Pettyway, Kevin Persels and Richard Gonzales. I am happy to report that all twelve survived.

Beach to Bay (as it is known) has its roots in the military. It was started in 1976 by a Naval Officer stationed at the Naval Air Station Corpus Christi as an observance of Armed Forces Day and the Bi-Centennial Celebration. The original race consisted of 250 runners. Team size and distance each runner ran was not specified. In subsequent years, a lot has changed. The race now consist of six legs, each approximately 4.4 miles long, starting on North Padre Island and making its way toward the Corpus Christi Bayfront. The fourth leg of the race runs through the Naval Air Station and hands off to the fifth leg runners near the north gate. Military personnel volunteer their assistance at the hand off point. The race ends at Cole Park on the bayfront where runners are rewarded with a party consisting of pizza, beer, soft drinks and live music.

The race route is always challenging especially with the mid May heat factored in. This year, DDCT's teams, along with 1,308 other teams had to contend with some unexpected challenges. In the early morning hours and continuing through the first leg of the race, the area was hit with a drenching rainstorm. This turned the first leg, already a challenge as it is run on the beach, into a major mess and put other areas underwater, making flexibility the order of the day. In true form, the runners and race officials met the challenges and this year's Beach to Bay was considered one of the best ever.

The money raised by Beach to Bay benefits the Special Olympics.



# DDCT Acknowledged for 'Return to Service' Project.

In November 1999, the Army Aviation and Missile Command (AMCOM) issued Safety of Flight messages effectively grounding the AH-64 (Apache) Helicopter fleet worldwide due to concerns surfaced related to the transmissions and the hanger bearing assemblies. AMCOM first considered using a commercial source for its 'Return to Service' project, but was unable to find a vendor who could provide support prior to May 2000. AMCOM then turned to the Corpus Christi Army Depot (CCAD) and the Defense Distribution Depot Corpus Christi (DDCT) who immediately joined the AMCOM War Room's project for the Apache fleet. Daily teleconferences were held to coordinate the processing of returns from field activities, processing the items through maintenance, and their subsequent shipment back to the users by DDCT.

DDCT expedited the receipt of unserviceable AH-64 transmissions and hanger bearing assemblies, processing them to record and delivering them to the maintenance activity (CCAD) within three hours or less of receipt. Likewise, serviceable assets coming back from CCAD were packaged and shipped by close of business on the day of receipt regardless of the time they were received. Most incoming and outgoing shipments of transmissions were airlifted via Army National Guard C-23B Sherpa Cargo Aircraft. DDCT supported the airlifts by performing all loading and unloading operations for the aircraft.

A significant distribution problem DDCT addressed was the worldwide shortage of reusable metal containers for the transmissions. DDCT fabricated PPP-B-601 wood crates in accordance with AMCOM drawings, modified by DDCT to



*Representatives from the AMCOM War Room visit DDCT Transportation personnel to express their appreciation for the outstanding support DDCT provided to the project. Pictured; Mr. Dennis Urhan, Chief, AH-64B Team and Ms. Louise Ystueta, C, Mobilization/Munitions Team*

provide superior blocking and bracing. These crates made another significant contribution to the 'Return to Service' program — they were considerably smaller and lighter than the reusable containers — resulting in the C-23 aircraft being able to carry six transmissions vice only three in the metal containers. The number of shipments required was reduced, while simultaneously improving customer service, and reducing costs.

In total, 427 unserviceable transmissions, 298 aft hanger bearing assemblies and 293 forward hanger bearing assemblies were received and forwarded to CCAD. After maintenance was performed by CCAD, the items were packaged and shipped by DDCT to military units around the world. DDCT's innovative support played a vital role in getting the Apache fleet back in the air.

In recognition, the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Logistics, the Army Chief of Staff, the Army Vice Chief of Staff, and the Commanding General of the Army Materiel Command made visits to Corpus Christi to personally thank depot employees for their outstanding support of the 'Return to Service' project.



*During his visit to Corpus Christi, Army Chief of Staff, General Eric Shinseki (right) "coins" DDCT Deputy Commander, Mr. Robert Rosarius, as DDCT Commander LTC J. Douglas Serrano looks on.*

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