



U.S. Army Element, Assembled
Chemical Weapons Alternatives

**FOR MORE
INFORMATION
CONTACT:**

Program Manager
Assembled
Chemical Weapons
Alternatives
Communications
and Congressional
Affairs Office at
(410) 436-3398



**A Partnership for Safe
Chemical Weapons
Destruction**

www.pmacwa.army.mil

DOD leader lauds Edgewood area agencies

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CONTACT: Kristen Szydloski, 410-436-0160
Kristen.szydloski@us.army.mil

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, MD. - The Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives program, known as ACWA, welcomed Jean Reed, Deputy Assistant of the Secretary of Defense (Chemical & Biological Defense and Chemical Demilitarization) to co-host and to convey thanks to the individuals who successfully planned, coordinated and achieved what came to be known as Operation *Swift Solution* at an APG award ceremony on Nov. 10.

"On behalf of our country's entire chemical community, I want to personally commend you, and I thank you for a job well done," Reed said. "The roughly 135 gallons of GB mixture destroyed in *Swift Solution* may seem to some as a drop in the chemical weapons bucket, but don't think for a minute that drop didn't send its ripples across many different nations."

Operation *Swift Solution* safely eliminated three deteriorating steel containers and associated wastes that were stored at the Blue Grass Army Depot, Ky. The now destroyed containers held a mixture of the nerve agent GB and its breakdown products.

The complete elimination of the deteriorating containers brought credit to the United States for agent destruction under the Chemical Weapons Convention treaty and eliminated health and safety risks associated with continued storage.

The ACWA program led a team with the following Army partners in order to safely destroy the containers: BGAD, Blue Grass Chemical Activity, the U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA), and Edgewood Chemical Biological Center (ECBC). Along with Reed, ACWA Program Manager Kevin Flamm; Rick Decker, ECBC director; and Conrad Whyne, CMA director, co-hosted the event. Other supporting agencies with employees who were recognized included the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, Science Applications International Corporation and Booz Allen Hamilton.

"Today, we're here to celebrate your success in eliminating forever the risks from those containers," said Flamm. "If you're receiving an award today, it's because this work could not have been completed without your contribution."

At the ceremony, recipients received a Commander's Award for Civilian Service, a Program Manager's Coin, or Certificate of Appreciation. Commander's Award recipients included Dennis Bolt, Frank Evans, Russell Fendick, Dennis Hall, Curtis Hollister, George Roberts, John Schwarz and Jon Ware.

Program Manager's Coin recipients included Tim Blades, Mike Biggerman, Melanie Bon, Meg Caine, Cindy Church, Eric Copeland, Amy Dean, Todd Duff, Brandon Dusick, Laura Elliott, John Ford, Steven Freeland, James Harris, Bernard King, Charles Kyle, Michael Manthei, Nam-Phoung Nguyen, Brian O'Donnell, Arlita Privett, Jim Richmond, Peter Spaeth, Willie Tucker, Dwayne Vernon and Frank Wood.

Employees who were recognized with Certificate of Appreciation included William Adams, Justina Allen, Gladys Appel, Robert Bagley, Dawn Baker, Steve Bird, Stephen Carter, Torrey Davis-Collins, MaryAnn Curtin, Alan Cushen, Joe Daven, Edward Doyle, Chris Druyor, Kevin Duvall, James Fackett, Kim Fink, Adam Foor, Bennie Ford, James Fortier, John Fortier, Vivian Graham, Joe Green, Peggy Hallisey, Shawn Heinlein, Amos Henderson, and Elizabeth Hirsh. Also, Wayne Hock, Mason Holquist, Brandon Jones, Jeff Kiley, Andy King, Michael Laws, Connie Lee, JR Leed, John Loss, Jeremy Mason, William McCoy, Wyatt McNutt, Jill Meuser, Jeffrey Mott, Greg Nielson, Brian Owen, Edward Parshley, John Perry, Anthony Pierce, Sandra Reid, Derek Romitti, Leonard Rowe, Alan Seitzinger, John Stallings, Stephen Still, Gerald Starnes, James Swank, Tom Urbanski, LeRoy Wainwright, Andrea Williams, Willie Wiley and Michael Wooten.

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