



NEWS RELEASE

Defense Commissary Agency

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DeCA announces best commissary winners

By DeCA office of communication

ATLANTA, Ga. – With the tearing of the envelopes and the subsequent announcements, a flood of unbridled enthusiasm engulfed the recipients of the best commissary awards during the Defense Commissary Agency’s 2010 Conference and Training Event in Atlanta, Ga., June 8.

The awards mean that much to the people who work tirelessly to serve the most important customers in the world, said DeCA Director and CEO Philip E. Sakowitz Jr.

“Every day in more than 250 commissaries around the world, our employees and industry partners go the extra mile for our service members and their families,” he said. “Witnessing the passion of the recipients speaks directly to their dedication in delivering the commissary benefit.”

Winning commissaries by category for the competition were:

- **Moody Air Force Base Commissary, Ga.**, winner of the Bill Nichols Award for the Best Large Commissary in the United States;
- **Fort Hunter Liggett Commissary, Calif.**, winner of the Richard M. Paget Award for the Best Small Commissary in the United States;
- **U.S. Army Garrison Grafenwoehr Commissary, Germany**, winner of the Dan Daniel Award for the Best Large Commissary Overseas;
- **Sagamihara Commissary, Japan**, winner of the L. Mendel Rivers Award for the Best Small Commissary Overseas; and
- **Naval Base San Diego Commissary, Calif.**, winner of the Director’s Award for the Best Superstore.

“This is a tough competition – just to be nominated is quite an accomplishment,”

Sakowitz said. “Although these awards acknowledge the teamwork and excellence of our employees and industry partners, the real winners are our customers. They receive a world-class benefit as our stores aim to be DeCA’s best of the best.”

Runners-up, honorable mentions and noteworthy performers were:

- **Nichols Award runner-up:** Norfolk Naval Shipyard Portsmouth Commissary, Va.
- **Paget Award runner-up:** White Sands Missile Range Commissary, N.M.
- **Daniel Award runner-up:** Camp Humphreys Commissary, South Korea.
- **Rivers Award runner-up:** Kelley Barracks Commissary, Germany.
- **Director’s Award runner-up:** Fort Eustis Commissary, Joint Base Langley-Eustis Va.
- **Overseas commissary honorable mention award winners:** *Daniel Award* – Andersen Air Force Base Commissary, Joint Region Marianas, Guam; Spangdahlem Air Base Commissary, Germany; and U.S. Army Garrison Schinnen Commissary, Netherlands; *Rivers Award* – Fleet Activities Sasebo Commissary, Japan; Cairo Commissary, Egypt; and Garmisch Commissary, Germany.
- **Honorable mention award winners for the Continental United States:** *Nichols Award* – Keesler Air Force Base Commissary, Miss.; Marine Corps Air Station New River Commissary, N.C; and Carlisle Barracks, Pa.; *Paget Award* – Naval Construction Battalion Center, Gulfport Commissary, Miss.; Naval Air Station Whiting Field Commissary, Fla.; and Mountain Home Air Force Base Commissary, Idaho; and *Director’s Award* – Fort Lewis Commissary, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash.; Naval Amphibious Base Little Creek Commissary, Va.; and Langley Air Force Base Commissary, Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Va.

DeCA’s Best Commissary awards recognize overall excellence in commissary operations and service. Winning stores are objectively evaluated in four areas: accountability, unit cost, commissary customer service survey and sales.

The awards are named in honor of government officials who protected the commissary benefit and championed quality-of-life issues for the military and their families.

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About DeCA: *The Defense Commissary Agency operates a worldwide chain of commissaries providing groceries to military personnel, retirees and their families in a safe and secure shopping environment. Authorized patrons purchase items at cost plus a 5-percent*

surcharge, which covers the costs of building new commissaries and modernizing existing ones. Shoppers save an average of more than 30 percent on their purchases compared to commercial prices – savings worth about \$3,300 annually for a family of four. A core military family support element, and a valued part of military pay and benefits, commissaries contribute to family readiness, enhance the quality of life for America's military and their families, and help recruit and retain the best and brightest men and women to serve their country.