



NEWS RELEASE

Defense Commissary Agency

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Release Number: 30-09
Date: April 15, 2009
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Hagenbuch appointed acting director of DeCA West

*By Nancy O’Nell,
DeCA West public affairs officer*

FORT LEE, Va. – Keith Hagenbuch, a deputy director of Defense Commissary Agency West, headquartered at McClellan, Calif., was appointed the region’s acting director, effective April 4. His appointment temporarily fills a position vacated by Scott Simpson, who retired April 3.

“Keith is well-prepared to lead DeCA West while we seek a permanent director,” said Philip E. Sakowitz Jr., DeCA director and CEO. “He has critical knowledge and experience of both the overseas and stateside operations and has helped drive many of DeCA West’s recent successes. I am confident in his abilities and grateful he has accepted this assignment.”

Hagenbuch was selected as a deputy director of DeCA West in March 2006, with responsibility for commissaries and central distribution centers in Japan, South Korea, Guam, Hawaii, Alaska and Washington. Previously, he served for 16 months as director of performance and policy at DeCA headquarters, Fort Lee, Va., where he focused on store-level support and improvement. During his career he has served in a variety of leadership positions including zone manager for commissaries in Southern California, chief of merchandising at DeCA’s former Northeast Region, director of operations for the agency’s former Southwest Region, and store director at McGuire Air Force Base, N.J., and McClellan Air Force Base, Calif.

David Carey Jr., DeCA West’s director of operations, has been appointed as acting

deputy director and will take over Hagenbuch's former responsibilities for stores in Alaska, Washington and overseas. Carey has served as DeCA West's chief of operations since July 2008. He previously served for four years as Zone 6 manager.

Christopher Burns, who has been a DeCA West deputy director since June 2007, will continue to oversee stateside commissaries.

No other temporary appointments in the region have been announced at this time.

- DeCA-

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 \$3,400 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.*