

2013 Ammunition Hall of Fame Inductee
ISABELLE HANSEN



Mrs. Isabelle Hansen began her Army civilian service career as GS-1 clerk in 1945 at the Engineer Depot in Granite City, Illinois. After a six year break, Isabelle returned to service in 1951, employed as a typist for the procurement branch at Rock Island Arsenal, Ill. Two short years later, she had already begun earning promotions within the procurement field. By 1976, she had become the first female employee to reach the GS-15 career level at the Armament Materiel Command (ARRCOM).

Hansen then was promoted and served in the Senior Executive Service (SES) position of Deputy for Procurement and Production, Headquarters, U.S. Army Armament, Munitions and Chemical Command (AMCCOM), Rock Island, Illinois, from August 1980 until her retirement on 3 May 1985. It is notable that she was the first woman within the Materiel Development and Readiness Command (DARCOM) (now Army Materiel Command) to be selected for the Senior Executive Service ranks. At the time, she was one of four women selected to serve as a Senior Service member within the Department of the Army. Her career in acquisition management spanned 35 years in a variety of staff and “hands on” procurement assignments.

In addition to the HQ Production Directorate and the HQ Procurement Policy and Plans Office, the three major procurement directorates at Rock Island, Picatinny, and Edgewood, reported directly to her. Mrs. Hansen served as the Principal Assistant Responsible for Contracting (PARC) with approval authority for major acquisition plans and contract awards.

Mrs. Hansen supervised and directed the accomplishment of an annual procurement program of approximately \$5 billion and was directly responsible for all procurement and production related matters, from the acquisition of weapons and ammunition components through end item loading for delivery to the user.

Mr. Hansen was instrumental in the design, implementation and execution of a small team of procurement and production specialists to manage the high visibility Egyptian Co-Production Program which deemed recognition by the Secretary of Defense as a “showcase program” reflecting favorably on AMCCOM and the Army.

Mrs. Hansen served as the Career Program Manager was responsible for revitalizing the procurement workforce at Rock Island with the establishment of a very successful local intern training program.

Isabelle is credited with establishing Ammunition Executive Seminars beginning in 1980. These seminars fostered communication between government and commercial ammunition producers. She was also responsible for the creation of the Plant Utilization Policy, which permitted government owned contractor operated ammunition plants to bid on additional work

for those other than AMCCOM or the DOD. This reduced overhead operating costs and increased efficiencies for the munitions production base. The policy allowed \$22 million in savings and reduced overhead costs.

Over the course of her career, Isabelle earned numerous recognitions, awards and honors. Among them, she received the Exceptional and Meritorious Civilian Service Awards, the Army's two highest civilian awards. Isabelle was awarded the American Defense Preparedness Association Silver Medal in 1985. She was also selected as a Fellow in the National Contract Management Association, in recognition for her outstanding contributions to the field of contract management.