

2021 Ammunition Hall of Fame Inductee

COLONEL (RET.) BILLY DOWDY



Colonel (Ret.) Billy J. Dowdy has distinguished himself through exceptional civilian service throughout his 42-year career with the government. He proudly served in the armed forces rising to the rank of Colonel and then served 10 years in senior leadership levels within the Joint Munitions Command. His retirement date of 6 January 2018 was the 42nd year in which he began his commitment to the U.S. Army. Before retiring, he served as the Director of the Materiel Management Operations Directorate within the Munitions and Logistics Readiness Center. His organization was responsible for execution of logistics and materiel management missions including storage and accountability; worldwide Joint Service ammunition distribution and customer order fulfillment operations; execution of multi-modal transportation mission for all global Joint and Foreign Military Sales ammunition distribution operations; and execution of demil and ammunition peculiar equipment. He oversaw an organization of approximately 85 personnel. He ensured senior leaders had the necessary information for higher headquarters battle rhythm events and provided prompt and accurate advice to senior logisticians.

In this position, he oversaw the distribution of necessary munitions in support of the Combatant Commanders' requirements ensuring readiness for the Army, Joint Forces, and our allied partners. COL Dowdy led several initiatives to include championing the readiness priority for the command, implementing automatic identification technology efforts at ammunition supply points and leading audit readiness efforts to assure audit compliance. He was a key participant in the Table Top Exercises that simulated the outloading of munitions for two Areas of Responsibility (AORs) and then led a Rehearsal of Concept (ROC) drill, which identified gaps and implemented improvement associated with equipment, facilities, and processes.

He successfully led a short notice shipment of containers on the Motor Vessel (MV) Carter that required synchronizing and collaboration with multiple stakeholders. In June 2017, HQ, JMC began coordinating with Army Sustainment Command, Surface Deployment and Distribution Command, and JMC depots for the addition of munitions containers to Military Ocean Terminal Sunny Point for upload to the existing Army Prepositioned Stock munitions which supports multiple Combatant Commands' requirements. Previous to this, he was responsible for shipping oversight of ammunition to Europe, demonstrating the U.S. commitment to our allies.

He initiated multiple continuous improvement efforts, to include a black belt project to standardize and centralize order processing at HQs, JMC. He led the analysis to determine normal Less-than-Truckload rates to determine when rates are outside of parameters. He coordinated training in support of Logistics Management Program (LMP) Increment II deployment and ensured successful implementation. He served as the Primary Business Process

Owner for both Sales and Distribution and Inventory and Warehouse Management functions in LMP.

COL Dowdy's organization implemented Automatic Identification Technology at the Army's retail Ammunition Supply Points (ASPs). This initiative exported a couple of standard depot automation tools, key control and due-in finder to make the ASPs more efficient. Due In Finder provides the ASP with advanced visibility of in-bound shipments for receiving activity planning. Initial findings showed a 43% reduction in ASP receipting touch time and it eliminates errors associated with manual retail receipt entry. The key control process automates key issuance and return process for access to secure ammo storage locations at ASPs. To date, these automation initiatives were deployed at 28 forts, camps, and stations.

He provided oversight of inventory operations at JMC installations through the Command Inspection Program and Supply Depot Operations inspections, and a team to lead audit readiness efforts associated with inventory to assure audit compliance. His organization was responsible for execution of the demilitarization program, both organic and commercial. Reduction of the demil stockpile reduced the footprint and gained efficiencies to improve readiness.

COL Dowdy supported the mission of JMC and was a vital contributor to the organization's strategic growth. COL Dowdy visited several customers and stakeholders in CONUS, Europe and the Pacific to discuss the benefits of expanding the ammunition enterprise globally. He was also an advocate for the increase in Ammunition Logistics Assistance Representatives (LARs) worldwide. He conducted a staff study to clearly identify and articulate the need for additional LARs. Working within constraints, provided the absolute best logistics assistance program possible to Army units at home station, at Army training centers or in deployed locations worldwide.

He began his federal career as a civilian in February 2007 as a strategic planning officer and served in this capacity at a GS-14 until he became the Director of the Munitions Readiness Directorate. In this position, he was responsible for Ammunition Logistics Assistance Representatives, the JMC Operations Center, Inventory Managers, and the Army Munitions Readiness Report (MRR), which is used by senior Army leadership as a primary readiness assessment and programming tool.

COL Dowdy volunteered and served as the Civilian Executive Assistant (CEA) for Blue Grass Army Depot for two months in 2011 while the permanent recruitment was ongoing. During this time, he was periodically in charge of the depot while the Commander was in training. His knowledge and experience was greatly appreciated by the Commander, COL Rogers. In fact, former JMC Commander Brigadier General James Rogers stated that COL Dowdy is top quality and he learned from him. COL Dowdy's willingness to support mission requirements to ensure depot coverage and leave his station of duty were commendable.

COL Dowdy's military assignments include: Operations Officer, 267th Chemical Company, Johnston Island; Commander, 75th Ordnance Detachment (Explosive Ordnance Disposal) Mt. Clemens, Michigan; Chief, Hazardous Devices Division and commander, 7th Student Company, both at the United States Army Ordnance Missile and Munitions Center and School, Redstone Arsenal, Alabama; Materiel Officer, 6th Ordnance Battalion, Camp Ames, Korea; Procurement Officer and Executive Officer for the 9mm Pistol Source Selection board at Headquarters, United States Army Armament, Munitions and Chemical Command, Rock Island, Illinois; Materiel Officer, 15th Ordnance Battalion, Darmstadt, Germany; Chief, Missile and Munitions Division, 3d Corps Support Command, Wiesbaden, Germany. Dowdy twice served on the Headquarters, Department of Army Staff in the Pentagon, in the Supply and Maintenance Directorate, G4 and in the Directorate of Training, G3. Dowdy also was the Commander at Milan Army Ammunition Plant, Milan, Tennessee; Commander, Ordnance Program Division in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, and Commander, Crane Army Ammunition Activity, Crane, Indiana.

He is a graduate of the Industrial College of the Armed Forces. He holds Masters Degrees in Logistics Management from the Florida Institute of Technology and in National Resource Strategy from the National Defense University. He is Acquisition Level III certified in Life Cycle Logistics. COL Dowdy was a mentor to many and an advisor to senior leader.