

Gilbeau Takes DCMAI Helm

Jo Adail Stephenson | DCMA Public Affairs



The official party members render their respect during the playing of the national anthem at the Defense Contract Management Agency International change of command Aug. 27 at the Navy Memorial auditorium, Washington, D.C. More than 150 distinguished visitors, military and civilian personnel attended the ceremony where Rear Adm. Robert Gilbeau assumed command of DCMA International.

Navy Rear Adm. Robert Gilbeau assumed command of Defense Contract Management Agency International Aug. 27 during a

change of command ceremony officiated by DCMA Director Charlie Williams, Jr. at the Navy Memorial auditorium, Washington, D.C.

Navy Capt. David Graff relinquished command to Gilbeau after serving as DCMAI commander since May 2007. More than 150 distinguished visitors, military and civilian personnel attended the event.

During Graff's tenure, he commanded an organization of more than 700 civilian and military personnel responsible for administering more than 24,000 contracts valued in excess of \$16 billion.

For his outstanding service and devotion to duty, Graff was presented with the Defense Superior Service Medal at the ceremony.

"You [Graff] were the right leader at the right time," Williams said. "It takes a leader who trusts his people but also holds them accountable for excellence to succeed, a leader who is decisive yet is a good listener, a leader who can work dozens of different mission or personnel issues on any given day."

In speaking about Graff's breadth and depth of leadership as DCMAI commander for 39 months, Williams said Graff is, "A leader I can send to Capitol Hill to talk to congressmen and commissions and know he will represent the agency superbly and a leader who can be a highly respected member of my senior leadership team, providing insights and advice to his peers on agency-wide issues far beyond the boundaries of his international command," Williams said.

Graff's leadership sustained direct support to *Operation Enduring Freedom*, *Operation Iraqi Freedom* and a wide range of major defense and federal acquisition programs including DCMA's contingency contracting administration services

mission in theater operations throughout Iraq and Afghanistan.

Gilbeau comes to DCMA after serving as the deputy commander for aviation at the Naval Inventory Control Point-Philadelphia.

Williams welcomed Gilbeau saying, “Several flag officers and senior civilians in the (Department of Defense) have come up to me since you got this assignment to let me know how lucky we are to be getting you. They say you’re a great leader and a great guy, and we’re going to hold you to it.”

Gilbeau assured Williams he was ready to meet his expectations and those of the taxpayer and warfighter.

“Our team, throughout the globe, ensures the goods our nation buys for the war effort are of the highest quality and meet the required specifications,” said Gilbeau. “The entire organization does this while focusing on what we as taxpayers actually pay for those goods and services, and we make sure it is, in fact, fair and reasonable. These efforts are critical to ensure DoD will have the resources it needs to reset and modernize in the most efficient means possible.”

Gilbeau stated he knew DCMA is accomplishing this mission and affirmed his confidence in his team’s ability to rise

“It takes a leader who trusts his people but also holds them accountable for excellence to succeed.”

— Charlie Williams, Jr., Defense Contract Management Agency director

to any increased efforts Defense Secretary Robert Gates requires.

“I am committed to doing whatever it takes to accomplish this critical mission in this critical time while providing the support my team needs as we forge the way ahead,” he said.

Ashore, Gilbeau’s previous assignments include instructor at Naval Transportation Management School; director of Material, Fleet and Industrial Supply Center, Guam; director of Navy and Marine Corps Aircraft Engine Programs, Naval Inventory Control Point; deputy assistant chief of staff for logistics, commander, Naval Air Forces; Material Support Integration program manager; commander, Fleet and Industrial Supply Centers; and head of Aviation Material Support for Chief of National Operations Air Warfare Directorate.

His operational and afloat tours include assistant to supply officer, USS *Guadalcanal*; supply officer, USS *Harry W. Hill*; assistant supply officer, USS *Boxer*; supply officer, USS *Nimitz*; crisis action team leader — Tsunami Relief; and deputy commander and chief of staff for the Joint Contracting Command – Iraq and Afghanistan.

He is a designated Naval Aviation and Surface Warfare Supply Corps officer and a member of the Acquisition Professional Corps.

A native of Fremont, Calif., Gilbeau is a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, Naval Supply Corps School, Naval Transportation Management School, Naval War College, Naval Postgraduate School, University of Michigan’s Ross School of Business Executive Program and University of North Carolina’s Kenan-Flagler Logistic Technologies for Executives program.

His awards include the Legion of Merit (two awards), Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Meritorious Service Medal (four awards), Navy Commendation Medal (five awards), Navy Achievement Medal (five awards), Combat Action Ribbon and multiple campaign and unit awards. **C**



Defense Contract Management Agency Director Charlie Williams, Jr. passes the guidon to the incoming DCMA International Commander Navy Rear Adm. Robert Gilbeau. Gilbeau assumed command Aug. 27 during a change of command ceremony officiated by Williams at the Navy Memorial auditorium, Washington, D.C.