

AIR DEFENSE ARTILLERY ANNOUNCES THE 2014 ALEXANDER HAMILTON AWARD WINNER

FORT SILL, Okla. (December 12, 2013) – The Alexander Hamilton Award is named for famed statesman and Continental Army Artilleryman Maj. Gen. Alexander Hamilton, who during the War of Independence organized an artillery company and saw action at New York, Long Island, Trenton, Princeton and White Plains. Recognized for his organizational and combat skills, Hamilton was appointed to the position of aide-de-camp to Gen. George Washington, by Washington himself.

The award recognizes the outstanding Air Defense Artillery (ADA) and Field Artillery (FA) Reserve Component (RC) U.S. Army National Guard (ARNG) battery of the year for exceptional achievement, superior mission accomplishment and overall unit excellence. Nominations are evaluated on tactical proficiency, operational readiness rate, safety, and other key and distinguishing indicators.

The battery selected to receive this award is nominated by their respective battalion and endorsed by their brigade (or higher) commander. Selections were made following an in-depth evaluation of all nominations by a panel of ADA and Field Artillery (FA) senior officers and noncommissioned officers (NCOs). This year, there were three ADA nominations for this prestigious award.

The Fires Center of Excellence (FCoE) and U.S. Army Air Defense Artillery School (USAADASCH) has announced the winner of the 2014 Air Defense Artillery (ADA) Henry A. Knox Award for military excellence. The 2014 Air Defense Artillery Alexander Hamilton Award is awarded to:

**C Battery, 3rd Battalion, 265th Air Defense Artillery (C/3-265 ADA) Regiment,
164th ADA Brigade, Florida Army National Guard (FLARNG), Sarasota, Fla.**



Based out of Palmetto, Fla., C/3-265 ADA has contributed significantly to the air and missile defense (AMD) mission in support of Operation Noble Eagle conducted in the National Capital Region (NCR), by exhibiting superb mission accomplishments and overall unit excellence. Charlie Battery successfully executed the first minimum deployment package (MDP) [minimum number of soldiers/equipment required to perform sufficient mission requirements prior to the arrival of the full contingency] employment based in the NCR AOR providing supplemental radar coverage in support of the presidential support, customs and border protection missions throughout the Continental United States (CONUS). The battery was the first MDP unit to train on the lightweight-surveillance and target-acquisition radar (LSTAR) that was integrated into the common air picture resulting in a

much improved command and control network. Charlie Battery created the first MDP tactical SOP and rewrote the tactics, techniques and procedures (TTPs) for this highly visible zero-defect mission.

The highly trained battery crews performed exemplary during the mission readiness exercise and maintained an incredible state of readiness by receiving an outstanding rating on their mid-mission deployment readiness exercise. The battery achieved a 99 percent operational readiness rate, as well as maintained a 99 percent rolling stock operational readiness rate, and 100 percent mission success rate with zero safety accidents. These accomplishments attest to the overall culture of excellence of C/3-265 ADA.

In preparation for their NCR deployment, C/3-265 ADA conducted a comprehensive drivers licensing and winter drivers training course, validated by the training support battalion. The focus on drivers training resulted in an exemplary record of no DWIs; no Class A incidents, resulting in soldier injury; and no Class B incidents. Transport of critical assets in excess of \$20 million was accomplished without loss of equipment or injury to soldiers. Soldiers assigned to the C Battery drove more than 25,000 accident-free miles while on the year-long deployment.

Throughout 2013, C/3-265 ADA proved to be an agile, adaptable and decisive force that serves as a benchmark for the ADA and Fires community. Demonstrated tactical proficiency, operational readiness, standards, discipline, innovation, and leadership make C/3-265 ADA the clear winners of the 2014 Air Defense Artillery Alexander Hamilton Award.

Actions attributed to C/3-265 ADA will benefit future air defenders and have contributed significantly to the legacy of Air Defense Artillery and the Army National Guard.

The Chief of Air Defense Artillery Brig. Gen. Donald G. Fryc and the ADA community, congratulates C/3-265 ADA for being recognized as the 2014 Henry A. Knox Award recipient.

Additionally, we'd like to recognize and acknowledge the leaders who acted, when given the opportunity to nominate exceptional soldiers within their command – for leading by example.