

Lt. Col. Dennis Gaare Receives the Army Commendation Medal for Service in Afghanistan

Lieutenant Colonel Dennis Gaare received the Army Commendation Medal for his exceptionally meritorious service as the Program Executive Officer for Ammunition (PEO Ammo) Lead and Project Manager Close Combat Systems (PM CCS) Forward at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan. Lt. Col. Gaare served in support of Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) from June 6, 2012 to September 8, 2012.

The Honorable Heidi Shyu, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology presented Lt. Col Gaare with the medal at a Town Hall meeting held on Wednesday, October 17, 2012 at Picatinny Arsenal.

While in theater, Gaare was responsible for leading the effort to field, train, and sustain life-saving improvised explosive device defeat (IEDD), countermine, and area denial equipment across the Combined Joint Operation Area Afghanistan. His leadership and dedicated service contributed to the protection of countless Soldiers.

Gaare is the seventh PM CCS Forward and PEO Liaison Officer to support OEF. Through their guidance, PM CCS leaders have streamlined processes and reduced inefficiencies that led to the reassessment of theater operations for accelerated delivery, fielding, training, integration, and sustainment of counter-IED products in addition to the timely fielding and sustainment of the XM7 Spider Area Denial System, the first networked munition to be fielded.

Gaare serves as Product Director for Area Denial under PM CCS. He is responsible for cutting-edge networked munitions, including Spider, legacy antipersonnel, and antivehicle systems. The office ensures Soldiers have the capability to impeded enemy movement across the full spectrum of operations while in compliance with the nation's policy on landmines.

In support of the PEO Ammunition Liaison Office in Afghanistan, PM CCS is a constant presence, committed to safeguarding Soldiers through urgently fielding critical capabilities and providing vital training and sustainment.