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12TH CHEMICAL COMPANY OF V CORPS 1ST INFANTRY DIVISION EARNS TITLE OF ARMY'S BEST

1st Infantry Division Public Affairs Office release

TIKRIT, Iraq — The 12th Chemical Company of V Corps' 1st Infantry Division was recognized as the Army's best Oct. 13.

That's when the 12th received the Maj. Gen. William L. Sibert Award for excellence in the Chemical Corps. The award gives recognition to the best company-sized chemical unit in the active Army. The award was presented by the chief of the Army's Chemical Corps and commandant of the U.S. Army Chemical School at the World Wide Chemical Conference at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.

The Sibert award is named for the "father of the Army Chemical Corps", who was selected by Gen. John J. Pershing to stand up the War Department's Chemical Warfare Service. Sibert guided the Corps through many of its earliest challenges.

Units compete for the award based upon their mission; individual and collective training statistics (such as common task testing, weapons qualification and Army Physical Fitness Test scores); exercise evaluations; external support provided; number of training center rotations and other inspections; overall maintenance status and performance on command inspections; safety record; overall organizational excellence based on individual and unit awards, participation in

education programs and community or humanitarian activities; and the future battle-focused direction the company will move in.

The initiatives that earned the 12th the award included:

- The company's performance while deployed;
- Carrying out a force protection mission on two forward operating bases in Iraq;
- Assistance in the captured enemy ammunition mission for 1st Infantry Division Artillery;
- The "stand-up" of the Chemical Corps' very first TIC/TIM teams and completing two TIC/TIM missions;
- "Stand-up" and fielding of the first fixed-site decontamination systems;
- The smoke mission in support of Operation Baton Rouge – the first combat smoke mission since Operation Desert Storm;
- Award of the Army Award for Maintenance Excellence;
- Meeting or exceeding retention goals over the last year, and
- Raising more than \$14,000 for a variety of charitable campaigns and community service organizations.

