



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville  
P.O. 1600  
Huntsville, AL 35807-4301

# News Release

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## **Four Huntsville Center contract employees receive award posthumously**

**HUNTSVILLE, Ala.** — The U.S. Department of Defense posthumously awarded the Defense of Freedom Medal to four contractors with the U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville.

The four recipients, who were killed in Iraq in separate attacks involving an Improvised Explosive Device, were Gerald Lambert, Brenton Thomas Gray, Richard Todd Rhodes and Carey Robinson.

The Defense of Freedom Medal honors civilian employees and contractors of the Department of Defense injured or killed in the line of duty. It is the civilian equivalent of the military's Purple Heart.

Lambert, 46, from Brooksville, Fla., was killed Oct. 11, 2006. Lambert worked as a security specialist for Special Operations Consulting – Security Management, Inc., which is headquartered in Minden, Nev.

Gray, 34, from Southern Pines, N.C., was killed Aug. 18, 2006. Gray worked for Cochise Consultancy, which is headquartered in Tampa, Fla.

Rhodes, 40, from Wilmington, N.C., was killed Aug. 17, 2006. Rhodes worked for Cochise Consultancy, which is headquartered in Tampa, Fla.

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Robinson, 39, from Orlando, Fla., was killed Aug. 28, 2006. Robinson worked as a security specialist for EOD Technology, Inc., which is headquartered in Knoxville, Tenn.

The contractors provided security for the U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville's Coalition Munitions Clearance Program. They sacrificed their lives to protect countless other lives, through collecting and destroying ammunition in Iraq.

Huntsville's Coalition Munitions Clearance Program is responsible for receiving, transporting, segregating and destroying captured or any other munitions posing a danger in Iraq. To date, more than 400,000 tons of ammunition have been destroyed by the Huntsville Center program, significantly reducing risks to Iraqi citizens and U.S. personnel serving in Iraq.