



For Your Information

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Congratulations Mr. Altwegg

Air Force Lt. General Henry "Trey" Obering, Missile Defense Agency (MDA) director, is pleased to announce that Mr. David Altwegg, the Agency's Deputy for Operations, was honored yesterday by The American University School of Public Affairs, with the prestigious Roger W. Jones Award for Executive Leadership. The award recognizes public servants in the federal government whose careers are marked by extraordinary effectiveness.

Mr. Altwegg, whose distinguished career spans more than five decades, has had a direct role in successfully delivering a ballistic missile defense capability to the Nation for the first time in history. An ardent proponent of highlighting leadership and workforce development, the U.S. Naval Academy graduate and retired admiral, is known for pushing his staff to exceed expectations. He has also shown a commitment to continuity in government by introducing key initiatives, including a program to bring graduates with science and engineering backgrounds into the Agency. He developed a mentoring process that has produced strong managers and galvanized multi-disciplined workforce to achieve large-scale goals.

"During my formative years in upstate New York, the United States was engaged in World War II," says Mr. Altwegg, "people felt a patriotic duty to serve their country and it influenced my own decision later to join the Navy."

"Sixty years after that war, our country is still dealing with many of the same challenges," Mr. Altwegg says, "fighting terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. I suppose that is what keeps me coming to work each morning--the importance of our mission and the knowledge that there is still so much to do. In my mind, there is nothing more important than our efforts to defend the U.S. and our forces, friends and allies abroad."

He describes his leadership philosophy as relatively simple, "know your job and generate enthusiasm," he says, "I look forward to each day and strive to do something significant."

"It's a 24-7 type of dedication," he adds, "and it is the leader's responsibility to develop and sustain an organization that promotes trusting relationships."

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