

## U.S. Army Europe and 7th Army

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### Two U.S. Army Europe captains among winners of Army-level MacArthur leadership awards

#### U.S. Army Europe Public Affairs Office

**HEIDELBERG, Germany** – Two U.S. Army Europe captains have been recognized as being among the best junior officer leaders in today's Army.

Capt. Allen Kehoe of Company D, 1st Battalion, 503rd Infantry, 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team, and Capt. Erik C. Oksenvaag of Company C, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, were among the 28 winners in the



TECH SGT COHEN A. YOUNG

Army-level competition of the 2008 Gen. Douglas MacArthur Leadership Awards program. The winners were announced by official Army message March 6.

Capt. Eric Oksenvaag, commander of 1st Armored Division's Company C, Task Force 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, takes part in a joint security escort mission in Sadr City, Iraq, June 4, 2008. Oksenvaag was one of two U.S. Army Europe officers named March 6 as winners of the Army's 2008 Gen. Douglas MacArthur Leadership Awards.

According the program's Web site, the MacArthur awards are designed "to recognize company grade officers who demonstrate the ideals for which Gen. MacArthur stood -- duty, honor, country. The award promotes and sustains effective junior officer leadership in the Army."

Thousands of lieutenants, captains and junior warrant officers across the Army, Army Reserve and Army National Guard are eligible for the award, which has been presented

annually since 1987. In USAREUR alone approximately 3,700 officers were eligible for the 2008 program. Kehoe and Oksenvaag, who is currently deployed in Iraq, were among 13 USAREUR-level winners announced last month, and 14 active-duty winners at the Army level. Seven Army Reserve and seven National Guard officers were also selected as winners at Army level.

“Anybody who is awarded something like this really has too many people to thank (for) all their accomplishments,” said Kehoe at the time of his USAREUR-level award Feb. 23. “I thank all the people who have worked with me and the leadership that has developed me over the years.”

The captains are expected to travel to Washington in May to receive their awards in events at the Pentagon.



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Capt. Allen Kehoe, commander of D Company, 1st Battalion, 503rd Infantry, 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team (center), accompanied by his wife, Christine (left), accepts a U.S. Army Europe-level Gen. Douglas MacArthur Leadership Award from USAREUR commander Gen. Carter F. Ham, in Heidelberg, Germany, Feb. 23. Kehoe was also named March 6 as a winner in the Army level of the MacArthur Awards program.



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