



# News Release

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## **Missile Defense Agency Presents Ronald W. Reagan Award to General Larry D. Welch**

The Missile Defense Agency presented the seventh annual Ronald W. Reagan Missile Defense Award during a ceremony on March 25, 2009 to retired U.S. Air Force General Larry D. Welch. General Welch received the award for his commitment and dedication associated with defending the U.S. against ballistic missile attack. During his 38 years in the U.S. Air Force, General Welch served in operational and staff assignments in training organizations and tactical fighter units worldwide. He served as Air Force Vice Chief of Staff; Commander-in-Chief, Strategic Air Command; and Air Force Chief of Staff and member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff before retiring from the Air Force in July 1990.

Since his retirement from the Air Force, General Welch has continued to make numerous contributions to the nation's defense through various advisory assignments for the Department of Defense. His efforts have brought increased attention to the growing ballistic missile threat, refinements to the testing program for the Ballistic Missile Defense System, and improvements to the business rules for managing missile defense capabilities.

Retired U.S. Navy Rear Admiral Wayne E. Meyer was the 2008 recipient of the Ronald W. Reagan Missile Defense Award.

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