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CARL to be recognized at Library of Congress

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

FORT LEAVENWORTH, Kan., Sept. 8, 2008— Librarian of Congress James H. Billington will formally recognize the Combined Arms Research Library for its being named the Federal Library of the Year for 2007 at a ceremony Sept. 12 in Washington, D.C. Ed Burgess, CARL director, will accept the award on behalf of the Combined Arms Center and Fort Leavenworth at 9 a.m. in the Mumford Room of the Library of Congress.

The Federal Library and Information Center Committee named the CARL its top library in the large category earlier this summer. Winners of these national awards for federal librarianship recognize the many innovative ways that federal libraries, librarians and library technicians fulfill the information demands of government, business and scholarly communities and the American public.

“I am honored to be accepting this award on behalf of the Combined Arms Center and Lt. Gen. Caldwell,” said Ed Burgess, CARL director. “We really believe the CARL is the heart of our intellectual center of the Army and we are extremely proud of the quality and range of services we are able to provide.”

The CARL was recognized for its superior provision of services to its 8,000 students, faculty, scholars, staff and the Army community at large. In 2007, the library system achieved its mission to promote the library as a network-centric learning and adaptive organization. CARL used creativity and innovation to reach its service goals with initiatives such as e-access to domestic and international audiences, promotion and marketing efforts, research and public services, space and technological upgrades, and professional development. Evidence of the CARL staff's energy, enthusiasm and success can be seen in a significant increase in customer satisfaction, evidenced by a 28 percent growth of database usage and a 76 percent increase in Online Public Access Catalog searches.

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The Federal Library and Information Center Committee fosters excellence in federal library and information services through interagency cooperation, and provides guidance and direction for the Federal Library and Information Network (FEDLINK). Created in 1965 and headquartered at the Library of Congress, FLICC also makes recommendations on federal library and information policies, programs and procedures to federal agencies and to others concerned with libraries and information centers.

For more information about the CARL or the Command and General Staff College, contact Lt. Col. Randi Steffy at 913-684-3097 or email randi.steffy@conus.army.mil.

For media planning to attend the ceremony, please contact John Sayers, Library of Congress public affairs, at 202-707-9216.