



# NEWS RELEASE



## Pueblo Chemical Depot

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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U. S. Army Pueblo Chemical Depot  
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Pueblo, Colorado

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### Depot worker receives national honor

PUEBLO CHEMICAL DEPOT, Colo. —A government civilian worker assigned to the Pueblo Chemical Depot received the prestigious Society of American Indian Government Employees (SAIGE) Department of Defense Meritorious Award at their National Convention in Denver on June 7.

Ms. Mitchelene “Mitch” Big Man, an Administrative Assistant for the Emergency Services Directorate and Iraqi War Veteran, received the award for her outstanding achievements promoting Native American women veterans.

The award was presented by Ms. Stephanie Miller, representing the Department of Defense; Mr. Norvel Dillard, representing the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Diversity and Leadership; Mr. Danny Garceau, Chairman of SAIGE; Mr. Don Barclay, Acting Director of the Chemical Materials Agency; Lt. Col. Tim Greenhaw, Commander of the U. S. Army Pueblo Chemical Depot; and Mr. Vince Blunn, Director of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security at Pueblo Chemical Depot.

A member of the Crow Nation, Big Man served two tours supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom and identified a need for those women returning home. Her non-profit organization, Native American Women Warriors, works with other non-profit entities such as Warriors in Recovery, finding resourcing assistance programs for Native American women veterans on reservations and urban districts needing health, education and employment assistance.

Big Man retired from the U.S. Army as a Sgt. First Class in April 2009 with 22 years’ service. She is the founding member of Native American Women Warriors, who perform Color Guard duties in Native American Regalia. The group has performed throughout Colorado and the Southwest and at the National Veteran’s Day Parade in New York City.

Big Man is married to an active duty Soldier stationed at Fort Carson, Master Sgt. Dwayne Cyrus and they reside in Colorado Springs. They are the parents of five children and one grandchild. Ms. Big Man is pursuing a Masters Program at The University of Phoenix.

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(Photo cutline follows on next page)

*The U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA) with headquarters at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., stores the nation's aging chemical weapons and develops programs aimed at effectively treating and ultimately eliminating chemical warfare materiel. For more information about CMA and its programs, visit [www.cma.army.mil](http://www.cma.army.mil).*

Cut Line- SAIGE 8 JPG:

**Pueblo Chemical Depot civilian employee Ms. Mitchelene Big Man was recognized at the National Convention for the Society of American Indian Government Employees (SAIGE) in Denver on June 7 for her achievements in promoting Native American women veterans. (L to R) Department Of Defense representative Ms. Stephanie Miller; SAIGE Chairman Danny Garceau; Mitchelene Big Man; Mr. Norvel Dillard, representing the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Diversity and Leadership; Mr. Vince Blunn, Director of Plans, Training Mobilization and Security at Pueblo Chemical Depot; Lt. Col. Tim Greenhaw, Commander, Pueblo Chemical Depot; and Mr. Don Barclay, Acting Director of the Chemical Materials Agency. Photo by David H. Barehand**