

DDAG Shipment Saves Lives

Armor Shipped to Iraq Protects Marines

By Jessica Walter-Groft, DDC Command Affairs

Defense Distribution Depot Albany, GA (DDAG) recently shipped armor kits used to fortify vehicles of the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force (I MEF) being deployed to Iraq.

Confirmed to have already saved lives, the protective armor shipped by DDAG has provided increased protection from Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) and small arms fire as well as mine and grenade fragments.

“It has truly been an around the clock operation with DDAG civilian and Marine volunteers chomping at the bit to take part in this life-saving mission,” said Maj Mark Campaigne, USMC, DDAG Commander.

Responding to an urgent needs statement submitted by the I MEF, every activity along the supply chain raced against the clock to acquire, package, ship and install armor that would be used to rapidly modify 1,837 vehicles to be used by the I MEF in Iraq. DDAG’s role was to receive, package and issue the armor kits destined for the final installation point in Kuwait. The kits included the



Protective armor kits shipped from DDAG have saved lives of Marines in Iraq.



The armor only allows a Marine’s eyes and Kevlar helmet to remain visible.

1/4-inch steel plates to replace the fabric doors on the vehicles as well as installation hardware, tools and instructions.

In a message to DLA Director VADM Keith W. Lippert, SC, USN, the Deputy Commander of the Marine Corps Logistics Command, R. Ken Trammell, said, “The success of this effort would have been impossible without the dedicated support of your activity [DDAG]. Maj Mark Campaigne and his team turned to and did the packaging and transportation to move over 1 million pounds of steel . . . and were instrumental in the success of this effort.”

Maj Campaigne said the key to completing the mission was the dedication of the DDAG workforce. “They worked hard to the very end. These were very important shipments, and they had to get out the door ASAP in order reach Kuwait and Iraq in time.”

For one Marine whose convoy was attacked by small arms fire and IEDs, the armor shipped from DDAG made all the difference. “I was inside the blast radius on the first one, but no scratches,” he said.