

DDPH Provides Replacement Sonar Dome to Damaged Attack Sub

By Jessica Walter-Groft, DDC Command Affairs

The Defense Distribution Depot Pearl Harbor, HI (DDPH) sent a sonar dome to Naval Base Guam where the USS San Francisco (SSN 711), a Los Angeles-class fast-attack submarine, was dry docked in January while awaiting a damage assessment.

The 360-foot long sub sustained damage to the sonar dome and forward ballast tanks when it collided with what is presumed to be an uncharted underwater seamount on January 8, 2005, just south of Guam.



The sonar dome, issued from Defense Distribution Depot Pearl Harbor, HI (DDPH), was transported from DDPH's storage facility to the local port where a ship heading to Guam received the shipment. Above photo courtesy of U.S. Navy.



"Traveling about 350 miles under its own power, the USS San Francisco entered the port at Naval Base Guam where it was certified for a one-time docking while an engineering assessment was performed to determine where, when and if repairs will be made" said LCDR Jeff Davis, SC, USN, spokesperson for Submarine Force Pacific.

The replacement sonar dome shipped from DDPH will be used to make the sub safe for surface navigation so it can travel to Pearl Harbor or Puget Sound after the decision on the vessel's fate is made.

Sonar domes house electronic equipment used to navigate, detect, and determine the range of objects underwater, and DDPH had three of them in stock.

DDPH employees prepared the fiberglass dome for shipment processing, affixing the proper labeling and generating transportation documentation.

They had already packed and shipped the tools and equipment needed for the Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA) "Fly Away" team to work with the maintenance crew in Guam to repair the sub in preparation of receiving the dome.

"The USS San Francisco was involved in an unfortunate accident, and DDPH is proud to have the opportunity to provide the necessary parts for the sub's repair," said CDR Joe Vitelli, SC, USN, DDPH Commander.

DDC Offers Assistance to Tsunami Survivors

By Polly Charbonneau, DDC Command Affairs

A nine-magnitude earthquake struck deep under the Indian Ocean off the coast of West Sumatra on Dec. 26, 2004. The quake triggered massive tsunamis that wiped out coastal areas in six countries. While the world mourns the tragic losses, employees from the Defense Distribution Center (DDC) are working hard to help the survivors.



Bob Sersch, DDSP, is operating the forklift in Building 50 New Cumberland.

DDC distribution centers are rushing to provide surgical masks and gloves, blankets, medical and first aid kits, bandages, thermometers, pesticides, health and comfort packs, water purification tablets, Reverse Osmosis Water Purification Units (ROWPU), repair parts for generators and other critical equipment, safety boots, lamps and flashlights, tents, and batteries among other items to help with recovery efforts.

The U.S. Pacific Command (USPACOM) leads the U.S. effort in support of coordination with other nations and international organizations to provide disaster relief to the Governments of Indonesia, Sri Lanka, and Thailand and other affected nations to mitigate the effects of the recent earthquakes and tsunamis. DLA is aligned with USPACOM to provide logistics support. DLA has established an around-the-clock operations center to handle all USPACOM requests.

