

Add-on-armor mission success

By Sherre Mitten-Bell, DDSP Public Affairs

Employees from Defense Distribution Depot Susquehanna, Pa., were recognized recently for their efforts to support a mission key to protecting the lives of U.S. war fighters in Iraq and Afghanistan.

DDSP began receiving and transshipping add-on-armor kits for Bradley Fighting Vehicles in December 2006, after receiving a request from U.S. Transportation Command, or TRANSCOM. The request asked if DDSP could take on the additional mission of assisting Air Mobility Command with moving add-on-armor kits for Bradley Fighting Vehicles to and from various locations around the U.S.

The staff at the distribution center readily agreed and began receiving and transshipping the kits in December 2006. Although the initial information indicated that they could expect an average of 100 air pallets per day, variations were significant and on some days more than 300 kits were received and processed.

“The success of the project would not have been possible without the whole DDSP team pitching in to tackle the regular workload, allowing others to support the project,” said Navy Capt. James Naber, commander, DDSP. “That is what teamwork is all about, and DDSP shows that with each special project that comes our way.”

Kits eligible for processing at a Consolidation and Containerization Point arrived at DDSP directly from the vendor. The DDSP team assigned to the project established a CCP point for the kits in one of the installation’s newest buildings, and built air pallets to ship the kits to military air bases where they would be forwarded on to their ultimate destinations.

The building the team began using was so new at the time that construction wasn’t even complete. The building did not yet have the necessary infrastructure to handle the process. The DDSP staff devised a way to both establish the CCP capability and



More than 22,000 pallets like those pictured were processed by employees at Defense Distribution Depot Susquehanna, Pa., from December 2006 to October 2007. The pallets contained add-on-armor components for Bradley Fighting Vehicles that provided additional protection against improvised explosive devices, or IEDs, in Iraq and Afghanistan.

enter the appropriate information into the Defense Standard System, the distribution and warehousing management tool that allows the items to be tracked as they move through the supply chain.

The busiest months were January through April 2007 when DDSP staff processed more than 22,100 kits.

The mission was critical to the war fighter—the add-on-armor kits provide greater protection from improvised explosive devices, or IEDs, that are a threat to the troops when they are on patrol in Iraq and Afghanistan. The system DDSP

established provided efficient processing and 100 percent visibility of the kits while they were in the supply chain.

The support DDSP provided was so efficient that one of DDSP’s customers, Michael Wilson of Air Mobility Command, sent an e-mail to DDC in October 2007 thanking the staff for their efforts.

“We’re finally done with our overseas shipment of Bradley Armor Kits,” Wilson wrote. “We installed a total of 989 Bradley Armor kits in Iraq and left 54 kits in case a few more vehicles somehow show up without it.”

reflects teamwork, dedication



Pictured are members of the DDSP staff who were instrumental in the success of the Bradley Fighting Vehicle add-on-armor shipping program. With them is DDC Commander Brig. Gen. Lynn Collyar, right center in above photo. Collyar presented star notes and command coins to the group in appreciation of their dedication to the war fighter.



Wilson went on to say that 90 kits were installed in Germany and that kits continue to be installed at sites in the U.S. to support the next wave of war fighters to deploy to Iraq and Afghanistan. He also said the kits have already paid big dividends for the soldiers.

“We have received many positive reports on the difference these kits have made,” Wilson continued. “I wanted to thank all of you for the help you provided and tell you that before this, I had no idea how difficult your jobs were. I know there were a lot of people involved. Please pass on my thanks.”



Are you reading T&T?

DLA Today & Tomorrow
Enterprise news at <https://today.dla.mil>

A promotional graphic for DLA Today & Tomorrow. It features a silver laptop on the left side, with the screen displaying the website's interface. To the right of the laptop, the text "Are you reading T&T?" is written in a large, bold, blue font. Below this, in a smaller blue font, is "DLA Today & Tomorrow" and "Enterprise news at https://today.dla.mil".