

Talleri visits DDKS as it celebrates five years as distribution center

By Emily Blubaugh, DDC Public Affairs

The Defense Distribution Depot Kuwait, Southwest Asia, or DDKS, recently celebrated a considerable milestone, with five years as Southwest Asia's sole distribution facility under the Defense Distribution Center, or DDC. The occasion was marked with a visit from DDC commander United States Marine Corps Brig. Gen. Peter Talleri, as well as an anniversary celebration.

Talleri's visit to DDKS, which was officially established on August 30, 2004, kicked off the anniversary celebration and was part of a multi-stop visit to United States Central Command, or USCENTCOM, operations.

The visit began with a tour of DDKS warehouse operations and the Theater Consolidation and Shipping Point, or TSCP, which is responsible for rapidly consolidating and segregating shipments arriving from multiple

sources and preparing them for onward movement directly to the Warfighter.

Following his stopover at DDKS, Talleri visited the depot's Bahrain detachment, which provides physical receipt, stow, care and issue of materiel for tactical distribution of Fleet Industrial Supply Center materials.

Before departing for Bahrain, Talleri thanked DDKS' employees for all of the hard work and

contributions which led to five successful years in operation. "It truly is a team effort to provide responsive and quality distribution support to our customers. I thank you all for your many years of impressive efforts, and we must continue to work closely together to remain effective and provide the best service possible to the Warfighter," said Talleri.

Highlighting the ceremony, video messages from past DDKS leadership were presented to the audience. The videos, from former DDKS commanders United States Army Cols. Gloria Blake and Clayton Newton, served as a tribute to the hard work and motivation displayed by DDKS' management, employees and partners in supporting the Warfighter.



Defense Distribution Depot Kuwait, Southwest Asia, or DDKS, deputy commander Jerry Brown, left, and commander United States Army Col. Vernon Beatty, right, deliver closing remarks at the DDKS 5th Anniversary Celebration.

Newton, who served as commander of DDKS from 2002 to 2004 and currently serves as DDC chief of staff, remembered the dedication that went into supporting the depot's mission from its inception. "As I recall my first time on the ground in 2004, walking the streets of DDKS when they were still sand... the incredible sense of pride of all those that were there at that time, building the depot and getting it ready for its first material release order—which by the way, was a single wiper blade attached to a warehouse pallet with a radio frequency tag stuck to it."

He then commended the entire DDKS team, past and present, for the incredible efforts and commitment which has taken the depot from its "humble beginnings to what is now recognized as DDC's 3rd largest depot by volume" and credited the team with contributing toward the "incredible accomplishment, occurring over a mere five-year period of time,"



Defense Distribution Center commander, United States Marine Corps Brig. Gen. Peter Talleri, left, and Defense Distribution Depot Kuwait, Southwest Asia, or DDKS, commander United States Army Col. Vernon Beatty, right celebrate DDKS's fifth anniversary.

according to Newton.

DDKS was established based on a request from the USCENTCOM, to fulfill its mission of providing forward stock positioning support and enhanced physical distribution services to the Armed Forces located in the USCENTOM area of responsibility, or AOR.

DDKS' distribution facilities are strategically positioned in Southwest Asia to reduce transportation and customer

wait time. The depot provides distribution services and surge capability to all four service components to support Warfighters operating in the AOR. Current commodities distributed by DDKS are repair parts, barrier/construction materiel, clothing, textiles and tentage. DDKS also provides consolidated shipment and containerization services, as well as, routine logistic support to the military community in the DDKS theater of operations.