

# Thanks from USS Bonhomme Richard

A group of Defense Distribution Depot San Joaquin, California (DDJC) teammates were recently honored with a Commander's Coin from DDJC Commander, COL Edward Visker, USA. Kathleen Tornero and Donald Kirk from the Hazardous Materials Branch and Gary Adams and Toni Lopez were recognized for their outstanding support on an urgent shipment to the USS Bonhomme Richard, an amphibious assault ship in the Persian Gulf.

The shipment consisted of various items that included compressed gas cylinders, carbon monoxide test kits, calibration kits, and sensors for testing air in confined spaces. All total the requisitions filled four containers and were needed immediately.

An email from CDR Bill Baker, Commanding Officer of the Navy Priority Material Office to Transportation Division Deputy Bill Handewith thanked the group and DDJC for their fast action.

"They expedited getting this material in and out of the CCP (Consolidation and Containerization Point), cleared HAZMAT (Hazardous Materials) and air shipped to NAS Norfolk (Naval Air Station Norfolk) for forwarding via the Air Force to the

Gulf. Their help was essential in making sure this material is going to get to one of the deployed ships as quickly as possible," wrote CDR Baker.

"Now that I write this," he continued, "I know there are scores of people at DDJC who do great stuff everyday on behalf of your Navy customers and deserve to be recognized . . . but, I just wanted to take a minute to acknowledge these before I got sidetracked."

The email also had a note from CDR Will Port, Supply Officer for the USS Bonhomme Richard. In his prior assignment he was the supply officer at NAS Lemoore, located near Fresno, CA.

"I'm the guy who is on the receiving end of the requisitions that you are pushing over here to the fight. I want to echo CDR Baker's words. I see a lot of material hit our deck every time we have a resupply opportunity and much of it is from DDJC. You and your folks back home who move the material this way in expeditious fashion are the backbone of our support out here.

"Without you, we cannot sustain the fight. Our success is directly dependent upon you and your personnel and we thank all of you for your efforts! You are performing magnificently."



From left are: *Toni Lopez, Kathleen Tornero, Donald Kirk, and Gary Adams.*