

DDKS celebrates one year anniversary

By Stacy L. Umstead, DDC Command Affairs Office

The Defense Distribution Center's 24th distribution facility, Defense Distribution Depot Kuwait, Southwest Asia (DDKS), officially celebrated its one-year anniversary on September 15, 2005. Commemorating the event, DDKS hosted an employee appreciation day filled with exceptional food, prizes and music. Attendees to the celebration included members of the Public Warehousing Company, DDKS's logistics partner, and numerous local customers.

Mr. Terek Sultan, Chairman and Managing Director of PWC, was guest speaker for the day's event. "The growth and success of DDKS has been inspirational. You have an innovative and professional leadership team, a wonderful staff, and most importantly, incredible resolve. That's definitely a winning combination."

During the past year, DDKS has evolved into a premiere theater distribution point providing logistical support to the Central Command (CENTCOM) Area of Responsibility (AOR). United States Army Col. Gloria Blake, DDKS's Commander, reflecting on the past year said, "We received our first order on September 22, 2004, since that date, DDKS has processed over 448,400 orders."

With over 21,000 different items, valued at over \$256M stored on the shelves, DDKS will further enhance its distribution services in support of the customers in Southwest Asia. "DDKS will increase its inventory to about 40,000 different items by the beginning of 2006," said Blake, "By positioning these items closer to our customers, we continue to reduce transportation costs and reduce customer wait time."

DDKS isn't stopping there. In the near future, DDKS will add a Theater Consolidation and Shipping Point



Team DDKS (DoD Civilians) Greg Stephens, Carolyn Middleton, Valerie Hall, COL Blake, Mr. Tarek Sultan, Fred Clary, Roxanne Anderson, Kanti Patel, Bryan Eldridge (on knees) Lewis Borrero, Stephen Mays.

(TCSP) which will act as a primary conduit for sustainment material entering the Theater. The TCSP will consolidate and segregate shipments and prepare them for onward movement to the customer. "This operation will act as a cross-docking activity and will further allow DDKS to expedite materiel to our customers," said Blake.

DDKS currently operates out of PWC just outside of Camp Arifjan. DDKS is comprised of U.S. military, civilian and contractor employees. "Our partnership with PWC has proven to be a key factor to DDKS's success," said Blake. "They understand our mission and the reason why we are over here. They are truly focused on the customer."

DDKS is one of 26 DDC distribution facilities located throughout the world and is the DDC's only distribution facility in Southwest Asia and was established based on a request from the United States Central Command (CENTCOM). Their primary mission is to provide forward stock positioning support and enhanced physical distribution services to the Armed Forces located in the US Central Command Area of Responsibility (AOR). The depot provides distribution services and surge capability to all four service components to support the Warfighters operating in the AOR. Current

commodities distributed by DDKS are repair parts, barrier/construction materiel, clothing, and textiles.

Happy 1st Anniversary DDKS!



Team DDKS (PWC) Anwer Ali Khan, Suraj Nair, Krishna Kumar, Leovi Bartolome, Ghassan Assaad, Sriram Bidayat, Mohammed Yaseen, Glinston Gonsalves, Mutaz Mohammed Ali, K.V. Manoj, Omar Masoud, Colonel Gloria Blake, Bala Kumar, Leo Lopes, Mohammed Azeem Siddiqui, Valentine D'souza.



Mr. Tarek Sultan and COL Gloria Blake celebrate DDKS's 1st Anniversary with a ceremonial cake cutting.