

DDC's Palko Promoted to Rank of Captain

By Stacy L. Umstead, DDC Command Affairs Officer



Amanda and Brian Palko place the rank of Captain on their father's shoulders.

Defense Distribution Center's (DDC's) Joint Logistics Contingency Plans and Operations Officer and Daniel A. Palko, SC, USN, was promoted to the rank of Captain in a ceremony held at the Naval Support Activity, Mechanicsburg, PA, in April.

Officiating the ceremony was DLA Director VADM Keith W. Lippert, SC, USN.

During his opening remarks, VADM Lippert commended CAPT Palko on his 22-year career, spotlighting his recent DDC successes. "Dan was hand-picked for the challenging job as Officer in Charge at the Defense Logistics Agency's supply depot in Bahrain. He established and led DDC's first-ever combat theater distribution platform positioning critical bulk construction material for direct delivery to the Warfighter."

VADM Lippert continued, "He was so successful in Bahrain that we continued to challenge him by selecting him to lead the effort and stand up a fully operational defense distribution depot at Camp Arifijan, Kuwait."

After his remarks, the Admiral invited the Palko family to the

front stage where daughter Amanda and son Brian removed the Navy Commander's shoulder boards and replaced them with the Captain's boards. Wife Lynn and VADM Lippert then placed the Navy service dress blue jacket onto CAPT Palko. The oath of appointment was administered by the Admiral while family members looked on.

CAPT Palko addressed the audience, "Over the past few weeks, I looked back at my life and career and how it was impacted by so many people. I came up with five pillars that

are the centerpiece of my life: Military, Community, Church, Friends and Family."

CAPT Palko, naming representatives he considered key figures of each pillar, continued his remarks by further commenting on the family pillar. "The family pillar is made out of the most precious stone on earth—the diamond." This was his reference to his wife, Lynn, who has supported him throughout his career.

Teary-eyed and full of pride, CAPT Palko presented flowers to family and friends, expressing his thanks for their support to him during his Naval career.

More than 100 people were in attendance at the ceremony including family, community leaders, DDC employees, and representatives of the Naval Support Activity, Naval Inventory Control Point, and Army War College.



VADM Lippert administers oath of appointment to CAPT Palko.

DDPH Wins Packaging Award



DDPH Packing Operations Team wins 2004 DOD Packing Achievement Award