

Battlefield 'Blood Box' Seen as Life Saver

Jun. 23, 2005

WASHINGTON -- The Pentagon is paying some \$5 million to Minnesota Thermal Science to develop a "blood box" that preserves blood needed for combat victims in extreme weather conditions, reports the Knight Ridder News Service. Retired scientist Bill Mayer invented his thermal-insulated boxes to protect front-line blood supplies from being ruined by the harsh climates in Iraq and Afghanistan. Mayer's "Golden Hour" container can reportedly keep blood fresh for three days or more under extreme temperatures; its name refers to the first hour after injury, when 85 percent of combat deaths occur.