



CCAD team supports FEDS in Kuwait

The flexible engine diagnostic system (FEDS) is a critical asset to in-theater aviation operations supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom. Last month, CCAD's FEDS Team headed by Rick Hunter chief of the CCAD directorate of production management's aviation readiness division traveled to Camp Arifjan, Kuwait to



FEDS Team in Kuwait – (l-r): Staff Sgt. Charlie Schofield, Mike West, Doug Drewery, Ron Rice, Staff Sgt. Clifton Smith, Sgt. Anthony Butcher, Rick Hunter, and Sgt. David Delgado.

calibrate and perform a FEDS RESET inspection. Team members accompanying Hunter were Mike West, Ron Rice and Doug Drewery of the FEDS branch. Upon arrival, the team briefed Col. Ernest Tage Erickson, commander, and Lt. Col. William Shea, executive officer of the 1109th (CT) AVCRAD. Shea commented on FEDS operator productivity. The operators have tested over 93 T-700, T701 and T-701C and seven T55-L-712 engines

since Jun of last year.

Both Erickson and Shea expressed their satisfaction with the FEDS performance and defended FEDS as a critical asset to in-theater aviation operations supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The team calibrated the FEDS and performed a RESET inspection, completing the mission in 8 days with the outstanding support of the 1109TH

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CCAD employee shows support for our troops

When it comes to showing support for our servicemembers serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom, Jesse Garza, from the directorate of components production rotary wing/composites division and his family are no strangers. Last Dec. Garza heard that his next door neighbor's son was coming home on a few days' well-deserved leave from Iraq where he was serving with the 887th Quartermaster

Company from Fort Hood. He and his family quickly started putting together a banner to welcome Sgt. Michael Montez home and even had Montez's dad take the long route home from the airport to ensure the banner would be hung in time for his arrival at his Beeville home.

"In talking to Michael, I found out that troop morale could be better," said Garza. "He said that troops feel the media hype each time they report a terrorist bombing or how another aircraft was shot down and the number of American Soldiers lives lost gives the terrorists too much attention and that the good the U.S. troops are doing is overshadowed by that. Michael did mention that one place they get support from is CCAD".

To show positive attention to Montez' fellow Soldiers, Garza put together a support message on a roll of paper and

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New AMCOM CG visits CCAD – BG(P) James H. Pillsbury, new commanding general at U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command, toured the facilities at CCAD and proved to be a real “people person”. During his tour through the shops, Pillsbury would often stop to shake hands and talk to employees. (Above CW from top right) Touring the test cell area, Pillsbury shakes hands with Nelda Labbe'-Sturgeon; Ernesto Valadez of the T700 engine assembly shop takes a few seconds from his work for a handshake; Pillsbury shares a lighter moment with the group during his tour of the engine shop; Larry Sims pauses to visit with Pillsbury; and Pillsbury reaches to shake hands with Manuel Torres, supervisor at the bearing shop after presenting the shop their ISO:9000 Certification document.

From the Commanding General

Let me tell you how excited we are to be here. This opportunity is special...and we know it! AMCOM's reputation in the field is great. Your support to on-going operations is the standard that other organizations can only hope to emulate. So, here comes a new commander to throw into the mix. What's he going to be like?

I am an Army brat whose father spent 32 years in the Army as a doctor. Call San Antonio, TX. home, but have lived in Hopkinsville, KY, longer than anywhere else. This is my 30th year on active duty with 16 of those years in infantry divisions. Spent 12 years in the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) working on aircraft. Have had a couple of Pentagon assignments and a DLA stint also. Have worked with predominantly civilian organizations before and found the same challenges that abound in any military organization. Also found great, true professionals abound!! Know it's going to be the same here.

What I expect from each and every one of you is true commitment to the Soldier. As you perform your duties always keep someone in the field in mind. I think about SFC Don Dalton who was a great Production Control NCO in the 101st with me. I will work hard to ensure that my decisions help the new crop of "SFC Daltons" perform their mission. I remember CW4 Ander-



son also who ran the best motor pool operation I've ever been around. He will be in my thoughts as I deal with missile issues. We must keep our eyes on the customer.

I expect honesty and integrity always!

Don't take yourself too seriously... there isn't anyone of us that is indispensable!

Take care of each other. I don't care who gets the credit for success, but I do know that we all get the blame for failure.

I demand and expect that each of you treat all your subordinates with dignity and respect. I will not tolerate any form of harassment, sexual, gender, ethnic, age, etc.

I expect you to have loyalty to the

organization...but if you see something wrong, report it!

I expect this mature workforce not to get bogged down in petty matters.

What you can expect from me is a commander who cares deeply about people and the mission. I try to have a good time in all I do...sometimes it works against me...but I am not going to change. You can expect a boss, above all else, who wants to support the Soldier in the field.

Some quirks that may or may not be important:

I am a morning person...will come in early...but don't expect everyone else to. I am not a workaholic... but will work until midnight if necessary.

I don't like wimps. Take the bad news with the good and drive on!

Keep charts simple.

Be on time.

My priorities in life are:

God

My family

My career

Golf!

BG(P) James Pillsbury
Commanding General
U.S. Army Aviation & Missile Command

(Editor's note: The above message from BG(P) Pillsbury was taken from the Newsletter of the Association of the United States Army's January issue.)



The directorate of engine production's T55 engine assembly branch has accomplished yet another milestone. The first T55-L712 engine to go through the conversion process was completed in 86 days, versus a turn around time goal of 200 days. The directorate credits the success to fully supported parts and excellent team work. This is the first of 70 engines scheduled for production in FY04 and was produced two months ahead of schedule.



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY AVIATION AND MISSILE COMMAND
REDSTONE ARSENAL, ALABAMA 35899-5000

10 FEB 2004

Team CCAD,

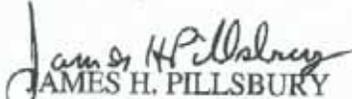
I wanted to take a moment and thank you for your outstanding support and dedication to our sons and daughters who are fighting on the front lines during this War on Terrorism.

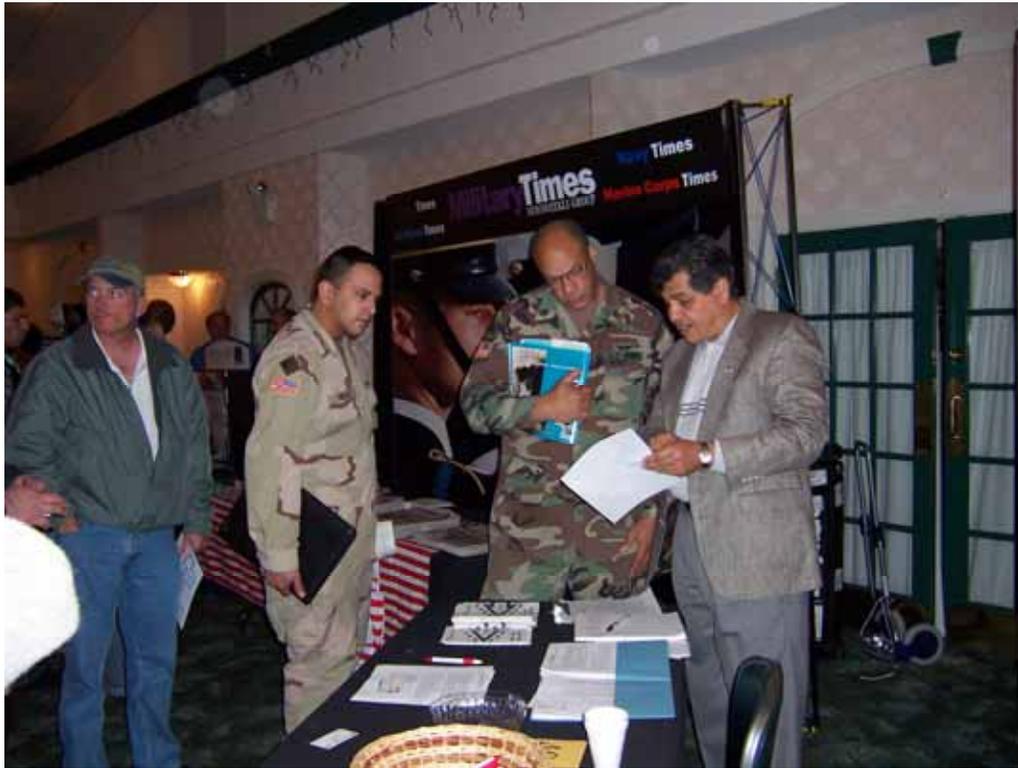
During my visit on the 4th and 5th of February I had the opportunity to walk through and meet with many of you and witness first-hand the dedicated artisan spirit and detailed attention to your craft that you display daily. This is helping us win, day-by-day, the war on terrorism.

Team CCAD's efforts with LEAN are an excellent example of the successful future of our depots. This success is directly attributed to everyone's daily commitment to performing their job, not just to standard but to improving that standard.

The Corpus Christi community benefits from your efforts, not just pride in shared ownership for your successes, but also by your positive influence through community involvement and daily interactions. Be proud of what you do because each of you is very important. Your continued dedication to a quality product is a commodity that our soldiers bank on, and with confidence. I thank you for you intense desire to be an integral part of Team U.S.A and I ask that you not let up!

Remember that **Safety** is top priority in all you do!


JAMES H. PILLSBURY
Brigadier General(P), USA
Commanding



Job Fair – Orlando Noyola from the CCAD Civilian Personnel Advisory Center (seen at right), answers questions and provides information to interested personnel on job opportunities at CCAD during a job fair in Ft Hood, Tex on Jan. 21. A group of three CPAC, and five CCAD supervisors participated in the job fair to recruit prospective employees experienced in aviation maintenance.

The *Aircraftsman* is published for and about employees like...



...Carla Johnson, admin assistant in the CCAD directorate of engineering services (photo at left) and Dexter Rhines (seated in photo at right) and Luis Amador (standing) of the directorate of components production's bearing shop.

CORPUS CHRISTI ARMY DEPOT
COL JAMES J. BUDNEY, JR.
DEPOT COMMANDER

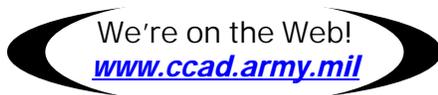
The Aircraftsman
Public Affairs Office
308 Crecy Street
Mail Stop 19
Corpus Christi, Texas 78419

Phone: (361) 961-3627
Fax: (361) 961-3039
Email: lois.contreras@us.army.mil

Lois Contreras
Public Affairs Officer

Sharon Haynes
Protocol

Our Products Reflect Our Pride



("FEDS" continued from page 1)

FEDS operators, Staff Sgt. Clifton Smith, Staff Sgt. Charlie Schofield, Sgt. Delgado and Sgt. Butcher.

A Sierra Army Depot team consisting of Tim MacDonald, Thomas Byers, and Mark Vandeburgh is currently on-site in Kuwait modifying the FEDS to test T55-GA-714A engines under the guidance of the cargo helicopter directorate at AMCOM.

The 1109th will be returning to the U.S. sometime in March or April and the 1107th (MO) AVCRAD will be taking over the aviation support mission.

The FEDS located in Kuwait is scheduled to be moved to Balad, Iraq in the near future and CCAD's FEDS team will return to assist in the movement.

To all my friends at CCAD,

I don't know how to properly express my gratitude for all your prayers and extended sympathy during the loss of my mother. Those that know me, know I'm a man of few words. So thank-you, one and all.

Sabas Cavazos and family
CCAD NDT/Shot Peen Shop

LOST PET HOTLINE – Have you lost a pet? Found one? Contact the Lost Pet Hotline at 280-7278 or 882-7387 to report either lost or found pets.

Family coordinates messages to soldiers

("Support" continued from page 1)

cut out paper stars which he brought in and passed out among his CCAD

up banner back to his fellow Soldiers.



CCAD employee Jesse Garza (c), is poses with his wife (seen at left) and Sgt. Michael Montez by the welcome banner Garza and his family made to welcome Montez home from Iraq in Dec.

"I'm very proud of Michael and all of our troops for all their efforts to fight this war on terror," said Garza. "It's going to be a long journey and my family, friends and I are here with big hearts, thanks, and prayers for their service. A message to our troops: Stay safe and come home soon. Watch over each other, be a team, and God bless our American troops."

Montez returned home to Beeville after a year's tour in Iraq on Jan. 25.

co-workers and asked them to write messages of support on them. He and his family then glued the stars onto the banner. Garza also got his community involved in writing messages on the banner. When it was finished, it contained messages from school children and fellow parishioners at Garza's church, along with the CCAD messages. When Montez left to finish his tour in Iraq, he carried the rolled



Part of the support message banner that Garza, members of his community, and CCAD co-workers made for Montez to carry back to his fellow Soldiers in Iraq.

Concerned about back surgery...don't be!

by Manny Garcia, Jr.
Production Analyst, Aircraft QC Division

For the past ten years, I had been experiencing lower back pain, like most of us today. Concern for my health and the ever-growing problem of increased sick leave usage, I would visit my doctor for medical attention. After a few days of prescribed bed rest, my lower back pain would subside, enabling me to return to work and be productive.

It wasn't until last year after I suffered severe back pain that worsened, radiating to my left leg which caused me to experience nerve damage. I again went to my doctor who ordered a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) procedure and administered a steroid injection to relieve the pain that was diagnosed as being caused by herniated discs.

After several injections, the pain continued and my doctor referred me to a neurosurgeon who suggested back surgery to alleviate the pain I had been experiencing. I underwent surgery in December and returned to work after a convalescent period of five weeks.

I strongly recommend to anyone experiencing back pain to seek medical attention, and if needed, undergo the surgical procedure as soon as possible. This I recommend not only for the obvious benefit to your health and your family, but also for the reason we are here at CCAD—to produce a product that is needed by our most important customer—the soldier in the field.