

An experience to remember

by Lois Contreras
CCAD Public Affairs

Corpus Christi Army Depot has seen its share of employees in the Reserve and Guard called to duty in support of Operation Endure Freedom/Iraqi Freedom. Lt. Col. Michael Mack, whose job normally finds him in the skills development center,



photo by Gary Tindall, Dir. QA

Lt. Col. Michael Mack, from the directorate of quality assurance analytical investigations division (AID), stands under the 82nd Airborne Division sign in Kandahar Airport in Afghanistan during a recent trip. Mack and a team from AID, headed by Gary Tindall, were there investigating an aircraft accident.

be housed in canvas tents with open flaps, was pleasantly surprised to find the accommodations consisted of air-conditioned tents and hot and cold running water, though the water was not potable. He found the sandstorm that hit the first week the team was there more of an annoyance than anything else, since the team's only

transportation was by foot. "Everyone was so young, even the task force commander," says Mack. "And everyone was in good spirits, morale was high, though of course they all want to come home but know they have a job to do." He speaks highly of the three soldiers who helped the team disassemble the engine on the crashed aircraft, saying they were never heard to complain about conditions or the situation in which they find themselves and were ready and willing to

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(See "AID" on page 4)

2003 Independence Day message

Excerpt from U.S. Army Public Affairs speeches

There are defining moments in history that shape our sense of who we are as Americans. On Friday, July 4, 2003, we celebrate one such moment. On this day 227 years ago, a group of brave American colonists took a bold step: the Second Continental Congress voted to adopt Thomas Jefferson's revolutionary

document, the Declaration of Independence.

In celebration of the freedoms set forth by the Declaration, we will watch and listen with wonder as exploding fireworks illuminate the evening sky. Their loud explosions and marvelous bursts of color will cascade across the sky, symbols of the many battles our Army has fought in its efforts to protect and preserve our precious freedoms.

Listen to these famous words from the second paragraph of the Declaration of Independence: "We hold these truths to

(See "Interviews" on page 4)

Inside this issue:

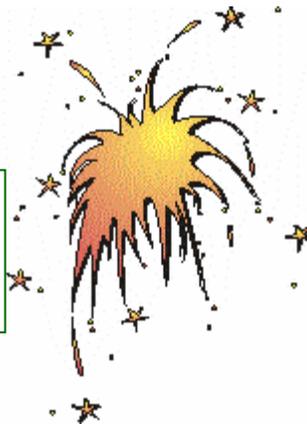
Around the depot	2
AAAA hosts golf scramble	3

Around the depot



Ramiro C. Salinas (l) and Pat Collins of the tool and die shop had reason to celebrate June 26th. Salinas celebrated 36 years of federal service and Collins, the youngest toolmaker, celebrated his big 50 with a brisket luncheon in the shop.

AWARDS AND SUCH...



Sgt. Maria Cooper from CCAD's mobilization and training office, received the Army Commendation Medal from Col. Jim Budney at a luncheon in her honor on Jun. 20th. Cooper left the Army to pursue a career in civilian life that would keep her close to her family in south Texas.



CCAD employees Maggie Sandoval-Flores (left in center photo) and Elizabeth Mayers decided to take matters into their own hands when the stack of cigarette butts at the south end of Bldg 8 outside Mezz 33 kept getting higher and higher (photo at above left) with no end in sight. The two directorate of engineering services employees took broom, dust pan and empty copier paper container in hand and proceeded to clean up the area. It took them a few minutes and two containers full (photo at above right) to clean up the mess, obviously caused by smokers not disposing of their butts in the receptacles provided at the designated smoking areas. Our thanks to the two ladies, and as for the guilty parties, for shame!!

A U.S. Air Force crash-damaged H-60 PAVEHAWK is lifted from the truck bed after its arrival at hangar 43 last Tue. The aircraft crashed on Mt Hood in May 2002 while attempting to rescue hikers who had fallen into a crevasse in the mountain. With crash kits supplied by Sikorsky, it is expected that turnaround time on repair of this aircraft will be considerably less. The aircraft is



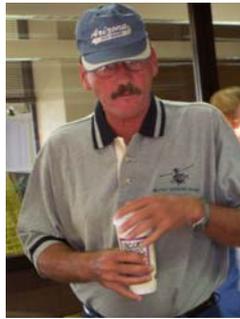
undergoing evaluation to determine extent of damage at present. CCAD PAO, with the assistance of the CCAD videographers and photographer, will track the progress of the aircraft through the repair process and hopes to report completion of repair this time next year. With Team CCAD, anything is possible!



Corpus Christi Chapter, AAAA hosts golf scramble



Niko Cantu, (2nd from left above), recipient of one of last year's three scholarships awarded by the CC Chapter, joined his dad, CCAD employee Juan A. Cantu (at right) and two Robbins-Gioia employees for the tournament. Robbins-Gioia was a sponsor of the tournament.



Buz Wohltman, director of quality assurance, was there with the ever-present cup of coffee in hand.



At the designated time, golfers scrambled to their assigned starting hole. Seen in cart at foreground is Lee Haynes, who tied for longest drive with Trey Wilmoth, a member of the youngest team in the tournament.



Above: Third place trophies went to (l-r) David Garcia, Dan Howell, Col. Jim Budney, and Oscar Recio.



Jerry New (l), former CCAD director of maintenance, was on hand for the AAAA Scholarship Golf Tournament. Also seen in photo is Dr. John Gray, acting deputy to the CCAD commander.



Golfers enjoyed a lunch of barbecue and trimmings and door prize drawing after the tournament.

The Corpus Christi Chapter of the Army Aviation Association of America (AAAA) held its second annual golf scramble on June 21st at the NAS-CC Gulf Winds Golf Course. Proceeds from the tournament will go towards the chapter's scholarship program which awards the Lt. Col. Don Luce scholarship of \$750 and two others in the amount of \$250 each.

First place trophies went to the team of Jeff Knobloch, Paul O'Brien, Geoff Bumstead, and Paul Beaudoin. CCAD employees Lee Haynes, Casey Barrera, Roland Garcia, and Dan Richardson took second place. Last place trophies were awarded to Dave Isaacs, Fred Garcia, Juan Hernandez, and Jim Turner. The prizes for longest drives went to Lee Haynes and Trey Wilmoth. Four prizes were awarded for closest to the pin to Buz Wohltman, Niko Cantu, Paul Beaudoin, and Tommy Smith.

Event organizers Jorge Aguilar, Oscar Recio, and Tammy Tuttle reported 78 golfers participated, quite a few more than at last year's event.



Photo at left: Tammy Tuttle (l) helps Budney (c) hand out door prizes after the tournament. Seen standing at right is Terry Figg, accepting his prize, a golf bag.

Photo at right: Dave Isaacs (l) is seen registering for the tournament as Art Maldonado (center foreground), CCAD retiree, and Tina Sellman wait their turn. At left foreground is Tuttle, who helped fellow event organizer, Jorge Aguilar at the registration table.



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Analytical Investigations personnel return from Afghanistan



photo by Lt. Col. Mack, Dir. QA

Troops from 82nd Airborne Division take a few moments to relax outside the PX before going on to the next task at hand. A CCAD AID team on site for an aircraft accident investigation found troop morale surprisingly high.

(“AID” continued from page 1)
do anything the team required.

Two things from this trip left a big impression on Mack. One occurred on his way to the showers one morning when he met troops coming back from battle.

“You could tell they were dead tired,” says Mack, “but you didn’t hear any grumbling. I just can’t say enough about the troops.” The second was his team leader, Gary Tindall. “Watching him work is really something to see,” he concludes.

All-in-all, Mack considers this trip a whole new, very positive experience. His last impression: “You can tell the war is not over.”

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, AMERICA!

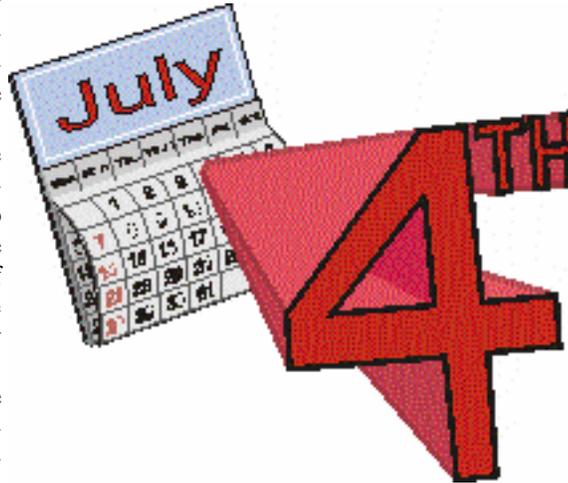


(“Birthday” continued from page 1)

be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness...”

In Jefferson’s time, the concepts of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness were revolutionary. To presume that government exists to insure the quality of human life was truly original.

And the ideas of liberty and freedom — the right of each individual to seek out personal happiness — these notions were more than radical. They challenged the very heart of most governments — that the individual existed to serve the whims of a monarch and to support the nobility — instead of the other way around.



Our second president, John Adams, once said, “fear is the foundation of most governments.” But in America, our government would be built on freedom, not fear.

Democracy and the rights of mankind are so much a part of our national identity today that many don’t realize, or have simply forgotten how fortunate we truly are.

We must remember that freedom was once only a dream, an ideal conceived in the minds of a few brave individuals and written down on parchment by a country gentleman from Virginia. We must remember that some made sacrifices, so that others may live and breathe free. And we must remember that we have a country today because we have an Army.