

THE

# AIRCRAFTSMAN



Jan 2013  
volume 10, issue 1



## 2012 EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

Thousands of CCADers attend the first annual  
Employee Appreciation Holiday Celebration.

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January 2013

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*The editor reserves the right to edit all information submitted for publication. News may be submitted to:*

*The Public Affairs Office new ticketing system, which can be found on the CCAD portal: [http://ccadportal.ccad.army.mil/AMCC-HC/AMCC-HCP/Pages/Division\\_Home.aspx](http://ccadportal.ccad.army.mil/AMCC-HC/AMCC-HCP/Pages/Division_Home.aspx)*

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Program Manager

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## Fun Facts

- January 1<sup>st</sup> celebrates the beginning of the calendar year.
- January 5, 1972: Richard Nixon signed a bill authorizing funding to develop a space shuttle program.
- January 7, 1789: The first U.S. presidential election was held. George Washington won the election and was sworn into office on April 30, 1789.
- January 9, 1493: Christopher Columbus, sailing near the Dominican Republic, mistakes manatees for mermaids.
- January 11, 1908: Theodore Roosevelt makes Grand Canyon a national monument.
- January 14, 1984: The United States of America ratifies a treaty with England ending the Revolutionary War.
- January 15, 1967: The Green Bay Packers beat the Kansas City Chiefs in the first-ever Super Bowl game.
- January 28, 1986: U.S. space shuttle, the Challenger explodes 72 seconds after liftoff, killing all seven crew members on board.







# A New Year

## Message from the Command Office

As we enter 2013 and my final chapter as Depot Commander, I can't help but look back on the many accomplishments we've achieved just in the past year.

2012 was a phenomenal year. We produced our 3000<sup>th</sup> T701D engine, implemented ultrasonic shot peening technology, delivered the first OH-58 Kiowa Warrior under the Wartime Replacement Aircraft Program, completed our first UH-60 Black Hawk L-L Recap, completed fifty UH-60 Black Hawks and inducted our first UAS Shadow.

The last year was truly incredible and I thank each and every one of you for the role you played in its success. If I truly know this workforce, and I think that I do at this point, I just know that you will continue to amaze me with your dedication, drive and skill. The face of Defense is changing and I know the Nation will continue to expect the best from this workforce because you are the best. HOOAH!

# Around THE Depot

photos by CCAD PAO  
and shop floors



## CCAD Family Pays It Forward With Another Year of Giving This Holiday Season by Brigitte Rox

People throughout the Corpus Christi Army Depot (CCAD) community embraced the spirit of giving during this holiday season despite a drop in donations nationwide.

### Combined Federal Campaign

The annual Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) elicited a total of 292 Eagle Donors and approximately \$800,000 in funds to charities and non-profits of their choice.

As the world's largest and most successful annual workplace charity campaign, the CFC pledges made by Federal civilian, postal and military donors help support non-profit organizations that provide health and human service benefits throughout the world.

The mission of the CFC is to promote and support philanthropy through an employee-focused, cost-efficient program that provides all federal employees the opportunity to improve the quality of life for all.

### Operation Christmas Spirit

Operation Christmas Spirit has become a tradition for divisions throughout the helicopter maintenance facility. This annual event goes on throughout December with help from volunteers, representatives and their families. Divisions "adopt" area nursing homes and deliver gifts, songs and cheer to its residents.



Through this act of kindness, the CCAD family brightens the day and the lives of the elderly and disabled who are often confined and isolated from family and loved ones throughout the holidays. The visits even brings a smile to the faces of many support staff members employed at nursing homes that see, first-hand, the emotional difficulties their residents face. They tell tales of residents suffering de-

bilitating physical and mental health ailments, combat veterans who liven up to share their war experience, and those who go all year without a single visitor.

Initiated by a CCAD employee with a big heart, Operation Christmas Spirit continues to thrive as one of the many ways civilian employees give back to those who have given so much.

### Share Your Christmas

CCAD also joined with the community to help the less fortunate at the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual KIII-TV Share Your Christmas Food Drive.

The drive aims to collect non-perishable food items and money benefiting the Food Bank of Corpus Christi. Boxes were distributed throughout the depot and were quickly filled with cans and boxes of food. They were then collected at the front of the building, loaded up and hauled to the delivery point at the local news station.



Those watching the news on the morning of December 7<sup>th</sup> likely got a glimpse of Kresten Cook, Deputy Commander for Support and his Public Affairs Office team delivering food to the TV studio. During a live broadcast with anchors, Katia Uriarte and Joe Gazin, Mr. Cook remarked about CCAD's amazing year of production and the many ways the CCAD family opens their hearts during times of need.

In total, the food drive collected 77,601 pounds of food and \$40,636 in cash which provided warm holiday meals for many grateful families throughout the Coastal Bend region.



Daphne Martin of L3 and a CCAD employee load up a barrel full of food donations.

PAO Office delivers CCAD food donations to KIII-TV.



Third Shift Plating Shop prepares to deliver food donations for 2012 Share Your Christmas.

forms can be obtained from the Fitness Express front desk or by calling 961-3164. Deadline to register is **January 11, 2013**. This program is open to Active Duty, Retirees and their dependents, DoD/NAF employees and contractors. The cost is free for Active Duty. The cost for Retirees, their dependents, DoD/NAF Employees and contractors is \$20.00. Class size is limited to the first 30 paid registrations.

### 2013 Captain's Cup Basketball League

Register through **January 21, 2013** at the E-Street Gym for the 2013 Captain's Cup Basketball league. League begins January 30, 2013. Games will be played on Monday and Wednesday nights.

### 35 and Over Basketball League

Register through **January 21, 2013** at the E-Street Gym for the 35 and Over Basketball League. League will begin January 31, 2013. Games will be played on Tuesday and Thursday nights.

### 2013 Hot Shot Shootout

The Hot Shot Shootout will be held on Saturday, January 26, 2013 from 10 am until 4 pm at the E-Street Gym. Events will include a free throw contest, three point contest, half court chuck and a three-on-three basketball tournament. Pre-register for the three-on-three contest at the E-Street Gym by **January 24, 2013**. Trophies will be given for each event.

Keep up with the latest MWR happenings on Facebook [www.facebook.com/MWRCorpusChristi](http://www.facebook.com/MWRCorpusChristi)

## FITNESS

### January 2013 Fitness Schedule

Thursday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>: Insanity  
 Monday, January 7<sup>th</sup>: Tae-Bo  
 Thursday, January 10<sup>th</sup>: Combat  
 Monday, January 14<sup>th</sup>: Insanity  
 Thursday, January 17<sup>th</sup>: Insantiy  
 Thursday, January 24<sup>th</sup>: Combat  
 Monday, January 28<sup>th</sup>: Insanity  
 Thursday, January 31<sup>st</sup>: Tae-Bo

Zumba every **Tuesday and Wednesday** in January in the E-Street Gym next to the track in Aerobics Room.

**All other classes will be held in the Ergo Center/Safety Store. Time for all classes is 1610-1710.**

Remember to go at your own pace. All classes are open to the CCAD workforce and contractors along with friends from other tenants on NAS-CC. **Classes are FREE OF CHARGE. Bring a mat and weight lifting gloves.**

**POC LaShaun Chappell, [lashaun.d.chappell.civ@mail.mil](mailto:lashaun.d.chappell.civ@mail.mil)**

## MORALE, WELFARE & RECREATION

### Athletic and Fitness Events in January

Fitness Express January Group Fitness Schedule

### Catalyst to Change

Register now for Catalyst to Change, an 8-week fitness and lifestyle program for beginners. Catalyst to Change will take place January 14, 2013 through March 14, 2013. A T-Shirt and Certificate of Completion will be given to each participant upon completion. Registration



**Physical Fitness for Beginners**

Physical fitness is essential for good health and well-being. Your physical fitness can be influenced by your age, gender, genetics as well as your exercise and eating habits. The main components of physical fitness include aerobic fitness, muscular fitness and flexibility. You may do many different types of exercises to improve each component.

**Considerations**

You should visit with your doctor before beginning an exercise program if you have been sedentary for some time or have a condition that may affect your ability to safely exercise. When starting an exercise program, avoid doing too much exercise too soon to avoid potential overuse injuries. The American College of Sports Medicine, or ACSM, recommends slowly and gradually working your way up to the recommended amount of exercise as your fitness improves. Also, you should always begin and end your exercise sessions with warm-up and cool-down periods.

**Aerobic Fitness**

Aerobic fitness, also known as cardiovascular fitness, includes the ability of your heart and lungs to deliver oxygen and other nutrients to the rest of your body. Aerobic exercises, such as brisk walking, cycling, swimming and jogging, help improve your aerobic fitness. The ACSM recommends working your way up to 30 minutes or more of aerobic exercise on four or more days each week. This amount of exercise can help strengthen your heart and lungs and help them become more efficient.

**Muscular Fitness**

Muscular fitness is also an important part of overall physical fitness and can be improved with strength-training exercises. Strength training exercises can include lifting weights, using resistance bands or doing exercises that use your body weight as resistance, like push-ups, abdominal crunches or leg squats. Doing strength-training exercises for your major muscle groups at least two times each week is recommended for improving your muscular fitness.

**Flexibility**

Stretching exercises can help you improve your flexibility and should be included in your fitness routine. The ACSM reports that stretching is most effective when your muscles are warm and can be done after your warm-up or during your cool-down. You should do stretching exercises for your major muscle groups at least two times each week. Stretching exercises should be held for 15 to 60 seconds without bouncing motions.

**Benefits**

Improving your overall physical fitness can provide you with many health benefits. Regular exercise and physical activity can help you control your weight, strengthen your bones and improve your mood. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention also reports that improving your fitness can lower your risk for developing heart disease, type 2 diabetes and some types of cancer. High levels of physical fitness are also associated with living healthy for a longer period of time.

Source: <http://www.livestrong.com/article/335303-fitness-for-beginners/>



**TAMUCC**

CCAD Commander, Col. Christopher B. Carlile served as a guest speaker at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi for an Army ROTC Islander Battalion Commissioning Ceremony. Three TAMUCC students, Leah Gonzales, Rebecca Hill and David Melin, were commissioned as second lieutenants.

*Photo by Ervey Martinez*



**MHMR Luncheon**

Employees of MHMR enjoy a Christmas Luncheon with music, food and a visit from Santa on December 13, 2012.

*Photo by Ervey Martinez*



**Wreath Decorating Contest**

Award for Best Theme goes to S4 the Directorate of Infrastructure Operations “Coastal Christmas Save the Bay.” Award for Best of Show goes to the Directorate of Accessories and Rotor Blades, “A Time for Giving and Sharing.”

*Photo by Ervey Martinez*

# **18 Veterans Commit Suicide Every Day**

“If you have an inkling of a suicidal thought or ideation, if you’re thinking of hurting yourself...please understand that there is great help out there. And there is great hope out there. You can overcome these suicidal thoughts, because suicide is a permanent solution to a temporary problem.”

—Suicide Survivor

- **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline  
1-800-273-TALK (8255)**
- **Peer to Peer (PTSD) Support Group meets every Monday  
@ 1600 at the NAS Library/Learning Center**
- **CCAD Employee Assistance Program: 361-961-6570**



# Southern Regional Medical Command Major General Visits CCAD

by Jameson Cardenas  
photos by Ervey Martinez

Major General M. Ted Wong, Commanding General of Southern Regional Medical Command and Brooke Army Medical Center (BAMC) and Chief of US Army Dental Corps, visited the Corpus Christi Army Depot (CCAD) with the primary purpose of assessing its occupational health and support needs.

“We know how important the mission is here,” said Wong. “We need to make sure we’re providing that support to ensure that their personnel remain healthy at work.”

MG Wong and company’s tour, hosted by Major Stephen Hyland, Chief, BAMC Occupational Health Clinic; David Askew, Chief of Safety and Occupational Health; Suellen Dennett, Chief of Industrial Hygiene Services for BAMC and CCAD Hearing Conservation Program Manager; and Bob Davies, CCAD Lead Industrial Hygienist, allowed Wong to meet the depot’s Occupa-



MG Wong is greeted by COL Carlile at his initial entrance to CCAD to take a deeper look at the cornerstone of aviation readiness.



MG Wong briefs Naval Air Station Corpus Christi Naval Hospital Health Clinic, Commanding Officer, Captain Ginia Jaeger, and her medical staff on the Medical Interactive Agreement between CCAD and the Naval Hospital.

tional Health Clinic personnel, as well as those from Naval Air Station Hospital and Fire Department.

These hosts presented the mission of the Occupational Health Clinic to Wong. He was briefed on occupational health surveillance programs at various work centers which monitor at-risk employees based on process and hazard specifics.

Wong stated that the Brooke Army Medical Center will continue to monitor and provide the occupational health needs and support for CCAD, as well as work with them for any administrative or facility needs to ensure a clinic that protects the valuable personnel of the depot.

“I’ve learned a lot in just this short visit to see how important CCAD is to the overall defense mission,” said Wong. “They truly are a strategic treasure.” ■

“I’ve learned a lot in just this short visit to see how important CCAD is to the overall defense mission.”

—MG Wong

# Awards AROUND THE Depot

Photos by  
Ervey Martinez &  
Kiana Allen



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**Aviation Safety Award of Merit**  
**Col. Christopher B. Carlile**

(left to right) DAC Bruce Hardy, DAC Troy Dabney

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**Certificate of Appreciation**  
**Col. Christopher B. Carlile**

(left to right) Andrew Saenz, Hector Leyva

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**Certificate of Appreciation**  
**Col. Christopher B. Carlile**

(left to right) Gerald Jordan, Olga Lawrence

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**Certificate of Appreciation**  
**Col. Christopher B. Carlile**

(left to right) Raymond Chavez, Joseph Ramirez

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**Certificate of Retirement/Certificate of Appreciation  
Presented by Roderick Benson**

*(left to right) Frank Siddall, Jesus Jimenez, Albert Elizondo*



**The Honorable Order of St. Michael  
Col. Christopher B. Carlile**  
*Elizabeth Iftner-Schlieper*



**Certificate of Retirement  
Col. Christopher B. Carlile**  
*Magdalena Cisneros*



**Commanders Award for Civilian Service  
Deputy Commander Kresten Cook**  
*(left to right) John Earhart Jr., Emede Canales Jr.*



**Certificate of Retirement  
Col. Christopher B. Carlile**  
*Elizabeth Iftner-Schlieper*







# 2012 Employee Appreciation Holiday Celebration

## CCAD Leadership Gives Thanks to Employees

*by Jaclyn Nix  
photos by Ervey Martinez and Kiana Allen*

**T**he Corpus Christi Army Depot recognized its dedicated workforce with a holiday celebration, December 6, 2012.

The appreciation event gave employees the opportunity to mingle over a tasty barbecue lunch at the new Dynamic Component Repair Facility (DCRF). Local radio disc jockey, C101's Rex Gabriel provided music and entertainment for the event which stretched into the night to include all working shifts. Employees didn't walk out empty-handed either. Attendees received commemorative CCAD ornaments to hang on the tree.

"In thirty years of attending events at CCAD, this was by far the best ever: good food, good music, great building," said Vickie Garcia, an employee in the Command Analysis, Internal Review and Audit Compliance (CAIRAC) office. "[It was] very well organized. Thanks to everyone who worked so hard to make it nice for us!"

The empty DCRF will house the main production facility. While the building will host the critical equipment and assets needed to sustain production needs, it will offer flexibility that will enable the depot to not only meet present component production requirements, but also any future needs. It also complies with a number of innovative design elements to boost its green credit with a silver rating in Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED).

For many employees, the get-together was a good opportunity to get out of the office to see just how big the CCAD workforce actually is. "It's really nice to come over here and see the new facility and the happy, smiling faces all around the place," said James Dussiliere, Paint Supervisor.



*“In thirty years of attending events at CCAD, this was by far the best ever: good food, good music, great building”*



“I can’t believe the size of the building and the number of people here. It’s like a little secret. I think a lot of people who don’t come here probably have an imagination of what they think this place is like, but it’s just amazing once you get here,” said Rex Gabriel.

“The luncheon was the best organized event ever held at the depot,” said Adam Lipitz, a management and program analyst in aircraft production. He was pleasantly surprised by how well the logistics worked when it came to moving such a large workforce. “The event went smoother than I ever imagined. Everybody went right in and right to their seats.” Caterers accommodated CCADers’ Texas-sized appetites while volunteers from active programs and chapters provided treats and entertainment at their informational booths.

Col. Christopher Carlile, CCAD Commander was on-hand to welcome employees to the event. He spoke about the depot’s increase in production and the significant work increases and record-setting benchmarks with aircraft, engine and component work. CCAD ended FY12 with \$1.6 billion dollars worth of production.

“What this depot has done since I have been in command—from what I’ve seen, they’re doing it for our Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, and Marines,” said Col. Carlile. “Our employees take dollars off of cost and they do it because they know it gives a better product for the Joint Warfighter.”

“My favorite part of the event was meeting and talking to the people, getting everybody together and being able to watch the Commander speak,” said Gyllis Cruz, Secretary to the Deputy Commander for Support.

“This is what I would call South Texas Christmas time,” said Col. Carlile.

The first shift event ended with CCAD employees delivering the leftover food to the local Salvation Army for those less fortunate during this holiday season. ■





# Corpus Christi Army Depot Delivers in This Year's Toys for Tots

by Jameson Cardenas  
photos by Ervey Martinez & contributing shops



This year, Corpus Christi Army Depot (CCAD) and partners brought in 360 pedal toys (bikes and big wheels) and 65 boxes full of toys, as well as roughly 2,000 dollars in cash donations for the 2012 Toys for Tots holiday campaign. Army and Marine reservists helped CCAD personnel load the toys into convoys and delivered them to the local collection point at Sunrise Mall.

"It's amazing. I would have never expected a turnout like this," said Chief Warrant Officer 4 George Aldridge III, CCAD Toys for Tots Co-ordinator. "Seeing the people's faces as they're carrying the toys out and loading them up—they're happy. They're happy to help out those less fortunate."

He added that many asked to volunteer and do more – something that is not out of the ordinary for the folks at the Army depot.

For people like Stephen McCravy, CCAD Crew Chief and Assistant Coordinator for Hangar 44, involvement and effort towards giving back to the community is the norm. McCravy has been assisting the Toys for Tots campaign for three years now. Outside of work, he runs a car show to benefit Toys for Tots. The car show is in its eighth year.



*Transmissions Shop Toys for Tots contributions.*



*Third shift Plating Shop Toys for Tots contributions.*

“It’s my way of giving back to the community and making sure that kids are as happy as possible at this time of year,” said McCravy. “There are a lot of kids that are in need and just feel left out.”

“[Toys for Tots] is our way of giving back, especially my way. We know what it means for a child to have nothing,” he said.

Gunnery Sergeant Marcelino Barajas, Operations Chief for 1st Battalion 23<sup>rd</sup> Marines Charlie Company has been the Toys for Tots Coordinator at Naval Air Station-Corpus Christi for two years now. His objective is to exceed the organization’s goal of delivering one toy for every child but that isn’t enough for him. He aims to double that donation to two toys for every child.



Employees unload toys at a drop off point at CCAD.



Marines and CCAD employees unload a military truck full of toys.



Marines and CCAD employees help load military trucks with toys.



Col. Christopher B. Carlile talks with Marines at the Toys for Tots drop off location.

Despite a drawback of donations nationwide this year, Barajas still has that goal in mind. “I’m not going to stop until I achieve it. But just knowing that each child will have a Christmas present –that alone is well worth the sacrifice.”

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Aldridge III and Gunnery Sgt. Barajas will have a change of station next year but promise they will be involved in Toys for Tots someday at their new homes.

“[Toys for Tots] is something that stuck with me and that I’ll keep with me forever,” said Barajas.

McCravy added, “I believe that God blessed me with the ability to do a lot of things, and I think it’s a waste to sit back and not take advantage of that.” ■

# Profiles IN Professionalism



## Michael De Los Santos Program Manager

### Can you give me a Brief Job Description?

I am a Program Manager for Foreign Military Sales (FMS) within the Aviation System Program Management Division. As a program manager, I assist the depot by accepting and managing FMS workload with constant communication among all CCAD elements, AMCOM, and foreign military agents in an effort to produce a superior product in an expedited amount of time for a percentage of the cost of new. As you may know, CCAD is the most sought after repair facility for foreign militaries which is a testament to the CCAD workforce.

### What has been your greatest CCAD achievement?

I believe my greatest achievement at CCAD has been the opportunity to work and learn alongside the best. I have been fortunate in my civilian career to have had the resources and the experienced personnel available to learn from and ask many questions to achieve production goals.

### Who has been your biggest influence at CCAD?

There have been many people that have played a positive role in my career but my greatest influence is my father Oscar De Los Santos, a 31-year CCAD artisan.

### What do you enjoy most about working at CCAD?

What I find to be most satisfying about working at CCAD is knowing that my role and responsibilities contribute to our Armed Forces which is my motivating factor.

### What is your personal professional motto?

Encourage those around you to progress and in time you will be surrounded with success.

# STAY UP TO DATE WITH THE LATEST NEWS AND HAPPENINGS AROUND THE DEPOT



Coverage on CCAD events, innovative processes, cost avoidance and unique capabilities are now instantly available on your smartphone or tablet.



*An OH-58F Kiowa Warrior in flight.*

## Army's Kiowa Warrior helos undergoing sensor upgrades

*By Seth Robson, Stars and Stripes*

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — The Army's OH-58D Kiowa Warrior helicopter is getting a multimillion-dollar makeover that includes moving its distinctive top-mounted "beach ball" sensor to the aircraft's nose — all the better for peering down at enemy forces in urban environments.

Lt. Col. Mathew Hannah, the Army's Kiowa project manager, said the upgrades, which cost \$4 million each, are under way, with the first modified Kiowa scheduled to fly in April.

Hannah did not comment on a recent Reuters report that suggested the Pentagon may spend \$6 billion to \$8 billion on a replacement for the Kiowa, but he said the upgrades will significantly extend the life of an aircraft that's been neglected in recent years because it was, until recently, marked for retirement.

Kiowa Warriors, armed with rockets, missiles and machine guns, are the oldest scout helicopters in the Army, with an average age of 41 years, said Hannah, who's been flying them for 20 years.

Their top-mounted sensors were designed for Cold War missions where the aircraft hid behind trees and searched for enemy tanks by flying just high enough to raise the sensor above the branches, Hannah said.

"The mission for the OH-58 hasn't changed over time, but the enemy has changed," he said last week. "We are still an armed reconnaissance platform, and our mission is to conduct surveillance and assist the ground commander with troops in contact."

Kiowas have accounted for 47 percent of the attack helicopters deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan but they've flown 52 percent of missions because ground commanders and troops in contact prefer them to alternatives such as the AH-64 Apache, Hannah said.

"They can get down close to friendly forces," he said of the Kiowas.

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Dan Carbone, who spent a decade as a Kiowa mechanic before becoming a pilot, said it's clear the Kiowas are popular with ground troops.

"When you are deployed and standing in line at the chow hall, infantry guys will come up and ask: 'Do you fly the Kiowas? Thanks for getting us out of trouble last night.'"

Typical missions for the Kiowas in recent years have involved hovering over urban environments and trying to spot insurgents hiding on streets and in buildings. In those situations, a top-

mounted sensor isn't ideal because the aircraft's fuselage blocks much of what its cameras are trying to focus on directly below, Hannah said.

Moving the sensor to the aircraft's nose, which is where police helicopters typically carry cameras, makes sense, although it requires longer landing gear, he said.

The Army is also upgrading the 30-year-old sensor on the Kiowa to a state-of-the-art package that can transmit high-quality color images, he said.

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Mark Herman, who has been flying Kiowa for 20 years, is giving the Army feedback on the upgrades. He was impressed by the new sensor.

"It will allow us to track targets and identify them from a much greater distance," he said.

That will allow the Kiowa to hover further from the enemy, making it harder to spot and safer for the crew, he said.

Another officer involved in Kiowa upgrades, Maj. Raaen Stewart, said the new gear will give crews the ability to see video transmitted by unmanned aircraft and to transmit images from their own cameras to other manned aircraft or ground troops.

An infrared pointer will allow the crew to highlight targets for other aircraft and ground forces, he added.

The upgraded Kiowas — known as OH-58Fs — will carry three kinds of lasers for painting targets, including eye-safe lasers for training, Hannah said.

The cockpits will also be upgraded with digital controls, more powerful computers, and the ability to communicate with "smart weapons." Such weapons, which can be controlled after they have been fired, have yet to be fielded by the Army, but they could be used in future, he said.

The Army is also taking action to replace Kiowas lost in combat in Iraq and Afghanistan in recent years.

Combat losses mean that the Army, which is authorized 368 OH-58Ds, has only 329 flying. Technicians are adding weapons to unarmed versions of the helicopter — OH-58ACs — at a cost of \$11 million each, Hannah said.

Bell Helicopter and Corpus Christi Army Depot have delivered one upgraded helicopter per month since June and continue until the fleet is back up to strength, Hannah said. ■

[robsons@pstripes.osd.mil](mailto:robsons@pstripes.osd.mil)

*Rocky Sarate inspects an incoming OH-58 Kiowa Warrior.*



# Army Depot Commander and Former Mayor Exchange Honors for Their Commitment

by *Brigitte Rox*  
photos by *Kiana Allen*

The former Mayor of Corpus Christi, Joseph Adame was given a distinguished award for his support of CCAD and the Warfighter on December 7, 2012. Mayor Adame and his wife came to the depot to receive the Knight of the Honorable Order of St. Michael, an award given through the Army Aviation Association of America (AAAA). While most awardees have provided a direct contribution to Army Aviation as aviators and military, Mayor Adame was found worthy of the distinction due to his avid support of CCAD, the only helicopter maintenance repair and overhaul facility in the Army's organic industrial base.

"[Mayor Adame] goes above and beyond and is very supportive of the aviation branch," said CCAD Commander, Colonel Christopher B. Carlile. "I've seen the huge impacts he's made on the community since he's been mayor. He is a staunch advocate of this depot, the Soldier and the Joint Warfighter. He is well-deserving."

Mayor Adame became emotional as he received the award, pausing to gain composure to give his acceptance. "I'm usually very Cool Hand Luke about public events and recently I've been honored on various occasions but I can honestly say, as I drove down the road here, I was just overwhelmed."

Saint Michael refers to Biblical writings of an archangel whose battles are an allegory of the struggle between good and evil. In aviation, Saint Michael's legend has come to represent the bravery and gallantry associated with aviation Soldiers and those who support them.

"I guess what overwhelmed me was that when I read about this award, St. Michael was a guardian angel representing good versus evil. When you are in an elected position, there are many problems where you have to stand up for what's good. I had a flashback from three weeks after I got elected about three and a half years ago. A pastor friend of mine gave me a sword and various scriptures in the Bible about good versus evil. That sword represents the beginning and this award represents the end of that road as the Mayor of Corpus Christi."



*Col. Christopher B. Carlile presents former city Mayor Adame with the Honorable Order of St. Michael.*



*Former city Mayor Adame presents Col. Christopher B. Carlile with a key to the city.*



“The Army Depot has the largest economic impact in this community,” Mr. Adame told the crowd of CCAD employees and leaders. “You’d be foolish to not understand the economic impact of what CCAD is for our economy and the trend of innovation and things that are going on here to reinvent itself and be better stewards of the tax dollars that we’re responsible for and the future looks even brighter with the trained labor force and the innovative things going on to protect our great country.”

“You guys are the heartbeat of the economy of the Corpus Christi region,” he told them. Mr. Adame redirected his attention to Col. Carlile who plans to depart the depot this summer. “As I’ve got to know Col. Carlile and understand what he’s been doing to improve the quality of life, to improve the quality of the product that’s going to protect the country, it’s just overwhelming and I’m so proud of you,” he told him. “I have one last key to the city and I would like to give this key to the city to Col. Carlile for what he’s doing for careers and what he’s do-

ing for the depot and how he continues to expand and make this the best place in the world to work.”

“We’ve always said that if you take care of the Soldier, the rest will take care of itself,” responded Col. Carlile. “This depot does that very well. I’m very proud to be a part of this community and I’m very proud of the changes I have seen in the past two and a half years.” Col. Carlile’s Change of Command ceremony will occur this summer as he moves on to his next position in Army Aviation.

“The best thing you can do for economic development is take care of what drives your city to start with,” said Mayor Adame. It’s pretty obvious if you look at the 6,000 jobs and more than two billion dollar impact to the local regional economy, the Army Depot is right at the top of the list. I’m very proud to have had the opportunity to be a part of this awesome movement.” ■



# NEWS AROUND THE DEPOT NEVER STOPS

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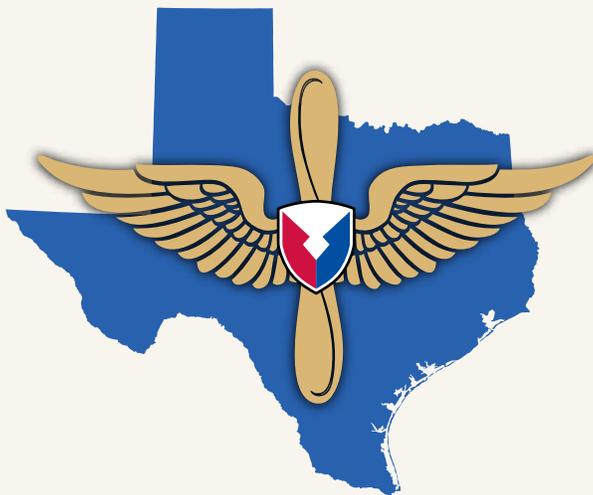


## THE **AIRCRAFTSMAN**

The Aircraftsman is an authorized unofficial monthly publication for members of the Department of Defense. Contents are not necessarily the official view of or endorsed by the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Army.

The editor reserves the right to edit all information submitted for publication. News may be submitted to:

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