



# ECBC Answers the Call in FY03

In FY03, our armed forces engaged in combat in Iraq, we continued the war on terror around the world, and federal, state and local agencies worked to improve our readiness at home. ECBC, as the lead DoD laboratory for non-medical chemical and biological defense, was able to support each of these missions and many more during this past fiscal year.

### Fall 2002

The nation is engaged in diplomatic negotiations to prevent conflict in the Middle East.

The United Nations directed ECBC to provide training for its weapons inspectors. ECBC frequently lends its unique expertise in chemical and biological weapons of mass destruction to the U.N. and federal agencies that need to build capabilities in inspection and identification.

ECBC developed and certified sampling kits for use in the Middle East and readied a number of mobile laboratory units for deployment.

### Winter 2003

With diplomatic initiatives unsuccessful, the nation is gearing up for military operations in Iraq.

In response to a quick-turnaround request, ECBC teamed with Pine Bluff Arsenal and the SBCCOM IMMC to retrofit the M12 large-area decontamination system to meet modern battlefield requirements. In record time, ECBC re-engineered and modified the system, now known as the M12A1, and deployed 56 units to the Middle East.

Following an order to accelerate destruction of the weapons stockpile, ECBC redesigned the chemical weapons disposal process at the Aberdeen Chemical Disposal Facility. Within six months, the new system and equipment was engineered, built, and validated.

### Spring 2003

U.S. military forces are engaged in the conflict, preparing for the possible discovery or use of chemical and biological weapons.

ECBC's fly-away laboratories were deployed to the Middle East in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and provided quick on-site analysis of suspected CB materials for U.S. forces in the field.

A unique ECBC-developed protocol for triage of assessment of highly dangerous and toxic "unknowns," including items potentially explosively configured and tainted with chemical, biological or radiological materials, was applied to CENTCOM operations and proved to be critical to the U.S. mission in Iraq.

### Summer 2003

The United States is focused on nation building in Iraq and on strengthening its defenses at home.

By conducting workshops and training in WMD preparedness for federal agency executives, ECBC contributed to the nation's heightened level of awareness and preparation for potential attacks on critical assets in the homeland. ECBC also orchestrated a large-scale functional readiness exercise at Pearl Harbor.



Personnel from ECBC evaluated the Explosive Disposal System (EDS) and the Donovan Chamber, two systems created to destroy explosively configured chemical devices.

Relying on its extensive evaluation and training experience, ECBC conducted Installation Preparedness exercises at a number of U.S. military installations around the world and supported U.S. Navy installations during WMD training and exercises.

ECBC trained 60 Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA) soldiers in the use of CB detection equipment, hasty decontamination practices and CB assessment techniques. The Center conducts similar training for Special Forces and Technical Escort Unit personnel on a quarterly basis.

The Center's chemical surety program successfully passed several stringent military inspections. Continued adherence to these standards ensured that CENTCOM and the intelligence community had seamless access to the ECBC surety services they depend on.

Several key partnerships between ECBC and federal agencies such as the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Homeland Security were initiated. The Center will provide expert consultation and collaboration in areas including monitoring and analysis and water supply safety.