

# Electronics Tech Doubles As Spokesman for Comedy Act

By Doug Imberi, DDJC Public Affairs

Defense Distribution Depot San Joaquin, California (DDJC) Electronics Controls Technician David Tank can get away with saying a lot of things out of character, but only when he is accompanied by characters named Elliot or Dr. Feeblemeister. They are the dummies Tank uses in his ventriloquist act.

When Tank was a youngster in his pre-teens, he worked at least a couple of weekends every month at various events. Tank and his older sister worked together as a ventriloquist team, performing for up to 3,000 people at the San Francisco Convention Center when he was 11 years old.

“We worked with a family that had a magic act,” he recalled. He became interested in the hobby after seeing an old recording of the late ventriloquist Edgar Bergen and his dummy Charlie McCarthy.

“It blew me away,” said Tank. “I told my mom I wanted to be a ventriloquist and she got me a record that taught me the basics.”

He put his hobby on hold when he became a teenager. His voice started changing making it difficult for a ventriloquist. However, he resurrected the hobby after graduating from college, doing it mostly at church events for kids. Last year he estimates he did about 12 performances.

*David Tank, DDJC Electronics Controls Technician, and his sidekick Elliot.*



“Once you’ve learned it, you can always do it,” Tank said. “It is like getting out the Ping-Pong table after years of storage. It takes a game or two and you are right back into it.”

The skits usually last anywhere from 5 to 10 minutes. He usually writes an outline of the material he wants to cover. “I mix humor with topical events, situations or holidays, and also tell stories with a point to them,” said Tank. “I will play the straight guy and the dummy gets goofy and gets away with saying things I can’t say.”



*COL Visker, DDJC Commander, serves up “Colonel Burgers”.*

Under the watchful eye of cook Steve Garcia, Defense Distribution Depot San Joaquin, California (DDJC) Commander COL Edward Visker, USA, served up a noontime ‘Colonel Burger’ for Building 100 cafeteria patrons. Business nearly doubled while he grilled cheeseburgers, bacon burgers, and served up lots of French fries as he took a turn at the grill on Feb 27.

To promote business for the cafeteria, COL Visker volunteered to be their first ‘Celebrity Chef.’ COL Visker prepared 74 items

from the grill, up from the average of 43 items usually served. According to Garcia, his specialty was the cheeseburger. “We got lots of call-in orders for the ‘Colonel Burger’,” said Garcia. “That was a cheeseburger.”

According to Garcia, COL Visker’s plate appearance was very good, “He knew what he was doing,” said Garcia, “but he needs to work on his speed.”

## Visker’s Diner

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