



MESSAGE TO THE REGIMENT #62:

“The Engineer Blast”

29 January 2009

A. Overview: The Office of the Chief of Engineers is pleased to forward this 62nd version of “The Engineer Blast”.

Thanks for all you do and stay safe – enjoy the “BLAST!!”

NOTE: In order to further enhance communications from the major entities of the Engineer Regiment to the field, the Office, Chief of Engineers (OCE) is facilitating a process to spread Engineer knowledge from the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), The United States Army Engineer School (USAES), Engineer Branch, other Engineer agencies, and our office in the Pentagon. All links should work for .mil computers.

[Year of the NCO](#)

AEA Industry Seminar – featuring LTG Van Antwerp, Chief of Engineers and Hqtrs, USACE – February 19, 2009, Army-Navy Club, Washington DC. Registration is online –click [here](#).

ENFORCE 09 will be held 20-24 April 2009 at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. The conference will not be split based this year as it was in 2008, and the theme for the conference will remain focused on "Building Great Engineers". Click [here](#) for more information from the Army Engineer School.

SAME Joint Engineer Training Conference & Expo 2009
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The Engineer Officer Candidate School Association takes great pleasure in inviting you to dinner at one o'clock PM on Sunday afternoon, 15th February 2009, at the MacKenzie Hall Officers' Club, Fort Belvoir, Virginia. The dinner will commemorate the ninetieth anniversary of the Engineer Officer Training School of World War One. Speakers invited include: Lieutenant General Robert L. Van Antwerp, USA, Commander, US Army Corps of Engineers; Ms. Joyce Morrow, Special Assistant to the Secretary of the Army; Lieutenant General Benjamin C. Freakley, USA, Commander, Accessions Command; Colonel Jerry L. Blixt, USA, Installation Commander, Fort Belvoir, Virginia. For additional information, please contact the Association, supplying name, OCS class number and year, Telephone number, US Mail and e-mail addresses. Contact info is in section I,3.

Don't forget to get your AEOWC SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS postmarked by Feb 28, 2009! You can download the forms at: www.aewoc.com The Army Engineer Officers' Wives' Club announces the Army Engineer Memorial Awards and the Geraldine K. Morris Award for 2009. The AEMA award is available to qualifying high school seniors who plan to continue their education at an accredited college, university, technical school, or vocational school. The Geraldine K. Morris Award is available to a graduating high school senior who intends to enroll in a program leading to a nursing degree or certification. Applicants may apply for both of the awards, if qualified, but can only be awarded one of the scholarships.

VCSA has directed an Army-Wide Stand-Down for suicide prevention, with emphasis on identification and intervention, to occur between 15 February and 15 March 09.

B. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) provides the following information: "Corps e-spondence" – Chief's Blog

1. Corps team assists rescue efforts in Hudson River

Photo by Chris Gardner, NY District

U.S. Airways flight 1549 crashed into the Hudson River Thursday, Jan. 15, after leaving LaGuardia Airport on its way to Charlotte N.C. Joint rescue efforts by the Coast Guard, NYPD and nearby ferries and boats ensured that all passengers on the plane were taken to safety. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers New York District sent boats to assist in recovery efforts.



2. If you are a looking for an [Engineer position opportunity, check this link for availabilities](#). Some postings may not be with USACE. Listed positions are still valid requirements.

3. **Engineer Publications:** [Engineer Memoirs: Lt Gen Carroll H. Dunn, U.S. Army](#)

4. [The Gulf Region Division \(GRD\)](#) GRD provides the following articles.

[GRD UPDATE \(unclassified, cleared for public release\)](#)

Type	Release Date	Title	Photos	Region	Author
Release	1/29/2009	Blankets warm the hearts of Iraqi families in need !New	Hi-Res	GRS	Alicia Embrey
People	1/28/2009	Americans serving in Iraq deliver joy to hearing-impaired students !New	Hi-Res	GRS	A. Al Bahrani
Release	1/25/2009	Reconstruction Progress Continues in Iraq	Hi-Res	GRD	Nicole Dalrymple
Project	1/23/2009	Iraqis building for the future with new Army complex	Hi-Res	GRS	A. Al Bahrani
Project	1/20/2009	Judicial institute a multiplying force for Iraqi rule of law	Hi-Res	GRC	Kendal Smith
Release	1/16/2009	Partnership agreement marks the way ahead in Iraq	Hi-Res	GRD	DeDe Cordell
People	1/14/2009	American engineer in Iraq – top "New Face" in USACE	Hi-Res	GRC	Kendal Smith
Release	1/13/2009	Iraqi Businesswomen Demonstrate Initiative, Courage	Hi-Res	GRD	Rick Haverinen
People	1/12/2009	American engineer in Iraq named one of "Top Five New Faces of Engineering"	Hi-Res	GRN	Mike Scheck

[The Gulf Region North Newsletter:](#)

[The Gulf Region South Newsletter:](#)

5. [Afghanistan Engineer District \(AED\)](#)

COL Thomas E. O'Donovan: Before we turn to face the challenges of 2009, I'd like to take a moment to review the accomplishments the Afghanistan Engineer District achieved in 2008. Along with an impressive execution of our programs, we awarded \$1.6 billion in contracts which was about 1,400 contract actions. Of that total amount, \$400 million was awarded in the last two months of the fiscal year. This was the highest amount of contract award dollars in the history of the Afghanistan Engineer District. While I formally recognized the Contracting team for their outstanding performance, I would be remiss if I didn't mention all the team members that enabled Contracting to be successful. It takes a collaborated effort, from Project Management coordinating and preparing all the solicitation documents and information to Engineering reviewing and providing input. This work is critical to being successful, so I want to say to "Thanks for your outstanding service" to all of the AED employees. The Afghanistan Engineer District has also made great progress with construction of projects and innovative engineering designs. The top priority projects include the Bagram Theater Internment Facility at Bagram Air Field, Gamberia Garrison at Jalalabad, Khair Khot Garrison, Camp Commando in Rish Khvour village, and Khair Khot Garrison for 2008. Read the rest of COL Thomas E. O'Donovan's article and much more in the Jan 09 issue of the ["Freedom Builder"](#).

6. The following information is provided by the [412th ENCOM](#)—MAJ Forte

WOT: Currently, the 412th Engineer Command (ENCOM) has numerous Soldiers mobilized in support of GWOT, both in CENTCOM and USEUCOM AORs. Additionally, the 412th ENCOM is now conducting staff planning in support of the pending mobilization of twelve additional subordinate units.

Transformation (TEC): In anticipation of the approval of the Theater Engineer Commands (TEC) Modified Table of Organization & Equipment (MTOE), the 412th ENCOM is preparing training plans for the rapid development the TEC Deployable Command Posts (DCP). Ongoing collaboration between the ENCOMs, USACE and the Gulf Region Division, Army Corps of Engineers serves to develop the concept of Theater Engineer Command – Iraq (TEC-I). Further collaboration between the 412th and 416th ENCOMs is developing strategies for achieving the sustained readiness and training of the DCPs. The ENCOM continues to coordinate with Army Service Component Commanders (ASCC) to draft Memoranda of Agreement that define the manner in which the United States Army Reserve Command (USARC) provides engineering support to the ASCC.

FEST-M: The 412th ENCOM continues to support the activation of a FEST-M at Vicksburg, MS in conjunction with the USACE MVD Working Group. The 412th ENCOM continues to explore cooperative training opportunities for the FEST-M and the command's Deployable Command Posts (DCP). The 412th and the 416th ENCOM continue staff coordination with USACE in support of planning for future CONOPS support and regularly participate in teleconferences that support CENTCOM transition planning.

Exercise and Related Construction: The 412th ENCOM serves as the executive agent for Operation Sand Castle (OSC), the United States Army Reserve Commands premier ARFORGEN Year Four certifying event. The multi component event tests the collective ability of Army Reserve units to perform their essential tasks in an environment closely replicating the current conditions experienced by Soldiers deployed to a theater of operations. OSC 09 includes 3100 Soldiers comprising 59 separate consisting of Military Police, Ordnance, Medical Services, Transportation, Signal, and Public Affairs elements. The break out of unit types includes 2 Brigades, 8 Battalions, 33 Companies and 15 Detachments, as well as Soldiers from the 412th ENCOM and the National Training Center Cadre. This year's iteration of OSC continues the practice of closely supporting the Active Component Brigade Combat Team conducting operations in the maneuver area, in this case the 3d Infantry Divisions, 3d Heavy Brigade Combat Team. USAR units will conduct construction and sustainment missions in the tactical environment provided at the National Training Center, Ft Irwin CA.

COCOM Support: The 412th ENCOM (Forward-Pacific) continues to plan in support of Humanitarian Construction Assistance operations in support of USARPAC, and projects throughout the Pacific Rim. The 412th ENCOM (Forward-Pacific) continues planning for exercises Key Resolve 09 (KR09) and Ulchi Freedom Guardian (UFG 09), in support of US Forces Korea. Additionally the 412th ENCOM (Forward-Pacific) contributes planning

support and coordination for operations COBRA GOLD 09 (Thailand - Feb 09), and BALIKATAN 09 (Philippines - APR 09). The 412th ENCOM (Forward-Pacific) also continues to provide program management for two for Humanitarian Assistance construction missions in Bangladesh.

Elements of the 412th ENCOM (Forward-Europe) continue planning in support of operation AUSTERE CHALLENGE, aiding in the development of the Joint manning Document (JMD) and participating as augmentation to USAREUR DCSNs "White Cell" supporting the operation. Additionally, the 412th ENCOM (Forward-Europe) is coordinating support to JTF-E missions in Bulgaria and Romania.

7. The following information is provided by the 416th ENCOM – CSM Prater

Deployable Command Post (DCP) and Theater Engineer Command-Iraq (TEC-I):

The 416th TEC has mobilized its first ever DCP from the US Army Reserve and assumed key command and control functions that were being accomplished by GRD HQ. This deployment is part of the Modular Engineer concept of the Theater Engineer Command and is set to become TEC-I sometime in the spring of 09. From the perspective of MNF-I, there will be no change in the support provided by GRD during this transition. In order to ensure a sustainable force structure for GRD, USACE is using Deployable Command Posts (DCP) from the Theater Engineer Commands augmented with USACE civilian personnel to man GRD's force structure throughout the theater of operations.

Transition in theater: GRD force structure will drawdown in conjunction with future expected workload decreases. Conditions in Iraq are expected to support the drawdown of GRD from a Division Headquarters with three subordinate Districts to a single District headquarters with subordinate Area Offices at some point in the future. The decision to drawdown GRD to a District headquarters will be executed in concurrence with the MNF-I Commander and is situationally driven from theater. TAD will provide the USACE augmentation element that supplements the Theater Engineer Command's DCP in performing GRD's mission.

Iraqi Corps of Engineers Status and Update:

GRD is developing and assisting the Government of Iraq (GoI) engineering capacity on a limited basis and is developing a plan to transition engineering services to GoI. The next steps are to seek opportunities to fully empower local national engineers with the objective of integrating them into some form of a Corps model. Challenges are lack of project management training, systems/account access and no direct-hire authority. We are continuing development of action plans for a consistent way ahead by recommending an "approach" to GoI, a draft Strategic Communications plan and identifying the specific ministries in GoI to begin dialogue with. The goal is to develop organizational capacity within the GoI to build National Engineers with adequate knowledge, skills, and abilities for the future of Iraq.

Foreign Military Sales (FMS): The FMS program has 25 known and upcoming cases estimated at \$2.18 Billion dollars. Cases represent construction of infrastructure required to support the military hardware purchases of the Iraqi military and consist of the construction of battalion/brigade facilities, air bases, naval facilities, ports of entry and border security. Currently there are 52.7 million dollars in awarded contracts to support this very important program as it is funded through Iraqi oil sales and represents the way ahead for their own funding processes.

Capacity Development/Operations and Maintenance Sustainment (CD/OMS) Program: Both programs provide support to the Iraq essential services infrastructure, which includes major electric power plants, water and wastewater plants, and selected health, transportation, and communication facilities. The purpose of the Technical Training program is primarily to train technician-level operators supporting essential services infrastructure. 40 projects are authorized, 36 have been completed. The purpose of the Operations & Maintenance Sustainment program is to assist Iraqis in sustaining U.S. investments in this infrastructure by providing in-plant services, consumables, and spare parts. 195 projects are authorized, 162 have been completed and 33 on-going. When implement on-the-job training projects with the Ministries of Health, Electricity, and Water will support development of the Iraqi Corps of Engineers and promote a sustainable operations & maintenance capacity at the ministerial level.

GRD POC Contact email: cegrd.pao@usace.army.mil

8. The on-line edition of the October "Engineer Update" is now available at <http://www.usace.army.mil/cepa/engineerupdate/pages/home.aspx>

C. The US Army Engineer School (USAES) provides the following information:

The Commandant Sends:

January 2009 marks the start of a great year for the Corp of Engineers! We, as a Regiment, continue to provide outstanding support to the Army and the Combatant Commanders around the world. The large and small incremental changes in leader development and training centered on the BGE campaign, and the ongoing standup of the modular engineer structure along with recent and upcoming doctrinal updates and materiel fieldings are setting conditions for success in the near and far term.

Without a doubt there are still challenges in fully implementing the manning, equipping and training requirements of ARFORGEN, and the unique command and control aspects of a modular force that deploy companies and detachments independent of their TRA /ADCON battalion headquarters. Your concerns are noted and we are actively working with HRC, DA, FORSCOM and TRADOC to improve these processes. The big Army is a complex beast that is constantly balancing requirements and resources (personnel and funding) to meet the Commander in Chief's intent. That said, I'm confident that we are moving in the right direction.

Over the next few months, USAES will be preparing to absorb an additional small group for ECCC 03-09, 04-09 and 01-10 in addition to a bump in Initial Military Training and BOLC while continuing to support the force via the Engineer Fusion cell, the ESKN RFI process, leader and OIF focused functional training, and mobile training teams. The Counter Explosive Hazard Center's (CEHC) training continues to be in high demand and starting to train our NATO partners and allies to include Canada, France, and the Netherlands. Requests for basic and advanced search training are increasing as commanders in the field recognize the value of this training. Of course the Sapper Leader Course (SLC) remains the premier small unit leader training course within USAES and MANSCEN, and continues to thrive.

Our courses to include ECCC, SLC and the functional courses within CEHC require the best and most experienced leaders our Regiment has to offer. Serving as an instructor is an outstanding opportunity to lead and share experiences with hundreds of students each year. We need help from our field commanders to nominate your best officers and NCOs to serve as Instructors within USAES. We are working with HRC to ensure we continue to have a high quality cadre that will have a positive impact on our students.

Finally, we are continuing to refine our planning for ENFORCE 2009. It's shaping up to be an outstanding event. To encourage more participation by a broader audience ENFORCE will held on Fort Leonard Wood and open to our full student and permanent party Engineer and friends of the Regiment population. Please note that conference fees will be SIGNIFICANTLY less so please strongly consider attending this year. While the theme of the conference is to continue the focus on "Building Great Engineers, we have also built the agenda to specifically try and bring in our commanders from the operational force. On day two we have scheduled a warfighter's council of colonels for sitting brigade commanders (AC and RC) to dialogue with our engineer high council (key engineer leaders positioned throughout the generation force). Of course, USACE will be holding special meetings as well with our District and Division engineers.

Our industry partners are excited and we have a great line up of speakers to include the Engineer and Chief of the Royal Engineers, the Navy and Air Force engineer chiefs and of course our very own Chief of Engineers. For our Engineer Ball keynote speaker, we've invited LTG Caldwell, CG, Combined Arms Center and Fort Leavenworth who is an expert on both leader development and the information domain of military operations as

well as an outstanding speaker. Bottom line is that we have developed a strong program that will inform and produce results. For more information go to the ENFORCE website at <http://www.wood.army.mil/enforce/> <<http://www.wood.army.mil/enforce/>> . Again, I strongly encourage you to plan to attend the entire week of ENFORCE: 20-25 April 2009.

Essayons!
COL Robert Tipton
Commandant

1. Support:

a. LTC Jay Gann (USAES DOTLD) is building a pre-deployment training program for 34th ID engineer staff in coordination with FORSCOM, BCTP, DEI and other organizations. Identified training includes Facilities/Base Camp Planning/Design; Current Types of Funding (CERP, etc) - uses, restrictions, etc.; Base and Property turn over; Engineer Survivability and Mobility; Route Clearance; and Structure hardening. DOTLD providing Decision Making Process (MDMP) USAES instructional tools on a CD in support of 416th TEC DCP and the 168th and 225th En BDEs as they train in preparation for deployment.

b. CEHC continued to provide support directly to units and the JIIM community. Support included:

- An Afghanistan specific Threat Brief (via MTT) to the 120th IN BDE at Fort Hood ,
- Assistance to SPAWARS, San Diego for robotic IED Assessment Lane design.
- SME Support to the Department of Homeland Security Explosives Working Group to establish linkages and possible supporting roles.
- SME Support to Prototype Integration Facility on RECCE III and M-Apex Project, next generation of RECCE systems.
- Participation in the MANSCEN Military Working Dog Senior Leader conference in preparation for the VCSA DOTMLPF assessment brief in March.

c. DOTLD coordinated USACE support for the Base Camp Design and Planning (BCDP) course to be taught to the 34th ID DIV ENG Cell (Fort Lewis). The 19th EN BN also requested training through the ETSN and will receive an Engineer MTT to conduct a "Train the Trainer" course in demolition ISO of their upcoming deployment.

2. Train:

a. USAES Commandant and team provided instruction and support to the first week of the Engineer Pre-Command Course.

b. CEHC is currently training sixteen Canadian Soldiers on Route Recon/Clearance, and is finalizing the update of the NATO Route Recon/Clearance course. Pending Foreign Disclosure Office staffing, France will take this pilot course starting 23 Feb.

c. CEHC also provided an in depth Threat brief on Afghanistan to the 196th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade (MEB). BG Johnson and his staff were at FLW for Annual Training to receive a Common Operating Picture on all aspects of MEB operations and what are latest lessons learned coming out of theater.

3. Transform:

a. The Director of CEHC, COL Theisen, was "dual-hatted" as the Director and Co-Chair of the IED-Defeat

Integrated Capabilities Development Team (ICDT).

b. DOTLD is developing an Advanced EBOLC Capstone that will incorporate Contracting Officer Representative (COR) and Force Protection. Goal is to have the New Capstone staffed and approved internally with all key USAES leadership by 30 Apr 09 and submitted in the POI to TRADOC TOMA NLT 1 May 09.

c. USAES DOTLD continues to finalize the SGI coverage plan and resources required to execute additional ECCC small group (5 SGs instead of the normal 4 for ECCC 03-09, 04-09 and 01-10) that will minimize impacts to pronency and training development.

4. Engage:

a. USAES hosted a visit by LTC Evans (Director, EOD Training Department at RSA) to discuss evidence collection, processing, and exploitation, and how EOD can continue to enhance USAES's ability to train engineers.

b. DOTLD representatives attended Homeland Defense/Civil Support meeting to clarify the role of the engineer force in support of the CBRNE-Consequence Management Response Force (CCMRF) to identify and begin to address MTOE engineer requirements.

c. The Individual Training Division leadership of the USAES DOTLD, DOTLD Director, Regimental CSM, and the Quality Assurance Office gave instruction and updates to a group of 25 National Guard TASS Bn personnel. Topics addressed included overview of the "Building Great Engineers" campaign; distance learning resets; waivers; training development assistance; program of instruction updates and way ahead in several MOS products; accreditation updates; and ASAT/SAT status.

d. The Commandant attended the NATO Military Engineer Working group from 17-22 Jan 09 with a primary purpose to choose a new Vice Chairman. COL Tipton's role is the senior US Military Engineer representative and runs the selection process.

e. USAES ICW CEHC and MANSCEN DOTMLPF representatives formed a working group to look at Explosive Hazards Coordination Cell (EHCC) and Explosive Hazard Teams (EHT) mission issues across the DOTMLPF spectrum. Also identified an AAR mission for the 8th EN BN upon their return.

f. In order to increase technical competency, DOTLD in conjunction with technical civilian experts, will conduct Structural Assessment Visual Evaluation (SAVE) training on 12 Feb 09 with the ECCC. The training sponsored by the Fort Leonard Wood chapter of the Society of Military Engineers will bring the Missouri State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) Structural Assessment Visual Evaluation (SAVE) Coalition to FLW. The training is designed to prepare Engineers to perform as exterior structural assessors of buildings and structures affected by earthquakes, tornados, floods, or natural disasters which cause structural damages. Engineers will be able to apply the assessment criteria and external marking techniques in both domestic and theater Engineer applications.

5. Take Care of:

a. USAES Commandant and Regimental CSM conducted a Career Management Field (CMF) review with the Engineer Enlisted Branch Chief and the HRC team.

b. USAES received notification that the Army G3 approved the authorization of the 31st Engineer Battalion Headquarters effective 01 February 2009. This approval, in turn, enabled HRC to identify LTC Leonard Scott as the battalion's incoming commander.

D. The Engineer Enlisted /Warrant/ Officer Branch provides the following information:

Reserve Components/Active Guard Reserves
FY09 Master Sergeant, RC/AGR, Selection Board Results
Congratulations to the following SR NCOs.

NAME	RANK	PMOS	RMOS	SEQ#	UIC
ETHERTON DANIEL PAUL	SFC	21B4O	21Z5O	13	458
HANSEN JON CARROLL	SFC	21B4O	21Z5O	114	411
HECKER TIMOTHY HOWARD	SFC	21B4O	21Z5O	153	479
RODRIGUEZ DAGOBERTO	SFC	21B4O	21Z5O	70	98
SCEUSA GUY MITCHELL	SFC	21B4O	21Z5O	142	309
THOMAS HERBERT GLENN III	SFC	21B4O	21Z5O	121	368
WHITE BILLY JEROME JR	SFC	21B4O	21Z5O	53	467
WHITE PATRICK DWAYNE	SFC	21B4O	21Z5O	131	391
RIVERALARA RAMON L	SFC	21H4O	21X5O	135	471
STOOTS JAMES CHARLES	SFC	21H4O	21X5O	68	302

E. The Office of the Chief of Engineers provides the following information:

- Engineer Fusion Cell (EFC):** OCE chaired the Jan EFC with participation from, FORSCOM, USAEUR, ARCENT, BCTP, MNC-I C7, CJTF-101, EN BDE (18th, 20th, 36th, 130th & 420th), 3rd ID, 82nd Abn, ARSTAF (G1/HRC, G3, G4, G8, USAR). EFC discussed the following topics: Iraqi Security Agreement (SA); Request For Forces (RFF) SEC DEF Orders Book (SDOB); EN BDE design - Explosive Hazardous Team vs Explosive Hazardous Coordination Cell; validating additional equipment in Iraq; and relocation of activating units. FORSCOM position is "no growth in support of RFF". Iraqi SA implicit task is to build additional facilities outside urban areas. MNC-I C7 committed to finding additional equipment to support RFFXXX Theatre Provided Equipment requirements.
- [Maj. Marc Hoffmeiser talks about being wounded in Iraq and his plans for Alaska adventures.](#)
- Engineer Brigade Headquarters DOTMLPF Study:** OCE is sponsoring a Doctrine, Organizational, Training, Materiel, Leadership, Personnel and Facilities study on the Engineer Brigade Headquarters based on lessons learned from Operation Enduring and Iraqi Freedom. This study will focus on roles and responsibilities that the Engineer Brigade is executing however are not resourced for. Last week the Director of the Army Staff approved the study and tasked the Commander, TRADOC to provide the necessary support to successfully execute it by Sep 09. OCE is currently seeking qualified subject matter experts in the grade of 04-05 to participate in a work group at Fort Leavenworth from 9-13 Mar 09. Interested Soldiers should contact Mr. Joe Dunleavy at (703) 693-4401; joseph.dunleavy@us.army.mil.
- Army Enterprise Equipping and Reuse Conference (AEERC):** OCE participated in the bi-annual AEERC hosted by Army G8, 12-16 Jan 09. The conference brought together equippers and force developers from across the Army (active and reserve component) to synchronize equipping strategies. G8 Force Development Division Assured Mobility Branch provided Army Command representatives for Engineer units detailed equipment distribution plans for Bridging, Assured Mobility Systems, and Engineer Construction Equipment. Additionally, Special Topic Working Groups met to focus on specific concerns. This forum provides excellent in-person coordination necessary to ensure that Soldiers are properly equipped both for warfighting missions and homeland security activities.
- Stability and Support Operations:** OCE staff met with HQ USACE personnel to discuss the Army's Stability Operations Action Plan. The coordination centered around USACEs efforts to develop Initiative #4

(City Management and Infrastructure Expertise to the Host Nation). HQUSACE will host a workshop from 18-19 Feb 09, which will include several federal and state agencies to develop this initiative. OCE is currently coordinating with the United States Army Civil Affairs and Psychological Command in order to gain participation from the Civil Affairs community as we develop the way ahead for support to the operational Army in a contingency environment. The intent of the workshop is to develop between the Engineers and Civil Affairs the capabilities to provide infrastructure and city management expertise to support the host nation during Phase 0 thru Phase 5 of an operation.

***** Engineers in the National Capitol Region:** Each month the Office of the Chief of Engineers hosts an Engineer Round-up at the Crystal City Gateway Marriot Bin 1700 Lounge commencing at 1700 on the last Thursday of the month, excluding November and December. Engineers and those who support Engineers are more than welcome to attend. It is a great opportunity to catch up on what's going on in the Engineer Community from a broad spectrum of perspectives. If you do not get an invitation now, please notify me so that I can add you to the specific distribution list. Click here to be added to the email list [DAEN-ZC](#).

You can always find all the Messages to the Regiment at our AKO site are linked at the bottom of this document—AKO Login is required. For those having a hard time getting to the files that require an AKO logon, here is a [screenshot](#) to show where the files are physically located.

F: Topics of Interest: 2009: The Year of the Non Commissioned Officer

What is it?

In October 2008, Secretary of the Army Pete Geren announced that 2009 would be designated as "the Year of the Noncommissioned Officer."

In noting his gratitude and support for noncommissioned officers (NCO), Secretary Geren remarked that NCOs have provided invaluable service and continually proven their dedication and willingness to sacrifice. With our nation at war for seven years in Afghanistan and then Iraq, and the security environment more ambiguous than ever, our military is stretched thin and out of balance. We have a plan to restore balance by 2011 and to set the conditions for the future-- the NCO Corps is the key enabler to attain those objectives. The Year of the NCO is a time to enhance the education, fitness, leadership and pride in service of our NCOs through programs that sustain and grow our NCO Corps, to recognize their leadership, commitment and courage, and to inform key audiences about the responsibilities and quality of service of our NCOs.

How important is this to the Army?

Secretary of the Army Pete Geren and the Chief of Staff Gen. George W. Casey believe that strategically, it is critical for the Army to continue its investment in NCOs and their families. In 2009, the Army will demonstrate its commitment to enhance and accelerate the growth of our NCOs through initiatives that emphasize the need for improved education, fitness, leadership and pride in service programs. Honoring the service of NCOs to the nation enables the Army to showcase its NCO's as a national asset, educating members of Congress and the American public about the roles and responsibilities of today's NCOs.

What is the Army doing?

Support for Year of the NCO is oriented on three major axes:

- Enhance: Enhance NCOs' education, fitness, leadership development, and pride in service through implementation of programs and policies that sustain and grow our NCO Corps.
- Recognize: Recognize the leadership, professionalism, commitment, courage and dedication of the NCO Corps.

- Inform: Inform and educate the American people, Congress, and government institutions of the roles, responsibilities and the quality service of our NCO Corps.

Nationally, the Army will focus on four distinct strategies: increase national level awareness/recognition of NCOs, tell the story through distinguished NCO alumni, conduct a campaign launch event, and engage blogs and other social networks. Regional/MACOM and installation-level programs will follow a similar strategy, but tailor it to their specific organization, mission and audience.

Important Web Links:

Defenselink: Army secretary announces 2009 will be 'Year of NCO'
<<http://www.defenselink.mil/news/newsarticle.aspx?id=51407>>

ARNEWS: Chief says NCO corps glue holding Army together <<http://www.army.mil/-news/2008/10/08/13141-chief-says-nco-corps-glue-holding-army-together/>>

G. Engineer Unit Highlight: [14th Combat Engineer Battalion \(Rugged!\)](#)

Need some units to step up and provide their unit info to update this section.

This feature provides a venue for Engineer Units/Activities to post unit information. If you are an OIC/NCOIC of an Engineer Unit/Activity and would like your organization mentioned here, download the template and email back to me. All entries will be consolidated on a master page as they come in.

Engineer Unit Highlight: [Former Submissions](#)

H. Recurring Links: [Engineer School News](#); [Engineer Casualties](#) ; [PASSAGES](#)

[The Engineer Lifelong Learning Portal](#) [USACE Organizations](#) ; [The Engineer Update](#) ; [Military OneSource](#)

[Essays Forward](#) ; [The Engineer Magazine](#); [Current PERSCOM Messages](#). ; [412th ENCOM](#) ;

[The West Point Department of Civil and Mechanical Engineering](#) ; [USMA Basecamp](#) ; .

[The USACE Installation Support Community of Practice Portal](#), [Engineering Knowledge Online](#) ;

[Topographic Engineering Center](#) ; [United States Army Engineer Research and Development Center](#);

[The West Point Department of Geography and Environmental Engineering: ADSO Incentives Program](#)

[ENGINEER UNIT REGIMENTAL LINKS](#) [Joint Task Force North](#) ; [Engineer Museum Reference Library](#).

[Maneuver Support Center of Excellence](#) [Check your entire Official Military Personnel File \(OMPF\)](#)

[Check and certify the file that the board will use \(My Board\)](#), [Check your current ORB \(My ORB\)](#)

[Submit your online Assignment Preference \(AIM\)](#) , [Certify your new official photo \(DAPMIS\)](#)

[Submit your Command / CFD / SSC Preference Online](#) , [Check your Senior Rater Profile \(Dash 2\)](#)

[Check to see if HRC has received your OER \(IWRS\)](#) , [USACE Historical Vignettes](#) , **[Video Engineer Update](#)**

The staff of the Engineer Professional Bulletin not only maintains the mailing list for the bulletin but also is responsible for keeping the Engineer Unit Directory updated. They can only do that with your help. Please take time to look at the directory [Web site](#) at and check your unit to see if the information is correct. If it isn't, e-mail the bulletin staff at engineer@wood.army.mil with corrections.

I. Engineers Supporting Engineers—Professional Organizations Links:

“The appearance of external hyperlinks does not constitute endorsement by the U.S. Army of this Web site or the information, products, or services contained therein. For other than authorized activities such as military exchanges and MWR sites, the U.S. Army does not exercise any editorial control over the information you may find at these locations. Such links are provided consistent with the stated purpose of this Web site.”

1. [Army Engineer Association](#) : [AEA News](#); [Army Engineer Association Programs](#); [Membership](#).

a. AEA now has a web page dedicated to [Industry support to the Warfighter](#).

b. AEA is also building a new web page as an Engineer Organization / Unit Directory. We want to list all Engineer units, plus other key engineer offices, like the staff engineer offices at Divisions and Corps. We'll include USACE offices, AC, National Guard and USAR battalions and sep companies, and all of the sapper companies too. We want the activity name, mailing address, phone number, and current OIC / NCOIC name and email. Send your unit directory info to: aeamag@armyengineer.com. The [AEA Career Center online](#)

c. JOBS...after the Army: AEA has a complete online Career Center. You can learn about civilian opportunities autonomously. Research or survey the commercial job market with FREE (ANONYMOUS) resume post at AEA career center. Additionally, AEA has been running and will continue to run, a special series of articles in Army Engineer magazine which focus on individual job experiences of many retired Army Engineers. To read those articles, you need to [subscribe to the magazine](#).

2. [Society of American Military Engineers](#) : [The Military Engineer Online](#) : [Membership](#) [SAME Current eNEWS](#)

a. "The Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) is currently undertaking a grass roots effort to reach out to aspiring engineering and architects at local universities. SAME membership is FREE for students and also provides them opportunities for leadership, mentorship and potential internships or first jobs. To learn more about the SAME college outreach program and how to help set up a chapter at your university or a university near you, please visit www.same.org/college or send the Ben Matthews an email at samecollegeoutreach@gmail.com.

b. The Society of American Military Engineers, SAME offers **free memberships to students of the [Engineer Career Captains Course](#) and the [Engineer Advanced Noncommissioned Officers Course](#)**. (Active, Reserve, National Guard – any phase)

c. **Deployed Engineering Team:** Get *The Military Engineer and SAME News* delivered directly to you! Complete our [temporary deployment form](#) and we will send your SAME materials to you onsite while serving in your area of operational responsibility (AOR). This free service is just one of the many ways SAME salutes our members. [Click here to provide your temporary AOR contact information](#).

d. **Transitioning from military service?** Retiring from the Federal Government? Looking for a new and exciting position in the A/E/C industry? If the answer to any of these questions is YES, place your resume on the [SAME Job Center](#) web site. *The service is free for SAME members*. The site has been or is being utilized by over 300 companies that through their placement of job announcements have access to your resume

3. **TEOCSA (The Engineer OCS Association)** [Website coming soon](#)

ENGINEER OCS COMMEMORATION DINNER

The Engineer Officer Candidate School Association takes great pleasure in inviting you to dinner at one o'clock PM on Sunday afternoon, 15th February 2009, at the MacKenzie Hall Officers' Club, Fort Belvoir, Virginia. The dinner will commemorate the ninetieth anniversary of the Engineer Officer Training School of World War One. Speakers invited include: Lieutenant General Robert L. Van Antwerp, USA, Commander, US Army Corps of Engineers; Ms. Joyce Morrow, Special Assistant to the Secretary of the Army; Lieutenant General Benjamin C. Freakley, USA, Commander, Accessions Command; Colonel Jerry L. Blixt, USA, Installation Commander, Fort Belvoir, Virginia. For additional information, please contact the Association, supplying name, OCS class number and year, Telephone number, US Mail and e-mail addresses. Address:

OCS Commemoration Dinner,
Post Office Box 14847
Atlanta, GA 30324 - 4847.
Telephone: (404) 231-3402.
E-mail: TEOCSA@comcast.net.

E. T. Mealing
Pres., TEOCSA
404.231.3402.

4. [Army Engineer Officer Wives' Club](#): AEOWC is a worldwide organization with members located wherever Army Engineers are stationed, or have retired. [Become a member](#)

Visit our website at <http://www.AEOWC.com>.

Alternate response email address is DAEN-ZC@hqda.army.mil

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[19](#), [18](#), [17](#) 1-16 are available on AKO